



ADRC Highlights

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➤ High-level Regional Meeting for World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)



Address by His Excellency Hun Sen, Prime Minister, Royal Government of Cambodia

9 years have passed since the Rio Declaration of “Sustainable Development” in 1992, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development is scheduled to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002. In preparation for the WSSD, the Ministers and heads of delegations of Asia and Pacific met at Phnom

Penh, Cambodia on 28-29 November 2001.

From Disaster Management field, only Asian Disaster Reduction Center attended the Meeting and made a statement that “Disaster Management is one of the main priority issues for Sustainable Development of the Region.” Successfully, new article of “Disaster Management” was added in the final statement of the Meeting. (Please refer to [Regional Platform on Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific](#))

ADRC will cooperate with 23 member countries as well as United Nations to prepare for the WSSD in Johannesburg in 2002. (Fumiaki Yoshimura, Senior Researcher)

➤ JUSTSAP 2001 Workshop in Hawaii

From November 13 to 17, 2001, the 10th annual workshop of Japan US Science, Technology, and Space Application Program (JUSTSAP) were held in Hawaii, U.S.A. Dr. Yujiro Ogawa and Mr. Masaru Arakida attended the meeting as representatives of ADRC.

They attended subcommittee of DM3 (Disaster Monitoring, Management & Mitigation). They had very active discussion about effective use of Satellite Information and Information Sharing for disaster management through Internet.

Mr. Arakida made a presentation about Unique Disaster ID project which has been promoted with collaboration of CRED, Louvain Catholic University and UN-OCHA Relief Web. Dr. Ogawa introduced the development of Internet based GIS “VENTEN”. They lively exchange of views on Information Sharing among the disaster management related organizations, and possibilities of the collaboration between PDC (Pacific Disaster Center) and ADRC.

The agreed tasks in the subcommittee is as following:

1. Building of the cooperative structure between PDC and ADRC
Sharing of Metadata, Decision of Contact Persons, Exchange of MOU, Development of System for Cooperation among Participants from U. S. and Japan
2. Promotion of the WARN Project
<http://www.clarkeinstitute.com/warn.html>
3. Development and Upgrading of DM3 website
Accumulation and publication of the cases of the analysis of

- pictures by satellite in each organization
4. Making list of the disaster management related organization
List for not only the members of DM3, but also the persons in the other organization
5. Building of information sharing system among members of DM3
Effective use of e-mail, etc.
6. Involve Civil Defense Organization in Hawaii
Practical Experience, Other with hand of experience
7. Coordination with Common Agenda ([The US and Japan Common Agenda 21 for Cooperation in Global Perspectives](#))
8. Joint project with communication groups of private sector
(Masaru Arakida, Senior Researcher)

➤ Report from ADRC Counterpart "Memorable Experience"

This is my own interesting memorable experience during my Disaster Prevention Training Course, which is held by JICA in 1999, in Japan

One day, our coordinator Mr. Sakai took all trainees of above training course to Hyogo prefecture. Before entering a room, each of us was given a card of visiting card size. When we sat around the table, and were waiting for some programme to be launched, a powerful earthquake stroke. Although we got various confused, we manage to escape the quake in a half conscious state.

When we come outside the room and the quake was over. We were a little bit satisfied of escaping unharmed from the earthquake in a country, which is also known as a country of many earthquakes. We were told to insert the cards given to us before we entered the room to computer. When it came out, what a surprise! The earthquake was a practical test of our training. It was printed in the card that the artificial quake measures 6.5 on Richter scale. There had been evaluation result in the card of the action performed by use to escape from the earthquake. Thank God! I had got a score of 410 out of 500. It was a lesson for us how can we escape during earthquake period.

From the event I come to realize that actions performed with sound presence of mind is far more important than lengthy theoretical knowledge. Thus I believe, action based training will be beneficial for disaster management.

<Information> The article on the disaster situation in Nepal “ which is written by Mr. Pokharel was published in the ["The Kathmandu Post" on December 2, 2001](#). Please refer to this very informative article.

(Lekh Nath Pokharel, Department of Narcotics Control and Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Nepal)

➤ Recent Natural Disasters in Asia □ Typhoon “KAJIKI” Hit Philippine and Vietnam

On December 6, 2001, Typhoon KAJIKI hit central Philippine at maximum winds of 85 kilometers (53 miles) per hour. Two people were dead and more than 6,400 people were displaced by flashfloods or landslides triggered by typhoon through out the country.

After leaving heavy damage in Philippine, the typhoon steered it's course to Quang Ngai to Ninh Thuan, central Viet Nam. 163 fishermen, who were away at sea during the storm, had been missing.

(Dec. 7 AFP, Dec. 10 CNN News etc.)

If you have comments or needs for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC in the right box.

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