Preface

It is our great honor and pleasure to hold the International Symposium on Earthquake-induced Landslides (ISEL) in Kiryu, Japan, on November 7–9, 2012. This symposium was organized by the Japan Landslide Society (JLS).

Since ancient times, there have been an enormous number of landslides and debris flows caused by earthquakes and post-earthquake rainfall in earthquake-prone regions and countries in the world. These phenomena have induced catastrophic disasters and damages to the people and the society. Therefore, it is very important for people interested in this field to gather and exchange ideas and information on the mechanism of the phenomena and methods of the disaster mitigation. We believe that this symposium will provide the experts with such an opportunity.

The 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake disaster was recorded on the greatest scale that we have ever experienced in Japan. We have to learn from this experience and adopt it to our future disaster prevention managements. During the symposium, the scientific reports on the recent activities by the Earthquake-induced Landslides Research Project (ELRP) in the JLS will also be made and it will provide us with fruitful information on the related topics. The project was established in 2009 and it has been all completed until April 2012. In the project, altogether eight working groups, which are carrying out concrete investigations and analyses on individual items, were organized to cover the all objectives of the task force. Some of the results of the activities based on each working group are also included in the chapter for “JLS WG Report” in this book.

Main topics of interest in this symposium are the following:

1. Investigation of recent and historical earthquake-triggered landslides and their impacts
2. Characteristics, processes, and mechanisms of earthquake-triggered landslides
3. Physical and numerical modeling of earthquake-triggered landslides
4. Instrumentation and monitoring technologies for earthquake-related landslides
5. Risk assessment and management of earthquake-related landslides
6. Stabilization and disaster mitigation of earthquake-related landslides
7. Earthquake-related landslide dams and their risk assessment and management
8. Monitoring, prediction, and early warning systems for post-earthquake landslides and debris flows
9. Other relevant topics concerning earthquake-related landslides.

In launching this event, we are particularly grateful to Kiryu City Office and Highland Kanto Liaison Organization for their cooperation and strong support. The financial aid from the Tokyo Geographical Society is also greatly appreciated.

Japan, 2010–2011

Keizo Ugai