Strengthening Taiwan–U.S. Disaster Resilience Partnership: NCDR Visits Hawaii to Advance Regional Cooperation

May 14, 2026; Honolulu, Hawaii

In May 2026, a delegation from the National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), led by Director Hongey Chen, visited Honolulu, Hawaii to strengthen long-standing partnerships with U.S. counterparts and advance regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction, humanitarian assistance, and emerging disaster technologies.

Deepening Cooperation with CFE-DM

During the visit, the delegation met with the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DM) to review ongoing collaboration under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO). Under this framework, NCDR and CFE-DM serve as the designated implementing organizations for promoting cooperation in disaster management and humanitarian assistance.



Figure 1 NCDR Director Hongey Chen (second from left) met CFE-DM Director Joseph Martin (third from left) and Deputy Director Steve Castonguay (second from right) in Honolulu

Both sides discussed practical actions to strengthen disaster preparedness across the Indo-Pacific region, including professional training, knowledge exchange, joint workshops, and capacity-building initiatives. The meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment to enhancing regional resilience through science, technology, and international collaboration.

Renewing Partnership with PDC

A key of the visit was the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between NCDR and the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC), signed on May 14 in Honolulu. This marks the fourth renewal of the partnership since its establishment in 2008 and reflects nearly two decades of close collaboration in disaster science, risk assessment, international training, and emergency management.

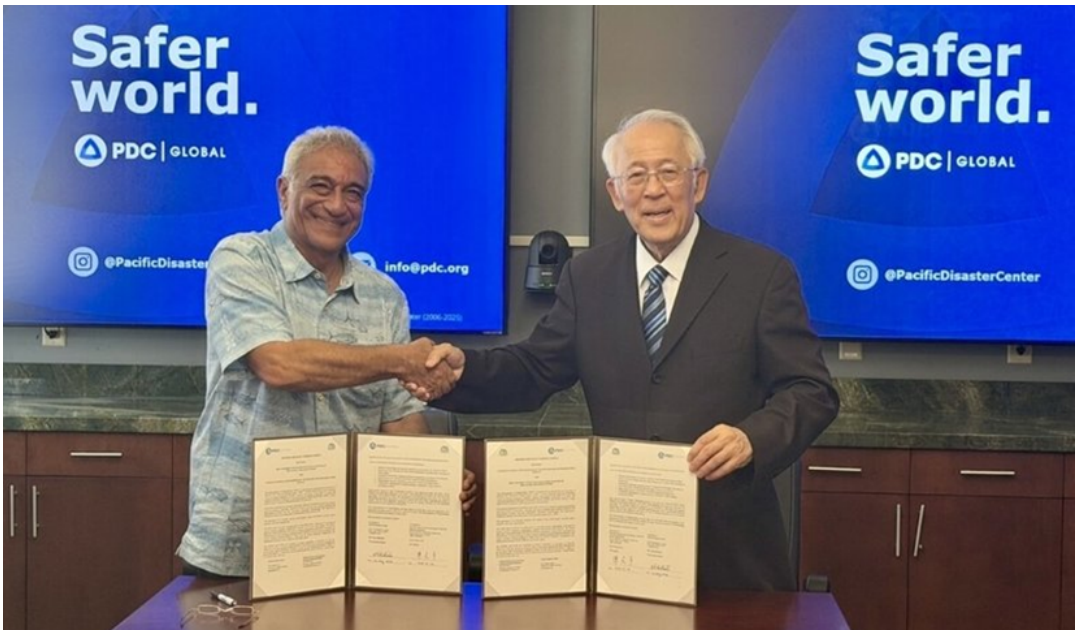


Figure 2 NCDR Director Hongey Chen (right) and PDC Executive Director Ray Shirkhodai (left) renewed the MoU in Hawaii

Under the renewed agreement, NCDR and PDC will expand cooperation in four strategic areas:

- Multi-hazard early warning systems
- Risk and vulnerability assessment
- Information technology and decision support
- International disaster management capacity building

Recognizing the increasing challenges posed by climate change and complex disasters, both organizations will also strengthen collaboration on the application of artificial intelligence (AI), geospatial information, and advanced decision-support technologies to improve disaster preparedness and emergency response.

Advancing Regional Resilience Together

The Hawaii visit represents another important step in NCDR's efforts to expand international partnerships and promote Taiwan's expertise in disaster science and technology. By connecting Taiwan's operational experience with the global capabilities of CFE-DM and PDC, NCDR continues to foster practical cooperation that supports disaster resilience throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

Moving forward, NCDR will continue working with international partners to translate scientific innovation into practical solutions, strengthen cross-border information sharing, and contribute to a more resilient and disaster-ready global community.



Figure 3 NCDR delegation visited the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC), and met with Director Laura Kong (third from left), UNESCO/IOC–NOAA International Tsunami Information Center

More Events of NCDR:

- https://www.ncdr.nat.gov.tw/Message?itemid=76&mid=93