

## Free Berlin University Research Visit (2017/10/27–12/08)

Theme: Research Collaboration on disaster science  
 Location: Disaster Archive Laboratory, IRIDeS, Tohoku University

We are glad to report the visit of Dr. Daniel Lorenz at the Archive Laboratory of IRIDeS, a research member of the Disaster Research Unit (DRU) at Free Berlin University. DRU was based initially at the University of Kiel during the 1970s before moving to Free Berlin several years ago. It is one of the Europe oldest disaster research institutes and specializes in both theoretical and applied research with specialists in sociology, anthropology, and philosophy. Dr. Lorenz was first acquainted with IRIDeS during his participation at the UN World Conference for disaster risk reduction.

The purpose of Dr. Lorenz was of threefold. Firstly, Dr. Lorenz carried visit to the disaster areas of Tohoku to get more information about the current progress of reconstruction program. Together with Dr. Boret, they visited the coastline of Arahama (Sendai) and Yuriage (Natori). Secondly, Dr. Lorenz took part in the World Bosai Forum (WBF) where he presented a poster on the ‘Application of the Integrative Transdisciplinary Vulnerability and Resilience Assessment (TIV) after the Uttarakhand Flash Floods 2013 (“Himalayan Tsunami”)’. Thirdly, Dr. Lorenz and Dr. Boret discussed the possible collaborations between DRU and IRIDeS in the field of disaster training and preparedness, disaster and health, recovery and reconstruction, and memory and archives.

To conclude his stay, Dr. Lorenz visited the office of IRIDeS’ director, Prof. Fumihiko Imamura, and tsunami engineer Dr. Anawat Suppasri. They agree on the proposal of future research projects in collaboration with the German and Japanese Red Cross. Should it be successful, this initiative will pave the way for a promising partnership between DRU and IRIDeS.



Dr Boret & Dr Lorenz at the WBF



With Prof. Imamura and Dr. Suppasri



At the Ippon Matsu, Rikuzentakata

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