

International TV conference on students' volunteer activities as a pre-event of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2017 (21st May 2017)

Theme: World Conference of Disaster Risk Reduction, Student volunteers, UNISDR

Location: Tohoku University School of Engineering Laboratory Complex Building 9th Floor #901-2 (Sendai City), Conference hall of Global Platform of Disaster Risk Reduction (Mexico)

Two years have been passed since the World Conference of Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) was held in Sendai in 2015. The Global Platform of Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) is held in Cancun, Mexico on 22-26 May, mainly organized by UNISDR. Prior to the main events of the GPDRR, IRIDeS made an on-line TV conference, through collaboration with the G-Safety program* and UNISDR Hyogo Office. 200 students in Mexico, who will be providing volunteer support at the GPDRR conference, and the Tohoku University students and faculty members who were the volunteers in the Project of Technical Support towards the Organization of the 3rd WCDRR, participated in the on-line TV conference. Dr. Yuki Matsuoka, head of UNISDR Hyogo Office, facilitated the meeting. The Tohoku University students showed their roles, experience and lessons to the Mexican students. The Mexican students gave questions, such as difficulties in the volunteer work, the way to respond to the high-level officials and how the experience of the volunteer work can be useful in other situations. The Tohoku University and Mexican students exchanged and shared their views and opinions. Some questions about the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction were raised by the Mexican students, and we felt that their awareness of disaster risk reduction is being enhanced. The WCDRR was over, but IRIDeS continues delivering activities and lessons through collaboration with the United Nations agencies.

* The official name of the G-Safety program is Tohoku University Inter-Graduate School Doctoral Degree Program on Science for Global Safety.

The participants from Tohoku University:

Mr. Akifumi HISAMATSU (D3): Bilateral meeting rooms management

Mr. Takafumi OGAWA (D2): Management of ignite stage

Mr. Fumiyasu MAKINOSHIMA (D2): Poster booth management

Dr. Rumi MATSUZAKI (Assistant Professor of the Graduate School of Arts and Letters): Supporting the volunteers group

This on-line TV conference was supported, in practical manner, by Professor Fumihiko IMAMURA (Hazard and Risk Evaluation Research Division) and Assistant Professor Yasuhito JIBIKI (the G-Safety program).

