

## 2-3. Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)

### 2-3-1. Background

Today, NGOs play an important role in disaster response and reduction in Asia, as well as governments and international organizations do. NGOs have specifically focused on providing humanitarian aid to disaster victims. In addition to the activities, they recently play a significant role in emergency response and rehabilitation, and even in disaster preparedness, such as education and awareness activities at normal times. These activities assume significance in view of their wider and closer engagement with grassroots communities. However, the challenge still remains: to enhance the capacity and to cooperate with other organizations for increasing the efficiency.

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) organized "the Regional Workshop on Networking and Collaboration among Non-Governmental Organizations of Asian Countries in Disaster Reduction and Response" on 20-22 February 2002 in Kobe, Japan. The workshop aimed at providing a forum for sharing views and experiences and for discussing the rationale, strategies and priority actions for fostering and facilitating networking and collaboration among NGOs at the regional and local levels, and gathered 35 participants from disaster-related NGOs in 16 Asian countries. The participants of the workshop, recognizing the important role played by NGOs, agreed on a number of steps aimed at promoting and strengthening networking and collaboration among them in Asia in disaster reduction and response, among others, the creation of a network to achieve the goal. The network was named "Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)" with the consensus of the participants at the workshop.

In this context, the participating NGOs are encouraged to develop and share a directory of all NGOs within their own country, which includes information on contact points, resources, capacity, and disaster reduction and response activities. It was also agreed that ADRC develop an electronic forum for the NGOs that will facilitate to provide information and to freely exchange ideas and experiences.

### 2-3-2. ADRRN Web Forum

In cooperation with OCHA Kobe (co-sponsor of the workshop), ADRC added a database page on the ADRC website to promote ADRRN activities in January 2003.

Based on the data provided by each NGO, the ADRRN database provides information on the organizations, disaster reduction activities and event plans of each NGO. The member NGOs are provided with an ID and password to access these pages, and can update their information on the website as necessary. In addition, the electronic bulletin board page in the database facilitates free discussions and Q&As on information not available from other ADRRN database pages.

With the completion of the framework of the ADRRN web forum database this year, the contents of the database will be upgraded to further strengthen proactive cooperation, information exchange and experience sharing among the NGOs in the near future.

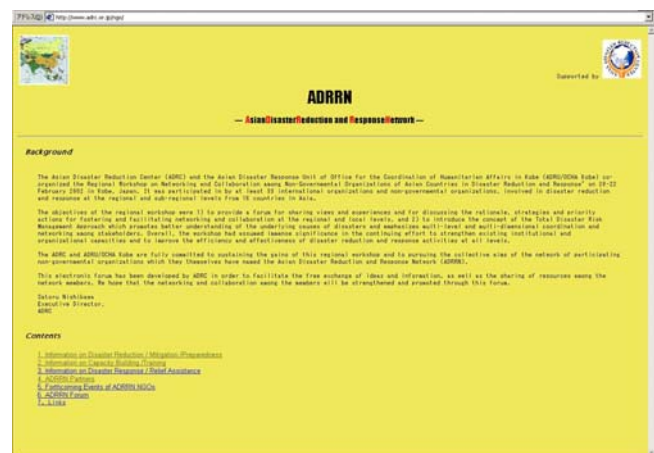


Fig. 2-3-2-1 ADRRN web forum, top page

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Fig. 2-3-2-2 The contents of ADRRN web forum

No.	Organization Name	Country	Vision
2	Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Center (BDPC)	Bangladesh	Reduction of loss of living and properties in case of disasters
3	KAPPALA Indonesia	Indonesia	To establish a community capable of managing resources, disasters, and the environment
4	MERCY Malaysia	Malaysia	By 2005, to be recognized as a leading regional provider of medical and humanitarian services
5	UNNATI ORGANISATION FOR DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	India	A society without injustice, poverty and human sufferings
6	SEEDS	India	Safe and Sustainable habitat for Disaster Threatened Communities
7	NAS-NAK AKHEVATH SAHAKUM	Cambodia	The most affected people having rights and opportunity to better life, health, ability for their children to go to school, safety villages with good environment.
8	Arbivat, Stuy	Cambodia	To improve the livelihood of poor people to standard living by supporting women and children in the rural areas
9	Join Together Society Korea	Korea, Republic of	The hungry should be fed, the diseased should be cured, the children should be educated.
10	FORUM OF DISASTER PREPARADNESS AND RESPONSE (FOPAR)	Indonesia	Blasing the people from discrimination and disasters
11	China Charity Federation	China	
12	Yosean Lestari Human Indonesia	Indonesia	To form sustainable Indonesian forest
13	Singapore International Foundation	Singapore	To represent "The Spirit of Singapore International". To integrate Singaporean's aspirations and achievements at home and abroad into global society and the global economy
14	Battin Development Organisation	Pakistan	To bring marginalized and isolated communities and women into the mainstream development and political arena, based on reviving confidence of people in their own strengths and aspiration.
15	Sarodaya Shramadana Movement	Sri Lanka	Dedicated to the creation of sustainability in village level where devolution of power and resources to satisfy basic human needs.
16	Nepal Decentral Society	Nepal	
17	Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement	Philippines	a society of equity and sustainability. The future is one where ignorance, poverty, disease and powerlessness shall have been eradicated and development takes place within the

Fig. 2-3-2-3 ADRRN web forum, partner list