

Capacity for the development of societal resilience to disasters

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ASCENT project's UK project meeting was held in September at the University of Huddersfield, UK. 30 academics and practitioners go together in further framing up the project activities. They included representatives from: University of Central Lancashire, UK; Lund University, Sweden; Mid Sweden University, Sweden; Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania; Tallinn Institute of Technology, Estonia; University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka; University of Colombo, Sri Lanka; University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka; Naresuan University, Thailand; Chiang Mai University, Thailand; Dhaka University, Bangladesh; PSTU University, Bangladesh; BRAC University, Bangladesh; and Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities, Sri Lanka.



Photo: ASCENT UK team meeting

At the meeting, each Asian University partner presented their R&I Capacity Institutional Reports and representatives from each Asian partner country presented their national reports. Discussions then continued on the initial ideas of the functional requirements for the development of research infrastructure to support implementation of the project and provide sustainable capacity development. A detailed discussion on the Base Line Survey results were held followed by mapping of the baseline survey results with the training plan. There were detailed discussions on training plans based on each Work Package and subsequently consensus was arrived at followed by discussions on draft plans.



Photos (above and below): discussions on Work Packages



ASCENT (Advancing Skill Creation to ENhance Transformation), a project funded by the European Union aims to strengthen research and innovation capacity for the development of societal resilience to disasters. The project will also support training, skills, leadership development, international collaboration and university-industry partnerships. It will strengthen the ability of higher education to respond to research needs in disaster resilience. It will also empower individuals and organisations with the skills, competencies and credentials needed to continue to pursue research, and to lead research at institutions, aimed at reducing the impact of disasters.



Further details can be read at: www.disaster-resilience.net/ascent (<http://www.ascent.disaster-resilience.net/>)

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