

Hosting the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

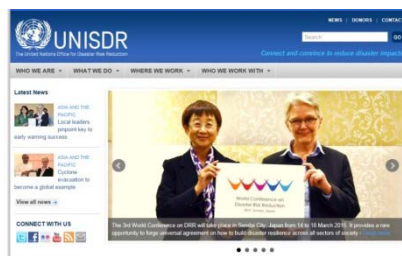
Decision to hold 3rd WCDRR in Sendai

The UN General Assembly held on December 21, 2013 (December 20 New York time) decided that the 3rd WCDRR would be held in Sendai

Dates	March 14 – 18, 2015
Goal	To discuss global disaster risk reduction strategy, <u>review progress on the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)</u> with a view to its further implementation, and <u>formulate post-2015 strategy</u>

Features of Sendai Conference

1. Partner with disaster-affected prefectures in the Tohoku region (Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima)
2. Share experiences and lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake domestically and internationally
3. Tell the world about recovery from the earthquake in Sendai and the Tohoku region
4. Express our gratitude for support from countries around the world



UNISDR website
<http://www.unisdr.org/>



UNISDR WCDRR website
<http://www.preventionweb.net/wcdrr/home>

WCDRR (Expectations of Japan)

Held three times in Japan

The world hopes to learn from Japan's disaster risk reduction expertise, honed in the course of the many disasters the country has experienced. This is a field where Japan should display strong **presence and leadership**.



2005 Hyogo Framework for Action: 5 Priority Actions

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

Reduce underlying risk factors

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

Set direction for international risk reduction

New issues have emerged over the past 10 years, including:

- Increased disaster risk
⇒ Complete reassessment of all fields from disaster risk reduction perspective ("**mainstreaming**" of risk reduction)
- Greater impact on global economy
- Increase in stakeholders
⇒ Importance of risk reduction BCPs developed in collaboration with companies, private-sector groups, etc.
- Deferral of investment in risk reduction

3rd WCDRR

- Review HFA
- **Formulate post-2015 world disaster risk reduction strategy, based on new issues**

Communicating Experiences and Lessons from Sendai

Lessons and issues

- **Limitations of complete disaster-prevention (importance of concept of “disaster risk reduction”)**
Limitations of physical preventative measures against the unanticipated huge tsunami and earthquake.
- **Vulnerability of the city**
Disruption of lifeline utilities including electricity, water, gas and telecommunications.
Interruption of transportation due to damage to public transport infrastructure and the large number of commuter evacuees.
Problems caused by energy shortage (decline in all urban functions and hindrance of recovery work).
- **Limitations of public assistance and the importance of self-help and cooperation & mutual support**
Rescue of people requiring assistance, operation of refuge areas, cooperation in the distribution of commodities, mutual support with other cities.



Three initiatives to become a disaster-resistant city

1. **Development of a disaster-resistant city (development of equipment & facilities and procedures)**
 - (1) Comprehensive countermeasures against tsunami through multiple defenses (facilities, zoning, etc.)
 - (2) Formation of disaster-resistant urban infrastructure (lifelines, public buildings, eco model town, etc.)
 - (3) Reinforcement of the ability to deal with disasters (review of refuge areas, etc., measures to assist commuter evacuees, provision of information, etc.)
 - (4) Creation of systems including wide-area cooperation and mutual support, etc.
2. **Development of self-reliant communities based on mutual support**
 - (1) Promotion of mutual support activities in communities (disaster response activities for women, disaster response education for children, measures to deal with people requiring support, etc.)
 - (2) Development of human resources responsible for restoration and disaster-prevention on a community level (cooperation under normal circumstances with communities, schools, public interest groups, NPOs, companies, etc.)
3. **Development of strong disaster-prevention awareness in citizens**
 - (1) Holding disaster risk reduction seminars for citizens
 - (2) Fostering “Local Disaster Risk Reduction Leaders” and backing up their activities
 - (3) Enhancing new disaster risk reduction education



Building a Worldwide Disaster Risk Reduction Culture

• Learning from the experiences and lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake

After the Great East Japan Earthquake, affected local governments including those of Sendai City and Miyagi Prefecture were able to proceed with recovery efforts assisted by great support from Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe, which had experienced and learned from the Great Hanshin and Awaji Earthquake

⇒ • When a large-scale disaster occurs, support from unaffected local governments is essential. This requires wide-area partnerships, and advance preparations including mutual support agreements are crucial.

• We will communicate to the world the importance of such wide-area partnerships among local governments



• Sendai as a role model for disaster risk reduction

In October 2012, UNISDR recognized Sendai as a role model for its “Making Cities Resilient” campaign being conducted from 2010 to 2015 (Hyogo Prefecture (recognized in 2010) and Sendai are the only two such role models in Japan).

⇒ We have a duty to contribute to worldwide disaster risk reduction. Working together with Hyogo Prefecture, which also experienced a major earthquake, we will contribute to the development of a worldwide disaster risk reduction culture.

Hyogo : Role model in comprehensive disaster risk governance

Sendai : Role model in promoting community-based disaster risk reduction and empowering people to act on disaster risk reduction.



We look forward to welcoming you to Sendai and the Tohoku region in March 2015



Host city for



World Conference on
Disaster Risk Reduction
2015 Sendai Japan



Sendai City support and information website for hosting of 3rd WCDRR
(<http://www.bosai-sendai.jp/>)