



ADRC Highlights Vol.98

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

August 1, 2004

➤ Greetings from Executive Director of ADRC, Masayuki Kitamoto

It is with great pleasure that I have assumed the position of Executive Director of ADRC as of 1 July 2004.

Complex and diverse natural disasters occur recurrently in Asian countries, driving people to despair and destroying people's property in a moment. And the number of those occurrences is increasing year by year. While geographical features of Asia easily trigger natural events, damage by natural disasters must be reduced by use of our wisdom, experiences, and limited resources.



Established in 1998, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) has conducted various activities from its start, such as information sharing, capacity building, and international cooperative projects, with the understanding and support from member countries, advisor countries, related organizations and the local host Hyogo prefectural government.

I will devote myself to implementing various activities based on the lessons learnt from affected areas and the latest technologies, in order to reduce the number of people who lose family houses and to achieve sustainable development in Asia.

(Personal history) Born in Kobe in 1958. Obtained Master of Engineering from Kyoto Univ, and joined the National Land Agency (Japanese government) in 1983. Worked at UN-HABITAT in Nairobi in 1988-1991. Worked at the Disaster Prevention Bureau, National Land Agency in 1993-1995. Worked at the Policy Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, etc since 1995.

➤ Promoting GLIDE for Effective Disaster Information Sharing

GLIDE (GLObal unique disaster IDentifier number) has been endorsed by UN/International agencies such as OCHA/ReliefWeb, UNDP, WMO and ISDR as a common database in order to facilitate disaster information sharing. ADRC developed GLIDENumber.net (<http://glidnumber.net/>) as a portal site to locate disaster information from various sources over the world.

ADRC and ReliefWeb have been operating jointly the website towards effective disaster information sharing. The site has three basic functions.

□ 1. GLIDE Search Function

In order to search information on certain disaster, users can select from categories such as continent, country, events, and period of time and keywords. Users can also jump to several relevant sites in case users want to know more details of the disaster.



□ 2. Disaster Notification Function

Once registered as a user, you can receive instant reports via e-mail which will be sent immediately after disaster is identified and new GLIDE is generated. The e-mail based report includes its hazard type, time and location of occurrence, its outline and new GLIDE number.

Users can also receive specific disaster information at any time by selecting area, country, and hazard type.



□ 3. New GLIDE Generating Function

In case a user is disaster database administrator of some organization, he/she can add the GLIDE "function" to the existing database and make the database open to public. If a past disaster is not granted GLIDE yet, users can make request to GLIDE administrator (ADRC or OCHA/ReliefWeb) for generating new GLIDE.

The more organizations participate in the use of GLIDE will make disaster information more reliable. Thus, ADRC is looking forward to active participation of relevant organizations to the GLIDE project. For more details, please visit GLIDENumber.net, or contact ADRC Senior Researcher Mr. Arakida (arakida@adrc.or.jp).



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

Published by : [Asian Disaster Reduction Center \(ADRC\)](http://www.adrc.or.jp/)
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