

Report from
International Workshop
WATER AND DISASTERS
West Ontario, Canada
December 13, 14 2004

2nd IFNet General Meeting
January 19, 2005 Kobe, Japan

Akira Sasaki

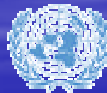
Deputy Director General
International Flood Network

International Workshop

WATER AND DISASTERS



International Hydrological Programme



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY



International Strategy
ISDR
for Disaster Reduction



UPPER THAMES RIVER
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Canada



Infrastructure
Canada

Canada



Public Safety and Emergency
Preparedness Canada

Sécurité publique et
Protection civile Canada



ICLR



Flood Control and Mitigation Measures

December 14, 2004

- **Opening address** – Junichi Yoshitani - UNESCO/CHARM
- **Flood hazard mapping project and cognition of public in Japan** -Tetsuya Ikeda, PWRI, Japan
- **Reducing water-related disasters through early warning systems** -Reid Basher, ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW), Bonn Germany
- **Discussions concerning the water related disasters – Report from IWRM international conference and the UN Secretary General’s advisory board on water and sanitation** -Hideki Sawa, Japan Water Forum

Flood Control and Mitigation Measures

December 14, 2004 (cont.)

- **Flood hazard mapping and early warning in the Caribbean**-Hideomi Oi, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)
- **Flood forecasting and hazard mapping project in the Caribbean region** -Herbert Thomas, Water Resources Authority, Jamaica
- **International flood network and Global Flood Alert System** -Akira Sasaki, IFNet

Flood Hazard Mapping and its Utilization for Flood Disaster Mitigation

Tetsuya IKEDA, Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)

- Flood hazard map-Functions and Effects
- New training course on Flood Hazard Mapping
- Research Activities
- Information Networking
- Future milestones of preparatory works



Reducing water-related disasters through early warning systems

Reid Basher, ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW), Bonn

- Disaster risks - rising and changing
- The UN's strategy - the ISDR
- New initiatives on early warning
- Early warning in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction outcome



Report from International Conference on IWRM and
UN Secretary General's advisory board on Water and
Sanitation 2nd meeting
Hideki SAWA, Japan Water Forum (JWF)

- Introduction of Japan Water Forum
- Outcome of the International Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management
- Urgent Appeal to the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation



FLOOD HAZARD MAPPING AND EARLY WARNING IN THE CARIBBEAN

Hideomi Oi, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)

- Vulnerability in the Caribbean
- Coping
- Flood hazard mapping through partnership of regional organizations
- Early warning through community operated system with simple equipment



FLOOD GAUGES
Blue = Watch mode
Orange = Alert mode
Red = Critical

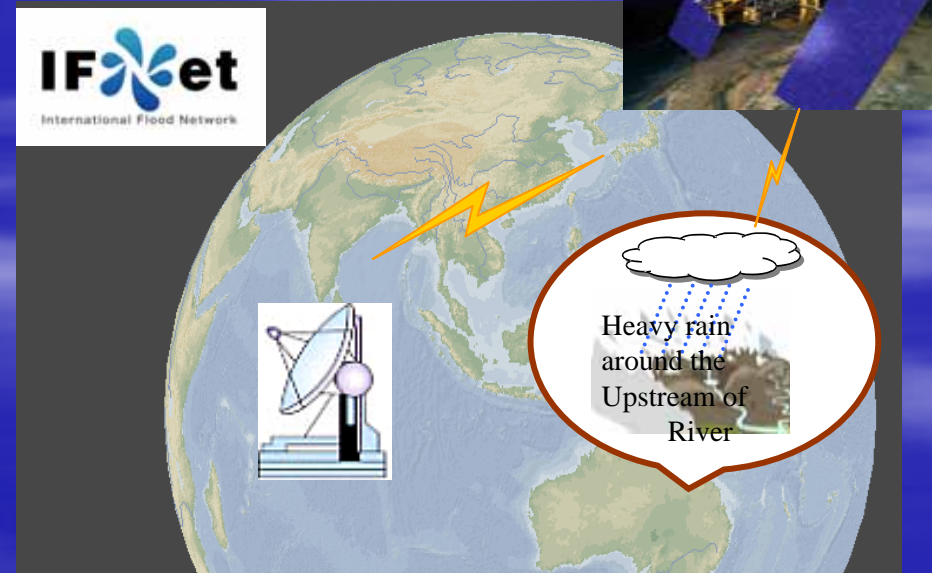
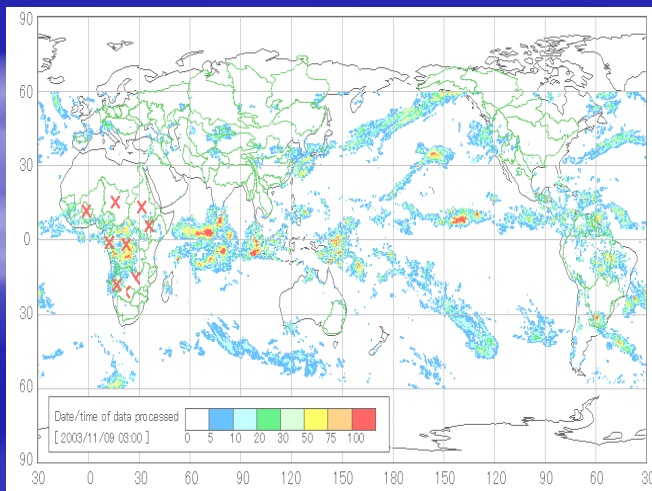


International Flood Network

- IFNet -

Akira Sasaki, Deputy Director General
IFNet Secretariat

- IFNet (International Flood Network)
- GFAS (Global Flood Alert System)



Key Issues

- In recent years flood disasters in terms of the number of affected people have been remarkably increasing. The reasons of the expansion of flood damage are considered to be in the urbanization into flood plains as well as increasing extreme weather events due to climate change. Since the urbanization is progressing with the socio-economic factors like development pressure and poor peoples' settlement in flood risk areas for which coordinated land utilization, poverty alleviation and so on are needed, it's ensuring that flood hazards will not abate soon.
- **Therefore comprehensive and integrated approaches with participation of relevant agencies and all stakeholders are the key to solutions.**

Recommendations

- Clarifying the role of national and local governments, private sectors, community, NGOs and individuals in flood disaster mitigation.
- Ensuring participation of all relevant stakeholders and especially those vulnerable to floods.
- Shifting of emphasis from reactive to proactive countermeasures such as advocacy of Flood Hazard Map.

Recommendations (cont.)

- Developing early warning system that contributes to prompt and proper actions in the face of flooding.
- Establishing of networking for information sharing and inter-regional cooperation towards enhancement of response capability of municipalities and local communities, including participation in IFNet.
- Cooperating with research/educational institutions such as UNESCO/CHARM to encourage capacity building and training.
- Appealing to the international society to further recognize the importance of addressing water related disasters as stated in the emergency appeal of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation

Thank you

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