



ADRC Highlights

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Monthly News

Vol. 174
December
2007

TOPICS

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School Disaster Education for Tsunami-Affected Children in Indonesia

Recent Natural Disasters in Asia

Cyclone in Bangladesh

Asian Disaster Reduction Center

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● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions School Disaster Education for Tsunami-Affected Children in Indonesia

Select Japanese universities and institutions have been conducting research under a three-year program (2005 to 2007) sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, aimed at enabling earthquake, tsunami, and disaster management experts to collaborate and make proposals regarding measures to reduce the damage caused by major earthquakes and tsunamis (like that which struck Sumatra).

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) has been conducting research in serious tsunami-afflicted Banda Aceh, Nanggroe Aceh Darusalaam Province, Indonesia on “Consideration and Promotion of Appropriate Awareness Raising Initiatives on Disaster Reduction through Self-Help, Mutual Help and Public Help in line with the Condition of Each Asian Country.” A questionnaire survey conducted among residents and children in fiscal 2005 showed school disaster education to be the most effective means of transmitting experiences and lessons learned from disasters and of raising residents’ disaster awareness. Based on this finding, the ADRC developed disaster education programs for five school levels ranging from kindergarten to senior high school in Banda Aceh for FY 2006 and 2007. These efforts have been cooperated with Syiah Kuala University, Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland e.V. (ASB), participating pilot schools, and the Provincial Ministry of Education. After a School Disaster Education Teacher’s Manual was compiled, a meeting was held on 20 October 2007 to review its contents. This meeting was attended by ADRC senior researcher Mr. Shuhei Tanaka and researcher Mr. Makoto Ikeda, who summarized the related efforts. The following is a report on the ADRC's activities since fiscal 2006.

1. Workshop on Methods of Implementing Disaster Education

A two-day workshop was held for instructors who will teach the pilot lessons on disaster reduction. It was intended to impart basic information on natural disasters, to instruct the teachers on ways of teaching students about disaster reduction, and to ultimately result in the creation of pilot lesson guidelines. The workshop addressed natural disasters in Indonesia and disaster reduction systems in Indonesia, but also taught participants about disaster reduction education in Japan using the example of disaster education in Hyogo Prefecture, which is paying



Lecture on disaster reduction education in Hyogo

(Continued)

particular attention to incorporating education about the emotional trauma triggered by disasters.

This was the first time for disaster education training to be conducted in Banda Aceh. The participating teachers were very passionate about creating pilot lesson guidelines. One important issue they identified was the need to bolster knowledge about evacuating when a disaster strikes.

- Date: 26-27 January 2007

- Participants: Teachers: 10 (2 each from each of five education levels: kindergarten, lower and higher elementary school, junior high school, and senior high school) / Lecturers: 6 (from the ADRC, Syiah Kuala University, ASB) / Observers: 20 (researchers, teachers, representatives of the Indonesian Red Cross and other NGOs, university students)

2. Pilot Lessons Conducted

Based on the pilot lesson guidelines created at the workshop, the teachers, with the help of university student volunteers, implemented pilot lessons and conducted evacuation drills at each education level. A total of 200 participating students actively participated in the lessons to learn about disaster reduction. The teaching skills of the teachers need to be further improved and Disaster Education Teacher's Manuals for each specific level of education need to be developed.



Pilot lesson (lower elementary school)



Pilot lesson (senior high school)

Date: 27

Feb-

ruary to 3 March 2007

- Participants: 200 students in kindergarten, lower and higher elementary school, junior high school, and senior high school

3. Seminar on Disaster Reduction Education Knowledge and Methods

Based on the results of the pilot lessons, a seminar was held for teachers and other education personnel on disaster reduction education knowledge and methods. Here participants discussed efforts to further improve disaster reduction education skills in the classroom and the contents of the School Disaster Education Teacher's Manual being developed.

- Date: 28 July 2007

- Participants: Teachers: 50 (including 10 pilot teachers) / Lecturers and observers: 19 (from the ADRC, Syiah Kuala University, ASB, and Ministry of Education, and university students)



Seminar on disaster reduction education knowledge and methods

(Continued)**4. Meeting of the School Disaster Education Teacher's Manual Investigative Committee**

The relevant parties gathered to discuss the contents of the then-current version of the School Disaster Education Teacher's Manual. The pilot teachers indicated the need for greater explanation of specific evacuation methods. The ADRC proposed the addition of a specific time table, based on the specific coursework of each education level, to enable as many teachers as possible to incorporate disaster reduction lessons into the curriculum.

Finally, senior researcher Mr. Shuhei Tanaka summarized the efforts made thus far in his closing remarks:

"Ensuring that each and every individual understands the importance of disaster preparation and creating local communities where people support one another -- these are the bedrock upon which safety and security are built. The mission of disaster reduction education is to instill the concepts of "self-help" and "mutual help," and to cultivate self-motivated people who will take responsibility for creating 'a disaster-resilient society.' We hope that the children of Aceh who learned disaster reduction techniques through the use of the School Disaster Education Teacher's Manual will contribute to disaster reduction efforts in Asia in the future."

The manual was revised based on the results of this conference, and at the end of FY 2007 we plan to distribute a School Disaster Education Manual that has been designed to meet the specific needs of Banda Aceh, to the schools there.

- Date: 20 October 2007

- Participants: Pilot teachers: 10 / Lecturers and observers: 7 (from the ADRC and Syiah Kuala University)

[Information]

An International Symposium to share the findings of the study on "The Restoration Program from Giant Earthquakes and Tsunamis" will be held in Phuket, Thailand on 22 January 2008. For details, visit <http://www.eri.u-tokyo.ac.jp/sumatra/index-e.html>.



Meeting of the School Disaster Education Teacher's Manual Investigative Committee

● Recent Natural Disasters in Asia

Cyclone in Bangladesh

On 15 November 2007, Cyclone Sidr (Category 4) which landed on Bangladesh widely caused serious damages in the southern and central districts (GLIDE: TC-2007-000208-BGD). According to the OCHA's situation report No.10 released on 26 November, the death toll stands at 3,243, with 880 missing and 34,708 injured. More than 7 million people were affected. 365,772 houses were damaged and another 875,710 houses were partially damaged. Also extensive damage to roads and public buildings is evident including educational institutions.

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