



ADRC Highlights Vol.135

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➤ JICA Regional Seminar on Tsunami Early Warning System drew to a successful close

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), in cooperation with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), conducted the second "JICA Regional Seminar on Tsunami Early Warning System" from 23 January to 10 February, 2006. The first seminar was held in March 2005, aiming to deepen high level officials' understanding on tsunami early warning system, to which 21 officials from 11 countries participated.

This time, the seminar shifted the target to operational managers and directors, aiming to develop the capacity of the Indian Ocean region countries at the operational level of tsunami early warning system.



Participating countries were Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Thailand.

The 24 participants were divided into two groups, "Disaster Management Group" and "Tsunami Observation/Forecast Group", both of which were given lectures at relevant ministries in charge of tsunami countermeasures including the Cabinet Office of Japan. Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) also demonstrated tsunami early warning system operation.

At the end of the seminar, the presentations on "Action Plan" were made, and the participants presented each of their future plan for establishing/enhancing tsunami early warning system. With TV conference system, this session was broadcasted at UN/ISDR, UNESCO/IOC, and JICA offices in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand, in order to share those presentations with UN and JICA officers. For more information, please contact ADRC Researcher Ms. Nakamura (nakamura@adrc.or.jp).

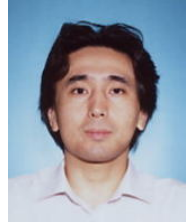
➤ ADRC Staff Profile No.24 □ Mr. Makoto IKEDA, Researcher

5 months have passed since I joined ADRC as a Researcher. My education history covers Tokyo Metropolitan University, where I studied Topography as my major. Later, I began working for Pasco Corporation, one of major companies dealing with GIS (Geographic Information System), where I was devoted to GIS for urban planning and development and technical support.

I am a nature lover and also an environmental conservationist ever since I was a child. Given this, I am

pleased to work at an international organization like ADRC where I can integrate science, culture, technology and other relevant fields into the interdisciplinary perspectives on natural disasters and negative impacts.

From a global point of view, the significance of disaster risk reduction continuously pushes me onwards to achieve the goals of sustainable development. In this connection, I consider "Information Sharing" as the most critical among the three ADRC pillars. My current commitment includes enhancing disaster education in Thai schools, and community-based hazard mapping projects in Sri Lanka. I look forward to working further with ADRC counterparts.



➤ World Bank Institute's On-Line Training of Trainers on DRM conducted □ Ms. Maria Matilde Limpahan Go, ADRC Former VR

I have been a facilitator of the Localized World Bank Institute's On-Line Training of Trainers (TOT) Course on Disaster Risk Management. The objective of the Course is to train a pool of disaster management experts in distance learning methods and tools and to provide them with basic skills in course administration and facilitation. Successful completion of this course is a requirement to take part in the dissemination of the Disaster Risk Management on-line program in the Philippines.



The Natural Disaster Risk Management Program aims at developing a broader understanding of disaster risk management practices and enhancing their effectiveness. The program is comprised of five courses. A general overview course is offered to development practitioners and four so called "specialization" courses are offered to specific target groups. The overview course is mandatory for participants who want to take any of the specialization courses.

The five courses of the program are: (1) Comprehensive Natural Disaster Risk Management Framework, (2) Financial Strategies for Managing the Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters, (3) Safe Cities, (4) Community-based Disaster Risk Management, and (5) Damage and Reconstruction Needs Assessment.

This above report was contributed by Ms. Maria Go, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Government of the Philippines, also a former ADRC Visiting Researcher for July-December 2005, as one of the activities proposed under ADRC Visiting Researcher Network (AVRN).

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

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