



# ADRC Highlights

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## ● ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

### Ms Preeti Negi (India)

I am Preeti Negi, hailing from Kinnaur, a tribal region in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh. I hold a Master's degree in Disaster Management and a Bachelor's degree in Geography (Honours). With over eight years of professional experience in disaster management, I have worked extensively at both national and district levels, contributing to disaster risk reduction (DRR), response coordination, and community capacity building.

Currently, I am serving as the Training and Capacity Building Coordinator at the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. My responsibilities include designing and implementing DRR initiatives, conducting community awareness programs, organising mock drills, and strengthening disaster resilience through innovative and community-centred approaches. I have also played a critical role in coordinating disaster response operations during major calamities in Himachal Pradesh, ensuring effective and timely ground-level interventions.

Previously, I served as a Young Professional at the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), where I contributed to research and data collection on COVID-19 cases across India in 2020. This experience provided me with a deeper understanding of disaster management at the national level, especially in dealing with complex, large-scale emergencies.

As a Visiting Researcher (VR) at the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), I aim to expand my expertise by focusing on developing community-based disaster preparedness strategies to enhance grassroots-level resilience, exploring cost-effective and locally tailored disaster-resilient infrastructure solutions, and understanding Japan's advanced application of technology and innovation in disaster management.

This opportunity will enable me to integrate global best practices into the disaster management frameworks of my home state and country. My ultimate goal is to enhance disaster preparedness, reduce vulnerabilities, and contribute to building safer, more resilient communities in disaster-prone regions of India.

I extend my sincere gratitude to ADRC, the Government of India, and the Government of Himachal Pradesh for this incredible opportunity to participate in the VR Program. I look forward to contributing to and learning from this esteemed platform.

### Ms Che Siti Noor binti Che Mamat (Malaysia)

My name is Che Siti Noor binti Che Mamat, and I am currently serving as the Principal Assistant Director at the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) Malaysia. In this role, my primary focus is on strategic planning and operational coordination during disaster events. My key responsibilities include developing comprehensive disaster coordination and response plans aligned with



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national, regional, and international mechanisms, formulating standard operating procedures for various types of disasters, facilitating coordination among responders during disaster events, and ensuring the efficient allocation of resources. Additionally, I conduct post-disaster assessments to evaluate effectiveness and identify areas for improvement. I also manage regional and international emergency operation plans in collaboration with organisations such as the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) and UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), and coordinate regional and international tools like Civil-Military Coordination, ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT), UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team (UNDAC), and bilateral disaster response programs.

I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Geology and a Master's Degree in Disaster Risk Management and Policy, with a specialisation in Landslide Risk Management. I began my career in the government sector in 2006 as an Assistant Secretary at the Minerals and Geosciences Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, focusing on policy and planning in geosciences, including geohazards. In 2014, I was promoted to the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology, and Water as the Principal Assistant Secretary at the Renewable Energy Division, and later joined NADMA in 2016.

Throughout my public service career, I have been actively involved in special taskforces responsible for drafting and revisiting national Acts and Regulations related to hazards and disasters. These include the Land Conservation Act 1960, the Geological Survey Act 1974, the Geologists Act 2008, the Hill and Highland Development Guidelines 2009, and, most recently, the drafting of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2030, which was completed in October 2024.

I have been a member of the ASEAN-ERAT since 2018 and a member of the UNDAC team since 2019. In my role as the disaster operation coordinator for HADR, I have contributed to several missions, including COVID-19 repatriation efforts, managing home support during the deployment of the Malaysia SMART Search and Rescue Team for the 2023 Türkiye earthquake, and the deployment of military assets for Tropical Cyclone Kristine in the Philippines in October 2024.

It has always been my wish to visit Japan and learn about its disaster-resilient culture and preparedness, particularly for large-scale disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Japanese Government and ADRC for providing this opportunity. I am eager to make the most of this experience to learn, share knowledge, expand my network, and contribute valuable insights back to my organisation and my country.



## ● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

### **Participation in the World Bosai Forum 2025**

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), a set of guidelines for disaster risk reduction-related initiatives, was formulated at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015. The World Bosai Forum has been held every two years since 2017 as one of the activities to promote it, bringing together all sectors—industry, government and academia, both domestic and international, to discuss DRR measures. The World Bosai Forum 2025 focused on the concepts of “Increasing Disaster Risks Due to Global Warming and Climate Change” and “Future Prospects.”

ADRC had a booth at the EXPO site in the Forum and introduced the ADRC's efforts such as promotion of DRR in Asia in cooperation with various stakeholders, advancement of DRR measures using ICT (for example, QZSS, a disaster risk information transmission system), and disaster information sharing via mobile phones using GIS and SNS as ADRC conducted projects in Mt. Fuji and Malaysia. In addition, six VRs from member countries (India, Republic of Korea, Türkiye, Fiji, Malaysia and Maldives) introduced the disaster situation and disaster risk management systems of their countries.

At the Forum, 45 organisations exhibited their own efforts and activities for DRR. Many people involved in DRR visited the ADRC booth, including representatives from JICA, universities and other academic

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institutions, private companies, NGOs and foreign exchange students, and the ADRC researchers and visiting researchers gave explanations and exchanged opinions with them.



(Left) ADRC exhibition booth at the EXPO,  
(right) VRs from India and Malaysia attend to visitors to the ADRC exhibition booth

### **The JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction (Toward a Resilient Society)”**

ADRC conducted a JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction (Toward a Resilient Society)” from 9 December 2024 to 20 February 2025, with the cooperation of JICA Kansai. Six government officials from five countries: Kosovo, Pakistan, Türkiye, Viet Nam, and Yemen, participated in this course, learning how to formulate and implement local DRR plans to promote DRR measures in each country.

It was conducted in a hybrid format, where participants attended online programs before coming to Japan for the in-person program. During the five-week program in Japan, the participants attended site visits and lectures at disaster-related organisations/facilities in Hyogo, Nara, and Kumamoto prefectures, and participated in events related to the 30th commemoration of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, to learn about Japanese experiences and countermeasures of DRR. Furthermore, they exchanged information and discussed each country’s budget and policy issues to promote DRR. At the end of the course, they presented a draft local DRR plan, which they formulated through the program.



Discussion among participants

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