



ADRC

Highlights

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➤ ADRC Participates in National Assessment Mission to Yemen Led by UNESCO/IOC

In response to a request by the government of the Republic of Yemen, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (UNESCO/IOC), together with the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), has dispatched an assessment mission team composed of various experts from 8 to 10 July 2006. Mr. Akihiro Teranishi, Senior Researcher of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) participated in the mission as an expert primarily in charge of "Public Outreach and Community Activities Related to Tsunami Preparedness."



The mission started with a meeting that included a speech by Dr. Hussein A. Al-Gunied, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Water and Environment, and presentations by members of the team

of experts from the UNESCO/IOC, UN/ISDR, National Ocean and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA), and ADRC. Mr. Teranishi of ADRC provided a comprehensive overview of the important components of an effective tsunami warning and mitigation program using examples and past lessons from Japan.

On day two, a question and answer session was held between the assessment mission team and representatives from relevant agencies in Yemen. The session was based on 137 questions that had been prepared in advance to help the researchers better understand and address issues pertaining to the development of tsunami early warning systems and disaster reduction systems in Yemen. For more information regarding this mission, please contact Mr. Teranishi (teranishi@adrc.or.jp).

➤ ADRRN Regional Workshop Held in Bangkok

The ADRRN (Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network) Regional Workshop was held on 13-15 June 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was attended by about 40 NGO members from 16 countries. In addition, representatives from the UN and regional organizations participated in the

workshop as observers, one of key reasons that the workshop was held in Bangkok.

Participants reviewed past ADRRN activities and discussed ways to move forward in the future. They also shared important information on developing trust through accountability among network participants, and the discussed structures that would be most effective for cooperating with various institutions. In addition, a draft ADRRN Statute for strengthening the foundation of the network was introduced and discussed.



The ADRC, which has continuously supported the network's activities, made a proposal regarding future support for the network members and discussed it with the participants.

The conference promoted further cooperation among NGOs and facilitated the development of a strong network of stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and emergency response efforts in the Asia-Pacific region.

The next ADRRN Regional Workshop will be held in Singapore. For more information regarding this workshop, please contact Ms. Kodama (kodama@adrc.or.jp). For the information on the ADRRN, please visit <http://www.adrrn.net/>.

➤ Global Disaster Reduction Education Campaign 2006-2007

On 15 June 2006, a global campaign for disaster reduction education was launched at UNESCO in Paris by UN/ISDR, UNESCO, and the French National Committee for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

The campaign, entitled "Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School," has two main objectives: to promote disaster reduction education in school curricula, and to improve school safety by encouraging the adoption of construction standards that incorporate disaster resistance needs.

The campaign runs through the end of 2007, but will continue thereafter under the auspices of the UNESCO Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Detailed information on the campaign is available in English, French, and Spanish on the UN/ISDR website (<http://www.unisdr.org/>).

If you have comments or questions regarding this newsletter, please contact the ADRC.

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