



CASITA II

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Sustainable Capacity Building on Urban Disaster Mitigation in Asia Using IT&C Learning Tools

Proceedings of the Kick-off Workshop

ITC, Enschede, The Netherlands

14-15 February 2005



Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

Photos from CASITA II Kick-off Workshop at ITC



Program the kick-off workshop of the CASITA II Project

Monday 14 February 2005

09:00 – 11:00	Registration and arrival	
11:00 – 12:00	ITC and ADPC Meeting on project finances	
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch in the Annex	Restaurant
	Presentations by CASITA partners for guests, students and staff at ITC	Room 3-008
13:30 – 14:00	Hazard and Risk Research and Strategies at the Department of Geography	Dr. Thomas Glade, University of Bonn, Germany
14:00 – 14:30	Involvement of Disaster Management activities at the University of Ruhuna under the CASITA II project	Dr. P. Liyana Arachchi, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka
14:30 – 14:45	Coffee Break	
14:45 – 15:15	Geography curriculum at Department of Geography	Dr. Chira Prangkio, Chaing Mai University, Thailand
15:15 – 15:40	Lessons Learned from the tsunami in Aceh	Dr. Sudibyakto, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia
15:40 – 16:00	Overview of Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	Mr. Rajesh Sharma, ADPC, Thailand
16:00 – 18:00	Meeting for the planning of project activities	Room 5-002

Tuesday 15 February 2005

09:00 – 12:30	Meeting for the planning of project activities	Room 5-002
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch in the Annex	
13:30 – 14:00	RECLAIM: A joint venture between ADPC and NGI with participation from 6 countries in Asia	Mr. Oddvar Kjekstad, NGI, Norway
14:00 – 14:30	Tsunami mechanisms and simulations – Examples from the December 26th Indian Ocean Tsunami	Dr. Carl Harbitz, NGI, Norway
14:30 – 15:00	Experiences of the joint IIRS-ITC M.Sc. Course on Geo-information for Natural Hazards and Risk Analysis	Dr. Cees van Westen and Mrs. Sabine Maresch, ITC
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15 – 17:00	Meeting for the planning of project activities	Room 5-002

CASITA II Kick-off Workshop

Introduction

The kick-off workshop was organized by ITC within its premises in Enschede, the Netherlands from Monday 14 February 2005 to Tuesday 15 February 2005. The dates of the workshop were purposely chosen to coincide with the start of the 12 weeks short course on GIS and Remote Sensing for natural hazard and risk assessment being attended by the representative from each of the four participating university/ institution.

The following participated in the workshop:-

1. Dr. Cees van Westen, Senior Technical Supervisor, ITC
2. Mrs. Sabine Maresch, Project Coordinator (Europe), ITC
3. Dr. Thomas Glade, Senior Technical Expert, Bonn University (BU), Germany
4. Mr. Torsten Drey, Technical Expert, BU, Germany
5. Mr. Rajesh Sharma, ADPC, Thailand
6. Dr. H. A. Sudibyakto, Gadjah Mada University (GMU), Indonesia
7. Dr. P. Liyanarachchi, University of Ruhuna (UOR), Sri Lanka
8. Dr. Chira Prangkio, Chiang Mai University (CMU), Thailand
9. Mr. Oddvar Kjekstad, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI), Norway
10. Mr. Carl Harbitz, NGI, Norway

Several ITC faculty members were also invited to participate in specific activities of CASITA II. In addition, two experts from NGI, Norway were also invited to participate in the discussions of CASITA II activities to finalize the collaboration through an on-going project RECLAIM, jointly implemented by ADPC and NGI in 6 countries of Asia, and CASITA II.

The two-days of the workshop were very efficiently used in planning and discussing the activities and division of tasks and responsibilities, since almost all the partners (except Bonn University, Germany and NGI, Norway) were part of CASITA I and hence familiar with the goals and objectives of the project.

The detailed discussions in the workshop largely followed the description of activities as approved by the EC in the grant contract. Detailed discussions were held for the activities in the first year of the project and it was agreed that the mid-term workshop towards the end of the first year will be used to detail out the activities for the second year. The following pages summarize the discussions along the lines of approved activities.

Detailed agreements on project activities under CASITA II

Given below is a discussion of activities and major agreements made during the kick-off workshop. At the end of each activity a table is given which summarizes the action points, lead partner and corresponding dates/ deadlines and also any expected output from the activity is also listed below the table.

Activity 1: Kick-off workshop of project partners

Earlier the kick-off workshop was proposed to be for the three partners in the CASITA II project, viz ADPC, BU and ITC to discuss and finalize the activities and role of each partner in implementation of each activity of the project. Later it was decided to coincide it with the short course on GIS and remote sensing for natural hazard and risk assessment, to include the four partner universities in all the discussions.

The following were accomplished before the kick-off workshop:

- Agreements between ADPC and each of the four partner universities for implementation of the project activities were signed
- One participant from each of the four universities to the 12 weeks short course at ITC was identified and all arrangements made by ITC for their participation in the short course
- ADPC prepared draft sub-contracts for ITC & BU for discussions at the kick-off workshop.

During the workshop, the universities were asked to present their activities related with the project. Also Dr. Carl Harbitz from NGI Norway was invited to present on tsunami modelling and it was suggested that the four universities may want to focus on the tsunami related work in its research.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Kick-off workshop organization	ITC (lead) with inputs from ADPC	14-15 Feb 2005 at ITC
Planning of activities	ITC, ADPC, BU with four partner universities	Done (during 14-15 Feb 2005 at ITC)

Output: Minutes of the Kick-off workshop (i.e. this report)

Activity 2: Needs assessment workshop of project partners and universities

Based on the assessments during the CASITA I, out of the 14 universities, the following four universities, observed to be most promising during the first phase of CASITA and have taken steps already to institutionalize disaster management subjects in the course curriculum of ongoing courses, are:

1. Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun, India
2. Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia
3. University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka
4. Chiang Mai University, Thailand

The process of needs assessment started soon after the start of the project. In fact, both ITC and ADPC had been continuously in touch with all the four universities during the period between CASITA I and II. This has greatly helped both ITC and ADPC to be up-to-date on the progress made by these universities. The following channels are being used for conducting needs assessment:

Setting up of electronic distribution list

Individual universities to be contacted personally for preliminary assessment

Prepare and include a short description on the project for sharing with all partners

The questionnaire circulated to universities includes – current set up of the course, plan for the disaster management course at the post-graduate level, curriculum and sessions of the course, expertise and number of the teaching staff, available infrastructure, research component in the course, support required from ADPC, ITC and BU, potential job opportunities

During the kick-off workshop, the universities presented the preliminary information and it was agreed that the universities will continue to work on it, in consultation with ITC, until the end of the short course at ITC.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Setting up of electronic distribution list	ADPC	Done
Personal contacts with each university for preliminary assessment	ADPC and ITC	Done
Short description of the project info for distribution through electronic newsletter	ADPC in consultation with ITC and BU	End of February 2005
Questionnaire to all the four universities	ADPC/ ITC/ BU	Done
Compile inputs from the four universities	ITC with support from ADPC and BU	15 April 2005
Preparation of Final Report on needs assessment	ADPC in consultation with ITC and BU	30 April 2005

Output: A Report on needs assessment (ADPC by 30 April 2005)

Activity 3: Implementation of a communication strategy for the project

It was discussed in detail that a communication strategy is needed to promote the project in an effective manner from the very start and to facilitate effective communication between partners and beneficiaries but such strategy should be easily adoptable and acceptable by the target universities. As part of the overall strategy of CASITA Phase I, a separate web site was created and it is being maintained by ADPC. It contains information on the EU Asia IT&C program and CASITA project phase I outputs (RS/GIS case studies, course modules on several topics). It was agreed that the overall strategy will be:

To create CASITA II website with information on Asia IT&C Programme, its objectives,

the objective of the project, the partners and universities involved in the project and links to their websites and with a link to CASITA I website on ADPC web server. (ADPC will take lead with inputs from ITC and BU). Both ITC and BU and the four universities will link their websites to CASITA II website. It was also suggested that CASITA II website should also provide links for potential fellowship/ scholarship opportunities for students from Asia to study at European Universities. Both ITC and BU agreed to provide a list of such opportunities.

ADPC to include regular updates on CASITA II activities in its monthly electronic newsletter which is sent to about 2,500 subscribers (including past and present CASITA network partners)

Create space on ITC's blackboard environment for all CASITA II partners and also include RECLAIM partners (see Activity 6 below) to allow for synergy between CASITA II and RECLAIM. The blackboard will be used by the four universities nominees currently attending the short course at ITC and they can use it as a repository of materials for use at their respective universities.

It was also mentioned that ESRI offers a 2 year free use of ESRI software to tsunami-affected countries. CASITA should approach ESRI and ERDAS to request free software. ADPC will write formal request based on the inputs from ITC.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Setting up of website for CASITA II on ADPC web server	ADPC with inputs from ITC and BU	End of March 2005
Links on CASITA II website for potential fellowship/ scholarship opportunities for students from Asia to study at European Universities	ITC and BU to provide information to ADPC	End of March 2005
Setting up of space on blackboard environment	ITC	End of March 2005
List of RECLAIM partners to ITC for inclusion in blackboard	ADPC to provide the list to ITC	End of March 2005
Request for free ESRI and ERDAS software	ADPC to write formal request based on inputs from ITC	End of March 2005
Regular updates on CASITA II activities in ADPC's monthly electronic newsletter	ADPC with inputs from ITC and BU	Throughout the project period

Activity 4: Short course on GIS and Remote Sensing for Natural Hazard and Risk Assessment at ITC, the Netherlands

Immediately after approval of the project, the process of identifying a nominee from each of the four universities was started together with ITC. ITC made all arrangement for their travel and stay at Enschede for the short course to be held during 14 February – 13 May 2005.

The following are the recipients of the fellowship to attend the short at ITC:

1. Mr. Rahul Srivastava, IIRS, India

2. Dr. H. A. Sudibyakto, GMU, Indonesia
3. Dr. P. Liyanarachchi, UOR, Sri Lanka
4. Mr. Tawee Chaipimonplin, CMU, Thailand

The short course is an intensive tailor made course on application of IT&C tools for hazard and risk assessment and data capturing, data analysis and data presentation. The course comprises 04 modules each of three-week duration.

Module 1: Use of remote sensing and GIS for hydro-meteorological hazard assessment

Module 2: Use of remote sensing and GIS for geological hazard assessment

Module 3: Risk assessment in an urban environment.

Module 4: Natural disaster management and vulnerability reduction.

A tailor made program by ITC for the representatives of the four universities has already been developed. In addition to the regular course activities, the following are planned:

Visit to Bonn University, Germany during 3-4 March 2005

Participation in First International Symposium on Geo-information for Disaster Management in Delft, the Netherlands during 21-23 March 2005

Visit to the University of Utrecht, and to several organisations dealing with Disaster Management in the Netherlands.

All the four participants will be required to use blackboard actively during their stay at ITC, this will greatly enhance their skills to use the virtual platform.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Identification of representatives for the short course from the four universities	ADPC and ITC	Done
Planning for the short course and invitation to the participants and their logistics	ITC	Done
Organization of the short course	ITC	14 Feb–13 May 2005
Visit to Bonn University, Germany	ITC and BU	3-4 March 2005
Participation in the Symposium in Delft	ITC	21-23 March 2005
Visit to University of Utrecht and other disaster management related organizations	ITC	March-May 2005
All the four representatives to submit a report to ADPC for their stay at ITC	ITC	30 April 2005
Submission of Final Needs Assessment report	ITC to supervise, compile and send it to ADPC	15 April 2005

Activity 5: Development of guidelines for a joint research program

It was agreed that ITC will develop guidelines for a joint research programme with inputs

from BU and ADPC. The presence of the four universities at ITC will further help ITC to get inputs from the universities. It is expected that the four universities will have a better understanding of the joint research programme and such detailed consultations will be very helpful for the universities to integrate the research under their courses.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Guidelines for joint research programme	ITC	End of March 2005

Activity 6: Conducting landslide hazard mitigation regional course

ADPC, in partnership with Norwegian Geo-technical Institute (NGI), Norway is implementing the Asian Program for Regional Capacity Enhancement for Landslide Hazard Mitigation (RECLAIM) in six countries of Asia, viz. Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Two colleagues, Mr. Oddvar Kjekstad and Dr. Carl Harbitz, from NGI were invited to participate in the discussions to help build synergy between the two projects.

A regional course of the RECLAIM project is scheduled in Sri Lanka during 5-11 June 2005. It is proposed that selected faculty and post-graduate students from the CASITA II partner universities will be invited to attend the course. Also it was agreed that the RECLAIM partners will be provided access to the blackboard to help them make use of the materials available.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Landslide hazard mitigation course	ADPC	5-11 June 2005 in Sri Lanka
RECLAIM participants to get access to the blackboard	ADPC to provide the list of participants to ITC and ITC to provide access	15 March 2005

Activity 7: Conducting hazard specific courses in universities

With the aim of building capacity on disaster risk management, it was proposed that two courses targeting practising young professionals, academics, and students will be organized under the project. The following were discussed:

A course on Reconstruction Planning will be organized in Bangkok during 28 March – 1 April 2005. ITC will take lead in developing the course and ADPC will identify the participants from the universities and organize the course.

ADPC will organize a course in Chiang Mai University during 9-10 April 2005

ADPC will organize a course in Sri Lanka in 13-18 June 2005 (tentative)

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Course on Reconstruction Planning	ITC to develop course outline and ADPC to organize	28 March – 1 April 2005 in Bangkok
Course on Urban Disaster Mitigation	ADPC	9-10 April 2005
Course on Landslide Hazard Mitigation	ADPC	13-18 June 2005 (tentative) in Sri Lanka

Activity 8: Support for joint research and curriculum development in the selected universities

Each selected university will be extended support in developing the course curricula and conducting research. Although detailed course curricula has been provided to each of the universities in the first phase of CASITA, specific inputs will be provided to the universities under the CASITA II. The specific inputs required by each university will be based on the detailed needs assessment, expected to be completed by the end of the short course at ITC. The following summarizes the discussions:

Research should be an integral part of the post-graduate programme and more opportunities for joint research should be provided and encouraged

To strengthen and sustain CASITA II efforts, other funding opportunities for joint research in European Universities for students from Asia are available under several bilateral arrangements. Both ITC and BU agreed to get more details on such opportunities and it was agreed that these details should be provided on the website of CASITA II.

BU also mentioned that there may be possibilities of their students going for research projects at partner universities in Asia

ITC will hold courses on research skills in India (at IIRS) and Indonesia (at Gadjah Mada University) in Sept and Dec 2005 respectively

ADPC informed that the World Bank Provention Consortium announced the launch of second phase of the Applied Research Grants Program for Disaster Reduction to support innovative action research by young professionals from developing countries. ADPC will inform all partners and universities about the announcement of the research grant opportunity to enable young researcher apply for the grant to carry out the research. Details about the first phase are available at http://www.adpc.net/what%20news/world_bank.html

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Identification of funding opportunities for students from Asia to undertake research at European Universities	ITC and BU	End of March 2005
World Bank Applied Research Grants announcement	ADPC	When announced

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Course on Research Skills	ITC	Sept 2005 in Dehradun, India
Course on Research Skills	ITC with inputs from BU	Dec 2005, Indonesia

Outputs:

At-least 03 universities to develop postgraduate curricula

At-least 03 joint publications in international peer reviewed journals

At-least 03 master theses taken by the students of the participating universities

Activity 9: Development of distance education course

Detailed discussions on the development of distance education course were held. The following was agreed:

The development of distance education course should be with the participation of the four universities and initially, it should aim to provide support to the four universities in conducting the courses and supporting joint research,

BU is actively involved in distance education courses and it was suggested that ITC together with the participants from the four universities attending the short course at ITC, should visit BU during 3-4 March 2005 to learn more about it and for further discussions, ITC will develop an outline of the distance education course by the end of April for comments by ADPC and BU,

The plan for offering the pilot distance education course in the second year of the project will be presented at the mid-term workshop.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
ITC along-with the participants attending the short course visit Bonn University	ITC and BU	3-4 March 2005
Outline of the distance education course for comments	ITC	End of April
Development of the distance education course based on agreed outline and its delivery plan	ITC with inputs from BU and ADPC	End of Oct 2005
Presentation of plan for pilot testing the distance education course	ITC, BU and ADPC	Nov 2005, Vietnam

Activity 10: Mid-term workshop

The mid-term workshop will review the progress made during the first year and to plan the activities for the second year. Specifically, the following are to be discussed at the mid-term workshop:

- status and progress of curriculum development
- review of the joint research activities

- comments on the distance education course and its delivery
- discussions the problems faced by each university
- detailed activities for the second year

It was mentioned that ITC together with ADPC with funding support from the Dutch government will organize a Refresher Course in Hanoi, Vietnam during 16- 25 November 2005. The mid-term workshop will precede the Refresher course and will be organized during 14-15 Nov 2005.

The Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS) is scheduled in Hanoi, Vietnam during 7-11 November 2005. Dissemination of CASITA II information at the ACRS will be explored.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Mid-term workshop	ADPC with inputs from ITC and BU	14-15 November 2005, Vietnam

Activity 11: First offer of distance education course

It was agreed to postpone the discussion on this activity until the development of the distance education course and discussions at the mid-term workshop.

Activity 12: Adaptation of distance education course

This will be done in the second year based on the inputs received from the mid-term workshop.

Activity 13: Marketing of distance education course

This activity will be discussed at the mid-term workshop in Nov 2005.

Activity 14: Final workshop

It was agreed that the final workshop of CASITA II project will be held in Bangkok during 28-30 November 2006. The final workshop will include:

- presentations on the course curricula and research outputs,
- lessons learned from the activity,
- effectiveness of distance education program,
- strategies for sustainability.

To summarize:

Activity	Responsible partner(s)	Dates/ Deadlines
Final workshop	ADPC with inputs from ITC and BU	28-30 November 2006, Bangkok

Publications and other outputs

The following project outputs are foreseen from CASITA project:

1. Proceedings of the kick-off workshop (ADPC). Done by ADPC.
2. Detailed project work plan and tasks assigned to partners. Done by ADPC as part of the kick-off workshop proceedings.
3. A report on needs assessment. To be done by ADPC with inputs from the four universities under the supervision of ITC.
4. A website of the project. To be done by ADPC with inputs from ITC and BU.
5. Postgraduate curriculum on GIS/RS for natural hazard and risk assessment in the participating universities in Asia. To be done by ITC with inputs from ADPC and BU.
6. Joint research related to postgraduate programs in the field of GIS/RS natural hazard and risk assessment, resulting in at-least 03 joint publications in international peer reviewed journals. To be done by ITC with inputs from ADPC and BU.
7. At-least 03 Master theses undertaken by the students of each of the participating universities.
8. Distance education course on natural hazard and risk assessment piloted by ADPC
9. Proceedings of the final workshop including a plan for the follow up actions by ADPC.