

3—2. Visiting Researchers from Member Countries

In line with the agreements arrived at the 1st International Meeting, the ADRC has been receiving visiting researchers from member countries. To date, 25 officials from member countries have taken part in this program.

In the 6th ADRC International Meeting held in February 2004, “Networking of ADRC Visiting Researchers” was proposed by Mr. V. P. Pasrija, former visiting researcher from India. This network is expected to strengthen the disaster management capacities of their countries.

The profiles of the respective visiting researchers are as follows:

(1) Korea

- Shim Kee-Oh
- Job title at the time of visit: Project Manager, Nation's Institute for Disaster Reduction (Drought Control), Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs.
- Period: August - October, 1999
- Researched drought management practices in Japan and reported on a drought in Korea. Additionally, researched and reported on recent drought disasters in Vietnam and Papua New Guinea.

(2) Vietnam

- Mr. Ngo Van Sinh
- Job title at the time of visit: Water-Related Disaster Management Specialist, Disaster Management Center, Committee for Flood and Storm Control, Department of Flood Management, Flood and Storm Control, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of S. R. Vietnam
- Period: December 1999 - March 2000
- Reported on the legal system surrounding disaster reduction and an flood disasters in Vietnam, studied flood mitigation measures in Japan and visited related facilities. Conducted research under Professor Takara and Assistant Professor Toda, Disaster Reduction Institute, Kyoto University, in the area of water-related disasters.

(3) Nepal

- Mr. Lek Nath Pokharel
 - Job title at the time of visit: Section Officer, Disaster Relief Section, Ministry of Home Affairs
 - Period: January - May 2000
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- Reported on the legal system surrounding disaster reduction, and on natural disasters in Nepal, studied landslide mitigation measures in Japan and visited related facilities. Conducted research under Professor Ueda (cryospheric variation) at the Atmosphere-Hydrosphere Science Institute, Nagoya University.

(4) Sri Lanka

- Mr. Nimal Dharmasiri Hettiarachchi
- Job title at the time of visit: Deputy Director for Disaster Relief, Department of Social Service, Ministry of Home Affairs
- Period: April - October 2000
- Reported on a basic disaster reduction bill under discussion at the Parliament and on natural disasters in Sri Lanka. Exchanged views with researchers from the UN Regional Development Center at Nagoya University and the ADRC about sustainable development in term of disaster reduction.

(5) Bangladesh

- Mr. Babul Akhter
- Job title at the time of visit: Assistant Manager, Palli Karma Shayak Foundation, Treasury Department
- Period: May - November 2000
- Reported on disaster reduction systems, natural disasters and the significance that a small business support program for women has with regards to disaster reduction in Bangladesh. Studied flood mitigation and river management in Japan at the Ministry of Construction (now Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation) and River Information Center because of the frequent occurrence of flood disaster in his country.

(6) Sri Lanka

- Mr. Chulananda Perera
- Job title at the time of visit: Deputy Director, Ministry of Social Welfare, National Disaster Management Center
- Period: November 2000 - April 2001
- Reported on natural disasters, the legal system surrounding disaster reduction, and organizations such as the National Disaster Management Center in Sri Lanka. Prepared a training manual for disaster reduction that is needed in his country.

(7) Armenia

- Ms. Hripsime Vardanyan
 - Job title at the time of visit: Secretary to Director, Armenia National Earthquake Center
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(NSSP)

- Period: March - June 2001
- Reported on disasters in Armenia including the Spitak Earthquake and disaster reduction organizations such as the NSSP. Visited the Cabinet Office and disaster reduction organizations in Hyogo and Shizuoka, to research disaster management in Japan.

(8) Papua New Guinea

- Ms. Philomena Miria
- Title at the time of visit: Director Education and Training, National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO)
- Period: June - December 2001
- Reported on recent disasters in Papua New Guinea including tidal waves and the eruption of Mt. Rapowl, as well as on disaster reduction organizations such as the NDMO. Visited Sanriku and other locations to research Tsunami mitigation measures in Japan. Prepared a training manual for disaster reduction in her country.

(9) Cambodia

- Mr. So Ban Heang
- Job title at the time of visit: Secretary-General, National Council on Disaster Management (NCDM)
- Period: June - December 2001
- Reported on flood disasters and measures in Cambodia, as well as on the activities of the NCDM. Visited the Kotani Dam and Kisosansen River Basin, as well as the Cabinet Office, NHK and the Japan Red Cross, to study flood mitigation measures in Japan.

(10) Bangladesh

- Mr. Mohamed Atkuzzaman
 - Job title at the time of visit: Deputy Director, Bangladesh Provincial Administration Training Center (BPATC)
 - Period: January - July 2002
 - Reported on recent cyclones and flood disasters in Bangladesh, as well as on the BPATC training. Attended the JICA Disaster Management Seminar organized by the ADRC and JICA. Researched all types of disaster reduction measures in Japan. Also gave a lecture on the disaster situations of Bangladesh at Fuji Tokoha University.
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(11) Armenia

- Mr. Tigran Sayiyan
- Job title at the time of visit: Head, Southern Department Task Force, National Survey for Seismic Protection
- Period: February - August 2002
- Reported on anti-seismic construction after the Spitak Earthquake and other earthquake measures, and activities of the NSSP. Also gave a lecture on the disaster situations in Armenia at Fuji Tokoha University. Visited the Phoenix Plaza, seismic test lab and other disaster reduction organizations in Hyogo, to study disaster reduction measures in Japan.

(12) Cambodia

- Mr. Khun Solha
- Job title at the time of visit: Assistant to the First Vice-President, National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)
- Period: July - December 2002
- Reported on the status and control measures against the rise of water of Lake Tonle Sap (Cambodia) and the flooding of the Mekong River. Visited Shiga Pref. to study the flood control measures taken for Lake Biwa including the improvement of forestry surrounding the lake. Prepared a report on disaster management practices in Cambodia.

(13) India

- Mr. V. P. Pasrija
- Job title at the time of visit: Assistant Director, Disaster Management Division, Ministry of Home Affairs
- Period: October - December 2002
- Reported on the damage from the Gujarat Earthquake and on the disaster reduction system of India. Actively visited many disaster reduction facilities such as Hyogo Prefecture Disaster Management Center, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institute to collect information useful for the future establishment of a disaster reduction center in India. Prepared a report on disaster management practices in India.

(14) Nepal

- Mr. Dilli Shiwakoti
 - Job title at the time of visit: Director, Dept. of Narcotic and Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs
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- Period: January - June 2003
- Reported on the flooding in Kathmandu area in the recent years, on the current situations of landslides and floods frequently occurring in various regions, and on Nepal's disaster reduction projects. Participated in the Seminar on Disaster Management, which was co-hosted by JICA and the ADRC, for a comprehensive research on disaster reduction practices in Japan. Prepared a report on disaster management practices in Nepal.

(15) Mongolia

- Ms. Bolormaa Borkhuu
- Job title at the time of visit: Officer, Strategic Planning and Management Department, Ministry of Nature and environment of Mongolia
- Period: January - June 2003
- Reported on the current status of damage due to droughts, heavy snow and forest fires in Mongolia. Also reported on the governmental disaster reduction organizations and the Ministry of Nature and Environment. Updated the database of the ADRC website. Participated in the Seminar on Disaster Management, which was co-hosted by JICA and the ADRC, for a comprehensive research on disaster reduction practices in Japan. Prepared a report on disaster management of Mongolia.

(16) Lao PDR

- Mr. Vilayphong Sisomvang
 - Job title at the time of visit: Training Manager of National Disaster Management Office, Social Welfare Department, National Disaster Management Office, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Lao PDR.
 - Period: July - December 2003
 - Reported on the damage situations of flash floods and wild fires in Lao PDR and on his country's disaster management system. Also gave a lecture on the disaster situations in Lao PDR at Fuji Tokoha University. Actively visited many disaster reduction research institutes such as the Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Kyoto University, Public Works Research Institute, National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management, Japan Meteorological Agency, JICA, Institute of Industrial Science University of Tokyo, and Life Safety Learning Center. Prepared a report on disaster management practices in Lao PDR.
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(17) Indonesia

- Mr. Rachman Sobarna
- Job title at the time of visit: Researcher, Directorate of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia
- Period: July - September 2003
- Reported on the sediment related disasters and monitoring systems in Indonesia. Actively visited many disaster reduction institutes such as Hyogo Prefecture Disaster Management Center, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institute, Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Kyoto University, Public Works Research Institute, and National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management.

(18) India

- Mr. Om Prahash
- Job title at the time of visit: Technical Officer (disaster Management), Ministry of Home Affairs
- Period: October - December 2003
- Reported on the current disaster situations such as the Orissa Super Cyclone in 1999 and the Gujarat Earthquake in 2001. Also gave a lecture on the disaster situation in India at Fuji Tokoha University. Actively visited many disaster reduction research institutes such as Japan Meteorological Agency, JICA, Institute of Industrial Science of University of Tokyo, and Life Safety Learning Center. Updated the report on disaster management practices in India.

(19) Tajikistan

- Mr. Rahmonov Suhrobsho
- Job title at the time of visit: Chief Computer Operating Specialist, Ministry of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense
- Period: January - June 2004
- Reported on the disaster situations in Tajikistan such as the risks of floods in Lake Sarez and sediment related disasters. Participated in the Seminar on Disaster Management, which was co-hosted by JICA and the ADRC, for a comprehensive research on disaster reduction in Japan. Prepared a report on disaster management practices in Tajikistan.

(20) Vietnam

- Mr. Nguyen Thanh Phuong
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- Job title at the time of visit: Specialist, Department of Dike Management and Flood and Storm Control, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Period: February - June 2004
- Reported on the current status of damage due to floods, and on the flood management of Hong River. Updated the database of the ADRC website. Participated in the Seminar on Disaster Management, which was co-hosted by JICA and the ADRC, for a comprehensive research on disaster management practices in Japan. Prepared a report on disaster management practices in Vietnam.

(21) China

- Ms. Yuan Yi
- Job title at the time of visit: Researcher, Disaster Information Department, National Disaster reduction Center
- Period: July - October 2004
- Reported on the current status of the disaster and disaster management systems in China. Actively visited the disaster-related organizations such as the Cabinet Office, MLIT, Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Hyogo Prefecture to learn the holistic disaster management system in Japan. She especially researched the disaster information system and public awareness.

(22) Lao PDR

- Ms. Bouasy Thammasack
- Job title at the time of visit: Information Officer, National Disaster Management Office, Social Welfare Department, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
- Period: July - December 2004
- Reported on the floods and droughts in Lao PDR. Actively visited the disaster-related organizations such as the Cabinet Office, MLIT, Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Hyogo Prefecture to learn the holistic disaster management system in Japan. She joined the field survey on floods in Toyooka City and earthquake in Niigata prefecture to see the disaster emergency responses in Japan.

(23) India

- Mr. Shyam Sunder
 - Job title at the time of visit: Senior Economic Investigator, National Disaster Management Division, Ministry of Home Affairs
 - Period: October - December 2004
 - Reported on recent disaster situations such as Orissa Super Cyclone in 1999 and the
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Gujarat Earthquake in 2001. Actively visited the disaster-related organizations such as the Cabinet Office, MLIT, Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Hyogo Prefecture to learn the holistic disaster management system in Japan. He also joined the field survey on floods in Toyooka City and earthquake in Niigata prefecture to see the disaster emergency responses in Japan.

(24) Cambodia

- Mr. Ross Sovann
- Job title at the time of visit: Disaster Management Advisor, National Committee for Disaster Management, Council of Ministers
- Period: January - June 2005
- Reported on the recent status of the flood and disaster management systems in Cambodia. Participated in the Seminar on Disaster Management, which was co-hosted by JICA and the ADRC, for a comprehensive research on disaster management practices in Japan. He is researching on institutional disaster management systems in Japan.

(25) Nepal

- Mr. Bal Bahadur Malla
 - Job title at the time of visit: section Officer, Disaster Management Section, Ministry of Home Affairs
 - Period: January - June 2005
 - Reported on the recent status of landslides in Nepal. Participated in the Seminar on Disaster Management, which was co-hosted by JICA and ADRC, for a comprehensive research on disaster management practices in Japan. He is researching on disaster management practices of in local governments in Japan.
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