



ADRC Highlights

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➤ **Workshop on the Role of Broadcaster held in Bangkok on 13-16 June**

After the Indian Ocean Tsunami occurred in late 2004, we have the growing recognition of the necessity to the Tsunami Early Warning System. As one of indispensable element of the Tsunami Early Warning System, Broadcasters have been playing a vital role in the disaster reduction.

Based on this concept, UN/ISDR and Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) organized two media workshops on the role of broadcasters in Bangkok, Thailand on 13-16 June 2005, gathering many broadcasters from the Indian Ocean Tsunami affected countries. Mr. Masayuki Kitamoto, Executive Director of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) was invited as a lecturer.

The first workshop focused on the Emergency Information Flow while the second one focused on the Public Awareness, Preparedness and Response.

At the workshop in the first two days, Mr. Kitamoto made a presentation regarding the Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) and the role and activities of broadcasters in Japan. Consecutively, Mr. Tomio Kojima, Executive Director of Disaster and Safety Information Centre, Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), showed a video of the news studio in the event of an actual earthquake. In his presentation, Mr. Kojima also stressed the importance of coordination with the organization involved in the disaster related information, and preparedness for broadcasting accurate information calmly and promptly in an emergency.



In the latter part of the workshop, Mr. Kitamoto emphasized the importance of continuous broadcasting on accurate knowledge about disasters, evacuation methods and so on.

Throughout the workshop, the participants deepened their understanding of broadcasters' role in disaster reduction, but there will also be need to holding for in-country seminars as a follow-up step.

For more information, please ask Mr. Kitamoto at (kitamoto@adrc.or.jp).

➤ **ADRC Staff Profiles No.19**

□ **Mr. Koichi Nagano, Administrative Manager**

Dispatched from Hyogo Prefectural Government, I, Koichi Nagano, joined the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) as an Administrative Manager on April 2005. Until then, I had been handling logistics matters for the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) held in Hyogo earlier 2005. Among my main assignment were to promote public relations, recruit volunteers, and coordinate transportation, accommodation, security, medical treatment for the conference participants. Seen from severe damage and a great number of casualties caused by the Indian Ocean Tsunami, I clearly recognize the ADRC's important role of international cooperation for disaster risk reduction.



The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake occurred in Hyogo, Japan in 1995 while I was dispatched to study abroad in the Washington State, USA. The earthquake heavily damaged my parents' home, and got my close relatives affected. I consider that the experience and lessons learned from the earthquake should be utilized as Hyogo's strength to promote international cooperation for disaster risk management.

My main responsibility at ADRC is business management and treasury administration. Keeping a Japanese old proverb in my mind; "Natural Disasters will hit us by the time people have forgotten about it", I would like to contribute to reduce negative impact of natural disasters that occurs in ADRC Member countries.

➤ **Recent Natural Disasters in Asia:**

□ **Floods in India**

West India's Gujarat State is suffering from heavy rain as the death toll in the flood rose to 132 at least. 400,000 people were made homeless as of 4 July, 2005. Three districts in central Gujarat were surrounded by 2 to 3 meters deep rainwater, while power supply was affected in 4,500 villages in the whole state.

For more information, please visit the Latest Disaster Information of ADRC website at <http://www.adrc.or.jp>.(GLIDE: FF-2005-000104-IND).

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

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