

## **Establishment of Japan Academic Network for Disaster Reduction**

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Academic societies relevant to disaster management gathered and established Japan Academic Network for Disaster Reduction in cooperation with Science Council of Japan (SCJ). When large disasters occur, this network works as an emergency contact network between academies, government and society. The network aims to promote interdisciplinary cooperation for disaster reduction and disaster restoration.

The Great East Japan Earthquake occurred on March 11, 2011. The effect of the earthquake exceeded expectations and current scientific knowledge and technology proved insufficient. After the Earthquake, members of the SCJ became founders and together with 24 academic societies (later 30) relevant to disaster management established the “Academic Society Liaison Association Corresponding to the Great East Japan Earthquake” in May 2011.

As the successor to this association, we established on January 9th, 2016, the “Japan Academic Network for Disaster Reduction” in which 47 academic societies participated. This network targets not only earthquakes but also natural disasters in general. With global climate change, there has been a tendency for disasters to occur more frequently and severely in the world.

For the prevention and mitigation of disasters, many research fields are involved, such as earth observation, meteorology, earthquake, tsunami, oceanography, engineering, history, disaster prevention planning and emergency medical care. In the academic world, specialization has progressed and integration has weakened. For protecting people’s lives and the land from natural disasters, we need a comprehensive platform beyond the boundaries. The network aims to deepen mutual understanding across different expertise.

We present the activities and members of this network and appeal that experience and knowledge learnt from natural disasters should be widely applied to reduce the effects of all disasters worldwide. We emphasize the importance of collaborating across academies and discussing the direction for the future beyond the areas of different expertise.

### **References:**

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