
4. Human Resource Development

4-1. Human Resource Development and Information Networking on Visiting Researcher (VR)

4-1-1. Background

Since 1999 ADRC has been conducting Visiting Researchers (VR) program. As of February 2020, 117 officials from 27 member countries have participated in the program, as human resource development as well as disaster information.

During the program, VRs will learn latest knowledge and technology on DRR and international cooperation of Japan at ADRC. VRs are expected not only to contribute to strengthening the capacity on DRR in their countries, but also to further promote cooperation between their countries and ADRC.

4-1-2. Objectives

The objectives of networking on VR are as follows:

- To accumulate the latest disaster information, disaster management policy, laws, plans and budget of the member countries for strengthen their disaster resilience;
- To analyze the policies through the collection and the surveying of good practice of the DRR measures of the member countries.
- To develop effective capacity development programs and tools based on needs and priorities of VRs and their countries;
- To continue improving VR program taking their feedback into consideration. Input from VRs are as follows;
 - The length of the program is appropriate and sufficient,
 - The contents of program are of great benefit, especially in visiting central and core disaster management organizations such as Cabinet Office, Japan Meteorological Agency and municipalities. Practical researches/exercises are highly evaluated and needed.
 - Participation in international meetings and exchanging opinions with experts is beneficial.
 - Networking among former and existing VRs is valuable. For this purpose, to have reunion opportunities is desirable.

4-1-3. Activities of Visiting Researchers in FY2019

In FY 2019, the following six researchers joined the program; two researchers in the first half year from Republic of Korea and Turkey; and four researchers in the latter half year from Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

(1) Republic of Korea

- Dr. / Mr. Changhyun Kang
- Job Title at the time of visit: Professor of Dankook University, Korea
- Dr. Kang researched on risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards. It is as well as related with environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks in the Republic of Korea.

(2) Turkey

- Mr. Özgür Tuna Özmen
- Job Title at the time of visit: Geophysical Engineer, Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD)
- Turkey and Japan have much experience about earthquakes in history. It is necessary to consider evaluation methodology about this matter. Mr. Tuna researched on statistics data in this topic and confirmed an importance about developing early warning system. Also he suggested more effective countermeasure against earthquakes in his research.



Fig. 4-1-3-1 Learned utilization of mapping data for DRR, Increment P



Fig. 4-1-3-2 TV interview regarding visit for Shimajigawa dam in Yamaguchi Prefecture

(3) Bhutan

- Mr. Tshering Nima
- Job Title at the time of visit: District Disaster Management Officer, District Disaster Management Office, Dagana
- The main aims and objectives of his research is to study and learn on disaster management planning systems and contingency plans in Japan and to understand the better experiences on the response and preparedness level on national, prefectural and local/Municipal levels as well as to learn how disaster management plans were implemented before, during and after disasters occurs compared with Bhutan.

(4) Nepal

- Mr. Khanal Beda Nidhi
- Job Title at the time of visit: Chief (Under Secretary), National Emergency Operation Centre, Disaster Preparedness and Response Section, Ministry of Home Affairs
- Mr. Beda is interested to study the policies taken in disaster risk management by the Japanese Government. The followings are the specific aims of his research to achieve the objectives, (i) to assess laws (policies) on disaster risk management, (ii) to compare and stock-take the laws and their contribution in disaster risk management to provide information regarding policy need for Nepal, and (iii) to understand the linkage between policies and implementation.

(5) Sri Lanka

- Mr. A.M.R.N.K. Alahakoon
- Job Title at the time of visit: Assistant Director (District), Disaster Management Center, Ministry of Disaster Management
- Mr. Alahakoon is interested in “Comparative Study on Preparation of Emergency Response, Recovery Plan and Structural Counter Measures for Flood in Japan and Sri Lanka”. He set his aims of this research is as; (i) Study flood emergency and recovery plans in Japan and how to adapt them to Sri Lanka, (ii) Study on immediate and effective emergency response, especially considering gender-equitable and universally accessible approaches, (iii) Study on rehabilitation & reconstruction programs incorporating DRR components, and (iv) Study structural countermeasures for flood hazard in Japan and propose appropriate measures for Sri Lanka.

(6) Thailand

- Ms. Dejchaisri Suthathip
 - Job Title at the time of visit: Plan and Policy Analyst, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Policy Division, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM)
 - Ms. Suthathip set on her research theme as “Stakeholder and engagement strategy in
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disaster risk reduction”. Especially she suggested several keywords on her research, (i) emergency response for BBB, (ii) establishment of early warning system, and (iii) design thinking and creativity for innovation.



Fig. 4-1-3-3 Visit to Cabinet Office of Japan



Fig. 4-1-3-4 Developing community hazard map