



ADRC Highlights

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● Announcement

ADRC Online DRR Seminar Series 2021: First Seminar on "Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society"

Despite continued efforts by member countries to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), the damage caused by disasters has increased in recent years due to the global climate crisis and the increasing vulnerability of cities. In order to not only save human lives but also to ensure sustainable development of countries and regions, it is necessary to build a disaster resilient society through various systems and technologies.

The ADRC will hold online DRR seminar series in line with the above issues starting in June, focusing the following three themes:

- 1) Building resilient societies to the intensifying climate crisis and increasing urban vulnerability;
- 2) Strengthening preparedness for disasters (disaster education, promotion of disaster volunteer activities, among others); and
- 3) DRR technology that match local needs to create safe, secure and livable society.

The first seminar will be held on Tuesday, June 15th, 2021 on the theme "Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society" as a part of theme 1).

ADRC ONLINE DRR SEMINAR SERIES 2021

First Seminar
Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society

 Dr. Jun Rentschler Senior Economist The World Bank, Washington, D.C.	 Mr. Ronald Jackson Head, DRR and Recovery UNDP, Geneva, Switzerland	 Dr. NISHIKAWA Satoru Professor, Disaster Mitigation Research Center Nagoya University, Japan	 Mr. NAKAGAWA Masaaki Executive Director Asian Disaster Reduction Center Kobe, Japan
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June 15, 2021 (Tuesday)
18:00-19:30 (Japan Time, GMT+9)

Asia is experiencing rapid urbanization and development that this region accounts to half of the estimated USD6 trillion annual global investments on infrastructures until 2030. It is crucial to integrate disaster resilience into these investments to avoid the accumulation of structural and non-structural vulnerabilities. The first seminar hopes to generate insights that contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, especially Priority Three: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience. Specifically, it

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intends to:

- Share recent knowledge on risk informed investment from analytical, programming, and empirical views that member states can further adopt to fundamentally reduce disaster damages and economic losses,
- Provide an overview of the key components for achieving a resilient society through investing in disaster risk reduction from the following viewpoints:
 - Why do we need to invest in disaster risk reduction?
 - What have we achieved and what remains to be done?
 - What are the crucial points for building a resilient society?

With resource speakers from the World Bank, United Nations Development Programme, and Japan, the first seminar hopes to answer the following focused questions:

- What are the gaps and challenges of the current developments that hinder DRR, people's well-being, and sustainable economic growth in Asian countries?
- How to assess risks and vulnerabilities by considering social, economic, and cultural backgrounds?
- What strategies can the national and local government further adopt to fundamentally reduce disaster damage and economic loss?
- How to integrate or align disaster mitigation strategy with other plans (e.g., land-use plan, spatial development plan, and master plan for infrastructure) to ensure low-risk spatial development?
- How can state governments effectively implement disaster mitigation, highlighting the role of good governance, sound financing, and institutional cooperation/collaboration?

To participate, please register through the ZOOM Webinar or watch the livestreaming via YouTube.

Register for ZOOM Webinar: <http://bit.ly/adrcseminar1>

YouTube Livestreaming: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFAvt0RinKA>

URL: <https://www.adrc.asia/acdr/drr2021seminar.php>

We are looking forward to meeting you online!

● Participation in International Conferences**APEC EPWG and SDMOF Meetings**

The 17th Meeting of the APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG17) was held on May 20 and 21, 2021. The meeting addressed several topics, such as (1) the EPWG's initiatives in responding to COVID-19, (2) the EPWG Strategic Plan 2021-2024 and EPWG TOR, (3) the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 Implementation Plan, (4) opportunities for collaboration across working groups, and (5) capacity building projects. Participants discussed EPWG plans and their implementation and shared information on recent major disasters and response measures.

The 14th Senior Disaster Management Officials Form (SDMOF14) was held on 26 May. Reports from member economies addressed (1) DRR polices including preparedness, response, and recovery measures in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and (2) inclusive and balanced participation in disaster management. The participants from the APEC member economies reported on their experiences related to these topics.

ADRC Executive Director Mr. NAKAGAWA Masaaki attended both meetings, where he reported on recent disasters in Japan and the DRR measures taken during the COVID-19 outbreak. At SDMOF14, Senior Researcher Mr. Gerry Potutan moderated the session (2) and also made a presentation on Japan's experiences and practices in line with subject.

● ADRC Staff Profile

Mr. NAKAYASU Yusuke, ADRC Senior Researcher (IRP Secretariat)

My name is NAKAYASU Yusuke, and I was assigned by the Hyogo Prefectural Government to work at ADRC as of April 1, 2021. In my previous job in the International Economic Development Division of the Hyogo Prefectural Government, I supported the overseas development efforts of SMEs and promoted inter-regional economic exchanges. One of the most memorable experiences I had while in that role came from a business trip I took to Vietnam for an economic exchange conference. I has the honor of attending the meeting between the Prime Minister of Vietnam and the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture in Hanoi.

In the field of disaster risk reduction, I worked in the Disaster Management Bureau of the Government of Japan's Cabinet Office from FY2002 to 2003. I was mainly in charge of earthquake preparedness measures. I also was involved in supporting the recovery from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake from FY2004 to 2006. Now I work in the secretariat of the International Recovery Platform (IRP), which consists of 17 governments and international organizations. It is a very rare opportunity for a local government official to work in such an international context, and I believe it will be a great step forward in my career. I will do my best to realize the "Build Back Better" ideal, and I look forward to your guidance and encouragement in my efforts.



Ms. TANAKA Tomomi, ADRC Research Department

My name is TANAKA Tomomi, and I joined the ADRC secretariat staff in April. I have been supporting the ACDR Secretariat for the last two conferences (it will be my great honor if anyone recognizes my name!) but now I will be around throughout this fiscal year to help out mainly with correspondence relating to ACDR and other seminars.

I hope my experience in organizing many international conferences and also in working as a freelance translator/ interpreter will help facilitate communications between ADRC and its member countries, researchers, and others. I hope that this will lead to more efficient sharing of valuable information on disaster risk reduction.

When the pandemic situation improves, I look forward to meeting you in person at a future ACDR conference.



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