



Urban Disaster Risk Management (UDRM)

The outcome of Asia's high rate of urbanization has been the expansion of urban populations in geographic areas which are prone to disaster impact. The result is an increased vulnerability of populations and infrastructure. Disaster mitigation measures to reduce vulnerability have rarely been attempted in most Asian countries, such as:

- specific hazards-resistant building and infrastructure
- flood and landslide control measures
- incorporation of disaster vulnerability into land use planning
- introduction of regulatory measures in industrialized zones

Activities undertaken by the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP) over a period of ten years, have demonstrated the effectiveness of mitigation measures in reducing natural disaster vulnerability. Demonstration projects in ten countries, information dissemination and networking activities, and the regional training courses on Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction, Flood Risk Mitigation, Technological Risk Reduction and Urban Disaster Mitigation have convincingly brought to light the opportunities for high impact interventions. Local officials in selected cities have positively responded to the initial project activities by the way of funding and incorporating disaster vulnerability considerations to their buildings and zoning regulations. Currently, a significant high demand is apparent for Urban Disaster Risk Management (UDRM). This demand for expansion of UDRM activities has been set to improve response, preparedness capacities to reduce the vulnerability.

As ADPC has been implementing and linking diverse activities through out the region, it has recognized the importance of enhancing the scope of AUDMP through the theme action which is focused on Urban Disaster Risk Management. This has become a permanent focus area of ADPC. UDRM team of ADPC will continue to facilitate interventions for promotion of local and traditional practices, research and technology transfer, replication of best practices, promotion of innovative solutions, the development of information products to capture experiences for their dissemination, as well as training and capacity-building.

Contact Address

Mr. Muhibuddin Bin Usamah
Regional and National Training Coordinator
Urban Disaster Risk Management

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
PO Box 4, Klong Luang,
Pathumthani 12120 Thailand
Tel: +66 2 516 5900 to 10, Ext 332; Fax: +66 2 524 5360
Email: muhibuddin@adpc.net
URL: <http://www.adpc.net>



Organized by:



Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

Established in 1986, ADPC is a leading regional resource center dedicated to disaster reduction. ADPC works with governments, NGOs and communities of the Asia and Pacific regions to strengthen their capacities in disaster preparedness, mitigation and response through training, technical assistance, regional program management, country project demonstration, information sharing and research.



2nd Regional Training Course on

GOVERNANCE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**Bangkok, Thailand,
17 – 21 September 2007**





Introduction

The process of development, and the kind of development choices made in many countries, itself, creates disaster risks. With disaster risk reduction considerations not featuring into the project design of the development activities, increases the risks, thus increasing the negative impact of the disasters on the socio economic set up of the country.

Thus development activity and disaster risk reduction representing two sides of the same coin have to be dealt with in unison, with mainstreaming disaster risk management into development policy, planning and implementation.

In many Asian countries in Asia, a national-level institution or a ministry handles the subject of Disaster Management. It is the observation of ADPC that the activities and functional responsibilities of such institutions are rarely decentralized, or the authority of such institutions has not been adequately delegated to lower levels of governments. This needs to be viewed as a hindrance for achieving the disaster resilience at community and local levels. The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center advocates strongly for decentralization of disaster management subject to local government sector to facilitate building safer communities and to support sustainable development.

While selecting the appropriate strategy that should be adopted by respective countries, it is important to identify a practical and easy approach for implementing effective advocacy campaigns for mainstreaming risk management at local government. A compromise for integrating disaster risk management into local level planning and programming therefore would require organized action or series of actions, and involve national level ministries and implementing local government institutions. These actions should be taken to influence people, policies, regulations, practices and systems for enforcement, in order to bring about necessary changes. Good governance for disaster reduction exists where there is adequate space for the participation of different stakeholders, especially at the level of local government.

Importance of mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction is also recognized by the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) adopted at the World Congress of Disaster Reduction (WCDR), where integration of disaster risk reduction in the development programs is a priority.

I Objectives

The overall objective of the course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction is to develop a cadre of local government professionals sensitive to issues presented by the recurrent hazards. The course intends to increase their knowledge, as well as other stakeholders in disaster risk reduction, on urban governance and disaster risk management to be responsive to the needs of vulnerability reduction, and to create opportunities for mainstreaming risk reduction as a component of urban governance. Specifically, the course aims at building capacities of local government officials, NGOs working in urban areas and other stakeholders for more understanding of governance issues in relation to disaster risk reduction at local level. The secondary objective of the training is to build the capacity of national training partner institutions, which will make an attempt to institutionalize the training program at national level.

I Course Approach and Content

The Training consists of a series of lectures and group discussion on various issues on governance and disaster risk reduction. The course consists of several broad related issues of governance, namely: Vulnerability and Governance; Institutional Aspects of Local Disaster Risk Management; Approaches, Systems and Methods for integration of disaster risk reduction in governance and Planning for Change, with particular emphasis on:

- Developing and implementing the city-level Risk Reduction Plans
- Institutionalizing of community-based Disaster Risk Management in local government policy and development programs.

Under those broad issues, the course consists of the following subjects:

1. Introduction to hazards
2. Concepts of vulnerability to disasters
3. Concepts of governance for disaster risk reduction
4. Decentralization and disaster management
5. Urban land administration and disaster risk reduction
6. Legal and institutional structures relevant to disaster mitigation
7. Generating information for local disaster risk reduction
8. Participatory approaches in governance and disaster risk reduction
9. Stakeholder Analysis
10. First responses at the municipal, ward and community levels
11. Dealing with informal settlements
12. Disaster risk reduction experiences at the local level
13. Attribute of gender, ethnics, minorities and migrant population to disaster risk reduction
14. Case studies and good governance practices to disaster risk reduction

I Target Participants

The course is targeted at representatives of local government ministries/departments, urban emergency services and planning functions related to risk reduction from PROMISE cities, local government training institutions who can implement the course at a national level, NGOs involved in urban community development initiatives, existing city networks, and private sectors.

I Course Fee

The course fee is US\$ 1,500 per participant inclusive of training course materials, coffee breaks, meals and accommodation. Course fee should be paid by money transfer /international demand draft (DD) in advance or by cash at the time of course registration. Kindly confirm mode of payment.

I Discounts

For sponsoring organizations:
Send five participants to the course and enjoy the privilege of sending a sixth participant, full course fee waived.

I Language Requirements

All teaching and course materials are in English. It is essential that participants are fully conversant in English.

I Resource Persons

Resource persons are selected experts from international organizations, educational and research institutions, national and local government, disaster risk reduction practitioners and ADPC.

I Application

Interested persons may apply directly but preferably be nominated by their employers, sponsoring agencies, NGOs and private organizations.

Please request application form by sending an email to Mr. Muhibuddin Bin Usamah, UDRM's Regional and National Training Coordinator at muhibuddin@adpc.net.

The cut off date for application is 2 September 2007. In consideration of course efficiency and effectiveness, seats are limited to 30. ADPC will inform applicants once the nomination is accepted.

I Venue

Bangkok, Thailand

