

## The Graduate School of Safety Science and Research Center for Social Safety Science, Kansai University



### Admission Policy

As 120 years anniversary of Kansai University, new challenge program for establishment of safety and secure society began in 2010. We aim to advance the studies on Safety Sciences and to foster the researchers who contribute to develop the said studies and make proposals through interdisciplinary studies on disaster prevention and reduction, in order to build a safer, more secure and disaster-resilient society. Therefore, we want to accept graduates of various academic fields of cultural, social, and natural sciences who are eager to work the said studies from many domestic and overseas university and graduate schools, not speak of our Faculty of Safety Science. We also accept applicants who work now at many public and private sectors and have a will to study. Recurrent programs for the professions are provided as well. Japanese studies on disaster prevention and reduction are in the forefront in the world. Overseas applicants are willingly accepted.

### Research Staffs and Research Field

We have 25 Professors in the field of Natural Science as well as Social Science. Natural disasters and accidents have various characteristics, therefore we have to analyze systematically with collaboration of scientists, engineers and practitioners.

In 2011, the east Japan earthquake disaster occurred. This was the typical compound disasters with earthquake, tsunami and nuclear power plant failure. Some of our staffs joined the reconnaissance team for the disaster such as:

- (1) Field survey on tsunami disasters and how to construct tuff tsunami breakwater
- (2) Recovery and reconstruction process of damaged society and community
- (3) Analyze the process of accident of The first Fukushima nuclear power plant

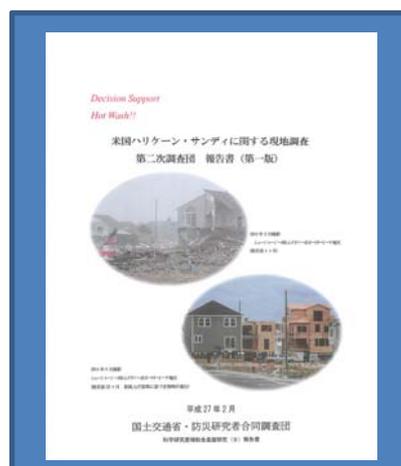
Moreover, we contribute to disaster reduction of National Crisis such as Tokyo Metropolitan earthquake and Nankai trough earthquake. As a committee member in Central Disaster Prevention Council, Japanese Government, we have done some efforts to establish the revised regulation laws. Some activities have been done in the international field survey on natural disasters such as 2009 Chill tsunami and 2012 Hurricane Sandy. In the former case, we have collaborated with JICA to promote the improvement of countermeasures in Chili and in the latter case we visited FEMA to learn about the disaster lessons. The results of field survey were used to improve the countermeasures in our country.

### Some Examples of Important Results and Their Effects

After coming back from field survey on Hurricane Sandy in the USA, we recommended some new policies to MLIT (Ministry of Lifeline, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism) and timeline will be facilitated to control flooding until this March in the 109 first class river systems in Japan. One of our staffs has been a Technical Committee Member, The Central Disaster Prevention Council since 2000 so that the recommendation of the committee has so strong power to do decision making of the Cabinet. For example, the damage estimation and some effective countermeasures were proposed in the cases of



Official Technical Report on Fukushima No.1 Nuclear Power Plant Accident (2014)



Disaster Lessons Learned by Hurricane Sandy (2013, 2014)

Tokyo Metropolitan earthquake (M7.3) and Nankai trough earthquake (M9). Disaster resilient strategy was also revised in accordance with the recommendation.

## Research Goal

Study on disaster management is very practical. At the moment of disaster occurrence, the leading role is damaged people. Therefore, how to reduce damage is the most important goal of disaster research. Most academic institute activities are independent from damage reduction in the society. The results of disaster research have to be practical on damage reduction. This is the most important disaster lesson in 1995 Kobe earthquake. We usually promote our studies on emergency management to get sustainable and resilient society.

## Catastrophic Disasters (Death toll >1,000) in Japan since around 600

