



Japan-Tsunami 2011:

Destruction-Ishinomaki-Miyagi Prefecture

Editing: LEBAJICA

The Culture cooperative of
the LEBANESE JICA-ALUMNI

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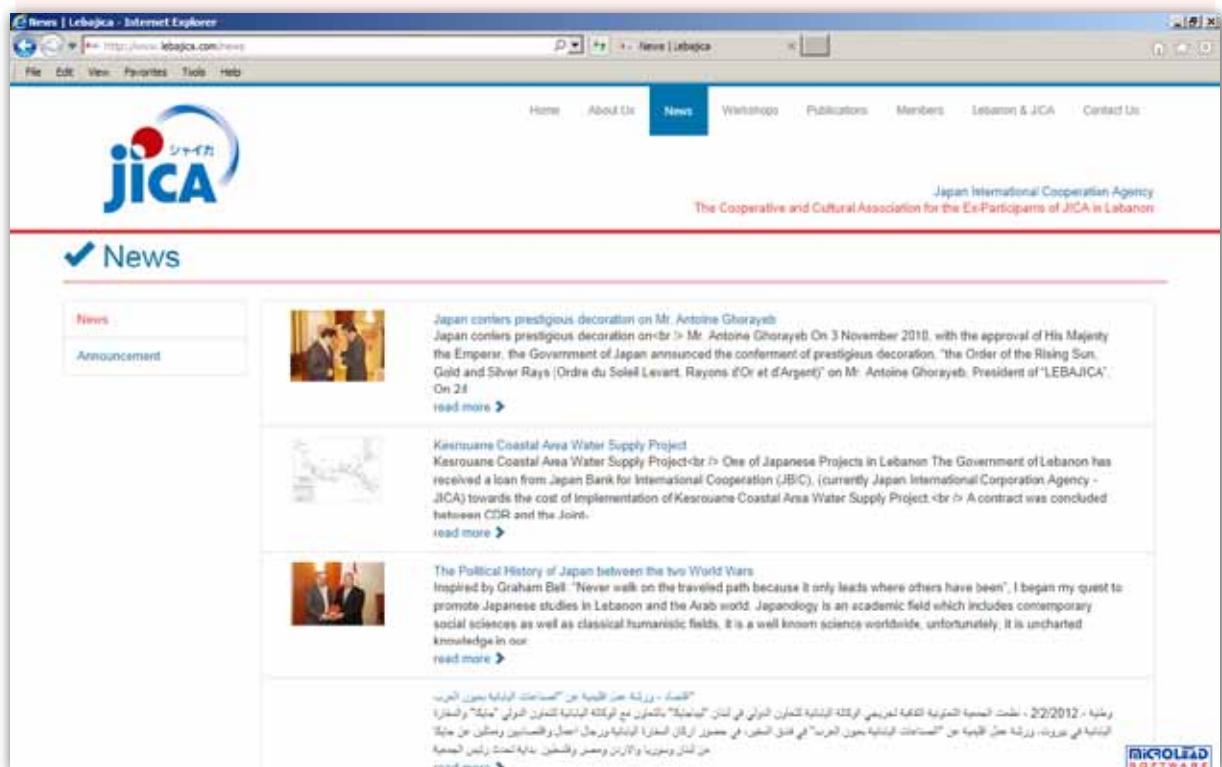
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Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

Disaster Risk Management (DRM) can be defined, through Institutional, Political, Normative, Financial Context, as a combination of:

1. **Risk Identification:** Risk assessments and risk Communication
2. **Risk Reduction:** Structural and non-structural measures; e.g. Infrastructure, land use planning, policies and regulation
3. **Preparedness:** Early warning systems; support of emergency measures; contingency planning
4. **Financial Protection:** Assessing and reducing contingent liabilities; budget appropriation and execution; ex-ante and ex-post financing instruments
5. **Resilient Reconstruction:** Resilient recovery and reconstruction policies; ex-ante design of institutional structures

Many frameworks exist to develop practical approaches to DRM. All are based on the fundamental principle that citizens and governments must be empowered to make informed choices about their risks and how best to reduce, retain or transfer them.

In the coming decades, trillions of dollars will flow into new public investments in developing countries, much in hazard-prone areas. If countries act firmly and immediately to reduce their vulnerability and strengthen their resilience, they will be able to protect lives and assets from known risks. But arresting the current trend of rising disaster risk will require a major shift in development planning and practice.

Few countries have the tools, expertise, and mechanisms to consider the potential impact of disaster risk on their investment decisions. They rarely account for disaster losses, collect data, and assess risks systematically. Even fewer have mechanisms to take risk information into account. As a result, they are not able to direct the necessary resources to protect their investments and reduce their exposure to future disaster impacts.

Policies and programs must be put in place to ensure that new developments do not create new risks. New buildings in expanding cities need not be located in risky areas, and should be built using resilient standards. There is a need for better territorial planning, sound environmental policies to maintain ecosystem buffers, appropriate building practices, and a culture of prevention at all levels of society. Such efforts to avoid risk bring the largest long-term return on development investment.

Unfortunately, the intangible benefit of avoided loss can make these efforts politically less attractive and thus more difficult to mainstream in development planning.

Japan-World Bank Partnership to Mainstream Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries

Learning from years of experience confronting natural disasters, Japan has established itself as a global leader in mainstreaming disaster risk management (DRM) in development policies and practices. The Hyogo Framework for required to reduce disaster losses—serves as the backbone of international DRM efforts, and Japan and the World Bank have been working together for several years to share Japanese experiences and knowledge in this area.

The collaboration was further strengthened in 2011 after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami through knowledge, advocacy, and operational initiatives, including the development of 32 Knowledge Notes and a series of capacity building programs and seminars in 2012-13. The World Bank and the Japanese Government also jointly drafted the Sendai Report, a conceptual framework designed to help countries mainstream DRM to reduce their risks from natural hazards. The report was launched at the Sendai Dialogue held in Sendai, Japan in October 2012 as the special event of the World Bank-International Monetary Fund (IMF) Annual Meetings, at which global leaders unanimously supported the DRM agenda.

Building on the Sendai Report's recommendations, Japan's Finance Minister and the World Bank Group President together issued the Sendai Statement, emphasizing "the importance of vulnerable developing countries for building resilience to disasters, including the usage of Japanese know-how and expertise, and extending knowledge and partnerships to support DRM policies and programs." To further this goal, Japan announced a five-year US\$100 million program to mainstream DRM in developing countries in April 2013. A Steering Committee headed by the Ministry of Finance, Ja-

pan, and the World Bank, will meet annually to review the program's performance and approve future initiatives.

The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) helps high-risk, low-income developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerabilities to natural hazards, and adapt to climate change. Working with over 300 partners—mostly local government agencies, civil society, and technical organizations— GFDRR Provides grant financing, on-the-ground technical assistance in main streaming disaster mitigation policies into country-level strategies, and a range of training and knowledge sharing activities. GFDRR is managed by the World Bank and funded by Japan and 20 other donor partners.



Memorial Stone of Tsunami indicates where tsunami reached at Nehama coast in Kamaishi-city, Iwate, Japan.

Regional Workshop on "Disaster Risk Management Strategies"

Organized by LEBAJICA (*JICA Alumni Association in Lebanon*),
Under the Patronage of His Excellency Ambassador of Japan Mr. Seiichi OTSUKA
In Cooperation with JICA (*Japan International Cooperation Agency*),

January 23-25, 2014



Frequent climatic anomalies attributed to global climate change have been increasing the number of natural hazards throughout the world and disasters caused by these hazards have become significantly severe, especially in countries where development plans do not take disaster

risks in account. In most cases, damage caused by natural disasters have greater effect on the people in developing countries than in developed countries. Natural disasters in developing countries not only seriously affect people's health and sometimes even claim their lives, but also de-





stroy properties and social infrastructure that people have developed over the years instantly. When natural disasters occur frequently, it becomes difficult for developing countries to effectively eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development.

Although JICA has been engaged in various international cooperation programs assisting developing countries achieve their development goals, natural disaster has become a major obstacle in achieving sustainable development as it devastates people's security and livelihood. As the case, JICA has been strengthening its efforts to assist developing countries build societies that are more disaster-resilient.

The workshop included a series of lectures and scientific presentations on Disaster Risk Management Strategies and Case Studies in an open forum for various participants from JICA, JICA Alumni Associations, the public sector, private sector and civil society to provide their

feedback on such strategies.

The opening ceremony was attended by his Excellency Mr. Seiichi Otsuka, Ambassador of Japan in Lebanon, in addition to representatives from JICA Syria Office, During the opening session, speeches were delivered by his Excellency Mr. Seiichi Otsuka, Project Manager of Lebanese Disaster Risk Management Unit Ms. Nathalie Zaarour, Acting Chief representative of JICA Syria Office Ms. Ako Muto and LEBA-JICA Executive Board's President Mr. Ali Ghrayeb.

The speeches stressed the importance of such workshops in enhancing the efforts and exchanging the experiences among the Arab countries and the important role played by Alumni Associations, Introducing the various strategies to improve disaster risk management practices with the aim of reducing disaster risk drivers to meet development goals targets.

After the opening ceremony, the workshop continued for



Workshop



the whole day, and presentations from each participated country were submitted including power point presentations, concentrated on national case studies, followed by a session for question and answer was allocated where the audience got the utmost benefit from listening to the opinions of specialized experts in the field, and finally, a wrap-meeting was held where participants concluded the presentations and provided recommendations to JICA offices and to their own local organizations working in the disaster risk management field, A National Strategy For Disaster Risk Management is necessary to improve disaster risk management practices along three main axes; namely: the effectiveness and governance of risk management practices at all levels, critical infrastructure resilience, and city and community resilience.

After the meeting, LEBA-JICA chairman delivered certificates to all of the participated members and memorial Medal to each alumni Association.

The second day of the workshop was allocated for a site



visit to EDL-National Control Centre.

Presentations

1- **The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in Lebanon:** *Dr Fadi Hamdan, National Consultant.*

2- **Japanese DRM Strategy & Case**

Study: *Mr. Shoji Hasegawa, DRM Expert, JICA Turkey Office*

3- **Planning for confrontation the Disasters in Syria:** *Dr. Mousa Shehadat, JICA Alumni Association in Syria (Board Member).*

4- **Risk Assessment in STEELCO (plant for the production of steel rebars):** *Dr. Mohammad Mouath Al-Khayat, JICA Alumni Association in Syria (Board Member).*

5- **The National Response Plan for DRM in Lebanon:** *Mrs. Sawsan Bou Fakhreddine, National Consultant.*

6- **Crisis Management and Disaster Risk Reduction in Iraq:** *Geologist Zaid Khalil Ibrahim, JICA Alum-*





ni Association in Iraq.

7- **Egypt's National Oil Spill Contingency Plan:** *Dr. Ahmed Kasem Sheta, JICA Alumni Association in Egypt.*

8- **Jordanian DRM Strategy & Case Study:** *Dr. Mhanna Ali Khattab, JICA Alumni Association in Jordan.*



countries to spread the information and Knowledge.

4. Activating Public Awareness campaigns (Radio, TV, newspapers, brochures, posters...) to warn people, public and private sectors of the risks resulted from Disasters and their impacts on health, water, agriculture and the environment in

general.

Suggestions and Recommendations

At the end of the workshop all of the above mentioned participants concluded the following suggestions and recommendations:

1. Necessity of cooperation with Japanese experts, especially in Lebanon because JICA has still no representing office.
2. Requesting JICA to invite alumni associations to participate to the annual conference to be held in Tokyo, and to help signing affiliations agreements with Japanese civil societies.
3. Holding Additional Regional workshops, similar to that organized Yearly By Leba-Jica, in different

5. Continuing the efforts of cooperation and coordination among the participated countries and working on establishing a joint database for the latest researches and studies in the field of Disaster Risk Management Strategies.
6. Request to the concerned authorities in each of the countries to set clear decrees, laws and standards in the field of Disaster Risk Management.
7. Dispatching JOCV/ senior volunteer to train bigger number of staff in the field of Disaster Risk Management courses in the region (Arab countries, Turkey, Iran, ...) instead of Japan in order to save costs and increase the number of trainees.



LEBA-JICA Activities

Japan through Lebanese eyes drawing competition, exhibition and awards

Under the patronage of his excellency Mr. Seiichi OTSUKA the Japanese ambassador in Lebanon, and In collaboration with the Association of Almagharat Association, Leba-Jica organized a drawing competition entitled "Japan through the Lebanese eyes" directed to students aged between 8 and 14 years old, in which 15 educational institution of Almagharat Association participated. Participants presented 172 Panel reflecting their thoughts and imaginations of the fields of education , health, nature, industry and social life and outfit in Japan.

Drawings were shown, in a ceremony including a book exhibition, held in "Assaha Lebanese Traditional Village", and attended by the participating students and their parents, the event organizers, and representatives of educational and social associations.



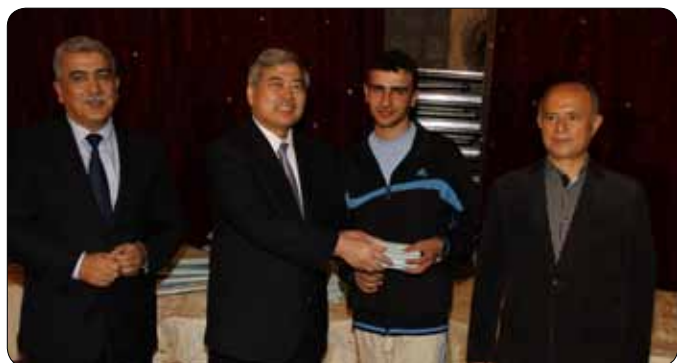


LEBA-JICA Activities

The Ceremony also witnessed opening speeches of the Japanese Ambassador in Lebanon Mr. Seiichi OTSUKA, the general director of Almagbarrat Association Dr. Backer Fadlalah, and the president of Liba-Jica Dr. Ali Ghayeb, concerning the constructive cooperation for the development of cultural and civilizational ties between Lebanon and Japan.



At the end of the ceremony, Ambassador Seiichi OTSUKA presented the awards and made a tour to view the drawings, the stands of the book exhibition, and different parts of the Assaha Lebanese Traditional Village.



LEBA-JICA Activities

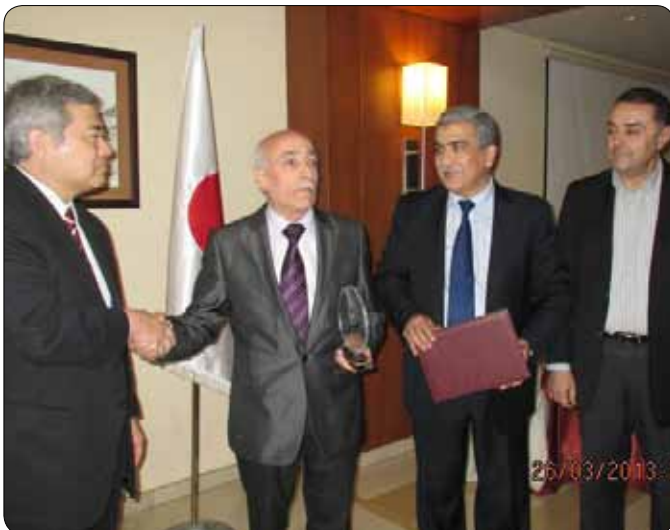
LEBA-JICA Gathering meeting 26th March, 2013

According to the Lebanese decree No. 2989 dated 17/3/1972, related to the Cooperatives Associations, and the invitation of LEBA-JICA Executive Board, the General Assembly held a gathering meeting on 26th March 2013, at the Safir Hotel - Beirut, where the participants reviewed and discussed the action plan for the year 2013-2014, and agreed to the proposed activities in addition to Re-organization of Painting Competition titled "Japan in the Lebanese eyes" which was listed on the action plan (2012-2013), but JICA Syria Office did not agree to hold

under the pretext of lack of time.

The General Assembly elected 2 substitutes members: Eng. Ghassan Abdullah and Eng. Salman Skaff for the remaining period of the mandate of the Executive Board.

After the meeting, the participants addressed the dinner in the presence of his Excellency Ambassador of Japan in Lebanon Mr. Seiichi Otsuka, Then memorial shields were delivered to the retired Colleagues: Mrs. Hayat Nader, Mr. Antoine Ghorayeb, Mr. Rahif El Ayouby , Mr. Ghassan Abdallah and Mr. Rabih Saab.





Lebanon 2014:

Regional Workshop on Disaster
Risk Management Strategies

