4-2. Seminars and Training Course

4-2-1. JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction for Central Asia and Caucasus”

From 18 June to 28 July 2018, ADRC conducted a training program for disaster management officials from Central Asia and the Caucasus with cooperation from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Kansai International Center. The program was conducted in Russian and attended by a total of six central and local government officials representing five countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan in Central Asia, and Armenia in the Caucasus.

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 program was designed to convey basic knowledge and experiences related to natural disaster management, and to encourage the disaster management activities that have been conducted in these countries.

During the program, participants were asked to identify a major problem in their own countries and to formulate an action plan for addressing it. They attended lectures and visited central and municipal government agencies, research institutes, a meteorological organization, a disaster management base, private companies, and an NPO to comprehensively enhance their understanding of Japan's disaster management system. They visited a lot of disaster management agencies and organizations in Hyogo Prefecture, Tokyo, Tsukuba, Niigata, and Yamagata. In addition, they participated in “Town Watching and Community-based Hazard Mapping” activities. The observatory tour was conducted to the affected areas of big earthquakes and water induced disasters.

It is hoped that the participants will make good use of the knowledge, technologies, and methods they learned from this training course to implement various projects and help strengthen the disaster management systems in their home countries. This program also allowed participants to reinforce their relationships with one another, and is expected to strengthen disaster management information networks in the region.
4-2-2. **JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management”**

From 7 January to 15 February 2019, ADRC, in collaboration with JICA, conducted the JICA Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction Course for 9 countries, namely Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Haiti, Pakistan, Philippine, Viet Nam, Myanmar and Mexico. The participants consist of national or local government officials in charge of DRR. Those who have various backgrounds and expertise took part in the 6-week training. This course aimed to enhance basic ability for DRR and to formulate local DRR plans as the zero-drafts in their responsibilities toward elaboration of comprehensive DRR strategies/plans in each organization under specific and unique situations in their respective countries.

The training provides various content, for instance, the lecture series of Japanese disaster management policy, participation in activities implemented by communities or private sectors, and case studies of past disasters in Japan. Therefore, participants comprehensively understood DRR efforts all over this country. We also conducted observatory tours to local municipalities in Kochi prefecture, which are working for countermeasure against Nankai Trough Earthquake in the future.

In order to formulate local DRR plan, which is the purpose of this course, five workshops were held and the participants presented their local DRR plans at the end of the training.

They were strongly impressed to DRR efforts taken in Japan and learnt through exchange their perspectives among the members from multiple countries. These implications were adapted into their action plan, and it is hoped that they will make good use of what they experienced during this course to develop and strengthen DRR capacity in their home countries.

4-2-3. **JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in the African Region”**

From 7 January to 15 February 2019, ADRC, in collaboration with JICA, conducted the JICA Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in the African Region Course for 9 countries, namely Cape Verde, Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, and Sudan. The participants consist of national or local government officials in charge of DRR. Those who have various backgrounds and expertise took part in the 6-week training. This course aimed to enhance basic ability for DRR and to formulate local DRR plans as the zero-drafts in their responsibilities toward elaboration of comprehensive DRR strategies/plans in each organization under specific and unique situations in their respective countries.
The training provides various content, for instance, the lecture series of Japanese disaster management policy, participation in activities implemented by communities or private sectors, and case studies of past disasters in Japan. Therefore, participants comprehensively understood DRR efforts all over this country. ADRC also conducted observatory tours to some local site which experienced disasters in the past, ongoing DRR measures, and traditional river management methodologies.

In order to formulate a local DRR plan, which is the goal of this course, five workshops were organized. Their local DRR plans were presented at the end of the training course.

The participants were strongly impressed to DRR efforts in Japan and learnt through exchange their perspectives among the participants from various countries. These implications were adapted into their local DRR plans, and ADRC hopes the participants will utilize the zero-draft of local DRR plans to promote developing local DRR plans in each municipality of their countries. Also it is hoped that they will make good use of what they experienced during this course to develop and strengthen DRR capacity in their home countries.

4-2-4. JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction for Central America”

From 8 January to 15 February 2019, Kobe International Center (KIC), in collaboration with JICA, conducted the JICA “Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction for Central America” Course for 6 countries, namely Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. The participants consist of national and local government officials in charge of DRR. Those who have various backgrounds and expertise took part in the 6-week training. ADRC joined this course as course leader from the planning to conclusion. This course aimed to enhance basic ability for DRR and to formulate local DRR plans as the zero-drafts in their responsibilities toward elaboration of comprehensive DRR strategies/plans in each organization under specific and unique situations in their respective countries.
This course has approximately 20 years experiences and moderate collaboration with JICA technical cooperation project. Therefore the course contents are yearly modified according to specialties and concerns of trainees, and feedback of previous training course. The training provides various content, for instance, the lecture series of Japanese disaster management policy, participation in activities implemented by communities or private sectors, and case studies of past disasters in Japan. Therefore, the participants comprehensively learned DRR efforts taken place in Japan. ADRC also organized visits to local sites which experienced disasters in the past (such as flood, flash flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, and tsunami), and museums for public DRR awareness.

In order to formulate a local DRR plan, which is the goal of this course, four workshops were held. The participants presented their local DRR plans at the end of the training course. The participants were strongly impressed to DRR efforts in Japan and learnt through exchange their perspectives among the members from various countries. These implications were adapted into their local DRR plans, and ADRC hopes that the participants will utilize the zero-draft of local DRR plans to promote developing local DRR plan in each municipality of their own country. In addition, it is hoped that they will make good use of what they experienced during this course to develop and strengthen DRR capacity in their home countries.

4-2-5. JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: “Promotion of Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction”

From 27 August to 7 September 2018, Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE), in collaboration with JICA, conducted the “Promotion of Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction” course for 6 countries, namely Bangladesh, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. The participants consist of national or local government officials in charge of DRR. Those who have various backgrounds and expertise took part in the 2-week training. ADRC joined this course as a course leader from the planning to conclusion. This course aimed to enhance basic ability for DRR and to formulate local DRR plans as the zero-drafts in their responsibilities toward elaboration of comprehensive DRR strategies/plans in each organization under specific and unique situations in their respective countries.

The characteristic of this course is “Innovation” and “High Quality”. Therefore, approximately ten JICA HQs staffs are involved in the course not only as lecturers but as support members of each country. Also the course contents are yearly modified according to
In 2018, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) celebrated its 20th anniversary. To commemorate this milestone, the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2018 was held on Awaji Island in Hyogo, Japan, from 30 October to 1 November 2018. It brought together 118 participants, including representatives of 25 member countries and one advisory country, as well as other observers and partners, to take stock of ADRC’s achievements and strategize future programs and activities.

In addition, ADRC and its member countries welcomed Turkey as a new member in 2018. Turkey is prone to various natural disasters, as are other Asian countries, such as earthquakes, floods, and landslides. In its recent history, a magnitude 7.4 earthquake struck Izmit, located in northwestern Turkey, and devastating the local community and the region’s economy. I believe that Turkey’s experiences in managing natural disasters will contribute further to creating a safer Asia with ADRC and its member countries.

ADRC has been promoting activities in the field of information-sharing, human resource development, community capacity-building, and regional cooperation in the Asian region since its establishment and we will further contribute to these activities going forward. In 2019, we will continue to encourage and focus attention on efforts such as GLIDE, to support our work monitoring the Sendai Framework and the SDGs, the Visiting Researcher program, to improve disaster risk reduction (DRR) capacity, and public-private partnerships to improve cooperation in utilizing effective technologies and affordable solutions in addressing DRR issues.

As natural disasters have no boundaries, I sincerely appreciate your active cooperation across boundaries and borders to advance our work on DRR now and into the future.

March 2019
Masanori Hamada, Chairman
Asian Disaster Reduction Center

specialties and concerns of trainees, and feedback of previous training course. The training provides various content, for instance, the lecture series of Japanese disaster management policy, efforts for DRR mainstreaming, and case study of the past disasters in Japan. Therefore, the participants could comprehensively understand DRR efforts taken place in Japan. ADRC organized a visit to Mabi town, Kurashiki city, which were inundated by heavy rain in July 2018.

In order to formulate a local DRR plan, which is the goal of this course, three workshops were held in collaboration with JICA staff members. The participants presented their local DRR plans at the end of the training course.

The participants were strongly impressed to DRR efforts in Japan and learnt through exchange their perspectives among the participants from various countries. These implications were adapted into their local DRR plans, and ADRC hopes the participants will utilize the zero-draft of local DRR plans to promote developing a local DRR plan in each municipality of their countries. Also it is hoped that they will make good use of what they experienced during this course to develop and strengthen DRR capacity in their home countries.