



避難持ち出し袋の確認 (丹波市)

Discussion on emergency bags (Tamba City)

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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特定非営利活動法人SEEDS Asia

〒658-0072

神戸市東灘区岡本3-11-30-302

3-11-30-302 Okamoto,

Higashi Nada ku, Kobe, Japan

Tel : 078-766-9412

Fax : 078-766-9413

Email : rep@seedsasia.org

Web : www.seedsasia.org

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



Myanmar

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

● Lessons Learnt and Knowledge from Past Disasters for the Future

A series of 11 training sessions have been taken place since September, for the DRR leaders from representatives of 13 flood-prone villages in Leik Chaung Village Tract including Nabekone Village. On 1st December, 36 members participated in training about recording and passing down past disasters. In Japan, various tools have been utilised in passing down lessons learnt and knowledge from past disasters to succeeding generations, whether tangible or intangible those may be. In the training, those tools' contribution to disaster recovery later on, or changes in people's attitudes in evacuation from hazards was examined. The tools introduced included: statues of affected people, signage of recorded inundation levels, gatherings, a disaster museum and a song. A teacher newly assigned in Nabekone Village Elementary School attended the training and expressed her impression: "I came to believe there are many ways of passing down disaster records and memories in order not to let our children encounter the same difficulties by disasters. I found out that music is an easy means to make children understand something that they cannot understand through letters."



DRR leaders training

● Meeting with Task Force to Make a Booklet "LIVING WITH RIVERS"



Meeting with the production committee

Initial draft of "Living with Rivers" was shared and improvements were discussed among the members of the production committee which consists of representatives from nine government agencies, historian and writer. The "Living with Rivers" is a teaching material to pass down the history of development of dikes and people's lives surrounding the Ayeyawady River. It is expected to be complete soon!

● Fire Extinguishing Training

Initial fire extinguishing training for the DRR leaders of Leik Chaung Village Tract including Nabekone Village was implemented from 23rd to 24th December. The Fire Services Department of Hinthada drove to Nabekone Village on their fire truck that used to belong to Tokyo Metropolitan Fire Department.



Fire extinguishing training



Myanmar

Enhancing Understanding of Weather Information by Installation of Stevenson Screens and Weather Observation Devices
【 Rotary Club of Kyoto-East 】

● Launching Ceremony of Stevenson Screens for Weather Observation!



SEEDS Asia staff explaining about Stevenson screen

On 1st December, a launching ceremony was held for the six sets of Stevenson screens and weather observation devices donated by Rotary Club of Kyoto-East to Nabekone Village. These devices are expected to serve as a tool for disaster education and increase the disaster management capacity of Nabekone Village and Nabekone Village Elementary School. Visitors from Japan went to Nabekone Village and discussed with local residents and children, to observe how the devices installed in September are currently used for enhanced understanding of climate. Being supported by many people is great learning for the children. Thank you very much for the invaluable support!



Philippines

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

【 JICA Grassroots Technical Cooperation Project 】

● Manual Finalizing at Pilot Schools and SDRA Survey

The ten Pilot Schools in Cebu Province have discussed many times in meetings, workshops and critiquing sessions to develop their disaster mitigation and preparedness manual and disaster response manual. To finalize them as project outputs, SEEDS Asia has visited Pilot Schools so that their final inputs will be reflected in the manuals before the project completion. In the course of discussions, questions such as “Among the School Disaster Response Team composition, what are the differences between Team A and Team B?”, for example, were asked to the schools by SEEDS Asia to have a clearer view of the contents of the manuals.

Another activity that took place in Pilot Schools and other schools in the Pilot cities/municipality was the conduct of School Disaster Resilience Assessment (SDRA) survey. The same assessment was conducted at the beginning of the project, and this time the same schools were visited in order to compare the results and analyze what changes Pilot Schools and other schools have undergone during the project. The results will be presented during the final National Conference in February (but recently postponed as a precautionary measure against Novel Corona Virus).



SDRA survey

● Technical Meeting with SDRRM-IT

On 10th and 11th December, a meeting with SDRRM-IT was held. Discussion topics were 1. Finalization of School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Team Operations Guideline, 2. Technical inputs to manuals of Pilot Schools, and 3. Presentation at the National Conference in February. The presentation for discussion topic 3 will be a video presentation to attract attention of the Conference participants, and roles for preparation were determined.

● Awarded as a Best Partner by DepEd Region VII



SEEDS Asia awarded as a Best Partner

On 12th December, SEEDS Asia was invited to an event called “Pasidungog” where Department of Education (DepEd) Region VII awards schools, DepEd offices and teachers for their remarkable contribution through the year. SEEDS Asia was awarded as a Best Partner for the third time. The event was also a good venue of catching up with DepEd officials who have been involved in SEEDS Asia’s first and second phase projects, and it was indeed very fruitful to hear from them how they are still working hard on DRR. Being awarded also is a great energizer for the team, and we are determined to strengthen our partnership with DepEd even further.

● Meeting with DepEd Region VII Key Persons

On 17th December, SEEDS Asia visited DepEd Region VII Office to discuss with their Regional Director and Chief of Education Support Services Division about one of the project’s initiative of “establishing a mechanism to award good practices of SDRRM”. DepEd already has several related initiatives including Brigada Eskwela (a traditional activity where school personnel, students, community and private companies gather before the start of a new academic year to enhance the learning environment) and abovementioned Pasidungog, however, there is no particular award system that recognizes solely SDRRM. With this, SEEDS Asia suggested that some SDRRM components be included in those existing mechanisms. The Regional Director and the Chief mentioned: “Being with SEEDS Asia’s initiatives is definitely a counting criteria when we evaluate schools. DRRM is a very important aspect that DepEd puts emphasis on, and partnership between the education sector and outside resources deserves high evaluation”. It was agreed that SEEDS Asia’s viewpoint in evaluating SDRRM practices will be incorporated in the next Brigada Eskwela.

● Meeting with the New Chief of Cebu Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office

On 17th December, SEEDS Asia paid a visit to the new Chief of Cebu Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, Mr. Neil Sanchez, who was formerly with Office of Civil Defense. He expressed his understanding of and interest in SEEDS Asia’s projects and mentioned willingness for further collaborations. Understanding and cooperation by local governments are vital in school disaster risk reduction and management, and Cebu Province being the biggest government with many schools, was invited to the Project’s National Conference.



Bangladesh

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

● DRR Training in Sylhet and Reunion with DRR Community Member

21st November, SEEDS Asia conducted a whole day DRR training for officials in Sylhet City Corporation (SCC). Sylhet, the 3rd biggest city in Bangladesh after Dhaka and Chittagong, is located in Northeast part of the country with about 2.5 million people. There is a Dauki fault running north of the region and Sylhet is categorized in an earthquake high risk area. Since the Urban Resilience Project includes SCC in its target area, we, along with Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) officials, made a trip to Sylhet to check the progress of setting up an emergency operation center and to conduct a training. 36 officials including CEO, Chief Engineer, and other department heads participated in the training and discussed various issues on DRR such as law framework, safe building construction, and community based DRR. It was a great opportunity for the both city corporation DNCC and SCC to exchange information and learn from each other.



Training in Sylhet City Corporation



With Mr. Shawon (leftmost) at a fire station in Sylhet

There was a happy reunion in Sylhet. We met Mr. Shawon from Monipuripara community, one of our DRR communities in Dhaka that we worked with in our previous JICA grassroots project. With his experience of learning and working on DRR, Mr. Shawon chose a path to become a firefighter. After exams and trainings, he finally joined Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defence in 2019 and was placed in Sylhet city. Monipuripara community has produced 2 more firefighters. Such inspiring story encourages us and keeps us going.

● Completion of World Bank Urban Resilience Project Assignment

Assignment under Urban Resilience Project which SEEDS Asia assisted DNCC as a consultant since June 2019 has been completed. In the assignment, we contributed to the city's strategy to establish emergency warehouses and zone disaster management teams by various activities such as trainings for city officials in each zone under DNCC and Dhaka South City Corporation (DCSS) as well as SCC (total 17 trainings conducted and 524 officials attended), developing fire safety building models, making equipment handbook for the emergency warehouses, documentation of the project, etc. It will take some time to fully operationalize the emergency warehouses and the team, however, zone offices took a big step forward with SEEDS Asia and they are now ready to take further steps.

● Air Pollution in Dhaka

Winter has come in Bangladesh as well and temperature has gone down to as low as 15 degrees Celsius. It is air pollution that becomes more serious in winter in Dhaka and the situation has worsened every year. The main reasons are said to be brick kilns, vehicular emission, and construction sites. The number of brick kilns in Bangladesh has increased from 5,000 in 2013 to 8,000 in 2018 and the number of vehicles in Dhaka jumped from 600,000 in 2010 to 1.37 million in 2018. SEEDS Asia disseminates the issue and its health impact as well as promotes taking measures such as to wear masks through trainings, DRR community network, as well as social media.



Morning in Dhaka



Japan

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

●ESD-DRR Camp

The ESD-DRR (Education for Sustainable Development – Disaster Risk Reduction) Camp was held on 2nd to 3rd November. This event intended to redefine the disaster experience of Ichijima-cho, Tamba City as a local resource, and use it for capacity building of future generations. For this to happen, many discussions with the local residents took place in order to present a different approach from cities to safe community development and provide experiential learning.

Four families, with their kids aged from zero to junior high school, participated in this event. All of them are highly conscious in disaster risk reduction and/or outdoor experiences. During a session to discuss emergency bags, a family presented their own bag with lots of food, and another with practical mountaineering items. The variety resulted in an active discussion on what really are useful in disaster situations. After eating emergency food, adult participants were enthusiastically discussing with the local residents while their kids were playing around. This was really the “interaction” that Tamba City Government is looking into as their City Promotion policy.



Harvesting vegetables



Helping each other to cook emergency meal

The contents of sessions were not only for learning disasters and community development, but for letting the participating children feel the wonderful nature that Tamba offers. Bamboo bowl making, local food, picking nuts in the woods, etc. made them enjoy throughout their stay. Their parents shared their positive impressions such as “It was an amazing experience to be touched by the kind people in Tamba”.

Detailed report of the Camp event can be found on [this page](#). Please check it out and hope to see many participants in the Camp in 2020.

●Winter Events

There were three events in December: tree planting by Kita-okamoto Residents Association on 15th, sacred rope (shimenawa) making on 22nd, and rice pounding on 30th. Tree planting as an event by the local organization, for which SEEDS Asia assisted in PR, was able to accommodate repeating visitors who had joined the ESD-DRR Camp. Another participant joined two weeks in a row in sacred rope making and rice pounding! Rice pounding was done in a rainy weather but over 50 people joined.

For these events, SEEDS Asia also coordinated with the local residents in PR, so that in the future they will be able to handle posting event information independently without SEEDS Asia’s assistance. Through these events in November and December, many points for improvements were suggested and acknowledged for smoother event operation. Based on the learning, we shall look into more efficient events and study tours.



Kids play a big role in rice pounding event