



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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Session 3

**Report on Seminar on Leveraging Information and  
Communication Systems for Enhancing Supply  
Chain Resilience to Disasters in APEC**

Submitted by: Thailand



**8<sup>th</sup> Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum  
Beijing, China  
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**The Brief Summary of the Thailand's EPWG Project**  
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**for 8<sup>th</sup> Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum**  
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On 19-20 June 2014, Thailand hosted “the Seminar on Leveraging Information and Communication Systems for Enhancing Supply Chain Resilience to Disasters in APEC” in Bangkok. It is an APEC-funded project under EPWG. The seminar aimed to share knowledge and experience on the use of ICT in disaster management. It was well-attended by about 125 participants from public agencies, private enterprises as well as academic sector from several APEC economies.

At the beginning, we had some problems identifying the expert speakers, as the use of ICT in disaster management is quite a new issue. However, with great help from the EPWG Co-chair, member economies, and the program director, we managed to find 12 expert speakers from several APEC economies as well as international organizations.

We had 2 speakers from UNESCAP and the Asia Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to share their knowledge and experience, 4 speakers from the public agencies, and 5 speakers from the private sectors including SMEs. Dr. Alan Bollard, the APEC Executive Director was also presented and delivered an opening remark at the seminar as part of his official visit to Thailand. We, therefore, would like to take this opportunity to thank China, the United States, Japan and Chinese Taipei for nominating speakers for our seminar.

For Thailand's part, I co-presented with Mrs. Auras Paenghom, from Raydant International, on how the government agency and a private enterprise could cooperate in disaster management.

The gist of the seminar is as follows;

(I) The speakers from the public sector emphasized on the need to ensure uninterrupted dissemination of necessary information to the public and a well-functioning ICT infrastructure in time of crises, as well as involvement of local communities in the process. The Disaster Risk Reduction Portal of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and National Natural Disaster Information Management System in China, and the use of mobile TV as part of the warning system in Japan are excellent cases in this aspect.

(II) The speakers from the private sector focused on ensuring its business continuity through business continuity plans (BCPs). They also make use of social networks like LINE and SMS in the first stage of emergency in an efficient manner.

(III) We also learned how multinational companies could have a role in disaster management. For example, Google has developed its own Crisis Response System and

DHL has a program to provide humanitarian logistics such as sorting the in-kind donations which could be a burden to a national airport. Apparently, DHL's program is in line with the US' presentation on donation guidelines yesterday, and the case of DHL and Google are good public-private partnership and cooperation models on humanitarian effort which APEC economies could learn from.

We are now in the process of making the post-seminar handbook, which should be finalized and distributed before the end of this year. The handbook would be divided into 3 sections; the background situation, the efforts from the public agencies and the works of the private sector. We will circulate the first draft of the handbook to EPWG members for comments at the first opportunity.

Thank you once again for your active and constructive participation in our seminar. We sincerely hope that what we have learned during the seminar would help promote the use of ICT in disaster management across Asia-Pacific. We will keep you informed of the status of this project and work with you intersessionally.