

International Symposium on Risk, Resilience and Disaster Management – Launching the World Bosai Forum/IDRC Sendai 2019 with Dr. Walter Ammann (GRF) in Davos, Switzerland (November 22-23, 2018)

Theme: risk awareness, hybrid-disaster, sustainability and resilience systems, prevention and education, and digital archives.

Location: Davos GRF office in Switzerland (11/22), Arabella Hotel Waldhuus Davos (11/23)

The members of IRIDeS, Prof. Fumihiko Imamura, Prof. Yuichi Ono, Dr. Sébastien P. Boret, and Ms. Kanayo Kousaka, and Mr. Walter Ammann held a meeting at the office of the Global Risk Forum (GRF) on November 22. They finalized the aims and directions for "International Symposium on Disaster Risk Management" taking place on Friday, February 23. Also, they discussed their future collaboration during the 2nd World Bosai Forum to be organized in Sendai, November 9-12, 2019. The discussion was met with shared enthusiasm regarding the possibility of pairing international expertise and reflections during future WBF meetings in Sendai and IDRC (International Disaster and Risk Conference) in Davos.

The "International Symposium on Risk, Resilience and Disaster Management" was held at Arabella Hotel Waldhuus Davos on November 23 (Fri). The twenty participants, including the distinguished speakers, Soichiro Yasukawa of UNESCO, Michael Faber Nielsen of Aalborg University, and Georg Peter of the European Commission. They respectively discussed the roles of culture in disaster risk, sustainability and resilience of engineered systems, and disaster hybrid threats and risk management. From the delegations of IRIDeS, Prof. Imamura reported and drew lessons from the 2018 Palu Earthquake and Tsunami in Indonesia. It was followed by Prof. Ono's outline of the contents and the success of the first World Bosai Forum (2017 WBF, Japan). Dr. Boret talked about the evolution of digital disaster archive and the model proposed by IRIDeS' Great East Japan Earthquake archive (Michinoku Shinrokuden). Finally, Ms. Kousaka and Mr. Akihiro Hojo provided fascinating talks on the macro-economics and disaster management, and the role of media in disaster response and education, respectively.

The closing panel stimulated discussion on the need for reflections and proposals for adaptable solutions for crisis management, multiple risks, and the importance of human resource development. The panelists further underlined the importance of raising the world's awareness of increasing disaster risk and the importance of stepping up disaster prevention and education in higher education.

The symposium ended with the announcement of the 2nd World Bosai Forum (disaster risk reduction forum) to be held from November 9th to 12th, 2019, in collaboration with IDRC in Davos, and a video message from Ms. Kazuko Kohri, Mayor of the City of Sendai welcoming all future WBF participants and visitors of Sendai City.



GRF President Walter Ammann (center)



Wishing Success for the 2nd World Bosai Forum



Group Photo of Participants