

# SEEDS Asia Project in the Philippines

Newsletter Issue No.4 (November 2022 – January 2024)

THEME OF THIS ISSUE

A Decade After Typhoon Yolanda and SEEDS Asia's Ways Forward



**A DECADE OF UNITY: SUPER TYPHOON YOLANDA**

**COMMEMORATION EVENT**

THEME: "KASINATI-AN SA YOLANDA; NAPULO (10) KA TUIG NGA MGA PAGTULON-AN"

DepED MATATAG  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | Bansang Makabata | Batang Makabansa

SEEDS



## MESSAGE

Maayong adlaw! SEEDS Asia returned to the Philippines with the Typhoon Odette Response project in 2022 and is now expanding our Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) projects from Cebu Province to Central Visayas! Since November 2022, we have been implementing the 3rd Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-funded project titled "Project for Strengthening and Promoting School-based Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Visayas" together with Department of Education (DepEd). We are excited to share the accomplishments of our project during the first year and highlight additional activities conducted in 2023.

## IN THIS NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 4

Who is SEEDS Asia?	page 1
3rd JICA-funded project overview	page 1
3rd JICA-funded project achievements by January 2024	page 3
Sustainability of our previous projects	page 8
DRR advocacies	page 9
International learning exchange	page 10

## WHO IS SEEDS ASIA?

SEEDS Asia is a non-profit organization established in Kobe, Japan in 2006 that aims to share the disaster-related expertise of Japan and of SEEDS India, its sister organization. SEEDS Asia’s mission is to ensure sustainable development and human security of people and communities in the Asia Pacific Region through our activities. Countries in which SEEDS Asia has implemented its projects are Japan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, India, Nepal and Indonesia.

SEEDS Asia first entered the Philippines after Typhoon Yolanda in November 2013, conducting post-disaster research and a Typhoon Yolanda response project. Since 2014, in partnership with the DepEd Regional Office 7 (DepEd RO7), SEEDS Asia has implemented JICA-funded school-based DRR projects and a Japan Platform (JPF)-funded Typhoon Response Project. Additionally, the Mobile Knowledge Resource Center project was implemented in Makati City. Since 2018, SEEDS Asia has reached over 62,000 beneficiaries in the Philippines through capacity building on disaster risk reduction and emergency response.

## 3RD JICA-FUNDED PROJECT OVERVIEW

'Project for Strengthening and Promoting School-based Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Visayas' marks the third phase of school-based disaster risk reduction (DRR) projects funded by JICA. This three-year initiative, spanning from November 2022 to October 2025, is implemented in collaboration with the Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education and the DepEd RO7.

During the initial phase from November to December 2022, SEEDS Asia conducted baseline research to comprehend the current system of capacity-building and training in DepEd RO7 and the status of DRR understanding at the selected division and school levels in Cebu and Bohol. Despite the quality of DRR initiatives demonstrated by schools participating in SEEDS Asia's training through previous JICA-funded projects, the research revealed limited understanding and activity regarding DRR in other schools. The research identified four factors hindering the cascading of the two projects: (1) a limited budget allocated for school-level DRR training; (2) high turnover of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Coordinators; (3) lack of a standardized training program; and (4) absence of regional pool trainers specializing in DRR. To address these gaps, SEEDS Asia in collaboration with DepEd RO7 will develop a mechanism to promote school-based DRR across all schools under DepEd RO7.

In this project, we expand the target from Cebu Province to the Region VII. The training program covers DRRM and DRR Education with an emphasis on the importance of weather education and disaster commemoration.

Title	Project for strengthening and promoting school-based disaster risk reduction in Central Visayas
Duration	November 2022 – October 2025
Implementers	SEEDS Asia in partnership with Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education
Counterpart	DepEd RO7
Target Group	(Direct) DepEd RO7 20 SDOs under DepEd RO7 and a Model School (Indirect) DepEd Central Office, DepEd RO8, LGU, communities
Overall Goal	School-based DRR is promoted at all schools under DepEd RO7
Project Purpose	A mechanism to promote school-based DRR is established.

**What we do**

School-based DRR at all schools under DepEd RO & is promoted.

Establishment of a mechanism to promote school-based DRR in DepEd RO7



Designing a roll-out plan of the training program



Development of School-based DRR Training Program (DRRM + DRR Education + Weather Education and Disaster Commemoration)

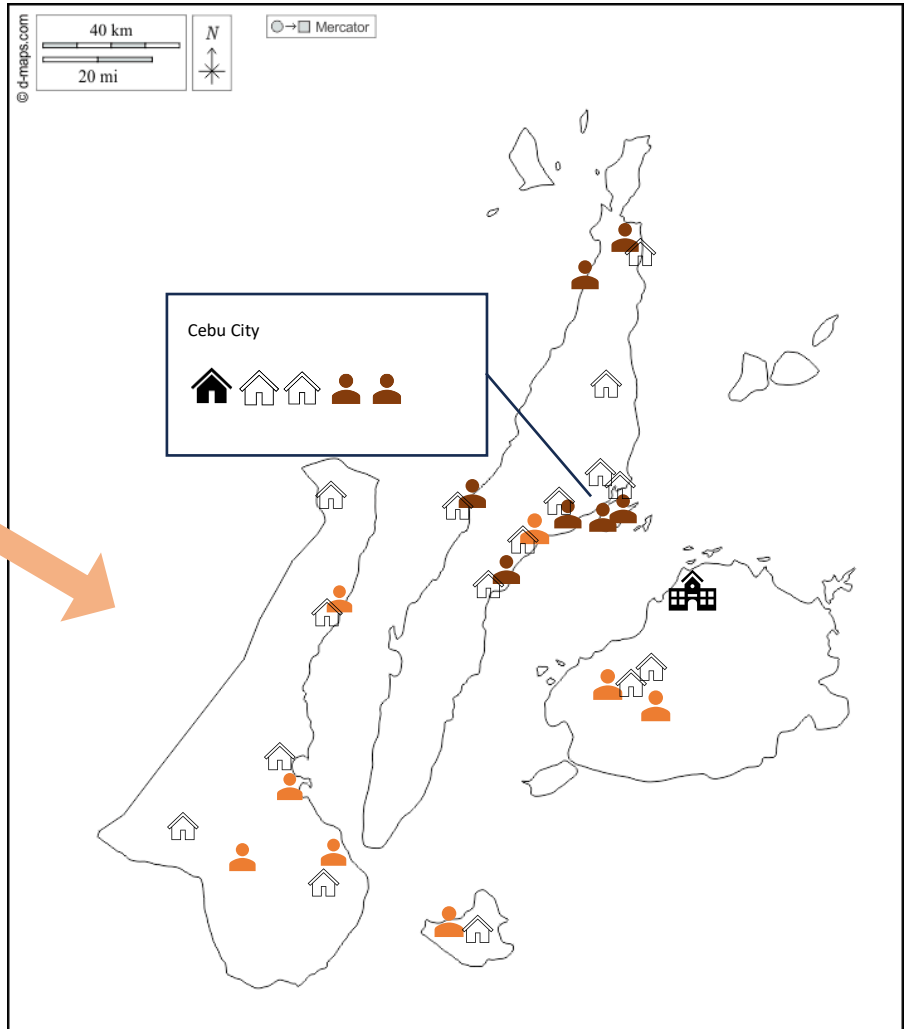
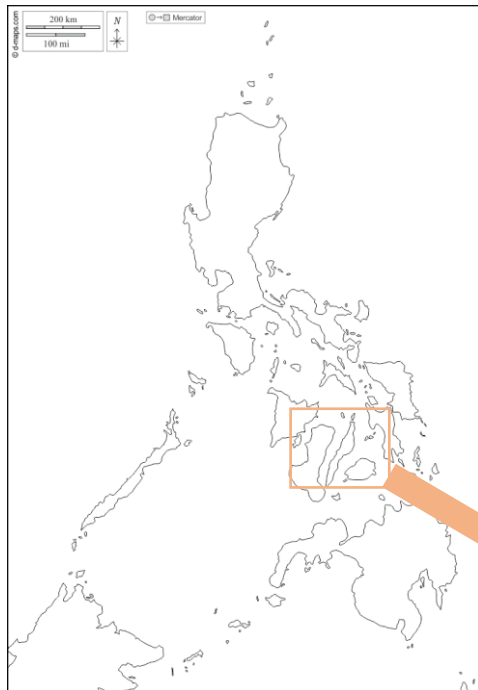
Training of the 1st batch of SDRRT



Establishment of School Disaster Risk Reduction Trainer (SDRRT) Training & Deployment System



**Project participants locator**



- DepEd ROVII
- DepEd SDO
- SDRRT
- SDRR-TF
- Model School

Source: [https://d-maps.com/carte.php?num\\_car=591&lang=en](https://d-maps.com/carte.php?num_car=591&lang=en) (Philippines Map)  
[https://d-maps.com/carte.php?num\\_car=29557&lang=en](https://d-maps.com/carte.php?num_car=29557&lang=en) (Central Visayas Map)

### Baseline Research

Baseline research on the existing DepEd human resource development system/training program, particularly in school-based disaster risk reduction and management (SDRRM), was a crucial aspect of preparing for the implementation of SEEDS Asia’s third long-term project.



As part of establishing baseline data, individual and group interviews were conducted with selected personnel from DepEd RO7 and key individuals from DepEd Schools Division Offices (SDOs) on SDRRM, as well as selected schools. The research team visited a total of nine SDOs, 11 schools, and DepEd RO7, conducting interviews with a total of 66 respondents.

### Project Kick-off Seminar

SEEDS Asia hosted the “Learning Exchange on Strengthening and Promoting School DRRM for Safety and Resiliency” in Cebu City on January 6, 2023, to officially announce the launch of the project and share its details. 56 individuals from DepEd Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), JICA-Philippines, Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education, DepEd RO7, and SDOs participated in this event. Resource speakers from Japan, Mr. Takeshi Hatanaka, Education Supervisor, and Ms. Haruka Yamasaki, a Teacher at Fukura Elementary School in Minami-Awaji City, provided insights about the SDRRM in Hyogo Prefecture and the Emergency And Rescue Team by school staff in Hyogo (EARTH). Mr. Orlando B. Barachina, Project Development Officer IV, DepEd DRRMS, emphasized that SEEDS Asia’s initiative could be a significant step towards safety and resiliency, not only for DepEd RO7 but for all regions in the Philippines in the future.



### Establishment of School Disaster Risk Reduction -Task Force (SDRR-TF)

On February 3, 2023, SEEDS Asia organized the 1st Coordination Meeting with selected previous project participants at DepEd RO7 to discuss project activities and establish the School Disaster Risk Reduction-Task Force (SDRR-TF). The members of SDRR-TF are comprised of DepEd personnel who were involved in SEEDS Asia’s previous projects.



#### LIST OF SCHOOL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION -TASK FORCE (SDRR-TF)

NAME	PRESENT ASSIGNMENT (AS OF JANUARY 2024)	REGIONAL / DIVISION OFFICE
Mr. Ranilo Edar	Project Development Officer II - Regional DRRM Coordinator, Education Support Services Division	DepEd RO7
Dr. Jocelyn Conta	Curriculum Implementation Division Chief	SDO of Bogu City
Dr. Lyra Illaga	School Governance Operations Division Chief	SDO of Cebu City

<b>Mr. Tony Aplacador</b>	Public Schools District Supervisor – San Remegio District I	SDO of Cebu Province
<b>Mr. Randy Watin</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	SDO of Carcar City
<b>Ms. Anna Liza Sardovia</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	SDO of Toledo City
<b>Ms. Ma. Elena Berame</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	SDO of Lapu-Lapu City
<b>Mr. Giovanni Almendras</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	SDO of Talisay City
<b>Dr. Ricardo Cayacap Jr.</b>	Principal IV – Looc National High School	SDO of Lapu-Lapu City

### Presentation at DepEd National DRRM Planning Conference

SEEDS Asia had the privilege of being invited to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Planning Conference organized by DepEd DRRMS. On the third day of the conference, March 9, 2023, partner organizations of DepEd were given the opportunity to deliver brief presentations. SEEDS Asia shared information about our projects in the Philippines from 2014 to the present. We also engaged in discussions with DepEd personnel from various regions to understand their current disaster risk reduction strategies and the challenges they encounter.



### Selection of School Disaster Risk Reduction Trainer (SDRRT)

After discussions with the Education Service Support Division (ESSD) and Human Resource Development Division (HRDD) of DepEd RO7, SEEDS Asia initiated the search for potential training facilitators, known as School Disaster Risk Reduction Trainers (SDRRT) who possess both facilitation skills and expertise in DRR. In February 2023, SEEDS Asia and DepEd RO7 issued a call for applications, resulting in over 40 applications from DepEd and school personnel for the trainer position. Subsequently, 14 applicants were shortlisted. From May 24 to 26, SEEDS Asia and SDRR-TF conducted online demonstrations and interview sessions with the HRDD to select SDRRT. On June 5th, SEEDS Asia and SDRR-TF convened an in-person meeting with Mr. Misael Borgonia, HRDD Chief, to finalize the selection of SDRRT responsible for developing the school-based DRR training program and conducting DRR training at the school level. During the meeting, SDRRT members were chosen from various areas in DepEd RO7 including Cebu, Bohol, Negros Oriental, and Siquijor. The final result of the selection was announced through the Regional Memorandum (RM 0457 s. 2023).



### LIST OF SCHOOL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION TRAINER (SDRRT)

<b>NAME</b>	<b>PRESENT ASSIGNMENT (AS OF JANUARY 2024)</b>	<b>REGIONAL / DIVISION OFFICE</b>
<b>Mr. Renato Tabilon</b>	School Head, Sandayao Elementary School	Division of Guihulngan City
<b>Mr. Brendo B. Torres</b>	Elementary School Principal - I	Division of Tanjay City
<b>Mr. Kenneth Regene B. Blasco</b>	Head Teacher I, Gov. Jacinto Borja National High School	Division of Bohol
<b>Mr. Jaime B. Quinga Jr.</b>	Principal I, Cambayaon Elementary School	Division of Bohol
<b>Mr. Vincent A. Padron</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	Division of City of Naga

<b>Mr. Joseph Gemina</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	Division of Negros Oriental
<b>Mr. Johnrey F. Legara</b>	Head Teacher I, Kakha Elementary School	Division of Negros Oriental
<b>Ms. Leilani E. Jansalin</b>	Project Development Officer II, Division DRRM Coordinator	Division of Siquijor

**Selection of Model School**

As a crucial aspect of designing the school-based DRR training program, we initiated the process of selecting a Model School in Central Visayas. This school would serve as a cornerstone for research and program development. To commence this process, we issued a "Call for Applications for the Model School in Central Visayas" through RM 0294 s. 2023, outlining specific criteria such as integrated school status, high disaster risk, commitment to DRR activities, and no prior involvement with SEEDS Asia. Following applications from eight schools, SEEDS Asia and SDRR-TF conducted interviews and risk assessments at four shortlisted schools in July 2023. Ultimately, after careful evaluation with the SDRR-TF, Inabanga North Central Integrated School (INCIS) was selected as the Model School, a decision communicated through a Regional Memorandum (RM 950 s.2023).



**Discussion with DepEd BLR-Cebu regarding Future CCA Initiatives in Filipino Schools**

On August 22, 2023, SEEDS Asia accompanied by Dr. Yusuke Yamane, a Japanese meteorologist from Tokoha University, visited DepEd Bureau of Learning Resources (BLR) Cebu Office. During our visit, we engaged in discussions concerning science education and the potential utilization of weather observation devices in DRR and climate change adaptation (CCA) activities. Additionally, BLR Cebu officials presented science experiment materials, including weather observation devices, distributed to schools across the Philippines.



**Workshop "From Forecast to Action: Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Using Weather Information"**

SEEDS Asia organized a workshop titled "From Forecast to Action: Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Using Weather Information" on August 24, 2023 at the Conference Hall of the DepEd SDO of Talisay City, Cebu attended by about 40 participants including representatives from JICA Philippines, DepEd RO7, schools, and selected barangays in Talisay City. The event aimed to enhance awareness about weather information and weather education. Distinguished speakers, including Ms. Vhan Sabellano and Eng. Romeo Aguirre (weather specialists from PAGASA), Mr. Rosthelo



Alvin Santillana (DRRM Officer-In-Charge of Talisay City), and Dr. Yusuke Yamane shared insights on climate change, weather literacy, and effective educational methods. Participants actively engaged in discussions and brainstormed potential CCA and weather education activities. Feedback from the post-workshop evaluation questionnaire highlighted overall satisfaction among participants, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing weather education in Philippine schools.

### Capacity Building for SDRRT

SEEDS Asia, DepEd RO7, and SDRR-TF conducted two phases of capacity-building sessions for the SDRRT, held in September and subsequently in November. The initial phase focused on DRR training delivery, with SDRRT members acting as facilitators for the 'Contingency Planning Training & Write-shop' for the DepEd RO7 and the SDO of Canlaon City, enabling them to gain valuable experience in facilitating DRR-related topics with feedback and support provided by SDRR-TF members. The subsequent phase aimed to enhance DRR knowledge and skills, as well as to learn about the processes and professional development program quality standards. SEEDS Asia delivered lectures on DRR Education, weather education, and disaster commemoration, while Mr. Misael Borgonia, HRDD Chief, Dr. Helen Sabino, Education Program Supervisor, and Dr. Emiliano Elnar Jr., Quality Assurance Division Chief, provided guidance and inputs regarding the development of the learning resource package. As part of this phase, SDRRT members collaborated with Division DRRM Coordinators to design an event for the Typhoon Yolanda Commemoration Event held on November 8, 2023.



### Development of Training Program

In September 2023, SEEDS Asia initiated the development of the training program with SDRR-TF and SDRRT. Following a Learning Development Needs Assessment (LDNA) in September 2023, we discussed the competencies to focus on in the program. In November 2023, session topics for the training program were identified. To develop the Session Guides, SDRRT members with support from SDRR-TF outlined the overview and flow of each session. SEEDS Asia together with SDRR-TF and SDRRT aims to obtain Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) accreditation, making the training program the first PRC-accredited DRR training for school personnel in the Philippines.



### Typhoon Yolanda Commemoration Event at Daanbantayan National High School

On November 8, 2013, Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) struck the Philippines, bringing devastation to Northern Cebu as well as Region 8. To mark the 10th year anniversary of the typhoon, DepEd RO7 organized a Typhoon Yolanda Commemoration Event at Daanbantayan National High School, supported by SEEDS Asia. During the event, DepEd personnel, teachers, and learners reflected on their personal experiences during Typhoon Yolanda. They expressed their commitment to resilience-building and sharing the lessons learned with future generations. Students also conveyed their experiences through creative activities like poster and slogan making and essay writing. This event served as part of the capacity building for SDRRT, particularly on disaster commemoration activities.



### Observation of DRR Education training in Negros Oriental

SEEDS Asia participated in the "Young Leaders' Capacity-Building for Future Governance", an event organized by DepEd SDO of Negros Oriental from November 21 to 22 in Dauin, Negros Oriental. The event gathered 72 student representatives and 34 advisor teachers from the Supreme Secondary Learner Government (SSLG) in Negros Oriental Division with the aim of equipping future leaders with essential knowledge and skills for leadership, including DRR. Given the Philippines' susceptibility to various disasters, DRR emerged as a crucial topic. SEEDS Asia delivered lectures on the importance of DRR Education and advocacy tools for DRR, engaging SSLG representatives and advisors in hands-on activities like hazard mapping and town watching which were developed through "Project for Capacity Building on Disaster Risk Reduction Education through Cooperation with Local Community in Cebu Province (2014-2017)". The event underscored the potential for adapting existing training program materials developed from SEEDS Asia's project to local contexts.



### Start of Coordination for the Pilot-testing at INCIS

SEEDS Asia conducted coordination meetings with SDO of Bohol and INCIS from January 15 to 18, 2024 to prepare for the pilot implementation of the school-based DRR training program. Discussions during the meetings focused on training contents and schedules in collaboration with the SDO of Bohol and INCIS. Furthermore, on January 16, SEEDS Asia conducted a courtesy call with Inabanga Municipal Mayor Hon. Jono Jumamoy, discussing the project details, their local hazards, and CCA efforts.



### Project Updates and Consultation Meetings with DepEd RO7 Officers

Throughout project implementation with SDRR-TF, SEEDS Asia maintained coordination meetings with DepEd RO7 Regional Director Salustiano Jimenez and other DepEd RO7 Officers, including Mr. Tomas Pastor, ESSD Chief, Mr. Misael Borgonia, HRDD Chief, Dr. Helen Sabino, Education Program Specialist, and Dr. Bryant Acar, Education Program Specialist – Science.





**Courtesy Visits**

To promote our project and ensure the smooth cascading of the training program, SEEDS Asia conducted courtesy visits to 13 SDOs under DepEd RO7 since the project's inception. Additionally, to strengthen partnerships and promote school-based DRR, we visited various government agencies and LGUs. We plan to expand these visits to more SDOs and government agencies in 2024 and 2025.



DepEd SDO in Region 7	Government agencies and LGU
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Division of Bogo City</li> <li>- Division of Bohol</li> <li>- Division of Carcar City</li> <li>- Division of Cebu City</li> <li>- Division of Cebu Province</li> <li>- Division of Dumaguete City</li> <li>- Division of Guihulngan City</li> <li>- Division of Lapu-Lapu City</li> <li>- Division of Negros Oriental</li> <li>- Division of Siquijor</li> <li>- Division of Tagbilaran City</li> <li>- Division of Tanjay City</li> <li>- Division of Talisay City</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Office of Civil Defense Regional Office VII</li> <li>- Visayas – PAGASA Regional Services Division</li> <li>- City of Talisay (Cebu)</li> <li>- Municipality of Inabanga (Bohol)</li> </ul>

**SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR PREVIOUS PROJECTS**

**From Classroom-level to City-level DRR Education Events**

During National Disaster Resilience Month 2023, Lapu-Lapu City and Toledo City in Cebu Province organized the Inter- School DRRM Olympics. In Lapu-Lapu City, the event took place from July 26 to 28, 2023, with the collaboration of DepEd SDO of Lapu-Lapu City, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Lapu-Lapu City, and the Bureau of Fire Prevention (BFP). Held at DepEd SDO of Lapu-Lapu City and Lapu-Lapu City DRRM Office, learners from elementary, junior high, and senior high schools competed in various games aimed at learning disaster preparedness and response in a fun way. Meanwhile, on July 31, 2023, Toledo City hosted its inaugural Inter-School DRRM Olympics at the Toledo City Sports Center - Megadome. Organized by the Toledo City LGU and DepEd SDO of Toledo City, the event saw participation from primary and secondary schools across the city's districts. The SEEDS Asia Cebu Project Team and DepEd DRRM Coordinators served as judges for activities such as the DRRM Quiz Bee, Rope Tying, and Bucket and Message Relays. These events were spearheaded by Ms. Ma. Elena Berame and Ms. Anna Liza Sardovia, previous participants of the "



Support Project on School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (SDRRM) in Cebu Province (2017-2020)," who integrated project learnings and forged new partnerships for community engagement.

**Shared Resources Among Schools from Response Project**

On June 7, 2023, SEEDS Asia visited Bankal National High School in Lapu-Lapu City to learn about DepEd SDO of Lapu-Lapu City’s DRR activities. Ms. Ma. Elena Berame, the DepEd Division’s DRRM Coordinator, has been a key partner in SEEDS Asia’s JICA-funded projects. The school's DRRM Coordinators, trained by Ms. Berame, now lead the city’s school-based DRR activities. Bankal National High School, housing the city's largest school DRRM office, stores and maintains generator sets donated by Japan Platform and SEEDS Asia to the DepEd office after Typhoon Odette. In a remarkable display of disaster preparedness, the school manages the rental of generators to schools in need, exemplifying the impactful utilization of provided resources.



**DRR ADVOCACIES**

**Presentation of “Mag-Estoryahanay Ta!” at the Regional Climate Change Caravan (RCCC) in Olango Island**

On October 13 and 14, the "Regional Climate Change Caravan," organized by the DepEd RO7, unfolded on Olango Island, located near Mactan Island. This event saw the participation of approximately 150 individuals, including DepEd and school personnel, learners (including Alternative Learning System learners), community members, and stakeholders' representatives. SEEDS Asia supported the RCCC as one of the Technical Working Group members. During the event, SEEDS Asia presented a video aimed at remembering past disasters and imparting their lessons to the next generation. This was followed by the facilitation of the activity “Mag Estoryahanay Ta,” an interactive session providing an opportunity to share knowledge, best practices in Japan and Myanmar, and strategies for CCA while honoring the lessons of past disasters. Two teachers from Poo Elementary School shared survival stories from Super Typhoon Odette, which struck the Philippines in December 2021.



**SEEDS Asia’s Call to Action for DRR Education at RDRRMC-7 Meeting**

On December 18, 2023, SEEDS Asia was invited to the 4th Quarter Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Full Council VII (RDRRMC-7) Meeting held at Marina Seaview Restaurant in Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu. RDRRMC-7, headed by the Office of Civil Defense Region VII (OCD 7) under the Department of National Defense, is a DRR working group. SEEDS Asia presented and shared about its school-based DRR projects and initiatives, particularly focusing on DRR Education (DRRE). The aim is to raise awareness about DRR among children through engaging and enjoyable educational activities, promoting disaster preparedness at the school level. Former OCD 7 Regional Director Segundo Bolo commended the initiative, emphasizing the importance of DRRE for current and future generations.



**Online Event in Japan: Philippine DRR Talk to Commemorate Typhoon Yolanda**

SEEDS Asia Headquarters organized online events named “Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction Talk” in 2023 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Typhoon Yolanda. The events, held three times in March, July, and November 2023, aimed to share project updates of the 3rd JICA-funded project and insights into DRR in the Philippines with Japanese participants.



DATE	THEME	GUEST SPEAKERS
<b>March 24, 2023</b>	“Why did teachers go to the Philippines? – Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education’s Philippine Visit in 2023-”	<b>Mr. Takeshi Hatanaka</b> , Education Supervisor at Education Planning Division, Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education <b>Ms. Haruka Yamasaki</b> , member of the Emergency and Rescue Team by school staff in Hyogo (EARTH) and teacher at Fukura Elementary School
<b>June 23, 2023</b>	"How do our DRR projects play a role? – Evaluation of project impacts -"	<b>Dr. Kanami Namiki</b> , Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University
<b>November 30, 2023</b>	“How do we pass down lessons from past disaster experiences? What can we do as children for DRR?”	<b>Mr. Yoshikazu Kitagawa</b> , member of EARTH and teacher at Hyogo Prefectural Himeji Commercial High School

**INTERNATIONAL LEARNING EXCHANGE ON DRR**

**San Fernando Central Elementary School Participated in MY HOMETOWN 2023**

San Fernando Central Elementary School from Cebu Province took part in "My Hometown," an online event organized by SEEDS Asia Headquarters which aimed to facilitate the sharing of endeared hometowns and DRRM initiatives among schools of various



backgrounds. The event, held on January 17, 2023, featured selected learners/schools from Japan, Bangladesh, and the Philippines as part of commemorating the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake that struck Hyogo Prefecture on the same date in 1995. Led by Ms. Ma. Chona Aliviado, School Principal, San Fernando Central Elementary School represented the Philippines in the event. The school shared basic information and an overview of the Town of San Fernando, and recounted the worst disasters in past years through pre-recorded videos. There was a discussion sessions among participating students aimed at exchanging opinions and fostering future friendships.

### Learning Exchange between Fukura Elementary School and Camp 8 Elementary School

On July 3, 2023, Grade 2 students from Fukura Elementary School in Minamiawaji, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, and Camp 8 Elementary School in Minglanilla, Cebu, Philippines, engaged in an online learning exchange. SEEDS Asia supported this activity in response to a request from Ms. Haruka Yamasaki, member of the EARTH. Significant efforts were dedicated by Ms. Annie S. Cailing, School Head as well as the teachers, and Grade 2 learners of Camp 8 Elementary School to prepare for the learning exchange. Throughout the session, students learned about each other's school lives and discussed topics related to DRR. Fukura Elementary School students demonstrated earthquake safety measures, leading Camp 8 Elementary School students to realize the similarities in safety protocols during earthquake drills.



### INCIS Participated in MY HOMETOWN 2024

INCIS from Bohol, Philippines, participated in “My Hometown” 2024, another edition of the online event organized by SEEDS Asia. Approximately 25 learners from Grade 6, 7, and 11 joined the event, sharing insights about their hometown, Inabanga, and recounting past disaster experiences such as the Bohol Earthquake in 2013 and Typhoon Odette in 2021. The school's video presentation from the event is available on SEEDS Asia’s YouTube channel. INCIS learners are among the participants in Southeast and South Asia along with learners from Japan, Myanmar, India, and Bangladesh.



### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

From November 2022 to January 2024, SEEDS Asia was honored to receive awards and recognition from DepEd Regional and Division Offices. We deeply appreciate these accolades and the plaques presented to us in acknowledgment of our initiatives.

Date of award or certification	Award	Awarding office
November 22, 2022	Award of Recognition	DepEd Division of Carcar City
December 1, 2022	Plaque of Recognition	DepEd Division of Cebu City
December 7, 2022	Plaque of Recognition	DepEd Division of Lapu-Lapu City
December 5, 2023	Kapares Award	DepEd Division of Carcar City
December 12, 2023	Platinum Award	DepEd Division of Cebu Province
January 12, 2024	Certificate of Recognition	DepEd Division of Talisay City
January 31, 2024	Certificate of Appreciation	DepEd Regional Office VII



## SEEDS Asia Project Team



**Ms. Nana Sugaya**  
Philippine County Representative

*"DRR and education professionals whom I work with are amazing and they always inspire me with their professionalism and contributions to building resilience for communities and children in the Philippines. I am honored to support rolling out their insights as well as Japan and SEEDS Asia's experiences! I hope that capacity building on DRR will help Filipino people build resilience against climate change and disasters."*



**Mr. Edwin F. Marquez**  
Project Coordinator

*"As an advocate for School-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), I am truly blessed to work alongside the dedicated team at DepEd ROVII. With unwavering passion for DRR, prioritize the safety and security of our learners and school personnel. Together, we build a resilient educational environment, equipping our community with the knowledge and skills needed to face any adversity."*



**Ms. Lyn Alexandria T. Novilla**  
Assistant Coordinator

*"I came to see how the project's approach to increasing grassroots capacity and resilience through DRR education may play a significant and even game-changing role in bolstering the safety culture in the Philippines. I consider this endeavor a major win for the involved stakeholders and communities, especially for our Filipino children and future generations who will be experiencing climate-related disasters."*

# SEEDS Asia CEBU Project in the Philippines



Let's collaborate; connect with us!

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(DRRE Guidebooks and School Disaster Risk Reduction Operational Guidelines are available on our website!)



<https://www.seedsasia.org/eng>



<https://www.facebook.com/SEEDSASIA>



<https://www.youtube.com/@seedsasia7795>

