

Official Statement

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

Executive Director, Koji Suzuki

On behalf of Asian Disaster Reduction Center, I would express my sincere gratitude to give ADRC an opportunity to make an official statement at AMCDRR2018.

Asian Disaster Reduction Center ADRC based in Kobe, Japan established in 1998 for more resilience in Asia and the Pacific. I am happy to inform all of you that this year is the 20th anniversary of our organization.

Today I would share with you about our commitment to Sendai Framework for DRR. Out of the 4 priorities, ADRC focuses on the 1st priority of action: understanding disaster risk, with a system to integrate disaster data and disaster databases by assigning unique ID number to each disaster event.

The system assigns each disaster event with the unique ID number. The ID number consists of a type of disaster like TC for tropical cyclone, year of the event happened and its serial number of the year, and ISO code of the country where the disaster affected. ADRC developed and named this system as Globally Unique Disaster Identifier, GLIDE for short.

We have partners jointly promoting this system.

ADRC, CRED, Relief Web, IFRC are the operator organizations. FAO, UNOSAT, Typhoon Committee, JAXA are the users. UNDP and UNISDR endorsed this system.

So far, the GLIDE system has assigned more than 6000 disaster events with unique ID number.

However, for these 10 years, the system does not have any substantial and/or necessary upgrading or improvement. As of today, we have identified the critical

challenges in the current system as a reliable and practical global infrastructure for disaster data and databases.

The system needs to have a formal governing mechanism among the partners.

Expert reviews are required for avoiding duplication and/or incorrect ID numbers for each disaster.

Since EM-DAT is recognized as the de-facto standard of disaster data, the system needs to keep compatibility with EM-DAT.

We have to enhance robustness of the system and provide user support in times of trouble.

We have to develop application programming interface (API) for encouraging adoption of the system by potential partners.

We have started actively working with those challenges from April this year.

We have made several consultations with Relief web NY, Tohoku University and Business Communities for identifying the challenges of the current system.

ADRC committed this issue by sharing the challenges of the current system at the

Typhoon Committee meeting Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, June in Ulsan, Korea.

We have started practical coordination for resource mobilization with Lloyd Register Foundation based in London.

ADRC will be organizing our annual meeting, Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction, 2018 on 30th and 31st October, in Hyogo, Japan. In the meeting, this issue will be discussed among the member countries.

I would thank Cabinet Office of Japan to support the GLIDE which is incorporated in the annual white paper on disaster management 2018, the official document on disaster management, Government of Japan.

I would close ADRC official statement by saying, we would continue to commit ourselves to promoting Sendai Framework for DRR by overcoming those challenges and making a new infrastructure for integrating disaster data and disaster databases.

I thank you very much for your kind attention.