

Progress Updates of ICHARM (International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management) - Lead Organization for “Water-related Disaster Management”

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ICHARM was established in March 2006 as one of UNESCO Category II Centers on “A centre of excellence on Water Hazard and Risk Management”, which has been hosted by the Public Works Research Institute of Japan. Since the establishment ICHARM has been trying hard for providing and assisting the implementation of the most practicable strategies to prevent and mitigate water related disasters in the world. Even though ICHARM is a global centre, many of its activities fall on Asia-Pacific region.

ICHARM has been and will continue working to strengthen and implement the principal activities of “research”, “training” and “information networking”. The integration of the three pillars – the development and dissemination of “high technology,” the practice of “localism,” and the education and training for “capacity building” – is being enhanced to a greater extent. Under the above-mentioned perspectives, ICHARM has been making significant progress in many activities.

3 Questions to be answered

1) What is a gap does your concrete initiative to fill in?

Gaps in technologies and their translation into local application (e.g. community planning and management)

2) What is the objective of your concrete initiative?

To contribute to water-related disaster risk reduction in the AP region

3) Who is your client?

Key clients are;

- Flood Management Practitioners (Government and Local)
- Policy makers
- Local decision makers such as community-leaders

Progress Updates of ICHARM key activities are shown in the ANNEX.

Planned Tasks	Time frame	Status/Progress	Next Steps
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1. Implementation of Technical Assistance under ADB RETA scheme	Apr. 2009 - Apr. 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *target countries/rivers identified *discussion with ADB and local counterparts ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *very soon LOA expected to be signed, implementation of TA memues will be started
2. Development and dissemination of IFAS (Integrated Flood Analysis System)	2005-ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *First prototype software of IFAS system completed and made available * Accuracy in rainfall data treatment improved * IFAS training manual made available * Kick-off seminar (training WS) conducted in Oct. 2008 * IFAS was introduced in numerous occasions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Application of selected Asian river basins will be started very soon * 2nd training WS will be organized in Aug. 2009
3. Local Demonstration project on community-based flood management	2007-ongoing (model area: West Rapti region, Nepal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * CB-flood hazard maps produced * Consultations WSs were organized both in local and central level (twice each) * report on first phase (community knowledge base) published * Scientific evaluation on flood risk ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 3rd round of local and country-level WSs be organzied * Second phase report (scientific base) will be compiled

4. Organizaion of Master Course on Flood Disaster management	* First round (Sep. 2007- Sep. 2008) Second round (Sep. 2008- Sep.2009)	* First round of Master Course successfully completed (10 Asian students obtained Master's degree) * Second round of master course ongoing with 7 Asian students	* Third round of master course will be started from Oct. 2009
5.Organization of Flood Hazard Mapping Training Course	Sep.-Nov. 2008 (8 weeks)	* totally 80 trainees trained (most of trainees are from AP region) * Countries are able to produce FHMs	* New training course titled " Local Disaster Management Plan with Flood Hazard Maps" to be launched in Oct. 2009
6. Factor analysis and case studies on flood events in AP region	Apr. 2007- Mar. 2009	* Factor analysis conducted and published about Bangladesh, Philippines, Sli Lanka	* Effectivemness of Structural and non-structural measures will be studied and made available
7. Assessment of the impact of climate change on flood disaster and its reduction measures (Kakushin project)	Apr. 2007 - Mar. 2012	* Global streamflow network was developed. * Bias correction method for MRI-AGCM was developed. * River runoff simulation by corrected MRI-AGCM and global streamflow network is now available.	* River runoff simulation will be done globally. * Flood inundation simulation for Mekong River and Bangladesh under climate change will be done. * Flood risk assessment methodology should be developed.

8. Organizing "Managing Disaster" topic at the 5th WWF	Feb. 2008 (preparatory process) - Mar. 2009 (in Istanbul)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * ICHARM served as topic coordinator * Helped organize relevant sessions and led discussions * Compilation of topic reports, message and recommendations 	* ICAHRM is expected to serve as Lead Organization on "Water-related Disaster Management" for the 2nd APWS
9. Working in collaboration with WWAP/UNESCO (contribution to WWDR3 and its side publications)	2008- 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Contributed to the WWDR3 from the Disaster Management viewpoint * Authored and published side publication of WWDR3 on "Global trends on water-related disasters" * Another Side publication titled "Water Risk and Disasters" under preparation 	* Side publication on "Water Risk and Disasters" is in preparation process
10. Working with ADB; contribution to Dimension Five (KD5): Building Resilient Communities; which will be published during 2nd APWS	towards 2nd APWS	* in progress in collaboration with ADB and ICIMOD	preparation of key indicators
11. Facilitating International Flood Initiative (IFI) as Secretariat	2007- ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * IFI advisory/ management committees organized * Compilation of materials for IFI ongoing 	* Compilation of IFI reference/education materials will be done soon

