



ADRC Highlights

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● Announcement

Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR2020): Can we Adapt to a New Normal? -Approaches from Asia-

As noted in the last issue of ADRC Highlights, this year's Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR2020) will provide a platform for member countries to share updates on what they are experiencing and to discuss the future actions to be taken by focusing on two themes: (1) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Measures and Challenges to the Intensifying Disasters Risks, and (2) Disaster Preparedness and Response Measures Amidst COVID-19. It will be held virtually due to the worldwide spread of COVID-19 and consists of the following three components.

- (1) ACDR2020 website launch, report collection and publication (September-October)
- (2) Online conference (20-22 October) (Simultaneous interpretation: English, Russian and Japanese)
- (3) Final Report

The ACDR2020 website (<https://acdr.adrc.asia/>) was launched on 15 September and registration is now open to the public. Please register to access the website, as well as to attend the online conference on 20-22 October.



ACDR2020 website (<https://acdr.adrc.asia/>)

Conference Agenda (tentative)

20 October "Opening Session/Keynote Speeches"

- Mr. Sanny Ramos JEGILLOS, Senior Advisor, Disaster Risk Reduction Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP
- Prof. ISOBE Masahiko, President, Kochi University of Technology
- Prof. Arnold M. HOWITT, Faculty Co-Director, Program on Crisis Leadership, Harvard Kennedy School
- Prof. Ian Robert DAVIS, Visiting Professor, Kyoto, Lund, Oxford Brookes Universities and Honorary Visiting Professor, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) in Europe

21 October "Session 1: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Measures and Challenges

Continued**to the Intensifying Disaster Risks”**

Moderator: Dr. Manzul Kumar HAZARIKA, Asian Institute of Technology

- Member Country (TBD): Japan, Maldives, Myanmar, Vietnam
- Prof. Cees VAN WESTEN, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) University of Twente
- Dr. Mizan Bustanul Fuady BISRI, JSPS-UNU Post-doctoral Researcher, United Nations University
- Mr. Keith Paolo C. LANDICHO, Disaster Monitoring & Analysis Officer, The AHA Centre

22 October “Session 2: Disaster Preparedness and Response Measures Amidst COVID-19”

Moderator: Prof. ISHIWATARI Mikio, The University of Tokyo/ Senior Advisor, JICA

Keynote speaker: Tan Sri Jemilah binti MAHMOOD, Special Advisor on Public Health to the Honorable Prime Minister of Malaysia

- Member Country: Armenia, India, Nepal, Philippines, Rep. of Korea
- Mr. Daniel GILMAN, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, OCHA-ROAP
- Prof. SHIBASAKI Ryosuke, Center for Spatial Information Science, The University of Tokyo
- Dr. Khamarrul Azahari RAZAK, Director, Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Center, University of Technology Malaysia (as a discussant)

The website will be updated with information from member countries as it becomes available. We are looking forward to meeting you online!

● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions**Promotion of Disaster Education with Multilateral International Students (MIS)**

There are many kinds of programs for DRR in Asian countries. Disaster education is a good way to ensure that people are studying basic DRR information and countermeasures against future disasters. Many organizations have been conducting disaster education projects in Banda Aceh, Indonesia which was so tragically impacted by the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami.

Today we would like to introduce Multilateral International Students (MIS), an NPO which was established by students of Tokyo University in 2011. MIS currently has more than 140 students and conducts many programs in Asian countries addressing poverty, the environment, support for agriculture, and DRR.

MIS consists of several teams that focus on different themes. One of these teams, Japan Indonesia Students Interaction (JISI), started a disaster education program in Banda Aceh in 2014. JISI collaborates with a local university to conduct training workshops and evacuation drills for students and teachers. However, these programs have been paused this year due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Now, JISI is collecting information on good practices in Japan. ADRC and JISI had an online meeting for sharing experiences and knowledge to improve disaster education on 2 September 2020. In this meeting, we confirmed our mutual interest in conducting a localized program based on the opinions of residents and coordinating evacuation drills for students, teachers, and the community. ADRC would like to collaborate with JISI on implementing an appropriate disaster education program in Indonesia.



Online meeting with JISI

Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund Project: Promotion of Disaster Education in Schools in Brunei

ADRC and the Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam held online seminars on the "Promotion of Disaster Education in Schools" project on 27 August and 10 September. As a Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund Project, this project aims to promote disaster education in ASEAN countries by training school teachers. The project was to be implemented in Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital city of Brunei Darussalam, but ADRC and the Ministry of Education, Brunei decided to hold the seminar online due to the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19.

The two-day seminar was attended by more than 60 junior high school teachers from all six school districts as well as officials from the Ministry of Education. Mr. NAKAGAWA Masaaki, Executive Director of ADRC, kicked off the seminar by summarizing its goals: to introduce participants to disaster education in Japan and provide useful teaching skills for effective disaster education in Brunei, all for the purpose of building disaster resilient communities.

Mr. SUWA, Specially Appointed Professor of Graduate School of Disaster Resilience and Governance at the University of Hyogo then proceeded to give a lecture on Disaster Management and Disaster Education. In his lecture, he discussed the curriculum for disaster education at junior high schools in Japan. For example, when studying science, students study the weather, rainfall, geological changes, and the mechanisms by which earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur. In social studies, they learn about lifelines and disasters, disaster-related organizations, and past disasters in the community. After the lecture, participants attended an online group workshop on evacuations. Feedback from the teachers indicated strong interest in Japanese disaster education and a desire to learn more in the future.

Even under the challenging conditions posed by COVID-19, ADRC will continue conducting DRR programs using online tools and other methods.



Mr. SUWA, Specially Appointed Professor of Graduate School of Disaster Resilience and Governance, University of Hyogo

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