

SUCCESS AND FAILURES IN FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS ACROSS ASIA: SOME LESSONS LEARNED

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This article takes an institutional perspective on floods risk reduction in the countries of Asia. It focuses on some problems related to design and action of institutions and implementation of anti-flood disaster policies and measures. It starts with presenting approaches to assessing institutional frameworks for floods risk reduction and describing some trends in development of domestic institutions in four countries of Asia, i.e. Japan, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam. Then it discusses some examples of success and failures during particular flood events recently taken place in these countries, and explains good and bad practices in institutional actions (or inactions). For this purpose it focuses on a number of factors defining performance of institutions and implementation problems. The article concludes with outlining some lessons learned about performance of existing institutions during floods. It is based on insights drawn from ongoing joint research undertaken by a group of scholars and practitioners from Japan, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam.
