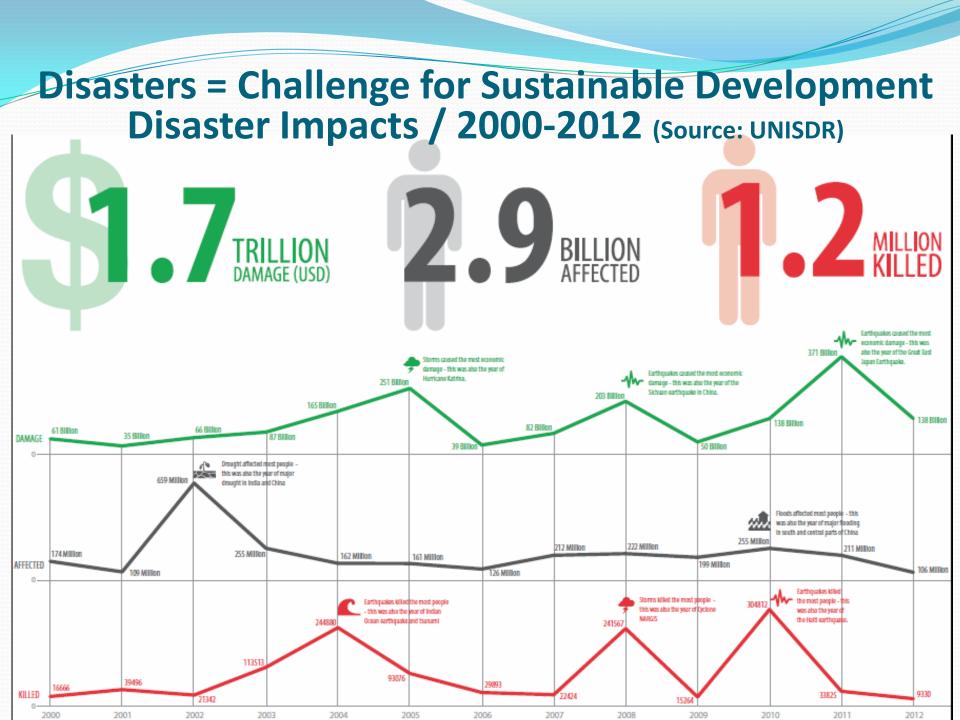
# Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction: Japan's Efforts

February 10, 2015 Kenichi Suganuma Ambassador in Charge of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan



# Disasters = Challenge for Sustainable Development How Relevant for Development?

- **90% of victims** = citizens of developing countries
  - > The most vulnerable takes the brunt of natural disasters.

# Economic loss is overwhelming

- > Earthquake in Haiti (2010): Damage =1.2 times of its GDP (\$7.8 billion)
- > Natural disasters can instantly wipe away long-term development efforts.



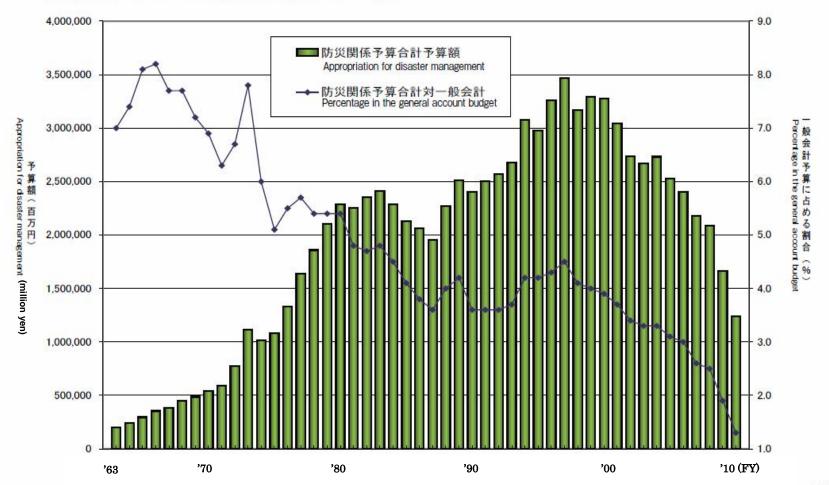
Earthquake in Haiti (2010)

- Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is effective
  - > \$1 investment in disaster risk reduction saves \$7 in recovery efforts

# Case of Japan: Effectiveness of DRR (1)

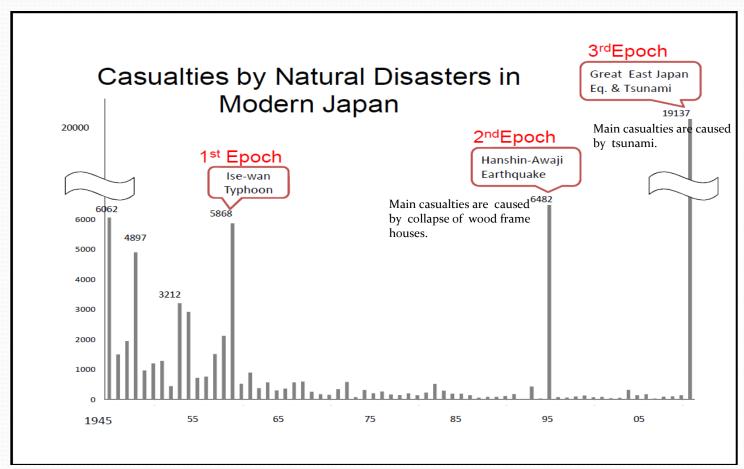
• Japan spent 7-8% of its budget on DRR in the early phase of economic development.

Change in Disaster Management Related Budget



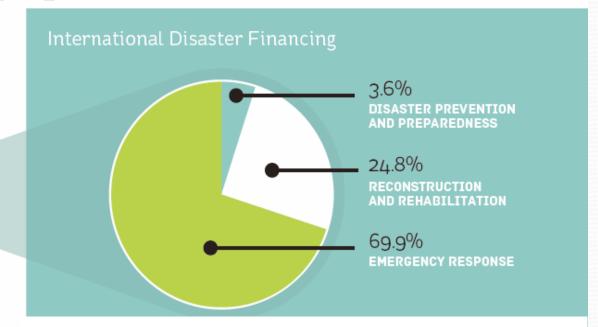
# Case of Japan: Effectiveness of DRR (2)

- As a result, the number of casualties dramatically declined, except for extremely severe earthquakes.
- Other natural hazards including typhoons have not caused severe causalities.



# Yet, investment in DRR is not enough

- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) does not include DRR. Resources are not sufficiently allocated.
- Donors are spending heavily on emergency response, reconstruction and rehabilitation, not enough on prevention and preparedness.



US \$91.2 billion

BETWEEN
1980 AND 2009

ABOUT 2% OF TOTAL

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE
was allocated to disaster-related
activities. Of this, the smallest
share went to disaster prevention.

Source: GOJ, GFDRR, World Bank

# **Mainstreaming DRR in Development**

- Historic opportunity to mainstream DRR
  - > Japan is committed to leading international efforts.

#### 1. UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

- > Third Conference to be held in Sendai in March 2015
- Establish the post Hyogo Framework for Action
  - > Effective framework w/ concrete targets, assessment...

#### 2. Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Incorporate DRR as a priority issue
  - > Make the fruit of development irreversible



Realize Mainstreaming DRR

# **Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction**

#### **UN World Conference on DRR**

1994 1st Conference (Yokohama)



→Hyogo Framework for Action:2005-2015

= International guideline for DRR

#### HFA: 5 priorities for action

- ① Make DRR a priority
- 2 Know the risks and take action
- ③ Build understanding and awareness
- **4** Reduce risk
- **⑤** Be prepared and ready to act

## 2015 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference (Sendai, March)

→ Establish the successor framework of HFA (Post-HFA)

### Need to establish an effective post-HFA

#### International development goals

2000 UN Millennium Declaration



2001 Millennium Development Goals(MDGs)

#### MDGs: 8 goals

#### DRR is not included!

- ① Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 2 Achieve universal primary education
- 3 Promote gender equality and empower women
- **4** Reduce child mortality
- **5** Improve maternal health
- **6** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- TEnsure environmental sustainability
- **®** Global partnership for development

**2015** Target year of the MDGs

→ Establish the post-2015 development agenda

Need to incorporate DRR in the post-2015 development agenda

= Mobilise necessary resources



**Human Security** 



Mainstream DRR in development and international cooperation

# **Key Elements to Which Japan Attaches Importance**

- Investment in disaster risk reduction from a long-term perspective
  - > It is more cost-effective than post-disaster response and recovery.
- Partnership among central governments and other stakeholders (local governments, private sector, NGOs/CSOs, international organizations, regional organizations...)
  - > The central government has the primary responsibility and serves as national platform.
- "Build Back Better"
  - > The recovery/rehabilitation phase is a good opportunity to drastically reduce disaster risks.

# Japan's Expectation on Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

- To promote mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in international cooperation as well as domestic policies of the member states.
- To disseminate and share worldwide Japan's knowledge about and expertise in disaster risk reduction and recovery acquired through the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 and other natural disasters.







## Japan's Efforts to Mainstream DRR through ODA (1)

## 1. "Initiative for Disaster Reduction through ODA"

- Announced in 2005 on the occasion of the Second UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction
- Disaster reduction through
  - Institution building
  - Human resource development
  - •Development of economic and social infrastructure
  - Assistance for the reconstruction of livelihoods

#### 2. Commitment to Assist Building Resilient Societies

- ➤ Announced in 2012 on the occasion of the Rio+20
- Commit \$3 billion from 2013 to 2015

# Japan's Efforts to Mainstream DRR through ODA (2)

## **Example 1: Subway in Thailand**

- From the planning and construction stages, the risk of floods was well-considered.
- Every entrance can cope with water immersion as high as 3.5 meters.
- ➤ Ventilation hole is covered with towers to prevent water immersion as high as 3.5 -5 meters.





➤ Withstood the historic floods in Bangkok in July 2011

# Japan's Efforts to Mainstream DRR through ODA (3)

## **Example 2: Early Warning System in Chile**

- ➤ Chile was hit with Tsunami (more than 2 meters) in February 2010, which claimed 500 lives.
- ➤ Japan provided its expertise on tsunami early warning system, including tsunami analysis.



The assistance was completed only 2 weeks before March 11, 2011



- Avoided loss of lives from the tsunami (2.8 meters) caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011.
- Correctly estimated tsunami magnitude(3 meters) and promptly disseminated the information.

# Japan's Efforts to Mainstream DRR through ODA (4)

## **Example 3: DRR Education in El Salvador**

- DRR education has a vast potential.
  - = "Miracle in Kamaishi" where students escaped from tsunami by themselves on March 11, 2011.
- ➤ Japan has been providing assistance for DRR education in Central America since 2007.



The siren used for early warnings.



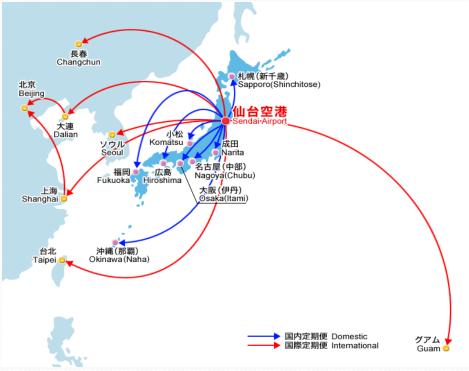
- ➤ Hurricane "IDA" hit El Salvador in 2009, claiming more than 300 lives nationwide.
- Las Hojas village had no casualties, thanks to DRR education.

#### **Outline of Sendai City**





#### Where is Sendai?











- Population: 1,071,947 (July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014)
- The political and economic center of the Tohoku region
- By bullet train: about 1.5 hours from Tokyo
- By airplane: about 1 hour from Narita
- Sendai is known as "The City of Trees"



# Map of Downtown Sendai

