

Professor David Alexander from UCL visited in Japan (2024/1/16-25)

Theme : International research collaboration activities, tsunami disaster, field research
Place : Miyagi Prefecture ,Tokyo

Professor David Alexander from UCL visited Japan and had a formal meeting with Professor Shinichi Kuriyama, the director of IRIDeS. Additionally, he delivered a keynote speech at Tohoku University's Symposium. The focus of the presentation was the "Foresight Project". The presentation emphasized the importance of rigorous emergency planning methodologies and the creation of scenarios as input for effective emergency plans.

Fieldwork and Collaboration in Kesennuma

During the visit to Tohoku University, Professor David Alexander, alongside Associate Professor Anawat Suppasri (Tsunami Engineering Lab) and Researcher (Specially Appointed) Miwako Kitamura (International Research Collaboration Office), engaged in fieldwork related to the Great East Japan Earthquake in Kesennuma. The Kesennuma City Hall organized a meeting providing insights into the impacts and recovery processes following the earthquake. Additionally, Kesennuma Plaza Hotel organized a Storyteller tour, focusing on learning about community Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Cultural Exploration in Tokyo

Professor David Alexander and Researcher (Specially Appointed) Kitamura visited Watsu Nihonbashi in Tokyo, facilitated by Mitsui Fudosan Company, to understand the collaboration involving Sanriku local culture and the smart city concept. This collaboration provides valuable insights into the integration of local culture into urban development projects, contributing to the understanding of innovative approaches to city planning. The team also visited Small Worlds in Ariake, focusing on disaster mitigation through the lens of Japan's animation and miniature figure concepts.

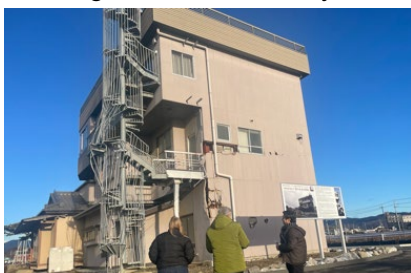
These diverse activities collectively contribute to the ongoing research and collaborative efforts between UCL, Tohoku University, and external partners. The exploration of disaster resilience and emergency planning methodologies benefits from these experiences, enhancing our understanding and fostering a multidimensional approach to addressing challenges related to natural disasters.



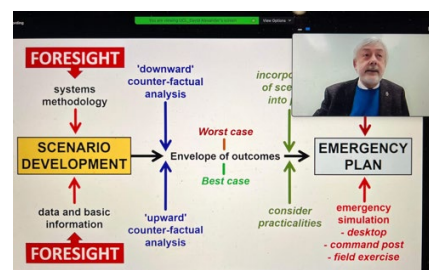
Meeting with director Kuriyama



Centre seminar



Kesennuma local tour



Keynote speech by Prof. Alexander