

4. Human Resource Development

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

4-1-1. Background

Since 1999 ADRC has been conducting Visiting Researchers (VR) program. To date, 111 officials from 26 member countries have participated in the program, as human resource development as well as disaster information.

During the program, VRs will learn latest knowledge and technology on disaster risk reduction and international cooperation of Japan at ADRC. The VRs are expected not only to contribute to strengthening the capacity on disaster risk reduction in their countries, but also to further promote cooperation between their countries and ADRC.

4-1-2. Objectives

The objectives of networking on VR are as follows:

- To accumulate the latest disaster information, disaster management policy, laws, plans and budget of the member countries for strengthen their disaster resilience;
- To analyze the policies through the collection and the surveying of good practice of the disaster risk reduction measures of the member countries.
- To develop effective capacity development programs and tools based on needs and priorities of VRs and their countries;
- To continue improving VR program taking their feedback into consideration. Input from visiting researchers in 2018 are as follows;
 - The length of the program is appropriate and sufficient,
 - The contents of program are of great benefit, especially in visiting central and core disaster management organizations such as Cabinet Office, Japan Meteorological Agency and municipalities. Practical researcher/exercise is highly evaluated and needed.
 - Participation in international meetings and exchange opinions with experts is beneficial.
 - Networking among former and existing visiting researchers is valuable. For this purpose, to have re-union opportunities is desirable.

4-1-3. Activities of Visiting Researchers in FY2018

In FY 2018, the following six researchers joined the program; three researchers in the first half year from India, Malaysia and Maldives; and three researchers in the latter half year from Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand.

(1) India

- Ms. Mridusmita Borah
- Job Title at the time of visit: Project Officer (Disaster Risk Reduction), Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), Government of Assam
- She had the intention to research on Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction practices for flood risk management. For this, she gathered information and made analysis on early warning, livelihood improvement, infrastructure resilience and climate resilient agricultural practices in flood plains to apply to Assam State.

(2) Malaysia

- Ms. Mazni Azis
- Job Title at the time of visit: Senior Assistant Director of Weather and Geophysics Technical Division, National Weather and Geophysics Operation Centre, Malaysian Meteorological Department
- She made comparative study on earthquake and tsunami early warning system in Malaysia and Japan. Through lectures by experts of Japan Meteorological Agency, local government and related organizations, she reviewed the concepts and operations of early warning systems of the two countries.

(3) Maldives

- Ms. Aminath Shaufa
- Job Title at the time of visit: Project Officer, National Disaster Management Centre
- She studied on disaster education system to integrate disaster risk reduction (DRR) education into Maldivian curriculum based on Japanese best practices. With information and interview survey, she searched for ways to apply good practices in education in the Maldives.

(4) Myanmar

- Ms. Ei Shwe Sin Win
- Job Title at the time of visit: Staff Officer, Department of Disaster Management, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
- She has the intention to study about good practices concerning with Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in Japan. She will visit communities, voluntary disaster management organizations and NPOs to compile her research.

(5) Philippines

- Ms. Janice Montes Padagdag
 - Job Title at the time of visit: Civil Defense Officer II, Office of Civil Defense
 - She has the intention to conduct research about strategies on preventing further losses of lives and damages to properties against earthquake. Focusing on nonstructural
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measures, she will collect and analyze cases to make recommendations for the Philippines.

(6) Thailand

- Ms. Lalita Panoottikorn
- Job Title at the time of visit: Plan and Policy Analyst, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Policy Division, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM)
- She plans to research about Business Continuity Plan of Japan for public and private sectors to promote that of Thailand after analyzing the situations and policies in Japan.



Fig. 4-1-1 Visited Tamba City to learn about past floods, restoration and recovery measures from the officers in charge

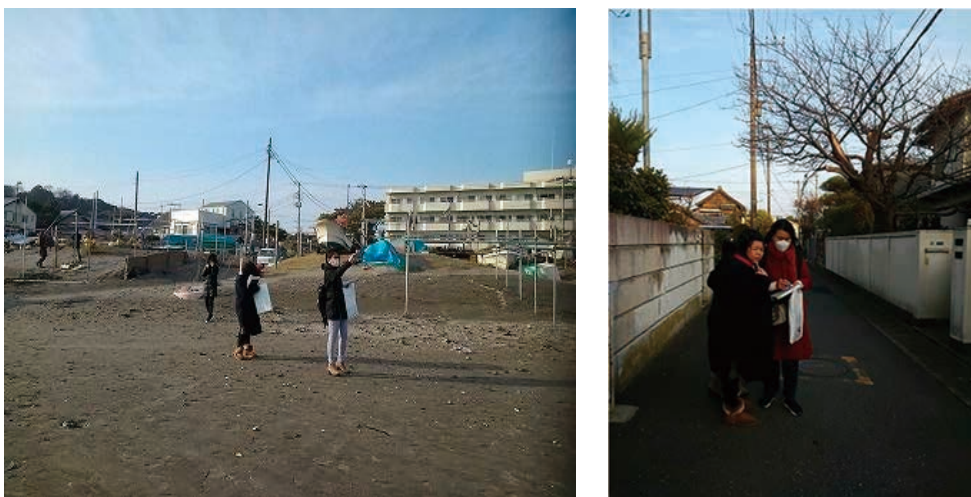


Fig. 4-1-2 After learning Community-based Hazard Mapping method, VRs conducted Town Watching and Hazard Mapping in Kamakura City.