



ADRC Highlights Vol.32

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

September 17, 2001

➤ International Symposium on Internet based Disaster Information (ISIDI)

On August 27, 2001, Asian Disaster Reduction Center held the above mentioned symposium jointly with Japan Science and Technology Corporation (JST). We had very lively discussions with the participants from USGS (United States Geological Survey), UN-OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian), WHO-WPRO (Western Pacific Regional Office), ITB (Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia), Russian Academy of Science, NASDA (National Space Development Agency of Japan), JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), and so on. The objective of this symposium was to promote Internet based Mapping or GIS for Disaster Management by sharing information among the related institutions, in order to utilize the technique toward disaster mitigation.



The concluding recommendations of the symposium is summarized as follows: Many points were raised during the meeting and we recognized that applying GIS via Internet and other information tools for disaster reduction activities are useful in both the proactive phase and the reactive phase of disaster

management. We took note of the recent success of new Internet GIS tools, for example, the VENTEN developed by ADRC. The recent technological breakthrough in Remote Sensing and Information Technology displays great scope for further development and promotion of basic technology to be useful for the end user. New Technology may be a solution to these problems.

There is a need for mutual recognition of the Information Technology to be further used for disaster reduction. Two ways of approaching to this issue could be considered. One is information distribution from system developers to the end user and the other is that end users provide information to the system developers by continuous interactive action. Collaboration among International organizations, government agencies and the scientific sector will lead to success in this pursue. In addition, there is a need to call on the private sector to actively participate in our common efforts to reduce disasters. At last we must not always forget the data needs of the end user, thus we should continue the dialogue among the parties involved which commenced today.

For your information, we published the collected papers on this matter. Please contact sec@adrc.or.jp for the details: "Information Technology for Disaster Information", ADRC International Paper No.1, 2001.

➤ College Interns work at ADRC

ADRC accepted three College Interns as maiden attempt from August 20 to 31 cooperated with "HYOGO ACADEMIC LEAGUE". We hope the experience here will be useful for them to think their future in some way. We will accept Intern next summer, too. If you are interested in, please contact "HYOGO ACADEMIC LEAGUE Tel: 81-78-327-4380, E-mail: kikou@hyogo-al.gr.jp"

➤ ADRC Staff Profiles No. 5

□ Dr. Bambang Rudyanto, Senior Researcher

Dr. Bambang Rudyanto has joined ADRC since December 1999. He has been in charge of the project, "Development of Disaster Information Management System in Asia by using Internet GIS", or with its common name as "VENTEN". He is also responsible for "Community based Flood Mitigation Project in Bandung City of Indonesia".



Dr. Bambang has keen interest on using Information Technology to contribute to Disaster Reduction. It is a fruitful achievement that everyone can access the various information for disaster management by using "VENTEN" system through Internet.

However, he thinks that the human networking and community participation as well as high tech are the important keys for Disaster Reduction to save human lives. Therefore, he always observes Disaster Management from many perspectives. His work experience in United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) helps to expand such viewpoints. As one of the example of the successful disaster management with community participation, the report of the Bandung City Flood Mitigation Project will be published soon. (Please contact sec@adrc.or.jp for the details.)

For all, as mentioned by Executive Director of ADRC, Dr. Yujiro Ogawa, the research or effort will be useless if there is no output that can be seen. In this regard, Dr. Bambang is doing his best to complete his task by the end of September 2001 with the concrete output. As Indonesian who acts globally, he promise to continue contributing his expertise for not only Disaster Reduction but also Solution of Global Environmental Issues and World Development.

➤ Visitors to ADRC



On August 28, 2001 Hon. Tomas Reyes, Secretary of National Defense and Chairman of the National Disaster Coordinating Council, Philippines visited ADRC with the delegation. They had visited Japan for four days to research the disaster management measurement and systems in Japan. For the purpose, they visited Japan Defense

Agency, Cabinet Office, Hyogo prefecture, and Asian Disaster Reduction Center.

They listened the explanation about ADRC's function and activities eagerly. They were especially interested in our training programs and Internet GIS System (VENTEN). We confirmed the promotion of mutual cooperation to develop the disaster management awareness program.

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

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