



Launching of the MyBahaya Platform at the 36th National Geoscience Conference

The IDRC Project will launch the MyBahaya Platform, a web-based application to collate information on hazards from the community. The platform will be launched at a workshop on 7th November 2023 to empower young geoscientists during the 36th National Geoscience Conference (NGC 2023) convened by IDRC Project partner, the Geological Society of Malaysia. The workshop will focus on engaging geoscientists in the region to recognize and investigate hazards and facilitate effective collaboration with the community.

This ensures the delivery of accurate and comprehensible information to those who need it. Other initiatives that will be featured include open street mapping projects supporting decision-making processes and updates on the Cambodia pilot site. Fieldwork will be conducted with support of the Mineral and Geoscience Department of Malaysia. It includes a geological disaster awareness session at Bukit Antarabangsa, Ampang involving Slope Watch Bukit Antarabangsa, a local NGO group. The session will involve local residents testing out the MyBahaya app to strengthen disaster risk reduction at the community level.



The NGC 2023 is an annual flagship convened by the Geological Society of Malaysia, a partner of the IDRC Project

Pathways for scaling up findings of the IDRC Project

Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) is an international scientific programme cosponsored by the International Science Council (ISC) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). The International Programme Office (IPO) of IRDR is supported by China Association of Science and Technology (CAST), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Aerospace Information Research Institute (AIR) of CAS. Seadpri-UKM, the proponent institution of the IDRC Project, is an IRDR International Centre of Excellence for Disaster Risk and Climate Extremes (IRDR ICoE-SEADPRI-UKM).

The IRDR is embarking on its second decade of operations, which offers opportunities for findings of the IDRC Project to be scaled up at the global level. A bilateral session held with IRDR Science Officer, Ms. Fang Lian revealed several pathways for scaling-up products from the IDRC Project. Tangible achievements in promoting social entrepreneurship could be shared with a broader audience by project researchers with seed-funding from the IRDR. In addition, lessons learnt from conducting the project could be documented via the IRDR Working Paper Series, for dissemination among the global disaster risk community.



Ms. Fang Lian (far right) met with key members of the IDRC Project to share new developments in the global landscape of disaster risk reduction.



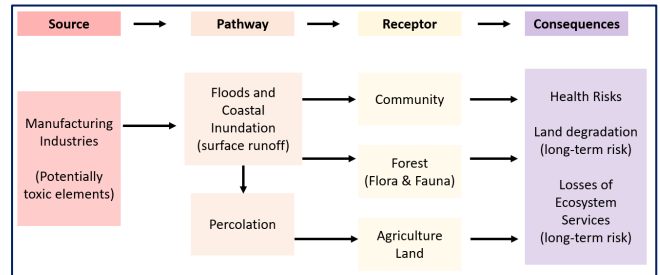


Highlights on Research and Networking

The year 2023 highlights the completion of the study on climate and pollution hazards in the Selangor River Basin, Malaysia. IDRC Project researcher Nurul Syazwani Yahaya has successfully defended her thesis. Her findings revealed that 66 manufacturing industry sites are exposed to floods, 38 are exposed to landslides and 6 are exposed to coastal hazards in Kuala Selangor. The proposed recommendations are ensuring resilience to emerging climate, which includes construction of retaining walls at exposed industrial sites, government’s strategic policy and hazard warning systems, community awareness and actions, as well as risk communication by subject matter experts from academia and professional bodies.

An offshoot Ph.D research project has commence in Kuala Selangor undertaken by Dayang Nor Izan Abang Hali. The focus is on the climate hazards and human mobility nexus due to impacts of sudden or slow-onset events. Factors that may induce internal migration or relocation, which may be temporary, seasonal or permanent among the community is being investigated. The study draws on findings from the IDRC Project on susceptible areas in Kuala Selangor. Slow-onset hazards such as sea-level rise causes permanent losses of land area and coastal settlements, and this will prompt permanent migration, either within the country or to another country. Preliminary findings reveal that Malaysia is projected to be a main destination in the region for migrants and refugees. The socioeconomic implications and readiness to accept migrants is being determined, among communities in Kuala Selangor, who are also susceptible to sea-level rise.

IDRC Project researcher, Navakanesh M Batmanathan was selected to participate in the National Geographic Explorer Leadership Workshop, which took place at Eaton hotel, Hong Kong between 22nd May to 26th May 2023. The leadership workshop commenced with a virtual preparation followed by an in-person spotlight event. It culminated with several in-person activities. The explorer meet-up opened up the potential for collaboration and discussions on key issues. The on-going initiative in providing immediate and long-term aid to local climate refugees in the Philippines was featured. In addition, facilitation of youth-oriented conferences, clean-ups and workshops to improve education and action on plastic pollution was also highlighted. The event served as an inspiration for the IDRC Project to spotlight its collaborative work within Southeast Asia to abate emerging climatic hazards and its cascading impacts.



The SPRC Framework was proposed for Kuala Selangor, which is under the influence of floods and coastal inundations. The PhD work conducted by Ms. Nurul Syazwani Yahaya was supported by the IDRC Project (Source: N.S. Yahaya 2023)



Human migration pathways to Malaysia from the region (Source: D.N.I.A. Hali 2023)



IDRC Project researcher, Navakanesh M Batmanathan, joined 30 explorers at the National Geographic Explorer Leadership Workshop in Hong Kong.

