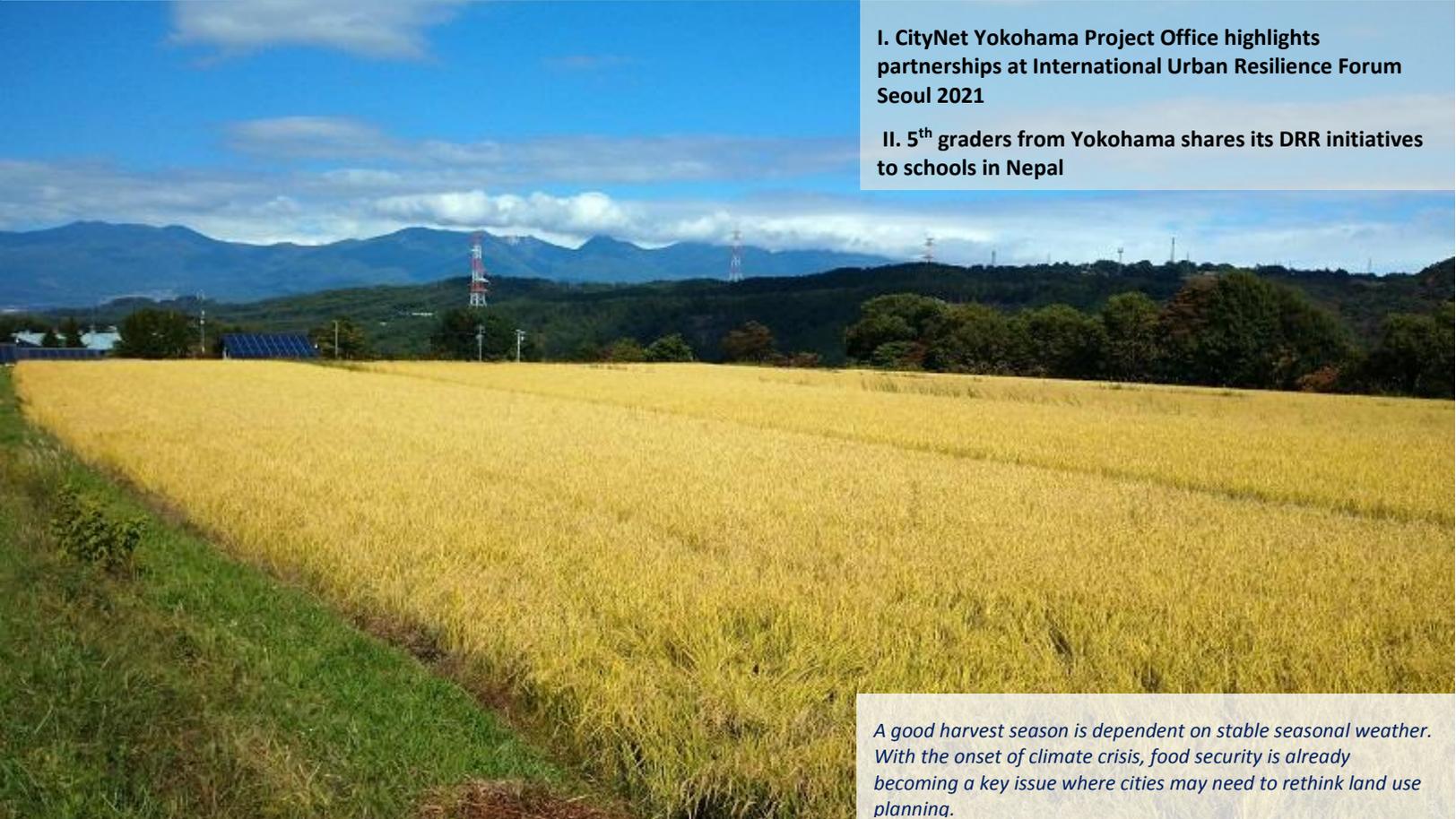


I. CityNet Yokohama Project Office highlights partnerships at International Urban Resilience Forum Seoul 2021

II. 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Yokohama shares its DRR initiatives to schools in Nepal



*A good harvest season is dependent on stable seasonal weather. With the onset of climate crisis, food security is already becoming a key issue where cities may need to rethink land use planning.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The 14<sup>th</sup> CityNet Disaster Cluster Seminar is scheduled for **November 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. The three sessions are **The Role of Cities in Urban Health Emergency Preparedness, Making Cities Resilient 2030, and ICT and Data Driven DRR** respectively. Further program details including speaker information and registration is available on our website. It will be regularly updated with new information.

For program and registration, please click [HERE](#).

## I. CityNet Yokohama Project Office highlights partnerships at International Urban Resilience Forum Seoul 2021

Seoul Metropolitan Government hosted **International Urban Resilience Forum Seoul 2021** in on September 28<sup>th</sup> on three thematic areas – The New Normal of Smart Safe City, The Role of Cities: Digital Inclusion and Resilience and Cities’ Actions Against Everyday Disaster Risks.

During the second forum on **The Role of Cities: Digital Inclusion and Resilience** Mr. Kendra Hirata, Director of Programs of CityNet Yokohama Project Office commented on presentations from six experts representing UNDRR, Sungkyunkwan University, Resilient Cities Network, Buenos Aires, Amadora and New Delhi.

Mr. Hirata commented on how digital transformation has helped cities and institutions deal better with disaster risks and improved outreach towards the public. However, at the same there is an increasing digital divide despite the progress in connectivity as the cities are under immense pressure to provide timely and quality public services, he added. Mr. Hirata noted that one of key challenges remain to be the **capacity of the city employees** in adopting technology in their work.

To bring about the change in digital adaptability, a key component would be the **institutionalization of the system** in the entire city’s work. While it is understood that the cities hold a wealth of data that can be put to good use, it is also essential to encourage private sector involvement in introducing technology oriented public service strategies which may be partnered with the local governments. For this, it is equally important to capacitate the local governments to adopt digital transformation and engage other urban stakeholders for a concerted effort in minimizing that digital divide so that every citizen will feel the impact of a better service delivery and inclusiveness when it comes to receiving timely and essential services.

In the seven presentations, Mr. Hirata pointed out the fact that in order to bring about applicable changes in the cities, **institutionalization and partnerships of key programs** are necessary with multi-sector engagement to fulfill the goal of providing timely and much needed public services.



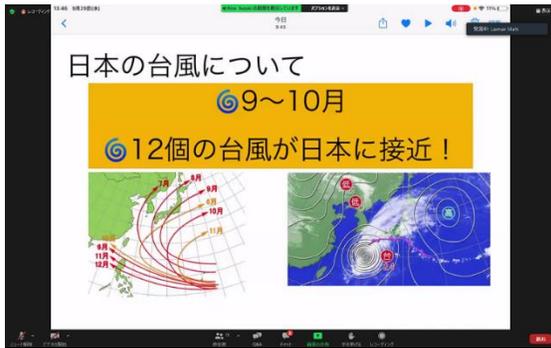
## II. 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Yokohama shares its DRR initiatives to schools in Nepal

As a part of the ongoing initiative on sharing DRR initiatives and knowledge among the four countries of Japan, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Kamishirane Elementary School in Yokohama presented their initiatives to the 10<sup>th</sup> graders of Kathmandu and Lalitpur. More than 90 students, teachers and stakeholders participated in the online exchange.

The students from Yokohama prepared their own presentation material including taking pictures and videos for the presentation which explained their school environment as well as activities very well. The presentation included specific topics of typhoon and earthquakes where the students explained the specific preventive actions that they take at home and school to minimize risks.



Slide illustrating two main hazards – typhoons and earthquakes – that the students discussed during the exchange.



Slide explaining how typhoons are born in the Pacific and move towards Japan each year.



Photos and illustrations explain how preventive measures can be taken against typhoons.

For typhoons, the students explained that moving loose objects such as flower pots inside the house and taping the glass windows are effective ways to prevent injuries during strong winds. Likewise, for the earthquakes, the students explained that they practice securing furniture from falling, stockpile on food and water, prepare emergency bags, and each have a helmet in school to be used during earthquakes.

While the preventive practices are common in all the schools in Japan, it is not widely practiced in Nepal therefore the knowledge exchange is expected to further enhance usage of the applicable preventive actions in Nepal.



Students from Yokohama's elementary school asks questions to Nepalese students after the



Students from Nepal attentively listens to the presentations made from Yokohama.

The next two online exchanges are scheduled in November. In the first exchange, the schools from Nepal will share their initiatives to the high schools in Matsuyama and in the second exchange, Navamindradhiraj University from Bangkok will share their initiative to the schools in Matsuyama city. The high schools in Matsuyama have already shared their initiatives in July.

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CITYNET Yokohama Project Office

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