Special Report
CITYNET Yokohama Project Office
9th CITYNET Disaster Cluster Seminar
Taipei
September 21-24, 2016

Disaster Cluster Members:
Yokohama City (Lead)
Makati (Co-lead)
Taipei (Host City)
Baguio City
Banda Aceh
Bangkok
Bharatpur
Colombo
Danang
Dehiwala Mt. Lavinia
Dhaka North
Dhaka South
Hue
Iloilo
Islamabad
Kathmandu
Lalitpur Submetropolitan City
Ligao
Lyon
Marikina
Moratuwa
Muntinlupa
Palembang
Quezon
San Fernando
Sri Jaywardenapura Kotte
Surabaya
Tomohon

Center for Advanced Philippine Studies (CAPS)
Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives – University of Victoria
League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP)
Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN)
National Municipal League of Thailand (NMLT)
Philippine Councilors League (PCL)
SEVANATHA Urban Resource Center
Yokohama Association for International Communications and Exchanges (YOKE)
Organizers:
CityNet is the largest association of urban stakeholders committed to sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. Established in 1987 with the support of UNESCAP, UNDP and UN-Habitat, the network of cities has grown to include 131 municipalities, NGOs, private companies and research centers.

The CITYNET Yokohama Project Office (CYO) was set up on April 1, 2013 to provide support and assistance to CITYNET members through projects, workshops, seminars, training, technical advisory sessions, symposiums and many other platforms. Through innovative and needs-based programs, CYO fosters city-to-city cooperation for better networking, knowledge exchange, and support for the creative development of societies.

The City of Taipei is located in the Taipei Basin in Northern Taiwan. In 1995, the Taipei City Fire Department became the first level-1 fire authority to be established by a local government in Taiwan. The department has been reorganized twice over the years and in 2011 Taipei City’s Emergency Operating Center (EOC) merged with the Fire Department. It is the Taipei City Fire Department’s mission to create a safe, disaster-proof Taipei, with integrated resources and year-round protection.

CITYNET’s Disaster Cluster is a group of pro-active cities and organizations in the Asia Pacific Region concerned with reducing the risks associated with disaster in the region. The Cluster was led by Makati until November 2013, when the City of Yokohama was appointed as the lead-city during the CITYNET Congress held in Seoul.

Acknowledgements:
The CITYNET Yokohama Project Office would like to thank the City of Taipei and the Taipei City Fire Department for hosting the 9th Disaster Cluster Seminar. Their cooperation and contributions to the program provided participants with a platform to tap into CITYNET’s international network in order to share best practices in disaster risk reduction.

The office would also like to acknowledge the Disaster Cluster Members and seminar participants whose active participation allowed for many fruitful exchanges and discussions. Thank you for your continued commitment to creating disaster resilient and more sustainable cities throughout the Asia Pacific Region.

Introduction:

The 9th CITYNET Disaster Cluster Seminar was held in Taipei from September 22-24, 2016, with attending participants from Taiwan and five countries across the Asia Pacific Region. Participants included representatives of local governments, associations, institutions, NGOs and NPOs with backgrounds in DRR. The participants had the chance to attend presentations, have discussions, and participate in site visits, which fostered the sharing of members’ best practices in DRR.

The threat of natural disasters, climatic and seismic, is increasing globally and is particularly pronounced in middle and low income cities across the Asia Pacific Region. The Disaster Cluster was established out of projects responding to the devastation caused by the 2004 Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami, as well as the 2005 Kashmir Earthquake. These disasters demonstrated a great need to address this priority area, which the members recognized by supporting the establishment of this cluster at the 2005 CITYNET Congress in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The goal of CITYNET’s Disaster Cluster is to mainstream DRR initiatives in cluster cities, this includes creating and managing a database of resources and contacts to foster collaborative projects. By creating an international city network, cities can work together and tap into one another’s strengths and weaknesses.

“It is a privilege to become a member of CITYNET’s Disaster Cluster and to host this event. The impact of hazards is a national problem but it is the local government that is best able to respond to reduce risk. We expect more communication, cooperation and coordination with other member cities by having more experiences and exchanges.”

Mr. Chun-hei Chen
Taipei City Fire Department
In order to ensure that the seminar contents were valuable to all participants, CYO conducted a pre-seminar self-assessment survey to identify the levels of disaster awareness and preparedness amongst various urban stakeholders in member cities. Participants highlighted their best practices and challenges related to DRRM. This valuable data identified member gaps in DRRM and was used to select presentation topics and guide the CITYNET Disaster Cluster Way Forward discussion, the contents of which will be presented during the 34th CITYNET Executive Committee Meeting in Makati this November.

“[This seminar] gives us the opportunity to seek for best practices when it comes to disaster response, it is our way to improve DRR in the Philippines.”

Mr. Paul John de la Cruz Bautista
City of Muntinlupa

### Results from the DRRM Survey

#### Most Serious Hazards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earthquake</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>19%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Institutional Priorities

- Training and capacity building of personnel
- Securing funds for overall improvement of DRRM
- Procurement of necessary heavy and light equipment

#### City Challenges

- Lack of available technical experts
- Non-government DRRM stakeholders’ lack of understanding of their roles and responsibilities in DRRM
- Political will and motivation among civil employees

#### Public Challenges

- Lack of emergency equipment
- Lack of emergency supplies
- Framework to involve private sector
- Mapping of vulnerable households
- Training of designated personnel in the community

### Seminar Summary

The 9th CITYNET Disaster Cluster Seminar was divided into symposium, seminar, and site-visit sessions.

**Symposium:**
On September 22, the Seminar opened with a large symposium in Taipei’s Regent Hotel that tackled four important topics: Disaster Medicine, Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Disaster Recovery. The symposium opened with speeches by Mayor Ko Wen-je of Taipei and Mr. Masayoshi Enari on behalf of Mayor Fumiko Hayashi of Yokohama. Yokohama and Taipei are sister cities and Taipei’s hosting of the seminar highlighted both Taipei and Yokohama’s commitments to international cooperation activities.

Mayor Wen-je discussed Taipei’s ongoing mission to enhance their disaster mitigation practices in order to increase city-wide preparedness and the city’s eagerness to share best practices with member cities. In Mayor Hayashi’s speech, presented by Mr. Enari, Yokohama’s local and international commitments to DRR activities within the CITYNET network were presented. This symposium was open to professionals from academic institutions, medical institutions, NGOs, NPOs, and various government entities.

CITYNET Disaster Cluster Members from Yokohama, Makati, Muntinlupa, Kathmandu, and Mahidol University (Thailand) shared their best practices in DRR with the diverse symposium attendees.

**Symposium Presentations**

**Session 1: Disaster Medicine**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Presentation Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Fuh-Yuan</td>
<td>Taipei City Disaster Medical System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shih, National</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Taiwan University Hospital</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Daisuke</td>
<td>Disaster Medical Service System of the City of Yokohama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuroiwa, Medical Care Bureau City of Yokohama</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bin-Chou Lee</td>
<td>Disaster Medical System: Initiation and Onsite Operation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taipei City Hospital</td>
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<td>Zhongxiao Branch</td>
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Presenters from Taipei and Yokohama share best practices in disaster medicine during the Session One panel discussion.

Mr. Enari (left) receives a kind gift from the Mayor of Taipei on behalf of the Mayor of Yokohama.
Session 2: Disaster Preparedness

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ben Jong-Dao Jou, Department of Atmospheric Science, National Taiwan University</td>
<td>Research on Typhoon-Flood Emergency Response and Surveillance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atty. Violeta Seva, Advocate, Making Cities Resilient Campaign, UNISDR (Makati) Yokohama</td>
<td>Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and its Local Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Paul John D. Bautista, Training Officer/Emergency Medical Services Coordinator, City Government of Muntinlupa</td>
<td>Local Government Initiatives on Disaster Preparedness</td>
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Session 3: Disaster Risk Reduction

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Yih-Chi Tan, College of Bio-resources and Agriculture, National Taiwan University</td>
<td>University Capacity Building to Help Local Governments Setup Resilience Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Indra Man Singh Suwal, Department Chief, Disaster Management Department Kathmandu Metropolitan City Office</td>
<td>Urban Disaster Risk Reduction in Kathmandu Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Keerati Sripramai, Environmental Engineering and Disaster Management Program, Mahidol University (Thailand)</td>
<td>Role of Academic Sector on Developing Disaster Risk Reduction Plans</td>
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Session 4: Disaster Recovery

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kou-Chen Chyuan, Director, World Vision Taiwan</td>
<td>After Typhoon Morakot Rehabilitation Program: Enhance Disaster Reduction Experience Sharing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"I hope to work together with each member city and step up our disaster cluster activities to develop disaster resistant cities in the Asia-Pacific."

Mayor Hayashi City of Yokohama
Seminar:
On September 23, the official portion of the 9th Disaster Cluster Seminar opened, which was limited to Disaster Cluster Members.

After short opening remarks from Taipei, Yokohama and Makati, Mr. Kendra Hirata from the CITYNET Yokohama Project Office provided an overview of the goals of the Disaster Cluster, DRR activities coordinated by the office, and the need for strategic planning in regards to future cluster projects and activities.

Participants had the opportunity to listen to a presentation by Mr. Takeshi Hayashi from the City of Yokohama’s Crisis Management Office, on the disaster mitigation initiatives conducted by the city as well as by local residents. The Mayor of Iloilo presented on the CBARAD project and its many successes in increasing local-level resiliency among residents from various barangays in Iloilo.

This session concluded with a dynamic discussion on the Disaster Cluster Way Forward, which shall be presented during the 34th Executive Committee Meeting this November in Makati.

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<td>Dr. Jed Patrick Mabilog, Mayor, Iloilo City Government</td>
<td>Collaborative Initiatives on Disaster Preparedness and its Impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Takeshi Hayashi, Manager, Crisis Management Office, City of Yokohama</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives of Yokohama</td>
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"The CITYNET Disaster Cluster Seminar provides a platform for exchanges of best practices among the CITYNET Disaster Cluster Members. Makati has gained so many insights and ideas from other cities."

Atty. Violeta Seva
City of Makati

Emergency Operations Center

Study Visits

Yuanshanzih Flood Channel

Participants learn about monitoring and response in Taipei’s EOC

When there are heavy rains, water is diverted through this channel to the ocean

A group photo on the EOC’s helipad with the Taipei 101 Tower in the background

Participants gather around a diorama of the flood channel
Taipei holds an annual public event with demonstrations and information booths to recognize National Disaster Prevention and Reduction Day.

CYO staff and Disaster Cluster Members had the honour of participating in the unveiling of Taipei’s first disaster prevention handbook.

Participants learn about the construction process of the Dago Stream retarding basin.

During normal times the basin is a beautiful public park that is used by the entire community.