Introduction

In the 1990s, more than one billion people worldwide were affected by natural disasters, with direct economic losses of $629 billion. The East Asia and the Pacific (EAP) region are highly vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters, ranging from earthquakes to floods to drought. Since 1990, natural disasters in the region have caused more than $50 billion in damage and affected more than 2 billion people (CRED – EM-DAT database). From FY04-07, the Bank provided financing (or managed trust fund resources of) about $1.5 billion in the region to support primarily post-disaster interventions in response to floods, typhoons, earthquakes, and the 2004 Asia tsunami. Because natural disasters have a disproportionate impact on the poor, disaster mitigation and management programs are an integral part of poverty alleviation strategies.

Regional Distance Learning Seminar Series

As part of the EAP Sector Management Unit Initiatives, which is a program promoting outreach and knowledge-sharing, the East Asia and Pacific Disaster Risk Management (DRM) team, in collaboration with the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN), has planned a learning and knowledge sharing seminar series to reach counterparts in countries of the region, as well as staff working in country offices.

This seminar series will highlight three areas:

- Post-disaster recovery planning and lessons learned
- Risk financing and the World Bank’s new financial products
- Local approaches to disaster risk management

Within these three areas of focus, this series is comprised of 6 sessions delivered via VC by connecting 5-6 countries in the region starting from December 2008 to June 2009.

SESSION 1 INFORMATION:

Learning objectives:

Natural disasters cause severe damages to human, economy, environment and many aspects of the society, and consequent losses. The post-disaster recovery phase requires sensible planning based on an overall assessment of damage and losses, as well as understanding of future development goals. The focus of this session is post-disaster recovery planning, aiming to share country experiences of past recovery programs from severe natural disasters and draw lessons to improve future recovery planning.

After attending the session, participants should be able to:

1. Explain post-disaster stages and activities with commonly used terminology
2. Understand the complexity of post-disaster recovery
3. Describe priority tasks in reconstruction and economic recovery based on Japan and Indonesia cases
4. Draw lessons from the real experience to assist in formulation of policy for recovery planning
SESSION 1 INFORMATION (Continued):

Agenda and key issues to present and discuss

- A short opening to introduce participants, program and objectives
- A brief on post-disaster recovery planning concept and framework
- Cases and experiences - Kobe-city, Hyogo prefecture, Japan and BRR, Indonesia (TBC)
- Q&A and general discussion
- Conclusions

The following key points will be discussed:

- Overall recovery plan - what were key areas of focus? What was the timeframe? How were different aspects/sectors prioritized? How were communities engaged in its development?
- Implementation of the plan - what were the roles and responsibilities of local government and line agencies? How did the local government finance recovery? What was the role of national government?
- Build back better approach and quality assurance methods - how did the government ensure that new and repaired structures were resilient to future disasters? What was the approach used for school and hospital reconstruction?
- What were common problems encountered and how they were dealt with?

Target Audience

- Central Government officials and professionals from various ministries & agencies of Finance, Planning and DRM, construction and public works, as well as those of provincial and municipal governments who are in charge or and involved in the post-disaster recovery planning and implementation
- University faculty and students, think tanks, and other academics
- Civil society groups, NGOs, community leaders,
- World Bank staff in country offices

Resources

Japan: Mr. Kazunori Adachi, Disaster Management Bureau, Hyogo prefectural government
Mr. Yuichi Honjo, Manager of the General Planning and Research Division, Planning and Coordination Bureau of the City of Kobe

Indonesia: Mr. Heru Prasetyo the Director of International Relations, Aceh Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR) (TBC)

Language

VC Session: English. Simultaneous translation is available at each site where it is required.

Delivery of program

The session will be a 3-hour VC with English. Simultaneous translation will be arranged if it is requested. Session consists of 2 presentations from Japan and Indonesia followed by Q&A. The session will be chaired and moderated by WB Jakarta office staff. Webcasting (Live Streaming via Internet) of VC is available at URL: http://vcg01.worldbank.org/TDLC/
To view webcasting, participants will need a PC with internet access, Windows Media Player Version 10.0. and PC speakers.

Registration information

If you would like to register for this event, please send an email to the contact person at the location of your choice by 5th December, 2008.

Locations & Time Slot & Contacts

Beijing, China: 14:00-17:00
World Bank Office
Tianxieu Kang - Email: tkang1@worldbank.org

Hanoi, Vietnam: 13:00-16:00
Development Information Center
Huong Thu Thi Dang - Email: htdang2@worldbank.org

Kobe, Japan: 15:00-18:00
International Recovery Platform
Yoshihiro Imai Email: imai@recoveryplatform.org

Jakarta, Indonesia: 13:00-16:00
University of Indonesia
Ameriono Ismagil – Email: ameriono.ismagil@ui.edu

Manila, Philippines: 14:00-17:00
Development Resource Center - Asian Institute of Management
Mel Cledera – Email: vcledera@aim.edu

Tokyo, Japan: 15:00-18:00
Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC)
Yuka Yabashi – Email: yyabashi@worldbank.org

Vientiane, Lao PDR: 13:00-16:00
World Bank Office

Contacts

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