

Ms. Srikwan Puntatip from Thailand



My name is Puntatip Srikwan and I am from Thailand. The Kingdom of Thailand lies in the heart of Southeast of Asia. It is a country with a mixture of forest areas, high-lying and low-lying areas, seashores and islands. The climate pattern is controlled by two monsoon winds: the Northeast Monsoon and the Southwest Monsoon. This leaves Thailand highly exposed and vulnerable to natural hazards including floods, drought, landslides, windstorms, earthquakes, and tsunamis.

The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), under the Ministry of Interior, is the principal government agency responsible for integrating national disaster prevention and mitigation efforts in Thailand. I have been working as a Plan and Policy Analyst for the DDPM. I work in the Disaster Prevention Promotion Division to create and strengthen partnerships with social organizations and networks. These include an emergency volunteer corps that helps government officials responsible for disaster management with such efforts as disaster prevention and preparedness, including the deployment of disaster early warning systems.

Thailand is currently pursuing a campaign known as "Safety Thailand" which aims to accelerate the creation of a safety culture in Thai society. It also compels cooperation in concrete disaster management efforts with the regional and global community to achieve the important goal of providing safety to the Thai people and improving disaster management in Thailand. Japan is a leading country in disaster management, renowned for its "Safety Culture" and public sector participation in disaster risk management, and ADRC's Visiting Research (VR) Program has given me a great opportunity to gain experience and to learn best disaster management practices in Japan. This is sure to benefit both myself and my country. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the government of Japan, ADRC, and the government of Thailand for their kind support.