# ICHARM Activity Report

# FY2020-2021

For the 6th ICHARM Governing Board

On 21 June 2022

International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHARM), Public Works Research Institute (PWRI), Japan

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## Abbreviation

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADBI	Asian Development Bank Institute
ADCP	Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler
ADRC	Asian Disaster Reduction Center
AGRHYMET	AGRrometeorology, HYdrology, METeorology
AMSR2	Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer 2
AOGEO	Asia-Oceania Group on Earth Observations
AOP	Annual Operating Plan
APFM	Associated Programme on Flood Management
APWF	Asia-Pacific Water Forum
APWS	Asia-Pacific Water Summit
Area-BCM	Area- Business Continuity Management
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
AWCI	Asian Water Cycle Initiative
BOSS	Bosai-Business Operation Support System
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
СНу	Commission of Hydrology
CLVDAS	Couple Land and Vegetation Data Assimilation System
COVID-19	COVID-19
DIAS	Data Integration and Analysis System
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSM	Digital Surface Model
EDITORIA	Earth Observation Data Integration and Fusion Research Initiative
ET	Evapotranspiration
FEWS	Flood Early Warning System
GCM	General Circulation Models
GCOM-W	Global Change Observation Mission – Water
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems
GRIPS	National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
GSMaP	Global Satellite Mapping of Precipitation

	Graphical User Interface
GWP	Global Water Partnership
НСР	Hydrological Coordination Panel
HELP	High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters
HLPF	High Level Political Forum
HLPW	High Level Panel on Water
HMD	Head Mounted Display
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAHS	International Association of Hydrological Sciences
ICFM	International Conference on Flood Management
ICHARM	International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management
ICoE	International Centres of Excellence
IDI	Infrastructure Development Institute
IDRIS	ICHARM Disaster Risk Information System
IFAS	Integrated Flood Analysis System
IFI	International Flood Initiative
IGC	Intergovernmental Council
IRDR	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk
IRDR Japan	IRDR Japan National Committee
NC	
IRDR SC	IRDR Scientific Committee
iRIC	International River Interface Cooperative
IWS	Integrated Workshop
JAXA	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
JHoP	Japan Hub of Disaster Resilience Partners
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JMA	Japan Meteorological Agency
JST	Japan Science and Technology Agency
LAI	Leaf Area Index
LDAS-UT	Land Data Assimilation System of The University of Tokyo
	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
MLIT	Winistry of Land, infrastructure, fransport and fourishi

MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs			
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding			
MRI-AGCM	Meteorological Research Institute - Atmospheric General Circulation Model			
NBA				
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization			
NIED	National Research Institute for Earth Sciences and Disaster Resilience			
NILIM	National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management			
OEWG	Open Ended Working Group			
OSS-SR	Online Synthesis System for Sustainability and Resilience			
PAGASA	Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services			
	Administration			
PF	Particle Filter			
PRISM	Public/Private R&D Investment Strategic Expansion Program			
PTC	Panel on Tropical Cyclones			
PWRI	Public Works Research Institute			
RCA	Regional Cooperative Agreement			
R&D Seminar	Research and Development Seminar			
RRI	Rainfall-Runoff-Inundation			
RSC-AP	Regional Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific			
RTC	Regional Training Course			
S&T Panel	Science and Technology Panel			
SAR	Synthetic Aperture Radar			
SATREPS	Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development			
SBP	Support Base Partner			
SCJ	Science Council of Japan			
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals			
SIMRIW	Simulation Model for Rice-Weather Relationships			
SIP	Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program			
SNS	Social Networking Service			
SPADE	Spatial Data Analysis Explorer			
SWWW	Stockholm World Water Week			
TC	Typhoon Committee			

TOUGOUIntegrated Research Program for Advancing Climate ModelsUCCRUrban Climate Change ResilienceUNCRDUnited Nations Center for Regional DevelopmentUNDESAUnited Nations Department of Economic and Social AffairsUNDRUnited Nations Office for Disaster Risk ReductionUNESCAPUnited Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the PacificUNESCOUnited Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural OrganizationUNESCOUnited Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural OrganizationUNESCOUnited Nations International Strategy for Disaster ReductionUNSTSWDUnited Nations Special Thematic Session on Water and DisastersUNWCDRRUnited Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk ReductionVBAVolta Basin AuthorityVRVirtual RealityWADiRe-AfricaWater and Energy Budget-based Distributed Hydrological ModelWEB-DHMWater and Energy Budget-based Distributed Hydrological Model-SnowWeb-GISWeb Geographic Information SystemWEB-RRIWater and Energy Balance-based Rainfall Runoff InundationWGMWorking Group on HydrologyWMOWorld Meteorology
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WGHWorking Group on HydrologyWGMWorking Group on Meteorology
WGM Working Group on Meteorology
WMO World Meteorological Organization
world intercorological Organization
WRF model Weather Research and Forecasting model
WWAP World Water Assessment Programme
WWDR World Water Development Report
WWF World Water Forum
X Band X-band polarimetric Multi Parameter Radar
MP Radar

#### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Research

1.1.1 Data collection, storage, sharing and statistics on water-related disasters

In collaboration with the EDITORIA of the University of Tokyo, ICHARM established the Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for the Niger and Volta river basins in West Africa. FEWS aims to share information among 11 West African countries and related organizations, such as the AGRHYMET, the NBA, and the VBA.

ICHARM also studied how to optimize the distribution and number of ground rain gauges in the Fuji River basin by performing runoff analysis using GSMaP, to which multiple correction methods were applied. Regarding the correction of real-time satellite precipitation products, ICHARM demonstrated that runoff analysis can be conducted with reasonable accuracy, provided that there are a certain number of ground rain gauges in the basin.

#### 1.1.2 Water-related disaster risk assessment

ICHARM developed a new function that can calculate the behavior of flood, sediment, and flood inundation in real time on DIAS. For this new function, we developed a method to set the upper boundary condition of an inundation area by coupling a real-time flood forecasting method, which uses the RRI model with a particle filter, with an integrated RRIS model, which was developed to analyze basin sediment discharge. The upper boundary condition calculated using this new method is used for a 2D analysis model using iRIC-Nays2DH A to finally predict the behavior of flood, sediment, and flood inundation in real time.

ICHARM also established WEB-DHM-S for the power generation dam basins of the Oi and Sai Rivers in Japan. For the effective use of this model, ensemble inflow prediction and a new dam operation method were also proposed and applied. Ensemble inflow prediction uses ensemble weather forecasting data as inputs, and the new dam operation method uses the predicted inflow for more stable flood control and higher power generation.

Moreover, focusing on the flooding caused by an earth-dam failure in Myanmar in 2018, ICHARM developed a runoff inundation model to analyze changes in dam inflow and storage level and downstream inundation due to the dam failure. Spatiotemporal rainfall data were produced and the inundation areas were identified using satellite data available worldwide, and the reproducibility of the inundation was verified. Flood simulation was conducted for rainfalls of different occurrence probabilities, and the results were used to propose an inundation estimation method useful for risk management at the time of dam failure in areas where hydrological data is scarce.

#### 1.1.3 Monitoring and predicting changes in water-related disaster risks

ICHARM conducted dynamical downscaling of future precipitation data for the Solo and Davao River basins, using the MRI-AGGM3.2S/3.2H model and the future climate scenarios of RCP8.5

and RCP 2.6. Furthermore, as well as establishing a WEB-RRI model for each river basin, ICHARM predicted hydraulic and hydrological phenomena using future precipitation data and carried out flood and drought risk assessments.

For West Africa, ICHARM developed a drought monitoring system using the CLVDAS, which integrates passive microwave remote sensing technology, a land surface model, a vegetation dynamics model, and a data assimilation method.

1.1.4 Presentation, evaluation and support for implementation of water-related disaster risk mitigation measures

In order to provide information that prompts residents living near small and medium rivers to start early evacuation, ICHARM developed a simple, low-cost system capable of predicting water levels with adequate accuracy and short computation time. The system can predict when the river water will reach the flood level more than two hours in advance and is easy to install in small and medium rivers. Its runoff analysis model adopted the RRI model capable of representing runoff phenomena, such as surface and subsurface runoff, with fewer parameters to be adjusted, so that water level prediction is possible using radar-rain gauge analyzed precipitation and short-term precipitation forecasts, both of which are provided in real time by JMA. Furthermore, in order to accurately and quickly represent ever-changing rainfall-runoff mechanisms, the SCE-UA method is applied as an automatic parameter adjustment function. A particle filter was also introduced to improve the RRI model by sequentially modifying a water level prediction model using real-time water level observation data. Moreover, ICHARM has experimentally produced a real-time automatic calculation, representation and distribution system and has been distributing river-related information while testing the developed systems with about 130 river models.

#### 1.1.5 Support for improving the capacity to practice disaster prevention and mitigation

ICHARM developed a portal site for local governments in mountainous areas where residents have little access to information needed to make informed evacuation decisions. The portal site was developed to be a one-stop information center and designed not only to be useful in emergencies but also to improve residents' ability of disaster management in normal times. The system has been improved for smartphone use. We have also started developing a virtual flood experience system using virtual reality (VR) technology, creating a virtual flood situation based on the actual event in Aga Town, Niigata Prefecture, Japan, during Typhoon No. 19 in 2019 and the experiences and feedback of local residents.

In another project, we conducted research on businesses affected by heavy rains in the Kanto and Tohoku regions in 2015 and Hiroshima and Okayama prefectures in western Japan in 2018. We found that many businesses needed a long time to return to their pre-disaster business level. In a different project, we studied the recovery curve of housing reconstruction, daily life, and community activities by conducting questionnaire surveys for residents in Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture, who suffered significant damage during the Kanto and Tohoku heavy rains, and residents in Iwaizumi Town, Iwate Prefecture, who were also severely affected by Typhoon No. 10 in 2016. In the process of developing a simple method for estimating the socio-economic impact of flood disasters, we investigated the relationship between changes in GDP and the regional GDP of prefectures and municipalities and flood damage.

Furthermore, in order to improve the disaster prevention capabilities of local governments, we published and disseminated the "Collection of Critical Situation during Flood Emergency Response" on various occasions.

In an effort to support disaster prevention and mitigation activities overseas, we promoted OSS-SR, developing an "Online Synthesis System" and training "Facilitators" in Davao City, Philippines. We also assisted Thailand in strengthening regional resilience by developing Area-BCM for regional business continuities in industrial clusters. Furthermore, we have started "The Project for Development of a Hybrid Water-Related Disaster Risk Assessment Technology for Sustainable Local Economic Development Policy under Climate Change in the Republic of the Philippines." for Luzon Island, Philippines.

#### 1.2 Education and training

ICHARM has provided educational and training programs that are designed to strengthen the capabilities of both individuals and organizations in disaster management.

The main programs include: 1. One-year master's degree program, "Water-related Risk Management Course of Disaster Management Policy Program," conducted in collaboration with GRIPS and JICA; 2. Three-year doctoral degree program, "Disaster Management Program" jointly conducted with GRIPS; 3. Short-term training programs held in Japan and overseas; 4. Follow-up Seminar held annually overseas for graduates and trainees; and 5. Short- and long-term internship programs.

From 2020 to 2021, due to the spread of COVID-19, various restrictions were put in place, affecting our programs significantly. For example, students could not come to Japan as scheduled, and some study trips and the follow-up seminar were canceled.

Under these circumstances, ICHARM introduced an electronic blackboard for the master's program in advance of the pandemic and established a system that allows students to take lectures online in real time from their home countries during the period when students cannot come to Japan. In addition, we used whatever measures possible to keep the programs going. For example, we introduced a flexible lecture system in which we flexibly chose a different lecture style from face-to-face, remote, and a combination of the two types, depending on how severely the infectious disease was affecting society, while thoroughly practicing infection control measures such as installing partitions and keeping hand sanitizers around.

In 2018, JICA started a new scholarship program, "Disaster Risk Reduction Leaders Capacity Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation," for doctoral students. One student enrolled in 2020 and two students enrolled in 2021 have been using this JICA scholarship. The program will

continue to be available for new students wishing to study at ICHARM.

#### 1.3 Information networking

ICHARM continues promoting information networking on a global scale. As a UNESCO category 2 center, it keeps close ties with the UNESCO-IHP and its National Committees, other UNESCO category 2 centers, and the UNESCO Chairs. It also maintains cooperative relations with UN organizations, such as WMO and UNDRR, and other international and regional organizations, such as the TC.

As the secretariat of IFI, ICHARM is promoting the global effort to establish Platforms on Water Resilience and Disasters based on the Jakarta Statement, which was adopted as the basic action plan of IFI after the elaborations at the October 2016 workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia, and the January 2017 workshop in Tokyo, Japan. ICHARM has been supporting the establishment of Platforms on Water Resilience and Disasters in the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and some other countries.

Since the spring of 2020, ICHARM staff have been obliged to refrain from any business trips abroad, as most international conferences have been canceled or held online to prevent the COVID-19 pandemic. Even under such difficult situations, e-learning sessions and related online workshop programs were held for the Philippines and Indonesia, gathering participants from the relevant organizations of the IFI Platforms. These efforts have been kept underway and supported countries in developing the OSS-SR and fostering facilitators.

In Asia, the AWCI sessions were convened online on February 26, 2021, as the task group of the 13th AOGEO, and on October 29, 2021, as a sectional meeting of the 14th AOGEO, attended by the representatives of the Platform participating organizations from the IFI implementing countries, such as the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. At the AWCI sessions, each country reported on the implementation status and future plans. The sessions also covered cutting-edge research and development topics. The outcomes of the sessions were included in the final statements of AOGEO.

Also, an ICHARM researcher assumes the chair of WGH in TC, which is an intergovernmental community jointly organized by UNESCAP and WMO. ICHARM is playing the leading role in the implementation of the AOPs in collaboration with the TC members.

On a global scale, the UNSTSWD5 was held on June 25, 2021. Prior to it, ICHARM organized the S&T Panel, whose discussion summary was reported at the UNSTSWD5. The outcomes are expected to be reported at coming global milestone events, including the mid-term review processes on the SDGs and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

In close partnership with relevant organizations, ICHARM is eagerly engaged in preparatory activities as a session organizer of water and disasters/climate change for the 4th APWS to be held in April 2022 and as a conference organizer of ICFM9 in February 2023.

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, ICHARM participated in major conferences and hosted sessions and side events through web systems, which strengthened the relationships with other participants and organizations and expanded its professional and organizational networks.

### 2. Special topics

2.1 UNESCO project, "Water Disaster Platform to Enhance Climate Resilience in Africa" (WADiRe-Africa)

In collaboration with the UNESCO-IHP and the AGRHYMET in West Africa, ICHARM established the FEWS in the Niger and Volta River basins in West Africa (see 3.1). We conducted e-learning capacity building training for local staff to become able to utilize the FEWS for disaster response.

Initially, the training was planned to be carried out face-to-face in West Africa, but the spread of the COVID-19 infection made it impossible for ICHARM staff to travel to the site. Thus, e-learning was the only option left to materialize the capacity building training during the project period, considering the local conditions in West Africa; for example, the Internet connection was not always stable to provide online, real-time classes, and many target countries were French-speaking countries. A special website was set up on DIAS so that training participants could study offline by downloading training materials pre-recorded in English and French.

The training was held from August 2020 to February 2021. Two types of training courses were conducted for representatives from the NBA, the VBA, and 11 countries located in either river basin. One was the "Expert Training" and the other "Training of Trainers (ToT)," which was a more advanced course targeted at the experts nominated by AGRHYMET among those who had completed the Expert Training.

In the Expert Training, the participants first learned offline using audio materials recorded in English and French. The topics included climate change and flood mitigation, hydrological processes and modeling, and flood mapping and response planning. Then, they created a local RRI model and a timeline for action using technical materials and attended online question-and-answer sessions. In the Training of Trainers, the participants learned offline using materials prepared in English and French about the design of flood response workshops for local residents and then attended online question-and-answer sessions and discussions. Each participant had to compile a concept note.

Those who passed the proficiency test were certified for the completion of the training course. The

Expert Training was held four times, which 197 out of 288 participants completed. The Training of Trainers was held twice, which 30 out of 44 participants completed.

ICHARM has three pillars of activity: (1) innovative research, (2) effective capacity building, and (3) efficient networking. In this project, ICHARM carried out innovative research, such as establishing FEWS using data provided by the AGRHYMET and other organizations, and utilized the results for capacity building for related organizations to create a new network. This is a good example of embodying the triangle of the three pillars.



E-learning training

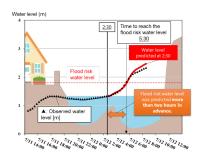
#### 2.2 Development of a simple, low-cost flood forecasting system for small and medium rivers

Water level forecasting, which provides important information for making decisions on evacuation and other orders, is mainly conducted for large rivers and has not been practiced for many small and medium rivers across Japan. Consequently, many people reside along such rivers, while exposed to a high risk of severe damage once they flood. Although it is necessary to predict water levels in these rivers to support the evacuation of residents, few water level gauges are installed along them. Therefore, the MLIT has started promoting the installation of low-cost water level gauges specifically for water level observation during floods. The gauges are designed to be smaller and less costly, using fewer communication devices. In small and medium river basins, the flood arrival time from the beginning of heavy rainfall is often short.

To ensure safe evacuation, it is important to predict water levels as far in advance as possible and support as early decision-making and action as possible. Therefore, this R&D project aimed to develop a simple, low-cost, and accurate water level forecasting system with a short computation time that can be easily installed in small and medium rivers and predict when the river water will reach the flood level more than two hours in advance so that flood risk information can be provided for residents living near small and medium rivers to start evacuation early. To this end, the RRI model was adopted as the runoff analysis model for this system. The RRI model can represent runoff phenomena such as surface runoff and intermediate runoff with fewer parameters to be adjusted. With this model, water level forecasting can be performed using JMA's radar-raingauge analyzed precipitation and short-time precipitation forecasts delivered in real time. In addition, the SCE-UA method was applied to the RRI model as an automatic parameter adjustment function to accurately and quickly represent a rainfall-runoff mechanism that changes from time to time. A particle filter was also adopted to sequentially modify the water level prediction model using real-time water level observation data.

ICHARM's main achievements for FY2020 and FY2021 are as follows. We investigated the accuracy of

various rainfall products and proposed methods for appropriately combining multiple products. The rainfall products included JMA's radar-raingauge analyzed precipitation, short-time precipitation forecasts, a preliminary version of radar-raingauge analyzed precipitation, a preliminary version of short-time precipitation forecasts, and MILT's high-resolution precipitation nowcasts. In addition, a prototype of a real-time automatic calculation, representation, and distribution system was developed, and the models of approximately 130 rivers constructed by FY2021 were applied to the system. Information distribution experiments are currently underway. In addition, a standard model, which will serve as the basic method for model construction, is being developed to create a manual on model construction methods for nationwide deployment. Optional settings are also prepared for river characteristics that cannot be covered by the standard model. This research and system development were conducted under the PRISM of the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan.



Predicting the flood level two hours in advance



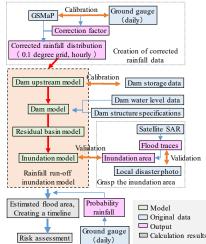
Real-time automatic calculation, representation, and distribution system

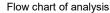
# 2.3 Myanmar-Agriculture development support project: Technical support in flood simulation for downstream areas of the Swa Chaung Dam

In August 2018, a spillway concrete weir of the Swa Chaung Dam, located about 60 km south of Naypyidaw, the capital of Myanmar, failed and caused large-scale flooding downstream, which damaged more than 80 villages and forced more than 60,000 people to evacuate and be displaced.

Among many other countries where many irrigation dams have been constructed to use rainy season water for dry season agriculture, Myanmar has been exposed to such flood risk, which has become greater in recent years, as heavy rainfall has been even more intense because typhoons have become increasingly larger due to global warming. For this reason, it is urgent to predict possible flood events in case of a dam failure and prepare emergency response measures in advance.

On the other hand, the flood simulation results in the lower reaches of the Swa Chaung Dam submitted to the World Bank by a consultant company of a certain country were questioned for their reliability; clearly, they were not reproduced well when compared with local disaster photographs.

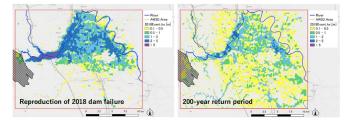




In addition, we thought that it would be effective to utilize satellite data in order to grasp the inundation area

over a wide area, which can, in turn, be used to verify simulated inundation area.

Since accumulating abundant research experience using satellite data in terms of inundation area estimation, rainfall distribution, and rainfall run-off inundation models, ICHARM made a proposal to the World Bank



Examples of flood simulation

about technical support using these technologies. As a result, the World Bank decided that ICHARM provide technical support to simulate the flooding in the downstream area at the time of the Swa Chaung Dam failure.

The first figure shows the building, calibrating, and verifying processes of the inundation model and future risk analysis carried out in this study. Of these processes, the correction of GSMaP using ground rain gauge data and the estimation of the inundation area using the polarization information of satellite SAR data are described in 3.2.3. We confirmed that our model was able to reproduce dam failure flooding very well. Risk assessment was performed using this model by simulating events of different scales, such as 1/200, 1/1000, and probable maximum rainfall. The resulting information was provided for local experts to plan disaster prevention measures and crisis management downstream of the dam. A manual was also created to describe these series of methods for their application to other areas with dams.

Since the satellite products used in the proposed method are available free of charge anywhere in the world and easy to handle, this method is a general-purpose method that can be widely applied to the evaluation of flood disasters, which frequently occur in various parts of the world. 2.4 Publication and dissemination of Collection of Critical Situation during Flood Emergency Response

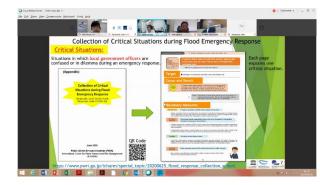
ICHARM has posted "Collection of Critical Situations during Flood Emergency Response" on its website since June 2020, aiming to help improve the emergency response capacities of local governments for more effective management of flood disasters, which frequently occur across Japan in recent years.

Defining critical situations in which local government officers have a hard time making sensible decisions because they panic, don't know what to do, are confused or in dilemma, etc., during an emergency response effort, we collected typical critical situations from the review reports of past flood disasters and summarized as a booklet. Also provided with the booklet is the "Appendix for local government response under COVID-19," which lists possible critical situations and necessary countermeasures during flood emergency response under COVID-19.

(https://www.pwri.go.jp/icharm/special\_topic/20200625\_flood\_response\_collection\_j.html)

From the start of publication in June 2020 to the end of September 2021, the Japanese version of the booklet was accessed 6,669 times, and the English version was accessed 1,261 times. We advertised these on various occasions, and on August 20, 2020, "The International Online Conference To Address Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) under the COVID-19 Pandemic" hosted by HELP and others, introduced these booklets to a worldwide audience. The plenary session was watched by about 300 people from 40 countries, including their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan.

Furthermore, in response to requests from local governments, ICHARM has delivered lectures and training on these booklets. On July 7, 2021, we gave a lecture to the mayors and disaster prevention staff of local governments at a council that discusses disaster mitigation measures for large-scale floods in the lower Natori River and the lower Abukuma River in the Tohoku region. On October 6, 2021, in Toyota City, Aichi Prefecture, training was held for city officials to learn cases addressed in the Collection of Critical Situation during Flood Emergency Response according to a timeline. We received the 2021 Excellence Award for our efforts from the Research Group for National Land and Infrastructure Technology of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. We will continue to update the booklets and develop dissemination activities.





Presentation at an international online conference

Training in Toyota City

#### 2.5 HyDEPP-SATREPS Philippines

ICHARM represents the Japanese side of the joint research project named "The Project for Development of a Hybrid Water-Related Disaster Risk Assessment Technology for Sustainable Local Economic Development Policy under Climate Change in the Republic of the Philippines (HyDEPP-SATREPS)" based on SATREPS. As an implementing agency, ICHARM is engaged in various activities with joint research institutes in Japan and the Philippines.

The joint research project started as a JST project in Japan on April 1, 2020, but the start of the JICA project in the Philippines was postponed due to COVID-19. The activities of the five-year project in the Philippines finally started on June 3, 2021.

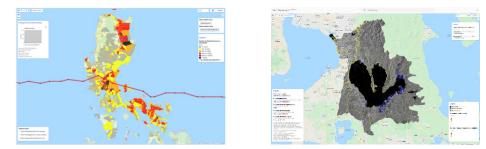
The joint research institutes in Japan are the University of Tokyo, Tohoku University, University of Shiga Prefecture, Nagoya University, and Kyoto University.

The representative research institute on the Philippine side is the University of the Philippines Los Banos, the joint research institutes are the University of the Philippines Diliman and Mindanao, and the collaborative institutions are the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA).

The joint research project finally started after a long disruption. A kick-off meeting was held online on June 30, 2021, and a Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) was held online with the participating organizations of both countries on November 17, 2021. In July-August 2021, an e-learning program on a water disaster risk assessment method was conducted. A total of 83 people participated, and 49 people submitted assignments and completed the program.

On November 12, 2020, a giant typhoon, Ulysses, crossed Luzon Island amid the preparation for starting a local project. Severe damage resulted in the Pampanga River basin, the Pasig Marikina River basin, and the Laguna basin in the research area of Luzon Island. On November 5, 2021, which marked the first year since the disaster, a public webinar was held with 243 participants to share the results of the research project. In the webinar, ICHARM introduced an online system that comprehensively visualizes a damage situation using Google Earth Engine by incorporating the inundation area read from satellite images and the damage status of each municipality collected from damage reports.

Although restrictions on overseas travel may continue for a while due to COVID-19, we plan to continue joint research in the future.



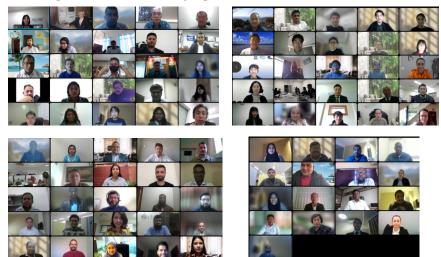
Displaying damage caused by Typhoon Ulysses on Google Earth Engine (Left: Distribution of affected population by municipality as of December 10, 2020, Right: Estimated inundation area by SAR images in the Pasig-Marikina River and Laguna Lake basin)

2.6 Online follow-up seminar for all the graduate of the ICHARM master's and Ph.D. Programs

One and a half years after the establishment, ICHARM launched the Disaster Management Policy Program (master's program) in October 2007. Three years later, in October 2010, the Disaster Management Doctoral Program started. As of September 2021, 157 students completed the master's program, and 15 students the Ph.D. program. They are active as leaders in water-related disaster risk reduction at their workplaces and communities in 37 countries, mainly in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. On February 25, 2022, a follow-up seminar was held online, inviting all graduates. Over 100 participants were present, including 80 graduates and ICHARM staff involved in the educational programs. The seminar consisted of three special lectures, two sessions of Focus Group Discussion, and General Sharing to share the discussion results with all participants. The first lecture was given by the director of the WMO. The lecture included facts about climate and water and analyses conducted by the WMO. He also expressed high expectations for ICHARM students, graduates and researchers for future contributions. The director of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Indonesia, spoke about a unique framework called the Super Specialist Program in Indonesia. ICHARM Executive Director talked about how difficult yet how critical it is to take bold, transformative steps to achieve a sustainable society by enhancing disaster resilience, with concrete recommendations for action.

In the first session of Focus Group Discussion, the participants were divided into six groups for different topics of climate change, hydrological processes, flood inundation, sediment and river channel change, and disaster risk and response. In each group, the members shared their issues and discussed possible solutions. In the second session, six new groups were formed with different members and discussed how the graduates of ICHARM's educational programs should keep in touch and cooperate and what should be done to make the programs more attractive. The participants agreed that opportunities like follow-up seminars are very important to strengthen cooperation among the graduates and improve each other's skills. They acknowledged that follow-up seminars are extremely effective, and many requested that they continue to be held once a year. Many valuable suggestions were voiced for making ICHARM's programs more attractive, though some are fairly easy to realize while others may take a while. Requests such as setting up a technical consultation window at

**ICHARM** be can achieved relatively easily, but ones such as chaining admission requirements may not be achieved in the short term. The follow-up seminar was held online for the first time but turned out to be very meaningful.

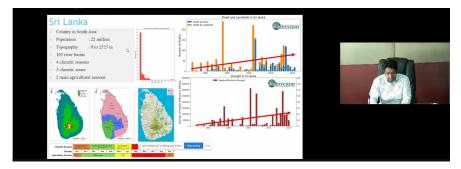


# 2.7 Support for the promotion of IFI activities and the autonomous participation by graduates from ICHARM training programs

IFI is a worldwide framework to promote collaboration in flood management among international organizations such as UNESCO, WMO and UNDRR. ICHARM has been its secretariat since its establishment. Under the framework of IFI, ICHARM has played the role of a facilitator to promote the establishment of Platforms on Water Resilience and Disasters in cooperation with relevant organizations in the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. Since the spring of 2020, ICHARM has faced difficulties in taking business trips abroad or holding in-person conferences due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, ICHARM has organizations to the IFI Platform participated. These programs have been kept underway to support countries in developing the OSS-SR and fostering facilitators. In addition, the AWCI sessions were convened online on February 26, 2021, and on October 29, 2021, as sectional meetings of the AOGEO, where each country reported on the activities, implementation status, and future plans.

Regarding these IFI Platform activities, graduates from ICHARM training programs have come to play significant roles. For instance, Sri Lanka's Platform has had meetings four times since the unprecedented flood disaster in May 2017. For all the meetings from the first one, a graduate of the ICHARM master course program in 2009-2010, who is also an engineer of the Irrigation Department, one of the major organizations in the Platform, has played a central role in all the processes, including preparatory and operational tasks. At the AWCI session in October 2021, another graduate of the ICHARM doctoral program in 2018-2021, who is back in Sri Lanka and restarted his work at the Irrigation Department, provided an activity report representing the department. The latter one obtained a Ph.D. for the research on water-related disaster risk reduction and integrated water resources management under the climate change targeting in the Mahaweli River basin in Sri Lanka. They are expected to play a leading role in their country by utilizing the experiences of research and development at ICHARM.

In this way, ICHARM will continue to support the graduates from ICHARM training programs in participating in and contributing to establishing an IFI Platform in each country and other activities.



The graduate of ICHARM doctoral program gave a presentation representing the Irrigation Department of Sri Lanka at the AWCI session of the 14th AOGEO (October 29, 2021)

#### 3. Research

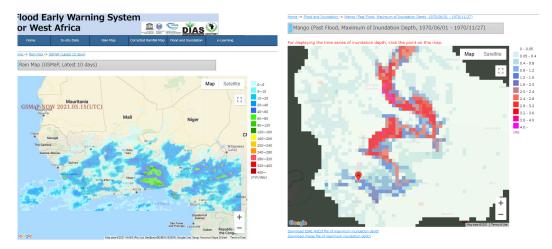
#### 3.1 Water-related disaster data archiving, sharing and statistics

3.1.1 Development of the Flood Early Warning System for West Africa

In recent years, floods have been frequent in West African countries, causing human damage and impeding economic development. ICHARM developed the FEWS for the Niger and Volta River basins on the DIAS in collaboration with the University of Tokyo's EDITORIA as part of the WADiRE-Africa project, which is a technical support research project to assist West African countries in avoiding and mitigating flood damage.

FEWS primarily provides three types of information, updating them every hour. One is real-time GSMaP rainfall distribution. Another is basin-scale rainfall distribution using GSMaP that is bias-corrected using in-situ rainfall data. The last one is river water levels and inundation area over a basin and at high flood risk locations (hot spots), which are obtained from the WEB-RRI using bias-corrected GSMaP as inputs. FEWS also provides expected maximum inundation depths at hot spots. GSMaP-based rainfall distribution tends to be larger than the actual distribution in semi-arid regions such as West Africa, but this problem was solved by performing bias correction on GSMaP as mentioned above.

FEWS and simulation results have been made available for 11 countries in the Niger and Volta River basins, the AGRHYMET, the NBA, the VBA, and other related organizations.



GSMaP real-time visualization (left) and expected maximum inundation depths at hot spots (right) on the FEWS

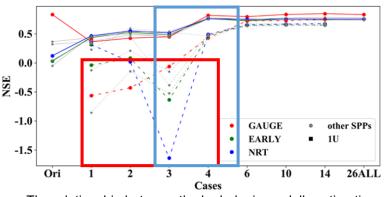
3.1.2 Utilization of Satellite Precipitation Products in Data Insufficient Areas

To investigate the optimal density and placement pattern of ground rain gauges for bias correction, this study conducted 346 runoff analyses in the Fuji River basin by applying 17 rain gauge placement patterns and 4 correction methods to 6 kinds of satellite precipitation products. The results showed that the optimal method for the target basin is the statistical and dynamical bias correction (SDBC) method, in which correction factors estimated from precipitation data of the past

ten days are further bias-corrected using correction factors estimated from long-term precipitation data.

The study also showed that a certain number of ground rain gauges in a basin can ensure accurate runoff analysis in the case of correcting real-time satellite rainfall products. The figure shows the relationship between the number of ground rain gauges used for bias correction (horizontal axis) and

the estimation accuracy of the hydrologic model with bias-corrected satellite rainfall products (the vertical axis is Nash coefficient, or NSE; the larger the value, the better). In the figure, the green line indicates the "EARLY" product, the early delivery version of the IMERG precipitation product, and the blue line indicates the "NRT" product, the early delivery of the GSMaP version satellite precipitation product. Considering that these products are applied to the target basin in real time, rain gauges at as few four locations can ensure a as reasonably high degree of accuracy, even if they are arranged eccentrically.



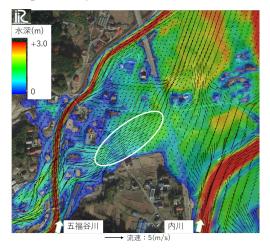
The relationship between the hydrologic model's estimation accuracy (vertical axis, Nash coefficient) and the number of ground rain gauge locations used for bias correction (horizontal axis). The solid and dashed lines indicate the reference cases of uniform or biased ground rain gauge locations, respectively. "GAUGE," "EARLY," and "NRT" mean the simulation uses only rain gauges, early provided data by IMERG, and early provided data by GSMaP, respectively. "Other SPPs" means using other satellite precipitation products, and "1U" means using only one upstream rain gauge.

#### 3.2 Risk assessment on water-related disasters

3.2.1 Development of models to reproduce and predict flood inundation with sediment

As seen in the Gofukuya River disaster in the East Japan heavy rains of 2019, landslides and

debris flows in mountainous areas during heavy rains can result in large amounts of sediment production, which causes significant damage to the downstream areas. With the frequent occurrence of this type of disaster, there is a need for methods to properly assess the risk of flood inundation with a huge amount of sediment. To this end, we applied the RRI model developed by ICHARM for rainfall-runoff and one-dimensional flow analysis after modifying it so that the confluence points of river channels can be



The results of flood flow computation in the Gofukuya River (The color counters show flow depths at the peak discharge.) treated as a unit channel. We proposed this method to easily analyze sediment discharge from the basin. The model was applied to calculate the sediment discharge from the Gofukuya River basin, and then 2D analysis was conducted to reproduce the flood flow with sediment in the Gofukuya River using the calculation results as the boundary condition. The results showed that this approach can reproduce sediment deposition thickness and grain size distribution with a certain degree of accuracy.

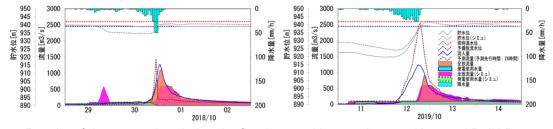
An integrated model was developed to set the upper boundary condition of an inundation area by coupling real-time flood forecasting, which uses the above-mentioned RRI model with a particle filter, with basin sediment runoff analysis. Then, a system was developed to predict the behavior of flood, sediment, and flood inundation in real time on DIAS by applying the calculated upper boundary condition to a 2D analysis model using iRIC-Nays2DH A. Real-time calculations were conducted for the Kagetsu River using this system. The system makes it possible to calculate the sediment discharge from the basin, estimate its impact on local flows in real time, and use this information for evacuation forecasting and warning.

#### 3.2.2 Development of optimized dam operation based on dam inflow prediction

In this research, ICHARM developed a WEB-DHM-S for the Oi and Sai Rivers in Japan. We then conducted ensemble dam inflow prediction using this model and used the prediction results to optimize dam operation to reduce flood risk and increase hydropower generation.

In the case of the Sai River, WEB-DHM-S predicted the flood discharge (800m3/s) at Ikusaka Dam caused by a typhoon in 2018 with lead times of 7 to 31 hours.

In the Oi River, the optimized dam operation with pre-releases of dam water was applied to Hatanagi Daiichi Dam during flooding caused by typhoons in 2018 and 2019. In the 2018 event (left figure), pre-releases were performed on the morning of the 29th (pink range). As a result, the simulated dam water level (gray dotted line) decreased, and the simulated peak flow (pink range) was successfully controlled to remain below the 600 m3/s level when the inflow (solid blue line) peaked. If the pre-releases had not been performed, the gate discharge rate would have exceeded 600m3/s, as shown in the orange range. The 2019 event (right figure) is a typical case in which the dam water level was low at the forecasting start time. The inflow was successfully controlled to remain below the gate discharge was successfully controlled to remain below the gate discharge was successfully controlled to remain below the forecasting start time. The inflow was stored effectively up to the full water level (red dotted line) in advance, and the gate discharge was successfully controlled to remain below 600 m3/s. According to the Power Generation Volume Index, the average power



Results of dam operation during the flood caused by a typhoon at Hatanagi Daiiti Dam (left: September 30 to October 1, 2018, right: October 12-13, 2019)

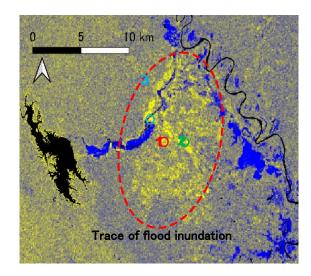
generation during the warm season (July to October) showed a 12.8% increase in 2018 and a 3.7% increase in 2019.

As described above, with such seamless dam inflow prediction from low flow to peak flow, it is possible to operate the dam to increase hydropower generation and decrease flood risk at the same time.

#### 3.2.3 Estimation of rainfall and inundation area using satellite data

In recent years, floods have become more frequent in many parts of the world due to increasingly frequent heavy rainfall events caused by global warming. Therefore, it is necessary to assess flood risks accurately and take appropriate measures to mitigate flood damage. However, many regions lack the hydrological data required for simulation model building. In particular, it was a challenge to determine hourly precipitation distribution, which is the driving data for models, and past inundation area to verify the reproducibility of inundation models.

Therefore, in order to reproduce inundation caused by an earth-dam failure in Myanmar in 2018, daily rainfall data from three nearby locations were used to create precipitation data with an increased spatiotemporal resolution by correcting GSMaP and applying it to a runoff inundation model. Satellite imagery is often used today to identify inundation areas. Still, it is not easy to capture the peak flooding period because satellite observations are at regular intervals and are affected by cloud cover. In this study, changes in the surface conditions of vegetation due to floodwaters were identified by comparing pre- and post-flood SAR images. These were considered traces of floodwaters. The area was then assumed to be the inundation area, and the results were applied to validate the inundation model.



Change in VH polarization from Sentinel-1 SAR images before and after the flood. Yellow indicates an increase, and blue indicates a decrease. Black is the water surface before the flood. The yellow area is assumed to be a trace of the flood inundation area because it is thought to capture changes in surface conditions such as rice being pushed over by turbid water.

#### 3.3 Monitoring and forecasting water-related disaster risk changes

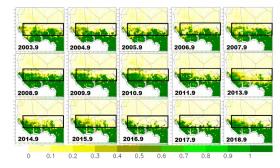
3.3.1 Estimate of future water hazard risk (flood and drought) by climate change in the Solo River basin and the Davao River basin

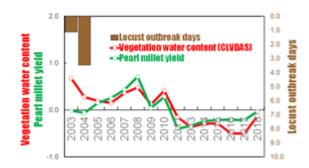
ICHARM has participated in the "Hazard assessment in Asian and Pacific countries and international cooperation," one of the subprograms of the area theme D, "integrated hazard prediction," in the TOUGOU program, supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan, starting from October 2017.

In the TOUGOU program, we investigated changes in precipitation, flood discharge, inundation, and water resources due to global warming in the Solo River basin, Indonesia, and the Davao River basin, Philippines. We dynamically downscaled the MRI-AGCM 3.2S and 3.2H models for past and future climate scenarios of RCP8.5 and PCP2.6 using a regional climate model (WRF model) to obtain precipitation, temperature, and other variables in 5 km grids. In the Solo River basin, precipitation is likely to increase over the basin under the RCP8.5 scenario compared to the past climate. On the other hand, under the RCP2.6 scenario, precipitation is likely to increase in the downstream area (northern part) but likely to decrease in the upstream area (southern part) compared to the past climate. In the RCP2.6 scenario, an anti-cyclone in the southern Indian Ocean is projected to be intense, strengthening easterly winds around Java Island. The strengthened easterly winds may cause a decrease in rainfall in the upstream river basin, whose eastern side is surrounded by high mountains.

#### 3.3.2 Development of a drought monitoring system over West Africa using the CLVDAS

In West Africa, droughts are causing significant damage to health and the economy. In this study, ICHARM investigated agricultural droughts in West Africa during the period from 2003 to 2018 using the CLVDAS, which integrates passive microwave remote sensing techniques, a land surface model, a dynamic vegetation model, and a data assimilation scheme. Although CLVDAS simulates soil moisture, evapotranspiration, LAI, and vegetation water content, grains generally store water in their body after absorbing it from their roots to grow and bear fruit. Therefore, this study focused on vegetation water content (m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>3</sup>) as a drought indicator. In West Africa, the rain-fed agriculture of crops for home consumption is thriving. Because pearl millet is the main staple crop in this region, the pearl millet yield (t) from FAOSTAT was selected as another drought indicator. However, it is not possible to compare vegetation water content and pearl millet yield quantitatively; thus, the normalized index based on the z-score theory was calculated for each day from 2003 to 2018 and compared. The results found a good agreement between the pearl millet yield and the simulated vegetation water content from CLVDAS in the period from 2005 to 2018 and concluded that CLVDAS can assess drought in West Africa. Furthermore, both drought indicators clearly indicated the drought trends after 2011. We also found that one of the causes of the discrepancy between the





Vegetation water content (m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>3</sup>) in West Africa: indicates the Sahel-inland region.

Comparison of the normalized index for vegetation water content, pearl millet, and locust outbreak days in the Sahel-inland region.

vegetation water content and the pearl millet yield in the period from 2003 to 2004 may have been attributable to the effect of locust plague (FAO Locust watch).

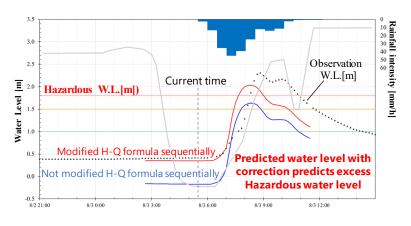
3.4 Support through proposal, evaluation and application of policies for water disaster risk reduction

3.4.1 Examination of methods for improving the prediction accuracy of water level prediction systems in small and medium rivers

ICHARM is working on the development of a water level forecasting system that is efficient in calculation time, cost, and mechanism and meets the level of accuracy required. The system is also expected to be easily installed in small and medium rivers.

In the development process,

we found some cases where conventional H-Q curves did not fit with the actual river conditions because the riverbed had changed. Therefore, we incorporated an algorithm that sequentially corrects an H-Q curve into the system's particle filter. This improvement made it possible to conduct real-time water level forecasting while coping with riverbed variation.



Comparison example of predicted water level with and without H-Q curve sequential correction

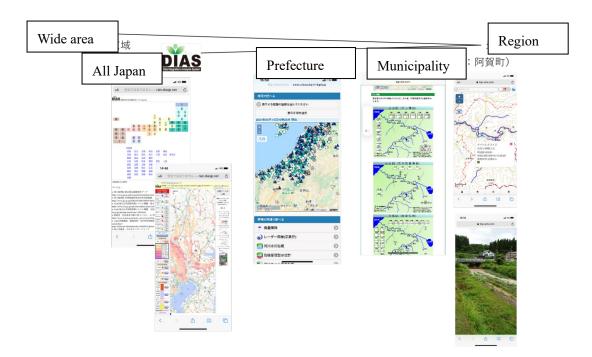
In addition, since it takes time and effort to estimate the parameters that significantly affect the reproducibility of simulation models, the SCE-UA method was applied to the RRI model used in this system to automatically adjust the parameters. Moreover, since the current version of the method is targeted only at mountainous areas, it was improved to optimize the parameters for cropland and paddy fields in order to increase its applicability to river basins whose dominat land use is cropland and paddy fields. As a result, the system as a whole became highly applicable.

3.5 Support for improving the capacity to practice disaster prevention and mitigation

3.5.1 Research on flood risk assessment for river basins in mountains and information sharing

ICHARM analyzed the flood risk assessment tools used in Aga Town, Niigata Prefecture, and Iwaizumi Town, Iwate Prefecture, in Japan and made improvements to incorporate them in IDRIS. We developed the basic technology to link IDRIS with real-time water level prediction in small and medium rivers in the future by installing IDRIS on DIAS.

ICHARM also promoted cooperation among municipal disaster prevention personnel and improved IDRIS into a system that helps share information on disaster prevention and mitigation among collaborating local governments (Aga Town of Niigata Prefecture, Iwaizumi Town of Iwate Prefecture, and Tsuruoka City of Yamagata Prefecture) on smartphones.



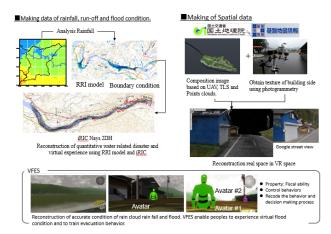
IDRIS on DIAS and IDRIS screen for smartphones

3.5.2 Development of a risk communication system for raising awareness of water disaster and crisis management

ICHARM reproduced an inundation situation for Aga Town, Niigata Prefecture, by acquiring spatial information using UAV, ground laser survey, photogrammetry, the RRI model, and a flood inundation simulation model (iRIC Nays2D). We then developed a virtual flood experience system that allows users to experience evacuation during a virtual flood using an avatar. We also conducted a technical study to seamlessly read the XML data placed on DIAS.

Using the virtual flood experience system, we performed a reality assessment of the water

disaster situation of Typhoon No. 19 in 2019 with support from affected residents. We discovered that when making decisions about evacuation, the residents decided how to act based on their past flood experiences (e.g., 2011 Niigata, Fukushima heavy rain). This result points out that it is critical for people to know that experience can work against them, especially considering climate change.



Development of Virtual Flood Experience System

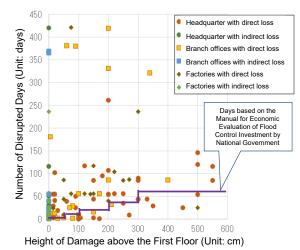
For this reason, we created a VR tool for passing on lessons people should learn from past flood events, including the lesson that it is sometimes wise not to rely too much on experience.

3.5.3 Study on globally-applicable multiple-risk assessment of water-related disasters and on a method of building a resilient society based on assessment results

ICHARM has been exploring advanced methods to accurately estimate disaster risks that have not been evaluated by conventional methods.

In one attempt, we conducted a questionnaire survey for businesses and analyzed the impact of a disaster on their production and sales in the cases of Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture, damaged by the Kanto and Tohoku heavy rain in 2015, and Hiroshima and Okayama Prefectures, affected by the heavy rain disaster in July 2018. The results revealed the relationship between the presence or absence of direct and indirect damage and the days of business suspension.

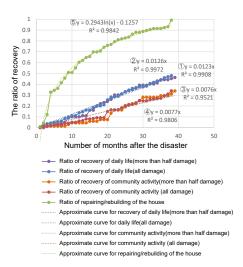
The results of this research prompted the revision of the Flood Damage Economical Survey Manual in 2020.



Relationship between the floodwater level above first floor and the days of business suspension due to the July 2018 heavy rain

3.5.4 Proposal of risk indicators to comprehensively evaluate the disaster mitigation effects of various disaster prevention measures and investments

For communities to be disaster- resilient, they should be able to reduce as much damage as possible and recover as fast as possible. Because communities' ability to recover has not studied much. we conducted been a questionnaire survey to find out the recovery curves of housing reconstruction, daily life, and community activity in the two affected areas: Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture, damaged by the Tohoku and Kanto heavy rain disaster in 2015, and Iwaizumi Town, Iwate Prefecture, damaged by Typhoon No. 10 in 2016. Based on the survey results, we proposed indicators, such as the period that the communities may need to

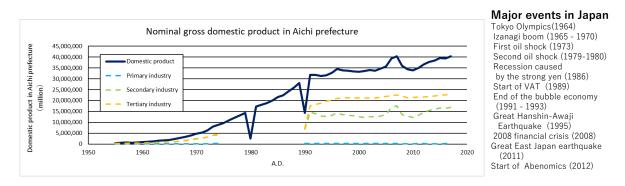


Examples of recovery curves and indicators for the recovery of regional functions in Iwaizumi Town

achieve a 50% recovery, as the targets for planning and investing in disaster risk reduction measures. We also proposed possible recovery promotion measures, for example, to shorten this 50% recovery period.

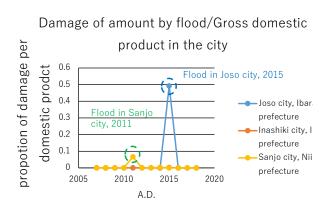
3.5.5 Research on a simple method to estimate socio-economic impacts of flood disasters

ICHARM has been studying a simple method to estimate the impact of flood damage on socio-economic activities. In this process, we analyzed the gross prefectural product (nominal) from 1955 to 2018 by industry for prefectures that suffered severe flood damage in the recent past to understand the impact of flood damage on socio-economic activities. The results found that the gross prefectural product was greatly impacted by nationwide crises such as oil shocks but not by flood damage.

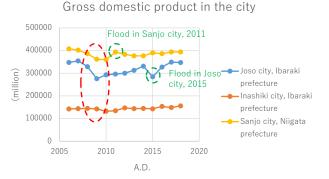


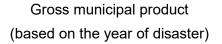
Changes in Aichi Prefecture's gross domestic product

We also analyzed the gross municipal product for the three municipalities: Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture, severely damaged by the Kinugawa River levee breach in 2015; Inashiki City, Ibaraki Prefecture, whose gross product is similar to that of its neighboring Joso City; and Sanjo City, Niigata Prefecture, damaged by a flood in 2011. The results suggested that if the flood damage reaches as large as 50% of a municipality's gross product, it would cause a great impact on its gross product.



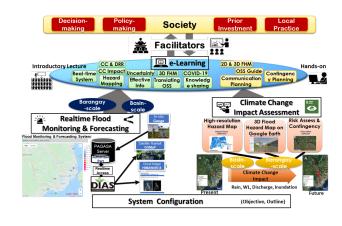
Flood damage/Gross municipal product





3.5.6 Development of an "Online Synthesis System for Sustainability and Resilience (OSS-SR)" and Fostering "Facilitators" in Davao City, Philippines

ICHARM has developed an "Online Synthesis System for Sustainability and Resilience (OSS-SR)" on Data Integration Analysis System (DIAS) and has helped foster "Facilitators" by utilizing OSS-SR for e-learning as one of the activities organized by the Platform on Water Resilience and Disasters in the Philippines. The OSS-SR for Davao City is



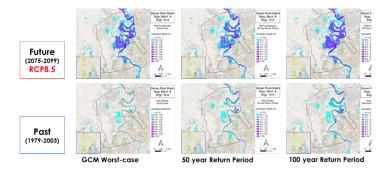
Concept of OSS-SR

designed to integrate knowledge and information on real-time flood forecasting and climate change impact assessment and allow local stakeholders to learn about them through e-learning. Furthermore, we held an e-learning workshop for about a month from April 19 to May 17, 2021, and hands-on training for two weeks from January 17 to 28, 2022, to effectively foster "Facilitators" for Davao City in cooperation with the Department of Science and Technology Region 11 (DOST XI).

Especially in the hands-on training, participants took four lectures and practiced flood hazard mapping, contingency planning, and action planning based on the lecture contents. They were highly interested in the training and submitted useful deliverables, as they learned the flood risks at the locations of important structures, schools, and evacuation centers using the results of climate change impact assessments and data collected from the flood forecasting system in Davao City. Their achievements should be utilized to formulate practical disaster prevention plans and measures.

Through a series of workshops and training, we were able to have meaningful discussions while getting a lot of feedback from participants on various issues, such as the usability of the integrated knowledge system, local operation and sustainability of the system in the future, cooperation with

related projects, the reflection of local knowledge, experience, and insights in projects, and effective communication to the target audience policymakers, (e.g., disaster management teams. private sectors, the media, and civil groups). Based on the above, we would like to enhance the disaster resilience of local

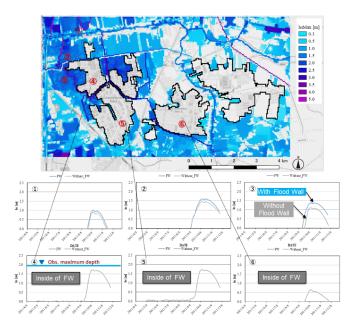


Comparison of inundation conditions with and without climate change impact

communities by further improving the OSS-SR and implementing practical training through co-design with local stakeholders.

3.5.7 STREPS project "Regional Resilience Enhancement through Establishment of Area-BCM at Industry Complexes in Thailand"

ICHARM aims to contribute to the development of a sustainable society and economy in Thailand by strengthening local resilience through the formulation of Area Business Continuity Management in its industrial clusters, with participation in the JICA-JST SATREPS project, "Regional Resilience Enhancement through Establishment of Area-BCM at Industry Complexes in Thailand." We also aim to extend the achievements of the project to ASEAN other countries. Specifically, been we have



Inundation analysis results in the target industrial zone

developing methods that assist decision-makers in making decisions about the operation and evacuation of businesses by forecasting when inundation may start and end, which area may be inundated, and how deep the inundation may be by using a hydrological basin-scale model and an industrial park-scale high-resolution model.

#### 4. Training

4.1 Master's program: Water-related Risk Management Course of Disaster Management Policy Program

Since 2007, ICHARM has provided a one-year master's program, "Water-related Risk Management Course of Disaster Management Policy Program (JICA Training Program: Training for Expert on Flood-Related Disaster Mitigation)," as a joint effort with JICA and GRIPS. This program is targeted at officials of administrative organizations and designed for them to obtain a master's degree within a single year. In the first half of the course, from October to March, the classes consist mostly of lectures; in the second half, from April to the end, students work on research and graduation theses. In addition, several study trips are conducted during the program for students to visit dam, river, and other management offices around Japan, where they can learn firsthand knowledge and experience in current flood management in Japan from experts of MLIT and other organizations.

Between 2007 and 2020, the master's program of ICHARM graduated 150 students from 34 countries.

In September 2020, the 13th batch of 11 students from 6 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan), who entered the program in October 2019, graduated with a master's degree. In the following month, the 14th batch of 7 students from 6 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan,

Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Tonga) entered the program.

In September 2021, the 14th batch of 7 students from 6 countries graduated, and in the following month, the 15th batch of 11 students entered the program from 8 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malawi, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka).

At the beginning of the course, all seven students who enrolled in October 2020 could not enter Japan due to the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, ICHARM introduced an electronic blackboard before the classes started and established a system to provide lectures online in real time to students staying in their home countries.

Also, in the first half of the course, some students could not enter Japan and thus had no access to paper-based training materials. ICHARM decided to provide them in digital form before the lectures. Also, all the lectures were recorded as a solution to internet communication problems.



Online lecture using an electronic blackboard



Hydraulic model experiment (Verifying what the student learned in the hydraulics class in the experimental waterway)

In addition, ICHARM developed e-learning materials to facilitate self-study. Various efforts were made to keep the programs in session. We asked outside lecturers to give lectures online if they had to commute through high coronavirus risk areas. As described above, the lectures and training were conducted in different styles according to the severity of the COVID-19 spread; some lectures were given in person, some remote, and still some a combination of both. When the lectures were conducted face to face in the lecture room, extra precautions were exercised; for example, the staff and the students helped each other disinfect desks and devices every time between classes, in addition to other infection control measures such as installing partitions between desks.

Additional special measures are also taken. Supervisors were assigned to each student in late October, which was earlier than usual, and they started making regular online contact with students who could not come to Japan, hoping that such attempts would raise students' motivation toward thesis writing from the beginning of the training.

Despite all the difficulties, the students did excellently. They all completed the program with a master's degree without anybody infected with the disease. On top of that, the student who studied online through the entire period of the program, including supervision and thesis writing, received the Best Research Award, which is given to those who have created an excellent master's thesis.



Site visit to the Shinano-gawa River basin



JICA Closing Ceremony for the 14th batch of Master's Program (September 2021, at the ICHARM auditorium)

#### 4.2 Doctoral program: Disaster Management Program

ICHARM started a doctoral program, "Disaster Management Program," in 2010 in collaboration with GRIPS to produce experts who are capable of developing policies on water-related disaster risk management and taking the leadership in implementing them.

By the end of 2020, 12 students from 5 countries completed the doctoral program.

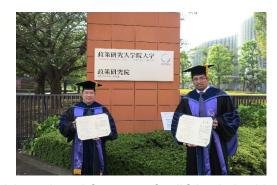
In September 2020, the 8th batch of 1 student graduated with a doctoral degree in disaster management. In October, the 11th batch of 2 students entered the program.

In September 2021, the 9th batch of 3 students graduated with a doctoral degree in disaster management. In October, the 12th batch of 3 students entered the program.

Currently, 5 doctoral students (2 second-year, 3 first-year students) are studying in the program.

Among the five students, one was enrolled in September 2020, and two were enrolled in September 2021 using JICA's new scholarship program for international doctoral students, "Disaster Risk

Reduction Leaders Capacity Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation." This program was realized in response to international discussions on water hazards, in which the importance of promoting cooperation between policy and science was stressed. It aims to help provide high-level training for individuals who are expected to assume an executive position in their governments in the future and has been implemented with the ICHARM training program and the GRIPS policy program.



Diploma Award Ceremony for JICA scholarship students of the 9th batch of Doctoral Program (September 2021, in front of the main gate of GRIPS)

In September 2021, two students obtained doctoral degrees using this scholarship.

#### 4.3 Follow-up seminar for ICHARM alumni

ICHARM has held a Follow-up Seminar once a year since 2007 in a country of graduates from ICHARM educational and training programs to provide additional assistance and visit rivers and other places with water-related problems. This annual meeting is a great opportunity for ICHARM to see how graduates are using the knowledge and skills they learned at ICHARM and to share issues they face in their practices. Such information is used to improve ICHARM's training programs and enhance its research activities.

The FY2020 Follow-up Seminar was canceled due to the spread of COVID-19. However, in FY2021, ICHARM decided to hold one with the following objectives:

(1) To build a network of ICHARM staff and alumni and a network of alumni.

(2) To share the current situation and issues of water disaster risk management in each participating country and discuss solutions to improve the current situation and solve issues.

(3) To collect opinions and suggestions on training contents and training methods to utilize them for future development of training programs at ICHARM and PWRI.

For these purposes, ICHARM held the Follow-up Seminar online on February 25, 2022. Two special speakers and 69 master's and doctoral alumni participated.

#### 4.4 Internship

ICHARM has accepted interns from both Japan and overseas. In 2020, ICHARM accepted two international interns: the Chinese intern from Sichuan University and the Cambodian intern from Kyoto University. In 2021, ICHARM accepted one international intern from a private company in Japan. The interns spent 6 months or 2 years at ICHARM studying hydraulic and hydrologic analysis, disaster risk analysis, or other subjects depending on their interest while getting technical advice from ICHARM researchers.

#### 5. Information networking

#### 5.1 IFI activities

5.1.1 Activities in individual countries

ICHARM has been promoting the global effort to establish Platforms on Water Resilience and Disasters, based on the Jakarta Statement, "Towards an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary partnership to consolidate flood risk reduction and sustainable development," adopted at the side event of the 8th HELP meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, in October 2016. In response, the participating organizations met at a workshop in January 2017 in Tokyo, Japan, and elaborated the basic action plan of IFI. Since then, ICHARM has been assisting the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia in establishing a Platform on Water Resilience and Disasters.

In the Philippines, the effort to foster "Facilitators" is underway by utilizing OSS-SR developed on DIAS. An e-learning & workshop program was held for about a month from April 19 to May 17,

2021, in cooperation with the Department of Science and Technology Region (DOST 11 XI). The participants were required to view 10 lectures, take online exam. and an submit two assignments. In the end, 21 participants met all criteria and completed the course.

	2021					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
April 19	April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23		
9:00–12:00 Opening Session Introduction: CC-1-3	13:00–15:00 Q & A Session: CC-1-3 Introduction: FM-1-3	Self-learning	13:00–15:00 Q & A Session: FM-1-3 Introduction: Exam	Self-learning & Exam		
April 26	April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30		
13:00–14:00 Review: CC, FM Introduction: DDR-1-4	Self-learning & Exam	13:00–15:00 Q & A Session: DDR-1-4 Introduction: Assignment	Self-learning, Exam, & Assignment	9:00–10:00 Q & A Session: Assignme		
May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7		
Self-learning, Exam, & Assignment	Self-learning, Exam, & Assignment	Due: Exam and Assignment	Evaluation by lecturers	Evaluation by lecturers		
May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14		
Evaluation by lecturers	Evaluation by lecturers	Evaluation by lecturers	Evaluation by lecturers	Evaluation by lecturers		
May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21		
10:00-12:00 Closing Session						

Schedule of the e-learning & workshop program for Davao City, the Philippines (April-May 2021)

In Sri Lanka, four plenary sessions for the Platform on Water Resilience and Disasters have been conducted since August 2017 with the participation of major water related organizations. ICHARM has conducted on-site and hands-on training on such topics as real-time flood forecasting systems for experts from the organizations. Currently, an OSS-SR is being developed, with which an e-learning and workshop program will be conducted online on the following topics: a) Flood early warning and risk mapping, b) Climate change adaptation planning; c) Economic damage assessment; d) Contingency planning; and e) Capacity building for Facilitators.

In Indonesia, a Platform on Water Resilience and Disaster was established in August 2019, consisting of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (PUPR), the National Disaster Management Authority (BNPB), the Agency for Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysics (BMKG), the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK), and the Ministry of Agriculture (KP). As part of this effort, an e-learning & workshop program was conducted from October to November 2021 in collaboration with ICHARM and the governmental, operational, educational, and research institutes of Japan, such as the Secretariat of the Water Cycle Policy Headquarters of the Cabinet Secretariat,

#### MLIT, JMA, JWA, JAXA and Tohoku University.

The program aimed to provide capacity-building training for government officers and strengthen the collaboration among water-related ministries in order to help local stakeholders increase water-related disaster resilience and achieve sustainable development under climate change.

#### 5.1.2 Activities for international and regional partnerships

ICHARM has participated in various international conferences and disseminated achievements and findings regarding the activities of IFI and the Platform through sessions and side-events organized concurrently with the main conferences.

The COVID-19 pandemic broke out in early 2020 and still continues today. Even in this crisis, communities and countries around the world need to prepare for the flood season annually, during which tremendous flood damage may result. To support them in such circumstances, ICHARM has been developing guidelines for early flood warning and evacuation with prevention measures against COVID-19. In the same context, it has also been developing an information sharing system for municipalities by utilizing existing information systems for disaster risk reduction, such as IDRIS, BOSS-SHIFT and DIAS. To disseminate these efforts to the IFI implementing countries and others, ICHARM hosted a webinar titled "ICHARM's efforts for addressing flood disasters considering the prevention of COVID-19 infection" on July 3, 2020. The webinar was attended by more than 60 people, including high-level participants.

The AWCI Session was convened online on February 26, 2021, as the first task group of the 13th AOGEO Symposium, gathering more than 60 participants. After reviewing past AWCI activities and hearing the reports of the Platforms on Water Resilience and Disasters in the IFI implementing countries, a new framework and strategy for developing a localized OSS-SR and fostering on-site Facilitators were proposed and discussed. The discussion results were reflected in the statement of AOGEO.

The AWCI Session was also convened online on October 29, 2021, as a sectional meeting of the 14th AOGEO Symposium. More than 50 people participated, including directors from related organizations in the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. In this session, each country reported on the implementation status and future plan of the Facilitator training through e-learning. The session



Participants in the 14th AOGEO AWCI Session (October 29, 2021)

also covered cutting-edge research and development topics in agriculture and food, climate change and water use, ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction, and floods and poverty. In conclusion, the session emphasized the necessity of promoting the Water Cycle Consilience in cooperation with various socio-benefit areas related to the Quality of Life (QoL), such as water-related disaster risk reduction, urbanization, ecosystems, food, energy, poverty, health, education, and labor. The idea of the Water Cycle Consilience was included in the final statement of AOGEO.

#### 5.2 Contribution to the international community

#### 5.2.1 Participation in and contribution to major international conferences

"The International Online Conference to Address Water-related DRR under the COVID-19 Pandemic" was held on August 20, 2020, which was jointly organized by HELP, UNDESA/UNCRD, ADB, GRIPS, and others. HELP created "Principles to Address Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) under the COVID-19 Pandemic." The conference was attended by approximately 300 participants from 40 countries, including leaders, government officials, representatives of international, UN and civil-society organizations, and experts on DRR, water and health, and discussed effective ways to address water-related DRR under the COVID-19 pandemic. As an advisor of HELP, the ICHARM executive director served as one of the co-coordinators of the scientific and technology session entitled "Role of Science and Technology to Cope with Challenges on Water, Disaster, and COVID-19." An ICHARM senior researcher also presented a booklet, "Collection of Critical Situations during Flood Emergency Response," developed by ICHARM.

ICHARM has substantially and continuously participated in and supported UNSTSWD which has been held biennially since 2013. On June 25, 2021, the UNSTSWD5 was held online. Prior to it, ICHARM organized the S&T Panel, which was joined by more than 160 viewers worldwide. With the ICHARM executive director jointly facilitating the event, the representatives of UNESCO, WMO, UNDRR and other organizations made presentations and joined the panel discussion. The S&T Panel summarized the results into the concrete actions: open science policy, systemic solutions, integrated and science-based actions, and tripartite cooperation among science, policy and operation. The summary was reported at UNSTSWD5, convened soon after the S&T Panel. The outcomes are

expected to be reported at the future global milestone events, including the mid-term review processes on the SDGs and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

In addition, ICHARM has continuously participated in and actively contributed to SWWWs by co-organizing sessions with



Participants of the S&T Panel of UNSTSWD5 (June 25, 2021)

partner organizations and providing the presentations of its activities. Although SWWW was cancelled in 2020, ICHARM convened a session titled "Post COVID-19 River Basin Disaster Resilience, Sustainability & Sound Water Cycle" with HELP, MLIT, GRIPS, and the other organizations on August 24, 2021. ICHARM also co-organized another session titled "Accelerating Inclusive Water Governance to Advance Sustainable Development" with the APWF Secretariat and GWP on August 25.

In close partnership with relevant organizations, ICHARM is eagerly engaged in the preparatory activities as a session organizer of water and disasters/climate change at the 4th APWS to be held in April 2022 and as a conference organizer of ICFM9 in February 2023.

#### 5.2.2 Contribution to the UNESCO-IHP

At present, UNESCO is developing the ninth phase of the Programme, IHP-IX 2022-2029. Since the 23rd session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council (IGC) in June 2018, discussions have continued at the UNESCO-IHP Secretariat, the IHP National Commissions of the member countries, UNESCO category II centres, the UNESCO Chairs, and other relevant organizations. Thanks to their efforts, the Strategic Plan of the IHP-IX 2022-2029 was presented at the 24th session of IHP-IGC held online in June 2021 and gained consensus at the 4th extraordinary session in September-October 2021. The Open-Ended Working Groups have continued discussing the Operational Implementation Plan and other issues, aiming to have the plan adopted at the 25th session of IHP-IGC in April 2022. The IHP-IX includes many issues related to water-related disasters and their risk management, such as the development of hydrological science and research, capacity development, and data collection and sharing. ICHARM researchers have participated in a series of discussions according to their professional backgrounds and will be trying to contribute to achieving the goals of the IHP-IX.

In partnership with UNESCO and AGRHYMET, ICHARM co-organized an information session of WADiRE-Africa as a joint project with UNESCO on December 1, 2021. In this session, the ambassador, permanent delegate of Japan to UNESCO, gave an opening address, followed by presentations by panelists, including the ICHARM executive director and an expert from VBA, who had training at ICHARM for the project.

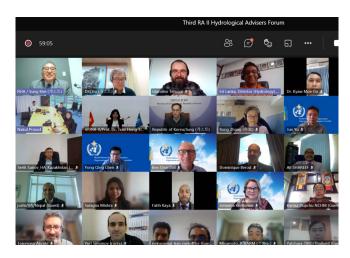
In the Asia-Pacific region, ICHARM has participated in the meetings of the UNESCO-IHP Regional Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific as one of the core organizations. After a one-year postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 28th meeting was held online on November 24~25, 2021. ICHARM presented its recent activities covering research, training, and networking and explained an e-learning training program implemented for local practitioners in Davao City, the Philippines, and Indonesia. Appointed as a member of the National Committee for the IHP, Science Subcommittee, the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, ICHARM has contributed to UNESCO's operation by reporting its activities regularly.

### 5.2.3 Contribution to the field of hydrology

As hydrology is one of its important research areas, ICHARM has been participating in international workshops in this area to exchange views and ideas with other organizations. In particular, ICHARM has long contributed to various committees and programs of WMO.

An ICHARM researcher participated in the Support-Based Partners (SBP) Fora of the Associated

Programme on Flood Management (APFM), a joint initiative of WMO and GWP. The meetings were so far held in August 2020, March 2021, and October 2021. In APFM, the Technical Support Unit (TSU) has been organized to develop and maintain a continuous cooperation framework with partners throughout the year. ICHARM has contributed to APFM as an SBP through such activities as the development of flood early warning systems in the Volta River basin and IFI Platforms on Water



Participants in the third WMO RA II Hydrological Advisers' Forum

Resilience and Disasters in the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. ICHARM will also further cooperate with APFM to promote plans and projects based on the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM).

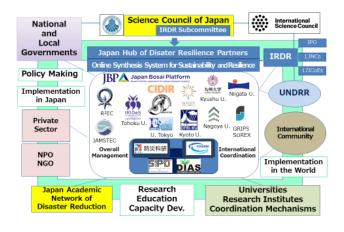
WMO RA II Hydrological Advisers' Fora were held in September 2020, March 2021, and November 2021 and discussed, from a hydrological perspective, future activities and cooperation in the Asian region under the new WMO management. Specifically, the fora discussed activities related to the Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) and two new technical commissions, Infrastructure Commission and Services Commission, established with the reorganization of WMO. An ICHARM researcher joined the discussions on activities of the regional HCP in Asia, building on the achievements of the former Working Group on Hydrological Services.

### 5.2.4 Contribution to DRR

The 3rd UNWCDRR, held in March 2015, adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 as the new global policy for disaster management defining seven targets and four priorities for action. To develop an action plan for implementing the four priorities for action, the "International Conference on Science and Technology for Sustainability - Global Forum on Science and Technology for Disaster Resilience 2017 -" was held in Tokyo in November 2017, jointly organized by six entities, including PWRI. As a result of this forum, "Tokyo Statement 2017" was adopted, which proposed developing guidelines on national DRR platforms with support from science and technology, as well as producing periodic synthesis reports, in cooperation with all

stakeholders. Based on these discussions, in 2020, SCJ published a recommendation entitled "Building a sustainable global society by strengthening disaster resilience: Developing an 'Online Synthesis System (OSS)' and fostering 'Facilitators' to realize consilience."

In line with these events, JHoP was established as a unique entity composed of prominent universities, research institutions and general associations involved in disaster resilience enhancement in Japan with from the IRDR support Japan National Committee and the Subcommittee for IRDR of SCJ, with NIED serving as its secretariat. JHoP aims to promote interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, education



Structural image of JHoP

and social implementation and contribute to the creation of science-based disaster-resilient societies. It also seeks to implement the 2020 recommendation of SCJ by developing OSS-SR and fostering Facilitators for promoting coherence among DRR, CCA, and SDGs.

In addition, the IRDR ICoEs have been established in some major countries to develop an integrated approach to DRR that directly contributes to achieving the objectives and strategies of IRDR. In June 2021, the IRDR Japan NC sent a letter on "Expression On Interest" to establish the IRDR ICoE-Coherence for further strengthening the coherence among DRR, CCA and SDGs by conducting integrated research and implementation through international cooperation. At the 26th session of the IRDR SC meeting in October 2021, the proposal to establish the ICoE-Coherence was unanimously approved. Based on it, JHoP will play a leading role in promoting advanced and integrated activities internationally.

As a part of its activities, a public symposium was held online at the National Conference for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction 2021 on November 6, 2021, under the title of "What is resilience to overcome national catastrophes for Japan in the 21st century - Strategy for establishing consilience of knowledge on disaster risk reduction." The symposium was jointly organized by JHoP and the Sub-committee for IRDR of the Committee for Civil Engineering and Architecture, which is part of SCJ. ICHARM contributed to this symposium by presenting an e-learning workshop organized with Davao City, the Philippines, as an activity led by the Platform on Water Resilience and Disasters under IFI. ICHARM also shared information about fostering Facilitators and developing an OSS-SR through the e-learning system.

At the 3rd UNWCDRR in 2015, ICHARM had made an active contribution by participating in various sessions and sharing knowledge and information with international participants. At the Global Forum 2017 in Tokyo, ICHARM played a central role in planning and operating the forum

from the initial stage. ICHARM also demonstrated leadership in developing the recommendation of SCJ in 2020, establishing JHoP, and promoting its activities. Further, ICHARM has registered IFI activities in the Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitments Initiative, which is designed to support partnership development at all levels to implement the Sendai Framework for DRR.

### 5.2.5 Invited lectures

ICHARM researchers, including the executive director, were invited by international organizations and universities inside and outside Japan to give lectures or join discussions on water-related disasters and their risk management.

#### 5.3 Contribution to the Typhoon Committee

TC is an intergovernmental community jointly organized in 1968 by UNESCAP and WMO to promote and coordinate the development and implementation of plans to minimize human and physical damage caused by typhoons in the Asia-Pacific region. The members are composed of governmental organizations of 14 nations and territories in East and Southeast Asia. The committee consists of four Working Groups of Meteorology, Hydrology, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Training and Research, each of which works on its projects independently. Integrated Workshops and Annual Sessions are also held periodically. The following lists the TC-related meetings held in the 2020-2021 period:

- The 9th Annual Meeting of WGH (Web conference; October 22, 2020)
- The 15th Annual Integrated Workshop (Web conference; December 1-2, 2020)
- The 53rd Annual Session (Web conference; February 23-25, 2021)
- The 10th Annual Meeting of WGH (Web conference; October 22, 2021)
- The 16th Annual Integrated Workshop (Web conference; December 2-3, 2021)
- The 54th Annual Session (Web conference; February 23-25, 2022)

ICHARM participated in the above discussions as the chair of WGH, led the discussions of WGH with MLIT, and worked on AOP-7 "Water Resilience and Disaster Platform in IFI," which is one of the AOPs of

WGH. As a result of AOP-7, ICHARM examined a method that can be implemented even under the pandemic of COVID-19 and provided an e-learning and workshops using OSS-SR in Davao City, the Philippines.

The 53rd Annual Session, held online in February 2021, announced that ICHARM was given the Dr. Roman L. Kintanar Award 2020 together with JAXA and IDI. This award was created in 2006 to commend institutions for



Participants at the 9th Annual Meeting of TC-WGH (October 22, 2020)

significant contributions to the achievement of the mission and vision of TC in acknowledging the dedication in the struggle against typhoon-related disasters by Dr. Roman L. Kintanar, who was the coordinator of the TC secretariat. ICHARM was highly evaluated for its outstanding contribution to enhancing the flood forecasting and management capacity in the TC region by supporting the flood hazard mapping project of TC and utilizing the GSMaP product developed and provided by JAXA.

# 5.4 Leading the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)/Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA) IAEA RAS/7/035 Project (2020-2023)

Since the success of the IAEA RAS/7/030 Project implementation (2016-2019), ICHARM continues contributing to the IAEA RAS/7/035 Project between 2020 and 2023 on "Enhancing Regional Capability for the Effective Management of Ground Water Resources Using Isotopic Techniques" in response to requests from the MOFA of Japan by assigning an ICHARM research specialist as one of the national project coordinators and representatives of Japan for the following purposes:

- Conduct training for participants from the RCA member countries for the effective management of groundwater resources on the basis of comprehensive assessment using an integration of isotopic, hydrogeological and chemical techniques;
- Provide expert advice for specific study areas of the RCA member countries by answering questions on groundwater sources, recharge mechanisms, age and volumes;
- Promote the application of isotope techniques in Japan to characterize water cycles in subsurface and surface water components;
- Contribute to the research development of new numerical modeling technology and preparation of the next 3-year IAEA/RCA projects for reducing water-related disasters of floods and droughts.

For the IAEA RAS/7/035 Project, the representative of China was appointed to coordinate activities. However, all face-to-face meetings and the regional and national training courses were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic from January 2020. To address this, the IAEA home-based expert engagement and e-learning training was adopted to continue preventing in-person international travel during the RAS/7/035 project. The ICHARM research specialist co-represented Japan with Prof. TSUJIMURA (Tsukuba University) and participated in the First Coordination Meeting of the project RAS/7/035, which was held online on September 10-11, 2020, sharing a proposed plan of isotope hydrology research in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area with other representatives from Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. After the First Coordination Meeting isotopic data for the study areas in the Philippines, Lao, Mongolia and Indonesia, with findings being prepared for a peer-reviewed journal publication.

### 5.5 Visitors

Date	Visitors & Affiliations	No. of	Purpose
		Visitors	
March 5, 2020	JICA Myanmar and JICA	3	To visit a class (self-study) for observation
	Tsukuba		and have a small meeting with Myanmar
			students and their supervisors.
July 5, 2021	JICA Development Studies	4	To collect information on foreign students
	Program and others		studying in Japan for a JICA public-relations
			website.



Visitors from JICA Myanmar and JICA Tsukuba (March 5, 2020)

### 6. Academic field surveys in Japan and overseas countries

6.1 Study on a disaster caused by heavy rainfall in July 2020 in the Kuma River basin

ICHARM has been analyzing the mechanisms and phenomena of flood inundation, including sediment runoff, which has more frequently occurred across Japan in recent years, and studying effective information sharing methods during disasters.

As part of this effort, we investigated flood damage in the Kuma River basin, including downtown Hitoyoshi City, due to record-breaking heavy rainfall from July 4 to 7, 2020, in the Kyushu region. As shown in the photo, near the national treasure Aoi Aso Shrine located in downtown Hitoyoshi City, we confirmed flood marks approximately 2.5 m higher than those of the July 1982 flood.



Flood marks at the Aoi-Aso shrine

We will continue our efforts to characterize hazards from a geomorphological point of view, as well as to evaluate them from an engineering point of view.

#### 6.2 Field survey on disaster damage caused by Typhoon No. 19 in 2019

Typhoon No. 19, which landed on the Izu Peninsula on October 12, 2019, while remaining large and strong, brought record-breaking rainfall over a wide area of Japan, causing considerable damage to many areas due to flooding and sediment-related disasters. ICHARM conducted a field survey in November and December 2019. As shown in the figure, Marumori Town has its downtown area near the confluence of the Uchikawa and Kizio Rivers, both tributaries flowing into the right bank of the Abukuma River. The town suffered 10 deaths, 1 missing person, 952 houses totally or partially destroyed, 827 houses flooded above floor level, and 194 houses flooded below floor level. The damage caused by sediment and flooding was most noticeable around the confluences where the Shin-kawa River or the Gofukuya River merges with the Uchikawa River and in the flat areas along the Uchikawa River, especially where the river topography changes drastically (e.g., decreases in the



Map of the Uchikawa River basin



Marumori Town after flood inundation with sediment

gradient of the river). Where such sediment and flood inundation phenomena were pronounced, driftwood accumulation and deposition were also clearly observed. The photo shows part of Marumori Town after the sediment and flood inundation, where the Gofukuya River reaches the slope changing point down to the flat part. Sediment and flood inundation was also observed in the 2017 northern Kyushu torrential rain disaster and the 2018 western Japan heavy rainfall disaster, sharing many aspects in common with the phenomena observed in the Marumori Town case.

#### 6.3 Field observation in the Shirakawa River

The Shirakawa River flows through Kumamoto Prefecture, originating in the Aso Caldera, running downstream through densely urbanized Kumamoto City, and finally emptying into the Ariake Sea. While enjoying rich water resources from the groundwater of the Aso Caldera, downtown Kumamoto City was devastated by a flood in 1953, when floodwaters containing large amounts of volcanic ash soil flooded its entirety. With the possibility that climate change may cause flood inundation equal to or greater than the 1953 flood in the future, it is very important to study possible hazards. To this end, in addition to its world-leading groundwater conservation, the city has decided to improve itself into a flood-resilient city and started its effort by conducting flood response drills with the participation of citizens and city officials.

To support this effort, ICHARM has been developing virtual reality (VR) tools, for example, a device to create virtual flooding. A field survey of the Shirakawa River was conducted in December 2021 to gain the basic knowledge needed for this invention. We investigated the grain size distribution of sediment deposited in the river channel and found that sediment of a wide range of grain sizes, from large boulders to fine sand, had deposited on the bed of the upper Shirakawa River in the Aso Caldera (left photo). We also found that the riverbed was covered with fine sand and silt in the lower reach, including the Kumamoto City area, with no boulders (right photo). This remarkable longitudinal sediment sorting is a characteristic of the Shirakawa River, and it is assumed that heavy rainfall helps supply a large amount of fine sediment to the river channel and that the fine sediment is transported downstream by floodwaters. Based on the field survey results, we are planning to conduct flood inundation simulations with large amounts of sediment.



Sediment size survey in an upstream area



Sediment size survey in a downstream area

### 7. Public relations and other important activities

### 7.1 Awards

The following lists the awards received by researchers of ICHARM for their quality research, presentations and academic papers in the 2020-2021 period.

ICHARM has "ICHARM BEST PAPER AWARD" mainly to encourage young researchers at ICHARM. Every year, the selection committee selects and examines papers of ICHARM researchers published in international journals for creativity and relevancy in terms of water-related disaster risk reduction, and finally decides the best paper for the prize.

7.1.1 Best Paper Award in the Asia and Pacific Regional Division of International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR-APD)

Research Specialist Robin Kumar Biswas, Research and Training Advisor EGASHIRA Shinji and Research Specialist HARADA Daisuke: Variability in Stage-Discharge Relationships in River Reach with Bed Evolutions, 22nd IAHRAPD Congress in Sapporo, Japan, September 15-16, 2020 (online).

- 7.1.2 2020 GEO Individual Excellence Award KOIKE Toshio
- 7.1.3 Dr. Roman L. Kintanar Award 2020ICHARM, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), and the Infrastructure Development Institute (IDI)
- 7.1.4 Research Encouragement Award 2020 by Japanese Geomorphological Union NAGUMO Naoko: Geomorphological analysis on flood and sediment hazards in the Omoto River resulting from Typhoon Lionrock in 2016
- 7.1.5 Young Best Presentation Award by Japan Society of Erosion Control Engineering HARADA Daisuke: 多量の土砂を含む洪水氾濫 流の特徴 -2019 年五福谷川洪水を例に-
- 7.1.6 International Lifetime Contribution Award by JSCEKOIKE Toshio



The fiscal year 2020 JSCE award ceremony (June 11, 2021)

7.2 ICHARM Open day

On April 14, 2021, the 12th ICHARM Open Day was held online for the first time in its history, gathering 81 high school students and 28 secondary school students in Tsukuba City. The ICHRAM Open Day is an annual event held every April during the Tsukuba Science and Technology Week. Up to 2019, local school students visited ICHARM and enjoyed face-to-face interaction with international students studying in the master's or doctoral program at ICHARM. In 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, the event was canceled. In 2021, although other open-house events hosted by PWRI were canceled, ICHARM decided to hold the yearly event online. The Open Day began with a keynote lecture entitled "Climate Change and Floods." Then, ten master's or doctoral students from seven different countries (Tonga, Malaysia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Mauritius and Ethiopia) spoke about their countries from various aspects, including geography, history, culture, and water-related disasters.

### 7.3 ICHARM R&D Seminars

ICHARM R&D Seminars are held on an irregular basis as an opportunity for researchers to keep up with the latest knowledge and information by inviting domestic and international experts in the field of

hydrology and water-related disasters. In 2020-2021 the period, three seminars were held, as shown in the table below. All of them attracted many participants, including those from PWRI and NILIM.



67th ICHARM R&D Seminar (November 30, 2021)

No.	Date	Speaker	Affiliation	Title
65	December	Assoc. Prof.	the Institute of Industrial	Approach from the disaster
	1,2020	NUMADA	Science, the University of	management process and development
		Muneyoshi	Tokyo	of the BOSS (Business Operation
				Support System) for the
				comprehensive disaster management
66	March 29,	Prof. IZUMI	Faculty of Engineering,	Boundary instabilities observed in
	2020	Norihiro	Hokkaido University	rivers
67	November	Dr. YOSHINO	Emeritus professor of	Private Financing in infrastructure by
	30, 2021	Naoyuki	Keio University and the	use of spillover tax revenues and Its
			executive director of the	application to the estimates of disaster
			Financial Research	damage
			Center	

### 7.4 ICHARM Webinars

ICHARM held online events, "ICHARM Webinars," to widely share research activities at ICHARM with those interested, particularly M.Sc. or Ph.D. students and young researchers of universities and research institutes in Japan. At the webinars, research projects of ICHARM were outlined in various fields: meteorology, hydrology, sediment transport and channel changes, and disaster risk reduction. The participants attended parallel sessions on different research themes of their interest and exchanged views and ideas with ICHARM researchers. The webinars held in 2020-2021 are as follows:

- In 2020: December 9, 2020 (Participants: 14)
- In 2021: December 13, 2021 (Participants: 24)

### 7.5 Research Meeting

The Research Meeting has been held roughly once a month since March 2008 for researchers to upgrade their research skills, learn different perspectives, and practice interaction with other researchers. During the 2020-2021 period, the meeting was held 23 times.

### 7.6 Newsletters and website

The ICHARM Newsletter has been published four times a year since March 2006 to publicize its activities of research, education and training, and local practice projects, as well as a list of published papers. During the 2020-2021 period, the newsletter was published eight times from No. 56 of April 2020 to No. 63 of January 2022. The number of subscribers has reached as many as 5,000. Since No. 56 of April 2020, "Editor's Note" by the editorial committee members has been added, and since No. 60 of April 2021, online survey has been conducted to further



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improve the contents. More efforts have been made to diversify news topics by collecting disaster-related contributions from people outside ICHARM. For example, the January 2021 issue carried an article addressing Japan Railway's response to the damage caused by Typhoon Hagibis in 2019.

On ICHARM's website, "What's New" shows progress in research and projects in addition to the latest information and notifications about upcoming events. A new section has been created to receive comments and opinions from viewers around the world, and efforts have been made to respond to inquiries quickly and adequately.

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### List of the Master Theses in 2019-20 & 2020-21

List of	the Master Thes	ses in 2019-20 & 2020-21							
Year	Country	Title							
2019- 2020	Bangradesh	and Manikganj Districts along the Brahmaputra River"							
	Bangradesh	Study on Flow Pattern and Associated Bed Deformation in the Off-Take Region of Gorai River, Bangladesh							
	Bhutan	Comprehensive Evaluation of Flood Mitigation Measures Based on Climate Change Impact Assessmet in the Wangchu Basin							
	Bhutan	Assessment of Water Resources Under Changing Climate for Effective Hydropower and Agriculture Productions in Puna Tsangchhu Basin, Bhutan							
	Brazil	Flood Impact Assessment in the Itapocu River Basin, Brazil							
	Brazil	Hazardous Area Resulting From Tailings Dam Failure							
	Myanmar	Developing An Integrated Water Resources Management Plan for Chindwin Rliver Basin Under Changing Climate							
	Myanmar	Analyzing River Morphological Changes and Formulating No Regret Structural Measures in Chindwin River							
	Nepal	Numerical Study for Influences of Flow Diversion on Channel Morphology Case Study of Bagmati River, Central Nepal							
	Nepal	Morphological Study of Koshi River at Chatara And Its Influence on Intake of Sunsari Morang Irrigation Project, Nepal							
	Pakistan	Climate Change Impact Assessment on the Flood Risk Change in Kech River, Turbat Balochistan, Pakistan							
2020- 2021	Bangladesh	A Study on the Morphological Characteristics of Dawki-Piyan River System in Bangladesh							
	Bhutan	Assessment of Integrated Water Resources Management under Climate Change in Wangchu Basin, Bhutan							
	Bhutan	Impact Assessment on Extreme Floods due to Climate and Social Changes in the Amochu Basin, Bhutan							
	Malaysia	Flood Damage Inspection Method for Public Building in Malaysia							
	Mauritius	A Study on an Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Under Climate Change for Grand River North West River Basin, Mauritius							
	Myanmar	Method for Predicting the Sediment Runoff Process due to Heavy Rainfall in the Yazagyo Reservoir Basin, Myanmar							
	Tonga	Impact of Climate Change, Sea-Level Rise in Tongatapu, Ha'apai and Its Effect on Liverlihood							

Year	Country	Title
2017 -2020	Bangladesh	Numerical Study On Tidal Currents And Bed Morphology In Sittaung River Estuary, Myanmar
2018-2021	Sri Lanka	A Study On Climate Change Adaptation And Resilience Strategies For Optimizing Benefits Of The Mahaweli River Basin In Sri Lanka
2018-2021	Vietnam	Integrated Operation Of Reservoirs For Maximizing Hydropower And Reducing Flood Risk
2018-2021	Japan	流域治水の推進に必要な合意形成のための減災対策による被害軽減効 果の評価手法の研究

List of Ph. D. Theses accepted in FY2020 & 2021

# ANNEX 4

### List of Research Theme of Internship

Year	Country	Affiliation	Title
FY	China	Sichuan University	Development of a Global System for Flood Risk Early Warning
2020	Cambodia	Kyoto University	Study on flood forecasting using Rainfall-Runoff-Inundation Model
FY 2021	Japan	Private company	Study on the development of integrated water resources management plan for Kerala Rivers, India

## ICHARM Publication List (April 2020 ~ March 2022)

### A. Peer Reviewed Papers

- 原田大輔、江頭進治、柿沼太貴、南雲直子、伊藤弘之、2019年台風19号による阿武隈川水系五福谷川における多量の土砂を含む洪水流の特徴、河川技術論文集、No.26、 pp.609-614、河川技術シンポジウム(大会開催はキャンセル)、2020年6月
- 柿沼太貴、中村要介、伊藤弘之、池内幸司、複数洪水イベントの組み合わせによる洪水
   予測に適したRRIモデルパラメータの最適化手法に関する検討、河川技術論文集、No.26、
   pp.199-204、河川技術シンポジウム(大会開催はキャンセル)、2020年6月
- Rie Seto, Kentaro Aida, Toshio Koike and Shinjiro Kanae, Radiative Characteristics at 89 and 36 GHz for Satellite-Based Cloud Water Estimation Over Land, IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, Vol.59, Issue2, pp.1355-1368, February 2021
- 南雲直子、江頭進治、地形解析に基づく中山間地河川の土砂輸送過程に関する研究、地 理学評論、Vol.94、pp.64-81、2021年3月
- Hemakanth Selvarajah, Toshio Koike, Mohamed Rasmy, Katsunori Tamakawa and Akio Yamamoto, Development of an Integrated Approach for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on the Hydro-Meteorological Characteristics of the Mahaweli River Basin, Sri Lanka, Water MDPI Open Access Journals, Vol.13, Issue9, 1218
- Naofumi Akata, Hideki Kakiuchi, Masahiro Tanaka, Yoshio Ishikawa, Naoyuki Kurita, Masahide Furukawa, Miklos Hegedus, Tibor Kovacs, Maksym Gusyev, Tetsuya Sanada (2021). Isotope and chemical composition of monthly precipitation collected at Sapporo, northern part of Japan during 2015-2019. Fusion Engineering and Design 168: 112434
- Hiroyuki Tsutsui, Yohei Sawada, Katsuhiro Onuma, Drought Monitoring over West Africa Based on an Ecohydrological Simulation (2003-2018), Hydrology, Vol.8, No.155, pp.1-16, October 2021
- 江頭進治、竹林洋史、萬矢敦啓、原田大輔、土石流・掃流砂・浮遊砂・泥流の統一解析 法、土木学会論文集B1(水工学)、Vol.76、No.2、pp. I 1123-I 1128、2020年11月
- 牛山朋來、中村要介、伊藤弘之、令和元年台風第19号に伴う千曲川洪水のアンサンブル 洪水予測シミュレーション、土木学会論文集B1(水工学)、Vol.76、No.2、pp. I\_235-I\_240、 2020年11月
- 中村要介、江頭進治、池内幸司、柿沼太貴、RRIモデルと河床変動予測モデルを組み込ん だ粒子フィルタによる河川水位予測、土木学会論文集B1(水工学)、Vol.76、No.2、pp. I\_859-I\_864、2020年11月
- 原田大輔、江頭進治、連行速度を用いた浮遊砂の解析法、土木学会論文集B1(水工学)、 Vol.76、No.2、pp. I\_1111-I\_1116、2020年11月
- 大原美保、栗林大輔、藤兼雅和、地方自治体職員が直面する水害対応ヒヤリ・ハット事

例の分析、土木学会論文集F6(安全問題)、Vol.76、No.2、pp.I\_81-I\_88、2021年2月

- 柿沼太貴、沼田慎吾、望月貴文、大沼克弘、伊藤弘之、安川雅紀、根本利弘、小池俊雄、 池内幸司、中小河川を対象とした洪水時におけるリアルタイム水位予測システムの開発 に向けた研究、河川技術論文集、Vol. 27、pp.105-110、2021年6月
- 小池俊雄、中村 茂、Cho Thanda Nyunt、発電ダムの洪水調節と発電操作支援システム、 土木学会論文集B1(水工学)、Vol.77、No.2、pp. I 79-I 84、2021年10月
- 玉川勝徳、MOHAMED Rasmy、NASEER Asif、犀川流域におけるダム流入量のアンサン ブル予測手法の検討、土木学会論文集B1(水工学)、Vol.77、No.2、pp. I\_61-I\_66、2021 年10月
- Islam Md Masbahul, Atsuhiro Yorozuya, Daisuke Harada and Shinji Egashira, A Numerical Study on Bank Erosion of a Braided Channel: Case Study of the "Tangail and Manikganj Districts Along the Brahmaputra River", Journal of Disaster Research (JDR), pp.263-269, Vol.17, No.2, February, 2022
- Miyamoto, M.; Kakinuma, D.; Ushiyama, T.; Rasmy, A.W.M.; Yasukawa, M.; Bacaltos, D.G.; Sales, A.C.; Koike, T.; Kitsuregawa, M. Co-Design for Enhancing Flood Resilience in Davao City, Philippines. Water 2022, 14, 978. https://doi.org/10.3390/w14060978

### **B:** Non-peer Reviewed Paper

- HARADA Daisuke, EGASHIRA Shinji and ITO Hiroyuki, Characteristics of active sediment transport processes in extreme flood hazards, Proceedings of River Flow 2020, pp.1908-1916, July 2020
- 傳田正利、諸岡良優、藤兼雅和、気象庁55年長期再解析・降雨流出氾濫モデル及び地理 情報システムを用いた過去の洪水状況の再現と水災害史研究への活用可能性に関する研 究、土木史研究講演集、pp.9-15、土木史研究講演会、2020年7月
- Robin K. Biswas, EGASHIRA Shinji, HARADA Daisuke and ITO Hiroyuki, Evaluation of geomorphological characteristics in a quasi-equilibrium river channel, Proceedings of River Flow 2020, Proceedings of River Flow 2020, pp.439-447, July 2020
- HARADA Daisuke and EGASHIRA Shinji, Erosion rate of bed sediment in terms of entrainment concept, 22nd IAHR-APD CONGRESS 2020 IN SAPPORO, 1-2-3, September 2020
- Robin K. Biswas, S. Egashira, and D. Harada; Variability in Stage-Discharge Relationships in River Reach with Bed Evolutions, 22nd IAHR-APD CONGRESS 2020 IN SAPPORO, 1-3-2, September 2020
- Tanjir Saif Ahmed, Shinji Egashira, Daisuke Harada; TIDAL CURRENTS AND SAND BAR EVOLUTION IN SITTAUNG RIVER ESTUARY, MYANMAR, 22nd IAHR-APD CONGRESS 2020 IN SAPPORO, 1-2-5, September 2020

### **C: Oral Presentation**

• HARADA Daisuke, EGASHIRA Shinji and ITO Hiroyuki, Characteristics of active sediment

transport processes in extreme flood hazards, Proceedings of River Flow 2020, River Flow 2020 (Online), July 6-10, 2020

- 傳田正利、諸岡良優、藤兼雅和、国土数値情報等と氾濫シミュレーションを用いた仮想 洪水体験システムの開発、安全工学シンポジウム2020講演予稿集、pp.96~97、安全工学 シンポジウム2020、2020年7月1日~2日
- Robin K. Biswas, EGASHIRA Shinji, HARADA Daisuke and ITO Hiroyuki, Evaluation of geomorphological characteristics in a quasi-equilibrium river channel, Proceedings of River Flow 2020, Proceedings of River Flow 2020, River Flow 2020 (Online), July 6-10, 2020
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- KOIKE Toshio, Strengthening governance and investment for water-related disaster resilience under climate change in Asia, J p GU-AGU Joint Meeting 2020 (Online), July 12-16, 2020
- KOIKE Toshio, Satellite-based Data Assimilation Systems by Using Microwave Radiometers, J p GU-AGU Joint Meeting 2020 (Online), July 12-16, 2020
- Gusyev M., AKATA N., YAMANAKA T., HIRABAYASHI K. and Morgenstern U., Comparing tritium concentrations and water transit times in the Chikuma and Fujikawa River basins, Japan, JpGU-AGU Joint Meeting 2020 (Online), July 12-16, 2020
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- Tanjir Saif Ahmed, Shinji Egashira, Daisuke Harada; TIDAL CURRENTS AND SAND BAR EVOLUTION IN SITTAUNG RIVER ESTUARY, MYANMAR, 22nd IAHRAPD Congress in Sapporo, Japan, 1-2-5, September 15-16, 2020 (Online)
- 江頭進治、竹林洋史、萬矢敦啓、原田大輔、掃流砂・土石流・浮遊砂・泥流の統一解析 法、第65回水工学講演会(Online)、土木学会水工学委員会、2020年11月4日~6日
- 牛山朋來、中村要介、伊藤弘之、令和元年台風第19号に伴う千曲川洪水のアンサンブル 洪水予測シミュレーション、第65回水工学講演会(Online)、土木学会水工学委員会、2020 年11月4日~6日
- 中村要介、江頭進治、池内幸司、柿沼太貴、RRIモデルと河床変動予測モデルを組み込ん だ粒子フィルタによる河川水位予測、第65回水工学講演会(Online)、 土木学会水工学 委員会、2020年11月4日~6日
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- 柿沼太貴、沼田慎吾、望月貴文、大沼克弘、伊藤弘之、安川雅紀、根本利弘、小池俊雄、 池内幸司、中小河川を対象とした洪水時におけるリアルタイム水位予測システムの開発 に向けた研究、河川技術論文集、2021年度河川技術に関するシンポジウム(Online)、土 木学会、pp.105-110、第27号、2021年6月10日~11日
- 大原美保、藤兼雅和、地方自治体の建設関連部局での水害対応ヒヤリ・ハット事例の分析、地域安全学会春季研究発表大会梗概集、No.48、pp.189-192、地域安全学会(Online)、2021年5月21日
- Daiki Kakinuma, Mamoru Miyamoto, Yosuke Nakamura, Anurak Sriariyawat, Supattra Visessri, Development of industrial park scale flood inundation analysis model for establishing and evaluating BCP/BCM, Asia Oceania Geosciences Society 18th Annual Meeting (AOGS2021) (Online), August 1-6, 2021
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