



# Thirty-Eighth International Training Course in Regional Development Completion Report

*Successful Completion of ITC 38 – Toward Sustainable and People-Centred Regional Development*

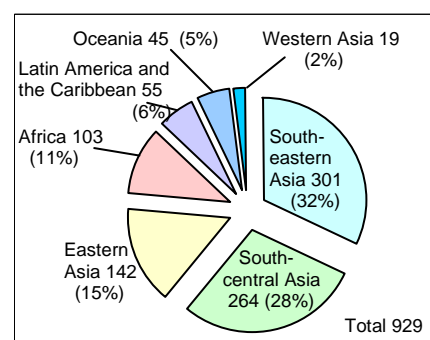
## ITC 38 Modules

- Module 1:**  
Orientation
- Module 2:**  
Environmental Management
- Module 3:**  
Human Security
- Module 4:**  
Socioeconomic Development and Governance
- Module 5:**  
Disaster Management
- Module 6:**  
Regional Development Planning and Management
- Module 7:**  
Synthesis

## Introduction

The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) has been promoting sustainable regional development through its training and research activities. As its flagship programme, it conducted the Thirty-Eighth International Training Course in Regional Development (ITC 38) in Nagoya from 24 May to 25 June 2010 with the participation of ten mid-level officials from the central and local governments of Colombia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Viet Nam, in collaboration with the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET). Among the ten participants, three were female and the one was from Samoa, the first during the past thirty-seven years of ITC. With the completion of ITC 38, the total number of alumni rose to 929 from seventy-two countries. The breakdown of ITC Alumni by region is shown in figure 1.

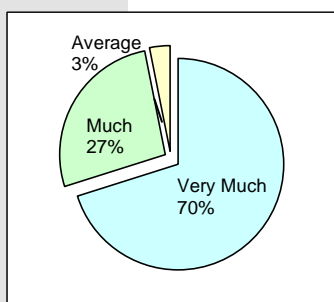
Figure 1. No. of ITC Alumni by Region (1972-2010)



Note: Figures in parentheses are percentages.



Figure 2. Result of Course Questionnaire (Extent course goals and objectives accomplished)



## Course Methodology/Goals and Objectives/Evaluation

This year, under the theme of “Sustainable Regional Development (SRD),” the course was structured around the seven modules indicated above. It used a participatory and output-oriented training method through a compact programme replete with lectures, cases for study and discussion as well as field visits to provide insights into Japan’s experience. The goal of ITC 38 was to contribute to capacity-building for regional development, with a special focus on the ability to deal with environment-, human secu-

rity-, and disaster-related issues. To achieve this goal, the course objectives set were: (a) to provide a venue for sharing and learning from country experiences; (b) to maximize learning potential gained by being located in Japan; and (c) to increase awareness on sustainable regional development. Judging from the results of the course evaluation questionnaire, the majority of participants were in agreement that all of the above goals and objectives were achieved, as indicated in figure 2.

## ITC 38 Completion Report

## Module Contents and Lessons Learned

### Module 1: Orientation/Module 2: Environmental Management

Following Module 1, which presented the socioeconomic background of Japan, Module 2 dealt with "Environmental Management," with a special focus on the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)/sustainable production and consumption (SP&C), environmentally sustainable transport (EST) as well as nature conservation. Through the module, participants reaffirmed the significance of environmental management, especially when addressing global issues such as climate change and the resource crisis. Specifically, through road auditing, the participants studied EST measures/elements and

nature conservation that coexist with urban design and development in Japan. Participants also learned about the food recycling business and visited a supermarket, compost producers, and farmers who worked together in composting leftover food collected from stores and then used it to produce agricultural products to be sold at the supermarket. The participants found residents' efforts in reducing and separating domestic waste as well as the private sector's recycling to be highly instructive as well as applicable to their countries.



In Front of Nagoya Station



Recyclables Collection Station



At the Michi-no-eki, Meiho



At Tomato Ketchup Factory

### Module 3: Human Security

Module 3 introduced the concept of "Human Security" and its application in programme/project planning and implementation for sustainable regional development. In the group exercise, participants learned how to identify vulnerable groups and what factors keep them in chronic poverty. They conducted a vulnerability analysis and capacity assessments by themselves based on their respective country cases. This module also introduced the important concept of "Endogenous Regional Development (EnRD)." EnRD is a regional development approach used to secure human security and it implies a process of development pro-

moted by the initiative of the local people using local resources based on local culture, traditions, and skills. As a case study in Japan, participants visited Meiho, Gifu Pref., which had faced various human security threats such as a shrinking and aging population. Meiho provided good example of applying EnRD approach in their village revitalization projects. Through this module, participants were able to enhance their awareness on human security concerns and also examine how they could incorporate human security into regional development planning and implementation in their countries.

### Module 4: Socioeconomic Development and Governance

Module 4 of "Socioeconomic Development and Governance" was a newly added module. Following the UNCRD Director's presentation on "Development and Sustainability," the lecture session on "Socioeconomic Development, Globalization, and Pro-poor Growth" was delivered to participants so that they could acquire knowledge on socioeconomic development for poverty reduction, emphasizing the importance of pro-poor growth. The case study also covered Japan's post-war experiences in social preparation, empowerment, capacity development as well as engaged governance for promoting ru-

ral/agricultural development such as agricultural/livelihood extension work system and agricultural cooperatives, all of which are relevant and applicable considering the present rural conditions in many of the developing countries. Participants visited Asume to study its uniquely combined policy and measures of social welfare and tourism promotion. Through the visit, they were impressed with their innovated way of thinking that the elderly should be regarded as not just service receivers but as important tourism/human resources, who can also provide service, to be fully utilized for local economic revitalization.

Lecture by Director



ITC 38 Participants



DRI



Maiko High School

## Module 5: Disaster Management

Module 5 was coordinated by the UNCRD Hyogo Office with a three-day field trip to Kobe City in Hyogo Pref., where participants learned the experiences and lessons of the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake first hand from those who had been affected there. They visited the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (DRI), Hokudan Earthquake Memorial Park, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), and the Disaster Management Section of Hyogo Prefectural Government to deepen their understanding of earthquakes and study their disaster management activities and post-quake

reconstruction efforts. Participants were impressed with the remarkable recovery promoted under the slogan of “Build Back Better” as well as the preparedness measures taken against natural disasters. In addition, they had exchanges with students of Maiko High School, which is the first high school ever to establish a Department of Environment and Disaster Management. Through this module, they acknowledged the importance of preparedness against natural disasters, in particular, at the community level as no one can prevent them.

## Module 6: Regional Development Planning and Management

Module 6 introduced the history of regional development and the current challenges and efforts made at each level of government in Japan. It also examined various aspects of regional development, including those that are institutional, managerial, physical, financial, economic, environmental, and social. After the introductory session on “Regional Development in Japan,” participants visited Kozoji New Town in Kasugai City, Aichi Pref. and Hachiman in Gujo City, Gifu Pref. to understand how regional development is being planned, implemented, monitored, and evaluated. Kozoji New Town is a case of a newly developed town while Hachiman is

creating a sustainable living environment based on its local resources and townscapes, in collaboration with local CBOs/residents. After the visits, participants were divided into three groups, to make more in-depth discussion and analysis of each case. They later made presentations on each government’s approaches and strategies from the viewpoint of sustainability. The participants heightened their understanding of how the participation of residents during the planning process can be secured through observing their activities called “Machizukuri”.



Workshop with Local CBOs

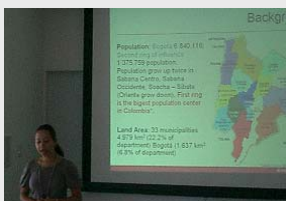


Hachiman Town

## Module 7: Synthesis

Module 7 began with a wrap-up session, which enabled participant to assimilate and digest what they had learned from Modules 1 to 6. They came to the conclusion that the sustainability of regional development cannot be pursued without securing human security, promoting environmental management as well as enhancing disaster preparedness at the same time. As a final and major output of the course, they formulated individual action plans which could be absorbed into their professional activities undertaken toward resolving their development issues and/or problems already identified in their country

case papers submitted to UNCRD prior the course, which were fully discussed and analysed during the course. At the conclusion, participants made a presentation on their action plans. Each presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session, in which respective action plan received comments and suggestions for improvement from UNCRD experts and fellow participants. After revisions were made based on the comments, the action plans were finalized and submitted officially to UNCRD. Action plan titles are listed on page 4.



Action Plan Presentation

## ITC 38 Completion Report

### Action Plans — Outputs of ITC 38

The participants formulated the following action plans:

- Capital Region Movement, An Initiative for Community in Movement (Colombia);
- Action Plan for Conducting Training on Sustainable Regional Development (Ethiopia);
- Revitalization of Kalimas River as a Sports and Recreation Area (Indonesia);
- Participatory Poverty Reduction in Samat-Xaisana Village Cluster, Xayyabouri District (Lao PDR);
- Safety Water Supply for Kyaikto (Myanmar);
- Poverty Reduction of Rural Communities in Tansen Municipality (Nepal );
- Action Plan for the Worst-Hit Coastal Communities of the Samoan Islands by the Tsunami of September 2009 (Samoa);
- Empowerment of Small Groups and Community Organizations in the Samurghi Program (Sri Lanka);
- Strengthening the Integration of Environment Protection, Human Security, and Disaster Management in the Development Process of Mityana District (Uganda); and
- Reducing Air Pollution Caused by Vehicles in the Urban Areas of Ho Chi Minh City (Viet Nam).

UNCRD is planning to dispatch follow-up missions to selected participants' countries technically to support their action plan implementation.

### Release of E-learning Material on EnRD

UNCRD incorporated its theory and case study of the EnRD approach into an e-learning material titled "Endogenous Regional Development with Community Initiatives," in collaboration with NHK International, Inc. and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). This material introduces the theory and the actual process of EnRD by presenting Japanese case examples, including that of former Oyama Town, Oita Prefecture; One Village One Product Movement (OVOP); former Yufuin Town, Oita Prefecture; former Meiho Village, Gifu Prefecture; Ikeda Town, Hokkaido Prefecture; and former Asuke Town, Aichi Prefecture. This multi-media type of material consists of texts, sounds, and images, and is quite an effective learning tool in terms of cost and being easy-to-understand as it is available both on the website and in DVD form.

### Prize Awarded to ITC Participants

UNCRD is pleased to announce that the Third IYSH Memorial Encouragement Prize was awarded to the Urban Development Resource Center (UDRC), which was established by past participants of UNCRD's ITC in July 2008. UDRC is an NGO set up in August 2005 as part of Ms. Enkhbayar Tsendendorj's efforts of implementing her action plan formulated as an output of UNCRD's ITC 32, with the aim of poverty reduction through improving the living environment in Ger areas in Mongolia based on active community participation and efforts. In order to further support her activity, UNCRD also trained UDRC members, Ms. Tsend-Auysh Baldandorj Borjigon (ITC 33) and Ms. Tuya Zorig (ITC 34), and organized ITC follow-up seminars for them in Mongolia in 2004, 2005, and 2007.

For more details, see:  
[http://www.uncrd.or.jp/tr/iysh\\_prize\\_award.htm](http://www.uncrd.or.jp/tr/iysh_prize_award.htm)

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