



# ADRC Highlights

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### Asian Disaster Reduction Center

Higashikan 5F, 1-5-2  
Wakinohamakaigan-dori,  
Chuo-ku, Kobe  
651-0073 Japan

Tel: 078-262-5540  
Fax: 078-262-5546  
editor@adrc.asia  
https://www.adrc.asia

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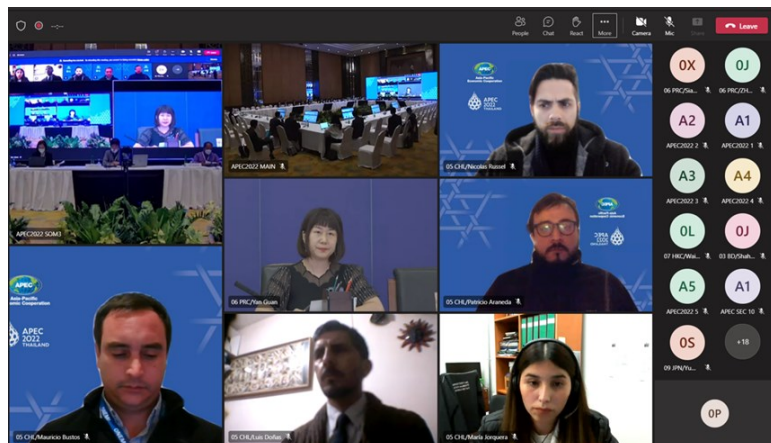
## ● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

### EPWG-18 Meeting, 18 August 2022

Japan’s delegation to the 18th APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) meeting held on 18 August 2022 included four officials from the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC). Mr SUZUKI Koji, who is serving as current co-chair of the EPWG participated in person in Chiangmai, Thailand while Mr SASAHARA Akio, Ms SHIOMI Yumi, and Mr Gerald Potutan participated online. The government of Thailand hosted the meeting with the theme of “Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction and Strengthening Partnership Toward Resilient Recovery After COVID-19.”

ADRC gave two presentations at the meeting. The first presentation showed the application of the GLIDE numbering system and the utilization of satellite images in documenting recent disasters (2021-2022) in Asia and the Pacific region. In applying the GLIDE numbering system, ADRC assigns common but unique numbers to disasters to support the integration of disaster risk reduction (DRR) data as well as to improve the efficiency of retrieving historical and ongoing disaster information from various databases across different countries and organizations. Moreover, ADRC also provides to member countries “before-and-after” satellite images of disaster-impacted areas through Sentinel Asia - an initiative led by the Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSF) to support disaster management with WEB-GIS technology and earth observation satellite data. The second presentation showed the potential contribution of Japan’s early warning service (EWS) using the Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS) to support evacuation and response activities. QZSS, which is a constellation of Japanese Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), has the capacity to send warning information using space satellites. QZSS is expected to offer greater applications in remote and mountainous areas with poor coverage of ground-based telecommunications networks. It would also help protect the early warning message from vulnerable telecommunications systems against service disruptions during extreme disaster events. For this project, the Cabinet of Japan is initially inviting the following countries to participate in feasibility studies and demonstrations: Chinese Taipei (Taiwan), Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Bangladesh, Nepal, Australia, and Fiji.

As indicated in both presentations, ADRC has been implementing DRR projects in the Asia-Pacific region and would like to further leverage greater partnerships in the EPWG to strengthen regional efforts.



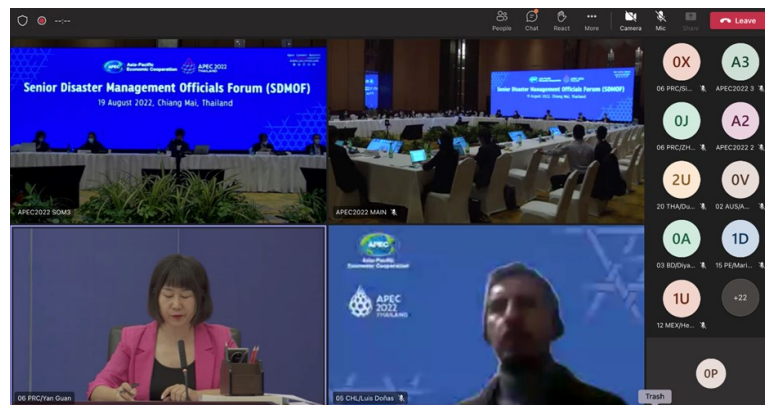
EPWG Meeting

## 15th Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum, 19 August 2022

One of the key discussions at the 15th Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF-15) held on 19 August 2022 in Chiangmai, Thailand focused on whether the APEC EPWG should update the 2015 APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework and the 2016 DRR Action Plan in the context of post-COVID-19 recovery.

It was noted that in 2015, APEC leaders adopted the APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework to contribute to the development of adaptive and disaster-resilient Asia-Pacific economies that are able to achieve inclusive and sustainable development in the face of disasters in a “new normal” context. The Framework, and its corresponding DRR Action Plan, recognizes that addressing the impacts of disasters requires holistic, more proactive, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral, and strategic interventions to make our economies more resilient. Hence, the Framework cuts across all areas of the APEC agenda, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, trade and investments, energy, micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), infrastructure development, critical infrastructure resiliency, financial resiliency, human capital, health, gender, food security, science and technology, and ecological integrity. After seven years of implementation, the economies of Chinese Taipei, the Philippines, and Chile expressed the need to review and update the documents.

Given this discussion, ADRC expressed support for updating the 2015 APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework and its corresponding DRR Action Plan to make these documents more responsive to post-pandemic recovery efforts in the region as well as to align them with the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and its corresponding Aotearoa Plan of Action (APA).



SDMOF-15

### ● Report from ADRC Intern

#### Mr Keir Hamilton (Lund University)

Hello!

I am a MSc. student in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation at Lund University, Sweden. This summer I undertook an internship with ADRC to combine my professional and academic development. During my internship I worked on creating the latest edition of the ADRC Databook (2021), which was an analytical overview of disaster data from 1990-2021. Focal points were global trends, Asian trends, ADRC-member country situations and the monitoring of COVID-19. Utilising total affected, total deaths, and total USD damages (000's), I graphically represented the disaster landscape, and using a qualitative analysis assessed the implications.



#### Key findings

We found that hazards have increased in frequency and severity. Improved methods of forecasting, recognition, and assessment alongside a changing hazard landscape contributed to a significant upward trend of disaster occurrence from 1900-2021, and an accelerated upward trend from 1990-2021. Asia is the worst affected continent, with China being the worst affected in terms of affected, occurrence and damages. The most common disaster events were floods and storms, with both becoming more common as climatic

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changes take place. Lastly, as part of the qualitative analysis we looked into a key determinants section which explored the statistical impact of population, level of development, socio-political conditions and timestamp bias on disaster data.

**Reflection**

Working with the ADRC team was a memorable experience, and it allowed me to expand my knowledge and improved my understanding of the disaster landscape. Using this foundation, I aim to continually improve disaster reduction methodologies and allow for effective change for a more resilient long term future.

Thank you.

Keir Hamilton

**● Announcement****Workshop on BOSAI KOKUTAI 2022 (National Conference for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction)**

As a side event of the “BOSAI KOKUTAI 2022” to be held at HAT Kobe on 22-23 October 2022, the ADRC will hold a workshop "Differences of DRM in Japan as seen by Foreign Residents in Japan - DRM Cooperation Starting from Understanding the Differences -".

Your registration is highly welcome.

- Date: October 22, 2022 (Saturday), 15:30-16:30
- Event Format: Hybrid  
(Venue) Seminar Room 33 and 34, JICA Kansai  
(Online) Via Zoom
- Registration: Please register in advance  
(Face-to-Face) <https://bit.ly/BK2022ADRC2>  
(Online) <https://bit.ly/BK2022ADRC>
- Contact: [bosai\\_kokutai2022@adrc.asia](mailto:bosai_kokutai2022@adrc.asia)

**The 3rd APEC Virtual Workshop on Catastrophe Bonds**

The 3rd APEC Virtual Workshop on Catastrophe Bonds will be held on 4 October 2022 at 09:00-11:30 (UTC+7).

This workshop aims to provide a forum for learning from recent developments in the catastrophe bonds markets about innovative approaches, such as the government debt to “catastrophe wrapper,” and for gaining new insights from the initiation of plans to implement catastrophe bonds.

For details and registration info, please contact Ms Marian Albano ([marian.albano@wtwco.com](mailto:marian.albano@wtwco.com)).

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