

# Disaster Mitigation Research Center, Nagoya University

Address: Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, 464-8601, Japan

<http://www.gensai.nagoya-u.ac.jp/>

**Outline:** The Disaster Mitigation Research Center of Nagoya University was newly established in December 2010. Our mission is to promote state-of-the-art disaster mitigation research with a multi-disciplinary approach to construct disaster-resistant region in Nagoya and the surrounding Chukyo area. The Chukyo area has experienced repeated natural disasters such as large earthquakes and floods caused by strong typhoons. However, except for the heavy rain in September 2000, major natural disasters have not hit the Chukyo region for more than half century. Meanwhile, the Chukyo area has grown as the center of Japanese manufacturing industries. On the other hand, the probability of large earthquakes at the Nankai Trough subduction zone is increasing year by year. The next megathrust event may not only cause a severe damage on the Chukyo area, but also strike the economy of whole Japan. Thus it is crucially important to improve disaster preparedness of the regional community to reduce the risk of natural disasters in the future as much as possible. For this purpose, researchers in various disciplines such as architecture, civil engineering, earth science, social sciences, psychology, and medical science start collaborating to develop a disaster mitigation model together with public sections (national as well as local governments), private companies, and NPOs in the local community.

## Research Areas:

Study on earthquakes and volcanoes: Seismology, Volcanology, Geomorphology, Geodesy, Geology, etc.

Study on infrastructural disaster mitigation: Coastal engineering, Hydraulic engineering, Soil engineering, Structural engineering, etc.

Study on architectural and urban disaster mitigation: Earthquake engineering, Architecture, Urban Engineering, etc.

Study on human and societal disaster mitigation: Psychology, Medical Science, Human geography, Economics, Laws, etc.

## Features of Research Activities

Our current efforts are focused on the mitigation of seismic hazard caused by forthcoming megathrust earthquakes along the Nankai Trough, which are anticipated in the middle of this century. We start developing a data bank accumulating existing various datasets, and developing a simulation program for various hazardous phenomena. In addition, we promote collaboration with local government as well as local communities to discuss mitigation plan.

