

# ascent Walkthrough

The road to strengthening research and innovation capacities in Asia for disaster resilience

ASCENT (Advancing Skill Creation to ENhance Transformation), aims to strengthen research and innovation capacity for the development of societal resilience to disasters, and supports training, skills, leadership development, international collaboration and university-industry partnerships. It has strengthened the ability of higher education to respond to research needs in disaster resilience. It has empowered 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.



## Identification of Research and Innovative Capacity Needs in HEIs to Tackle the Development of Societal Resilience to Disasters

Research capacities and needs were identified for 3 Asian country HEIs



Sri Lanka Bangladesh Thailand

213

Interviews conducted

Baseline capacity survey with

530

responses

3 Research and innovative capacities development frameworks

## Research Training Programme

Prepare researchers to undertake advanced, world-class and innovative, multi- and inter-disciplinary research that will contribute to increased societal resilience to disasters (scientific skills) by means of training in research methods and supplementary skills

Research training events

85+

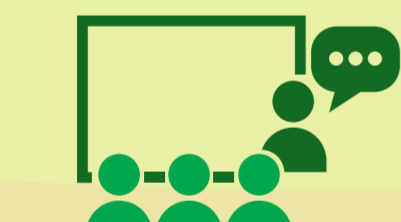
participants  
February 2017,  
Weligama, Sri Lanka

70+

participants  
November 2017,  
Phitsanulok, Thailand

45+

participants  
May 2018,  
Chiang Mai, Thailand



### Training Workshops

Research methods - 17  
Supplementary research skills - 22

## University-Industry Partnerships

Develop the capacity of partner HEIs to explore, promote and initiate opportunities for fruitful university / industry partnerships to increase societal resilience to disasters and ensure wider social and economic benefits

100+

Students and graduates attended  
UIP workshop in Sri Lanka



16 staff from Asian HEIs  
participated in secondments

Total of all trainees

200+

ASCENT is a collaboration between 14 partners in 7 countries, Led by University of Huddersfield, UK

University of  
HUDDERSFIELD

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TALLINNA TEHNIKAÜLIKOOL  
TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



UK

Sweden

Estonia

Lithuania

Sri Lanka

Bangladesh

Thailand

1

2

3

4

6

5

## Development of Research Infrastructure

Develop research infrastructure to support implementation of the project and provide sustainable capacity development



137  
MOOCs



Online training courses provided on: research methods, university-industry partnerships, supplementary skills and international cooperation

Development of virtual online learning environment: The KnowledgeHub



## International Cooperation

Develop capacity to increase international cooperation by partner HEIs to tackle ways to increase societal resilience to disasters, with a focus on strengthening of relationships between HE and the wider economic and social environment

Sri Lankan partners now engaged in 3 international research projects post-ASCENT



Increased number of international collaborations

## Dissemination and Exploitation

Publicise the project progress, successes and outcomes as far as possible, raise awareness across the field of Higher Education about capacity building for disaster resilience research via various, innovative avenues, and extend the impact of project results



Project brief translated into 7 languages

7th ICBR | 245 Papers  
360+ Participants

Partnered with the 7th International Conference on Building Resilience, in 2017, held in Bangkok, Thailand: a major dissemination event



12 Journal papers  
39 Conference papers [as of June 2018]  
38 Web pages [as of June 2018]



3 Policy dialogues with key stakeholders



Sustainability plan



90+ Abstracts  
300+ Participants

Colombo, Sri Lanka in January 2019