Cooperating Organization Report of
UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA

Submitted by

Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research Initiative, (SEADPRI), UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA

(For Agenda Item 4)
1. Summary

A MoU for cooperation between CCOP and UKM has been in effect since 19 July 2007. The signing of the MoU between CCOP and UKM and its subsequent elevation to Cooperating Organization was strongly supported and facilitated by the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the CCOP, the Director General of the Department of Mineral and Geoscience Malaysia (JMG).

Many activities have been jointly undertaken between UKM and CCOP over the past decade under the auspices of JMG. The activities were organized to recognize the importance of regional cooperation and build capacity of geoscientists in addressing issues related to regional sustainable development. Some programmes were carried out under the Malaysia Window to Cambridge at UKM (MW2C@UKM) training workshop series. It gives particular emphasis on capacity-building to young and early career researchers in Malaysia and the region, in skills to do with atmospheric science and climate change, particularly the proficiencies that Malaysia and the region require for future disaster prevention.

The regional conferences, workshops and trainings jointly carried out were aimed to enhance the capacity of geologists on the subjects of geohazards and risk communication, emerging disasters and climate-induced geohazards, as well as conservation geology and geoheritage. Highlights of some of the current initiatives will be thematically on:

a) geohazards, disaster resilience city & disaster risk reduction; and
b) geoparks, geoheritage & geotourism

2. Review of current technical activities and geoscience programmes in the CCOP Region (Multilateral or Bilateral)

Joint activities between CCOP and UKM focus on building the capacity of geoscientists in expanding geoscience to support sustainable development. These activities were made possible with the collaboration JMG, Asian Network on Climate Science and Technology (ANCST), Newton Ungku Omar Fund’s Disaster Resilient Cities: Forecasting Local Level Climate Extremes and Physical Hazards for Kuala Lumpur project partners, University of Cambridge, Langkawi Research Centre and Geological Heritage Group of Malaysia (KWGM).

The activities carried out since July 2018, were mainly on 2 main themes:
A. Geohazards, disaster resilience city & disaster risk reduction:

UNDRR Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:

- SEPT 2018| Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM): Orientation and Training Workshop Series II. Supporting the National Disaster Management Agency to build capacity and coordinate key government agencies involved in SFM data input for Malaysia
- FEB 2019| National Workshop on Sendai Framework Monitoring. The national workshop was organised to discuss on the data availability across relevant ministries, ranging from 2005 until 2015 and emphasize the participation of all stakeholders in the reporting system to the national focal point on disaster risk reduction.

Trainings and Workshop on DRR and Climate Change:

- SEPT 2018| Malaysia Window to Cambridge at UKM (MW2C@UKM) Series - Workshop on Geohazards and Disaster Risk Reduction, with special session on Science Communication for Geoscientists. Held in conjunction with the National Geoscience Conference 2018 (NGC 2018). The Malaysia Window to Cambridge at UKM (MW2C@UKM) funded young scientists from Asia to participate in the event. the two days of technical sessions followed by a field visit on the final day is to build the capacity of scientists from Malaysia and the region on hazards assessment for disaster risk reduction. There was a special focus on communication of risks.
- NOV 2018| Workshop on Status of Climate Science and Technology in Asia. ANCST led this workshop on behalf of the IPCC, in collaboration with the APN and ISC-ROAP. The event provided a training platform for the young scientist from the region to connect with senior scientists as well as authors working on Asian issues in the IPCC AR6 cycle. Trainees sponsored by MW2C had opportunity to show-case their talents to IPCC authors and be considered as IPCC Reviewers, Contributing Authors and Chapter Scientists.
- NOV 2018| Conference on Flood Catastrophes in a Changing Environment II. ANCST was a joint-convenor of the conference following the first one held in 2016. The event provided a forum for researchers and managers to share the latest research findings on floods in tropical areas to improve understanding of driving mechanisms, approaches for mitigation and good practices on flood management.
- MAR 2019| Workshop on Modelling Atmospheric Oceanic Processes for Weather and Climate Extremes. ANCST led the workshop with aims to provide platform to understand the operational needs and determination of focus of research on the immediate challenges of predicting extreme weather events. The workshop also provide opportunity for the young scientist from Asia to showcase their work in the region.
- APRIL 2019| Workshop on Disaster Risk Communication: Exploring Options to Nurture Informed Society. The workshop covers sharing insights from the experienced speakers on handling crises and disasters
- APRIL 2019| SEADPRI-FORUM: The Special IPCC Report on 1.5 deg C: Implications for Southeast Asia. The annual flagship, SEADPRI Forum was hosted by the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM). The 2019 Forum was led by Prof. Mark Howden from the Australian National University and Vice Chair of Working Group II of IPCC. He presented key findings of the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C.
B. Geoparks, geoheritage & geotourism:

- OCTOBER 2018 | Regional Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2018. Theme: Geotourism & Community Participation. Langkawi UNESCO Global Geoparks, Malaysia. Jointly organized by Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network, Global Geopark Network and Langkawi Research Centre UKM. The training targeted mainly geopark staff members and individual working. The aims, on Sustainable Geopark Management and to ensure that the true GGN concept of sustainable development is cascaded down to the geopark managers/administrators as well as connecting Geopark Managers in this region to share their experience, challenges, and best practices in steering their respective Geoparks towards achieving sustainable development goal vision of the Geopark Concept.

3. Proposed future activities and assistance to CCOP in support to current and future activities

Indexed Publication

- Every year in CCOP annual session, there are many manuscripts of significant findings presented. They can be elevated to a wider audience, visibility, availability, and readership through publishing in indexed journals of leading databases. Indexing can greatly expand the reach of an article and improve the chances of being read, shared, and cited online. It helps more scholars discover the published articles.

- Proposal for thematic publication on hazards (i.e. natural hazards, landslides or natechs) to be published as a series of papers in the journal of The Bulletin of the Geological Society of Malaysia. The initiative can be carried out with the Geological Society of Malaysia, the publisher of The Bulletin of the Geological Society of Malaysia, an open access, a double-blind peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal, which publishes Earth Science research. The Bulletin is indexed in the following abstracting and indexing services and databases: Scopus, ASEAN Citation Index (ACI), Malaysian Citation Index (MyCite), Ebsco and AAPG Datapages.

- UKM (SEADPRI) is willing to facilitate the manuscript compilation and communication between authors and the journal publisher,

Activities

i. Regional Geoheritage Conference 2019: Celebrating Earth’s Legacy through Geoheritage. Organised by Langkawi Research Centre, Geological Heritage Group of Malaysia (KWGM) and Dept. of Mineral and Geoscience Malaysia (JMG). In collaboration with DMR Thailand, Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Indonesia, Langkawi UNESCO Geopark and Geological Society of Malaysia. Inviting geoscientist, administrators and policy makers, social scientist, entrepreneur and educationist who involved actively in the work of establishing, promoting, conserving and enhancing geoheritage in their country to share their experience and knowledge at this coming conference. Date & Venue: 25-27 September 2019, Kuching, Sarawak

ii. The Second National Conference aims to strengthen science, technology and innovation on disaster risk reduction in Malaysia, convened by the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA Malaysia), Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia’s Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research
Initiative (SEADPRI-UKM), with support from key partners. The aim of the Conference is to provide an insight into the state of disaster risk reduction (DRR) in Malaysia, in relation to climate change and sustainable development. This Conference also serves as the national platform for exchange of good practices in DRR among researchers and practitioners. In Malaysia, the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA Malaysia) is Focal Point for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030. Date & Venue: 14 – 15 October 2019, Kuala Lumpur www.ukm.my/sti4drr

iii. Workshop on Building Disaster and Climate Resilience in Cities - Call for Participation of Young Scientists. The primary aim is to expand participation and coverage of scientific information on cities, particularly in the tropics. The Workshop is part of a series of initiatives to strengthen Asian contribution to the IPCC AR6 cycle and prepare for the next assessment cycle. Date & Venue: 15 – 16 October 2019, Kuala Lumpur.

iv. 2nd Workshop on Asian Urban Meteorology and Climate. This workshop therefore attempts to provide a platform for practitioners, scientists and stakeholders to discuss the different aspects of urban meteorology and climate especially the Asian situations. Date & Venue: 17 – 19 October 2019, Hong Kong.

v. 2020 Asia Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction. Malaysia will host the 2020 Asia Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Asia Pacific Science Technology and Academia Advisory Group (APSTAG), whose members play a crucial role in strengthening regional networking and providing advice and insight to boost national science and technology capacities. The 2020 Asia Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction aims to provide an opportunity to the science, technology, and academia community in Asia and the Pacific to continue the much-needed science-policy dialogue to ensure that implementation of disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures are based on reliable science, technology and innovation. There will be a focus on the application of science, technology and innovation for local and inclusive action to build disaster resilience in the face of growing disaster risks and a changing climate. Date & Venue: 16-17 March 2020, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia http://www.ukm.my/apstcdrr

4. Reports/publications of technical activities for dissemination to CCOP Member Countries