

# Disaster Reduction Training Activities of the World Meteorological Organization

Within the context of the IDNDR, the World Meteorological Organization takes a leading role concerning the mitigation of disasters caused by: tropical cyclones, floods, tornadoes and severe thunderstorms, other severe weather phenomena such as extreme temperatures, high winds, major snowstorms and dust storms, storm surges, landslides and avalanches, and droughts. In addition, WMO promotes the mitigation of disasters which are not of natural origin but for which meteorology or hydrology can be used to alleviate major degradation of the natural environment.

The activities implemented under the WMO Plan of Action for the IDNDR relate to the types of disaster listed above and take full account of the activities of the Organization in those subjects which are within the scope and purpose of the Decade. A large part of the activities of WMO, in particular under its World Weather Watch and Hydrology and Water Resources Programmes, is geared to aims which are indistinguishable from those of the IDNDR. Furthermore, these activities started before the Decade and will continue throughout and beyond it.

The role played by WMO in educating and training personnel in meteorology and operational hydrology and its applications is executed through a number of activities of the Organization's Education and Training Programme. These activities include, among others, the organization and co-sponsoring of training events, the preparation and translation of training publications and the award of fellowships.

A number of training activities were and are aimed at human resource development for operational meteorologists and hydrologists and for officials dealing with disaster prevention and preparedness. During the last three years many training events, related to IDNDR, were organized or co-sponsored by WMO.

## Workshops Organized by WMO:

- RA IV Workshop on Hurricane Forecasting and Warning, Miami, USA, 22 March - 2 April 1993 and 20 February - 3 March 1995 (in English and Spanish);
- Training Course on Tropical Meteorology and Tropical Cyclone Forecasting, Miami, USA, 21 February - 29 April 1994;
- Roving Seminar on Tropical Cyclones for RA I  
Antananarivo, Madagascar, 27 August - 1 September 1994 (in French)  
Vacoas, Mauritius, 31 August - 3 September 1994 (in English and French)  
Mahé, Seychelles, 3-7 September 1994 (in English and French);
- Workshop on Storm Surges in the Bay of Bengal, Bangkok, 14-19 November 1995;
- Fifth Regional Workshop on Asian/African Monsoon emphasizing training aspects, New Delhi, India, 30 January - 3 February 1995;
- Workshop on Tropical Cyclone Forecasting and Warning, Arusha, Tanzania, 25-27 September 1995.

## Workshops Co-sponsored or Jointly Supported by WMO:

- Workshop for Senior Meteorological and

*Modern technologies are essential to the meteorological and hydrological services of developing countries. To ensure their continued performance, technicians are being trained in their operation and maintenance. Credit: UK Meteorological Office, Bracknell.*

