

2-4-4. Multilanguage Disaster Reduction Glossary

A multi-language disaster reduction glossary (Japanese, English, Spanish, French and Chinese) was compiled through the activities of the United Nation's IDNDR launched in 1990. To make the glossary available for a wider range of individuals, ADRC has been providing a 4-language translation service (except Chinese) on its homepage. The glossary contains about 3,200 terms – mainly disaster related terms that are hard to find in ordinary dictionaries - and has been contributing to the information sharing such as numeric data, technical materials and study reports in the field of disaster reduction and management.

With the addition of the Korean language to the existing 5-language glossary, the Korean and Chinese glossary database was completed in 2002. Thus, a 6-language glossary is now available on the ADRC website. As for the Korean language, all the terms in the database were proofread by Dr. Dugkeun Park, a senior analyst of the National Institute for Disaster Prevention of Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs, the counterpart organization of Korea, an ADRC member country. Further to the addition of Korean and Chinese, some explanations were added to basic terms in English, Spanish and French using "Glossary- International agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster Management" compiled by UN-Department of Humanitarian Affairs in 1992. The translation results were conventionally displayed in 4 languages, but the user interface function was upgraded so that the user can choose the language both to enter the term and to display the translation results (translation results can be shown in 2 or more languages).

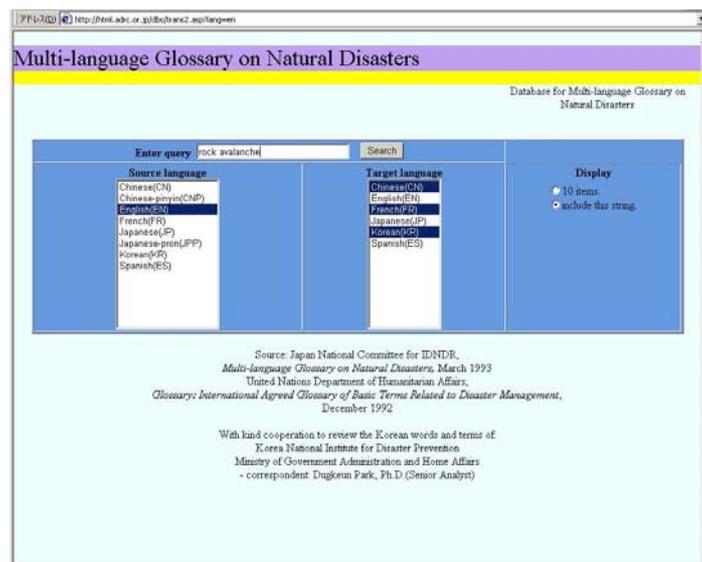


Fig. 2-4-4-1 Entry Page of Multilanguage Glossary on Natural Disaster

Further, the users can now choose the display mode of translation results either (1) to display 10 possible terms or (2) to display terms involving the requested string.

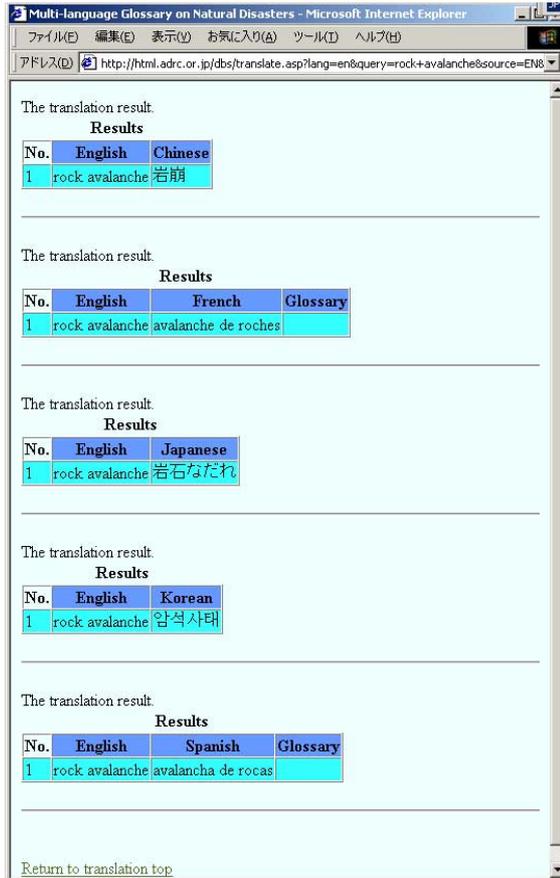


Fig. 2-4-4-2 Translation into 5 languages

Fig. 2-4-4-3 is an example of automatic translation of “volcano” from English into Korean. The left screen shows 10 translation results in mode (1), and the right screen shows the translation results involving the string “ volcano” in mode (2). It is planned to include more terms and add the Russian language in the future to further enhance the information sharing regarding natural disasters.

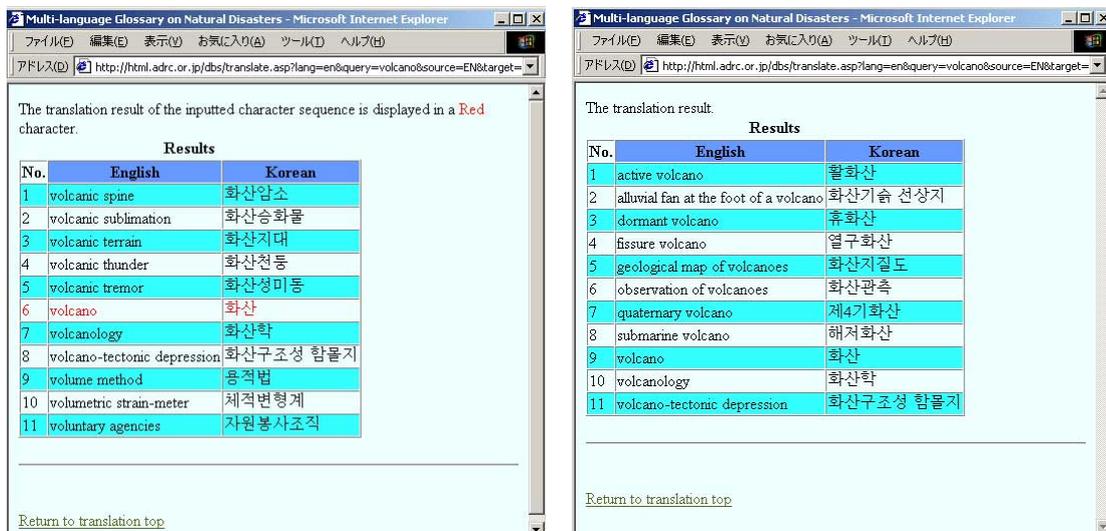


Fig. 2-4-4-3 Two translation modes