Ms. Suthathip Dejchaisri (Thailand)

My name is Ms. Suthathip Dejchaisri, and I work as a plan and policy analyst for the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) in the Ministry of Interior in Thailand. I earned my B.S. degree in Natural Resource Management and my M.S. degree in Forest Biology from the Faculty of Forestry at Kasetsart University in Thailand.

Given my position in the Strategy and Budget Division, I have been assigned responsibility for implementing the National Disaster Risk Management Plan 2015 and DDPM strategy plan 2017 – 2022, coordinating with players in the fields of Disaster Risk Management (DRM), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) at the national and local levels, and initiating a roadmap toward SDGs 1, 11 and 13 for achieving the indicators related to disaster risk reduction.

Disaster management relies on partnerships among multiple stakeholders including the nation and local governments, NGOs, UN agencies, volunteer groups, private businesses, academia, and -- most importantly—individual people, who have to work collaboratively to ensure the effective coordination of planning, services, information and resources. Japan is prone to disasters but has shown strong resilience in coping with those disasters because of strong governance by multiple stakeholders. Therefore, I would like to study the role of disaster management stakeholders, specifically at the local level, focusing on every stage of the disaster management cycle aimed at achieving participation, ownership, and sustainability, and ensuring that no one is left behind. During my time at ADRC, I have learned a lot about the various dimensions of disaster risk reduction (DRR), including the development of local DRR plans, hazard mapping, urban planning, education, meteorological observations, gender perspectives, and partnerships between the private sector and government. I have also been able to visit many DRR sites. The professional methodology of the ADRC Visiting Researcher

program has broadened my perspective on DRR. It has afforded me many lessons that can be put to use in the Thai context, including best practices in disaster management governance and stakeholder engagement strategies.

Lastly, I would like to express my special thanks to the governments of Japan and Thailand for giving me this great opportunity to conduct research in Japan, and my sincerest thanks to the staff of ADRC for the warm welcome.