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Workshop on Disaster Resilient Cities: Risk Assessment and Forecasting of Geophysical and Atmospheric Hazards

9-10 March 2017, Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur

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SEADPRI-Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

The Workshop on Disaster Resilient Cities: Risk Assessment and Forecasting of Geophysical and Atmospheric Hazards was held on 9 and 10 March 2017 in Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur. The Workshop was supported by the Newton-Ungku Omar Fund (NUOF) under the administration of Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) and Innovate-UK. This inaugural Workshop for the NUOF Project was jointly organized by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia's Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research Initiative (SEADPRI-UKM), City Hall of Kuala Lumpur (DBKL), National Disaster Management Disaster Agency (NADMA), Town and Country Planning Department Peninsular Malaysia (JPBD), Geological Society of Malaysia (GSM), Asian Network on Climate Science and Technology (ANCST) and others partners.

The Workshop commenced with an officiating keynote by YBhg. Datuk Hj. Mohd Najib bin Hj. Mohd, Executive Director of Planning on behalf of the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur. In his speech, YBhg. Datuk emphasized the importance of strengthening the role of DBKL in nurturing strong alliances and participation of stakeholders at the local level to enhance disaster risk reduction in the city. More than 100 participants comprising technical representatives including risk assessors, planners, engineers and geologists from various cities in Malaysia attended the Workshop. A total of 22 papers were presented by invited speakers from Malaysia and United Kingdom.

The first session of the Workshop was on Regulator's Perspective on Building Resilient Cities. This session provided an overview on the guidelines for land-use planning, the uniform building bylaws and standards for disaster resilient infrastructure for cities as well as an insight to integrated management for geophysical hazards. The second session was on the Geophysical Hazards-Risk Assessment and Forecasting Approaches in Cities. This session covered aspects of landslides and floods, case studies on hazard susceptibility mapping and slow-onset hazards as well as challenges in modelling landslides hazards and flash floods in cities. The third session on Atmospheric Hazards-Risk Assessment and Forecasting Approaches in Cities focused on forecasting air quality and extreme temperatures in cities, urban micro-climate and building design as well as challenges in modelling atmospheric hazards in cities. The final session on Stakeholders' Perspective on Building Resilience highlighted health impact assessments, communication of risks to the city planners and explored the potential architectural blueprint for multi-hazards forecast. The Workshop concluded with a discussion on pathways for building disaster resilience in cities. The Workshop enabled a review of existing approaches for modelling hazards in cities and indirectly appraised the availability of key information for developing new approaches.


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A token of appreciation was presented by Mr. Mohd Zakwan Zabidi (**left**), Vice President of MIGHT to YBhg. Datuk Hj. Mohd Najib Hj. Mohd (**right**), Executive Director of Planning, who delivered the officiating keynote on behalf of the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur.



Participants of the Workshop comprised technical representatives from various cities in Malaysia including risk assessors, planners, engineers and geologists.



Moderators and presenters of the first session discussing the challenges for building disaster resilience in cities.



Dr. Helen J Reeves of British Geological Survey, United Kingdom presented a paper on integrated management of geophysical hazards in cities.



Professor Joy Jacqueline Pereira (**left**) and YBhg. Datin Paduka Dr. Halimaton Saadiah Hashim (**middle**) moderated the discussion on pathways for building disaster resilience in cities. Dr. Mazrura Sahani (**far right**) presented the challenges on health impact assessment in cities.



The Workshop was closed by Ms. Ida Semurni Abdullah Ali, the Programme Director of MIGHT.