

Ms. Lkhamjav Chinbaatar from Mongolia



I am Chinbaatar LKHAMJAV, from Mongolia, and I graduated in 2006 from the Defense University of Mongolia. As a senior lieutenant in the National Emergency Management Agency of Mongolia, I am in charge of radio communications and early warning systems. With the increase in disasters in Mongolia, the government has taken steps to strengthen its disaster management system so as to minimize the damage to lives and property that would be caused by future natural and manmade

disasters. As a result, the parliament passed the Disaster Management Act on 20 May 2003.

Mongolia is a landlocked country in the center of the Asian continent, between China and Russia, and shares a western border with Kazakhstan. It has a land area of more than 1.56 million km² and a population of around 2.87 million. Mongolia has a population density of 2 people per square kilometer, and is classified as a developing country. Mongolia is comprised of 21 provinces and the capital city of Ulaanbaatar. The political system is a parliamentary democracy.

The Mongolian heartland consists of relatively flat steppes. The southern portion of the country is taken up by the Gobi Desert, while the northern and western portions are mountainous. Most of the country is hot in the summer and extremely cold in the winter, October to February. In January, average temperatures drop as low as -30°C (-22°F). Mongolia is cloudy approximately 250 days a year. Ulaanbaatar is one of the coldest cities in the world. Mongolia's economy is centered around agriculture and mining. Fortunately, Mongolia has rich mineral resources, with copper, coal, molybdenum, tin, tungsten, and gold accounting for a large part of its industrial production. However, many different kinds of natural disasters occur in Mongolia such as droughts, heavy snow and extreme cold, forest fires and steppe fires, diseases, floods, earthquakes, and technical accidents.

The disasters that have occurred over the past three years, 2010 to 2012, include 340 forest and steppe fires, 6,837 object fires, 4 cases of human and animal diseases, 145 cases of acute contagious animal diseases, 2 cases of avian influenza, 231 unfortunate losses of life caused by river and lake accidents, 62 snow and dust storms, 49 floods, 2 dzuds (summer droughts followed by severe winters), 53 earthquakes, 506 fatalities, 2,885 people with infections, steppe fires with damage valued at 9.9 million tugrugs, and the burning of 4,147 gers (felt-lined tents), houses, fences, and enclosures causing 630,384.9 tugrugs in damage to the country's economy. To save human lives and prevent economic losses, the government of Mongolia began a project aimed at implementing an earthquake early warning system on 4 July 2012. Workers on the project are now building 32 siren

towers in Ulaanbaatar. Ultimately, a total of 60 siren towers must be built.

Finally, I am grateful to the government of Japan, ADRC itself as the organizer of this program, and the ADRC staff, for all the support they have given me and for allowing me to have such a wonderful experience during my stay in Japan.