

Sendai Bosai Kokutai Charter

~ for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 ~

Since the adoption of the "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030", almost three years have passed and actions towards realization of the framework have been started to be implemented by each stakeholder.

November 26-27, 2017 for the National Conference on Promoting Risk Reduction 2017 with the theme of "Preparing for large-scale disasters ~ Collaboration is the power for DRR ~ " and the World Bosai Forum, we gathered in Sendai, the birthplace of the "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction" from all over Japan and the world, shared experiences and challenges concerning the actions taken so far and discussed the necessary actions in the future. As a result, we shared the recognition described in the following articles that initiatives by further self-help and mutual support are necessary in the future, in addition to initiatives by public support.

Why is collaboration power?

- Based on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake, countermeasures for disaster management have been implemented in Japan, considering disaster management, disaster risk reduction and reconstruction for the largest possible damage such as the Nankai Trough massive earthquake and Tokyo Inland Earthquake as a national crisis. In order to mitigate disaster risk, in addition to the initiatives by the national government, it is important to promote "self-help" that individual citizens properly understand assumed disaster risks and are able to protect themselves, and take concrete actions together through whole of a society approach by "mutual support" that residents, local communities, companies, business operators, relevant groups and administrative organizations help each other.
- Intensity of rainfall and frequency of strong typhoons have been increasing due to climate change caused by global warming. On the other hand, social and economic environment surrounding communities has changed by rapid urbanization, population decline, ageing and globalization, and disaster risks have been increasing.
- The new wisdom and countermeasures can be created by collaborating among all stakeholders, and thus, it is expected that the disaster management capability for the community will be enhanced. Collaboration can improve governance for disaster risk reduction, which leads to reduce loss and damage caused by disasters in a whole

society.

· In the "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030", the importance of public-private partnership for disaster risk reduction was pronounced. Sendai Framework confirmed that it was necessary to establish close collaboration and trust between the private sector and the national government.

Self-help / Mutual support actions through collaboration

· For citizens, it is important to learn disaster risk in their community based on experiences of disasters occurred in the past and latest scientific knowledge, promote community building and urban development that is not easily affected by disasters. It is also important to participate in activities in their neighborhood, have exchanges with other citizens in the community, plan emergency responses while non-emergency condition by, for example, utilizing the system of "Community Disaster Management Plan". In addition, "preparation" in advance is important; have a stockpile of water, food, blankets, and portable toilets at least for three days, fix furniture to the floor, have seismic reinforcement construction of housings and buildings for earthquakes, check disaster hazard locations around a home and understand evacuation routes and centers.

· Volunteer and NPO, and the governments should get to know each other during non-emergency condition, and share objectives and procedures for collaboration. It will make easier to provide tailor-made support for various needs of the affected people in case of emergency.

· Companies and business operators should promote the development of technologies and services in structured and non-structured format to improve disaster management. It is necessary that executives, users and employees work together with other related organizations such as residents and governments, improve and develop disaster management capability in the community. It is also important to formulate, implement and improve Business Continuity Plan (BCP), which enables them to protect lives of customers and employees, and clarify the priority actions how to continue the business at the time of disasters.

· Educational communities need to promote education for disaster management leading the world, including to have correct knowledge about disaster, in order to develop human resources on disaster management in the future for collaboration as a member

of communities.

- Academic communities should promote interdisciplinary collaboration through information sharing and interaction with other fields across the boundaries of different specialisms to develop research results for effective disaster management. It is necessary to have implementation and efforts to disseminate scientific knowledge to the society clearly in collaboration with the governments, private sector, media and civil societies.

- The national government should promote dissemination and awareness for self-help and mutual support, in addition to the initiatives by public support for collaboration of diverse stakeholders. At the same time, it is necessary to promote activities of the National Council for Promoting of Disaster Risk Reduction and the National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction and provide opportunities for exchanges through "TEAM Bosai Japan".

- The local governments should collaborate with citizens, volunteers, NPOs, companies and business operators in non-emergency condition, in addition to the initiatives by public support. It is expected that the initiatives by the government itself and efforts in disaster management for the community have synergy effect. It is necessary to establish good relationship in non-emergency condition, with other local governments, such as by concluding support agreements. They should also formulate, implement and improve BCP so that business continuity can be secured even in emergency condition.

Conclusion

- In communities, people with diverse background live together; gender, age, nationality, language, disability, employment, income and health. It is important that everyone can participate in disaster management activities with understanding and respecting each difference, and no one will be left behind. As a result, while disaster management is regarded as an important element of the community development, it is possible to reduce damage caused by disasters in the whole society, and contribute to the "reduction of damage for the whole international communities" claimed by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

- It is necessary to have various new methodologies for early and smooth recovery and reconstruction. For the reconstruction of livelihood and business, it is important to join insurance and mutual insurance, and utilize information and communication

technology (ICT) to share information effectively.

- Promoting investment in disaster management and realizing better recovery /reconstruction (Build Back Better) is a common challenge in the world. It is necessary to promote international cooperation towards realization of the "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction" by sharing best practices of Build Back Better for urban development which is less affected by disasters and rebuilding society and economy.

- We will keep sharing information constantly on disaster and initiatives for disaster management among the stakeholders such as the governments, residents, academia and companies, and continue to share best practices of "Collaboration is the power for DRR" by self-help and mutual support in coordination with public support, and learn from each other.

- In future, share information on disaster information and disaster prevention among the related stakeholders for disaster management who are administrators, residents, academia, companies and business operators.

- Let's promote further cooperation, collaboration and sharing of initiatives for the next conference, Tokyo in October, 2018.