REPORT ON INDIVIDUAL EVENT/SESSION

Date and time of event: June 23 2014
12:30 – 14:00

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Event type (tick the box): Side Event

Event name (write the name and session number below):
SE3 Water-Related Disaster Risk Information for Risk Reduction - Flood Forecasting, Disaster Information & Risk Assessment for Preventative Investment

Number of participants - Total: 33
(Please attach the list of participants and in addition, count or estimate this, as not all will be recorded in the list.)

1) Key questions or issues raised, main challenges or constraints identified (say, max 5):
If possible, record who raised these.

While emphasizing that data and information are required by all actions and tasks in the water-related disaster risk management, this event raised two questions:

(i) What data (in relation to water-related disasters) are measured, compiled, and managed by each country?
(ii) What risk information is required to justify preventive investment toward implementing hard and soft measures of water-related disaster management?

All panelists from Asian countries introduced current situations and limitations in relevant risk information. Lack of resources impedes to improve the hydro-meteorological observation, and huge investment is required to mobilize in promoting flood management projects.

2) Principal proposed solutions, messages or recommendations:
If possible, record who offered these.

In order to justify preventive investment, the following recommendations were made and acknowledged:

(i) Hold the view that preventive investment is inevitable to protect people and economic growth from disasters.
(ii) Compile, share and analyze technical data about hazard, exposure, vulnerability, and damage at all levels.
(iii) Conduct risk assessments at all levels in order to understand how water-related disasters cause casualties and economic damages.
(iv) Evaluate the effect of preventive investment in terms of “information required to support decision making” such as number of casualties, socio-economic damages and affected area/population.
(v) Utilize international research organizations and academia and global datasets
3) Conclusions by the Chair of the event:

This side event successfully shared and acknowledged necessities of developing water-related risk information in order to promote preventive investment, which aims not only to measure hazard but also to collect information for evaluating risks of casualties and socio-economic damages.

4) Your additional thoughts on the event:

In connection to this, this side event emphasized the importance of continuous collaboration among UNESCO, ICHARM, JICA, and government offices.

Report received by: Hisaya Sawano and Sangeun Lee June 23 2014 / 12:30-14:00