



ADRC Highlights

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● Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2025

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2025 (ACDR2025) was held in Tokyo, Japan from 17 to 19 December 2025. Hosted by the Cabinet Office, the Government of Japan, the conference was titled 'Forging Resilience Together: Toward a Sustainable Society Prepared for Mega-Disasters.' The conference welcomed 131 participants on-site, including representatives from 19 member countries, international organisations, research institutions, and NGOs. Additionally, 82 participants joined online.

A summary of the conference, photographs, and videos capturing the proceedings will be posted on the ACDR2025 dedicated website (<https://acdr.adrc.asia/home/acdr2025>) as they become available. Detailed outcomes from each session will be reported in upcoming issues of ADRC Highlights.

On behalf of the organiser, we extend our sincere gratitude to all participants, including the member countries and other stakeholders.



ACDR2025 Participants

● Promoting Cooperation with Affiliated Institutions

Symposium Report: Addressing Compound Disasters in Asia

Prof. MIURA Fusanori, Chairman of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), and Mr ARAKIDA Masaru, Research Fellow of ADRC, participated in the symposium "Addressing Compound Disasters in Asia: Technological Trends and Challenges for Strengthening Resilience," held on 29 November 2025. The symposium was hosted by the Center for Asian Studies, Kanagawa University, and co-



Symposium "Addressing Compound Disasters in Asia"

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organised by ADRC and DOPOPPO. It aimed to reconsider disasters occurring frequently across Asia not as isolated natural events, but as compound and cascading disasters shaped by the interaction of multiple hazards and social factors.

The symposium opened with a keynote address by Dr NISHIKAWA Satoru (Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) International Cooperation Expert and Specially Appointed Professor, International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University), entitled "The Evolution of Japan's Disaster Management Administration and Global Trends in DRR." The lecture reviewed the transformation of Japan's disaster management system over the past century since the Great Kanto Earthquake (in 1923), while also highlighting global policy trends and shared challenges faced by countries worldwide.

In the lecture session featuring experts from various fields, Prof. Miura gave a presentation on "Trends in New Disaster Management Technologies." He introduced recent developments in commercial satellite utilisation and satellite constellations, emphasising their growing importance in strengthening resilience against wide-area and simultaneous disaster events.

In the latter half of the symposium, a panel discussion was held on the theme "Applying the Lessons of the Great Kanto Earthquake, 100 Years On, to Advancing DRR in Asia." During this session, Mr Arakida presented on "Challenges in Asia." Drawing on long-term disaster data, he noted that while there has been no significant change in the frequency of disasters themselves, the nature and scale of impacts have changed significantly due to urbanisation. He further pointed out that compound disasters, such as overlapping floods, earthquakes, and pandemics, have become increasingly common in Asia, underscoring the need for DRR policies and planning frameworks that explicitly assume such layered risks.

The symposium provided an important platform for linking academic insights with practical experience and for advancing dialogue on strengthening resilience to future compound disasters in Asia.



Mr Arakida of ADRC and other panellists

● Participation in International Conferences

Participation in SIDEX2025

From 19 to 21 November 2025, Singapore hosted its first large-scale international disaster and crisis management exhibition, "SIDEX2025 (Singapore–International Disaster & Emergency Management Expo)," at the Singapore EXPO Hall. The event was organised by the Co-operative of Singapore Civil Defence Force (COSEM) with support from the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF). ADRC participated as resource personnel for the conference that was held as part of the event program.



SIDEX2025

During the Opening Session of the conference, Senior Minister of State (SMS) Associate Professor Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim from the Ministry of Home Affairs delivered the opening remarks, followed by

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a presentation from SCDF Commissioner Eric YAP Wee Teck. He introduced the "Transformation Book," which outlines SCDF's past and future direction, as well as the newly developed Amphibious Firefighting and Rescue Vehicle (AFRV). These presentations underscored SCDF's strong commitment to this event.

On the second day, ADRC's Ms KODAMA Miki joined the panel discussion "Panel IV: Operational Challenges and Innovations in Community-Centric Emergency Readiness." She introduced ADRC's recent initiatives, including a smartphone-based information-sharing system designed to support community disaster risk reduction efforts. The discussion highlighted the importance of leveraging tools that citizens use in their daily lives for disaster preparedness. Other panellists also shared various initiatives to encourage active community participation in disaster management.

Overall, the exhibition featured many companies showcasing firefighting and emergency response equipment, while exhibitors from the disaster risk reduction sector were comparatively fewer. Among them, the SCDF booth stood out with its impressive display of new emergency response equipment and attracted significant attention. Most exhibitors were companies based in Singapore, but the Republic of Korea and China also had sizable and prominent exhibition areas. From Japan, there was one booth this year, jointly organised by the Cabinet Office (Disaster Management) together with Japanese disaster-related companies. A presentation area was also set up within the venue for exhibitors, and in the slot allocated to the Japan booth, the introduction of technology of the Spectee drew considerable interest.

SIDEX is scheduled to take place again next year, and improvements and refinements to the overall structure are expected based on this year's experience. The continued development of SIDEX will be closely watched as an important platform for strengthening international cooperation and information sharing in the field of disaster risk reduction.

Bonn Technical Forum 2025

On 3-5 December 2025, the 2025 Bonn Technical Forum (organized by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and World Meteorological Organization (WMO)) themed "Data as the Lever for Climate Action – Accelerating Disaster Tracking Systems," was held to strengthen disaster-related data ecosystems. Mr Julio Serje, developer of GLIDE and DesInventar systems, as well as ADRC consultant, participated.

Discussions centred on DELTA Resilience, a next-generation system for tracking hazardous events and associated losses and damages. Participants explored how to accelerate its country-level adoption and integration. Participants including technical experts, national authorities, UN agencies, and partners, underscored the importance of strengthening national disaster tracking systems and agreed to continue collaborating on DELTA Resilience rollout, capacity building, and integration of disaster data into policy and planning.



Bonn Technical Forum 2025,
organized by UNDRR, UNDP and WMO

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