



ADRC Highlights

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April 1, 2003

➤ **ISDR/ADRC joint session “Living with Risk – towards effective disaster reduction” at WWF3**

On the occasion of the 3rd World Water Forum, which was held from March 16-23, the ISDR Secretariat and ADRC jointly organized a session entitled “Living with Risk - towards effective disaster



reduction” in the context of “Water and Poverty” coordinated by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The session was jointly chaired by Mr. Salvano Briceno (Director, ISDR Secretariat) and Prof. Yujiro Ogawa (Former Executive Director of ADRC and Professor at Fuji Tokoha University, Shizuoka, Japan) and addressed the root causes of disaster impact. In particular, they focused on water related disasters and the source of hazards in general.

The first keynote speaker, Mr. Manuel Dengo (Head of the Water Division, UN/DESA), stressed the urgent need to consider disaster reduction to achieve sustainable development. The second keynote speaker, Ms. Madeleen Helmer (Climate Centre, IFRC, the Netherlands), spoke about some recent major disaster sites and proposed future policy guidelines, stressing the socio-economic and environmental aspects of disasters.

Prof. Ogawa conducted a panel discussion involving experts in the field from various organizations. The session highlighted several points necessary for reducing the vulnerability of communities. These included the importance of an integrated approach to disaster reduction, community based activities, appropriate urban planning, and international cooperation in information sharing for disaster reduction. Recommendations were prepared for the Ministerial Conference to be submitted through ADB, the theme coordinator.

For more information on the session, please contact Ms. Etsuko Tsunozaki (tsunozaki@adrc.or.jp) or Mr. John Harding (harding@un.org).

➤ **ISDR-IATF Working Group 3 on Risk, Vulnerability and Impact Assessment**

On March 10 - 11, 2003, the ISDR-IATF Working Group 3 on Risk, Vulnerability, and Impact Assessment was held in Geneva. The Working Group made recommendations in its substantive areas of focus: 1) Improvements in the Quality, Coverage, and Accuracy of Disaster Database, 2) promotion of the GLIDE globally, 3) indexes relevant for risk and vulnerability indexing, and 4) tools and best practices for risk and vulnerability analysis at the local and urban levels.

ADRC explained the following aspects of GLIDE (GLobal unique

disaster IDentifier number), which was proposed by ADRC and promoted with OCHA and CRED: 1) the GLIDE concept and promotion activities, 2) rapid automatic linking by GLIDE search (test version), and 3) a proposal for an automatic GLIDE Generator and GLIDE Report for quick information sharing.

WG3 endorsed promoting GLIDE as a tool for easier access to data on a given disaster from various sources, and recommended the following: 1) refinements to the GLIDE format, 2) further clarification of partnerships and stakeholder relationships, 3) further development of GLIDENUMBER.net as the central point for information about GLIDE, and 4) piloting the retrofitting of national-level data sets to include GLIDE (e.g. Panama).

The details of WG can be found at the following website: <http://www.unisdr.org/unisdr/WG3objectives.htm>

➤ **Relocation of ADRC**

On April 16, the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) is scheduled to move to “Hitomiraikan,” which is the Phase II facility of the “Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution.”

Moving on April 16!!



Besides ADRC, disaster reduction related organizations such as the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), the Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD Hyogo Office), the Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Center (EDM), and others will also move to “Hitomiraikan.” The collaboration of these organizations is expected to function as an international hub for disaster management.

The new address, phone number and facsimile number are as follows.

<p style="text-align: center;">[New Contacts] Asian Disaster Reduction Center Hitomiraikan 5F. 1-5-2 Wakinohamakaigan-dori Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073, Japan Tel: +81 78 262 5540 / Fax: +81 78 262 5546 (E-mail address and URL remain the same)</p>
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➤ **Announcement**

Mr. Masanori Araki left ADRC on March 31, 2003. He ended his four-year assignment as a seconded staff from Hyogo Prefectural Government and was transferred to the Disaster Management Division, Disaster Management Bureau of Hyogo Prefectural Government on April 1.

If you have comments or requests for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC at the address on the right.

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