
4-2. Seminars and Training Course

4-2-1. JICA Training Course: “Comprehensive Disaster Management for Central Asia and Caucasus”

ADRC conducted the Knowledge Co-Creation Programs for disaster management officials from Central Asia and the Caucasus from 23 June to 31 July 2015. This event was conducted with cooperation from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Kansai International Center. Central Asia and the Caucasus frequently experience disasters such as earthquakes and landslides, as well as flash floods and other floods caused by melting snow in the mountains every spring. In addition, some of these natural disasters extend across several countries. Promoting regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction in these regions is therefore a significant challenge.

This course aims to convey basic knowledge and experiences related to natural disaster management in the trainees' countries. Trainees were asked to identify a major problem in their own countries and to formulate an action plan for addressing it. The course was conducted in Russian for 16 central and local government officials representing seven countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan in Central Asia, and Armenia and Azerbaijan in the Caucasus. Participants attended lectures and visited central and local government agencies, research institutes, private companies, a meteorological organization, and NGOs in order to comprehensively enhance their understanding of disaster management. They also participated in community activities, such as a disaster prevention drill conducted by a junior team of BOKOMI (community-based disaster management organizations organized by the Kobe City Fire Bureau), and went to Niigata, which experienced the Niigata-Chuetsu Earthquake in 2004, to learn about earthquake recovery, as well as landslide and erosion control countermeasures being implemented in the area. In addition, they also visited Hiroshima city for the first time during the training course. They had an opportunity to interact with people affected by a landslide that occurred in 2014 and also learned about the importance of passing down lessons learned from major disasters to succeeding generations.



Visit to an affected area of Niigata Chuetsu

It is hoped that the participants will make good use of the knowledge, tools, and methods they learned during this training course to implement various projects and help strengthen the disaster management systems in their home countries. ADRC would like to express its sincerest gratitude to all the organizations that contributed to the success of this course.

4-2-2. JICA Training Course: “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Course”

From 12 January to 26 February 2016, ADRC, in collaboration with JICA, Kansai International Center conducted the JICA Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Course for eight countries, namely Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, and Timor-Leste.

Twelve government officials in charge of disaster risk reduction. This course aimed to contribute to formulation and further development of disaster management plans in participating countries by enhancing their understanding of Japanese disaster management systems and countermeasures implemented by central/local government and multi-stakeholders.

During the training, participants understood the structure of Japanese disaster management system by comparison with their own countries and considered the roll have to be taken by each organization.

They attended a series of lectures in regard to disaster preparedness, emergency response, rehabilitation and mitigation based on the disaster management cycle, and also visited disaster stricken areas and observed the recovery processes from the multiple calamities such as earthquake, tsunami and volcanic eruption etc.

Furthermore, they learned from the experiences of the practical methodologies for disaster risk reduction, for instance hazard mapping, evacuation drills and disaster education tools.

Participants were deeply impressed with the efforts for disaster risk reduction in Japan and keen to exchange their knowledge and experiences among the groups and lecturers throughout the course. It is hoped that they will make good use of what they learned during this training course to strengthen the disaster management systems in their home countries.



Making a community based hazard map

4-2-3. JICA Training Course: “Raising Awareness of Disaster Reduction”

ADRC conducted a training program for disaster management personnel of administrative and research institute in the developing country for purpose of raising awareness of disaster reduction in their country as the following.

The program was designed to develop an action plan and to implement it for raising awareness of disaster reduction among the citizens of those countries.

The ultimate goal is to ensure that the general public will be able to acquire the knowledge needed for disaster reduction, conduct preparedness and emergency response activities, and minimize damage during a disaster.

Participants attended lectures and visited central and municipal government agencies, disaster management bases, educational institutes, a meteorological organization, a broadcasting company, and NPOs in order to enhance their understanding of Japan's disaster management system and techniques.

The participants were very interested in the disaster risk reduction efforts taken in Japan and were eager to participate in every lecture and site visit. At the end of the program, they developed an action plan for their own country and gave a presentation on their conclusions.

(1) Raising Awareness of Disaster Reduction (A)

This program was conducted for 8 disaster management officials from Vietnam by Vietnamese language from 23 June to 24 July 2015, following the last year.

During a study tour to Kyoto, they learned a great deal about Japan’s disaster reduction culture. They learned about traditional wooden houses called "Kyomachiya" and the cultural significance, and also learned a great deal about disaster reduction in very densely populated urban areas. In Tokushima, they mastered basic knowledge and skills that can be used to combat flooding. These are of great practical use to the people of Vietnam, where floods frequently cause major natural disasters. They practiced rope work, which is useful in reducing disasters, including techniques for making lifelines. They also learned a method of sandbag stacking that can be used to temporarily stop a levee leak through the creation of an emergency reservoir.



Rope Work Lecture

(2) Raising Awareness of Disaster Reduction (B)

This program was conducted for 19 disaster reduction personnel from the following 16 countries, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Myanmar, Timor, St. Lucia, Chile, Guyana, Suriname, Senegal, Armenia, India, Fiji, Vanuatu, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and

Colombia by English from 11 January to 13 February 2016.

Particularly, they joined to the practice of the Town-Watching and Hazard Map-Making in Enoshima during Kamakura Study Tour. This program was one of the centerpieces in this training course. Further, it was a very interesting participatory program that they discussed mutually and proceeded with making hazard map together. All participants were appreciated this program since it was practical and useful for raising awareness of disaster reduction of local residents in each country.