

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Our joint contribution towards making the WCDRR inclusive

UNISDR, the Host Government of Japan, and the Host City Sendai are committed to organizing an accessible Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. To this end, a number of innovative measures are being implemented to provide accessibility and reasonable accommodation.

Conference Facilities

The official conference venue is well equipped for persons with disabilities.

Throughout the conference UNISDR and the Host City/Government will station assistants at an Accessibility Help Desk to guide participants with disabilities.

Communication Access Real time Translation [CART]

Several rooms, including that of the official statements, will provide Communication Access Real time Translation [CART] in English and Japanese. CART is the simultaneous captioning of speech, which is beneficial to persons hard of hearing, is also useful for people whose first language is different from the language being used, and can be read visually or through a personal device. Wireless service at Sendai International Center will enable use of CART on personal devices.

Sign language interpretation

International Sign will be provided on a demand basis for Official Conference sessions also providing interpretation. In addition, in rooms where spoken English-Japanese interpretation for Official Conference session is available, Japanese Sign Language interpretation will be provided on a demand basis.

Documentation

Background document

Key background documents for the conference will be provided in accessible format so that the expertise of persons with disabilities can then feed into discussions.

Outcome document

Key outcome documents from the conference will be provided in accessible format(s) to ensure immediate transition into the implementation phase.

Emergency manual

Drawing upon good practices from the field, UNISDR in collaboration with the Host City will prepare an emergency response manual in accessible format(s) for the Sendai International Center. This manual will be accessible to all participants of the

Conference including children, older persons, persons with "print disabilities" (i.e. visual impairment, dyslexia, etc.)

Participation

Registration deadlines are approaching fast:
www.wcdrr.org/conference/registration/

Officially Registered Participants with special requests, including persons with disabilities, are encouraged to send their requests to the contacts listed below. An Accessibility Helpdesk inside the Sendai International Center will provide accessibility information, guidance, and support to persons with disabilities at the venue. The Helpdesk will be located on the second floor of the Sendai International Center.

Public forum participants with special requests, including persons with disabilities, (but without official accreditation and badge) a Helpdesk located at the Sendai Station will provide accessibility information and guidance to persons with disabilities from the general public.



Support for travel

Travel support for invited speakers with disabilities and their assistants may be available and provided upon request. In addition, registered participants may request information on accessibility of accommodation, easy transit, transportation from the airport to the venue, etc. from the organizing team. Requests should be made as far in advance as possible. During the Conference, Official Participants may contact the Accessibility Helpdesk for travel guidance and support.

Accommodation

If you have special requirements regarding accommodation, kindly send requests to contacts listed below as soon as possible so that necessary arrangements may be made.

Assessment of website

The World Conference Website will undergo an audit by a third party to ensure that all users have equal access to its information. www.wcdrr.org/

Contacts

For more information and questions, please contact the following:
Mr. Hiroshi Kawamura (atdo-staff@atdo.jp)
Mr. Matthew Rodieck (matthew.rodieck@yahoo.co.uk)

Maps

The locations of various facilities, venues in Sendai are indicated on the map here: <http://tinyurl.com/handbook-wcdrr>

Description:

- Sendai Station is located 17 km North to the Sendai Airport and takes 25 minutes by train.
- Sendai International Center is located 2 km West to Sendai Station and takes 40 minutes by walk, 15 minutes by bus or taxi via Aoba Dori.
- Public forum venues are located mainly along Jozenji Dori, which runs 800 m North parallel to Aoba Dori.

