



ADRC Highlights

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● Participation in International Conferences

ADRC Participates in Expert Group Meeting on Improving Disaster Data to Build Resilience in Asia and the Pacific

In the Asia-Pacific region, the region most prone to disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, timely and reliable data is needed to manage risks. Currently, the lack of reliable data hinders Asia-Pacific countries from attaining resilience through evidence-based policy making, planning, and programming. To discuss the basic principles of disaster data and statistics that can meet this need, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) convened the Expert Group Meeting on Improving Disaster Data to Build Resilience in Asia and the Pacific, which was attended by 40 experts from central governments, international/regional organizations, and research institutes both in Japan and abroad. Six delegates attended from the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), including the executive director, a senior researcher, and visiting researchers from ADRC member countries.

At the meeting, experts explained the current situation based on their own disaster data and statistics. ADRC also explained the Global Unique Disaster Identifier Number (GLIDE) system, which it has endorsed since 2002 as a means of providing a better overall picture of the damage caused in multiple countries by the same hazard. At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants agreed on the establishment of an inclusive partnership to serve as the basis for the development of an evidence-based framework for disaster risk reduction, and ADRC was invited to participate in this partnership.



● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

"Promotion of Disaster Education in Schools" Project in Lao PDR

A seminar and pilot lesson for the "Promotion of Disaster Education of Schools" project was held in Vientiane, Lao PDR from 14-15 November 2013. It was organized jointly by the Ministry of Education and Sports and ADRC. More than 30 teachers and 60 students from primary and junior high schools attended this two-day workshop.

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On 14 November, participants including teachers, experts, and ADRC representatives discussed the current status of natural disasters and disaster education in Lao PDR. They also discussed the content of the lessons to be conducted at schools the following day. On the 15th, the teachers gave lectures aimed at conveying basic disaster management knowledge to students based on the training they had received the previous day. The teachers' lectures focused on floods, landslides, and fires, the most common natural disasters in Lao PDR, and the students seemed very interested in learning about these topics. At the end of the workshop, the teachers gave feedback indicating that they wanted to expand and improve disaster management lessons conducted at their own schools.

ADRC hopes that the outcome of this project will be shared in other schools throughout Lao PDR.

(As a Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund Project, this project was designed to promote disaster education in ASEAN countries through the training of school teachers followed by the implementation of pilot lessons facilitated by trained teachers.)

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