
Management and Advocacy, Kobe, (b) Training and Capacity Building, Turin, and (c) Enhancing Recovery Operations, Geneva.

As described in the Terms of Reference, the IRP Kobe functions as the IRP secretariat and is responsible for convening IRP steering committee meetings and disseminating information on IRP activities and outcomes.

* IRP members: Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), Hyogo Prefectural Government, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Labour Organization (ILO), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, Cabinet Office of Japan, Swiss Agency for Development and Coordination (SDC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN/OCHA), and the World Bank.

6-3. IRP Activities in FY 2010

6-3-1. International Recovery Forum 2011

The International Recovery Forum 2011 highlighted the importance of pre-disaster recovery planning to help avoid diverting scarce resources, originally intended for development programs, for recovery after a natural disaster. Attendance at the Forum was over 150 participants from 26 national governments and 10 international organizations. It brought together key players in pre-disaster recovery planning, including FEMA United States, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, ASEAN, ADB, and a number of other organizations to discuss the modalities of planning, options, and experiences.

At the opening session, the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, the Chair of IRP Steering Committee, and the Associate Administrator of FEMA-ORR commonly communicated the key message that pre disaster recovery planning can increase the efficiency of recovery activities including debris removal, utility restoration, management of funds, and coordination amongst stakeholders. The Guidance Notes on Recovery was also launched to provide global best practices to be integrated in recovery planning processes. Additionally, reports on recovery initiatives from Haiti, China, Myanmar,



Fig.6-3-1-1 International Recovery Forum 2011

and the Philippines were presented in the context of preparing for future disasters. The afternoon session comprised reports on recovery planning, group and panel discussions. Cases on recovery planning were presented by Mr. Mitsutoshi Kimura, Hyogo prefectural Government and Ms. Adelina Kamal, ASEAN Secretariat. Three different groups presented recommendations along recovery planning processes, coordination mechanisms, and financing recovery. The panelists further discussed the need for pre-disaster recovery planning, and outlined key considerations for ensuring recovery support functions. Participants recognized that disaster recovery planning is beneficial for governments such that it expedites recovery, it reduces risk of future disasters by building back better, it enables demand-driven and inclusive recovery, it minimizes development deficits, and it reduces recovery costs.

6-3-2. “Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction” Working Group 3 –Operationalising disaster reduction in post-disaster transition to development

In 28-30 July 2010, “Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction” was held in Shanghai, China with 150 participants from local governments around the world, national representatives, academia, and civil society. The Forum was held within the context of the Shanghai EXPO 2010- “Better City - Better Life” and convened by DEVNET and co-organized by UNISDR, in collaboration with UN-Habitat and ICLEI, supported by IRP.

In the Forum, plenary presentations and three working groups permitted participants to learn, exchange experience and design ways forward to improve disaster resilience in urban areas.

IRP organized Working Group 3 – Operationalising disaster reduction in post-disaster transition to development.

The Working Group served as a venue for countries affected by catastrophic disasters to share lessons and good practices in post-disaster recovery, where Mayor Jean-Yves Jason of Port au Prince, Haiti, Mr. Gou Xining Yuan, Deputy Director General, Department of Civil Affairs, Sichuan Province, Mr. Mitsutoshi Kimura, Superintendent for Disaster Management, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan and other speakers presented their experiences in the recovery process.

Based on the shared lessons and experiences, the participants of the Working Group 3 had a fruitful discussion and reached a conclusion of the following recommendations.

- Governments should maintain a permanent, as opposed to temporary and ad hoc, mechanism for long term recovery.



Fig.6-3-2-1 Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group 3

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- Governments should plan a recovery framework prior to any disaster.
 - Recovery should be utilized as an opportunity to upgrade the resilience of public infrastructure, including schools and health facilities.
 - Donor funding for recovery should be flexible and long term, not targeted to specific projects and areas, but allow local government to decide areas of priority for recovery.
 - Communities should: actively participate in recovery; understand the constraints of governments; support government and agency programs for recovery; and advocate compliance with local building standards.

6-3-3. IRP-ADRC Side Event "A Tool for Better Recovery: Introduction to Guidance Notes on Climate Change Adaptation in Recovery" in The Fourth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (4th AMCDRR)

This event explored how DRR-CCA can be incorporated into the recovery process to enhance value, resilience, and the life of investments. IRP and ADRC raised issues related to the enhancement of climate-resilient livelihoods and infrastructures as well as such other issues as institutional support, community-based approaches, and human health. The overarching challenges of raising

awareness and building capacities for DRR-CCA in the context of recovery were commonly reported by Hyogo Prefecture, the Maldives, Nepal, and the Philippines. There were questions about whether recovery should be pursued quickly after a disaster.

Presenters outlined initiatives to address identified issues and gaps. Hyogo Prefecture promoted the use of computerized hazard maps with following features (i) hazard information for five different kinds of natural disasters shown on one web site, (ii) real time information on the amount of rainfall and water level of rivers, (iii) easy-to-use hazard information using maps and search tools using addresses or postal codes, and (iv) the provision of disaster images, photos, and videos. The Maldives introduced various climate change adaptation measures in different sectors such as its infrastructure, health, water resources, and food. It instituted various policies and strategies such as the National Environment

Action Plan (NEAP) and National Adaptation Plan for Action (NAPA), which included efforts to climate-proof its infrastructure. The Philippines has passed a Law on "Mainstreaming Climate Change in Government Policy Formulations," thereby establishing the framework strategy and program on climate change and creating the Climate Change



Fig.6-3-3-1 IRP-ADRC Side Event in 4th

Commission. Nepal mentioned the impacts of climate change on the Himalayan ecology, which directly affects access to water for 1.6 billion people.

Based on inputs from the participants, the IRP-ADRC Side Event concluded that a wide variety of tools are available for integrating DRR, CCA, and recovery. The improved dissemination of these tools will enhance the resilience of governments and communities. Additionally, capacity building for achieving the integration of DRR, CCA, and recovery will improve dissemination of these tools.

6-3-4. Capacity Building on Resilient Recovery for Government Officials

In line with GFDRR, World Bank activities to scale up capacity development, IRP piloted a training that is aimed at enhancing the capacity of government officials on “post-disaster resilient recovery” in Vietnam and the Philippines. The back to back training events enhanced the capacities of one hundred individuals on resilient recovery.

The training in Hanoi, Vietnam was held from November 30 to December 3, 2010, and attracted thirty eight participants from different government ministries. The training in Makati City, Philippines was held from December 6-9, 2010 with thirty eight government officials from different departments participating. With excellent video conferencing facilities, it allowed the participation of government officials from National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) in Indonesia and visiting researchers at Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) in Japan with Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC) in Tokyo serving as hub.

The delivery of four-day training included site visit, case study presentations, and group discussions. In Vietnam, the site visit was in “Tam Coung Embankment” in Pho Thu Province. Representatives from the commune provided briefing on the embankments. Long-term recovery programs from floods include relocation of people living in flood-prone areas. In the Philippines, the site visit was in the Pasig City in Metro Manila. The construction of dykes along the Pasig River faced some governance issues, which need to be resolved at recovery phase after typhoon in 2009.

Key lessons in recovery process are presented in each case study. The cases provided menu of options from global experiences and knowledge. It also facilitated sharing of expert and practical inputs on general concepts, principles, and guidance for



Fig.6-3-3-4-1 Site Visit



Fig.6-3-3-4-2 Group Discussion

recovery. Group discussions drew reflections from participants on how to develop pre-disaster recovery plans based on certain scenarios. Related tools to facilitate the development of the Recovery Action Plans, primarily focused more on the strategies and approaches for recovery, were reflected in the group presentations.

The pilot training was evaluated by the participants, and their recommendations and suggestions were reflected in the revised training module and materials.