



ADRC Highlights

Vol.151

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

16 November 2006

➤ **JICA's Training for Top Officials of Turkish Municipalities**



Following the trainer training for Turkish engineers (see ADRC Highlights Vol. 148), the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), with financial support from the Japan

International Cooperation Agency (JICA), conducted a Turkish Disaster Mitigation Training Course for top local officials from Turkey from 29 August to 5 September 2006. This course was part of the Disaster Mitigation Training Project that was launched by the JICA Turkey Office in FY 2005.

Attended by 18 top local officials who had participated in the disaster management training conducted in Turkey in March and May 2006, as well as two officials from Turkey's Ministry of Interior, this training aimed to give participants an opportunity to learn from Japan's disaster management system and related efforts, and to obtain necessary information for their own municipalities.

The training event featured presentations by experts in various fields including national/local disaster management systems, response to and recovery from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, urban planning, and efforts to raise public awareness of disaster prevention. Participants also visited various disaster related organizations and facilities in Japan.

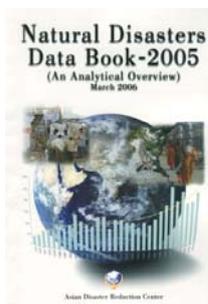
Specifically, they visited Hyogo Prefecture and the cities of Kobe and Ashiya, and learned about disaster management systems and recovery from the officials in charge of disaster management at the municipal level. They also experienced "Town Watching," a method of raising public awareness of disaster reduction by creating community hazard maps. All the trainees were keen to learn from Japan's experiences and to utilize what they learned during this training in their own municipalities.



The ADRC wishes to extend its sincere

appreciation to all of those who contributed to the success of this training course. For further information on this course, please contact Ms. Maki Yoshida (yoshida@adrc.or.jp).

➤ **ADRC's New Publication: Natural Disasters Data Book 2005**



The ADRC has compiled a publication entitled *Natural Disaster Data Book 2005* which analyzes the natural disaster trends in the year 2005. Its purpose is to accelerate and strengthen global and regional socio-economic frameworks for addressing the consequences of natural disasters and designing

effective disaster reduction mechanisms.

Severe natural disasters occurred in several locations around the world in 2005. There was the massive earthquake in India and Pakistan, Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma in the US, a drought in Africa, and flooding and extreme temperatures in Europe, all of which caused significant human suffering and property damage.

This data book will soon be available on the ADRC's website in English and Japanese. Past issues are also available online (http://www.adrc.or.jp/adrc_events_aca.php).

For more information about this data book, please contact the ADRC's Senior Researcher Mr. Hajime Nakano (nakano@adrc.or.jp).

➤ **Recent Natural Disasters in Asia**
□ **Record Tornado in Hokkaido, Japan**

A record tornado hit Sakuma-cho in Hokkaido, Japan from 1:20-1:30 p.m. on 7 November 2006 causing significant human casualties and serious damage to buildings, cars, and power polls. According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, the intensity of the tornado was greater than F2 (Fujita-Pearson Scale).

Report No. 9 of the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, dated 14 November 2006, indicates that nine people were killed, 26 people injured, 10 houses completely destroyed, and 27 houses half or partially destroyed in this disaster. For more information, visit the ADRC website (<http://www.adrc.or.jp>).

If you have comments or questions regarding this newsletter, please contact the ADRC.

Published by : **Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)**

Hitomiraikan 5F, 1-5-2, Wakinohamakaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe
651-0073, JAPAN E-mail: editor@adrc.or.jp Phone: +81-78-262-5540