Promoting Disaster Reduction through Multi-National Cooperation in Asia region

ADRC Activities

Jun 2009

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

Overview of ADRC (as of April 2009)

- Type: International Organization
- Objectives: To facilitate multi-national cooperation for disaster reduction in the Asian region
- Establishment: July 1998
- Location: Kobe, Hyogo, Japan
- Member: 27 member countries, 5 advisor countries, one observer organization
- Operation: ADRC is operated based on the ADRC Articles adopted at the 5th Steering Committee Meeting in January 2003.
- Annual Income: 317 million yen (FY2007), consisting of membership fees and contracts with UN agencies, Government of Japan, Hyogo Prefectural Government, etc.

Chairman: Shigeru Itoh

Executive Director: Koji Suzuki

1 Senior Expert / 11 Senior Researchers / 5 Researchers

1 Research Associate / 2 Visiting Researchers / 6 Administrative Officers

ADRC Member Countries

27 Member Countries, **5** Advisor Countries, **1** Observer

ADRC Main Activities

1. Information Sharing

(Organizing International Meetings &Seminars, Disaster Information, Publications, Development of Tools, such as GLDE)

2. Human Resource Development

(Seminars &Trainings, VR Programs, Developments of Tools such as TDRM)

3. Building Community Capabilities

(Development of CBHM & Town Watching Method, Tsunami Awareness Projects)

Organizing International Meetings & Forums

○Information Sharing (1)

Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2008

- Report progress and discuss among Member Countries
- Period: 12 - 14 November 2008 • Place: Bali, Indonesia
- Participants: 106 from 24 Countries, UN & International Organizations, NGO's, academic institutions
- ACDR 2009 will be held in Kobe, Japan.

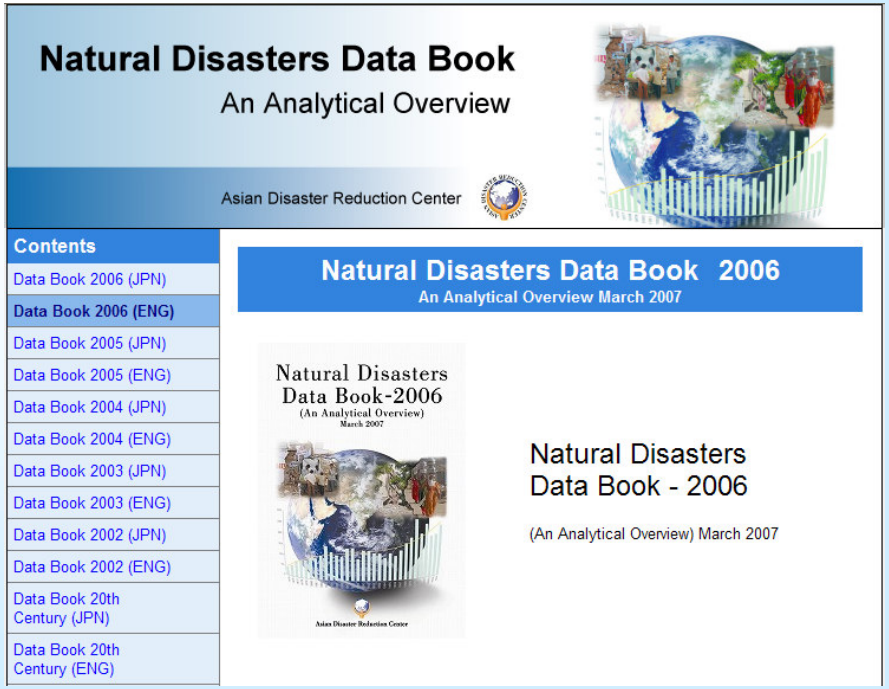
ACDR2008, Bali, Indonesia

Information Provided on Web-Site

○Information Sharing (2)

ADRC website
(http://www.adrc.asia)

- **Latest disaster information**
- **Latest information of member countries**
- **Survey report etc.**



Data Book

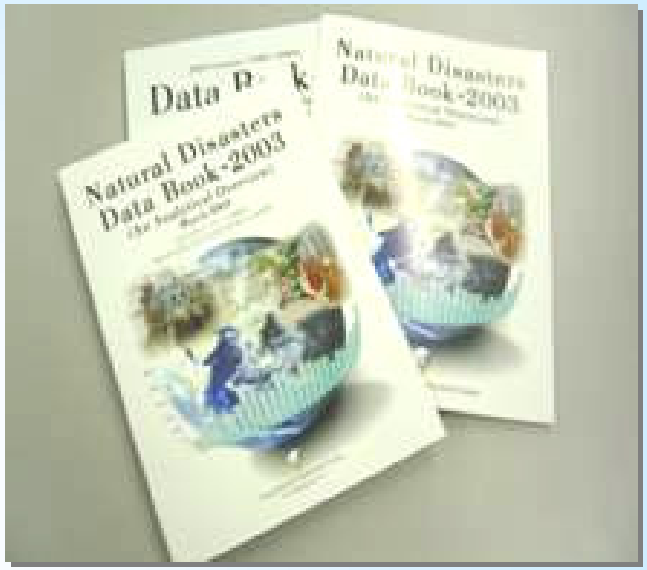
Information Sharing through Publications

○Information Sharing (3)

- **Booklets and Videos**
  - Natural Disaster Data Book
  - TDRM -Good Practices-
  - ADRC Member Country Profiles

- **Newsletters**

  ADRC Highlights



ADRC Highlights

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Monthly News

Vol. 192
March
2009

TOPICS

Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

ADRC Cooperative Project with Singapore: International Urban Search and Rescue Training Course

ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

Mr. Muhammad Khalil Bin Ab Aziz from Malaysia

●Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries

ADRC Cooperative Project with Singapore: International Urban Search and Rescue Training Course

I am CPT Ernest Ong of the Singapore Civil Defence Academy, and I was one of the trainers who taught the 37th International Urban Search and Rescue (IUSAR) Course.

The 37th IUSAR Course was successfully conducted from 5 to 16 January 2009 at the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF), Civil Defence Academy. Four urban search and rescue specialists from Bhutan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and Thailand were invited by the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) to participate in the two-week course along with 19 other participants from Australia, Bangladesh, and Macau.

The main objective of this course was to facilitate the mutual sharing and exchange of technical skills, expertise, and knowledge between international participants in urban search and rescue operations. Apart from learning essential rescue skills and improving their technical know-how, course participants were also given insight into such topics as casualty management and critical incident stress debriefings (CISD). Both of these skills are essential, as they directly impact the well being of both the victim and the rescuer.

Participants visited the Central Fire Station, Disaster Assistance & Rescue Team (DART) Unit, Search Dog Unit, Civil Defence Heritage Gallery, and SCDF Innoventure Land so they could gain a better understanding of the SCDF.

The SCDF is eager to continue working with the ADRC and its member countries toward the goal of reducing disaster risk in Asia.

Asian Disaster Reduction Center

Hitomiraikan 5F, 1-5-2 Wakinohamakaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073 Japan

Tel: 078-262-5540
Fax: 078-262-5546
editor@adrc.asia
http://www.adrc.asia

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●ADRC Visiting Researcher Report

Mr. Muhammad Khalil Bin Ab Aziz from Malaysia

My name is Muhammad Khalil Bin Ab Aziz, and I am from Malaysia, a federation consisting of 13 states and three federal territories covering a total land mass of 329,847 km² (127,355 square miles), located in Southeast Asia. Our capital city is Kuala Lumpur, while the administrative center of the federal government is located in Putrajaya. The population currently stands at over 27 million. The country is separated into two regions -Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia- by the South China Sea. Bordering Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, and the Philippines, Malaysia is located near the equator and has a tropical climate. The head of state is the Yang di-Pertuan Agong (conventionally referred to as 'the King' or 'the Agong') and the government is headed by a Prime Minister.

As an assistant director and weather forecaster for the Malaysian Meteorological Department at Kota Kinabalu International Airport, my responsibilities include monitoring and forecasting the weather and issuing weather warnings for public and aviation purposes. I am also responsible for briefing disaster management committee members when weather-related disasters have occurred or are likely to occur, and to provide meteorological information for search and rescue operations.

Since Malaysia is located in a tropical zone and is surrounded by the sea, the most common disaster the country experiences is flooding, mostly during the northeast monsoon season (November to March). The state of Sabah, located on Borneo Island, also experiences heavy rain and flooding as a result of the tail-effect (outer-band) of tropical storms that pass over the Philippines toward the Asian continent. Malaysia is also prone to disasters like landslides, flash floods, haze (local and trans boundary) and forest fires.

I've been selected to be a visiting researcher at the ADRC for the January - June 2009 term. The Visiting Researcher Program is giving me an opportunity to share information and experiences with fellow ADRC member countries and to develop information networks related to disaster risk reduction. I would like to express my appreciation to the ADRC as well as to the government of Japan for offering me this opportunity. It is sure to enhance my knowledge and understanding of disasters, and thus to help me and my department to cooperate with other agencies in Malaysia to promote better ways of dealing with disasters in the future.

For Inquiries & Subscription Information

For more information or details regarding email subscriptions to this newsletter, please email editor@adrc.asia.

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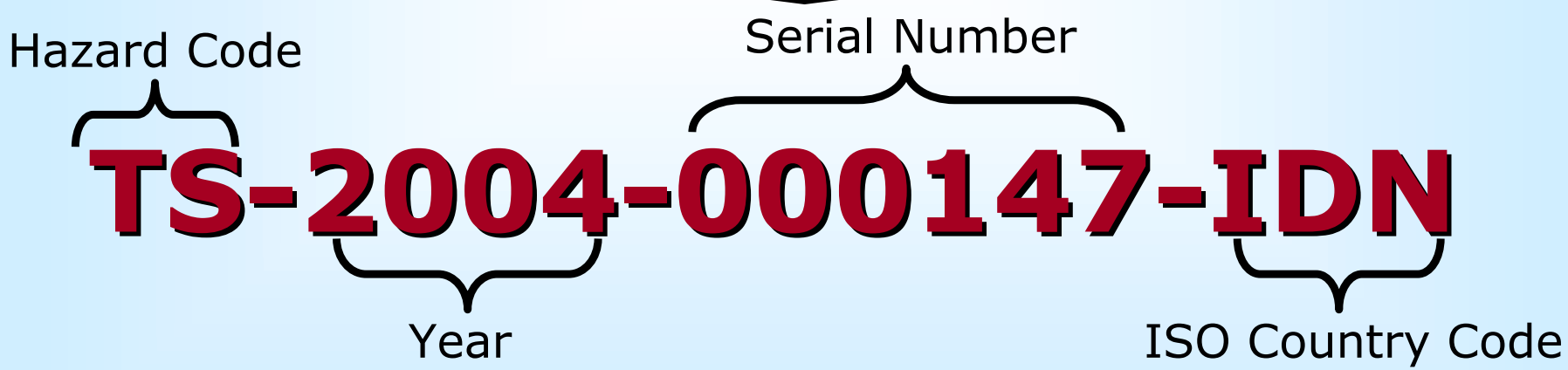
GLIDE (GLobal unique disaster IDEntifier)

○Information Sharing (4)

"ADRC proposed universal tool for effective sharing of existing disaster data sources"

(Example)

Tsunami Disaster in the Indian Ocean	The Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami	Tsunami Disaster on December 26, 2004



〔 **DR**: Drought **EQ**: Earthquake **EP**: Epidemic **FL**: Flood **TS**: Tsunami **SL**: Slide **VO**: Volcano **WV**: Wave / Surge **WF**: Wild Fire **ST**: Severe Local Storm 〕

Visiting Researcher Program

○ Human Resource Development (1)

Outline： The first term (January-June) and the second term (July-December)
2 Officers in charge of Disaster Management from member countries
※ Basically 6-month stay but 3-month stay is also acceptable

Results ： 40 Visiting Researches

Objectives： (1) To learn the Disaster Management in Japan and other countries

(2) To enhance human network among Asian Countries

Lecture of disaster countermeasures at Electric Power Company

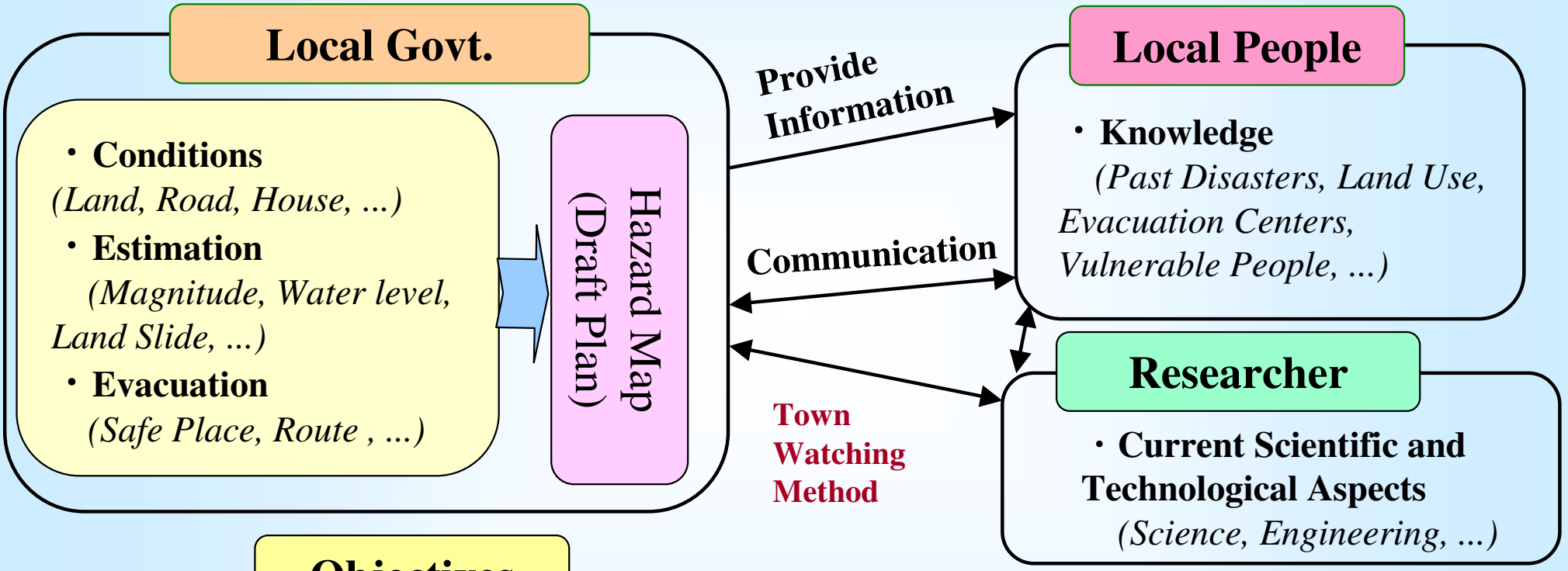
Field survey in Earthquake affected area

Field trip to tsunami disaster management drill

Community Based Hazard Mapping

○ Capacity Building at Community (1)

ADRC developed the tool for capacity building at community level



Objectives

- To involve local residents in developing the hazard map for their community
- To reflect the opinions of local residents in policies made by their local government
- To promote common understanding of risks among local residents, government officials and experts

Community Based Hazard Mapping
～Effective tool for raising public awareness～

○ Capacity Building at Community (2)

Step 1

Field Survey

Residents, Officers in Local Govt. and Experts survey the positive and negative features relating to the disaster risk by walking around in the town.

Step 2

Develop a Map

Visualize the observations and findings on the map. Enhance the awareness and cooperation through the task.

Step 3

Discussion and Presentation

What are the problems? Who is responsible?
What are the countermeasures?
Share the information.

Main Activities of Sentinel Asia

Emergency Observation

ADRC counterparts and JPT members

Request

Feedback

Images and Disaster information

ADRC

Yes? No?

Disaster Information

Sentinel Asia Server

If yes, Forward request

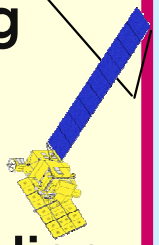
Feedback

Satellite images

Space Agencies

Observation planning

Disaster Observation

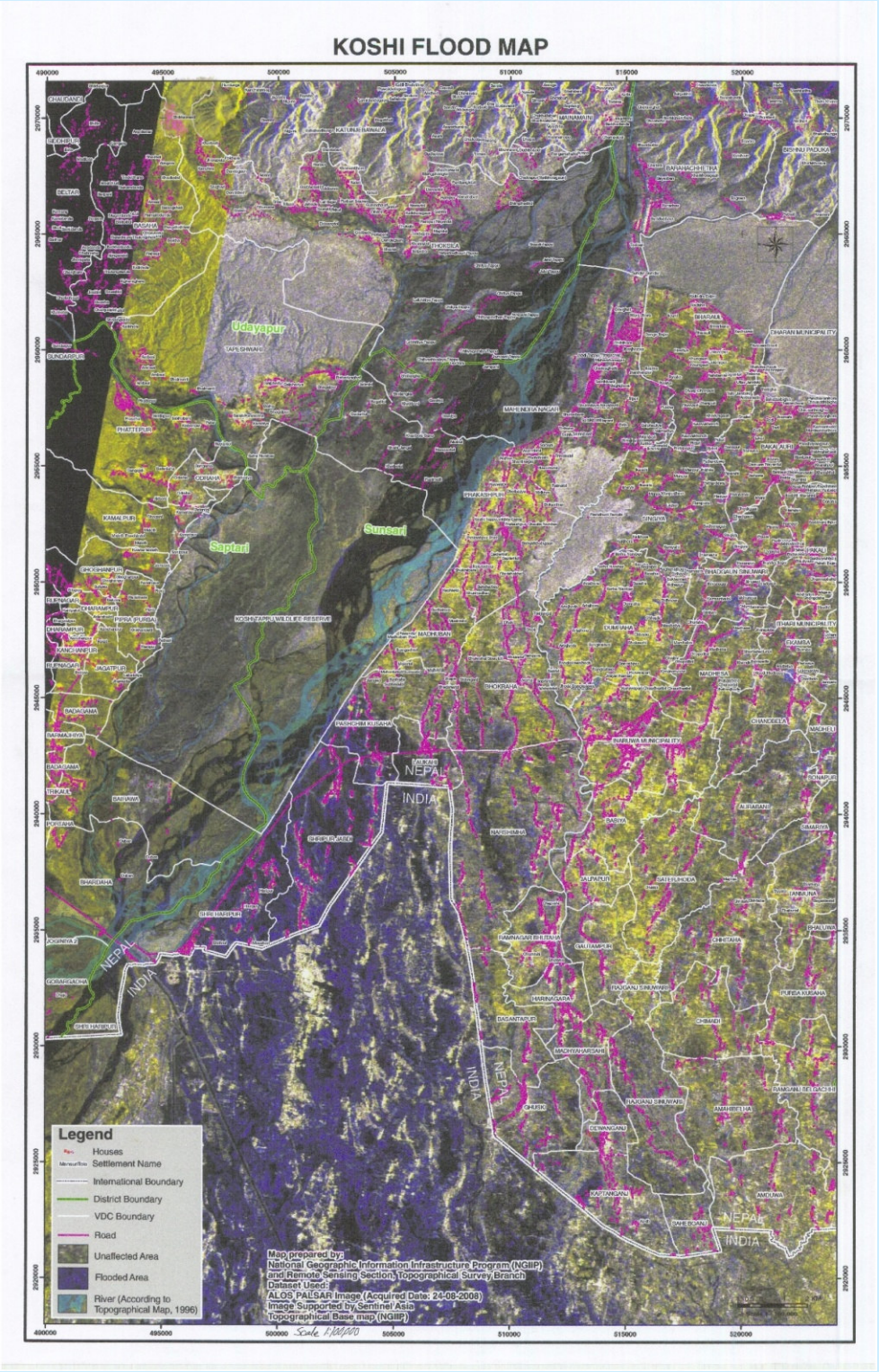


Remote-Sensing

ADRC: A member of JPT for development of Sentinel Asia
The gateway of emergency observation
Conducting follow up for data utilization
Engaged in capacity building

Example of utilisazation of satellite data from Sentinel Asia.

The flood of Koshi river, Nepal, 2008



http://www.dos.gov.np/

Example of the flood of Koshi river, Nepal, 2008

- Distribution target from Survey Department
  - The Prime Ministers Office
  - National Planning Commission
  - Nepal Police
  - Ministry of Home Affairs
  - Ministry of Land Reform and Management
  - The Red Cross

- Utilization of Flood map on Ministry of Home Affairs
  - The victim's rescue
  - Restoration plan of disaster area
  - Supply of subsidy to victim

Current/Future activities of ADRC on application of satellite technology

- Emergency observation through Sentinel Asia
- Capacity building for utilization of satellite image data

  http://www.geoinfo.ait.ac.th/adrc/
- Utilization of satellite data For Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)

ADRC promotes disaster reduction through multi-national/multi-stakeholder/multi-lateral cooperation in the Asian region.

http://www.adrc.asia

Thank You For Your Attention