



UNITAR OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



UNITAR SERIES ON
SEA AND HUMAN SECURITY

2011 SESSION
18 – 21 OCTOBER 2011 | TOKYO, JAPAN

EXECUTIVE REPORT

UNITAR SERIES ON SEA AND HUMAN SECURITY

2011 session | 18 – 21 October | Tokyo, JAPAN

Tsunami and the Natural Environment: Lessons Learned
for Effective Planning

FOREWORD

ABOUT UNITAR

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), based in Geneva, is an autonomous body within the United Nations which since 2003 has been contributing to capacity building for those involved with managing the world's ocean.

THE SERIES

Seas, Coasts and the Ocean are part of the human security complex. Myriad factors including social, political, environmental and economic aspects of human security depend upon the sustainable and comprehensive governance and management of these areas. Inaugurated in 2002-2003, the UNITAR Series on Sea and Human Security

examines, from a comprehensive point of view, the concept of human security within the context of seas and the ocean.

Begun in 2002 with an International Conference, the UNITAR Series on Sea and Human Security has, from its beginnings been focused on mainstreaming the importance of a comprehensive approach to the economic, political, environmental and nutritional aspects of human security as it pertains to seas and the ocean. The 2011 session represented the ninth annual gathering and the second to be held in Tokyo.

The Sea and Human Security Series stands as one of the key programmes of the UNITAR Hiroshima Office and counts over



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300 Alumni, representatives of over 40 countries in the Asia-Pacific and beyond who have benefitted from the training offered. The Series owes much of its structure, success and relevance to Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg, formerly of UNESCO and the International Ocean Institute. Dr. Kullenbergs guidance and dedication for the Series helped to define it over many preceding iterations, and UNITAR continues to thank him for such.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

UNITAR thanks the following Resource Persons and their organisations that gave so freely of their time and expertise to make the 2011 session so relevant and rewarding.

The University of Tokyo Ocean Alliance

- Yasuo Fukuyo
- Nobuyuki Yagi
- Hisashi Kurokura

Hiroshima University

- Masahiro Yamao

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

- Nancy Bermas

United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

- Yuki Matsuoka

The United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies Operating Unit Ishikawa/Kanazawa (OUIK)

- Anne MacDonald

The Nippon Foundation

- Kotaro Hagiwara

Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF)

- Hiroshi Terashima

Financial consideration for the session was furnished by:

- The Hiroshima Prefectural Government
- The University of Tokyo Ocean Alliance

Special thanks must also go to the following organisations, which accommodated the Study Tours as outlined later in this

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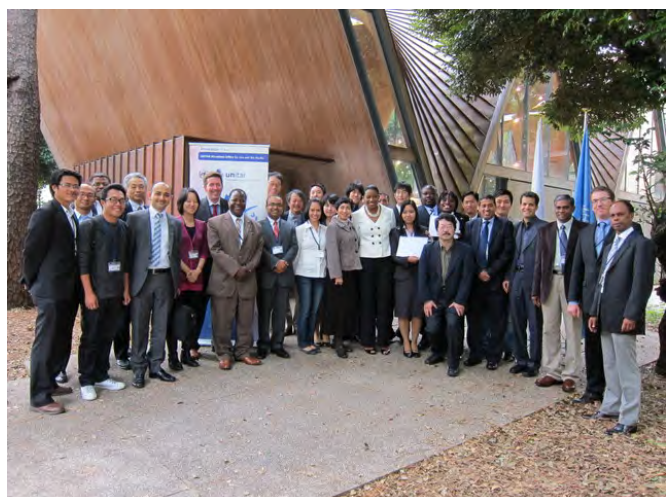
report. The presentations and interaction as witnessed by our participants at these locations served to further deepen the training offered by UNITAR and augmented the other methodological processes:

- Funabashi Fisheries Cooperative
- Tsukiji Wholesale Fish Market

UNITAR also thanks the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, in particular, Mr. Hideaki Machida, Deputy Director of the Global Issue Cooperation Division of the International Cooperation Bureau who delivered both pertinent and timely remarks at the opening session.

In addition, to our participants, both domestic and international, who took time from their busy schedules, we thank you for your attendance and dedication. Finally, to the many friends of UNITAR in Japan and around the world whose cooperation over the years has made this Series possible, we extend our heartfelt gratitude.

Berin McKenzie
Hiroshima | 2011



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2011 session took place between October 8 and 21 at the Seihoku Gallery, part of the Yayoi Annex at the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Tokyo. Co-organised with the University of Tokyo's Ocean Alliance, the session saw some 21 participants representing 19 countries attend.

Participants included not only international attendees, but also representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Japanese Government in Tokyo, including two Ambassadors, namely H.E. Mrs Marlene Villela de Talbott, Ambassador of the Republic of Honduras to Japan and H.E. Ms. Martha Lidia Zelayandia Cisneros, Ambassador of the Republic of El Salvador to Japan. Taking place over four days the session saw interactive lectures and presentations augmented by study tours, break-out groups, practical exercises and plenary sessions.



WORKSHOP FOCUS

With the devastating effects of the March 11 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami in Eastern Japan seared into memory, and with the humanitarian crisis being gradually eased, attention turned, necessarily, to the devastation as evidenced on the coastal areas of Eastern Japan. The natural environment however requires a concerted examination so as to guide policy development and implementation which can serve as models for other nations at risk from such devastation.

Taking into account lessons learned from the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami, as well as preliminary

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research and conclusions conducted in recent months in Japan, the 2011 session of the UNITAR Series on Sea and Human Security examined the effect of the twin disasters on the Ocean, and on the communities and activities dependant upon it. The sociological and biological impacts were presented, with the necessity of a comprehensive management approach to both disaster preparedness and response being highlighted.

OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the 2011 Workshop were to:

- Identify key issues that have emerged since the 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami in regards to the ocean;
- Examine responses, the lessons learned, and policy development and implementation following the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami;
- Examine feasible action plans for policy implementation; and
- Highlight the necessity of a comprehensive approach to Ocean Security.

EVALUATION

The evaluation form was distributed with the course binder and collected anonymously on the final day of the Workshop. Questions examined in detail the following areas:

- Pre-Event Information
- Learning Objectives
- Value, Relevance and Intent to Use
- Methodology
- Trainers/Facilitators
- Assessment
- Overall Satisfaction Rating of the Event

In-depth representations of the feedback received are contained toward the end of this report however, examining the evaluation forms, it is evident that the session was very well received by all participants. It was considered to have offered insights into ocean management and planning that were both relevant and timely with the focus, structure, and duration of the session seen as very effective. This is

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underscored by a full 95% of respondents indicating that they would recommend the event to a colleague. Areas which must be focused upon for the future include incorporating further time for practical exercises, as well as an increased focus upon the specific development and implementation of policy. This is understood by UNITAR and attempts will be

made to examine these issues in future sessions.

Follow up evaluations are intended to be sent to all participants 6 months following the conclusion of the session, in order to ascertain the real-world effectiveness and applicability of the training delivered. The information garnered from the evaluations will be utilised internally in UNITAR to analyse the course design and implementation processes, as well as the call for application and selection processes for future iterations.

MAIN OUTCOMES

Having analysed the evaluations and feedback received, the main outcomes of the 2011 session were:

- Training modules containing all presentations and other documents were made available on the UNITAR website;
- Involvement of the participants in the UNITAR alumni network - UNITAR formally requested participants to remain connected and inform UNITAR of their World Heritage related activities. It has also assured participants that should they organize training activities in their countries or region, UNITAR will support their projects.

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The 2011 session benefited from the continuity which has been nurtured since the programmes inception in 2004. This has served to create;

- I. A strong and dedicated Faculty;
- II. A large alumni network which results in identifying high-calibre participants;
- III. Strong institutional partnerships; and
- IV. Familiarity with the subject matter and session organisation on the part of UNITAR.



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SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to outline the focus and structure of the ninth annual session of the UNITAR Series on Sea and Human Security. It will also incorporate an analysis of the evaluations collected from participants, as well as outlining recommendations and lessons learned.

The Series, launched in 2003, stands as a key programme in the UNITAR Hiroshima Office calendar. To date it has attracted some 253 participants from 61 countries in nine sessions held in Hiroshima and two in Tokyo.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The 2011 session of the Series saw a fundamental shift in the application process as compared with previous iterations. While UNITAR covered all accommodation, meal, material, study-tour and faculty costs, - as with all sessions to date - participants and/or their organisations were for the first time wholly responsible for travel costs to and from Tokyo.

The number of applications for the programme was down on previous years (87 vs. over 100 in 2009 and 2010), however informal discussions and reactions received have indicated that this was primarily attributable to uncertainty over travel to Japan following the Earthquake and Tsunami that hit Eastern Japan on March 11 2011, and the subsequent nuclear crisis.



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FOCUS

The thematic focus of the 2011 session, that of examining the effect of tsunami on the natural environment was decided upon in mid 2011 through discussions held between UNITAR and representatives of the University of Tokyo's Ocean Alliance.

It was felt that, necessarily, much of the focus of research and reporting following the March 11 2011 Tsunami in Eastern Japan had focused upon the communities devastated by the event and the subsequent nuclear crisis. UNITAR and its partners also however felt the need to examine the effects on the natural environment and how this then fed into the recovery and rehabilitation process. In addition, the lessons learned and crucially, those forgotten, since the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami would also serve to benefit in the field of effective management and planning of the ocean. This, coupled with UNITAR's unique methodology allowed for an in-depth, cross-cultural and cross-sectoral discussion of both emerging and persistent issues in the tsunami and disaster management.



RESOURCE PERSONS

The Workshop benefitted once again from the professionalism and dedication of its Resource Persons. Resource Persons at all UNITAR Hiroshima Office sessions are encouraged to stay for the entire process so as to allow ample time for presenting, coaching, mentoring and interacting with participants. The 2011 session saw the following attendees

The University of Tokyo Ocean Alliance

- Yasuo Fukuyo

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- Nobuyuki Yagi
- Hisashi Kurokura

Hiroshima University

- Masahiro Yamao

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of
East Asia (PEMSEA)

- Nancy Bermas

United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for
Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

- Yuki Matsuoka

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Operating Unit Ishikawa/Kanazawa (OUIK)

- Anne MacDonald

The Nippon Foundation

- Kotaro Hagiwara

Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF)

- Hiroshi Terashima

NOTE: Full biographies of all Resource Persons are available in
the attached Annex.

BENEFICIARIES

The Workshop was targeted at;

- Potential decision makers and trainers within national administrations;
- Mid- to high level government officials from selected line ministries; and
- Representatives of NGOs, academia and private corporations.

Participants hailed from academia, NGO's, local and central government, international institutions and the private sector.

A key element of the methodological approach undertaken by the Hiroshima Office in regards to the Series on Sea and Human Security is the inclusion of participants from differing professional and cultural backgrounds. This allows for not only the exchange of ideas and best practices but also for the development of a varied alumni network.

NOTE: Full biographies of all participants are available in the

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attached Annex.

UNITAR STAFF

The UNITAR Programme Officer heading the organisation, implementation, UNITAR presentations, monitoring and reporting of the session was Mr Berin McKenzie (berin.mckenzie@unitar.org), Specialist at the UNITAR Hiroshima Office.

NOTE: Full biographies of all UNITAR staff are available in the attached Annex.



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SECTION II: METHODOLOGY

INTERACTIVE LECTURES

Presentations were, in general, augmented by small group exercises and frequent questions from the floor, which served to contextualise the issues being examined.

AFTER-ACTION REVIEWS

Representing a key component of UNITAR's methodology, the AAR takes place within groups, discussing the main issues raised in the previous presentations as well as the specific frames of reference as applied to these by participants. This interaction, which takes place with the input also of various Faculty members allows for discussions which incorporate differing cultural values, as well as differing, and sometimes competing, professional considerations. It is through this exchange that much of the peer-peer networking opportunities that develop through the sessions are created.



STUDY TOURS

Underscoring the theoretical introductions and analysis presented, Study Tours form an integral part of the training methodologies utilised by UNITAR. A study visit was made to the Funabashi Fisheries Landing Area, examining tsunami damage as well as sub-national communication strategies for the dissemination of tsunami alerts. A second Study Visit was made to the Tsukiji Fish Market in downtown Tokyo to discuss with vendors and officials at the Market the impact of the tsunami.

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PRACTICAL EXERCISE

In order to place the learning being offered into a real world scenario, group work was undertaken by all participants in the form of a Practical Exercise. Participants were split into small groups and tasked with developing an action plan for tsunami preparedness. Results were then shared in plenary with feedback given by resource persons and peers alike.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS

A focus was made throughout the training sessions to relate the learning being facilitated to the realities as they exist in regards to ocean management. In addition, each participant was empowered to recreate the training upon their return to their organisation in order to achieve a self-propagating legacy. The final training element of the session was focused on *Identifying and Integrating Stakeholders* and allowed the participants to examine ways to integrate effective planning amongst a broad spectrum of related parties.



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SECTION III: DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSION

OPENING SESSION

Professor Tetsuo Urabe, Vice-Director of the University of Tokyo Ocean Alliance began proceedings by welcoming all participants and thanking UNITAR for the opportunity to collaborate on such a relevant programme.

Mr. Hideaki Machida, Deputy Director of the Global Issues Cooperation Division of the International Cooperation Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan then welcomed all participants to Japan and thanked UNITAR for bringing this workshop to Tokyo. He stated his hopes that the topic could be useful not just to the participants, but to Japan as well. Mr. Machida continued that the tsunami of 3/11 stands as Japan's worst natural disaster since WWII and reinforces the need to work together through the international community to build resilient societies. The most vulnerable in society, such as children and the elderly, are in the greatest need. Building a resilient society is very much key to the recovery of Japan and the world. Human Security is a key approach, through conservation, disaster risk reduction and security for all people. Lastly, Mr. Machida implored all participants to take the ideas gained at the session back to their home countries and implement them there.

The Head of the UNITAR Hiroshima Office then expressed the sincere appreciation of UNITAR to all partners in Tokyo, including MOFA and the University of Tokyo before discussing the focus of the Workshop.

Mr. Mejia stressed that the importance of comprehensive ocean management and of understanding natural disasters, is critical for all people. Each of us is responsible for maintaining our harmony in balance of man and nature. We should ask, Mr. Mejia stated, what lessons can be learned from the Indian Ocean Tsunami, and the March 11th Tsunami, in order to keep learning and building capacity across countries and peoples.

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The development of security from state based to human-based was traced by Mr. Mejia, as was the importance of such to UNITAR's capacity building methodology. He thanked the Prefectural Government of Hiroshima for providing the financial support to maintain the UNITAR office in Hiroshima and outlined parallels between the post-conflict reconstruction of Hiroshima and the reconstruction necessities becoming apparent in the area devastated by the tsunami.

INTERACTIVE LECTURES

NANCY BERMAS

SENIOR COUNTRY PROGRAMME MANAGER

*PARTNERSHIPS IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FOR THE
SEAS OF EAST ASIA (PEMSEA)*

PHILIPPINES

*INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT SCALING UP: A
COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY AND STRATEGIC ACTION
PROGRAMMES FOR ADDRESSING NATURAL AND MANMADE
HAZARDS*

The 2011 session is the second time Ms. Bermas had attended this UNITAR event, following her presentation in 2010. PEMSEA has been heavily involved in the development of the Series, particularly through the efforts of its former Regional Programme Director, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng.

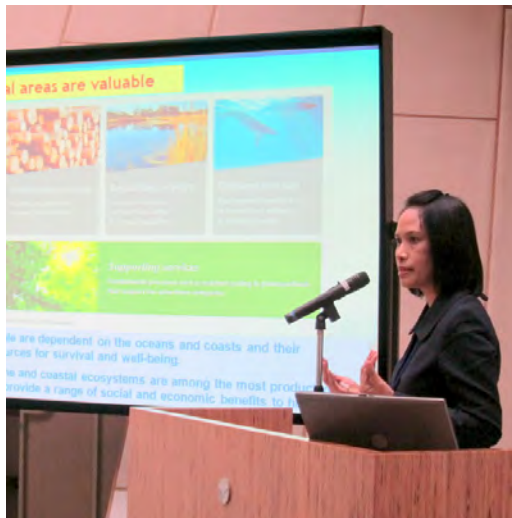
Presenting on Integrated Coastal Management Scaling Up: A Comprehensive Approach to Planning and Implementation of Policy and Strategic Action Programs for Addressing Natural and Man-Made Hazards, Ms. Bermas shared examples from the Asia-Pacific, examining lessons learned from the two Tsunami and national-local level initiatives for greater planning. Introducing Integrated Coastal Management (ICM), Ms. Bermas stressed that coastal areas, including marine and coastal ecosystems are valuable, with people depending on the ocean for their well-being, with it providing them with social and economic benefits. Coastal areas however are at risk from over-fishing, increased migration to coasts, pollution and human development without environmental considerations.

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Such issues are complicated for single government entities or individual management sectors, therefore the goal of ICM is greater integration for resolving conflicts, maintaining a healthy environment and developing a multi-sectoral development approach. In doing so, ICM aims to understand, monitor

and manage the processes between natural systems, human activities and legal, institutional and technical mechanisms. This is achieved through integration and coordination of both horizontal and vertical systems, however it is important to note that there is no “one size fits all” strategy.

One of the key questions asked following the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami was *how to build back better?* The global response, outlined by Ms. Bermas, included the Hyogo Framework for Action adopted in January 2005, with the regional response being a further focus on the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia.

The ICM framework and related processes incorporate a wide range of partners, including public, private sector, science and other stakeholders from different sectors. The ICM Program Development and Implementation Cycle includes six steps, in a continuous process: Preparing, Initiating, Developing, Adopting, Implementing and Refining and Consolidating, with the key being to coordinate the planning from a national to a local level. This includes in terms of mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) policies and practices.

Some of the means by which to incorporate CCA and DRR into ICM for land/sea use zoning plans were outlined as;

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- Identifying safety zones, including buffer zones and setbacks from the coastal area
- Building regulatory mechanisms that specify permitted/prohibited activities in coastal areas.
- Solving multiple use conflicts that arise from various development activities.

Key to any such initiative, stressed Ms. Bermas, is helping local communities understand and implement goals.

With regard to the scaling up of ICM, new areas and zones of expansion in South Korea, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia and Timor-Leste were introduced. The intent is to develop and implement new ICM in alignment with both regions and with national/local governments. The challenge of doing such however is to standardize acceptable terms and strategies with different countries and governments, especially those who already have significant local experience with managing ICM.



*MASAHIRO YAMAO
PROFESSOR
HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY
JAPAN*

*THE 2004 INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI: REHABILITATION AND
RECONSTRUCTION- LESSONS LEARNED*

Dr. Yamao was actually researching in the region prior to the Indian Ocean Tsunami, and lost a lot of research data as a result. His focus is not on ICM, but more on how the people recover their lives in coastal communities and fisheries post-

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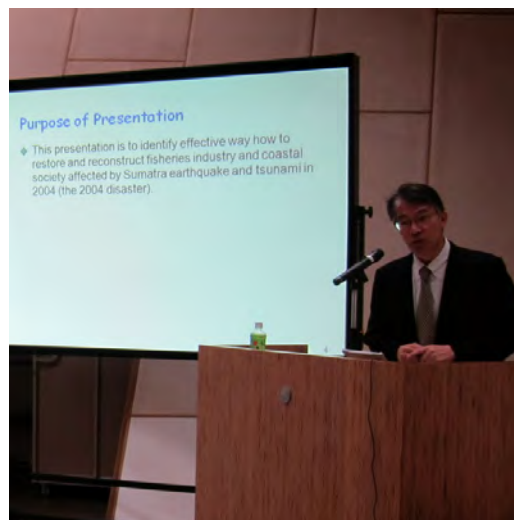
disaster. The purpose of the Professors presentation was to identify effective ways to restore and reconstruct fisheries industry/coastal society after tsunami. The questions posed included:

- Has "Building back better" been achieved?
- Do these programs work for survivors?

Following disaster, donor agencies act quickly, providing relief and support. The expectation is that national/local self-dependency will rise as time goes on. People in fishing communities have the twin goals of:

- Restoration of livelihood and sustainability;
- Guarantee of permanent houses and a stable community.

Dr Yamao stressed that fishing is unique from agriculture or other industries in that not so much research has been conducted on the fisheries industry resulting in the fact that the local life-style is not well-understood by the government or academia. This can result in confusion and conflict for those affected by disaster.



As such a top-down approach to reconstruction is a controversial issue and conflict can also arise between national and local reconstruction plans. This can be exacerbated by international NGOs, who may have different goals of their own, some of which may not fit in with local realities. The solution, as espoused by Dr. Yamao, is the establishment of a community-based/community-driven approach however this can be hindered in the post-disaster context with many people

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dead or missing, and local government and infrastructure severely impacted. The keys to the recovery process, which serves to also establish new social capital and relationships, are leadership and self-sufficiency.

Dr. Yamao then went on to describe options for livelihood strategies toward recovery, the impact of microfinance on livelihood improvement and the development of self help groups, particularly those targeted at women which help to share benefits while reducing risk.

In conclusion, Dr Yamao stated that a shift in social structure and perspectives, as witnessed following the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami is unavoidable post-disaster, even in a developed nation such as Japan. The subsequent Q and A session examined the role of the private sector, particularly in regards to lessening people's reliance on central government. A question was also raised regarding parallels that may exist between the two tsunami disasters. Dr. Yamao's reply was that it is imperative that recovery not be rushed into, and that local people be included in any recovery plan.

*YASUWO FUKUYO
PROFESSOR*

*ASIAN NATURAL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CENTRE
DIVISION OF BIO-ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO*

2011 EASTERN JAPAN TSUNAMI: BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

Professor Fukuyo is a scientist on the taxonomy of plankton, now studying the management of biology in coastal management. He is also a long-time supporter of the Series and was instrumental in its transition to Tokyo, as well as the development of the relationship between



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UNITAR and the University of Tokyo.

As a biologist, Dr. Fukuyo remains concerned about the change in the ecosystem of the Sanriku coastal area. He has worked and researched in the area, and lost friends there during the tsunami as well. Also, much of the scientific data collected to date was lost to the tsunami. After introducing the region and its main fisheries interest, as well as the people who work there, Dr. Fukuyo outlined the potential risks to the area, including that of toxic plankton, as with the May 1960 Tsunami from Chile that was felt in Japan. Food Security is a major issue and therefore active management is as critical as the restoration of aquaculture.

The impact upon the environment of the destruction of Japanese kelp stocks was also outlined, as were questions regarding whether aquaculture salmon, a large business in the Sanriku area, would return to the area to spawn following their habitats being destroyed in the tsunami. In addition, the infrastructure to handle and effectively benefit from any return must be repaired in the meantime. Dr. Fukuyo continued to outline the impact of the tsunami on several key products from the regions ocean areas, examining the impact and flow of such from the raw material to those who harvest, market and purchase the products.

The Q and A session examined the differing benefits of wild vs. cultured kelp vis-à-vis protection for juvenile fish, the ongoing effects of the nuclear crisis, particularly on the ocean, and the effect of ballast water on regenerating areas. The balance also of the needs of fisherpeople and



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their communities vs. conservation was also brought into perspective, particularly in light of the financial difficulties incurred by fishing communities by the tsunami disaster. The development of policies in this regard, stressed Dr. Fukuyo, must incorporate all stakeholders within the region.

YUKI MATSUOKA
HEAD

*UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR
DISASTER REDUCTION (UNISDR), KOBE OFFICE*

*UNISDR, HFA AND THE ISDR SYSTEM: GLOBAL EFFORTS ON
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION*

Ms. Matsuoka, joining the Series for the first time, explained about the background of UNISDR and the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programme. The vision of DRR is building resilient communities toward sustainable development with disaster resilience as one of the six principles of sustainability.



Ms Matsuoka explained that disasters are caused by natural hazards, and therefore disasters are not natural, but rather the effects of hazards. As such we can do a lot to reduce risks in advance of disasters. Asia is the most affected region on earth in terms of certain types of disasters, in particular earthquakes and tsunami. As such governments should adopt a multi-hazards approach.

The background of the DRR approach was outlined, as were the five main functions of the Secretariat, namely:

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- Policy and Coordination;
- Advocacy;
- Information Management and Networks;
- Regional Outreach - Support to Regional Partners and Countries and the ISDR System;
- Resource Mobilization.

The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA) is aimed at building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. The five Priorities for Action, which form the core of the HFA, are;

- 1) Governance: Making Disaster Risk Reduction a Priority (Involving whole-of-government)
- 2) Risk Identification: Knowing the Risks and Taking Action (Technological capacities)
- 3) Knowledge-Building: Understanding and Awareness
- 4) Reducing Underlying Risk Factors: Reducing Risks
- 5) Strengthening Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response: Be Prepared and Ready to Act (Building preparedness at all levels of society to promote resiliency)

Every two years, there is a formal review of national governments' progress reports, in conjunction with regional and thematic inputs. This process, explained Ms. Matsuoka, results in a global platform being developed. The 2011 Global Platform for DRR was held in Geneva, Switzerland from May 8-13 and focused on post-disaster reconstruction, utilising the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake as one of its key features with the outcomes available online. In addition, UNISDR Good Practice Publications are published and available online at no charge on the various themes of HFA implementation.

A Global Assessment Report on DRR is developed every two years so as to identify trends and propose policy initiatives, coordinated by UNISDR with UNDP, World Bank, UNEP, ProVention, WMO and many other partners.

Reform Risk Governance is also an important component of the activities of UNISDR. It helps to ensure political authority and policy coherence as well as to incrementally decentralize while developing a culture of partnership.

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The Q and A session examined funding possibilities through UNISDR, which Ms. Matsuoka explained is in fact available through a partnering mechanism with the World Bank.

*BERIN MCKENZIE
SPECIALIST*

*UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH
(UNITAR) HIROSHIMA OFFICE*

IDENTIFYING AND INTEGRATING STAKEHOLDERS

Mr. McKenzie began the presentation by examining the reasons behind identifying and integrating stakeholders in management and action plans. In doing so, you are able to show that you, and your project are accountable, transparent, legitimate and credible, with a process for buy-in and ownership.

Stakeholder involvement relies on:

- Transparency;
- Clear roles and responsibilities;
- Comprehensive participation;
- Two-way communication;
- Adequate funding;
- Raising awareness about issues/projects/activities.

Possible obstacles to be aware of can be found in the governmental, public and private spheres. The key to addressing these includes understanding their various areas of focus, mandate and funding. You must identify those who have an interest in participating and distribute information



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in an accessible, timely manner, as well as, as much as practicable, providing training and support for networking.

In regards to developing a Stakeholder Involvement Policy, the key principles include:

- Clearly defined roles, responsibilities and activities for groups;
- Based on a sound, yet flexible framework for achieving measurable progress;
- Building capacity among partners, and in accordance with national/regional/international requirements on policy development;
- Getting in early, in order to identify questions, concerns, process for negotiation;
- Not waiting until a problem emerges - showing a long-term view on investment in the process;
- Tailoring the process to fit the project;
- Managing the process.

The effective engagement of stakeholders hinges upon identifying all important groups, including all relevant people regarding the project concerned.

The Practical Exercise section of Mr. McKenzie's presentation saw participants split into small groups and examine what stakeholders would be required to be approached when undertaking a programme on chemicals management. The resultant discussion and review highlighted the fact that contact must be made with as broad a group as possible – even for people or entities that may not immediately be seen as related to the issue.

*KOTARO HAGIWARA
MANAGER
MARITIME TECHNOLOGY TEAM
THE NIPPON FOUNDATION*

*2011 EASTERN JAPAN TSUNAMI: IMMEDIATE NECESSITIES
AND LESSONS LEARNED*

Mr. Hagiwara began by explaining that the Nippon Foundation acted immediately on March 11th to begin planning the

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disaster relief and established the Northeastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Relief Fund. Within 10 days the delivery of relief supplies had commenced, and much of the ease of process in this regard was thanks to the fact that planning for large-scale earthquake response in Japan had been underway for ten years.

The First Relief Package, which was announced on March 29th consisted of:

- 1) Offering \$657 per person of condolence/sympathy money to survivors and families of victims;
- 2) Establishing a new emergency loan system to affected businesses;
- 3) Extending swift support to NPO/volunteer activities.

The Second Relief Package, announced on April 19th consisted of:

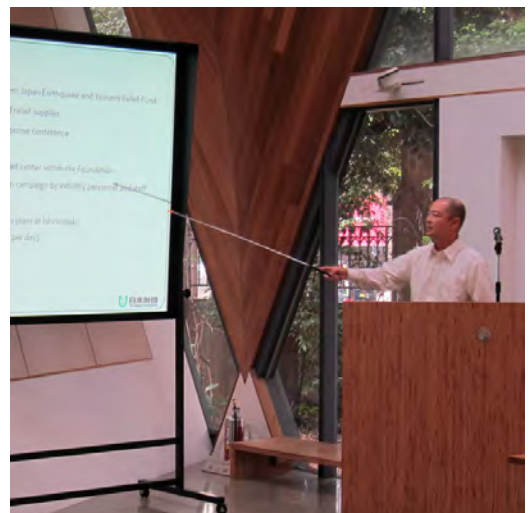
- 1) Offering financial assistance to makeshift FM stations in affected communities;
- 2) Supporting activities of medical doctors and nurses in evacuation centers and homes of affected people;
- 3) Assisting the dispatch of midwives and the evacuation of pregnant women to Tokyo;
- 4) Facilitating volunteer activities led by students.

The three stages of sequential recovery after the disaster, as approached by the Nippon foundation, were

- 1) Safety;
- 2) Living;
- 3) Pride.

The status at the time of the Workshop was at Stage 2, with the focus being on returning people back to a "normal life". With regard to the fisherpeople in the area, the Foundation

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had provided 350 small boats to affected communities, as well as to fisheries training centers in Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures. Recovery loans were also offered so as to rebuild a civil society. Once this has been achieved, it is proposed that the Foundation move to Stage 3, whereby people are given a sense of community once again.

The Q and A session following the presentation examined the source of revenue for the Nippon Foundation, explained as proceeds from gambling on boat racing. The provision of interest free loans by the Foundation was also referred to and Mr. Hagiwara outlined that partnership arrangements entered into by the Nippon Foundation with various banks which then provided loan to those in need. The difference in approach between the Nippon Foundation and the ICRC for example was outlined also by Mr. Hagiwara in that the Nippon Foundation has a greater capacity for risk-taking in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, thereby filling a different niche than traditional NGO's.

ANNE MACDONALD
PROFESSOR

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY- INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED
STUDIES

2011 EASTERN JAPAN TSUNAMI: THE CASE OF SANRIKU

Professor MacDonald began her presentation by stressing that she is not a disaster expert, but rather has been a researcher of fishing communities for 17 years in Japan, from Hokkaido to Okinawa. Her research interest is how coastal people view nature and manage resources, and how people interact with the ecology, and vice-versa. Professor MacDonald outlined that in the face of hardship or vulnerabilities, people have to learn how to survive. In the post-disaster moment, there is a mix of helplessness and guilt, frustrated over the chaos of news and information. Understanding both English and Japanese, it was helpful for her and also frustrating to get a constant influx of bilingual news. What is the "real story" and what is just for show was a question that must be posed, along with a more critical approach to the media in general.

In the tsunami disaster Miyagi and Iwate prefectures sustained

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the most damage in terms of fishing ports so the questions posed remain similar for the 319 or so communities directly affected. Is the focus to be on rebuilding the fishing ports first, or housing? Many fishermen had expressed the priority of work, in terms of their own self-image and sense of purpose in life.

Where to begin in regards to cleaning up was also a question to be asked – in many cases the flood waters still had yet to recede even in April. While the area has had a long history of natural disasters, it was something that had been forgotten during the period of high economic growth and comfort.

The issues of insurance and employment were coming to bear on many of the communities visited by the Professor. Hundreds of factory plants had been destroyed, many of them without proper insurance. How do they rebuild when they are so far in debt and their employees are so demoralized? Many of the small factories and businesses have been put out of business for good and there remains the critical issue of keeping youth busy and engaged in the rebuilding process.

In regards to how to rebuild, Professor MacDonald suggested that it was time to try a more integrative, holistic approach to humans in the ecosystem. An example of this would be the use of domestic wood in forest management, farming, and aquaculture for example. Another, more subtle emerging problem, but no less important, is the need for self-care for the care-givers such as the volunteers and Self Defence Force members who visited disaster zones for the first time.

In the rebuilding process, it is imperative that community members must be engaged and consulted in any new plans, so



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they feel a sense of ownership and that the process is not just a “one-size-fits-all” program from Tokyo to Tohoku.

For the moment, while the fishing ports appear busy, they are in fact operating at approximately 10% capacity and there is a growing sense of feeling held up by the bureaucracy in Tokyo.

The Q and A session saw questions posed regarding communications between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) and various embassies in the immediate aftermath of the tsunami, as well as the very genuine gratitude of the Japanese people following the international response to the disaster. The process by which debris from the disaster will be disposed of was also outlined. A comment was made by Ms. Lucy Birmingham of Time Magazine who attended the session regarding the fact that due to many international bureaus having closed in Japan, international reporters on the disaster were “parachuted in” which may have led to much of the sensationalist feel to the reporting.

HIROSHI TERASHIMA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OCEAN POLICY RESEARCH FOUNDATION (OPRF)

*THE GREAT TOHOKU TSUNAMI AND OCEAN POLICY: A
JAPANESE PERSPECTIVE*

Mr. Terashima, another long-time supporter of the UNITAR Series, began his presentation by sincerely thanking those who supported Japan through this recent crisis. Mr. Terashima explained that while Japan has a strong disaster management policy, the March 11th earthquake and tsunami demonstrated that even the best plans can be tested



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severely. Following the tsunami maritime vessels, both military (Japan Coast Guard, Japan Self Defence Forces and US Forces) and civilian (cruise ships, university research vessels, etc.), worked to deliver relief supplies and necessary materials to those in need. Supplies were delivered to the Japan Sea coast and then trucked overland to affected areas. The areas hit by the quake and tsunami were some of the most important to Japan's fishing industry with 22,000 fishing vessels in seven affected areas suffering damage. The fleets in Iwate and Miyagi prefectures were essentially destroyed and of the 2,108 processing facilities in the affected regions, 536 were completely destroyed, 106 damaged and 135 flooded.

The Basic Reconstruction Policy for the affected areas post-3/11 included:

- 1) East Japan Disaster Recovery Basic Act (enacted June 24);
- 2) East Japan Disaster Recovery Basic Measures (enacted Aug 11).

The national government laid out basic policies, but the coordination and implementation at local levels is the responsibility of prefectural and municipal governments.

It is estimated that recovery will take ten years with a focus on creating disaster-resistant environments in which damage can be minimized and priority given to the preservation of human life and safety.

The necessary Measures for Reconstruction as outlined by Mr. Terashima include:

- Comprehensive coastal management;
- Integrated reconstruction plans among regional towns and communities;
- Creation of early detection, prediction and warning systems for tsunamis;
- Monitoring of drastic changes in ecosystems due to natural disasters;
- Rebuilding fishing-related industry in affected areas;
- Promoting development and use of renewable energy from the ocean (to fight climate change); and

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- Removal and reuse of debris from the disaster for restoration and reconstruction purposes.

Mr. Terashima then outlined Japan's Basic Act on Ocean Policy and related it back to the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. The focus now must turn, urged Mr. Terashima, to the following:

- The drafting and implementation of comprehensive local reconstruction plans for land and ocean areas;
- Comprehensive management of coastal zones;
- Create early detection, prediction and warning systems for tsunamis;
- Securing the safety of the ocean;
- Create marine survey and observation systems to respond to the drastic changes in marine ecosystems due to natural disasters;
- Promotion of Research and Development and of marine science and technology;
- Rebuild marine products industry in the disaster-affected areas;
- Promotion of marine industries and increasing international competitiveness;
- Promotion of the development and use of renewable energy on the ocean;
- Comprehensive management of coastal zones.

The Q and A session saw questions regarding the mandate of the OPRF with regard to the enforcement of compliance to specific policies. Mr. Terashima outlined that the OPRF is a private think tank and as such has no such powers, which reside with specific government offices.

NOBUYUKI YAGI
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR/CO-MANAGER: OCEAN ALLIANCE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

*JAPANESE MARKET CONDITION IN FISHERY PRODUCTS AFTER
THE EARTHQUAKE AND NUCLEAR ACCIDENT*

Professor Yagi began by clarifying that while the tsunami area was relatively limited - close to the shore along the north-eastern coast of Japan - the effects were severe within

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affected area.

In outlining the short-term trends, Professor Yagi indicated that 10-15% of the fishery production of Japan was damaged by impact of the combined earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis, centred on the prefectures of Miyagi, Aomori, Iwate, Ibaragi, and Fukushima. In regards to food contamination, Sand Lance, a type of small sardine, in Fukushima had been found to contain higher levels of Caesium and Iodine than are acceptable and as such no fish from Fukushima may be landed onshore.



In regards to long-term trends, the number of fishermen in Japan has been declining, from 400,000 to 200,000 between 1971-2007, with most of the current workforce being age 60 or above. Younger generations are not interested in fishing as a career. The number of wholesale markets at landing ports has declined from over 1,000 in 1993 to 864 in 2008 with the result that Japan is importing more as domestic production declines. This trend, coupled with weaker demand for fish products – most likely due to radiation fears - could be exacerbated by the tsunami.

In comparing fishing between Norway and Japan, Professor Yagi noted that in Japan the focus is more on fishing as being a community activity, as opposed to a strictly business venture. There exists a conflict between stakeholders who seek higher margins and consumers who want cheaper fish, with fisherpeople wanting higher prices so as to maintain their livelihoods. The need therefore is for the development of long-term cooperation between fisherpeople, distributors and consumers to ensure the sustainable use of resources.

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The Q and A session included a question regarding finding a balance between social and economic considerations in Japanese fisheries. Professor Yagi indicated that if Japan pursues a path like Norway, it could be more efficient, but would then lose the employment opportunities and social cohesion that exists now in the present system. In addition, the amalgamation of fishing communities, already an ongoing process has been accelerated by the tsunami. The reliance also of Japanese fisherpeople on traditional methods of fishing in such a high-tech country was explained as the fact that coastal fishermen are older and not as reliant on or able to spend so much money on long-term, high-tech or expensive equipment.

HISASHI KUROKURA

PROFESSOR

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

TSUNAMI AND COASTAL PEOPLE

Professor Kurokura began by outlining the two fisheries systems in Japan: fishing licenses and community fisheries cooperatives. One of the main problems facing Japan as it begins to cope with the aftermath of the tsunami with regard to fishing communities is whether all companies or fisheries should be supported to restart operations. Who should be helped? In addition, the concept of supporting communities devastated by the disaster and hollowed out by the loss of fisheries is also an issue. Should they be supported through increased tourism or academic linkages for example? Summarising his introduction, Professor asked:

- 1) Who to prioritize for support among the needy candidates?;
- 2) How to rebuild these damaged fishing towns?;
- 3) How to help selected small villages?

The Professor continued with a discussion regarding historical warnings not to build homes on the lower level by the sea which were forgotten. He then suggested an alternative system of secondary and tertiary defences incorporating inner

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and outer dikes with agricultural zones acting as a buffer.

BERIN MCKENZIE
SPECIALIST

UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH
(UNITAR) HIROSHIMA OFFICE

ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr McKenzie began the presentation by outlining the practical exercise which formed a part of the UNITAR methodology for the Workshop which examined the action plan development process.

An action plan can be seen as a “road map” for implementing activities addressing an identified priority issue. It must have a clearly defined start and finish and is used to provide structure, focus, control to the project in question. Action Plans can be analysed using the so-called “SMART” approach whereby they should be assessed as to whether they are:

- **S**pecific
- **M**easurable
- **A**chievable
- **R**ealistic
- **T**ime-bound

Key to beginning the action plan process is establishing a problem statement which serves to outline the need for an action plan. A goal is then established through the execution of a Situation and Gap Analysis – essentially seeing “where we are” and comparing that to “where we want to be” then defining the steps and requirements to get there.

The perils of producing a “paper exercise” were spelled out, in particular with regard to the demoralising impact this could have on teams in general. It is always important to continually ascertain as to whether the plan is realistic, achievable and effective. To assist this, an explanation was made of defining indicators throughout the process, as well as breaking down the action plan into activities, which are then further divided into tasks.

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Milestones were introduced as important points at which to examine the action plan as a whole. In addition, milestones serve as opportunities for the teams involved to reflect and gain satisfaction on achievements to date.

It is important to also raise awareness and therefore support for the projects, as well as maintaining a strict coda for monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

At the conclusion of Mr. McKenzie's presentation participants split into small groups to consider the question: *How to balance needs for long-term co-operation among different stakeholders.*

Each group reported in turn on their own analytical processes regarding their Action Plans, detailing such things as key stakeholders, interests, objectives, goals and indicators. Due to the complex nature of the scenarios and sometimes competing goals of different stakeholders, each group had to consider how to balance the competing needs in a way that is equitable and as representative as possible.



The gap analysis proved to be a key tool in identifying shortfalls and then crafting the best and most measurable ways to address them in society. Group participants engaged in lively and respectful debate about these complex issues, offering constructive input on how best to balance the needs of Stakeholders in terms of social and economic indicators.

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CLOSING REMARKS

YASUO HASHIMOTO
CHIEF

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
HIROSHIMA PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Hashimoto began his commentary by thanking everyone for their participation and stating how delighted he was with the participation of representatives of local government.

Mr. Hashimoto continued by outlining the story of Hiroshima and how, following atomic devastation, and with global support, it had risen from the ashes. Aside from financial support, a belief in reconstruction is essential. UNITAR, as part of Hiroshima, also plays an important role in peace-making in the world. The citizens of Hiroshima are very proud to partner with UNITAR and support these activities, Hiroshima is also very happy to see the network of UNITAR expanding here in Tokyo, as a network of peace. The lessons learned from the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and 2011 Tohoku disaster should provide very fruitful knowledge on reconstruction. As with Hiroshima, this can become a face of peace for the future. Mr. Hashimoto concluded by inviting all participants to visit Hiroshima and hoping that they would all return to their home countries and help create a peaceful society for the future.



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SECTION IV: EVALUATION

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the evaluation are to assess the entire process of the session from the perspective of a UNITAR participant. Through examining not only the content delivered but also the pre-session information and application procedures, the Programme Officer charged with overseeing the development, implementation, monitoring and reporting of the session and Series as a whole is able to gain a complete understanding of the life-cycle of the session.

The areas for which evaluation was requested were:

- Pre Event Information;
- Learning Objectives;
- Value;
- Relevance;
- Intent to Use;
- Methodology;
- Trainers and Facilitators;
- Assessment;
- Overall Satisfaction.

All participants will be contacted three and then six months following the session so as to ascertain the implementability, or otherwise, of the training given. Responses will then be analysed in parallel with those received immediately after that session so as to guide the planning for the 2012 session.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

In their session binders, all participants were provided with a four page, written, anonymous evaluation form which they were able to fill out at their leisure during the session and which was collected on the final day.

This was augmented by oral discussions with participants, as well as post-session discussions with Resource Persons. All evaluations were analysed, with the results synthesised into an internal document, which will be compared to similar documents from previous sessions during the development of the 2012 Event.

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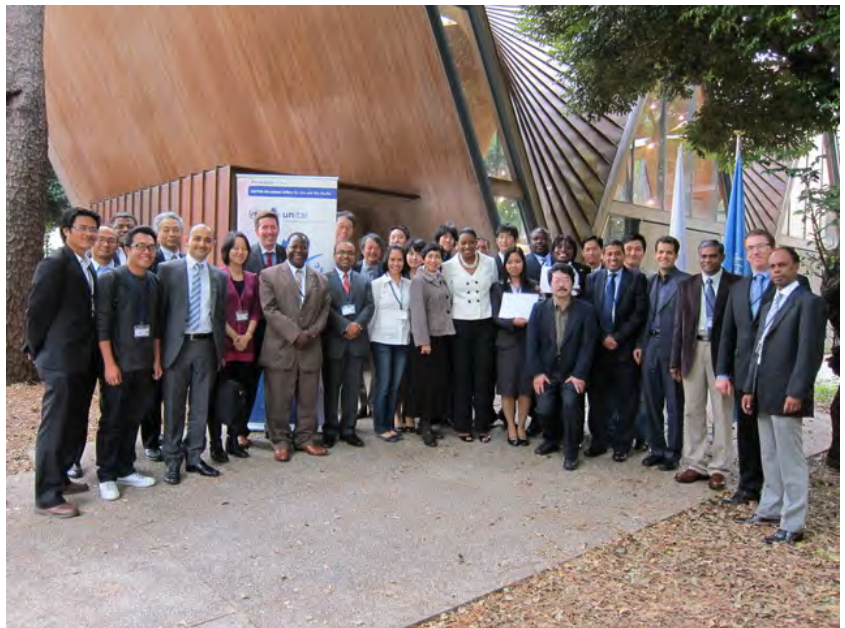
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FINDINGS

The evaluations were all-but uniformly positive, with 95% of respondents indicating that they would recommend the course to colleagues.

The responses specifically focusing on the outlining and achievement of learning objectives too, was very gratifying from a UNITAR perspective. Over 90% of responses indicated that the clarity and relevance of the learning objectives, as well as the extent to which they had been met either “mostly” or “fully” met with expectations. The lowest response in regards to learning objectives was that the participant felt the objectives had “more or less” achieved what they had indicated.



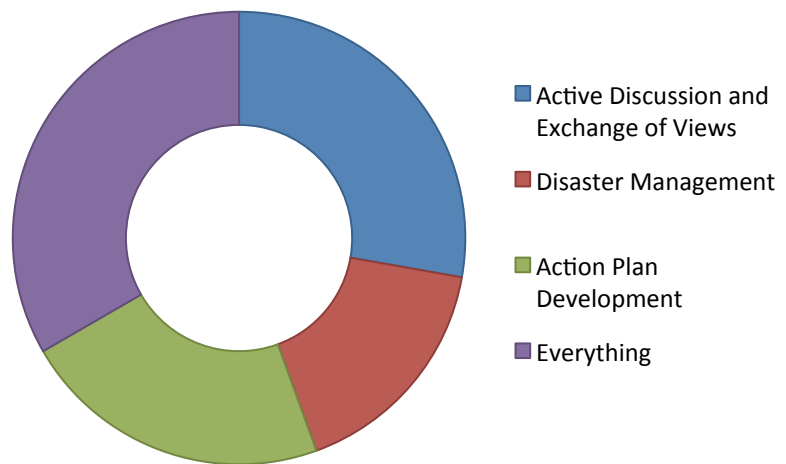
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OVERALL, WHAT DID YOU FIND MOST USEFUL ABOUT THE
SESSION?



PARTICIPANT COMMENTS

- *Really good chance to understand the real situation of the Tsunami*
- *Professor Fukuyo's presentation was interesting from the point view of biology*
- *Actually, all lectures have been perfect and useful, but what is more excellent is the eco-system lecture.*
- *Different perspectives toward reconstruction of damaged areas and people's lives from scientific and political standpoints gave me the combined knowledge which will help my own thinking method.*
- *Gaining knowledge and information for Tsunami hazard and disaster risk reduction.*
- *Interaction with international participants*
- *The idea of ICM and its importance for coastal areas during a disaster*
- *The fact that almost all speeches related to Tsunami and the environment, technical, social and economical were given equal contribution*
- *Learning 'Best Practices' adopted in the various scenarios*

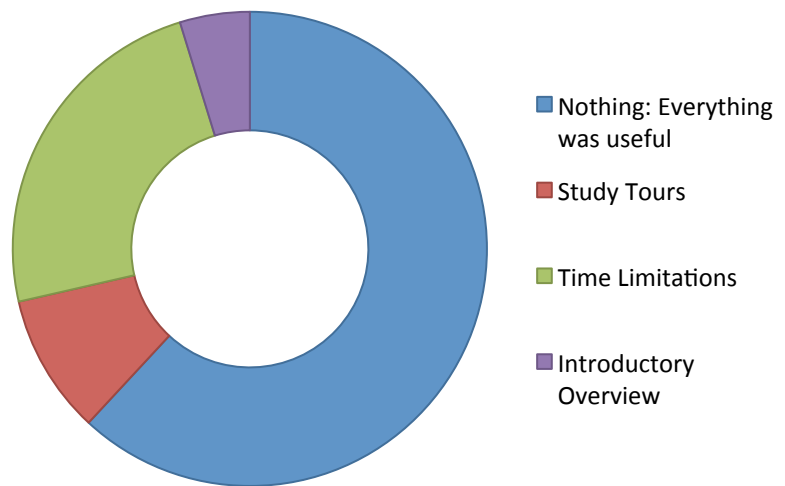
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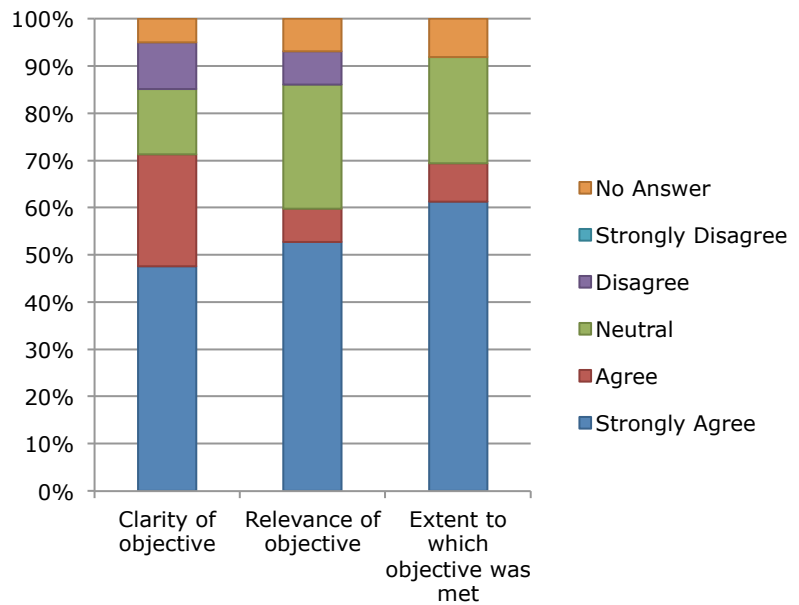
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OVERALL, WHAT DID YOU FIND LEAST USEFUL ABOUT THE SESSION?



OBJECTIVE ONE - IDENTIFY KEY ISSUES THAT HAVE EMERGED SINCE THE 2011 EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI IN REGARDS TO THE OCEAN



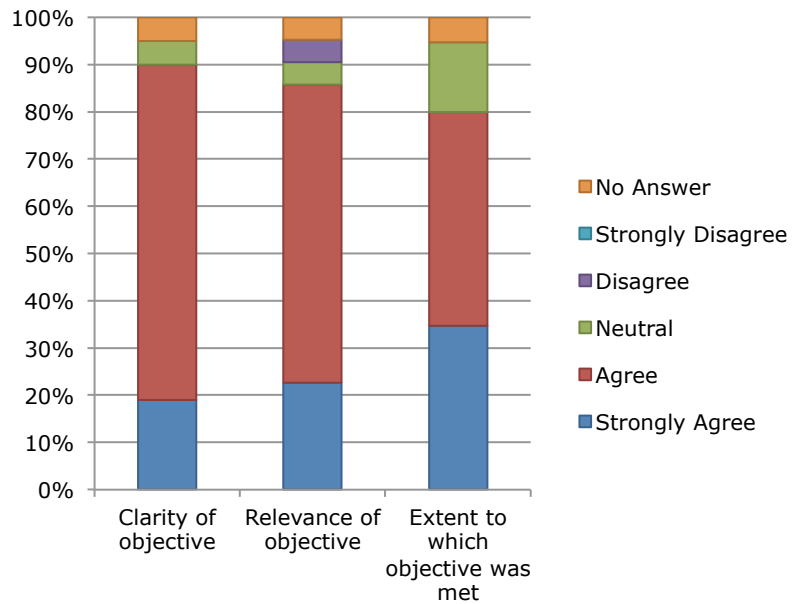
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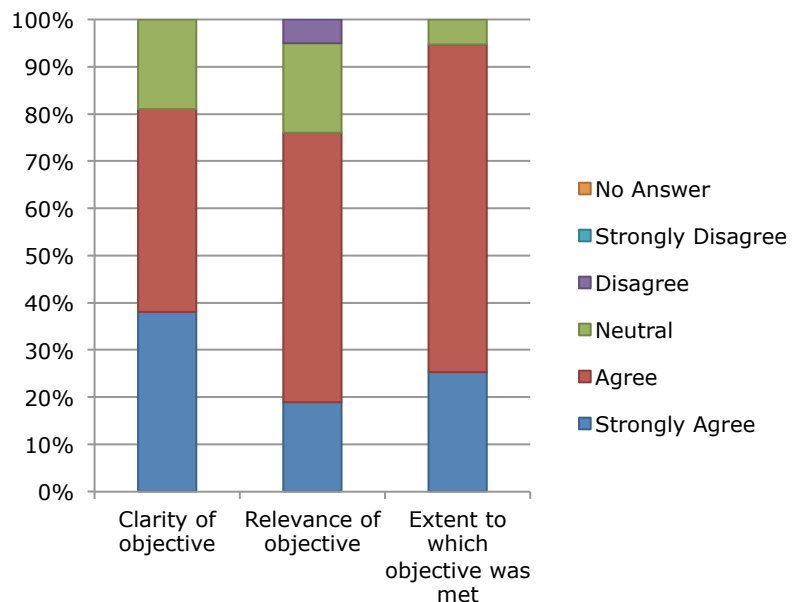
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OBJECTIVE TWO - EXAMINE RESPONSES, THE LESSONS LEARNED, AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION FOLLOWING THE 2004 INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI



OBJECTIVE THREE - EXAMINE FEASIBLE ACTION PLANS FOR POLICY IMPLEMENTATION



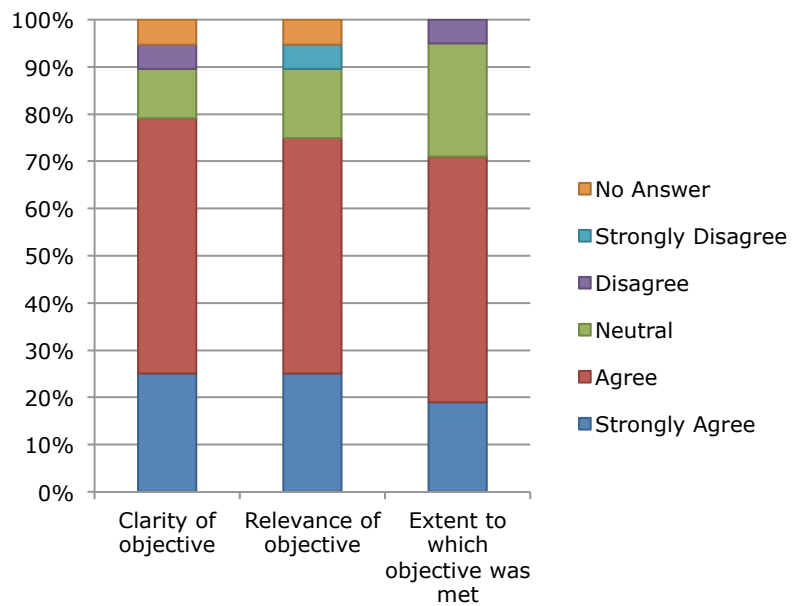
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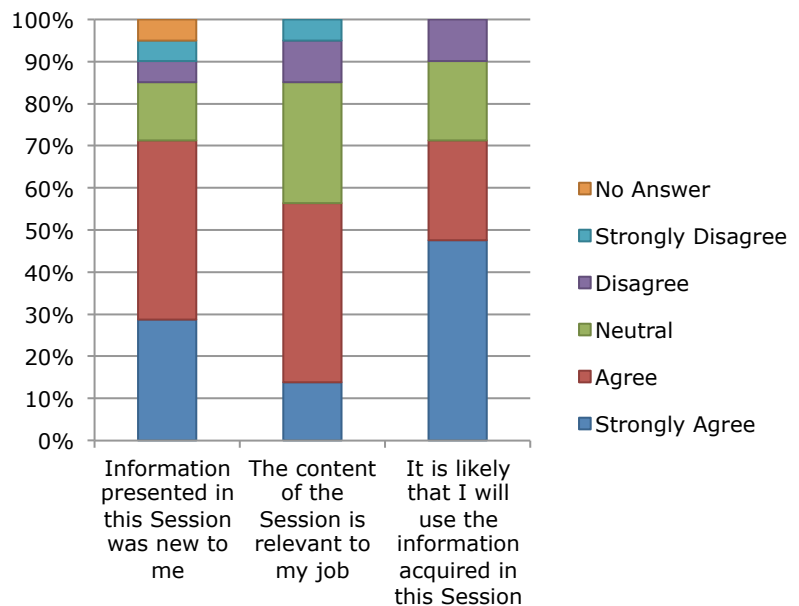
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OBJECTIVE FOUR - HIGHLIGHT THE NECESSITY OF A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO OCEAN SECURITY



VALUE, RELEVANCE AND INTENT TO USE



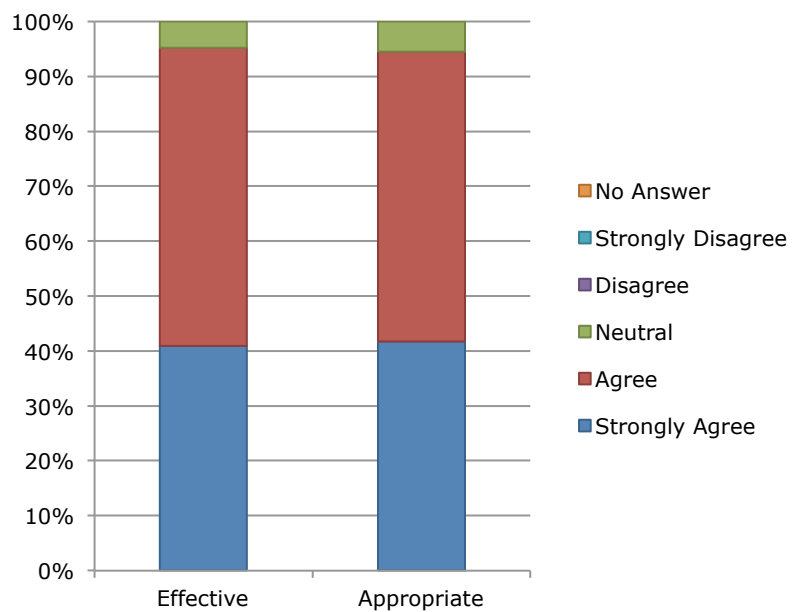
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METHODOLOGY - OVERALL, HOW EFFECTIVE AND
APPROPRIATE WAS THE METHODOLOGY (GIVEN THE
LEARNING OBJECTIVES)?



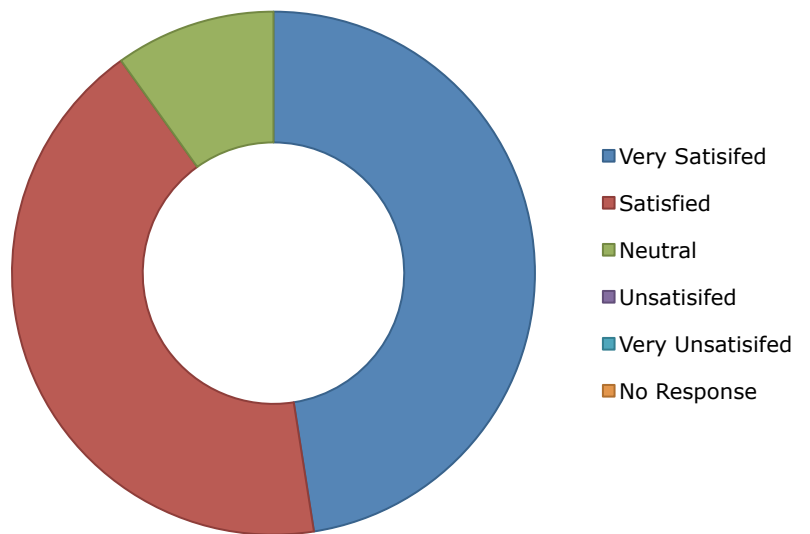
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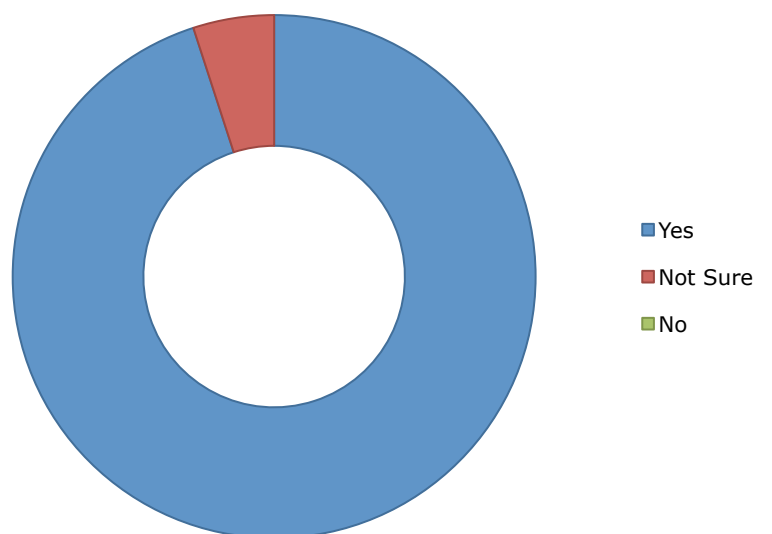
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OVERALL, HOW SATISFIED WERE YOU WITH THE EVENT



WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE EVENT TO A COLLEAGUE?



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CONCLUSIONS

Overall, the relevance of the session and Series itself were deemed to be very good. This is evidenced in the many positive comments as received both in the evaluations, as well as verbally during the session. Both participants and Resource Persons voiced the opinion that not only is the level of training being offered within this Series very high, but also the relevance and uniqueness of the training in and of itself.

The duration of the session, while something alluded to in the evaluations by participants has, in full consultation with partners and Resource Persons, been deemed to be sufficient. In an effort to ensure that all participants are prepared for the intensity and high-level of the course, the application documents and pre-session readings for 2012 will stress the importance of a deep understanding of the preparatory documents, as well as the session specific background documentation.

The 2011 session met all objectives set before it and proved to be a useful addition to the programmatic calendar of the UNITAR Hiroshima Office.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the session take place once again in 2012 so as to maintain momentum in the Series. Future sessions would benefit from the setting of dates further in advance, and perhaps setting dates over a multi-year period. This would allow for both Resource Persons and participants to more effectively plan for attendance.

Memoranda of Understanding or similar institution-level agreements in regards to the support of the Series and the provision of Resource Persons, as well as the dissemination of Call for Application documents, are recommended to be developed and/or subjected to review.

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ANNEX: PARTICIPANT BIO INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Ajay PRADHAN
Managing Director
DHI India
India



Dr Ajay Pradhan, a graduate of masters in Geographical Sciences and Environment, Resources and Development from Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok and later obtained Ph D degree in Civil Engineering “ Efficacy of River Training Measures and Bank Protection for Flood Disaster Management in Brahmaputra River Systems”. Dr Pradhan has worked as Scientist with government of India and developed tools and methodology for “Micro-Zonation of Large Urban Cities- Based on Liquefaction Potential Study due to Earthquake” – A Case of Delhi City. Project Management for large Oil and Gas Projects including pipeline stability at landfall point due to coastal erosion and morphology changes at tidal river crossing due to tropical cyclone and storm surges. Project Management and implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Vulnerability Mapping of the Tamil Nadu State coastline under Emergency Tsunami Rehabilitation Project funded by World Bank. Carried out strategic studies for the coastal protection due to severe erosion in the Orissa Coast, India. Prepared emergency contingency plan for several Oil facilities like Oil Berths, SPM, pipeline, platforms for large Oil companies in South and South East Asia. Leading an international team of experts to carry out research on cohesive sediment management. Have been appointed as the convenor and coordinator for an International Network of experts, companies, and manufactures, etc., under “Sediment Management Network”- A Knowledge Hub for sustainable solutions for hydro power projects (www.SediNet.info). Currently, Managing Director of DHI India, an independent research and consultancy organisations for South Asia.

Mohammad Saeed MADIHI
Senior Expert
Ports & Maritime Organization (PMO)
Iran



Mr. Mohammad Saeed Madihi has more than 5 years of experience in coastal engineering and Maritime Structures and has undertaken projects in Iran, UAE, Bahrain Pakistan. During this period Saeed has worked in both the private and public sector. Saeed has widespread experience in design of different types of coastal Structures. He has also managed design and construction of numerous coastal and port engineering projects. He has also led numerical model investigations of wave transformation and harbor tranquility.

Ali NASERI
Senior Expert
Ports & Maritime Organization (PMO)
Iran



2008 M.Sc. in Physical Oceanography Azad University Science and Research Branch, Tehran ,Iran. Dissertation title: Investigation of Longshore Sediment Transport Rate in Babolsar Coastal Region and Calibration Related Formulas. Advisor: Dr V.Cheghini. Research interests: Coastal engineering, Numerical Modeling of Coastal Processes, Coastal Protection, Estuarine Hydrodynamics, Modeling of Tsunami and its Impact on Coastal Regions, Hindcast & Forecast of Waves, Analysis of Long-term Changes in the shoreline



INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Yong Sung AHN
Researcher
Korean Maritime Institute
Korea



Mr. Yong Sung Ahn is currently working for Korea Maritime Institute, which is one of the leading government-affiliated research institutes in Korea. As a researcher, he has been fully involved in national strategy planning for the issues of ocean and coastal development and management. Before beginning his research career at the Korea Maritime Institute in Korea, he had just completed a Master of Urban and Regional Planning, with a concentration in Economic Development, and a Master of Architecture also from the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. in the US.

Zarli Win THANT
Team Coordinator
Dawei Special Economic Zone Project
Myanmar



Mr. Zarli Win Thant has been involved in the implementation of Dawei Apecial Economic Zone which includes inland deep seaport to be constructed on 4 km of terrestrial land dawei coast in southern Myanmar. By having experience in social welfare and community development, people have been assigned to take responsibilities on relocation of rural communities for livelihood, after their homeland will be converted into a heavy industrial estate.

Janaka Jayasekera WIJETUNGE
Senior Lecturer/ Director
Centre for Engineering Research and Postgraduate Studies
University of Peradeniya
Sri Lanka

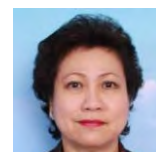


Dr. Janaka J. Wijetunge received his Ph.D. in Coastal Engineering from Cambridge University, UK in 1997, and since then, has been working as a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. He also serves as the Director of the Centre for Engineering Research and Postgraduate Studies. He was a Visiting Research Professor at University of Southern California and Cornell University during his sabbatical leave. Dr Wijetunge has carried out several numerical and field studies to understand the characteristics of tsunami propagation and onshore inundation, and is currently leading the national level project to develop tsunami and storm surge hazard maps for Sri Lanka.



INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Cherdchinda CHOTIYAPUTTA
International Cooperation Specialist and Chief Executive Officer
Thailand Expo 2012 Office
Department of Marine and Coastal Resources
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Thailand



Ms. Cherdchinda Chotiyaputta has been working in the field of marine fisheries, and marine and coastal resources management for over 30 years and as a national focal point for the international coordination and cooperation on post Tsunami rehabilitation of coastal and marine ecosystem (Indian Ocean Tsunami 2004). She is also an invited lecturer and advisor for graduate students of Chulalongkorn University. At present, she is a retired officer serve as International cooperation specialist advisor to the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, and Chief Executive Officer of Thailand Expo 2012 Office, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

Tuan Linh VO
Researcher
Institute of Oceanography
Vietnam



Dr. Tuan Linh Vo is working at the Department of Hydro-Geo Chemistry, Institute of Oceanography which belonged to the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST). The mandate of his Department focuses on researches on marine hydro-geochemistry processes, coastal pollution and environment impact assessment. Recently, his works are mainly analysing and assessing the factors such as pollutants, natural processes, and human activities impacting to marine ecosystems such as coral reefs, seagrass beds... His main purposes when coming here are to get more new and updated knowledge about tsunami and earthquake, and to know comprehensive management approaches to sea and ocean... Besides, as a young researcher, he would like to make friends and form connections with international researchers and experts. Hopefully, we can meet and work together soon, and certainly, in the future.

CHIEF OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS BIOS

H.E. Marlene VILLELA-TALBOTT
Ambassador
Embassy of Honduras to Japan
Honduras



Born in Tegucigalpa, Honduras Mrs Marlene Villela de Talbott holds a Law Degree from the National Autonomous University of Honduras and a Masters Degree from Cheng Chi University in Taipei, Taiwan as well as being an Attorney at Law and a Public Notary for the Justice Supreme Court of Honduras. She worked as an advisor for the Humanitarian Landmine Action in the Area of Comprehensive Antipersonnel Landmine Action for the Unit of the Promotion of Democracy, Organization of American State in Washington, D.C. between 1998 and 2002. She served as Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States, Washington, D.C. between 1992 and 1998, as well as Ambassador of the Republic of Honduras to the Republic of China, Taiwan, from October 2002 to August 2010 before assuming her current role in September 2010.

H.E. Martha Lidia ZELAYANDIA
Ambassador
Embassy of El Salvador to Japan
El Salvador



Martha Lidia Zelayandía was born in San Miguel city, El Salvador. Studies of Music Pedagogy and Piano at Superior Music School (Escuela Superior de Música) of El Salvador, Studies of Biology at National University of El Salvador and Chemistry at Catholic University of Central America (UCA). After her arrival to Japan in 1979 has continued studies of several languages such as Japanese (spoken and written), English, French, Chinese (Mandarin), as well as Japanese culture and history. Experience for many years as Teacher in elementary and secondary schools in Japan, in the field of International Understanding Education. Free lance interpreter and translator Japanese-Spanish. Minister Counsellor at the Embassy of El Salvador in Japan since 2009, promoted to Ambassador since September 2011. Amb. Zelayandia is concerned about the global climate change and its consequences in her country, the Central America region and the whole world. To face the climate change, the preparedness, adaptability and mitigation play a vital role.

EMBASSY PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Najmul HUDA
First Secretary
Embassy of Bangladesh to Japan
Bangladesh



Dr. Najmul Huda joined the Diplomatic Service of Bangladesh in 2003 and is currently working as the First Secretary of Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo. He is a post-graduate in English Literature and the major area of his works involves bilateral diplomatic and political affairs plus the consular services including safety & security of their expertises, particularly during natural and other disasters.



EMBASSY PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Sopheha HOK
First Secretary
Embassy of Cambodia to Japan
Cambodia



Since Mr. Sopheha Hok arrived in Japan in January 2011, he had encountered the Mega earthquake and the nuclear disaster. Since then, he has attended the Briefing at Foreign Ministry to follow up the daily situation since it was in the serious conditions until the more stable at Fukushima NPP and he has to brief his boss on the situation as well as report to the capital of the crisis. Given this work, he thinks he should learn more about this at the training.

Ulaiasi RAVULA
First Secretary
Embassy of the Republic of Fiji to Japan
Fiji



Provides a first line of counsel for the Ambassador's Key Outputs. Facilitates sectoral links between counterparts in home country and Japan. Facilitates home country's Tourism and Trade & Investment policies through strategic networking with relevant sectors in Japan and countries of accreditation. Managing the Mission's corporate matters and efforts to market Fiji at all levels.

Bonaventure ADJAVOR
Minister - Counsellor
Embassy of Ghana to Japan
Ghana



Mr. Bonaventure Adjavor is Minister Counsellor/Head of Chancery of Embassy of Ghana in Tokyo. He is charge of administration and political matters. He performs representational duties as well as trade and investment promotion. He received his Master degree in Arts in International Affairs from University of Ghana in 2007.

EMBASSY PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Judith EXAVIER
Charge d'Affaires
Embassy of the Republic of Haiti to Japan
Haiti



Ms. Judith Exavier most recently served as a Counsellor of the Embassy of Haiti here in Tokyo. From 2008-2010, Ms. EXAVIER served as the C.E.O of the EXAVIER Financial Group in the United States of America, managing a medium size portfolio of 5 million dollars in assets for the “Have” and helped people create financial security for themselves and their family. From 2007-2009, she was UN Affairs & Policy Advisor at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP/PB) in New York. From 2005-2006, she was Project Manager at Femme Africa Solidarity (FAS), managing projects on violence against women and girls. From 2004-2006, she was Special Advisor (Counsellor) on Human Rights Issues at the Permanent Mission of Haiti to the United Nations in New York. From 2002-2004, she was Programme Officer at the UNICEF in New York, managing the Indonesian Tsunami Relief Donors Fund. She also worked on development projects for the UN, NGOs and Community based organizations. Throughout her career, she has maintained the highest performance standards within a diverse range of coordination, advocacy, projects management and administrative functions, which is clearly illustrated by her past successes.

Chadaram SIVAJI
Counsellor, Science and Technology
Embassy of India to Japan
India



Dr. Chadaram Sivaji obtained Doctoral Degree from Indian School of Mines in 1992 and Masters Degree in Geophysics from Andhra University, India in 1987. Worked as Scientist in Indian Institute of Geomagnetism during 1991-1997 in Gravity, geomagnetism and geoelectric methods of prospecting. Awarded post Doctoral Fellowship of Government of Japan heterogeneous media using laboratory experiments at Geological Survey of Japan, Tsukuba, Japan. From 1998 to till date working in the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India to promote Science and Technology in India. Presently holding the position of Counsellor, Science and Technology, Embassy of India, Tokyo since July 2011.

Dhibian HASAN
Second Secretary
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iraq to Japan
Iraq



Mr. Dhibian Hasan is engaged in studying media reports and cultural matters in Japan. Also, he focuses on bilateral cultural activities between Iraq and Japan. He obtained BA and MA Degree in political science from Al-Nahrain university in Bangladesh in 2001, and PhD Degree in international Relations from Warsaw university in Warsaw in 2010. He joined Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2000. He worked in Iraqi embassy in Warsaw. Currently, he works in Iraqi embassy in Tokyo.



EMBASSY PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Josephine ALADE
Vice Counsel
Embassy of Liberia to Japan
Liberia



Mr. Josephine Alade received the bachelor of science in economics/accounting. In Development Diplomacy certificate: Labour Migration certificates: Fashion Design. He is charged of counsellor section and finances at the embassy of Liberia in Tokyo.

Fanomezantsoa RANDRIARILALA
PhD Candidate
Embassy of the Republic of Madagascar to Japan
Madagascar



2010-2013:PhD candidate Applied Marine Bio-Sciences Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology
Environmental consultant at the Embassy of the Republic of Madagascar in Japan, 2010: Master of Marine Sciences Tokyo University of Marine science and Technology, 2008: World Fisheries Congress: Poster Presentation concerning the Bycatch and Discard in the Madagascar industrial shrimp fishery, International training concerning the GIS applied on fisheries survey, Les captures accessoires des crevettiers industriels et artisanaux » (Bycatch of industrial and artisanal shrimp fishery) book chapter in “Madagascar coastal shrimp biology, exploitation, and management”
2000:Engineer on Agronomical Sciences. Breeding and Fisheries Department. University of Antananarivo – Madagascar

Win Lei PHYU
Second Secretary
Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Japan
Myanmar



Ms. Win Lei Phyu is Second Secretary from Myanmar Embassy. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in September 2007 as Third Secretary. She has been working at the Training Research, Foreign Language Department and ASEAN Affairs Department. She arrived here last year. This is her first assignment to Japan. She is in charge of culture and education section.



EMBASSY PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Kennedy M. SHEPANDE
Counsellor
Embassy of the Republic of Zambia to Japan
Zambia



Mr. Kennedy M. Shepande, alumni of the 2010 Session of the UNITAR Sea and Human Security Programme, is working as a Counsellor at the Embassy of Zambia to Japan.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Soichiro ADACHI
Graduate Student
Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo
Japan



Mr. Soichiro Adachi is an MPP (Master of Public Policy) candidate at Graduate School of Public Policy (GrasPP), The University of Tokyo. His research area is ocean law and policy, in particular historical transition of Japan's coastal policy in the light of domestic legal practices, under the Interdisciplinary Education Programme on Ocean Science and Policy. He received his B.A. in Law with International Relations Minor from Sophia University in 2009. He was awarded as the fifth Young Scholar at the Asiatic Society of Japan to his presentation "Maritime Delimitation: The Historical Development of States' Territorial Jurisdictions and its Legal Effect in the Asian Seas" in 2010.

Yoichiro HOMMA
Graduate Student
The University of Tokyo
Japan



Mr. Yoichiro Homma graduated from San Francisco State University, CA, USA and obtained a bachelor of science in Marine Biology, January 2007. He worked for HYMO Corporation, a Japanese flocculent polymer manufacturer, for sludge water treatment and paper chemical, belonged to Sales Department from 2007 to 2008, International Department from 2009 to 2010. Now, he works for a master of science, interested in krill- fish population dynamics at the University of Tokyo. He is also a member of Rowing Varsity Team.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Akihiro MANABE
Graduate Student
The University of Tokyo
Japan



A person who loves the ocean is probably enough to describe his personality. Fishing has been his hobby since elementary school and his childhood dream was to be a caretaker at aquarium. Now, he is studying at the graduate school of the University of Tokyo to reach his goal with a strange background of immigrating to the United States because his family and he moved to the United States and living in California since then. He is currently studying fishery science after studied marine biology at University of California, Santa Cruz because he believes it would be necessary to know about fishery in the future since people always rely on marine resources and of most importantly, because he likes fish.

Yuka OGATA
Graduate Student
Graduate School of Global Agricultural Sciences, The University of Tokyo
Japan



Ms. Yuka Ogata is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Tokyo in the Department of Global Agricultural Sciences where she will soon complete her studies on developing culture techniques in Southeast Asia for zooplankton (rotifers), which is a critical live food source for first-feeding larval fish used in fish farming.

Rikai SAWAJIRI
Graduate Student
Graduate School of Physical Anthropology, The University of Tokyo
Japan

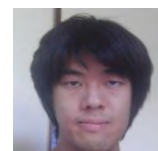


Ms. Rikai Sawafuji is a first year master's degree student at the University of Tokyo and major in physical anthropology. Actually, her major has little to do with the ocean, but when she was an under graduate student she studied zoology and researched in Misaki Marine Biological Station. So she is still interested in the ocean. She hopes she can learn a lot in this seminar.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO PARTICIPANTS BIOS

Hiroki SHIMIZU
Graduate Student
Graduate School of Systems Innovation, The University of Tokyo
Japan



Mr. Hiroki Shimizu is master 1st year student at Systems Innovation department of graduate school, the University of Tokyo, majoring in Marine Ecosystem and Fishery. His hobby is to know some innovative idea, especially traveling. He strongly believes that this outstanding seminar will enrich his academic and research potential. And thank you very much for giving an opportunity to attend this seminar. He is looking forward to attending this seminar and seeing all of you.

Evonne YIU
Graduate Student
Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo
Japan



Ms Evonne Yiu is a post-graduate student with the Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP) of the University of Tokyo, doing her Master's degree in International Program and Ocean Alliance Program. Before coming to the University of Tokyo in October 2010 on the Japanese Government Scholarship (MEXT Scholarship), she was working at the Ministry of Transport Singapore since November 2006 as Assistant Director of the International Relations and Security Division. She has also worked with the Miyazaki City Board of Education and Miyazaki Prefecture Government in Japan as Coordinator of International Relations from 2003 to 2006. Evonne holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree with First Class Honours in Japanese Studies from the National University of Singapore and was the Singaporean recipient of the Okinawa Prefectural Scholarship for exchange studies at the University of the Ryukyus, Japan in 2001. In the summer of 2011, she served an internship as research assistant at the United Nations University Institute Advanced Studies Operating Unit in Ishikawa Kanazawa (UNU-IAS OUIK) and participated as secretariat at the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) meeting of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). Evonne holds a strong interest in public policy issues of the management of coastal areas, ocean resources and marine biodiversity. Evonne speaks English, Mandarin and Japanese.



OBSERVERS BIOS

Mark FLANIGAN
Rotary International Peace Fellow
International Christian University (ICU)
USA



Mr. Mark Flanigan is a current Rotary International Peace Fellow, former Presidential Management Fellow with the U.S. government and former Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme participant with a variety of experience in both public and private sectors. He has successfully completed an internship with UN OCHA in Geneva and coursework at the UN University in Tokyo. Mark's graduate thesis at ICU will focus on applying a Human Security framework to Japan's role in disaster preparedness and response.

Yasuo HASHIMOTO
Chief of International Affairs, Regional Policy Bureau
Hiroshima Prefectural Government
Japan



Mr. Yasuo Hashimoto is currently the director of the International Affairs Division of the Hiroshima Prefectural Government.

Before he was appointed to his current position, he was a professor at the Community Cooperation Center of the Hiroshima University (HU). He was promoting collaboration between the university and society since he was recruited on 1 Jan. 2001 by HU. After four year and three month at Hiroshima University, he decided to resign on 31 March 2005 and re-join the Hiroshima Prefectural Government to challenge new jobs in society. He had been working for the Hiroshima Prefecture Government for 24 years and 9 months. he have experience working in various fields in local government, such as airport planning, human resource development, industrial development, international cooperation, community medical care and so on. Also during this period, he was sent to the one of the largest trading companies in Japan to learn the way of business in private sector, and was appointed as the Director of the Hiroshima Representative Office in Singapore (HIROS) from 1991 to 1994. He was also appointed as the Director of the General Affairs Division of the Hiroshima International Center. He has been supporting student exchange program between Singapore and Hiroshima as the member of the planning committee of the Hiroshima Singapore Association (HSA), which was established in 1995.



RESOURCE PERSONS BIOS

Nancy BERMAS

Senior Country Programme Manager

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia
(PEMSEA)

Philippines



Ms. Nancy Bermas is responsible for the management of programme delivery in the Philippines and Vietnam, i.e., programme planning, development, implementation and monitoring of integrated coastal management (ICM) programmes in coordination with national and local governments and relevant stakeholders to strengthen and improve governance of coastal areas. Concurrently serving as coordinator of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development consisting of 29 member local governments from 8 countries in East Asia. She was a trained marine biologist working on coral reef research while connected with the Marine Science Institute of the University of the Philippines and later on specialised in ICM. She served as lecturer in a number of PEMSEA training courses on ICM at the local, regional and national levels and as resource person in various international conferences. She has authored and co-authored articles and reports related to coral reef research and ICM, such as the dynamics of ICM. She has also served as editor and co-editor of a number of PEMSEA publications.

Yasuo FUKUYO

Professor

Asian Natural Environmental Science Centre, The University of Tokyo
Japan



Mr. Yasuo Fukuyo graduated from the Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Tokyo in 1972 and entered the Graduate School of the same university. He moved to Iwate, Japan, as an Assistant Professor at the School of Fisheries Science, Kitasato University. He received his Doctorate in Agriculture from the University of Tokyo in 1982. He returned to the University of Tokyo as an Assistant Professor in 1983 and became an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Agriculture in 1990. He moved to the Asian Natural Environmental Science Centre of the University in 1995, and was promoted to Professor in 2003. His main research subjects are the taxonomy, ecology and life cycle of toxic unicellular micro algae, which cause toxin contamination in fish and shellfish and poisonings in people, and also noxious ones, which often cause red tides and mass mortality of marine organisms. As geographical expansion of those harmful micro algae has increased in recent years, especially in the Southeast Asian region, he is studying the mechanisms of bloom recurrence and expansion in cooperation with scientists from Asia. He is a panel member of the International Programme on Harmful Algal Blooms (IP-HAB) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Committee (IOC) of UNESCO; Coordinator of the Regional Programme on Harmful Algal Blooms in the western Pacific (WESTPAC-HAB) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Committee (IOC) of UNESCO; and a Working Group Member in Working Group 3 (Harmful Algal Blooms in Japan Sea) of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) of United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP).

Kotaro HAGIWARA

Maritime Safety and Education Team Manager

The Nippon Foundation

Japan

Mr. Kotaro Hagiwara is Maritime Safety and Education Team Manager on The Nippon Foundation. Maritime Programs in 2009: NF-UN Partnership Training Programme on Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Strengthening Principled Ocean Governance Networks, Construction of an International Ocean Governance Network, NF-GEBCO Training Project, International Association of Maritime Universities (Capacity Building), International Association of Maritime Universities (Network Development)



RESOURCE PERSONS BIO

Yuki MATSUOKA

Head of the UNISDR Office in Kobe, Japan
United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster
Reduction (UNISDR)
Japan



Ms. Yuki Matsuoka started in the UNISDR Secretariat Headquarters as Programme Officer in April 2004 and engaged in the inter-governmental process and coordination of the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in January 2005 in Kobe. She contributed to the development of the Hyogo Framework for Action through the WCDR process, and to the establishment of the ISDR system as the follow up mechanism of the implementation of the HFA. Between April 2005 and December 2007, she worked for the Director's office of the UNISDR Secretariat Headquarters as the Special Assistant to the Director. In 2008, she moved to Kobe to manage the newly established UNISDR Office in Kobe and is working closely with a wider range of ISDR partners in Asia, in coordination with the UNISDR Asia and Pacific Office in Bangkok.

Anne MACDONALD

Director
The United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies Operating
Unit Ishikawa/Kanazawa (OUIK)
Japan



Director of United Nations University –Institute of Advanced Studies, Operating Unit Ishikawa/Kanazawa (UNU-IAS OUIK) from April 2008 and more recently professor at Sophia University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies. Before joining UNU-IAS OUIK as its founding director, she was an associate professor at Miyagi University International Center. Previous to that she worked as a director at the academic publishing house Shimizukobundo Publishing Company; during that time she authored 10 books in Japanese and headed up an environmental studies book series. She has extensive experience in rural Japan field research. For 17 years she has been an active member of the national committee for promoting environmentally sound agricultural practices in Japan, in 1997 was named the first female to sit on the board of directors for the Japanese National Fishing Infrastructure Association, continuing today and from 2007 has been a member of the national strategy committee for biodiversity in agriculture, forestry and fisheries (MAFF), among other national and regional government committees.

Hiroshi TERASHIMA

Executive Director
Ocean Policy Research Foundation
Japan



Mr. Hiroshi Terashima graduated from The University of Tokyo's Faculty of Law and joined the Japanese Ministry of Transport in 1965. He held positions including Director-General of the Chubu District Transport Bureau and Assistant Vice-Minister. He has been involved in many national and international maritime transportation projects and served as Executive Director of the Nippon Foundation (1994–2002). He is engaged in supporting the building of a cooperative structure to ensure safety in the Malacca and Singapore Straits, anti-piracy initiatives and human resources development for ocean governance. His ocean policy activities include steering board positions on the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands and PEMSEA's EAS Partnership Council. He also played a leading role in the research activities leading to passage of Japan's new Basic Ocean Law.



RESOURCE PERSONS BIO

Nobuyuki YAGI
Associate Professor
Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences
The University of Tokyo
Japan



Mr. Nobuyuki Yagi is Associate Professor at the University of Tokyo. The area of his study includes marine policy and environmental economics. Before joining the University in 2008, he worked for the Fisheries Agency of the Government of Japan and represented Japanese delegations to the meetings at APEC, FAO, OECD, UNEP and WTO. He served as a bureau member for the OECD Committee for Fisheries from 2003 to 2008. From 1999 to 2002, he was First Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in Washington DC, USA. He received a graduate degree (MBA) from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA, and a Ph.D. from the University of Tokyo, Japan.

Masahiro YAMAOKA
Professor
Department of Bioresource Science
Hiroshima University
Japan



Dr. Masahiro Yamaoka obtained his master degree in Agricultural Economics from Hokkaido University in 1977, earning a Ph.D. at the same university in 1987. Currently Professor Yamaoka works at the Department of Bioresource Science, Graduate School of Biosphere Science, and Hiroshima University. He is specialized in Fisheries and Agriculture Economics, and Environmental Preservation. He has accrued wide experience in studying coastal resources, utilization and management in a number of Asian countries, with a particular focus on the responsible and sustainable use of fisheries and coastal resources. He has also worked in the field of rural community development together with citizen's groups in Thailand and Southeast Asia.

Hisashi KUROKURA
Professor
Ocean Alliance

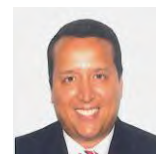
Dr. Hisashi Kurokura is a professor from the Ocean Alliance, University of Tokyo, and at offices in Tokyo, Graduate School of Science. The Center is composed of two units of experts gathered experts in education and oceanography. There is also a research group as part of the Ocean Alliance Ocean literacy, working to achieve a consistent and cooperative marine education.



UNITAR STAFF BIOS

Alex MEJIA

Head, Hiroshima Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
Ecuador



Mr. Mejía earned a Masters in Finance from INCAE University in Costa Rica and a Bachelors Degree from Zamorano University in Honduras. He is also a Master in Foreign Affairs candidate at Georgetown University in Washington, DC and holds a Diploma in Political Leadership from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and graduated from the Political and Electoral Marketing Program of Universidad de La Sabana in Colombia. After working in corporate banking for seven years in Latin America, Mr. Mejía began his career as a diplomat in 1998 when he became Counselor at the Ecuadorian Embassy in Bogotá, Colombia. In 2001, he was appointed Vice Minister of Economy for his native Ecuador. As such he was also appointed Governor to the World Bank, Governor to the Inter-American Development Bank and Board Member of the Ecuadorian Central Bank. In 2005 Mr. Mejía was appointed by the Governor of the State of Georgia as Vice President of Government Relations for Latin America until he joined CIFAL Atlanta, as Executive Director, a training center founded by UNITAR and the City of Atlanta, in 2006. Mr Mejía was appointed by the Executive Director of UNITAR as Head of the UNITAR Hiroshima Office in October 2009.

Berin MCKENZIE

Specialist
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
New Zealand



A New Zealander, Mr. McKenzie graduated with a B.A. degree in Japanese from New Zealand's Canterbury University in 1998, and a B.A. (Hons.) and M.A. in International Relations from the Department of Political Studies at Auckland University. His M.A. Thesis examined multilateral initiatives as pursued by Japan in regards to its policy towards the People's Republic of China. Fluent in Japanese, Mr. McKenzie was employed in a Japanese local government role prior to joining UNITAR as a Consultant in August 2008. Following his appointment as Specialist in 2010, he has represented UNITAR in domestic and international workshops, meetings and seminars and was honoured to be requested to convey the Message of Congratulations of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon to inaugurate the Hiroshima Conference for the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons by 2020 in 2010. Mr. McKenzie heads programme development and implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation at the UNITAR Hiroshima Office and has also acted as a Mentor to participants in the UNITAR Fellowship for Afghanistan programme.

Seira NIGO

Intern
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
Japan



Ms. Seira Nigo is an undergraduate student from Hiroshima Shudo University and intern at UNITAR.



