



ADRC Online DRR Seminar Series

Plan

Action

Check

15 June 2021 (Tue.)
18:00 - 19:30
[Japan Time, UTC+9]





First Seminar

Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society

The discussions of the first seminar focused on "Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society" to offer insights that contribute to governments and stakeholders' efforts in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, especially Priority Three: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience.

► Objectives

- 1) Share recent knowledge on risk informed investment from analytical, programming, and empirical views that member states can further adopt to fundamentally reduce disaster damages and economic losses.
- 2) Provide an overview of the key components for achieving a resilient society through investing in disaster risk reduction from the following viewpoints:
 - Why do we need to invest in disaster risk reduction?
 - What have we achieved and what remains to be done?
 - What are the crucial points for building a resilient society?

Dr. Jun Rentschler	Mr. Ronald Jackson	Prof. NISHIKAWA Satoru	Mr. NAKAGAWA Masaaki
 <p>Senior Economist The World Bank, Washington, D.C., USA</p>	 <p>Head DRR and Recovery, UNDP-Geneva, Switzerland</p>	 <p>Professor Disaster Mitigation Research Center Nagoya University, Japan</p>	 <p>Executive Director Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Kobe, Japan</p>

Register <http://bit.ly/adrcseminar1>


YouTube <https://youtu.be/CFAvt0RinKA>

 <https://acdr.adrc.asia/home/2021Seminar>



zoom

ADRC Online DRR Seminar Secretariat

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First Seminar

Agenda

- 18: 00 **Opening**
- 18: 05 **Analytical Perspective**
*Dr. Jun Rentschler, Senior Economist at the World Bank,
Washington, D.C., USA*
- 18: 20 **Programming Perspective**
*Mr. Ronald Jackson, Head, DRR and Recovery, UNDP - Geneva,
Switzerland*
- 18: 35 **Empirical Perspective**
*Prof. NISHIKAWA Satoru, Professor, Disaster Mitigation Research
Center Nagoya University, Japan*
- 18: 50 **Discussions**
- 19: 25 **Wrap-up and Closing**
*Mr. NAKAGAWA Masaaki, Executive Director, Asian Disaster
Reduction Center, Kobe, Japan
(Moderator)*

Summary

The first seminar, held on 15 June 2021, adopted the theme of Investing in Disaster Risk for a Resilient Society. Three speakers shared various perspectives with more than 300 participants from 20 countries.

Dr. Jun Rentschler, Senior Economist at the World Bank, said that "investing in resilience is sound, profitable, and urgent." He supported this claim with evidence-based case studies and statistics showing that every \$1 invested in infrastructure resilience results in \$4 in net benefit. He also showed the challenges experienced by lifeline infrastructures, and pointed to the urgency of further investing in resilience. He argued that delaying such action is causing an estimated loss of \$100 billion in one year.

Mr. Ronald Jackson, Head of DRR and Recovery for Building Resilience Team at UNDP-Geneva, presented UNDP's holistic perspective on building resilience known as "Signature Solutions." This implements six cross-cutting approaches to development: poverty, governance, resilience, environment, energy, and gender. Mr. Jackson cited examples of UNDP's disaster risk mitigation programs in Pakistan (water conservation), Belize (gender and livelihoods), Ukraine (community-based disaster risk mitigation), Iran (climate change adaptation planning), and Rwanda (awareness raising) where Signature Solutions have been implemented.

Prof. NISHIKAWA Satoru at the Disaster Mitigation Research Center of Nagoya University stressed the importance of "pre-disaster" actions or investments in DRR based on the outcomes of empirical studies and lessons from past disasters in Japan. He said that after World War 2, Japan was in ashes and infrastructure recovery was impeded and even further damaged by the impacts of typhoons. In order to prevent future typhoon damage, Japan invested in flood control using funds borrowed from the World Bank. Since then, Japan has strengthened investments in DRR by regularly evaluating what went wrong and went right with pre-disaster countermeasures.

Mr. NAKAGAWA Masaaki, Executive Director of ADRC, moderated the discussions and offered two key takeaways at the closing. First, funds for DRR should not be seen as an expense but as an investment. It was clear from the presentations, and affirmed during the discussions, that \$1 in DRR investment would render \$4 in benefits. Moreover, DRR investments are not always infrastructure investments. Stakeholders can also invest in planning, policies, regulations, databases, and nature-based solutions. Second, DRR investments must be people-centered. As observed in the past, investments focused on economic growth could expand income inequality, such that poor people remain disproportionately affected by disasters or global pandemics.