

Disaster Reduction Alliance Secretariat
(Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Inst)

Peace-Talk Marathon in Hyogo
<What can be achieved by individuals, and what can be achieved for the individual>
With
DRA Forum 2005
<Transfer Live Lessons of Catastrophic Disasters >

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been promoting the 3.5 years project to raise the awareness of peace and international cooperation issues under the main theme of “What each of us can do? What we can do for another?” since 2003. In January 2005, being a host city of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe is going to be the next destination of “Peace-Talk Marathon” in which many citizen participations and discussions focusing on international cooperation for disaster reductions are expected.

The Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA*) and the Hyogo Prefectural Government held the Disaster Reduction Forum 2004, with the theme of “Transfer Live Lessons of Catastrophic Disasters” in February in Kobe. The participants of the forum and the DRA member organizations jointly summarized the result of this forum as “Chairman’s Summary of the Disaster Reduction Forum 2004”, to recommend International community the importance and the effectiveness of transferring live lessons.

Based on these backgrounds, to actively transfer live lessons learned from the experiences of disasters and to provide an opportunity of our thoughts about world peace and int’l disaster reduction cooperation activities, JICA and DRA co-organized “Peace-Talk Marathon in Hyogo –with- Disaster Reduction Forum 2005” as an opening event for the Comprehensive Forum for the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

Outline

- 1) Theme: What each of us can do ? What we can do for another?
- with - “Transfer Live Lessons of Catastrophic Disasters”
- 2) Target: Citizens & WCDR participants – Governments, Int’l organizations, Professionals
(approx total 600 people)
- 3) Language: English / Japanese (simultaneous interpretation)
- 4) Duration: Tuesday, 18 January, 2005 (afternoon half day session)
- 5) Venue: Portopia Hotel
- 6) Organizational Framework:
 - Main organizer: JICA, DRA, Zenkoku Chihou Shinbun-sha Rengo-kai (National Local Paper Union), Kobe News paper, Hyogo Prefecture, Cabinet Office
 - Supporting Organizations: UNESCO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kobe city, Kyodo

News.

7) Fund: Bared by JICA & DRA & Hyogo Prefecture

8) Program: After the opening ceremony and keynote speech of the Governor of Hyogo.

15:20-15:35

- Opening

15:35-17:05

- Panel Discussion (90min)
- Transfer Live Lessons of Catastrophic Disasters
 - Coordinator : Mr. Kazufumi YAMAGUCHI
(Director, Hyogo Institute of Community Empowerment
/ Former Kobe News Paper Chief Editorial, Former President of Radio Kansai)
 - Panelist : Ms. Yoko SAITO (CODE, Japan)
 - Ms. Chiaki Kim (DJ, FM Waiwai, Japan)
 - Ms. Tulin Basturk (Mayor Advisor, Adapazari, Turkey)
 - Dr. Hugh L. Davies (Professor, University of Papua New Guinea)

<Point of the discussion>

Introducing various large disasters all over the world and giving reports on how they transfer their learning experiences and recovering process to the communities and next generations.

Then, forum discussed the disaster-affected experiences of individual activities and contributions. It also covered the importance of transferring live lessons to the next generations and other communities, without fading these experiences and recovering processes.

In order for us to combine individual contribution and effectively function them, we need to aware the importance of core facilities or organizations which are efficiently applying the global network system and link them one another.

17:15-18:00

- Peace Talk (45min)
 - What can be achieved by individuals, and what can be achieved for the individual.
 - Ms. Norika Fujiwara (Actress ,Japan)
 - Mr. Akiyoshi Tanaka (Singer, Japan)
 - Mr. Ryuta Taniguchi (Save the Children, Japan)
 - Ishikura (MC, Japan)
- Closing

<Reference>***Recommendations to the International Community*****(From the Chairman's Summary of the Disaster Reduction Forum 2004 ~)**

Until now there has been no comprehensive disaster reduction policy from the standpoint of local communities and individuals. However, 1995 Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake in 1995 has taught us the importance of the victims' perspective.

To transfer live lessons of catastrophic disasters from the victims' perspective, in line with government approach, will lead the mitigation of victims from the possible disasters in future.

For that purpose;

- 1) Governments and the people of each disaster stricken area should begin to organize in their respective ways to "transfer live lessons of catastrophic disasters", in particular to their citizens and communities. Through such activities, the same level of tragedy may be prevented.

- 2) There are many ways and many methods for transferring these lessons such as museum facilities, story-tellings in systematic ways, films, cartoons, music, cultural events and many other educational activities. Major benefits can be gained without incurring a great deal of cost. Each government and supporting organization should recognize the importance of transferring live lessons and start supporting such activities.