



Incorporated Administrative Agency  
Japan Water Agency



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Dear Margareta,  
Dear Sasakawa Team colleagues,

With reference to your letter dated 3 October 2014, I am pleased and honored to submit a nomination for the 2015 United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction. The nominee is the International Consortium of Landslides (ICL) which was born in 2002 with the endorsement by UNESCO and ISDR Secretariat.

As you may be aware, landslides are major "killers". The Uttarakhand India landslide in June 2013 claimed 5700 lives. Landslides are caused not only by heavy rainfall but also by other triggers such as earthquakes and volcanic activities. They may be found in any geographical locations with slopes or hills and thus is common to most of the countries. However, surprisingly, prior to 2002 there was neither international academic organization nor international network to address landslide with scientific viewpoint for the sake of reducing casualties and damage from landslides. Landslides were regarded as an adjunct topic often discussed only in the margins of hydro-meteorological, seismological, geological or civil-engineering conferences. Therefore, there was no mechanism to share experiences and knowledge on landslide disaster reduction. There was no common terminology among the few landslide experts thinly scattered around the world.

The formulation of ICL was a breakthrough. ICL created an intellectual network across the continents. In 12 years of existence, they were successful in demonstrating its great value as the catalyst to mobilize resources for investigation and countermeasures against killer landslides especially in disaster prone developing countries. Their member institutions in each country were greatly encouraged and were able to build capacities to address this acute issue in their respective countries. ICL has already applied for activities at WCDRR in March 2015 and intend to further boost their endeavors to contribute to a safer future under a changing climate.

Please find attached the information on ICL according to the questionnaire format. ICL will submit their supporting documents accordingly.

I would appreciate very much if you could carefully examine their supporting documents & materials and present them to the esteemed Sasakawa Jury members.

Sincerely yours.

Satoru Nishikawa  
Vice President, Japan Water Agency,  
member, Advisory Group to SRSF for the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

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