



ADRC Highlights

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Monthly News

Vol. 385
April
2025

TOPICS

ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

¶ Mr Hussain Naseem
(Maldives)

¶ Ms Betül Kurada
(Republic of Türkiye)

Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

Webinar on Climate
Change Projection with
Malaysia

Recent Disasters in Asia

Myanmar Earthquake

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>

© ADRC 2025

● ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

Mr Hussain Naseem (Maldives)

My name is Hussain Naseem, and I am working in National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) as a Senior Administrative Officer in the Executive Bureau. I began my educational journey at R. Alfushi School. After graduating high school, I entered Maldives National University, to attain a Bachelor of Tourism Management specialising in Marketing, and graduated in 2020. Subsequently, in 2023, I was able to complete my Master of Business Administration from Villa College which is one of the greatest academic achievements.

As the Maldives is a low-lying country with scattered islands, I believe it is vital to understand the basic principles of disaster management, preparedness, and risk reduction. Frequent hydrometeorological hazards and climate related hazards have inspired me to learn more about these issues, understanding what are the key principles and actions that can mitigate the risks.

After joining the NDMA on 15 May 2024, one of the key issues and focus areas was community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM), whereby, NDMA together with Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) visit different islands across the Maldives to conduct sessions for the community about the risk profiles of the Maldives, understanding hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities of the specific island and preparing community emergency response teams in order to prepare and act if disasters occur.

My involvement in the Enhancing Resilience Planning and Strengthening Community Preparedness (ERCP) project together with the CBRDM Project has shaped my passion to learn more about community practices, disaster preparedness and risk reduction strategies that countries like Japan have adopted. In the context of the Maldives, limited research has taken places to understand the importance of CBDRM. Hence, the Visiting Researcher (VR) program will help me to understand worthwhile and successful methods and approaches that Japan has adopted in severe disasters. I am grateful for the opportunity provided by the Asian Disaster Risk Reduction (ADRC) for the Visiting Researcher Program (VR) providing more knowledge about disaster preparedness and community practices in severe cases. The in-house lecturers, and experiences shared by many sensei will significantly contribute in my current role in the Maldives.



Ms Betül Kurada (Republic of Türkiye)

My name is Betül KURADA and I am from Türkiye. I have been working at the Türkiye Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) for 14 years. I am currently working as the Head of the International Project Management Office Working Group at AFAD. Before that, I worked as the Head of the human-made disaster working group for 13 years. Although I have worked in many stages of disaster management, my main area of expertise is human-made disasters, and I have conducted studies on legislation studies within the scope of EU harmonisation

Continued

studies related to industrial accidents, industrial accident risk analysis and impact area modelling, climate change, critical infrastructures and business continuity plans for industrial organisations and industrial zones.

My first project, which I started as an expert assistant in the human-made working group, was the Türkiye Technological (man-made) Disasters Road Map. I prepared the roles and responsibilities of AFAD in the field of industrial accidents by coordinating all relevant institutions and organisations within the framework of EU Directives. Then, we developed the AFAD-EKA software with the “Modelling of Fire, Explosion and Toxic Release for Seveso Facilities in Türkiye” Project, which can be used for preparation and response to industrial accidents. Since critical infrastructures are important in terms of disasters, my team and I developed sector-based projects. These are the “Supporting Critical Infrastructure Resilience and Disaster-Risk Awareness” and “The Effect of Climate Change on Critical Infrastructures Specifically for the Energy Sector in Pilot Region: İzmir – Aliğa” projects. In addition, we prepared and published the “Business Continuity Plans (BCP) Guide for Organized Industrial Zones” to emphasise the importance of the industrial sector’s resilience to disasters. As the chairman of the human-made disaster working group, I lastly coordinated the “Technical Assistance to Enhance the Capacity of AFAD in the Adaptation and Reduction of Disaster Risks resulting from the Climate Change in Türkiye” Project. This project, which I completed in 2024, is Türkiye’s first project in the field of adaptation to climate change and disaster management.

It is a great chance for me to be in Japan with the ADRC research program. I believe that I will do more useful work when I return to my country with my research entitled “Adaptation and Risk Reduction Studies to Disasters Caused by Climate Change: A Comparison between Japan and Türkiye” and the experiences I gained here.



The six VRs for FY2024, which we have been reporting on since Vol. 383, successfully completed their programme in Japan and returned home at the end of March 2025. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many experts and organisations involved for their assistance during the VRs’ stay in Japan.

ADRC is looking forward to further collaboration with them and their countries after their return home!

● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

Webinar on Climate Change Projection with Malaysia

In the 4th Webinar Series on Climate Change Projection for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia Pacific Region with Malaysia, on 27 February 2025, Dato’ Ir Mohd Zaki bin Mat Amin (Director General, National Water Research Institute Malaysia) reported that by 2100, climate change in Malaysia is projected with increase:

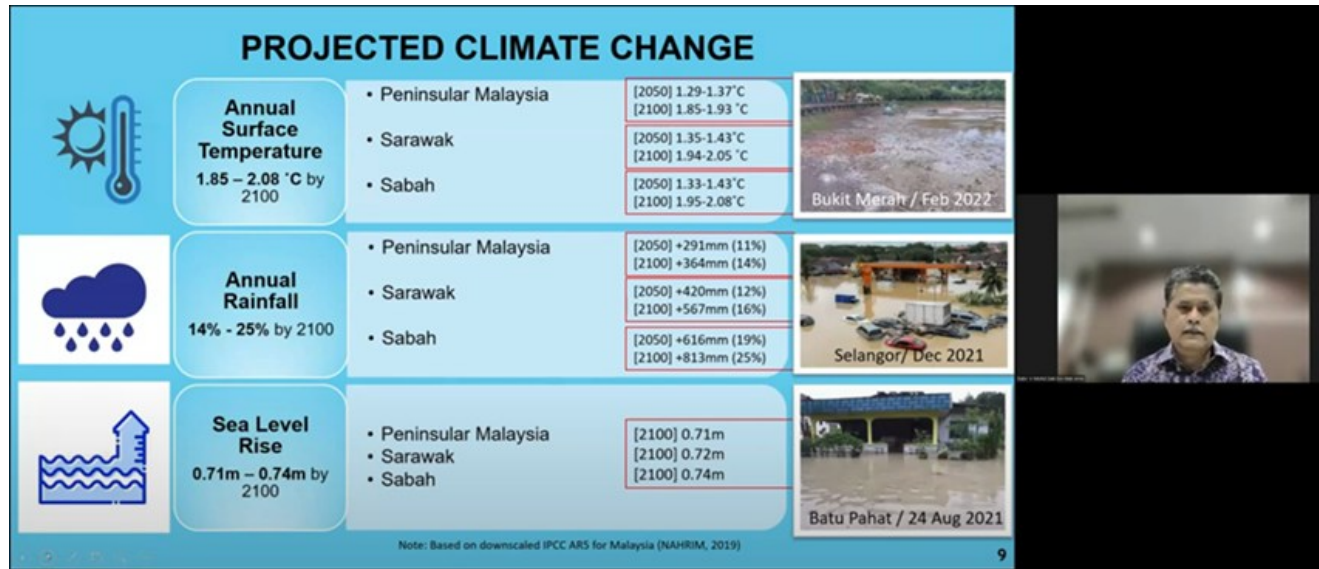
- (i) annual surface temperature between 1.85°C – 2.08°C ,
- (ii) annual rainfall between 14% – 25%, and
- (iii) sea level between 0.71m – 0.74m.

These figures imply that if Malaysia does nothing to mitigate climate change, its regions will experience more occurrences of drying rivers (e.g., Bukit Merah in February 2022), pluvial flooding (e.g., Selangor, December 2022), and fluvial flooding (e.g., Batu Pahat, August 2021).

In view of this projection, other speakers from Malaysia shared information on some ongoing initiatives. Mr Ambun Dindang (Deputy Director General, Malaysian Meteorological Department) said that his department considered climate change projection data in monitoring and forecasting severe weather due to monsoon surges. Ms Lavanya Rama Iyer (Director of Policy and Climate Change, WWF-Malaysia) said that the World-Wide Fund for Nature in Malaysia has integrated climate resilience and governance into their

Continued

programmes. Gs. Dr Norfashareena binti Muhamad (Head, Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research Initiative) said that their disaster databases integrated climate change data and made it available for local scale application. Furthermore, Dato' Ir Mohd Zaki bin Mat Amin said that the Government of Malaysia expects to release two relevant documents in 2025 – the Climate Change Act of Malaysia and the Malaysia National Adaptation Plan (MyNAP).



Dato' Zaki Amin presenting the projected climate change in Malaysian regions

Members of the Area Theme 4 of the Advanced Study of Climate Change Projection (SENTAN) also spoke in the webinar to explain the project, the technologies and tools, and the studies on climate change projections. The speakers included Prof. MORI Nobuhito of Kyoto University, Dr NAKAEGAWA Toshiyuki of Japan Meteorological Agency, Dr MURATA Akihiko of Japan Meteorological Agency, Mr MORI Noriyuki of International Center for Water Hazard and Risk Management, and Prof. TACHIKAWA Yasuto of Kyoto University. Dr IKEDA Makoto and Dr Gerald Potutan, both from ADRC, co-facilitated the event.

(Reference)

4th Webinar Series: <https://www.adrc.asia/sentanpro/202502/webinar04.html>

SENTAN Program: <https://www.jamstec.go.jp/sentan/eng/>

Recent Disasters in Asia

Myanmar Earthquake

ADRC has been collecting information on the magnitude 7.7 earthquake that occurred near Mandalay, Myanmar, on 28 March 2025. Relevant information is updated regularly and is available on the following website.

Myanmar Earthquake Summary Report:

https://www.adrc.asia/publications/disaster_report/index.php

For Inquiries & Subscription Information

For more information or details regarding email subscriptions to this newsletter, please email editor@adrc.asia.