

SERVIR Mekong



Photo credit: NASA

NASA's Global Precipitation Measurement satellite enhances understanding of the earth's water and energy cycles.

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The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in partnership with the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), is funding SERVIR Mekong, a five-year (2014-2019) geospatial data for development project. SERVIR Mekong equips governments, regional institutions and other key stakeholders in the Lower Mekong countries to employ publicly-available satellite imagery and geospatial technologies such as mapping and analysis software. This information is essential for improving environmental management and building greater resilience to the negative effects of climate change.

SERVIR Mekong is one of four SERVIR hubs currently in operation across the developing world. Each hub strengthens a locally-based and regionally-focused institution to serve as a sustainable regional service provider of data, analytics, training and best practices for improved decision-making.

BUILDING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING TECHNICAL CAPACITY

Through training, exchanges and technical assistance, SERVIR Mekong helps decision makers to apply the latest geospatial information and tools to respond to natural disasters, improve food security, safeguard human health, and manage water and natural resources. In addition, using tools and skills provided by SERVIR Mekong, decision makers can help identify ways to boost economic growth while lowering greenhouse gas emissions and building resilience to climate change.

SHARING GEOSPATIAL DATA, PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

SERVIR Mekong supports the development of regional platforms and learning events on geospatial information to increase collaboration and knowledge-sharing between technical institutions. Sharing and increasing access to geospatial information through web-based platforms will raise public awareness about the importance of using this type of information in development work. With support from SERVIR Mekong, decision makers can apply the best available science and technology to manage environmental resources and sustainably build resilience to natural hazards.

CREATING DATA, APPLICATIONS AND MODELS FOR DECISION-MAKING

In close partnership with NASA, local universities and other SERVIR hubs, SERVIR Mekong identifies information gaps and responds with analytical tools to improve the accuracy of climate change forecasting and related development planning. In particular, geospatial analyses like those provided by SERVIR Mekong allow for effective visualization of global- and landscape-level changes and enable a more integrated view of complex development challenges.

PARTNERS

USAID's partners on SERVIR Mekong include NASA, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Deltares, Stockholm Environment Institute, Spatial Informatics Group and the DAI SERVIR Demand Team.