UNITAR Hiroshima Women’s Leadership in Tsunami-based DRR Training Program for World Tsunami Awareness Day (2016/10/31)

Theme: Earthquake, Tsunami, Disaster Risk Reduction
Location: Sendai, Japan

During the week of World Tsunami Awareness Day (5th November), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific organized a training program to improve women’s leadership in tsunami-based disaster risk reduction. All 27 participants were from Pacific Island Countries and Territories which have high risk of earthquakes, tsunamis and tropical cyclones among other natural hazards. To improve their understanding of earthquakes and tsunamis, on 31 October 2016, IRIDeS faculty members were invited to give a lecture in the session “Module 2: Understanding Earthquakes and Tsunami”. Professor Yuichi Ono of Disaster Information, Management and Public Collaboration Division gave an overview of the research institute and IRIDeS activities such as the Global Centre for Disaster Statistics. Assoc. Prof. Anawat Suppasri of Hazard and Risk Evaluation Research Division gave a lecture on mechanisms of earthquake and tsunami, global tsunami hazard assessment and lessons from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami for disaster risk reduction. After the lectures, the participants were introduced to Disaster Mitigation Action Card Game, developed by Tohoku University’s G-Safety program and IRIDeS, to increase awareness and response against natural disaster. The session concluded with a dynamic Q&A session, with information exchange among IRIDeS members and the participants. The session received high attention from the participants, and knowledge from this module is expected to raise further awareness in Pacific Island Countries and Territories upon the participants’ return home.

Lectures by Prof. Yuichi Ono and Assoc. Anawat Suppasri

Reported by Anawat Suppasri (Hazard and Risk Evaluation Research Division)