

---

## **2-4. Improvement of Information on the ADRC Website and Online Information Sharing**

### **2-4-1. Website of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)**

ADRC shares useful information on disaster risk management through its website (<http://www.adrc.asia/>). This site facilitates the collection of important information from officers in charge of disaster management throughout Asia, including ADRC member countries, and personnel involved in disaster reduction activities worldwide.

The website provides a wide range of information under the following headings: “About ADRC,” “Activities of ADRC,” “Latest Disaster Information,” “Disaster Risk Reduction Information of Member Countries,” “Disaster Reduction Events,” and “Publications.” ADRC has been striving to improve the website to provide easy access to more useful information. Several improvements were made in FY 2008.


First, the search engine on the home page was enhanced using the system provided by Google. The user can easily search not only information on latest disasters but also the entire contents of the ADRC website.

Second, the pages providing disaster risk reduction information on ADRC member countries have been improved. The information was updated and reorganized to provide easy user access to the information, as shown in Fig. 2-4-1.

Third, a new webpage was developed to publicize ADRC activities in a timely and appropriate manner. The page was configured using a blog format, enabling each ADRC staff member to post reports of activities immediately upon their conclusion. Users can easily retrieve activity reports using the search function, as the reports are categorized by their topics, event date, and event venue.

Further, a web page consolidating information on large-scale disasters has been added. This page provides links to information. In addition, a search engine was added to the page to help users more easily search for the latest disaster information.

Annual publications such as the Reports on the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction, Good Practices on Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM), Natural Disasters Data Book, and ADRC Annual Reports were also added to the site, allowing users easy access to back issues of these publications.




# ADRC

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

---

**Information on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Member Countries**



India

**General Information**

**Formal Name:** India

Having 3,287,263 sq km (including disputed region with China) land, India occupies most of the Indian subcontinent. It borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar on land, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Indonesia at sea. Upland plain (Deccan Plateau) in south, flat to rolling plain along the Ganges, deserts in west, Himalayas in north.

The capital is Delhi. More than 10 million population consists of variety of religious, linguistic and ethnic groups.

**Overview of Disasters**

India is a disaster-prone country with frequent earthquakes, floods, cyclones, drought, tsunami, landslide, and avalanches.

**Recent Major Disasters**

■ **The Indian Ocean Tsunami (December 2004)**  
The Indian Ocean Tsunami which took place off the Sumatra Island on 26 December 2004 killed 16,389 people, injured 6,913 people and affected about 65 million people. The total damage is about US\$10 billion.


■ **Gujarat Earthquake (January 2001)**  
M7.7 earthquake occurred in Gujarat Province (western India) on 26 January 2001. At least 20,005 people were killed, 166,812 injured, approximately 360,000 buildings destroyed and 15 million people affected in Gujarat. The total damage is US\$4.6 billion.

■ **Orissa Super Cyclone (October 1999)**  
A massive cyclone that hit Orissa (northeast of India) on 29 October 1999 killed 9,887, affected approximately 13 million people, and destroyed 800,000 houses.

**Disaster Management System**

■ **Legal System**  
The Indian Government formulated a national disaster management framework in 2004 and promulgated the Disaster Management Act, 2005- DM ACT in 2005.  
[The Disaster Management Act, 2005 \(pdf\)](#)

■ **Organization**



The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), headed by the Prime Minister of India, is in charge of creating and implementing disaster management policies, DM plans and guidelines. State level DM bodies are the State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs).

Under the umbrella of the NDMA, there is an institution promoting capacity building for disaster mitigation and emergency response which is called the National Institute of Disaster Management, NIDM, and emergency disaster response force which is called the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

■ **Plan**  
Although there is no sector-specific disaster management plans, there is a clear statement that emphasizes the need for the development plans safe from disasters in the chapter on environment and climate change in the 11th national five-year national plan period (2007-2012).  
Since the Disaster Management Act requires the formulation of disaster management plan, the NDMA published the National Disaster Management Guidelines: Preparation of State Disaster Management Plans in July, 2007.  
[11th Five-year National Plan \(2007-2012\) chapter 9: Environment and climate change](#)  
[National Disaster Management Guidelines: Preparation of State Disaster Management Plans, July 2007](#)

Fig. 2-4-1 Revised web page showing DRR information for member countries

## 2-4-2. Latest Disaster Information Database

When a natural disaster occurs, information on the extent of the damage incurred, the situation in the affected area, and emergency response and relief efforts is collected and disseminated by the media, local and central governments, international organizations, research institutions, civic organizations, NGOs, and other groups in the affected country and throughout the world. At one time, most of this information was provided independently, such that it took time and effort to gather all the necessary information in one place. This naturally prevented the efficient collection of data in emergency situations.

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) has added a database of information on recent disasters to its website, which is designed to serve as a clearinghouse for disaster information obtained from various sources since September 1998. Summaries with direct links to the original sources enables the rapid search and retrieval of information.

The database provides a brief summary of each disaster (date, location, and overview), a brief outline of the damage sustained, links to information categorized by [Meaning?] reports/articles, geographic data, emergency relief information, urgent reports from ADRC members, and graphic information. Such information is continually updated as additional information is released.

The information originates mainly from announcements issued by disaster organizations in ADRC member countries, UNOCHA ReliefWeb, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the media.

The Latest Disaster Information page also includes links to relevant disaster management organizations and information contained elsewhere within the ADRC website, allowing it to serve as a portal to various kinds of information.

The database has been linked to "JAXA DMSS" since 2007, enhancing the value of the site by providing access to satellite images of disaster affected sites in cases where emergency satellite observations were conducted. As of the end of March 2009, the database provides information on a total of about 1,200 disasters.

The screenshot shows the ADRC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Glossary on Natural disasters', 'Site Map', and 'Japanese'. Below this is a search bar. The main header features the ADRC logo and the text 'Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)'. A large banner image shows a group of people, likely disaster victims or relief workers. Below the banner is a horizontal menu with categories: 'ADRC Top', 'About ADRC', 'Activities', 'Disaster Information', 'DRR Information of Member Countries', 'Events', and 'Publications & Newsletter'. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column, titled 'What's new', lists recent ADRC highlights and a conference in Bali. The middle column, titled 'The Latest Disaster Information', features two entries: one from 2009/03/01 about heavy rains in Namibia, and another from 2009/02/24 about floods in Java, Indonesia. The right column, titled 'Online Resources', lists various tools and reports such as 'GLIDE number', 'Sentinel City Project', and 'Reports on ADRC Projects'.

Fig.2-4-2-1 Latest Disaster Information

## 2-4-3 Multilanguage Glossary on Disaster Reduction

### (1) Provision of Multi-language Glossary on Natural Disasters

The Multi-language Glossary on Natural Disasters was compiled through the activities of the United Nation's IDNDR launched in 1990. It can be easily searched in six languages such as Chinese, English, French, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish by choosing an input language and a target language. To make the glossary available to a broader audience, ADRC has been providing online translation services

Thus, the six-language glossary is now available on the ADRC website.

The glossary contains technical terms which are hard to find in ordinary dictionaries, and can be utilized by personnel in the disaster field to decipher technical documents related to Disaster Reduction.

### (2) Native Language Activities by Visiting Researchers

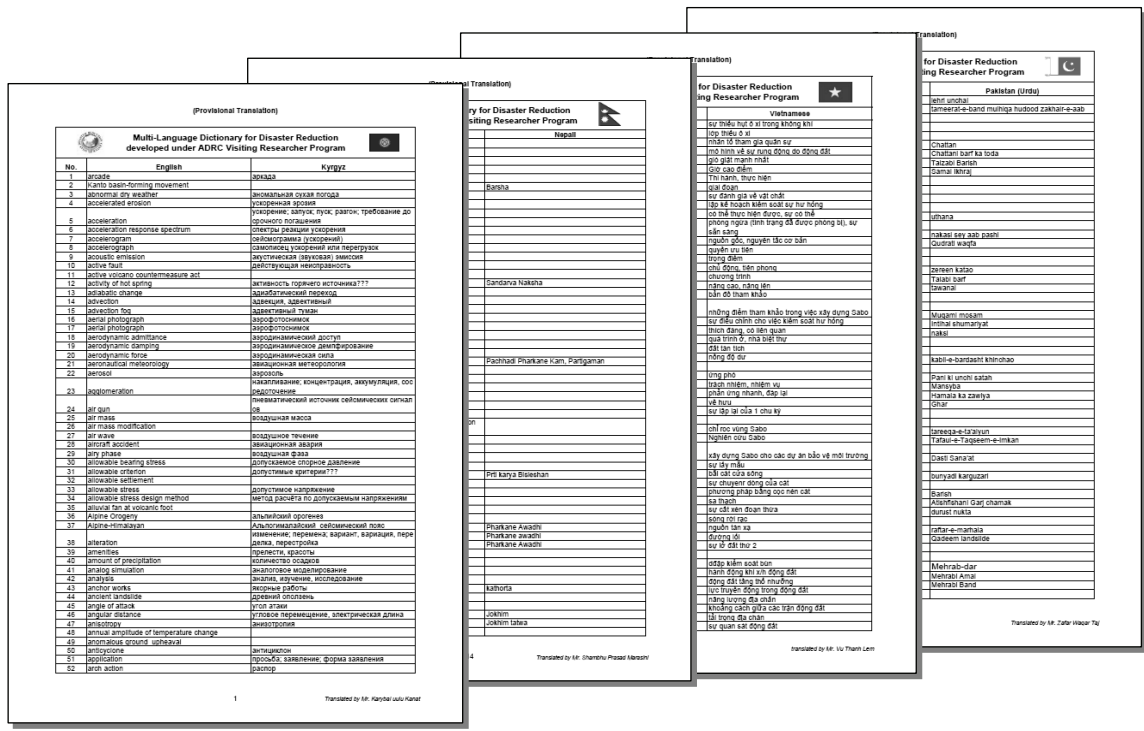
ADRC accepts four visiting researchers from every member country during the year to cultivate talent in disaster reduction administration and the study of the member country. Since 2008, ADRC has been making "Multilanguage Dictionaries" with side by side entries into the mother language of the visiting researcher about 1,130 basic "disaster reduction terms" based on English terms.

Side by side translation lists have already been completed by researchers from Kyrgyz, Pakistan, Nepal, and Vietnam. Two more languages will be added by researchers from Malaysia and Thailand in the latter part of fiscal 2008.

The finished lists were initially offered in the format of "Multilingual Dictionaries (Tentative)" on the ADRC website separate from the "Multilingual Glossary," and were intended to serve as reference materials for disaster reduction activities in member countries.

ADRC continues to add data to these lists and plans to further promote their use by member countries in the future.





Multilanguage Dictionaries

Fig.2-4-4 Multilanguage Dictionaries

### 2-4-4. Our Newsletter: ADRC Highlights

ADRC has been using the Internet and e-mail to share information with its counterparts in member countries and with other interested parties. ADRC has also been publishing the newsletter “ADRC Highlights,” one of its main tools for disseminating information, since 1 June 1999. It was issued twice a month until FY 2007, and has been issued once a month since FY 2008, when it underwent a redesign. The newsletter is posted on the ADRC website. English, Russian, and Japanese versions are also e-mailed to ADRC's counterparts and former visiting researchers, participants in past ADRC annual meetings, visitors to the ADRC, trainees in JICA training courses involving the ADRC, and participants in international conferences featuring presentations by ADRC representatives. The Japanese, English, and Russian versions had as many as 891, 2,325, and 169 subscribers, respectively, as of the end of February 2009.

The newsletter includes articles on ADRC's latest activities, reports on international conferences and other events attended by ADRC staff, as well as national reports by ADRC visiting researchers from member countries. ADRC has featured profiles on former visiting researchers from member countries in the newsletter since FY 2008 and follows up on their efforts to promote disaster risk reduction in their home countries. This has helped further enhance the network of former visiting researchers from member countries.





Fig. 2-4-4-1 Redesigned ADRC Highlights

Vol.	Main Articles
181	<p>ADRC Welcomes New Members: Bhutan and Yemen</p> <p>ADRC Visiting Researcher Report: Mr. Zafar Taj from Pakistan</p> <p>JICA Training Course "Strengthening Disaster Management Capacity of Municipalities" Announcements</p> <p>(1) ADRC Website Relaunch</p> <p>(2) Personnel Change</p>
182	<p>ADRC Announces Inauguration of 4 Capacity-Building Projects in ASEAN Countries: Kick-off Seminar Held at 11th Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management</p> <p>Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific Islands</p> <p>ADRC Staff Profile No. 29: Mr. Yoshihiro Imai, Senior Expert</p>
183	<p>Survey Report on the Sichuan Earthquake</p> <p>Cooperative Project with Thailand: Workshop on Strengthening the Capacity of Thailand's Tsunami Early Warning System</p> <p>ADRC Staff Profile No.30: Mr. Masato Ohori, Senior Researcher</p>
184	<p>First Joint Project Team Meeting for Sentinel Asia STEP-2 Held in Kobe</p> <p>ADRC Staff Profiles No. 31 &amp; No. 32</p> <p>(1) Mr. Masataka Onishi, Senior Administrative Manager</p> <p>(2) Mr. Naoki Yamaguchi, Senior Researcher</p> <p>Announcements: Personnel Change</p>
185	<p>The Second Year of the JICA Grassroots Technical Cooperation Project "NGO Training for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia" was conducted in Kuala Lumpur</p> <p>ADRC Visiting Researcher Report: Mr. Vu Thanh Liem from Vietnam</p> <p>ADRC Staff Profile No. 33: Mr. Yoshiaki Ogane, Senior Researcher</p> <p>Announcements: ADRC's New Publication</p>
186	<p>Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization Visit the ADRC</p> <p>ADRC Visiting Researcher Report: Mr. Shambhu Prasad Marasini from Nepal</p> <p>ADRC Staff Profile No. 34: Dr. Noburu Uchiyama, Senior Researcher</p>

187	<p>First Regional Workshop on the Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Preparedness Programme (ERRP) for South Asia Held in Kathmandu, Nepal</p> <p>ADRC Visiting Researcher (for ASEAN-GLIDE Project) Report: Mr. Prasong Thammapala from Thailand</p> <p>Announcements: Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2008</p>
188	<p>ASEAN Project: Capacity Building for Local Government Officials in Disaster Management</p> <p>ADRC Visiting Researcher (for ASEAN-GLIDE Project) Report</p> <p>(1) Ms. Amor Bantigue Rosana from the Philippines</p> <p>(2) Ms. Vimala Khounthalangsy from Lao PDR</p> <p>Announcements</p> <p>(1) Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2008 Draws to Successful Conclusion</p> <p>(2) The First World Landslide Forum</p>
189	<p>Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2008 a Great Success</p> <p>ADRC's Cooperative Project with Armenia</p> <p>ASEAN Project: Capacity Building for Local Government Officials in Disaster Management in Vietnam</p>
190	<p>Happy New Year 2009</p> <p>Third Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction</p>
191	<p>Letter from a Former Visiting Researcher: Mr. Zafar Waqar Taj from Pakistan</p> <p>Publication of "Private Sector Activities in Disaster Risk Reduction: Good Practices and Lessons Learned"</p> <p>International Symposium "Cooperative Actions for Disaster Risk Reduction (CADRR)" to be Held 4-6 March 2009</p> <p>New Web Address</p>
192	<p>ADRC Cooperative Project with Singapore: International Urban Search and Rescue Training Course</p> <p>ADRC Visiting Researcher Report: Mr. Muhammad Khalil Bin Ab Aziz from Malaysia</p>

Table 2-4-4-1 Headlines from ADRC Highlights