



# ADRC Highlights

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### ➤ Regional Workshop on Networking and Collaboration among Non-Governmental Organizations of Asian Countries in Disaster Reduction and Response



#### □ NGOs from 16 Asian countries participated

In the Asian region, NGOs as well as governments and international organizations play an active role to mitigate disasters. NGOs closely support local areas in the field of rescue activities immediately after disasters, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and preparedness activities such as training and public awareness. On the other hand, response by each NGO is quite limited. Increasing capacity building of NGOs and networking with relevant organizations is crucial.

In this regard, ADRC, in cooperation with UN OCHA Kobe and Hyogo Prefectural Government, held the workshop to promote international network and collaboration among NGOs in charge of disaster related activities in the region, at Kobe Portopia Hotel, Hyogo, Japan, from February 20th to 22nd.

The number of participants is around 80, which include Mr. Ed Tsui, Director of OCHA New York, Mr. Salvano Briceño, Director of UN ISDR, H.E. Dr. Ruben Umaly, and Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation. In the workshop, NGO members and UN officials made very active discussion through 3 days programs.

At the workshop, it is confirmed the necessity of the networking across the borders for the NGOs to promote mutual cooperation, exchange information and share experiences. It is also determined as follows:

- a) The network among the participating NGOs shall be established. ADRC and UN OCHA Kobe shall initially serve as the focal point and coordinator for this network.
- b) The database for Asian disaster related NGOs shall be opened on the website of ADRC.
- c) An Annual Regional Workshop shall be organized to enhance collaboration among NGOs.

\*[The Draft Statement of Understanding is available here.](#)

(Mr. Yoshimura & Mr. Aota, Senior Researcher)

#### ➤ ADRC Staff Profiles No. 12

##### □ Mr. Tomohiko HATORI, Senior Researcher

I have transferred to the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) from PASCO CORPORATION since this February 1, 2002. PASCO is one of the major GIS (Geographical Information System) company in Japan. I had worked for PASCO in Tokyo for about 5 years. I have concerned some disaster prevention projects, for example, the decision support system at large earthquakes, landslide data for GIS, bathymetry data for tsunami simulation.



From my short experience at ADRC, I am impressed that only ten or more staffs manage so many variations of projects. Now I am thinking about how I can contribute to the international cooperation of natural disaster reduction and disaster managements with my speciality. Also I would like to learn something new fields which have no relation with my previous experiences.

#### ➤ Report from Member Countries

##### □ Statistic Data of Loss of Lives by Disasters in Nepal

[The statistic data of the number of loss of lives by different types of disasters in Nepal since 1983 to 2001](#) is now available on the country information page of ADRC website.

(posted by Mr. Lekh Nath Pokharel, Section Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs, His Majesty's Government of Nepal)

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

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