



# ADRC Highlights

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ACDR2021  
Registration Now Open

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Strategies for Urban  
Resilience

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## ● Announcement

### ACDR2021 Registration Now Open

The ACDR2021 website has been launched and registration is now open. ACDR2021 will be held on 14-16 December 2021 using Zoom. Please register using the link below.

ACDR2021 Registration: [https://bit.ly/Regi\\_ACDR2021](https://bit.ly/Regi_ACDR2021)

The flyer for ACDR2021 features a blue and orange color scheme. At the top left is the ADRC logo and the text 'ACDR2021'. The main title is 'Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2021' with the subtitle 'Time for Change and Transformation: the Road to Resilient Asia'. The dates '14-16 December 2021' are prominently displayed. A 'REGISTER' button with the URL 'https://bit.ly/Regi\_ACDR2021' and a QR code is at the bottom right. Below the main title, three vertical panels detail the daily agenda:

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opening &amp; Keynote Session</li> <li>- High Level Round Table, Statement by Member Countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Session1 "Developing DRR Technologies that Meet Local Needs to Create a Safe, Secure, and Livable Society"</li> <li>- Session2 "Strengthening Disaster Preparedness, Education and Awareness Raising for Promoting Proactive DRR Actions"</li> <li>- Side Event "Public and Private Seminar for Disaster Risk Reduction"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Session3 "Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society"</li> <li>- Closing Session</li> </ul>
14 December (Tue) 15:00 - 17:00 (Japan Time, UTC+9)	15 December (Wed) 15:00 - 19:00 (Japan Time, UTC+9)	16 December (Thu) 15:00 - 17:00 (Japan Time, UTC+9)

At the bottom, there is a globe icon with the URL <https://adrc.adrc.asia/home/acdr2021> and an envelope icon with the email address [acdr2021@adrc.asia](mailto:acdr2021@adrc.asia).

(ACDR2021 Flyer)

<Draft Agenda>

**14 December 15:00-17:00 (UTC+9)**

Opening, Keynote Speech, High Level Round Table  
Opening

**Continued**

Keynote

High Level Round Table

-Statements by Member Countries

**15 December 15:00-19:00 (UTC+9)****Session 1: Developing DRR Technologies that Meet Local Needs to Create a Safe, Secure, and Livable Society**

-Dr Mandira Singh Shrestha, Programme Coordinator, Climate Services, Mountain Environment Regional Information System (MENRIS), ICIMOD

-Mr Lilik Kurniawan, First Secretary, National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), Indonesia

-Mr Seong Sam Kim, Team leader, Disaster Scientific Investigation Div., National Disaster Management Research Institute (NDMI), Republic of Korea

-Dr Hasi Bateer, Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.

-Mr SUZUKI Koji, Project Director, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

-Dr Nguyen David N., International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University "BOSAI ISO for Asian countries"

**Session 2: Strengthening Disaster Preparedness: Education and Awareness Raising for Promoting Proactive Disaster Risk Reduction Actions**

-Dr SAKAMOTO Mayumi, Professor, Graduate School of Disaster Resilience and Governance, University of Hyogo

-Dr Le Quang Tuan, Deputy Director, Department of Science Technology and International Cooperation, Vietnam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA)

-Ms Syuzanna Kakoyan, Head of the Department of Education, Administration of Activities with Public, Regional Survey for Seismic Protection (RSSP), Ministry of Emergency Situations, Republic of Armenia

-Comments/Q&A: Mr FUKASAWA Yoshinobu, Secretary, TeLL-Net/Specially Appointed Professor, Kyushu Sangyo University

**Side Event: Public and Private Seminar for Disaster Risk Reduction**

Japan International Public-Private Association for Disaster Risk Reduction (JIPAD) & United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

**16 December 15:00-17:00 (UTC+9)****Session 3: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society**

-Mr TAKEYA Kimio, Distinguished Technical Advisor on Disaster Risk Reduction, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)/Visiting Professor at International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University

-Dr Renato U. Solidum, Jr., Undersecretary, Department of Science and Technology -Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DOST-PHIVOLCS)

-Dr Le Minh Nhat, Deputy Director of Emergency Response and Disaster Recovery Department, Vietnam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA)

-Mr Abdul Malik Sadat Idris, Director of Water Resources and Irrigation, Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS), Indonesia

-Mr Jerry A Fano, Assistance Core Head at Office of the Project Director, Unified Project Management Office -Flood Control Management Cluster, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Philippines

The ACDR2021 website will be updated as program details develop. We look forward to your active participation in ACDR2021!

## ● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

### Highlights of Fifth DRR Seminar: Promoting Disaster Mitigation Strategies for Urban Resilience

Urbanization exacerbates disaster vulnerabilities as more people live in unsafe buildings, use poor transportation and roads, and are increasingly exposed to the threats of floods, landslides, and tsunamis. In this context, what actions have been promoted to mitigate disaster risks and prevent the loss of homes, livelihoods, and lives? At the Fifth ADRC Online DRR Seminar held on 18 October 2021, attended by 127 participants from 14 countries, speakers presented various perspectives, tools, and approaches to promoting disaster mitigation strategies for urban resilience.



Speakers of the Fifth ADRC Online DRR Seminar

**Regional-Level Mitigation Strategies.** Highlighting UN-Habitat's programs on urban resilience in Asia and the Pacific, Mr KORESAWA Atsushi (Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, UN-Habitat) introduced the Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) which has been implemented since 2009 across 256 communities in 53 cities in 19 countries. CCCI supports cities in responding to the negative impacts of climate change by emphasizing participatory processes, sound analysis, sustainable urban planning, good governance, responsive leadership, and practical initiatives at all levels. In implementing these strategies, UN-Habitat developed a range of normative and operational guidelines that communities could use to assess their vulnerabilities and make risk-informed decision in planning and implementing activities.

**Mitigation Strategies in Nepal.** In discussing the promotion of urban resilience in Nepal, Ms Pragya PRADHAN (Country Programme Manager, UN-Habitat Nepal) highlighted the recovery and mitigation strategies for preserving heritage settlements that were damaged during the 2015 Nepal Earthquake. One of the strategies is "green-reconstruction" – the environmentally sound practice of rebuilding heritage settlements that is linked with livelihood recovery. Ms Pradhan highlighted two key lessons learned in the course of implementing the resilience programme. First, development efforts must be accompanied by disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts to safeguard life and investment through risk-informed spatial development planning, infrastructure investments, and economic activities that address the needs of all. Second, urban resilience is multi-dimensional and entails strengthening social, economic, institutional, and spatial structures.

**Continued**

**Mitigation Strategies in the Philippines.** One of the key mitigation strategies in the Philippines is mainstreaming DRR in urban development. Mr Ibani PADAO (Chief, Monitoring and Evaluation Division DHSUD, Philippines) noted that DRR has been integrated into the National Housing and Urban Development Sector Plan (NHUDSP). Since local governments are on the frontlines in the implementation process, the national government has provided relevant tools and guidelines to be used in resiliency planning. These include: Mainstreaming Guidelines for Local Land Use and Shelter Plans; a Climate and Disaster Risk Assessment (CDRA) Tool; and a National Guide for Climate Resilient Urban Plans and Designs. To share how these strategies and tools were utilized, Mr Christopher ROLLO (Country Programme Manager, UN-Habitat Philippines) presented the case of Legazpi City in developing and implementing an adaptation strategy for flood hazards. Legazpi city utilized the government's resiliency tools and guidelines to come up with systematic and evidence-based structuring (e.g., designing sites and buildings to promote structural resilience, safety for users, and facilitation of evacuation and rescue). In addition, Mr Rollo explained the case of Rebuilding Marawi City following the siege in 2017 through the "people's process." This process empowered and promoted social cohesion, resulting in faster, cheaper, more acceptable, and better-quality reconstruction.

**Mitigation Strategies in Thailand.** Ms PANNAPA Na Nan (Director, International Cooperation Section, DDPM Thailand) reported that the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) has been consistently improving its disaster mitigation efforts, especially since the 2011 floods that greatly impacted the country. Following that disaster, DDPM was sued by various stakeholders and faced about 500 court cases. To improve its disaster mitigation strategy, DDPM leverages international cooperation support, particularly through the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the AHA Centre to implement urban resilience projects (e.g., community-based flood management projects). Based on its past experiences and lessons from other ASEAN countries, DDPM came up with a range of disaster mitigation strategies, including: integration of structural and non-structural DRR measures; promotion of synergies and integration of efforts from all levels; adoption of a single plan with a clear line of command and control; localization, and the creation of a unified disaster management system.

Reflecting on the questions raised by participants, Mr NAKAGAWA Masaaki (Executive Director, ADRC) pointed out that the phenomenon of people moving out of city centers to the suburbs during the COVID-19 pandemic raises concerns about how to reconcile the momentum between the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and urban resilience while avoiding urban sprawl. In making his call for action, he quoted UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres saying, "Today, we have the opportunity to reset our thinking on how we live, interact, and rebuild our cities." Finally, Mr Nakagawa mentioned that building a disaster resilient society is the overarching theme of the upcoming Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR), an event that will further provide opportunities to discuss initiatives and actions to promote disaster resilience.

**For Inquiries & Subscription Information**

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