CSRP 2014



1. Residents of lwaki city, explaining the difficulties of raising children in the current situation. 2. Anand Grover, a Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations, participated by video message.

# **CSRP's planned activities**

CSRP will build up on the past accomplishments by:

- continuing to organize a Citizen-Scientist International Symposium on Radiation Protection every year;
- organizing workshops for the general public so that they can acquire skills to analyze the discourses of the government and its "scientists," and to "decipher" easily missed "inconsistencies" and hidden agendas in such discourses.
- suggesting a new decision-making process where various stakeholders can carry out constructive discussions. This can be accomplished by clearly delineating role sharing between scientific expertise and policy- and decision-making processes, unlike the current policy-making process where decision-making relies on advice by the same recurrent group of "experts."

### **CSRP needs your support**

Your financial support is essential for CSRP to continue and expand activities independent of any existing organizations. We sincerely welcome your partnership.

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#### **Citizen-Scientist** International Symposium on Radiation Protection



# What is CSRP?

The Citizen-Scientist International Symposium on Radiation Protection (CSRP) is a non-profit organization which is politically, financially, ideologically and religiously independent. CSPR was created by concerned, free-thinking citizens who have been committed to keeping radiation damages on health and environment to minimum due to the Tokyo Electric Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP) disaster that followed the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in March 11, 2011.

The TEPCO nuclear disaster dispersed radioactive materials across Fukushima Prefecture and neighboring regions. Radioactive contamination has also affected the entire Eastern Japan, North Pacific Ocean, and the entire northern hemisphere of the planet, and the release from the plant still continues. Even today, no credible technologies are on the horizon to halt the release of radionuclides from FDNPP into the environment, especially the ocean.

Apprehension of the people in contaminated areas is exacerbated by the fact that health effects of low-dose radiation exposure are not yet well understood, and above all, by the mistrust in the information and radiation protection measures provided by the Japanese government.

What is needed now is to minimize the health risks - not the financial cost of reconstruction - by taking proactive radiation protection measures based on the precautionary principle.

The purpose of CSRP is to gather the latest scientific findings from the world on health effects of ionizing radiation and share them with citizens. Furthermore, CSRP aims to provide citizenscientists from within and outside of Japan with a table for discussion on health effects of ionizing radiation and on protective measures, contributing at the same time to the establishment of an extensive international network for citizens' radiation protection.



Round-table with experts and citizens

CSRP 2014



Briefing on the situation at the FDNPP by Hiroaki Koide, a nuclear engineer and a former research associate at the Kyoto University Research Reactor Institute (KURRI).

#### What CSRP has done so far

Since March 11, 2011, CSRP has held an annual international symposium on radiation protection, covering the health and environmental effects of ionizing radiation. During the 2-day session, latest scientific findings were presented by the invited experts, who have steadfastly maintained their independence from the governments and the industries, as well as the mainstream academic societies influenced by such entities.

Adequate time was allotted for roundtable discussions where experts, citizens, and residents of the disaster-affected areas could exchange views in order to explore a way to apply the scientific findings towards improving radiation protection measures already in place.

#### The past four symposia have revealed the following crucial points:

- Many nations, including Japan, base their radiation protection measures on the recommendations by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). However, there is suspicion that ICRP's findings on radiation health effects might be underestimates;
- Very little is known about the levels and the extent of the early exposure to the radioactive plume during the first few days after the accident, and dose reconstruction is essential in predicting potential health effects;
- Rather than being limited to cancers, radiation health effects can extend to a variety of non-cancer diseases;
- Some of the abnormalities observed in animals after the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident have already been seen in the radioactively contaminated areas in Eastern Japan;
- Ever since the accident, official discourses suggest as if the effective dose of 100 mSv might be the threshold under which no health effects are expected;
- The radioprotection system by the government and its collaborative "experts" likely has caused secondary damages in terms of the right to health as well as the protection of human rights;
- In order to fomulate an optimal radiation protection system in the future, it is essential to reach a



1. Keith Baverstock, a radiation biologist, lecture on the health effects of low radiation doses. 2. Presentation by Yoko Matsuda, a researcher at the Research Institute of Disaster Area Reconstruction, Kwansei Gakuin University. 3. Toshihide Tsuda, an epidemiologist at the Okayama University, noted excess cases of childhood thyroid cancer in Fukushima Prefecture.

decision-making through constructive discussions by a wide variety of people. This can be accomplished by establishing a committee consisting of, in addition to radiation-related experts, those affected by the disaster, citizen groups, clinicians, lawyers, social scientists, philosophers, ethicists, etc.

These outcomes have been published in leading scientific journals in Japan, and publicly released in both Japanese and English on CRSP's web site: *http://crsp.jp* 

# **CSRP's objectives in the society**

The TEPCO nuclear disaster, with the resultant radioactive contamination, is a symbolic incident that revealed negative aspects of modern science and technology. It also shares the same underlying issues with other problems our modern society is facing (such as chemical pollution, bioethical issues, and food safety). In short, it portraits how independence of "science" is threatened by the interests of the industry and how such corrupted "science" rules the society.

Current policies underestimate radiation health effects in order to contain future compensations for an enourmous number of victims with potential radiation exposure, encouraging residents to remain in or return to highly contaminated areas ordinarily considered illegal to reside or enter. While "scientists" protected by the government provide "scientific" evidence to such policies, disaster victims and cleanup workers are treated as "non-scientists" and effectively removed from the decision-making process. Furthermore, even at this moment, they are forced to suffer from unnecessary radiation exposure which should not be there to begin with. This picture is nothing other than the epitome of negative aspects of a modern "scientific and technological society."

What needs to be done now is to re-evaluate health effects of radiation on the basis of true "science" independent of politics and industries: a fact-based process of pursuing verifiable knowledge, free from any conflict of interests. We also need to establish a process of finding an optimal way out of the current confusion with no clear visions towards a full restoration of victims' humanity. This can be accomplished by making decisions based on recommendations and opinions not just from scientists but from those with a variety of backgrounds, such as victims, civil groups, experts in other fields, local and central government officials, etc. "CSRP" was conceived as a place to develop and practice such processes.