



# ADRC Highlights

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## ● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

### The International Recovery Platform (IRP) / the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) Attends International Seminar on Crisis Response in Australia

An international seminar entitled “Crisis Response: Restoring Public Services in the Immediate Aftermath of a Disaster,” organized by the Institute of Public Administration Australia Western Australia, was held in Perth, Western Australia on 19 March 2014. In support of this forum, ADRC sent a representative from the IRP secretariat to attend. The seminar attracted more than 150 participants, including government officials and academic experts from across Western Australia.

Mr. Shingo Kouchi, ADRC Senior Expert and IRP Senior Recovery Expert, participated in the conference, during which he commended the Australian government and its people for their strong ability to promote preparedness, recovery, and reconstruction efforts in response to crises and natural disasters. Mr. Kouchi also noted that ADRC and IRP have long been helping developing countries with their efforts to utilize Japanese technologies, experiences, and lessons related to earthquake disaster risk reduction. He further emphasized the importance of everyday preparedness by citizens, in addition to government efforts, when a massive disaster strikes. He showed how some of the weather-related disasters that have occurred in Japan since the 1960s provide evidence of just how much progress has been made in terms of disaster reduction and preparedness.

ADRC, together with the IRP, would like to continue supporting efforts to strengthen the disaster reduction capabilities of affected communities in Asia and the Pacific. For more information, please contact Mr. Shingo Kouchi (kouchi@recoveryplatform.org).



## ● Participation in International Conferences

### UNISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Meeting

ADRC participated in the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting held in Amari Watergate Bangkok, Thailand on 22-24 April. Around 170 participants attended the meeting including representatives from various Asian countries as well as several international and intergovernmental organizations. ADRC, in cooperation with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), gave a presentation entitled "Outcome of the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2014 (ACDR2014) and Update from the Sentinel Asia Project."

The main topics covered at the meeting were as follows:

- 1) Preparations for the 6th Asia Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR)

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- 2) Sustaining the engagement of stakeholder groups
- 3) HFA monitoring and review: Consultation on a proposed indicator system to monitor and review the post-2015 framework for DRR (HFA2)

This meeting was held to serve as a preparatory meeting for the AMCDRR (Bangkok) this June and the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai) to be held next March. This meeting discussed outcomes of the HFA in the Asian region, and issues to be addressed in the Post-HFA framework.

**ASEAN Workshop on the Development of Mechanisms for the Acquisition and Utilization of Space-Based Information During Emergency Response**

ADRC participated in the ASEAN workshop on the Development of Mechanisms for the Acquisition and Utilization of Space-Based Information During Emergency Response which was jointly organized by the AHA Centre, LAPAN, UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER, and ESCAP in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The goal of the workshop was to prepare mechanisms for acquiring and utilizing space-based information during emergency response efforts. The key objectives are as follows:



- 1) Identify requirements and criteria for responding to major disasters by taking effective advantage of international mechanisms that provide space-based information during emergencies
- 2) Leverage UN and other initiatives for disasters that cannot be covered by international mechanisms (especially disasters at the sub-national scale)
- 3) Strengthen preparedness for effective emergency response by identifying gaps, capacity building needs, database needs, financial needs, mapping procedures, institutional coordination challenges, and other issues
- 4) Prepare rapid mapping products and disseminate them to end users

At this workshop, ADRC gave a presentation on the current status of emergency observation requests made of Sentinel Asia, and stressed the importance of integrating the utilization of space technologies into the Post-HFA framework.

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