

Mr Hussain Naseem (Maldives)



My name is Hussain Naseem, and I am working in National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) as a Senior Administrative Officer in the Executive Bureau. I began my educational journey at R. Alfiushi School. After graduating high school, I entered Maldives National University, to attain a Bachelor of Tourism Management specialising in Marketing, and graduated in 2020. Subsequently, in 2023, I was able to complete my Master of Business Administration from Villa College which is one of the greatest academic achievements.

As the Maldives is a low-lying country with scattered islands, I believe it is vital to understand the basic principles of disaster management, preparedness, and risk reduction. Frequent hydrometeorological hazards and climate related hazards have inspired me to learn more about these issues, understanding what are the key principles and actions that can mitigate the risks.

After joining the NDMA on 15 May 2024, one of the key issues and focus areas was community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM), whereby, NDMA together with Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) visit different islands across the Maldives to conduct sessions for the community about the risk profiles of the Maldives, understanding hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities of the specific island and preparing community emergency response teams in order to prepare and act if disasters occur.

My involvement in the Enhancing Resilience Planning and Strengthening Community Preparedness (ERCP) project together with the CBRDM Project has shaped my passion to learn more about community practices, disaster preparedness and risk reduction strategies that countries like Japan have adopted. In the context of the Maldives, limited research has taken places to understand the importance of CBDRM. Hence, the Visiting Researcher (VR) program will help me to understand worthwhile and successful methods and approaches that Japan has adopted in severe disasters. I am grateful for the opportunity provided by the Asian Disaster Risk Reduction (ADRC) for the Visiting Researcher Program (VR) providing more knowledge about disaster preparedness and community practices in severe cases. The in-house lecturers, and experiences shared by many sensei will significantly contribute in my current role in the Maldives.