Disaster Risk Reduction Symposium / Disaster Reduction Alliance Forum 2010

Five years since the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action

- Progress on the implementation and building resilient cities

Summary Repot

MMM

Date : 14 January (Thursday) 2010 (14:00-17:00)

Venue : South Wing B1F Topaz, Portopia Hotel (10-1 6-chome Minatojimanakamachi, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo)

Organizers

Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA), Hyogo Prefecture, Hyogo Earthquake Memorial 21st Century Research Institute (HEM21), Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (DRI), and UNISDR Secretariat Hyogo Office are the joint organizers of this event.

Supporters

Cabinet Office, Government of Japan , Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan , The Asahi Shimbun Company, The Kobe Shimbun, Japan Committee for UNICEF Hyogo Area Committee

This event is organized by the kind cooperation and financial support of the Hyogo Earthquake Memorial 21st Century Research Institute, and Hyogo Safety Day Committee.

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Objective

Member organizations of the Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA) holds various international symposiums in this January, as 15 year-anniversary events of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

As opening of a series of these events, this forum addresses challenges of international disaster risk reduction and roles by member organizations of DRA, and raises public attention to the issues of disaster risk reduction.

This year is the halfway point of the target year of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) which was adopted at the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Kobe in January 2005.

In the context of the promoting the HFA implementation, the United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) carries out the 2010-2011 campaign that focuses on "Building resilient cities, addressing urban risk".

This forum aims at contributing to this ISDR global campaign activities through having discussions on the progress and challenges in the HFA implementation, and on measures to reduce urban risks towards resilient cities.

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14:00~14:10	Opening Remarks Mr. Toshitami Kaihara President, Hyogo Earthquake Memorial 21st Century Research Institute Chairperson, Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA) Mr. Toshizo Ido Governor, Hyogo Prefecture
14:10~14:40	 Keynote Speech 1 "Five years since the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action Progress on the implementation and the 2010-2011 ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign on building resilient cities, addressing urban risk " Ms. Helena Molin Valdes Deputy Director, United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
14:40~15:20	Keynote Speech 2 "Solutions for the urban disaster risk reduction" Dr. Yoshiaki Kawata Executive Director, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (DRI)
15:20~15:30	Break
15:30~17:00	Panel Discussion "Building resilient cities, addressing urban risk" [Facilitator] Dr. Shoichi Ando Coordinator, United Nations Center for Regional Development, Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office [Panelists] Mr. Shoichi Hasegawa Deputy Director General for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan Ms. Agnes Chan Miling Singer, Ph.D.(pedagogics), Ambassador of the Japan Committee for UNICEF Mr. Hideyuki Mori Vice President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies Dr. Rajib Shaw Associate Professor, Kyoto University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies Dr. Yoshiaki Kawata Executive Director, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution
17:00	Closing

Lecturer profile

Keynote Speech1



"Five years since the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action - Progress on the implementation and the 2010-2011 ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign on building resilient cities, addressing urban risk"

Ms. Helena Molin VALDES

Deputy Director, United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

During the last years she was engaged in the organization of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, the drafting of the Hyogo Framework for Action in negotiation with Governments and the editing of the global review of disaster reduction initiatives : Living with Risk. She has always had a strong interest in gender issues.

An architect by training, she joined the United Nations in 15 years ago, to set up the regional unit for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in Costa Rica.

She also worked for the Pan-American Health Organization on disaster mitigation in health facilities.

Before that, she headed a Swedish development NGO focusing on local and municipality strengthening, local building practices and social development projects in Nicaragua and Central America, after practicing architecture in Swedish private sector.

Keynote Speech2



"Solutions for the urban disaster risk reduction"

Dr. Yoshiaki KAWATA

Executive Director of Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution Prime Minister's Award for Meritorious Services in Disaster Preparedness

Completed Doctor's Course at the Graduate School of Engineering, Kyoto University and gained a PhD. in Engineering in 1974. Assumed Associate Professor of Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University in 1976, and became Professor in 1993. And he took up the post of Director of the Research Center for Disaster Reduction Systems, Kyoto University in 1996. Since 2002, he has concurrently served as Executive Director of Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution. He was a former Director of Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University. He has been a Trustee and Professor of Faculty of Environmental and Urban Engineering, Kansai University since 2009. He was a Laureate of 2007 UN SASAKAWA Award for Disaster Reduction. He was given the Prime Minister's Award for Meritorious Services in Disaster Preparedness in 2009.

Panel Discussion



"Building resilient cities, addressing urban risk"

[Facilitator]

Dr. Shoichi ANDO

Coordinator, United Nations Center for Regional Development, Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office

Born in Saitama. After Graduating from Tokyo University in 1980, he completed his Doctoral degree in Study on the international trends and evaluation of the Sustainable Building Policies in 2000. He worked for the Ministry of Construction from 1980, he contributed for the establishment of the Japan-Peru Mitigation Center for Earthquake Disaster (CISMID). He has served as Director General of Urban Development for Kitakyushu City, a Principal Administrator of the Environment Bureau for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), he has been at his current post since 2005.

Lecturer profile

Panel Discussion



[Panelist]

Mr. Shoichi HASEGAWA

Deputy Director General for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

Born in Shiga. Graduated from Tokyo University, Faculty of Law in 1980. After joining the Ministry of Home Affairs (Currently Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications) in the same year, he worked for Hyogo Prefecture. In 1995, he served as a Deputy Mayor of Miyazaki City. In 1997, he worked at the Cabinet Legislation Bureau as Counselor of the first department. In 2002, he served as a Director of welfare division, Local Administration Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. After served as a Director of general affairs division at the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, he has been at his current post since 2009.



[Panelist]

Ms. Agnes CHAN Miling

Singer, Ph.D.(pedagogics), Ambassador of the Japan Committee for UNICEF

Born in Hong Kong. She started her singing career in Japan in 1972. After studying at Sophia University in Japan, she entered the University of Toronto and graduated with a degree in developmental psychology. She dedicated herself not only for entertainment but also to charity and cultural activities. In 1989, she entered the doctoral program in the School of Education at Stanford University and obtained her doctoral degree of a Ph.D. in 1994. In 1998, she was appointed to be the first ambassador for the committee of UNICEF Japan. Presently, she works in various fields as a singer, an author, a professor and a charity organizer.



[Panelist]

Mr. Hideyuki MORI

Vice President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Graduated from the School of Engineering, Kyoto University. Joined the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in 2003. Prior to joining IGES, he served as Environment Specialist at the Asian Development Bank, Senior Environmental Coordinator of the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees, Director of the Office of Research and Information at the Global Environment Issues Division of the Environment Agency of Japan (present Ministry of the Environment) and as Portfolio Manager of the Division of GEF at the United Nations Environment Programme. He has served as the Vice President of IGES since 2006.



[Panelist]

Dr. Rajib SHAW

Associate Professor, Kyoto University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies

Completed his doctoral students at Osaka City University. He worked as a researcher at the United Nations Center for Regional Development till 2004. His research interest are : community based disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, urban risk management, and disaster and environmental education. He worked closely with the local communities, NGOs, governments and international organization, including United Nations, especially in Asian countries. He is currently the Chair of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Asia Regional Task Force for Urban Risk Reduction.

Mr. Toshitami Kaihara

President, Hyogo Earthquake Memorial 21st Century Research Institute Chairperson, Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA)

On the occasion of the opening of this symposium, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the relevant organizations such as the government of Japan, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and others for supporting this event, and all of audience participating in this forum.

This year falls on the 15th anniversary of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Through the process of reconstruction from the damage of the earthquake, various international cooperation and research organizations concerned with disaster reduction and humanitarian affairs have gathered in the HAT Kobe area to establish the Disaster Reduction Alliance(DRA), which is the organizer of today's event.

As you probably know, thanks to Governor Ido's efforts, the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction was held in Kobe five years ago in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the earthquake, which adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Unfortunately, on January 12th of this year, just when the latter 5-year period of this framework began, we received the painful news that the Republic of Haiti was hit by a great earthquake of which epicenter was directly beneath the capital of the country, which has

Opening Remarks from the guest

Mr. Toshizo Ido

Governor, Hyogo Prefecture

Fifteen years have passed since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Thanks to the hard work of our local residents and support from both home and abroad, we have been able to recover from the destruction and reconstruct our cities while endeavoring to make them more resilient to natural disasters. However, while the passage of time has healed people's pain, their memories have also faded. We are apprehensive about the future since one third of our residents have no experience of the earthquake as they either moved to Hyogo or were born after the earthquake, and the memories and lessons learned concerning disaster prevention are starting to fade away even among the remaining two thirds of residents. It is said that the Tonankai and Nankai earthquakes will certainly occur in the near future. With that in mind, we shoulder the great responsibility of passing down the experience and lessons of our catastrophe to future generations for us to enhance our disaster preparedness.

The types of disasters and situations in affected areas can vary widely. That is why it is important to implement measures to incorporate a wide range of perspectives obtained by localities while sharing their disaster knowledge. In light of this, I am encouraged to see that the various international agencies based in



caused massive casualties. This catastrophe promotes us to strongly confirm once more that 'building resilient cities, addressing urban risk' is a major challenge ahead of human society.

I would appreciate it if you understand and support the series of international symposiums, which will be held by member organizations of the DRA and follow this event. We believe that this year, which falls on the 15th anniversary of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, should be a meaningful year to strongly recognize the importance of the disaster reduction for natural disasters.

Hyogo have joined together to form an alliance that strives to protect the lives and well-being of people across the world. It is my hope that the progress and achievements of the Hyogo Framework for Action, as well as the latest research on disaster prevention and reduction, will be shared with others to support recovery and reconstruction efforts worldwide, such as the one being conducted in Haiti. We in Hyogo and Kobe will work hard to widely communicate our knowledge of disaster prevention to the rest of the world. I look forward to seeing the Hyogo Framework for Action to further grow in the future. Thank you very much.



"Five Years since the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action - Progress on the implementation and the 2010-2011 ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign on building resilient cities, addressing urban risk"

Ms. Helena Molin Valdes

Deputy Director, United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The concept of disaster prevention and reduction is relatively new. In 1989, at the United Nations General Assembly, the Member States declared the 1990s as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR). The Secretariat of the IDNDR then proceeded to work with many scientific and academic institutions to promote efforts and activities in the areas of science and technology of disaster prevention and reduction.

In 1994, at the 1st United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction, the Yokohama Strategy was adopted to provide a blueprint for international efforts on disaster risk reduction. In 2000, the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) was established to instill a culture of safety and disaster risk reduction in many countries. In 2002, the World Summit for Sustainable Development adopted the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation which included elements on risk reduction, disaster management and inclusive approach to address vulnerability. This reinforced the awareness that disaster prevention and reduction is essential for the sustainable development of societies.

The 2nd United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction was held in Kobe in 2005 which marked the 10th year commemoration of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. The conference adopted the Hyogo Framework of Action which calls for national governments, United Nations agencies and regional organizations to join forces for the purposes of building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. The Framework centers on implementation and promotion of disaster risk reduction measures by nations, regional organizations and international agencies around the world. The Framework Convention on Climate Change has also recognized the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and disaster risk reduction as important



means for climate change adaptation.

With the expected outcome to reduce disaster losses, in lives and in the social, economic and environmental asses of communities and countries, the Hyogo Framework for Action specifies priorities for action. These priorities divided into the five areas: "Governance", "Risk identification", "Knowledge", "Reducing

underlying risk factors", and "Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response". Consequently, the Framework promotes building resilient communities and nations by advocating these priorities to the people, by initiating measures that national governments must take to implement each priority area, and by accelerating international assistance to these priority areas of work.

A wide range of global efforts has been advanced to support the implementation of this Framework in many areas. As main elements of the ISDR system, we have Regional platforms based on existing regional strategies and mechanisms, Thematic platforms building on and expanding from existing networks and programmes, and the Global platform which is organized every two years to monitor the progress of the Hyogo Framework and encourage the sharing of knowledge and issues. It is particularly important to implement the Framework on both local and national levels.

Following the adoption of the Framework, together with the many partner organizations, we are promoting progress reporting processes including reports from individual nations, regions and themes to monitor the implementation of the Hyogo Framework. Additionally, we have published several publications on disaster risk reduction good practices on various themes to share a number of model cases widely.

In 2009, UNISDR issued its Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction in collaboration with many partner agencies. This report is produced every two years. In addition to examining causes and trends of potential disaster risks, it provides policy recommendations. It also analyzes various hazards and vulnerabilities, preventative investment results by nations and the conditions of nations recovering from disasters.

For example, the number of casualties

due to cyclones has fallen significantly in Bangladesh and Cuba. This confirms that not wealth countries can take various measures for disaster risk reduction and preparedness in effective ways.

In order to reduce disaster risks, to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, to adapt climate change, and consequently to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction specifies the urgent need to reduce the underlying risk factors. In particular, poor urban governance, ecosystem decline and vulnerable community livelihoods are described as underling risk factors. It is important to continue addressing these issues by "investing today for a safer tomorrow."

Every two years, UNISDR conducts a global disaster reduction campaign highlighting a specific theme. Themes of the past campaign include Safer Schools and Safer Hospitals. The theme for the 2010 and 2011 is "Building Resilient Cities." In his speech at a meeting held at Incheon city in the Republic of Korea, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon called for the need of world leaders, including Mayors, township and community leaders, to address climate change and reduce the increasing disaster risks.

The implementation of the Framework for Action should not be undertaken solely on the national levels. It is also important for local governments who are closer to actual communities to implement the Framework to protect local infrastructure and people's lives, and to achieve sustainable development. UNISDR believes working with experts, local, international and non-profit organizations is necessary to achieve this goal. UNISDR is planning to launch campaign related activities in many regions. As an example, the UNISDR Hyogo Office has already coordinated the establishment of Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction. This task force plays an important role to drive the two-year

campaign in Asia, together with partners based in Japan.

Solutions must be found by identifying cities and regions that can serve as models or leaders and by clarifying specific challenges and priorities in building safer

cities. Furthermore, good practices must be collected and shared, and technical tools must be made widely available.

As part of the campaign, we will also organize a series of events including an event at the Shanghai World Expo this year. We would like to have active engagement in the campaign by the people of Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City, who have witnessed a disaster at firsthand and have consequently become more knowledgeable about risk reduction and prevention. It is my sincere wish that you will help us spread our message by sharing your experiences and providing a model case for building disaster resilient cities.



Keynote Speech 2

"Solutions for the urban disaster risk reduction"

Dr. Yoshiaki Kawata

Executive Director, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (DRI)

Urban Society with Reduced Disaster Risk is a society that is sustainable, non-aging, future-oriented and an urban society that is adaptable.

Looking at trends of natural disasters in the world today, we see that major disasters involving unprecedented human suffering and casualties are occurring in the cities of developing countries. Large-scale tsunamis appear in the Indian Ocean on an average of once every 240 years, and until now casualties were not that significant because fewer people were living in coastal areas. The 2008 Sichuan earthquake resulted in 90,000 missing or dead out of a total



population of 47 million people. Storm surges generated by cyclones caused the deaths of approximately 140,000 in Myanmar in 2008. In developed countries, major disasters involving unprecedented economic damages are increasing in urban areas. In 2005, about 1,800 people died from storm surges from Hurricane Katrina, and the degree of economic damage was comparable to that of the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

We can see that the incidence of natural disasters is rising every year, and this is the result of global population increase, with concentration in urban areas. Although the number of occurrences per area has remained the same, the economic damage per disaster has increaseddrastically. The number of casualties is just about constant for the past 20 years, but the number of disaster victims has greatly increased because of this population concentration in the urban areas. Increased disaster vulnerability and the expansion of urban areas are also related. Hurricanes that hit regions in South Florida bordering the Gulf of Mexico are causing larger damage because populations are migrating to the coastline. The deterioration of urban governance capabilities of the administration is also contributing to this trend.

The definition of urban population includes 1) the number of residents within the city jurisdiction, 2) the number of residents in the high residential density area, and 3) the number of residents in areas connected with the urban center with direct economic relationship. The United Nations classifies developing countries that qualify for Official Development Assistance (ODA) into three categories: 1) countries with low average income levels; 2) countries with shortage human assets; and 3) countries that are economically vulnerable. There are 49 countries eligible for aid under these categories and it will be necessary to contemplate disaster vulnerability issues according to the average income levels of each country.

As urbanization progresses, low income workers tend to migrate to cities in growing numbers in search of work. This in turn leads to further urbanization in a characteristic compounding effect. The urban population in Africa has reached 350 million, which is more than the population of North America. Small- to mid-size cities with populations up to 500,000 are multiplying at a rapid pace, and slums are expanding in Latin America. Cities are proliferating and urban conditions are deteriorating in Asia, demonstrated by the fact that sixteen Chinese names appear in a list of the 20 world's most polluted cities.

Urban issues in developing countries include the expansion of residential areas into disaster vulnerable areas, more floods triggered by the disruption of natural circulatory of water, more houses and buildings vulnerable to natural disasters, and the secondary disasters that follow natural disasters brought about by blurring of factories and residential buildings and by the rising concentrations of dangerous goods in urban areas. Victims of natural disasters have been increasing at an average rate of 6% annually since 1960, and 80% of those are in the urban areas. Therefore, urban disasters are also threatening developed countries. Insurance can cover damages in developed countries, but this is not the case in developing countries where, although the effects on national economies may be smaller, the poor are the most likely to become victims of disasters. This is emphasized by the way many people call the earthquake which hit Guatemala the "poor-quake."

The factors which make cities vulnerable include: rapid urban expansion and inappropriate urban planning; excessive population density; Imbalance of ecosystem; excessive dependency on or excessive shortage of social infrastructure and public services; Over-concentration of politics, economy and information in cities; and inappropriate building architecture. Therefore, it may be beneficial for heavily-populated cities of Asia to take the lead in addressing these issues and presenting their achievements.

One characteristic of Asian disasters is that the ratio of economic damages is low in comparison to the high ratio of human damages, which is because there are many poor countries in Asia. The high ratio of human damages is because population is concentrated in cities, and it is highly possible that number of casualties for disasters will explode in the future.

The key to occurrence of major Asian disasters is not related to the type of disaster. Instead, it has to do with location and the scale of external force driving the disaster. In other words, the effects of disasters in Asia are not determined by the laws of nature, but rather by human factors.

If natural disasters strike a major Asian metropolis in the future, they will always become enormous disasters. This is because the risk awareness of residents is low, there is no appropriate administrative governance, there is no systematic development of effective disaster prevention technology being conducted, and infrastructure related to Information Community Technology (ICT) is immature. The two goals of disaster reduction are minimizing physical and social vulnerabilities, and to this extent it is important to consider spatio-temporal changes. Degrees of vulnerability will differ depending on region, so the lessons of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake cannot be applied in every case. However, Japan can contribute to the global community by delivering its knowledge of preventative measures which it accumulated throughout its long history.

Although a maximum of 310,000 people sought refuge in Kobe City during and after the Hanshin-Awaji earthquake, this population accounted for only 16% of all disaster victims.

The remaining 84% of the victims sought refuge independently by means such as lodging with relatives and staying in hotel or dormitory rooms provided by their employees. This demonstrates that not everyone accessed public emergency evacuation facilities. The ratio of people who evacuated through the self-help, through the mutual help, or through the public help is 7:2:1. This situation is identical to the Makurazaki typhoon disaster of 1945 which resulted in 4,000 deaths and the Ise Bay typhoon and storm surge disaster of 1959 which resulted in about 5,000 deaths. People still take care of themselves, do what they have to do to stay alive, and take the safety of the community in their own hands, while leaving whatever tasks they are unable to do up to the authorities. Nothing has changed.

As populations grow in developing countries, impoverished people have no choice but to live indisaster prone areas. Then a disaster occurs, and the people become even poorer. Populations, especially young people, migrate to urban areas and the number of illegal residents increases. But this trend is beneficial for cities because of the cheap labor it provides, and thus there is no incentive to resolve the inconsistency. In other words, the vicious cycle of poverty and disaster between urban and rural areas will continue indefinitely. The main priority for developing countries in achieving disaster reduction is breaking out of this rural vs. urban vicious cycle pattern. Developing countries must establish economic systems that aid independency and obtain support from external sources. In addition, developed countries must share their knowledge with developing countries.

But external support in and of itself is insufficient. Also required are: development of economic reserves, establishment of systems that will encourage disaster prevention and reduction programs on a continuing basis and organization of societies that can readily adopt these programs. It will take a long time to build such societies. The first task will be to move away from the concept of "Possible Assistance" and move towards the concept of "Necessary Assistance". In other words, we must advance sustainable "realistic assistance" suitable for the local community. JICA adopts a strategy of reinforcement through external help so as to allow maximum realization of crisis-countering mechanism of the local community.

Japan's priority in building disaster resilient communities is breaking out of the vicious cycle of cities and revitalizing the rural areas. In concrete terms, Japan must maintain an appropriate population density; develop appropriate income; enhance humaninformation network; and cultivate awareness of connectivity between urban and rural areas.

This means that local and national governments must both play significant roles.



Panel Discussion

"Building resilient cities, addressing urban risk"



Facilitator

Dr. Shoichi Ando

Coordinator, United Nations Centre for Regional Development(UNCRD) Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office

We will conduct one and a half hour panel discussion with the guests here who are all internationally active in their respective field. I would like to ask each member of the panel to give a self-introduction for five minutes, and then we will talk about the theme of today's discussion. I would like to ask Mr. Hasegawa for a few words about

disaster prevention from the standpoint of the Japanese government.

Panelist 1 Mr. HASEGAWA Shoichi

Deputy Director General for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

Japan is a disaster-prone country and has been learning many lessons from the past disasters and tragedies. To reduce future risks, the Japanese Government made concerted efforts in consolidating and reinforcing the measures against disasters, including improvement of relevant laws and systems. Some specific efforts are seismic retrofitting as countermeasure for earthquake and reinforcing embankment as countermeasure for flood.

Today, I would like to talk about the current status and issues on increasing vulnerabilities of cities due to changes in society and economic activities.



In the case of Japan, populations have been concentrated in cities during the course of modernization. However, many urban areas remain crowded with wooden structures that pose significant risk if earthquake occurs. Such risk became apparent during the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Due to modernization, suburbs became increasingly urbanized and large number of people began commuting from farther distances to work and school. This phenomenon has certain implications on disaster preparedness. In its Expert Survey on "Countermeasures for the Tokyo Inland Earthquake", the Central Disaster Management Council estimated that 6.5 million people will be stranded in the city if a Tokyo Inland Earthquake occurs in Tokyo Bay. If all those people try to return home at once, there will be mass traffic jams that will inevitably hinder emergency relief efforts. Another problem is the number of high-rise buildings along the coastlines. People living in these buildings should prepare for disasters with evacuation plans and emergency rations. However, only 40% to 50% reported they are actually taking such precautionary measures.

Cities are also vulnerable to damage from water. Populations, concentrated on lower grounds, are at risk of intense rainfall and rapid rise in water levels of small to medium size rivers that are causing more cases of flooding. The increasing use of underground areas is also contributing to the rise in flood damage, as demonstrated in the suspension of subway services during the 2003 Fukuoka rainstorm.

Considering lessons from past experiences, the central and local governments as well as the local communities must be properly informed of the implications of environmental changes to disaster prevention. In addition, countermeasures against disasters must be appropriately taken both at physical and institutional dimensions. This is an important priority for disaster prevention in the context of increasing urbanization.

Regarding physical components of disaster prevention, the Government of Japan is currently promoting earthquake-resistant renovations for schools and hospitals based on the target stipulated at the "Comprehensive Plan to Realize Zero Victim from Natural Disasters", which was adopted in 2008. Corollary to this, it is also important to advocate household procedures such as firmly anchoring furniture to reduce damage. To prepare for floods, we believe the government should closely monitor climate change and conduct flood-control works in entire basins. The private sector should also do their part by placing emergency generators in places high above the

ground.

Regarding institutional components of disaster prevention, the Government of Japan is taking all appropriate measures to ensure initial response for disaster, including improvement of communication systems and efficiency of evacuation plans in case of large-scale disaster. The government is also drawing support of local communities in terms of enhancing residents' understanding of the risk in residential areas and reviewing ways of communicating the evacuation routes in case of disasters. Furthermore, it is also important to encourage information sharing and cooperation between authorities and communities, and to provide appropriate support to most vulnerable groups.

With these in mind, it is important to raise public awareness towards disasters. The government is considering ways to make disaster training more interesting and accessible to ordinary citizens, such as holding programs on days that are easier for people to participate. We are also supporting ways for individuals to help themselves and others so they will be prepared to properly respond to natural phenomena and changes in society.

Dr. Ando

I heard that you believe it is important for individuals to help themselves and others. Ms. Chan, may I ask you for your introduction, please?

Panelist 2

Ms. Agnes Chan Miling

Singer, Ph.D.(pedagogics), Ambassador of the Japan Committee for UNICEF

I will never forget the day I visited Kobe 15 years ago. I couldn't believe I was in Japan, and I cried together with the people of Kobe while listening to their stories. But Kobe has recovered, becoming stronger and more beautiful. When I visit disaster victims in other countries, I always tell them, "Look at the people of Kobe. You'll get through it if you just try hard."

I visit many disaster-prone cities as a UNICEF

Ambassador. Economically disadvantaged areas bear the most damage when a disaster hits. The San Francisco earthquake occurred when I was studying at Stanford University in 1989. I was almost ready to have my baby at the time.

What impressed me the most was the speed of the government's response. Transportation systems were jammed so I had to walk home with my swollen belly. My apartment was intact. Then a car appeared making announcements over a loudspeaker such as, "Don't run to the store for goods because emergency rations will be distributed. If your home is at risk for fire, turn off the lights as soon as you get in." The announcements told us what to do so I felt safe.

It also told us where to go to get in touch with others. The authorities said we could go to the evacuation facility in 2 to 3 days or we could request travel money to visit relatives. When I went to San Francisco after the roads were restored, I found that relief activities were well in progress. However, in the same United States, the government was slow to act in the case of Hurricane Katrina because of a different emergency framework of a different administration.

I believe the national government plays the most important role in disaster preparedness. It should not just be engaged in creating legislation. The government should also avoid panic by providing people and organizations that can respond quickly to emergencies. I believe that an emergency framework on a national level can be combined with frameworks on individual and local levels to establish a crisis response system that we can rely on.

Panelist 3 Mr. Hideyuki Mori

Vice President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

I would like to talk about my experiences in Rwanda in regards to climate change and environmental refugees.

The United Nations and other organizations divide disasters into three time categories: sudden-onset disasters, slow-onset disasters and indirect impact. Here I would like to talk about indirect effects.

Rwanda is a very small country in Africa. Its



population has grown rapidly, and land for agriculture is diminishing as people pass their property on to their children. The country experienced a severe drought in the 1980s and their president was assassinated in 1994. All of these factors contributed to the eruption of a conflict between two ethnic groups which resulted in the massacre of hundreds of thousands of people. One million refugees moved to the borders of Rwanda and Congo or Tanzania.

This conflict was exacerbated by political and environmental developments, resulting in a chain reaction of further rises in the number of refugees. When these refugees returned home in 1997, I was assigned to deal with environmental issues in relation to refugees. This was when Sadako Ogata was the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Increases in population and starvation of resources were the main causes of conflicts. However, there are times when an abundance of resources can cause conflicts and there are times when a starvation of resources can actually promote cooperation. Governance determines which way the situation will go.

The United Nations distributes food to refugee camps, but there is frequently no fuel to cook the food. Consequently, refugees cut down trees near the camps for fuel, and this can result in the deforestation in area with 20 kilometers radius at maximum in a few months. This is a significant environmental issue. The destruction of forests can also lead to hostilities. Many women who go out to cut trees are raped.

We tried to address these issues by establishing governance. This was accomplished by regularly holding a committee for environmental problems in collaboration with the locals. We also provided basic techniques to use fuel more efficiently. Cooking with hot stones is inefficient in terms of energy, so we recommended the use of stoves made of mud which provide 15% more heat. Therefore, we believed it was important to create systems and programs that involve the locals, such as our efforts to offer more efficient stoves to people who plant trees. It is my conclusion that international agencies and NGOs should work together with disaster victims to design systems for governance.

Panelist 4

Dr. Rajib Shaw

Associate Professor, Kyoto University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies

I would like to raise three points about urban disaster prevention.

First, there are significant disparities between the cities of developing countries.

Next, ideas of urban disaster prevention and urban management have changed. Urbanization was percieved with industrialization in the 1970s, but there are now various environmental concepts such as eco-cities, sustainable cities and urban



ecosystem. Cities are characterized by rapidly changing people and events.

The third point is that in recent years the impacts of climate-related disasters are increasing in the cities of countries such as Japan, the Philippines and Vietnam. However, proving that climate change is the cause of these disasters is difficult and in some cases damages are due to inherent and increasing vulnerability of the urban areas.

Responses to climate change were discussed at the 15th Conference of Parties (COP15) in Copenhagen last December. However, I believe that is more important to focus on what lies directly ahead of us instead of 50 or 100 years into the future. The issues of urban areas have been developing over the last 40 to 50 years so there will be no simple answers, but I would like to introduce three approaches we address this issue at our university.

There are five dimensions to climate change: natural, physical, social, economic, and institutional. We analyze cities by using these factors as Climate Disaster Resilience index (CDRI). We discovered that the most important priority was strengthening the response of cities through local administrations. We are also studying the roles of local governments in the 2010-2011 campaign.

When we talked with local administrators from various countries, we found that many of them were unaware of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the ISDR. This is because until now, activities were all managed on a national level in these countries. Therefore, an immediate priority is transferring disaster prevention frameworks from national to local governments. In this regard, we are currently developing a version of the Hyogo Framework for Action targeted at the local level,

and will try to begin training programs with local governments two years from now.



• Dr. Ando

Next, I would like to obtain your comments on what is important for building disaster resilient cities.

• Mr. HASEGAWA



When I participated in Civil Protection Forum organized by the EU last November, I was told that unlike Japan, it is difficult for European countries to raise public awareness of disaster prevention. While Japan experiences many "natural" disasters, people's awareness of disaster prevention is high. It should

be noted that Japan had similar problem before but has been gradually addressed. . I believe it is important to encourage public to take appropriate measures with sound judgment and motivation for disaster preparedness.



• Ms. Chan

There are two types of aid in the event of disasters: emergency aid and longterm aid. Although individual preparedness is important for emergency aid, national frameworks are also necessary. I believe the people of Kobe have made it this far because residents helped each other and made a conscious

decision to consider the disaster as a learning experience to build a stronger, more beautiful city.

When I visited Cuba after a hurricane, I found that the infrastructure and homes were totally devastated. This was the result of economic sanctions on the country. The strong will of the government was the reason why there were miraculously fewer deaths than expected among the hundreds of thousands of disaster victims. I was also surprised by the size of the slums and the scale of poverty in Mumbai when I walked around the city for ten days. As Vice President Mori mentioned, there are also indirect impacts of disasters such as the case of Rwanda where women who go to cut trees in the forest are raped by guards. These types of situations which are unimaginable in Japan are occurring in many places. It's not just a matter of the visible parts of disasters such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and tsunamis. We also need to remember that invisible damage, such as the gradual pace of global warming, is also occurring in many areas.



• Mr. Mori

The effects of climate change are significantly more devastating to developing countries such as those in Africa. Even though the scale of a given disaster may be the same in a developed and developing country, the developing country cannot respond appropriately because of inadequate societal response

capacities and poverty. Developed nations are causing climate change and developing nations are suffering from it.

Public awareness grew in Kobe after the great earthquake, and the citizens donated a substantial amount of money to the people of Sichuan at the time of their disaster. Aid to developing countries

is extremely important. I believe Hyogo and Kobe should take the lead in creating international networks and developing ways to convey the extent to which the disadvantaged suffer in disasters.

Dr. Shaw



An interface that connects cities with individuals is important. The Philippines is conducting disaster prevention on the local governments level. Nepal has adopted a system where an area with a large park and surrounding buildings is designated as a regional unit. Vietnam, being a communist country, the youth

and women's organization are already integrated into the social system, and the government utilizes these groups to promote disaster preventions.

Another point I would like to raise involves disaster prevention activities in daily life. In 2005, 900 millimeters of rain fell during the course of a day and a half in Mumbai, and 800 casualties resulted from the flooding. Mumbai registers residences in groups of 20 to 30 as an established practice, and these groups received aid from the government to independently deal with waste management issues. When a survey of 200 of these groups was conducted, it was found that response to disasters were faster in regions where these groups were more active on a regular basis. Residents in these regions had more connections with the community and it was easier to gain information about the handicapped and theelderly.



• Dr. Kawata

It will be important for the future to realize that knowledge and wisdom saves lives. After the large toll sustained in the wake of the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, a number of organizations, UNESCO in particular, began talking about designing a tsunami early warning system. But it is obvious that such a system

will be ineffective for a disaster that is predicted to occur only once every 240 years. Although Nankai earthquake generated off the Kii peninsula in the Pacific will trigger a tsunami in Awaji Island at a height of only one meter at Sumoto, an earthquake along the Osaka Bay fault line will create a five meter tsunami which will hit Sumoto and other cities in the Awaji Island in ten minutes. My point is that knowledge is necessary in addition to experience.

We all need to be aware of the types of dangers that exist in the places we live in. It is important to reinforce disaster prevention education and also teach our children about regional history and culture.



• Dr. Ando

Please tell us about a good practice managed by local citizens that you discovered during your travels throughout the world.



• Mr. HASEGAWA

Proper community building is crucial. The 'Municipal Volunteer Fire Corps' in Hokudan-cho, Hyogo Prefecture drew much attention of their fire fighting and rescue activities during the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. The National Fire and Disaster Management Agency commended the neighborhood association for their actions during the Chuetsu-oki earthquake. Although "Public-help efforts" are important during disasters, local preparedness is also imperative. In terms of institutional safeguards against disasters, developing regional networks and rebuilding urban communities should be given priorities. In terms of physical preparedness, promoting earthquake-resistant construction and anchoring furniture firmly should be given important priorities. We must make our society stronger through individual efforts against natural disasters.

Dr. Ando

It is impossible to raise a single practice as a model example since there are so many cities and situation in the



world, but can anyone present a memorable practice you have witnessed just for reference?



• Ms. Chan

The largest disaster area I recently visited was Sichuan one month after the earthquake. A fault under a mountain range that marks the border between China and Tibet had shifted and the villages in the mountain area were in ruins. The traditional homes of minorities such as the Tibetans and the Qiang were particularly vulnerable.

People said, "Please convey my appreciation to the people of Japan," when I visited the refugee camps in Sichuan. China initially refused all foreign aid, but when they did decide to accept assistance, Japan was first country to be allowed to offer support. Several days had passed after the earthquake when I visited, but Japanese aid workers were working 24 hours around the clock. The members of a Japanese rescue team all offered a silent prayer when they retrieved the bodies of a parent and a child. They remained saluting until the ambulance that carried the bodies away disappeared. The local people were moved to tears by the kindness and respect for life expressed by these Japanese people, and local residents said that this experience changed some of their prejudiced views of Japan.

Many children died in schools, so when I told the people of Sichuan that schools in Japan perform disaster drills, they decided to adopt this practice through UNICEF and it is now beginning to spread. In this manner, I hope that Japan can share its knowledge with other countries for their benefit.



• Mr. Mori

Disasters can occur and cause damage anywhere. Therefore it is essential for developed countries to advocate networks for public help, mutual help and self-help. Self-help is always a key factor, but mutual help within groups, and public and mutual help that promotes self-help is also important.

Dr. Shaw

In terms of disaster education in Japan, holding training events several times a year is necessary



but not sufficient. We must also think about disaster prevention in our daily lives.

There is a program that shows children ways to help the environment. In this program, children record in a journal how long they kept the lights on, how long they took a bath, how much trash they threw away and other details. Then on the following day they review their journal and try to come up with ideas

to reduce waste. This makes it easier for children to see how much impact such small, individual actions could have.

Disaster prevention education takes place in three areas: schools, communities, and homes. We can imagine a program where parents check what their children are doing at school, the community checks what individual households are doing, and all parties involved provide useful input. We need such an educational program that can be incorporated into daily life. The lessons of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake can be reflected in this kind of program.



• Dr. Ando

We have an important guest from UNISDR for today's key note speech, and she also joins here. Ms. Valdes, could you please give us your impression of this discussion?



• Ms. Valdes

I feel it is important for each individual to strongly recognize that they are responsible for reducing disasters. I would like to talk about a case of cooperation between public governance and local citizens in the city of Manizales in Columbia. Landslides were causing thousands of casualties

every year because houses there were being built haphazardly. As a result, local governments, universities, local citizens and private companies joined together to create a disaster reduction plan.

Instead of thinking about what to do 100 years into the future, they decided to focus on what they could do today to improve their lives. They worked together to stabilize slopes, renovate water channels, develop methods to utilize rainwater for irrigation and build parks and fruit orchards. This is a case where both risk reduction and improvement of local welfare and living standards were achieved by increasing awareness among citizens and engaging in cooperation.

Dr. Kawata

Urban disaster prevention requires reviewing both physical priorities such as societal infrastructure and social priorities involving each individual victim. It is particularly important to visualize the victims as real people when trying to restore the lives of those who have lost their homes. Knowledge and information connect these two priorities. We should share information that



is more accurate, and we should make information more powerful by emphasizing the human element.

Earthquake Early Warnings should not concentrate on scientific facts alone. They should also take into consideration cultural factors such as how people will interpret the information and use it to overcome danger. Furthermore, I believe sustainability means preventing the loss of life, property and other things that are important to both individuals and society. This, in turn, should be the main philosophy behind disaster resilience policies.



• Ms. Chan

People are not helpless during natural disasters. People should believe that they can do something, that they can provide help and this will become the first step toward recovery.

• Dr. Ando

The individual agencies of the Disaster Reduction Alliance will be hosting various events after this symposium and we welcome you to attend. IGES will hold an international symposium on the 15th, the International Recovery Platform will hold an international recovery forum on the 16th and the UNCRD will hold an international disaster prevention symposium on the 18th.

Finally, let me offer some final words. The concept of sustainability is gaining significance in the Millennium Development Goals adopted to reduce disparities between nations especially in terms of poverty. To put it simply, I strongly believe that the concept of sustainable development means thinking about what we can leave our children and what we have to do to secure the future of our children. Thank you very much for your patience and attention.



0 6 8) へ。	減災シンボ、来月14日 減災シンボ、来月14日、 減災シンボジウムでは、05年のの 調査防災世界会議(神戸市で 開催)で採択された防災活動 やに、世界の都市の取り組みや 課題について、国連国際防災戦 がして、国連国際防災戦 の指針「兵庫行動枠組」の現 して採択された防災活動 の指針「兵庫行動枠組」の現 して、世界の都市の取り組みや に、ついて、国連国際防災戦 の指針「兵庫行動枠組」の現 して、国連国際防災戦 の指針「兵庫行動や に、ついて、国連国際防災戦
Asahi Shimbun, Tue., 1	5 December, 2009 (morning edition) P.33
日 以 い い い い い い い い い い い い い い い い い い	Sankei Shimbun, Tue., 15 December, 2009 (morning edition) P.21
小属団体、連絡先電話、フ 局(\mathbf{x}_0 -78・2652-15 の構築」が行われる。 加格室者は、名前や 間い合わせは実行委事務 10 67 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	ぶののです。 参加者を募集 来月14日、神戸で 減災に向けた取り組みや課題 たついて考える「減災シンボジウム/国際防災・人道支援フォ 1ラム2010」(県など主催、朝日新聞社など後援)が来 年1月14日、神戸市中央区港島 中町6丁目のポートピアホテル で開かれる。「都市の減災」を アグネス・チャンさん=写真 りにによるパネル討論があり、 変形者を募集して シンポジウムでは、国連国際 シンポジウムでは、国連国際 シンポジウムでは、国連国際 シンポジウムでは、国連国際 シンポジウムでは、国連国際 シンポジウムでは、国連国際 シンパルデス次長と、人と防災 キャンさんらパネリスト 5人が「災害に強い都市の構

Asahi Shimbun, Wed., 23 December, 2009 (morning edition) P.31

築」をテーマにパネル討論する。

りいて、人と防災未来センター事 前申し込みが必要。名前、電 話番号、Eメールアドレスを書

(dra.secretariat@gmail. com)で申し込む。問い合わ

1068)へ。 068)へ。 62・5082)かEメール

Kobe Shimbun, Thu., 7 January, 2010 (morning edition) P.19





Asahi Shimbun, Fri., 15 January, 2010 (morning edition) P.33



る減災シンポジウム「国際都市の防災について考え都市の防災について考え	Yomiuri Shimbun, Fri., 15 January, 2010 (morning edition) P.25	5
が一番大事」と指摘した。 挙げ、「国の(防災)対策 すた起きたサンフランシス	2010」が現在の 、 の 市 で 日 本 二 に 強 い 街 づ く り に つ い れ づ く り に つ い れ づ く り に つ い れ づ く り に つ い れ づ く り に つ い れ づ く り に つ い た っ た の 赤 テ ル で 開 か れ 石 く か に つ い た つ い に つ い た つ い に つ い た つ い に つ い た つ い た っ た っ い に つ い た つ い た っ た っ い に つ い た っ た っ い に つ い た こ っ い に つ い た っ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た っ た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い て に つ い て 恋 た っ た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た つ い た こ っ こ っ た つ い い た っ い た つ い た つ い た こ っ 、 た う 本 た こ た つ い う こ た こ ん た こ た こ ん こ さ ん に た こ ん た ら に ん 二 て つ ら に ん 二 て う ん に 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、	

する矢先だった。都市の 大震災とよく似た都市鷹は「ハイチの地震は阪神 家らが講演・討論した。 けない」などの声が上がの軽減を図らなければい マだと認識させられたこ 下型地震で大変痛まし 限などでつくる実行姿が 災の経験から、世界にネ 要門家らから「阪神大綬 2010」で、参加した 「世界にネットワークを」 話した。 湾に強い都市の構築を 業などをテーマに専門確。災害に強い都市の ら、14日に神戸市で開 災が大きな人類のテー 界にアピール 員原俊民・元同県知事 トワークを作り、 ・人道支援フォーラム れた都市の減災を考え (盆災の経験から) パジウム 国際防 しようと 被雷

Mainichi Shimbun, Fri., 15 January, 2010 (morning edition) P.24



Asahi Shimbun, Sun., 17 January, 2010 (morning edition) P.37



Hyogo Journal, Mon., 25 January, 2010 (weekly edition) P.3



Japan Broadcasting Service For Persons With Visual Impairment, Mon., 25 January, 2010 (monthly edition) P.3

United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR: Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland) was established in the year 2000 at the UN General Assembly. UNISDR, serving as catalyst for disaster risk reduction agenda, provides an international framework for coordinated actions to integrate disaster risk reduction into humanitarian and development issues and to promote comprehensive disaster risk reduction approaches. UNISDR organized the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction in January 2005 in Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. The "Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to disasters" was adopted as the outcome of the conference. All the countries are required to implement specified actions in the HFA. Together with a wide range of ISDR system partners including governments, international and regional organizations, academic and scientific institutions, and non-governmental organizations, UNISDR facilitates and supports the implementation of the HFA. At the mid-term point of the ten-year action framework, it is crucial to accelerate further the implementation of priorities of actions required in the HFA by all countries. UNISDR reports the progress on ISDR and HFA implementation to the UN General Assembly.

The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)

With the expected outcome to reduce disaster losses, in lives and in the social, economic and environmental asses of communities and countries, the Hyogo Framework for Action is the guideline for comprehensive disaster risk reduction actions to be taken by the international community for ten years. The HFA specifies three strategic objectives and five priorities for action: "Governance", "Risk identification", "Knowledge", "Reducing underlying risk factors", and "Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response", which is followed by the implementation and follow-up section. UN Member States are required to implement the HFA by applying their own individual situation such as their economic and social infrastructure and natural hazards they are prone to. In order to reduce disaster risks and vulnerabilities, it is crucial to transform priority areas specified in the HFA into actions at all levels and is important to monitor the status of implementation and progress by the UNISDR.



HFA Five Priorities for Action

Governance: ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation
 Risk identification: identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
 Knowledge:use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels
 Reducing the underlying risk factors in various sectors
 Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response

While a wide range of global efforts has been advanced to support the implementation of this Framework in many areas, national governments are requested to submit national progress reports on their HFA implementation. Also the main elements of the ISDR system include Regional platforms based on existing regional strategies and mechanisms, Thematic platforms building on and expanding from existing networks and programmes, and the Global platform organized every two years to monitor the progress of the Hyogo Framework and to encourage the sharing of knowledge and issues.

As the successor mechanism of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction which was established in 2000 together with the UNISDR secretariat, **Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction** is organized every two years with a large number of participants from national governments, UN and international organizations, regional organizations, civil society organizations, private sector, academic and scientific institutions. By receiving ministerial level participants, the Global Platform aims at ensuring actions and programmes in a coherent manner. It provides guidance, promotes and strengthens global cooperation towards reducing disaster risks at all levels, and facilitates sharing information, technology, experience and lessons to reduce further disaster risks. The second session of the Global Platform was held in June 2009 in Geneva. Based on national progress reports submitted from Governments and findings from the Global Assessment Report, active discussions for further progress and challenges ahead were held.

Together with many partners, the UNISDR issues the **Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction** (http://www.preventionweb. net/globalplatform/2009/) as the biennial global assessment of disaster risk reduction. The first Global Assessment Report was launched in May 2009 prior to the second session of the Global Platform. The Report identifies disaster risks and analyses its causes and vulnerabilities. And more importantly it shows that these causes can be addressed and recommends the means to do so. This Report aims at drawing international attention to the problem of disaster risk and at consolidating political and economic support and commitment to disaster risk reduction.

As part of the advocacy activity for disaster risk reduction, UNISDR conducts a biennium advocacy campaign on a specific theme, together with a wide range of partners. The **ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2010-2011 focuses on "Building Resilient Cities**" which is built on the previous ISDR Campaigns on Safer Schools (2006-2007) and Safer Hospitals (2008-2009). The target for the 2010-2011 ISDR Campaign is to promote disaster risk reduction at local government levels towards safer cities from disasters.

In the context, Disaster Risk Reduction Symposium (DRA Forum) 2010 was organized together with UNISDR and other partner organizations, along with the theme on "building resilient cities". The DRA Forum 2010 contributed to this ISDR global campaign activities through discussions on the progress and challenges in the HFA implementation towards building resilient cities. The implementation of the Framework for Action should not be undertaken solely on the national levels. It is also important for local governments who are closer to actual communities to implement the Framework to protect local infrastructure and people's lives, and to achieve sustainable development. UNISDR believes working with experts, local, international and non-profit organizations is necessary to achieve this goal. UNISDR is planning to launch campaign related activities in many regions. As an example, the UNISDR Hyogo Office has already coordinated the establishment of Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction. This task force plays an important role to drive the two-year campaign in Asia, together with partners based in Japan.

Through the campaign, solutions must be found by identifying cities and regions that can serve as models or leaders and by clarifying specific challenges and priorities in building safer cities. Furthermore, good practices must be collected and shared, and technical tools must be made widely available. Active engagement in the campaign by the people from Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City, who have accumulated experience and knowledge on disaster risk reduction, is highly expected by the international community.

For further information on the ISDR Campaign "Building Resilient Cities", please visit the section for the campaign at the UNISDR website: www.unisdr.org









The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake Memorial Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution

~We don't forget~











West Building



1.17 Theater [Screen time: 7 minutes] The tremendous destructive power of earth-quakes is portrayed using sound and dramatic images on a big screen



The Great Earthquake Hall Documentary films showing towns, the people and the problems faced during the recovery and reconstruc-tion process after the earthquake up to present day.



Reconstruction from the Earthquake Corner People's lives and aspects of the towns in the reconstruction process after the earthquake are explained with graphics.



Streets just after the Earthquake The realistic dioramas reproduce devastated streets just after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.



Memories Corner This corner exhibits earthquake-related-ma-terial along with the stories of those who donated the materials.



Disaster Protection and Reduction Workshop Learn about disasters and how to protect yourself from them through games and dem-onstrations.

East Building (....We have remodeled part of the East Building)



Miracle of the Planet of Life Earth, the miracle aquatic planet that gives life to all plants and animals. An owl talks about the earth using hand silhouettes as explanato-ry props.



[Screen time: 5 minutes] Documentary footage of storm and flood damage is shown on a big horizontally split screen. Rare and valuable actual footage of the 1938 Great Hanshin Flood shows the terror experienced.



For the Future Salon This is an area where opinions and discus-sions on protection against disaster and disas-ter reduction can be exchanged. You can learn about protection against disasters in a fun way on the easy-to-use computers available.



A Song in Praise of the Water Planet [Screen time: 5 minutes] This short film shows how our lives are blessed with an abundance of water and na-ture, but also reminds us that the threat of natural disaster is never far.



Approaches to disaster prevention and reduc-tion by citizens and international disaster re-duction organizations, etc. are shown.



Heart Theater [Screen time: 13 minutes] In this animation film, a love of "life" and the courage to live are the themes depicted through the story "The Fall of Freddy the Leaf". (Dubbed by Yuki Sato and Kaoru Kobayashi Starts every 20 minutes - 00,20 and 40.



Admission fees

Admission fees					Parking
	Adults	College students	High school students	Elementary and junior high school students	Capacity: 100 family-type cars (Parking fee charged) Bus Waiting Space – for 26 Buses
	¥600 (¥480)	¥450 (¥360)	¥300 (¥240)	Free	(Free of charge / Reservation required)
	※() shows fee	s for groups of 2) or more		Access
% Half price for people with disabilities and people over 65 years old					 From Hanshin IWAYA Station / KASUGANOMICHI Station: About 10 minutes' walk southbound.
Closed days Every Mondays (The following day if Monday is a national holiday)				untional holiday)	 From JR NADA Station, South Exit: About 12 minutes' walk southbound.
December 31 and January 1 %Open throughout Golden Week Holidays (from April 28 to May					 From Hankyu OJI KOEN Station, West Exit: About 20 minutes' walk southbound.
Open hours 9:30 – 17:30 (admission until 16:30)					 From the IKUTAGAWA Ramp on the Hanshin Expressway Kobe Route:About 8 minutes. From the MAYA Ramp on the Hanshin Expressway
					Kobe Route: About 4 minutes.

Open hours

- 9:30 17:30 (admission until 16:30) 9:30 18:00 from July to September (admission until 17:00) 9:30 19:00 on Fridays and Saturdays (admission until 18:00)
 - From JR SHIN-KOBE Shinkansen Station: About 15 minute About 20 minutes by car from Kobe Airport



The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake memorial Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution

1-5-2, Wakinohama Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe City 651-0073 (in HAT Kobe) URL: http://www.dri.ne.jp/ TEL.078-262-5050 (Exhibition room) TEL.078-262-5058 (Library) TEL.078-262-5060 (Planning and Promotion Dept.)



The Threat of Wind and Water Disasters





Secretariat Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution

1-5-2 Wakinohama Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo Zip: 651-0073 TEL : +81-78-262-5068 FAX : +81-78-262-5082 E-mail : dra.secretariat@gmail.com

http://www.dra.ne.jp

Outline of this event and video footage (provided by volunteer broadcast station 1.17 Broadband TV) are uploaded on the above website.