## 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 2 INFORMATION:

**Learning objectives:**

- Understand the basic concepts of Catastrophe Risk Financing
- Be aware of examples of catastrophe risk financing programs and their implementation
- Be able to determine catastrophe risk financing options depending on the country context

This session will provide participants with an understanding of catastrophe risk financing frameworks. It also aims to promote new product lines in risk mitigation and risk finance and transfer and share the experiences of Bank-financed risk finance projects.

After attending the session, participants should be able to:

1. Understand the basic concepts of Catastrophe Risk Financing
2. Be aware of examples of catastrophe risk financing programs and their implementation
3. Be able to determine catastrophe risk financing options depending on the country context

---

**SESSION 2: Dec. 11, 2008 (Completed)**

Lesson learned and knowledge sharing seminar on post-disaster recovery

**SESSION 2: Feb. 11, 2009**

Specialized seminar – Introduction to catastrophe risk financing frameworks

**SESSION 3: March 2009 (TBD)**

Local government approaches to disaster risk management and climate change

**SESSION 4: April 2009 (TBD)**

Community approaches to disaster risk management

**SESSION 5: April/May 2009 (TBD)**

World Bank’s new risk financing products

**SESSION 6: May/June 2009 (TBD)**

Emergency preparedness and response

---

**SESSION 2**

Specialized Seminar
Introduction to Catastrophe Risk Financing Frameworks

VC links
China (Beijing),
Indonesia (Jakarta),
Philippines (Manila),
Turkey (Ankara and Istanbul),
Vietnam (Hanoi),
Japan (Tokyo)

live web-steaming 16:00 - 19:00(Tokyo time)

**February 11, 2009**
## Agenda and key issues to present and discuss

- A short opening to introduce participants, program and objectives
- A brief overview of catastrophe risk financing concepts and framework
- Cases and experiences – the Turkish Catastrophic Insurance Pool (TCIP)
- Q&A and general discussion
- Conclusions

The following key points will be discussed:

- What is a catastrophe risk financing framework?
- What are its components?
- How does it fit within a government’s overall disaster risk management approach?
- Why should countries develop a catastrophe risk finance strategy?

### Target Audience

- Finance Ministry officials
- Central Government officials and professionals, sub-national officials
- University faculty and students, think tanks, and other academics
- Practitioners in Private sector
- World Bank Staff in country offices

### Resources

- Mr. Abhas Jha, Regional Coordinator for Disaster Risk Management, East Asia and the Pacific Region, World Bank
- Mr. İsmet Gungör, Deputy Director General of “Eureka Sigorta”

### Main moderator:

- (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. The session consists of 2 presentations from 2 venues, followed by Q&A. The session will be chaired and moderated by a Beijing-based World Bank staff member.

Webcasting (Live Streaming via Internet) of VC is available at URL: [http://vcg01.worldbank.org/TDLC/](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

Please send an email with your name, affiliation and contact information to the contact person at the location of your choice listed in this brochure by **February 2, 2009**.