

Pillar 2 : Addressing Challenges in an Indo-Pacific Way

Case (19): Improvement of disaster prevention and disaster response capabilities

1. Basic concept

- Disaster risk reduction is a specialty area of Japan, which has know-how and technologies based on the experiences of various disasters. Internationally, Japan hosted the past three UN World Conferences on Disaster Risk Reduction, and leads global initiatives in terms of not only practical measures but also a way of thinking from a distinctive standpoint as a disaster-prone country, such as pre-disaster investment and “Build Back Better.”
 - Recently, due to the climate change, frequency and severity of disasters are increasing. It is also estimated that the number of disaster in the world will increase by 40% from 2015 to 2030. In particular, we need urgent measures for island countries, which are easily damaged by the effect of climate change and disaster, tend to be more vulnerable and trapped in a vicious circle. Disaster risk reduction, which directly relates to human life and economy, is a critical issue and a highly inclusive agenda for all countries.
 - Earthquakes cause enormous human suffering and economic losses in an instant and are a common problem in the Indo-Pacific region, that surrounds plate boundaries. As one of the world's most earthquake-prone countries, there are high expectations for Japan.
 - Gender issues that exist in normal times are amplified and women are disproportionately affected in times of disaster. Japan has worked on disaster risk reduction with gender perspectives and included disaster prevention in Women, Peace and Security (WPS) action plan.
- ⇒ Improving the resilience, which is important to realize FOIP, through enhancing support and cooperation for disaster risk reduction in the Indo-Pacific region
- ⇒ The resilient Indo-Pacific region formed as a result of this initiative will become the “firm foundation” in the region, and serve as the cooperation base under the FOIP.

2. Items of cooperation

- Acceleration of disaster risk reduction investment that contributes to the reduction of disaster risks
(e.g.) Project for improving disaster risk reduction infrastructure as a model project in developing countries
- Cooperation in disaster reduction in the Indo-Pacific region with the Asian Disaster Reduction Center as a hub
(e.g.) Human resource development by accepting visiting researchers (125 researchers from 27 countries by FY2022)
- Support for the popularization of early warning systems
(e.g.) Project for improving meteorological radar systems in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan
- Training and workshop on earthquake-proofing technologies for houses and buildings
(e.g.) Training on earthquake proof/isolation technologies, disaster risk reduction education project, and support for capacity building in Turkish, Bangladesh and other countries. Support for the establishment of building technical regulations for Cambodia
- Capacity building support to improve disaster response capability for the Indo-Pacific region
(e.g.) Civil engineering for the state guard(Timor-Leste), cooperation in the research in monitoring technology and data processing and communication technologies for the improvement and advancement of earthquake and tsunami observation system(the Philippines and Indonesia), sharing of knowledge on the operation of a medical room at an army post and emergency treatment technical education(Fiji) and facility and machine maintenance education for the state guard(Papua New Guinea)



Philippines:
River improvement



Bangladesh:
Improvement of the meteorological radar system



Turkish:
Disaster risk reduction education project

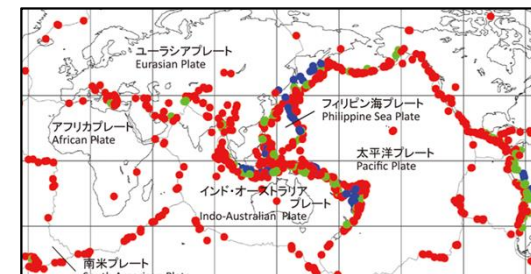


Timor-Leste:
Civil engineering

Structural and nonstructural support for the Pacific, ASEAN, and Indian Ocean regions

Regional stability through the cooperation for disaster risk reduction

The formed resilience will become the base of the Indo-Pacific region



Hypocenter distribution for Magnitude 6 and higher earthquakes



Asian Disaster Reduction Center
Visiting research fellows
(Affected area of the Great East Japan Earthquake)