

7 Securing a Good Understanding of Problems with Disaster Reduction Education and Training in the Asian Region

7-1 Planning of Disaster Reduction Education and Training by ADRC

While the ADRC has been deliberating on the possibility of conducting disaster reduction education/training based on the various needs of member countries and other countries as described earlier. Improvement of the curriculum and system of the existing international disaster reduction education/training courses is also regarded as an important issue to be discussed. This section illustrates the planning and course designing of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as a specific example.

7-1-1 JICA Seminar on Disaster Management

1) Outline

In February 2000, entrusted by the National Land Agency, JICA organized the 10th Seminar on Disaster Management, 1999 for officials responsible for disaster management, which proved to be very successful. Interagency coordination decided that the ADRC would hold the seminar entrusted by the JICA Hyogo International Center, in Kobe as a new main venue, from FY2000 on.

In order to prepare for the seminar to be held in one year, the ADRC needed to better understand the operation of past seminars as a reference for the future. The ADRC thus conducted a preliminary investigation for the next training seminar by supporting the organizing of the JICA Seminar on Disaster Management, 1999. When summarizing the overall results, we reviewed the answers of questionnaires from participants, and concluded that the following points should be improved:

- To meet the participant's need to learn more specific disaster-reduction systems or disaster countermeasures at the level of local government, in addition to the central government
- To take into account differences in geographical characteristics- past seminars held in Tokyo as a main venue have been very effective in training for the central government's disaster management, while the next and subsequent training seminars held in Kobe as a main venue will offer more specific experiences and lessons such as the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, based on local organizations' responses in disaster areas, in addition to disaster management by the central government
- To meet the participants' need for an increased number of participant-oriented courses allowing the active involvement of participants, rather than lecture-style courses with the lecturer having the initiative
- To conduct training courses in English where feasible, which doubles the amount of issues covered compared to the courses held in Japanese with translation into English.

2) JICA Seminar on Disaster Management, 1999

Here are some highlights of the Seminar on Disaster Management, 1999:

Participants were thought about metropolitan disaster management in the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Disaster Prevention Center



Participants visited an earthquake monument depicting the collapse of the Hanshin Expressway in the Great Earthquake: Nojima Fault Preservation Museum in the Great Earthquake Memorial Park, Hokudan-cho, Hyogo Prefecture



The 1999 seminar received very positive feedback from its participants. We hope that the next seminar is equally as productive as the last one.

3) Prospectus of the Seminar on Disaster Management, 2000 (draft)

Prospectus of the Seminar on Disaster Management, 2000 (draft) is being examined. The outline of the draft is as follows:

Prospectus of the Seminar on Disaster Management, 2000 (draft)

1. Objectives

- To foster an understanding of the Japanese disaster-reduction system, disaster countermeasures, and disaster reduction cooperation by officials responsible for disaster management in each country
- To promote their ability to apply the acquired understanding of disaster management in and around their respective countries

2. Seminar title

The English title of the seminar has been changed, considering that the seminar will be organized by the Asian Disaster Reduction Center in Kobe as the main venue from FY2000 on. The seminar now aims to multilaterally cover a course of action against damage from natural disasters, including prevention, emergency responses, restoration, and rehabilitation. The new title is:

Seminar on Disaster Management (former title; Seminar on Administration for Disaster Prevention)

3. Principal training programs

The following are tentative training programs currently under review:

(1) Disaster Management by the Japanese Government

- Summary of disaster management in Japan (The Disaster Measures Basic Law, disaster management basic plan, etc.)
- Initial responses to a disaster (central disaster prevention radio system, etc.)
- Countermeasures against disasters resulting from earthquakes/tsunamis/volcanic eruptions (National Land Agency)
- River management and countermeasures against disasters resulting from floods/landslides (Ministry of Construction)
- Forest preservation measures (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)
- Weather observation/earthquakes monitoring and forecasting/warning system (Meteorological Agency)
- Disaster Relief Law (Ministry of Health and Welfare)
- Japan Disaster Relief Team (JICA)
- Field studies on the above-mentioned issues

(2) Disaster management by local governments

- Understanding the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (causes, damage status, emergency responses, restoration/rehabilitation measures)
- Earthquake/disaster countermeasures in Hyogo Prefecture
- Initial responses: lessons and measures
- Traffic control (by the police, etc.)
- First-aid/life-saving measures (by the fire defense/hospitals, etc.)
- Refugee operation

With this prospectus draft, we aim to:

- Ensure that participants learn a wide range of disaster management by the Japanese Government and its local governments, in order to develop a broader view on disaster reduction
- Provide participants with an opportunity to explore disaster countermeasures more specifically, based on experiences and lessons from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake
- Discuss international cooperation in the field of disaster reduction, making the most of ADRC's information and network of knowledge and experience, in order to promote future cooperation for disaster reduction
- Increase participation programs which encourage participants to voluntarily interact, exchange their views, and learn, so that they can apply these experiences to their own countries

- Offer a meaningful opportunity where participating countries can mutually learn about and understand the disaster-reduction system and countermeasures in other countries, through the exchange of views and communication among participants

Prior to the training seminar, these training programs are going to be examined in more detail. We expect that future Seminars on Disaster Management organized by ADRC will contribute to enhanced disaster-reduction systems and improved disaster prevention capabilities, not only in the participating countries, but also around the world, which will in turn lead to the reduction of damage done by natural disasters.

7-2 Short-term Training Programs by ADRC

The ADRC has conducted short-term training programs, both full and half-day. These programs were offered to personnel in various fields, from disaster reduction staff, the fire-fighting staff of local governments, and overseas disaster reduction experts, to the mass media, covering international disaster reduction cooperation, the present status of disaster reduction measures in Japan, the disaster reduction information network, and more. The list of training courses for trainees from abroad is shown in Table 7-2-1.

Date	Place	Nationalities	Main Participants, Number of Attendance	Curriculum
Aug. 18, '99	ADRC	Chile, China, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Viet Nam	Disaster Relief and Management Training Course, JICA, Group of 10	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, number of natural disasters worldwide and economic damage caused, Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, international disaster reduction cooperation, brief descriptions of ADRC's activities, etc.
Sep. 14, '99	ADRC	U.S.A., Japan	U.S. Armed Forces in Japan, Japan Ground Self Defense Force, Group of 17	
Oct. 27, '99	ADRC	China (Taiwan)	Members of the Taiwanese parliament, Group of 16	
Oct. 28, '99	ADRC	China (Taiwan)	Study group for industrial sectors disaster prevention system, Taiwan, Group of 17	
Nov. 9, '99	ADRC	China, Egypt, Peru, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey	Comprehensive Health and Medical Care in Disaster, JICA, Group of 7	
Nov. 9, '99	ADRC	China	National delegation for earthquake and disaster prevention law, China, Group of 9	
Dec. 14, '99	ADRC	Republic of Fiji	Youth Invitation Programme (Officials of the Fijian Government), JICA, Group of 12	
Feb. 17, '00	ADRC	Korea	Inspecting party on administration for earthquakes and disaster prevention, City of Seoul, Group of 4	

Table 7-2-1 <Short-term Disaster Reduction Training (Non-Japanese trainees) >