

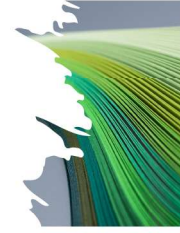
Kobe University UNESCO Chair Phase 1~2 2018~2026

RONNI
ALEXANDER,
CHAIR-HOLDER

Kobe University UNESCO Chair Phase II
Final Seminar
2026.3.12

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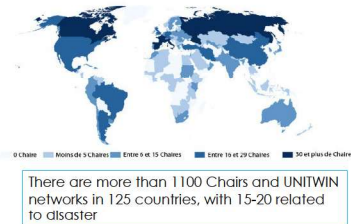
- ◆ What is a UNESCO Chair
- ◆ Kobe University UNESCO Chair
- ◆ Beginnings
- ◆ Education Program
- ◆ Research Program
- ◆ Looking Forward



What is a UNESCO Chair?



- A team
 - Led by a higher education or research institution
 - Partners with UNESCO
- A project
 - Advances knowledge and practice in an area of common priority
 - Involves teaching, research, dissemination
- A plan
 - Requires UNESCO approval every 4 years



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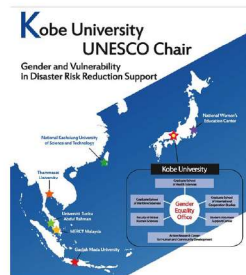
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What is Kobe University UNESCO Chair?

What is Kobe University UNESCO Chair?

- A team
 - Led by Kobe University
 - Located in the Gender Equality Division
 - Partners with UNESCO, 4 Asian universities, 1 INGO and 1 center in Japan
- A project
 - "Gender, Vulnerability and Well-being in Disaster Risk Reduction Support"
 - Education Program, Research Program
 - Education, Research, Dissemination
 - This is the only UNESCO Chair focusing on gender and disaster
- A plan approved by UNESCO
 - Phase 1: 2018-2022
 - Phase 2: 2022-2026
 - Phase 3



2026.3.12

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Beginnings

The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (1995)



The earthquake took the lives of 39 Kobe University students, including 7 international students, and 2 staff members



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Beginnings

- 1995 Kobe University commits to being a hub university for disaster research
- 2007 Kobe University establishes the Gender Equality Office

Disaster research at Kobe University needs a gender perspective! There should be more women faculty members and gender should be addressed throughout the university!



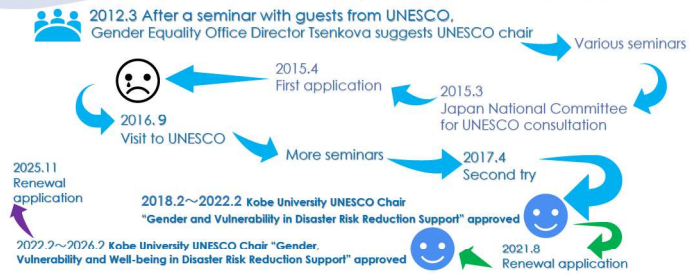
<https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/ja/theme/004/>



International Symposium (2014)

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The idea for a UNESCO Chair began at a seminar ...



2026.3.12

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Tasks of Kobe University UNESCO Chair

RESEARCH	EDUCATION/AWARENESS	GUIDELINES	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS	DDR NETWORK EXPANSION
Joint research with partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender sensitive and inclusive guidelines for disaster risk reduction • Build multidisciplinary model for DRR 	Awareness & strategy implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for students, professional, policy makers • DRR awareness activities for local community • Develop teaching materials 	Establish guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate and disseminate through seminars, symposia, HP, etc. 	Policy recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should meet local needs • Should aim to build more resilient and inclusive society 	Expansion of DRR network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build international DRR network based on gender equality, social inclusion and well-being

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UNESCO Chair Phase 1 & 2

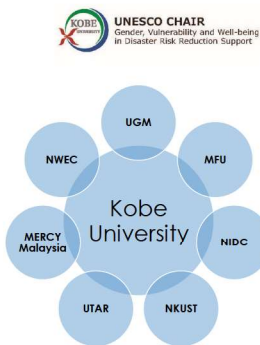
Phase 1		Phase 2	
2018.4~2022.2		2022.2~2026.2	
Gender and Vulnerability in DRR Support		Gender, Vulnerability and Well-being in DRR Support	
Research	Seminars, preparation of an edited volume of case studies	Research	Seminars, publications, collaboration with partners, creation of a research group within Kobe University
Education	2-week summer program (2018,2019), online seminar (2020, 2021) for 40-50 students. ad hoc seminars	Education	Online annual Education Program, including "well-being," ad hoc seminars
Network	Building trust, networking with our partners	Network	Expand our network for DRR with the community
		Curriculum materials	Develop teaching materials based on our work
Outreach	Reports in archive, on HP, etc.	Outreach	Information, Community lectures, etc.

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Partner Institutions

- Gadjah Mada University (UGM), Indonesia
- School of Social Innovation, Mae Fah Luang University (MFU), Thailand
- Network for International Development Cooperation, Thammasat University, Thailand (Phase 1)
- National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology (NKUST), Taiwan
- Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Malaysia
- Mercy Malaysia, Malaysia
- National Women's Education Center (NWEC), Japan
- Kobe University, Japan



2026.3.12

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Introducing our hard-working teams

With thanks!



Gajah Mada University (UGM) Team



Dr. Melyza Perdana



Dr. Uki Noviana



Dr. Alim Syahirul



Dr. Ariani Arista Putri Pertiwi



Summer Course 2019

Rahma Mahdia Izzati

Mae Fah Luang (MFU) Team



Reni Juwitasari



Dr. Wanwalee Inpin



Dr. Thanikun Chantra



Dr. Maya Dania



Dr. Yuki Miyake



Dr. Siriporn Wajjwalku

National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology (NKUST) Team



Dr. Yu, Hui-Lung



Dr. Yang, Ching-Chiao



Dr. Sun, Jhih-Sian



NKUST Seminar Team 2025



Dr. LU, Jin-Long

Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) Team & Mercy Malaysia



UTAR International Workshop 2023



Dr. Huang Yuk Feng



Dr. Tan Ooi Kuan



Dr. Tan Kok Weng



Hafiz Amirrol, Mercy Malaysia

Kobe University (KU) Team



Junko Okada



Dr. Sayaka Kotera



Dr. Ai Shoraku



Dr. Kazue Noda



Dr. Ronni ALEXander

Special Participation

Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Pakistan



Dr. Badur Un Nisa

A real-life example of the meaning of the UNESCO Chair.

UNITWIN Partnership



- In 2010, the UNESCO Regional Chair for Women, Science and Technology in Latin America began the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender (20 chairs)
- In 2023, it became the UNITWIN Network on Gender Equality



Kobe University UNESCO Chair Programs

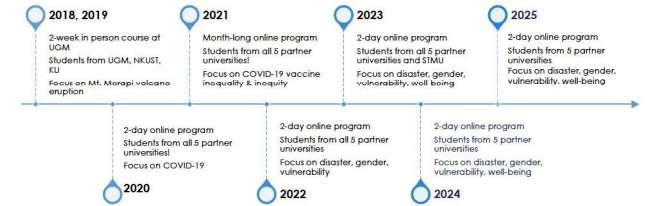
- Education Program**
 - Purpose: To help participants find their own role in disaster preparedness and support
 - Participants: Students from the partner universities
 - Organizers: Participating universities
 - Main program: Annual international seminar
 - 2018, 2019 Two-week program hosted by Gadjah Mada University
 - 2020 – 2025 Two-day online program hosted by Kobe University
 - Contribution: Raised awareness of the importance of:
 - disaster preparedness;
 - focusing on gender;
 - international collaboration and support;
 - communication and intercultural skills
 - Occasional ad hoc seminars
- Research Program**
 - Purpose: To contribute to knowledge production and dissemination on gender, vulnerability and well-being in disaster risk reduction support
 - Main program: Annual research seminar hosted by a partner university
 - Participation by partner universities and others, including students
 - In person seminars have included a field trip to a disaster site
 - Contribution:
 - Seeking, achieving and demonstrating understanding of the need to include gender and a gender-transformative approach in disaster research
 - Publications and dissemination
 - Kobe University research group

Education Program

More than 350 student participants in total!



Education program



Education Program



Research Program: International Seminars

*Seeking, achieving and demonstrating understanding of the need to include gender and a gender-transformative approach in disaster research

- 2018 Kick-off Symposium, Kobe University
- 2019 Chiang Rai Seminar, MFU, Thailand
- 2020 NKUST (online)
- 2021 UTAR (online)
- 2022 Kick-off Symposium, Kobe University, Japan
- 2023 Kuala Lumpur Seminar, UTAR, Malaysia
- 2024 MFU (online)
- 2025 Kaohsiung Seminar, NKUST, Taiwan



Research Program: Books



- ◆ *Making Disaster Safer* (Springer, 2023).
 - Edited volume with contributions from all the partner institutions
 - Covers many aspects of gender and vulnerability in disaster support
- ◆ *Book of Proceedings, UNESCO Chair International Symposium 2024 (MFU, 2025)*.
 - “Navigating Gender Equality and Well-Being: Climate Change Towards Sustainable Future”
 - Contributions from partner universities
- ◆ *Present and future of gender equality policies in higher education: contributions to human and sustainable development* (Gloria Bonder, ed., UNITWIN Network on Gender Equality)
 - Contributions from UNITWIN member universities. (Alexander, pp.92-102)

Research Program: Teaching materials



A multi-lingual disaster glossary

English	Arabic	Chinese	French	German	Japanese	Portuguese	Russian	Spanish	Urdu
Disaster	كوارث	灾难	catastrophe	Katastrophe	災害	desastre	катастрофа	desastre	آفت
Disaster Preparedness	التأهب للكوارث	灾难预防	préparation aux catastrophes	Katastrophenvorbereitung	災害準備	preparação para desastres	подготовка к катастрофам	preparación para desastres	آفت آمادگی
Disaster Risk	مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险	risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisiko	災害リスク	risco de desastre	риск катастрофы	risk de desastre	آفت خطر
Disaster Resilience	مرونة الكوارث	灾难韧性	résilience aux catastrophes	Katastrophenresilienz	災害レジリエンス	resiliência aos desastres	устойчивость к катастрофам	resiliencia ante desastres	آفت تاباوری
Disaster Response	استجابة الكوارث	灾难响应	réponse aux catastrophes	Katastrophenreaktion	災害対応	resposta a desastres	реакция на катастрофы	respuesta ante desastres	آفت پاسخ
Disaster Recovery	استعادة الكوارث	灾难恢复	recupération après catastrophe	Katastrophenwiederherstellung	災害復旧	recuperação após desastres	восстановление после катастрофы	recuperación tras desastres	آفت بازیابی
Disaster Risk Reduction	تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	减少灾难风险	réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierung	災害リスク軽減	redução do risco de desastre	снижение риска катастрофы	reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری
Disaster Risk Management	إدارة مخاطر الكوارث	管理灾难风险	gestion du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikomanagement	災害リスク管理	gestão do risco de desastre	управление риском катастрофы	gestión del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر مدیریت
Disaster Risk Assessment	تقييم مخاطر الكوارث	评估灾难风险	évaluation du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoprüfung	災害リスク評価	avaliação do risco de desastre	оценка риска катастрофы	evaluación del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر ارزیابی
Disaster Risk Analysis	تحليل مخاطر الكوارث	分析灾难风险	analyse du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoprüfung	災害リスク分析	análise do risco de desastre	анализ риска катастрофы	análisis del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر تحلیل
Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy	استراتيجية تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少策略	stratégie de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsstrategie	災害リスク軽減戦略	estratégia de redução do risco de desastre	стратегия снижения риска катастрофы	estrategia de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری استراتژی
Disaster Risk Reduction Plan	خطة تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少计划	plan de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsplan	災害リスク軽減計画	plano de redução do risco de desastre	план снижения риска катастрофы	plan de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری برنامه
Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	سياسة تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少政策	politique de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsrichtlinie	災害リスク軽減政策	política de redução do risco de desastre	политика снижения риска катастрофы	política de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری سیاست
Disaster Risk Reduction Framework	إطار عمل تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少框架	cadre de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsrahmen	災害リスク軽減枠組み	quadro de redução do risco de desastre	рамка снижения риска катастрофы	marco de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری چارچوب
Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy Framework	إطار عمل استراتيجية تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少策略框架	cadre de stratégie de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsrahmen	災害リスク軽減策略枠組み	quadro de estratégia de redução do risco de desastre	рамка стратегии снижения риска катастрофы	marco de estrategia de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری چارچوب استراتژی
Disaster Risk Reduction Policy Framework	إطار عمل سياسة تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少政策框架	cadre de politique de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsrahmen	災害リスク軽減政策枠組み	quadro de política de redução do risco de desastre	рамка политики снижения риска катастрофы	marco de política de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری چارچوب سیاست
Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and Policy Framework	إطار عمل استراتيجية وسياسة تقليل مخاطر الكوارث	灾难风险减少策略和政策框架	cadre de stratégie et de politique de réduction du risque de catastrophe	Katastrophenrisikoreduzierungsrahmen	災害リスク軽減策略和政策枠組み	quadro de estratégia e política de redução do risco de desastre	рамка стратегии и политики снижения риска катастрофы	marco de estrategia y política de reducción del riesgo de desastre	آفت خطر کمزیری چارچوب استراتژی و سیاست

Looking Forward: Phase 3

Phase 2

Gender, Vulnerability and Well-being in Disaster Risk Reduction Support

- Title: Chair-holder: Professor Ronni Alexander
- Secretariat: Gender Equality Office (Kobe University Inclusive Campus & Healthcare Center, Gender Equality Division)
- Partner Institutions: 4 overseas universities (4 countries), 1 international organization, 1 domestic government agency

Phase 3

Education for Gender, Disaster, and Well-being

- Chair-holder: Professor Keiichi Ogawa; Co-chair: Professor Aiko Sakurai
- Supervision: Kobe University, International Division
- Secretariat: Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies; Advisory Committee
- Partner Institutions: 8 overseas universities (6 countries), 1 domestic university, 4 international organizations, 2 government agencies (2 countries)




Thank you!
FOR YOUR HARD WORK,
COOPERATION, INSIGHTS,
SMILES AND KINDNESS!

