

## **Geo-hazards Learning Centre: The New Scheme to Integrate Technical Knowledge with Local Wisdom for Creating Geo-Hazards Mitigation Network and Resilience Community**

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### **Abstract**

One of the most important issues to insure the safety of geo-hazards' risk community is to make the societies recognize their hazards and understand how to comprehend to live securely. Thailand has established the community-based landslide observation networks in 51 landslide-susceptible provinces since 2003. Estimated 30,000 volunteers in geo-hazards warning network are ready to tackle the geo-hazards in Thailand at present. The network emphasize on training people living in the landslide-susceptible areas, to understand their risks, and develop the mitigation measures themselves. Moreover, practical drill provides more confidence for the population who live in landslide susceptible areas to ensure their safety by know how to perform in case of geo-hazards occur. Not only the community-based landslide observation network, which cooperate in data and information exchange in landslide warning, but also the establishment of Geo-hazards' Learning Center play a crucial role on knowledge transfer among government officers, local administrative officers and local society to build the resilience communities in the future.

Developing of the community-own Geo-hazards Learning Center, agreement among stakeholder is required to design its content correspond to community's character. Scientific researches' output is provided by the Department of Mineral Resources to support the creation of community' geo-hazards management plan. Geo-hazards' researches in specific areas conducted in each community are integrated with local wisdom. Volunteer leaders who live in geo-hazards zones are trained; so, they can convey their knowledge and experience to strengthen their community. In addition, network system among communities in related watershed is formed to reinforce their collaboration. Geo-hazards' committee in sub-district level is formed accordingly. Then, learning center and study sites represent self-learning venues are invented both for knowledge transfer and tourism promotion.

At present, more networks are developed and more geo-hazardous mitigation activities are accomplished to serve the need of diverse communities; however, more knowledge transfer and collaboration among stakeholders to reach all critical areas for building the resilience communities, are required.

**Keywords:** Geo-hazards, Society, Community-based, local wisdom, Learning Centre, and Thailand