

## **Symposium on Yolanda Recovery was held and letter of appreciation was given to IRIDeS from Eastern Visayas State University (2019/08/01-04)**

Theme : Typhoon Haiyan, Coastal rebuilding  
Place: Tacloban City, the Philippines

On August 1, 2019, IRIDeS held “Symposium on Yolanda Recovery: Reflections and Considerations on the Rebuilding Process”. IRIDeS has been working on the Leyte rebuilding since late 2013, immediately after Yolanda on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Initial field reconnaissance included assessments of damage, evacuation, public health, and community conditions. Members working on rebuilding continue working in Leyte up until now, to understand relocation, housing, infrastructure, and education issues.

This symposium shared the lessons learned from various activities developed in Yolanda-affected Leyte to rebuild better. While there is no single solution for better rebuilding, presenters shared different perspectives of complexities, challenges, and efforts observed in the rebuilding processes on the ground. Relocated communities also shared their experiences.

From IRIDeS, Associate Professor Kanako Iuchi (Human and Social Response Research Division) and Associate Professor Elizabeth Maly (Disaster Information Management and Public Collaboration Division) participated to present in the event. Following explains the presentation contents by the Japanese side.

- **Six-year rebuilding effort after Yolanda**  
Kanako Iuchi, Associate Professor, IRIDeS, Tohoku University
- **Resettlement in Tacloban North – the Situation until now**  
Elizabeth Maly, Associate Professor, IRIDeS, Tohoku University
- **Expanding an education system in relocation: progress and challenges**  
Aiko Sakurai, Associate Professor, Toyo Eiwa University

Current Tacloban City Mayor Alfred S. Romualdez gave a speech on 5-year review of the city's rebuilding effort and aimed to put his utmost effort to make Tacloban more beautiful and resilient for the next generations. All participants of approximately 100 people from Barangays, NGOs, City governments, and university faculties also had the opportunity to reflect on their 5-year path.

IRIDeS was awarded a certificate of appreciation from Eastern Visayas State University for engaging research activities over 5 years. ABS CBN Eastern Visayas featured the symposium on their news program on August 2, 2019, and Associate Professor Iuchi was invited to talk about Tacloban's and Tohoku's rebuilding effort in a radio program by BOMBO RADYO TACLOBAN (August 4, 2019).



With Mayor Alfred Romualdez



Assoc. Prof. Maly presenting her research



Enthusiastic talk by the Mayor  
 (Picture courtesy of Tacloban City)



Participants seriously participated in the  
 symposium



Assoc. Prof. Luchi in ABS CBN Eastern Visayas



BOMBO RADYO