



With funding support:



SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

Disaster Resilient Cities: Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction to support Sendai Framework implementation at local level

K-SAFETY EXPO 2016

17 November 2016, KINTEX, Ilsan, Republic of Korea

Technology: the future of disaster risk reduction?

Fast-paced tech developments have the potential to help the world rein in the impact of natural and human-induced hazards, notably when it comes to tackling urban risk. The annual Korean Making Cities Resilient event, held at the annual K-Safety expo, drew 222 officials from 176 Korean cities for a special ‘Tech for DRR’ seminar in partnership with ICLEI, KAIST and POSTECH.

The issue of harnessing hi-tech to support disaster prevention, forecasting, response and building resilience at the community level was the focus at the K-Safety conference, run by the Republic of Korea’s Ministry of Public Safety and Security.



Demand for technology

Innovation is embedded in the Sustainable Development Goals, together with advancing science and technology, as Goal 17. And the Sendai Framework asserts that cooperation at all levels remains pivotal in supporting the efforts of States, their national and local authorities, as well as communities and businesses, to reduce disaster risk, including the strengthening of technical assistance and technology transfer, among other areas.

About the Workshop

The workshop aimed to engage Korean local government authorities and technology innovators to present key innovations in technology for disaster risk reduction, develop understanding of urban disaster risk, and spark innovation of technologies that may support solutions to preventing, mitigating and creating new risk.



Three sessions last Thursday brought together 222 officials from 176 Korean local governments, to get to grips with advancing technology and tools for disaster risk reduction in Korea and Japan

The programme was opened by Mr. JaeHyun Shim, President, National Disaster Management Research Institute of MPSS, followed by the

introductory presentation, 'Why reduce disaster risk? Disaster Risk & Trends' delivered by Mr. Sanjaya Bhatia, Head, UNISDR ONEA-GETI.



Left to right: Mr. Shim, Mr. Sim, and Dr. Park

A Keynote speech on 'Socio-technology for Disaster Management Technology, Disaster Risk and Disaster Studies' was delivered by Dr. Heekyung Park, Director, KAIST Institute for Disaster Studies.

The first session, Focus on Cities & Technology, elaborated on 'Are our cities at risk? Resilient Cities' tools and programmes by Ms. Hana Kim, ICLEI Korea and 'Advances in PS-LTE in Korea' by Mr. Jin Hong Sim, Director, SafeNet Project Division, MPSS.



Left to right: Ms. Kim, Mr. Dr. Kim, Dr. Lee and Dr. Kawawaki

Three subsequent ‘Focus on Technology’ sessions addressed: ‘Smart Computing & Systems for Disaster Resilient Cities’ by Dr. Young-Seok Kim, Director, Institute of Disaster Management and Public Safety (IDMPS)/Deputy Director, Future IT Innovation Laboratory (i-Lab), POSTECH and ‘Social Networking Analysis - Data Mining and Analyses’ by Mr. Ki-Young Shin, Researcher, IDMPS and POSTECH i-Lab; ‘DARPA Robotics Challenge Technical Review: Team KAIST’ by Dr. Jungho Lee, CEO, Rainbow Co; ‘Lessons from Hyogo: Flood Defence Technology’ by Dr. Yasuo Kawawaki, Director of EMECS secretariat, Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan.

The final presentation highlighted ‘How Korean cities are getting disaster resilient? The Making Cities Resilient campaign in Korea, by MPSS.



During the closing, eight of the South Korean cities that have signed up to UNISDR'S Making Cities Resilient campaign in 2016 received their certificates.

About the Making Cities Resilient Campaign

The Making Cities Resilient (MCR) campaign offers guidance, tools and a community of local authorities and other relevant stakeholders to help support implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 at the local level.

Outcomes

- City officials learned about some of the current and future technologies to help address disaster risk
- Tech innovators better understand challenges and opportunities to innovate for risk reduction
- Connections among Korean cities and Korean technology and disaster institutes were established, as well as Korean cities with Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, Making Cities Resilient



This event was one in a series of UNISDR ONEA-GETI Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction series that began in late 2015. The series aims to share Korean and international technology with Korean cities, innovators and private sector, in partnership with MPSS, KAIST, POSTECH and SUNY Korea, among other partners.

Read the news story: <http://www.unisdr.org/archive/51043>

More on UNISDR ONEA-GETI: <http://www.unisdr.org/incheon>