

Mr. Rachman Sobarna, Indonesia

I have been working for the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in Indonesia, as a senior researcher at the Directorate of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation. My previous achievement includes handling geological environment issue and giving appropriate guidance for disaster reduction to local government officials and NGO staff.

Indonesia is a country composed of 17 thousands islands, which offers a wide variety of topographies and geological conditions as shown in the existence of volcanoes, mountains, faults, rivers, and lakes with wild forests. The variety of geological conditions makes the country prone to natural disasters, which are volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, and floods. The occurrence of landslide, debris flows and floods are more frequent due to many high rainfall areas. The disaster's recent characteristic is severe, and landslide/flows occur in unpredictable area. Triggered by heavy rainfall, these disasters also closely related to environmental damage.

Against such natural disasters, Government of Indonesia has three main policies that are (1) to focus on mitigation efforts and repressive/ rehabilitative actions, (2) to evacuate and to handle the disaster victims, and (3) to involve stakeholders on disaster management.

My intentions at ADRC are (1) to share disaster-related information among member countries of ADRC, (2) to gain knowledge about countermeasures in Japan, and (3) bring back those skills acquired to my country for future contribution. (Rachman Sobarna, Researcher, Directorate of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia)

