GCTF International Workshop Highlights: Advancing Global Public-Private Cooperation in Disaster Governance

Taipei, Taiwan | June 23–25, 2025

The Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) international workshop themed “Global Public-Private Partnerships in HA/DR: Disaster Governance and Sustainable Operation" was held from June 23 to 25 in Taipei, bringing together over 150 participants—including senior government officials, humanitarian experts, private-sector leaders, and NGO representatives from 34 countries. This three-day event was a success, underscoring Taiwan's commitment to international collaboration in humanitarian assistance and disaster resilience.

Co-organized by the National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association (JTEA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Taiwan, the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), the Australian Office in Taipei, and the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei, the workshop served as a meaningful platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and policy innovation.



Figure 1 The 2025 GCTF on HA/DR Opening Ceremony in June

From Vision to Action

NSTC Minister Dr. Cheng-Wen Wu and JTEA Chief Representative Kazuyuki Katayama delivered opening remarks. Minister Wu emphasized the need to move beyond academic research and embed disaster risk reduction (DRR) science into real-world applications. “Disaster science must become a cornerstone of public service,” he said, calling for a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach rooted in research, private sector agility, and civic engagement.

JTEA Chief Representative Kazuyuki Katayama and AIT Acting Deputy Director Arend Zwartjes echoed these sentiments, noting that disaster governance is now a global imperative that demands innovation, solidarity, and inclusive partnerships.



Figure 2 NSTC Minister Wu delivered the opening remarks of GCTF

From Local Practice to Global Policy

Over four thematic sessions and two panel discussions, the workshop addressed:

1. Role, Missions, and Challenges for NGOs and Keyholders in Building Disaster Resilience and HA/DR.
2. Policy and Networks to Building Public-Private Partnerships for Disaster Resilience and HA/DR.
3. Building the Future Societal Resilience Through Implementing PPP.
4. Application of Science and Technology to Empower NGOs and Civil Groups.
5. International Collaboration in HA/DR
6. Experiences and Lessons of the Whole Society DRR and HA/DR Participations from the Past- After Major Disasters

Special Keynote Speaker, Ms. Mami Mizutori, former UN Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, stressed the increasing complexity of global risks and the need for cross-sectoral and international coordination. Her keynote addressed both the challenges and opportunities in building resilient societies in the age of climate change and compounded disasters.



Figure 3 Former UN Special Representative Mami Mizutori delivered a d insightful keynote speech

Tech in Action: From Compassion to Innovation

Day 3 featured field visits to highlight Taiwan's DRR efforts:

- Tzu Chi Xindian Jing Si Hall showcased "Innovative Approach to Humanitarian," including mobile kitchens, modular housing, and water purification systems.
- The National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR) illustrated how big data, real-time analytics, and emergency simulations support Taiwan's disaster policy and response.
- The Central Emergency Operation Center (CEOC) provided insights into inter-agency coordination and emergency command structures.



Figure 4 GCTF participants visited the Tzu Chi's Innovative Approach to Humanitarian Assistance



Figure 5 GCTF participants visited NCDR

A Platform for Sustained Impact

Since its inception in 2015, GCTF has hosted nearly 90 workshops across the globe on key issues ranging from cybersecurity to women's empowerment. With its expanding network of partners—including the US, Japan, Australia, and Canada—GCTF continues to position Taiwan as a hub for global cooperation on pressing challenges.

Since 2018, this is the sixth GCTF event co-hosted by NCDR. The 2025 workshop reaffirmed that resilient societies begin with shared knowledge, mutual trust, and innovative alliances. As Minister Wu concluded, "Let us make technology a bridge that connects communities, empowers recovery, and builds a safer, more sustainable future for all."



Figure 6 The GCTF marked its 10th anniversary with a landmark international workshop in Taipei, bringing together over 150 participants in June

More Events of NCDR:

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