



ADRC Highlights

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TOPICS

Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

[News Flash] Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2022

Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

The JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction"

ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

¶ Mr Asghar Ali Jamali (Pakistan)

¶ Mr Pravin Bhagwantrao Dhat (India)

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● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

[News Flash] Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2022

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2022 (ACDR2022) was held at the Sendai International Center in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, from 10 to 12 March 2023. This event was adapted to a hybrid format, with online participation available to a wide range of member countries and other interested parties.

The basic theme of ACDR2022 was "WHAT IS NEXT? Learning from the Past, Preparing for the Future." ACDR2022 highlighted the importance of applying past lessons towards efforts for risk-informed preparedness to further strengthen national-level DRM systems.

Three sessions were held for ACDR2022: (1) Large-Scale Disasters and Countermeasures, (2) Broaden Our Horizons for Disaster Data Linkage in SFDRR Implementation: Application of GLIDE (GLObal IDentifier Number), and (3) The Provision of Information via Satellite for Disasters and Crisis Management. ACDR2022 also included a special session related to the "100th Anniversary of the Great Kanto Earthquake" for the discussion of these issues. In this special session, speakers reported on the process of recovery from the Great Kanto Earthquake in the metropolitan area of Japan and made recommendations for better DRR activities in Asian countries. Also, participants attended the Japan International Public-Private Association for Disaster Risk Reduction (JIPAD) seminar hosted by the Cabinet Office of Japan and a JICA-sponsored session at the World BOSAI Forum. On the last day of ACDR2022, participants visited the Yuriage area of Natori City in order to learn about recovery efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Detailed results of each session, as well as a website where you can view the conference video, will be announced in the next issue.



On-site Participants of ACDR2022

● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

The JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction"

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) conducted a JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction" from 28 December

Continued

2022 to 22 February 2023, with the cooperation of JICA Kansai.

It was conducted in a hybrid format, with both online and in-person programs in Japan. It was attended by eight government officials from six countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

This course aims to help participants learn how to formulate and implement local DRR plans to promote disaster reduction measures in each country. Participants studied disaster countermeasures for their target cities by attending lectures, site visits, and participating in exercises on formulating a draft local DRR plan. They all participated enthusiastically in the programs, engaging in discussions with other participants and deepening their understanding of the subject matter.

ADRC would like to express its sincerest gratitude to all the supporting organizations and lecturers for their cooperation in conducting this course.



Site visit on flood control along the Shirakawa River, Kumamoto Prefecture

● ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

Mr Asghar Ali Jamali (Pakistan)

I am Asghar Ali Jamali from Pakistan. For the past seven years, I have been working as Deputy Director (Planning & Coordination), with additional duties as Deputy Director (Rescue), for the Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Board of Revenue for the government of Balochistan. The Provincial Disaster Management Authority is responsible for tackling all kinds of disasters within Balochistan province.

I earned my master's degree in Geography from the University of Balochistan in 2014-2015. In my current position, I am responsible for ensuring the full range of disaster preparedness activities, including mitigation, the formulation of contingency plans, PC-I (development budgets based on project plans), public awareness, conducting disaster training activities, and coordinating with relevant stakeholders on disaster mitigation across the province.

I have been nominated to participate in the Visiting Researcher Program from the Provincial/National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan to be held in Kobe, Japan for two months to learn about latest techniques and methods for rapidly responding to emergencies and minimizing the loss of human life and damage. Because Japan is well known worldwide to be highly developed in terms of dealing with disasters, this program is expected to enhance my knowledge and capacity in the field of disaster risk management/ disaster reduction.

Furthermore, I look forward to reviewing Japanese policies and learning how to make them applicable



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efforts in my country to reduce risk before and after disasters. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to ADRC, the Government of Pakistan, and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority of Balochistan for their support in this work.

Mr Pravin Bhagwantrao Dhat (India)

My name is Pravin Bhagwantrao Dhat, and I have come from India to serve as a Visiting Researcher at ADRC. I work as an Assistant Commandant for the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), an organisation of the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs. I graduated with a degree in Agricultural Sciences and have completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management.

The NDRF of India is the largest dedicated disaster response force in the world and is responsible for providing specialized response during disasters, as well as providing disaster management training and conducting various capacity building and disaster risk reduction activities on a routine basis. I joined the NDRF on assignment from the Central Reserve Police Force in June 2020 and am posted at the 5th Battalion of the NDRF in Pune, Maharashtra. I am responsible for the general supervision and management of an NDRF company. I am also involved in various operational, training, and capacity building activities in the states of Maharashtra and Goa. I am a qualified rescuer trained in various fields such as medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, aquatic disaster response, firefighting, animal disaster response, and dead body management, with specialized training in mountain search & rescue and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear emergencies. Additionally, I have undertaken courses on topics like strategic management, International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG), and gender concerns in disaster management.

India is located in the southern part of Asia and shares borders with Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar. Due to its unique geo-climatic and socio-economic conditions, India has been vulnerable, in varying degrees, to a large number of natural and human-induced disasters. It is highly vulnerable to floods, droughts, cyclones, earthquakes, landslides, avalanches, and forest fires. Global warming and climate change have also increased the occurrence and intensity of hydro meteorological disasters. Human induced disasters like accidents are also on a constant rise. Hence, there is an increasingly intense focus on disaster risk reduction and disaster management in India.

Due to its geographical, topographical and meteorological conditions, Japan faces frequent natural disasters such as typhoons, torrential rains and heavy snowfalls, as well as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis. Disaster damage in Japan has been on the decline due the progress of society's ability to respond to disasters and mitigate vulnerabilities by developing disaster management systems, promoting national land conservation, improving weather forecasting technologies, and upgrading disaster information communications systems. Thus, there is quite a lot to learn from Japan.

During my stay in Japan, I look forward to gaining insights into the Japanese system of disaster management, especially in the domain of response at various levels. I am confident that I will be able to apply the knowledge and skills that I gain through this program in relevant fields of practice in India.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to ADRC and the Government of India for giving me this opportunity to participate in the Visiting Researcher Program for the fiscal year 2022.

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