The APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Program was established in April 2013. The International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) of Tohoku University provides secretariat services as the regional program hub harnessing the collective capabilities of APRU universities for cutting-edge research on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and recovery, the sharing of strategies to cope with campus disaster risk management, and to contribute to international policy making processes on disaster risk reduction. The first Summer School was organized in July 2013 and received more than 30 participants from the APRU member institutes including graduate students and faculty members. The summer school aims to share the experiences and lessons-learnt from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami occurred in March 2011, then discuss how to strengthen the involvement and capacity of universities/research institutes in order to create further disaster resilient societies.

Having experienced the catastrophic disaster in 2011, Tohoku University has founded the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS). Together with collaborating organizations from many countries and with broad areas of specializations, the IRIDeS conducts world-leading research on natural disaster science and disaster mitigation. Based on the lessons from the 2011 Great East Japan (Tohoku) Earthquake and Tsunami disaster, IRIDeS aims to become a world centre for the study of the disasters and disaster mitigation, learning from and building upon past lessons in disaster management from Japan and around the world. IRIDeS consists of 7 divisions and 36 sub-fields.

The 2014 summer school is hosted and organized by IRIDeS, Tohoku University, Japan. The summer school aims to learn the international disaster risk reduction mechanism and the recovery process and efforts especially by the local governments from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. In addition the participants will discuss the disaster preparedness on campus and the recommendations towards the post-Hyogo Framework for Action towards the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai in March 2015.
Dates:
22, 24-25 July 2014: 3-day seminar
23 July 2014: Field trip to the affected sites

Major objectives:
- Understand the mechanism of the international disaster risk reduction strategy;
- Learn the experiences and recovery process from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami;
- Discuss the recommendations towards the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan
- Discuss the disaster preparedness on campus and develop an action plan.

Venue:
Day 1, 3-4: The Katahira Campus, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan
Day 2: Field trip to the affected sites in the Miyagi-prefecture

Program:
Day 1: Seminar 1
Opening
Session 1: Lessons learnt from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
Session 2: Good practices of recovery programmes: Case studies from the affected cities of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

Day 2: Field trip to the affected sites

Day 3: Seminar 2
Session 3: Good practices of DRR/preparedness initiatives from overseas
Session 4: Campus safety survey findings
Session 5: Group work: how to improve the preparedness capacity on campus/Action plan
Session 6: Group presentation and discussion
*Session titles are subject to change

Day 4: Seminar 3
Session 7: International framework for disaster risk reduction (DRR)/Hyogo Framework for Actions (HFA)
Session 8: the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk (UNWCDRR)
Session 9: Group work: Recommendations towards UNWCDRR
*Session titles are subject to change

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