



NEWS LETTER - Issue 5-

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The Capacity Development Project for Countermeasure Works for Landslide

ERA welcomes JICA's Mid-term Review Team for the Project

From 7 to 16 July, 2013, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mid-term Review Team visited Ethiopia to review the progress of "The Capacity Development Project for Countermeasure Works for Landslide" with ERA (Ethiopian Road Authority). Mr. Yoshihiro Kakishita, the leader of JICA Mid-term Review Team and two other members reviewed the overall progress and future direction of the project.

The team confirmed the progress and achievements so far of the Project are on schedule. The findings of the team were shared with the project stakeholders at the project's Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) meeting held on 16 July, 2013 at ERA Conference Room.



JCC5 at ERA Headquarter (Jul. 16th, 2013)

At the JCC, the activities in the first half of Phase2 of the Project were also reviewed and achievements, problems and ongoing countermeasure works were explained by Mr. Tsukamoto. Outline of budget for landslide countermeasure works in this Ethiopian Fiscal Year and possible reorganization of Landslide Task Unit (LTU) were presented by Mr. Alemayehu.

The JCC members confirmed to go forward with the planned activities.

Two Japanese Landslide Specialists visited Abay Gorge

Along with the review team, two well-known Japanese landslide specialists, Dr. Hiroshi Fukuoka from Kyoto University and Dr. Kazuya Akiyama from the Public Works Research Institute of Japan also came to review the past landslide-related interventions in Abay Gorge and to make technical proposals and recommendations for the latter half of the Project.



Dr. Fukuoka receiving Press interview in Abay



Dr. Fukuoka lecturing at Addis Ababa University

During their stay in Ethiopia, lectures on landslide mechanism and introduction of landslide study in Japan by Dr. Hiroshi Fukuoka, and landslide monitoring in Abay Gorge by Mr. Letta Alemayehu from Geological Survey of Ethiopia (GSE) have been conducted towards students of Addis Ababa University on 15 July, 2013.

From the Recent Activities in Abay

Countermeasure works in Abay Gorge have been carried out at Sta.00km landslide site. Main countermeasures are drainage drilling by horizontal drilling machine and construction of drainage channel in the middle part of the landslide. Mr. Bruk, head of horizontal drilling crew, has continued the operation smoothly with the support of Japanese expert, Mr. Miyaguchi. Horizontal drilling work has been completed at Sta.00km and ground water has been observed from some of the drainage pipe. Discharging ground water reduces pressure within the underground mass and lowers the risk of landslide at this location. However, the drainage channel construction is still on progress.

At Sta.27km landslide, one of the most serious points, reshaping the road slope, constructing ditches and resetting gabions have been carried out after discussions between Design team and Construction team. Temporal countermeasure works were planned to be completed before this rainy season.



Japanese expert instructing maintenance at site

Regular Check-up of the Slopes

ERA counterparts and JET have conducted the regular check-up of slopes on Abay road to check the current condition of the problematic road sections which have possibility of slope disaster. The target of the check-up is around 150 slopes which have been identified on the landslide hazard map of Abay road by the Geological Survey of Ethiopia. The slopes were inspected mainly about its condition of rocks or surface soil on the slope and hydrological condition on the site. The result of the check-up is compiled on a specific format and stored on the database. The regular check-up will be conducted periodically, such as before and after every rainy season. The manual for the regular check-up and slope inspection is being prepared by JET.



Regular Check on the Site

The result of the periodical regular check-up is used for monitoring the problematic slope condition, detecting possibility of the slope disaster and making a plan of the countermeasure works. The check-up contributes to the maintenance and management of the road.

The regular check and the slope inspection can be instructed with the manual to the other district offices of ERA by the LTU.