



# HimawariCast Newsletter

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Japan Meteorological Agency 

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## Unlocking meteorological progress: Introducing Indonesia's Virtual Laboratory Centre of Excellence for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology

In the field of meteorology, where precision and forecasting are crucial, the use of satellite technology has become vital. At the forefront of this technological revolution is the Indonesia Virtual Laboratory Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology, a testament to our country's commitment to advancing meteorological science and improving disaster risk reduction efforts.

Our journey begins with the Agency for Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics of the Republic of Indonesia (BMKG), whose unwavering commitment to the use of satellite data is deeply reflected in its active participation in the Asia-Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users Conference (AOMSUC). Established in 2010, this collaborative platform brings together satellite operators and users from Regional Association II and Regional Association V and serves as a catalyst for the exchange of vital satellite data to improve weather and climate services.

A significant milestone was reached in 2016, when AOMSUC member countries collectively signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), solidifying their commitment to satellite data sharing and collaboration. Two years later, BMKG proudly hosted the 9th AOMSUC Conference in Jakarta, underscoring Indonesia's pivotal role in advancing satellite initiatives in the region.

In 2020, BMKG embarked on a transformative journey to expand its contribution to the World

Meteorological Organisation (WMO), with a particular focus on satellite-related issues within Regional Association V (South West Pacific). This strategic move was met with enthusiasm and support from the WMO Space Programme and Education and Training Office, resulting in the establishment of Indonesia as an official Centre of Excellence for Meteorological Satellite Education and Training under the WMO Virtual Laboratory.

Our partnership with important institutions such as the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) and the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) Australia VLab CoE has been instrumental in providing education and training programmes aimed at promoting the use of satellite data and operations in Regional Associations II and V. In addition, BMKG's active participation in Regional Focus Group Discussions (RFG) and collaborative projects further underscores our commitment to advancing meteorological science and capacity building efforts.

One of our proudest achievements came in June 2023, when BMKG, in collaboration with NOAA USA, conducted the online course on Satellite Derived Data and Its Implementation in Forecasting and Warning Services. This initiative exemplifies our commitment to using satellite technology to improve weather forecasting and disaster preparedness (figure 1)

The recognition of the Indonesia VLab CoE by WMO in July 2023 further solidifies our commitment to explore novel satellite data applications, particularly in monitoring and mapping the impacts of climate change and natural disasters in Indonesia and Regional Association V member countries. With Indonesia's recent inclusion, there are now two VLab CoEs in RA V, located in Indonesia and Australia (Figure 2).

As a regional training centre, the CoE remains committed to nurturing the next generation of meteorological experts, providing practical programmes and methodologies to equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to meet the challenges of our ever-changing world. With a strong focus on human resource development, we are

confident that the Indonesia VLab CoE will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of meteorological science in our region and beyond.

(Nelly Florida Riama and Anni Arumsari Fitriany, BMKG)



Figure 1. The Online Course on Satellite-derived and Its Implementation in IBF and Warning Services 2023



Figure 2. Virtual Laboratory (VLab) Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology in Regional Association V (RA V) of WMO

## Feedback

JMA welcomes feedback from users on HimawariCast data usage, and particularly invites articles to be posted in this newsletter. Such input will help other users consider new ideas for their services.

The Agency also invites questions on HimawariCast services. These may relate to the functions of the SATAID program, interpretation/analysis of multi-band imagery or other areas of interest. Feel free to send queries to be answered in this newsletter.

All articles and questions are welcomed. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

### Comments and Inquiries

Comments and inquiries on this newsletter and/or the HimawariCast Web Page are welcomed.

Back numbers of HimawariCast Newsletters:

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