



Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)  
Sustainable Natural Resource Management Project (SNRM)



MANUAL ON

**FLYCAM**

**MONITORING**

January 2020

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*Cover photo: Phantom 4 Pro V2.0 / dji.com*

*Design & Creative: AdmixStudio.com*

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# List of Abbreviations

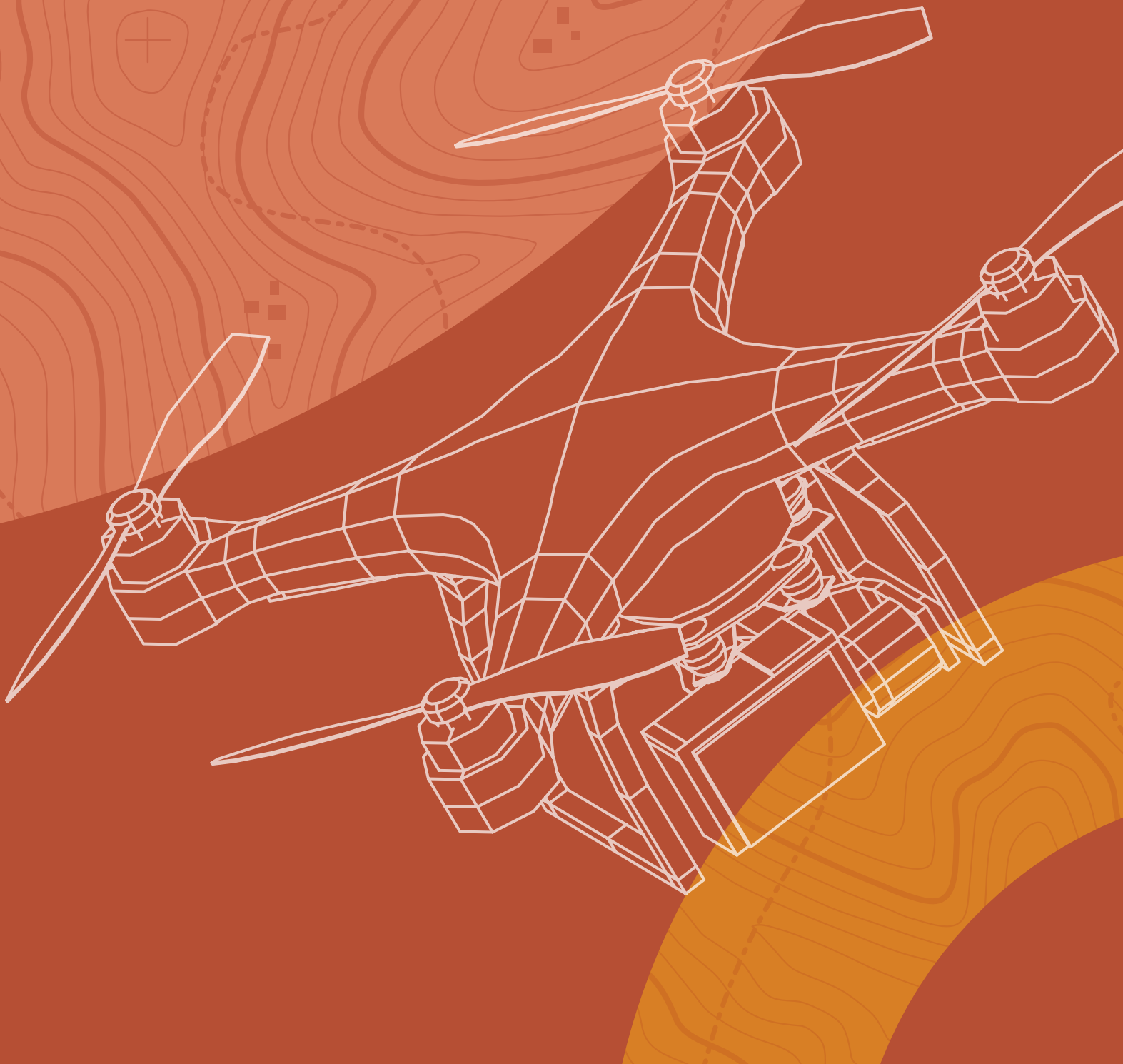
<b>BNBNPMB</b>	Bidoup-Nuiba National Park Management Board
<b>DNWPFMB</b>	Da Nhim Watershed Protection Forest Management Board
<b>JICA</b>	Japan International Cooperation Agency
<b>PFES</b>	Payment for Forest Environmental Service
<b>RTH</b>	Return-to-Home
<b>SNRM</b>	Sustainable Natural Resource Management Project
<b>LB-BR</b>	Lang Biang World Biosphere Reserve



## CHAPTER

# 1

## INTRODUCTION





The biodiversity component (Component 3) of the Sustainable Natural Resource Management Project (hereinafter referred to as “SNRM”) has been implemented by the JICA Project Team in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders in the Lam Dong Province, especially Bidoup NuiBa National Park Management Board (BNBNPMB) and Danhim Watershed Protection Forest Management Board (DNWPFMB), since August 2015. The main aim of the Project is to establish an integrated and collaborative ecosystem management mechanism in the Lang Biang World Biosphere Reserve (LB-BR) by i) introducing a multidisciplinary coordination and management framework for the LB-BR, ii) upgrading/developing the collaborative forest management mechanism based on the collaborative management agreement (CMA) in the buffer and core zones in the LB-BR and iii) use the results of forest and biodiversity monitoring for the management of the core and buffer zones of the LB-BR.

SNRM has supported on the improvement of current forest patrolling activities conducted by the group members which have engaged under forest protection contracts with forest owners (PFES groups). In this regard, flycam is a promising tool for manager of forest owners as it provides the latest and detailed aerial images for monitoring the forest status/condition timely and also, help each ranger station and PFES groups to conduct patrolling activities in more efficient and effective manner.

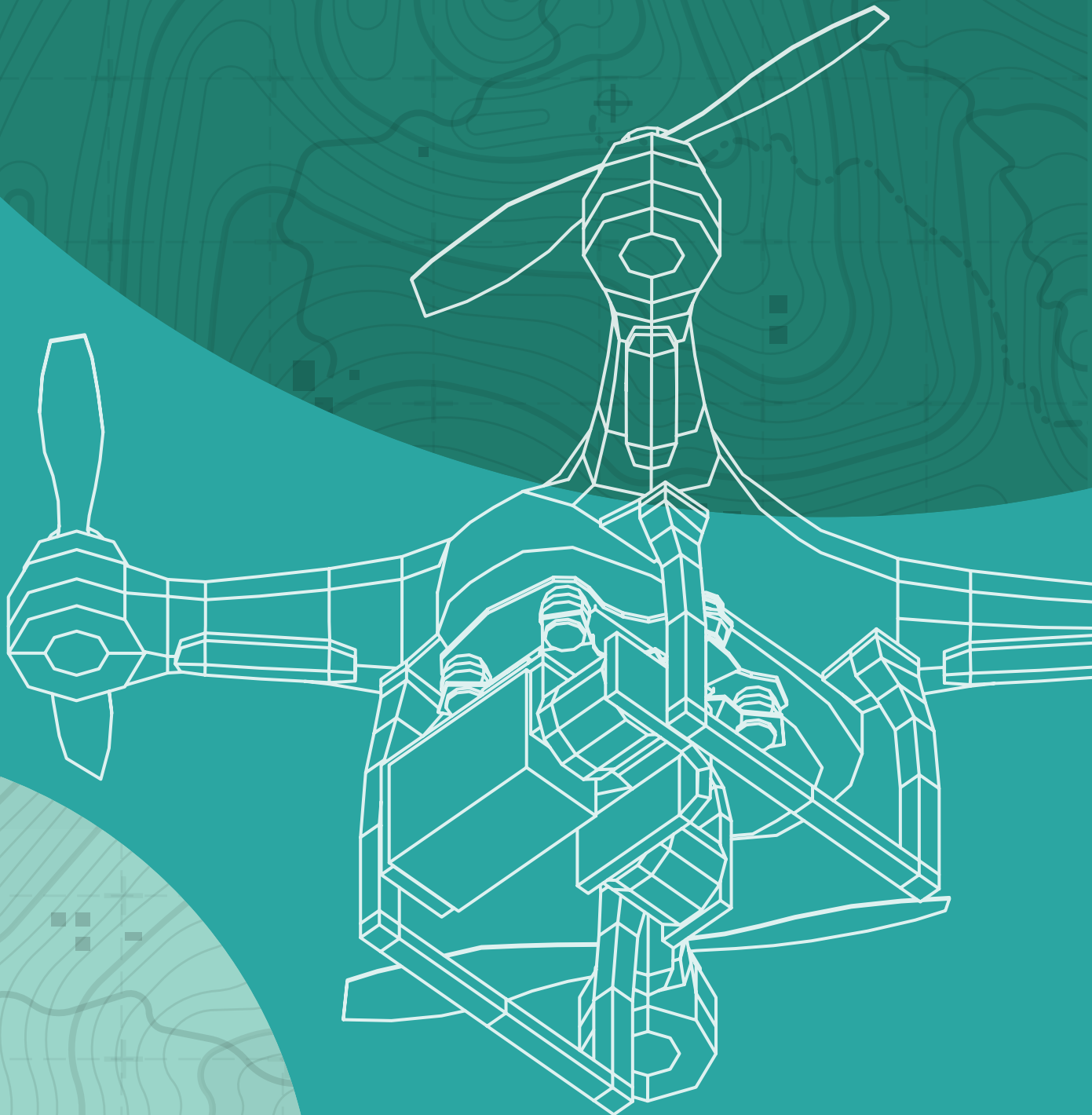
In order to secure the safe flycam operation, training of operators is essential, therefore SNRM has provided a series of trainings on drone operation and management to the staff of BNBNPMB and DNWPFMB during 2017-2018.

This is a comprehensive manual covering the wide topics relevant to operation and management of flycam in visualized manner for easy understanding of users. The manual is expected to be utilized for further capacity enhancement of the staff in charge of flycam operation and management for forest protection and conservation in the country.

CHAPTER

# 2

## SCOPE OF THE MANUAL





## 2.1. Objective

This manual provides a set of guidance on flycam operation and its management as well as data utilization and management for the officials in charge. Specifically, the manual aims to:

- a. Provide basic information of flycam (DJI Phantom 4 Pro)
- b. Provide guidance on how to design flight plan
- c. Provide guidance on how to operate the flycam by manual-pilot and auto-pilot mode
- d. Provide guidance on how to process the images of flycam and export data for its easy use
- e. Provide guidance on proper management and maintenance of flycam relevant equipment



## 2.2. Overall Structure of the Manual

The manual is structured as indicated in Figure 2.1.



Figure 2.1. Overall Structure of the Manual

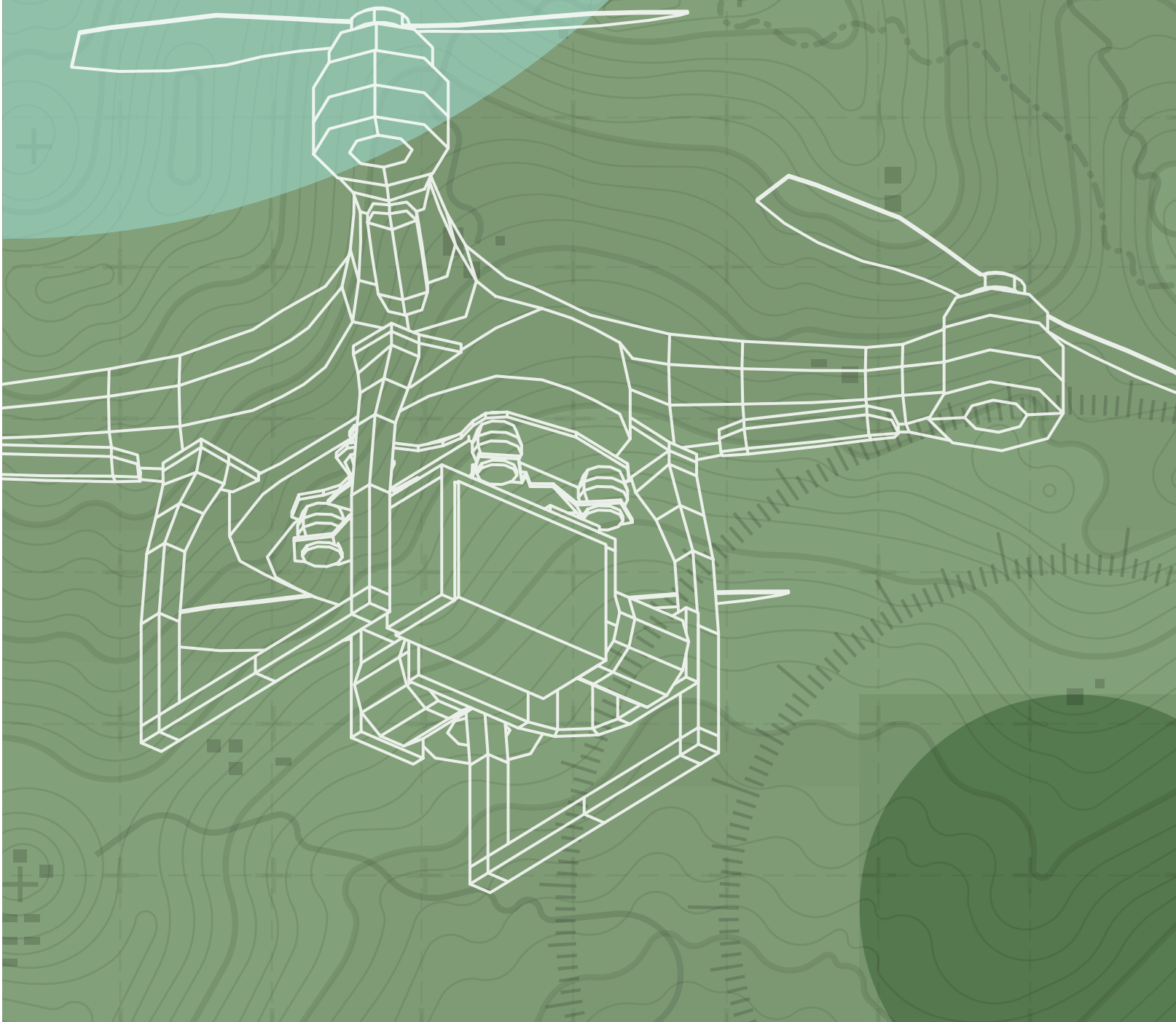
Please be noted that the information in the document is as of January 2020, and there is a possibility that the services referred in the manual might be changed/updated by each company. Please check the latest information as follows;

- DJI: <https://www.dji.com/>
- Pix4Dmapper: <https://www.pix4d.com/product/pix4dmapper-photogrammetry-software>
- Litchi: <https://flylitchi.com/>

## CHAPTER

# 3

## BASIC INFORMATION OF THE AIRCRAFT



SNRM has provided flycam (DJI Phantom 4 Pro) to BNBNPMB and DNWPFMB. Its technical specification and name of parts is provided as below;



### 3.1. Technical Specification

Basic technical specification of DJI Phantom 4 Pro is indicated in **Table 3.1** as below;

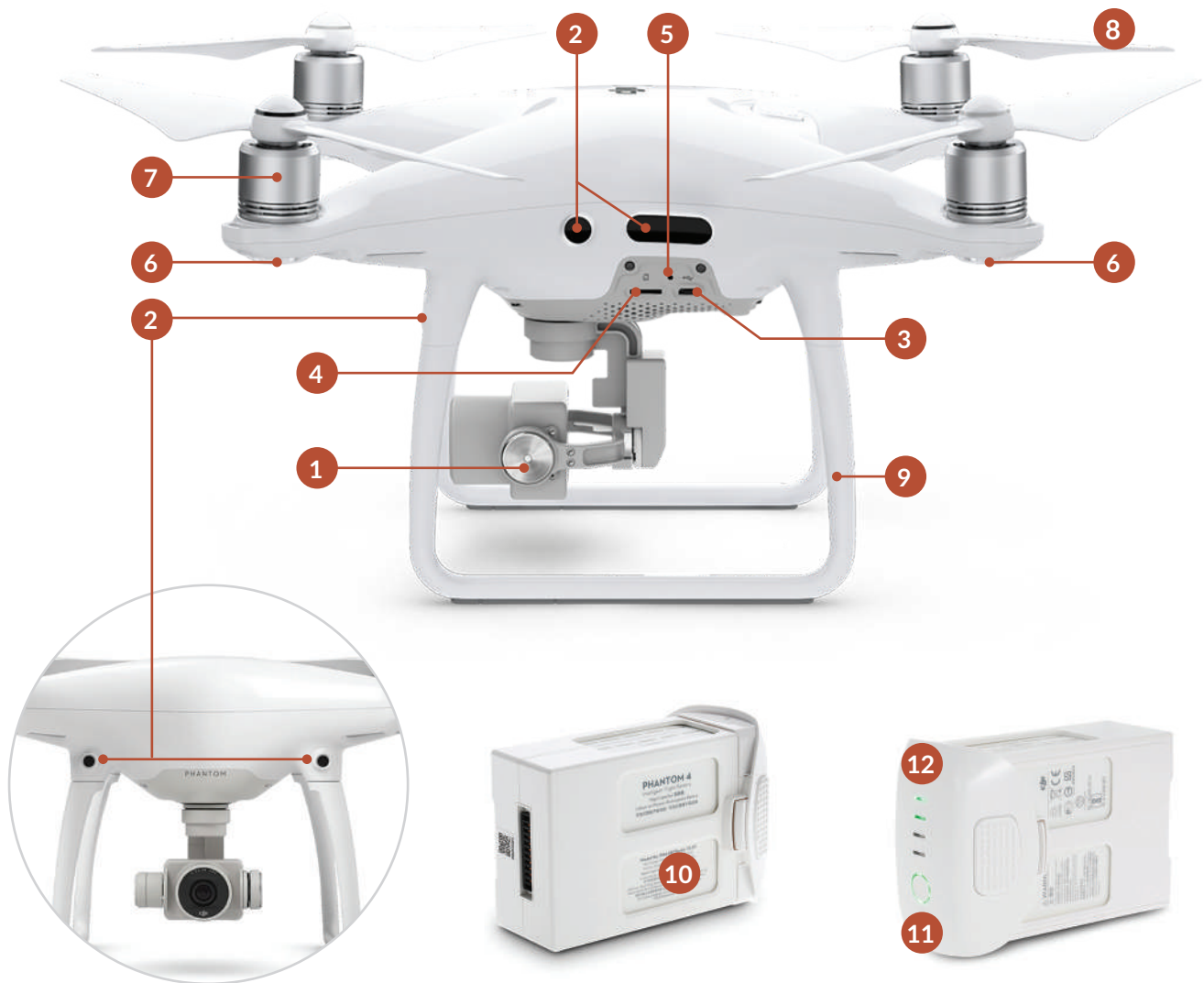
Name	Phantom 4 Pro
Company	DJI
Weight	1.4 kg v(propellers and batteries are included)
Max speed	72 km/h (max 54 km/h for Autopilot)
Flying time	27 mins (suggested at 15 mins including take off to landing)
Controlling rage	7 km (suggested 3km with auto-pilot and 4km with manual control)
Height	500 m
Resolution	20 megapixels
Battery	Lithium-ion (LiPo) 5,870 mAh / 89.2 Wh
Charging	75 – 90 mins (up to batter capacity)v
Memory	MicroUSB UHS Speed Class 3 (U3)
GPS	GPS & GLONASS

Table 3.1. Basic Specification of DJI Phantom 4 Pro



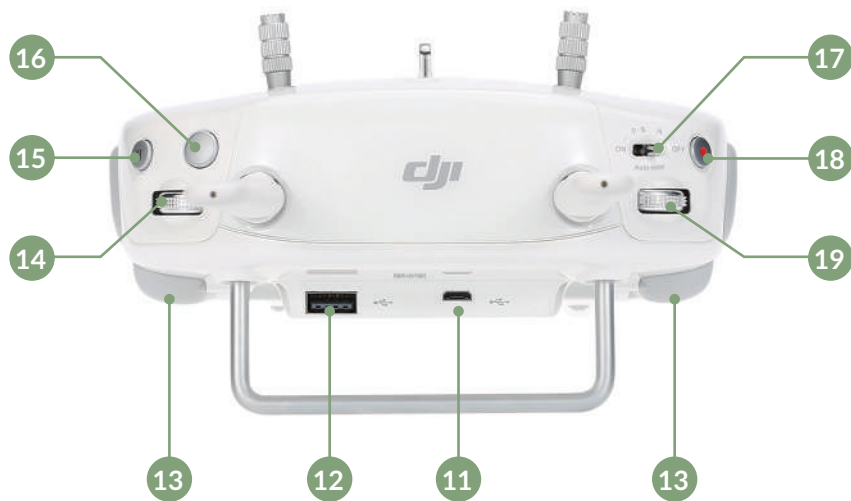


### 3.2. Name of Parts



- |   |                                  |    |                       |
|---|----------------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Gimbal/Camera                    | 7  | Motor                 |
| 2 | Sensor                           | 8  | Propeller             |
| 3 | Micro USB port                   | 9  | Antenna               |
| 4 | Memory Slot                      | 10 | Battery               |
| 5 | Status Indicators/Linking button | 11 | Power button          |
| 6 | Aircraft Status Indicators       | 12 | Battery Led indicator |

- 1 Power button
- 2 Return to Home
- 3 Control sticks
- 4 Straps holder
- 5 Mobile device holder
- 6 Small device fastener
- 7 Extendable button
- 8 Antennas
- 9 Battery level LEDs
- 10 Led Indicator

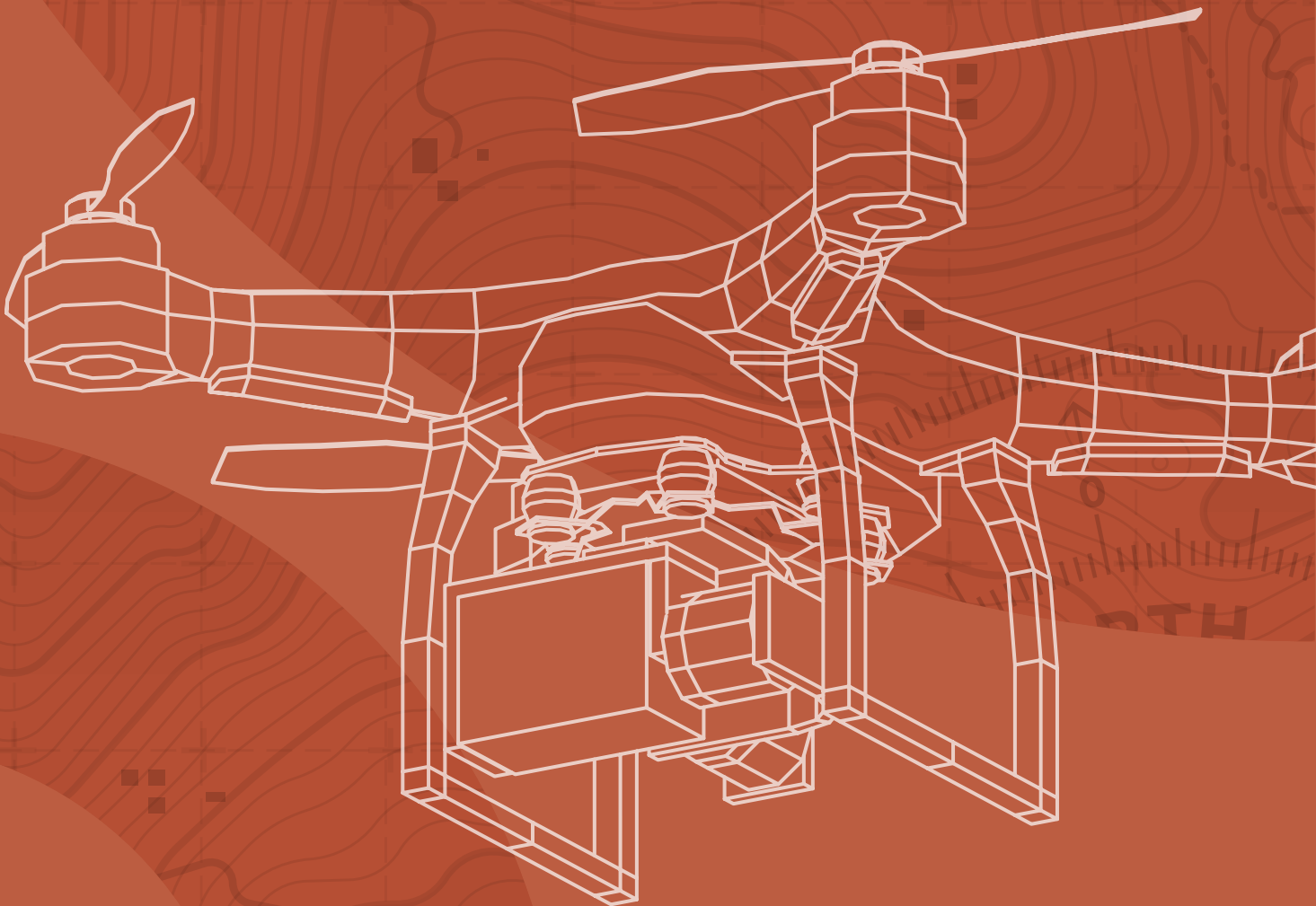


- 11 Micro USB port
- 12 USB port
- 13 Functional button
- 14 Camera setting dials
- 15 Intelligent Flight Pause button
- 16 Shutter button
- 17 Flight mode switch
- 18 Record button
- 19 Gimbal Dial

CHAPTER

# 4

## FLIGHT PLANNING





## 4.1. Identification of the Surveyed Area and Operation Point

In order to have a safe and effective flight survey, flycam operators (and/or staff at the stations if qualified) shall identify 1) Area for the flight survey, and 2) Location of the operation point (standing point of the operator) mainly by the utilization of Google Earth Pro.

The followings are the points to be carefully considered when identify the surveyed area. Field checking might be required;

- a. To ensure that the operation point is not too far from the surveyed area. The recommended distance from the operation point to the furthest survey point is within 3km
- b. To ensure electricity is accessible at the operation point for continuous flight survey. If the point has no access to electricity, a back-up power plan should be considered (e.g. secure transportation to bring the battery to the charging point, procurement of back-up battery for charging (recommended: Anker PowerHouse 120,000mAh/ 400wh - A1701), etc.)
- c. To ensure there is no obstacle for safe flight operation such as magnetic field, high-voltage line, etc.

Steps to identify the flight area by Google Earth Pro are as follows;

- a. Create a folder for the data on surveyed area and operation point
- b. Use Add Polygon tool to create an area to be surveyed in the folder
- c. Use Add Placemark tool to create an operation point in the folder
- d. Save the folder in the kml format



Figure 4.1 Identify the Surveyed Area and Operation Point



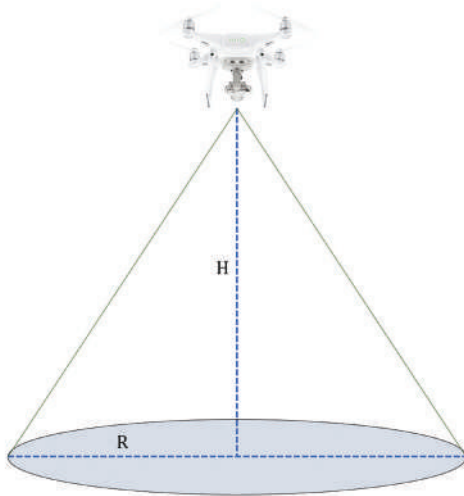


## 4.2. Flight Plan Preparation

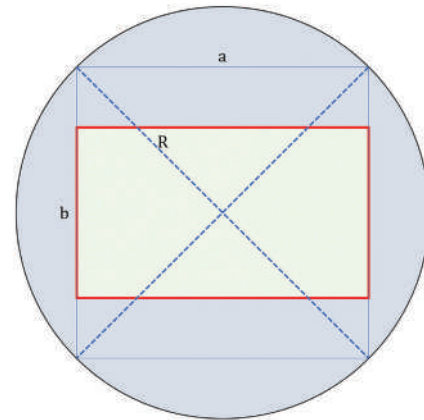
In order to secure the safe flycam operation, SNRM recommends to apply auto-pilot mode with careful design of its flight planning, using an application called Litchi<sup>(1)</sup>.

Two methods are proposed in this section; 1) Flight plan preparation on GIS application (Mapinfo) and export the data to Google Earth, and 2) Flight plan preparation on Litchi (web browser).

As a precondition, it should be noted that the images are required to overlap at least 70-80% each other to produce one integrated processed image by a software (Pix4D mapper). To determine the distance between two shutter points is calculated by below formula:



Vertical projection of the flycam at the shooting point



Horizontal projection of the ground surface captured by flycam

With the specifications provide by DJI, Phantom 4 Pro has shutter angle  $84^\circ$ , height 500m (maximum), the coverage of 2 adjacent images is 80%. Therefore, image size and the distance between shutter points is calculated as follows:

$$R = \tan(84/2) \times 500 = 450,2\text{m}$$

**The area of the square inscribed in a circle**  
 $(S) = (R \times \sqrt{2})^2 = (450,2 \times \sqrt{2})^2 = 40,535\text{ha}$

To collect the largest image, the aspect ration of the image must be set 4:3, the 2 size lengths of the image are:

$$a = R \times \sqrt{2} = 450,2 \times \sqrt{2} = 636,68\text{m}$$

$$b = 3/4 \times a = 3/4 \times 636,68 = 477,51\text{m}$$

The distance between 2 shutter points is calculated:

$$\text{Horizontal distance} = a \times (100-80)\% = 636,68 \times (100-80)\% = 127,34\text{m}$$

$$\text{Vertical distance} = b \times (100-80)\% = 477,51 \times (100-80)\% = 95,5\text{m}$$

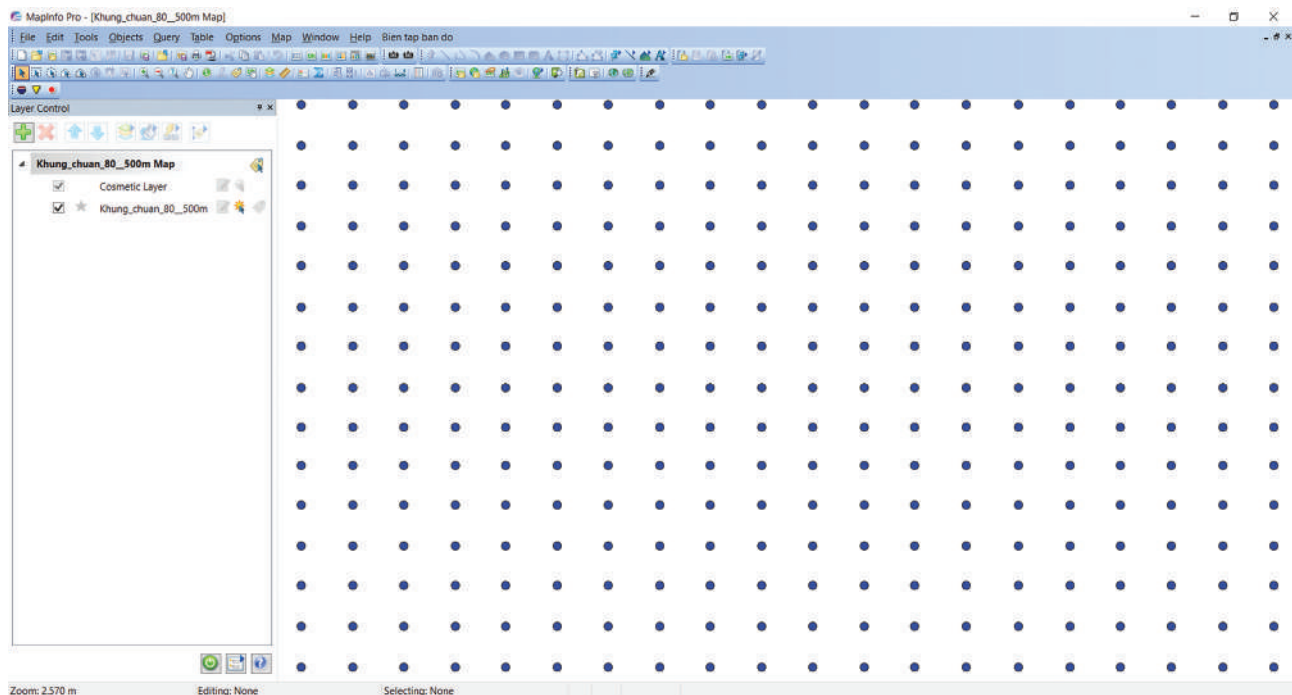
(1) <https://flylitchi.com/>

## 4.2.1

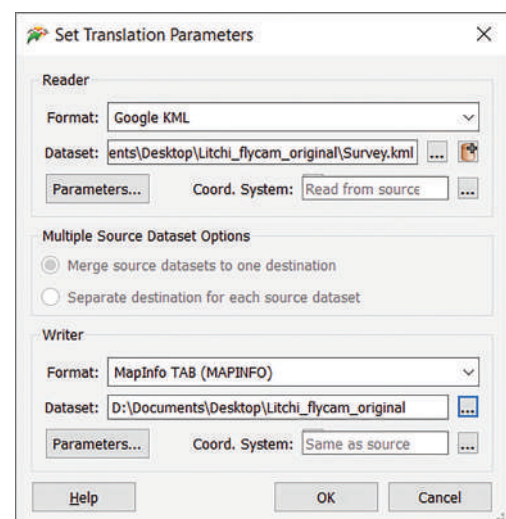
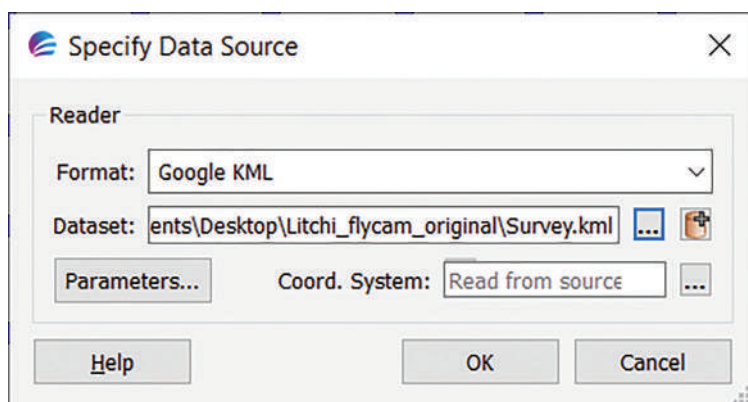
## Flight plan preparation on GIS application (Mapinfo) and export the data to Google Earth

Flight plan can be directly made on Litchi (tablet (iPad) or web browser). However, this manual recommends to make the flight plans in GIS application such as Mapinfo or QGIS first, then export the data to Litchi to save time and secure the accuracies of the plan. Mapinfo is applied in this manual as technical staff of BNBPNMB/DNWPFBM is familiar with the tool.

- **Step 1:** Create a grid layer with a horizontal distance of 130m and vertical distance of 100m between points<sup>(2)</sup>



- **Step 2:** Import the file format “Google KML” created in the section 4.1: to File\Open Universal Data... or Tools\Universal Translator to change the format from “Google KML” to “MapInfo TAB”<sup>(3)</sup>

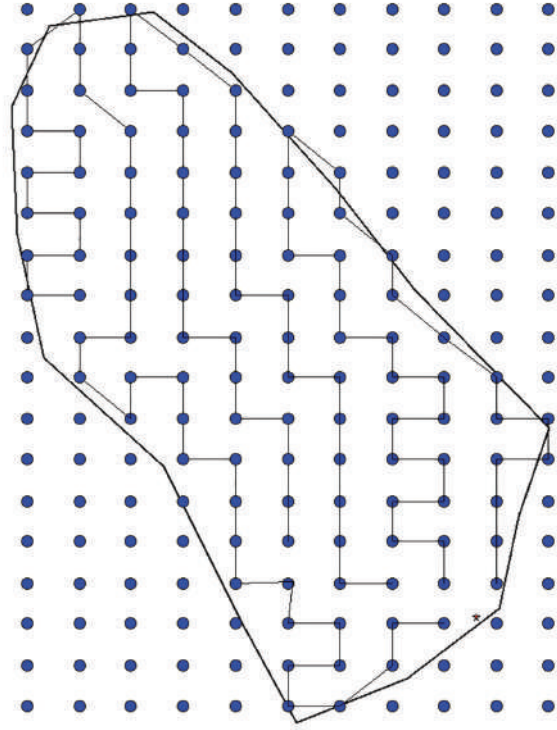
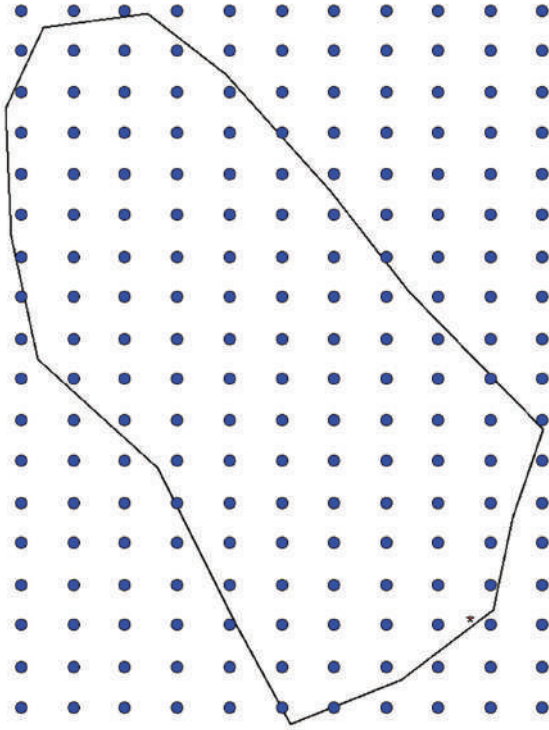


(2) The grid layer for flight points should be saved for the repeated use

(3) Apart from two above-mentioned tools, it is also recommended to use the BienTapBanDo tool by Pham Xuan Dam for easy format conversion



- **Step 3:** Confirm the added layer on surveyed area and operation point, and remove unnecessary points outside the surveyed area.
- **Step 4:** Use Polyline tool to draw flight routes. The recommended points of each flight are from 24 to 30 points with consideration of the starting point (red star)<sup>(4)</sup>.



Export Map Objects to Google Earth™

Output Path: D:\Documents\Desktop\

File Name: Cosmetic1\_2020\_2\_25\_10\_11

Description: 3 Items from Layer Cosmetic1

Select the source for the Place Name

☒ MapInfo Saved Objects

☐

Position objects (Height in meters)

☐ Follow Terrain

☒ Height Value: 500

☐ Height Field

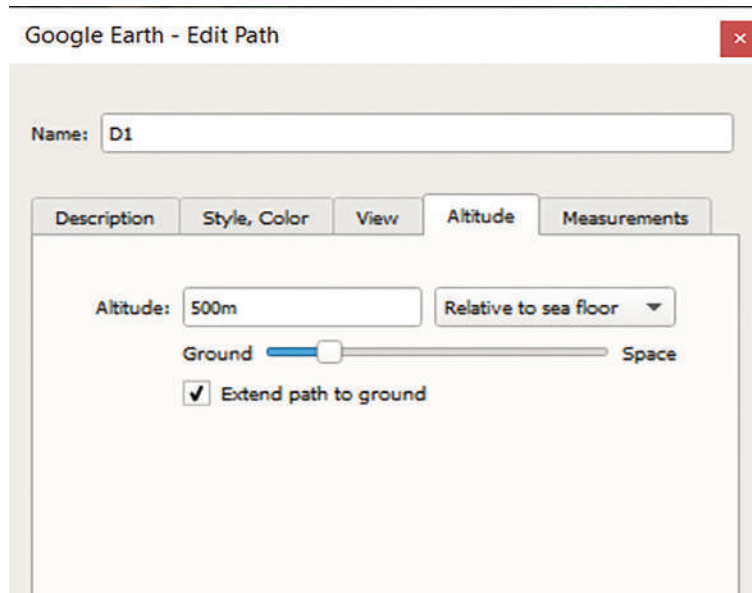
☒ Extend objects to ground

☒ Send to Google Earth now

Choose Columns OK Cancel

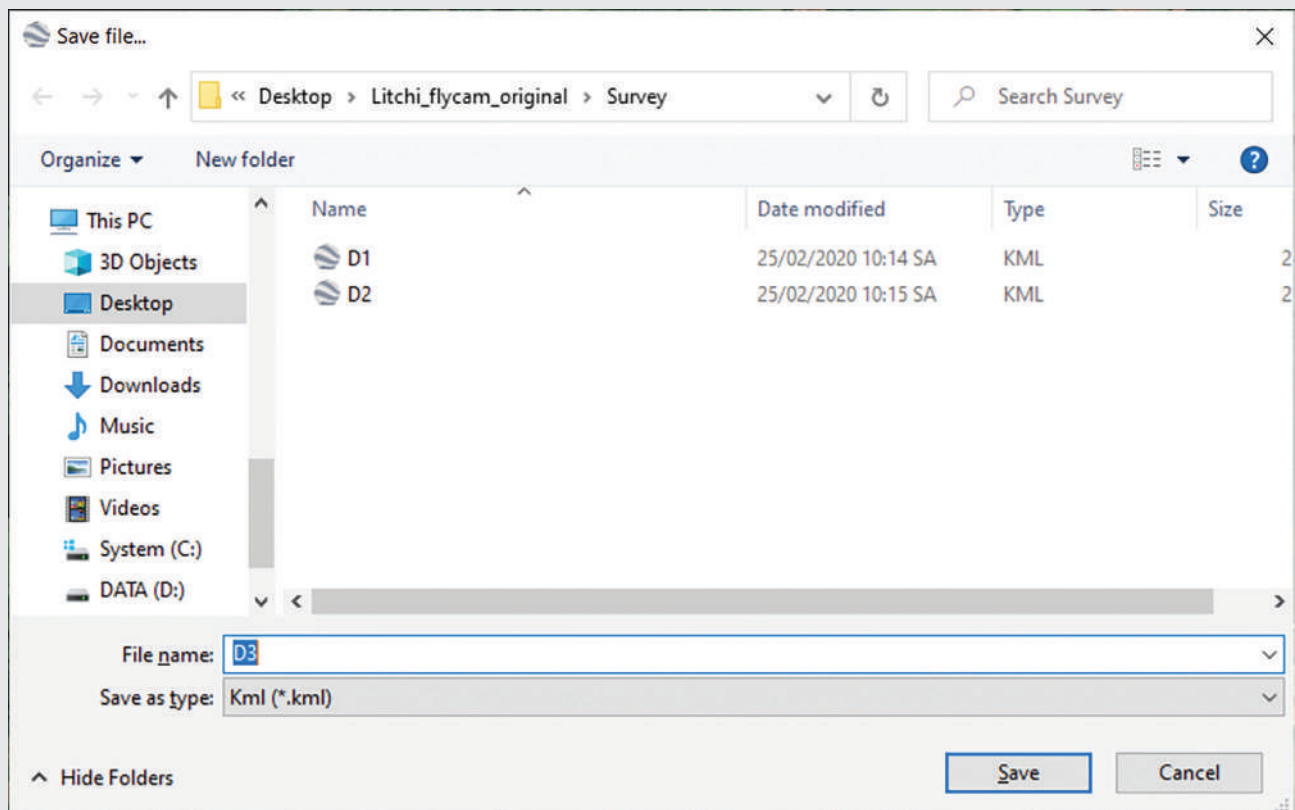
- **Step 5:** Select all flight routes and use Export Map to Google Earth tool to export flight routes to kml format. Fill in 500 meters as Height Value

(4) Flight routes should be optimized (shortest flight distance, and the starting and ending points of the flight plan are nearest to the operation point).



- **Step 6:** Open the kml format file exported in step 5 in Google Earth, rename each flight routes and set “Relative to Sea Floor” (Select flight routes\Properties\Attitude)

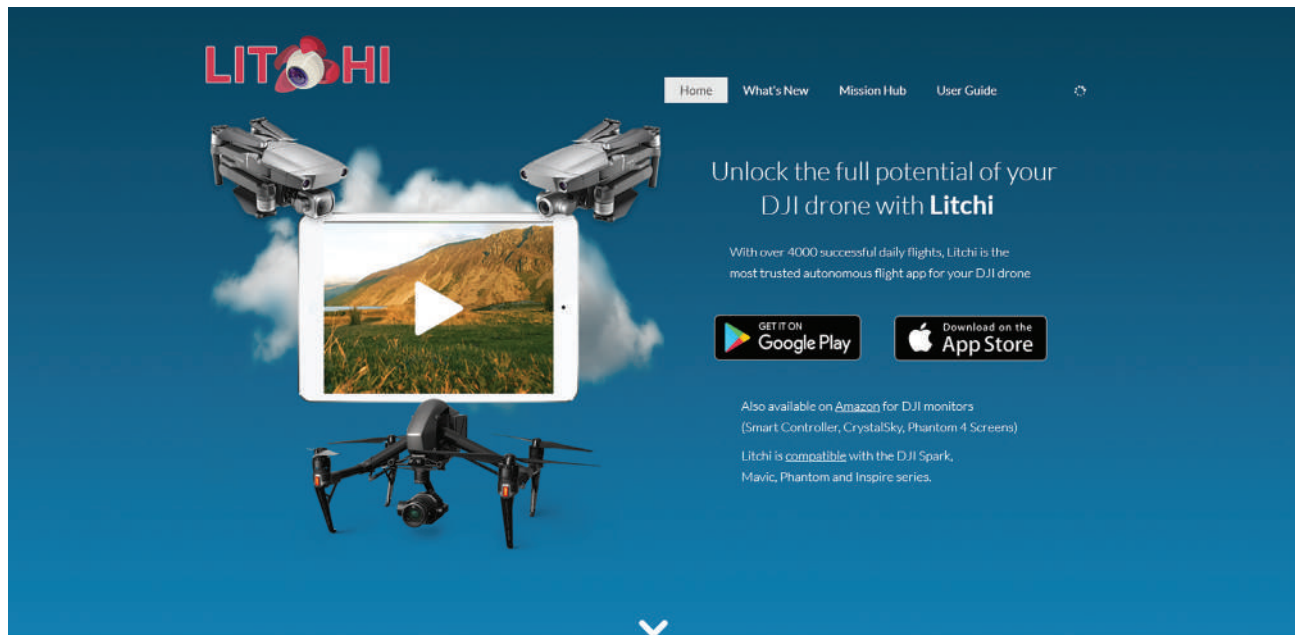
- **Step 7:** Save flight route (Select flight route\Save Place As) as kml format



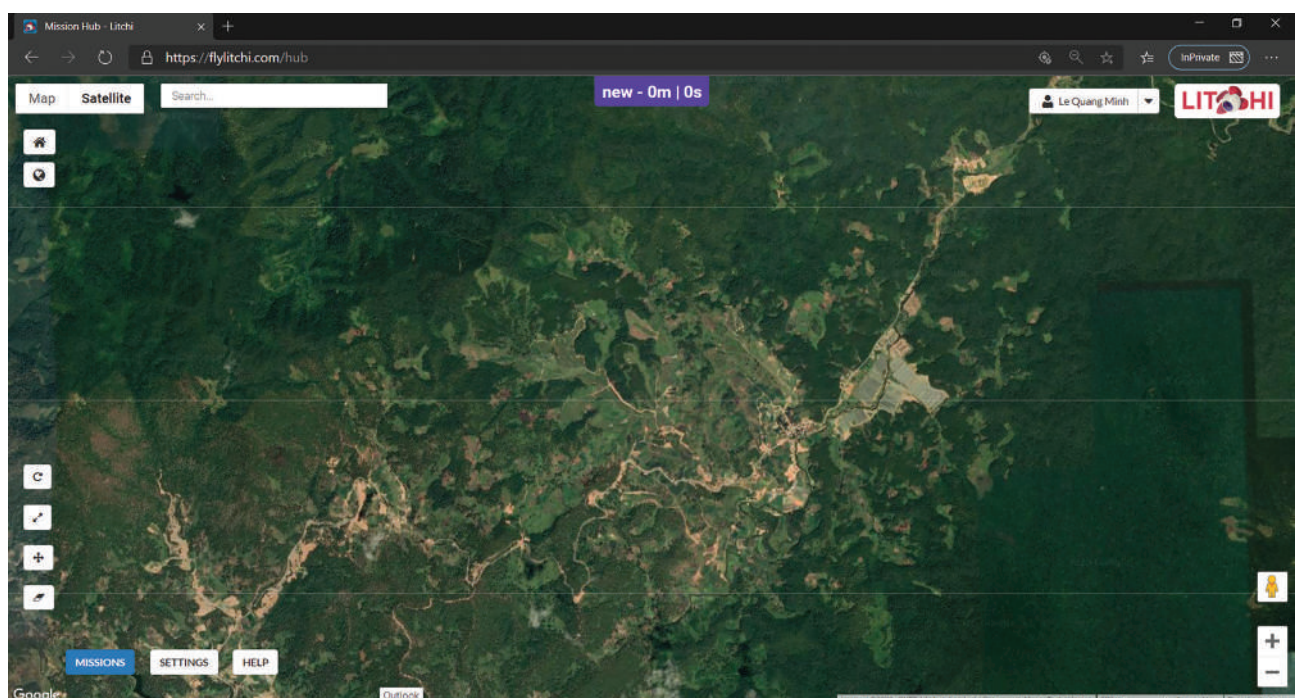
## 4.2.2 Flight plan preparation on Litchi (web browse)

After the completion of the flight plan preparation in kml format as mentioned in the section 4.2.1, the flight plan shall be imported in Litchi on web browser (recommended to use Google Chrome) to set up the complete flights. These plans shall be stored in the database of Litchi and synchronized with tablets.

- **Step 1:** Open Litchi on Web Browser using the link: <https://flylitchi.com/hub>



- **Step 2:** Log in with the same account on tablet<sup>(5)</sup>



(5) A free account can be created if you don't have an account

**Settings**

Units: ☐ Metric ☐ Imperial

Heading Mode: ☐ Auto (TNW) ☐ Initial (ID) ☐ Manual (UC) ☐ Custom (WD)

Finish Action: ☐ None ☐ RTH ☐ Land ☐ Back to 1 ☐ Reverse

Path Mode: ☐ Straight Lines ☐ Curved Turns

Cruising Speed: 54.0km/h

Max Flight Speed: 54.0km/h

Photo Capture Interval: ☐ Disabled ☐ Seconds ☐ Meters

Default Curve Size: 0%

Default Gimbal Pitch Mode: ☐ Disabled ☐ Focus POI ☐ Interpolate

Show Discover Missions: ☒

Use Online Elevation: ☐

- **Step 3:** Select Settings and set parameters as follows:

- ◆ Aircraft: Mavic/Phantom 3-4/Inspire 1-2
- ◆ Units: Metric
- ◆ Heading Mode: Custom (WD)
- ◆ Finish Action: RTH
- ◆ Path Mode: Straight Lines
- ◆ Cruising Speed: 54.0km/h
- ◆ Max Flight Speed: 54.0km/h
- ◆ Default Curve Size: 0%
- ◆ Default Gimbal Pitch Mode: Disable

- **Step 4:** Import flight plan created in the section 4.2.1 and check Add Take Photo Action

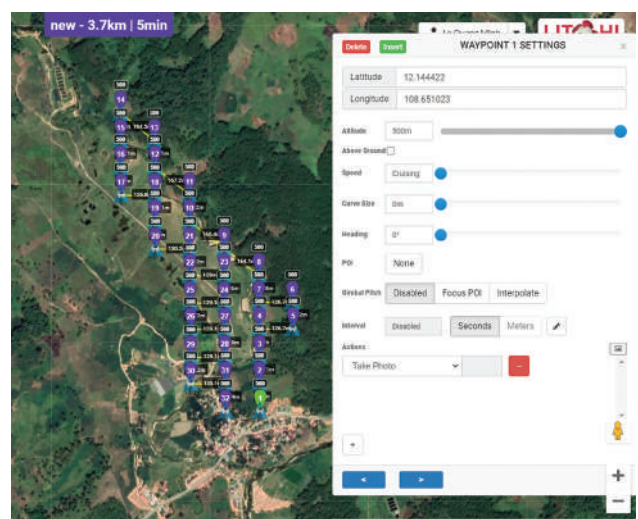
**Import**

D1.kml

Accepted formats:

- CSV (lat,lng[,altitude(m/ft),heading(°),curve(m/ft),rotationdir,gimbalmode,gimbalangle,actiontypeX,actionparamX,...])
- KML ☐ Treat Views as Waypoints ☒ Add Take Photo Action
- Litchi Mission

- **Step 5:** Check the flight plan and save. When multiple flight plans are created, please be noted that consecutive saving would be failed as one plan requires a few minutes time for synchronizing between the server and Litchi account.

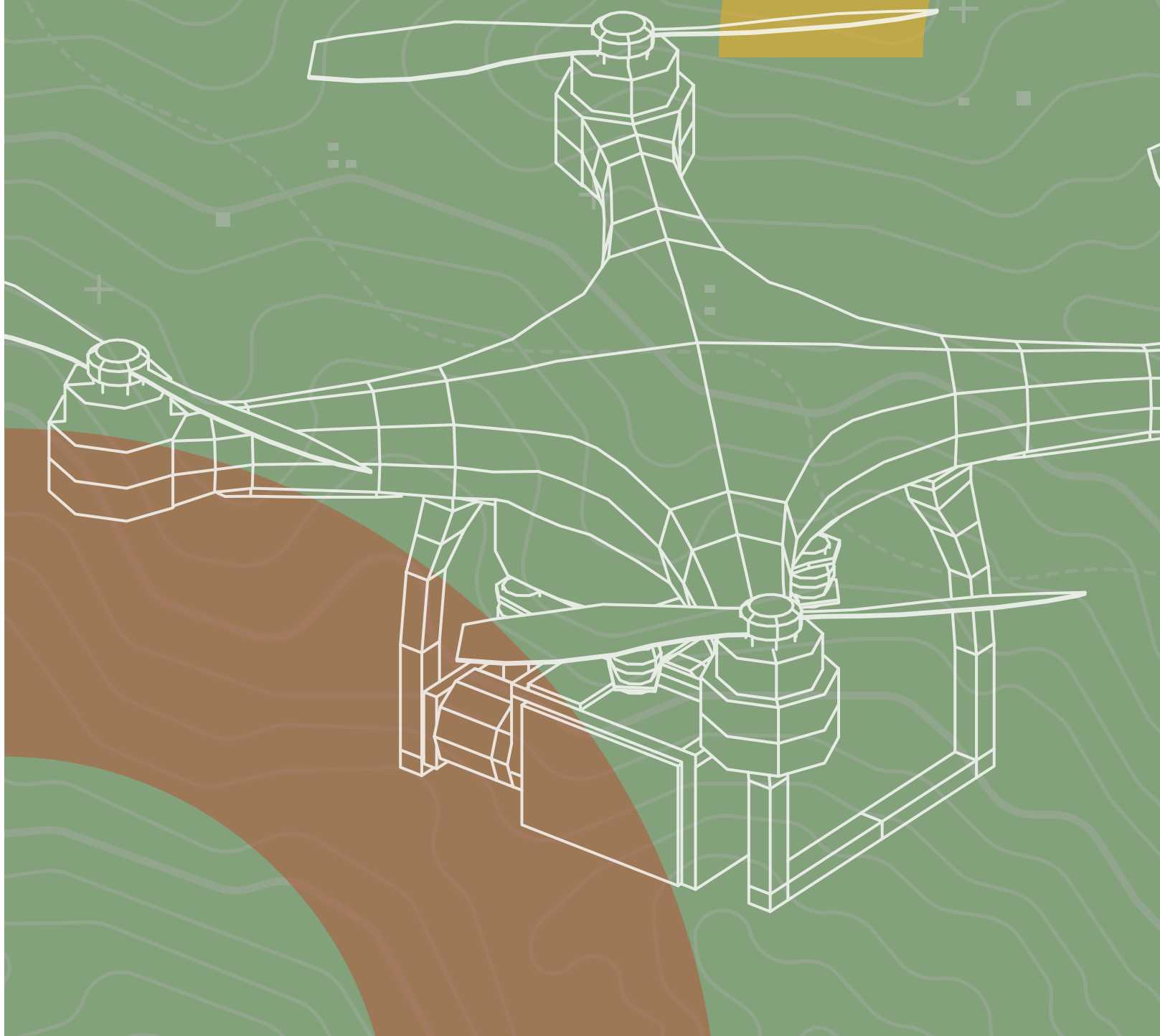




CHAPTER

# 5

## FLIGHT OPERATION



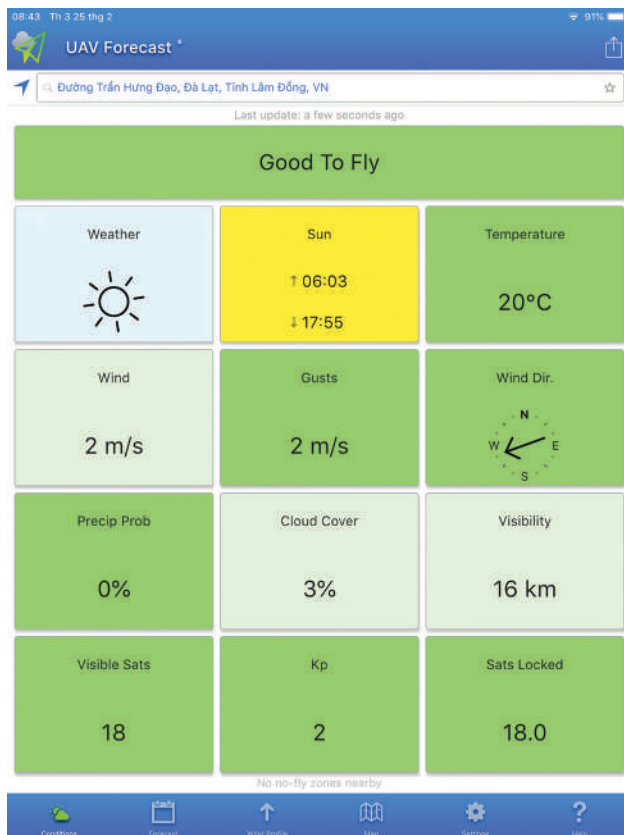
Flycam operation is one of the most important topics in this manual in order to secure the safe flight for long term use and obtain the required data to monitor forest resources. In this chapter, the following sub-topics are covered;

- 5.1. Checking weather conditions before the flight
- 5.2. Flight operation (manual pilot)
- 5.3. Flight operation (auto pilot)
- 5.4. Measures for emergency situations



## 5.1. Checking weather conditions before the flight

Weather factors such as wind, rain, temperature, fog, etc. will directly affect the flight safety as well as effectiveness of the survey. Therefore, the operator is required to check the weather conditions before conducting the flight. There are several applications to support the flycam operator to check the weather conditions timely, and this manual recommends to use an application “UAV Forecast” to check the above factors. UAV Forecast provides not only the weather information, but also information on “no-fly zones” (e.g. around airport, high population density area, etc.).



Notifications on the screen include the followings::

- Good To Fly: possible to fly
- Weather: current weather condition
- Sun: sunrise and sunset time
- Temperature: temperature at operation point
- Wind: wind speed
- Gusts: sudden/ strong wind that blows for a very short time
- Wind Dir: wind direction
- Precip Prob: probability of rain
- Cloud Cover
- Visibility
- Visible Sats: number of satellites
- Kp: geomagnetic disruption
- Sats Locked: number of locked satellites

The above set of information provides whether it is possible to make a flight at the time of checking. And UAV forecast has functions to provide the additional information such as weather forecast on the above set of indicators by hour as well as weather conditions (wind speed, gust speed and temperature) by altitudes as indicated as below.



The threshold of each parameter of weather conditions can be set up in the application, so that the operator should properly and regularly check/update the setting status.

UAV Forecast

Đường Trần Hưng Đạo, Đà Lạt, Tỉnh Lâm Đồng, VN

Last update: a few seconds ago

Time	Gusts (m/s)	Temp (°C)	Precip Prob	Cloud Cover	Visibility (km)	Visible Sats	Kp	Est. Sats Locked	Good To Fly?
<b>Current Conditions 08:42 +07</b>									
08:42	2	20°C	0%	3%	16	18	2	18.0	yes
<b>Tuesday 2020-02-25: sunrise 06:03, sunset 17:55</b>									
09:00	2	21°C	0%	2%	16	18	2	18.0	yes
10:00	2	24°C	0%	0%	16	17	2	17.0	yes
11:00	2	27°C	0%	0%	16	16	2	15.8	yes
12:00	3	28°C	0%	0%	16	13	2	12.8	yes
13:00	3	28°C	0%	0%	16	15	1	14.9	yes
14:00	3	27°C	0%	22%	16	15	1	15.0	yes
15:00	3	25°C	2%	51%	16	15	1	15.0	yes
16:00	3	23°C	2%	74%	16	11	1	11.0	no
17:00	3	21°C	2%	79%	16	14	1	14.0	yes
18:00	3	19°C	2%	80%	16	13	1	12.9	yes
19:00	4	18°C	3%	79%	13	13	1	12.4	yes
20:00	3	17°C	2%	82%	16	13	1	11.9	no
21:00	3	16°C	2%	84%	16	12	1	11.0	no
22:00	2	16°C	0%	84%	16	12	1	10.8	no
23:00	2	16°C	1%	79%	16	10	1	9.5	no
<b>Wednesday 2020-02-26: sunrise 06:02, sunset 17:55</b>									
00:00	2	15°C	2%	73%	16	11	1	9.8	no
01:00	2	15°C	1%	68%	16	14	1	12.3	yes
02:00	2	15°C	1%	70%	16	13	1	11.7	no
03:00	2	15°C	0%	74%	16	14	1	12.5	yes
04:00	2	15°C	0%	78%	16	14	2	12.6	yes
05:00	2	15°C	0%	79%	16	14	2	13.5	yes
06:00	2	15°C	0%	79%	16	17	2	16.8	yes
07:00	2	16°C	0%	79%	16	19	2	18.9	yes
08:00	2	18°C	0%	78%	16	13	2	13.0	yes

Weather forecasts on the set of indicators in the next 24 hours include the followings;

- Time: time in the day
- Gusts: sudden/ strong wind that blows for a very short time
- Temp (°C): Air temperature
- Precip: probability of rain
- Cloud Cover: cloud coverage
- Visibility (km): sight distance
- Visible Sats: number of satellites
- Kp: Geometric disruption
- Et. Sats Locked: number of locked satellites
- Good To Fly: Yes/No at surveyed time

*\* Note: The green part is a favorable time for survey*

Optimum flight altitude table includes the followings;

- Altitude AGL: Altitude for checking
- Wind Speed: Wind speed by altitude
- Gust Speed: Strong wind speed by altitude
- Temperature: temperature by altitude

*\* Note: The green part is a favorable altitude for survey.*

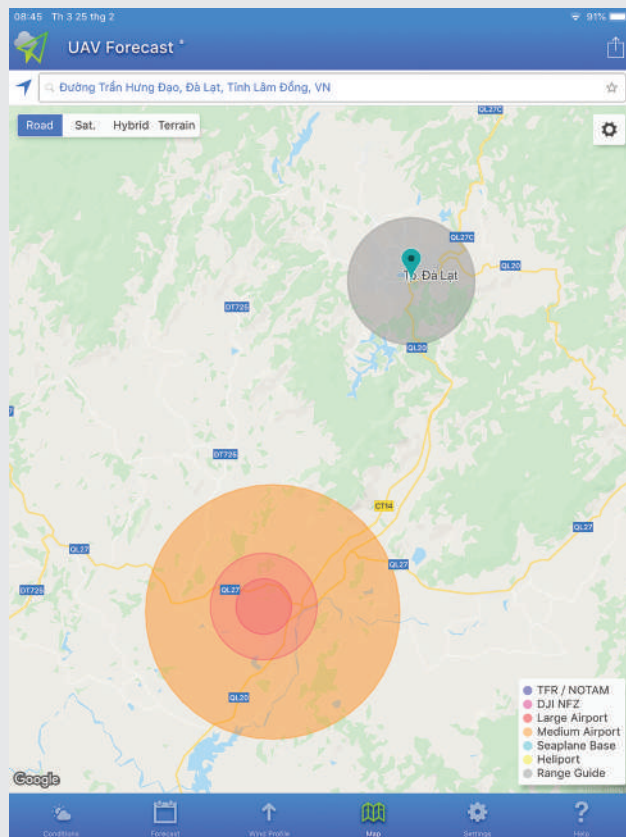
UAV Forecast

Trần Hưng Đạo, Phường 10, Lâm Đồng, VN

Last update: a few seconds ago

Altitude AGL	Wind Speed	Gust Speed	Temperature
1500m	35 km/h	52 km/h	8°C
1400m	35 km/h	51 km/h	9°C
1300m	34 km/h	51 km/h	10°C
1200m	33 km/h	50 km/h	11°C
1100m	33 km/h	49 km/h	12°C
1000m	32 km/h	49 km/h	13°C
900m	31 km/h	48 km/h	14°C
800m	30 km/h	47 km/h	15°C
700m	29 km/h	46 km/h	15°C
600m	28 km/h	45 km/h	16°C
500m	27 km/h	42 km/h	17°C
400m	25 km/h	39 km/h	18°C
300m	24 km/h	36 km/h	19°C
200m	21 km/h	34 km/h	20°C
100m	18 km/h	30 km/h	21°C
50m	15 km/h	25 km/h	22°C
10m	10 km/h	16 km/h	22°C

Thanks for using UAV Forecast! Subscribers can see the cloudbase height, max wind altitude, elevation, and air density altitude here too.



Notifications on no-flight zone include the followings;

- Good To Fly: possible to fly
- TFR/NOTAM: Temporary flight restriction
- DJI NFZ: DJI Restricted areas
- Large Airport: Restricted areas of large airport
- Medium Airport: Restricted areas of medium airport
- Seaplane Base: Seaplane areas
- Heliport: Landing areas for helicopters
- Range Guide: Flycam operation range

*\* Note: The radius of the area can be adjusted by setting (need to be consistent with legal regulations for each restricted area).*



## 5.2. Flycam Operation (Manual-Pilot)

Manual-Pilot is a mode to operate flycam manually using either DJI GO 4 or Litchi. Basically, this manual recommends to apply auto-piloting (see section 5.3) for the survey, and this manual-pilot mode should only be used in case i) emergency situation during the auto-pilot mode, and ii) requires to grasp the situation quickly by movie or individual photos.

### 5.2.1 Introduction on functions of DJI Go 4

DJI Go 4 is a default application developed by DJI for flycam operation. This application is also used to calibrate flycam before the survey for a safe and effective flight. This section of the manual will introduce functions of the DJI Go 4.

08:47 Th 3 25 thg 2

90%



# Device

Choose a Device

MAVIC 2



MAVIC AIR



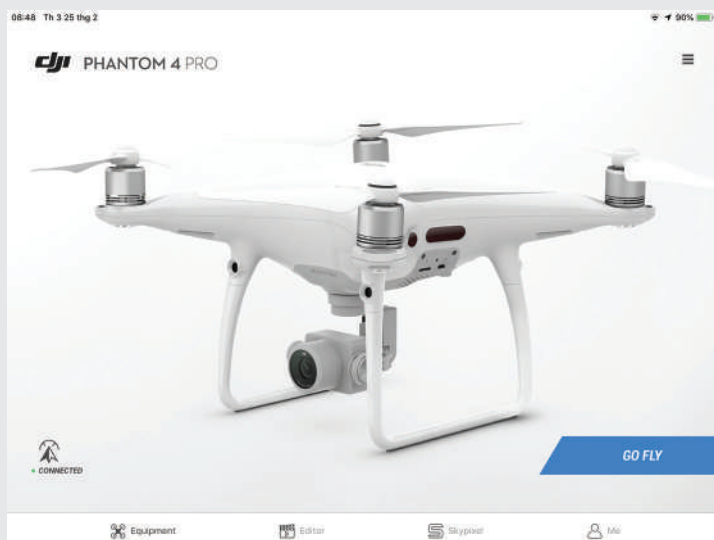
SPARK



PHANTOM 4  
ADVANCED

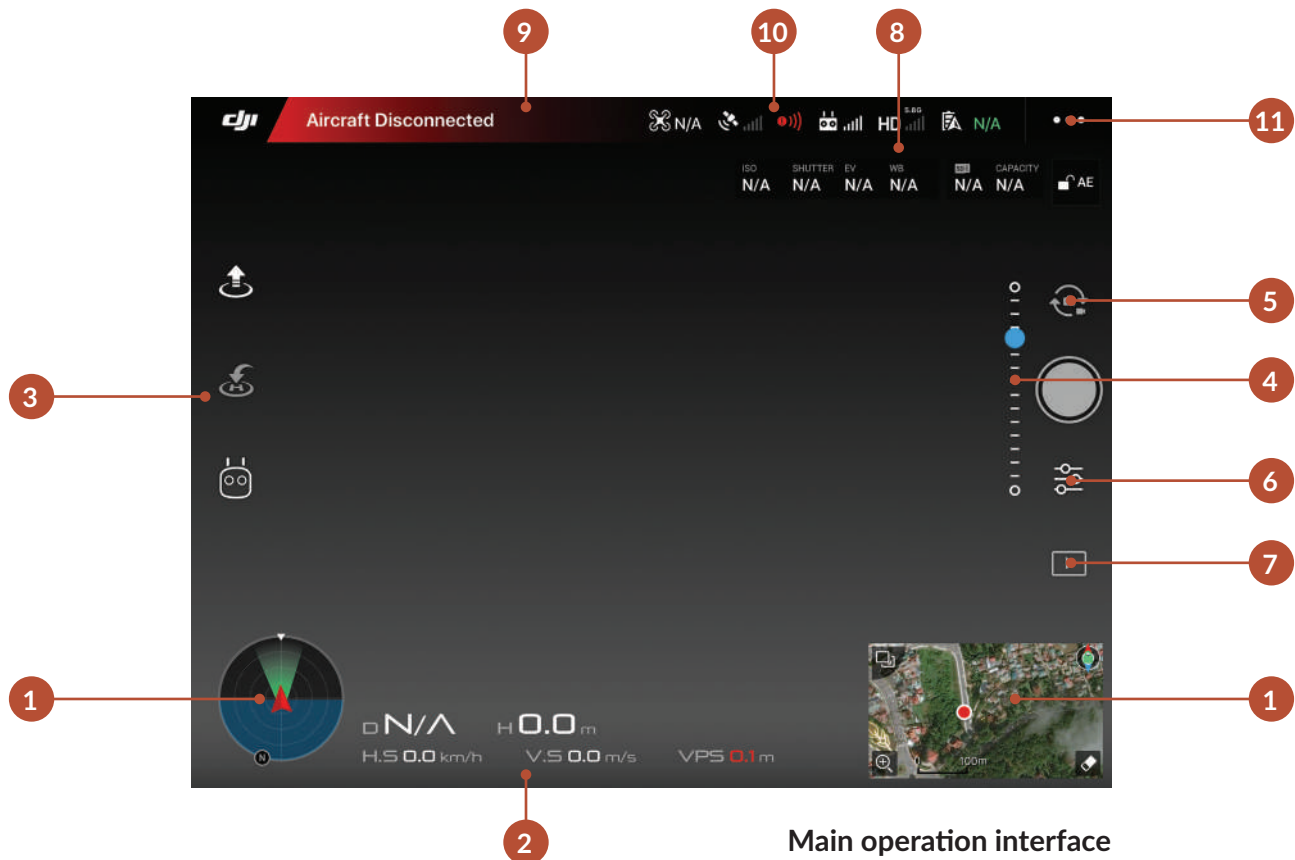


Select the device for the operation



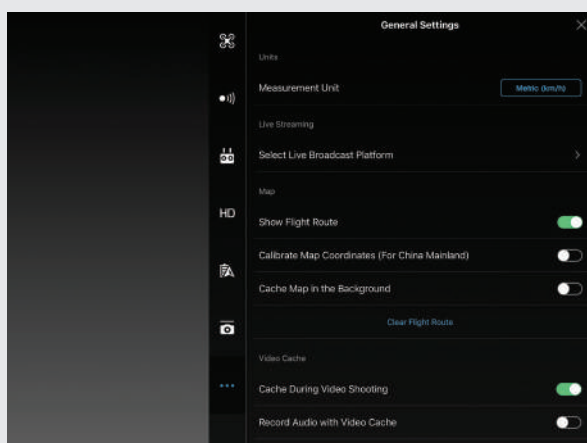
## Information interface of DJI Go 4

- Device connection notification
- Firmware update and restricted area
- User information management
- Manuals



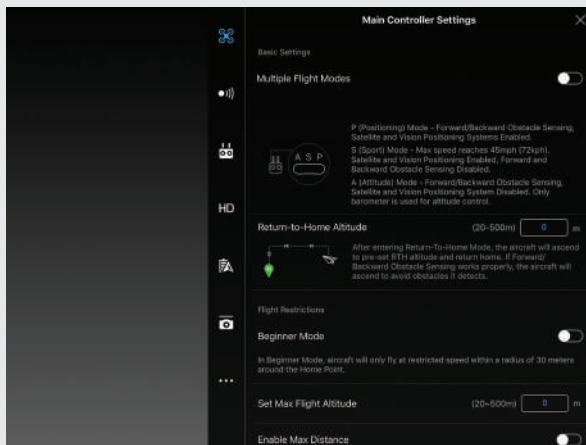
Main operation interface

- |   |   |    |  |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | Compass and map                           | 6  | Image parameter setting                |
| 2 | Distance notification                     | 7  | Images preview                         |
| 3 | Take-off and return buttons               | 8  | Technical parameter of image           |
| 4 | Gimbal shooting angle control bar         | 9  | Notification of favorable conditions   |
| 5 | Video recording and photo shooting switch | 10 | Signal and battery status notification |
|   |   | 11 | General setting                        |



### General setting

- Unit setting
- Map and flight route setting
- Image sharing setting
- Device status warning
- Information about firmware

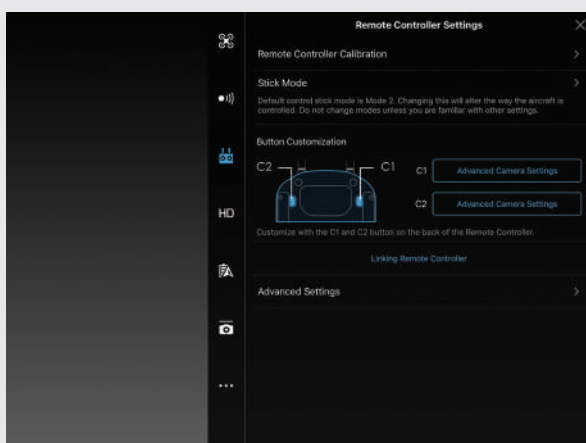
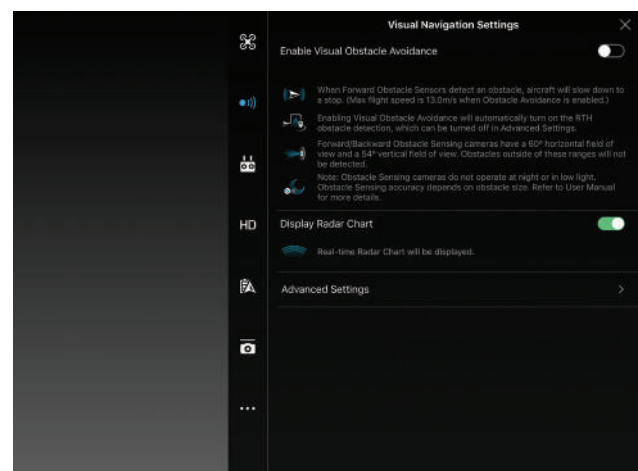


### Main Controller Settings

- Flight mode setting: P/A/F
- Return-to-Home Altitude (RTH): must be higher than surrounding obstacles
- Flight height and distance setting
- Advanced setting:
  - ◆ Operation lag
  - ◆ Sensitivity
  - ◆ Sensor and compass
  - ◆ CSC setting (emergency stop)

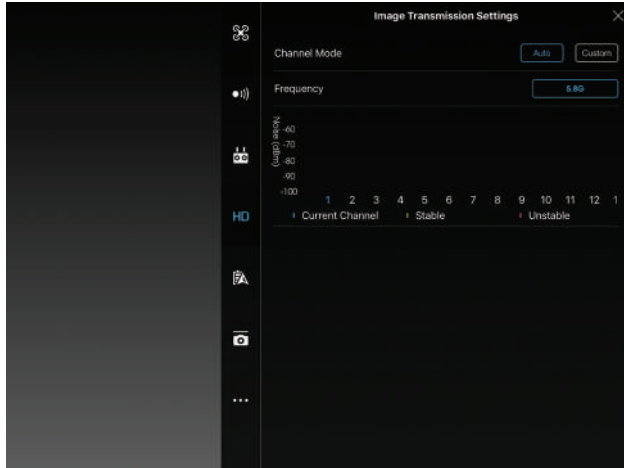
### Visual Navigation Settings

Customized directions: this setting table is used for flycam to automatically avoid obstacles based on sensor (use the flight mode P in the main operator's setting section)



### Remote Controller Settings

- Calibrate controller (if misaligned)
- Control type: recommended mode 2 – default
- Shortcut customization (function)
- Connecting controller to Flycam (on the first use)

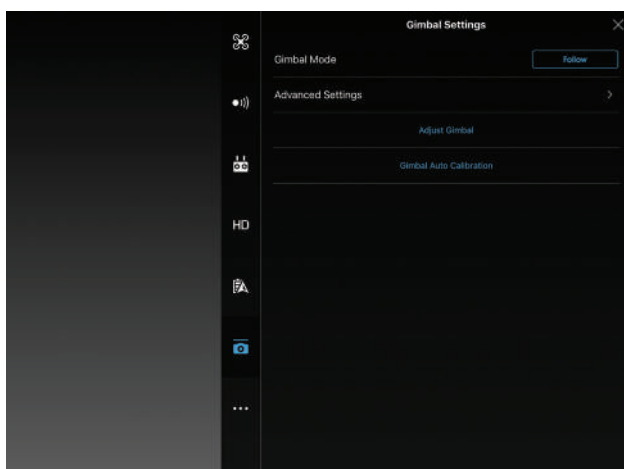
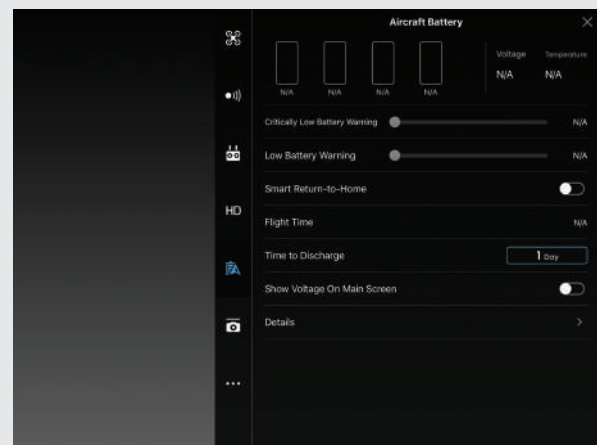


### Image Transmission Settings

Frequency setting: to ensure the best connection of the device to the controller, including 2 frequencies 2.4Ghz and 5.8Ghz. Recommend to switch to the frequency 5.8Ghz in interference-prone areas

### Aircraft Battery

- Information about battery status
- Low battery warning
- Smart Return-to-Home
- Time to Discharge



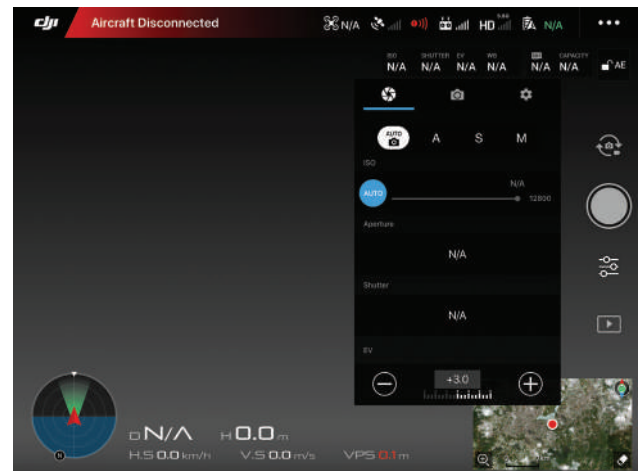
### Gimbal Settings

- Information about battery status
- Gimbal rotation mode
- Calibrate Gimbal



**Image setting:**

- Calibrate iso, shutter, AV
- Calibrate image scale, format,...
- Memory card removal



## 5.2.2 Pre-survey calibrations

In order to ensure a safe survey, the operator should calibrate the device via DJI Go 4 application. Calibrations are required for sensor, compass, controller, and gimbal.

- **Step 1:** Put the aircraft on a flat, wide, airy surface far from metal and magnetic objects, and remove propellers from main aircraft
- **Step 2:** Turn on the controller, aircraft and start DJI Go 4 on the tablet and wait for a stable connection between the devices
- **Step 3:** Calibrate the functions in the following order;
  - ◆ Sensor: Select General Settings> Main Controller Settings> Advanced Settings> Sensors> IMU> Calibrate IMU. Rotate the aircraft as guided on the screen. After the completion, place the aircraft at the original position and press Restart.
  - ◆ Compass: Select General Settings> Main Controller Settings> Advanced Settings> Sensors> Compass> Calibrate Compass. Rotate the aircraft as guided at the height of 1.5m
  - ◆ Controller (recommend: do not operate Flycam in the same direction with the controller): Select General Settings> Remote Controller Settings> Remote Controller Calibration> Calibrate. Pull 2 control arms and Gimbal rotating rod to the directions respectively.
  - ◆ Gimbal (recommend: Conduct Gimbal to obtain misaligned images): General Settings> Gimbal Settings> Gimbal Auto Calibrate. Wait for the aircraft to auto-calibrate.

### 5.2.3 Manual Flycam Operations

Please follow the instruction as follows;

- **Step 1:** Check the connection among controller, tablet and aircraft



1. Connect with the controller using USB cable



2. Roll up the cable neatly



3. Set the table on mobile device holder



4. Check the connection with the tablet

- **Step 2:** Check battery status and connection notification



1. Check battery status: press once  
Start the controller: press twice and hold

*\*Note: do the same steps for Flycam battery.*



2. If "Connected" is shown, it means Flycam is ready to operate

- **Step 3: Operations:** in this manual, follow the default setting by the manufacturer (mode – 2) and recommend the operator not to set up another operation mode.



Start by pulling 2 control arms down inwards



Gently push the left control arm up to increase the height of Flycam

*\*Note: Flycam should be elevated to the safety height where no obstacles around*



Pull the left control arm to the left to navigate the flycam to the left



Pull the left control arm to the right to navigate the flycam to the right



Pull the left control arm down to descend or for landing

*\*Note: in case of landing, tightly hold the arm until the flycam motor is off*



Press and hold the Return-to-Home (RTH) button when the flycam needs to return to the starting point automatically

*\*Note: must look for surrounding obstacles/check the setting of the height of RTH mode in DJI Go 4 in advance*





Push the right control arm up so that the flycam moves forwards



Pull the right control arm down so that the flycam moves backwards



Pull the left control arm to the left to navigate the flycam to the left



Pull the left control arm to the right to navigate the flycam to the right

*\* Notes on flycam movement operations: the controller's direction need to be matched with the flycam's direction (Gimbal direction) to avoid mis-control*



- Turn the Gimbal control button to rotate Gimbal up or down
- Press Record button to switch and record movie



- Turn the camera setting to get the best data
- Press Shutter button to take snapshot

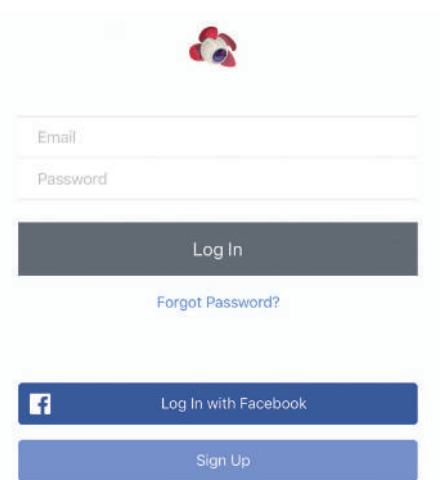
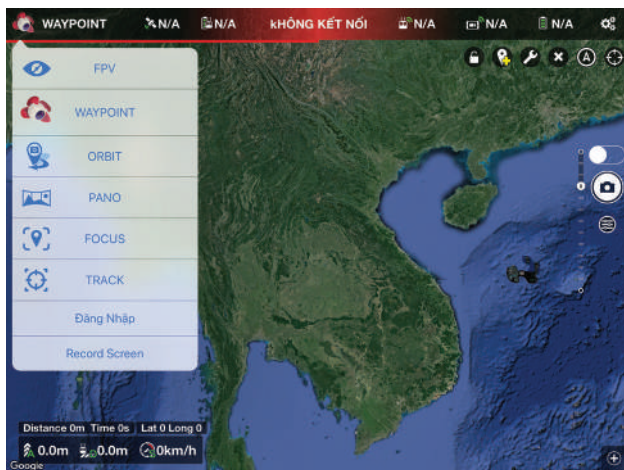


### 5.3. Flycam Operation (Auto-Pilot)

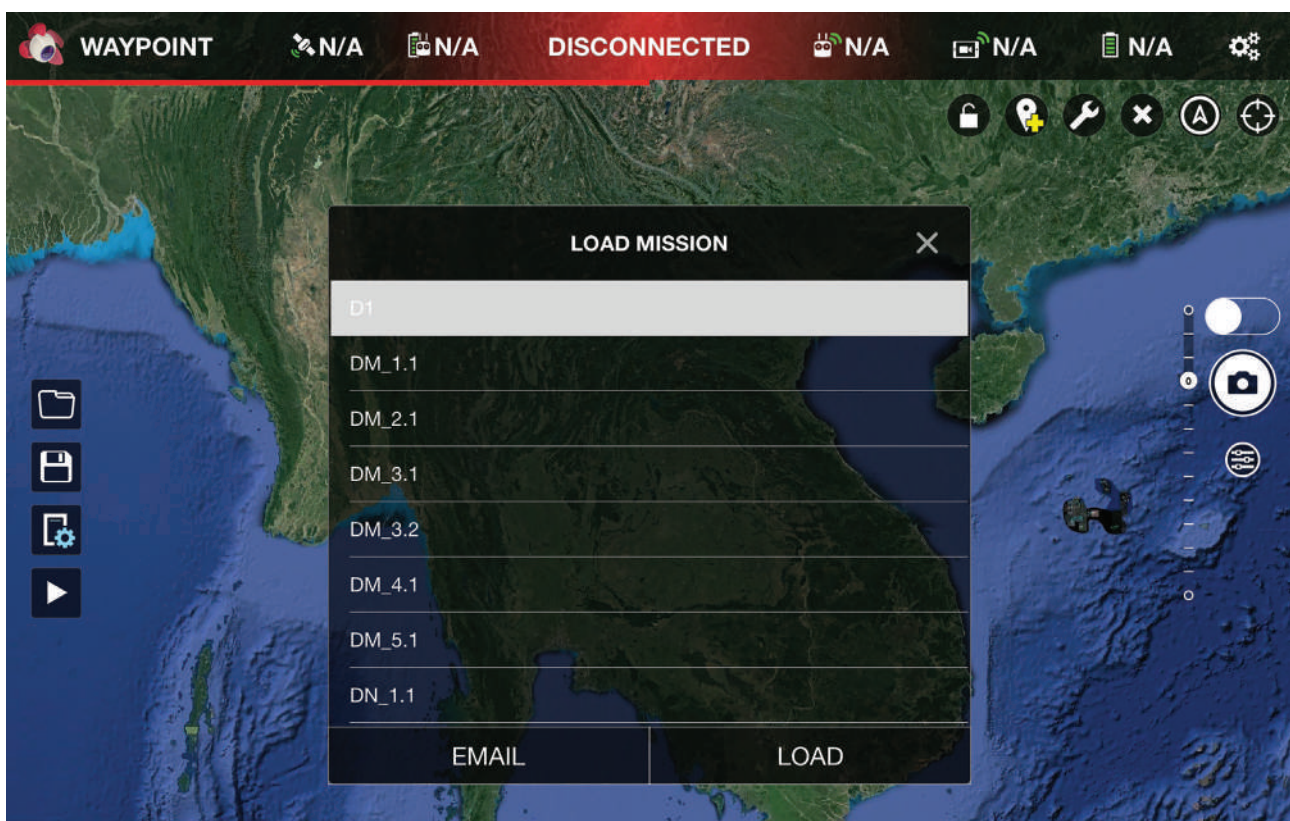
Once the flight routes are set up using GIS and Litchi application as guided in Chapter 4, these flight routes will be synchronized with the Litchi's server and tablet.

Operations on the tablet are as follows:

- **Step 1:** Connect aircraft with controller and tablet
- **Step 2:** Open Litchi application on the tablet, switch to Waitpoints mode and log in to the account (Litchi account as set up in section 4.2.2)



- **Step 3:** Open the flight route and choose the one to be surveyed.





- **Step 4:** Set up and check required technical parameters
  - ◆ Heading: Custom
  - ◆ Finish Action: RTH
  - ◆ Path Mode: Straight Lines
  - ◆ Cruising Speed: 54.0km/h
  - ◆ Max Flight Speed: 54.0km/h
  - ◆ Default Curve Size: 0%
  - ◆ Default Gimbal Pitch Mode: Disable
  - ◆ Rotations Direction: Managed
  - ◆ Attitude: 500m (check for each point)



- **Step 5:** Select Play (▶) button to start the auto flight operation.

Notes:

- ◆ Switch the video recording to image shooting mode (if needed)
- ◆ Turn Gimbal down to the ground when the route is started.
- ◆ Always check the controller's screen for trouble shooting when needed.
- ◆ During the flight, Flycam may miss the shooting point sometimes, in that case, the operator need to add the shooting point manually
- ◆ Recommend to Format the memory card before survey (01 only before the first flight)
- ◆ Recommend to use Clear Cache function (do not Format the card) of DJI Go 4 after the completion of each flight.



## 5.4. Measures for Emergency Situations

This section guides the readers on how to deal with emergency cases during the flycam operation in order to avoid or mitigate any severe damages, accidents, or low quality of collected data.

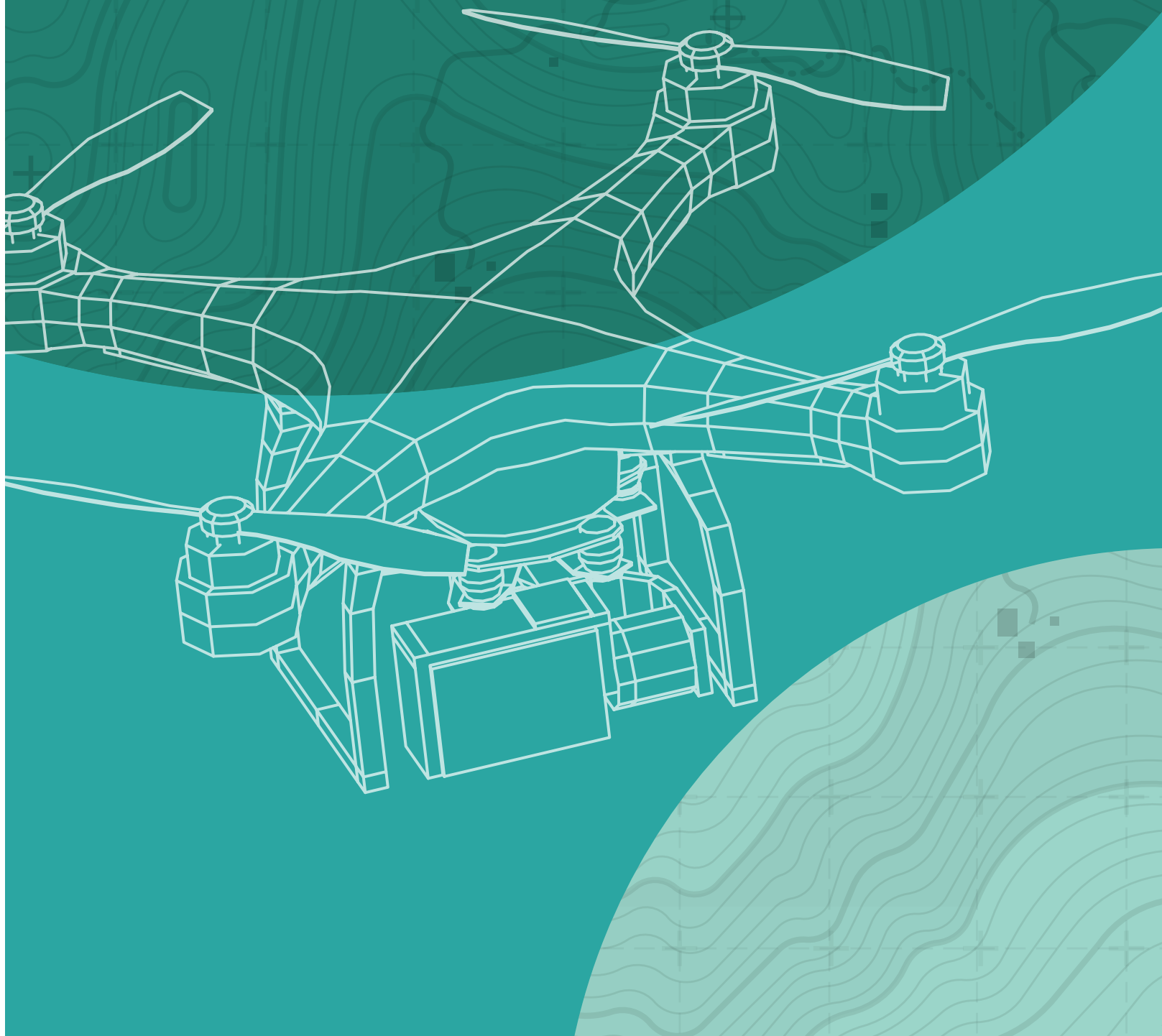
Emergency Situation	Measures/ Required Actions
Rain/ Frog	<p>Phantom 4 pro is not waterproof product so when it starts rain or deep frog during flight operation, following measures should be taken;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open DJI GO 4 and cancel the on-going flight (auto-pilot mode) and select “RTH (Return to Home)”. During the return, it is recommended to lower the height using the control arm to save time and avoid risks (Note: Keep checking on the screen to avoid unexpected crashes)</li> <li>• After landing, immediately check the flycam status; preliminary dry the device using the dehumidifying agent.</li> <li>• Dehydrate the device after the survey (using the anti-moisture box provided by SNRM project).</li> </ul>
Magnetic field interference	<p>Due to affection of the high-voltage power line/ other electronic devices which have strong magnetic field, flycam might be unable to take off and/ or control;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check surrounding conditions to avoid the locations affected by the above-mentioned factors.</li> <li>• Reset the compass and sensor</li> </ul>
Strong wind	<p>In case of strong wind, although Phantom 4 Pro is highly stable and less prone to accidents due to strong wind, following measures should be taken;</p> <p><b>Before Flight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not to operate when “UAV Forecast” shows that wind speed is more than 10m/s</li> <li>• Design and set up suitable routes (recommend: max. 30 survey points at the height of 500m and the distance to the furthest point of 3 km or less)</li> <li>• When there are the possibilities of sudden changes of weather conditions, it is highly recommended to reduce the number of survey points, dividing into smaller ones to ensure safety</li> </ul>

Emergency Situation	Measures/ Required Actions
Strong wind	<p><b>During Flight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When the flight is required to cancel due to the high wind speed, press RTH and lower the height. Keep watching the camera of flycam and in case not enough battery power is remaining for returning home, find a suitable place for flycam to land. Locate the landing position using maps and coordinates to search for flycam.</li> <li>When operator did the sudden stop in the conditions of strong wind with high-speed of aircraft, there is a possibility of “turn-over” the aircraft which may result in turning off the motors and damage the aircraft. In this case, quickly conduct the overhead re-start (same as the take-off procedures). Note: this should be done quickly (within 2 seconds)</li> </ul>
Weak signal	<p>Weak signal transmission is often caused by too long distance between controller and aircraft, interference, or the way of operation of the device by users. Following measures should be taken;</p> <p><b>Before Flight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure two antennas of controller in parallel each other and direct the antennas to the aircraft</li> <li>Design and set up suitable routes (recommend: max. 30 survey points at the height of 500m and the distance to the furthest point of 3 km or less)</li> <li>Set RTH mode as finish action on Litchi before the survey</li> </ul> <p><b>During Flight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequently check the monitor on the controller (even in auto-pilot mode) to take required action, i.e. cancel the auto-pilot mode and press RTH at early stage</li> </ul>
Stuck to tree branches, obstacles	<p>During the operation, the operator may mistakenly make flycam stuck to tree branches and obstacles, and motors burnt with loss of control. In this case, following measures/ actions are required;</p> <p><b>Before Flight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct the survey in suitable and obstacle-free areas.</li> <li>Check the flight mode with sensor (P-mode)</li> </ul> <p><b>After the accident</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the situation happens, quickly turn the motor off (CSC command) using the controller (Pull the control arm to the left and hold RTH button). Check and maintain the device (if needed)</li> <li>Check the last coordinates sent by the flycam to the controller to locate the crash position</li> </ul>

CHAPTER

# 6

## DATA PROCESSING





## 6.1. Pix4Dmapper

Pix4Dmapper<sup>(7)</sup> is a photogrammetry software for professional flycam-based mapping, using the photographs taken by flycam. It can produce various types of georeferenced 2D maps and 3D models, including digital surface and terrain models, orthomosaic maps, index maps (e.g. NDVI, NDRE), etc. With additional specialized camera such as multispectral or thermal camera, the range of data utilization can be significantly extended (e.g. monitoring growth of crops, forest fire, etc.).

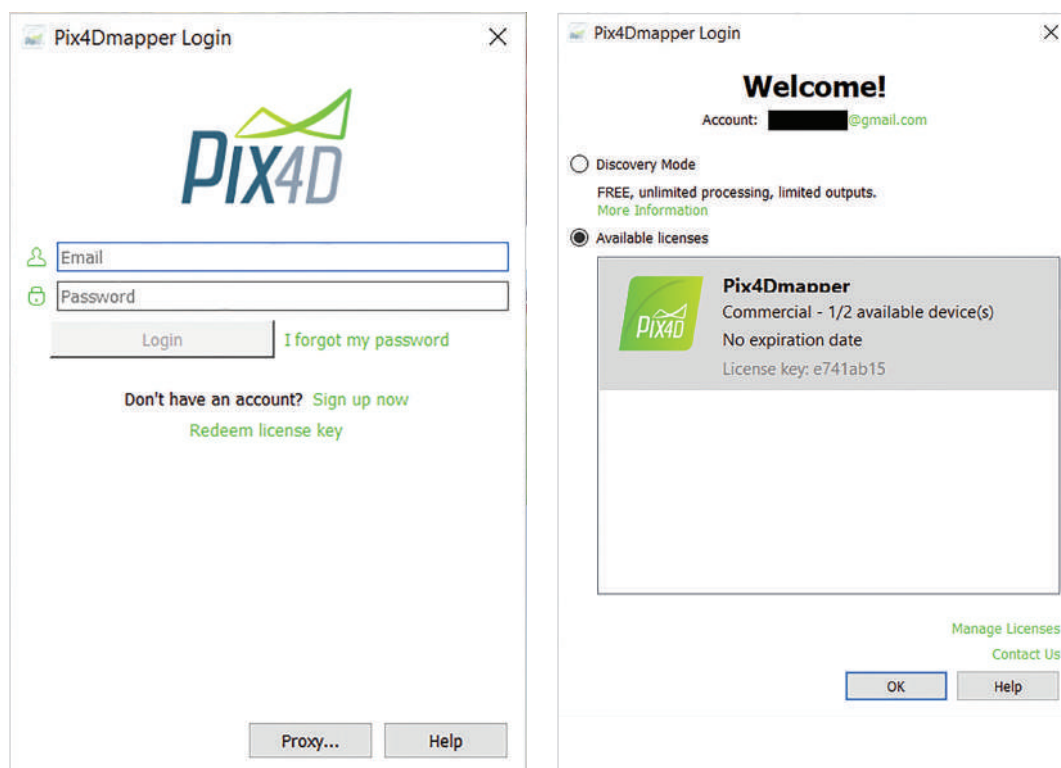
SNRM project has procured one permanent license and two laptops, and handed over to BNBPNMB and DNWPFMB respectively.



## 6.2. Data Processing

Data requirements for processing of Pix4Dmapper are as follows;

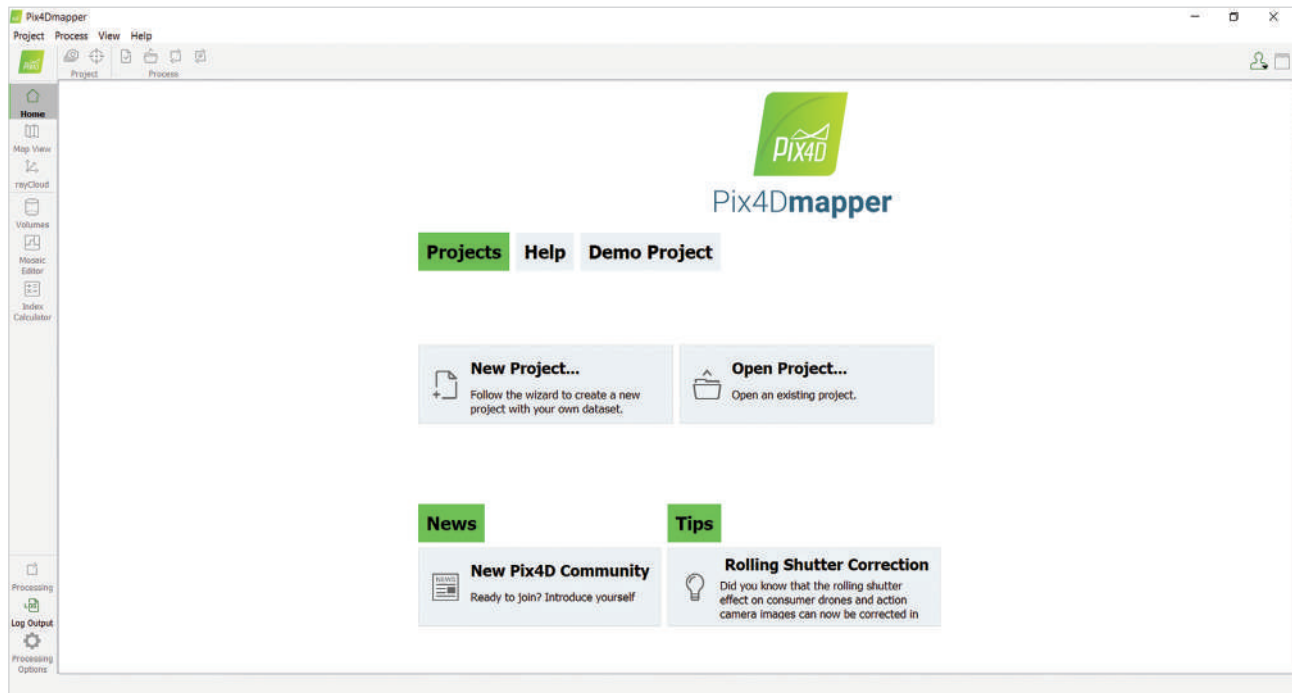
- **Data from flycam:** recommend to apply auto-pilot mode in order to secure the overlap rates among adjacent images are 70-80%
- **Computer for data processing:** minimum specifications are CPU Intel core i5 6th generation, RAM: 8GB; separate SSD and VGA hard drives (Geforce or ATI)
- **Internet connection:** broadband internet, stable during the processing of Pix4Dmapper
- **Step 1:** Open Pix4D Desktop application, log in to the provided account, and select Pix4Dmapper Pro



(7) <https://pix4d.com/product/pix4dmapper-photogrammetry-software/>



- **Step 2:** In the main interface of the application, select “New Project” to process the set of new images



- **Step 3:** In the New Project interface, enter the following information:

**Name:** enter the project name (recommend to name for easy identification of the area name and date of survey)

**Create In:** project saving location

**Project Type:** select “New Project” to create new project or select “Project Merged from Existing Projects” to merge/combine with the existing data.

After finishing the above steps, select “Next”

- **Step 4:** In the next interface of “New Project”, select the images to be processed as following:

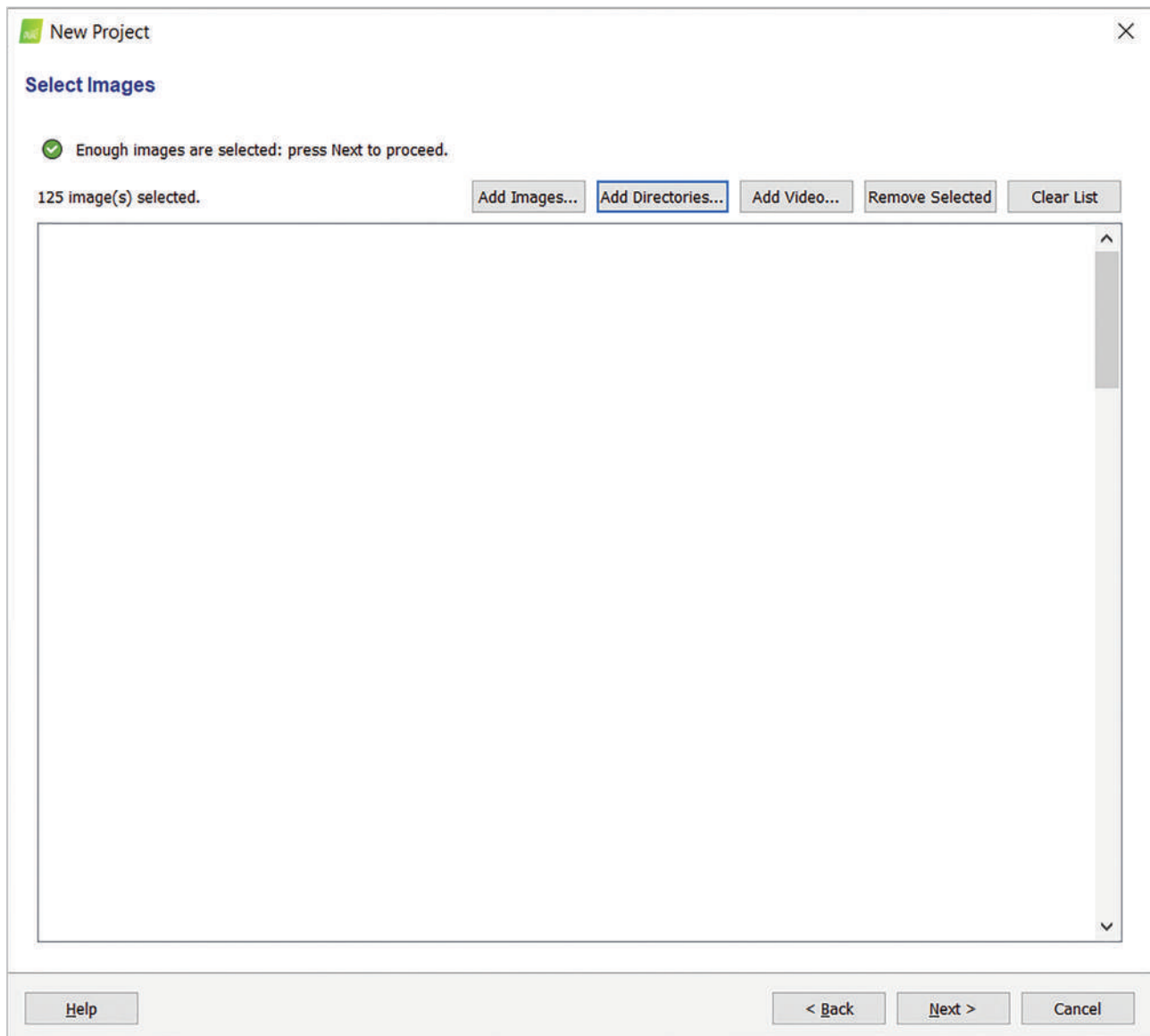
**Add Image:** select the images to be processed

**Add Directories:** select folder to store image

**Remove Selected:** to remove 1 or more selected images (if required)

**Clear List:** to remove all selected images (if required)

After completion of selecting the images, select “Next”



- **Step 5:** Use default parameters for image geolocation (image frame - do not change) as shown below and select “Next”

New Project

### Image Properties

#### Image Geolocation

Coordinate System

☒ Datum: World Geodetic System 1984; Coordinate System: WGS 84 (EGM 96 Geoid)
 Edit...

Geolocation and Orientation

☒ Geolocated Images: 125 out of 125
 Clear From EXIF From File... To File...

Geolocation Accuracy: ☒ Standard ☐ Low ☐ Custom

#### Selected Camera Model

☒ FC6310\_8.8\_4864x3648 (RGB)
 Edit...

Enabled	Image	Group	Latitude [degree]	Longitude [degree]	Altitude [m]	Accuracy Horiz [m]	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0043.JPG	group1	12.15374814	108.66068769	1928.508	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0044.JPG	group1	12.15501267	108.66068764	1928.608	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0045.JPG	group1	12.15626706	108.66068800	1928.508	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0046.JPG	group1	12.15752817	108.66068817	1928.608	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0047.JPG	group1	12.15878433	108.66068797	1928.608	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0048.JPG	group1	12.16004372	108.66068803	1928.508	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0049.JPG	group1	12.16129886	108.66068786	1928.508	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0050.JPG	group1	12.16255875	108.66068803	1928.408	5.000	10.0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DJI_0051.JPG	group1	12.16381439	108.66068825	1928.508	5.000	10.0

Help
< Back
Next >
Cancel

- In the next interface (Select Output Coordinate System), use default parameters and select “Next”

**New Project**

**Select Output Coordinate System**

**Selected Coordinate System**

Datum: World Geodetic System 1984  
Coordinate System: WGS 84 / UTM zone 49N (EGM 96 Geoid)

**Output/GCP Coordinate System**

Unit: **m**

☐ Arbitrary Coordinate System [m]  
☒ Auto Detected: WGS 84 / UTM zone 49N  
☐ Known Coordinate System [m]

☐ Advanced Coordinate Options

**Help** **< Back** **Next >** **Cancel**

- Select “3D Maps”, check “Start Processing Now” and select “Finish”.

**New Project**

**Processing Options Template**

**Standard**

- 3D Maps
- 3D Models
- Ag Multispectral

**Rapid**

- 3D Maps - Rapid/Low Res
- 3D Models - Rapid/Low Res
- Ag Modified Camera - Rapid/Low Res
- Ag RGB - Rapid/Low Res

**Advanced**

- Ag Modified Camera
- Ag RGB
- Thermal Camera
- ThermoMAP Camera

**3D Maps**

Generate a DSM and an orthomosaic for mapping applications.

**Image Acquisition**

☒ nadir flight ☐ oblique flight

**Outputs Quality/Reliability**

Low  High

**Processing Speed**

Slow  Fast

**Input Image Recommendations**

Aerial images acquired using a grid flight plan with high overlap, mostly oriented towards the ground.

**Outputs Generated**

Orthomosaic DSM 3D Mesh Point Cloud

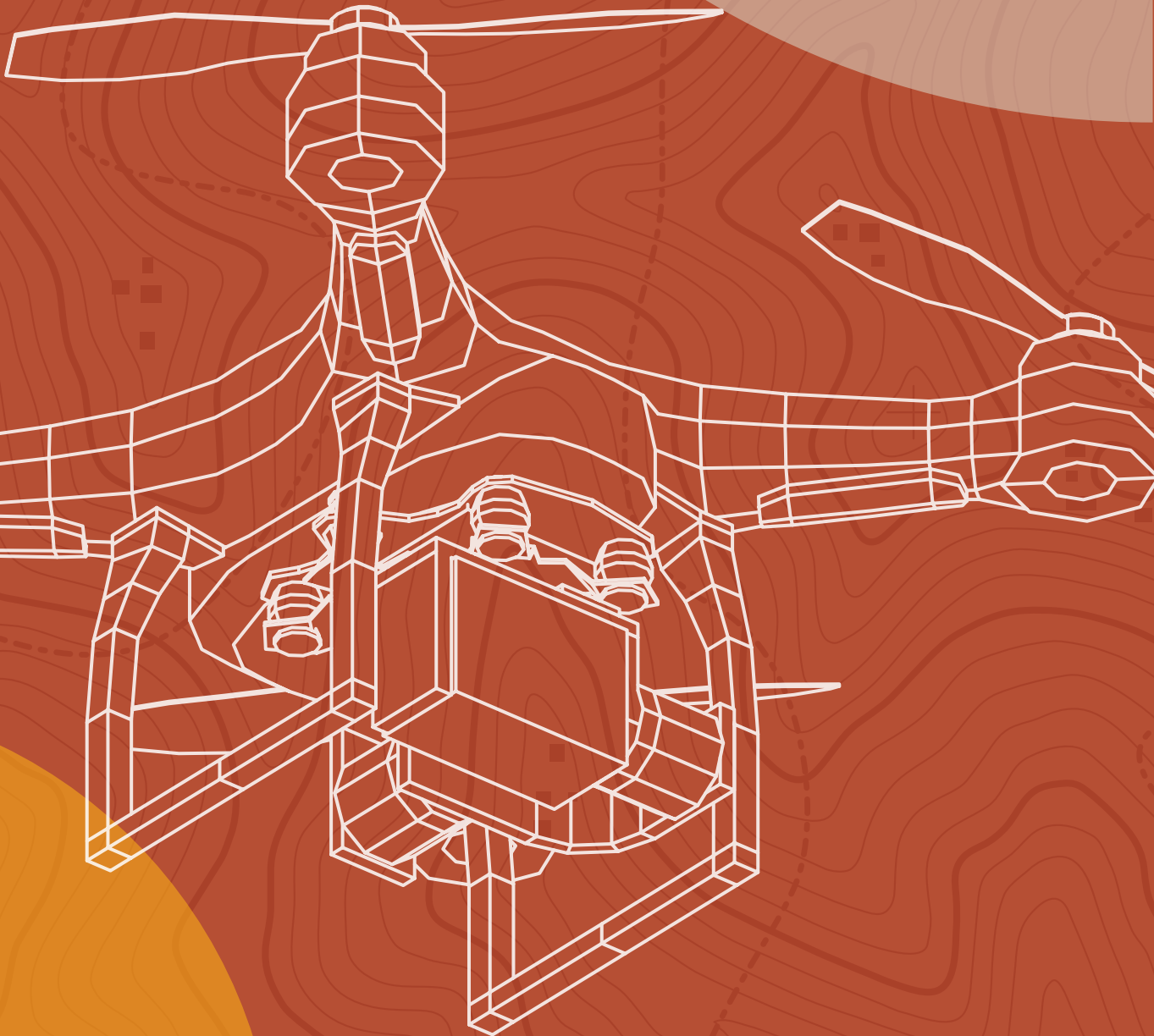
☒ Start Processing Now

**Help** **< Back** **Finish** **Cancel**

## CHAPTER

# 7

## EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE







## 7.1. Equipment Management



*All equipment should be stored in anti-moisture box*

Proper management of the flycam relevant equipment is also another important topic to secure the safe flight operation for long term. Flycam Log Book (Annex 1) is recommended to keep record of the required flight log. The assigned officials shall keep records every flight and be responsible to report to the manager of the organization at least monthly basis.

Also, all the equipment shall be stored in anti-moisture box provided by SNRM. DJI recommends to keep the temperature between 22-28 degrees, and moisture level between 30-40% as indicated in the Flycam Check List (Annex 2).



## 7.2. Equipment Maintenance

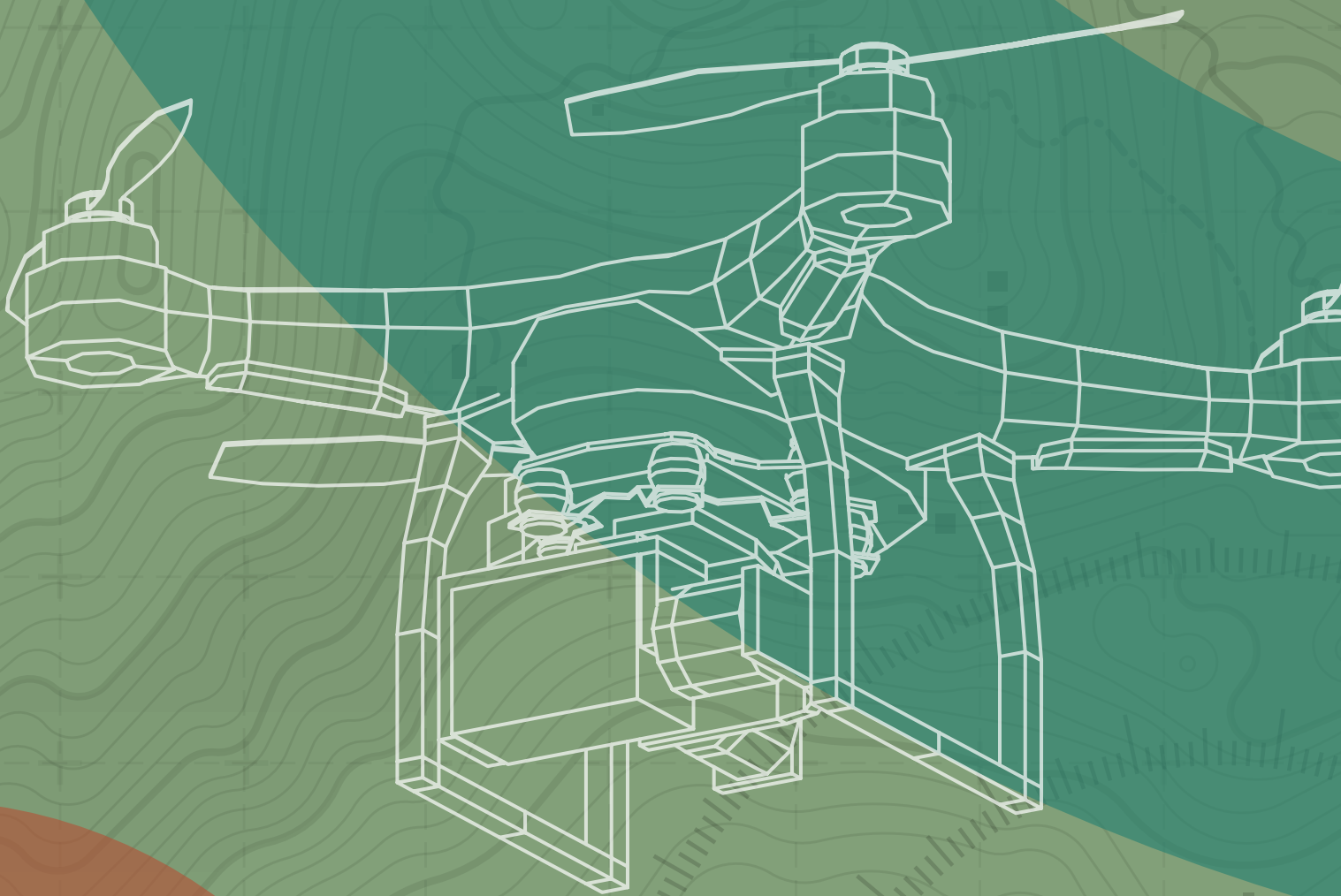
The assigned officials are responsible for keep the equipment clean all the time and check the any damages or distortion to the equipment every flight as indicated in the flycam check list. DJI recommends taking regular inspections when flight times exceeds more than 200 times or accumulated duration of the flight is more than 50 hours. In Vietnam, there are some distributing agents which can provide the inspection/ maintenance services. The detail information of the agents are listed in **Table 7.1.**

Shop Name*	Saigon Hobby	Truong Thinh Branch (TLC Hobby)
Address	15 Ly Thai To, Ward 1, District 10 HCMC	49B Tu Xuong, Ward 7, District 3, HCMC
Contact	1900.5555.12 - Ext 3 djicare.flycampro@gmail.com	02862750638

*Table 7.1. List of Distributing Agents for Flycam Inspection/ Maintenance (as of Jan 2019)*

\* Saigon Hobby is the recommended service centers by DJI. The shop staff is officially products. TLC Hobby is the distributing agent which SNRM purchased the flycam.

# ANNEXES



## Annex 1. Flycam Log Book

FLYCAM LOG BOOK (PHANTOM 4 PRO NO.1)

[illegible]

## Annex 2. Fly Cam Check List

### Regular Inspection

- ☐ No damage/ distortion to the aircraft (including propellers)
- ☐ No falling off of screw
- ☐ Enough cash space in the tablet
- ☐ Connection of remote controller and the tablet is no problem
- ☐ Firmware for aircraft and remote controller, and applications (DJI GO 4/ Litchi) are updated as latest version
- ☐ Weekly flight operation check on aircraft (without propellers), camera function, etc.
- ☐ Keep clean on all equipment and store in anti-moisture box (Temperature: 22-28 degrees, Moisture: 30-40%)
- ☐ It is recommended to bring the aircraft to the distributing agent/ DJI support for regular inspection when its flight operation time is more than 200 times or exceed 50 hours as accumulated flight time

### Adjustment When Firmware is Updated

- ☐ Conduct firmware updates only when time for test flight can be secured
- ☐ Confirm the firmware is updated on all the batteries
- ☐ Conduct test flight to check the updates work well
- ☐ (Optional) Conduct IMU calibration on flat ground<sup>\*1</sup>
- ☐ (Optional) Conduct remote controller calibration on flat ground<sup>\*1</sup>

<sup>\*1</sup>: When conduct any calibration, please turn off your mobilephone, take off your watch or rings if any

### Just Before Flight

- ☐ Never operate in severe weather conditions (heavy wind speeds (exceeding 10 m/s), rain, snow, smog, hail, lightning, tornadoes or hurricanes) and before dawn/ after sunset
- ☐ Never operate when the operator drunk any alcohol drinks
- ☐ No damage/ distortion to the aircraft (including propellers/ motor)
- ☐ Remote controller, aircraft batteries and tablet are fully charged (A battery which has not been used for a while require full-discharge to full-charge)

- ☐ Memory card is inserted to the aircraft
- ☐ Propellers are in good condition and securely tightened on the aircraft
- ☐ Firmware for aircraft and remote controller, and applications (DJI GO 4/ Litchi) are latest version
- ☐ Temperature of batteries are between 20-40 degrees
- ☐ No battery error
- ☐ Flight mode is set as [P-mode]
- ☐ Set up the failsafe as [RTH] (Return-To-Home)
- ☐ Set up the altitude of RTH
- ☐ Set up the altitude limitation
- ☐ Turn on the [Smart Go Home]
- ☐ Turn on the [Obstacle detection function]
- ☐ Check GPS signal (when no GPS signal or low signal (red colour); No operation) and compass status
- ☐ Compass calibration (only when the DJI GO 4 app or the status indicator prompt to do)
- ☐ Remember how to control the emergency stop

## At Start of the Flight

- ☐ Check the sound of motor/ propellers
- ☐ Home point is updated properly
- ☐ Check the obstacle around and sky
- ☐ Control the aircraft to the height of your eyes to check whether the hovering is stable
- ☐ Check the aircraft operation is normal
- ☐ Check the wind speed on the screen all the time (less than 10m/s)
- ☐ Check the status information all the time (On Screen Display (OSD) info, distance, altitude, GPS signal)

## After Flight

- ☐ No obstacles or risks in and around the landing course
- ☐ Turn off the aircraft and remote-controller after confirming the motor is surely stopped
- ☐ Confirm any damage or missing parts of aircraft
- ☐ Clean when some dirty is confirmed
- ☐ → Back to regular inspection



## Annex 3. Battery Check List

### Battery Use

- ☐ Do NOT allow the batteries to come into contact with any kind of liquid <sup>\*1</sup>
- ☐ Never use or charge swollen, leaky, or damaged batteries
- ☐ Never install or remove the battery from the aircraft when it is turned on
- ☐ Ensure the temperature of batteries are between 20 - 50 degrees<sup>\*2</sup>
- ☐ Clean battery terminals with a clean, dry cloth (NOT use any alcohol)
- ☐ Make sure batteries are fully charged before each flight

\*1: If the battery falls into water with the aircraft during flight, take it out immediately and put it in a safe and open area. Maintain a safe distance from battery until it is completely dry. Never use battery again, and dispose properly following the Vietnamese regulations regarding the disposal and recycling of batteries

\*2: Otherwise, performance of the batteries would be significantly downgrade. Even when 100% charging is indicated on the screen, there are possibilities to suddenly fall down to 20% or so. When the tempature of batteries are less than 20 degrees, please make warm before use, or hovering in front of the controller

### Battery Charging

- ☐ Do NOT charge the battery near flammable materials or on flammable surfaces such as carpet or wood
- ☐ Do NOT charge battery immediately after flight, because the battery tempature may be too high. Do NOT charge the battery until it cools down to near room tempeture (15-30 degrees)
- ☐ Do NOT clean the charger with denatured alcohol or other flammable solvents
- ☐ Never use a damaged charger
- ☐ Keep monitoring the charging progress and disconnect the batteries when fully charged<sup>\*3</sup>
- ☐ Ensure the battery is turned off at all time during charging
- ☐ Fully charge and discharge the battery at least once every 3 months to maintain battery health.

\*3: The battery is designed to stop charging when it is full, but it is a good practice to monitor the charging progress

## Battery Storage

- ☐ Store the battery in anti-moisture boxes provided by JICA SNRM project
- ☐ Do NOT leave the battery near heat sources such as a furnace or heater
- ☐ Do NOT leave the batteries inside of a vehicle on hot days. The ideal storage temperature is 22-28 degrees with 30-40% of moisture level
- ☐ Keep the battery away from metal objects such as laptop, glasses, watches, hairpins, etc.
- ☐ Never transport a damaged battery
- ☐ Discharge the battery to 40-65% if it will NOT be used for 10 days or more. This can greatly extend the battery life\*4
- ☐ Remove batteries from the aircraft when stored for an extended period
- ☐ Do NOT store the battery for an extended period after fully discharging it. Doing so may over-discharge the battery and cause irreparable battery cell damage

\*4: The battery automatically discharges to below 65% when it is idle for more than 10 days to prevent it from swelling. Idle time threshold can be changed in the DJI GO 4 app. It takes approx 3 days to discharge the battery to 65% and moderate heat emitting is confirmed during the discharge process.

## Battery Disposal

- ☐ Dispose of the battery in specific recycling boxes only after a complete discharge. Do NOT place the battery in regular trash containers. Strictly follow Vietnamese regulations regarding the disposal and recycling of batteries



