



ADRC Highlights

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July 1, 2003

➤ **Workshop 'In Search of a Common Methodology on Damage Estimation' was held in Netherlands**

A Workshop titled "In Search of a Common Methodology on Damage Estimation" was held at Delft, the Netherlands from the 23rd to 24th May, 2003.

This workshop was co-organized by the European Commission DG Joint Research Centre, and the University of Twente, the Netherlands and other participants including EU member countries and regional organizations and economists.

The main objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- (1) To investigate the feasibility or a common approach to damage estimation.
- (2) To provide an inter-disciplinary platform where experiences and methodologies of damage estimation can be shared amongst users.
- (3) To identify needs and synergies in the area of damage estimation and its possible impact.

ADRC Senior Researcher Mr. Yoshimura introduced as one example from Asia, "Methodology of earthquake economic damage estimation in Japan: Case of Tokai earthquake" which the Government of Japan officially released earlier in 2003.



The final report of the workshop will be edited by the European Commission DG Joint Research Centre (<http://nedies.jrc.it>). For more information, please contact Mr. Yoshimura at yoshimura@adrc.or.jp.

➤ **ADRC Visiting Researchers Made Lectures at Yamaguchi University**

On May 28, 2003, two visiting researchers of ADRC, Ms. Bolormaa Borkhuu from Mongolia and Mr. Dilli P Shiwakoti from Nepal, were invited to Yamaguchi University and made presentations and lectures for 80 students.

The Civil and Environmental Engineering Department of Yamaguchi University, a major national university located in the westernmost tip of Honshu Island, Japan, initiated an East Asia International Course in 2003. The course aims to train future experts that will play a crucial role in the Asian region. Students there are studying a wide variety subjects such as advanced technology of construction, systematic management of disasters, planning and environmental engineering for the harmony of human beings

and the environment.

In order to stimulate knowledge exchange, ADRC and Yamaguchi University have recently implemented research and development cooperation activities. Presentations made by ADRC visiting researchers were the first phase of this project. Ms. Bolormaa Borkhuu talked about "Disasters in Mongolia" and Mr. Dilli P Shiwakoti described "Disasters and Disaster Management System in Nepal", followed by Dr. Yashiro's overall presentation on ADRC.

Approximately 80 students attended the seminar and listened to the presentations attentively. Open discussion was also held and vigorous participation brought mutual benefit.

The second phase of the cooperation has already begun, and Vice-Dean Dr. Hiroshi Matsuda and other professors have participated in the International Training Program on Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) at Kobe 2003 as lecturers. For more information, please contact Dr. Yashiro at yashiro@adrc.or.jp.



➤ **Recent Natural Disasters in Asia**

□ **Tajikistan: Floods**

Stormy winds and torrential rains have affected a number of districts of Sughd Oblast, 200 km north of the Tajik capital Dushanbe on Friday, June 6th, 2003. The First Deputy Minister of Emergencies (MES) notified OCHA about the storm early on the 7th June. OCHA activated REACT (Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team) mechanisms for assessment and response. Penjikent town and surrounding districts suffered the most extensive damage.

60 houses were totally destroyed, 59 houses were damaged beyond repair, 4 bridges were destroyed and 4 electricity transformers were damaged in the town. Various sections of roads, canals and electricity lines have been damaged. Other figures to date indicate 3 casualties, 3 persons missing and a total affected population of 1,500. See the details at <http://www.adrc.or.jp/top.asp> (OCHA Situation Report, June 8, 2003)

➤ **Personnel Change Announcement**

After her 4 years of service, Ms. Sonoko Tanaka has left ADRC on June 30, 2003. Ms. Tanaka has made significantly contributed to ADRC in the area of administration and accounting. Ms. Tae Watanabe has taken over her position.

If you have comments or requests for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC at the address on the right.

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5th Floor, Hitomiraikan 1-5-2, Wakinohamakaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, KOBE,
651-0073, JAPAN E-mail: editor@adrc.or.jp Phone: +81-78-262-5540