

**Resolution of the
First Global Summit of Research Institutes for
Disaster Risk Reduction**

Over the past year, we have seen the worst natural disaster in recent Japan history with the 2011 Tohoku earthquake, deadly volcanic eruptions in Indonesia, and devastating floods in Brazil. We know that these and other types of events from natural hazards will occur in the future, impacting all countries of the world.

For the purpose of discussing new approaches to disaster mitigation and risk management, representatives from 25 research institutes in 11 countries met in Kyoto, Japan on Nov. 24-25, 2011 for the First Global Summit of Research Institutes for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Recent experiences and studies of the natural disasters around the world have shown,

- Rising losses from disasters, despite better scientific understanding
- Widespread global effects from local natural hazard events
- Increasing vulnerability of both rural areas and growing urban centers
- High risks from natural disasters in many developing countries
- Need to address rare events and worst case scenarios that have very high losses
- Growing complexity of disasters in technically advanced societies
- Importance of health issues and human capacity building

Our research institutes have the responsibility to address the evolving issues associated with saving lives and reducing economic losses caused by natural disasters. To this purpose, we commit to,

1. Emphases on new approaches for effective communication to the decision makers and public about natural disasters

2. Establishment of global platforms to enhance studies of disaster risk reduction for short-, mid-, and long-term planning
3. Implementation of interdisciplinary approaches which strive to meaningfully combine efforts in technological innovations, applications, governances, and education
4. Timely meetings among researchers of these institutes to form and maintain important communication networking.
5. Publication and distribution of timely research findings that promote open communication among researchers, government agencies, international committees, private sector groups, and other groups working in natural hazards
6. Establishment of an international alliance, initially fostered by the Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, to organize research institutes involved in disaster reduction and risk management and move forward on the above recommendations

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Uji, Kyoto, Japan

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