

# **Total Disaster Risk Management**

**Good Practices 2009**

## Foreword

On average, approximately 200 million people have been affected by natural disasters every year around the world in recent decades. Most notably, the Sichuan Earthquake in China and tropical cyclone Nargis—both occurring in May 2008—resulted in a large degree of victims and damage. In 2009, a plethora of natural disasters again hit countries across Asia, such as earthquakes in Indonesia and typhoons in the Philippines or elsewhere, reminding us of the ever-growing need for cooperation in disaster relief, recovery, and rehabilitation, as well as for pre-disaster measures, such as disaster mitigation or awareness-raising.

Countries around the world along with international organizations, such as the UN, have been doing their utmost to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA). Efforts to reduce disaster risks should be an integral part of the sustainable development process, such that international organizations, governments, private enterprises, NGOs, academics, and other entities concerned must work together to implement the five priorities for action adopted in the HFA.

Since its inception in 1998, the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) has been pursuing safety and security for those living in Asia through various means, including information sharing, human resource development, and community capacity-building. Further along this line, the ADRC has been collaborating with the UN and other international organizations/disaster management institutions in each country toward implementing the HFA.

This booklet, “Total Disaster Risk Management: Good Practices,” has been published annually since January 2005, when the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction was held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan. It is intended as a user-friendly publication and aims to further promote disaster risk reduction activities by demonstrating positive examples collected from different countries.

I hope that Good Practice 2009 will be widely used by policymakers, parishioners, and many others, thereby contributing to the realization of “Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.”

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**Atsushi KORESAWA**

Executive Director

Asian Disaster Reduction Center