



The 2008 Tokyo Declaration

Strengthening the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) with UN-ISDR

The First World Landslide Forum (18-21 November 2008, Tokyo, Japan), convened by the International Consortium on Landslides (ICL) and other supporting organizations and entities, provided a first rare opportunity to discuss and address landslide risk on a global scale. 430 participants from 48 countries in the Forum adopted the following Declaration:

The participants have assessed the activities developed and implemented following the Tokyo Action Plan: “Strengthening Research and Learning on Landslides and Related Earth System Disasters for Global Risk Preparedness”. They have also been looking forward to the main activities needed to be developed in the years ahead by the ICL, as an integral part of ISDR’s “Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction”.

We, participants at the First World Landslide Forum,

1. *Encourage* the earth, engineering and social sciences communities to strengthen and take advantage of the International Programme on Landslides (IPL) managed by the IPL Global Promotion Committee consisting of ICL and the supporting organizations, and other related international programmes to find satisfactory answers to future dangers threatening society and the environment.
2. *Urge* decision makers of all nations to utilize the existing wealth of knowledge about the “Earth System” and its vulnerability to disasters, notably landslides, and encourage the development and application of new knowledge and technologies on landslide risk reduction for the benefit of developing and developed nations alike.
3. *Invite* public and private industries and intergovernmental, governmental, international, national and private science organizations to support the follow-up of this Declaration for the development of new knowledge, strategies and capacity building activities to mitigate disasters related to landslide and guide sustainable economic development to meet the needs of our expanding global society and the generations to come;
4. *Request* Governments, NGOs as well as UN organizations to support the initiative of the IPL Global Promotion Committee and to the International Network of Centres on Landslide Risk Reduction (World Centres of Excellence: WCoE) launched at the First World Landslide Forum to achieve global landslide disaster mitigation and to streamline organisation structures and responsibilities for landslide risk management;
5. *Strongly suggest* the world's landslides community to closely work together in and with the ICL to focus its activities in the next three years leading up to the 2nd World Landslide Forum on the impacts of global change on landslides and to also develop framework plans, guidelines and recommendations on landslide risk reduction for developing countries.

We are looking forward, to enhanced cooperation in landslide research and disaster risk management among the global scientific community, national academies of sciences, research funding agencies, industry, national governments, and inter-governmental bodies so that society and its leaders will have at their disposal the best possible data and information to make the decisions necessary for a sustainable future for humankind.

The 2nd WLF has been decided to be organized in September 2011 at the “Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations” (FAO), Rome, Italy.

We extend our appreciation to the Government of Japan, the United Nations University, and the Japan Landslide Society for hosting this First World Landslide Forum.

*Tokyo,
21st November 2008*

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