

The 9th International Workshop on Natural Disaster Reduction and Management among Japan- Korea-Taiwan

June, 2018; Niigata, Taiwan

“The 9th International Workshop on Natural Disaster Reduction and Management among Japan- Korea-Taiwan” was held on 19-20 June, in Niigata Japan. This year, the workshop was hosted by National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Resilience (NIED), Japan. The workshop was opened by President Haruo Hayashi of NIED, Director General Jaehyun Shim of NDMI, and Director Hongey Chen of NCDR. University of Tsukuba and Bureau of Disaster Prevention of Niigata Prefecture also attended the opening ceremony.

The previous eight workshops have created an ideal platform for colleagues of NDMI, NCDR and NIED to share experiences and best practices for enhancing disaster risk management. Especially, the interactions based on three institutions' MoU do encourage young researchers building up close partnership and expanding their global vision.



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Japan, Korean and Taiwan have to directly face challenges of natural hazards which might impose adverse impacts on our society. And using science and technology to manage and reduce disaster risk is a global trend that requires to have continuous devotions and innovative ideas. Furthermore, all three institutions are taking the lead to offer feasible all-hazards solutions through integration of social science, natural science and engineering.

Besides sharing of experiences, recent developments and researches by three institutes, University of Tsukuba and Niigata Prefecture, on the day-3 agenda NIED also arranged a field trip to Yamakokshi Village for delegates to learn lessons from the Chu-Etsu Earthquake in 2004. That is what we highlight value – people-centered disaster risk reduction.

2018 National Level Exercise International Observer Program

May, 2018; Philadelphia, USA

Director Hongey and NCDR delegates were invited to join the National Level Exercise International Observer Program that was held by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) from 7 to 9 May.

In order to assess the disaster preparedness situation, FEMA holds the National Exercise Program each year and the National Level Exercise biennially as well as inviting the emergency institutes from different countries to join these events. The theme of 2018 National Level Exercise International Observer Program was “hurricane”, and Region III was responsible for coordinating as well as integrating the drills of rescue, medical care and evacuation.



NCDR visited FEMA and attended the 2018 National Level Exercise International Observer Program

Conference on the 2017 Wrap-up Presentations of National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction

April, 2018; New Taipei City, Taiwan

NCDR held the wrap-up presentations conference on 17 April 2018, to show the achievements of 2017. The theme of the conference is “the DRR information service that is closer to people's lives”. Prof. Fong-Chin Su, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology hosted the opening ceremony and visited the booths that show up the researches and applications on DRR of each six divisions.

In 2017 and 2018, NCDR has kept on applying the big data and communication tools to promote the information service. LINE, the most popular instant message app in Taiwan, has 19-million more users and becomes a convenient platform for information dissemination.

NCDR and LINE had announced a non-profit collaboration this March to push pre-subscribed and location-based disaster alerts to users' mobile phones through NCDR Official Channel. During the torrential rain event in the mid of June, an exponential increased of number of subscribers, from fifty thousand to over half million within 24 hours. From this fresh experience, NCDR is learning how to prepare understandable information for the general public through a social media. It identifies a great potential to conduct risk communication.



Deputy Minister Su visited the booths of the Conference on the 2017 Wrap-up Presentations of NCDR

The 2nd APRU-IRIDeS Workshop on Building Disaster Resistant Universities

April, 2018; Sendai, Japan

The 2nd APRU-IRIDeS Workshop on Building Disaster Resistant Universities was held by Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) from 3 to 5 April in Tohoku University, Sendai. Dr. Chia-Ying Lin and Ms. Huei-Ru Hsieh attended the workshop and delivered the speech on the topic of Developing Campus Emergency Plan with the Concept of Business Continuity Management.

This workshop aims to share experience of disaster preparedness on campus and identify challenges and issues, discuss how to strengthen their current management plan, and focus on various aspects of disaster management on campus—chemical, pandemic and natural hazards. The host also arranged a site visit to the affected areas of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Miyagi-prefecture.



The site visit to the affected campus of the 2011 earthquake

Source: Tohoku University

More information:

<https://apru.org/partnering-on-solutions/multi-hazards-program/item/1042-apru-irides-workshop-on-building-disaster-resistant-universities-2018>

Upcoming Events:

- The 7th DPRI-NCDR Workshop

November, 2018