



GADRI ACTIONS

Winter 2022 Volume 18— Number 1







6th Global Summit of

GADRI

15 - 17 March 2023

DPRI, Kyoto University, Uji Campus, Japan



Dear Members of GADRI,

Compliments of the season from all of us at the GADRI Secretariat!

Looking back, 2022 brought forth many welcoming changes, from relaxing of COVID-19 restrictions at home and abroad; and even with some countries even opening borders. Many of you must have been busy with a many activities and especially travel related activities too.

GADRI Secretariat continued to work along with its agenda and would like to share with you a few of the activities covered by the Secretariat especially in 2022:

- Continued with the quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors of GADRI.
- Formation of the five Committees of GADRI to work specifically towards the objectives of GADRI outlined in the Charter of GADRI
- Initiation of a database on the Collection of the World Disaster Databases a project under GADRI Committee on Networking
- Progressing towards the 6th Global Summit of GADRI: Towards GADRI Objectives of Achieving a Sustainable Disaster-Resilient World to be held at DPRI, Kyoto University, Uji Campus, Kyoto, Japan from 15 to 17 March 2023. This will be an in-person meeting only. As we are going to have this meeting after a four year, we are hoping to see many faces in Uji, Kyoto, Japan in March 2023.
- Under the Disaster and Risk Research: GADRI Book Series, three books were *published*.
- GADRI Secretariat was visited by the Director-General Stephen Quest, European Commission-Joint Research Centre and his colleagues, Italy in October 2023.
- Secretary-General of GADRI participated at the UNDRR meeting on Regional STAG in November 2022.
- GADRI Actions published the Spring, Summer and December 2022 editions of the GADRI newsletters
- Currently, inputs are called for the GADRI Annual Report 2022

We are also reaching out to you with multiple messages to get your inputs for the 6th Global Summit of GADRI. These messages cover the GADRI survey, calling abstracts for the Poster and the Networking with Institutes session, early bird registrations, and excursions. Do take advantage of this opportunity which has come after four long years, to meet with each other. The Summit cannot be a successful event without your participation and contributions. We count on you and look forward to seeing you in March 2023.

As always, we will continue to work closely with you and keep in touch with you too.

We send our warmest greetings for a very Happy Holiday Season. Have a Wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Hirokazu Tatano and Everyone at the GADRI Secretariat

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6th Global Summit of

<mark>g a d r i</mark>



GADRI

The prolonged worldwide pandemic and cascading risks have taught us that the conventional approach to disaster risk planning and management is ineffective for the development of sustainable and resilient communities.

A worldwide pandemic underscores the importance of integrating the following key areas: -

- Disaster risk should not be treated in isolation but should be integrated with health risks, climate change, and environmental risks;
- DRR objectives and vision should be integrated with sustainable development goals to foster a resilient world;
- Short-term DRR objectives need to be integrated

Sub-themes:

- 1. COVID 19 recovery and building disaster resiliency
- 2. Disaster risk governance
- 3. GADRI for realizing the SENDAI Framework
- 4. Inclusive and equitable DRR
- 5. Sustainable DRR: Integrating climate action, SDGs and DRR
- GADRI Objective I (global research network) for Sustainable and Resilient Society Against Disasters (SRSAD)
- 7. GADRI Objective II (developing research roadmaps and plans) for SRSAD
- 8. GADRI Objective III (building the capacities of

Important Dates:

 15 to 17 March 2023—6th Global Summit of GADRI at DPRI, Kyoto University, Uji Campus, Kyoto, Japan

Registrations and Accommodations

 1 October 2022 to 20 January 2023—Early Bird Registrations with a long-term vision and plans for a resilient society.

Towards a sustainable and resilient society, the GADRI's five-fold objectives need to be directed toward the above-mentioned three key areas for integration in research and development.

The 6th GADRI Global Summit aims to systematically identify the processes, techniques, evidence, challenges and opportunities for achieving the GADRI objectives for a sustainable and resilient society against hazards and working to keep them from becoming disasters. Program participants will communicate academic science across scientific disciplines to policymakers and practitioners.

research institutes) for SRSAD

- 9. GADRI Objective IV (mutual sharing information and engaging in collaborative research) for SRSAD
- 10. GADRI Objective V (serve as an advocacy organization) for SRSAD

(Note: Sub-themes 6 to 10 will identify the gaps, discuss what we can do/what should be done and suggest recommendations towards realizing GADRI objectives)

Pre-conference survey:

• Related to the five committees - contributions -

Website of the 6th Global Summit of GADRI

-https://gadri.net/summit/

- 21 January to 28 February 2023—Regular Rate
- 1 January 2023 to 28 February 2023—Completion of Accommodation

Posters and Presentations

• 20 January 2023

Pre-conference Survey

• 31 January 2023

Post-disaster business recovery is susceptibility to financial conditions, especially for Small and Medium Enterprises

By Dr. Huan Liu

Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University, Japan Report written for the GADRI ACTIONS

1. Introduction

Businesses play an important role in local economies, but they are highly vulnerable to disasters and face significant challenges in mitigating them. At the same time, businesses face significant constraints regarding access to finance in the aftermath of disasters, exacerbating their financial vulnerability. Therefore, understanding, managing, and reducing the financial and fiscal impacts of natural disasters on businesses can effectively enhance post-disaster response and "building back better" achieve in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. However, due to the complexity of the post-disaster recovery process and data limitations, little evidence has been provided on how business financial status affects the post-disaster recovery from the individual firm perspective, especially the effect on different size firms. In this regard, this paper discusses the role of financial status in post-disaster recovery and provides empirical evidence of how financial status influences business recovery using 2052 firms' postdisaster recovery data after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. It is worth mentioning that this paper is an extension of the discussion of the journal paper "Modeling Post-disaster Business Recovery under Partially Observed States: A Case Study of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake" published by Huan Liu, Hirokazu Tatano, Yoshio Kajitani, and Yongsheng Yang in the Journal of Cleaner Production in 2022 [1]. This paper provides unique insight into the challenges of financing vulnerable industrial sectors, including the unique challenges of how governments use capital markets to finance building back better and sustainable developments. In Section 2, the case study and post-disaster data description are presented, as well as the reasons that caused financial difficulties in firms. In Section 3, the recovery curves under different financial statuses in industrial sectors are presented and compared using the case study data. Specifically, to investigate the heterogeneity of business size for financial difficulties, we further compared the recovery curves in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and large businesses under different financial difficulties. The conclusions and potential policy implications are discussed in Section 4.

2. Business recovery after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake

2.1 Data description and study area

After the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, we conducted two postal mail questionnaire surveys to collect business recovery data in the earthquake-affected areas (excluding tsunami-affected areas). The first survey was conducted in Miyagi and Iwate prefectures by the Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry from November 15 to December 5, 2011 (Nakano et al., 2012). The second survey was conducted in Aomori, Akita,

Yamagata, Fukushima, Tochigi, Ibaraki, and Chiba prefectures by the Disaster Prevention Research Institute and the International Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) from November 7 to December 7, 2012 (Furuhashi et al., 2014). The details of the questionnaire are shown in Appendix A. To reduce the sample selection bias, it was made sure that firm damages were caused by the earthquake only, and firms suffering from both earthquake and tsunami damage were excluded from the samples.

In this research, we use the percentages of production capacity rate (PCR) to quantitively describe and measure business recovery, and the pre-disaster PCR is defined as a baseline of 100%. A detailed description of the dataset used is summarized in Table 1, and the spatial distribution of the samples is presented in Figure 1. As shown in the figure, the surveyed firms were located in the Tohoku region (Aomori, Akita, Yamagata, Miyagi,

and Iwate prefectures) and Kanto region (e.g., Tochigi, Ibaraki, and Chiba prefectures) in Japan. Firm size is defined as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and large enterprises, and categorized under the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Basic Act in Japan (The Small and Medium Enterprise Agency Japan, 1999) [2].

			0,		
Financial condition	Firm size	Sector			
		Manufacturing sec- tor	Non- manufacturing sector	Total	
Suffered from financial difficul-	SMEs	150	249	410	
	Large enterprises	5	15	419	
Without suffering from finan- cial difficulties	SMEs	498	965	- 1633	
	Large enterprises	67	103		
Total		720	1332	2052	





Figure 1. The spatial distribution of samples in this research

5

2.2 The reasons for faced with financial difficulties in firms in the aftermath of disasters

Reasons for SMEs and large enterprises facing with financial resources shortage after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake are described and compared in this section. Among collected samples, 419 out of the 2052 firms have suffered from recovery funding shortages or difficulties in raising such funding. The reasons for the financial difficulties that occurred in these firms are summarized in Figure 2. As shown in the figure, in both large firms and SMEs, the main reason for firms facing difficulties in obtaining recovery funds was the amount of insurance claims or subsidies were less than the actual amount incurred by damages or losses. The second reason was that the procedures for applying the recovery funding were too complicated. In SMEs, financial difficulties

because of insufficient compensation to cover the damages accounted for 10.24% in manufacturing and 16.27% in non-manufacturing sectors; financial difficulties due to complicated application processes accounted for 10.84% in both manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors. Meanwhile, unlike large enterprises, SMEs' financial difficulties were also caused by reasons such as rejection of recovery funding applications, not receiving insurance claims or recovery grants, or late payment of loans, insurance claims, and grants.



Figure 2. Reasons for faced with financial difficulties in firms

3. Insights into the recovery curves under different financial conditions

3.1 Recovery curves under different financial conditions

The state distribution parameters can be estimated by dividing the samples into different financial condition groups, that is, firms that have suffered from financial difficulties and have not suffered from financial difficulties during recovery in the manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors, respectively. The recovery curves in the corresponding group were estimated and are presented in Figure 3. The results indicate that firms suffering from financial difficulties have experienced a longer and slower recovery as compared to firms without financial difficulties, which highlights the importance of financial support in post-disaster restoration. For example, in the manufacturing sector, 60 days after the earthquake, 85.82% of firms starting from initial state 1 achieved 100% full recovery if there were no financial difficulties, while only 1.29% of firms that started from initial state 1 (0%) achieved 100% full recovery if there were

financial difficulties. Meanwhile, the recovery rate differences are significant among firms with and without difficulties. After the catastrophic 2011 Great East Japan earthquake, almost all firms without financial difficulties could achieve full recovery after 120 days, while only 20% achieved full recovery in the group of firms with financial difficulties. These results shed light on the importance of financial support in the post-disaster recovery process, especially for firms suffering from more severe damage. Since the more severely affected firms tend to face more severe financial pressure, the condition of the financial assistance for these firms cannot be solved; their recovery process will be slower, which will lead to a vicious cycle. Hence, developing a sustainable financial system is critical for building resilience in industrial sectors toward disaster, among which establishing the catastrophe insurance system is an effective way to diffuse the risk of huge catastrophes.



Figure 3. Recovery curves under different financial conditions

3.2 Comparison of the impact of post-disaster financial conditions in different size's firms

This section illustrates the recovery process of SMEs and large enterprises under different financial statuses. In particular, the recovery curves of SMEs and large enterprises are estimated and compared. Figures 4 and 5 present the recovery curves of firms of different sizes with and without financial difficulties, respectively. The recovery curve of large enterprises in the manufacturing sector, which suffered from financial difficulties, was not estimated because the observed number of samples was only five. To highlight the impact of financial condition in terms of firms of different sizes, all recovery curves presented in Figures 4 and 5 start from the initial FPCR at state 1 (PCR= 0%), until full recovery (PCR=100%).

When facing financial difficulties, larger enterprises are expected to achieve quicker recovery compared to SMEs. Without suffering from financial difficulties, the expected recovery rate in large firms is slightly slower than in the SMEs in both the manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors. Besides, it is noticed that when there are no post-disaster financial difficulties, large firms experience a slower and longer recovery process compared to SMEs; however, in the case of financial difficulties, large firms can expect a quicker recovery than SMEs. For instance, 50 days after the earthquake, 2.97% of large firms without suffered financial difficulties are expected to achieve full recovery while it is only 0.7% in SMEs regardless of sector type; 4 months after the earthquake, 17.23% of large firms are expected to achieve 100% recovery compared with 8.81% in the manufacturing sector and 8.56% in the non-manufacturing sector in SMEs. One possible reason for this phenomenon is that large firms are more likely to borrow money from banks because they have larger expected cash flows as compared to SMEs.



Figure 4. Recovery curves for firms of different sizes that suffered from financial difficulties



Figure 5. Recovery curves for firms of different sizes without financial difficulties

4. Discussion and conclusion

Understanding how financial status influences the process of business can effectively enhance the recovery process, thereby investing in and establishing more resilient industries. Using the recovery after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake as a case study, results indicate that disaster recovery is positively associated with business financial capacities. Specifically, firms that have suffered from financial difficulties are expected to experience a much longer recovery time compared to firms without financial difficulties; this leads to greater production capacity loss. As for the heterogeneity of firm size in terms of financial status, results indicate that: in the absence of financial difficulties, SMEs were expected to achieve a faster recovery compared to large businesses; while when financial difficulties are encountered, the estimated recovery process is opposite, that SMEs were expected to experience a slower recovery compared to large businesses. Findings are critical in providing empirical evidence for government decision-makers in the short-term government response and longterm disaster risk financing. According to our estimation results, the following discussions on potential policy implementation are proposed to build back better and build resilient industries.

(1) Building shock-responsive systems that link financial and business preparedness to ensure effective recovery and reconstruction. In the aftermath of a disaster, businesses can easily face a variety of challenges, including difficulty extending credit lines, lack of co-signers and collateral, and difficulty borrowing enough money to achieve longterm financial stability. Meanwhile, adequate financial resources can have a significant positive effect on facilitating the recovery process. Therefore, securing adequate disaster recovery funding can improve and ensure rapid recovery from disasters. Governments can use capital markets to finance the building of better and sustainable development.

(2) Establishing financial assistance policies for SMEs to borrow funds for rehabilitation and Currently, under reconstruction. the Credit Guarantee Corporation Act (1953), credit guarantee companies have been established in each prefecture to ensure that SMEs can easily borrow money from banks. Normally, credit guarantee companies can use their networks to provide financial services to local SMEs (Japan Federation of Credit Guarantee Companies 2018) [3]. However, according to the cases of financial difficulties presented in Figure 2, the results show that 19.28% of SMEs experienced financial difficulties during the recovery process because their loan applications were rejected under disaster scenarios. In contrast, there were no large enterprises in the sample that experienced financial difficulties due to the rejection of loan applications. This phenomenon is due to the various difficulties SMEs face when applying for credit from financial institutions, mainly caused by their relatively weak creditworthiness. When a disaster strikes, credit difficulties are exacerbated, and even SMEs with high credit ratings face challenges in borrowing funds for post-disaster reconstruction. Therefore, establishing financial assistance policies are critical to helping SMEs overcome the difficulties of borrowing funds after a disaster.

References

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Typhoon impacts in Japan in 2022

By Prof. Tetsuya Takemi

Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University, Japan

Typhoons, tropical cyclones in the western North Pacific, are significant meteorological hazards in East and Southeast Asia including Japan.

In this article, we report the impacts of typhoons in Japan in 2022. The figures below show the temporal changes of the number of typhoon occurrences (upper panel) and the strongest typhoons (lower panel). The strongest typhoons are those having the lifetime minimum surface pressure of 920 hPa or lower. Both numbers indicate that the typhoon activity in 2022 (as of December 13th, 2022) is nearly normal. The number of the landfalling typhoons in Japan in 2022 is 3, which also indicates that the 2022 condition is quite normal.

One of the strongest typhoons in 2022, Hinnamnor, the 11th typhoon which occurred in late August to early September, was anticipated to spawn significant impacts in western Japan. Owing to an early warning and preparedness of the public as well as the typhoon track shifted off the coast of western Japan, the number of confirmed deaths was 0. Also, Hinnamnor rapidly weakened than expected, as it approached the Japanese islands and moved northward. Well-preparedness to this extreme typhoon is considered to work positively.

In September, there were two typhoons that had significant impacts: Typhoon Nanmadol, the 14th typhoon, and Talas, the 15th typhoon. Nanmadol reached its maximum intensity of the minimum surface central pressure being 910 hPa nad the maximum surface wind being 54 m/s, which is the strongest typhoon in this season, and caused heavy rainfalls and strong winds on the Pacific side of the Japanese islands. Five people were dead, and more than 100 were injured.



It should be emphasized that the number of casualties and the damages to daily lives and social -economic activity were not so disastrous as compared with the impacts due to the recent strongest typhoons such as Jebi (2018), Faxai (2019), and Hagibis (2019). On the other hand, Talas did not reach a tropical cyclone intensity, but caused heavy rainfalls mainly, with record-breaking daily rainfall at several places, in the central part of Japan.

Fortunately, the number of the casualties was limited to 12. Considering that the recent extreme typhoons and resulting heavy rainfalls/strong winds have caused disastrous damages, the typhoon impacts in 2022 seem to be not so damaging. This may be partly due to the improvement of weather forecasting and information dissemination. Also important is the adequate responses of the public agencies and local governments to the weather forecasting and information. Another important point is that general public becomes more prepared to and aware of the impacts of extreme weather and typhoons based on the recent experiences of the recent heavy rainfalls and damaging typhoons.



Courtesy Visit by the European Commission Joint Research Centre Director General

Mr. Stephen Quest, the Director-General of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission and his colleagues made a courtesy visit to the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI) of the Kyoto University, Uji Campus. They received a warm welcome from Prof. Eiichi Nakakita, Director, DPRI; Prof. Ryosuke Uzuoka, Vice-Director, DPRI; and Prof. Hirokazu Tatano, Secretary General, Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI) and Professor, DPRI. EC-JRC has an Agreement of Cooperation



with DPRI, Kyoto University since 2011.

They had fruitful discussions on future collaborative activities especially on disaster risk reduction. The Director-General Stephen Quest assured Prof. Tatano that EC-JRC will be represented at the planned 6th Global Summit of GADRI to be held at DPRI from 15 to 17 March 2023.







From L: Ruosuke Uzuoka, PASENIC Liliana, Sabine Henzler, Stephen Quest, Eiichi Nakakita, and Hirokazu Tatano

Open Campus Day at DPRI, Uji Campus, Kyoto University October 2022



It is Open Campus Day at the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Uji Campus, Kyoto University, Japan, 22 and 23 October 2022. This time, after three years of online session, it is opened to the public.

Days leading up to the event were days of spring cleaning. A touch of aesthetics to laboratories to the exteriors of the building to the landscaping.



Three days prior to event, three working hours in the afternoon are allocated when everyone is required to go out, and clean the surrounding area, pick up all sort of garbage, remove weeds, sweep up the pavements, and make it spick-and-span prior to opening the doors to the public in the preceding weekend.

This year, there was added attention and hustle and bustle as the President of the Kyoto University will visit DPRI and interested in learning about the work carried out by our talented researchers, especially the young professionals.

The President, Prof. Nagahiro Minato, took his term of office as the President of the Kyoto University in October 2020. This was his first time to visit the DPRI facilities.



On Saturday, 22 October 2022, Prof. Minato was welcomed to the DPRI and received by the DPRI Director Prof. Eiichi Nakakita, and Prof. Hirokazu Tatano, Secretary-General, the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI); and Head, Social Systems for Disaster Risk Governance, DPRI; and other faculty members of DPRI.

Prof. Minato delivered a keynote speech at the Kihad Hall, Oubaku Plaza.

His speech was followed by a presentation by Prof. Hirokazu Tatano on the "Economic analysis of disasters: what we learned from past research".





Abstract of Prof. Tatano's address:

Since the Niigata Chuetsu Earthquake in 2004, we have continued to investigate the impact of major disasters on corporate production activities. With regard to the economic damage to the east Japan earthquake in 2011, we successfully made a model to be replicated the impact. In addition to the discussion on the challenges towards reducing disaster risks, I would like to share my knowledge gained during this research.

Prof. Minato moved on to site visit the Wood Working Shop, Xylarium, Research Institute for Sustainable Humanoshere (RISH) which was founded in 1980 where there are collections of wood samples which are "botanically authenticated, and some corresponding to herbarium specimens".





Public members participated in various games and exercises organised by the faculty of DPRI.







Prof. Minato attended presentations by DPRI faculty at the Wood Composite Hall (RISH). The presentations were paraded by young and upcoming researchers which included many females too.













Prof. Minato proceeded to visit the DPRI Ujigawa Open Laboratory.









Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS), Potsdam, Germany Bids Farewell to Scientific Director Prof. Ortwin Renn

Congratulations on your retirement Prof. Ortwin Renn.

Browsing through the webpages of IASS, we discovered the following article on the retirement celebration party held for Prof. Ortwin Renn, Scientific Director, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS), Potsdam, Germany. He was a very much valued former member of the Board of Directors of GADRI who actively and dedicatedly contributed to GADRI activities during its initial years of formation. GADRI Secretariat was in constant touch with Prof. Ortwin. He is a very humble, and approachable person. He continues his humble services to GADRI even to date.

The following article by <u>Dr. Bianca Schröder</u>, Press and Communications Officer, IASS, Potsdam, appeared on the IASS webpage on 19 December 2022. Bianca kindly permitted GADRI to use the excerpts from the article and shared the photos too.

"As 2022 draws to a close, the IASS bids farewell to Ortwin Renn, one of the Institute's two scientific directors, who will retire at the end of the year. At a joyful and moving celebration, staff at the IASS paid tribute to Renn's achievements as an outstanding researcher and leader.

Ortwin Renn joined the IASS in February 2016 after a <u>long and successful career as a scientist</u> and university lecturer.

Six of the Institute's research group leaders also lauded Renn's contribution to the IASS in their speeches. In their view, Ortwin Renn was "an enabler, a leader, and a very decent human being," "one of the few people in science who is incredibly successful and yet so nice," "an insanely great director," and "a gifted leader who allowed us great creative freedom and always helped us when we needed it." The team that led GADRI Secretariat and its members wish Prof. Ortwin Renn a very happy and a well-deserved retirement.

Prof. Renn will be one of the keynote speakers at the forthcoming 6th Global Summit of GADRI: Towards GADRI Objectives of Achieving a Sustainable Disaster-Resilient World to be held at the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University, Uji Campus, Kyoto, Japan from 15 to 17 March 2023.

GADRI is delighted to note that Prof. Ortwin Renn will maintain his affiliation with the IASS in his retirement.

preparations for the evaluation described Renn as a "unshakable bastion of patience and resolve". He was "always responsive to everyone" and "proposed compromises without watering down the issues at stake".

For his part, Ortwin Renn had warm words of gratitude for the staff of the IASS. He expressed his sentiments by reciting the opening lines from Hermann Hesse's poem

"As every flower fades and as all youth Departs, so life at every stage, So every virtue, so our grasp of truth, Blooms in its day and may not last forever."

(Translated by Richard and Clara Winston in: The Glass Bead Game) And while Renn may be retiring, he will continue to actively cooperate with the IASS - operating under its new name "Research Institute For Sustainability – Helmholtz Centre Potsdam" (RIFS).

Full article:

https://www.rifs-potsdam.de/en/news/iass-bidsfarewell-scientific-director-ortwin-renn



Mark Lawrence *left) prepared his own version of Billy Joel's "Piano Man" which he sang and accompanied on the guitar and piano.









Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI)., Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)

Bids Farewell to Prof. Mazlin Mokhtar

By: Dr. Lubna Alam, Senior Lecturer



Congratulations to Professor Dato' ChM Dr, Mazlin Mokhtar on his retirement of. On May 25, 2022, a ceremony took place at the Putrajaya Palm Garden Hotel organized by the Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI). All LESTARI employees, former LESTARI Directors, and former LESTARI Deputy Directors present for the were celebration. The ceremony featured performances by LESTARI employees, multimedia screenings, and lucky draws.

Prof. Dr. Mazlin Mokhtar served UKM for 37 years including as Director of LESTARI 2005-2013 & 2019-2022; Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation Affairs 2014-2017; Founding Director of Centre for Public & International Relations (PUSPA) 2001-2004; and Lecturer at UKM Sabah Campus in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah 1988-1996.

Malaysia's He was the Chairman of Environmental Quality Council 2015-2018. Chairman of government appointed committee reviewing the Lynas Rare Earth operations 2018; Chair of Task Force 2019-2021 on Advocacy, Awareness & Capacity Building (AACB) Malaysia's of Water Sector Transformation 2040 under Economic Planning Unit of Prime Minister's Department; and Deputy Chairman of National Committee for SOP on Bauxite Mining and Exportation 2019; & International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Research Fellow at the Marine Environment Laboratory in Monte Carlo, Monaco in 1993. He was the longest serving member of Malaysia's UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) GEF (Global Environment Facility) SGP (Small Grants' Programme) National Steering Committee.



Director and Former Director of LESTARI UKM welcomed Prof. Mazlin

Prof. Mazlin was the winner of the Langkawi Award 2018; and recipient of 2010 best social science FRGS award by Ministry of Higher Education for his research on national chemicals management. He was a member of the Advisory Committee of National River Care Fund 2014-2022; and WWF Malaysia's Board of Trustees 2014-2018. He had also been entrusted to lead several multidisciplinary research projects sponsored by numerous national and international entities via integrated and holistic approaches for sustainable development, including in important geographical areas such as Langkawi the Jewel of Kedah cum UNESCO's Global Geopark; UNESCO's APFAST & MUCP, and HELP IHP Programs in Langkawi, Langat River Basin; and Putrajaya Lakes.



Special performances honouring Prof. Mazlin by LESTARI members



Speech of Appreciation by Professor Mazlin

Prof. Mazlin was one of the founding professors of the United Nations University (UNU)'s 2010-2015 international training course titled "Building Resilience to Climate and Ecosystem's Change (BRCC)" led by Professor Tekeuchi and Dr Srikantha Herath, based at UNU Tokyo and conducted via partnership with several renowned universities including University of Tokyo, Kyoto University, Ritsumeikan University, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Vietnam National University, Universitas Gadja Mada of Indonesia, National University Yeungnam of Korea, Perediniya University of Sri Lanka, University of The Philippines, and Asian Institute of Technology. Mazlin was also Leader of the Environmental Risk Management group of the JSPS VCC's and JSPS Asian Core Programs 2000-2015; and Leader for

UKM in the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI) network for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) headquartered at DPRI of Kyoto University since 2015."

Currently, Prof. Mazlin Mokhtar, is serving as the Deputy Head (Research), United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network -Asia Headquarters (UN SDSN-Asia) at Sunway University, Malaysia. Prof. Mazlin is also the Chairman of the Environment Committee of Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM); Member of Malaysia's Environmental Quality Act's Appeal Board; and Nomination Committee of the Merdeka Awards (Environment Category); and Advisory Council Member of Society Certified of Professionals (SCRP) Malaysia.





Create a Brighter Outlook in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR/BOSAI)



The World Bosai Forum will be held to discuss, learn and spread disaster reduction throughout the world. The 3rd World Bosai Forum will take place at the Sendai International Center, Tohoku University, Kawauchi Hagi Hall, Sendai, Japan from 10 to 12 March 2023.

Click here to visit the website.

• https://worldbosaiforum.com/2023/en/

Control of the world LANDSLIDE FORUM 14-17 Ath WORLD LANDSLIDE FORUM 14-17 2023 FLORENCE ITALY 2023 Landslide Science for Sustainable Development

WELCOME ADDRESS OF THE CHAIR

I would like to cordially invite you to be actively involved into the **6th World Landslide Forum "Landslides Science for sustanaible development**" that will be held in Florence at the Palazzo dei Congressi from 14 to 17 November 2023.

The event is jointly organized by the International Consortium on Landslides (Kyoto, Japan), the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) and the UNESCO Chair on Prevention and Sustanaible Management of Geohydrological Hazards at the University of Florence.

The Forum is focused on Landslide Science for Sustainable Development, as a contribution to the Kyoto 2020 Commitment for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk (KLC2020).

Scientists, stakeholders and policy makers working in the area of landslide analysis, landslide disaster investigation and risk reduction are encouraged to share their work with the global community by submitting abstracts and presenting their work at the WLF6.

Sincerely Yours,

Nicola Casagli, WLF6 Forum Chair

Visit Website: https://wlf6.org/

GADRI Members

Established in March 2015, the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes support the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR) and the work of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Group of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

In line with its vision, GADRI strives to deepen the understanding of disasters and find implementable solutions to achieve disaster resilience; i.e. human, technical system and infrastructure resilience, survivability and well-being, by integrating knowledge and technologies from around the world. Over 200 institutions have joined GADRI.GADRI membership is free; and completely voluntary and non-binding.

GADRI Secretariat is currently headquartered and hosted by the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University, Japan.

To join GADRI, please contact the GADRI Secretariat: secretariat-gadri@dpri.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Area	Members	Economies	
Africa	12	7	
Americas	37	8	
Asia (Excluding Japan)	83	23	
Europe	37	13	
Japan	33	1	
Oceania	10	2	
Total	212	54	
	54 economies		

Geographical Distribution of GADRI as of 31 December 2022





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