



ADRC Highlights

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➤ **Cooperative Project (Nepal, Cambodia)**

ADRC has newly started the small-scale cooperative project with the budget of around US 10,000 dollar for each. It aims to support the disaster reduction activity of our member countries and to share the lessons learnt from this project, among the countries in the Asian region. This year, the project will come into operation in Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. Mr. Aota, the General Manager and Senior Researcher visited Nepal and Cambodia to conclude agreements and investigate disaster situation there.

1) Nepal



Mr. Aota visited the Disaster Relief Section, Ministry of Home Affairs and made an agreement to implement the cooperative project for disseminating and raising of disaster reduction awareness. To begin with, 10 regions will be selected from 75 regions

throughout the country. Then the training programs for the regional leaders such as police staffs or school principals will be carried out in 20 villages from 10 regions prone to landslide and flood. Furthermore, nationwide raising awareness activities by radio broadcast or distributing pamphlets will be given. In Nepal, lots of landslides and floods occurred this summer. Nepal is the country surrounded by the mountains and has difficulty in developing transportation and communication system. Additionally, because of the low literacy rate, we expect people in Nepal to broaden their knowledge on disaster and deepen their understandings of disaster reduction through this project.

2) Cambodia

He made a visit to NCDM (National Committee for Disaster Management, Government of Cambodia). Up to now, the main rivers such as the Mekong River have still overflowed, and houses and agricultural land have been flooded in various parts of the country including Phnom Penh. It has enormously affected the lives of people.



In Cambodia, along with the stability of the public security, the NCDM has started its activity. Fostering personnel for disaster reduction is an urgent task and that is why we decided to implement the cooperative project of disaster training mainly for local officers. For this year, three provinces in the river basin area were chosen and the project

for training is scheduled.

ADRC plans to visit Indonesia and Sri Lanka for the arrangement of the cooperative project. The progress of these 4 cooperative projects will be introduced to other member countries in the Third ADRC International Meeting, December. Also the result will be shown in a report and on ADRC Web Site next year, and transmitted to all over the world as our pilot examples in our member countries.

➤ **The Third ADRC International Meeting**

ADRC will hold the Third ADRC International Meeting with inviting disaster management officials and experts from each member / advisory countries in succession to the former international meetings in February and December 1999. It aims to strengthen the mutual relationship among the disaster related departments of each country as well as examining the specific problems in the area of disaster reduction, identifying the needs and resources, and promoting the disaster information exchange and sharing. We think it will contribute to deepen multinational disaster reduction cooperation.

Date: December 5 (Tue.) & 6 (Wed.), 2000

Venue: Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Kobe, Japan

Participants: Disaster management experts representing ADRC member countries, advisory countries, observer organization, and related international organizations etc.

Programs:

Key Note Speech, Presentation by each country

Session 1 "Promotion of Disaster Reduction Cooperation in the Asian Region"

Session 2 "International Emergency Relief"

Session 3 "Promotion of Sharing Information on Disaster Reduction"

Working Language: English only

*Please contact to ADRC for the details.

➤ **Recent Natural Disaster**

□ **Western Tottori Earthquake (Western Japan)**

A large earthquake measuring M7.3 on the Richter scale occurred in Western Tottori prefecture at 13:30 (0430 GMT) on October 6, 2000. The hardest hits were less-populated mountain areas whose grounds are relatively hard. Compared to the past major earthquakes, the damage had not been so severe.

In Tottori prefecture, the area most affected and the nearest to the epicenter, no fatalities reported, however, 97 people were injured, about 3,000 household were damaged including 99 totally destroyed. 125 landslides occurred, and roads were ruined in 540 spots. (As of 9:00 on October 12)

The chairman of Coordinating Committee for Earthquake Prediction (CCEP) told "It is considered that Western Japan possibly meet the active period of seismicity, and need for enough preparedness" at the press conference on October 10.

If you have comments or needs for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC in the right box.

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