

Session 9: 30th June 2020

Disaster Risk Reduction in India: A few glimpses by Prof. Rajib Shaw, Keio University

- The session started with a brief explanation on the evolution of disaster management field globally and in India, followed by the complex hazard profile of India.
- The discussion then moved towards the Disaster Management Act of 2005 in India, and the Institutional structures set up for disaster management at various governance levels in India (National, State, District etc.).
- In reference to the four priorities set by Sendai Framework of Disaster Risk Reduction, Prof. Shaw discussed four specific examples from different parts of India.
- The first case was based on Understanding Climate Disaster Risk in coastal city of Chennai. The second case was on urban risk governance in the city of Mumbai. The third case was from the state of Orissa, in context of investment in disaster risk reduction. The fourth and last case was from Gujarat, that explained the principles of build back better.
- Professor Shaw emphasised on the need for a synergy between different organizations including the local government, NGOs, academia, and communities themselves, in order to achieve an optimal disaster resilience in any city.
- Towards the end, possible future directions for disaster risk reduction practices in India were underlined. These were met with a multitude of questions regarding the diverse set of solutions required for the entirety of India.

