
Good afternoon.

Chairman, Excellences, Distinguished delegates; ladies and gentlemen:

I would like to thank the government of Mexico and UNISDR for hosting this remarkable event. It is my great pleasure to be here and share our ideas and visions on disaster risk reduction.

Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, under Chinese Academy of Science, was established in 1966. It is the only national research and educational facility which focus on mountain hazards and disaster risk reduction.

We do fundamental researches, mainly on three areas: Mountain hazards mechanism and mitigation; Degradation and Reconstruction of mountain environment; evaluation, planning and sustainable development of eco-environment in the mountain region. We have completed more than 1000 research projects in these fields and published outstanding academic papers to share our knowledge and advance people's understanding on natural hazards.

As an educational facility, we have graduated over 600 Ph.D. and Master Students and each year we enroll about 30 Ph.D. candidates and 30 master students from both China and oversea.

Besides research and education, we always value the application of research work. Our Institute has been actively involved in disaster mitigation for past decades. Our risk evaluation of the mega debris flow in Venezuela, 1999, was highly praised by local authorities as quote "playing a crucial role in the reconstruction". In 2010, we, as science and technical consultant to the treatment of Attabad landslide-dammed lake in Pakistan, not only have successfully eliminated the threat to over 10,000 people but also made the Attabad lake now a famous scenery site for tourist and provide livelihood to local people. After Nepal Gorkha earthquake in 2015, we immediately brought our task force to Araniko highway to assess subsequence risk from secondary hazards such as debris flow and landslide. We manage to provide strategies to ensure the safety of this major transportation line between Nepal and China. Our study on the hazards assessment at Southeast Tibet have provided scientific

support to the ongoing construction of Sichuan-Tibet Railway.

Having said that, we primary principle remain scientific research and we value international cooperation. We have conducted joint research with over 15 countries such as Italy, Canada, Pakistan, Nepal, India, Peru, and Cuba. and managed to set up two jointly labs, one with Centre of National Research of Italy and another one with ICIMOD.

We strongly believe that ***“Promote International Research Project on Disaster Risk Reduction is critical to improve Science and Technology involvement in the policy making process and enhance national resilience to disaster risk as well as knowledge sharing.”***

In line with Sendai Framework and the Belt and Road Initiative of China, our Institute has initiated an international program, namely “Silk Road Disaster Risk Reduction, a.k.a SiDRR”. This program was acknowledged by vice premier of China and funded by Chinese Academy of Science. Under this framework, we established large task forces consist of international researchers from over 15 countries as well as international programs such as IRDR.

SiDRR works at the regional level and established the partnership with research facilities from countries like Pakistan, Nepal, Russian, Italy, UK, Sri Lank. The main objectives including to develop major disaster forecast and risk assessment models which can be applied in the Belt and Road Countries; define the acceptance levels of disaster risk; formulating early warning protocols; proposing disaster risk management and countermeasures for critical infrastructure subject to nature hazards. At present, work has been carried out at China-Pakistan Economic Corridor with University and government sectors from both countries to create disaster database and identify potential hazards and their risk. We believe the success of such international research project is a strong response to the implementation of Sendai Framework. Our Institute and SiDRR program welcome partners from all over the world so together, we can make the world a better and safer place.

Thank you all for your attention. Thank you Chair.