



ADRC Highlights

Vol.149

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

16 October 2006

➤ 2006 Disaster Management Training Course for Central Asia and the Caucasus

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), with financial support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), conducted its third Russian language training course on disaster management for Central Asia and the Caucasus from 21 August to 15 September 2006. These areas are prone to natural disasters such as floods, droughts, landslides, and earthquakes, and the damage caused by such events tends to spread into neighboring countries. These countries also share common disaster reduction challenges, such as flooding triggered by the melting of mountain glaciers.



Fourteen central and local government officials in charge of disaster management came from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to participate in this training. They visited related organizations and facilities, and learned about the roles that need to be played by the central and local governments, lifeline companies, research institutes, meteorological agencies, the media, hospitals, and NPOs. They also learned about GIS technologies, international disaster reduction cooperation, and disaster prevention education. Participants visited sites in the Rokko Mountains where landslide countermeasures and erosion control measures have been implemented, and saw the Nojima fault on Awaji Island. They also participated in disaster management drills in Osaka.



This training course incorporated "Town Watching," a method of identifying the underlying risks in a community through the creation of hazard maps. This enabled

trainees to better appreciate the effectiveness of this method in raising public awareness of disaster reduction.

A new component in this year's training was a workshop for developing action plans based on the PCM (Project Cycle Management) method. Over the course of three days, trainees learned the basics of PCM as well as

how to put what they had learned into practice. The trainees were able to achieve the objectives of the workshop in a very short time. Upon returning home, they are expected to be leaders who can apply what they have learned to various disaster reduction projects in their own countries.

The ADRC wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to all of those who contributed to the success of this training course. For further information about the course, please contact the ADRC's Senior Researcher Mr. Akira Yamamoto (yamamoto@adrc.or.jp) or Ms. Etsuko Tsunozaki (tsunozaki@adrc.or.jp).

➤ Recent Natural Disasters in Asia:

□ Typhoon No. 13 (Shanshan)

From 16 to 20 September 2006, Typhoon No. 13 (Shanshan) pounded the Kyushu, Chugoku, and Shikoku regions of Japan, causing extensive human suffering and serious property and infrastructural damage.

This typhoon was characterized by especially strong winds, so strong, in fact, that they derailed and overturned a JR express train in Nobeoka City, Miyazaki Prefecture. A tornado spawned from the storm caused wind gusts that knocked down power poles, resulting in power outages.

According to Report No. 13 of the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, dated 29 September 2006, the typhoon left nine people dead, one person missing, 435 people injured, 398 houses half or completely destroyed, and 9,754 houses partially destroyed.

□ Typhoon No. 15 (Xangsane)

Typhoon Xangsane hit the northern and central Philippines on 28 September 2006. According to the UN/OCHA's Situation Report, dated 11 October 2006, 153 people were killed, 75 were missing, and 406 were injured (Source: Philippines' National Disaster Coordinating Council). Of the 430,182 homes damaged, 103,625 were totally destroyed. Losses are estimated at PHP 5.687 billion (approximately USD 113 million).

After devastating the Philippines, the typhoon moved on to Vietnam, where it caused serious damage in Da Nang City and Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam, and Quang Ngai provinces. The Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) said that 69 people were killed, 525 injured, and two missing.

For more information on these disasters, please visit the ADRC website (<http://www.adrc.or.jp>).

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

Published by : Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

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