

Capacity-Building for Public Official on Integrated Regional Development Planning (IDRP)

- Overview of past, current and planned activities of UNCRD
in the area of IRDP -

Chikako Takase

Director

United Nations Centre for Regional Development

Historical background

Four decades of UNCRD:

- 1971-1981: (1) George S. Duggar; (2) Masahiko Honjo;
- 1981-1991: (3) Hidehiko Sazanami;
- 1991-1999: (4) Hideki Kaji ;
- 1999-2011: (5) Yo Kimura ; and (6) Kazunobu Onogawa

The First Decade: 1971 – 1981

Training:

- The major aim of UNCRD: to assist developing countries in strengthening national capacities for regional development planning and development. In the early years, training was the primary tool.
- 1972: The first "General Combined Course in Regional Development": for mid-career planners and administrators. Precursor to the International Training Course in Regional Development (ITC).
- Tailor-made in-country training courses were also initiated in selected countries.
- General Combined Course on Regional Development (1972-1977) (Planning exercise conducted in the designated region within an Asian developing country)
- International Training Course in Regional Development Planning (ITC) (1979-1981) (Lectures and field visits conducted in Japan.)

The First Decade: 1971 – 1981

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Research:

- regular or special publications, and used as inputs to the Centre's training courses, seminars, workshops, and symposia.
- Specific research activities during the decade: mainly regional development planning methodologies and a policy research programme, establishing Methods of Planning for Comprehensive Regional Development (MPCRD).
- The policy research programme included "growth pole policy and regional development" and "rural and urban relations and development planning" which concluded that the growth pole approach may have exacerbated uneven development.
- An alternative approach known as "agropolitan development" approach was developed based on basic needs, the formal-informal dichotomy, and self-reliance in development.

Publications:

- ***Regional Development Dialogue (RDD)***, UNCRD's flagship journal, was launched in 1980.
- A comprehensive ten-volume Regional Development Series encompassing UNCRD's first decade of experience was also released in 1981.
- Colloquium on Rural-Urban Relations and Development Planning (1977)

Meeting:

- Expert Meeting on Improving Methods of Planning for Comprehensive Regional Development (MPCRD) (1978)

The Second Decade: 1981 – 1991

- A variety of projects => increasing complexity of the problems in urban, particularly metropolitan, areas.
- “Comprehensive” approach to regional development
=> focused on specific fields: (a) local development planning and management in rural regions; and (b) development and conservation of metropolitan regions.
- UNCRD research and training activities organized into seven Units: Urban Development and Housing Unit; Regional Development and Management Unit; Environmental Planning and Management Unit; Regional Disaster Prevention Unit; Information Systems Unit; Social Development Unit; and Industrial Development Unit

The Second Decade: 1981 – 1991

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Training

- 1983: In addition to ITC, UNCRD initiated the fellowship programme for training researchers and practitioners.
 - 1986: The Strategic Assistance Programme (re-named “Special Programme” in 1994) started to take shape from the China Training Project.
- ⇒ a field-based research-cum-training effort with location-specific objectives
- ⇒ an extension service of UNCRD, covering Eastern and Southern Africa, the Pacific Island countries, and Yogyakarta in Indonesia.

The Second Decade: 1981 – 1991

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Research

- Specific research activities covered various regional and urban issues:
 - ❖ Metropolitan management (slum/squatter improvement, informal sector employment, and urban community development);
 - ❖ Preservation and development of historical areas;
 - ❖ Environmental resource management;
 - ❖ Regional disaster management; and
 - ❖ Social development.

The Second Decade: 1981 – 1991

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The main research achievements included:

- International Seminars: Urban Development Policies: Focus on Land Management (1982); Information Systems for Urban and Regional Planning (1984); Regional Development Planning for Disaster Prevention (1986)
- Project on environmentally-sound management of regional development (1984)
- Senior-Level Symposium on Habitat in Asian Metropolises: Role of Science and Technology for Human Settlements towards the 21st Century during the Tsukuba Expo '85
- Expert Group Workshop on River/Lake Basin Approaches to Environmentally- Sound Management of Water Resources (1988)
- Nagoya International Conference on Metropolitan Metamorphosis and Development/ Nagoya Declaration (1988) → Establishment of Nagoya Urban Institute in Nagoya City (1991)

The Third Decade: 1991 – 1999

- By the 1990s, UNCRD was more holistic in its approach to the regional development process. It also began to turn its attention to geographic information systems (GISs) with the need to help developing countries in moving towards computerized information systems.
- 1992 : The Earth Summit => sustainable development.
- 1995 : The Great Hanshin Earthquake => review of the city planning and disaster management response systems in Japan.
- A new operational structure at UNCRD with six research and training programmes: Development Administration; Disaster Management; Environmental Management; Infrastructure Planning and Management; Local Social Planning; and Regional Economic Development.
- The UNCRD Africa Office was established in Nairobi, Kenya in 1991, the Yokkaichi Office in 1993 (later merged with Nagoya Office), and the Project Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) was also established in Bogotá, Colombia in 1997

The Third Decade: 1991 – 1999

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Participation in International Conferences

- 1994: UN World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction: UNCRD organized a session entitled "The Effects of Disasters on Modern Societies".
- 1996: the second UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II): UNCRD organized dialogues on "How Cities Will Look in the 21st Century". The special publication "Regional Development and Habitat - 1996" was published which also commemorated UNCRD's silver jubilee

The Third Decade: 1991 – 1999

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Training

- UNCRD began cooperating with the State Planning Committee (SPC), Government of Lao PDR on country-specific training.
- The First Africa Training Course on Local and Regional Development Planning was held in Nairobi in 1995.

The Third Decade: 1991 – 1999

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Research

- Comprehensive Study of the Great Hanshin Earthquake (Research Report Series; no. 12) to disseminate the lessons learned from the earthquake.

- Development of new training modules to support UNCRD's training activities:
 - The Local Social Development Programme (LSDP) formulated training materials for frontline workers who were providing people with livelihood and employment guidance.
 - The Disaster Management Programme developed an educational computer programme on earthquakes called "Quake Busters."
 - The Environment Management Programme developed "PANGAEA," which was a game-simulation-based training tool.

- Start publication of a second international journal called ***Regional Development Studies (RDS)*** in 1995.
- Regional Forums in Africa, Asia and Latin America which culminated into a Global Regional Development Policy Forum under the theme "Redefining Regional Development in a Changing World" (1998).

The Fourth Decade: 1999 – 2011

- UNCRD's operational structure: Human Security, Environment, and Disaster Management Planning as the main research areas.
- A new project on Human Security and Regional Development was initiated and UNCRD started with defining the concept of human security. Through its training activities, UNCRD has promoted this concept of human security as well as its assessment and concrete applications in regional development planning.
- In 2000, UNCRD-LAC initiated a Project on Human Security and Regional Development, with a wide diversity of research, assessments, training (in-country and international) activities, and publications implemented, in Colombia, Chile, Argentina, Peru, and Guatemala, in collaboration with governmental, academic and UN organizations, as UN/ECLAC, UNDP, 8 UN Agencies in Colombia, the UNESCO Chair on Human Security and Regional Development, OLAGI, the Blas Pascal University, the International Institute for Human Rights, among others.
- Between 2008 and 2011, UNCRD Africa Office, in partnership with Universities of Denver and Nairobi, conducted a research-cum-training project titled “Human Security and Conflict in northern Kenya”.

The Fourth Decade: 1999 – 2011

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- Environment: two thematic pillars established: Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) and 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle). Regional Forums on these themes were launched to disseminate specific concepts through expanding networks while assisting with the formulation of national strategies in selected countries.
- The UNCRD Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office was opened in Kobe in 1999: exclusively for training and research activities in the field of disaster management (in 2011, it was merged with Nagoya Office).

The Fourth Decade: 1999 – 2011

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Regional Development

- International Training Course in Regional Development (ITC) (2000-2010, 2012) and its follow-up projects (seminars and field study) in selected countries
- African Training Course on Local and Regional Development (Planning and Management) (ATC) (2000-2011)
- In-country Training Courses and Workshops in Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Namibia (1999-2011)
- In-country Training Courses and Workshops on Regional Development Management (and Human Security) in Colombia, Argentina, Chile, Guatemala and Peru (2001-2011)

The Fourth Decade: 1999 – 2011

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Environment Management

- First Thematic Training Course in Regional Development (Theme: Environmental Planning and Management) (2000)
- JICA/UNCRD Training Course on Urban Environment and Transportation (UET) (2004 - 2012)
- High-level Regional EST Forum in Asia (2005 - 2006, 2008 - 2013) and Regional Forum on Sustainable Transport (FTS) in LAC (2011)
- Asian Mayors' Policy Dialogue for the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Cities (2007)
- High-level Regional 3R Forum in Asia (2009 - 2013)
- Contributions were made to CSD-18 and CSD-19 by organizing Intersessional Consultative Meeting and International Conference on waste management;
- National 3R and EST Strategies were launched in several countries;
- Launching of International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA) at CSD-19 (2011);
- International forums and workshops on IPLA and Zero Waste in Republic of Korea, Colombia and Peru (2011-2012)

The Fourth Decade: 1999 – 2011

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Human Security

- Second Thematic Training Course in Regional Development (TTC) (Theme: Human Security and Regional Development) (2001)
- CPC-JICA-UNCRD Training Course in Local Development Planning and Management in Lao PDR (2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005)
- Workshop on Human Security Assessment in Cambodia and in Sri Lanka (2005)
- In-country and international Training Courses, Workshops and technical assistance on Human Security and Regional Development in Colombia and other countries in LAC (Argentina, Chile and Guatemala) (2001-2011)
- Human security assessments as inputs to local and regional development planning in the Bogotá-Cundinamarca region, and in the area affected by the Waste Landfill of Bogotá (2007-2010).
- Training to public officials and 8 agencies of the UN/System in Colombia on Human Security (2010-2011)
- Human Security and Conflict in northern Kenya (2010-2011).
- Building Capacity to Mainstream Sustainable Development Principles in National Policy-Making in Post-Conflict Countries of Africa, December 2011.

The Fourth Decade: 1999 – 2011

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Disaster Management

- International Symposium on Disaster Management (2004, 2006-2011)
- UNCRD Sessions in the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) held in Kobe (2005)
- School Earthquake Safety Initiative (SESI) workshops (1999-2010)
- Housing Earthquake Safety Initiative (HESI) workshops (2007-2011)

UNCRD New Strategy

Current and beyond: 2011 ~

UNCRD will organize its work into the following three pillars:

- **Integrated Regional Development Planning;**
- **Sustainable Urban Management; and**
- **Knowledge Management.**

UNCRD New Strategy

Current and beyond: 2011 ~

Voluntary Commitment at Rio+20 on IRDP:

The deliverables.

- Efficient knowledge Platforms in operation and effective South-South cooperation attained;
- Improved institutional capacity and commitment for sustainable regional development policy making, planning, management and monitoring, through sound capacity development activities;
- Improved integrated regional territorial plans prepared and projects of sustainable development formulated; and
- Improved regional and territorial policy and strategy in the countries