

A Delegation of ADPC Visited Jiangxi Province and Shanghai, China from 24th to 30th April 2005

As per an invitation from the Office of the Mountain-River-Lake Development Committee of Jiangxi Province (MRL), ADPC's delegation consists of Mr. Earl Kessler, Deputy Executive Director of ADPC, Mr. Steve Banks, Chief of ADPC's TRG and Ms. LingLing Jiang, Project Manager (China and North-East Asia) visited Jiangxi Province, China from 24th to 29th April 2005. The objective of the visit is to conduct a one-day workshop on DRM and CBDRM for government officials of Jiangxi Province and develop a three-year program on Capacity Building on DRM in Jiangxi Province through ADPC. This visit was funded by MRL/UNDP China project.

During the visit, the delegation had respective meetings with MRL and Jiangxi Provincial Committee for Disaster Reduction, which is located in Jiangxi Provincial Meteorological Bureau, and other relevant agencies in Nanchang, the capital of the province. Both sides shared experience and explored possible collaboration between ADPC and Jiangxi Province.



The delegation also visited Center for Remote Sensing/GIS Application of Jiangxi Province, Jiangxi Provincial Weather Forecast Center and Operation Center of Science and Technology, etc.





The delegation offered a one-day workshop on disaster management for Jiangxi officials. Earl made a presentation on Disaster and Sustainable Development; Steve made presentations titled Current Trends in Disaster Management, Risk Assessment and CBDRM Overview and Process respectively, and LingLing made an overview of ADPC as well as the cooperation has been taken between ADPC and China. The participants were very interested in the new concepts on disaster management, the presentations brought, and made a lot of discussions during the workshop.



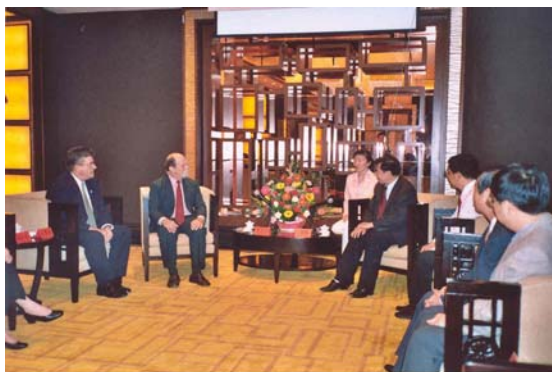
The delegation visited a Dam as well as Feng Yi County, which is about 3 hours driving from Nanchang. The visits were very interesting. In particular, the strategy on disaster reduction, particularly building new houses for relocated people from flood prone areas before flood disaster in Feng Yi County impressed the delegation very much.





The meeting for development of the proposal on Capacity Building on DRM in Jiangxi Province was conducted on the last day before the delegation left. All stakeholders actively participated in the meeting. MRL promised to send the first draft proposal to ADPC soon. To promote the proposed project, the delegation expressed that ADPC would like to invite one or two participants from Jiangxi Province to attend ADPC's CBDRM-13 course that will be held from 4th to 15th July 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand, and ADPC will waive the course fees, which cost US\$2,000 per participant.

Notable mention on the last day, Dr. Hu Zhenpeng, Vice Governor of Government of Jiangxi Province met the delegation and held a banquet for the delegation as well. He expressed his thanks on behalf of the Jiangxi Provincial government to the delegation for bring new concepts on disaster management to Jiangxi as well as made contributions to Jiangxi's disaster reduction. He also expressed to support collaboration between ADPC and Jiangxi.



On the way back to Bangkok from Nanchang, the delegation visited Shanghai from 29th to 30th April, as per an invitation made by the Shanghai Municipal Civil Defense Office (SCDO). The Vice Director-General of SCDO and other two officials picked the delegation up at the Shanghai Airport. SCDO also provided the delegation hotel accommodation in Shanghai. Some officials of SCDO who visited ADPC in 2003 came to meet the delegation, and one ADPC's alumni who attended ADPC's 5th Flood Disaster Risk Management Course in Beijing in 2003 also came to see the delegates of ADPC. They all recalled a good time in ADPC and wonderful learning experience

with ADPC's course.

The delegation made presentations to officials of SCDO. A useful discussion was successfully done. Mr. Liu Nanshan, Director-General of SCDO also joined listening the presentations later after returning from outside office. He held a banquet to warmly welcome the delegation. He expressed that SCDO needs ADPC assistance establishing its training center in Shanghai, since they have a very good physical facilities but lack of training course management experience and trainers.