



One Year After the Great East Japan Earthquake Energy Policy in Japan and Germany – A Comparison

WAKISAKA Noriyuki (Editorial Writer, The Asahi Shimbun)

A year has passed since the huge natural catastrophes struck northeastern Japan. Tens of thousands of victims, along with the destruction of many homes through the gigantic Tsunami and the nuclear power plant accident of Fukushima 1 and its consequent radioactive contamination meant for Japan huge damages and cruel strokes of fate, where people even talked of a “second defeat” following that of the Second World War.

A year has passed since that tragic day, and even though many Japanese are feeling the hurt all over again, they strongly believe in reconstruction and regeneration. What we have lived through over the past year is not a “post-war period” such as that experienced 67 years ago; rather it’s a “natural catastrophe period”.

One of the great changes concerns energy policy. Since the maximum credible accident at Fukushima, all active nuclear power plants have undergone very strict and rigorous security testing. As a consequence many of the plants were shut down. At the beginning of February only three nuclear power plants were still operating (from a total of 54). Even when nuclear power plants are allowed to operate again due to concerns of power shortages, their number will still be limited. In fact, currently we are seeing a “reduction” and an “abandonment” of nuclear energy.

Prime Minister KAN who stepped down last year, had proclaimed phasing out nuclear power as the goal. The incumbent Prime Minister NODA has emphasized the importance of security of nuclear power plants but is not following such a clear course of action.

It is the inhabitants of the regions where the nuclear power plants are located and their political leaders who are demanding

the shutdown of the plants and a phasing out of nuclear power.

It was the municipal governments who authorized the re-commissioning of nuclear power plants after regular inspections. In view of the many people who had to leave their homes due to the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, many people are wondering, “what would happen if a similar accident happened in their nuclear power plant.” The lord mayors and governors realize exactly the pressure they would feel from their local constituents if they were to approve a re-commissioning.

People in the cities are also afraid of the radioactive contamination, particularly young families with small children. In Ōsaka und Tōkyō petitions are being circulated with the demand for a referendum about the pros and cons of nuclear power plants.

Even if these emotions are less strong, there are commonalities with Germany where it has already been decided to phase out nuclear power. However, Japanese energy policy is influenced by circumstances that don’t exist in Germany.

For a start there is the question of the temporary nationalization of the Tokyo Electric Power Company Inc. (TEPCO), under whose responsibility the accident occurred. There are strong demands to compensate the victims, to decontaminate the radioactive material and to shut down the four reactors of the Fukushima nuclear power plant. The costs will be covered by the government; however, in total, more than 100 billion Euros will be needed. Measures to assist include the temporary nationalization of TEPCO and increasing power fees.

Secondly, efforts to develop renewable energy are a little late. The government

is seeking a solution to the problem of global warming through nuclear power and is postponing the demands for renewable energy. A feed-in tariff system, similar to what was introduced in Germany ten years ago, will commence in Japan in July this year. A change of direction has only just occurred here. Until now we had single-mindedly pursued one direction with nuclear power plant companies playing central roles.

Thirdly there are differences in liberalization policies in Germany and Japan. In Germany there used to be a regional monopoly of energy power plant companies. However, due to EU guidelines, since the 1990s there has been push for a separation in electricity generation between distribution and transmission, as well as liberalization of trade, which has completely changed the structure of the energy industry. In contrast, in Japan the structure of regional monopolies in the energy industry still remains very strong.

CONTENT

One Year After the Earthquake...	
WAKISAKA Noriyuki	1–2
<i>Interview</i>	
Udo Henkel	3
<i>Interview</i>	
Reinhard Zöllner	4
<i>Exchange Programs</i>	
Berlin Artists in Tōkyō	5
<i>Preview of Events 2012</i>	7
<i>Last Page</i>	
Projects in Japan	8

There is currently lively debate how to break down these outdated structures. There are numerous promising recommendations to strengthen government control of the distribution and transmission fields of energy suppliers and to facilitate new suppliers with entry into the market.

Interesting is the question is whether political influence of Japanese energy suppliers is stronger than compared to those in Germany back then. There are always a few CEO's of electricity association sprinkled amongst Japan's economic leaders. Usually they act in alliance with government and, in contrast to what occurs with German energy suppliers, there are practically no demands for compensation and the government is not sued. Lobby groups are heavily active behind the scenes until a decision is made on a government policy, but once a decision has been passed, they all submit.

As of spring we will slowly see the new shape of the Japanese energy policy. In March they will have finished drafting the energy system reform and the Basic Energy Plan, and a nation-wide debate will ensue. In April the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) will no longer be a part of the METI and the Nuclear Regulatory Agency will be established and affiliated with the Ministry for the Environment. In June a TEPCO share holders meeting will convene that predicts a temporary nationalization of the company. An investigative report on the accident in the Fukushima nuclear power plant will be presented to parliament and government. The majority of these points should have been dealt with before summer.

Nevertheless, it still remains quite unclear how the current government will develop under Prime Minister NODA. There is still considerable opposition to the planned legislation to increase sales tax. If this leads to dissolution of the lower house and new elections, the energy reform process will be interrupted.

Currently the most interesting politician is the Minister for Economics EDANO, whose portfolio also includes energy policies. A year ago the then 46-year old gave daily reports to the mass media on the situation of Fukushima nuclear power plant's reactors. He repeatedly stated that the radioactive contamination would "not necessarily be dangerous for the health."

He was sharply criticized for this ambiguous statement.

Indeed, EDANO is very careful with regard to the re-commissioning of the currently shutdown nuclear power plant. When a meeting of experts on this issue was interrupted by a protest by anti-nuclear power plant activists, EDANO criticized the protestors but assured everyone that "he had no ambition to expedite the re-commissioning."

With regard to the future development we need to critically assess our "modern society" with its one-sided focus on mass production and economic growth based on consumption. It would be a valid goal to develop policies for declining economic growth with minimum energy consumption suitable for a developed country to provide ongoing medical treatment and care, pension and child care.

In contrast to this viewpoint, the rival within the party for the next candidature for the position of prime minister, 49-year old MAEHARA, supports a policy of more growth. Incidentally, he is a fervent supporter of re-commissioning the nuclear power plant and exporting similar power plants to developing countries. An article published in the Asahi Shimbun, that sought to compare both positions, was very popular to the wider public audience.

The dispute and rivalry between EDANO and MAEHARA will undoubtedly play an important role in the consideration of Japan's future direction of energy policies.



WAKISAKA Noriyuki participated in the 20th meeting of the Japanese-German Forum, held in Tōkyō October 4 and 5, 2011. He has been in Germany repeatedly during the last months.

Dear Readers!

As WAKISAKA Noriyuki emphasizes in his article, one of the significant projects for the year ahead – as well as for the JDZB – will be to explore and examine from different perspectives the energy policies of Japan and Germany after Fukushima to enable us to present future visions. Another important task ahead is how we will shape relations of both our countries with Russia and China in the future.

In my personal observations of Germany over 40 years, partly from afar in Japan and partly through living here, since reunification in 1990, Germany has arrived at the center stage of Europe. The country has freed itself from the constraints of the role of political dwarf and economic giant and – as shown by the Euro crisis for example – has taken the political initiative. I am very curious about how Germany will become stronger, both through EU enlargement and deepening EU integration.

I sincerely hope that the JDZB will continue to deepen the cultural dialog between both countries and, consequently, that our future young generations of both countries develop a mutual interest.

I am very pleased that the various events held to commemorate the 150th anniversary of relations between Japan and Germany were so warmly and widely received. I hope these lead to more innovative projects in the future.

My duties at the JDZB are coming to an end after three years. I would like to thank warmly all my colleagues at the JDZB for all the kindness and support they have shown me on numerous occasions.

Thank you very much. *Auf Wiedersehen*, and best wishes to all.

SHIMIZU Yōichi

Deputy Secretary General of the JDZB

jdzb echo

Published quarterly in March – June – Sept. – Dec.

Publisher:

Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB)

Editor: Michael Niemann

Tel.: +49-30-839 07 186, E-Mail: niemann@jdzb.de

The jdzb echo can be downloaded as a pdf-document from the JDZB Homepage or subscribed to by E-Mail.

Address of the JDZB:

Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany

Tel.: +49-30-839 07 0 Fax: +49-30-839 07 220

E-Mail: jdzb@jdzb.de URL: <http://www.jdzb.de>

Opening hours of the Library:

Tue 10 am–4 pm; Wed + Thu 12 noon–6 pm

Society of Friends of the JDZB: freundeskreis@jdzb.de

On June 14 and 15, 2012, a symposium in collaboration with the German-Japanese Lawyers Association (GJLA) will be held on the topic "Compliance – New Challenges for International German and Japanese Companies." Below is an interview with a board member of the GJLA and partner of Baker & McKenzie law firm in Munich, Dr. Udo Henkel.

Could you explain the origin and meaning of the term "compliance"?

The term 'compliance' (from "to comply with") has been adopted into German commercial law from Anglo Saxon legal terminology. It means abiding by legal and in-house regulations. Above all it refers to how we ensure compliance of regulations through the introduction of suitable measures within a company.

Which countries are particularly successful in the extra-territorial application of anti-corruption laws?

The USA is a trailblazer in this regard. The so-called Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) from 1977 that criminalizes the bribing of foreign officials is not only applicable to US American companies and citizens but applies to a number of other areas as well. Even foreign companies can be subjected to the law under some circumstances. It not only applies to companies, even staff not employed within the US can be prosecuted under criminal and civil law.

What's happening in Japan and Germany?

In Germany the corruption of foreign officials is coming under increasing attention of law enforcement authorities. Relevant statistics from the German Federal Office of Criminal Investigation reveal an increase in the number of officially registered crimes against the law to fight international corruption. In 2004 only four crimes were recorded, and in 2010 this had grown to 69. The Olympus case clearly reveals that corruptive behavior in companies is increasingly a focus for public prosecutors and the media, not only in Europe but in Japan as well.

Are there special characteristics of each country?

Yes. In the USA there is a clear focus on

the perception of corruption of government officials. In Europe we can see a growing interest in corruption within commercial transactions, i.e., the corruption of private individuals.

Another great difference is between continental European and Anglo Saxon legal systems with regard to the communication of official authorities' expectations of companies: in Great Britain and the US, companies are clearly instructed in official requirements and documentation with regard to compliance. In Germany you would search in vain for something similar.

Do you have any concrete examples of misconduct by companies that can especially contribute to our understanding of the new anti-corruption measures?

Over the past few years wide media attention has predominantly focused on the cases of corruption in Siemens, Daimler, MAN and Ferrostaal. In these cases third-party companies have played a special role. This has led companies to examine more closely their potential business partners than they did ten years ago. So-called "business partner screenings" are now commonly executed before commencement of any business relations.

What do you think then are the special challenges for internationally active Japanese and German companies?

Even within companies different cultures come up against each other. One of the challenges is to not only prescribe the corporate ethical culture of a company but to live it as well. Other challenges are the different legal requirements of each country and how these are efficiently represented in a compliance organization.

What are, for example, the different forms and boundaries, of – compulsory? voluntary? – cooperation of companies with



domestic and foreign officials?

In some countries companies are obligated to declare any suspicious criminal acts to government officials. By the way, very different cultures exist. In the USA they are obliged to work transparently and from the start with government officials. Similar practices have not developed in Germany for various reasons. In some cases, cooperation with government officials butts up against legal limitations. For example, the US American government officials can request personal information that according to German data protection laws cannot be further communicated.

Final question: How important is the topic "compliance" in international business development, how important is it for the companies – or how important should it become for the companies?

It's currently one of the most important subjects there is. On the one hand companies here have paid very high penalties over the past few years because of corruption or anti-trust violations. On the other hand we are now witnessing a paradigm shift. Out of the necessity to avoid penalties, a culture of corporate ethics is growing that is much more than just a verification of legal compliance. These ethics increase the motivation of staff and improve the public image of the company. It's a truism that acting responsibly and within the law may lower some profits. However, what we don't often see is how a real corporate culture based on values and ethics can lead to other profits.

In December 2011 and January 2012 two workshops were held at the JDZB dealing with the topic “German-Japanese Digital Memory.” The following is an interview with one of the founders of the concept – which developed within the framework of the anniversary year “150 Years Friendship Germany – Japan” – and its goals, Prof. Reinhard Zöllner, Head of the Department for Japan and Korea Studies at Bonn University.

Why a common “memory”, what’s the idea behind it?

The project will seek to collect data, documents and memories related to 150 years of German-Japanese relations and make the collection available to the public. It is intended not only for all those people in Germany who are interested in Japan and those people in Japan with an interest in Germany, but also for researchers and academics who want to work with bilateral relations at a deeper level.

What would it look like?

First of all we would like to bring together the already existing collections of various institutions – government offices, associations, societies etc, and those from individuals and private persons – into a common portal so you can search for key terms and concepts. The final goal is to make all the information available in an online platform and accessible via the internet for everyone to use and to allow access to the various partners’ collections.

Who were the partners for the idea?

There were many: libraries with their collections – large one like the Berlin National Library, university libraries, but also smaller specialized libraries; institutions such as the German Institute for Japan Studies in Tōkyō, which already has a comprehensive Bandō collection with primary sources available online about German prisoners of war in Japan during the First World War; the East Asian association in Tōkyō, which also has its own presence in the internet.

Private individuals are also very important because they can contribute by telling us stories about their lives – indeed, we can assume a large part of the existing information and collections has not even been documented yet. For this reason, other important partners include the German-Japanese Associations in Germany and the Japanese-German Associations in Japan. Their members are important facilitators of German-Japanese relations and through their experiences they are able to judge better what could be important and more importantly: where we can find things that until now remain unknown. They should be active contributors both as suppliers and users of information.

What sort of information already exists?

There’s the magnificent project of the couple Mr. and Mrs. Bürkner that summarizes and introduces the lives of people who play and have played a role in German-Japanese relations (www.das-japanische-gedaechtnis.de).

In addition to private collections there exist official documents such as the political archives of the German Federal Foreign Office and digitalized photo albums and data collections stored at quite different locations – for example, just consider the Engelbert Kaempfer estate in Lemgo or the Siemens archives in Munich.

We might present all of these collections and make them accessible so that a dynamic and user-friendly platform is created that is also accessible to the Japanese side.

This is a very ambitious project. What do you think the chances are for actual implementation?

Naturally we have to consider a few things, for example, creating the framework for the organization, the digitalization and its financing, but also questions of future support for users and sustainable information.

We would like to introduce the idea and concept with a demonstration version which allows us to show how on the one hand various data sources can be uniformly presented, and on other hand how different partners – institutions and people – can interact and exchange on a common communication platform. We are certain that this demo version will be finished in the first half of 2012 and we can present it to the public.



By the way, the project shall be named “Dokumon” which is a mixture of ‘document’ and ‘monument’, as well as a play on the Japanese words for ‘Germany’ (doku) and ‘portal’ (mon). We hope that the name both in German and Japanese is easily identified and associated with our project to become a German-Japanese portal for mutual perception.

Last question: What would a German-Japanese digital memory look like when it’s ‘finished’?

It will never be finished because humans are always experiencing something new that could be added to the collection... It is intended for all those who are interested in the other country and the bilateral relations between these two countries, everything they would like to know – starting from important documents and books and information about topics of the past and present – everything can be found, even including current event tips – and not only that: through this platform old and new friends can find each other, communicate with one another and find old and new friends again – this would be an incredible enrichment to German-Japanese relations!



Berlin Artists in Tôkyô

February 14, Yoyogi Park, Tôkyô. A walk in the mist. The ravens caw from the treetops and a jogger runs his lonely laps. The waysides are dug out and cleanly barricaded, all over the exclusion zone green lights flash. The bare trees reflecting in the puddles, and we can't help but think that everything has its proper place here.

We're artists that live and work together in Berlin. What are we doing in Tôkyô, how did we get here and why is this our third consecutive year in Japan? A retrospective in a rainy Yoyogi.

The Kunsthochschule Berlin (Berlin College of Arts), where Matthias Wermke studies, has a treaty of collaboration with the Hiroshima City University. Quite often the collaboration is based on the opportunity to spend one of several exchange semesters in the partner school. However, in spring and autumn 2008 a joint exhibition that was shown first in Berlin and then later in Hiroshima, brought together more closely the artists, the two cities and the cultures. And a few of our works were presented there as well. At this exhibition in Hiroshima the art curator TAKEHISA YÛ from Art Tower Mito saw our works and invited us to an exhibition in Mito in February 2010. This exhibition was very good for us and an important experience. The precision in preparations, the exchange of content and the quality of the exhibition impressed us immensely. Even here there was a typical Japanese sense of order yet the curator was successful in creating a balance between order and artistic freedom. The opportunity to participate in an exhibition in a large museum in Japan - was incredible for us, we were only still art students. The flight together to Japan, our preparations for the exhibition and to spend a week getting to know the City of Tôkyô after the exhibition's opening in Mito, was fascinating for us. The people, the different styles of architecture, the tempo and urbanity of the city fascinated us.

Tôkyô felt like a giant playground, especially for our work that deals with spaces and paths that reach beyond the public sphere. It was clear to us that we had to try and organize a longer stay to create any work here. Consequently, we applied for an artist in residence program TWS – Tôkyô Wonder Site for a longer sojourn in Tôkyô. At the same time the Museum of Contemporary Art Tôkyô (MOT) invited us in autumn 2011 to an exhibition about modern art and artists living in Berlin entitled "Berlin 2000 – 2011: playing among the ruins." We tried to synchronize our first

stay at the Tôkyô Wonder Site with the beginning of the exhibition. However, due to the Tôhoku earthquake, the Tsunami and the nuclear power plant catastrophe, the funds for our trip were unavailable. Our visit to Japan was at the tipping point. Thus, the institution started to look for sponsors that would allow us to make the journey and be present during the MOT exhibition. We were greatly honored that the JDZB and the Goethe Institute Tôkyô made our trip to Japan possible. In addition to the very successful exhibition we were able to do research for a whole month long for our new works.

In January 2012 we then took up an invitation from the TWS and returned to Tôkyô for three months to create the new pieces. In the meantime we completed our studies and already we had the feeling that it wasn't the end of the world. It was this clichéd view: young East German students in a huge museum in the big foreign world. It continues to be exciting and new for us here, but the clichés banished from our minds relatively quickly. We are very curious how the people here will react to our work. Until now, our art pieces have met with great interest here. Still, it is a great opportunity and a challenge to create a piece of art in Japan that seeks to respond to the special characteristics of the City of Tôkyô. We see Tôkyô with the naive eyes of children and the open-mindedness of a stranger, and try to playfully experience the city. Art has the freedom of not pursuing a purpose and can therefore question existing conventions and make visible the potential and beauty of our everyday lives.



And we're walking again in Yoyogi Park under a cloudy sky with a feeling of an all-encompassing order, and conventions. We have found an artistic way to deal with this order and in the exhibition "HongoNoShow" our video installation will show the City of Tôkyô in a very unusual way. The group exhibition opens on March 9th in the TWS-Hongo with works from artists from Japan, China, Switzerland and Germany, which were created during artist in residency programs at the Tôkyô Wonder Site (www.hongonoshow.com).

In order to maintain close ties in the future as well, at the beginning of 2012 Tôkyô and Berlin have established a permanent mutual exchange program for artists. And there's still work we can do.

Matthias Wermke & Mischa Leinkauf
www.stopmakiningsense.de





Opening of the “Lumière” installation by UCHIKURA Hitomi, on January 27, 2012, at the JDZB.

The works of UCHIKURA, who preferably uses the medium of translucent materials such as paper or glass, are three-dimensional and enable a dialog with artificial or natural sources of light. Light and shadow are central topics of her work and create a mystical atmosphere.

This unusual exhibition was on display at the JDZB until February 24, 2012.

113th Dahlem Musical Soiree at the JDZB on January 13, 2012. The New Year’s concert of traditional and modern compositions was created by Gotō Makiko (Koto, Japanese zither) and Harrie Starreveld (flute/shakuhachi, Japanese bamboo flute).



Two Japanese silent movies were shown at the JDZB on December 2, 2011, and at the Babylon Cinema on December 3, 2012, as a fascinating mix of cinema and theater with a live narrator and musical accompaniment.

Narrators for silent movies (benshi) nowadays exist only in Japan. One of the most famous narrators, SAWATO Midori performed at the JDZB. She was accompanied with music performed by SUZUKI Makiko (flute) and YUASA Jōichi (guitar, shamisen).

The silent movies shown were “Kid Commotion” (Kodakara sōdō) and “The Downfall of Osen” (Orizuru Osen).



Public panel discussion with the JDZB, the German daily newspaper “die tageszeitung” and the Heinrich Böll Foundation on December 6, 2011, on the topic “Crisis Point in Japan – Opportunities for Reform After Fukushima?” The panel included, seated from left: Dr. Friederike Bosse, Secretary General of the JDZB; Prof. UETA Takako, International Christian University, Tōkyō; Chair Sven Hansen, die tageszeitung; and ABE Nobuyasu, Japan Institute of International Affairs, Tōkyō.

CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Conference: Rio plus 20

C: German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

Date: June 2012

German China Discourses

C: German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Hamburg; German Association for Asian Studies, Hamburg

Date: Beginning of July, in Tōkyō

German-Japanese Security Workshop II

C: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin; Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (CPDNP) at the Japan Institute for International Affairs (JIIA), Tōkyō

July 6, 2012, in Tōkyō

Symposium: Germany – Russia – Japan II

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin; Institute for International Policy Studies, Tōkyō

Date: September 2012, in Moskau

Symposium: Germany – China – Japan

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin; Institute for International Policy Studies, Tōkyō

November 11, 2012, in Tōkyō

RAW MATERIALS, ENERGY, CLIMATE ENVIRONMENT

Conference: Energy Innovation and Green Growth in Asia and Germany

C: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin

July 4, 2012, in Tōkyō

Conference: Resources, Energy and Climate – Opportunities and Challenges in Germany and Japan

C: Wuppertal Institute for Climate the Environment and Energy

Date: End of 2012

DEMOGRAPHY

Japanese-German Symposium on Adult Guardianship

C: Japan Adult Guardianship Law Association, Tōkyō

May 3, 2012

Symposium: Time Management as a Family Policy

C: Tsukuba University; Gießen University

September 17 – 18, 2012

PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Conference: Improving the Teaching of Mathematics and Natural Sciences II

C: Free University Berlin; Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), Tōkyō

Date: November 2012, in Tōkyō

Symposium: German-Japanese Cooperation in Disaster Protection

C: Association for International Disaster Prevention (DTRG), Berlin

Date: September 2012

STATE, ENTERPRISES, CIVIL SOCIETY

Symposium: Compliance – New Challenges for International German and Japanese Companies.

C: German-Japanese Lawyers Association, Hamburg

June 14 – 15, 2012

Symposium: Social Effects of Large Catastrophes on Communities

C: Duisburg-Essen University; The Japan Foundation, Tōkyō

Date: To be confirmed, in Tōkyō or Sendai

Conference: Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) Europe-Japan

C: German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

Date: to be confirmed

DIALOG OF CULTURES

European Policy Seminar

C: German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn

Date: September 2012

SPECIAL PROJECT

21st Meeting of Japanese-German Forum

C: Japan Center for International Exchange, Tōkyō

November 6 – 7, 2012

CULTURAL EVENTS

CONCERT (7.30 p.m.)

115th Dahlem Musical Soiree, March 15

AGATSUMA, HIROMITSU (Shamisen)
AKITA Shinji (Klavier)

116th Dahlem Musical Soiree, June 20

KUSAKA Sayoko and Ensemble

117th Dahlem Musical Soiree, October 19

NAKAMURA Tempei (Jazzpiano)

EXHIBITION

Exhibition “TEGAMI and Latest Art Works from Tōhoku – Perspectives of Japanese Artists after March 11”

Opening: March 11, 2012, 4.15 p.m.

On display until April 24, 2012

KATŌ Atsuko (Paintings) and KATŌ Kuniko (Sculptures)

Opening: May 11, 2012

OKABAYASHI Mayumi

Opening: September 7, 2012

COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

in Memory of the Earthquake and Tsunami Catastrophe in Japan on March 11, 2011

March 11, 2012, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

PARLOR CHAT

with the conductor SADO Yutaka

March 28, 2012, 7.30 p.m.

JDZB OPEN HOUSE

on June 9, 2012, from 2 p.m.

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- Junior Experts Exchange Program
- German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
- Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
- Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
- Exchange Program for Young Employees
- Takenoko Fund

For details of the programs, please refer to “<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Exchange Programs”

Opening hours of exhibitions:

Monday to Thursday 10 am to 5 pm, Friday
10 am to 3.30 pm.

C: = in cooperation with

Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise.

For more information please refer to:
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Activities

For information on JDZB language courses please refer to:
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Japanese Courses

2012 Disaster Protection Meeting of School Students February 4 and 5, 2012, at the National Awaji Youth Friendship Center of the National Institute for Youth Education (NIYE)



For many years now NIYE has been a partner organization of the JDZB in the field of youth exchange. In February this year, the institute organized a meeting with workshops on the theme disaster protection attended by school students from elementary and secondary schools located in regions of northeast Japan, where the great catastrophes of 11th March 2011 occurred, or from Kansai, the region around Ōsaka and Kōbe and affected by the great earthquake in 1995. All the participants are engaged in preventative measures. In workshops dealing with topics such as “disaster protection measures,” “how to protect your city against catastrophes,” “volunteer work,” etc., efforts were made to raise consciousness for disaster protection and foster social engagement of students. NIYE would like to publicize the results of this meeting not only in Japan but around the world, and it hopes in the future to be able to organize another meeting on disaster protection which would see the involvement of youth from around the world.

This workshop organized by NIYE was supported with 40,000 Euros. (Photos: NIYE)

Declaration on World Disaster Protection

Catastrophes lead to great human suffering.

However, we don't have to bear this suffering alone; we can share the burden and work together. We believe that this helps to prepare for future catastrophes and protect human life.

Here, at this location, where 17 years ago the great Kansai earthquake hit, this is where we take the first step today. Next year we want to meet in Tōhoku. All the people in Japan should learn from the catastrophes and think about how precious life is. In the future these meetings will bring together people from all different countries and lead us to a new way of dealing with disaster protection.



Participants of the meeting presenting the results of the workshop on February 6, 2012, at the German School in Tōkyō Yokohama. (Photo: DSTY)