



ADRC Highlights

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TOPICS

Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

¶ JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainability and Resilience (Central Asia and Caucasus)" Disaster Reduction 2025

¶ 10th GLIDE Steering Committee Meeting Held

ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

¶ Mr Orn Sophalla (Cambodia)

¶ Ms May Nwe Kyaw Zaaw (Myanmar)

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● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainability and Resilience (Central Asia and Caucasus)"

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) conducted a JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainability and Resilience (Central Asia and Caucasus)" from 10 December 2025 to 10 February 2026, with the cooperation of JICA Kansai. Eight government officials from five countries: Armenia, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, participated in this course, learning how to formulate and implement local DRR plans to promote DRR measures in their respective home countries.

The program was delivered in a hybrid format: participants first attended online sessions, followed by an in-person programme in Japan. During the one-month programme in Japan, the participants visited DRR-related organisations, attended lectures in Hyogo, Tokyo, Osaka, and Nara Prefectures, and joined site visits to inspect erosion control projects in Nikko, Tochigi Prefecture. These sessions provided insights into Japan's experiences and initiatives in DRR. In addition, the participants attended discussion sessions to consider how to manage transboundary disasters in this region. They worked together throughout the course, and on the final day, they presented draft local DRR plans and action plans based on what they had learned.



Site visit to inspect erosion control projects in Nikko (Tochigi Prefecture)

10th GLIDE Steering Committee Meeting Held

ADRC has been promoting the GLIDE (GLObal disaster IDentifier) initiative since 2001, in partnership with various DRR stakeholders, to facilitate disaster information linkages at the global level. Recently, two key meetings were held to advance this mission.

10th Steering Committee (SC) Meeting

On 14 January 2026, the 10th SC meeting was held online, attended by 11

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members from ADRC, the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED)/Université catholique de Louvain, European Commission (EC)/Joint Research Centre (JRC), Tohoku University, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), and the United Nations University's Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).

UNDRR reported on the launch of "DELTA Resilience," a new disaster loss and damage tracking system developed in collaboration with UNDP and World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Participants discussed the progress of new tool development and the potential integration of Hazard Information Profiles (HIPs) into the GLIDE system. The committee agreed to further enhance GLIDE's application to better support global DRR efforts.

Sub-Committee meeting

Prior to the SC meeting, a Sub-Committee meeting was held online on 14 October 2025, specifically to discuss the adoption of HIPs. There were 18 participants from various organisations, indicating strong interest in the discussion. The session focused on exploring the benefits and challenges of incorporating HIPs into GLIDE and building a consensus to continue detailed technical discussions in future SC meetings.

As reaffirmed in these meetings, GLIDE partners remain committed to working together to facilitate seamless information interlinkages among DRR stakeholders worldwide.

● ADRC Visiting Researcher Report**Mr Orn Sophalla (Cambodia)**

I am Orn Sophalla and I am also known as Phalla. I am from Kandieng commune of Kandieng district in Pursat province, the Kingdom of Cambodia. I currently work for the Royal Government of Cambodia at the sub-national level as the Deputy District Governor of Kandieng Administration in Kandieng district of Pursat province. At the same time, I am also in charge of the District Committee for Disaster Management (DCDM) as the Chief of the Secretariat, a Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM) under the management of National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM). The roles of the deputy district governor are in charge of various fields such as water and irrigation system management, agriculture, fishery and environment, employment and training, religion and fine art, the Sub-Branch of Cambodian Red Cross, disaster management, and security and safety with armed-forces management.

I graduated with a Master's degree in General Management in Cambodia and later I also earned a Master's degree in Human Resource Management in Thailand under the international scholarship programme. In addition, I have completed many training courses inside and outside the country including Teaching Methodology for state schools, Management and Leadership, Disaster Risk Reduction, Community-Based Management on DRR Planning, Emergency Response and Simulation, Project Management, Project Monitoring and Evaluation, the 16th ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course by AHA Centre in Phnom Penh, the ASEAN-ERAT Refresher Course for ARDEX-2025 in Phnom Penh, and the Strengthening Resilience for ELTO Program in New Zealand.

During my 25 year career, I have also worked as a high school teacher, part-time lecture at the University of Management and Economics, Chief Executive Officer for Sustainable Cambodia (INGO), Education Adviser for International Relief and Development (IRD International), Education Coordinator for Save the Children (INGO), Provincial Coordinator for Save the Children (INGO), and Financial and Administration Manager for OBYASHI Corporation for National Road #5 Improvement Project (JICA) in Cambodia.

With global warming, climate change is one of the global issues that needs to be considered and actions must be taken immediately for a long-term solution. I am extremely interested in DRR context that is one of



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many steps to enhance the capacity of people against disaster impact and it is one of my favourite topics to investigate deeply, especially flood emergency responses, which have been experienced in some parts of my country as well as my own province. In this year's Visiting Researcher (VR) Program 2025, I have opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences with in-house experts at ADRC which is essential to boost my capacity and skills on flood resilience and I can make a significant positive impact in my society by applying the lesson-learned, knowledge, skills, and best practices from ADRC to build the better communities in Cambodia. I appreciate and am grateful to ADRC including professors or supporters for this great and valuable chance for me to attend this program and I would like to pay my respects with appreciation and gratitude.

Ms May Nwe Kyaw Zaaw (Myanmar)

I am May Nwe Kyaw Zaaw from Myanmar. My educational background is a Bachelor of Civil Engineering, and I graduated from the Technological University (Meiktila).

I am working at the Department of Disaster Management under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. I started to work as a Staff Officer at the Naypyitaw Union Territory Office of the Department of Disaster Management in 2016. At that time, I conducted field inspections in disaster-affected areas, providing humanitarian assistance to the affected people. Moreover, we conducted DRR activities, such as training and drills, awareness-raising programs for local communities, primary, secondary and high school, and university students.

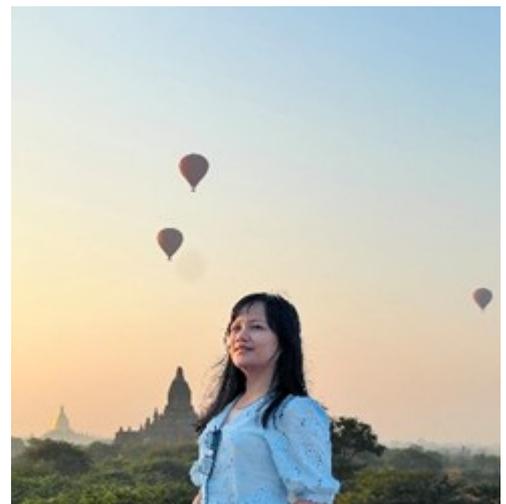
In 2017, I participated in field assessments to identify the gaps between the basic needs of affected people and the items our department supports. Based on the results of this assessment, our department is providing additional relief items for affected people.

In 2018, I inspected the construction process of cyclone shelters, multi-purpose shelters, and school-cum shelters. In 2019, I moved to the headquarters as an Assistant Director and took responsibility for preparing and submitting annual budgets for construction projects (offices, warehouses, and staff housing), making necessary maintenance of the office buildings, and inspection of construction processes.

In 2020, I received the Project for Human Resource Development (JDS) Scholarship Award. I also received a Master of International Studies (Disaster Risk Management) from the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (GSICS), Kobe University, in 2022. I have studied Japan's Disaster Management System. Since 2023, I have been working at the training division and the building maintenance sub-division.

I have taken responsibility during three recent major disasters: the 2023 Cyclone Mocha, the 2024 Typhoon Yagi-related Flooding, and the 2025 Mandalay Earthquake. I was responsible for collecting and analysing updated data related to response and recovery information, reporting that information to the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC), and coordinating 12 working committees under the NDMC, as well as relevant organisations and departments, to collect and analyse the latest information.

By joining this ADRC VR Program 2025, I believe that I can make some improvements for our department and our ministry as well. I hope my research results can be applied to upgrade our disaster management policies and provisions, and encourage the community to participate in disaster management.

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