

5-3. Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries, International Organizations and NGOs

5-3-1. Establishing a Regional Network in Asia

The ADRC places high priority on the development of institutional and personal network to share disaster information in the Asia region. Developing personal networks between professionals and their counterparts in member countries, adviser countries, and observer organizations is vital to promoting cooperation on disaster reduction efforts in Asia. Therefore, the ADRC invites management level officials, including deputy directors, directors, and managers, to its annual ADRC International Meeting to encourage interpersonal exchanges.

5-3-2. Promoting Cooperation with International & Regional Organizations and NGOs

(1) ISDR Asia Partnership Meeting

The ADRC participated in the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting held on 6-8 September in Pattaya, Thailand. Around 70 participants attended the meeting including representatives from many countries in Asia as well as from the international and inter-governmental organizations. As part of the follow-up to the 4th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) held in October 2010, the participants shared information on progresses made for the Incheon Action Plan and explored ways to further promote it. They also examined the concept and expected outcomes of the 5th AMCDRR scheduled to be held in October 2012 in Yogyakarta, Republic of Indonesia. Information was also shared among the participants about planned events for the forthcoming International Day for Disaster Reduction (13 October).

The key components of the meeting were as follows:

1) Update on preparations for the 5th AMCDRR

Reports were given on the preparations for the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction scheduled to be held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 22-25 October this year.

2) Discussion of the AMCDRR structure

Group discussions were held on the AMCDRR structure and outcomes.

3) HFA monitoring and review

Thailand, Mongolia, UNOPS, ASEAN, and UNICEF reported on the activities they have undertaken based on the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).

4) Post-HFA framework

Participants discussed a post-HFA framework based on the challenges that have been faced under the HFA.

ADRC gave a presentation on "Business Continuity Management in the Private Sector for

Regional Resiliency," a topic of interest among many participants.

Following the IAP meeting, the 18th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) was held at the same venue on 9 September. The Committee reviewed progresses and challenges of each project and activity under ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and discussed the issues relevant to the further implementation of AADMER in cooperation with strategic partners.

(2) Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Reconstruction Conference

The Global Platform for Disaster Reduction was established in 2007 as a biennial forum for information exchange, discussion of latest development and knowledge and partnership building across sectors, with the goal to improve implementation of disaster risk reduction through better communication and coordination amongst stakeholders. The Global Platform is managed by the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

The third session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was held from 8 to 13 May 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland. More than 2,600 delegates from national/regional organizations and governments came together from all over the world to discuss topics around the theme "Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow: Increased Investment in Local Action." The meeting built on the findings and recommendations of the Global Platform's second session held in 2009, as well as the results of the Midterm Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The Global Platform also included the first World Reconstruction Conference (WRC), hosted by the World Bank.

At the session, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivered the keynote address, noting that the aim of the conference was to reduce disaster risk through technology, knowledge and economic tools. He called for accelerating efforts to build resilience and to create a "coalition for action" for DRR, especially as global climate change and nuclear safety.

Following two days of preparatory meetings, the formal conference began with a plenary session on May 10, and this was followed by roundtable and thematic sessions for the discussion of such issues as reconstruction and recovery, the economics of DRR, and synergies with the international climate change and development agenda. Participants particularly focused on the critical next steps that need to be taken.

Shozo Azuma, Senior Vice-Minister for Disaster Management, Japan, delivered a keynote address titled "Great East Japan Earthquake – Towards Reconstruction from the Tsunami Disaster" and expressed Japan's intent to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.

The ADRC participated in several side events and gave a presentation on the Great East Japan Earthquake. At the side event entitled "Saving Lives and Improving Coastal Risk Management through Regional Cooperation in Ocean and Marine-Related Early Warning

Systems in Asia” organized by WMO, UNESCAP, UNESCO-IOC, and the International Group on Wind-Related Disaster Risk Reduction (IG-WRDRR), the ADRC gave a presentation on the current situation in the Tohoku region and the response and relief activities which were implemented by the Japanese government following the disaster.

The ADRC also organized a session on the “Integrated Use of Space Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction” together with SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership (UN-SPIDER, DLR, ADRC, ESRI, and ISPRS). They gave a presentation on the use of emergency satellite observations through the Sentinel Asia Initiative and explained how space-based applications were used effectively during the Great East Japan Earthquake in the identification and assessment of the affected area.

On the IGNITE stage, the ADRC and IRP (International Recovery Platform) jointly made a presentation on “The Great East Japan Earthquake: Rethinking Investments for a Safer Tomorrow.” They showed what pre-disaster measures had been taken in the Tohoku region, including both structural components (e.g., seawalls, tsunami evacuation buildings) and organizational components (e.g., awareness efforts, disaster drills), and explained how effective those measures have proven to be in this disaster. Together with the Japanese government, ADRC and IRP also took advantage of the Market Place area to highlight several recent Japanese projects on disaster preparedness, response and recovery through a display of posters.



Fig. 1-2-2-1-1 Keynote Address of Shozo Azuma, Senior Vice-Minister for Disaster Management

(3) Report from the APEC Workshop on Private Sector Emergency Preparedness

The governments of Japan and the United States co-hosted the APEC Workshop on Private Sector Emergency Preparedness on 1-3 August 2011 in Sendai, Miyagi, Japan. With more than 100 participants, including government officials and experts from 18 countries and regions, the workshop was the first intergovernmental, international conference conducted in an area affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. The participants confirmed that the

Asia-Pacific region is particularly prone to natural disasters and that its supply chains are closely intertwined. Given this, the members agreed that a single disaster could affect the economic activities of the entire region and that APEC therefore needs to strengthen the private sector's capacity for disaster preparedness and recovery, and to strengthen the partnerships among its members.

The objective of the workshop was to promote Business Continuity Planning (BCP) among APEC member economies. The participants examined case studies from the private sector, shared expertise on how to develop BCP in each economy, and discussed the role of governments in promoting BCP in the Asia-Pacific region. The workshop covered the following topics: The concept and importance of Business Continuity Planning (BCP), Status of BCP adoption in the APEC region, BCP Case Studies (including the experience of Great East Japan Earthquake), BCP Reference Guide, Public-Private Partnerships, and Inter-APEC cooperation to promote BCP in the APEC region. The ADRC conducted research and gave a presentation on the status of BCP adoption in the APEC region for further consideration. On the last day, the participants toured the tsunami-affected area and visited local firms that minimized the damage to their businesses caused by the March 11th disaster by quickly implementing their BCP.

(4) The 2nd session of UNESCAP Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Expert Group Meeting on Regional Knowledge and Cooperation for Comprehensive Multi-Hazard Risk Management in Asia and the Pacific

(1) Date

Expert Group Meeting (EGM): 27-29 June 2011

Committee on DRR: 29 June -1 July 2011

(2) Organizer

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

(3) Participants

Governments, International Organizations, Disaster-related Organizations

(4) Venue

The United Nations Conference Center, Bangkok

(5) Purpose

The objective of the expert group meeting (EGM) was to review and discuss the recent developments taking place in disaster risk reduction strategies with specific focus on multi-hazard risk management, as well as their importance to inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development in the region. The EGM discussed the emerging challenges and opportunities in setting up multi-hazard assessments based on the access of reliable and timely data from multiple sources, and their integration into variety of models to achieve 'actionable' solution for decision support. The regional knowledge and cooperation have

been envisaged as the key enabler facilitating the comprehensive multi-hazard risk management framework. The EGM also advised on the contents of the next issue of the Asia-Pacific Disaster Report scheduled for publication in 2012, which is tentatively planned around social economic analyses of disaster impacts, evaluation of psychological impacts and losses, and possible linkages back to the Global Assessment Report, including community level involvements in these areas and the commissioning of Champions in Disaster Risk Reduction from various countries.

(6) Outline

The Expert Group Meeting on Regional Knowledge and Cooperation for Comprehensive Multi-Hazard risk Management in Asia and the Pacific was organized by the UNESCAP from 27 to 29 June 2011 at the United Nations Conference Center in Bangkok, Thailand. The Meeting was attended by the experts from many countries as well as experts from intergovernmental and international organizations. Invited by the UNESCAP, the ADRC also participated in the meeting.

The meeting addressed: a) Asia Pacific Gateway on Disaster Risk Reduction and Development; b) Data for Disaster Risk Reduction and Assessment; c) Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Disaster Monitoring and Early Warning, Particularly Drought, and; d) Asia Pacific Disaster Report. Experts discussed in detail relevant issues and needs and necessary actions. ADRC stressed the importance of compilation of disaster data, utilization of GLIDE (GLobal unique disaster IDentifier number), sharing of experiences and lessons regarding to specific disasters such as the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake.



(5) The 22nd meeting of sub-committee on space technology and applications (SCOSA)

The ADRC attended the 22nd meeting of sub-committee on space technology and applications (SCOSA) held from 9th to 10th May 2011 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Various organizations in ASEAN countries which are related to the space technology attended this

meeting in order to discuss on-going and future projects by SCOSA and other relevant organizations.

For the last two year the ADRC has been implementing "Satellite Data Utilization for Disaster Risk Reduction and Response" project funded by Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). Eight ASEAN countries, namely Indonesia, Philippines, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Brunei Darussalam are the target countries of the project. In this meeting, the ADRC made a presentation about the progress of the project. ADRC is currently producing materials for the seminars and trainings in ASEAN country. For more details of this project, please refer to the following site;

<http://www.geoinfo.ait.ac.th/adrc/index.htm>

(6)The Seminar on Emerging ICT New Service : Disaster and ICT Applications orgnized by Ministry of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand

(1)Date

15 June 2011

(2)Organizer

Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) of Thailand

(3)Participants

MICT, Japanese Embassy, JICA, UNESCAP, NEC, NTT Docomo, etc.

(4)Venue

MICT Meeting Room, , Bangkok, Thailand

(5)Purpose

This seminar was to provide Japanese experience and useful information on the earthquake, especially from the various disaster warning system with Information and Communication Technology(ICT) which were utilized during the earthquake.

(6)Outline

To provide information of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, the following presentations were made by various speakers:

- (1) Overview of the impact to ICT infrastructure by the Great East Japan Earthquake by Mr. KONO, JICA Expert seconded to MICT
- (2)Government Response to the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake by Mr. KORESAWA, Executive Director, ADRC
- (3)Introduction to NEC's Disaster Prevention Solution and Earthquake Early Warning System by Mr. YAMAMOTO, Manager of Social Infrastructure Solutions Planning Division, NEC
- (4)The role of Cellular phone service during the earthquake by Mr. MAKISE, Manager of Global Business Planning, Corporate Marketing Strategy Department, NTT DoCoMo
- (5)Thailand activities by National Disaster Warning Center of MICT

(7)The first and second Expert Group Meeting

The March 11 earthquake and tsunami that hit the Tohoku region along the Pacific coast of Japan was unprecedented in both scale and scope. Measuring a magnitude 9.0 on the Richter scale, the Great East Japan Earthquake was the fourth largest earthquake in the world and the largest ever recorded in Japan. The subsequent tsunami washed away many small and medium-sized towns and communities along the seashore, resulting in a record level of human casualties. Recovery and reconstruction efforts have just begun, and are likely to take many years.

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) conducted an expert group meeting entitled “Toward Creative Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake” with the International Recovery Platform (IRP), the United Nations (UN) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Japanese Cabinet Office, Hyogo Prefecture and the World Bank on June 31 at the World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center. Approximately 70 experts and observers attended this meeting, whose objectives were two-fold: (1) to provide valuable advice to Japanese experts working on recovery and reconstruction in Japan, based on experiences gained during other large-scale disasters around the world (e.g., the Indian Ocean Tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, Sichuan Earthquake, and flooding in Australia), and (2) to identify the hard-learned lessons from this painful disaster experience in Japan so that they can be put to use in disaster risk reduction efforts in other countries. Experts gave presentations aimed at achieving the above objectives.

**Before this meeting, approximately 20 experts visited the affected area in Miyagi Prefecture from 29 to 30 June. During their visit, they had a chance to meet with Mayor Sato of MinamiSanriku. This was an invaluable time for the sharing of opinions and ideas.*

Field visit at Minami-Sanriku Town



ADRC held its second expert group meeting with the Japanese Cabinet Office, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the International Recovery Platform (IRP), in Tokyo on 16-17 December 2011, with the first meeting having been held last May.

The meeting invited policy managers from Japan and other countries in the Asia Pacific region to discuss the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake and the major policy changes adopted since then. The meeting also provided opportunities to discuss the relevance of the Japanese experience in the international context and to obtain input and feedback from the experts of other countries.