

Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2011

13-15 June 2011

Colombo, SRI LANKA

19 April 2011

OVERVIEW

The Government of Sri Lanka, Government of Japan, and Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) are jointly organizing the **Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2011 (ACDR 2011)** on June 13-15, 2011 at Cinnamon Grand Hotel in Colombo, Sri Lanka in cooperation with International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. Over 100 practitioners, experts, and policymakers from ADRC member countries as well as representatives from different partner organizations are anticipated to participate to share experiences and take forward appropriate measures for disaster reduction.

RATIONALE

Disasters with more devastating effects are increasing worldwide, and Asia is the most prone region. In Japan, the scale of damage from the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami was unprecedented in a country that is well prepared for disasters. In 2010, China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand experienced intensive flooding while Indonesia was hit by earthquake and subsequent tsunami back to back with volcanic eruption. Other regions were not spared. Earthquakes were experienced in Haiti, Chile, New Zealand, and Myanmar; unprecedented flooding occurred in Australia; heat waves hit Russia; and many other disasters were experienced elsewhere. These disasters are expected to intensify with climate change.

The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA) promotes “the integration of risk reduction with climate variability and climate change into strategies for the reduction of disaster risk and adaptation to climate change”. Regular regional and global gatherings such as Asian Ministerial Conference and Global Platform have been organized to further accelerate the implementation of HFA.

The ACDR2011 will follow through the recommendations from the **4th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (4AMCDRR)** in Incheon, October 25-28, 2010 and the **3rd Session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (Global Platform 2011)** in Geneva, May 8-13, 2011. The 4AMCDRR, with the theme “Disaster Risk Reduction through Climate Change Adaptation”, adopted Incheon REMAP-- a regional road map for promoting regional cooperation on DRR through CCA. The overall theme of the Global Platform 2011 is “Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increased Investment in Local Action”. ACDR2011 will take forward the *Incheon REMAP* and localize the *Chair’s Summary* at the Global Platform in ADRC member countries. It will also provide ADRC member countries the opportunity to further strengthen its network as well as share recent efforts and technical updates on DRR.

FORMAT

ACDR 2011 will be organized according to the following format.

- ❑ **DRR-CCA Sessions.** Select countries and agencies will report on climate hazards and showcase sound practices/technologies. Group discussions will be organized based on the following themes (i) climate change prediction, weather forecasting, down-scaling, and modeling of rainfall, flooding, and inundation; (ii) early warning and evacuation system, shelter, use of technologies – including ICTs and space technologies; and (iii) micro-finance/insurance at community level, and constraints in recovery process. Group recommendations on way forward will be presented at the plenary.
- ❑ **Reporting of Experiences and Activities.** ADRC member countries that have recently experienced disasters will present the challenges and lessons. This will be followed by updates on (i) 4AMCDRR outcomes, (ii) preparations for the 5AMCDRR in Indonesia, and (iii) Global Platform 2011 Summary. ADRC activities of FY 2010 are presented. ADRC Steering Committee meeting will also be organized, wherein proposed activities for FY2011 will be presented and discussed.
- ❑ **Site Visit.** Participants will visit the sites for flood and environmental improvement projects. The Disaster Management Center (DMC) of the Government of Sri Lanka coordinates the visit.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. ACDR Chair's Summary will commit the implementation of key priority actions of the Incheon REMAP and propose tangible activities that will accelerate the implementation of HFA at the local levels among ADRC member countries
2. Agreement on tangible mechanisms for sharing and application of updated DRR-CCA knowledge and tools among ADRC member countries
3. Further strengthened network of ADRC member countries and relevant organizations

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Venue

Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka

<http://www.cinnamonhotels.com/CinnamonGrandColombo.htm>

DOCUMENTS

Presentations materials and relevant documents will be uploaded at ADRC website (www.adrc.asia) as soon as these become available.

REGISTRATION

Participants are kindly requested to submit completed registration form **by 8 May 2011** to ACDR2011 Secretariat (acdr2011cmb@adrc.asia).

CONTACT

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