

IDRC Davos 2016, and official announcement of the “World Bosai Forum/IDRC 2017 in Sendai” (2016/8/28-31)

Theme: International liaison/Dissemination, World Bosai Forum

Place: Davos, Switzerland

From August 28-31, the 6th International Disaster and Risk Conference IDRC Davos 2016 was held in Davos, Switzerland, and approximately 500 participants from 80 countries attended the event, including Prof. Yuichi Ono and Mr. Takuya Ito (Co-researcher). During the conference, the International Research Institute of Disaster Science, Tohoku University (IRIDeS) chaired two sessions, and on the last day, Prof. Ono, together with Mr. Yukimoto Ito, Vice Mayor of Sendai City, officially announced that the “World Bosai Forum/IDRC 2017 in Sendai” is scheduled to be held in Sendai from November 25-27, 2017, and will be organized every two years.

In the session titled “5 Years from the 11 March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami” the experiences and lessons from Japan/Tohoku on the 2011 disaster were shared by representatives of the private sector, local government, academia and media. There were many questions from the participants, on issues such as what the administration should do in regards of risk management, ideas on adapting the Japanese lessons on developing countries, and the practical mitigation measures in Japan, showing high interest in the experience and knowledge on disaster risk reduction accumulated in Japan.

Also, in the session, “The Role of the Media in DRR - How to link between Academia and Media to disseminate better and more timely information to the public,” discussions were made on the role of SNS and existing media, and the importance of information dissemination and disaster risk reduction education in everyday life, including the local media. Other than the session, they visited “Neue Zürcher Zeitung,” a newspaper company in Zurich with a long tradition, from 1780, with staff of Kohoku Shimpo Publishing Co., and exchanged views.

Speakers of the above sessions from Japan are as follows:

- Prof. Yuichi Ono (IRIDeS)
- Dr. Satoru Nishikawa (Executive Director of Research, Japan Center for Area Development Research)
- Mr. Yukimoto Ito (Vice Mayor, City of Sendai)
- Mr. Shinichi Takeda (Head, Disaster Prevention/Education Section, Kahoku Shimpo Publishing Co.)
- Mr. Tadao Hasue (General Manager, Tohoku Branch, Wellthy Corporation)
- Mr. Takuya Ito (Co-researcher, IRIDeS and Consultant, Pacific Consultants Co., Ltd.)



Official announcement of "World Bosai Forum/IDRC 2017 in Sendai"
(From right) Mr. Ito (Vice Mayor of Sendai), Dr. Walter Ammann (GRF Davos*), Prof. Ono



Session "5 Years from the 11 March 2011 East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami"
(From right) Prof. Ono, Mr. Ito (Vice Mayor of Sendai), Mr. Takeda, Mr. Ito (Co-researcher), Mr. Hasue, Dr. Nishikawa

*Global Risk Forum GRF Davos is an organization based in Davos, Switzerland, which organizes IDRC Davos every two years (since 2006).

GRF and IRIDeS have signed a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2015, and are to cooperate in the World Bosai Forum.