

**Closing Speech
Mr. Many Gupta**

The Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS), India

Good Evening Ladies & Gentlemen!

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on behalf of the NGOs present in this conference. A total of 13 NGOs attended this conference.

For us, NGOs the conference was useful in two important ways:

First, it helped us further strengthen the Asian Disaster Response and Reduction Network. The network was born in February, 2002 in Kobe. Unfortunately, very little action took place in the following period. This time, we got an opportunity to once again deliberate on strengthening the original ideas. Specific aspects such as Mission, a Road Map, Deliverables and Identifying Focal Points were identified. This has helped put ADRRN back on track. It has all happened thanks to the continuous support of the ADRC & UN-OCHA. We promise, that in near future, you would hear much more action from the network.

Our Second learning was on TDRM, the various lectures and discussions helped us understand the concept and provided an opportunity to adapt the same in our ongoing activities at the grassroots.

The challenge now lies upon all of us to be able to successfully transmit our learnings in this conference, to the communities at risk.

We are grateful to all the speakers, the ADRC and UN-OCHA for making it possible for us to attend this very useful conference.

Thank you once again.