

4.1.2. Feedback from Visiting Researches

Among the common feedback from VRs about the program are:

- Duration of the programme is appropriate and sufficient
- Contents of lectures and on-site activities are of great benefit, especially the opportunity to visit various disaster management organizations (e.g., Cabinet Office, Japan Meteorological Agency, and local governments)
- Sharing of practical researches/exercises are useful
- Participation in international meetings and exchanging opinions with experts are beneficial
- Networking among former and current VRs is valuable (organizing VR reunion is recommended)

All former VRs comprise a network that belongs to a wider ADRC family, such that they link with one another and continually support the activities of ADRC in various ways. As mentioned in section 2.2.1., current and former VRs wrote reports about the challenges in preventing the spread of COVID-19 infection to facilitate knowledge sharing. Moreover, during the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2020, some visiting researchers contributed by serving as resource speakers (Figure 4.4).

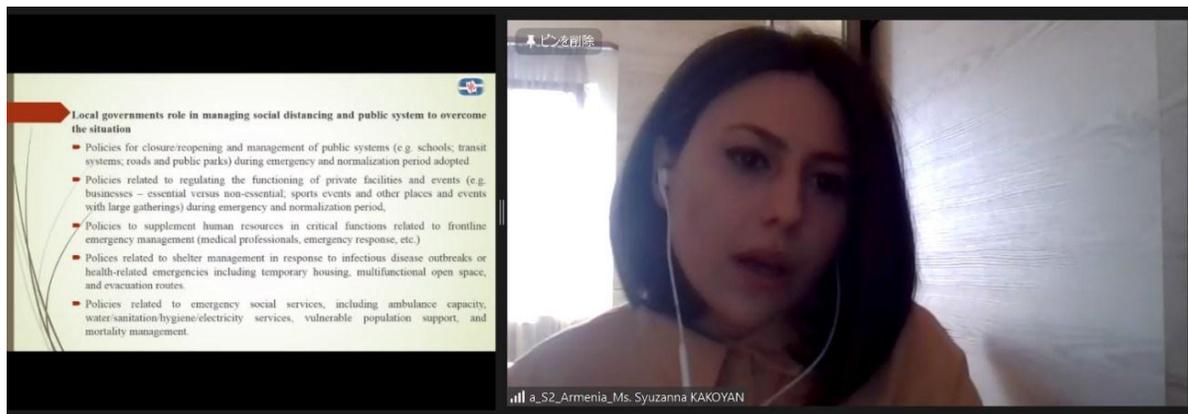


Figure 4.4. Presentation by Ms. Syuzanna Kakoyan, VR 2016

4.2. Seminars and Training Courses

ADRC implements some JICA training courses, which are based on themes expressed by region or country that benefit the training. In FY 2020, the courses included: Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR); CDRR for Latin America; and Promotion of Mainstreaming DRR. After the training, participants are expected to gain more knowledge in promoting DRR in their countries.

4.2.1. JICA Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR) Course

Held on 12 January 2021 to 8 February 2021, ADRC conducted a Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction course for four participants (1 from Afghanistan, 2 from Nepal, and 1 from Pakistan). Due to the COVID-19 situation, the training was held online, focusing on developing a Local Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Plan. The main subject, “8 STEPS: Practical Method for Developing Local DRR Strategies/Plans”, originally developed by JICA, was facilitated and supported by ADRC during the course. After learning the method, the participants formulated and presented the Local DRR Plan tailored to their own countries. It is hoped that the method of developing the Local DRR Plan will be promoted at their own countries after this program, contributing to their implementation of SFDRR Global Target E: Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.

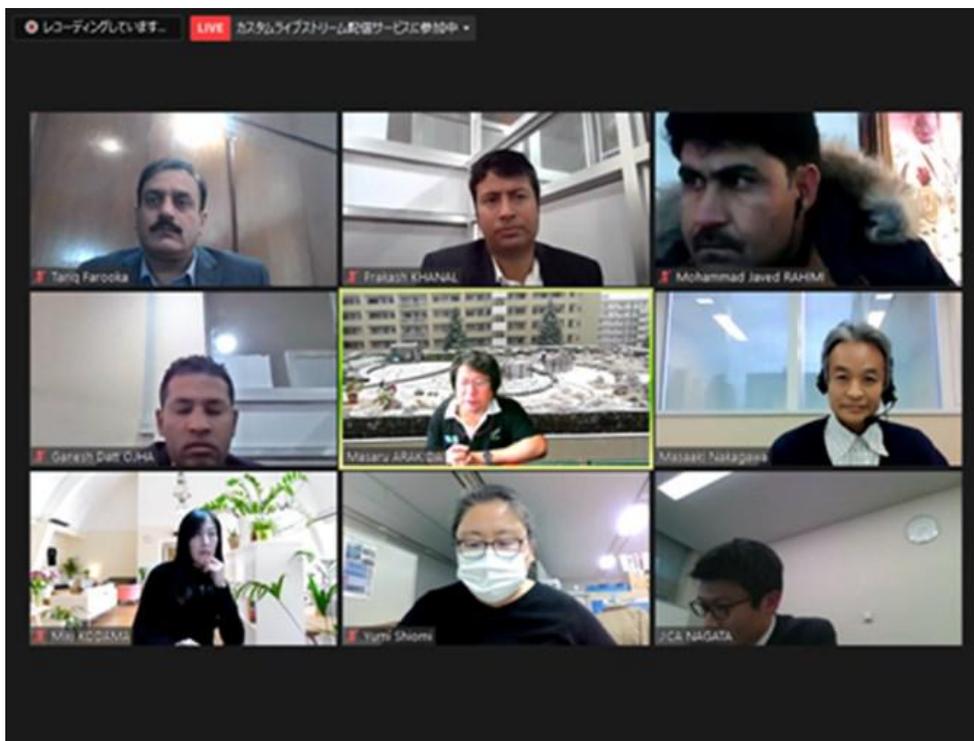


Figure 4.5. Virtual Training on CDRR

4.2.2. JICA CDRR Course for Central and South America

Another comprehensive disaster risk reduction (CDRR) course was conducted for participants in Central and South America held on 29 January 2021 to 26 February 2021. A total of 12 officials from 8 countries participated in this course, where sessions were conducted online – early morning in Japan and evening in Latin American countries. One of the key topics covered was the development of effective Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies (DRR Strategies). The process included watching pre-recorded video materials, discussions, and experience sharing.



Figure 4.6. CDRR for Central and South America

4.2.3. JICA Knowledge Co-Creation: Promotion of Mainstreaming DRR

Furthermore, ADRC implemented the “JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Promotion of Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction” on 9-19 March 2021 to participants from Bangladesh, Mongolia, Nepal, and the Philippines. The discussions put emphasis on lessons and effective approaches to mainstreaming disaster risk reduction efforts.



Figure 4.7. Mainstreaming DRR Course

4.3. Short Training

Few online short training activities were also conducted in FY 2020. On 2 September 2020, ADRC and the University of Tokyo virtually organized a sharing experiences on improving disaster education (Figure 4.8). Outcome of this activity included the expression of mutual interest in conducting a localized programme based on the opinions of residents (e.g., organizing evacuation drills for students, teachers, and community).



Figure 4.8. Virtual event with students from the University of Tokyo