



# ADRC Highlights

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## TOPICS

### Announcement

Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR2020):  
Can we Adapt to a New Normal? -Approaches from Asia- (tentative)

### ADRC Staff Profile

Ms. Chieko Kodama,  
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## ● Announcement

### Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR2020): Can we Adapt to a New Normal? -Approaches from Asia- (tentative)

Since its establishment in 1998, ADRC has endeavored to enhance the disaster risk reduction (DRR) capabilities of member countries mainly through information sharing and human resource development activities conducted in cooperation with various organizations. Among these is the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR), which has been held 18 times since 2003 with the goals of promoting information sharing and strengthening partnerships among member countries. The ACDR is an annual conference hosted by one of our member countries. ACDR2020, however, will be held virtually this year due to the worldwide spread of COVID-19.

Despite continued efforts by member countries to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), the damage caused by natural disasters has increased in recent years. Extreme weather events around the world show that there is an urgent need to execute disaster mitigation and DRR strategies that take climate change into greater consideration, especially in the context of the coronavirus pandemic.

How do we deal with the dual risks of climate change and COVID-19? ACDR2020 will provide a platform for member countries to share updates on what they are experiencing and to discuss the future actions to be taken by focusing on two themes: (1) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Measures and Challenges to the Intensifying Natural Disasters, and (2) Disaster Preparedness and Response Measures Amidst COVID-19.

### 1. ACDR2020 Components

- (1) ACDR2020 website launch, report collection and publication (Sept.-Oct.)
- (2) Online conference (20-22 Oct.)
- (3) Final Report

### 2. ACDR2020 Website

In September, we will launch an ACDR2020 website for general information sharing, conference registration, and report collection and publication.



<https://acdr.adrc.asia/> (to be launched 15 September)

### 3. ACDR2020 online conference

**Continued****<20 October> Opening Session and Keynote Speech**

15:00 - 15:30 Opening remarks

15:30 - 15:40 Commemorative photo

15:40 - 17:00 Keynote

**<21 October> Session 1: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Measures and Challenges to the Intensifying Natural Disasters**

Discussing new measures to deal with the damage caused by natural disasters, which are increasing due to the intensification of disasters and increasing vulnerabilities due to climate change.

15:00 - 15:05 Session introduction

15:05 - 16:30 Presentation

16:35 - 16:50 Exchange of opinions

16:50 - 17:00 Summary, closing

**<22 October> Session 2: Disaster Preparedness and Response Measures Amidst COVID-19**

Discussions on how to prepare for and responding to active natural disasters during the COVID-19 pandemic.

15:00 - 15:05 Session introduction

15:05 - 16:30 Presentation

16:35 - 16:50 Exchange of opinions

16:50 - 17:00 Summary, closing

**4. Conference wrap-up**

Current efforts and challenges will be shared during the ACDR2020 online conference, and the ACDR2020 website will continue to be a place where information on these issues can be exchanged even after the conference has ended. A final report will be prepared based on the papers presented.

**● ADRC Staff Profile****Ms. Chieko Kodama, Deputy Administrative Manager**

My name is Chieko Kodama, and I have been serving as the Deputy Manager of the Administrative Section of ADRC since 1 April 2020. I have developed my skills in administrative work in various work environments in Japan. For the past nearly seven years, I worked at the secretariat of intergovernmental organization in Kobe. This afforded me the opportunity to handle a variety of tasks, including a heavy workload of extensive administrative tasks. I also performed a great deal of coordination work, liaising with HQ, researchers, members of academia, and policymakers, utilizing both Japanese and English, as required. Through these efforts, I experienced the joys of teamwork and had the pleasure of developing relationships of mutual trust with people from many different countries. It has only been four months since I joined ADRC, but in that time, I have gained a wealth of experience and have been able to fully utilize the skills and experience I cultivated in my previous positions. I am thankful for this new professional opportunity, and am excited to contribute to the realization of ADRC's vision and mission.

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