

## **5-4 Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries, International Organizations and NGOs**

ADRC places high priority on the development of institutional and human networks to share disaster information in Asia. Developing networks between professionals and their counterparts in member countries, adviser countries, and observer organizations is vital to promoting cooperation on disaster reduction efforts in Asia. Therefore, ADRC invites high level and management level officials, including deputy directors, directors, and managers, to its annual ADRC International Meeting to encourage interpersonal exchanges.

### **(1) Multilateral Cooperation on Disaster Reduction and Recovery through participation in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)-led International Conference in Tanzania**

An International Conference entitled “IORA Sustainable Development Programme Workshop: Exploring Preemptive Disaster Risk Management Measures to Ensure Community Resilience”, organized and hosted by the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and co-hosted by the Prime Minister's Office of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, was held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 20-21 April 2015.

Upon invitation and request, ADRC sent one Japanese representative from International Recovery Platform (IRP) to the conference, which attracted over 50 participants including government officials from the Indian Ocean Rim countries. As Japan is one of the IORA's Dialogue Partners, delegations from the Embassy of Japan in Tanzania, JICA Office in Tanzania, and IRP based in Hyogo, Japan were also invited.

Considered as the first international gathering of over 20 countries associated with IORA since the Sendai conference in March 2015, the IORA Conference provided participants with vital opportunity to exchanging their views on “How Can We Explore Preemptive Disaster Risk Management Measures to ensuring Community Resilience?”

During the opening session titled “Disaster Risk Management and Community Resilience: Sharing Japan's Experience”, Mr. Shingo Kochi, ADRC Senior Expert as well as IRP Senior Recovery Expert, valued the high ability of Governments in the Indian Ocean Rim Association to promote recovery and reconstruction efforts since the 2004 Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami disasters. Mr. Kochi also noted that ADRC and IRP have long been promoting and implementing multilateral cooperation on disaster reduction and recovery by sharing Japan's technologies, experiences, and lessons as well as knowledge management. Among those are “IRP Guidance Notes for Recovery”, and “ADRC's Visiting Researcher (VR) Program”.



Fig. 5-4-1 Participants in Conference

“Although the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami waves reached Tanzania and other east coast of African countries 18 hours after the occurrence of the earthquake, still, some 100 casualties were accounted in Somalia. This triggered the following questions: What can we learn? How can we build back better? How can we incorporate disaster management into sustainable development?” To shed light, Mr. Kochi emphasized the importance of everyday preparedness by citizens and private sector, in addition to the government efforts when a massive disaster strikes. In this connection, the upcoming big event in late May 2015: “IRP Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning” to be held in Dhaka, People's Republic of Bangladesh, one of IORA member countries, will showcase another evidence of Bangladesh's continuous efforts on disaster reduction, disaster preparedness, and recovery. This event illustrates how ADRC/IRP will seek possibilities of providing further technical assistance for the IORA member countries' preparation efforts toward future disasters.

## **(2) Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning in Dhaka**

The need to mainstream and articulate “build back better in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction” was expressed during the Stakeholders' Consultation, 9-10 December 2014 in Dhaka. In response to this, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), the Institute of Strategic Recovery Studies for Disaster Resilience and Research (ISRSDRR), the United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh (UNDP), and the International Recovery Platform / Asian Disaster Reduction Center (IRP / ADRC) had jointly organized a three-day workshop on disaster recovery planning, 25-27 May 2015 at CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The event gathered over 50 high level and technical delegations from various ministries of the government, universities, development partner organizations, NGOs, and private sector to achieve to discuss recovery agenda in the context of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya Bir Bikram, Minister for Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) of the People's Republic of

Bangladesh, who expressed commitment to pursue effective disaster management programs by incorporating 'build back better'. At the closing, Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, Minister for Information, assured the participants that build back better efforts in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction will be advocated in Bangladesh through the support of the ministry and media organizations.



Fig. 5-4-2-1 Participants of the Conference

One of the workshop outcomes was the identification of recovery issues, where the participants came up with initial strategies and actions to be integrated in the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan of Bangladesh. On the bases of the workshop outcomes, the following next steps were identified. Firstly, a parliamentary meeting on 'build back better' will be organized on June 16, 2015 at the Bangladesh Parliament to discuss disaster risk reduction and recovery issues that require legal support and legislation. Secondly, the MoDMR through the support of UNDP Bangladesh will take forward the initial strategies and actions for Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan by organizing a writeshop on the first week of August 2015. Thirdly, through coordination between MoDMR and BBBF, the list of recovery agendas shall be advocated in existing policy and planning instruments in Bangladesh, including the Delta Plan that is facilitated by the Ministry of Planning. Fourthly, under the auspices of MoDMR, the BBBF shall take further steps to advocate in linking up key stakeholders in Bangladesh so that the Inter-Ministerial Disaster Coordinating Council (IMDCC) is convened and recovery agenda is integrated in the plans. Finally, new programs and projects to promote build back better shall be proposed by BBBF in collaboration with MoDMR and other relevant stakeholders. The initial proposals include building critical mass of local recovery experts and volunteers and partnership between local universities and international knowledge hubs to promote recovery agenda in school curricula as well as facilitate knowledge-sharing and exchange.

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### **(3) East Asia Summit (EAS) & ASEAN Workshop in Hangzhou China**

ADRC participated to East Asia Summit (EAS) workshop on ‘Applications of Space Information Technology in Major Natural Disaster Monitoring and Assessment’ and 2nd ASEAN workshop on ‘Development of mechanisms for acquisition and utilization of space-based information during emergency response’ held on 2-5 June 2015 in Hangzhou, China.

There were approximately 45 participants from NDRCC, Asian satellite and remote-sensing organizations, DRR organizations, and private space companies at EAS. The recent situations on disaster monitoring and assessment, and current challenges are reported. Participants understood to promote the implementation of SFDRR by further utilization of space technology.

In the ASEAN workshop, there were approximately 25 participants from ESCAP, Asian satellite and remote-sensing organizations, DRR organizations, and private space companies. Participants discussed for the guideline of emergency observation, disaster scale, and rapid mapping. Participants also committed for further utilization of the Sentinel Asia as follows;

- ✓ Due to less human resource, making time of EOR is slow
- ✓ Duration between EOR and satellite observation is long.
- ✓ Duration between EOR and receiving products is also long,
- ✓ Data amount is so large to receive.
- ✓ Less human resource for data processing
- ✓ Welcoming for strengthen of WG and SC
- ✓ Hoping establishment of SOP



Fig. 5-4-3-1 Participants of the Conference

#### **(4) ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) 1<sup>st</sup> meeting**

On 3-5 June in Bangkok, Thailand Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) participated in the IAP meeting which was attended by around 90 participants from 17 Asian countries and 33 international institutions. The main focus of this IAP was to discuss the way forward from the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR) in the Asian Region.

At first, the Secretariat of UNISDR explained the background of this meeting; the 1st Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) after SFDRR will be hosted by the Government of India in November 2016, and its intended outcome of this AMCDRR in India will be to an “Asian Regional Implementation Plan of the SFDRR”. Then, the Government of India showed the process of preparation toward the next AMCDRR.

In this meeting, considering the importance of involving the wide-range stakeholders, a session specially devoted to the public private partnership was held and the various participants such as ADPC and Japan Bosai Platform introduced their activities. ADRC Executive Director, who is also one of co-chairperson of APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group, introduced ADRC's activities like as the research on the dissemination of BCP among small / medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the APEC member economies and the editing guideline on BCP for SMEs, and declared support to PPP activities by UNISDR.



Fig. 5-4-4-1 Participants of the Conference

#### **1) Asian Leaders' meeting toward implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia”, and the “2nd ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting of 2015”**

ADRC participated in the “Asian Leaders’ meeting toward implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia”, and the “2nd ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting of 2015”, 17-19 November 2015, New Delhi, India On the first day in the morning, the “Asian Leaders’ meeting toward implementation of the SFDRR in Asia”, a senior level meeting took place, which was attended many political leaders in Asia.

Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon’ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Government of

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India opened and set the context of the meeting in his welcome remark, followed by a keynote address by Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, UN Special Representative of the Secretary. Senior level representatives from seven countries including AMCDRR host countries in the past and in the future, had then delivered their statement on their experience and way forward; People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Royal Thai Government, Mongolia, Japan and Afghanistan.

Mr. F. Matsumoto, State Minister of Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, hosting the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, expressed their gratitude to the wide participation in the Conference in Sendai and their strong will to support the international community in implementing the SFDRR, in particular, by providing know-how to develop indicators and to strengthen governance. Minister Matsumoto stressed also further collaboration with ADRC and other regional organizations by highlighting the ACDR2016 in Phuket in February 2016. He also encouraged supporting the UN resolution designating the World Tsunami Day by referring to their projects of awareness raising to reduce the damages of Tsunami in Asia. Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Union Home Minister of the host country, India also attended the meeting and expressed his strong hope that the meeting would set the policy directions toward the AMCDRR in 2016.

In the afternoon, the first session of the IAP meeting focused on the AMCDRR in 2016. After the introduction of the agenda by Ms. Kan, Head, UNISDR Asia Pacific office, Ms. Wahlstrom gave her key note, encouraging political commitment to implementing SFDRR in Asia, followed by an update from the host country, presentations by member countries, and those by regional organizations. ADRC reported about its major activities after Sendai and encouraged a wide participation in the ACDR 2016.

Morning session of the second day was focused on the Asian regional plan. A series of presentations to facilitate regional planning was made including those on monitoring of the SFDRR, and indicator. In the afternoon, participants discussed in one of the three groups aiming to provide inputs to develop the Regional Plan. Sector by sector implementation of SFDRR was also spotlighted as well after the coffee break.

The last day started with a panel discussion on local implementation of SFDRR attended by the participants from subnational governments including Ms. Yukimoto Ito, Vice Mayor of Sendai city, Japan. Three parallel sessions in the afternoon continued to discuss local implementation by focusing on assessment of local risk and resilience, local DRR strategies and plans, and inclusive and community-managed approaches, the outcome of which was shared at the final plenary.



### **(5) The 8th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium**

ADRC participated to WG1: GEOSS Asia-Pacific Major Natural Disaster Monitoring (AP-MaNDM) of 8th Global Earth Observation system of systems (GEOSS) Asia-Pacific Symposium held at 9-11 September in Beijing, China.

In the first session of WG1, current situation of space-based monitoring for natural disaster risk reduction in each country was reported. Then, the global/regional cooperation of space technology for disaster management session was held. In this session, ADRC made a presentation of the Sentinel Asia, which has been promoting the cooperation of disaster management organizations and space agencies. Furthermore, Mr. Suzuki, former executive director proposed to develop more resilient platform for the collaboration with DRR and Space technology, and WG1 agreed to a cooperation for the realization of the platform.



Fig. 5-4-5-1 Participants of the Conference

### **(6) Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIIT)**

According to request of JICA, ADRC made some advice and cooperation for establishment of Disaster Management Master Course of MJIIT at September and November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Principal items are as follows.

- ✓ Confirmation of whole schedule, evaluation and input for the curriculum.
- ✓ Recommendations to include about stream of international cooperation for DRR such as HFA and SFDRR, and the role of international cooperation agency (UNISDR, AHA center, etc.) in the master course were accepted.
- ✓ Due to the high interest of MJIIT side for Sentinel Asia, which is conducted by ADRC, JAXA, etc., ADRC invited MJIIT to participate as one of the Disaster Analysis Node (DAN).
- ✓ Confirmed the intention of the announcement in the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR2016) to be held in Thailand in February next year for the Dean.

For the Disaster Management Master course to be started in February 2016, ADRC hopes to continue cooperation include to utilize it as an opportunity to strengthen staffs of ADRC member countries, of the staff capacity.

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## **(7) Conferences of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation**

ADRC participated in APEC's Emergency Preparedness Working Group, EPWG, as a co-chair. Emergency preparedness is one of the key elements of the majority of APEC economies, as natural disasters that affect one member economy could have significant spill-over effects in other economies. EPWG in cooperation of many other WGs and international organizations and private sector as well as the member economies plays a constructive role in enabling the APEC region to better prepare for and respond to emergencies and disasters by helping to reduce the risk of disasters and building business and community resilience. In the fiscal year 2015, ADRC attended the following meetings.

### **1) APEC Workshop on community-based disaster risk management in response to climate change**

The workshop was jointly organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and the Quang Ninh provincial People's Committee as one of the initiatives by Vietnam in preparation for the country's hosting of the 25th APEC Summit in 2017.

The workshop, attended by around 100 participants from member economies, focused on community-based disaster management efforts of member economies as well as those of international organizations and adopted a summary report, the essence of which was presented at the 9TH Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum, held 22-23 September 2015 in Iloilo City, Philippines.

ADRC made a presentation in the Session 2 titled "Innovative approaches to investment and technology" chaired by USAID and raised some steps after Sendai, including those toward World Tsunami Day, Community-based DM well adapted to the ageing and urbanizing Asia, and better bridging of scientific and locally based knowledge. ADRC also delivered a closing remark of the workshop.



Fig. 1-2-2-7-1 Participants of the Conference

### **2) APEC the 9th Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum**

ADRC attended an APEC senior level meeting on disaster management, as a co-chair of EPWG. The meeting was hosted by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management



Council (NDRRMC) and the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Philippines. The Forum will be attended by APEC economies, private sector, non-government organizations and so on. The meeting raised diverse topics on DRR and contributed to sharing of best practices of the various member-economies. From Japan, Mr. Yoshiyasu HYOTANI, Deputy Director-General for Disaster Management Bureau, Cabinet Office, made a presentation titled “ Protecting the Economic Interests from the Disasters” focusing mainly on the economic impacts by the Great East Japan earthquake and the recovery from it.

As an output of the Forum, the ‘APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework’, a policy document to address disasters and the “new normal” to be faced with the member economies, was discussed, which was endorsed in mid-October and presented to the Concluding Senior Official’s Meeting (CSOM) for information and submitted to the APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM).

### **3) APEC Workshop on Application of Big Data and Open Data to Emergency Preparedness Phase 1 (EPWG 01 2014A)**

ADRC participated in an APEC workshop focusing on big data and open data application to emergency preparedness, as a co-chair of Emergency Preparedness Working Group, EPWG. The workshop was attended by more than 20 participants from APEC economies, universities and research organizations including Chile, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

The workshop was opened by a statement by Mr. Chung-Liang Chien, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Science and Technology of Chinese Taipei, followed by a keynote by Mr. Roger Stone, Assistant Administrator for National Continuity Programs, Federal Emergency Management Agency U.S. Department of Homeland Security, focusing on “Best Practices for Alert and Warning Systems, Leveraging Public Private Partnership”. Another keynote was then delivered by Dr. Wei-Sen Li, Co-Chair of EPWG and Secretary General, National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction on topic of Enhancing Regional Digital Preparedness on Natural Hazards - The Application of Science and Technology in DRR Decision-Making.”

ADRC attended the first two sessions on the 1st day. Session 1: “Big datasets for disaster risk reduction” highlighted some best practices of the digital emergency preparedness, in preparing and collecting big dataset to mitigate adverse impacts brought by disasters. In the session 2: “Regional projects to improve digital emergency preparedness”, ADRC reported , after summarizing recent government policy development on big data and open data in general, about diverse efforts in Japan to strengthen institutional information sharing among the relevant ministries regarding disaster relief activities.

Three sessions as follows took place as well: (3) Practical applications of big data or open data, (4) Synergies with industry, private sector and crowd sourcing, and (5) Challenges to embrace the new trend. Data collections are the basic digital emergency preparedness to mitigate adverse impacts brought by disasters.