

## ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE DECADE

### Information on Provider

Name : Dr Kwan-Young Chung

Position : senior researcher

Organization : Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) Weather Forecast Bureau

Address : #1 songwol-dong chong-no Gu, Seoul 110-757, KOREA.

State/Province : SEOUL, KOREA

Zip/Post code : SEOUL 110-757

Phone Number : 82-2-720-2380

Fax Number : 82-2-738-5969

Email : kychung@kma.go.kr

Webpage : <http://www.kma.go.kr>

### Experience and Recent Disasters(Part 1)

1.1 Please provide a list of major disasters your country has experienced during the five(5)years

- Drought
- Typhoon
- Flood
- Severe storm
- Gale

1.2. What were the impacts of the above listed disasters?(i, e direct damage to assets vs. long-term damage to the local economy,health,etc)

Direct damage : dead or missing, displaced persons, farm-land lost and buried house destroyed or damaged, etc

Indirect damage : Recovering cost is more than 10 times of damage cost, GDP 0.26% reduced, and customer price, especially in crops, raised

1. 3. Which measures were taken to reduce the impact of the disaster? What measures will be taken to avoid impacts of future disasters?

Inspection and Maintenance of the Disaster-Prone Areas, Large-Scale Construction Sites, Disaster Prevention Facilities and securing equipment and facilities for Emergency Countermeasures in occurrence of disaster, and securing the Fund for natural disaster countermeasures

1. 4. Do you believe there can be improvements in preparing for natural hazards in your country and in preventing negative impacts of such hazards? What sort of improvements

Yes. Good coordination among authorities concerned has been made in preparing for natural hazards.

1. 5. Do you believe the IDNDR helped your country to give greater attention to disaster reduction?

Yes.

1. 6. Please provide an example (s) an achievement (s) incorporating successful preventive approaches Which you consider a "success story"

- Establishment of National Institute for Disaster Prevention

As natural disasters increase and get more complex, the preventive efforts assume greater importance. Thus, National Institute for Disaster Prevention(NIDP) which was organized 18 doctors and misters, opened on September 2, 1997 to provide a systematic and expert knowledge of disaster prevention and preparedness. The NIDP seeks appropriate institutional structure for disaster prevention and ways to promote international cooperation.

Progress made, since the inception of IDNDR, in the field of disaster reduction as a component of developpe planning and risk management (P 2)

2. 1. Please provide a brief statement of national accomplishment and/or describe current activities related to the achievement of the IDNDR Programme Targets:

(a) Comprehensive national assessment of risks, if an assessment exists, is it published or codified?

Published

(b) Structured mitigation plans. Do documented comprehensive national disaster management plans exist? Plans at national, provincial and local levels, if available, will be useful to describe the progress

Yes.

(c) Ready access to global, regional, national and local early warning systems. Can you provide examples of early warning practices and demonstrated successes?

To provide warnings and advisories on severe weather phenomena for prevention and mitigation of natural disasters we issue the warnings such as heavy rainfall, heavy snowfall, typhoon, cold surge, dry condition, high wave, etc. when a serious disaster is expected. The warnings and advisories are promptly disseminated to the disaster prevention organization and through mass media to the public.

In the field of earthquake monitoring and tsunami warning, there have been a project for reinforcing the national seismic network and tsunami warning system, since 1997 when a moderate earthquake raised the public concern on earthquake risk. This project to be completed by 2000 includes the very broad-band, short period and acceleration seismometers and the automatic realtime processing/database softwares, as well as installation of a tsunami monitoring tidal gauge. The communications between tsunami warning systems in other countries are the Global Telecommunication System/ WMO and Internet. In parallel, there are relevant research activities on going to provide the theoretical and applied background for the project.

2. 2. What obstacles do you face which prevent the accomplishment of the Decade targets? What are your recommendations to best overcome these obstacles?

2. 3. To What extent have established and implemented educational and information programmes aimed at generating public awareness? What methods of information dissemination have been utilized?

Mass-media, Web-site, E-mail, FAX, etc

2. 4. Have you listed with policy makers and major groups, such as local authorities, NGOs, and the media, in order to ensure support for and effectiveness of disaster reduction programmes? Please describe your activities.

2. 5. To what extent have you worked with other sectors in incorporating disaster reduction activities into their planning(i. e. insurance, banking, private sector and development agencies)?

2. 6. The Decade Provides an international arena for information exchange as well as an extensive international network of partners, how have these is contributed to achieving the goals come Decade?.....

Regional/Subregional Achievements based on national perspectives (Part 3)

3.1 Please describe important achievements in your region/subregion on disaster preparedness and reduction since the inception of IDNDR.

The KMA is a competent authority of the International Co-ordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific(ITSU) of IOC/UNESCO. In 1993 at the 14th session of ITSU, KMA proposed to establish a regional tsunami warning center for the Far East Seas, and now it has been considered positively as a formal agenda of ITSU session. thank to the active involvement of the Japan Meteorological Agency. The KMA is also going to host the 17th session of ITSU at which more progress on this agenda to be discussed and formalization for the further achievement to be expected.

3. 3 Have you participated in any regional/subregional events related to IDNDR? If yes, what are the benefits obtained from these events?

Gained knowledge and experience through the participation in seminar, workshop, training course related to IDNDR.

3. 4. Is there any need to further strengthen regional/subregional cooperation in disaster preparedness and reduction? If yes, please explain

Active participation in regional / subregional events related to IDNDR

#### Structures in Place (Part 4)

4. 1. Is there a designated government authority for disaster reduction activities? If yes, is this authority's commitment to prevention embodied in the government structure, priorities, budget and legislation?

4. 2. Have budget lines for disaster reduction and preventive activities been made available in your government's budget?

- Fund for Natural Disaster Countermeasures

( ) The residents generally report to the government if any of protection wall, sewer or levee is under threat. The government recognizes that severe disasters may occur without proper inspection and repair of the facilities. Therefore, the government sets aside fund for natural disaster prevention.

( ) The local governing body appropriates and manages the fund as stipulated in the regulations. The regulations permit the use of fund for disaster prevention activities and forbid its use for any other purpose. The fund can only be used for pre-disaster prevention activities and emergency rehabilitation during the severe natural disaster.

( ) The fund is laid aside U.S. \$ 78million in 15 cities and 230 cities counties districts up to now.

4. 3. Have legislative authorities (national, state or local level) established legal frameworks for the implementation of disaster mitigation measures (ie. land-use planing, water and forest management, building codes)?

Yes

4.4. Have academic institutions and professional schools in disciplines such as engineering geology, agriculture, architecture, urban planning, business or public administration incorporated in their curricula applicable disaster- reduction concepts and measures? Please provide examples

- Disaster Prevention Education, Drills, and Public Relation

1) Disaster Prevention Education

( ) Staff members were educated to enhance their ability to deal with natural disasters. The program included planning, managing critical situations, reporting damage, working on recovery plans, and studying relevant laws.

2) Drills and Practice Emergencies

To take quickly and accurately various actions for disaster prevention together with the other community residents and related organizations, exercise under computer-simulated disaster conditions, comprehensive exercise for disaster prevention and practice emergencies specific to each region were carried out in Disaster Preparedness Period from March to May .

( ) Exercise under computer-simulated disaster conditions

To promote the ability of managing disasters, the exercise under computer-simulated disaster conditions, which related authorities participated, was carried out.

(2) Comprehensive exercise for disaster prevention

Comprehensive exercise for disaster prevention was carried out at the Kumkang river basin under the assumption of hitting typhoon. The program of drills included life saving, emergency relief, rehabilitation and etc..

(3) Practice emergencies specific to each region

Local governments carried out their own practice emergencies specific to each region.

(4) Drills and practice emergencies preparing for earthquake

Located at the circum-pacific seismic belt, Korea is prone to earthquakes. To countermeasure effectively during the onset of earthquake, government carried out exercise under computer-simulated earthquake conditions, comprehensive exercise for practice emergencies specific to each region during the period.

4. 5. Have networks been build in order to aid in the transfer and application of existing knowledge and technology, information dissemination and international collaboration? Please briefly describe

We operate web-site for meteorological information. ([www.kma.go.kr](http://www.kma.go.kr))

4. 6. Who are your principal working partners? Do they represent an interdisciplinary approach to disaster reduction?

## Future Requirements (Part 5)

5.1 Given your experience since the inception of the Decade and the new challenges of disasters in the 21st century, please provide comments as to what you believe are the necessary future requirements needed to successfully carry disaster reduction activities into the 21th century. Listed below are some criteria for your consideration : international mechanism for coordination/ budgetary commitments/ policy commitment/ network building/ information dissemination/ communication tools/ local authorities/ link to economic and social development programmes, environmental protection and sustainable development.

All criteria listed above shall naturally be the necessary future requirements. In addition, what we shall pay attention to is that we need to build a strong bonding mechanism among the IDNDR, related international programmes and national projects.

5.2 Please identify priorities in international cooperation, such as the establishment of regional/subregional warning system, disaster preparedness, technology transfer, financial resources, technical assistance, etc. which you deem pertinent in order to sustain disaster reduction activities in the future.

It is hard to identify the priority of those items because that each of them should be implemented basically at the same time and also it depends on the situation of each country. However, provided that most natural disasters are caused by regional/ subregional events, we should place emphasis on the regional/subregional warning system and make the other items be oriented to this goal case by case. It is very important to define regional components which produce mutual benefit, in order to each national authority participates more actively in international cooperation under the frame of IDNDR.

5.3 What sort of national or international measures would you like to be put in place in the 21st century?

The substantial international measures rather than declaratory one, pertinent to drive the inevitable regional/subregional cooperation and the national investment to competent authorities related to natural disaster reduction, are needed in order to fulfill the requirements mentioned in 5.1 and 5.2 above.