
4. Human Resource Development

4-1. Human Resource Development and Information Networking on Visiting Researcher (VR)

4-1-1. Background

The ADRC started Visiting Researchers (VR) program in 1999. Since then, a total of 105 officials from 26 member countries have participated in the program.

In the program, VRs have opportunities to learn about knowledge, experience and expertise about disaster risk reduction from Japan and other member countries and strengthen their network among ADRC member countries and relevant organizations.

Also, VRs are expected to contribute to strengthening the capacity on disaster risk reduction back in their countries after the program and to further promote cooperation between ADRC and their countries.

4-1-2. Objectives

The objectives are as follows:

- To offer opportunities of capacity building of officers in charge of disaster risk management of ADRC member countries,
- To promote networking of ADRC member countries through VRs, and
- To promote information sharing about latest disaster management and situations of ADRC member countries.

4-1-3. Activities of Visiting Researchers in FY2017

In fiscal year 2017, a total of six researchers joined the program (three researchers each at the first and second terms). The first term started from August to November 2017 and the second from January to April 2018.

(1) Armenia

- Ms. Kirakosyan Hasmik
- Job title at the time of visit: Main Specialist of Department Seismic Disaster Risk Reduction, Survey for Seismic Protection Agency, Ministry of Emergency Situation
- She had the intention to research on the innovative methods and experience using for the development of population preparedness to seismic disasters. She gathered information and made analysis through lectures and visits to municipalities, schools and relevant organization to conduct comparative analysis between Armenia and Japan and made recommendation to Armenia

(2) Bhutan

- Mr. Wangchuk Tashi
- Job title at the time of visit: District Disaster Management Officer, District Administration, Samdrup Jongkhar, Bhutan
- He had the intention to study on mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction into development plan, policy, program and project in Bhutan's Five Year Plan. Through the lectures and interviews with experts of the central and local governments, he studied the applicability of Japan's practice to Bhutan.

(3) Philippines

- Mr. Calang Marc Gil
- Job Title at the time of visit : Civil Defense Assistant, Office of Civil Defense Caraga Regional Office (OCD)
- He had the intention to research about disaster response and preparedness mechanisms of the Philippines and Japan. Through lectures and visits to various disaster response organizations, he gained understanding of Japan's system and conducted comparative analysis between the two countries and made recommendation to the Philippines for establishing appropriate disaster response mechanism.

(4) Pakistan

- Mr. Brohi Nasur Ullah
- Job Title at the time of visit: Assistant Director, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Prime Minister's Office
- He had the intention to study about Community-Based Early Warning System (CBEWS) in Pakistan. Focusing on communities with little access to customary Early Warning System, he will study information dissemination methods and dissemination of disaster knowledge for awareness raising and early evacuation. He plans to visit Japan Meteorological Agency, local governments, education sectors to learn the situations of Japan's Early Warning System and disaster education of community and make recommendation to his country.

(5) Thailand

- Ms. Srikwan Puntatip
- Job Title at the time of visit: Plan and Policy Analyst, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior
- She has the intention to conduct research about safety culture in Japan and to make comparative analysis between Thailand and Japan. She will visit communities, voluntary disaster management organizations and NPOs as well as take lectures from experts of disaster management organizations.

(6) Viet Nam

- Mr. Pham Thanh Hong
- Job Title at the time of visit: Scientific Research Specialist, Disaster Management Center (DMC) Water Resource Directorate
- He plans to conduct a comparative study on landslide disaster management. For this, he will take lectures at landslide-related organizations and research institutes, central and local governments and private companies to get wide range of information and knowledge on landslide monitoring and countermeasures.



Fig.4-1-1. Scenes from presentation and visits of VRs; country report presentation, visit to Sapporo City Fire Department, disaster education event, Wakayama prefecture landslide countermeasures (clockwise from left above)