

Natural Disaster Youth Summit 2011

NDYS was first organized in Hyogo in May 2004 and started from September 2004, commemorating 10th anniversary of great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake, Japan. We learned the importance of human lives and preparedness for disasters. Now, due to climate change, the ravages from disasters have become greater than before. By experiencing the various disasters, different knowledge and information to reduce the impact of disasters are accumulated in local communities. By sharing this knowledge and information, we can prepare against future disasters and take actions to stop the climate change. Let us keep up continuous efforts and transfer the efforts to the next generation. Our ultimate goal is to enhance awareness of natural disasters in families, schools and local communities around the world. NDYS will build a global disaster management education network utilizing Information and Communications Technology (ICT). Programs include:

1) "Global Disaster Safety Map (GDSM)" program. www.kitamura-lab.jp/cosmos/ and ndys.iearn.jp/GDSM.htm. Students create a Disaster Safety Map of their school's surrounding areas. Students research the environment near their school and put information in the map such as which places are safe and which might be dangerous. They then send a photo of their completed disaster safety map to ndys@iearn.jp. The map will be uploaded to 'CoSMOS' (Collaborative Safety Maps on Open System), too. You may also put your map in the NDYS album iEARN Collaboration Center. Each month, we will discuss students' disaster safety map through Video-conferencing and on the iEARN forum.

2) NDYS Teddy Bear Exchange and Kid's Safety Bag. As a subsidiary program, the NDYS Teddy Bears (NDYS Little Ambassadors) will be exchanged between partner schools to strengthen the friendly bond at the NDYS conference. Each school can make Kid's Safety Bag (Emergency bag), too.

3) Discussion, Exhibition and Oral Presentation. As the final event of the project, we will get together at the 18th Annual iEARN Conference and 15th Annual Youth Summit in Taiwan, and make an exhibition of maps and oral presentations as the NDYS 2011 in Taiwan. Through this program, students will grow as global citizens who take action and share their knowledge of disaster management with local people. We expect students to be NDYS Ambassadors to let people understand the importance of natural disaster preparedness. Through these efforts, schools can become centers of community education for disaster management. We welcome teachers and civic volunteers to support students' learning and activities.

4) Original Activities at your school. You can introduce original activities at your school related to disaster reduction or climate change.

A project in which children learn how to cope with natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, floods, hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, droughts through communication and collaboration with global friends.

This year's theme: Climate Change and Disaster Reduction.

Slogan: Communication saves lives!

NDYS 2011 International Conference will be held in Taiwan at the iEARN Annual Conference in Taiwan, July 2011.



Ages: All
Dates: Ongoing. Natural Disaster Youth Summit 2011 will be held July 2011 in Taiwan.
Language(s): Mainly English and Japanese. Other languages will be used as supporting languages.
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