



ADRC Highlights Vol.18

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

February 16, 2001

➤ **Disaster Management Exhibition Started!!**

□ **Database on Disaster Reduction Technology**



The technology on the disaster reduction reaches a wide range. Many techniques and products exist. For example, there are many kind of machines and equipments, such as a jack to rescue a person from collapsed structure, metal fittings for preventing furniture from falling down,

temporary toilet for shelters, water purification devices, and facilities for the earthquake-resistant. Besides, various kinds of technology has been developed, such as communication systems using satellites, disaster reduction GIS for disaster management, damage estimation systems, and disaster prediction technology.

These techniques and products are very useful for the whole society to improve their disaster reduction potentials, although the development is not easy. Thus it is important for us to expand markets by introducing these techniques and products to many people, not only local authorities and private enterprises, but also the people of NGO and general public.

For presenting these techniques and products, the exhibitions of the disaster reduction have been held repeatedly after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in Tokyo and Kobe, Japan. However, those events are limited for several days in a year and only visitors can get information. The person in charge of disaster reduction of remote places has few opportunities to visit such kind of exhibitions. Observed from Table 1, a lot of people seem to have visited the exhibitions. However, as the number of the visitors below was combined with attendants of the fire fighting events and symposium held simultaneously, only a few percentages of the visitors saw the exhibitions.

Table 1 Summary of Disaster Prevention related Exhibition

Place	Exhibition	Duration	Number of Visitors	Number of Exhibitors	Number of Booths
Tokyo	Tokyo Int'l Disaster Prevention Exhibition for Fire Fighting	94.10.13-10.16	189,365	328	1,105
		98.6.4-6.9	214,064	260	1,380
	Disaster Prevention Fair	96.4.25-4.28	15,179	75	200
		97.4.23-4.27	194,199*	46	100
	Disaster Rescue Fair 2000	00.4.20-4.23	51,668	70	900
Kobe	Earthquake Technology Expo 97	97.1.16-1.17	4,264	130	230
	Expo 98	98.1.13-1.14	3,220	115	215
	Expo 99	99.1.13-1.14	3,830	120	135
	Expo 00	00.1.27-1.28	3,479	59	81

*includes the visitors of "Good Living Fair" held simultaneously

□ **Internet Exhibition of Disaster Management Techniques & Product**

On January 17, 2001, the Virtual Internet Exhibition of Disaster Management Techniques & Product was open on the ADRC website, where we can visit anytime by using the Internet. The exhibition consists of the database with various kinds of disaster management techniques and products. After opening of the exhibition, the number of

the visitors to ADRC homepage has increased by 30% and 200 are visiting the homepage on the average per day.

The entrance of this exhibition is located in the website of ADRC. The menu is divided with the time axis (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery) and techniques/products. The visitor can see the explanation of each techniques and products by selecting the menu or searching with keywords. Those who want to have further detailed information can move to the homepage of the company, or contact the company directly by e-mail, telephone or fax.

It is free of charge to display the techniques/products and maintain the page, and even the enterprises without their own homepage are possible to participate. At present, 40 company with 150 of items display their technology/product. We are accepting more exhibitors to become the comprehensive guidance page of disaster prevention technology and products (We also welcome participants from outside of Japan). Please introduce the enterprise of your acquaintance. The contact e-mail address is arakida@adrc.or.jp.

➤ **World Conference on Natural Disaster 2001**

A two-day conference aimed at boosting international cooperation in preventing and responding to natural disasters was held at the quake-hit island of Awaji, near Kobe, western Japan on February 5 & 6, 2001.

This World Conference, co-hosted by Japan, the OECD, the UN, the World Bank and ADRC was the first opportunity that the OECD, World Bank and UN/ISDR have met to exchange their views on disaster response and prevention.

Through case studies on historical large disasters around the world and the following discussion, the OECD, World Bank, and UN have explored concrete collaborative measures in the event of natural disasters, and they agreed to learn from each other and cooperate for building disaster-resistant societies with consideration of the community-based sustainable development.

➤ **Recent Natural Disasters in Asia**

□ **Another strong quake rocked El Salvador**

At 14:22 GMT on February 13, 2001, an earthquake with a magnitude 6.6 on the Richter Scale affected in particular the departments of San Vicente, la Paz and Cuscatlan in El Salvador. The epicenter of the earthquake was 13.60N and 88.96W (20 km east/south east of San Salvador) according to the United States Geological Survey.

Latest figures indicate 274 people dead and 2,432 injured (as of February 15). About 141 houses have been destroyed and four hospitals damaged in the affected departments. The Cathedral of Santa Ana, in the department of Santa Ana, near the border with Guatemala, was also damaged.

Several roads have been blocked by landslides in the many municipalities. Landslides have reportedly hit the Pan-American Highway, still being restored after the January earthquake.

(13 - 15 Feb. OCHA Situation Report etc.)

□ **Successive Disasters in Indonesia**

On February 10, there were a Landslide and Flood at Lebak in East Java. Nearly 100 people were the victims of the disaster.

Also on February 10, Mt. Merapi (2,968 m) in Central Java increased activity, and huge clouds of ash and rivers of lava began spewing from the mountain. Residents living at the foot were forced to evacuate.

At 2:28 a.m. on February 14 (local time), an earthquake with a magnitude 7.3 on the Richter Scale (according to USGS) struck Bengkulu in Sumatra. As its epicenter was located on the Indian Ocean with a depth of 80 km, approximately 21 km southwest of Bengkulu, there are no reports of casualties and damage so far.

(14 Feb. OCHA Situation Report etc.)

If you have comments or needs for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC in the right box.

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