



Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program

Monthly Activity Highlights

July/August 2000

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National Demonstration Projects

Bangladesh Urban Disaster Mitigation Project (BUDMP)

BUDMP's Steady Progress

The BUDMP is making a steady progress and preparing the groundwork for implementing its various activities. With a view to introduce BUDMP to the community, an orientation was organized by the project team at Gaibandha Municipality Office.

Also, besides completing the recruitment of personnel for the project and orienting them, several field visits to identify partners and assess vulnerability situations were conducted. Documentation work, such as the Memorandum of Understanding with partner NGOs, baseline survey form, criteria for volunteers, brochure are also being carried out.

Cambodian Community-Based Flood Mitigation and Preparedness Project (CBFMP)

Project Expansion with DIPECHO

The Federal Proposal to expand Community Based Disaster Program (CBDP) under CBFMP submitted to Disaster Preparedness - European Community Humanitarian Office (DIPECHO) has been approved in principle.

Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) is preparing to recruit more Red Cross Volunteers to expand CBDP in new target provinces of Kratie, Pursat and Kampong Speu.

National Workshop Planning

The Management Committee of the CBFMP met and planned to organize a national workshop on disaster management. This workshop will incorporate the lessons learned so far, including the financial management aspect, and resource development for flood mitigation activities.

Local Capacity Building for Disaster Management

In the pursuit to facilitate capacity building at the local level, staffs from CRC attended the Community Based Disaster Mitigation Course



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organized by ADPC in Bangkok from July 28, 2000.

Similarly, CRC organized an Emergency Response Group Meeting to provide and exchange information on the flood situation between NGOs and international organizations. This meeting also discussed actions to be taken by the CRC and the Royal Government of Cambodia on flood mitigation.

Indonesian Urban Disaster Mitigation Project (IUDMP), Indonesia

IUDMP Recognized at the Policy Level

The work done by IUDMP under AUDMP has been recognized at the policy level, as Harkunti Pertiwi Rahayu, Networking Specialist, IUDMP, was asked to do a briefing on earthquake scenario in Indonesia at the Indonesian National Parliament by the Ministry of Research and Technology. Harkunti made a presentation on earthquake mitigation to the Indonesian Parliamentarians. This was a golden opportunity for IUDMP/AUDMP to familiarize the Parliamentarians on overall earthquake mitigation issues in Indonesia and influence at the policy level.

Getting Set for Replication

Getting set for the IUDMP Replication Phase, AUDMP Project Manager Suthira Suwanarpa and Mike Lippe, AUDMP Consultant, visited IUDMP from 11-22 July, 2000, to finalize IUDMP replication activity proposals with project partners. IUDMP will be sending a detailed proposal, cost estimate and work plan for the replication phase to AUDMP shortly.

India Urban Disaster Mitigation Project (IUDMP), India

Baroda Citizens Council and Central Control Room, Baroda, are finalizing the disaster mitigation strategies. Hopefully, the draft mitigation strategy will be submitted in August.

Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Project (KVERMP)

UNCRD Support for Replication

United Nation Center for Regional Development (UNCRD) team paid a visit to KVERMP school retrofitting field site and the replication sites. UNCRD will be providing funding equivalent to US \$ 15,000 for mason and teachers training, and for preparing Earthquake Emergency Preparedness Plan for the schools selected by National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET)-Nepal for school retrofitting replication.

KVERMP/NSET Work Draws Hotels' Attention

The work done by NSET/KVERMP on earthquake safety and awareness has drawn the attention of Hotel enterprisers in Nepal.

On the request of the Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN), NSET-Nepal, National Seismological Center (NSC)/Department of Mines and Geology (DMG) jointly organized a half-day seminar on "Earthquake Safety in Hotels".

On the Spot with School Retrofitting

AUDMP Team, N.M.S.I Arambepola, and Kishor Pradhan, along with KVERMP staffs, did on the spot observation of KVERMP's School Earthquake Safety (SES) Project in Nepal. On their observation visit to the retrofitted Bhuvaneshwori Lower Secondary School, they had an opportunity to interact with the local community, the School Management Committee, the school headmaster, teachers and school children and do an appraisal of earthquake safety awareness in the community. In an interview with a fifth grade student, the student said, "When earthquake strikes our village, it will cause loss of property and lives. But since our school is retrofitted we are safe in the school from earthquakes." In another inquiry, a fourth grader said, "What we learn in school about earthquakes we talk about it at home and tell our parents to retrofit our house."

A newly constructed house with seismic features constructed by the local masons, who were trained on retrofitting under KVERMP, was also observed.

Philippine Cities Disaster Mitigation Project

The project has submitted the Phase II Proposal. AUDMP staff has planned a review meeting with the project partners in August.



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Sri Lankan Urban Multi Hazard Disaster Mitigation Project (SLUMDMP)

Local Authorities Awareness on Disaster Mitigation

An awareness workshop on disaster mitigation was jointly organized by the SLUMDMP, Provincial Ministry of Local Government, Environment, Youth Affairs, Sports and Tourism of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council, on 2 July, 2000. This workshop was attended by 65 people including Heads, Secretaries and Technical Officers of the Local Authorities in Kegalle District.

Guidelines on construction in disaster prone areas, published by SLUMDMP, were also distributed to local authorities during the workshop.

Inducting the Government Administrators on Disaster Mitigation

A half day session on disaster mitigation, "Induction Training Course" was conducted by Sri Lanka Institute for Development Administrator (SLIDA)/SLUMDMP for the Cadet Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service. This was an exemplary opportunity for SLUDUMP to institutionalize disaster mitigation at the local national institutions.

Training, Resource Materials and Continuing Education (TRMCE)

Second UDM in Lao PDR

A four-day course, which is the second in LAO PDR, on Urban Disaster Mitigation (UDM), was held in Vientiane from 18 - 21 July, 2000. The course was a part of the Advanced Urban Planning and Management (AUPM) Training Program organized by the Urban Research Institute (URI) in Lao PDR with funds from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The course curriculum developed by AUDMP/ADPC aimed at developing better understanding of the disaster mitigation and management concepts and issues also included desk exercises and field visits for the participants from various government agencies. AUDMP/ADPC also provided resource persons for the course.

AUDMP News/Travels

News/Travel

The staffs of AUDMP at one time or the other are on the road to program countries for one purpose or the other to provide support, to monitor the programs, attend meetings, amongst other things. Travelling beyond the program countries to network, share experience and promote AUDMP is also a frequent happening under AUDMP.

The month of July was a travel time for Arambepola and Kishor to KVERMP/NSET-Nepal. The purpose of their visit from July 9-14, 2000, was to assess the overall status of the KVERMP and get first hand information, as well as to provide support to their information and networking component.

On the same date the above two were on the road to Nepal, Josh, was in Boulder, Colarado, USA, from 9-12 July, 2000, to attend the 25th National Hazard Research and Application Workshop organized by the National Hazards Research and Application Information Centre, University of Colarado, USA.

While Arambe and Kishor were in Nepal and Josh was in US, Suthira followed the suit to Indonesia, to finalize the IUDMP replication proposal. She paid visit to IUDMP, the government partner in Bandung, BAKORNAS, and international development organizations in Jakarta and city government in Bangulu, from 11-22 July, 2000.

Towards the end of July, Josh, Mo, and Arambe were in Laos from 18-21 July, 2000 as resource persons in the Second Urban Disaster Mitigation Course.

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