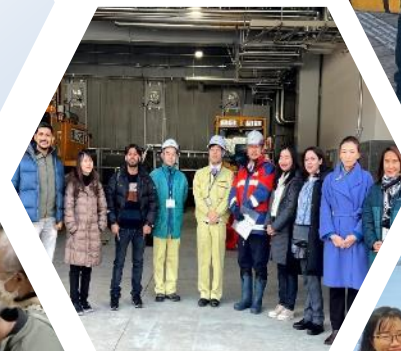




# COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN JAPAN A LESSON LEARNED FOR VIETNAM



*Kobe, March 2023*

## **Disclaimer**

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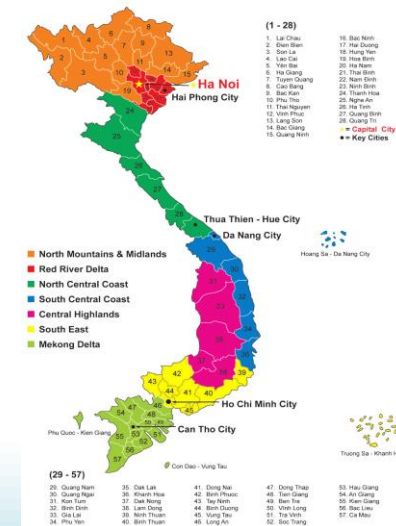
# 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## Rationale

- Japan and Vietnam have a long standing experience of “self-help” and “mutual help” during the disaster.
- The community participation in disaster risk reduction activities is the key to success of Japan resilience.
- Lessons learned are valuable for other countries in Asia in particular and in the world in general.

## Research objectives

- Have overview picture of DRM system and CBDRM activities in Japan and Vietnam.
- Japan best practices on CBDRM and lessons learned for Vietnam.
- Recommendations for Vietnam to apply successful CBDRM models of Japan.



# 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## ADRC Visiting Researcher Program

Offer chances to witness DRM system in Japan and the spirit of mutual help and self help among the community

- Visits to famous museums and memorial parks in Japan
- Learn from the community based disaster risk reduction activities such as the town-watching for disaster risk reduction, Iza! Mikaeru Caravan, etc.
- Understand the relations between the Government organizations and local communities in preparing the CBDRM Plan in Japan
- Witness the disaster damages and build-back-better of Japan





**Iza Mikaery Caravan**



**Great Hanshin Awaji Museum - DRI**



**Tsunami Takashio Station**



**Rokko Sabo Office**



**Workshop Town Watching DRR**



**Kyoto Cultural Heritage**



**Kyoto Ujigawa Open Lab**



**Kobe City Emergency Management Office**



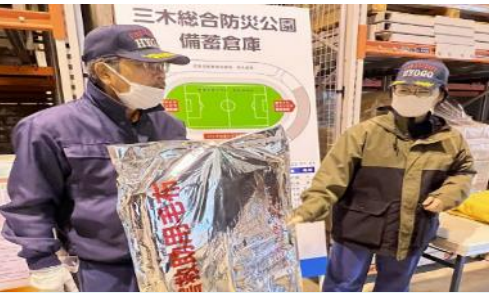
**Tokyo Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park**



**Cabinet Office**



**Nagoya University**



**Miki City**



**E-Defence**



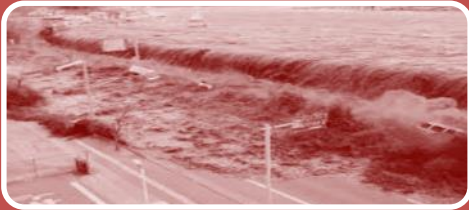
**Hyogo Emergency Management Center**



**JMA**

## 2. CBDRM IN JAPAN AND VIETNAM

The term “Community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) was first introduced in the mid-1990s in Asia:



People living in high risk areas affected the most when natural disasters strike and must take responsibility in supporting each other to reduce disaster impacts



Local people have best knowledge about their area and obtain practical experience, skills on traditional responses suitable to the environment, economic, culture conditions;



The CBDRM approach focuses on building the capacity of communities to assess their vulnerability and risks to both human-induced and natural hazards and develop strategies using available resources to prevent and mitigate the impact of identified hazards

# 2. CBDRM IN JAPAN

## *Awareness Raising and Knowledge Promotion on Disaster Reduction*

**Promotion of efforts for disaster reduction:** Strengthen community resilience and reduce the disaster impacts require close cooperation among individuals, families, local community and relevant entities, to build momentum for a nationwide movement

### **Education for disaster risk reduction:**

- “Disaster Reduction Education Challenge Plan” to nurture a positive environment for more proactive disaster reduction education
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has enhanced contents regarding disaster reduction in the new Curriculum Guidelines announced in 2017/2018
- “Guide to Make a Disaster Reduction Manual for Schools (Earthquake and Tsunami),” and “Development of a Disaster Reduction Education to Nurture Power to Live On”



**WORLD TSUNAMI  
AWARENESS DAY**  
5 NOVEMBER





# 2. CBDRM IN JAPAN

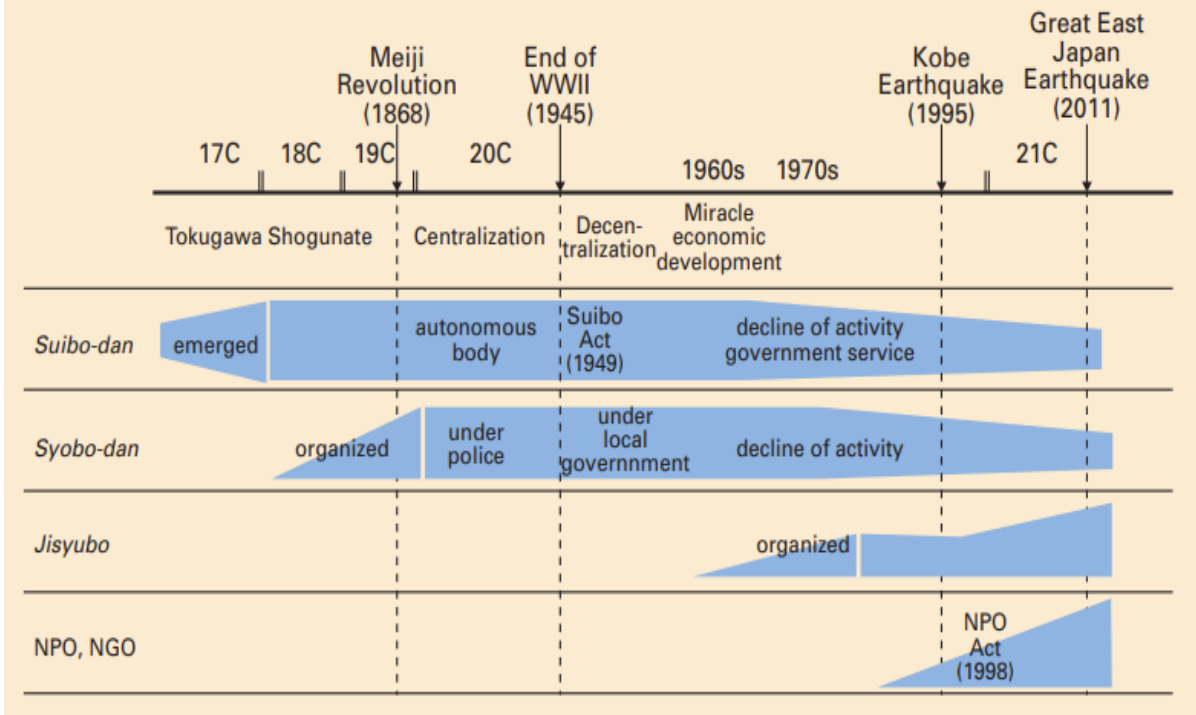
## Successful models of CBDRM in Japan

### Community based organizations (CBOs) in Great East Japan Earthquake

Local communities carried out disaster-related activities as volunteers since 17<sup>th</sup> century.

- Suibo-dan for flood risk dating from the 17th century
- Syobo-dan for firefighting from the 18th century,
- Jisyubo for earthquake disasters from the 1970s

FIGURE 1: Historical timeline of community-based organizations



In addition, NGOs and NPOs are involved in DRM activities at the community level. Many of them collaborate with Jichikai (neighborhood associations) and local governments, and sometimes with local academic institutions

# 2. CBDRM IN JAPAN

## *Successful models of CBDRM in Japan*

### *Case studies*

- In the **Wakabayashi ward**, Sendai City, the local community has strong relationship with the elementary school to educate people in disaster preparedness. When a tsunami warning issued for the Tohoku coast, and tsunami waves of up to 1.5 meters reached some areas. The communities in Wakabashi to reexamine their evacuation plans. They found that it would take longer than expected for school children in Arahama Elementary, to evacuate to the designated school so they decided to take shelter in Arahama Elementary School. About 320 people have saved during GEJE.
- In **Kesennuma City**, Jichikai undertook regular disaster drills. That help local residents to evacuate safely and quickly to higher ground immediately after the GEJE, thus saving many lives saved

### *Roles of CBOs in the GEJE*

- The role of communities in DRM is formally recognized and supported by local and national authorities through linkages with local institutions (Jichikai).
- Community-based DRM activities are well integrated in the daily lives of the residents, ensuring that awareness of natural hazards is maintained.



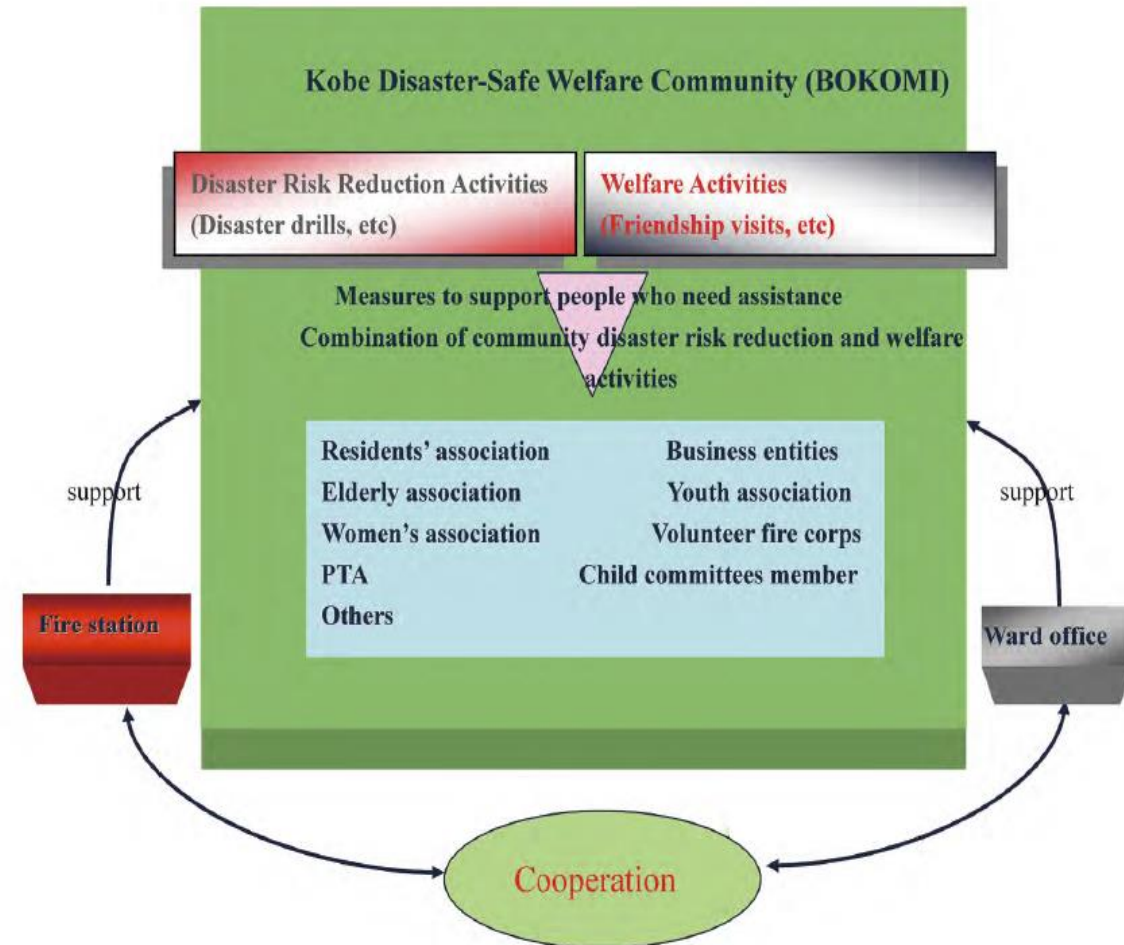
The ruins of the building that formerly Arahama Elementary School and Kesennuma Kōyō High School have been preserved as a memorial

# 2. CBDRM IN JAPAN

## Successful models of CBDRM in Japan

### *BOKOMI model of Kobe City*

- Learn from the Great Hanshin-Awaji earthquake lessons, the Kobe city government focused on the development of the voluntary organizations for DRR in communities
- The community based disaster risk reduction organization was known as “Disaster Safe Welfare Communities” which short name is BOKOMI
- Bokomi model was established based on elementary school by the residents. Because elementary school district has an existing “welfare community” organization established for welfare purposes and a disaster risk reduction organization was integrated into the existing organizations
- 191 districts in the city have their BOKOMI covering the whole area of Kobe City



# 2. CBDRM IN VIETNAM

## National Program on CBDRM for period 2009-2020 and 2021-2030

### Objectives to 2030

- 100% of people in communes frequently affected by disaster provided with CBDRM training
- 100% of officials, public employees and individuals trained on CBDRM
- 100% of schools/ universities mainstream disaster risk reduction in their education program
- 100% of communes develop DRM plans with community participation

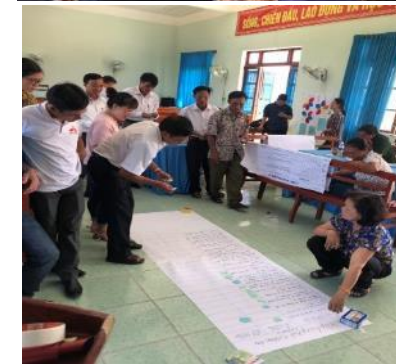
Component I	Component II	Component III
Finalizing mechanisms, policies and materials guiding the implementation of public awareness raising and community-based disaster risk management activities	Building capacity for individuals and governmental officials at all levels on the management and implementation of community awareness raising and community-based disaster risk management activities	Strengthening communicational and educational activities to raise awareness and build capacity for communities on disaster risk reduction



# 2. CBDRM IN VIETNAM

Results after 20 years implementing the National Program on Community Awareness Raising and CBDRM

- **200** relevant legal documents are issued
- **1,628,420** communication programs organized
- **3,701,129** people accessed information
- **3,671** training classes organized for more than **116,681** trainers and **256,266** facilitators
- **108,874** handbooks allocated
- **1,000** drills and exercises organized;
- **63/63** provinces/cities issued the CBDRM plans for the implementation of the National Program;



# 3. LESSONS LEARNS FOR VIETNAM

- Get the involvement of community in developing the DRM Plan.
- Facilitate the community to develop the hazard map: high risk areas, the route to the evacuation centers, the contact person information. The hazard map developed by the community should be distributed to every house (Town watching for DRR)
- Since natural disasters are difficult to accurately predict, the important thing is people's awareness of the disaster and how to prevent it (Awareness Raising Day, National DRM Day)
- Pass lessons to next generation (museums, memorial parks). Visitors who are interested on DRR can see the image of past disasters and receive the messages from the victims of the disaster.

# 3. LESSONS LEARNS FOR VIETNAM

- The institutionalization of CBDRM activities, clearly stating the responsibilities of the parties, especially the participation of the private enterprises sector plays an important role in promoting more sustainable DRM programs.
- Successfully built up a model of Community Based Voluntary Organization for Disaster Risk Reduction (“BOKOMI”) and Community Based Organizations
- In the evacuation center, place the stockpiling items, chargers, blankets, heaters and some radio communication facilities which can be used in the emergency case (Miki City)
- Regularly conduct the DRM drills. Most of cities have the schedule for monthly drills. The CBOs distributed the lists to every house and anybody who are interested to participate can join.
- It is necessary to ensure stable financial resources for implementing CBDRM.

# 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The establishment of the community based organization such as the flood prevention team or firefighting team should be promoted. The in-place human resources who understand the situation and people will be an advantage in effectively response to disaster.
- Strong and effective CBDRM requires grassroots support and linkages to the day-to-day life of the community. Linking disaster risk awareness and preparedness activities to local cultural events can be extremely effective in maintaining a culture of preparedness.
- Frequently organize the drills/ simulations to raise community awareness and force them to be better prepared when disaster strikes



# 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Effective and sustainable CBDRM requires the formal recognition and support of local and national authorities. In addition to providing financial and technical assistance, local and national governments should develop legislation on and institutionalize the role of CBOs.
- Vietnam should consider to develop a museum where all the historical disaster events are recorded and disaster response measures can be passed to everyone.
- Continue learning from BOKOMI model in the effort of reducing disaster risks for the children in Vietnam (collaboration between UNICEF, Ministry of Education and Training and JICA)
- Joint project between Vietnam (VNDMA) and ADRC on the community awareness raising and community based disaster risk management.



# Thank you very much

ADRC Visiting Researcher

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Viet Nam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development