



ADRC

Highlights

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➤ **ADRC's Cooperative Project with the Philippines**
□ **Seminar commemorating the completion of the GLIDE-Associated Disaster Database**

The National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), the government of the Philippines, and the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) conducted a seminar entitled "Training /Orientation Proper (CALAMIDAT/GLIDE)" on 23 April 2007 at the National Defense College of the Philippines. The seminar was held upon completion of an ADRC cooperative project that was launched in August 2006 to develop the GLIDE-associated (GLobal unique disaster IDentifier) disaster database (Calamidat.ph) and website in the Philippines. The importance of having a disaster database for disaster response and decision-making is well recognized by the Philippine government. The project will enable international access to disaster information by creating a disaster database and website that will chronicle disasters in the Philippines over the past 30 years, and by incorporating GLIDE numbers into that database. The use of this disaster data is also expected to facilitate rapid and efficient natural disaster response. This project is a leading opportunity to promote the GLIDE system, an effort in which the ADRC is playing a central role.



A total of 70 officials attended the seminar including NDCC Chairman, Hon. Hermogenes E. Ebdane, Jr. and OCD Administrator, Hon. Glenn J. Rabonza. ADRC Executive Director, Mr. Koji Suzuki and Senior Researcher, Mr. Hajime Nakano participated as guests and lecturers to explain the ADRC's activities and to present information about the GLIDE system. The seminar prompted many questions, as participants increased their knowledge of the online disaster database and GLIDE system. There are great hopes for the possibilities these developments will afford.

Efforts will be made to increase the use of the online disaster database with GLIDE numbering (<http://www.calamidat.ph>) in actual disaster management efforts and to develop best practices for its use in the future. For more information, please contact ADRC Senior Researcher, Mr. Nakano (nakano@adrc.or.jp).

➤ **ADRC Staff Profile No.28**
□ **Mr. Hajime Yokobori, Senior Advisor**

I started working at the ADRC in May 2007 after retiring from

Hiroshima University. The old town of Saijo in Higashi-Hiroshima city, where Hiroshima University is located, still has traditional wooden-structure sake breweries with chimneys like those seen in the Nada district of Kobe. As a professor in the Urban Planning and Environment Department, I adhered to the philosophy of "throwing away the books and going out into the community" and thus took students to visit these breweries in an effort to develop community ties. With the support of the local breweries, I conducted town revitalization activities, such as finding uses for vacant spaces and bottling plants, and involved students in the design and construction of a sake library and multipurpose shops.



Before my four-year career at the university, I had worked for 33 years at the Urban Renaissance Agency (UR, formerly the Housing and Urban Development Corporation, HUDC). I was mainly involved in urban center redevelopment projects and residential complex construction projects. One of these was a project to work with some 300 rights holders to redevelop crowded city blocks of wooden dwellings in Nishi-Shinjuku by building a 44-story high rise structure and homes for the rights holders. At one point, I was stationed in Jakarta, Indonesia for three years starting in 1979 as an expert in housing and urban renewal through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). I was involved in a project with 2,500 residents to redevelop wooden kampung houses into a four-story housing complex. Since then, I have conducted JICA seminars in Japan, Southeast Asia, and Africa.

I consider ongoing, collaborative efforts with the local community to be a crucial component of disaster preparedness, as well as town renewal. Here at the ADRC, I would like to utilize my past experience to perform meaningful work in the disaster management field.

➤ **Recent Natural Disasters in Asia**
□ **Earthquake in Yunnan, China**

An earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter scale (Source: the National Disaster Reduction Center of China, NDRCC) struck a southwest city of Pu'er in Yunnan province, China at 05:34 local time on 3 June 2007 (GLIDE: EQ-2007-000074-CHN). According to the NDRCC report dated 6 June, the event resulted in three deaths, 313 injuries, and 576,000 affected persons. The quake caused the collapse of 90,000 houses and damaged another 270,000, causing direct economic losses of CHY 2.5 billion (USD 0.3 billion).