OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL RESILIENCE POLICY OF JAPAN AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

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Overview of national resilience policies in Japan

- Academic challenges
 - Responsibility gap in disaster risk governance
 - Challenges in scientific community for DRR

NATIONAL GOVERNANCE OF RESILIENCE POLICIES

- March II, 2011: Great East Japan Earthquake
- 2014: Enactment of Basic Act for National Resilience Contributing to Preventing and Mitigating Disasters for Developing Resilience in the Lives of the Citizenry
- Development of the Basic Plan for National Resilience



THE BASIC PLAN FOR NATIONAL RESILIENCE



Source: National cabinet office

 National Resilience = protecting lives and property from catastrophic disasters

EXPECTED CATASTROPHIC DISASTERS

	Great East Japan Earthquake	Nankai Trough Mega Earthquake	Tokyo Metropolitan Earthquake
Number of victims	Approx. 20,000	323,000 (worst case)	23,000 (worst case)
Direct economic loss such as asset	17 trillion yen	170 trillion yen	47 trillion yen
Including indirect economic loss due to business interruption		214 trillion yen	95 trillion yen

Source: Cabinet office

Distribution of seismic intensity of Nankai Trough Mega earthquake



Distribution of seismic intensity of Tokyo Metropolitan earthquake



Source: Central Disaster Management Council documents

A SUCCESSION OF DISASTERS IN 2018



Typhoon Jebi, September, 2018

Torrential rain around the Western Japan July, 2018

Hokkaido Eastern Iburi earthquake September, 2018

RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Three-year emergency measures for disaster prevention, disaster mitigation, and national resilience (2018 – 2020)

Concentrate on hard and soft measures that need to be urgently addressed over a 3-year period

- Functional maintenance of critical infrastructure, etc. for disaster risk reduction (3.5 trillion yen)
- Maintenance of critical infrastructure and other assets that support the national economy and livelihoods (3.5 trillion yen)

Five-year accelerated measures for disaster prevention, disaster mitigation, and national resiliency (2021 – 2025)

 Measures to cope with increasingly severe wind and flood damage, imminent large-scale earthquakes, etc. [78 measures].
 (1) Measures to prevent or minimize damage to life and property [50 measures].

(2) Measures to maintain transportation networks and lifelines to support the national economy and livelihood [Measure 28].

- 2. Aging measures for a shift to preventive maintenance-oriented infrastructure maintenance [Measure 21].
- Promotion of digitization, etc. for efficient implementation of measures related to national land resilience [Measure 24].
 (1) Digitization of measures related to national land resilience [12 measures]

(2) Advancement of forecasting, collection, accumulation, and communication of disaster-related information [12 measures].

PROACTIVE DISASTER PREVENTION

- 事前防災 jizen bosai provactive disaster prevention
- Avoiding the losses to the social economy, etc., due to the delay in taking disaster-prevention measures in advance



Source: National cabinet office

TRANSITION OF R&D BUDGET FOR DRR



Source: Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University and Tokio Marine & Nichido Risk Consulting Co., Ltd. (2021)

The Government seems to allocate transient budgets after major disasters occurred.

 \rightarrow Locking the stable door after the horse has bolted.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL RESILIENCE POLICIES IN JAPAN

- The concept of resilience has come to be called out in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake.
- While national resilience implies survival against catastrophic disasters, dealing with weather-related disasters due to climate change has also become a major challenge.
- The concept that "it is too late to take countermeasures after something has happened" is gaining popularity, and the term "proactive disaster prevention" is often used these days.
- Consideration of disaster response under infectious disease epidemics is also recognized as an issue.

3 HELPS IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT



POLITICAL SLOGAN



Former Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga used the phrase

"Self-help, Mutual help and Public help"

as his political slogan during the campaign for LDP leader election.

Source: NHK

DISAGREEMENT OVER RESPONSIBILITY



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Disappearance of responsibility

GAP IN RESPONSIBILITY RECOGNITION IN DISASTER RESPONSE

Rate of YES answer by residents and local municipality's EM staffs for activities for which they recognize local residents and community should be responsible.

Activity Item	Residents	Gov.	Gap
Safety check and rescue of local residents	48.2	61.5	Res < Gov.
Implementation of evacuation guidance for residents	30.4	15.4	Res. Gov.
Voluntary evacuation shelter management and cooperation	25.8	87.2	Res. << Gov.
Providing shelter and supplies	35.9	0.0	Res. > Gov.
Supporting the evacuation of people who need assistance with evacuation activities	17.6	66.7	Res. << Gov.
Collection of evacuation information and dissemination of information from the government	22.8	17.9	Res. Gov.
Prompt evacuation and support for such evacuation	38.3	35.9	Res. Gov.
Miscellaneous	0.9	0.0	Res. Gov.

Source: The Institute for Tokyo Municipal Research (2022), Yamori (2022)

NEW FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

River Basin Disaster Resilience and Sustainability by All



- I. Minimizing the risk of flooding
- 2. Reducing the exposure
- 3. Reducing the impact and rapid recovery

PUDDY FIELD DAM



CHALLENGES

- Double-bind: A dilemma in communication in which an individual (or group) receives two or more reciprocally conflicting messages
 - Government emphasizes the importance of voluntary actions by individuals and communities.
 - Paternalistic governments say 'do not rely on governments'.
- Conflicts are arising over the delineation of areas to be targeted for residential relocation.
- How the responsibility border of 'Self-help, Mutual help and Public help' can be determined?

PROCESS IS IMPORTANT

- The starting point is to "protect one's own life by oneself.
- Experts who work with residents
- Practical research
 - Residents take the lead
 - Continuity is power





Wide-area evacuation project for large volcanic eruptions