

Asian Disaster Reduction Center

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) A Hub of Regional Cooperation in Asia

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center was established in July 1998, with a mandate to facilitate multinational cooperation for disaster reduction in the Asian region. Along with 27 member countries, ADRC pursues activities leading to further prosperity and safe, peaceful, and comfortable lives in Asia.

ADRC also addresses issues of concern related to disaster reduction from a global perspective, in cooperation with international organizations and initiatives, such as the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN/OCHA), UNESCO, the United Nations University (UNU), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN/ESCAP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WHO/WPRO).



ADRC is located on the 5th floor of Hitomiraikan (right) 📍

Main Activities

- Information Sharing
- Human Resource Development
- Building Communities Capabilities

27 Member countries :

Armenia	Myanmar
Bangladesh	Nepal
Bhutan	Pakistan
Cambodia	Papua New Guinea
China	Philippines
India	Russian Federation
Indonesia	Singapore
Japan	Sri Lanka
Kazakhstan	Tajikistan
Republic of Korea	Thailand
Kyrgyz	Uzbekistan
Lao PDR	Viet Nam
Malaysia	Yemen
Mongolia	

5 Advisor countries :

Australia, France, New Zealand, Switzerland, United States of America



Observer :

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)



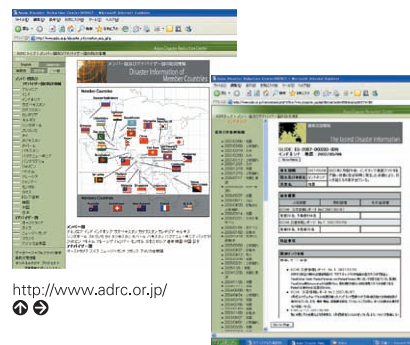
Main Activities

1. Information Sharing

Learning from Disasters, Benefiting from Information

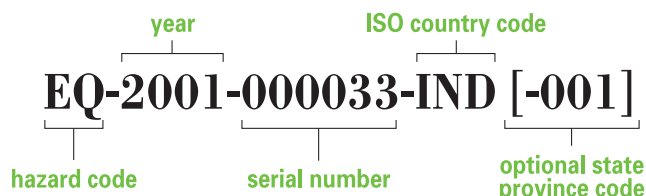
① Provision of Disaster Information

ADRC provides information on the latest disasters in Asia and the other part of the world, disaster management in member countries, and good practices for disaster risk reduction, as well as a multilingual glossary of natural disasters in English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Japanese available on its website. <http://www.adrc.or.jp/>



② Promotion of **GL**lobal **U**nique **D**isaster **I**dentifier (**GLIDE**) Number

ADRC proposed a globally common, unique identification scheme for disaster events, as a tool for facilitating the sharing of disaster information archived by organizations around the world. The idea was shared by various organizations including OCHA/ReliefWeb, and was jointly launched as the new initiative, "GLIDE".



③ Organizing International Meetings

ADRC holds an annual international meeting attended by representatives from member countries and disaster experts from International organizations to promote information sharing, and enhance partnerships among participating countries and organizations.



Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2006 (Republic of Korea)

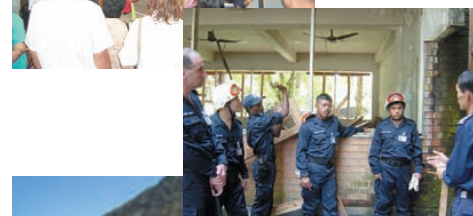
2. Human Resources Development

Disaster Reduction begins with Capacity Building

① Organizing Seminars, Workshops & Trainings on Disaster Reduction

ADRC organizes and conducts various seminars and trainings for fostering human resources capable of pursuing effective disaster management in member countries.

- Seminar on Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM)*
- Seminar on Flood Risk Management (Vietnam)
- Seminar on Earthquake Disaster Management (Mongolia, Bangladesh, and Tajikistan)
- Disaster Management Training for Local Government Officials (Cambodia, Sri Lanka)
- Urban Search and Rescue Training in Singapore (ADRC has supported the participation from 16 member countries to date.)
- Training on Supply Management System (SUMA) in the Philippines
- JICA Seminar on Disaster Management



② Program for Inviting Visiting Researchers from Member Countries

Each year, ADRC invites four officials in charge of disaster management from Member Countries as visiting researchers for a term of about half a year. The researchers are provided with opportunities to discuss challenges for disaster management of each country, enhance understanding of the Disaster Management System, Disaster Reduction, and International Cooperation in Japan.

* ADRC, in cooperation with UN-OCHA (Kobe), developed the Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) as an effective and strategic approach for disaster risk reduction, and disseminates the concept to member countries and other countries in Asia. The concept of TDRM centers around two crucial principles.

They are: "involvement of all stakeholders" and "implementation of measures during all phases of disaster," i.e. prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and rehabilitation/reconstruction. The promotion of TDRM approach to minimize potential impact of natural disasters is in line with the implementation efforts for achieving sustainable development.



Visiting Researchers Program

3. Building Community Capabilities

Community Involvement is a Key to Effective Disaster Reduction

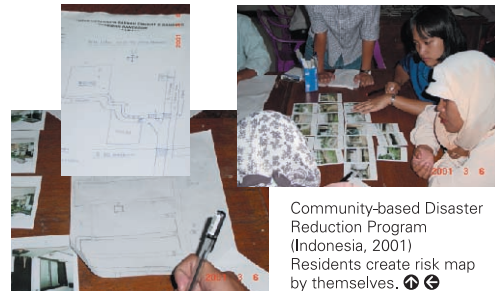
① Development and Dissemination of Tools for Encouraging Community Involvement

Risk reduction measures are most successful and effective when they involve the direct participation of the community most likely to be exposed to hazards. ADRC undertakes various efforts including increasing public awareness of disaster risk management, and development and dissemination of tools for reducing vulnerability of communities.

- Town Watching Program for Disaster Risk Management
- Community-based Disaster Reduction Program (Indonesia, Nepal)
- Creation and Distribution of Posters and Brochures for Disaster Risk Awareness (Papua New Guinea)
- Program for Encouraging Disaster Reduction Educational Programs in Schools (Philippines)



Town Watching Program (Korea, 2004)
Check risks / vulnerabilities by walking around the town



Community-based Disaster Reduction Program (Indonesia, 2001)
Residents create risk map by themselves.

② Assistance for the Activities of Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)

ADRC supports the effort to improve networking among Asian NGOs which play an important role in disaster reduction and response. This leads to more efficient and effective activities for the network members.



<http://www.adrrn.net/>



Program for Encouraging Disaster Reduction Educational Programs in Schools, (Philippines)
Evacuation Drill in School



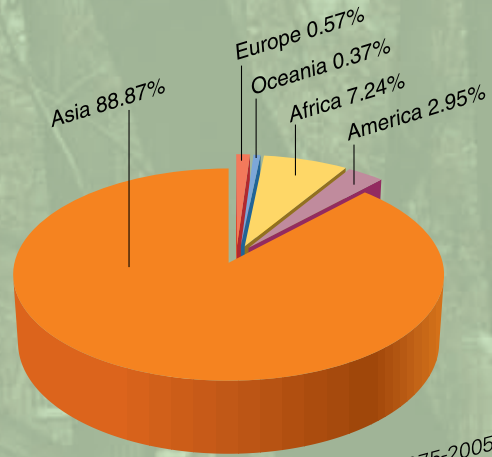
Tsunami Awareness Pamphlet for Residents (PNG)
Dissemination of the pamphlet has helped to reduce the damage.
No casualties were recorded in Tsunami disaster in 2000.

Emerging Challenges in Asia

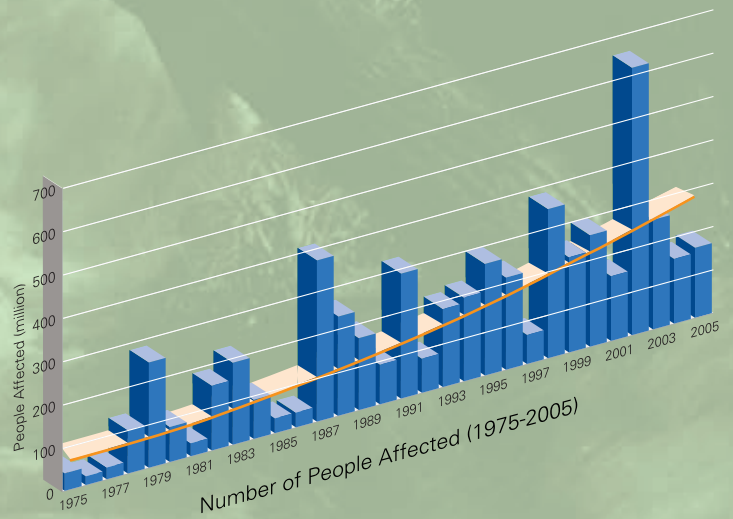
More than 260 million people are affected by natural disasters every year: People in Asia account for 90 % of them.

The number of people affected by natural disasters is on the rise. On an average, more than 40,000 fatalities and 260 million victims were recorded each year between 1994 to 2003. Especially in Asia, massive disasters occur 2 or 3 times a year on an average, causing more than a thousand people to die or become missing. As shown in the statistics, annual average number of people affected in Asia is 230 million, or 90 % of disaster victims are concentrated in Asia.

It is considered that the frequent occurrence of disasters has been brought about by unsustainable population growth, rapid urbanization, environmental disruption such as large-scale deforestation, and global environmental change.



Number of People Affected (By Region) (1975-2005)



Number of People Affected (1975-2005)



Earthquake in Armenia (1988)



Forest Fire in Mongolia (1996)

Disaster Reduction is a MUST for Sustainable Development.

A single disaster can wipe out the annual GDP of a country. In Armenia, for example, the amount of damage caused by the earthquake in 1988 amounted to 908% of the annual GDP in 1990. In Mongolia, the amount of damage caused by forest fire in 1996 was equivalent to approximately twice the annual GDP. Natural disasters deprive people of their accumulated property in a fraction of a second. Natural disasters can be a major obstacle to the sustainable development of a country.



For more information

Please visit our website at www.adrc.asia.

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