



INTERNATIONAL COMPARATIVE POLICY ANALYSIS FORUM  
*affiliated with* JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE POLICY ANALYSIS

## **International Consortium for Disaster Resilience**

At the closing session of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop of the JCPA and ICPA-Forum, on *Designing Disaster Resilience and Public Policy* held at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on April 23-24, 2010, the participants from six nations proposed the initiation of a *Consortium for Comparative Studies of Disaster Resilience (CSDR)*, under the comparative policy studies mission and affiliated with the International Comparative Policy Analysis-Forum. The goal of the Consortium is to develop a program of comparative collaborative research, policy design and evaluation, and professional education that will focus on the increasing need of major cities and geographic regions to develop improved resilience to disasters. The increasing frequency and escalating costs of disasters in lives, property losses, and economic and social disruption compel a more informed, effective approach and policies to managing disaster risk. This growing burden warrants a global approach to analyzing the risk, capacity, and potential strategies for effective action in coping with the range of hazards that threaten human communities.

*The CSDR Consortium*, affiliated with the International Comparative Policy Analysis-Forum, will explore the specific requirements for research exchange, shared curricula, and joint degrees among the participating set of universities. The Consortium would begin with a core set of institutions that could be expanded as interest and financial support for collaborative research and educational activities develop.

The initial set of academic institutions would include: Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA; Research Center for Urban Safety and Security, Kobe University, Japan; School of Public Management, Nanjing University, China; Center for Disaster Management, Bandung Institute of Technology, Bandung, Indonesia. These universities have prior experience of working together and have developed existing memoranda of understanding for collaborative educational and research exchange activities that could serve as an initial basis for building an active, vital consortium in this interdisciplinary, international policy area. Other universities may extend their interest in joining the consortium at this initial stage and join formally as the program is developed.

*The CSDR Consortium* members would contribute a fee to the International Comparative Policy Analysis-Forum, to cover sponsorship, joint activities, and expenses. The Consortium would serve as a vehicle for generating funding proposals to support collaborative research among member institutions. Research developed through Consortium projects will be reported in the *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis (JCPA)*, and JCPA would have the right of first refusal for collaborative comparative papers. A detailed proposal will be developed to circulate among potential Consortium members by September 1, 2010 to invite their consideration, counsel, and commitment.