

International Research Activities

1. International Research Activities in the National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management

The NILIM promotes international research activities based on the following three perspectives.

(1) Contributions to domestic policies from the technical aspect

While utilizing bilateral agreements concluded mainly with the NILIM and other agreements concluded by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), the NILIM builds networks with overseas government agencies and others, and at the same time gathers information on advanced cases, etc., and reflects that information in domestic policy proposals and technical standards.

(2) Contributions to technical cooperation with developing nations, etc.

Utilizing the findings obtained and lessons learned from the operation and maintenance of public facilities in Japan, disaster response and the results of research on advanced disaster prevention and disaster mitigation measures reflecting those resources, the NILIM provides support for the establishment of measures against advanced technological challenges faced by the local governments of developing nations, for the formulation of technical standards, and for the improvement of the capabilities of government employees holding technology-related positions.

(3) Contributions to overseas deployment of technologies in which Japan has strengths

Utilizing the findings for the formulation of technical standards that support policy deployment in Japan, the NILIM participates in international standardization activities such as those of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), contributes to international standardization of technologies in which Japan has strengths, and also transmits information on NILIM's research results at conferences of international societies, the NILIM's websites in English, and others.

2. Major International Research Activities in FY 2024

(1) Contributions to domestic policies from the technical aspect

① Research cooperation with the Directorate of Road and Bridge Development Engineering (DRBE), Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Indonesia

The NILIM and the Public Works Research Institute respectively exchanged Memorandums of Understanding on research cooperation in 2009 with DRBE (its predecessor, Institute of Road Engineering (IRE), at the time), having been engaged in research cooperation in the five fields of transport, pavement, tunnels, earthworks and soft ground, and others.

In December 2024, a web conference was held

between the relevant personnel of DRBE and the NILIM/Public Works Research Institute, and opinions were exchanged concerning the activity policy in future and research topics that were presented by the Indonesian side.



Photo-1 Scene of the WEB conference with DRBE

② Meeting between the Directorate for Roads of Vietnam (DRVN) and the NILIM concerning road bridges

With the Directorate for Roads of Vietnam (DRVN) of the Ministry of Traffic and Transport of Vietnam, the NILIM has been engaged in research cooperation based on a Memorandum of Understanding concluded in 2012 between the Ministry of Traffic and Transport of Vietnam and the Road Bureau of the MLIT. Furthermore, the NILIM has deepened its research cooperation activities by concluding a separate agreement on the maintenance and management of road bridges in 2020.

In FY 2024, information was shared on the overview of the revision of the regular inspection procedure in Japan and the statuses of disaster damage due to the Noto Peninsula Earthquake and response, and at the same time opinions were exchanged about the statuses of efforts being made on the inspection of road bridge scour and the building of a road bridge



database among the road administrators, and others.

Photo-2 Scene of the meeting with DRVN

③ Research cooperation with the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) in the urban policy field

The NILIM and the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) continually engage in research exchanges based on a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2012.

In FY 2024, a delegation from the KRIHS visited

Japan in September and conducted a joint survey on the moving of railway tracks underground, redevelopment of the above-ground areas. Also, in February, the NILIM's delegation visited South Korea and held a joint research workshop on the efforts for digital transformation both in Japan and in South Korea, and at the same time jointly conducted interview surveys with local governments and site surveys regarding the utilization of digital technologies in the field of disaster management in South Korea and the statuses of efforts for compact city policies.



Photo-3 Workshop with the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements

④ Cooperation on the formulation of technical standards for port and harbor facilities

In September 2024, the Memorandum of Cooperation between the MLIT and the Vietnam Institute of Transport Science and Technology (ITST) was updated, concerning cooperation for formulating the national technical standards for port and harbor facilities in Vietnam. In response to this update, the NILIM invited the staff of the ITST in February 2025, and in March the same year the staff of the NILIM visited the ITST. It was determined between the two institutes that opinions would be exchanged on climate change and toward the decarbonization of port and harbor facilities, and discussions would be held continually on the techniques to reflect the content of such study in the technical standards for port and harbor facilities.

(2) Technical cooperation with developing nations

① Acceptance of trainees from the World Bank, JICA

The NILIM accepts trainees from overseas as requested by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA, an Independent Administrative Agency), etc., and it gave lectures and offered experimental facility tours in the institution, such as the JICA training "Sediment Disaster Risk Reduction" and "Port Development and Planning." In addition, in response to a request made by the Ambassador of Japan to Chili, a delegation of the Chilean Chamber of Construction visited the NILIM in May, and exchanged opinions with the Director-General of the NILIM, the President of the Public Works Research Institute (National Research and Development Agency), and others.

Cooperation was rendered for training in various fields, such as lectures given in October in response to a request from the World Bank Tokyo Disaster

Management Hub, concerning the evaluation of vulnerability of road networks using the Road Risk Assessment Procedure (draft) with the content related to the risk evaluation of roads, as training for the staff of the Government of the Philippines and the staff of local governments, etc. of the Philippines.

② Support for technical cooperation projects

In FY 2024, the NILIM dispatched researchers in response to a request by JICA, concerning investigation of the North-South Expressway Construction Project in the Country of Vietnam and support for the formulation of technical standards for the "Support Project for Formulation and Dissemination of Port Technical Standards" in Vietnam.

(3) Contributions to overseas deployment of technologies in which Japan has strengths

① ISO

In FY 2024, researchers of the NILIM participated in the following Technical Committees (TCs).

- TC 282/SC 3 (Risk and performance evaluation of water reuse systems)
- TC 98/SC 3 (Loads, forces and other actions)
- TC 205 (Building environment design)

② Participation in the International Commission On Large Dams

The NILIM participated in the Annual Meeting of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD), which was held in Gothenburg, Sweden from September 29 to October 3, and engaged in discussions about a draft report on the "Interpretation of seismic records of dams" that the NILIM submitted as the elected member from Japan of Technical Committee B "Committee on Seismic Aspects of Dam Design."



Photo-4 Scene of the Annual Meeting of ICOLD

③ Making available the English version of 20 Years of NILIM History

It has been made available on the English website for use for overseas researchers and engineers.

For more detailed information, visit:

1) NILIM website "International Activities"
https://www.nilim.go.jp/lab/beg/foreign/kokusai/koku_saitekikatudou.htm

2) NILIM website "International Coordination Division"

<https://www.ysk.nilim.go.jp/kakubu/kanri/kokusai/>

3) NILIM website "20 Years of NILIM History"
https://www.nilim.go.jp/english/20th_history/