



APRU MULTI- HAZARDS PROGRAM

Need for scientific contribution in disaster risk reduction (DRR)

The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is a network of 45 premier research universities from 16 economies across the Pacific Rim. The region is subject to a high risk of natural disasters. The universities and research institutions in the region are expected to play a role in reducing disaster vulnerability, strengthening disaster management capacity and contributing to decision and policy making processes at the international and regional levels based on scientific data and evidence.

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Program

The Program was launched in April 2013 by APRU and the International Research Institution of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University. IRIDeS provides secretariat services and coordination support as the program hub for the Program. The main objectives are to harness the collective capacities of APRU Universities for cutting-edge research on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and to contribute to international policy-making discussions to steadily improve DRR.



Activities

- An annual Multi- Hazards Summer School, to share the lessons learned from severe disasters and to contribute to the development of regional disaster experts;
- Supporting the organization of the annual Research Symposium on Multi-Hazards
- Conducting collaborative research and sharing results and data among the APRU institutions;
- Contributing to international and regional discussions and DRR decision-making processes; and
- Promoting natural disaster preparedness capacity on university campuses.

Committments

1. Supporting further technology development;
2. Strengthening and encouraging innovative, creative, and interdisciplinary research in science, technology, social science, engineering and other various fields related to disaster management;
3. Making efforts to create and adopt the effective curriculum and courses for disaster and emergency management;
4. Supporting the development of a link, platform, and opportunity for various stakeholders;
5. Working with local stakeholders and encouraging their involvement and participation in DRR process; and
6. Strengthening their own capacity of disaster preparedness on campus.