

## **Opening Speech on “Trainers Training on Community Hazard Map Development “ on Nov. 27th**

Dear; distinguished participants of the workshop,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Firstly let me heartily welcome the participants of the workshop on “Trainers Training Program on the Community Hazard Map Development”.

In spite of the immediate after the heavily damage by Cyclone “Sidr”, we are appreciated your positive participating in the 2 days workshop to coordinate your busy schedule.

Thousands died in the cyclone, however many more were saved due to the established early warning system. The system that used local volunteers shouting through megaphones to warn people about the impending cyclone saved thousands of lives, and the system was proved so effective. If without this system, the losses would have been as bad as the cyclone in 1991.

Therefore the disaster risk reduction (DRR) activity, in particular, loss prevention activity such as community’ risk awareness and training program for the evacuation is very important before the disaster happen. For cyclone, the EWS is well established and sustained for the local communities deeply in Bangladesh. On the other hand, Bangladesh is the highly natural hazard prone country such as Earthquake, Tornado, Tsunami and Cyclone as well as Japan. We should pay attention to the other risk as well as cyclone. In particular, here in Dhaka, is located in moderate earthquake prone area. In this workshop, we are mainly considering the earthquake risks in Old Dhaka area through the town watching.

The workshop is organized by Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM) and the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), and funded by UN/ESCAP’ in Bangkok. The aim of the workshop is to train the trainers to raise the level of community awareness to multi hazards through the community-based hazard map development process which is well proved process by Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) for a long time. After the workshop, we will expect the trained trainers would disseminate the process of community-based hazard map development to their respective local communities, and the trained local officers would promote the replication of the community based hazard mapping

process in order to ensure effective catalytic impact and sustainability of the work after the workshop.

Finally, I sincerely hope that the discussions in the workshop and the information shared can be applied effectively in your workplace, that your hard work will continue to bear fruit and lead to further reduction of damage caused by disasters in Bangladesh. Thank you for your attention.