



ADRC Highlights

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Monthly News

Vol. 349
April
2022

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● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

ADRC DRR Lecture Series

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) has been conducting its Visiting Researcher (VR) programme and inviting VRs from ADRC member countries to spend time in Japan since 1999. As of March 2021, 117 officials from 27 member countries have participated in the programme, enabling ADRC to contribute to human resource development and disaster information sharing in those countries. During their programmes, VRs will study some of the most innovative and practical initiatives and technologies in the DRR field, and will learn about Japan's cooperation with and involvement in relevant international organizations. VRs are expected not only to help strengthen the DRR capacity of their own countries, but also to further promote cooperation between their countries and ADRC.

ADRC selected four VRs in FY2020, representing Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, and Thailand, but could not hold its regular on-site programme in Japan due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ADRC therefore decided to conduct its programming online. ADRC also selected four VRs in FY2021, representing Armenia, Mongolia, Pakistan, and Vietnam. Due to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, ADRC decided to conduct hold an ADRC DRR Lecture Series for supporting the VR's research themes.

This 8-part Lecture Series was held in March 2022. ADRC invited Japanese DRR experts to give lectures on a variety of topics, such as disaster management at the national and local levels in Japan, disaster countermeasures for specific disasters (e.g., earthquakes, floods), the promotion of DRR education in schools, and disaster prevention activities in cooperation with some of the most vulnerable populations during disasters. To publicize the VR programme broadly, this Lecture Series was open not only to the eight selected VRs, but also to other officials in all of our ADRC member countries.

● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

Online Tsunami Seminar FY2021

On 9 March 2022, ADRC held an Online Tsunami Seminar FY2021 to promote World Tsunami Awareness Day. This year, ADRC invited Assistant Professor Mauricio Reyes Gallardo, from the University of Valparaiso in Chile, another tsunami prone country, to participate. He gave a lecture entitled "Experience with Tsunami Risk Reduction in Chile."



Flyer of the ADRC DRR Lecture Series

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He started by giving an overview of Chile in which he described the historical events from the Spanish colonization down to the modern day, explained the changing population dynamics and increasing rate of urbanization, and outlined the geographical as well as topographical terrain of Chile that makes the country prone to earthquakes and tsunamis. In terms of disaster risks, he noted that Chile is a multi-hazard country, with earthquakes and tsunamis being its most notable hazards. He gave examples of earthquakes and tsunami disasters that impacted Chile in 1960, 2007, 2010, and 2015, among others.

These tsunami experiences offered opportunities to improve and strengthen tsunami risk management. First, they led to technological improvements to tsunami early warning systems (e.g., the adoption of new tools from Japan) and to continued efforts to monitor and conduct research on tsunami events. Second, they led to the development and adoption of the National Building Code as well as the Reinforcement Code. Third, they led to the application and improvement of "Sistema Nacional de Alerta de Maremotos" (SNAM) and "Sistema Integrado de Prediccion y Alarma de Tsunamis" (SIPAT), which keep people informed about tsunami risks and help provide guidance relating to evacuation and safety measures. Despite improvements in tsunami risk management, he said that Chile remains vulnerable to tsunamis due to the following factors: lack of urban planning; societal, ecological, economical, and cultural complexities; lack of education; poor use of technology; and poorly maintained infrastructure. He concluded that good risk governance is needed for establishing systems that can bring order to the complexities of tsunami risk.

Finally, Mr NAKAGAWA Masaaki, Executive Director of ADRC, mentioned that the volcanic eruption in Tonga in January 2022 and the subsequent tsunami remind us of the danger of tsunamis in many other coastal countries. He concluded by saying that ADRC would promote tsunami disaster risk reduction by sharing experiences and lessons learned in Japan and many other countries.

ADRC would like to express its sincere gratitude to all the participants. Please visit the following site for details of the Online Tsunami Seminar: <https://www.adrc.asia/acdr/2021tsunami>



Assistant Professor Mauricio Reyes Gallardo (Top right)

● Participation in International Conferences

ASEAN-Japan Public-Private Seminar on Innovative Policies and Technologies for DRR

During the first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management Plus Japan (AMMDM + Japan) held on 14 October 2021, ASEAN and Japan agreed to engage in mutually beneficial cooperation that leverages innovation and technology in disaster management, including early warning, emergency response, information sharing, data analysis, and business continuity. In line with this agreement (as well as to contribute in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2021-2025), the Cabinet Office of Japan and the ASEAN Secretariat organized the "Public-Private Seminar on Innovative Policies and Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction," which was held online on 29 March 2022. Organizations in Japan, including ADRC, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Climate Change Adaptation National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co., Ltd., OYO Corporation, and PASCO CORPORATION collaborated on holding the seminar.

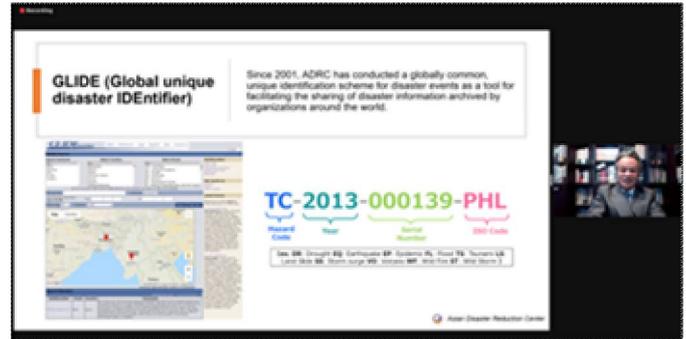
The speakers of Session 1: DRR Innovations included representatives from: the ASEAN Secretariat, who presented the ASEAN Disaster Resilience Outlook (ADRO); JICA, who showed the 8 Steps in Developing Local DRR Strategies; ADRC, who discussed DRR initiatives; NIES, who demonstrated climate projections; and JST, who introduced the concept of business continuity management (BCM). In his presentation, ADRC Executive Director NAKAGAWA Masaaki highlighted the center's innovative activities, including the

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Global unique disaster IDENTifier (GLIDE) system, Sentinel Asia, Quasi-Zenith Satellite System-Early Warning Service (QZSS-EWS), community-based DRR (e.g., Town Watching for DRR), and human resource development (e.g., VR Programme, and DRR Training commissioned by JICA).

The speakers of Session 2: DRR Technologies included representatives from: ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Center), who introduced the ICT Roadmap on Disaster Management; Cabinet Office of Japan, who presented on the Information Support Team (ISUT); Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co., Ltd., who presented on Flood Risk Information Using Big Data; OYO Corporation, who discussed "ServiBers" as a risk communication tool; and PASCO CORPORATION, who demonstrated the contributions of remote sensing technologies in DRR.

Outcomes of the seminar are expected to contribute to the implementation of the AADMER Work Programme 2021-2025 and the development of the ASEAN-Japan Work Plan on Disaster Management 2021-2025. The ASEAN secretariat also indicated that the Science and Technology Forum in 2023 is under consideration.



Presentation by ADRC Executive Director Mr NAKAGAWA

● **ADRC Staff Profile**

Ms HORIIKE Mie, Senior Administrative Manager

My name is HORIIKE Mie and I transitioned to ADRC from the Hyogo prefectural government on 1 April 2022. In my previous work at the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations Beijing office, I supported the internationalization efforts of local governments in Japan. I spent three years in Beijing, which was a very valuable opportunity for me to look abroad.

I worked in the Fire and Disaster Management Division of the Hyogo prefectural government for nine years, 2008-2012 and 2015-2018. During my first term there, I was involved in fire prevention and disaster management. During my second term, I was promoted to local disaster management activities. During my tenure, I was engaged in disaster response operations, such as those required after heavy rain struck Sayo-Town in 2009 and after the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011.

I don't have much experience in the field of international disaster risk reduction, but I worked for the Japan Disaster Relief Team Secretariat at the JICA headquarters office from 2013 to 2014. In November 2013, I was dispatched to the Philippines, which was heavily damaged by super typhoon Haiyan. I served as a member of the medical team of the Japan Disaster Relief Team.

I will do my best as a member of ADRC. I look forward to working with you.



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