



IISEE Newsletter



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International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering BRI Japan

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Bienvenidos a Japón (Welcome to Japan) The 3rd Latin American Earthquake Engineering Course Has Started

*By Dr. Toshiaki Yokoi, Mr. Mizuo Inukai and
Mr. Takashi Yamashita of IISEE*

The opening ceremony of the 3rd Latin American Earthquake Engineering Course was held at the BRI Hall from 11:15 to 12:00 on Thursday, May 19. 16 participants from 8 countries such as Chile (2), Colombia (2), Dominican Republic (2), El Salvador (3), Mexico (1), Nicaragua (2), Peru (2) and Venezuela (2) join the IISEE training course.



Dr. Sakamoto, The President of BRI

The ceremony was conducted with interpretations by two Japanese-Spanish interpreters and started by the introduction of the BRI and JICA executives and IISEE staff members. After that, Mr. Katsuhiko Haga, Director General of JICA Tsukuba and Dr. Yuzo Sakamoto, the President of BRI made their welcome speeches.

Dr. Sakamoto introduced the history and role of BRI and he told to the Latin American Course participants that BRI is now ready to welcome them. At last, Mr. PRIETO VILLARREAL Joel Antonio from Chile made a speech on behalf of all the participants.

In April we had a series of earthquakes of magnitude 6-7 hit Kumamoto and Oita of Kyushu, Japan and also in Equador. Latin America is a quake prone region as same as Japan. However, technology of earthquake-proof construction is not widely obtained in the area, and buildings' collapse causes huge damages to the human lives and properties. This course is executed in the aim of reducing damages from future earthquakes by enhancing and disseminating the earthquake-resistant technology in the participants' countries.



Mr. PRIETO VILLARREAL Joel Antonio from Chile

Then, all of the course will be conducted in Spanish language through Japanese-Spanish interpreters, and the lecture notes in Spanish are



Call for Papers

IISEE Bulletin is now accepting submissions of papers for the seismology, earthquake engineering, and tsunami. Developing countries are targeted, but are not limited.

Your original papers will be reviewed by the editorial members and some experts.

NO submission fee is need.

Try to challenge!!



Enjoy, Now

handed out to the training participants. The participants are not requested to have a good command of English in their application qualifications. For further information on this Latin American training course, e-mail to us via iisee@kenken.go.jp.

We heartily wish all good luck to their training course.

¡ Buena suerte ! (Good luck!)



Group Photo at the Opening Ceremony

Reports on Kansai Study Trip

(1) Mr. Amar BENFEDDA (Algeria, Seismology Course)



Our study trip to Kansai region is more than scientific information concerning earthquakes or improvement our knowledges in seismology. In very simple word "We discovered Japan". This coexistence and mixture between very deep history and the present time was very amazing. We went back from the longest suspension bridge in the world in 21 century to very deep in history, to 8th century, it was really like time travel. In this short period, we feel the overlapping sensations, it is not easy, for me, to express them with my modest English. As mentioned in Wikipedia: "The Kansai region is the

cultural and historical heart of Japan".

By visiting the museum of "Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution", the manner in which the damages that were presented, it was really great and allowed us to feel a little of how the Japanese people experienced.

In seismology field, all visited places as Uemachi fault system in Osaka, Nojima fault Museum and "Three-Dimensional Full-Scale Earthquake Testing Facility", all those visited places contribute in disaster mitigation in order to protect the two parts that forms the society, human and its construction.

Finally, it was very good and memorable study trip, and it will burn forever in our minds, thank you very much. The Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said: "Allah will not be merciful with the one who is not merciful to others"

Contact Us

The IISEE Newsletter is intended to act as a go-between for IISEE and ex-participants.

We encourage you to contribute a report and an article to this newsletter. Please let us know your current activities in your countries.

We also welcome your co-workers and friends to register our mailing list.

iiseenews@kenken.go.jp
<http://iisee.kenken.go.jp>

Back Numbers

<http://iisee.kenken.go.jp/nldb/>

(2) Mr. Greyving Jose Argüello Miranda (Nicaragua, Tsunami Disaster Mitigation Course)

During this study trip we learned about the countermeasures to disaster prevention and mitigation that are used in different cities or towns in Kansai area (Kobe, Wakayama, Yoshida Machi, Numazu) such as floodgates, sea walls, break waters, tsunami towers, tsunami buildings, and hazard maps. We also learned how they teach the citizens about disaster management through trainings, and drills in order to prepare for disasters. We visited all these places and learned about the countermeasures already installed in their cities, town and municipalities, and their future projects for disaster prevention. We also learned their experience of facing with disasters such as storm surges, typhoon and tsunamis. Another important thing that we learned was how to make and interpret hazard maps. The most impressive things for me were how they prepare for disasters and how they have improved their warning system from their experience with natural disasters occurred in the past, which are very useful to know about the projects for keeping proactive human activities in the city and avoid the people migrating to other cities. The fast recovery process after the disaster and the contingency plans are good examples for us to adopt in our countries in order to enhance and strengthen our disaster management plans and to protect the lives of the people living close to the coastal areas.



(3) Mr. Amos Fimiamba (Papua New Guinea, Earthquake Engineering Course)



Our Study Trip to Kansai Region from April 18 -21st, 2016 was very interesting, enjoyable and a great learning experience for us. We visited the Osaka Prefectural Government Building, the oldest government building which is 90 years old from 1926 when it is renovated until its current construction work to retrofit to improve its seismic performance. The visit to Disaster and Human Renovation Institution (DRI) in Kobe has been very emotional by seeing the live videos and pictures of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake on January, 17th 1995, which affects the lives of people, and recovery and improvement work carried out just after the disaster. The World largest shaking table that we visited was very interesting, how the large scale equipment is used to analyze the seismic performance of the building. The highlight of the study trip is the visit to Akashi Kaikyo Bridge and the height that we take to view the bridge. More on that, the preservation of the fault in Nojima Fault Museum has given me the opportunity in life in seeing the visible damage fault can cause. The visit in Kyoto, to several temple buildings and castle and type of material used in the constructsures during Edo Period is very magnificent and the challenges and techniques used in retrofitting was a good learning experience compared to modern structures. I would like to thank JICA, IISEE and BRI for making this study trip a successful one and once in a life time experience which is educational and memorable.