



## News Letter No.1

# The Project for Building Disaster Resilient Societies In Central Region in Vietnam

March 10, 2010

## 1. Introduction

Last year, Central Vietnam was hit by Typhoon Ketsana and heavily damaged. Central Vietnam is vulnerable for floods and has been frequently damaged by natural hazards. The natural condition of this area is featured by a short distance between mountain and sea, water related hazards by tropical cyclones, steep mountains, etc. This natural condition is similar to Japan, so the experience and knowledge in Japan can be useful for building disaster resilient societies in this region.

The project “The Project for Building Disaster Resilient Societies In Central Region in Vietnam” has been carried out by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency). The main purpose of this project is to enhance the community – centered disaster management (CCDM) system in 3 central Vietnam provinces (T.T.Hue, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai). The project was started in March 2009 and continues to February 2012. The 1<sup>st</sup> year activity has been finished and the 2<sup>nd</sup> year activity is starting now.

Various fields of JICA experts will be involved in this project. These experts will cooperate with Vietnamese counterparts and related organizations to conduct various activities. Most of the JICA experts are engineers, scientists and researchers. The main feature of this project is “Technical (Engineering) Oriented Project”.

Four main outputs (Capacity development of the personnel and organizations, Formulation of integrated a flood management plan, Community disaster management, and River bank erosion control) are expected in this project. This first newsletter will explain the outline of these 4 outputs and the plan from now.



Typhoon Ketsana



Huong River (T.T. Hue)



Thu Bon River (Quang Nam)

## 2. Capacity development of personnel and organizations

Capacity development of the people and organizations from country level to commune level shall be carried out. One long term expert will remain in Hue and carry out technical transfer through daily work. Further, all JICA experts will carry out technical transfer through their activities and seminar / lecture / training. In this output, the following 3 types of training courses will be established.

1) Implement training courses in Hanoi or Da Nang targeting provincial staffs

Three training courses (for example: River bank protection, Community Disaster management, Hazard map) will be established. In this year, some training materials will be prepared and TOT (Training of Trainers) will be conducted.

2) Training courses in Hue and Quang Nam targeting related persons from province to village  
Basic (wide and various) knowledge / technique of natural disaster shall be studied. In this year, some training materials will be prepared and TOT (Training of Trainers) will be conducted.

3) Hold various specific seminars related to disaster management

Various specific seminars and training relating to natural disasters shall be conducted by JICA short term experts. For example, themes such as “Dam operation and floods”, “Natural disaster and mass communication” are expected.



Workshop at Hanoi, July 2009



Counterpart Training in Japan, Nov. 2009

## 3. Integrated Flood Management Plan

Integrated flood management pursues reduction of flood disasters by a combination of hard measures and soft measures. Hard measures are composed of the dams, dykes, etc. Soft measures are composed of warning, land use, forest conservation and the concept of “living with floods”. The plan in two river basins (Hung river and Thu Bon river) will be formulated in this project.

Data collection, field reconnaissance etc. were conducted in the last year. Flood simulations shall be conducted using this information in this year. Global climate change such as rainfall and sea level change shall be considered in this simulation. Further, hazard maps for floods, bank erosion and land slides shall be prepared in this output. The activity for this output shall be started in April and simulation and hazard map preparation shall be finished in September of this year.

An integrated flood management plan shall be formulated next year considering this year’s output.

## 4. Community Disaster Management

Community activity is very important to reduce natural disaster damage. The CBDRM (Community Based Disaster Risk Management) activities shall be carried out under the technical cooperation of all the JICA experts.

The activities in this year shall be done mainly in the pilot project area. The following 8 pilot project communities have been selected last year through site reconnaissance, data collection, and discussion in the communities. The activities in the communities are composed of flood marking, warning evacuation drills, hazard map preparation, various training etc. Activities shall be carried out from May to September in this year. An evacuation drill will be conducted in September.

Construction of an evacuation house, roads and preparation of a manual, as well as disaster management plan formulation is expected in the next year.

Pilot Project Communes for Community Disaster Management

T.T. Hue	Quang Nam	Quang Ngai
Kim Ngoc Ward, La Khe Bai Ward in Huong Tho Commune	Thanh Xuyen Ward in Duy Thu Commune	Phuoc Loc Ward in Duc Phu Commune
Luu Hien Hoa in Phong My Commune	Trung Ha Ward in Cam Kim Commune	Group 12 of Chau Tu Ward in Binh Nguyen Commune
Com Bai Group in An Xuan Ward of Quang An Commune	Ward # 3 in Tien Loc Commune	



Survey in the Community

Gathering in the community

## 5. River Bank Protection

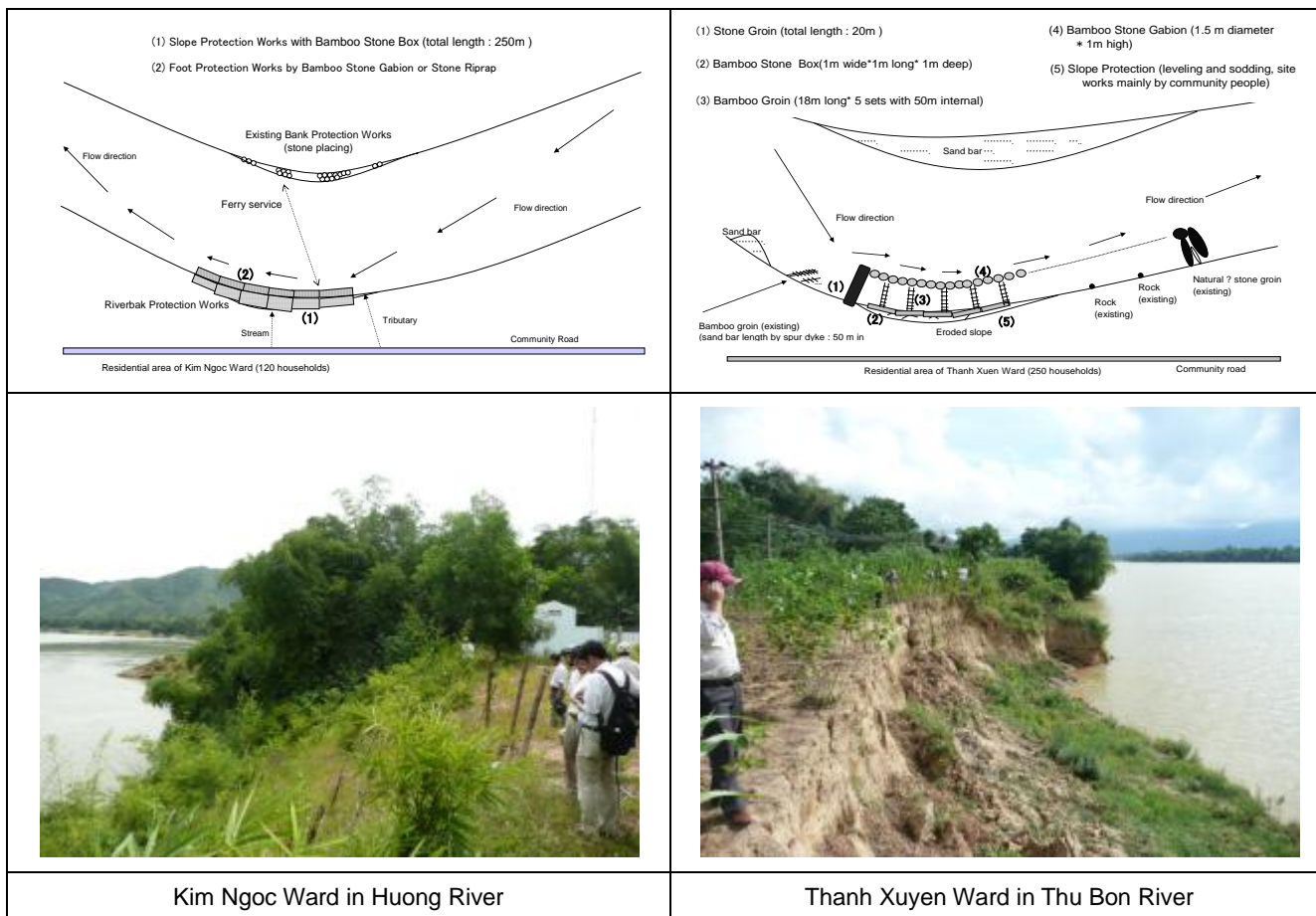
River banks in central Vietnam have been heavily damaged (eroded) by floods. Low cost and small scale river bank protection measures shall be carried out using Japanese and Vietnamese traditional methods.

The following 2 pilot project sites and measures have been selected last year through site reconnaissance, data collection, field interview and technical analysis. These 2 sites coincide with the community pilot project sites above. It is expected this river bank protection pilot work will be done with cooperation of local residents.

The construction of the pilot project shall be conducted in this year. Construction shall be completed



in September of this year. Formulation / revision of the manual and standards for river bank protection in Vietnam shall be conducted in the next year.



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