



ADRC Highlights Vol.126

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

16 October 2005

➤ ADRC participated in the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction in Beijing, China

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) was convened in Beijing, China on 27-29 September 2005 upon the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China. A total of 385 participants attended the conference, including delegations from 42 Asia and South Pacific countries, of which 33 were represented at the ministerial level, as well as 13 UN agencies and international organizations. Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) dispatched four staff.

The meeting was organized to facilitate the implementation of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) outcome, that is the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA).



On the first day, Executive Director Mr. Masayuki Kitamoto made a presentation on Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) at high-level round table 1 on the theme of "Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into policies, planning and implementation". Senior Expert Mr. Murata, in charge of International Recovery Platform (IRP), made another presentation at thematic session "Reduction and Mitigation of Flood and Drought Disasters" and shared his thoughts from the perspectives of post-disaster recovery.

On the final day, "Beijing Action for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia" was adopted and the conference drew a success close. The Action sets five priority areas in disaster risk reduction, which are (1) Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation, (2) Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning, (3) Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels, and (4) Reduce underlying risk factors, as well as (5) Strengthen disaster preparedness for effectiveness response at all levels. For more information, please contact ADRC researcher Kochi (kochi@adrc.or.jp).

➤ Recent Natural Disasters in Asia: □ Earthquake in northern Pakistan

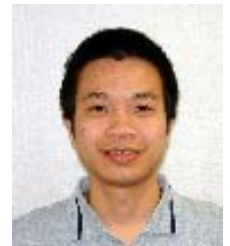
On 8 October 2005 at 08:50 (local time), a strong

earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale (according to US Geological Survey) struck the northern part of Pakistan and India. The epicenter was situated at 95 km NNE of Islamabad. By 10 October, a total of twenty one after shock tremors of over M5 were recorded. According to the OCHA Situation Report No.7 dated 12 October 2005, more than 22,288 people are feared dead and 50,575 were injured in Pakistan. For more info, please visit <http://www.adrc.or.jp>. (GLIDE: EQ-2005-000174-PAK)

➤ Situation Report; Typhoon in Viet Nam □ Contributed Article by ADRC former VR Mr. Nguyen Thanh Phuong

Typhoon "Damrey" hit Vietnam late September 2005. The typhoon brought huge damage to Vietnam, not only in the coastal region but also mountain provinces.

According to the Central Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Control, more than 200,000 people were evacuated, and nearly 10,000 houses have been damaged, and 2,240 ha of shrimp farms have been flooded. The death toll rose to at least 50 as flash floods and landslides caused by the storm hit the Vietnam's northern mountainous areas. Most of the deaths are in the province of Yen Bai, 180 km northwest of Hanoi. Families whose houses had collapsed or had been damaged will be given 2 million VND (roughly 125 USD) and 500,000 VND, respectively, while families of the dead victims will be given 1 million VND by the provincial government.



This above report was contributed by Mr. Nguyen Thanh Phuong, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam (MARD), as one of the activities proposed under ADRC Visiting Researcher Network (AVRN).

For details about the situation report, please visit ADRC's website at http://www.adrc.or.jp/counterpart_report/vietnam_20050929/Damage_storm_7_damrey.pdf (GLIDE: TC-2005-000164-VNM).

➤ Announcement

As of 1 October 2005, Senior Researcher, Mr. Takuzo Ishii, has been transferred to Osaka Gas Engineering Co., Ltd. Instead, Mr. Hajime Nakano, Mr. Akira Yamamoto and Mr. Takaaki Shiratori have also been transferred from respectively Osaka Gas Corporation, Obayashi Corporation and Takenaka Corporation and assumed their duties as Senior Researchers at ADRC.

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

Published by : [Asian Disaster Reduction Center \(ADRC\)](http://www.adrc.or.jp/)
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