

International Conference

# RISK AFTER FUKUSHIMA

Crises, Disasters and Governance

17-18 September 2012

CERI - Sciences Po, 56 Rue Jacob, 75006 Paris



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## International Conference

### Risk after Fukushima

#### *Crises, Disasters and Governance*

17-18 September 2012, CERI- Sciences Po, Paris

The triple disaster that hit Japan on 11 March 2011 has had a profound and transformative effect on the Japanese society, and its chain of impacts goes beyond its national borders. This conference aims first to address the social and political consequences of the disaster, with a special focus on the evacuation of the population and the challenges related to post-disaster management, as more than 350,000 people remain displaced. The focus will then be geared toward the evolution of risk perceptions, as to how the myth of absolute safety as well as the notion of a safe and secure society in Japan have been shattered in the aftermath of the disaster. Finally, the conference will seek to look beyond the disaster: how do democracies deal with extreme risks, and how are collective preferences toward risk translated into the decision-making process?

The Conference is organised by the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI-Sciences Po), in the framework of the DEVAST and Sustainable RIO projects, both of which will present their respective results during the conference. The conference will be held in English.

Registration on [IDDRI's website](#)

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**Information:** [www.iddri.org](http://www.iddri.org) - [www.devast-project.org](http://www.devast-project.org)

## Conference Agenda

### Monday, 17 September 2012

13.30 Registration

14.00 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mr Kazuya Ogawa, Minister at the Japanese Embassy, Paris  
Laurence Tubiana, Director of IDDRI  
Presentations of the DEVAST and Sustainable RIO projects

*"Walking in the Fukushima Hot Zone", a photo essay, Antonio Pagnotta*

### Session I: The 3.11 Disaster in Perspective

14.30 **First Panel: Disaster Evacuation**

*Chair: François Gemenne, IDDRI-Sciences Po*

This panel provides an overview of the disaster response in the aftermath of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami and the ensuing accident of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. The results from the field research conducted under the DEVAST Project will be presented, focusing on the evacuation process and the handling of the disaster by the authorities. The panel will deal with both the evacuation triggered by the tsunami and the evacuation triggered by the nuclear accident, in a comparative perspective.

*4 presentations followed by Q&A*

Louis Géli, IFREMER  
Norichika Kanie, Tokyo Institute of Technology  
Reiko Hasegawa, IDDRI-Sciences Po  
Daria Mokhnacheva, IDDRI-Sciences Po

***Presentation of the DEVAST Project website ([www.devast-project.org](http://www.devast-project.org)),  
David Desrimais, Independent / Digital Publisher***

16.00 Coffee Break

16.30 **Second Panel: Post-Disaster Management**

*Chair: Elodie Vialle, YOUPHIL.com*

This panel seeks to understand the challenges that the affected communities face in the relief and reconstruction process both from natural disasters such as earthquake and tsunami, and man-made disasters such as nuclear accident and conflict. Issues such as local resilience, social and political tensions, and post-crisis management will be discussed in relation to these complex emergencies. The 3.11 disaster will be put in perspective and related to other experiences of post-disaster management.

4 presentations followed by Q&A

Peter Lee, University of Birmingham  
Juana de Catheu, OECD  
Patrick Lagadec, École Polytechnique  
Rathana Peou Van Den Heuvel, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh / BCAS

**Tuesday, 18 September 2012**

## **Session II: Perception and Management of Extreme Risks**

9.15 Registration

### **9.30 First Panel: The Safe Society - Japanese Perceptions**

*Chair: Guibourg Delamotte, INALCO*

Despite Japan's extensive experience in dealing with natural catastrophes, the 3.11 disaster raised serious questions regarding its disaster preparedness and its notion of safety. The poor handling of the nuclear crisis shook public trust in the government and major corporations, traditionally considered as the guarantors of the public safety and welfare. Meanwhile, the contamination of the land and the sea by radiation, in a country as densely populated as Japan, will have lasting ramifications for the entire population and for the local and national economy, as the prospects for return and reconstruction in these areas remain unclear. This panel intends to decode the profound and transformative impacts of the 3.11 catastrophe on the Japanese society from social, economic, political and cultural perspectives and expose the intensive political debates triggered by the catastrophe in Japan.

4 Presentations followed by Q&A

Noriyuki Ueda, Tokyo Institute of Technology  
Philippe Pelletier, University of Lyon II / Sciences Po Lyon  
Cécile Sakai, Paris Diderot University  
Rina Kojima, IDDRI-Sciences Po / EHESS

11.15 Coffee Break

### **11.45 Second Panel: A Chain of Impacts – The Meaning of the Fukushima Disaster**

*Chair: Michel Colombier, IDDRI-Sciences Po*

The initial earthquake triggered a chain of impacts that profoundly shook the foundations of the Japanese society. The nuclear accident of Fukushima is naturally at the heart of this chain of impacts: this panel will reflect on the way the accident was handled, as well as on its repercussions on the way nuclear risks are perceived, not only in Japan, but also abroad. How did the accident affect our perceptions of risk, and what does this chain of impacts unfold? Though industrialised societies are typically considered as less vulnerable than developing countries, such chains of impacts reveal significant vulnerabilities.

*4 Presentations followed by Q&A*

Shunji Matsuoka, Waseda University  
Olivier Isnard, IRSN  
Alexandre Magnan, IDDRI-Sciences Po  
Gabrielle Hecht, University of Michigan

13.15 Lunch

14.45 **Third Panel: Risk, Democracy and Collective Preferences**

*Chair: tbd*

The regulation of collective risks, such as nuclear installations, imposes a reflection on how policy-making should better represent individual preferences with regard to risk. The question becomes even more crucial when individual perceptions of risk evolve in the aftermath of a disaster. In Japan, the public's dissatisfaction and mistrust toward the government increased and prompted new social activism, while discussions are still ongoing in France. How do democracies apprehend individual preferences towards risk and aggregate them into public decisions?

*5 Presentations followed by Q&A*

Elisa Vecchione, IDDRI-Sciences Po  
Claude Henry, Sciences Po Paris / Columbia University  
Leonardas Rinkevicius, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences  
Jean-Pierre Dupuy, Stanford University – *to be confirmed*  
Pierre Lascoumes, CEE-Sciences Po – *to be confirmed*  
Bruno Latour, Sciences Po – *to be confirmed*

16.30 **Concluding Remarks**

François Gemenne, IDDRI-Sciences Po  
Elisa Vecchione, IDDRI-Sciences Po

Disaster EVAcuation and RiSkPercepTion in Democracies (**DEVAST**) is a project implemented in collaboration with Tokyo Institute of Technology (TITech) and Waseda University of Japan. It aims to examine the social, economic and political impacts of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Tsunami, and Fukushima nuclear accident with a special focus on the disaster evacuation and the perception of risks. The project runs from October 2011 to March 2013. It is jointly funded by the French National Research Agency and the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

**Website:** <http://www.devast-project.org>

Sustainable Development Reflexive Inputs to World Organisation (**Sustainable RIO**) is a European project funded under the 7th Framework Programme. Its objective is to confront the conceptual and empirical underpinnings of inertia of sustainable development and derive policy implications for the EU by using two sustainable development issues as case studies—namely climate change and the bottom billion. The duration of the project is of three year: October 2009-September 2012.

**Website:** <http://sustainablerio.eu/blog/>