

CITYNET YOKOHAMA PROJECT OFFICE E-NEWS

MARCH 2015

i. CBARAD Project shared at the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

The Mayor of Iloilo Jed Patrick Mabilog attended to 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai from March 14-15 to share CBARAD results and accomplishments at one of the public forums organised by CITYNET Yokohama Project Office and the City of Yokohama. Also accompanying the mayor was Mr. Darwin J. Papa, Head of Operations Division of the City of Iloilo's Disaster Risk Reduction Office.



Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog presents CBARAD achievements during the Sendai conference

The session invited speakers from various organisations who represent the stakeholders of CBARAD project including TRnet and Plus Arts. On the occasion Director Generals of JICA Yokohama and the Office of International Policy of the City of Yokohama shared their inputs for CBARAD project as well.

The session, divided into two parts involved speakers from Bangkok, Makati, GIZ and Yokohama City University who shared the importance and examples of their partnerships for various DRR related activities.



CITYNET members visit tsunami affected school in Sendai and learn about tsunami's impact

The Mayor and delegates represented at the session also visited the tsunami affected areas to observe reconstruction works as well as to understand the impacts of the disaster. Japanese national news media covered Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog's visit to the sites.

The conference was attended by over 40,000 delegates from over 180 countries on the initial day with the UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon and the Prime Minister of Japan giving the opening and welcoming remarks respectively.

Further details and photos can be viewed at CITYNET Yokohama Project Office [Facebook](#).

ii. CBARAD-II is officially signed



JICA Yokohama, City of Yokohama, Iloilo City Government and CITYNET Yokohama Project Office officially signed the MOU for launching the second phase of CBARAD starting end of March, 2015. The signing was conducted on the sidelines of the WCDRR in Sendai.

While CBARAD-I focused on capacity building of the five pilot barangays, CBARAD-II will emphasize the capacity building of City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (CDRRMO), vulnerable groups, and the academic sector to enhance planning, coordination and implementation of diverse DRR programs. CBARAD-I barangays will continue to share their inputs for various programs for CBARAD-II as well as conduct knowledge sharings with other cities in the Philippines.

iii. Mayor Mabilog Visits National Crisis Command Center



Mayor Mabilog at the National Crisis Command Center in Tokyo

Taking the occasion for attending the conference in Sendai, Mayor Mabilog visited the National Crisis Command Center in Tokyo to understand the coordination, preparedness and response tactics of a large metropolis. The multipurpose location serves as a disaster prevention park on normal days for the public to learn about disasters.



Details of the facility can be viewed at the link below:

<http://www.ktr.mlit.go.jp/showa/tokyorinkai/english/index.htm>

iv. Nepalese Delegation Visit Yokohama

Following the attendance at the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, the 20 member Nepalese delegation composed of the members of the national and local governments as well as NGOs led by National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) visited Yokohama Municipal Disaster Prevention Center to learn about Yokohama's initiatives on public awareness.



Members of the Nepalese delegation take cover while experiencing Magnitude 7.2 earthquake on a simulator

The delegation was welcomed by the ceremonial presentation by the Fire Brigade Brass Band. The representatives then experienced the earthquake simulator, smoke room and the dark room to learn how disaster prevention messages can be shared with the public.

During the visit, director of the center Mr. Kiyoshi Morita welcomed the participants. Assistant Manager Yasuhiko Fujikawa then took the participants on the tour of the facility and explained about the practical experiences that the public can have at the facility. It was the first visit of its kind for the Nepalese delegation who expressed their high appreciation to the Fire Bureau for arranging the site visit on short notice.



v. CBARAD leaders upgrade their presentation skills

This workshop, a third instalment of the Train the Trainer Program, was a one day activity which trained participants on how to communicate/deliver an effective message/presentation to a target audience.



A total of **19** participants composed of **15** barangay leaders and volunteers, **2** staff from the Office of Councilor Baronda, **1** ADP-I staff and **1** PDAO Consultant attended the workshop.

Lecture, group discussions, video presentations and simulations were the methodologies used. Participants were asked to use the core messages they developed from their previous workshop (Developing Communication Strategies Towards Sustainability) to prepare a message for the Closing Ceremony of CBARAD – I. The messages were delivered in a practice session where the facilitator commented on their delivery and style. Another output of the workshop was the

video messages of the participants for CITYNET Yokohama, Yokohama City, JICA and the City Government.

vi. Submission of the report on the final survey for the CBARAD Project

Following the series of consultations, a report was submitted by the Survey Contractor. This study was conducted to determine the current status of community-based disaster risk reduction and management (CBDRRM) practices, specifically in the five pilot areas of the CBARAD Project in Iloilo City. Moreover, the participation of residents and LGU officials in various DRRM activities and projects were assessed, including knowledge of respondents on disaster risk management including disaster response activities of their barangays.

The study involved 379 respondents. The samples were selected using stratified random sampling with proportional allocation. In sum, 155 (40.9%) of the residents in Balabago were involved in the study; 148 (39.1%) were from San Isidro; 44 (11.6%) reside in Buntatala; 20 (5.3%) live in Calubihan; and 12 (3.2%) are located in Dungon A.

Also, the completed standard evacuation maps for the 5 pilot barangays were submitted by the facilitator.

vii. CITYNET Youth Japan takes on urban waste issues for knowledge sharing

Members of CITYNET Youth Japan organised a field trip to Nepal in February to learn as well as share knowledge on urban waste and recycling to communities and children in Nepal.

The group visited two local schools where they shared the initiatives taken in Japan to address urban waste including recycling. The discussion sessions with the students and teachers showed that although the knowledge on waste and the 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) process is understood by many, the actual practice is still uncommon. Urban waste has been a serious issues particularly in Kathmandu and its surrounding municipalities as the population has spiked over the past several years. Dealing with waste is still considered as an unattractive and low-paying job partly due to the association with the levels of the social status.

The youth group was also supported by a local NGO named Population, Women and Environment Development Organisation (PWEDO) who took them to the suburbs of Kathmandu to introduce their project dealing with women. PWEDO supports income generation programs for local women through recycling, composting and small scale farming. The group has had very successful results particularly in rural areas where women find it difficult to obtain an income.

The study visit was organised and funded by the students themselves and plans to organise such trips every year.

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APRIL 2015

i. **CBARAD-II Prepares for a fresh launching in Iloilo**

The successful completion of CBARAD-I has attracted more stakeholders and city departments to be officially involved in the second phase of the project where the project will have three main components:



- i. Strengthened capacities of CDRRMO/ CDRRMC to perform pre-disaster activities
- ii. Enhanced capacity to include disability and vulnerable groups in managing disaster risks
- iii. Enhanced collaboration system among the local government, universities and communities for disaster prevention and mitigation including response.

The project is expected to include new partners including three CITYNET members from the Philippines for wider knowledge sharing of DRR strategies. Also included will be universities, national agencies, and specialized focused groups dealing with DRR.

The project is expected to hold its final Project Design Matrix workshop in May to finalise the working details for the next two years. CBARAD-II is expected to be completed by March 2017.

ii. **Toshiba International Foundation grants project funding for CYO for teacher training in Nepal**

CYO completed a one year project on Teacher Training on Early Childhood Education funded by Toshiba International Foundation (TIF) last year.



Following a successful outcome, TIF has offered the grant for the second consecutive year for the same project to be conducted in Nepal in partnership with the Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN). Selection of municipalities and schools will be carried out in the coming months through MuAN who has expressed their eagerness to be involved in the project again.

The project this year will target primary education teachers and the course will be delivered over three workshops to be scheduled in the latter part of the year.

iii. CITYNET Secretariat and CYO meet to discuss working strategies

To further strengthen the relations between CITYNET Secretariat and CITYNET Yokohama Project Office, Mr. Kendra Hirata paid a visit to CITYNET Secretariat to update the Secretariat on CYO's activities as well as to discuss working strategies between the two offices. The two-day meeting was attended by the secretariat staff including Director Youngmin Chang to go over program contents, technical cooperation, partnerships, fundraising and other matters concerning the members. On the occasion, Mr. Hirata also made a courtesy call to the Assistant Secretary General Mr. Jaeryoung Yoo at the city hall.



The secretariat and CYO will continue to have face-to-face meetings in addition to the skype meetings to plan and coordinate more programs for the members of CITYNET.

iv. Staff changes at CYO beginning April 1

Aligning with the Japanese fiscal year, CYO had some personnel changes as follows:

1. **Mr. Yoichi Ishii** completed his term as the Head of Office for CITYNET Yokohama Project Office on March 31 this year. His contributions to the office especially from the establishment of the office has been critical for the office to start operating effectively to provide services to CITYNET members.
2. **Mr. Teruhiko Okada** has succeed Mr. Ishii as the Head of Office from April 1, 2015. He previously worked for the Health and Social Welfare department of the City of Yokohama before being appointed as the Head of CYO.
3. **Mr. Gotaro Kawasaki** has now been transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and works in Tokyo. We highly appreciate the effort he put into establishing CYO and having it complete many successful projects. We wish him all the success at his new post.
4. **Mr. Shinsuke Kato** has been seconded from the City of Yokohama to CYO to succeed Mr. Kawasaki. He has worked for the city government for over 12 years and is excited to step into an international area.
5. **Ms. Sachiyo Kaneko** also joined CYO as a Project Assistant starting March and will be in charge of maintaining the web site as well as publicity related material.