

Report on the 15th ISPRS Student Consortium and Working Group VI/5 Summer School

The 15th ISPRS Student Consortium and Working Group VI/5 Summer School was held at the Institute of Surveying and Mapping (ISM), Diyatalawa, Sri Lanka from October 22-26, 2016. The summer school theme was **“Geoinformatics for Disaster Risk Reduction: Application of Drones.”** This summer school continues the collaboration and cooperation of the ISPRS Student Consortium with the Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS), the AARS Student Group (ASG).



S.K. Wijayasinghe, Director of ISM, reports a total of 40 participants attended the summer school. Among these participants, 9 were foreign participants coming from Japan, Phillipines and Nigeria. An additional 31 participants were Sri Lankans coming from state universities, research institutes, armed forces and government agencies. The participants were welcomed by Mr. S.K. Wijayasinghe and Ms Sheryl Rose, Chair of the ISPRS Student Consortium and representative of ISPRS Working Group VI/5. Opening remarks were made by Prof. Kohei Cho, General Secretary of AARS and Dr. Lal Samarakoon, Director, Geo-informatics Centre of the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand at the opening ceremony.

This summer school consisted of intensive lectures: Introduction to Remote Sensing and Data Acquisition by Prof. Kohey. Cho of AARS, Geo-informatics for DRR: JAXA case studies and Geo-informatics for Emergency Mapping: IDC and Sentinel Asia by Dr. Lal Samarakoon, Data Integration and Mapping: Commercial and open source tools by Mr. Chathura Hasanka Wickramasinghe of RMIT, Datum Transformations and coordinate systems by Mr. S.D.P.J. Dampegama, of Survey Department of Sri Lanka, Geo-informatics for DRR: A Sri Lankan Experience, by Mr. Simal Samansiri of the Disaster Management Centre, Sri Lanka, Introduction to Drones and basic drones, Introduction to data collection using drones, session planning for data collection by Mr. Mr. S.D.P.J. Dampegama, of Survey Department of Sri Lanka .

The field work included setting up control points, and surveying using drones by Mr. S.D.P.J. Dampegama, of Survey Department of Sri Lanka, and Mr. Sasanka Madawlagama of Asian Institute of Technology,

Thailand. It also consisted of a visit to Ella, Rawana Falls, Nine Arch Bridges, and the Demodara railway loop on Monday afternoon. The final day was spent downloading data and processing, preparation of maps using data collected by the drones and applications of DRR by Mr. S.D.P.J. Dampegama, of Survey Department of Sri Lanka, and Mr. Sasanka Madawlagama of Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. The program concluded with a farewell dinner with many entertainment items performed by participating countries and groups. During the closing ceremony, certificates of participation were awarded to the participants.

