

**Outline of
the International Centre For
Water Hazard and Risk Management
under the auspices of UNESCO
(UNESCO-CHARM)**

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Background

-Water hazards as a major challenge-

The number of water-related disasters is still increasing

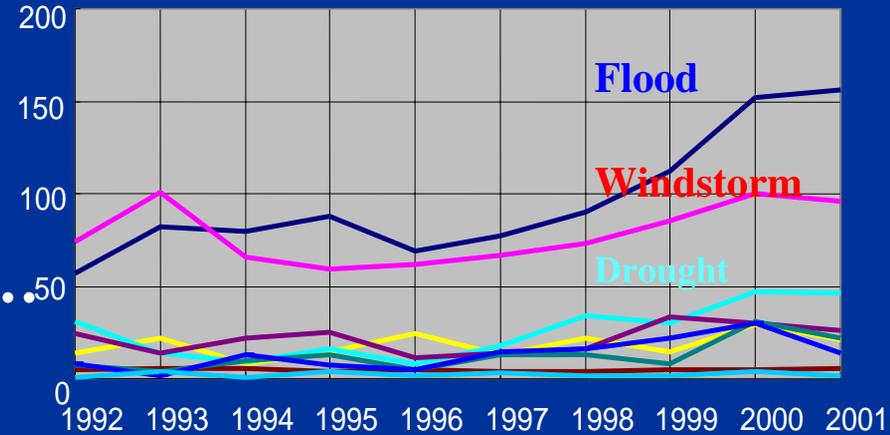
The water-related disasters will be ..

- aggravated by population growth, rapid urbanization, and concentration of human settlements and assets in flood areas;
- hampering sustainable development at global scale



Reduction of water hazards is vital for poverty alleviation.

Number of Events by types in the world



Source :EM-DAT, CERD, University of Louvain, Belgium

Background

-Necessity for dealing with water-related disasters-

2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg)

2003 3rd World Water Forum (Kyoto, Shiga & Osaka)



- Necessity to improve risk management measures, technologies and capacity building relevant to water-related disasters



Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)

- **History**

1927: Established

1979: Relocated to Tsukuba

(Area:126ha, Staff: 550)

**2001: Re-organized into two institutions
(PWRI and NILIM)**

- **Staff : 219 (including 151 researchers)**
- **Research topics: 200**
- **Budget (FY 2004): 6 billion JPY
(55 mil. US\$)**



Objective of UNESCO-CHARM

To conduct ...

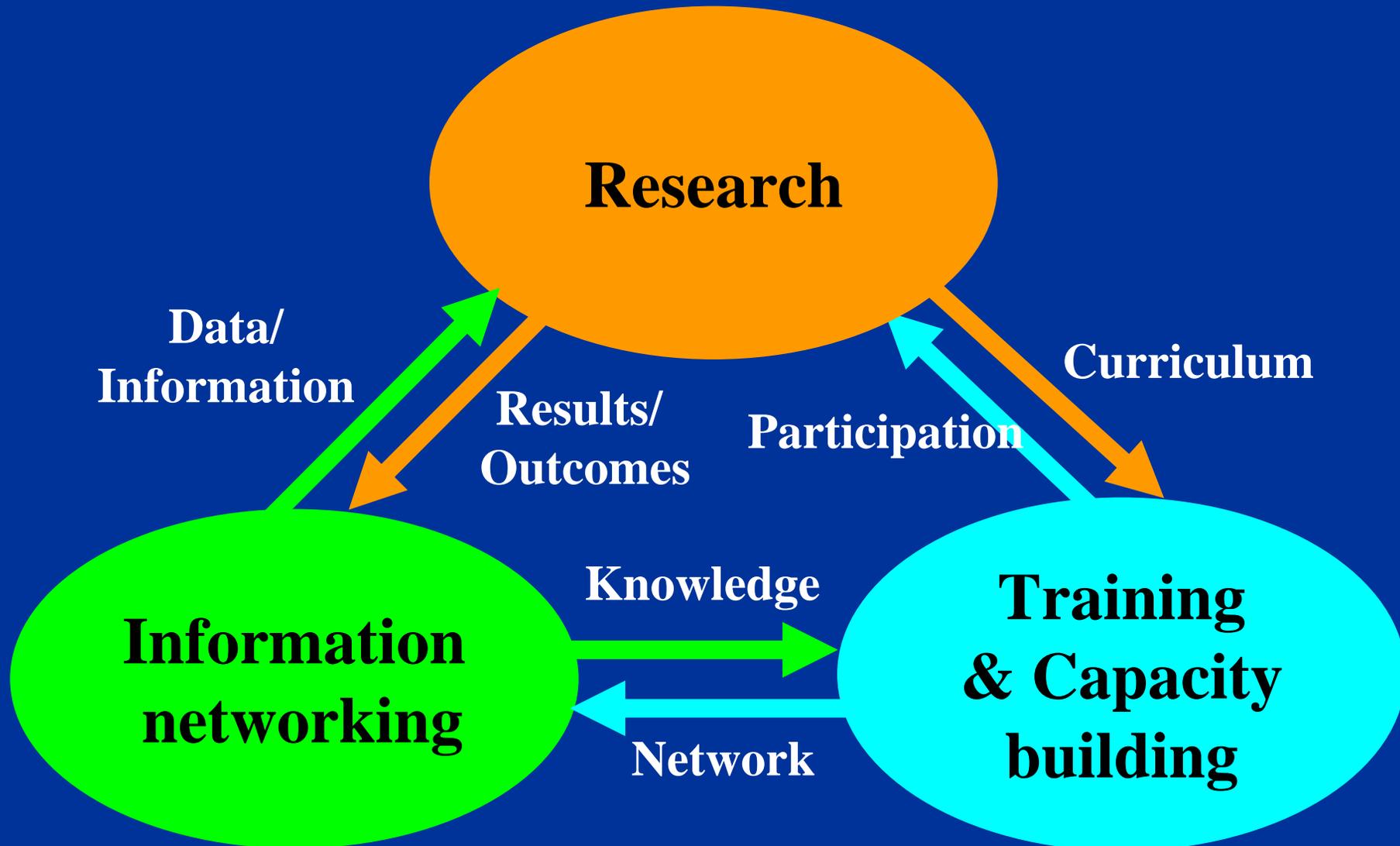
- Research
- Training & Capacity building
- Information networking

These **three pillar activities** deal with water-related hazards and its risk management at local, national, regional and global level

Framework of UNESCO-CHARM

- The new Centre will be established within PWRI as a **global centre under the auspices of UNESCO (Category 2) in autumn 2005**
- The new Centre will be **collaborating with the UNESCO-IHP networks, relevant UN agencies and other key institutes & organizations of the world**

Pillar Activities of UNESCO-CHARM



Activities

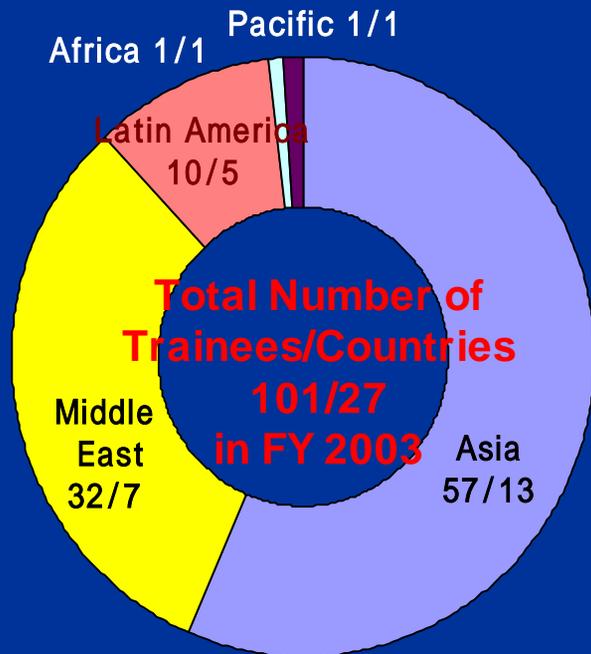
- Research -

- **Contribution to international projects such as WWAP and IFI /P (UNESCO/WMO)**
 - **Hydraulic / hydrological prediction, observation, modeling and analysis**
 - **Risk assessment and risk management technologies for water-related hazards**
- · · and others

Activities

- **Training and Capacity building** - PWRI's long experience with conducting JICA training courses for over 35 years, including:

- River and dam engineering
- Sabo engineering



Activities

- Information Networking -

Information networking will be synergized with research and training activities in order to enhance integration and coordination:

Through the information network...

- Research output will be widely disseminated
- Feedback from countries / regions will be reflected in the research projects
- Trainees will develop domestic links to their own countries/ regions
- Local needs for training items would be clarified

Preparatory Activities

October 2003

- **32nd session of the UNESCO General Conference**
 - **Announcing the intention to set up the Centre in Japan**

October 2003

- **RSC in Southeast Asia & Pacific and in Latin America & Caribbean**
 - **Resolutions strongly supporting the Centre**

January 2004

- **International workshop at PWRI and Symposium in Tokyo**

April 2004

- **Proposal of the Center at the 36th UNESCO-IHP Bureau**

July 2004

- **Hosting a preparatory meeting of IFI/P at PWRI**

A Blueprint of the Centre Building



- ◆ **Research Staff** : 20 (at the initial stage)
- ◆ **Center building** : will be completed in autumn 2005
- ◆ **Office space** : 2,000m²

In the Future

- We have already submitted an official proposal for consideration at the forthcoming **UNESCO Executive Board**.
- And to obtain an accreditation of the new Center at the **UNESCO General Conference in autumn 2005**.

Thank you for your attention.

**We sincerely appreciate your
support for our proposal.**