NASA’s MODIS observations, socioeconomic, and historical flood data are being used by regional stakeholders, including the Mekong River Commission and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, to rapidly identify floods and associated impacts to people and infrastructure in the Lower Mekong region in near real-time.

MODIS-derived surface water extent is used to produce flood depth estimates in near real-time (above left). Flood depth estimates are then fed into a standardized flood damage framework to produce damage estimates (above right) based on inundated land cover and affected infrastructure. These rapid, initial estimates of the socioeconomic impacts of extreme flooding provide valuable information to governments, international agencies, and disaster responders.