

## Section 4: International Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction

Japan has accumulated a great deal of experience and knowledge concerning disasters, along with numerous policies on disaster risk reduction. By sharing these with the world, it is driving global discussions in the field of disaster risk reduction and contributing to initiatives in this field in countries worldwide. In particular, the international community expects Japan to play a leading role in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR), which was approved at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, hosted by Japan in Sendai City in March 2015. Accordingly, the Cabinet Office (in charge of disaster prevention) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are proactively promoting cooperation in disaster risk reduction through the UN and other international organizations, as well as bilateral disaster risk reduction cooperation.

### 4-1 Disaster Risk Reduction Cooperation through the UN and Other International Organizations

#### (1) Disaster Risk Reduction Cooperation through the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

To promote the SFDRR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Cabinet Office contributed approximately 5.2 million dollars (approximately 572 million yen) in total in FY2019 to support the activities of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), which is engaged in SFDRR-related activities, such as monitoring, coordination and support of each region and country.

The UNDRR held the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction with the Swiss government in Geneva, Switzerland, from May 15-17, 2019. This meeting was intended to share the results and challenges of disaster risk reduction efforts and review measures for possible future disasters by exchanging opinions on the implementation status of the SFDRR in each country and its promotion initiatives. About 4,000 people from about 180 countries and regions participated.

Mr. Kenji Yamada, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs attended the meeting to represent Japan. In his official statement at the meeting in which high-level officials from governments and international organizations participated, he mentioned the experience of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and emphasized the importance of reflecting the idea of “No one will be left behind” in the disaster risk reduction strategy as well as the need for mutual cooperation and efforts on the part of each country to increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, which is one of the main goals of the SFDRR.



Mr. Yamada, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs making a formal speech



Mr. Akihiro Nakamura, Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination of the Cabinet Office served as a panelist in high-level dialogue on the theme of “Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies for National and Local Governments,” and introduced Japan's disaster risk reduction planning system to each country.



Mr. Nakamura, then Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination of the Cabinet Office serving at panelist in a high-level dialogue session

## (2) International Recovery Platform (IRP)

The Hyogo Framework for Action was adopted in 2005 at the Second UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which was held in the city of Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture. In response to this, the IRP was established in the Kobe City the same year, to enhance networks and frameworks for supporting smoother post-disaster reconstruction, disseminate lessons concerning reconstruction and develop common techniques and mechanisms to facilitate reconstruction and provide advice and support to those formulating reconstruction plans and visions following a disaster. The SFDRR advocates that the IRP should be enhanced, as an international mechanism for promoting the “Build Back Better” approach. The Government of Japan (Cabinet Office) supports the activities of the IRP, as well as contributing to enhancing the infrastructure for its development, as Co-Chair of the IRP Steering Committee.

The IRP forum for FY2019 was held in Kobe on January 28, 2020. Under the theme of “Aiming to Build Back Better with Strong Infrastructures,” 172 people from 23 countries participated, including Mr. Murate, Assistant Vice-Minister for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Mr. Kanazawa, Deputy Governor of Hyogo Prefecture and Dr. Murosaki, Professor of Graduate School of Hyogo Prefectural University. Focusing on advance planning and restoration of infrastructure, the IRR forum introduced recovery cases from past disasters and discussed sharing of lessons learned from. From Japan, the Reconstruction Agency and the National Resilience Promotion Office, Cabinet Secretariat participated and introduced efforts, including on reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake and the National Resilience Basic Plan.



The International Recovery Forum

## (3) Disaster Risk Reduction Cooperation through Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

The 13th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum was held in Santiago, Chile on August 20, 2019. The Chairman of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) attended the forum from Japan and introduced Japan's recent efforts in the technological development of quasi-zenith satellites in a session under the theme of “International Cooperation in Emergency Assistance.” At the recommendation of Japan, the director of the ADRC was appointed as the co-chair (Term: 2020 - 2021) of the

“Emergency Preparation Working Group,” which is a Working Group of the Disaster Risk Reduction Department of the APEC.

#### **(4) Disaster Risk Reduction Cooperation through the Activities of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)**

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) was established in Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture in July 1998 to share the lessons of disasters in Japan with the rest of Asia. As of March 2020, the ADRC has 31 Asian members. The ADRC’s activities center on four key areas: sharing information about disasters, human resource development in member countries, improving the disaster resilience of communities and promoting partnerships with member countries, international organizations, local organizations and NGOs. It also hosts visiting researchers from member countries each year: as of March 2020, the ADRC had hosted a total of 117 such researchers, thereby helping to foster personnel who contribute to policymaking in the field of disaster risk reduction in member countries through studies on Japanese disaster risk reduction policies. The ADRC also gathers information about disaster risk management systems and the latest disasters in each country and publishes it on its website, as well as providing information obtained from satellite observation on the extent of the damage when a disaster occurs.

The ADRC co-sponsored the holding of an ACDR meeting every year with the Cabinet Office. Member countries and international organizations participate to share information, exchange opinions and promote cooperation on disaster prevention and mitigation issues in Asia. The 15th meeting was held in Ankara, Turkey from November 25-27, 2019, under the themes of “Innovative Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction” and “Recovery from Major Disasters”. 148 people from member countries (21 out of 31 countries), the UNDRR, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and other international organizations participated to share information and exchange opinions on the status of SFDRR efforts, including disaster risk reduction strategies in each country. From Japan, Mr. Taira, State-Minister of Cabinet Office attended and introduced examples of how Japan's cutting-edge science and technology were being used for disaster risk reduction. At the meeting, Mr. Taira, State-Minister of Cabinet Office also met with Mr. Soyulu, Minister of Interior of Turkey and Mr. GÜLLÜOĞLU, the Commissioner of the Crisis Management Agency of Turkish (AFAD) to confirm future cooperation in disaster risk reduction with Turkey.



Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction

#### **(5) 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7)**

The TICAD7 was held in Yokohama in August 2019. At the conference, Mr. Maitachi, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Cabinet Office participated in the “Climate Action and Disaster Risk Reduction” session and stated that “Japan, as an advanced country for DDR, wants to help construct a resilient and sustainable society in African countries and help realize SDGs by holding public-private disaster risk reduction seminars.”



UN Secretary-General Guterres and Mr. Maitachi, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Cabinet Office

## 4-2 Bilateral Disaster Risk Reduction Cooperation

Alongside the initiatives through international organization, the Cabinet Office also strengthened its collaboration with disaster management agencies in the governments of various countries by sharing experiences of disaster management policies through various opportunities such as visits from ministerial level personnel overseeing disaster management from abroad. In particular, the bilateral partnership with the United States, India and Turkey is described below.

### (1) Partnership between the Cabinet Office and the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Based on the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) concluded with the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in December 2014, the Cabinet Office enters into an action plan every year to share information and exchange opinions through international conferences or video conferences. The Cabinet Office renewed the MOC in December 2019 and agreed on a working plan in February 2020. In December 2019, Cabinet Office staff visited the FEMA and exchanged information on the FEMA system and human resource development measures.

### (2) Partnership between the Cabinet Office and the Ministry of Home Affairs in India

In September 2017, the Cabinet Office concluded an MOC with the Ministry of Home Affairs in India, aiming to develop and extend bilateral cooperation and relationships in disaster risk management. Based on this MOC, we held the “3rd Japan-India Disaster Risk Reduction Cooperation Conference Follow-up Meeting” in Delhi, India, in June 2019 to discuss public-private cooperation efforts. In September, the Commander of the National Disaster Response Force of India Kumar visited the joint emergency drill involving nine prefectures and cities held in Chiba Prefecture and exchanged opinions with the Cabinet Office on DRR policies and drills.

### (3) Cooperation between Japan, China and South Korea through the Holding of Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management

In 2008, a “Trilateral Joint Statement on Disaster Management Cooperation” was made at the “1st Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Summit Meeting.” Based on the Trilateral Joint Announcement, the three countries of Japan, China and South Korea have held the Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management every other year since 2009 to further strengthen tripartite cooperation in the area. The 6th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management was held in Seoul, South Korea in December 2019, and Mr. Taira, State-Minister of Cabinet Office attended the meeting and reported on Japan's recent disaster countermeasures. At this meeting,



we confirmed the need to strengthen Disaster Management Cooperation in the three countries and issued a joint statement that the exchange of information and opinions among the three countries would continue. It was agreed that the next conference would be held in Japan in 2021.



6th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management

#### **4-3 Establishment of the Japan International Public-Private Association for Disaster Risk Reduction (JIPAD)**

In December 2018, the “Overseas Deployment Strategy in the Disaster Risk Reduction Field” was formulated in the “Infrastructure System Export Strategy.” Based on this strategy, the Cabinet Office decided to actively disseminate information on disaster risk reduction technologies and know-how that Japan has strengths overseas in collaboration with public and private sectors and promote the overseas deployment of disaster risk reduction technologies by building relationships with public and private sectors in the partner country. To this end, the Cabinet Office established the Japan International Public-Private Association for Disaster Risk Reduction (JIPAD) on August 23, 2019.

As of March 1, 2020, the JIPAD has 187 members from the fields of manufacturing, construction/engineering, research/design, trading companies, telecommunications, insurance, etc. Administrative cooperation ministries and organizations include the Cabinet Secretariat, the Cabinet Office (overseeing science and technology/innovation), the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Meteorological Agency, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Defense, JICA, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japan Bosai Platform (JBP) and the Asia Disaster Reduction Center.



JIPAD 1st General Meeting (Establishment of general meeting)

## **(1) The JIPAD Meeting**

The JIPAD 1st General Meeting was held on August 23, 2019 and was attended by the Ambassadors of Mozambique and Indonesia and Extraordinary Ambassador of Ecuador and 151 member companies. The Cabinet Office proposed main activity plans for FY2019 and the Cabinet Secretariat, JETRO and JBP, which are administrative cooperation ministry and organizations, reported their efforts to support overseas deployment. When the JIPAD was established, Mr. Yamamoto, Minister of State for Disaster Management said, “I would like to cooperate with private companies with various technologies and proceed to try and save as many lives as possible in the world.”

The JIPAD 2nd General Meeting was held on December 11, 2019 and attended by 20 people from the embassies of 14 countries, including the Ambassadors of Turkey, Malawi, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Bulgaria and the Colombia Minister and 84 people from 53 member companies. The Cabinet Office introduced the English translation of the White Paper on Disaster Management for FY2019 and reported on the main activities up to December 2019. At the same time, the Cabinet Secretariat, the Cabinet Office (overseeing science and technology/innovation) and the JBP, which are administrative cooperation ministries and an organization, reported their efforts to support overseas expansion. At the conclusion, Mr. Taira, State-Minister of Cabinet Office said, “We would like to utilize cutting-edge science and technology in collaboration with private companies to boost global disaster risk reduction effectively.”



Address by Mr. Taira, State-Minister of Cabinet Office at the 2nd General Assembly of the JIPAD



Mr. Yamamoto, Minister of State for Disaster Management at the 1st General Assembly of the JIPAD

## **(2) Public-private Disaster Risk Reduction Seminars**

The JIPAD introduces Japan's disaster risk reduction policies, technology and know-how in an integrated manner, builds a public-private network and hold “public-private disaster risk reduction seminars” in Japan and overseas to strengthen disaster risk reduction cooperation.

In November 2019, the JIPAD held a Japan-Turkey public-private disaster risk reduction seminar in Ankara, Turkey, in collaboration with the aforementioned Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction and featuring the participation of 11 JIPAD companies. The seminar was attended by many from Turkey, including Mr. İsmail Çatakli, the Deputy Minister of Interior, public and private disaster risk reduction officials, as well as disaster risk reduction officials from Asian countries who participated in the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction.

In January 2020, the JIPAD visited Quito City, Ecuador and Bogota City, Colombia and held a public-private disaster risk reduction seminar with the participation of 12 JIPAD companies. In Ecuador, the seminar was participated in by Mr. Sudo, Ambassador to Ecuador from Japan, Mr. Murate Assistant Vice-Minister for Disaster Management and other public and private disaster risk reduction officials from Ecuador, including the Commissioner of the Crisis Management Agency Ocles. In Colombia, the seminar attracted public and private disaster risk reduction officials, including Mr. Morishita, Ambassador of Japan in Colombia, Mr. Murate, Assistant Vice-Minister for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office and Ms. Gonzalez, Deputy Director of the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD).



Japan-Turkey Public-Private Disaster Risk Reduction Seminar



Japan-Ecuador Public-Private Disaster Risk Reduction Seminar

Taking the opportunity of executives and officials overseeing disaster risk reduction administrations from different countries to visit Japan for JICA training, etc., the Cabinet Office held a public-private disaster risk reduction seminar, etc. involving the participation of JIPAD companies. In FY2019, we held a total of 11 public-private disaster risk reduction seminars for the following countries: In October 2019, Bulgaria (Deputy Minister of Interior Berner, etc.), African countries, ASEAN countries; in November 2019, Mozambique (Executive Director of Mozambican Reconstruction Authority Pereira, Director of National Disaster Management Agency Maita, etc.), Pacific and Caribbean Islands; in January 2020, Ghana (Director-General of Disaster Prevention Organization Prempeh); and in February 2020, six Asian countries, the Republic of Maldives, Bulgaria and Western Balkan countries, Mozambique (Deputy Mayor Marrakes Beira, etc.) and Myanmar (Director General of Disaster Management Bureau, Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and ResettlementKo Ko Naing).



ASEAN public-private disaster risk reduction seminar



Public-private disaster risk reduction seminar in Republic of Ghana

#### **[Column] Examples of Disaster Risk Reduction Technologies Deployed by JIPAD Members**

Here are some examples of technologies that JIPAD members introduce overseas:

“Social contribution through technological development for disaster risk reduction and reconstruction”:  
Fujita Corporation

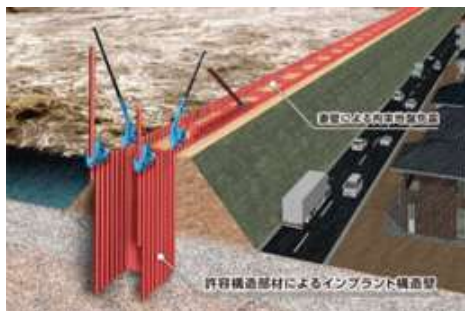
Unmanned construction technology using robots enables construction to be carried out, even in dangerous affected areas or steep slopes. As a construction company, we are developing not only resilient construction and civil engineering technologies, such as seismic isolation and earthquake resistance, but also beds that can be folded compactly without tools.



“Protecting human lives and property from disasters with an unbreakable embankment”:

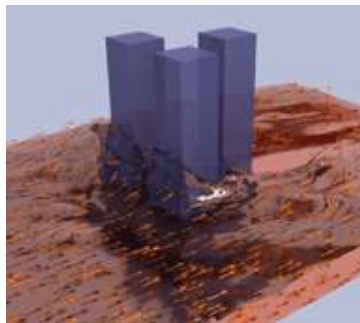
GIKEN LTD.

GIKEN have developed an “implant method” that enables the embankment to withstand external forces from ground subsidence, tsunami, etc., caused by an earthquake by press-fitting high-rigidity steel sheet piles and piles deep into the ground. This method can be used even in narrow spaces without scaffolding.



“Preparing for the tsunami”: Yachiyo Engineering Co., Ltd.

Yachiyo Engineering have developed a simulation model capable of analyzing any rise of a tsunami caused by a building using 3D analytical technology and make recommendations on what floors are safe. The purpose of this development is to utilize this model for developing a tsunami-resistant town plan.



“Contribution to disaster management through advanced weather observation and forecasting”: Japan Weather Association

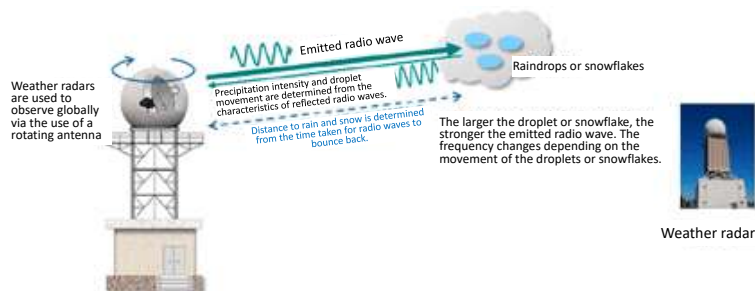
Japan Weather Association are engaged in wide-ranging weather consulting, from operating meteorological observation equipment to weather forecasting, announcing and transmitting forecasts and warnings. Japan's solid-state weather radar has a better life-cycle cost than conventional radars equipped with vacuum tubes and can be operated stably. The radiosonde we have put into practical use is compact, high-performance, lightweight and very economical.





“Creating regional disaster management capabilities”: TOHATSU Co., Ltd.

TOHATSU develop and manufacture portable fire pumps that are “small, lightweight and compact.” They are also used by Japanese fire brigades. The portable fire pump enables quick fire-extinguishing activities at a fire site at the end of a path inaccessible to fire engines and helps improve the disaster risk reduction capabilities of the region.



“Easy-to-assemble safe and secure toilet booth of storage type for disasters”: Kawahara Technical Research Co., Ltd.

Kawahara Technical Research have developed a public private toilet booth that is mostly made of paper and can be easily assembled. Biological agents placed in a septic tank reduce the risk of infectious diseases. The public private toilet booth is lightweight and able to assemble easily, even by two women, without using tools.

