

Japan Society of Civil Engineers  
International Activities Center



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102nd JSCE President

## JSCE's Contribution to the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

The Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (The 3rd UN WCDRR) was held in Sendai, Miyagi, from March 14 to 18. The United Nation General Assembly designated the 1990s as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) and held as part of the review of IDNDR the first UN WCDRR in Yokohama in 1994, the second one in Kobe in 2005, and the third one on the above dates and place. Japan, the natural disaster-prone country, that has made every effort to minimize disaster risks hosted past UN WCDRR. In the third conference, the post-Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 was adopted as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and Sendai Declaration.

As part of the public forms of the 3rd UN WCDRR, JSCE held on March 16 the forum "That has been done by the Japanese Civil Engineers since Mar. 11, 2011" under the leadership of Prof. Akira Mano of JSCE Tohoku Chapter, the chairman of the Joint Academic Research Group for the Great East Japan Earthquake, JSCE. That forum discussed the post-disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts made by several organizations and groups, earthquake-related wastes and debris managements in detail, and then a training program on disaster risk management. Moreover, it introduced the 105 organizations and groups which made significant contribution to processing large amounts of earthquake-related waste and debris within the fixed timeframe. The JSCE President recognized them for their



Prof. Isobe with other panelists at the Working Session



MLIT's disaster-reduction-themed exhibition.

great efforts and works with an appreciation certificate in front of the audience. JSCE had never given appreciation and recognition to such a large number of organizations/groups at one time until then; in other words, because of its unique nature being a public interest incorporated association, JSCE could cite and appreciate several those who worked for public interest.

Prior to the above forum, the public forum “Towards Mitigating Loss Caused by Mega-Disasters” took place on March 15, co-hosted by Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) and JSCE. Dr. Han Seong-Soo of UN Special Envoy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Water and Prof. Yoshiaki Kawata of Kansai University delivered keynote speeches, followed by the

presentations made by representatives from five countries, Japan, the Philippines, Turkey, the United States, and the Netherlands. The JSCE President worked with these speakers as a coordinator. He moreover participated as a panelist in the Working Session on “Underlying Risk Factors” on March 16. In all the above meetings, he delivered a clear and consistent message: it is possible to be adopted widely in the world the two-level disaster management concept that combine “hard” (structural) toward comparatively frequent hazards (Level 1) and “soft” (non-structural) measures toward maximum level hazards (Level 2) in order to reduce/mitigate natural disaster risks and to protect human life and property from all potential hazards.

**Report on Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC) 28th Executive Committee Meeting in Dhaka : JSCE was approved to be the host of the 8th Civil Engineering Conference in Asian Region (CECAR 8) in 2019**

Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC) 28th Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from March 27 to March 29, 2015. The major activities of the ACECC are described on pp. 128-129 of the JSCE magazine Civil Engineering, Vol. 100, No. 5, May issue.

JSCE's proposals, reports and others chiefly regarded the following two items:

- 1) Presentation of a bid to host the 8th Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region (CECAR 8) in Japan
- 2) Proposal to set up a new JSCE-led Technical Committee (TC)

The CECAR 8 is scheduled for 2019. In 2020, Tokyo will host the Olympic and Paralympic Games. This will be a great time for CECAR's participants from Japan and overseas to witness the progress of the preparations immediately before the games. Moreover, 2019 will mark eight years since the Great East Japan

Earthquake, and we believe that it will be meaningful to show other Asian countries how resilient Japan has become.



Mr. Hirose (center), president-elect, opens JSCE's presentation with a speech.

Mr. Noriaki Hirose, the JSCE president-elect, began the presentation with a speech. Prof. Kusakabe, ACECC representative for JSCE, laid out Japan's vision of the CECAR. The presentation stressed that, because the ACECC is a unique organization that cooperates with the decision-makers and financial institutions in each country to improve Asia's social infrastructure, the CECAR should be a unique international conference that encourages the members to communicate and share that vision. To realize this vision, JSCE promised that

industry, government, and academia will work together to establish an implementation system and draw up programs that serve a broad range of participants in different positions and across different generations. This message was accepted and JSCE was approved to be the host of the CECAR 8 in 2019.

The JSCE has held three round-table conferences to date and led discussions on initiatives concerning disaster management in the Asian region (RTM on Disaster Management (Asian Board Meeting)). Also, JSCE has showed its leadership and made a significant impression in the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the “Japan Bosai (disaster management) Platform”; accordingly, Japan is expected to continue to play a central role in the area of disaster risk reduction and mitigation.

Prof. Eiki Yamaguchi, the JSCE ACECC committee chairman, proposed that these initiatives be carried out as part of the activities of the ACECC’s new TC, and the proposal was approved. At the next meeting, the

selection of a new Chair, the activity policy, etc., will be reported.

The 29th ECM is scheduled for October 2015 in Gunsan, Republic of Korea.



Prof. Kusakabe (right) , the ACECC’s Japan representative, makes a presentation.

【 Mr. Nakano Masaaki, Secretary General, JSCE ACECC Committee】

### 2014 PICE-JSCE Joint Seminar : Seminar on Field Surveys, Analysis and Mitigation Strategies for Typhoons and other Coastal Hazards in the Philippines and Japan

Coastal Engineering Committee of Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE) and Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE) conducted the PICE-JSCE joint survey for severe storm surge disaster caused by 2013 Typhoon Haiyan. Through the survey and following analysis, we found various characteristics of this catastrophic disaster such as: (i) disaster levels vary locally along the coast; (ii) besides inundation due to storm surge, storm waves had significant impact on various area such as the east coast of Eastern Samar; (iii) combination of storm surge and stormy waves amplified the severe coastal disaster around west coast of San Pedro bay; (iv) while the damaged area has frequent attacks of typhoons, the area had not

suffered such catastrophic storm surge disasters before Haiyan because of geographical characteristics of the bay; (v) since the disaster caused by Haiyan was the “first catastrophic event” for most of residents, they did not evacuate even though they recognized the warnings before



the disaster.

Following the successful Joint Survey and the following various analysis, this Joint Seminar was held on

November 28th, 2014 at Quezon City, the Philippines. The seminar had fourteen speakers, the seven from JSCE and the other seven from PICE, and presented various topics such as: (i) wrap ups and important findings of the joint survey results; (ii) physical mechanisms of the disaster based on numerical analysis and experiments; (iii) ongoing and future recovery plans after Haiyan; (iv) examples of coastal disasters and coastal protections in Japan; and (v) future scenarios and corresponding mitigation and adaptation strategies. The seminar had 84 participants including members of JSCE and PICE and especially many engineers from Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), who took key roles in the recovery process of damaged area due to Haiyan. After the presentations, all the participants had discussions about the future tasks toward coastal protection and mitigation strategies on both countries and possible collaborative research and works between JSCE and PICE. Part of discussions and presentations will also be published as

several journal papers for Special Issue of Coastal Engineering Journal.

● 2014 PICE-JSCE Joint Seminar >>>[Program Download](#)



The 2014 PICE-JSCE Joint Seminar Speakers

【Prof. Yoshimitsu Tajima, JSCE Coastal Engineering Committee】

## What's Happening

- **2015/6/12-13**  
The Institution of Engineers, Pakistan's Annual Convention & Civil Engineering Congress (Karachi, Pakistan)
- **2015/6/18-20**  
2015 MACE Annual Meeting (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)
- **2015/7/8-10**  
EIT Civil Engineering Meeting (Pattaya, Thailand)

## Updates

- The summary of feature articles in the JSCE Magazine is available on the JSCE website.  
<http://www.jsce-int.org/pub/magazine>
- Concrete Committee International Newsletter No. 41  
<http://www.jsce.or.jp/committee/concrete/e/newsletter/Newsletter.htm>
- Journal of JSCE  
The Journal of JSCE is the collection of research papers which can be viewed on the JSCE website.  
<https://www.jstage.ist.go.jp/browse/journalofjsce>
- JSCE 100th Anniversary Postal Stamp was released in September, 2014.  
<http://jsce100.com/node/250> (Japanese Only)
- European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) has released the 2nd book in ECCE Book Project, "Footbridges-Small is beautiful." 17 footbridges are contributed from JSCE:  
<http://www.eceengineers.eu/>

## IAC News Subscription

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## Editor's postscript

The other day, I took my kids to the park nearby after a long interval. Before I stopped them, they took off their shoes and ran to the waterside.

Still in May...I think I still have time before summer comes, but it seems that summer has already begun for them. Enjoy your summer, guys! (S.O.)

【Comments and Questions】 JSCE IAC: [iac-news@jsce.or.jp](mailto:iac-news@jsce.or.jp)

Please send us your feedback and comments to help us improve the IAC news. We look forward to hearing from you.