

# monthly update



## ADPC monthly activities update–January 2009

Greetings from Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

The New Year is ushered with several new projects and initiatives. Sharing through the e-update are some key activities, events & news.

### Awards & Accolades

*ADPC Executive Director honored for outstanding contribution to South-South Cooperation:* Dr. Bhichit Rattakul was honored for his outstanding contribution to South South Cooperation at the 5th Annual United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation held at the U.N. Headquarters on the 19 Dec 2008. The event also launched the first Global South-South Development Expo from 16-19 Dec 2008 in New York.

Dr. Bhichit in his address on South South Cooperation on Climate Change daptation and Disaster Risk Reduction shared ADPC processes, resources in devising solutions for replications across countries of the South. For more information on the event, visit <http://ssc.undp.org>

*ADPC received the World Center of Excellence award at the First World Landslide forum:* The forum held from the 18-21 November 2008 at the United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan was a global cooperation platform to contribute for landslide and other related earth system risk reduction. ADPC received the World Center of Excellence award for promoting knowledge sharing, innovations and institutions with South-South focus network on Landslide Risk Reduction in Asia. For more details:

<http://www.iclhq.org/>

### New activities

- ADPC will provide technical inputs and increase the capacity and the knowledge of relevant institutions and agencies to deal with chemical accident prevention and preparedness and provide them with the elements to develop and/or review a system for the control of major chemical accident prevention and preparedness, paving the way for the further development and implementation of a *Chemical Accident Prevention Programme (CAPP) in South East Asia*.
- Other projects include *Community-based disaster preparedness in cyclone and flood* exposed regions of Rakhine State, Myanmar and *elaboration of*

*the Vulnerability & Capacity Assessment (VCA) practitioner's manual and training of VCA facilitators in Vietnam.*

### **Building partnerships**

- *Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 22 Dec 2008 with Myanmar Engineering Society (MES), Yangon, Myanmar to jointly develop the overview and profile of the hazards of the Union of Myanmar, to create increased awareness on earthquake risk and promote culture of seismic vulnerability reduction. Additionally, ADPC will assist in strengthening MES to build its capacity.*
- *Early in February, Minister of Disaster Management and Human Rights, Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding on roadmap for future DRR collaborations. The MoU was signed by Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, Minister of Disaster Management and Human Rights, Sri Lanka and Dr. Bhichit. U.W.L. Chandradasa, Director Technology & Mitigation, Disaster Management Centre, Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights, Sri Lanka and Ambassador of Sri Lanka, H.E. Mr. Jayaratna Banda Disanayaka witnesses to this MoU signing.*

### **Training & Learning**

- **Strengthening Community-Based Approaches to Management of AHI in Asia, 26-31 January 2009, Bangkok**

The second training workshop for Community-Based AHI Management Practitioners is part of the project on 'Strengthening Community-Based Approaches to Management of AHI in Asia', initiated by the AHI-NGO-RC/RC-Asia Partnership – comprised of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), CARE, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and funded by the Canadian government via the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The workshop's overall objective was to sensitize community-level practitioners to tools and processes that are currently available to strengthen their work at the community level in managing different aspects of AHI. Practitioners were given overview of 'good practices' and useful tools – based on past experience of community-based management of AHI in Asia – and taught to think critically about these and how they can be applied in their own context

Practitioners contributed to the evaluation of the training materials and, through this evaluation, to the finalisation of a training package for community-based management of AHI

Participants at the workshop were community-level practitioners, i.e. representatives of NGOs, CBOs, national Red Cross societies and other organisations working *with* communities to manage the risks of AHI, from the seven target countries of the

project, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia and Myanmar.

- **8th Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Course (EVRC-8), 26 Jan-6 Feb, Bangkok**

The regional course on Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction for 32 senior officials, professionals, practitioners from 11 countries including Thailand, Hong Kong, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Fiji, Papua Guinea and Myanmar included all learning components of earthquake risk reduction with a perfect blend and balance of lectures, experience sharing, case studies, panel discussion, field visit and hand on exercise. The course trained participants on earthquake vulnerability reduction strategies, know-how for the development of organized approaches for earthquake vulnerability reduction, knowledge and skills for implementation of mitigation initiatives, appreciation of risk communication, and analysis of the need to develop multi-sectoral partnerships for successful implementation of mitigation measures.

- **Second National Public Health and Emergency Management in Asia and the Pacific (PHEMAP) Course Coordinators Workshop, 2-6 Feb, Bangkok, Thailand**

The PHEMAP programme is designed to strengthen the national capacities for managing health risk of emergencies in Asia and the Pacific regions.

Under the PHEMAP programme, the second National PHEMAP Course Coordinators Workshop was organized to familiarize PHEMAP Course Coordinators with the concept of the PHEMAP course curriculum and to provide guidance on conducting National PHEMAP Courses including administrative procedures and teaching methodologies. Representatives of Five (5) member states of WHO-SEARO and three (3) member states of WHO-WPRO will participate in the PHEMAP Course Coordinators Workshop.

The workshop will enable participants to conduct a national PHEMAP course based on the framework provided by the Inter-regional PHEMAP curriculum, on the principles of adult learning and adapted to their national context. The collaborating partners were WHO-WPRO, WHO-SEARO and the Royal Government of Norway and ADPC.

- Activities undertaken under the *Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE)*, funded by the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA-USAID) are as follows,

Country project events:

*Indonesia:* PROMISE-Indonesia conducted training for first responders on 10 Jan for the community at Rukun Warga 1 of Kelurahan Kebon Baru. The course costs came from the community's own resources.

*Philippines:* The Technical Working Group (TWG) held a Reflection Workshop on 13 Jan to get the lessons learned, suggestions, and reflections of the TWG about their working experience in the PROMISE project.

## **New Publications**

### **Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in the Education Sector**

- **Lao PDR**
- **Philippines**
- **Cambodia**

These studies on impacts of disasters on the education sector in Lao PDR, Philippines & Cambodia builds an evidence-based rationale to raise awareness on integrating DRR concerns into education policies, programs and plans and to advocate for changing practices in school construction especially in incorporating disaster risk resilient features in new school construction.

The publications under the project, MDRD-Education has been implemented by the UNDP and ADPC, with support from ECHO. Under the ADPC facilitated Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) on Disaster Management umbrella, this collaborative (ECHO-UNDP-ADPC) project was implemented as a major contribution to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The project was designed with the primary focus to assist the Ministry of Education in three RCC countries to implement a Priority Implementation Partnership (PIP), working with the National Disaster Management Organizations, to undertake integration of DRR into the secondary school curriculum and promoting resilient construction of new schools using research on the past impact of disasters on the education sector.

## **ADPC Website Resources**

Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE) resources on the website:

- *Disaster Mitigation in Asia, Issue No. 64*
- PROMISE's quarter report.
- New PROMISE webpage and online documents for the final reports on completed country projects, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.  
<http://www.adpc.net/v2007/Programs/UDRM/PROMISE/Default.asp>

## **Forthcoming Activities**

- Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), a 17-country regional cooperation on the early warning of tsunami and hydro-meteorological hazards facilitated by the ADPC, is organizing a *regional training course on tsunami modeling*, as part of its program to build capacities of national warning

centers of member countries. The course is scheduled from 9-20 March 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand.

### **ADPC Training Schedule for 2009**

- **6th Hospital Emergency Preparedness and Response (HEPR-6)**, 16-20 Feb, Bangkok, Fee: 1500 US\$
- **Disaster Risk Management**, 9-20 Mar, Gilgit, Pakistan, Fee: 2000 US\$
- **GIS for Disaster Risk Management (an introductory course) (GDRM-3)**, 11-22 May, Bangkok , Fee: 2000 US\$
- **Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in local Governance (MDRRG-4)**, 18-22 May, Jakarta/ Bandung, Indonesia, Fee: 1500 US\$
- **9th Inter-regional Course on Public Health in Emergency Management in Asia and the Pacific (PHEMAP-9)**, 1-12 Jun, Bangkok , Fee: 2500 US\$
- **Public Health in Complex Emergencies (PHCE-8)**, 6-18 Jul, Bangkok , Fee: 2400 US\$
- **Regional Training Course on Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR-18)**, 20-31 Jul, Bangkok , Fee: 2000 US\$
- **End-to-End Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (EWS-2)**, 14-25 Sep, Bangkok , Fee: 2500 US\$
- **Flood Disaster Risk Management (FDRM-10)**, 12-23 Oct, Bangkok, Fee: 2000 US\$
- **Disaster Management Course (DMC-39)**, 2-20 Nov, Bangkok, Fee: 2500 US\$
- **Climate Risk Management: Science, Institutions, and Society (CRM-3)**, 16-27 Nov, Bangkok , Fee: 2500 US\$
- **GIS for Disaster Risk Management(Advance level) (GDRM-4)**, 7-18 Dec, Bangkok, Fee: 2000 US\$

Please browse through our website [www.adpc.net](http://www.adpc.net) for more ADPC news updates, publications, events and training details for 2009.