

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

Title of initiative:	1) Mission on policy dialogue for high level administrative policy makers on establishing a tsunami early warning mechanism in the Indian Ocean 2) Study tour on national tsunami warning system implementations for high level administrators responsible for tsunami warning activities 3) Perception study on tsunami awareness in Indonesia 4) Wide dissemination of “Inamura-no-hi” in the tsunami affected countries
Countries primarily supported:	Countries affected by the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004
Duration:	From 15 January 2005 to 31 December 2006

Objectives

The objectives of the initiative were to:

- Facilitate local arrangement for a scoping meeting of relevant organizations on the margin of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Kobe, Japan, 2005) to map out and coordinate activities on tsunami early warning systems;
- Facilitate training and familiarization meetings and visits concerning tsunami early warning systems by affected country representatives;
- Assist with the development of information materials for practitioners and community leaders on tsunami early warning systems and community preparedness, in partnership with UNESCO/IOC, UN/ISDR-PPEW and other relevant parties;
- Provide information, technical support and consultancy to UN/ISDR-PPEW and other relevant parties.

Achievements

- **Policy Dialogue**
 - A scoping meeting of relevant organizations was facilitated by the ADRC on the margins of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (2005) to map out and coordinate activities on tsunami early warning systems.
 - Policy dialogue for high level administrative policy-makers on establishing a Tsunami Early Warning System in the Indian Ocean was organized by the UN/ISDR secretariat and ADRC (22-24 February 2005) with 24 participants from 10 countries in the Indian Ocean region.
- **Training and Study Tours**
 - Study tours for national experts from 26 Indian Ocean countries were organized jointly by the ADRC, UNESCO/IOC and the UN/ISDR secretariat to visit and observe existing tsunami early warning systems in Japan (11-14 July 2005, 23 participants and 6 experts) and Hawaii (26-29 July 2005, 33 participants and 15 experts). The participants have enhanced their knowledge and capacity to identify requirements for national tsunami warning and mitigation systems. The enhanced knowledge and capacity have already resulted in concrete actions of setting up national tsunami early warning centres and providing public information products.

➤ **Development of information materials**

- The ADRC previously produced two versions (for adults and children) of tsunami awareness booklets by introducing an old Japanese educational story on tsunamis “Inamura-no-hi” in nine languages, and distributed a total of 1,000 copies to eight countries in collaboration with the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN). Under the joint initiative with the UN/ISDR secretariat, and in collaboration with UNESCO/IOC and the ADRRN members, 5,000 copies of the children versions of the booklets were printed and distributed to Bangladesh, India and Indonesia. Additionally, another 5,000 copies of the children versions was printed and distributed to Malaysia, Singapore and Sri Lanka. Both English and French versions of the booklets were distributed to African countries, Somalia, Kenya, Seychelles, Tanzania, Comoros, Mozambique, Madagascar, South Africa, Mauritius, Re Union, and Djibouti. Additional 30,000 copies of the English version and 20,000 copies of the French version were printed and delivered to the UN/ISDR Africa Office for wider dissemination.⁷²

A perception study was carried out in Indonesia from December 2005 – April 2006 to collect the information, experiences and perceptions on the Tsunami disaster from local residents, elementary school students, teachers and government officials. More than 1,000 responses were collected in each of the three locations, Nias Island, Simeulue Island and West Coast of Aceh. The perception study served as a pilot project to educate 5th and 6th grade school children about tsunami and other natural disasters and to teach them on simulations of evacuation. In coordination with the Ministry of Education of Indonesia, the ADRC is promoting the replication of this project in Indonesia.⁷³



Photo 12: Study Tour, Lecture on Japan’s Disaster Management in Cabinet Office (CAO)



Photo 13: Perception Study, Questionnaire Survey in Indonesia



Photo 14: Study Tour, Operation in Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)

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⁷² <http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/inamura/top.html> <http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/inamura/list.html>

⁷³ http://web.adrc.or.jp/publications/Indonesia_Survey/NIAS/en/index.html

http://web.adrc.or.jp/publications/Indonesia_Survey/WEST%20ACEH/en/index.html

http://web.adrc.or.jp/publications/Indonesia_Survey/SIMEULUE/en/index.html