



兵庫県専門家による避難訓練視察（フィリピン）
Expert from Hyogo observing drill (Philippines)

Newsletter

ソフトバンク株式会社のアプリ「つながる基金」で、下記SEEDSのロゴをかざすと簡単にご寄付いただけます。

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Myanmar

Enhancing Comprehensive School Safety in Collaboration with Community in Hinthada Township
【 Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) 】

●Seminar of Comprehensive School Safety with Expert from Kyoto City

On 8th August, a seminar about Comprehensive School Safety was held at the Disaster Management Training Centre under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement - Department of Disaster Management. Attendees included Ms. Mitsuko Otsuyama, the Executive Director of SEEDS Asia, and Ms. Ranko Kishida, the Principal of Kyoto Municipal Takakura Elementary School. The latter gave a lecture about school management in partnership with the community. Poster presentations were also made on research related to schools and Hinthada District, which led to active discussions between the presenters and the audience. This seminar indeed became a venue for shared expertise about school construction, disaster education and safety management with evidence-based approaches. We thank all who gave cooperation to make this come true.



Group photo at the Seminar

●Nabekone Village Welcomed Expert from Kyoto City

Aside from the seminar about Comprehensive School Safety held on 8th August, a visit with Ms. Ranko Kishida was paid to Nabekone Village which is currently getting flooded due to regular rainy season. The seminar and the village welcomed Ms. Kishida from Takakura Elementary School which was the very first in Japan to be a Bangumi elementary school conceptualized and constructed by citizens, and was one of the pioneers to establish a school management board. The video briefs about the visit by her to Myanmar including how the school-cum-shelter looks like now. Please watch!

<https://www.facebook.com/SEEDSASIA/videos/441571549773688/>

●Scale Model Has Been Completed!



Nabekone Village's scale model

Based on the town watching activity and household surveys of last year, Nabekone Village's scale model has been completed! Ground elevation is depicted to showcase the flow of river/flood water, and this model will enhance the Village's DRR activities and DRR education, including planning for evacuation.

●Water Level Measurement Gauges Have Been Installed

Nabekone Village in the delta region as well as on the southern part of the Ayeyarwady river is getting prepared for the flood season. Ayeyarwady river runs through Myanmar just like the country's backbone, and when its northern part in the mountains floods, Nabekone Village started to review the disaster response plan of the school and of the community with SEEDS Asia and installed water level measurement gauges with the help of officials from the Hinthada District Office of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology. The school, Village Disaster Management Committee, and each household are getting prepared for evacuation and emergency response.



Installing water level measurement gauge



Bangladesh

Enhancement of the Effectiveness of DRR Emergency Warehouses 【World Bank Urban Resilience Project】

●DRR Training for Officials in Zone Offices in Dhaka North and South City Corporation

In the World Bank Urban Resilience Project that SEEDS Asia joined as a consultant since June, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), one of the implementation agencies, has established the zone emergency warehouses in 8 zones in the city and aims to form a disaster management team at each zone. SEEDS Asia supports DNCC by providing trainings to officials in the zone offices at the zone emergency warehouses.

In the first training, the participants learned disaster risks in the city, DRR basics, and roles of the emergency warehouse and its equipment. Fire service was invited to demonstrate and explain the use of this equipment. The warehouse was handed over to the respective zone offices recently and it was the first time for many officials to visit the facility. Also in the training, they learned fire safety and firefighting measures that a building has to have as fire has become a big issue in the city and they need to conduct inspection visits to commercial buildings. They also discussed how they could operationalize the warehouse by utilizing it in normal time in relation to their department’s responsibility and daily activities.



Training for city’s zone officials



Fire service explaining equipment of the emergency warehouse

The participants gave feedbacks such as “I didn’t know the purpose of and facilities in the warehouse. Now that I learned, I would use the place for our regular meetings and trainings so that the warehouse can be used smoothly in emergency times”, “field workers, councilors, and communities should be involved in the warehouse management”, “I want to make this place a resource center for school students”, and for that they pointed out that “air conditioning, internet connection, multi-media, etc. are necessary” and “full time staff should be appointed”. Some of the participants were new to DRR and said “I did not know why I was sent to the training today but I realized it’s related to my work and the training was very meaningful to me”.

Bangladesh’s national fruit-Jackfruit

Do you know jackfruit? Many Japanese are not familiar to the fruit but it is widely eaten in Bangladesh, India, Africa, and other parts of the world. It’s said to be the biggest fruit and it can be as big as 70cm long with 30kg weight. Covered with green colored thick protrusive skin, it does not look like a fruit. Jackfruits is the national fruit of Bangladesh and its best season is July. We often see oversized jackfruit being sold in many places in the city. Due to its signature smell and sweet taste, some may like it while others don’t. In Bangladesh, people not only eat it raw as a fruit but unripe ones are also cooked as a vegetable. Even people store the mature seeds, particularly rich in vitamins, after sun drying. One tree bears around 150 fruits each year and because of its nutritional value and reasonable price, the fruit is loved by people in Bangladesh.



Bangladesh’s national fruit,
Jackfruit



Philippines

Support Project on Promotion of School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Cebu Province

【JICA Grassroots Technical Cooperation Project】

●School Visit of Hyogo BoE and EARTH for Observation of Drills

From 21st to 25th July, 2019, experts from Secretariat Office of Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education (BoE), and from Emergency And Rescue Team by school staff in Hyogo (EARTH), visited Cebu Province to transfer expertise in school-based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) that has sustained over twenty-four years since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995. On the 22nd and 23rd, the delegates visited Paknaan National High School in Mandaue City Division, and City of Bogu Science and Arts Academy, both the project's Pilot Schools, to observe drills of earthquake and typhoon respectively. Good relationship between the school and community in the drill was highly regarded by the experts at the feedback meeting. People in the communities joined the drill as evacuees and brought their own evacuation bags, and also families of the students participated to pick their children up at student-family reunification. One expert mentioned, "I am impressed that several students were involved in the feedback meeting and expressed their opinions. I have hardly seen such initiatives in Japan". Moreover, teachers removed the flower pots on the wall right after the expert pointed those pots might fall during earthquakes.



Drill at Mandaue City

●Visit of Hyogo BoE and EARTH Teacher, and Meeting with Regional Director and Schools Division Superintendents



Group photo with experts from Hyogo

On 24th July, a meeting was held among Hyogo BoE, EARTH, Department of Education (DepEd) Region VII Regional Director, Regional DRRM Coordinator, Schools Division Superintendents (SDS), and Division DRRM Coordinators, totaling twenty-four participants. Hyogo BoE and EARTH gave lectures about Hyogo Prefecture's supports to School DRRM, EARTH's School DRRM initiatives as well as emergency supports to disaster-affected areas. An SDS told that he was happy being invited, and that he hopes the person to be sent for the upcoming Japan Study Visit shall help develop school resiliency and accomplish the mandate". EARTH gave a message in the end that he hopes that the relationship established during his visit will last, and that the small steps and efforts will lead to culture of safety.

●Drills in Toledo City Division

On 29th August, Talavera Elementary School, another Pilot School, also conducted a drill for ash fall. After that drill, SEEDS Asia interviewed one kinder student, two students from grade 2, and another from grade 3 about their experiences of the drill and knowledge about DRRM. One kinder pupil went upstairs with other children as instructed by her teacher. She covered her face with a mask for protection. The grade 2 students said that "Ash fall is a result of a volcanic eruption. One should wear a wet face mask and jacket since ashes can cause harm to our health". They told that if another drill is to be held at school, they would know how to respond properly. SEEDS Asia also conducted an interview to teachers. To the question "What was your priority action during the start of the drill?", both teachers replied that they informed their students of the imminent hazard and the response protocol like wearing face masks. They both shared that the school conducted a symposium a week before the drill to prepare everyone for the activity. To the question "Were you able to perform your assigned responsibility?", they replied that they were part of the planning and monitoring committee, and that during the drill they served as communications and safety inspectors. To the question "What improvements can you suggest for the next drill?", they replied "Remove hazardous things or obstacles in school", and "Conduct of different drills like fire and earthquake"

●Courtesy Call to Newly Installed Governor of Cebu Province

On 8th August, SEEDS Asia paid a courtesy call to newly installed Governor of Cebu, Ms. Gwendolyn Garcia. SEEDS Asia explained an overview of the organization, accomplished projects in the Philippines and the current DRRM project, as well as Memorandum of Understanding signed for the project, and Japan Study Visit which was to be held in September.



Japan

Pilot Project for Human Development Utilizing Local Resources in Tamba City 【Hyogo Voluntary Fund and others】

●Project Report of Myanmar and Preparation for ESD-DRR Camp

From 24th to 25th August, a pre-visit preparation was conducted for the “ESD-DRR Camp” event planned for November. A reporting session also followed about the school furniture donated by Tamba City’s schools for the use in Myanmar.

The “ESD-DRR Camp” is an event where participating children are expected to be ready for future disasters particularly for life in a shelter, understand nature-induced disasters and think about community development for their society. The preparation was for the organizers (SEEDS Asia and local residents) to be capable in handling the camp in terms of safety management and operation.

SEEDS Asia gratefully acknowledges Hyogo Voluntary Fund for the support and opportunity given to the conduct of the camp, as part of the expenses is covered by its “Support for Nonprofit Organizations in Community Development Activities”. This event will be a starting point for future capacity building initiatives to be taken in Tamba City.



Harvesting vegetable



Discussion on chairs, desks and blackboard donated to Myanmar from Tamba

The Camp is planned to be organized on 2nd and 3rd November. In addition to learning to be able to handle emergency cooking and establishing temporary toilet equipment, the participants will be provided a chance to harvest great autumn food of Tamba. Emphasis is put on not only thinking about disaster risk reduction but also understanding both risks and benefits, such as beautiful scenery and great food, from living close to nature. It is expected that the participating children will be able to experience a lifestyle based on such thinking and understanding and incorporate such an idea to their way of living. Autumn is when Tamba black soybeans, chestnuts and red beans (so-called the “Tamba’s Three Treasures”) are produced. We look forward to welcoming participants.

Come have some “Tamba Sampo”!

Tamba City boasts some excellent food that is unique in the locality: Tamba black beans, Tamba chestnuts, and dainagon red beans, which are called the “Tamba Sampo (Tamba’s three treasures). Each species of crops is said to be larger and tastier compared to “ordinary” soy beans, chestnuts and red beans. The “Kurosaya” (black pod) dainagon red beans (dainagon is a high rank position back in the seventh century) harvested in Kasuga-cho, Tamba City, is famous for having been presented to the Imperial Court. The black beans are also harvested in neighboring cities of Tamba, but Ichijima-cho, Tamba City, is a pioneering community of organic agriculture, and black soybeans are no exception. You are very lucky if you find black beans harvested in Ichijima-cho! One of the hosts of the ESD-DRR Camp is also working on agriculture with no use of chemical fertilizers or pesticide. While the black bean crop was poor last year elsewhere, they had quite good harvest, thanks to the Japanese honey bees who helped pollinate! Hope readers can come try the treasures of Tamba City.



We have good sweet potatoes this year!



Large black beans are in the pods!

Delivery Lecture

SEEDS Asia delivers lectures and organizes events for schools, local governments, private sectors and organizations in your area to meet various requests. Please read below to learn more about delivered lectures for July and August.

●Lecture at Kobe Gakuin University

On 8th July, Ms. Mitsuko Otsuyama, Executive Director of SEEDS Asia was invited to special lecture of social DRR/ methodology for social action II, the Faculty of Contemporary Social Studies, Kobe Gakuin University to deliver a lecture themed “Reality of DRR in Asia – Facing background of disaster experience”. Based on the achievement objective of the special lecture of social DRR, why our action towards DRR in Asia is needed was explained for students’ better understanding of the circumstances and challenges in developing countries; Japan’s responsibility in the world; and significance of international cooperation. Cyclone Nargis which affected Myanmar in 2008 was introduced as a case to develop deeper understanding of social background causing a tremendous disaster with learning the background of the country – why it caused 140 thousands of deaths and missing. How the life in Myanmar was like; what is good about working for NGO; and what she keeps in mind in the project were referred to encourage students to consider that working for NGO is one of the choices of their future career. “Thinking about causality between disaster and social vulnerability was new to me since I always focused on the damages as a result of disasters.”, “Ms. Otsuyama was brilliant as a woman who never give up and pursue what she wants. The greatest thing is sustainable assistance was more focused on her lecture not just temporary support.”, students commented. It was a pleasure to share about SEEDS Asia, the countries which we are working with, and NGO/ NPO’s initiatives with students.

Announcement

●Replacement of Executive Director of SEEDS Asia

Effective 1st July 2019, the new Executive Director has been assigned. We are looking forward to working with you under the new administration!

