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[International Exchange][Disaster Prevention] Scholars from Japan Gathered at NCKU Presenting Disaster Alert System

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NCKU Research Express (Vol. 20 Issue 8) Taiwan could learn from Japan's disaster prevention experience to minimize damage caused by possible tsunami and other natural disasters, since both countries are prone to earthquakes, National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) President Hwung-Hweng HWUNG said at a recent conference.

According to HWUNG, the tsunami that followed the March 11 earthquake in Japan this year caused far fewer casualties than the 2004 tsunami which swept across the coastal areas of several Southeast Asian countries. "This is an indication of the effectiveness of Japan's disaster warning system," he said.

National Cheng Kung University hosted the 29th "Sino-Japanese Modern Engineering and Technology Symposium - Disaster Prevention" in Tainan, southern Taiwan, on Nov.22, in which three Japanese seismology experts shared their research on earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides.

Yuzo ISHIKAWA, Vice President of Seismological Society of Japan, said that Japan has a sophisticated earthquake early warning system that allows the public to receive timely alert via television networks, radio stations and mobile phones once an earthquake is detected.

ISHIKAWA noted that researchers are still unable to predict when or why the next mega earthquake will occur because currently there are only a few cases for data collection and analysis.

Reference: NCKU Research Expres Vol. 20 Issue 8
National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief

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