



# ADRC Highlights

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### Participation in International Conferences

¶ ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting

¶ ADRC/IRP Promotes and Implements Multilateral Cooperation on Disaster Reduction and Recovery through participation in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)-led International Conference in Tanzania

## ● Participation in International Conferences

### ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting

On 3-5 June, the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) participated in the IAP meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting was attended by about 90 people from 17 Asian countries and 33 international institutions. The main focus of this IAP was to discuss the way forward from the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR) in the Asian region.

The meeting began with an explanation of the background by the UNISDR Secretariat. The 1st Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) after SFDRR will be hosted by the government of India in November 2016, and its intended outcome will be the development of an Asian Regional Implementation Plan for the SFDRR framework. The government of India, as host of the next AMCDRR, explained that the next AMCDRR is slated to be held in New Delhi next year on 15-17 November, and indicated that three preparatory meetings are scheduled to be held between now and then.

At this meeting, given the importance placed on involving a wide range of stakeholders, a session was held specifically on public-private partnerships. It featured introductions to the activities of various participating organizations including the ADPC and the Japan Bosai Platform. The ADRC executive director, who also co-chairs the APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group, outlined ADRC's various activities, including research on the dissemination of BCP among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in APEC member economies, and the development of BCP editing guidelines for SMEs.



### ADRC/IRP Promotes and Implements Multilateral Cooperation on Disaster Reduction and Recovery through participation in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)-led International Conference in Tanzania

An International Conference entitled "IORA Sustainable Development Programme Workshop: Exploring Preemptive Disaster Risk Management Measures to Ensure Community Resilience", organized and hosted by the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and co-hosted by the Prime Minister's Office of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, was held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 20-21 April 2015.

Upon invitation and request, the ADRC sent one Japanese representative from International Recovery Platform (IRP) to the conference, which attracted over 50 participants including government officials from the Indian Ocean Rim countries. As Japan is one of the IORA's Dialogue Partners, delegations from the Embassy of Japan in Tanzania, JICA Office in Tanzania, and IRP based in Hyogo, Japan were also invited.

Considered as the first international gathering of over 20 countries associated with IORA since the Sendai conference in March 2015, the IORA

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Conference provided participants with vital opportunity to exchanging their views on “How Can We Explore Preemptive Disaster Risk Management Measures to ensuring Community Resilience?”

During the opening session titled “Disaster Risk Management and Community Resilience: Sharing Japan’s Experience”, Mr. Shingo Kochi, ADRC Senior Expert as well as IRP Senior Recovery Expert, valued the high ability of

Governments in the Indian Ocean Rim Association to promote recovery and reconstruction efforts since the 2004 Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami disasters. Mr. Kochi also noted that ADRC and IRP have long been promoting and implementing multilateral cooperation on disaster reduction and recovery by sharing Japan’s technologies, experiences, and lessons as well as knowledge management. Among those are “IRP Guidance Notes for Recovery”, and “ADRC’s Visiting Researcher (VR) Program”.

“Although the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami waves reached Tanzania and other east coast of African countries 18 hours after the occurrence of the earthquake, still, some 100 casualties were accounted in Somalia. This triggered the following questions: What can we learn? How can we build back better? How can we incorporate disaster management into sustainable development?” To shed light, Mr. Kochi emphasized the importance of everyday preparedness by citizens and private sector, in addition to the government efforts when a massive disaster strikes. In this connection, the upcoming big event in late May 2015: “IRP Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning” to be held in Dhaka, People's Republic of Bangladesh, one of IORA member countries, will showcase another evidence of Bangladesh’s continuous efforts on disaster reduction, disaster preparedness, and recovery. This event illustrates how ADRC/IRP will seek possibilities of providing further technical assistance for the IORA member countries' preparation efforts towards future disasters.

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