DRR Education Takes Root

The “Project for Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction Education (DRRE) through Cooperation with the Local Community in Cebu Province” is slowly taking its roots and growing at the Department of Education Region VII (DepEd RO7) with the nurturing from its key officials through the leadership of Regional Director Dr. Juliet A. Jeruta, the Schools Division Superintendents (SDS), Curriculum Implementation Division Chiefs (CID) and DRRM Coordinators of the ten (10) Division Project beneficiaries and also of the 13 School Heads with its Teachers.

Project Beneficiaries

The Project has a total of ten (10) DepEd Divisions as beneficiaries namely (1) Bogo City, (2) Danao City, (3) Cebu Province, (4) Carcar City, (5) Cebu City, (6) Lapu-lapu City, (7) Mandaue City, (8) Naga City, (9) Talisay City and (10) Toledo City. The first three (3) are called the DRR Education Model Divisions and the remaining seven (7) as the DRR Education Promotion Divisions. Under the Model Divisions, two (2) Model Schools each are chosen with one elementary and one high school while for the Promotion Divisions there is one school each and this sums up to thirteen (13) schools.

Capacity Building for DRRE

In order to build the capacities for DRRE, a 5-day training is conducted that includes building the knowledge on the basics of DRR, global and national policies and laws, the twenty-one (21) DRR Education Activities and the drafting of instructional plans (iPlans) with DRRE integration. The training program design was crafted by the DRR Education Core Team through the technical assistance of SEEDS Asia. To date, there have been three (3) sets of 5-day capacity building trainings conducted with a total of 182 participants equipped with DRRE proficiencies. Prior to the training, all the participants were administered with Knowledge Tests and likewise afterwards in order to check immediate impact of gained learnings. Each Division have also prepared plans of expansion and started cascading DRRE to other schools.

DRR Education Takes Root: Page 1

Proactive cooperation and strong support helps for DRRE to establish its roots in DepEd.

DRR Education Nurturing: Major Activities Conducted: Page 2

The key activities that helped for DRRE to grow to what it is now.

Cultivating the Sense of Ownership: DRRE Taking a Life of its Own: Page 7

DepEd RO7 slowly taking the lead for DRRE sustainability.

2nd Japan Study Visit for DRRE: Page 9

Technical study visit to learn from DRRE initiatives and practices of Japan with the key authorities of DepEd.

DRRE Integrated Class Observation: Page 9

Japanese experts observing classes with DRRE integration and technical exchange with the teachers.

Key Actors of DRRE in DepEd: An Introduction: Page 10

Testimonials on the importance of DRR Education.

SEEDS Asia Cebu Project Team: Page 12
DRR Education Nurturing: Major Project Activities

Since the commencement of the DRR Education Project last November 2014, significant milestones have already been achieved with its implementation of almost two (2) years.

**August - December 2015**

Core Team DRR Education Integration Workshop Part 2

The Workshop was organized on August 4-5, 2015 to continue finalizing the DRR Education Matrices from Kindergarten to Grade 10 which will be utilized in the integration of DRR into the Basic Education subjects. This DRR Matrix is for the reference guide of the Teachers in preparing their iPlans (Instructional Plans) or lesson plans based on the Learning Competencies of the K-12 Curriculum using the 21 DRR activities.

**2nd Steering Committee Meeting**

Conducted on August 24, 2015, the DRR Education Steering Committee had its 2nd meeting to report on the implementation status, the upcoming Project activities and presentation of DRRE initiatives of Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education (Hyogo BoE). Valuable inputs were likewise shared by the participants to enhance its implementation. The meeting was attended by its members such as the DepEd National, DepEd RO7, and Cebu Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (CPDRRMO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Philippines and Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education (Hyogo BoE) as well as the DRR Education Core Team members. Other members includes the Office of Civil Defense-Region VII (OCD-7) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office 7 (DSWD-FO7).

**2nd Technical Visit of Hyogo BoE**

In order to continue the transfer of information from Japan, sound practices in promoting DRR Education in schools and in partnership with the community were shared by Mr. Naohide Fujimoto, Education Supervisor of Hyogo BoE and Mr. Koji Kanda, one of the leading EARTH (Emergency And Rescue Team by school staff in Hyogo) Teachers on DRRE in Hyogo, to the Core Team, Model Schools and SEEDS Asia's local Project partners which was held on August 25-26, 2015. Core Team members also presented their Post-Study Visit Reflection Workshop Action Plan Outputs. Thereafter, whole day visit to each of the six (6) Model Schools with Hyogo BoE with the support of the Core Team members was conducted on August 27, 2016 to observe the local school scenario.

**Teachers’ Training Program Design Workshop of the Core Team**

Anchored on establishing the sense of ownership by the Project beneficiaries, the Core Team together with SEEDS Asia conducted a 2-day workshop on September 2-3, 2015 to draft the “Teachers’ Training Program Design and Development” for DRRE capacity building of the Model Schools. The scheme is patterned after the Program Designing and Resource Development Operations Manual System of DepEd that sets the standards, processes and tools for implementing training and development.

Being part of the resource speakers for the 5-day Capacity Building Training, each member of the Core Team and SEEDS Asia Cebu Project Team were assigned various topics to present. In line with this, a series of follow-up meetings was conducted in order to discuss the details of the 5-day training including the preparation of the Session Guides by each of the resource speakers. The Session Guides contains information on the key understandings to be developed, learning objectives, resources needed, introductory activity, the main topic session activity, analysis activity, abstraction/generalization (lecturette), and application activity which can be in the form of an assignment/homework and the concluding activity.
Pre-Training Orientation and Knowledge Test of Teachers

Prior to the 5-day training, a Pre-Training Orientation was conducted on September 24-25, 2015 in order to provide Project briefing and to level-off expectations of all the identified DRR Education Model School Teachers from the Divisions of Danao, Bogo and Cebu Province-Daanbantayan District. The teachers also took pre-training Knowledge Test to know the current level of DRR knowledge they have. The local DRRM Officer were also invited to share the DRR Plans and Programs of the respective cities/municipality to increase the awareness of the training participants.

5-Day Training-Workshop on DRR Education for Model Schools

A total of 72 participants from six (6) DRR Education Model Schools were trained which are composed of Teachers, School DRRM Focal Persons and School Heads. DRRE Capacity building training contents were:

- Basic DRR Terms
- Global and National Policies for DRR
- DepEd DRRM Framework and DepEd Thrusts for DRRE
- DepEd Orders related to DRRE
- Camp Coordination and Camp Management
- School Safety Concept and Inclusive DRR
- Mechanisms, Early Warning Systems and Preparedness
- Measures for Geologic Hazards, Weather-related Disturbances and Fire Hazard including Extinguishing Fires
- Basic First Aid

On day 1, prior to the start of the formal training session, all the participants were asked to answer Pre-Training Rapid Competency Assessment Test to know their current level of knowledge of the topics that will be taken up as well as Pre-Training Teacher’s Willingness Questionnaire to know the teachers attitude for DRRE. Towards the end of the training, the participants were likewise requested to answer the Post-Training Knowledge Test, Post-Training Rapid Competency Assessment Test and Post Willingness Questionnaire as well as the End of Program Assessment to know the feedback of the participants regarding the 5-days training that they underwent.

The Core Team and SEEDS Asia together with the invited technical resource speakers from PAGASA, PHIVOLCS, DSWD-FO7, Bureau of Fire Protection and Danao City DRRMO served as trainers during the said capacity building training which was held on October 26-30, 2015 at DepEd Ecotech. JICA Philippines also witnessed the training on its first day with Mr. Hayato Nakamura, the Project Formulation Advisor for Disaster Management.
3rd Technical Visit of Japanese Experts to Cebu
For Project area familiarization purposes and to further enrich the technical exchanges, Japanese experts visited Cebu together with JICA Kansai on November 4-6, 2015. Six (6) Model Schools and selected Typhoon Yolanda Relocation Sites in Bogo City and Daanbantayan Municipality were visited by Dr. Yukihiko Oikawa, Board Member of SEEDS Asia and Mr. Nobuhiro Okubo, representative of JICA Kansai on the first two (2) days of their technical visit. On the third day, Dr. Oikawa and Mr. Naohide Fujimoto, Education Supervisor of Hyogo BoE, provided pertinent information on the DRRE experiences of Japan to the seven (7) target DepEd Divisions for the roll-out towards the Project’s 2nd phase which will be called the DRR Education Promotion Schools.

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Resiliency in Education (DRRRE) Forum
Conducted on November 10, 2015, a total of one hundred thirty (130) participants attended the National DRRRE Forum that includes Project partners and representatives from DepEd Central, 18 DepEd Regional Offices, selected DepEd Divisions, DRR-related National Government Agencies and NGOs wherein they were introduced to the sound practices of the DRR Education Project in Cebu Province and other existing DRR Education programs and initiatives that involve several communities through a themed-panel discussion. Two (2) experts from Japan, Dr. Yukihiko Oikawa, of SEEDS Asia and Mr. Naohide Fujimoto of Hyogo BoE likewise imparted the DRR Education experiences of Japan to enrich the appreciation on the initiatives showcased. Looking at the future of DRRE in the country, the ‘Way Forward’ message was delivered by Dr. Aiko Sakurai, SEEDS Asia’s Board Member and Professor of Tohoku University. The aim of the National Forum is to share and deepen the realization, at the national level, of the importance of DRRE and the need to incorporate DRRE into the Basic Education Curriculum in order to foster the culture of safety.

Follow-up Meeting with Model Schools for DRRE Integration
With the aim of continuing the learning process of Model School Teachers, SEEDS Asia organized series of follow-up meetings for DRRE Integration on December 8-17, 2015. Each Model Schools were given technical assistance in preparing iPlans and the helpful tools in integrating DRR into their classes and lesson plans together with their respective Curriculum Implementation Division (CID) Chiefs. Use of Curriculum Guides and presentation of the DRRE Integration Matrix as well as a sample iPlan with DRRE integration was presented to the Teachers. The DRR miniature models to illustrate the mechanisms of natural hazards were also demonstrated by SEEDS Asia. Aside from the iPlan writing technical assistance, SEEDS Asia additionally presented the summary results of the Pre and Post-Training Knowledge Tests, Teachers’ Willingness Questionnaire, Rapid Competency Assessment and the End of Program Assessment for the information of the Teachers.
January - August 2016

Project Status Update Meeting with the DRR Education Core Team

Half-way through the DRRE Project implementation, SEEDS Asia presented to the Core Team members the accomplishments as well as the proposed DRR Education Day/Week Celebration of DRR Education Schools for their approval. Likewise, the upcoming Project activities was also discussed including the meeting with the School PTAs, Barangays, Local DRRMOs in order to connect the school beneficiaries with the community. Sustainability and monitoring measures were also tackled in the meeting that was conducted on January 20, 2016.

Harvest of Excellence Awarding of DepEd RO7 to Partners

DepEd RO7 conducted on February 1, 2016 a thanksgiving program for its partners called the “Harvest of Excellence Awarding Ceremony”. It aimed to recognize the valuable contribution of DepEd supporters to the cause of promoting quality Basic Education through the provision of much needed learning support for the improvement and development of schools in Region VII. SEEDS Asia was one of the awardees for its significant contribution for capacitating teachers on DRRE for the benefit of the learners and the community being prepared for disasters.

Community Linkage: Meeting with the School PTA, Barangay and LGU DRRM at the DRRE Model Schools

After building the capacity of Teachers, the next step would be to enjoin the participation of the School PTAs and concerned barangays together with the support of the local government unit’s (LGU) DRRM Office in order to be comprehensive and sustainable in implementing DRR initiatives. During the meetings conducted on February 22-24 and 29, 2016 with the key stakeholders and the trained Teachers, SEEDS Asia and the DRRE Project was presented for familiarization purposes as well as the role and cooperation needed from School PTA, Barangay Officials and the LGU. The LGU DRRM Officer was requested to present its DRRM plans and programs for the information of the group including the support that they can provide for the DRRE of schools. Each of the attending community stakeholders delivered their commitment of support to the school’s DRR initiatives. This meeting with the community helped bridge the gap between the schools, barangays and the LGUs.

Rolling-out of DRR Education: Meeting with the Promotion School Teachers Training Planning

Moving into the 2nd phase of the DRRE Project, a 2nd meeting with the seven (7) DepEd Divisions was conducted on March 2, 2016 to discuss the details of the Project, accomplishments, nominations of schools and teachers including the criteria as well as the activities that will be conducted for the capacity building training of the finalized list of schools and participants.

Core Team Work Planning for DRRE Sustainability and Promotion School Teachers Training Planning

In order to ensure that DRRE shall be sustained in the long run beyond SEEDS Asia’s Project engagement, a 2-day Work Planning was held on April 14-15, 2016 with the Core Team. The group crafted the DRRE Vision of DepEd RO7 as well as the action plans for the attainment of the desired outcomes. Likewise the upcoming training of the Promotion School teachers was also planned out. The Vision crafted was, "A premier DepEd Region in the Philippines that implements practical and sustainable DRR Education with teachers that are empowered to serve and learners which are disaster-prepared towards safe and resilient schools and communities through excellent leadership."
Confirmation of Nominated DRRE Promotion Schools

Schools and its teachers were nominated by the concerned Divisions, others in consultation with the LGUs, to be the DRRE Promotion School. To finalize their participation, several meetings with each nominated school was conducted on April 20, 25-28, 2016 wherein the Project details were presented including the expected roles and responsibilities of the participants. The schools were given option to decide their willingness to be part of the Project. During the meeting, the LDRRM Officer of the LGU was also invited to present its DRRM Programs and its commitment of support for the DRRE initiative.

5-Day Training-Workshop on DRR Education for Promotion Schools

There were seven (7) Schools with eighty-four (84) participants composed of School Heads and Teachers together with the CID Chiefs and DRRM Focal Persons of the ten (10) DepEd Divisions with the special participation of two (2) representatives from DepEd National – Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS) summing up to one hundred two (102) individuals that attended the DRRE capacity building training held on May 16-20, 2016.

Aside from the Core Team and SEEDS Asia, added to the pool of trainers are six (6) Model School Teachers namely Ms. Geramie Mason (Guinsay Elementary School, Danao City Division), Ms. Jelyn Capuyan (Beatriz D. Durano Memorial National High School, Danao City Division), Ms. Rechelle Estiola (Bogo Central I School, Bogo City Division), Mr. Rogeno Valenzuela (City of Bogo Science and Arts Academy, Bogo City Division), Ms. Ana Orbeta (Tapilon National High School, Cebu Province Division) and Mr. John Louie Arcipe (Daanbantayan Central Elementary School, Cebu Province Division).

Likewise invited are technical resource speakers from PHIVOLCS, PAGASA, and Bureau of Fire Protection and Danao City DRRMO. Some improvements were introduced based on the End of Program Assessment Results of the previous training of Model School Teachers and also the lecture presentation were updated but still covers the same topics. Experiential-learning was still proven to be an effective method in training the Teachers because their appreciation and understanding of the DRR concepts were deepened.

Pre-Training Orientation of DRRE Promotion Schools

After the confirmation of the nominated DRRE Promotion Schools, a pre-training orientation was provided in various dates of April in order to level-off the expectations of the training participants, their expected outputs and also to administer the pre-Training Knowledge Tests.
**Special Meeting with the 10 DepEd Division and 13 School Project Beneficiaries**

As with any project implementation, there are challenges that need to be addressed and actions to be taken in order to resolve them right away. In this regard, SEEDS Asia organized the first ever gathering of all its Project beneficiaries in a single meeting on July 28, 2016 to discuss the challenges they were encountering in implementing DRRE, monitoring report submission compliance and how to address them.

Based on the submitted reports to SEEDS Asia, the DRRE Project status as well as the summary of compliance was presented to RD Dr. Juliet Jeruta, the Schools Division Superintendent (SDS), CIDS and DRRM Coordinators of the ten (10) Divisions as well as the School Heads and trained Teachers of the 13 Schools for information update and for them to have the bird’s eye view on how their respective Divisions are faring.

Thereafter, the group was briefed on how to accomplish the DRRE Monitoring Forms and the protocols and frequency in submitting the reports as well as highlighting the important information that needs to be entered into the forms. SEEDS Asia also underscored the significance of regularly submitting complete and updated reports by the Divisions and Schools since there is a need to account them and inform JICA Kansai, the funding partner, regularly. The publication of the DRRE Handbook, as one of the major outputs of the Project, was also explained which would contain the sound DRRE initiatives of the Divisions and Schools based on their submitted reports.

Considering the remaining months of SEEDS Asia’s Project engagement, the planned activities were also presented for them to be informed of the next steps and what are expected from them in the succeeding months.

In order to ensure the commitment of all the Project beneficiaries, the Job-Embedded Learning (JEL) Contract was signed by each of the Divisions together with RD Jeruta. The JEL Contract contains the actions and target timelines in iPlan with DRRE integration submission, review and pilot testing of the Divisions and quality assurance of DepEd RO7-Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD) as well as other initiatives for the sustainability of DRRE.

Likewise, ERWG will also help facilitate the non-duplication of efforts and having a comprehensive approach in addressing DRR concerns of the Education Sector. With the approval of establishing the ERWG, DepEd RO7 shall already assumed the call of the succeeding meetings, presiding over them and setting its direction. In fact, the 1st ERWG meeting of DepEd RO7 was already conducted on August 16, 2016 wherein the partner organizations were requested to report on the initiatives with the presence of all the thirteen (13) Divisions under DepEd RO7. For the next meeting targeted to be held in September, the group shall discuss ERWG’s Terms of Reference (TOR) in order to have a well-defined function.

**Cultivating the Sense of Ownership: DRRE Taking a Life of its Own**

Constant engagement and sharing, applying the participatory process, promoting accountability and valuing efforts are the key components of cultivating the sense of ownership with the Project beneficiaries. Exercising these key elements throughout SEEDS Asia’s implementation of DRRE Project, positively, DepEd RO7 with its ten (10) Divisions and Schools is gradually taking charge by proactively taking the lead role for DRRE’s sustainability.

**Education Resilience Working Group: DRRE Steering Committee and Region Education Cluster Merging**

This can be evidenced recently during the 3rd DRRE Steering Committee Meeting held on August 3, 2016 at DepEd RO7 wherein the proposed merging of the said Committee with the Regional Education Cluster was consulted with these two (2) groups. In attendance to the meeting were the DRRE Steering Committee members such as the Core Team, DepEd RO7 key officials, DepEd Central-DRRMS, DRRM-related government agencies such as the Cebu Provincial DRRMO, OCD-7, DSWD-FO7 and Education Cluster members such as World Vision, Swiss Caritas, Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. (RAFI), and A2D. They were very positive in its merging to form the “Education Resilience Working Group” (ERWG) as the attendees saw the need for the Education Sector to have a focal group that shall address DRR concerns. ERWG, which was actually patterned after DepEd Central’s initiative, shall be the single body in DepEd RO7 that shall discuss and coordinate DRR initiatives within DepEd and its partners at the Regional level.
Reporting of the 10 Divisions on DRRE Accomplishments

Aiming for the promotion of accountability, each of the DepEd Divisions were requested to report their individual accomplishments and plans for DRRE sustainability during the meeting held on August 5, 2016. After seeing the status of DRRE implementation of their respective Division based on the report presented by SEEDS Asia during the July 28, 2016 meeting, all the ten (10) Divisions worked double-time to comply with the DRRE implementation requirements and keep-up with the rest of Divisions.

This Division Reporting Meeting helped in building their motivation to account for their activities and disclose their accomplishments in a transparent manner as well as take proactive responsibility in sustaining DRRE. Representatives from DepEd Central-DRRMS also attended this reporting session with two (2) representatives namely Ms. Joan Grace Llamado and Mr. Anthony Verzosa to be updated of the Project’s progress.

Regional Conference-Workshop on Consolidation of Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives

With DepEd RO7 now realizing the importance of DRR Education, actions are already being undertaken at their own initiative through the leadership of Regional Director Juliet Jeruta.

One example was organizing a 3-day Regional Conference-Workshop which was conducted on August 7-9, 2016. The entire 3-day Program was facilitated by RD Jeruta herself including the workshop and the methodology. The objectives of the Conference-Workshop were: (a) to discuss the updates on DRR implementation of the Region; (b) plan for the expansion of the consolidated DRR initiatives (education integration, psychosocial, management, response, etc.); (c) integrate DRR efforts for the resiliency of Schools/Divisions/Region; and; (d) practice teamwork in promoting DRR for sustainable development.

Attendees were the DepEd Central-DRRMS, Regional Office Division Chiefs, thirteen (13) Schools Divisions with their Schools Division Superintendents (SDS), Assistant SDS, and DRRM Focal Persons. Likewise the Regional DRRE Core Team, School Heads and a teacher of DRRE Model and Promotion Schools and SEEDS Asia Cebu Project Team were also invited together with the former Undersecretary of DepEd Central Mr. Reynaldo Laguda, Jr.

Highlights of the 3-day include the reporting of the Divisions of their DRR initiatives as well as workshop for DRRE. The workshop methodology used was “Appreciative Inquiry” wherein each of the thirteen (13) DepEd Divisions planned and drafted their respective Division-level plans for DRRM and DRRE. In order to consolidate the plans, three (3) working groups were created as follows and they shall conduct meetings separately to plan out their assignments:

- **Group 1: Advocacy, Promotion & Mobilization Plan for DRRE**
  - **Lead:** Education Support Services Division (ESSD)
  - **Members:** Talisay City, Tagbilaran City, Cebu City, Toledo City

- **Group 2: Capacity Building for Curriculum & Teacher’s Competency Development**
  - **Lead:** Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD) + Human Resources Development Division (HRDD)
  - **Members:** Cebu Province, Bogo City, Danao City, Mandaue City, Lapu-lapu City

- **Group 3: Monitoring, Tracking & Evaluation**
  - **Lead:** Field Technical Assistance Division (FTAD) + Administrative & Finance Divisions + Policy, Planning & Research Division (PPRD)
  - **Members:** Siquijor Province, Bohol Province, Naga City, Cebu City, Carcar City

DRRE Sustainability: Cascading to Other Schools

Aside from DepEd RO7, the ten (10) DepEd Divisions are also doing their share in sustaining DRRE by planning out on how to cascade it not just in the pilot schools but also to the rest of the public and private schools under their respective jurisdictions. All of the Divisions already prepared schedules for the capacity building training and strategies in order to efficiently cascade DRRE. Majority of the Project beneficiary Divisions are going to conduct the roll-out training this October. Each Division now call the trained teachers by SEEDS Asia as the Division DRRE Core Team in charge of capacitating the schools. Thereafter their training sessions, the teachers shall prepare iPlans with DRR Education integration for checking and review of the CIDs of each DepEd Division and also apply to their respective classes.

On the other hand, other Divisions are focusing on review and pilot testing of iPlans with integrated DRR in order to ensure that the drafted lessons plans are quality assured. Pilot tests are planned to be held by each Division starting this September and shall continue indefinitely as long as there are iPlans submitted for screening.

The first one to hold its roll-out of the capacity building training for DRRE is DepEd Danao City Division which was held on Aug 24-26, 2016.
2nd Japan Study Visit for DRRE

Furthering the transfer of knowledge on DRRE to Philippines’ Education sector and enriching the appreciation on the importance of DRRE, key officials were invited by SEEDS Asia to participate in the Study Visit to Japan with representatives from DepEd Central and DepEd RO7 with its concerned DepEd Divisions, one (1) LGU DRRM Officer and JICA Philippines. Additionally, through this Study Visit, it is hoped that DepEd will be able to foster the sustainability of DRRE beyond SEEDS Asia’s engagement period (beyond March 2017), share the knowledge gained and apply lessons learned towards establishing a culture of safety in schools and the community.

Areas visited include Kobe City to learn about the DRR initiatives implemented during the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (Kobe Earthquake), Tamba City having experience sediment flooding in August 2014, Sendai for experiencing the devastating Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (GEJET) in 2011 and Tokyo to know more about the DRRE of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. School visits and observation of DRRE classes were also witnessed by the participants including a brief Town Watching activity in Shin-Nagata, one of the areas in Kobe City heavily affected by the earthquake in 1995 and observation of Hyogo BoE’s training of its teachers for DRR. Key officials were also met by the DepEd Delegations such as Mr. Masahiro Tawa, Deputy Director of JICA Kansai, Mr. Naohide Fujimoto and Mr. Ikuta Atsuhito of Hyogo BoE, Mr. Jugoro Tsuji, Mayor of Tamba City, and Mr. Shigeo Oda, Superintendent of Tamba City BoE, Dr. Aiko Sakurai, Dr. Takashi Oda and Dr. Takeshi Sato, members of International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) of Tohoku University as well as Dr. Rajib Shaw, the Chairman of the Board of SEEDS Asia.

Among the notable learnings of the participants from the study visit is the importance of commemorating past disasters so that new generation may be able to learn from it and not repeat the same mistake by reducing risks and preparing for it. Furthermore, community cooperation and how each stakeholder have their respective roles and responsibilities in the society that is collaborated for a concerted effort of adapting to disasters was also remarked.

DRRE Integrated Class Observation

Technical experts from Japan on DRRE, Mr. Naohide Fujimoto of Hyogo BoE and Mr. Masaki Tabuchi, an EARTH Teacher, visited six (6) schools and observed seven (7) classes on August 23-26, 2016. Thereafter the class observations, technical exchanges on how to further improve the classes were discussed. In this visit, not only did the Model and Promotion School teachers learned, but also the Japanese experts. In fact they were very impressed with the way the classes were conducted because the format is learner-focused with the students performing many of the class activities. Remarkable also is the liveliness of classes and students which helps in increasing their motivation to learn. Mr. Tabuchi said the he will also try to adopt some of the DRR Education activities that he observed when he returns to Japan.

A day prior to the class observations, a meeting with all the Project beneficiaries was conducted on Aug. 22, 2016. Mr. Fujimoto presented on the importance in conducting DRRE, school-community linkage and overcoming challenges in implementing DRRE. Whereas Mr. Tabuchi presented sample cases in applying DRRE according to his experience and key strategies to teach DRR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>TEACHER, GRADE LEVEL &amp; CLASS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. CARCAR CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</td>
<td>Ms. Juvalyn B. Bacus, Grade 2 - English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. TALAVERA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</td>
<td>Ms. Marcoles S. Oyo, Grade 6 - English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. BOGO CENTRAL SCHOOL I</td>
<td>Ms. Janette M. Gonzales, Grade 6 - Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. CITY OF BOGO SCIENCE &amp; ARTS ACADEMY</td>
<td>Ms. Rachelle C. Catadman, Grade 4 - Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. MANDAUE CITY COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL</td>
<td>Ms. Miraflores L. Jumao-as, Grade 8 - Values Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. BUAYA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</td>
<td>Mr. Joemarie C. Apor, Grade 10 - Music</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Group photo with the students of Buaya Elementary School

Observed classes list

DRRE class observations with Hyogo BoE
Key Actors of DRRE in DepEd: An Introduction

Ms. Ronilda R. Co
Director IV, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Services (DRRMS)
DepEd Central

“DRR Education is the foundation of awareness, knowledge and action. It empowers one to reduce risks posed by hazards.”

Dr. Emiliano D. Elnar, Jr.
Chief, Curriculum Learning and Management Division
DepEd Region VII

“DRR Education is very important because it prepares everyone in any eventuality that may happen specifically when there are disasters.”

Ms. Jocelyn M. Conta
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Bogo City Division

“Wherever we are, risks always abound. Thus, we need to be aware about these risks and whatever disasters these may bring. With proper education, not just mere information, we can live in a safer and better world.”

Ms. Lilia R. Ybañez
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Danao City Division

“DRR Education raises consciousness and broaden stakeholders understanding in managing and achieving greater resilience to any forms of disasters.”

Dr. Mary Ann P. Flores
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Cebu Province Division

“DRR Education is an opportunity for the students to reduce their vulnerability from disasters through active involvement in interesting DRR-related classroom activities while enhancing their learning competencies in the different subject areas. Constituting the largest percentage of the population, students are capable of cascading the knowledge, skills and attitudes they acquire from school to the people around them, thereby creating a culture of safety and resilience in their respective homes and communities.”

Ms. Maria Lourdes L. Ipong
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Talisay City Division

“DRR Education helps to strengthen our awareness and readiness in times of disasters.”

Dr. Juliet A. Jeruta, CESO IV
OIC-Regional Director
DepEd Region VII

“DRR education will enable learners, their families and the whole community to be fully prepared on what to do when disaster comes, prevent occurrence of disaster by doing environment friendly plan with courses of action related to reuse, reduce and recycle of materials and wastes, putting up of erosion control mechanism at sloping areas, flood control at lowlands and river banks, tree planting in denuded areas, disaster resilient infrastructure in construction and passage of disaster preparedness relevant ordinances/local policies in the municipal/city/provincial levels of governance.”

Dr. Fay C. Luarez
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Mandaue City Division

“Disaster Risk Reduction Education is important to reduce fear and anxiety in times of hazards and disasters; helps everyone understand what to do should a disaster strike as well as saves lives. It helps us prepare, mitigate and help us alleviate some of the devastation by reducing the impact of disasters.”

Dr. Mary Jane J. Powao
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Carcar City Division

“Promoting the integration of disaster risk reduction into school education is very important to raise awareness and provide a better understanding of disaster preparedness and management for children, teachers and communities as well as minimize risks before, during and after disasters. DRR preparedness also ensures the stakeholders’ alertness at all times for any disaster that they will encounter so they will be calm and be able to apply all the precautionary measures in any calamities.”

Dr. Genda P. De Gracia
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Naga City Division

“DRR Education plays a very important aspect in our daily life because it is from educating and informing all people in the school and community that we would be able to save one’s life from disasters.”

Dr. Grecia F. Bataluna
Chief, Education Program Supervisor of Curriculum Implementation Division
DepEd Cebu City Division

“DRR Education brings awareness of people in all walks of life about disaster prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. It is a way towards saving lives in case of natural calamities.”
Other On-going Project of SEEDS Asia

India

The initiative of SEEDS Asia in India is called the “Project for Participatory Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Approaches in Varanasi” which is being funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA). This project was proposed after the ‘Kyoto-Varanasi Partnership Affiliation Agreement’ that promotes different levels of cooperation between the two (2) cities. Varanasi is one of the most vulnerable city from disasters. This project aims to enhance Varanasi City’s disaster resilience involving schools and communities in cooperation with Banaras Hindu University.

Bangladesh

The “Project on Capacity Building for Community-Based DRR in Urban Areas in Bangladesh” by SEEDS Asia is being funded by JICA in partnership with Dhaka North City Corporation. With the risks of urban disasters such as earthquake and downpour increasing in Dhaka, this current Project aims to increase the capacity of local communities to cope with natural disasters.

Myanmar

After the completion of previous initiative of SEEDS Asia in Myanmar called the “Project on Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Disaster Risk Areas” which was funded by JICA, a new undertaking followed immediately. With the help of a grant from USAID, the Myanmar Consortium for Capacity Development on Disaster Management (MCCDM) was established in order to support the initiative of the national government on National Disaster Management Training Centre (DMTC) which is under construction process. UN-Habitat, UNDP, Myanmar Red Cross and American Red Cross, ACTED and SEEDS Asia have cooperated to form this Consortium. SEEDS Asia is involved in the capacity building of government officials and scholars from universities in Myanmar through collaborative research and partnership with Kyoto University and Asian University Network on Environment and Disaster Management (AUEDM).

Kumamoto, Japan

After the big earthquake with a seismic intensity of VII occurred in Kumamoto Prefecture on April 14 and 16, 2016, SEEDS Asia conducted damage needs assessment on May 16-21, 2016. Subsequently, an agreement with the Department of Disaster Risk Management in Uki City and Social Welfare Council to have support activities in the City was granted that is funded by Japan Platform. Aid for the management of the recovery support center by SEEDS Asia with know-how of community recovery and resources in Kesennuma is being conducted.

Tamba City, Japan

“Joint Project with Tamba City for Community Development” funded by Tamba City Government was a take-off from the study visit made in the City for members of Cebu-Philippines Project in July 2015. This joint Project aims to promote sustainable DRR education through school-community linkage in Tamba City through building a promotion system and a pioneer model in the affected area and developing educational materials and system that help to expand the experience throughout the city which is same concept as Cebu Project.

Learning materials on DRR

Kick-off Workshop for the Project in Bangladesh

Community recovery activities for Kumamoto

Demonstration on improvised stretcher

Town watching with the students
The SEEDS Asia Cebu Project Team

Ms. Kathleen B. Almonte
Local Project Manager

“Being able to make a difference through DRR Education is the essence on why this Project was conceived. Knowledge combined with action is the true realization of this Project’s success in the long run. The strong support and cooperation of our key partners in DepEd inspires us even more to work harder to realize our goal of reducing disaster risks and impacts through the teachers and students together with the community.”

Ms. Akiko Kida
Project Officer

“I have seen many achievements and positive outcomes of the DRRE Project since I worked with SEEDS Asia and I am proud to be part of it. “The seeds of DRR Education” got sown steadily from teachers to students and also from children to the community. Certainly, these seeds will grow up well and put firm roots in the schools as well as the communities through the teachers and children.”

Ms. Jacqueline B. Pono
Assistant Coordinator

“This project paved the way for the strong partnership of school and local community in sustaining DRR Education and disaster resiliency in the communities of Cebu Province. With much hope, I envision this initiative to be cascaded to other locations and regions which will in time, permanently establish a culture of safety in the Philippines.”

CEBU PROJECT TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Ms. Kathleen B. Almonte, Local Project Manager
kathleen.almonte@seedsasia.org

Ms. Akiko Kida
akiko.kida@seedsasia.org

Ms. Jacqueline B. Pono
jpono.seedsasia@gmail.com