

The Impacts of Space Technology in Southeast Asia

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Many in the worlds of politics, academia, and media today, consider space technology to be a hightechnology engine for economic growth. Unsurprisingly then, numerous Asian nations have readily embraced new developments of space technology, as prove the applications in a plethora of fields, prominent among which are: telecommunications, meteorology, and research as well as exploitation of environmental resources. Certain recently initiated and innovative applications in the fields of health and telemedicine, distance education, crime pre-

vention, disaster monitoring and poverty mitigation (e.g. food and agriculture planning and production), behold potential revolutionary effects for these Asian nations.

Turning our eye to the developing nations of Southeast Asia, a number of them have adopted programmes by which they actively pursue the increased application of space technologies in their economies. Simultaneously, they seek to acquire their own capabilities, by means of small satellite developments and technology transfer.

These satellite technologies and oper-

ations, as well as their impact on Southeast Asian communities, culture, and commerce, are the focal points of the symposium 'Space Technology Developments in Southeast Asia and its Impact on Culture, Commerce and Communities'. This meeting will provide opportunities for academics and professionals to interact outside their own specialist disciplines and to discuss and share information and knowledge to solve common problems of sustainable economic growth. We warmly welcome abstracts from space engineers and scientists, sociologists, rural

and urban planners, economists, political scientists, legal experts, educators, and satellite service providers (telecommunications, earth observations, meteorologists). The deadline for the submission of abstracts is mid-February 2004. <

Contact and proposals:

Dr David Soo

d.n.Soo@let.leidenuniv.nl

A symposium website will be established by the end of November 2004.