
Integrated Disaster Risk Management Society



IDRiM Newsletter

Issue 1, January 2011



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1. IDRiM News

IDRIM 2010 successfully held in Vienna.

By Kazuyoshi NAKANO

The 1st Annual Conference of the International Society for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRiM 2010) was successfully held during 1-4 September 2010 at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), in Vienna, Austria.



Photo: Participants to the 1st IDRiM Conference at BOKU, Vienna, Austria, during the closing ceremony on 3 October 2010.

This memorable occasion was the 1st meeting of the IDRiM Society after it was officially launched at the 9th IIASA-DPRI Forum on Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRiM Forum) in Kyoto, last year. The IDRiM Society was established based on a series of annual meetings on integrated disaster risk management organized since 2001 by the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI) of Kyoto University, and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). The conference was launched with remarks from Professor Martin Gerzabek, Rector of BOKU, and Professor Norio Okada, Director of DPRI, as well as Professor Hans Peter Nachtnebel, the local organizer from BOKU.



Photo: Professor Norio Okada, Director of DPRI, and newly elected President of the IDRiM Society.

The aims of the conference were sharing experiences and knowledge for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRiM) under different socio-economic and cultural contexts. In total, more than 80 participants were gathered for the occasion and more than 50 speakers with different backgrounds and nationalities including Japan, Nepal, India, China, Colombia, Venezuela, Europe, United States, etc.,- shared their research findings in the field of IDRiM.

The first day included plenary sessions related to risk assessment of and adaptation to various types of hazards including earthquakes and tsunamis, floods and droughts, and landslides. The second day began with a special session regarding NATECHs, which deals with risk of joint natural and technological disasters. Especially critical infrastructures like power plants were focused on in the European and African context. It was followed by a session where information and early warning systems were intensively discussed. The third day included a special session about the DRH (Disaster Reduction Hyperbase) project, which develops a database for implementable technologies for disaster reduction. The outline and current situation as well as future challenges were discussed. A series of sessions followed where recent research outcomes on economic impact assessment and financial tools for disaster reduction were presented.

The General Assembly meeting of the IDRiM Society was held on 2 October during the conference. The Board of Directors and the President of the IDRiM Society were elected during the General Assembly. Professor Norio Okada, DPRI, Kyoto University, was elected as the first president of the Society.

IDRiM Journal gets ISSN number

The IDRiM Journal is now officially registered with the ISSN Center through their regional ISSN office in Japan.
ISSN number for the IDRiM Journal is: ISSN 2185-8322. Journal type: On Line (Web). Title: International Journal for Integrated Disaster Risk Management. Publisher: IDRiM. Date: March, 2011

2. Conference Announcements

- **March 22-25, 2011**

Environment Asia International Conference

The 1st *Environment Asia* International Conference on “Environmental Supporting in Food and Energy Security: Crisis and Opportunity” is being conducted by the Thai Society of Higher Education Institutes on Environment (TSHE). The Conference aims to address the crisis and challenges we face, and seize the opportunity in emerging areas of energy, environment, and food security to achieve sustainable development. The 1st *Environment Asia* International Conference shall provide a forum for academicians, technologists, researchers, students, entrepreneurs, and policy makers worldwide to exchange ideas and emerging technologies in the fields of food, energy, and the environment. The Conference will attempt to evolve an agenda for environmental policies, and the identification of green technologies and their subsequent implementation for sustainable development. The Conference will take a multidisciplinary approach across various fields and perspectives through which the fundamental questions of sustainability can be addressed.

Website:

http://www.tshe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=26

- **May 11-13, 2011**

Disaster Management 2011: (including call for papers)

The second International Conference on Disaster Management has been reconvened following the success of the first meeting held at the Wessex Institute of Technology in the New Forest. Conference topics include: Emergency preparedness, Risk mitigation, Natural disasters Man-made disasters, Learning from disasters, Disaster analysis, Monitoring and mitigation, Global risks and health, Pandemic and biological threats, Surveillance and early warning systems, Public health preparedness, Socio-economic issues, Service sustainability.

Website: <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/11-conferences/disastermanagement-2011.html>

- **May 18-20, 2011**

International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering for Disaster Mitigation and Rehabilitation: (including call for papers)

The objectives of the JWG-DMR are to: (1) share information relevant to geotechnical engineers on issues pertaining to the mitigation of natural disasters

(e.g., tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides) and (2) pool our expertise together to provide technical support on reconstruction and rehabilitation works pertaining to geotechnical engineering. The basic functions of this JWG-DMR are to plan and coordinate activities that serve our common objectives and to make better use of our resources through coordinating and sharing. By joining forces, we will also have better representation when we deal with governments or other organizations.

Website: <http://reliability.geoengineer.org/GEDMAR2011/>

- **June 19-22, 2011**

- World Conference on Disaster Management

The World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM) is the premier annual event that addresses issues common to all aspects of disaster/emergency management. The conference program includes speakers from many parts of the world and provides excellent opportunities for training and networking with experts and practitioners in Emergency Management, Business Continuity, Emergency Communications, Emergency Response, Disaster Management Research, Risk Management, Security, IT, HR, Environmental, Community Planning and the organizations which supply and service these professions. This year we will take an in-depth look at how our professions have evolved over the past twenty years, the lessons we have (or not) learned as well as looking into future trends and threats to the safety and well-being of our communities.

Website: <http://www.wcdm.org/Toronto/call-for-papers.html>

- **July 4-6, 2011**

- International Conference on Safety and Security Engineering (including call for papers)

The success of the first three International Conferences on Safety and Security Engineering held in Rome in 2005, Malta in 2007 and Rome in 2009, has prompted the organisers to reconvene the meeting in 2011. The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of the most recent academic and industrial developments in the theoretical and practical aspects of safety and security engineering. Safety and security engineering, due to its special nature, is an interdisciplinary area of research and applications that brings together in a systematic view many disciplines of science and engineering, from the traditional to the most technologically advanced. The conference covers areas such as crisis management, security engineering, natural disasters and emergencies, terrorism, IT security, man-made hazards, risk management, control, protection and mitigation issues, and many others.

Website: <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/11-conferences/safe-2011.html>

- **July 9-12, 2011**

- 36th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop

The Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop is designed to bring hazards researchers and practitioners from many disciplines together for face-to-face discussions on issues and trends that affect how society deals with hazards and disasters. It provides a dynamic and challenging forum for the diverse opinions and perspectives of the hazards community. The International Research Committee on Disasters (IRCD) Researchers Meeting and a Natural Hazard Mitigation Association add-on meeting will immediately follow the main Workshop from Tuesday, July 12 through Wednesday, July 13. The Annual Workshop and meeting will be held in Broomfield, Colorado, USA.

Website: <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/workshop/current.html>

- **July 12-14, 2011**

- 5th International Conference on Sustainable Development and Planning.

The conference addresses the subject of regional development in an integrated way as well as in accordance with the principles of sustainability. It has become apparent that planners, environmentalists, architects, engineers, policy makers and economists have to work together in order to ensure that planning and development can meet our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations.

Website: <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/11-conferences/sdp-2011.html>

- **July 14-16, 2011**

- 2nd IDRiM Conference of the International Society for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRiM Society)

The IDRiM2011 Conference title, "Reframing Disasters and Reflecting on Deficits in Risk Governance" will be held at the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles, USA, on 14-16 July 2011. A call for session proposals and special session organizers is now open. Please submit session proposals including session title, brief description of session objectives and methodology (panel session, workshop, plenary, research), and the names of the session organizers, moderator, and proposed speakers. Each session will be allotted 1.5 hours. We recommend that each session have four or maximum five speakers. Please send your session proposals to society@idrim.org, or to cruzanamaria2000@yahoo.com. Deadline for reception of session proposals: 2 February 2011. Decisions will be sent via e-mail to the main session organizers by 1 March 2011.

Website: <http://www.idrim.org>

- **July 19-21, 2011**

- International Conference on Building Resilience

With growing population and infrastructures, the world's exposure to hazards – of natural and man-made origin – is inevitably increasing. This reality reinforces the need to proactively consider disaster risk as a part of the sustainable development agenda. The International Conference on Building Resilience will encourage debate on individual, institutional and societal coping strategies to address the challenges associated with disaster risk. Central to these strategies is the concept of resilience, which is becoming a core concept in the social and physical sciences, and also in matters of public policy. Resilience refers to the capability and capacity of systems to withstand change. By encouraging participation from researchers in the social and physical sciences, the conference will explore inter-disciplinary strategies that develop the capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to disaster related hazards, to adapt, by resisting or changing, in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure. Contributions are welcome from members of the research community that address disaster risk and the need to develop resilience from diverse perspectives. The conference outcomes will be used to support the 2010-2011 World Disaster Reduction Campaign 'Making Cities Resilient', which addresses issues of local governance and urban risk while drawing upon previous ISDR Campaigns on safer schools and hospitals, as well as on the sustainable urbanizations principles developed in the UN-Habitat World Urban Campaign 2009-2013. Mayors and their local governments are both the key targets and drivers of the campaign. The overall target of the Campaign is to get as many local governments ready as possible, to span a global network of fully engaged cities of different sizes, characteristics, risk profiles and locations. The campaign is focusing on raising political commitment to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation among local governments and mayors; including through high profile media and public awareness activities, and will develop specific technical tools that cater for capacity development opportunities

Website: <http://www.disaster-resilience.salford.ac.uk/resilientcities/>

3. Call for Papers

- **International Journal of Integrated Disaster Risk Management:** A call for papers for the IDRIIM Society's new International Journal of Integrated Disaster Risk Management is now open. Papers should be submitted electronically via the online Editorial Management System at

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim>

- **Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development**
The following Special Issue will be published in Sustainability (<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/>), ISSN 2071-1050 and is open for submission of full research papers and comprehensive review articles for peer-review and possible publication: Special Issue: Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development Website:

http://www.mdpi.com/si/sustainability/disaster_prevention/

- **Sustainable Development and Planning 2011:**
Call for Papers from WIT Papers are published in the Transactions of the Wessex Institute of Technology and distributed throughout the world. In addition, they are archived in the Wessex Institute eLibrary where they are permanently and easily accessible to the international community.
Conference website:

<http://www.wessex.ac.uk/sdp2011rem1.html>

4. Internet Resource List

- Disaster Reduction Hyper base: Web based facility to compile appropriate disaster reduction technologies and knowledge.
Website:
<http://drh.edm.bosai.go.jp/>
- MCEER: Collection of disaster management resources, including international, federal, state, local and non-profit organizations:
Website:
http://mceer.buffalo.edu/infoservice/reference_services/disasterManagementResources.asp
- Staffordshire Raynet: Disaster and Emergency Management on the Internet. Long list of websites for various disasters and databases.
Website:
<http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/por/disaster.htm>
- Internet Resources for Disaster Studies: University of Delaware Library
Website:
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/disasters/internet.htm>
- FEMA" Federal Emergency Management Agency: Focus is on the US
Website:
<http://www.fema.gov/index.shtm>
- Disaster Handbook: University of Florida.
Website:
<http://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu/links.htm>
- Disaster Management: Royal Roads University.
Website:
<http://libguides.royalroads.ca/content.php?pid=64941&sid=480216>
- Natural Hazards and Disaster Information Resources: University of Colorado at Boulder (including newsletter).
Website:
<http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/resources/>

5. Scientific Job Announcements

- **Assistant Professor** - Microeconomics
Wellesley College
Website: <http://www.inomics.de/node/4158>
- **Post Graduate Scientist**
University Center for Atmospheric Research
Boulder, Colorado
Website: http://www.ucar.edu/educ_outreach/ucar-ugrad&beyond.html
- **Emergency Preparedness Director University of Miami**
Miami, Florida
Website: http://www.miami.edu/index.php/about_us/emergency_preparedness/
- **Postdoctoral Researcher**
Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Website: <http://opim.wharton.upenn.edu/risk/>
- **Executive Director**
Florida International University International Hurricane Research Center
Miami, Florida
Website: <http://www.ihc.fiu.edu/>
- **Lecturer**
University of North Texas
Denton, Texas
Website: <http://www.unt.edu/>
- **Researcher Position**
East Tennessee State University
NOAA Tsunami Social Science: Evaluation of NOAA Tsunami Warning Center (TWC) products and a proposed Tsunami Ready Program Improvement Plan.
Website: <https://jobs.etsu.edu>

6. (New) Journals

- **Journal of Integrated Disaster Risk Management, IDRIM Journal:**

- **Objective:** The main objective of IDRiM is to provide an integrated and implementable approach to the growing demand for disaster risk reduction and management by offering reliable, affordable and effective solutions for minimizing the loss of life, property damage, and social and economic disruption. IDRiM also explores implementation science for disaster reduction. IDRiM intends to provide a set of solutions for the all types of: environmental and natural hazards (earthquakes, flood, drought, windstorms, landslides, etc.) and man-made hazards. It also includes the development of methods and tools for modeling and assessment of disaster risks, hazard zonation and hazard mapping; geotechnical zonation, vulnerability analysis, strengthening design of structures, disaster risk evaluation and mapping; and various types of risk management methods such as innovative risk transfer, risk reduction policy; socio-economic studies, human and economic loss estimation, practical loss-control measures, catastrophic risk insurance, public awareness, programming; and solutions for risk reduction in buildings, lifelines, infrastructures, industry, oil-chemical facilities, offshore structures and urban system. IDRiM also covers the governance of disaster risks, design of institutional schemes, participatory approach, etc.
- **Website:** <http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim>

- **International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management, IJCCSM:**

- **Objective:** IJCCSM publishes papers dealing with policy-making on climate change, on methodological approaches to cope with the problems deriving from climate change and disseminates experiences from projects and case studies where due consideration to environmental, economic, social and political aspects is given and especially the links and leverages that can be attained by this holistic approach.
- **Website:** www.emeraldinsight.com/products/journals/journals.htm?id=ijccsm



- **Journal of Natural Disaster Science**

- **Objective:** The JOURNAL OF NATURAL DISASTER SCIENCE (JNDS), published since 1979, has provided a unified forum for scientific research on various problems concerning natural hazards and the prevention or mitigation of natural disasters. From Volume 20 (1998) JNDS has been restructured as the journal of the Society for Natural Disaster Science, Japan. Publication is open to those who wish to contribute results of original research studies, or investigations. All areas of Natural Disaster Science will be represented through regular papers, special reports, letters, and discussions. Original papers that provide new findings on natural hazard phenomena, and papers on interdisciplinary subjects dealing with the reduction of natural disasters are highly encouraged. Timely special reports are planned in the event of large scale disasters.
- **Website:** <http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/jsnds/contents/jnds/about.html>

- **Disasters**

- **Objective:** *Disasters* is a major, peer-reviewed quarterly journal reporting on all aspects of disaster studies, policy and management. It provides a forum for academics, policymakers and practitioners to publish high-quality research and practice concerning natural catastrophes, anthropogenic disasters, complex political emergencies and protracted crises around the world. The journal promotes the interchange of ideas and experience, maintaining a balance between field reports, case study articles of general interest and academic papers.
- **Website:** <http://www.wiley.com/bw/journal.asp?ref=0361-3666&site=1>

- **Environmental Hazards**

- **Objective:** The journal addresses the full range of hazards events from extreme geological, hydrological, atmospheric and biological events such as earthquakes, floods, storms and epidemics to technological failures and malfunctions such as industrial explosions, fires and toxic material releases.
- **Website:** <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=37213>



- **Natural Hazards**

- **Objective:** Natural Hazards is devoted to original research work on all aspects of natural hazards, including the forecasting of catastrophic events, risk management, and the nature of precursors of natural and technological hazards. Although hazards can originate in different sources and systems, such as atmospheric, hydrologic, oceanographic, volcanologic, seismic, neotectonic, the environmental impacts are equally catastrophic. This warrants a close interaction between different scientific and operational disciplines, aimed at enhancing the mitigation of hazards. Coverage includes such categories of hazard as atmospheric, climatological, oceanographic, storm surges, tsunamis, floods, snow, avalanches, landslides, erosion, earthquakes, volcanoes, man-made and technological, as well as risk assessment.
- **Website:**
www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/hydrogeology/journal/11069

- **Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Environmental Change**

- **Objective:** Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change addresses a wide range of timely environment, economic and energy topics including global climate change, stratospheric ozone depletion, acid deposition, eutrophication of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, species extinction and loss of biological diversity, deforestation and forest degradation, desertification, soil resource degradation, land-use change, sea level rise, destruction of coastal zones, depletion of fresh water and marine fisheries, loss of wetlands and riparian zones and hazardous waste management. The journal provides a forum to review, analyze and stimulate the development, testing and implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies at regional, national and global scales. One primary goal of this journal is to contribute to real-time policy analysis and development as national and international policies and agreements are discussed and promulgated.
- **Website:**
<http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/meteorology+%26+climatology/journal/11027>



- **Extremes**

- **Objective:** Extremes publishes original research on all aspects of statistical extreme value theory and its applications in science, engineering, economics, and other fields. It also presents authoritative reviews and case studies of theoretical advances and of extreme value methods and problems in important applied areas. Previously scattered across more general probability journals, statistical extremes research now has a home with this journal. As a result, Extremes advances and accelerates research and applications by providing a unified forum for the best papers in the field. Applied scientists find comprehensive and up-to-date coverage of theoretical developments and specialists find authoritative discussions of urgent applied problems. Finally authors find the best medium for the dissemination and use of their results.
- **Website:**
<http://www.springer.com/statistics/journal/10687>

- **International Journal of Disaster Resilience in the Built Environment**

- **Objective:** The journal aims to further knowledge and understanding of the link between the built environment and disaster mitigation, response and reconstruction. The journal seeks to: Develop the skills and knowledge of the built environment research community and professions working in disaster prone areas, so that they may strengthen their capacity in strategic and practical aspects of disaster prevention, mitigation, response and reconstruction. Provide a unique forum for novel enquiries into the development and application of new and emerging practices as a source of innovation to challenge current practices. Promote the exchange of ideas between researchers, educators, practitioners and policy makers. Influence disaster prevention, mitigation, response and reconstruction policies and practices
- **Website:**
<http://www.disaster-resilience.salford.ac.uk/international-journal-of-disaster-resilience>

- **Journal of Disaster Research**

- **Objective:** The Journal of Disaster Research provides timely, topical information on disasters related to information, lifeline infrastructures, traffic, terror, and similar events not directly due to war. The Journal's target audience is those who fight disaster in their capacity as researchers, engineers, disaster prevention managers, administrators, diplomats, and disaster-related NGO and NPO personnel. This Journal provides valuable knowledge on disaster prevention and mitigation from a comprehensive, informative viewpoint, with the emphasis on "wide and comprehensive scope".
- **Website:**
http://www.fujipress.jp/JDR/JDR_about.html

- **Asian Journal of Environment and Disaster Management (AJEDM)**

- **Objective:** This is the first journal focusing on the environment and disaster related issues in the Asian region. Asia, being the center of urban growth in the last few decades, has also created severe environmental problems, and is prone to different types of natural disasters. This journal provides a forum to communicate research findings, not only through academic research, but also incorporating field based action research.
Goal: Theory of environment and disaster management is complex, and it becomes even challenging when it is linked to field practice. There often observed a gap between the theory and practice in the field of environment and disaster management. The goal of this journal is to establish academic linkages of field practices with specific emphasis on environment and disaster management in the Asian context.
Authors and Readers: The journal will have wider authors and readers, which will include the research and academic community, non-government organizations, policy makers and international organizations. Thus, the journal encourages the field practitioners and managers to share their thoughts and experiences and to interact with the academic community so as to fill the gap of research, education and implementation.
- **Website:**
<http://rpsonline.com.sg/journals/101-ajedm/ajedm.html>

- **International Journal of Disaster Risk Science**

- **Objective:** International Journal of Disaster Risk Science is an interdisciplinary English language journal that publishes research papers addressing theoretical and methodological issues in disaster risk science, emergency response technology, and risk management; disaster risk governance policies and regulations; and case studies and comparative research internationally on responses to major disasters. Its primary aim is to create an exchange platform for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers in the field of disaster and risk to communicate, learn, and progress in order to improve the international, national and regional capacities for disaster risk analysis, management, and governance. The journal promotes IHDP-IRG research under the strategic framework of global change research, including revealing the dynamic processes of disaster risk, especially catastrophic disaster risk formation based on an adequate understanding of the global, regional and local socio-ecological system change; establishing a “transition -in and out” risk governance model targeting catastrophic disasters exceeding the existing coping capacities through case studies and comparative analyses; refining the various models and modeling tools for catastrophic disaster risk governance; and creating and improving an integrated disaster risk science that can meet the challenges for sustainable development. The journal covers a wide range of disaster risks, including natural disaster risk; environmental and ecological disaster risks related to the conditions of the natural environment; technological risk and the risk of infectious diseases; and new risk factors related to global change, energy and water security, food security, international trade, and so on.
- **Website:**
<http://www.ijdrs.org>

- **Disaster Advances**

- **Objective:** Disaster Advances publishing regularly from in field of Natural Disasters, Man-Made Disasters, Earth Sciences, Atmospheric Sciences, Geo Sciences , Marine Sciences and Engineering.
- **Website:**
<http://www.disasterjournal.net/>



- **International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters**

- **Objective:** The Journal addresses issues of theory, research, planning, and policy. The central purpose is publication of results of scientific research, theoretical and policy studies, and scholarly accounts of such events as floods and earthquakes, explosions and massive fires, disorderly crowds and riots, energy cut-offs and power blackouts, toxic chemical poisonings and nuclear radiation exposures, and similar types of crisis-generating situations. Its audience includes specialists within various areas of research and teaching plus people working in the field who are responsible for mitigative, preparedness, response, or recovery actions. While each issue of the Journal typically deals with a variety of relevant topics, special issues on particular subjects are published whenever possible to bring together a set of articles on a specific problem area. Since the Journal is intended to provide an international forum, contributions from and about all sections of the world are encouraged. Priority is given to those writing with cross-cultural data or implications.

- **Website:**
<http://www.ijmed.org/>

- **International Journal of Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity**

- **Objective:** The Journal provides a chance for academic and industry professionals to discuss recent progress in the area of disaster recovery and business continuity. To bridge the gap of users who do not have access to major databases where one should pay for every downloaded article; this online publication platform is open to all readers as part of our commitment to global scientific society. Journal Topics. IJDRBC aims to facilitate and support research related to disaster recovery and business continuity technology and the applications.

- **Website:**
<http://www.sersc.org/journals/IJDRBC/>

- **Disaster Prevention and Management:**

- **Objective:** *Disaster Prevention and Management, An International Journal*, sets out to advance the available knowledge in the fields of disaster prevention and management and to act as an integrative agent for extant methodologies and activities relating to disaster emergency and crisis management. Publishing high quality, refereed papers, the journal supports the exchange of ideas, experience and practice between academics, practitioners and policy-makers. Natural disasters can wreck communities and natural resources - yet effective action by emergency services can do much to mitigate catastrophic effects. In contrast, manmade disasters are often the result of carelessness or human error, and can be avoided or better controlled by recognizing the potential for danger and taking preventative action.
- **Website:**
<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/products/journals/journals.htm?id=dpm>

- **Risk Analysis**

- **Objective:** Risk analysis is the science of evaluating health, environmental, and engineering risks resulting from past, current, or anticipated, future activities. The use of these evaluations include providing information for determining regulatory actions to limit risk, presenting scientific evidence in legal settings, evaluating products and potential liabilities--within private organizations, resolving World Trade disputes amongst nations, and for educating the public concerning particular risk issues. Risk analysis is an interdisciplinary science that relies on epidemiology and laboratory studies, collection of exposure and other field data, computer modeling, and related social and economic and communication considerations. In addition, social dimensions of risk are addressed by social scientists. Methods of risk analysis and the outcome of particular evaluations are regularly presented in scholarly papers that are published in *Risk Analysis: An International Journal* and topics are as diverse as quality of drinking water, air and land contamination, the safety of foods and drugs, automobile and infrastructure safety, and risk associated with weapons of mass destruction.
- **Website:**
<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=0272-4332&site=1>

- **Journal of Risk Research**

- **Objective:** The *Journal of Risk Research* is an international journal that publishes peer-reviewed theoretical and empirical research articles within the risk field from the areas of social, physical and health sciences and engineering, as well as articles related to decision making, regulation and policy issues in all disciplines. Articles will be published in English. The main aims of the *Journal of Risk Research* are to stimulate intellectual debate, to promote better risk management practices and to contribute to the development of risk management methodologies. *Journal of Risk Research* is the official journal of the Society for Risk Analysis Europe and the Society for Risk Analysis Japan.
- **Website:**
<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/journal.asp?issn=13669877&linktype=1>

- **International Journal of Risk Assessment and Management (IJRAM)**

- **Objective:** *IJRAM* aims to provide an international forum for researchers and practitioners across the many relevant disciplines and industries to disseminate information and learn from each other's work. *IJRAM* publishes original and review papers, technical reports, case studies, conference reports, management reports, book reviews, and notes commentaries and news. Contribution may be by submission or invitation, and suggestions for special issues and publications are welcome. The *IJRAM* is an interdisciplinary and refereed journal that provides cross learning between: Different business and economics, as well as scientific and technological, disciplines. Energy industries, environmental and ecological systems. Safety, public health and medical services. Software services, reliability and safety
- **Website:**
<http://www.inderscience.com/browse/index.php?journalID=24>

7. New Books

Heavy-Tailed Distributions in Disaster Analysis

Authors: V. Pisarenko, M. Rodkin

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer, New York

ISBN: 978-9048191703

Content: Mathematically, natural disasters of all types are characterized by heavy tailed distributions. The analysis of such distributions with common methods, such as averages and dispersions, can therefore lead to erroneous conclusions. The statistical methods described in this book avoid such pitfalls. Seismic disasters are studied, primarily thanks to the availability of an ample statistical database. New approaches are presented to seismic risk estimation and forecasting the damage caused by earthquakes, ranging from typical, moderate events to very rare, extreme disasters. Analysis of these latter events is based on the limit theorems of probability and the duality of the generalized Pareto distribution and generalized extreme value distribution. It is shown that the parameter most widely used to estimate seismic risk – M_{max} , the maximum possible earthquake value – is potentially non-robust. Robust analogues of this parameter are suggested and calculated for some seismic catalogues. Trends in the costs inferred by damage from natural disasters as related to changing social and economic situations are examined for different regions. The results obtained argue for sustainable development, whereas entirely different, incorrect conclusions can be drawn if the specific properties of the heavy-tailed distribution and change in completeness of data on natural hazards are neglected. This pioneering work is directed at risk assessment specialists in general, seismologists, administrators and all those interested in natural disasters and their impact on society.

When the Planet Rages: Natural Disasters, Global Warming and the Future of the Earth

Authors: Charles Officer, Jake Page

Year: 2010

Publisher: Oxford University Press

ISBN: 978-0195377019

Content: In New England, 1816 was called the Year Without a Summer. Crops failed throughout America and, in Western Europe, it was even worse, with food riots and armed groups raiding bakeries and grain markets. All this turmoil followed a catastrophic volcanic eruption--a year earlier on the other side of the world--the eruption of Tambora, a blast heard almost a thousand miles away. In *When the Planet Rages*, Charles Officer and Jake Page describe some of the great events of environmental history, from calamities such as the Lisbon earthquake of 1755 (the greatest in recorded history) and the ice ages, to recent

man-made disasters such as Chernobyl, acid rain, and the depletion of the ozone layer. Officer and Page provide fascinating discussions of meteorites and comets; of the demise of mammoths, mastodons, and dinosaurs; and of great floods that have swept the earth. But they also show that human activity can make trouble for nature, discussing the depletion of natural resources (we burn coal and oil at millions of times their natural rate of production), air pollution in Los Angeles and London (where the Killer Smog of 1952 caused the death of some four thousand people), and the pollution of major waterways, like the Chesapeake Bay and Lake Erie. For the paperback edition, the authors have included a new preface, have added material on the recent Sichuan, China earthquake, the Indian Ocean Tsunami, and Hurricane Katrina, and discuss such topics as of the (un)predictability of symptoms of global warming. Ranging from the monumental eruption at Krakatoa to industrial disasters such as the mercury poisoning in Japan's Minamata Bay, *When the Planet Rages* will engage anyone concerned with the environment and the natural world.

Early Warning for Geological Disasters

Authors: Friedemann Wenzel, Jochen Zschau (editor)

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer, Berlin

ISBN: 978-3642122323

Content: Early Warning for geologic disasters became a subject of intensive research when observational and communication options allowed for dense sensor installation and real-time dissemination of signals and information. Initially most efforts focused on doing what seismologists had done before, just faster. In the current period real new research directions have emerged. Significant information, for instance on the earthquake process is contained in the first few seconds of observations and allow empirical extraction of warning messages. Novel sensors and intercommunication, specifically self-organizing networks, open new routes for implementing early warning systems. Models for community based early warning – capitalizing on these networks as well as on Google Earth popularity - are evolving. Science and tools for performance-based design of warning systems become available. Multiple-purpose systems for warning and for instance structural health monitoring have been designed. In short: Science moved towards the point, where it is translated in technologies.

Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters

Authors: World Bank, United Nations

Year: 2010

Publisher: Word Bank

ASIN: 978-0739124161

Content: Earthquakes, droughts, floods, and storms are natural hazards, but unnatural disasters are the deaths and damages that result from human acts of omission and commission. Every disaster is unique, but each exposes actions—by individuals and governments at different levels—that, had they been different,

would have resulted in fewer deaths and less damage. Prevention is possible, and this book examines what it takes to do this cost-effectively. It looks at disasters primarily through an economic lens. Economists emphasize self-interest to explain how people choose the amount of prevention, insurance, and coping. But lenses can distort as well as sharpen images, so the book also draws from other disciplines: psychology to examine how people may misperceive risks, political science to understand voting patterns, and nutrition science to see how stunting in children after a disaster impairs cognitive abilities and productivity as adults much later. Peering into the future, it shows that while urbanization and climate change will increase exposure to hazards, vulnerability can be reduced if cities are better managed. This book will be of interest to government officials, urban planners, relief agencies, NGOs, donors, and other development practitioners.

Mitigation of Natural Hazards and Disasters: International Perspectives

Authors: C. Emdad Haque (editor)

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN-10: 9048167965

Content: This book examines the aspects of prevention, mitigation, and management of environmental hazards and disasters from an international perspective. In light of the recent debate on climate change and the possible effects of such a change upon increasing frequency and magnitude of extreme environmental events, this publication overviews various policy and response discourse. Several case studies, from various countries and world regions, depicting recent experience in mitigation policy and program development and implementation and establishing interlinks between vulnerability and mitigation are presented to provide further insights. This book is primarily intended for academics, policy makers, professionals, and practitioners in hazards reduction activities who look for a better understanding of the complex and dynamic aspects of nature and society. This topic is a well established issue among most sectors of our society since the costs, both human and socioeconomic, of extreme environmental events have been rising astronomically, and significant vulnerabilities exist throughout the world. Without effective prevention and mitigation, these costs are likely to continue to increase, enhancing the uncertainty of societal progress. The knowledge and information embodied in this volume will be of immense benefit to anyone working in this field.

Systems Approach to Management of Disasters: Methods and Applications

Authors: Slobodan P. Simonovi

Year: 2010

Publisher: Wiley

ISBN-10: 978-0739124161

Content: The ultimate reference on managing disasters by implementing a systems approach. Proper management in the face of a natural or technological disaster necessitates a transformation of attitude toward integration of economic, social, and environmental concerns related to disasters, and of the actions necessary to deal with them. Recent trends in confronting disasters include consideration of the entire region under threat, explicit consideration of all costs and benefits, elaboration of a large number of alternatives to reduce the damages, and the greater participation of all stakeholders in decision-making. Systems approaches based on simulation, optimization, and multi-objective analyses have great potential for providing appropriate support for effective disaster management in this emerging context. This systems approach to managing disasters is the focus of this book, which outlines proven strategies for pooling interdisciplinary resources more efficiently to boost emergency responses. An invaluable reference, *Systems Approach to Managing Disasters* illustrates how a systems approach to management of disasters can be the difference maker in times of crisis.

Extreme Events in Nature and Society

Authors: Sergio Albeverio, Volker Jentsch, Holger Kantz

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 3642066798

Content: Significant, and usually unwelcome, surprises, such as floods, financial crisis, epileptic seizures, or material rupture, are the topics of *Extreme Events in Nature and Society*. The book, authored by foremost experts in these fields, reveals unifying and distinguishing features of extreme events, including problems of understanding and modelling their origin, spatial and temporal extension, and potential impact. The chapters converge towards the difficult problem of anticipation: forecasting the event and proposing measures to moderate or prevent it. *Extreme Events in Nature and Society* will interest not only specialists, but also the general reader eager to learn how the multifaceted field of extreme events can be viewed as a coherent whole.

Natural and Anthropogenic Disasters: Vulnerability, Preparedness and Mitigation

Authors: M.K. Jha (editor)

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 9048124972

Content: The major challenges of the 21st century faced by human beings are how to achieve water security, food security, energy security and environmental security. Owing to enhanced natural/anthropogenic disasters worldwide, these challenges become much more complicated and daunting especially for developing countries. Therefore, it is important to highlight the risk of different disasters as well as the modern tools and techniques for minimizing disaster incidence and losses. Disaster management being highly multidisciplinary in nature, a comprehensive book dealing with different aspects of disaster management, and encompassing important disasters faced by humankind is presently not available. This book is an attempt to fulfill this gap. It provides clear, comprehensive, and up-to-date information about different facets of disaster management along with salient case studies. The book highlights the current status of disaster management focusing on developing nations, discusses vital issues such as climate change and sustainable development, modern approaches and tools/techniques, and the challenges of and future R&D needs for sustainable disaster management.

Natural Disasters as Interactive Components of Global-Ecodynamics

Authors: Kirill Ya Kondratyev, Vladimir F. Krapivin, Costas A. Varostos

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 3642068448

Content: Large-scale natural catastrophes are environmental phenomena. Numerous studies in recent years have concluded that the frequency of occurrence of such natural disasters have been increasing, leading to an enhanced risk of very considerable human and economic losses and the widespread destruction and pollution of habitats, settlements and infrastructure. In 2001 over 650 natural disasters happened around the globe with economic losses exceeding \$35 billion. 2004 ended with the South East Asian tsunami on 26th December with its huge toll on life and local economics and this demonstrated that the effects of such disasters are most keenly felt in poorer or developing regions. The problem of natural disaster prediction and the implementation of environmental monitoring systems to receive, store and process the information necessary for solutions of specific problems in this area, have been analysed by the three authors of this book, all of whom are internationally respected experts in this field.

Catalogue of Risks: Natural, Technical, Social and Health Risks

Authors: Dirk Proske

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 3642098487

Content: The term risk has experienced a dramatic growth in usage over the last few years. This is mainly due to the growing concern about the future of mankind, but also to a greater awareness of the limited nature of our resources. People want to know what can go wrong. In the beginning terms such as risk, disaster, indeterminacy and uncertainty are discussed in detail in this book. Furthermore disasters and risks are categorized into natural, technical, health and social risks, and then major disasters in these categories are listed. Risk parameters are introduced to allow the objective description of risks. The explanation of risk parameters (such as mortalities, fatal accident rates, the family of F-N curves and the concept of lost life years) leads to the quality of life parameters as measurements of risk. In general this parameter permits the comparison of the efficiency of all safety measures over the entire human society. However, limitations of this concept are also disclosed. The book clearly shows the interdependence of risk measures. Safety and risks cannot be discussed only by looking at specific problems, since increasing safety in individual fields might lead to a decrease of safety over the entire society.

In Extremis: Disruptive Events and Trends in Climate and Hydrology

Authors: Jürgen Kropp, Hans-Joachim Schellnhuber (editor)

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 364214862X

Content: The book addresses a weakness of current methodologies used in extreme value assessment, i.e. the assumption of stationarity, which is not given in reality. With respect to this issue a lot of new developed technologies are presented, i.e. influence of trends vs. internal correlations, quantitative uncertainty assessments, etc. The book not only focuses on artificial time series data, but has a close link to empirical measurements, in order to make the suggested methodologies applicable for practitioners in water management and meteorology.

Natural Disasters and Sustainable Development

Authors : Riccardo Casale, Claudio Margottini (editor)

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 3642075800

Content: Natural disasters are a clear example of people living in conflict with the environment. Disasters cause human, social and environmental losses and, sometimes, even threaten geopolitical stability, as in many less developed countries. They are also a problem of global concern, even when damage is

local: the mechanisms are often dependent on global meteorological-climatic circulation. Losses frequently affect several countries, as could be seen in the floods in central Europe in 2002. It is obvious that there is a clear need for a new approach, capable of incorporating the prevention of natural disasters, whilst mitigating strategies within the cycle of sustainable development. There are no thematic disciplines or political boundaries limiting initiatives: the integration of data providers, data users/information providers and information users, in a global and holistic manner, is the desired outcome of the new frontier. This book falls into this new category: multidisciplinary interventions and socio-economic point of views are the basic inputs for a changing science, implementing sustainable development for the benefit of citizens and society. It is comprised of studies and investigations which explain natural processes and modelling, as well as assessing hazards and risks and is rounded off with suggestions for sustainable development. Thus reflecting the best results of research on this topic funded by the European Commission.

Assessing Vulnerability to Global Environmental Change: Making Research Useful for Adaptation Decision Making and Policy [Paperback]

Authors : Anthony G. Patt, Dagmar Schroter, Richard J. T. Klein, Anne Cristina De La Vega-leinert (editor)

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 1849711542

Content: Assessing the vulnerability of human populations to global environmental change, particularly climate change, is now the main imperative of research and international action. However, much of the research into vulnerability is not designed to feed directly into decision making and policy, creating a gap between the knowledge created by researchers and what is required by decision makers. This book seeks to rectify this problem and bridge the gap. It discusses vulnerability as the central theme and brings together many different applications from disaster studies, climate change impact studies and several other fields and provides the most comprehensive synthesis of definitions, theories, formalization and applications to date, illustrated with examples from different disciplines, regions and periods, and from local through to regional, national and international levels. Case study topics cover sea level rise, vulnerability to changes in ecosystem services, assessing the vulnerability of human health and 'double exposure' to climate change and trade liberalization amongst other issues. Research outcomes stress that science-policy dialogues must be transparent to be effective and concentrate on a mutual understanding of the concepts used. A key research finding is that the most useful information for decision makers is that which shows the separate causes and drivers of vulnerability, rather than presenting vulnerability in an aggregated form. The book concludes with a unifying framework for analysing integrated methodologies of vulnerability assessment and guiding how research and policy can be linked to reduce vulnerability.

Heavy-Tailed Distributions in Disaster Analysis (Advances in Natural and Technological Hazards Research)

Authors : V. Pisarenko, M. Rodkin

Year: 2010

Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 904819170X

Content: Mathematically, natural disasters of all types are characterized by heavy tailed distributions. The analysis of such distributions with common methods, such as averages and dispersions, can therefore lead to erroneous conclusions. The statistical methods described in this book avoid such pitfalls. Seismic disasters are studied, primarily thanks to the availability of an ample statistical database. New approaches are presented to seismic risk estimation and forecasting the damage caused by earthquakes, ranging from typical, moderate events to very rare, extreme disasters. Analysis of these latter events is based on the limit theorems of probability and the duality of the generalized Pareto distribution and generalized extreme value distribution. It is shown that the parameter most widely used to estimate seismic risk – M_{max} , the maximum possible earthquake value – is potentially non-robust. Robust analogues of this parameter are suggested and calculated for some seismic catalogues. Trends in the costs inferred by damage from natural disasters as related to changing social and economic situations are examined for different regions. The results obtained argue for sustainable development, whereas entirely different, incorrect conclusions can be drawn if the specific properties of the heavy-tailed distribution and change in completeness of data on natural hazards are neglected. Audience: This pioneering work is directed at risk assessment specialists in general, seismologists, administrators and all those interested in natural disasters and their impact on society.

8. Ongoing Field Work

“Experiencing the Importance of Research in Real Scenarios”

Jong-il Na, Dept. of Urban Management, Graduate School of Engineering, Kyoto University

In Indonesia, Yogyakarta from May to August, 2010 a project for “Capacity building on disaster risk management for sustainable community development” was implemented. Yogyakarta is known for the world heritage sites of Borobudur Temple and the Pramban Temple Compounds; but recently also for the active volcano Mount Merapi.

Last year a “Study on Community development at Mt Merapi area” was developed with the collaboration of the Gadjah Mada Local University for support in the planning and assessment activities. My participation in the research work was in a pilot project towards “Sand Mining Management” where the Yonmenkaigi System was introduced to the Gadjah Mada University team. Yonmenkaigi System is a decision making method developed from the community vitalization initiative implemented in Tottori, Chizu. After being improved to fit the real situation in the local area, it was applied jointly in a community participatory workshop for Mt. Merapi area.



Mount Merapi view (2968m)



Yonmenkaigi Workshop Group

—Research and practice experience—

This time in contrast with last year short term “Sand Mining Management Plan”, the activities have been expanded further to the community organization development for a sustainable action plan at a local level. However, in a different situation than last year; it was necessary to develop the overall action plan, implementation and evaluation without a research team. Moreover, it was difficult to carry out the project in balance with the position of researcher and practitioner. Nevertheless, getting the opportunity to adapt one’s research to a community living along with disasters was with no comparison a very valuable experience.

—Implementation Science and Community Contribution—

I think that disaster prevention study is in search of the truth but also is important to be useful to the society. The Yonmenkaigi System used to community development in Mt. Merapi Area is the product of the Japanese experience about community participatory workshop methods for knowledge development. It doesn't end with the research level but while doing cooperative work with the community, the importance of the implementation science can be recognized.

Considering last year activities, this time the participants expressed their necessities along with the team of the local university to decide together on the highest priorities towards community development. The participants of the Yonmenkaigi Workshop in Kemiren Village learned by practice not only about the importance of the collaborative activities in disasters but also for their daily life activities to demonstrate commitment for the community benefit.

I would like to thank the people from Mt. Merapi Area in Kemiren Village and the team from Gadjah Mada University for cooperating in the application of the Yonmenkaigi Workshop.

On October 27th, 2010, Mt Merapi erupted, however there was no victim at all in Kemiren Village. I am now planning to go for a survey to examine what an impact this activity had on their behavior during the emergency.



Presenting the results of the workshop

9. Miscellaneous

Other Newsletters:

- **Disaster Research:** DISASTER RESEARCH (DR) is a moderated newsletter for creators and users of information about hazards and disasters.
Website: <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/dr/currentdr.html>
- **Emergency Manager's Weekly Report:**
Website:
<http://www.6pinternational.com/news.php?category=Emergency%20Managers%20Weekly%20Report&>
- **KatNet-Newsletter:** (mostly in German language)
Website: <http://www.katastrophennetz.de/>
- **EM-DAT: International Disaster Database Newsletter (CRED)**
Website: <http://www.emdat.be/publications>
- **DSCRN: Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network Newsletter**
Website: <http://www.dscrn.org/cms/index.php?page=newsletter>

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