5. Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries, International Organizations and NGOs

5-1. Urban Search and Rescue Training in Singapore

Asia is the most disaster-prone region in the world. The natural disasters that have occurred here in recent years have been the most severe, prolonged and widespread ever experienced in the region. Moreover, the regional vulnerability tends to increase due to the rapid urbanization, the insufficient speed in building an infrastructure capable of coping with urbanization, the coupling of independent risk sources (interaction of natural hazards with chemical, technological, lifestyle, and social risks), and the insufficient management capacity.

The Singaporean government holds an annual training course for search and rescue officers, and over the past nine years, the course has included trainees from outside Singapore. Training is provided on the search-and-rescue expertise required in urban disaster situations. The training facility complex of the Civil Defence Academy (CDA) of the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) is one of the most advanced facilities in Asia. In an effort to utilize their expertise and facilities, ADRC has been inviting fire fighters and rescuers from member countries to participate in this training course since 2001. Following table is list of participants in past. The number of participants has reached 52 in total.

Table 5-3-1 List of Participants

Year	Countries of past participants	Number of participants
2001	Philippines, Myanmar, and Korea	3
2002	Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Philippines, and Vietnam	5
2003	Cambodia, Malaysia(2), Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand(2), and Philippines(2)	9
2004	Armenia, China, Nepal, Philippines	4
2005	Korea, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Russia	4
2006	Laos, Malaysia(2), Pakistan, Philippines(2), Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam	8
2007	Bangladesh, Korea, Nepal, Philippines	4
2008	Bhutan, Thailand, Kazakhstan, Mongolia	4
2009	Armenia, Sri Lanka	2
2010	Bhutan, Mongolia, Maldives	3
2011	Bangladesh, Russia	2
2012	Thailand, Mongolia	2
2013	Maldives, Bhutan	2
Total		52