
4-2. Seminars and Training Course

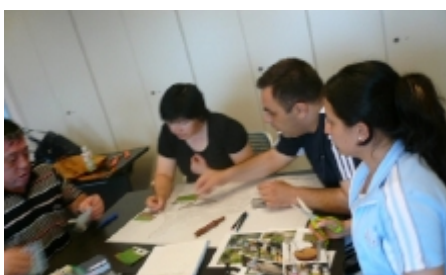
4-2-1 JICA Training Course: “Comprehensive Disaster Management for Central Asia and Caucasus 2012”

Central Asia and the Caucasus frequently experience disasters such as floods, droughts, landslides, and earthquakes, some of which extend across several countries. Also, heavy snowfall in the winter can lead to flooding when mountain glaciers thaw in the warmer seasons. Thus, these regions have common concerns in terms of disaster risk management.

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) conducted a training course for disaster management officials from Central Asia and the Caucasus from 25 June to 4 August with cooperation from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Kansai International Center. This course has been held nine times since the program was launched, and it aims to convey basic knowledge and experiences related to natural disaster management, and to further promote the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in the trainees' countries. Trainees were asked to identify a major problem in their own countries and to formulate an action plan for addressing it. The course was conducted in Russian, with eight central and local government officials representing five countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan in Central Asia, and Armenia in the Caucasus.



Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami



Town Watching

Participants attended lectures and visited central and municipal government agencies, research institutes, a meteorological organization, a broadcasting company, a medical institution, a disaster management base, private companies, and a UN office in order to comprehensively enhance their understanding of the disaster management system. They also participated in community activities, such as “Town Watching,” which involved hazard mapmaking, and went on an excursion to the Shikoku Mountain Range where landslide and erosion control countermeasures are being implemented. In addition, they visited Sendai-city, Natori-city, and Minamisanriku-town, all of which were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami on 11 March 2011, to see the recovery status and lesson learned in those locations. It is hoped that the participants will make good use of the knowledge, technologies, and methods they learned during this training course to implement various projects and help strengthen the disaster management systems in

their home countries.

ADRC would like to express its sincerest gratitude to all the organizations that contributed to the success of this course.

4-2-2 JICA Training Course: “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management”

From 7 January to 22 February 2013, ADRC, in collaboration with JICA, conducted the JICA Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Course for 10 countries, namely China, Fiji, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mauritius, Myanmar, Philippines, Solomon Islands, and the Palestinian Authority. Fourteen government officials in charge of disaster risk reduction and one university lecturer took part in the training. This course aimed to help participants formulate and further develop disaster management plans in their own countries based on the concept of total disaster risk management, by enhancing their understanding of the disaster management systems adopted by the central and local governments of Japan.

During the training, participants attended a series of lectures on such topics as the Japanese disaster management system at the central and local levels, Japanese measures against flooding, sediment disasters, and earthquakes, school disaster education, community-based disaster risk management, the role of the media in disaster risk reduction, and recovery from natural disasters. In addition, they participated in a drill conducted by a Disaster Prevention Welfare Community in Kobe and the ADRC’s town watching exercise, in addition to visiting tsunami-affected areas of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

The trainees showed great interest in Japanese disaster management systems and efforts at disaster risk reduction and were keen to learn from every lecture and exercise offered during this training course. It is hoped that the participants will make good use of the knowledge and methods they learned during this training course to help strengthen the disaster management systems in their home countries. ADRC would like to express its sincerest gratitude to all of the organizations that contributed to the success of this course.



4-2-3 JICA Training Course: “Raising Awareness of Disaster Reduction”

From 8 January to 8 February 2013, ADRC, in collaboration with JICA, conducted a JICA training course on “Raising Awareness of Disaster Reduction” for government officials in charge of disaster risk reduction at the central and local government levels. Representatives from the countries of Brazil, Chili, Colombia, Honduras, Myanmar, Viet Nam, PNG, Philippines, and Turkey took part in this training (12 trainees from 9 countries). The primary objective of the training was to establish concrete disaster reduction measures tailored to each participant’s country, utilizing knowledge and methods gained from the training.

During the training, participants learned the roles to be played by the various relevant organizations, such as local authorities, academic organizations, the Japan Meteorological Agency, mass media, and NPOs, while attending lectures and occasionally visiting related facilities and organizations. The training included the following specific activities:



- (1) town watching and hazard map creation, in which the trainees explored a certain area of downtown, identified risks, and came up with solutions,
- (2) a visit to the disaster-stricken area of the Great East Japan Earthquake
- (3) lectures on the formation of action plans, during which the trainees developed their own action plans.

The trainees are expected not only to carry out their action plans upon returning home, but also to apply the knowledge and methods they learned during their training and to promote efforts to raise awareness of disaster risk reduction measures.