During February 18-21, 2017, there was the Bilateral Joint Research Seminar (BJRS) between Japan and Korea in Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture. The theme was the Smart Design Tourism. There were participants from both academic and business sides including Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Tohoku University, Kyung Hee University (South Korea), Korea Culture & Tourism Institute (South Korea), Busan National University (South Korea) as well as guest speakers from Maybooth University (Ireland), JTB Research Institute, and Dabeeo.com (South Korea). Asst. Prof. Natt Leelawat of the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) participated in the BJRS seminar. He also gave a presentation on the topic of “Disaster and Safety Management in Japan: A Focus on Tourism and ICT” in the Smart Tourism Design: Theory & Model session, chaired by Prof. Chulmo Koo of Kyung Hee University.

The seminar was supported by the JSPS and NRF under the Japan – Korea Basic Scientific Cooperation Program. Since there were presenters from various areas, the outcome of the conference was very fruitful in terms of the smart design tourism framework proposal and recommendation for smart tourism in Okinawa Prefecture, especially the Shuri Castle and the Makishi Public Market. The possible future collaboration was also discussed.