



SASAKAWA USA
Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

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Cyber Experts Detail Results of Simulated Cyberattack in Japan

Sasakawa USA reports on Cyber3 tabletop exercise at Critical Infrastructure Conference in Washington

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Sasakawa USA released a [report](#) on its recent “tabletop exercise” in Tokyo, which simulated a major cyberattack during the 2019 World Rugby Cup to be hosted in Japan. The report, unveiled at the 13th Annual U.S.-Japan Critical Infrastructure Protection Forum (CIP) today in Washington, D.C., offers insights into the state of preparedness of Japanese stakeholders in the face of a large scale cyberattack. At the U.S.-Japan CIP, which brings together government and private sector leaders from both sides for off-the-record discussions, audience members listened to participants in the exercise provide details about a series of simulated attacks on the 2019 Rugby World Cup, the players’ responses, and recommendations for future protocols and procedures that government and the private sector should implement immediately.

“Large-scale cyber threats require coordinated, cross-sector responses. It is essential that infrastructure operators, government agencies, and other critical actors establish a mechanism for sharing threat information and working together. On top of the fact that cybersecurity measures need to evolve constantly to tackle new and unexpected threats, the need for various actors to cooperate requires planning and practice,” commented William “Bud” Roth, Cybersecurity Fellow at Sasakawa USA, organizer of the tabletop exercise, and moderator of the panel discussion. “The exercise not only tested the effectiveness and resiliency of our defenses against cyber warfare, but showed areas of vulnerability for government, industry, and academia that would benefit from the development of collaborative defensive measures.”

Sasakawa USA sponsored the simulation as part of the Cyber3 Conference, a two-day event on cybersecurity jointly held with the Prime Minister’s Office, Nihon Keizai Shimbun, and Keio University at the 5th International Cybersecurity Symposium held at Keio’s Mita campus on October 5-6.

The tabletop exercise also highlighted the tremendous need for international collaboration to prepare for and respond to cyberattacks. The world is slowly shifting to recognize that cybersecurity is not just a technical issue, but a national security and policy issue. The tabletop exercise showcased the strength and importance of the U.S.-Japan alliance and the need for countries to work together to counter this risk.

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is an independent American non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchange and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.

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