



# ADRC Highlights

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### Asian Disaster Reduction Center

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## ● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries Cooperative Project with Mongolia: Seminar on the “Development of the Web-based GLIDE- associated Disaster Event Database”

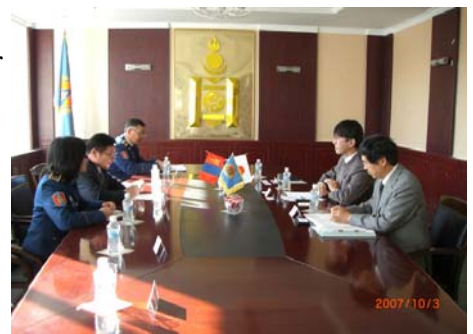
On 3 October, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) of Mongolia conducted an orientation seminar as part of the project. It is jointly implementing this fiscal year with the ADRC, the “Development of the GLIDE-associated Disaster Event Database.”

The seminar was attended by some 25 officials and stakeholders from NEMA, and ADRC’s Executive Director Mr. Koji Suzuki, and Senior Researchers Mr. Hajime Nakano and Mr. Kenpei Kojika. NEMA outlined its activities for disaster management and the progress being made on this cooperative project, and also highlighted Mongolia's natural disaster risks. The ADRC provided an overview of the GLIDE (GLObal unique disaster IDentifier) system, its usage, the current status of the system, and the role of disaster information in disaster management, and described its experience with developing the database. Mongolia suffers natural disasters such as wildfires, a long winter cold spell known as “Zud,” floods, droughts, and earthquakes. Wildfires are particularly frequent, occurring every year, and raise serious environmental issues. NEMA has a great deal of interest in the development of this disaster database and the seminar provoked a lively discussion.

Prior to the seminar, ADRC Executive Director Mr. Suzuki paid his respects to NEMA Chief, High Commissioner Mr. Dash Purev and talked with him about future cooperation between NEMA and the ADRC. NEMA is working with the UNDP, UN/OCHA, and the ADRC on projects including the creation of an early warning system and the development of a disaster information database. After the ADRC described its disaster management initiative in East Asia (Mongolia, China, Republic of Korea, and Japan), both



Seminar



Courtesy Call



Mr. Suzuki in a TV Interview

**(Continued)**

sides reaffirmed their continued cooperation in terms of future disaster management projects. After the courtesy call with Mr. Dash, Mr. Suzuki was interviewed about the joint project by a TV station for a local news program.

This cooperative project is progressing well thanks to the efforts of the Information and Communication Division of NEMA, and Ms. Altanchimeg Shaazan, former ADRC Visiting Researcher (January to June 2007). Database development operations are now expected to proceed in earnest, including database system design and disaster data compilation. It is hoped that the results will contribute to the accumulation of disaster information and will have applications for hazard assessments and disaster management policy planning efforts.

[GLIDE website] <http://www.glidenumber.net>

**● Announcements****Opening of UN/ISDR Hyogo Office**

On 14 October 2007, a ceremony celebrating the opening of the UN/ISDR Hyogo Office was held at the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution in Kobe, Hyogo. UN/ISDR Director, Mr. Salvano Briceno, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, H.E. Ryuichiro Yamazaki, and Hyogo Governor Toshizo Ido gave opening remarks. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was then performed by the abovementioned speakers as well as ADRC Executive Director, Mr. Koji Suzuki, and representatives of JICA and other international organizations.



Ribbon-cutting  
UN/ISDR Mr. Briceno (fourth right) &  
ADRC Mr. Suzuki (far right)

**Personnel Change**

Mr. Makoto Ikeda, ADRC Researcher, returned to Pasco Corporation on 24 October 2007. All of us at the ADRC offer our best wishes for his continued success.

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