



## Mr ARAKIDA Masaru

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Director  
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### Profile

Mr Arakida graduated from the Department of Physics at Tohoku University in 1987, and worked for a private research institute on DRR projects in Japan, including seismic damage estimation, local DRR planning, and community DRR activities. In 2000, he moved to the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), where he has been involved in the development and dissemination of the Global Disaster Identification Number (GLIDE), the launch and promotion of Sentinel Asia (a satellite-based disaster management support system), and community-based disaster risk reduction activities (e.g., DRR Town Watching). He was assigned to Central America as a long-term expert of JICA's Central America Regional Disaster Management Project for 2006-2009, where he managed the implementation of the project and promoted community-based disaster risk reduction activities. When the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami occurred, he visited Banda Aceh, Indonesia in early January to assess the damage and local needs, and presented the information to the Japanese government and member countries. He covered Indonesia in the ADRC's awareness survey of tsunami-affected countries, and was also in charge of Indonesia in the tsunami expert team operated by UNESCO. In the aftermath of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, Arakida's family lived in Iwate Prefecture, so he visited Morioka two days after the tsunami to check on the safety of his family in Kuji and Miyako. Later, in collaboration with Iwate University, he analyzed the situation in the affected areas by comparing the satellite images from Sentinel Asia and field surveys. He also conducted a research on the practicality of using satellites for disaster management. In the field of human resource development, he has been the lead of the JICA Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction Course for Central America since FY2009, and has also been conducting courses to train government officials in charge of disaster risk reduction in Central American countries. Since FY 2018, he started to lead the exercises of the JICA-proposed 8STEP local DRR plan, and teaching the 8STEP in six Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction courses annually.