

Founding members



Established in 1986, the **Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC)** is the lead regional resource centre dedicated to disaster reduction in Asia and the Pacific. ADPC works with governments, NGOs and communities of the Asia and Pacific region to strengthen their capacities in disaster preparedness, mitigation and response through professional training, technical assistance, regional programme management and information and research. www.adpc.net



CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. Our mission is to serve individuals and families in the poorest communities in the world. Drawing strength from our global diversity, resources and experience, we promote innovative solutions and are advocates for global responsibility. We facilitate lasting change by strengthening capacity for self-help; providing economic opportunity; delivering relief in emergencies; influencing policy decisions at all levels; and addressing discrimination in all its forms. www.care.org



The **International Environment and Disaster Management, Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University (IEDM/KU)** seeks to enhance education research and practise in the field of environment and disaster management and to extend the research areas in the developing countries in Asia, having the highest population, high vulnerability and different types of natural and man-made disasters. The focus of its research is on developing a unique process-oriented participatory approach of environment and disaster management through direct involvement and ownership of the community. www.iedm.ges.kyoto-u.ac.jp



IUCN – the World Conservation Union is the world's largest and most important conservation network. The Union brings together 83 States, 111 government agencies, more than 800 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and some 10,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership. www.iucn.org



The **Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)** is an independent, international research institute specializing in sustainable development and environment issues. From fundamental research at the cutting edge to capacity building with developing countries, our goal is to bridge science to policy. www.sei.se



WWF is one of the world's largest and most experienced independent conservation organizations, with almost 5 million supporters and a global network active in more than 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity; ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable; and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption. www.panda.org

DEWGA collaborates with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).



DISASTER ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP FOR ASIA (DEWGA)



Asian Disaster Preparedness Center



STOCKHOLM ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE



Introduction

Recognising that Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Environmental Management (EM) are closely linked and that it is essential to systematically integrate environmental management into disaster risk reduction framework and vice-versa, the Disaster Environment Working Group for Asia (DEWGA) consists of six founding institutions from the Asia region, committed to increase the synergy between the two sectors and promote effective integration of environmental management concerns into disaster risk reduction programmes and vice versa.

Established in 2007, DEWGA acts as a small, semi-formal, open-ended, regional, action-oriented, cross-sectoral partnership to explore avenues through which the partners can work with each other to minimise long term environmental impacts and degradation, as a key disaster risk reduction measure.



Objective

The aim of DEWGA is to create a multi-disciplinary community of practitioners in the Asia Pacific region that is concerned with closing the gap among sectors with a view to increasing effectiveness of risk reduction – presuming that environmental sustainability is a key success factor – whether specific interventions on the ground or long-term strategies. It is envisaged that this will be achieved through the following objectives.

- i) Serve as a collective body to advocate and promote linkages between disaster risk reduction and environmental management.
- ii) Create a space in which the partners can identify and undertake bilateral or joint programmes of work.
- iii) Exchange information on new and upcoming initiatives (e.g. events, programmes, research and publications) that provide structured opportunities to strengthen these linkages.
- iv) Actively promote integration of disaster risk reduction and environmental sustainability into respective work programmes.

DEWGA and beyond

To promote collaboration and avoid unnecessary duplication in the number of disaster reduction partnerships in the region, the Group has sought association with the ISDR-Asia Partnership and of the UNEP-led ISDR Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction, to ensure that the initiative is better linked and integrates its activities along the lines of the Hyogo Framework for Action.



Contacts

Aloysius J. Rego (Loy) (ajrego@adpc.net)
Wayne Ulrich (wulrich@care.org)
Rajib Shaw (shaw@global.mbox.media.kyoto-u.ac.jp)
Anshuman Saikia (anshuman@iucnt.org)
Kai Kim Chiang (kaikim.chiang@sei.se)
Angie Woo (angie.woo@wwfgreatermekong.org)

