

**APriGF Summary Report**  
**Workshop: Internet for Disaster Relief and Recovery**  
**June 17, 2011**  
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First, we heard the status of relief works of providing Internet and related services. of reconstructing network connectivity and services in the devastated areas from Japan.

The earthquake and the Tsunami in March in Japan was the largest disaster of any kind in Japan after WW II. It indicated how important the use of ICT as social infrastructure and how vulnerable our lives are.

There were several efforts led by group of engineers and others from the Internet Community, ISP association, and also pro bono platform, to which I am one of the coordinators, to help coordinate various informational activities. Three speakers reported about these activities. One observation is that the need for “multi-stakeholder” relief works is obvious, but the governance framework is not there yet in Japan.

Deborah Nga (Public Policy & Government Affairs, Southeast Asia, Google) then presented Google’s informational support work for the Japanese people including the PersonFinder, publishing the satellite images before and after the quake to provide authoritative data to public. These are carried over from earthquake in Haiti and Christchurch, among others.

Valens Riyadi (Head of NIR, APJII, Indonesia) presented the lessons form Indonesia about their activities dealing with Tsunami in 2004 around Ache. Airputhi Foundation a non-profit body was established to work on these relief works for other earthquake and volcano eruption disasters. Sending troops onsite, setup WiFi/WiMax connections and terminals, media center, SMS Code, etc editors etc to collect, disseminate and share information.

Lessons learned:

***Preparation is a must***

***Immediate response be activated, Utilize local resources***

***Collaboration with government, NGO, local society essential, not easy***

***IT skills in wide range technology is needed***

Questions from the floor included the role of SMS and authenticity of the messages during the earthquake in Japan. There are mixed observation about their role and the authenticity. The discussion then went to extract common lessons and come up with possible proposals

for the working framework of the regional international cooperation and coordination for the disaster relief works using and providing ICT services.

The conclusions are as follows:

The first and foremost lesson is – “be prepared” – like APJII in Indonesia who took lessons from Ache, bringing in these to other disasters. We need to exercise disaster management by IT/Internet before these events happen, not after.

The second lesson or conclusion, the bottom line, is Action. Let’s start today to form a new “multi-stakeholder” partnership, or basis for that for the CIIP, extend that to the protection against natural disasters. Covering Asia and Pacific, at least, in Multi-stakeholder framework.

Thank you for all the excellent contributions.