

5. Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries, International Organizations and NGOs

5-1. Urban Search-and-Rescue Training in Singapore

Asia is the most disaster-prone region in the world. The natural disasters that have occurred here in recent years have been the most severe, prolonged and widespread ever experienced in the region. Moreover, the regional vulnerability tends to increase due to rapid urbanization, insufficient speed in building an infrastructure capable of coping with urbanization, the coupling of independent risk sources (interaction of natural hazards with chemical, technological, lifestyle, and social risks), and insufficient management capacity.

The Singaporean government holds an annual training course for search and rescue officers, and over the past nine years, the course has included trainees from outside Singapore. Training is provided on the search-and-rescue expertise required in urban disaster situations. The training facility complex of the Civil Defence Academy (CDA) of the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) is one of the most advanced facilities in Asia. In an effort to utilize their expertise and facilities, ADRC has been inviting fire fighters and rescuers from member countries to participate in this training course since 2001. In 2011, this training was held from 26 September to 7 October. ADRC invited 2 officers from member countries, Bangladesh and Russia.

[Training program]

- A) Lectures
Principles of USAR operations, International marking system, Overseas mission sharing, Confined-space rescue operations, Emergency behavior management, Single/Mass Casualty Management, INSARAG System
- B) Drills & Practice
BA search procedures and techniques, Evacuation of casualties with/without equipment, High angle rescue techniques, Shoring methods, Simulation exercises

Table 5-1-1 List of participants

Year	Countries of past participants	Number of participants
2001	Philippines, Myanmar, and Korea	3
2002	Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Philippines, and Vietnam	5
2003	Cambodia, Malaysia ^{x2} , Myanmar, Sri-Lanka, Thailand ^{x2} , and Philippines ^{x2}	9
2004	Armenia, China, Nepal, Philippines	4
2005	Korea, Pakistan, PNG, Russia	4
2006	Laos, Malaysia ^{x2} , Pakistan, Philippines ^{x2} , PNG, and Vietnam	3
2007	Bangladesh, Korea, Nepal, Philippines	4
2008	Bhutan, Thailand, Kazakhstan, Mongolia	4
2009	Armenia, Sri Lanka	2
2010	Bhutan, Mongolia, Maldives	3
2011	Bangladesh, Russia	2
TOTAL		43