

Establishment of the Asian Citizens Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative (ACDRI)
Kick-off Meeting & Field Trip
January 28-30

1. Kobe Program

1-1. Establishment of Asian Citizens Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative (ACDRI)

The kick-off meeting of the newly established Asian Citizens Disaster Risk reduction Initiative (ACDRI), coordinated by Kansai University of International Studies (KUISSs), was held on January 28 (Sunday) at the "KOBE Co CREATION CENTER ". Forty-one people participated in the meeting, including online participants from overseas.



Asian Citizens Disaster Risk reduction Initiative (ACDRI)
Establishment Meeting & Kick-off Meeting

In 2014, KUISSs established an Inter-University Consortium, [Asian Corporative Program \(ACP\)](#), with universities in six Southeast Asian countries, and has been developing DRR education programs for students. The newly established ACDRI aims to expand this educational program into a program to train community DRR leaders in each country, in cooperation with research institutions, civil society organizations, and NGOs in each country. This project has also been selected for the Toyota Foundation International Grant Program for FY2023.

Greeting by ACP Chair Dr. HAMANA Atsushi (President, KUISSs)



Signing Ceremony of ACDRI



Greeting by ACP Chair Dr. HAMANA Atsushi
(President, KUISS)

The kick-off meeting began with an address by ACP Chair Dr. HAMANA Atsushi (President, KUISS) and a message from Kobe Mayor Mr. HISAMOTO Kizo, followed by the signing of the charter by ACDRI members.

In the international workshop, representatives from Malaysia, Indonesia, and Japan were connected online with overseas civil society organizations and NGOs to share issues and good practices in civil DRR management in their respective countries, followed by a poster session by participating organizations.



International Workshop



Poster Session

1-2. Holding citizen workshops

As part of the citizens' workshop "Community DRR in Japan," a tour of the HAT Kobe area was conducted, including a site visit to HAT Kobe's DRR facilities.



Citizens' Workshop (HAT Kobe Tour)



scenery Asian Cafe scenery

In addition, the participants joined a unique DRR event, "Isa! Kaeru caravan 2024", a unique experience program for each participant to pass on their memories of the disaster and the lessons learned from it to the next generation of children, organized by JICA Kansai. At the end of the event, entitled "Asian Café," participants exchanged opinions in a friendly atmosphere while drinking tea brought by participants from different countries, deepening exchanges among the concerned parties.

2. Kyoto Program

On Monday, January 29, a group of foreign and Japanese experts visited Kyoto to learn more about advanced Kyo-machiya (traditional townhouse made of wood and featuring very specific details in Kyoto) revitalization and DRR policy in Japan. In Yogyakarta, Indonesia, one of the candidate sites for the citizen workshop for this project, there are many historical buildings, and their preservation and disaster mitigation is important. In Japan, there are advanced examples of the preservation and revitalization of traditional Kyo-machiya houses. This is a system in which machiya houses are distributed as real estate, and as owners change, the machiya is preserved. In disaster risk reduction, rather than simply using concrete structures to make the houses noncombustible, the region has a system in place that preserves the characteristics of densely wooded areas and promotes detailed disaster risk reduction measures, involving not only residents, but also workers and tourists. Experts from each country introduced examples from their respective countries and deepened their mutual learning.

Kyoto Center for Community Collaboration

Kyoto City explained the history of landscape policy and ordinances in the city. He explained the policies on how to preserve historical buildings with specific examples.



Kamanza-cho Machiya Revitalization Project

The group visited the Kamanza-cho Machiya Revitalization Project, one of the “Kyoto Machiya Revitalization Project” conducted with the international cooperation of the World Monuments Foundation.



Momiji no Koji (Maple Alley)

The group observed a case study of the Momiji no Koji project (townhouse disaster risk reduction) by the Kyo-machiya Revitalization Study Group. Momiji no Koji consists of nine renovated Kyo-machiya houses over 100 years old. In this project, the linked building design system is applied, and measures are taken to combine not only hardware such as disaster prevention equipment, but also software such as DRR training.

- Cooperative rebuilding through the linked building design system



Larger homes can be secured because the entire cul-de-sac can meet the regulations.

The residents of the cul-de-sac can set their own cooperative rules to enable integrated planning, including future rebuilding.

3. Tokyo Program

On Tuesday, January 30, a group of foreign and Japanese experts visited flood control facilities in the Japan's capital, Tokyo. The Metropolitan Area Outer Discharge Channel, completed in 1998, connects several small rivers in the low-lying areas of the Kanto Plain through underground channels, and pumps up and discharges the water into the Edogawa River, a major river flowing outside the city.

In Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia, which is prone to flooding disasters, there is also a flood control facility called the "SMART Tunnel. This is a system in which a highway functions as a spillway during heavy rainfall. Experts from each country mutually exchanged technical know-how and deepened discussions.

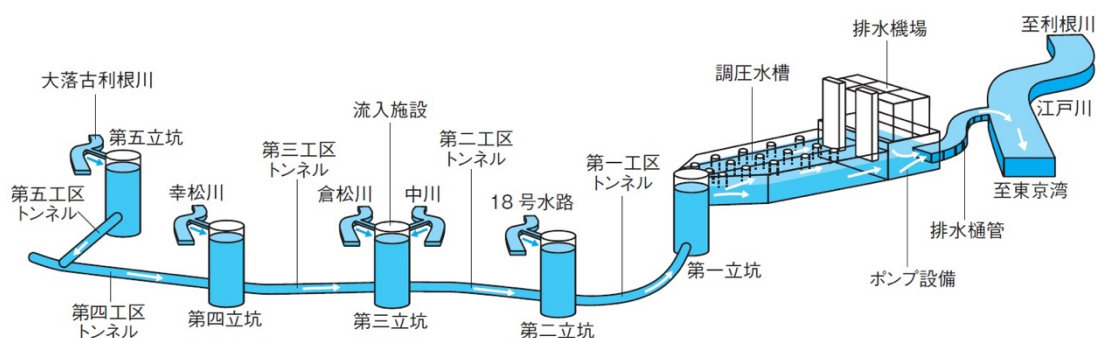
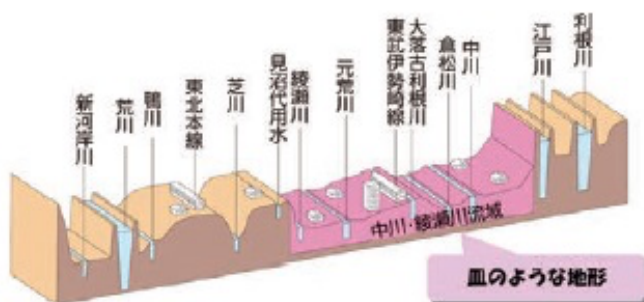
Metropolitan Area Outer Discharge Channel

The Metropolitan Area Outer Discharge Channel is one of the world's largest flood control facilities designed to reduce flood damage in the Tokyo metropolitan area. It is approximately 6.3 kilometers long, 30 meters wide, 50 meters deep, and has a maximum treatment capacity of 400 tons per second. Since it began operation in 1998, the channel has been effective in significantly reducing the damage caused by flooding, and plays an

important role as a major infrastructure facility in the Tokyo metropolitan area.



When small and medium-sized rivers such as the Nakagawa, Kurumatsu River, Ochikotone River, No. 18 Channel, and Yukimatsu River flood, a portion of the floodwaters can be channeled to the Edogawa River where there is more space.



Ariake no Oka Core Wide-area DRR Base Facility and Sona Area Tokyo

The experts participated in the “72hTOUR directly under Tokyo,” a DRR hands-on learning tour to build survivability for 72 hours after an earthquake, at “Sona Area Tokyo”. At Sona Area Tokyo, visitors can experience learning about disaster prevention in Japan by answering quizzes on the assumption that an earthquake has occurred directly under the Tokyo

metropolitan area using AR (Augmented Reality).



Learning with Augmented Reality



Sona Area Tokyo