

# 1. Asian Disaster Reduction Center

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), established in 1998, is a regional initiative aimed at enhancing disaster resilience, building safer communities, and creating a society where sustainable development is attainable among its 33-member countries (Annex 1: History of Establishment of ADRC).

## 1.1 Key Activities

At the end of every fiscal year, ADRC prepares an Annual Report highlighting its achievements along the three pillars of activities:

- **Information sharing.** This pillar includes the ADRC website, GLocal unique disaster IDentifier (GLIDE) number system, Sentinel Asia, and Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR).
- **Human resource development.** This pillar includes the Visiting Researcher (VR) Program, seminars, workshops, and training activities on disaster risk reduction (DRR).
- **Cooperation among member countries and partner organizations.** This pillar includes development and promotion of innovative tools as well as forging partnerships and networks to advance resilience to disasters (e.g., research and international engagements).

After 21 years functioning as part of the Urban Disaster Research Institute (UDRI), ADRC became independent and obtained corporate status in April 2020 following the launch of the ADRC Foundation. Under this reconfigured status, ADRC gained greater flexibility in performing its international operations as well as bolstering its domestic activities.

## 1.2 Composition

ADRC is composed of member and advisor countries (Figure 1.1) as well as partner organizations. Member countries share information, experiences, and expertise on DRR that ADRC disseminates regionally by means of dispatching of experts and other methods. Advisor countries offer financial contributions as well as share expertise and experiences to member countries and the Secretariat, including dispatch of their DRR experts when needed.



Figure 1.1 ADRC member countries as shown on the map

### 1.2.1 Member and Advisor Countries

During its establishment in 1998, ADRC comprised 22-member countries, 4-advisor countries, and 1-observer organization. Its membership continues to expand with Armenia joining in August 2000, the Kyrgyz Republic in July 2002, Pakistan in July 2005, Yemen and Bhutan in December 2007, Azerbaijan in 2009, the Maldives in 2010, Iran in 2012, Türkiye in 2018, Fiji in 2023, and Brunei Darussalam in 2024, bringing the number of member countries to 33. The number of advisor countries also expanded to 5 with USA joining in March 2004 (Table 1.1).

Table 1.1 Timeline of the Expansion of Member and Advisor Countries

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1998<br>(At the time of foundation) | India, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Republic of Korea, Tajikistan, China, Japan, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, Philippines, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Lao PDR and Russia (Member countries: 22)<br><br>Australia, Switzerland, New Zealand and France (Advisor countries: 4)<br>Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (Observer) |
| 2000                                | Armenia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 2002                                | Kyrgyz Republic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2004                                | USA (Advisor country)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2005                                | Pakistan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2007                                | Bhutan, Yemen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2009                                | Azerbaijan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2010                                | Maldives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2012                                | Iran                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 2018                                | Türkiye                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 2023                                | Fiji                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 2024                                | Brunei Darussalam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

ADRC's counterparts are the disaster risk management (DRM) agencies (Table 1.2).

Table 1.2 Counterpart Agencies

| Country           | Counterpart                                                                 |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Armenia           | Regional Survey for Seismic Protection (RSSP), Ministry of Internal Affairs |
| Azerbaijan        | Ministry of Emergency Situations                                            |
| Bangladesh        | Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief                                  |
| Bhutan            | Ministry of Home Affairs                                                    |
| Brunei Darussalam | National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), Ministry of Home Affairs        |
| Cambodia          | The National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)                       |
| China             | National Disaster Reduction Center of China                                 |
| Fiji              | National Disaster Risk Management Office (NDRMO)                            |
| India             | Ministry of Home Affairs                                                    |

| Country           | Counterpart                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Indonesia         | National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB)                                                                                         |
| Iran              | National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO)                                                                                   |
| Japan             | Cabinet Office                                                                                                                     |
| Kazakhstan        | Ministry of Emergency Situations                                                                                                   |
| Republic of Korea | Ministry of the Interior and Safety                                                                                                |
| Kyrgyz Republic   | Ministry of Emergency Situations                                                                                                   |
| Lao PDR           | National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare                                                  |
| Malaysia          | National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)                                                                                        |
| Maldives          | National Disaster Management Authority                                                                                             |
| Mongolia          | National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)                                                                                        |
| Myanmar           | Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement                                                                                |
| Nepal             | Ministry of Home Affairs                                                                                                           |
| Pakistan          | National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)                                                                                      |
| Papua New Guinea  | Department of Provincial & Local Government Affairs                                                                                |
| Philippines       | National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC)                                                                   |
| Russia            | Ministry of the Russian Federation for Affairs for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural (EMERCOM) |
| Singapore         | Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF)                                                                                               |
| Sri Lanka         | Disaster Management Centre, Ministry of Defence                                                                                    |
| Tajikistan        | Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)                                                                         |
| Thailand          | Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior                                                      |
| Türkiye           | Ministry of Interior - Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD)                                                         |
| Uzbekistan        | Ministry of Emergency Situations                                                                                                   |
| Viet Nam          | Viet Nam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority (VDDMA), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)                      |
| Yemen             | Ministry of Water and Environment                                                                                                  |

As for the advisor countries, ADRC's counterparts are the following: National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in Australia, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Switzerland, Ministère de la Transition écologique et de la Cohésion des territoires in France, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in New Zealand, and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the USA.

### 1.2.2 Partner Organizations

In promoting disaster risk reduction in Asia, ADRC cooperates with UN agencies and international organizations/ initiatives, such as the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the United Nations Office for

the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). ADRC also cooperates with regional organizations (e.g., ASEAN Secretariat and Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction - CESDRR), initiatives (e.g., WMO/ESCAP Typhoon Committee, APEC-EPWG, and Sentinel Asia), and institutes (e.g., International Research Institute of Disaster Hazards - IRIDeS and Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center - TDMRC).