
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), the World Bank, World Health Organization (WHO), and Asian Development Bank (ADB).

6-3. IRP Activities in FY 2012

6-3-1. International Recovery Forum 2013

The International Recovery Forum 2013, “Resilient Recovery in Cities and Municipalities: Lessons on Integrating DRR into Recovery and Development Planning – Tohoku and Global Experiences and the Post 2015 Framework for DRR”, was held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan on 22 January 2013. The forum aimed to 1) further reflect on applying the lessons on recovery from mega-disasters to inform Post-2015 Global Framework for



Fig. 6-3-1 International Recovery Forum 2013

DRR and recovery, 2) share knowledge and exchange experience on disaster recovery planning and recovery operations, 3) present recent experiences on recovery operations and the emerging challenges in cities. 184 participants from 39 countries and 14 international organizations comprised of national and local officials, experts on disaster reduction and recovery, and representatives of various stakeholders, attended the forum.

Following the keynote speech on the current state of reconstruction in Sendai City by Ms. Emiko Okuyama, 6 representatives from cities and a country including Mr. Rico Rentuza, Mayor of St. Bernard, Philippines, Mr. Kimiaki Toda, Mayor of Ofunato City, Japan, Mr. Francisco Gaitan Aguero, Mayor of Cantarranas, Honduras and Mr. Hisan Hassan, Project Director of National Disaster Management Center, Maldives, etc. made presentations on the experiences and lessons on recovery from recent natural disasters. There were also special reports from Dr. Arturo Pesigan, Technical Officer, WHO, Mr. Victor Poyarkov, Executive Director of European Center of Technical Safety, Ukraine, and Mr. Yoichi Nozaki, Director General of Fukushima Prefectural

Government. A panel discussion on “Recommendations to ensure that the 2015 Global Framework for DRR explicitly promotes disaster recovery as an opportunity to build back better and safer cities” was coordinated by Mr. Andrew Maskrey, Chief and Coordinator of the United Nations Global Assessment Report on DRR (GAR), UNISDR on the basis of the results of the group discussion at the workshop held as the 4th Expert Group Meeting on 21 January 2013.

6-3-2. Participation in the World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku

The World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held from 3 to 4 July 2012 in Sendai City. The objectives of the conference were to share experiences of and lessons learned from recent large-scale natural disasters including Great East Japan Earthquake and to support discussions on establishing post-Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.

IRP set up its own booth throughout the period to showcase knowledge products and services for resilient recovery. Posters were displayed to communicate key messages for "Build Back Better". The Guidance Notes on Recovery and the Capacity Building Module on Resilient Recovery drew a lot of attention from participants. Moreover, IRP held "The 3rd Expert Group Meeting on the Great East Japan Earthquake" as a side event in cooperation with Cabinet Office of Japan, ADRC, etc.



Fig. 6-3-2-1 IRP Booth

6-3-3. Expert Group Meeting on the Great East Japan Earthquake (EGM)

The Expert Group Meeting has been held since fiscal year 2011, with the participation of DRR experts from abroad to share experiences and lessons on recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake. In FY 2012, the 3rd Expert Group Meeting (EGM3) and the 4th Expert Group Meeting (EGM4) were held in Sendai in July 2012 and in Kobe in January 2013 respectively.

In conjunction with the “World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku”, organized by the ministry of Foreign Affairs of Government of Japan, EGM3 was organized on 3 July 2012 as one of the side events which gathered 70 participants from the national government, municipalities, international organizations, researchers and NPO/NGO representatives.



Fig.6-3-3-1 EGM3

Following the opening remarks by Cabinet Office of Government of Japan, a representative from Sendai City delivered the keynote speech

highlighting the city's current stage of reconstruction. There were also presentations on the issues relating to recovery from mega disasters by international organizations, and the panel discussion on how lessons from recovery can be applied to reduce the impacts of future disasters. A field visit to disaster affected areas in Sendai City was also organized on the next day, 4 July 2012.

EGM4 was held on 21 January 2013 in Kobe, prior to the International Recovery Forum organized in cooperation with Cabinet Office of Government of Japan, Hyogo Prefectural Government, International Recovery Platform, etc. 80 participants from all over the world shared vital lessons learnt from recent experiences in Japan and elsewhere. Following the opening remarks by Cabinet Office of Government of Japan, there were presentations by universities and organizations which have engaged in the recovery project in Tohoku from the beginning stage. Also presentations and a panel discussion on how the lessons on recovery from mega disasters are effectively integrated into the post-HFA Global Framework were made.



Fig.6-3-3-2 Field visit (EGM3)



Fig.6-3-3-3 EGM4

6-3-4. Recovery Status Report on the Great East Japan Earthquake

IRP published the Recovery Status Report on the Great East Japan Earthquake to apply its experiences and lessons to disaster reduction and recovery in the world in collaboration with Cabinet Office of Japan, ADRC, UNISDR, Tohoku University and Kobe University, etc.

The objective of the report is to document the process, successes, and challenges encountered in recovery planning and operations. Specifically, it produces sectoral case studies that outline the recovery process, draws views from affected communities, government officials, experts, and other stakeholders through organization of learning events including EGMs and national consultation, and consolidates and analyzes the case studies and inputs from various stakeholders.



Fig.6-3-4-1
Recovery Status Report

6-3-5. Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning for Indonesia

The workshop on disaster recovery planning was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, 29-31 October 2012. It was jointly organized by the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), UNDP Indonesia, UNISDR for Asia and the Pacific, European Commission (EC), and IRP/ADRC. The workshop was designed to support the initiatives of the Government of Indonesia for better disaster recovery operations, specifically at strengthening the manuals on Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Monitoring of Recovery Projects that

were developed by the national government. The role of IRP/ADRC experts at the workshop was to provide technical assistance through sharing of lessons from global experiences.

Dr. Syamsul Maarif (Head of BNPB) and Mr. Bambang (Deputy for Reconstruction and Recovery of BNPB) are among the over 35 officials who actively participated in the workshop. At the end of the event, participants outlined key recommendations for recovery planning, including review of spatial planning blueprint and localization of revised manuals on PDNA and Monitoring of Recovery Projects.

To forward the recommendations from the participants, discussions between IRP/ADRC, AHA Centre, ASEAN Secretariat, and AusAID were facilitated. One of the key follow up activities is to strengthen regional partnerships to further enrich knowledge of integrating disaster recovery planning into their national DRR plans and other planning instruments.



Fig.6-3-5-1 Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning for Indonesia