Wallside gardens near Bashamichi Station, Yokohama. The end of July brings higher temperatures, fireworks, and various local festivals across Japan.

I. Nepal-made DRR educational material launched in Lalitpur
II. Toshiba International Foundation supports establishment of the first DRR learning center in Nepal
III. Intern introduction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12th CityNet Disaster Cluster Seminar

Registrations are now closed for the 12th CityNet Disaster Cluster Seminar. However, domestic participants are still welcome to apply. Please call 045-223-2161 for further details.

8th Asia Smart City Conference

The city of Yokohama will be hosting the conference from October 8-11, 2019. The concept this year is “Fostering a Market Place – Co-innovation for best available solutions.” Click here for further details and inquiries.
I. Nepal-made DRR educational material launched in Lalitpur

For the past two years, the project to Promote School Club Activities on Disaster Risk Reduction is being implemented in five municipalities of Nepal (Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Shakharpur, Chandragiri), with the support of JICA and implementation by Plus Arts (Kobe, Japan) with the local counterpart Informal Service Sector (INSEC, Nepal).

The objective of the past two years had been to train the teachers to develop the materials necessary to teach children about disaster risk reduction. A total of 32 teachers from 18 schools took part in this 2-year training to develop the tools and to learn how to use them in the classroom.

The materials developed in the form of games are originally based on a concept from the Japanese products developed by Plus Arts, which was then localized in Nepal. A total of 10 activities such as board games, card games, and quizzes have been localized by the Nepalese teachers during the process. The materials were then developed professionally by a local graphic designer with OLE Nepal.

Upon developing the materials as official products for the DRR Clubs established in schools, the complete set of games were returned to the municipalities as well as the schools during a handover ceremony held in Lalitpur. Mayor Chiribabu Maharjan of Lalitpur Metropolitan City and Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Ms. Yumiko Asakuma welcomed the initiative as a start of strengthening localized and institutionalized DRR education in schools. The sets of material handed are expected to be used as the educational tool for the DRR Clubs in respective schools as well as during school events.

Along with the tools, official logo of DRR Club was also launched with a one horned rhino (endangered species of Nepal) as the character voted by the teachers to represent DRR.
education in Nepal. The character for the logo was selected by the teachers and designed by a Japanese graphic designer.

II. Toshiba International Foundation supports establishment of the first DRR learning center in Nepal

CityNet Yokohama Project Office has been conducting various trainings and programs in Nepal particularly in relation to the capacity building of municipal authorities and teachers. In order to institutionalize the training as a long-term strategy for supporting Nepal’s disaster education, various stakeholders have come together to support the establishment of Nepal’s first DRR learning center to be set up in Lalitpur. This project is also being supported by Plus Arts.

To initiate the content building for the center, Toshiba International Foundation is supporting the training of local carpenters in Lalitpur to develop display boards, furniture, and other necessary hardware to include in the center. A Japanese Class-A architect is training the Nepali carpenters to develop the necessary material using Japanese carpentry techniques which does not use nails. The furniture developed will also be multipurpose, which can easily be dismantled or assembled.

The building itself is being retrofitted through private funds and is expected to be completed by October this year. Once the center is completed, it will engage with municipalities to arrange

A Japanese architect introduces techniques and carpentry work conducted in Japan to orient Nepalese carpenters.

Before and after the assembly of the table without the use of nails.
for the school visits as well as teacher trainings on DRR. The exact opening date of the center is yet to be determined.

III. Intern introduction

Chelsea Ozuna is an International Studies student from the University of Oregon. Her professional focus is in law and human rights, and her geographical focus is Southeast/East Asia. She is excited to see how non-profit organizations work within her geographical focus area and looks forward to gaining insight into how organizations and municipalities can work together to solve the urban issues that they are facing.

“I hope that I can use my knowledge of International Studies to help support CITYNET in their initiatives while also growing as a global citizen.”