

Capacity building for DRR education to Students

On 21 June afternoon, Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, vice chairperson of Danang People's Committee (PC), had a meeting with Mr. Rajib Shaw, chairman of SEEDS Asia (Japan), to discuss the process and the result of the project "Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in School Education in Central Vietnam," which has been funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Duration of phase 1 of the project was from March 2010 to March 2011, and was from September 2011 to September 2013 for the phase 2.

At the meeting, Mr. Rajib Shaw first explained about the phase 1. SEEDS Asia has cooperated with Danang University of Technology to implement capacity building for schools about community-based disaster risk management at 4 elementary and secondary schools (Le Thanh Ton Secondary School, Tay Son Secondary School, Vo Thi Sau Elementary School, and Phan Dang Luu Elementary School). Phase 2 of the project has been implemented at 7 DRR core schools (Lê Thánh Tôn, Nguyễn Phan Vinh, Lê Lai, Nguyễn Văn Linh, Lâm Quang Thụ, Đinh Bộ Lĩnh, and Trần Bình Trọng). Those schools build a network on DRR and will be the DRR information center for other schools in Danang City, Hue, and Quang Nam. SEEDS Asia continued to cooperate with Danang Department of Education and Training (DOET) to organize a study tour for education staff in order to learn experience of DRR in Kesennuma City, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan in July 2012, with the purposes to maintain sustainability of the current project in Danang and prepare for next project in Quang Nam.



Mr. Nguyễn Ngọc Tuấn- vice chairman of Danang PC works with Mr. Rajib Shaw- chairman of SEEDS Asia (Japan)

Mr. Le Trung Chinh, director of DOET, found that DRR training help students understand disasters, develop skills in preparedness, and learn how to cope with disasters for reducing the impacts. Communication and sharing information are also necessary to prevent or recover from impacts of disasters in schools and communities. Success of project will be a premise to integrate this extracurricular activities into the main subjects at elementary and secondary schools in Danang.

On behalf of People's Committee, Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, vice chairman of Danang PC, highly appreciates the efficiency, meanings, and importance of the project. This is the first project focused on raising DRR awareness and skills for elementary and secondary schools in Danang City. Danang is very close to the river and the sea, facing high risk of disasters; flood and typhoon occur every year. However, Danang had not placed special importance on preparedness and measures against disasters. Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan said, "After DRR trainings are conducted, DRR skills of the students, the teachers, and the residents will be improved to be able to cope with disasters such as first aid, evacuation drill..."

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