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CIFAL Japan - Disaster Risk Reduction: recent policy and practice in Japan

People

Deadline: 8 Aug 2025

Type:	Workshop
Location:	Iwaki City, Japan
Date:	9 Aug 2025
Duration:	3 Hours
Programme Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	https://unitar.org/about/offices-training-centres-around-world/cifal-japan
Price:	\$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	cifal.japan@unitar.org
Partnership:	CIFAL Japan, , Iwaki City

BACKGROUND

Japan is internationally recognised for its advanced systems and policies in disaster risk reduction (DRR), shaped by decades of experience with earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, and extreme weather events. This workshop, organised by CIFAL Japan, provided an opportunity for public officials, community

leaders, students, and practitioners to learn directly about Japan's latest strategies, innovations, and multi-sector approaches in disaster preparedness, response, and resilience building. The event aimed to support the global exchange of knowledge and strengthen local resilience capacities through Japanese best practices.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

- To share Japan's recent developments, policies, and strategies in disaster risk reduction.
- To enhance understanding of community-based and multi-level DRR approaches.
- To support local capacity-building by presenting tools, case studies, and lessons learned.
- To encourage dialogue between DRR practitioners, researchers, and local authorities.
- To promote alignment with the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the workshop, participants were expected to:

- Understand the key elements of modern DRR policy in Japan.
- Identify practical approaches for improving local disaster preparedness.
- Analyse real-world case studies of disaster response and recovery.
- Apply insights from Japanese practice to local, national, or institutional DRR planning.
- Strengthen networks among DRR professionals and stakeholders.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The workshop covered:

- Overview of Japan's national and local DRR strategy
- Recent policy updates and institutional arrangements
- Best practices in earthquake and tsunami preparedness
- Case studies from Iwaki City and Fukushima Prefecture

- Community resilience and education for disaster preparedness
- Q&A and expert dialogue session
- Interactive group discussions (for hybrid participants)

METHODOLOGY

The session used a combination of:

- Expert presentations
- Case study analysis
- Interactive Q&A
- Group reflections (both in-person and online)
- Hybrid facilitation tools for knowledge-sharing

TARGETED AUDIENCE

- Local and national government officials
- Disaster management and civil protection professionals
- University students and researchers
- NGO and community-based organisation representatives
- Interested members of the public