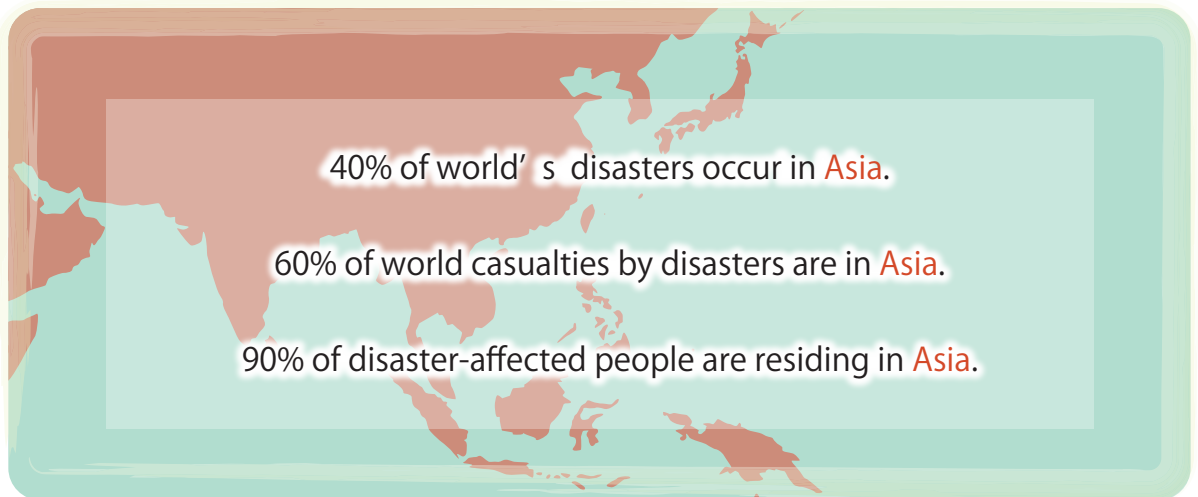


People • Connectivity • Disaster Risk Reduction



SEEDS Asia (2006-2016)

SEEDS Asia' s Goal



The Asia region including Japan has countlessly been affected by disasters, which deprived people of lives, properties, communities and linkage each time.

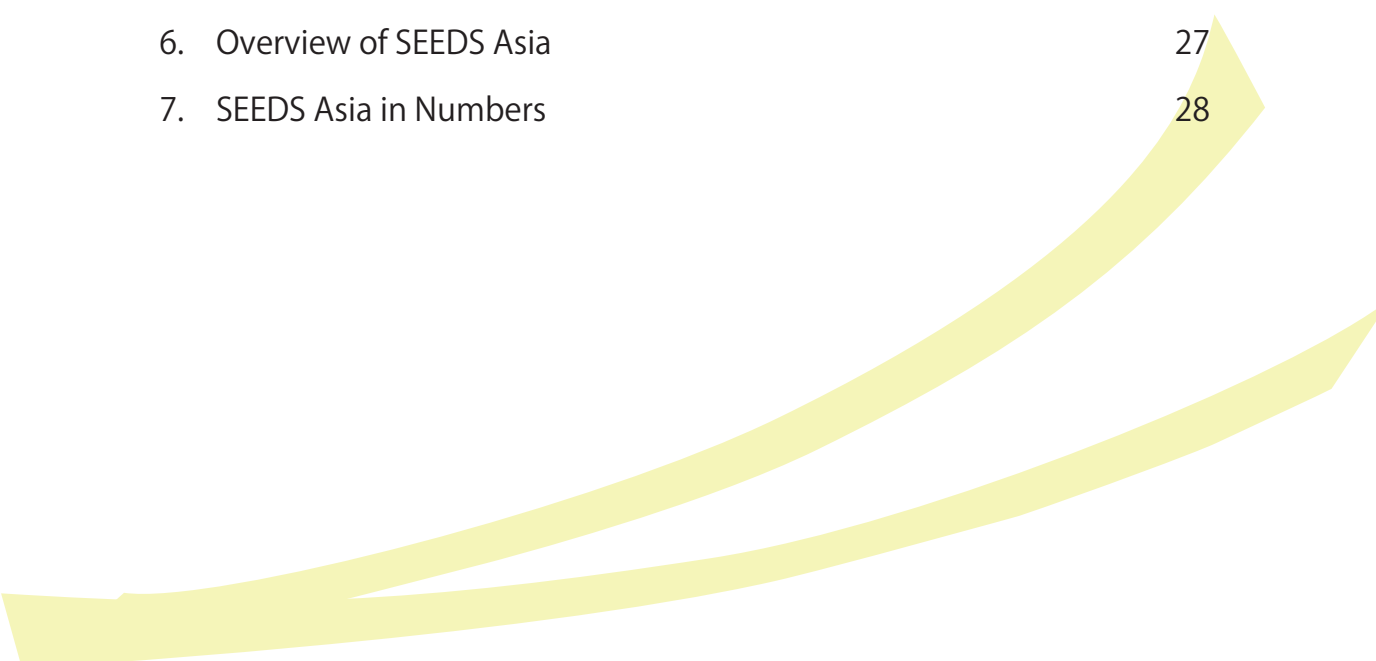
Especially in developing countries in Asia, overpopulation due to rapid urbanization and climate change by global warming are causing more frequent and severer impacts of disasters.

SEEDS Asia' s goal is to capacitate children and people to protect themselves from the impact of disasters in Asia - and to create a sustainable society which is resilient to disasters.

To achieve this goal, SEEDS Asia is implementing Disaster Risk Reduction which is not mere conduct of events, but something that will remain in communities as part of their culture.

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1. Commemorating the 10th Anniversary



Asia has been the hotspot of development as well as natural disasters over last two to three decades. Economic development created opportunities in Asia, however, it has also enhanced new risks due to rapid and unplanned urbanization, rural to urban migration, infrastructure and asset concentration, as well as enhanced impacts of climate change. While people becomes more vulnerable, and exposed to different types of already existing as well as newly emerging risks; people and communities still hold the key to risk reduction measures. Apparently government makes investment decisions, however, it is the people' s representatives who influence the decisions in most countries. There, a well risk informed, risk aware and prepared community is the key to sustain the economic and social development, and key to reduce the disaster risks.

SEEDS Asia has been trying to achieve this larger goal of community engagement and empowerment in the disaster risk reduction process. Ten year is always a milestone for an organization. SEEDS Asia with a mandate under the SEEDS network (which originated in India in 1994), was established in Kobe in 2006 to undertake collective actions of disaster risk reduction, with different stakeholders, including national and local governments, UN (United Nations) and international organizations, academic and research institutions, civil societies, private sector and media. The core activities of SEEDS Asia' s operation lie in the people and communities through consultation, capacity building, education and awareness programs. SEEDS have participated and contributed to post disaster response, recovery and reconstruction



programs in different Asia countries, including the East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 2011. SEEDS Asia has done several innovative disaster education and school and community safety programs, which is based on mutual co-learning and applying the principle of collective decision making, leading to risk reduction solutions. Several of SEEDS Asia' s projects and programs have been institutionalized in local governance in different Asian countries and Japan, which ensured its sustainability, and are considered as good practices for its future replication widely in the countries and the region.

Over last 10 years, SEEDS Asia has received supports from people of Kobe city, Hyogo prefecture and different parts of Japan and Asia. This is the core of our strength, and I thank all who have supported us, from the bottom of my heart in this 10th anniversary. SEEDS Asia also received financial support from different donor and partner agencies, United Nations and other international organizations, international and national NGOs, private sectors, academic institutions. I take this opportunity to thank all of them for providing us the platform to work together towards resilient communities.

Risk reduction is a never-ending endeavor. We have just started our journey. There is a saying "if you want to run alone, run fast. If you want to run together, run slow." In SEEDS Asia, our target is to run together with all our partners and collaborators, and we look forward to the small little steps to make some innovative changes and impacts in communities in the field of disaster risk reduction. We need your continued support in this.

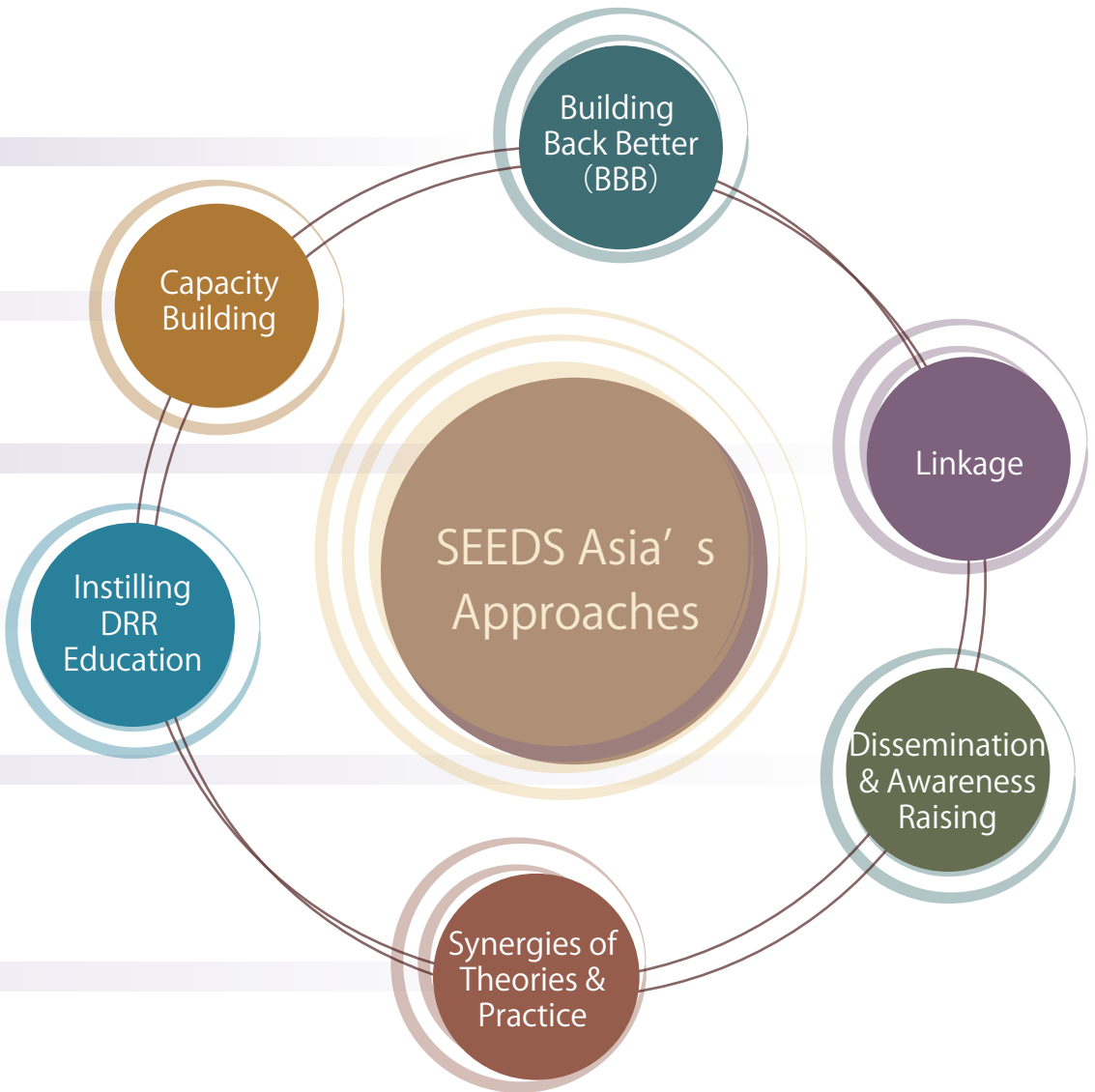
January 2017
Shaw Rajib
SEEDS Asia Board Chairman



2. SEEDS Asia' s Approaches

1. Providing emergency assistance that focuses on recovery process towards realization of "Building Back Better"
2. Capacity building of various targets to take responsibility in DRR - local governments, schools, community and media, based on the local needs and circumstances
3. Implementation in collaboration with a wide range of organizations in various sectors towards mainstreaming DRR - environment, education, culture and social welfare
4. Supporting institutionalization, planning and tool development for DRR education based on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and respecting existing systems
5. Dissemination and raising public awareness of DRR in order to the the lessons learnt from past disasters inside/outside the affected areas as well as next generations
6. Provision of efficient support in DRR based on international policies/standards and research, and utilization of its results for further research and networks for advocacy towards resilient society

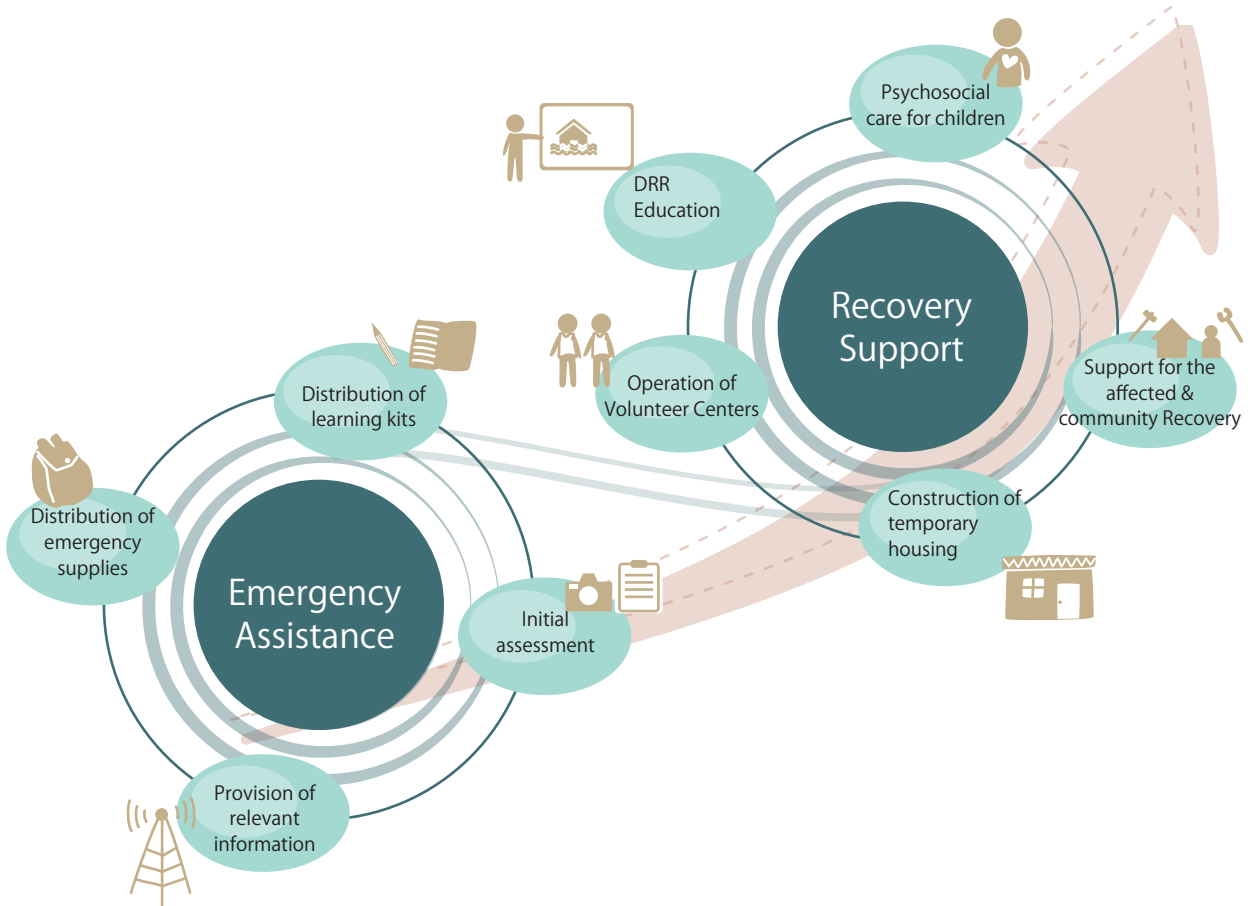
*Building Back Better (BBB): After a disaster strikes an area, not only bringing the area to the state as before the disaster, but recovering it to a better condition than before



1) Emergency Assistance



Emergency assistance towards
"Building Back Better"



SEEDS Asia's emergency assistance does not end with mere temporary provision of emergency supplies, but evolves to supporting activities that correspond to each stage of the recovery process, complying to the international standard of humanitarian assistance*.

Overseas, SEEDS Asia has provided relief supplies and living materials to save lives, and learning materials for early resumption of school education. It is also an important role to coordinate among volunteers and relevant agencies for smooth support provision under chaotic circumstances after disasters. Such emergency assistance, afterwards, evolves to recovery support of capacity building on DRR Education, construction of temporary housing and so on.

In Japan, when the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami occurred and information on the situation was lacking, SEEDS Asia offered relevant information in English to overseas. Both in Tohoku and in Kumamoto after disasters struck, support to local organizations aiming at community development has taken place towards independent recovery without isolating anyone.



Truck delivering emergency supplies (Nepal, May 2015)



Distribution of education materials after Laputa fires (Myanmar, Feb. 2015)



Initial assessment of damage by Kumamoto Earthquake (Kumamoto, May 2016)

*The Sphere Standard - The Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability

Voices of Beneficiaries



Teacher
Malingin Elementary School
(Philippines, March 2014)

"After Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda), we have not received any assistance before SEEDS Asia's arrival, and our principal has been crying almost every day. Now, the principal is shedding a tear with happiness of being supported. She will never cry again."

"I lost everything in the earthquake. However, SEEDS Asia came over and helped us. Now I can live on with the support."

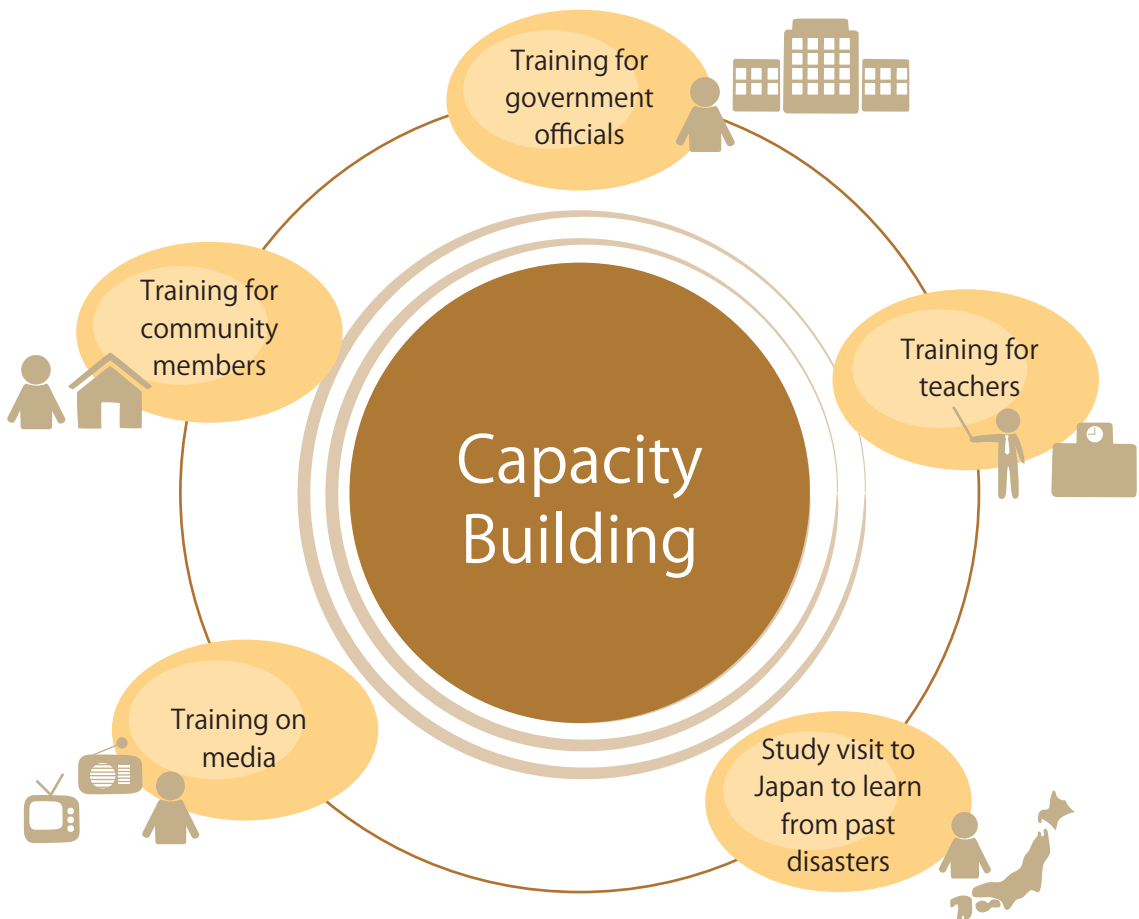


Ms. Dammaya Barapati
(Nepal, May 2015)

2) Capacity Building



Capacity building based on local needs and circumstances



One of the lessons learnt from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake is that one has to protect oneself (Self-Help) and support family and neighbors in ordinary days (Mutual Help).

Capacity building is the key to nurturing the strength of Self-Help and Mutual Help as the basis for DRR, and instilling it as a culture. SEEDS Asia conducts training to government officials, teachers and leading members of communities for them to be trainers who eventually train children or other community members, which is called the ToT (Training of Trainers) method towards sustainable human resource development. The training includes not only basic ideas of DRR such as the mechanisms of hazards, but also practical skills and knowledge that are transferred by experts from Japan. Such approach for enhancement of comprehensive abilities in collaboration with local counterparts is proposed, taking into consideration of the local contexts and the targets.



Media training on DRR information dissemination (Maldives, March 2009)



Dispatch of experts such as EARTH of Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education (Philippines, November 2016)



Sharing the experience and learning from East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami both inside and outside Japan for BBB (Myanmar, Nov.2015)

Voices of Beneficiaries

"I not only learnt the lessons and experiences from disasters of Japan, but also learnt about practical skills like town-watching, emergency bags and first aid treatment. It's extremely meaningful and I definitely want to implement with children and other local residents."



Ms. Le
Department of Education and
Training official of Tam Ky,
Quang Nam Province
(Vietnam, June 2014)

Mr. U Kyi Lwin
Central Committee member,
Myanmar Engineering Society
(Myanmar, Nov. 2012)

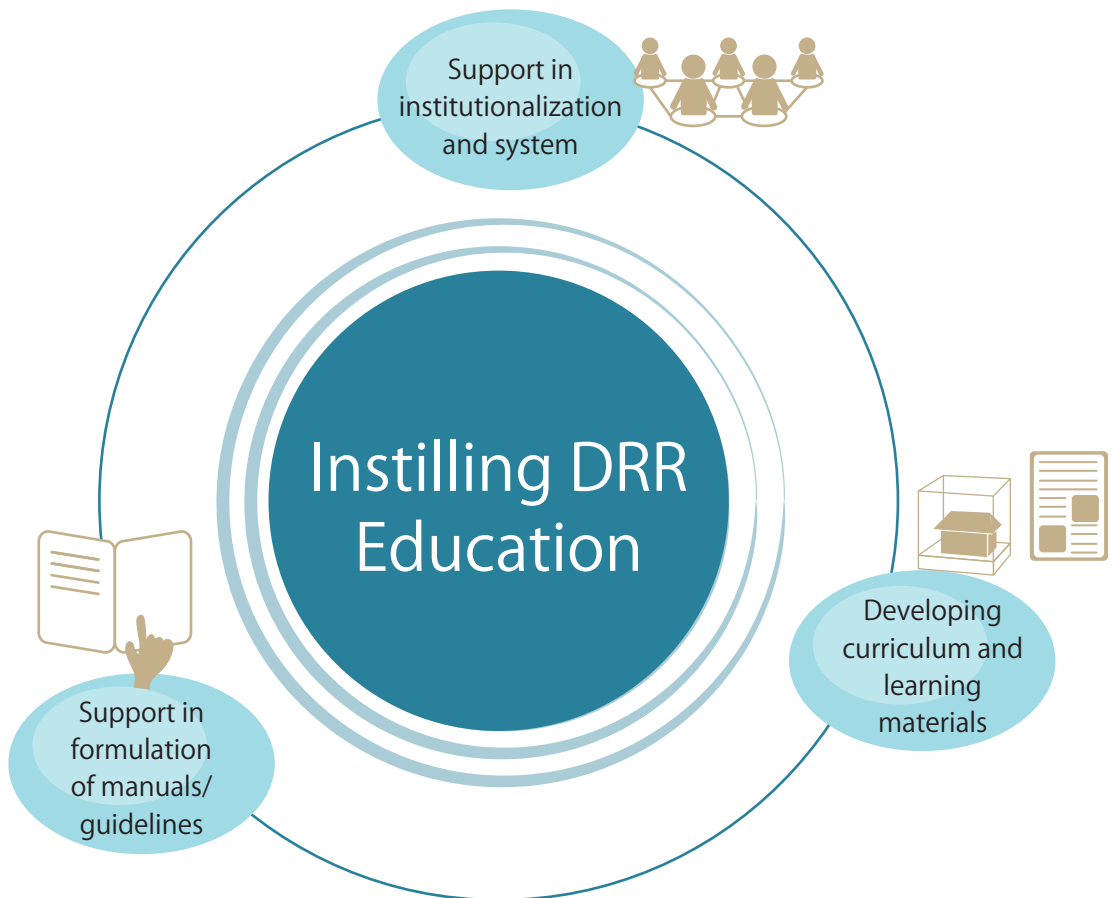


"I participated in a Study Visit in Japan by SEEDS Asia, and visited the affected area in the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami where debris still remained, ring levee area in the zero-meter-above-sea-level zone, and Kobe City which suffered damage by the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. I was impressed the most by how Japan was trying to pass down the lessons from disasters to next generations through not only school education but also stone monuments and museums. I will introduce what I learned from this Study Visit in the training for young engineers that I am in charge of, in order to convey the importance of DRR."

3) Institutionalization, Planning and Tool Development



Sustainable DRR that respects local cultures and existing



Implementation plans and systems are keys for sound and sustainable conduct of DRR Education. It is also important that those plans and systems are built in cooperation with local counterparts. SEEDS Asia provides supports to schools and communities in establishing systems and developing tools for DRR Education that respect local cultures and existing mechanisms, based on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). For example, in incorporating DRR activities to school education, SEEDS Asia discusses with local education officials and suggests integrating the concepts of DRR into the existing education systems, which leads to development of effective education materials. With this, the local educators can successfully conduct DRR classes without disturbing other curricular activities. Similarly, with communities, SEEDS Asia has a series of discussions with the local residents so that the DRR activities will be able to make full use of local resources and can be rolled out in collaborative way.



Developing a guideline for DRR Education with Department of Education officials (Philippines, August 2015)



Children playing the "DRR Game" - a tool for DRR Education (Vietnam, March 2015)



Distribution and explanatory session of DRR tool kits (Myanmar, September 2015)

Voices of Beneficiaries

"DRR Education involves the parents and local communities in disaster preparedness as well as increase the awareness of the community in disaster preparation and prevention."



Mr. Gerardo S. Mantos
Philippine Department of
Education
(Philippines, 2015)

Mr. Nguyen
Deputy Director,
Department of Education
and Training of Danang City
(Vietnam, August 2013)

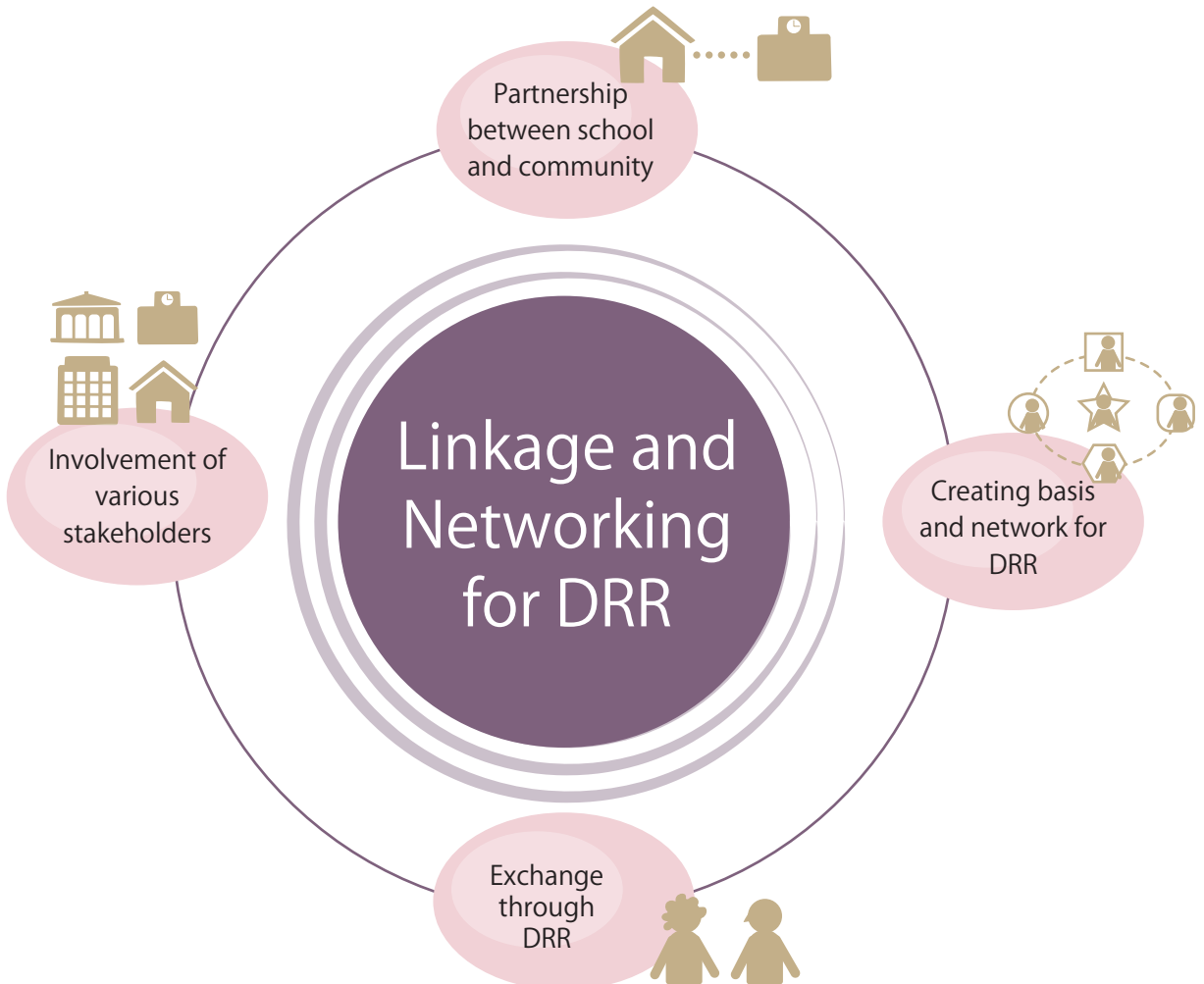


"SEEDS Asia' s training enabled teachers to acquire the knowledge of how to instruct DRR and practice the learning in classrooms. Along with the global climate change, we shall put importance on teaching DRR."

4) Linkage



Linkage and networking
that facilitate DRR



Key words for improving DRR is strengthening partnership between school and community. SEEDS Asia' s projects define schools or community facilities as a base for DRR activities and equip such facilities with DRR learning materials or other resources. It is also effective that each of such facilities is linked with others, which will allow the accomplishments of DRR activities to be shared for dissemination. The projects in Vietnam established "DRR Core Schools" , in Myanmar "DRR Activity Centers" and in India "Climate Schools*" - a variety of DRR bases and network have been realized.

Also, in the process of response and recovery from East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, various resources of human, material, fund and information were brought to the affected areas as a result of linkage or network. For instance, exchange sessions held in collaboration with civil groups and universities which invited affected community leaders to discuss the recovery needs led to further information dissemination and assistance by different groups. In addition to self help, mutual help and public help, help via networking - N-help - is an important concept in improving DRR capacity. SEEDS Asia shall work on building linkage and networks not only between school and community, but among local governments and even beyond borders, in order for various stakeholders to interact and learn from each other to collaborate.



Opening ceremony of Kungyangon DRR Activity Center (Myanmar, Sep. 2014)



Exchange of disaster experiences between Philippines and Kobe (Kobe, 2015)



DRR-recovery map developed by Hashikami E.S. students and community leaders (Kesenuma, September 2016)

* Climate Schools are model schools equipped with weather observing devices and air pollution observing devices, that provide education on climate change and DRR.

Voices of Beneficiaries

"I had not known about SEEDS Asia before the East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, but our encounter was absolutely timely. SEEDS Asia provides advice and support in our approaches for better community DRR. There is no other partner that is as reliable and trustworthy."



Mr. Hiroshi Usui
Chairman
Network Association of
Voluntary Organizations
(Kesenuma, Jul. 2016)

Mr. Alvin Kumar
City of Varanasi
DRR Committee of Climate
School-Associated Society,
(India, September 2016)

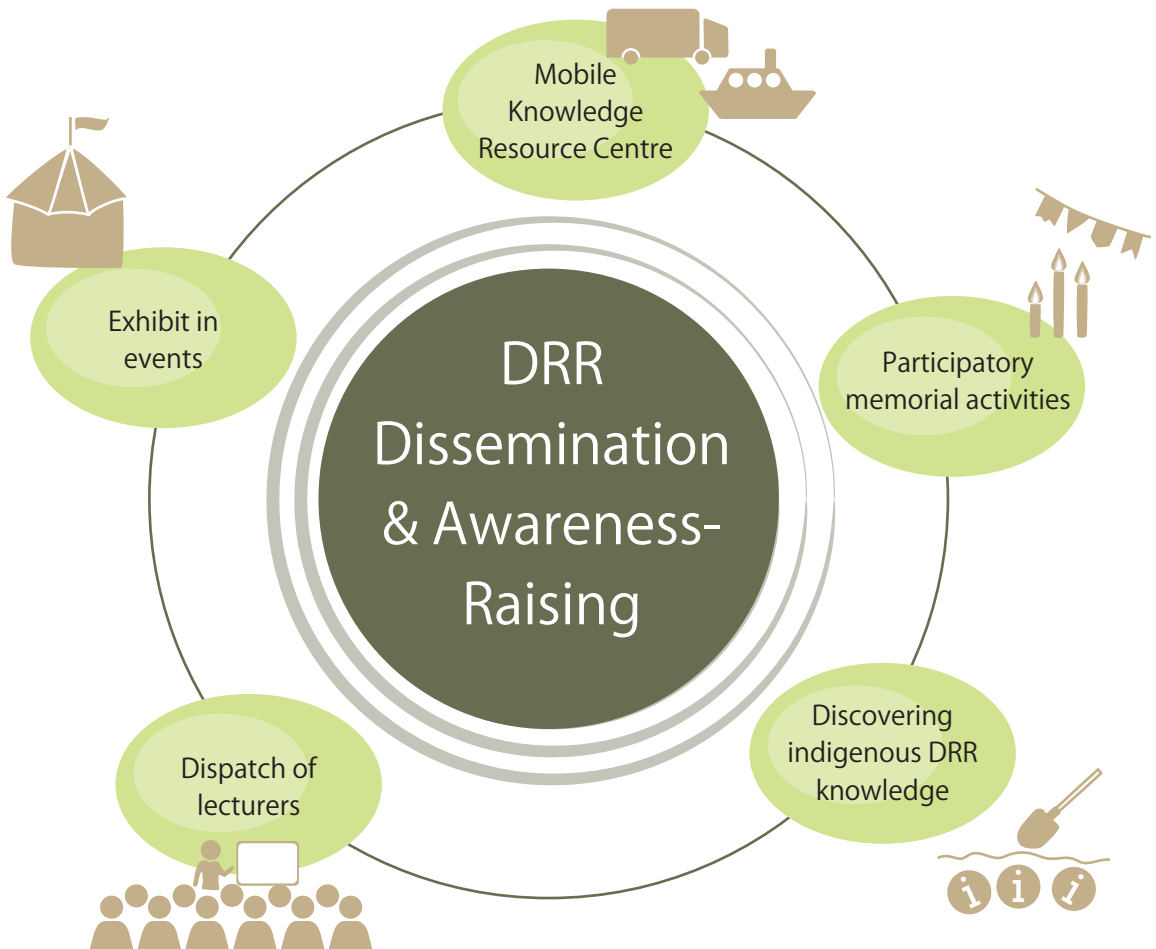


"It was a turning point for me when we visited an affected village by the flood in 2016 which is also a member of the 5 DRR Committees of Climate School-Associated Society. The impact of disasters and the economic status of the affected are mutually related. I strongly felt the necessity of "mutual help network" where families and communities provide supplies in case of emergencies, particularly in the districts where 5 Climate Schools are located."

5) Dissemination & Awareness-Raising



Linking lessons learnt from disasters and promote dissemination and awareness-raising on DRR



To transfer the accumulated lessons learnt from past disasters from Kobe to Asia - this was the origin of SEEDS Asia's activities as a Kobe-based organization. We want to protect lives from disasters by delivering the lessons from disasters both inside and outside affected areas, disseminating and raising awareness on the importance of DRR. This thought has not changed at all.

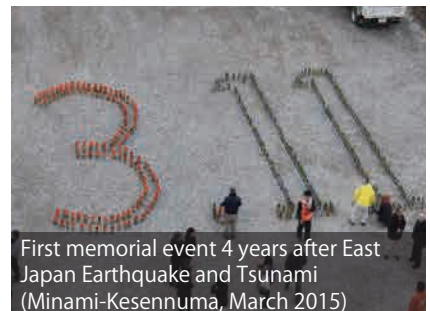
One significant activity is the Mobile Knowledge Resource Centre (MKRC) with the concept "Reaching the Unreachable" which is a miniature DRR museum loaded on trucks. The MKRC was developed in Myanmar after Cyclone Nargis which killed almost 140,000 people, and delivered DRR classes to over 35,000 people so far. Later on, the MKRC was rolled out in Pakistan and the Philippines.

Another initiative is to breed a culture of DRR by compiling disaster memories as a book, and commemorating events which involve residents' participation such as folklore theatre that combines traditional performance and indigenous DRR knowledge.

SEEDS Asia also provides lecturers or teachers to schools, communities and corporates, and exhibit in international or DRR-related events for awareness-raising.



Mobile Knowledge Resource Centre (Pakistan, February 2012)



First memorial event 4 years after East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (Minami-Kesennuma, March 2015)



Disaster risk seminar for corporates held in partnership with Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Yangon (Myanmar, March 2013)

Voices of Beneficiaries

"I had thought there was nothing I could do if a disaster occurs. However, by learning DRR with MKRC, I came to know there are ways to protect lives of myself and my family. By my practicing preparedness for disasters, people around me also became aware of the importance which spreads to community, township, and nationwide. I am grateful that I was able to learn with MKRC."



Ms. Ma Yamin Oo
14 years old student
(Myanmar, February 2015)

Part of her interview can be seen on Youtube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7JB4VHFHzQ>

Mr. Yoshifumi Toba
Executive Director
Karakuwa Tairyo Utaikomi
Revival Promotion
Committee
(Kesennuma City, Dec. 2016)

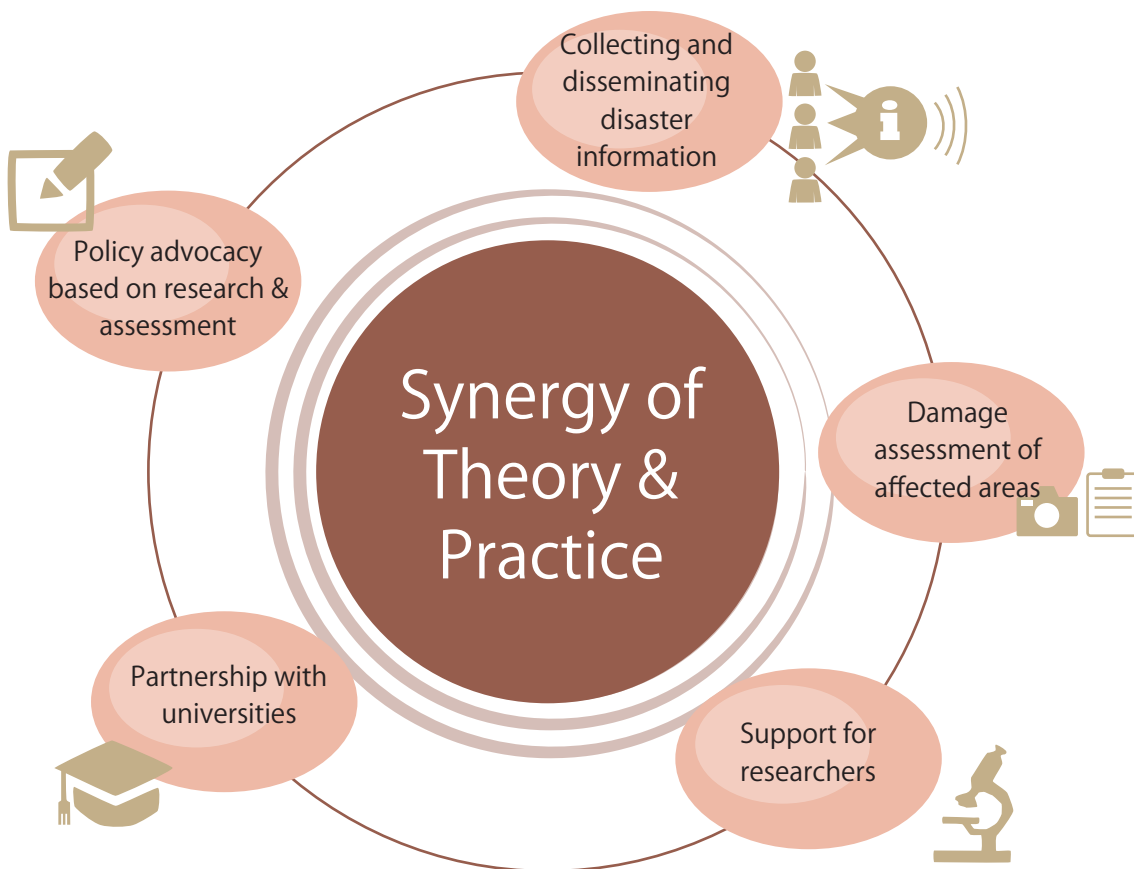


"Mr. Kurihara of SEEDS Asia helped sustain our traditional theatre play 'Karakuwa Stories' with his scenario writing and direction. He is also supporting our community DRR map-making, which makes me feel that the recovery process of our town is moving forward with him."

6) Research, Assessment & Advocacy



Synergizing theory and practice for
advocacy for
disaster-resilient society



Since its establishment, SEEDS Asia has reached to 11 countries in Asia including Japan with its activities. All of those countries differ with each other in terms of economic, political and cultural situations as well as their priorities in making a resilient society - whether it is legal or institutional establishment, environmental improvement including infrastructure, capacity building or strengthened partnerships among organizations.

Bringing these unique issues to the surface by research and assessment will lead to policy advocacy. SEEDS Asia, in cooperation with counterpart governments and partnership with universities and academe, works on damage assessment immediately after disasters, or assessment of school/community resilience in the recovery process, utilizing academic theories or tools. This will eventually be reflected in more effective and quality provision of support and better policies.

In Myanmar, SEEDS Asia provides scholarship to young researchers at partner universities, which serves as capacity building of human resource that can utilize research in practice, therefore promoting comprehensive initiatives and improving the environment towards more disaster-resilient society.



Action planning based on risk assessment of meteorological disasters participated by several government agencies (Myanmar, Oct. 2016)



Urban Disaster Resilience Index conducted in North Dhaka City with BRAC university (Bangladesh, August 2016)



Donation of research publications to Myanmar Disaster Management Training Center (Myanmar, February 2016)

Voices of Beneficiaries

“The data from the automatic weather station at our school is updated on a website, and we can always check the weather information in our area on my smart phone anytime anywhere. Through the training, we learnt to guess how much rainfall we are experiencing from what we see outside, which can be validated with the station. This is definitely a result of my being more aware of DRR. I hope other schools and communities will also make use of this.”



Mr. Ganesh Sahai
Principal
Aryan International School
(India, September 2016)

Ms. Ei Ei Khine
Doctoral student;
research scholar
Yangon Technological University
(Myanmar, May 2016)



“With the research fund from SEEDS Asia, I conducted the survey “Coastal Community Resilience Index” at 26 townships in the delta region of Myanmar. Based on its analysis, we will formulate DRR action plans with each township’ s officials for the future environmental improvement of the coastal area.”