

## ABOUT US

The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) is a leading regional, non-profit organization based in Thailand, mandated to promote safer communities and sustainable development through the reduction of the impact of disasters in response to the needs of countries and communities in Asia and the Pacific.

## VISION

Safer communities and sustainable development through disaster risk reduction.

## MISSION

ADPC's mission is to reduce the impact of disasters on communities and countries in Asia and the Pacific by:

- raising awareness and enhancing knowledge and skills;
- developing and strengthening sustainable institutional mechanisms;
- facilitating exchange of information, experience and expertise; and
- developing and demonstrating innovative disaster reduction practices.

## PARTNERSHIPS

ADPC operates in countries throughout Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration and partnership with governments, stakeholders and numerous UN organisations at the community, provincial, national, regional and international levels. The substantive support that ADPC receives from various multi-lateral, bi-lateral development and donor agencies is manifested in the extensive network of projects, programs and training courses that ADPC implements across Asia and the Pacific.

## GOVERNANCE

ADPC is an independent, international NGO, registered as a Foundation under Thai law and currently in transition to an Inter-governmental Organisation. ADPC's four-tiered governance structure is comprised of the ADPC Board of Trustees, Regional Consultative Committee, International Advisory Council and Executive Committee. These provide, respectively, policy formulation and oversight, regional technical and strategic input, international technical advice and the supervision of ADPC's policy, strategy and programme activities. ADPC receives NO institutional support and is financed solely by the programmes, training courses and consultancies that it implements and provides.

Background photo by: M. Bin Usamah/ADPC.

## ADPC KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

ADPC disseminates and shares the knowledge, skills and experiences by acting as a Regional Resource Center, by maintaining a specialized library, publishing a quarterly newsletter, e-newsletters, maintaining an interactive website ([www.adpc.net](http://www.adpc.net)), listservs and discussion forums.

## Public Education, Awareness and Advocacy

Promoting public education, awareness and advocacy is ingrained in all ADPC's activities. ADPC continues to enhance the skills of disaster risk management practitioners, non-governmental organizations, UN and international agencies in disaster risk communication by assisting local, provincial and national governments in developing risk communication strategies, design and implementation of public education and awareness programs. Other initiatives include journalism awards, extramural lectures and competitions.

## ADPC ALUMNI

ADPC Alumni occupy leadership positions across numerous sectors in at least 50 countries of the Asia-Pacific Region. To date, ADPC has an alumni base of more than 12,000 professionals. Many of them play pioneering and institution-building roles, and have contributed significantly to the enhancement of disaster management capabilities in the region.

Background photo by: M. Bin Usamah/ADPC.

## Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

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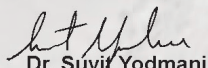


# ASIAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CENTER



## 20 years of commitment to safer communities and sustainable development through disaster risk reduction

The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center celebrates its 20th year anniversary in 2006. Established in 1986, under the late Colonel Brian Ward, ADPC continues to address the disaster management needs of countries in Asia. In its twenty years, ADPC has responded dynamically to the paradigm shift in disaster management, readily and actively adjusting its operational strengths to address the evolving developments in disaster risk management by structuring its technical focus on climate risk management, community-based disaster risk management, disaster management systems, urban disaster risk management and public health in emergencies. This vigorous and comprehensive approach is further reinforced by ensuring that ADPC's projects and programs enhance institutional capacities, apply community-based disaster risk management practices, and promote and support mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into development processes. These activities complement ADPC's involvement in building national, provincial and local disaster risk management systems, identifying disaster risk management needs, and developing strategic solutions. ADPC's standing and twenty years of experience in the region is confirmed by the substantive encouragement and support from various multi-lateral and bi-lateral development and donor agencies; as manifested in the implementation of our extensive array of projects and programs. As it moves forward beyond its twenty years of operations, ADPC will continue to build upon its operational and technical strengths and to evolve in its role as a regional resource center to that of a regional tsunami watch provider and support national meteorological centers in severe weather forecast research. ADPC will further pursue operational partnerships and collaborations with all stakeholders in disaster risk management throughout the Asia and Pacific regions. I am confident that ADPC will continue to be responsive to the priorities of our key stakeholders in governments and the international community overcoming challenges to serve the region and beyond.

  
Dr. Suvit Yodmani  
Executive Director



## ADPC'S THEMATIC STRENGTHS

ADPC focuses on the following disaster risk management thematic areas:

**Climate Risk Management** works to reduce societal and physical vulnerabilities of communities to climate risks through the application of weather and climate forecast information at all time scales. Activities include the development of institutional mechanisms and capacity building of partner institutions to generate, interpret, translate and communicate climate forecast information with sufficient lead time to enable communities and governments to anticipate and manage risks instead of responding to recurring disasters.

**Regional End-to-end Multi-hazard Early Warning System (EWS)** program bridges the technological and societal components of warning and integrates early warning with preparedness, prevention, mitigation, and response within a multi-hazard framework. The program aims to establish regional capacities for tsunami prediction and watch provision, as well as research support in severe weather forecasting; strengthen national capacities in early warning, disaster management planning, warning response, and local risk reduction; facilitate exchange of information, best practices, and lessons learned; and undertake research in all aspects of the end-to-end early warning system.

**Community-Based Disaster Risk Management** works to identify national, provincial and community disaster risk management needs, providing strategic advice and developing strategic solutions to build national, provincial and community capacities, developing community-based disaster risk management processes, designing and delivering multi-level/multi-focus training.

**Disaster Management Systems** works to strengthen and build the capacities of national, provincial and local disaster management systems, to promote regional cooperation by supporting and enhancing the effectiveness of existing mechanisms, and promoting the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into development planning and implementation.

**Public Health in Emergencies** works to develop capacities for managing health risks of emergencies and improving health outcomes of communities at risk. A range of capacity building and training programs have been developed and implemented with partners to address continuing and emerging challenges in health emergency management at regional, national, subnational and community levels, such complex emergencies, epidemic and pandemic preparedness, nutrition in disasters, psychosocial support, hospital emergency planning, emergency medical services and mass casualty

**Urban Disaster Risk Management** works to reduce human, social and economic losses resulting from disasters in cities by building stakeholders' capacity, facilitating structural and non-structural interventions, and through building effective emergency response planning processes.

## ADPC PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### Programs and Projects

ADPC develops and implements multi-sector disaster risk management programs and projects in each of the above thematic areas.

### Technical Services

ADPC provides technical and professional services in formulating national disaster management policies, capacity building of disaster management institutions, program design for comprehensive disaster risk management, post-disaster assessment, public health and emergency management, land-use planning, disaster-resistant construction and the planning of immediate relief response and subsequent rehabilitation activities. ADPC also carries out post disaster recovery planning assistance, rapid assessment of disaster impact and loss estimation, provides technical support to recovery programs.

### Training

ADPC provides a wide range of training and learning opportunities for managers and practitioners to improve and develop their disaster risk management skills and knowledge. ADPC conducts regular courses and workshops on a range of topics, such as disaster management fundamentals, urban disaster mitigation, seismic and cyclone hazards mitigation, flood hazards mitigation, public health emergencies, climate forecast application, crisis management and community-based disaster risk management.