



# ADRC Highlights

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## TOPICS

### Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

¶ Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) Project in Bhutan

¶ ADRC Cooperative Project and Peer Review for Promoting the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)

## ● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

### Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) Project in Bhutan

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) has selected Bhutan as the site for a GLOF pilot project. As part of this project, ADRC held a public awareness workshop on GLOFs and earthquakes in Punakha, Bhutan from 24 to 25 February 2012. This workshop was co-sponsored by the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) and conducted in cooperation with Plus-Arts.

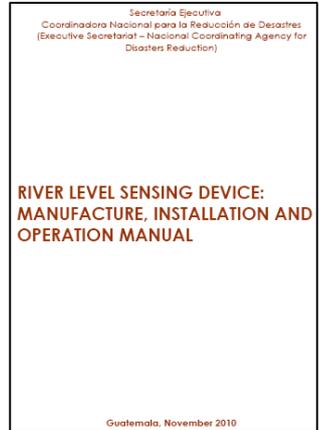
On 24 February, 20 students of the Khuruthang Institute of Electrical Engineering participated in a disaster prevention class. ADRC gave presentations, which included video and PowerPoint components, on the following topics:

- Great East Japan Earthquake
- Mechanisms that cause earthquakes
- Mechanisms that cause GLOFs and preparation methods
- Early warning systems (EWS) utilizing river gauges
- Iza! Kaeru Caravan

After the morning session, ADRC gave the group leaders an instruction manual for making simple river gauges along with a "BOKOMI Guidebook," a collection of community participation-oriented disaster prevention drills prepared by the Kobe City government. A demonstration of "Iza! Kaeru Caravan" was held in the afternoon.

The next day, the "Iza! Kaeru Caravan" activity was held on the grounds of a local elementary/junior high school. The students who had learned about the activity the day before became facilitators of the second day's activity, facilitating the participation of approximately 250 schoolchildren.

DDM indicated its intent to conduct this activity not only in the Punakha area but throughout Bhutan. ADRC and Plus-Arts gave most of the related materials to the DDM, asking that such activities be further promoted and that photos and simple reports from those events be provided. ADRC has high hopes for these efforts to strengthen the disaster reduction capacity of Bhutan.



[ Manual of River Gauge ]

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Junior high school students



Blanket Stretcher

## **ADRC Cooperative Project and Peer Review for Promoting the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)**

The ADRC Cooperative Project for Promoting the Implementation of the HFA was conducted to provide support to the governments of ADRC member countries to help them strengthen their commitment, expand resources, and make further progress toward the expected goals of the HFA. The ADRC called for project proposals from the member countries, and after careful screening, selected the proposal from Tajikistan to be conducted in fiscal year 2011. To ensure the effective implementation of the project, it was decided that a Peer Review like the one conducted last year should be conducted over the course of the project's implementation.



One of the developed hazard maps in the target area

The project outline is as follows.

- (1) Objective: Enhance disaster risk assessment capacity (focusing on landslides)
- (2) Period: 6 December 2011 to 15 March 2012
- (3) Target area: Khuroson district of Khatlon province
- (4) Main project activities: (1) collect information and data from relevant agencies, (2) conduct sociological and geological surveys in the target area, (3) preprocess satellite data, (4) assess risk through land use classifications and spatial analysis using the data collected, (5) conduct a workshop to improve risk assessment capacity, (6) develop flood and landslide hazard maps for target areas, and (7) conduct a workshop to share the project results with communities in the target area.

In addition to the main project activities, an ADRC reviewer team comprised of Prof. Hiroshi Fukuoka (Kyoto University), Dr. Tai-Hoon Kim (National Disaster Management Institute, Republic of Korea), Mr. R.M.S. Bandara (National Building Research Organisation, Sri Lanka) and Ms. Miki Kodama (ADRC) visited Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 13 to 16 February 2012. The team visited various ministries and institutions involved in landslide DRR activities, including the Committee of Emergency Situation (ADRC's counterpart in Tajikistan), to examine how governmental and non-governmental organizations in Tajikistan have been working to reduce landslide disasters. The team conducted field surveys in the area affected by the massive 2009 landslide disaster in Khuroson district, and prepared a draft report of the survey results with all its findings and recommendations. A workshop was held to get opinions and comments for finalizing the report as well as to promote good practices for landslide DRR from Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka. This workshop was a very good opportunity for participants to share their opinions.

We hope that efforts to promote landslide risk reduction in Tajikistan will be further developed based on the experience and information gained through these project activities and the Peer Review. ADRC would like to express its sincerest gratitude to all those who contributed to this year's project.



Field Survey in the Peer Review

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