

## **IISEE Newsletter**



Sep 30 2019 Number 173 International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering BRI Japan 1 Tachihara Tsukuba Japan 305-0802 tel+81-29-879-0678 facsim+81-29-864-6777

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### IISEE Net and Training

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### Courtesy Call on the MLIT Minister

#### By Mr. Takahiro Yamada, Head of Administration Division, IISEE

On August 29, 2018-2019 training participants paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism. Mr. Ishii encouraged them to be a leader of each country of earthquake disaster mitigation through the network of participants and from this training course. On behalf of the participants, Ms. Ngun Za lang from Myanmar expressed her gratitude to the Minister for supporting developing countries through this training program for over 50 years. She said she wants to proof the greatness of IISEE training course using their knowledge which they had learned in IISEE and to enhance the capability of preparedness for natural disasters in their countries and to keep having the passion of disaster mitigation.

Lastly, Mr. Ishii shook hands and took photo with the all 9 participants one by one. We hope the courtesy call help their encouragement of their countries future.









#### Earthquakes

The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake

Reports of Recent Earthquakes

Utsu Catalog

Earthquake Catalog



Minister Ishii and the IISEE Participants



Enjoy Now

# 9 Participants Completed the 2018-2019 Training Course

By Mr. Takahiro Yamada, Head of Administration Division, IISEE

On Sep 10 we had a closing ceremony of training courses in Seismology, Earthquake Engineering and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation which had started on Oct 2, last year. This year we had 9 participants from 7 countries awarded a training certificate of completion and take courses certificate Participants who were chosen by their country divided into three courses, Seismology, Earthquake Engineering, and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation. They took lectures in consideration of specialty. They settled research to cope with individual problems to have in their mother country. In the ceremony, Mr. Sugahara,

Director of Disaster Management Policy Program of GRIPS granted the best research award to 3 participants. Using their knowledge and network of the research, we are anticipating their success.



Mr. Takeshi WATANABE, General Director of JICA Tsukuba International Center



Dr. Mitsumasa MIDORIKAWA, President of BRI



Best research award Ms. Ngun Za lang of S course from Myanmar



Mr. Masaru SUGAHARA, Director of Disaster Management Policy Program of GRIPS

#### 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 needed.

Try to challenge!!



Best research award Mr. Dhira Phadera of E course from Nepal



Best research award Mr. Micheal Arturo LINTHON ALVAREZ of T course from Ecuador

### GRIPS Graduation Ceremony

By Mr. Takahiro Yamada, Head of Administration Division, IISEE

In cooperation with JICA and the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), IISEE can award the degree of Master of Disaster Management to all participants who gained predetermined results.

8 Participants of IISEE training course attended the graduation ceremony in GRIPS on Sep 11.

We appreciate everyone for understanding and cooperation to conduct this training course. Thank you very much.





#### **Contact Us**

The IISEE Newsletter is intended to act as a gobetween 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



#### Letter from ex-participant

By Rommel David Zambrana Areas National Autonomous University of Nicaragua UNAN-Managua Faculty of Science and Engineering Building Department (Nicaragua, 2015-16, Earthquake Engineering course)

IISEE got a mail from Mr.Rommel David Zambrana Areas from Nicaragua as below.

Thank you very much for your mail, Rommel san!!

### Back Numbers

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

#### Hello,

Dear professors and staff of the International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering

It has been a long time since we left Japan. We miss experiences, friends that we had in Japan, all the lectures that we received from all professors from BRI.

Last week we had an opportunity to hear from Professor Dr. Nobuo Furukawa. He was invited as a special guest to Scientific talks at UNAN-Managua.

Here, I would like to share the video of the scientific talks by Dr. Furukawa Nobuo at our prestige university UNAN-Managua. There were many students and professors listened to his presentation and let me tell you that it was nice to see him again. The activity was worth sharing knowledge with the students. I am pretty sure they enjoyed it a lot.

I hope that you enjoy the video, and I would like to see all of you one day more. Best regards from all of us Rommel, Xochilt, Nadir & Max https://youtu.be/UOa8stqATbA

# Address in Reply on Behalf of All the Participants in the graduation ceremony in BRI

By Mr. Robert Jay Nimer Panaligan from Philippines

"Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets." —Leonardo da Vinci.

Dr. Mitsumasa Midorikawa, President of Building Research Institute, Professor Masaru Sugahara, Program Director of the Disaster Management Policy Program of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Mr. Takeshi Watanabe, General Director of JICA Tsukuba International Center, Dr. Toshiaki YOKOI, Director of International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering, Ladies and gentlemen, good morning.



Standing to deliver these closing words on behalf of all

my fellow scholars in the Seismology, Earthquake Engineering and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation Course is a singular honor. The honor belongs, though, to a variety of people who spent an immeasurable degree of studying the rudiments of our course. This goes to each and every scholar who left no stone unturned in fully understanding the principles behind these natural phenomena. Our professors share this humble limelight for their endless toil in sharing these knowledge, as well as discovering new frontiers to transform the challenges of nature into opportunities.

I remember the day, as if it were yesterday, when a group of people from different countries arrived to Japan; for some of us, it was the first time to leave our countries and families with the objective to start a new challenge, without knowing what we would meet here in a completely new environment and culture as in Japan.

Our first impression when we arrived was to appreciate how a country like Japan has a perfect synchrony between technology and its culture. Even with its improvements, they still maintain their origins, their roots. The main reason how Japan has become the Japan of today is that they have learned from the past to create a better future for next generations.

We could learn much about Japan and its improvements through all the lectures and field trips organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the International institute of seismology and Earthquake, who made their best effort to let us have a better approach to understanding how Japan has recovered from past natural disasters.

From all the field trips, we could appreciate that, despite having gone through numerous losses, both human beings and materials, they never gave up, always looking for how to improve to decrease as much as possible the effects from the disasters. Since all our countries are vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, this should be a good model to follow; to show us that the best investment must be made by creating a resilient community based on the reality of each of our countries, and this can only be achieved through the education to its citizens. This is the reason why we have come to Japan.

Looking back at our dreams in the search for knowledge, it would seem that time has passed like the wind blowing, which is ephemeral, but bringing many experiences during our stay in Japan. After almost one year, we feel very grateful because, even far from our families, we have received the support from the beginning until the end from many entities like JICA, IISEE/BRI, and the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies. That search for knowledge brought us to where we are today. Not so many people like to try new and unknown things, but we chose to follow our dreams, so we took the chance to be here in Japan, far from our homes, to be enticed with our professors' professionalisms, equivocal passion for knowledge, and incomparable humility and wisdom.

In our life, we cannot deny that we always wanted to have shortcuts. We normally want things always to be easier for us. In the quest for knowledge and wisdom, I am sure there is no shortcut. Living here far from our families was not easy; finances, time, intellect and emotion have to be managed well. We need to enter another stage of maturity to accept and understand what are required of us.

In spite of what we have reached now, with knowledge and wisdom, let us stay humble. Let us try to understand others rather than to be understood; "Do not let your degree dignify you." We are seasoned, we are honed, let us be the first one to serve than to be served. Our degree will be our promotion for the future development of each of our countries. To our senseis, and to all who have made this possible, we want to assure you that we will apply everything we learned here in this training program. As soon as we arrive, we will share all our knowledge and experiences to our colleagues to improve the development of our countries in the three different fields: seismology, tsunami and earthquake engineering.

Finally, I want to conclude this speech by expressing our sincere gratitude to IISEE/ BRI, JICA, and GRIPS for all the knowledge, experiences and trust that have been shared with us during this year. In the same way, thank you very much for giving us the great opportunity to meet brilliant people from seven different countries: Bangladesh, Colombia, Ecuador, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua and Philippines. For my classmates, all of us know how much we sacrificed to reach this goal, even in the most difficult moments, where we felt we were losing strength to move on, but we could find the motivation to get up through the help of each other as a big family. That's the best reason to give congratulations to all of us, but we don't have to stop here. This is just the beginning of a new journey with new opportunities.

I want to end my speech with the following quote: "Believe and act is as if it were impossible to fail." by Charles Kettering.



Thank you, one and all.