Part I. Status of Disaster Management Measures in Japan

Chapter 1 Status of Initiatives for Disaster Management Measures

Section 1 Promotion of Disaster Risk Reduction in Advance through Self-Help and Mutual Support and Disaster Risk Reduction Activities through Collaboration Among Diverse Entities

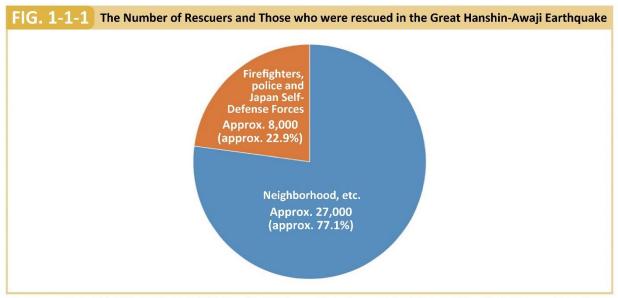
1-1 Raising Public Awareness of Disaster Risk Reduction

Japan has traditionally experienced many natural disasters due to its topography, weather, and other natural conditions. Therefore, in order to prepare for the eventuality of a disaster, our country takes structural measures to prevent or mitigate damage from disasters, such as the construction of embankments and improvement of earthquake resistance capacities during the ordinal period, and non-structural measures as well to realize appropriate actions in the event of a disaster, such as hazard mapping and education for disaster risk reduction. When a disaster strikes, the government of Japan continues to provide "public support" in many forms. This includes rescue and lifesaving measures for affected people immediately after the disaster strikes and dispatching national and local government officials to the affected areas to provide personnel support. This public support also covers providing push-type support to transport relief supplies to shelters and evacuees without waiting for a request from the affected areas, and providing financial support through designation as a Disaster of Extreme Severity and the "Act on Support for Reconstructing Livelihoods of Disaster Victims."

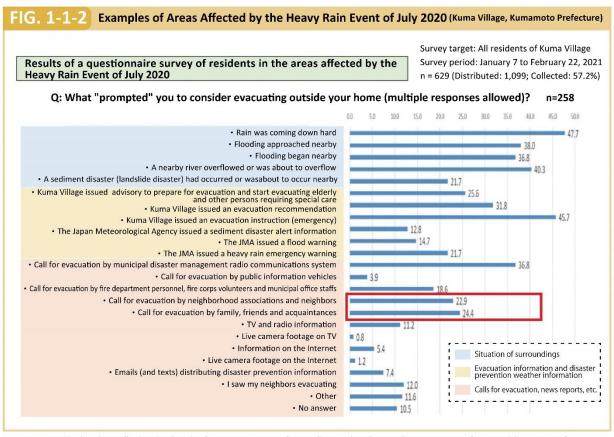
However, there are concerns about the limits of public support in the event of large-scale and wide-area disasters, such as Nankai Trough Earthquake, Megaquake in the Vicinity of the Japan and Chishima Trenches, or meteorological disasters that have become more severe and frequent in recent years.

In the 1995 Southern Hyogo Earthquake (hereinafter referred to as the "Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake"), about 80% of those buried alive were rescued by "self-help" including family members and "mutual support" by neighbors, and only about 20% were rescued by "public support" such as rescue teams (FIG. 1-1-1). As for the case of the Heavy Rain Event of July 2020 that caused damage in Kumamoto and other prefectures, many residents of Kuma village responded to a survey that the "trigger" for them to consider evacuating outside their homes was not only the surrounding conditions such as rainfall and evacuation information or disaster prevention weather information including evacuation instruction (emergency), but also evacuation calls from family, friends, acquaintances, neighborhood associations and neighbors. This indicates that "self-help" and "mutual support" are as important as "public support" (FIG. 1-1-2).

The environment for local governments is getting severe since the areas under their jurisdiction have widened due to municipal mergers, and the number of local government officials has decreased, while the number of persons requiring special care in an aging society is increasing. Therefore, it is important for each citizen to view disasters as "their own matter" rather than "someone else's matter," to raise their awareness of disaster prevention and mitigation, and to take concrete actions to build a community that fosters a disaster awareness of "protecting one's own life" and "helping among local residents."



Source: prepared by the Cabinet Office (published in the 2008 edition of the White Paper on Disaster Management, Special Feature on "Future Disaster Management"), data taken from Kawata Yoshiaki's "Prediction of Loss of Human Lives Due to Large-Scale Earthquake Disaster" Natural Science and Technology, Vol. 16, No. 1,(1997).

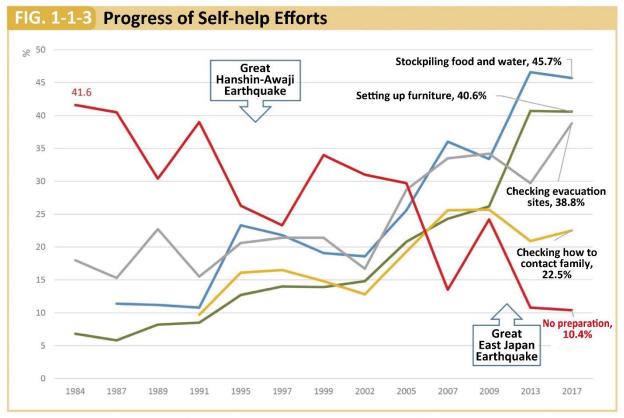


Source: Prepared by the Cabinet Office based on "Results of Questionnaire Survey of Kuma Village Residents," Kuma Village, Kumamoto Prefecture, and the CeMI Crisis & Environment Management Policy Institute (May 2021).

Specific actions for disaster prevention and mitigation may include, first of all, "self-help," such as understanding the disaster risks in the community, "preparing" in advance by securing furniture and stockpiling food and other supplies, and participating in evacuation drills to be prepared to take appropriate evacuation actions. In addition, it is necessary to make efforts to mitigate damage from disasters through "mutual support,"

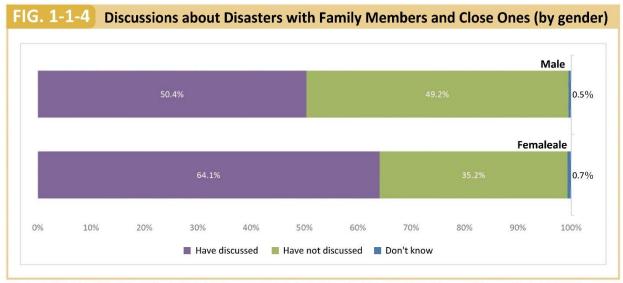
such as neighbors helping each other at the time of a disaster.

Recognition of the importance of "self-help" and the movement to take concrete measures have been steadily spreading among the public after the great disasters such as the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and the Great East Japan Earthquake (FIG. 1-1-3). The importance of "mutual support" has also been recognized once again since some evacuation cases were effective in the areas where local disaster risk reduction leaders took the initiative in preparing evacuation plans and conducting evacuation drills, and the mutual support measures were taken during the ordinal times like the case in the Naganuma area of Nagano City, Nagano Prefecture after Typhoon Hagibis in 2019 (T1919).



Source: Public Relations Office, Cabinet Office, "Public Opinion Survey on Disaster Prevention," prepared by the Cabinet Office

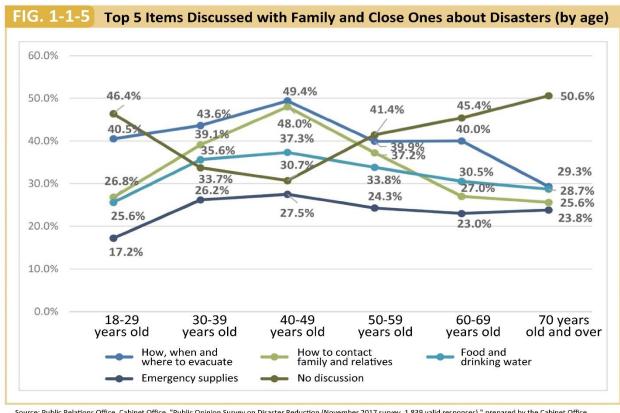
In considering "self-help" and "mutual support," it is important to have discussions with family members and those who are close to you. The survey conducted in 2017 shows that 50.4% of men and 64.1% of women had discussed what they would do if a disaster occurred with family members or others who were close to them in the past year or two (FIG. 1-1-4).



Source: Public Relations Office, Cabinet Office, "Public Opinion Survey on Disaster Reduction (November 2017 survey, 1,839 valid responses)," prepared by the Cabinet Office.

Of those who "have discussed it before," those who discussed "how, when and where to evacuate" accounted for the highest figure, 68.2%," followed by the discussion of "how to contact family and relatives" (57.8%), "food and drinking water" (55.3%), and "emergency supplies" (41.7%).

By age group, the percentage of respondents who answered they "had never discussed it" that were 70 years old and over was 50.6%, the highest, while the percentage of those who indicated they had discussed "how, when, and where to evacuate" was approximately 30% (FIG. 1-1-5).



Source: Public Relations Office, Cabinet Office, "Public Opinion Survey on Disaster Reduction (November 2017 survey, 1,839 valid responses)," prepared by the Cabinet Office

Although the administrations make constant efforts to enrich "public support," it is getting more difficult to prevent disasters with only structural measures such as existing disaster prevention facilities and non-structural measures led by the administrations against sudden and severe disasters. This is due to the severe and frequent occurrence of meteorological disasters caused by global warming and the increase in the number of elderly people who need support in an aging society. It is necessary not only to maintain disaster risk management mainly by the administrations, but also to shift to the policies that focus on residents' "self-help" and "mutual support" based on a common understanding among the entire nation. Currently, as the disaster resilience differs depending on regions, there is a need to build a society that can effectively respond to disasters by developing nationwide measures of "local communities" that are highly aware of disaster risk reduction.

The Cabinet Office and related ministries and agencies have been addressing measures to further strengthen public relations and policies to link public "awareness" with "preparedness" (concrete actions) by referring data collected from surveys. This section focuses on "the disaster risk reduction in advance" through "self-help" and "mutual support" and introduces various measures taken in cooperation with various sectors.

1-2 National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction and National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction

The "National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction" consists of experts from various fields such as six local administrative associations, the business community, the educational community, and the medical and welfare sectors. It was established in 2015 and has been promoting public relations in cooperation with the National Disaster Management Council so that various sectors are able to exchange information and opinions each other and collaborate according to circumstance for the purpose of raising public awareness of disaster risk reduction.

(1) National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (Bosai-Kokutai) 2021

The "National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (Bosai-Kokutai) 2021" was held from November 6 to 7, 2021 in Kamaishi City, Iwate Prefecture, when it had passed 10 years since the Great East Japan Earthquake. This conference was collaboratively hosted by the Cabinet Office, the National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (an organization consisting of industry groups which work to promote a national movement for disaster mitigation). In this conference, disaster prevention measures usually taken by government agencies, public organizations, the academic community, private corporations, NPOs, and other groups were presented on a national scale. The conference set the theme of "10 Years after the Great East Japan Earthquake: Recovery and Disaster Resilience through Connections," and aimed at looking back on the time period of 10 years after the Great East Japan Earthquake and giving opportunities to consider the way for recovery and disaster risk reduction in the future with passing the experience and lessons through the Earthquake to many people and to the next generation. In light of the infection status of COVID-19, the conference was held in a hybrid format, combining on-site and online access.

In the opening remarks, Minister of State for Disaster Management, Ninoyu was on behalf of the hosts and expressed the hope that the circle of disaster risk reductiont would spread throughout Japan and further strengthen Japanese disaster resilience capabilities. Afterwards, Mr. Otsuka, the Chairman of the National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (the President of the Japanese Red Cross Society) delivered the address as

host side, and Governor of Iwate Prefecture, Tatsumasu, and Mayor of Kamaishi City, Noda, delivered the opening addresses on behalf of the site of the conference. In the opening discussion, participants exchanged opinions on from what they had learned lessons and how to hand them down to generation to generation under the theme of "Passing on the lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake and disaster risk reduction." For instance, they discussed several different efforts of the "Tsunami Memorial Hall" (disaster risk reduction learning center for children who will lead the next generation), the "3.11 Densho Road" (networking of facilities to pass on lessons) and the Mt. Unzen Disaster Memorial Museum.

A total of 187 participants presented 40 sessions, 24 workshops, 100 presentations and 23 outdoor exhibits. In thematic sessions by the Cabinet Office and various organizations, discussions focused on self-help and mutual support efforts, which are getting more important in light of the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011. The Cabinet Office organized the high-level session of the "Reconstruction and Disaster Resilience through Connections: Experiences from the Great East Japan Earthquake," and gave an occasion to the mayor of Kamaishi City and other leaders in and outside of the Tohoku region who had been responsible for reconstruction and disaster resilience to communicate each other. In this session, they talked about their experience in the past and the future vision in view of "Build Back Better," including reconstruction, raising the disaster risk reduction awareness among residents and fostering reconstruction leaders. In the workshops, various programs were delivered for the diverse players in disaster management all over Japan to share examples of daily efforts for disaster prevention and mitigation and their concerns and challenges. During the presentations, many actions in disaster prevention and mitigation were introduced by sharing their stories from the Great East Japan Earthquake and the latest technologies in disaster risk reduction.

In the closing remarks, Mr. Akimoto, Vice-Chairman of the National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction, delivered the host address, and Mr. Koshiya, Professor and Director of the Research Center for Regional Disaster Management, Iwate University, gave a summary of the conference. Then, State Minister of Cabinet Office (Disaster Management), Ohno thanked the participants and expressed his expectations for the next conference (scheduled to be held in Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture from October 22 to 23, 2022). The conference was attended by approximately 5,800 people on-site and viewed 18,000 times online. It was confirmed that increasing the disaster resilience of the country as a whole was important through not only "public support" by the government(s), but also "self-help;" each citizen gains preparedness against disaster with the awareness that they must protect their own lives, and "mutual support;" communities, schools, businesses and volunteers help each other.



Opening remarks by Minister of State for Disaster Management Ninoyu



Host address by Chairperson Otsuka (opening)



Opening discussion



High level session



Session by the Cabinet Office and Team Bosai Japan



Host address by Vice-Chairperson Akimoto (Closing Remarks)

(2) The 7th National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction

The 7th National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction was held on December 23, 2021 with the participation of five newly added constituent organizations. The meeting was held in a hybrid format combining on-site and online access in the Prime Minister's Office meeting room, in light of the infection status of COVID-19. At the beginning of the meeting, Prime Minister Kishida expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the member organizations of the National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction and then he noted his expectations for the plenary session saying, "With disaster response, it is important to take various and diverse perspectives, including those of women and those who need support, such as people with disabilities and the elderly. As disasters become more frequent and severe, measures taken by people from all walks of life are indispensable in enhancing Japan's disaster resilience, and we would like to ask for your continued cooperation in enhancing the disaster resilience of each and every citizen."

Following this, reports on activities such as the "National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (Bosai Kokutai) 2021" were shared, and the Japanese Trade Union Confederation and the All Japan Junior High School Principals' Association introduced their efforts to raise awareness of disaster risk reduction through self-help and mutual support.





The 7th National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction
(Attended by Prime Minister Kishida)

1-3 Measures on Disaster Management Drill

In the event of a disaster, as national government agencies, local governments, designated public corporations, and other disaster management-related organizations must work in unison to take appropriate measures in cooperation with residents, it is important for the related organizations to make disaster risk reduction efforts such as drills in cooperation with each other from ordinary times. Therefore, in accordance with the "Basic Act on Disaster Management," the Basic Disaster Management Plan and other various regulations, disaster management-related organizations are required to conduct disaster drills to verify and confirm emergency countermeasures in the event of a disaster, and to raise disaster risk reduction awareness among residents.

In FY2021, based on the "FY2021 Comprehensive Disaster Management Drill Framework" (decided by the National Disaster Management Council on May 25, 2021), which stipulates the basic policy for conducting disaster risk reduction drills and comprehensive disaster management drills by the government, the following various drills were conducted.

(1) "Disaster Preparedness Day" Comprehensive Disaster Management Drill

On September 1, 2021, Disaster Preparednee Day, a government headquarters operation drill was conducted under the assumption in the aftermath of the earthquake, taking COVID-19 countermeasures into consideration. First, then Prime Minister Suga and other cabinet members gathered on foot at the Prime Minister's Office and various government ministries and agencies to conduct an online drill for operating the Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters meeting. At the same meeting, the Council ascertained the state of damages and requests for assistance through videoconference with Yokohama Mayor Yamanaka, received reports on the damage and response from each cabinet minister, confirmed the policy for responding to the situation by putting human lives first, dispatched a government investigation team, and established an on-site disaster management headquarters. With these steps and more, the Council secured a system for implementing emergency countermeasures immediately after the earthquake and confirmed procedures in cooperation with local governments. In addition, a portion of the meeting was made available to the press. After the meeting, then Prime Minister Suga held a press conference to urge the public via NHK to take action to protect their lives and to provide information on the government's initial response, such as support for the operation of shelters including prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

(2) Drills in Collaboration with a Joint Disaster Management Drill Involving Nine Prefectures and Cities

On November 7, 2021, a joint disaster management drill involving nine prefectures and cities was held mainly in Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture, with the participation of Prime Minister Kishida and related cabinet members. Prime Minister Kishida flew by helicopter from the Prime Minister's Office to the training site to inspect and experience rescue drills conducted by the police, fire department, and Self-Defense Forces, initial firefighting drills using water extinguishers, and shelter management drills including the display of cardboard beds and electric vehicles as power sources.



Government Headquarters Operation

Training (online)

(Source: Prime Minister's Office website)



Prime Minister Kishida participating in firefighting drills in a joint disaster management drill involving nine prefectures and cities (Source: Prime Minister's Office website)

(3) Government tabletop exercises

In June 2021, an Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters operation drill was conducted on the assumption of a Nankai Trough Earthquake. In this drill, staff members of relevant government ministries and agencies and local governments in the Nankai Trough Earthquake Disaster Management Measures Promotion Area participated in requesting and distributing relief supplies using an online, as if in practice, Relief Goods Procurement and Transport Coordination Support System.

In March 2022, another Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters operation drill was conducted in cooperation with On-site Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters drill (Tokyo) on the assumption of a Tokyo Inland Earthquake. In this drill, officials from relevant government ministries and agencies, as well as from Tokyo, Saitama, Chiba, and Kanagawa Prefectures, participated in a discussion-type exercise to discuss issues requiring cooperation with related organizations for COVID-19 countermeasures in the exercise utilizing online tools.



Extreme Disaster Management
Headquarters Operation Drill assuming
Nankai Trough Earthquake



Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters

Operation Drill assuming Tokyo Inland Earthquake

In the regional block drills, in cooperation with prefectures that are considered to be affected, On-site Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters drills were conducted on the assumption of a Nankai Trough Earthquake. In the Shikoku and Kyushu regions, officials assembled in December 2021, and conducted an on-site situation-setting drill simulating an actual disaster and a discussion-type drill to discuss issues that require collaboration among related organizations in the event of a disaster. In the Kinki and Chubu regions, due to the rapid spread of COVID-19, the participants did not gather on-site, but only conducted an online discussion-type drill in February 2022.



State Minister of the Cabinet Office, Ohno, participating online in On-site Extreme
Disaster Management Headquarters drill
(Shikoku)



On-site Extreme Disaster Management
Headquarters drill assuming a Nankai
Trough Earthquake (Kyushu)

These drills improved the knowledge and skills of relevant government officials and strengthened cooperation with related agencies, and based on these drills, the effectiveness of the emergency countermeasures stipulated in the various plans and manuals was verified.

1-4 Measures for Tsunami Disaster Prevention

November 5 is "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day" derived from the story of the "Fire of Rice Sheaves" and "World Tsunami Awareness Day" established by the United Nations General Assembly. Because tsunamis are disasters where we can considerably reduce human casualties through immediate and appropriate evacuation, it

is particularly important to understand the characteristics of tsunamis and appropriate responses, and to be able to act appropriately. Therefore, on and around November 5, the Cabinet Office, related ministries and agencies, local governments, private companies, and the like take actions to raise awareness of tsunami disaster prevention in various places.

(1) Evacuation Drills against Tsunami

During the period before and after "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day (November 5)" in FY2021, disaster drills against earthquake and tsunami were held nationwide by the national government (10 ministries and agencies), local governments (123 organizations), and private companies (48 organizations) with approximately 1.14 million people participating.

Mainly during the period mentioned above, the Cabinet Office collaborated with local governments and provided support for planning and implementation of drills with the participation of residents in nine places nationwide (Kikonai Town and Shikabe Town, Hokkaido Prefecture; Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture; Tateyama City and Futtsu City, Chiba Prefecture; Kochi City and Shimanto Town, Kochi Prefecture; Buzen City, Fukuoka Prefecture; and Shibushi City, Kagoshima Prefecture). These drills included drills to protect oneself in the event of an earthquake (shakeout drills) and drills to evacuate to the nearest shelter after the shaking subsided (evacuation drills) as well as drills to confirm safety, set up shelters and operate them according to the local disaster management plan. In total, 25 drills, study sessions and lectures were held, for instance, study sessions on evacuation planning and lectures which took damage estimation and geographical conditions into account, with approximately 3,000 residents participating as a whole.



Drill to protect oneself (Shikabe Town, Hokkaido Prefecture)



Evacuation drill to higher ground (Shibushi City, Kagoshima Prefecture)



Lecture on disaster management (Tateyama City, Chiba Prefecture)

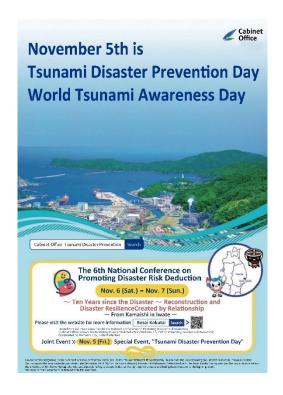


Study session on evacuation planning (Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture)

(2) Activities to Raise Public Awareness

1. Activities to raise public awareness on tsunami disaster

In order to publicize "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day" and "World Tsunami Awareness Day" and promote awareness and activities of disaster prevention against tsunami, efforts to raise public awareness through various media, for instance, posters at nationwide companies and local governments, and cash register screens at major convenience stores and supermarkets in FY 2021 were taken.



2. "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day" Special Event in FY2021

On November 5, "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day" and "World Tsunami Awareness Day", the Cabinet Office, National Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction, and Council for Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction organized "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day" Special Event in Kamaishi City, Iwate Prefecture through both on-site and online.

At the event, Minister of State for Disaster Management, Ninoyu, first spoke about the significance of holding this event in Kamaishi City on the 10th anniversary of The Great East Japan Earthquake in order not to forget the lessons from the tsunami disaster.

Next, in the keynote speech of the first part, Mr. Imamura, Director of International Research Institute of Disaster Science, Tohoku University, reviewed the experiences and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake 10 years after its occurrence, and explained how to respond to new risks such as climate change and COVID-19 in the current society where uncertain incidents occur.

In the panel discussion of the second part whose theme was "Toward 'Tsunami Disaster Management in which No One is Sacrificed'", five panelists who worked on disaster management against tsunami from various entities and perspectives, including local governments, researchers, NPOs, and neighborhood associations, introduced their activities and exchanged opinions.

Archived movies of the event is available on the "special website for disaster prevention against tsunami." (Reference: https://tsunamibousai.jp/)



Opening remarks by Minister of State for Disaster Management, Ninoyu (video message)



Scenes from "Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day" Special Event

1-5 Resident-led Initiatives (Promotion of Community Disaster Management Plans)

The Community Disaster Management Planning System was established following the amendment of the "Basic Act on Disaster Management" in 2013 to promote voluntary disaster risk reduction activities through self-help and mutual support and to enhance regional disaster resilience as community residents (including business operators in the area) and municipalities cooperate each other. This allows community residents to prepare Community Disaster Management Plan (draft) and make a proposal to the Municipal Disaster Management Council that the Community Disaster Management Plan be stipulated in the Municipal Disaster Management Plan.

Community Disaster Management Plans are designed to link mutual support and public support following discussions by various entities in the community, including residents, business establishments and welfare personnel to freely define the contents of the draft plan, which is then set in the Municipal Disaster Management Plan. The topic in the discussion covers local disaster risks, disaster risk reduction actions and activities during ordinal times and disasters. In addition to the content of the plan, the process of creating the plan, including repeated discussions among district residents and others, is also important for strengthening the power of mutual support.

As of April 1, 2021, the Community Disaster Management Plans were stipulated under the local disaster management plans in 2,030 districts from 140 cities, towns and villages in 37 prefectures, and the actions for developing the Community Disaster Management Plans have been taken in 5,181 districts from 310 cities, towns and villages in 47 prefectures. Eight years have passed since the system was established, and it is expected that Community Disaster Management Plans will become even more widespread (FIG. 1-5-1, FIG. 1-5-2).

FIG. 1-5-1 Status of Community Disaster Management Plan as Defined in Local Disaster Management Plans (as of April 1, 2021)

◆ Reflected in the local disaster management plans:
 37 prefectures, 140 municipalities, 2,030 districts

(316 districts with new plans reflected in FY 2020)

Prefecture Name	The number of municipalities	The number of districts
Hokkaido	9	39
Aomori Prefecture	0	0
lwate Prefecture	4	32
Miyagi Prefecture	1	11
Akita Prefecture	2	16
Yamagata Prefecture	1	38
Fukushima Prefecture	2	3
Ibaraki Prefecture	6	82
Tochigi Prefecture	4	5
Gunma Prefecture	1	16
Saitama Prefecture	6	28
Chiba Prefecture	1	2
Tokyo	11	168
Kanagawa Prefecture	5	284
Niigata Prefecture	3	22
Toyama Prefecture	1	2

Prefecture Name	The number of municipalities	The number of districts
Ishikawa Prefecture	1	1
Fukui Prefecture	0	0
Yamanashi Prefecture	5	529
Nagano Prefecture	11	163
Gifu Prefecture	4	16
Shizuoka Prefecture	6	23
Aichi Prefecture	8	12
Mie Prefecture	3	14
Shiga Prefecture	0	0
Kyoto Prefecture	2	41
Osaka Prefecture	2	11
Hyogo Prefecture	3	133
Nara Prefecture	2	5
Wakayama Prefecture	0	0
Tottori Prefecture	1	4
Shimane Prefecture	0	0

*	Surveyed: Municipalities
*	Total as of April 1, 2021
	(updated as of April 1, 2022)

Prefecture Name	The number of municipalities	The number of districts
Okayama Prefecture	3	3
Hiroshima Prefecture	0	3
Yamaguchi Prefecture	1	7
Tokushima Prefecture	0	0
Kagawa Prefecture	4	21
Ehime Prefecture	4	32
Kochi Prefecture	3	42
Fukuoka Prefecture	2	18
Saga Prefecture	0	0
Nagasaki Prefecture	1	9
Kumamoto Prefecture	6	158
Oita Prefecture	0	0
Miyazaki Prefecture	1	1
Kagoshima Prefecture	10	39
Okinawa Prefecture	0	0
Total	140	2,030

Source: Cabinet Office data

FIG. 1-5-2 Status of Activities Toward the Formulation of a Community Disaster Management Plan (as of April 1, 2021)

◆ Working toward the formulation of Community Disaster Management Plans (Note): 47 prefectures, 310 municipalities, 5,181 districts

(Note) Including those that have been proposed to municipalities but not yet reflected in the local disaster management plans (1,143 districts newly started activities in fiscal 2020)

Surveyed: MunicipalitiesValues as of April 1, 2021 (updated on April 1, 2022)

Prefecture Name	The number of municipalities	The number of districts
Hokkaido	8	67
Aomori Prefecture	3	59
lwate Prefecture	6	36
Miyagi Prefecture	7	372
Akita Prefecture	2	2
Yamagata Prefecture	2	87
Fukushima Prefecture	7	24
Ibaraki Prefecture	8	30
Tochigi Prefecture	21	59
Gunma Prefecture	6	33
Saitama Prefecture	9	149
Chiba Prefecture	2	6
Tokyo	8	75
Kanagawa Prefecture	3	22
Niigata Prefecture	5	165
Toyama Prefecture	5	11

Prefecture Name	The number of municipalities	The number of districts
Ishikawa Prefecture	5	140
Fukui Prefecture	16	806
Yamanashi Prefecture	13	93
Nagano Prefecture	13	66
Gifu Prefecture	8	86
Shizuoka Prefecture	4	123
Aichi Prefecture	10	32
Mie Prefecture	10	79
Shiga Prefecture	7	170
Kyoto Prefecture	6	17
Osaka Prefecture	10	354
Hyogo Prefecture	12	372
Nara Prefecture	5	7
Wakayama Prefecture	1	1
Tottori Prefecture	3	10
Shimane Prefecture	4	18

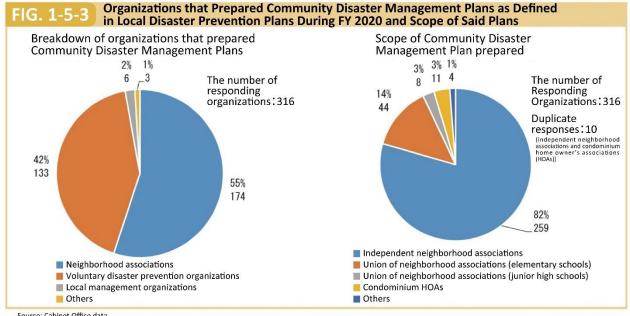
Prefecture Name	The number of municipalities	The number of districts
Okayama Prefecture	6	101
Hiroshima Prefecture	4	120
Yamaguchi Prefecture	4	107
Tokushima Prefecture	4	16
Kagawa Prefecture	9	24
Ehime Prefecture	7	66
Kochi Prefecture	3	60
Fukuoka Prefecture	7	72
Saga Prefecture	1	2
Nagasaki Prefecture	2	177
Kumamoto Prefecture	10	369
Oita Prefecture	2	367
Miyazaki Prefecture	5	23
Kagoshima Prefecture	12	99
Okinawa Prefecture	5	7
Total	310	5,181

Source: Cabinet Office data

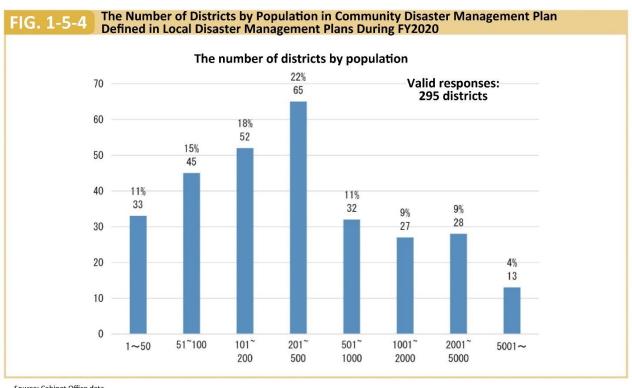
(1) Trends in Community Disaster Management Plans

The Cabinet Office analyzed case studies of 316 districts in 56 cities, towns and villages with Community Disaster Management Plans stipulated in FY2020 under the local disaster management plans, and found the following characteristics (FIG. 1-5-3 to FIG. 1-5-6).

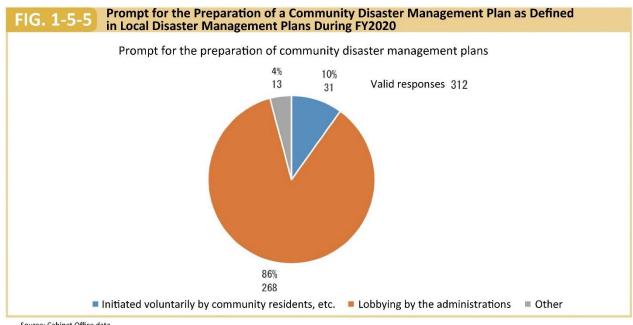
- 1. The Community Disaster Management Plans were prepared by the community association in 55%, and the voluntary disaster management organizations in 42% of all the respondents.
- 2. As for the scope managed by the plan, the single community association accounted for 82% of all the respondents' scopes, and the union of community associations which was nearly equivalent to the elementary school district 14%. Regarding the populations in each community, 66% respondents showed that there were 500 residents or less in the community, and 77% respondents indicated that 1,000 residents or less were in the community. However, there were also cases of communities with populations exceeding 20.000.
- 3. As for the trigger to establish the Community Disaster Management Plan, 86% of the respondents started to formulate the plan following the "encouragement by the administrations." This suggests that it is important for the administrations to encourage for the development of Community Disaster Management Plans.
- 4. In addition to the basic information such as "scope of community," "basic policy" and "disaster risks in the district," many communities included "ways of information collection and communication," "organization and structure in case of disaster," "stockpiling of relief supplies and materials," "support and guidance during evacuation" and "disaster drills" in their plan details.



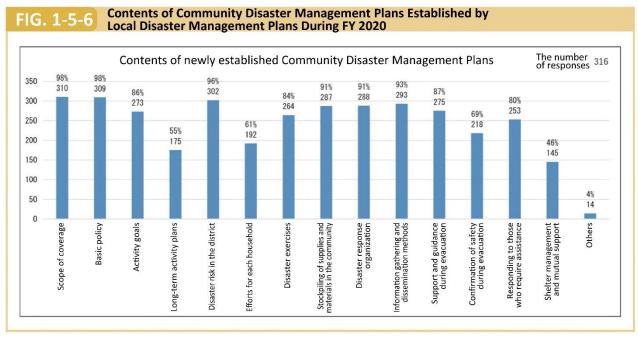
Source: Cabinet Office data



Source: Cabinet Office data



Source: Cabinet Office data



Source: Cabinet Office data

(2) Efforts by the Cabinet Office

1. Holding the Community Disaster Management Plan Forum in 2022

The Cabinet Office held the "Community Disaster Management Plan Forum in 2022" on March 20, 2022 to promote the development of Community Disaster Management Plans by sharing examples and experiences of the plans. The Forum started with opening remarks by Minister of State for Disaster Management, Ninoyu, followed by a presentation by the Cabinet Office on the status of measures taken for Community Disaster Management Plans. Then, representatives from the Nagayama district of Asagiri Town, Kumamoto Prefecture; the Takahama district of Matsuyama City, Ehime Prefecture; and the Seiwadai district of Kawanishi City, Hyogo Prefecture introduced their Community Disaster Management Plans under the theme of "Collaboration between Community Disaster Management Plans and Individual Evacuation Plans." Also, the representatives of three districts, Mihama District, Chatan Town, Okinawa Prefecture; Sophia Stasia Voluntary Disaster Prevention Association, Yokosuka Seaside New Town, Yokosuka City, Kanagawa Prefecture; and Wakasa Hyonosen District, Wakasa Town, Tottori Prefecture, introduced their respective efforts under the theme of "Community Disaster Management Plan Initiatives by Diverse Actors." Afterwards, the representatives had a lively exchange of ideas regarding each theme. An archived video of this forum is now available.

(Reference: https://www.bousai.go.jp/kyoiku/chikubousai/pdf/220411_forum.pdf)

2. National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (Bosai Kokutai) 2021 "Considering the Further Possibility of Community Disaster Management Plans" Session

At the "National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (Bosai Kokutai) 2021" on November 6 and 7, 2021, a session on Community Disaster Management Plans was held via livestream.

In this session, under the theme of "Considering the Further Possibilities of Community Disaster Management Plans," three speakers who were involved in Community Disaster Management Planning at the Toi district in Izu City, Shizuoka Prefecture, the Sapporo Clock Tower Building and the Council for Area Development and Management of Otemachi, Marunouchi, and Yurakucho, introduced and exchanged opinions on "planning that is not just about disaster risk reduction but also incorporates other perspectives" and "planning by entities other than residents." An archived video of this session is available.

(Reference: https://bosai-kokutai.jp/)

3. Basic Workshop on the Preparation of Community Disaster Management Plans

The "Basic Workshop on the Preparation of Community Disaster Management Plans" was held twice on December 24, 2021, and January 12, 2022, via livestream to promote the preparation and support for Community Disaster Management Plans by introducing different viewpoints and approaches to those who are involved in the preparation of such plans.

At the workshop, researchers, local government officials, and others involved in supporting the preparation of Community Disaster Management Plans shared their experiences and answered questions from the participants. Archived videos are now available for these two workshops.

(Reference: https://www.bousai.go.jp/kyoiku/chikubousai/pdf/220202_kenshu-movie.pdf)

4. Support for activities of Chikubo'z, a network of local governments promoting Community Disaster Management Plans

"Chikubo'z" is a platform for local government officials who are engaged in supporting the preparation of Community Disaster Management Plans to exchange information and share experiences on issues related to the preparation for such plans on a daily basis. On February 21 and March 1, 2022, "Chikubo'z Online Meetups" were held online for local government officials, mainly members of Chikubo'z, to exchange opinions and provide

consultation regarding support for Community Disaster Management Plan.

5. Updating the Community Disaster Management Plan Library

In order to promote activities for the formulation of Community Disaster Management Plans, a library which enables the users to see case studies by region or theme of Community Disaster Management Plans under the local disaster management plans was created and published on the website of the Cabinet Office in April 2019. This library was made for those who are planning to formulate Community Disaster Management Plans and those who are seeking further improvement of plans already formulated. The Cabinet Office is continuing to update and add information to this library.

(Reference: https://www.bousai.go.jp/kyoiku/chikubousai/chikubo/chikubo/index.html)

1-6 Environmental Improvement for Volunteer Activities

At the time of a disaster, volunteers, NPOs and various other organizations rush to the affected areas to provide detailed disaster support and play an important role. The Cabinet Office has been working to make environmental improvements to facilitate activities by volunteers and NPOs to support affected people. In recent years, it has become a well-established practice for various affected people supporting entities, such as government agencies, volunteers, NPOs and others, to collaborate, share information, and coordinate their activities in the event of a large-scale disaster.

(1) Promotion of collaboration among various affected people supporting entities such as governments, volunteers, NPOs and others

According to the "Survey on Collaboration and Coordination Among Various Affected People Supporting Entities FY2021" conducted by the Cabinet Office on April 1, 2022, all 42 of the surveyed prefectures have systems in place for information sharing and other forms of cooperation in the event of a disaster. However, although a coordination system is in place, the state of coordination varies from one prefecture to another. A survey found that the prefectures feel the roles of government agencies, volunteers, NPOs and others in disaster relief activities need to be organized, and that the roles of governments in particular are not well organized and understood within the governments.

(2) Disaster Risk Reduction and Volunteer Meeting

On February 6, 2022, the Cabinet Office held online the "Disaster Risk Reduction and Volunteer Meeting: Considering Volunteer Collaboration and Cooperation after the Noto Hanto Earthquake and the Earthquake Off the Coast of Chuetsu in Niigata Prefecture." In the first part, under the theme of "Looking back on the collaboration and cooperation of volunteer activities at that time," a panel discussion on the collaboration and cooperation efforts made in the areas affected after the "Noto Hanto Earthquake" and the "Earthquake Off the Coast of Chuetsu in Niigata Prefecture," which occurred 15 years ago, was delivered by people who made efforts in Ishikawa and Niigata Prefectures respectively.

In the second part, under the theme of "Collaboration and Cooperation in Volunteer Activities after the Mid

Niigata Prefecture Earthquake in 2004 and the Earthquake Off the Coast of Chuetsu in Niigata Prefecture in 2007," a panel discussion on what kind of collaboration and cooperation is taking place in Niigata Prefecture after the Mid Niigata Prefecture Earthquake in 2004 and the Earthquake Off the Coast of Chuetsu in Niigata Prefecture in 2007, and any current nationwide collaboration or cooperation efforts was held among the governments, the Council of Social Welfare and NPOs.



Disaster Risk Reduction and Volunteer Meeting



Part 1 Part 2

(3) Training sessions to promote cooperation among various affected people supporting entities such as governments, volunteers, and NPOs

In order to ensure smooth collaboration and cooperation among governments, volunteers and NPOs in the event of a disaster, it is necessary to promote exchange and mutual understanding through training and other means from ordinary times. The Cabinet Office holds training sessions where governments, the Council of Social Welfare and other personnel from disaster volunteer centers and NPOs meet to discuss various issues in collaboration and cooperation, and deepen mutual understanding.

In FY2021, based on the current situation in which the construction of collaborative systems has been progressing in various parts of Japan, the "Training Course on Promoting Collaboration among Various Affected People Supporting Entities" was held with three levels of participants. The "Basic Training" was held as a livestream and attended by approximately 250 participants from 34 prefectures. The "Building Collaborative Relationships Training" was attended by three prefectures, with approximately 20 participants from the governments, the Council of Social Welfare, NPOs and others at each site (some participants participated online due to COVID-19 countermeasures). The "Training Course on Core Human Resource Development " was attended by three prefectures and consisted of three training sessions. This training was attended by 20 participants from the governments, the Council of Social Welfare, NPOs and others at each site (some participants participated online due to COVID-19 countermeasures). The purpose of the training was to understand the necessity of collaboration and cooperation among various affected people supporting entities such as governments, volunteers, NPOs and others, to build a system of collaboration and cooperation within the community, and to revitalize their activities so that they can provide smooth support to affected people in the event of a disaster. During the training, local governments, the Council of Social Welfare, NPOs (including coordinating organizations) and others that had already worked to build a system of collaboration and cooperation gave lectures on the necessity of collaboration and cooperation among various affected people supporting entities in times of disaster. In the "Building

Collaborative Relationships Training" and "Training Course on Core Human Resource Development," exercises were conducted to further build collaborative and cooperative systems according to the state of participating local governments, and opinions were exchanged among local governments who participated in.





Training Course on Promoting Collaboration among Various Affected People Supporting Entities (Building Collaborative Relationships Training)

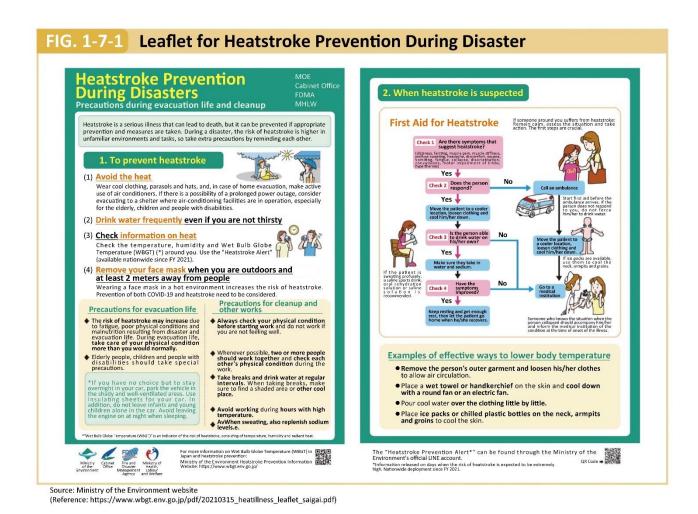




Training Course on Promoting Collaboration among Various Affected People Supporting Entities (Training Course on Core Human Resource)

1-7 Heatstroke Prevention in Evacuation Life and Cleanup Work during Disasters

When natural disasters occur during the summer, infrastructure failures and shortages of relief supplies immediately after the disaster may increase the risk of heatstroke during evacuation life and cleanup operations. The Ministry of the Environment, the Cabinet Office, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the Japan Meteorological Agency collaborated to prepare a leaflet on measures against heatstroke in evacuation life and cleanup operations during disasters, which was published in March 2021, and sent out to local governments in June of the same year through relevant government ministries and agencies (FIG. 1-7-1). The leaflets were delivered again to affected local governments where disasters occurred.



1-8 Establishment of a Business Continuity System

(1) Establishment of a Business Continuity System for the National Government's Ministries and Agencies

In the past, the national government's ministries and agencies, which are the administrative organs of the nation, have formulated business continuity plans for each of them, and have promoted initiatives for business continuity from the perspective of ensuring that pivotal functions of the capital continue to function in the event of a Tokyo Inland Earthquake or other disaster. In March 2014, the Cabinet approved the "Business Continuity Plan of the Central Government (Measures against a Tokyo Inland Earthquake)" (hereinafter referred to as the "Government Business Continuity Plan") based on the "Act on Special Measures against Tokyo Inland Earthquake (Act No. 88 of 2013), where the national government's ministries and agencies reevaluated their business continuity plans that they had in place up to that point in time.

Based on the Government Business Continuity Plan, the Cabinet Office conducts annual evaluations with experts and other knowledgeable persons and conducts drills in cooperation with ministries and agencies for the purpose of improving the effectiveness of their business continuity plans. The national government's ministries and agencies use this in order to improve the effectiveness of their business continuity plans as necessary.

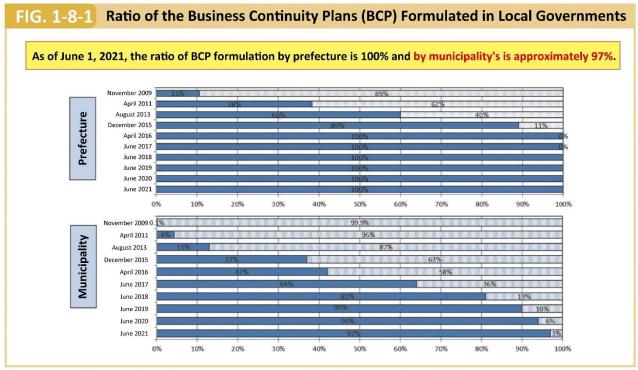
In April 2016, the Cabinet Office formulated the "Business Continuity Plan Guidelines for the National Government's Ministries and Agencies" (hereinafter referred to as the "Guidelines" in this section) (second edition) to support the implementation and review of ministry and agency business continuity plans. And in response to recent changes in social conditions and newly identified issues, the Cabinet Office reviewed the Guidelines and

formulated their third edition in April 2022.

Through these efforts, the government intends to establish a business continuity system that will enable smooth continuation of business operations even in the event of a Tokyo Inland Earthquake.

(2) Establishment of a Business Continuity System for Local Governments

Local governments must secure administrative functions and continue operations even in the event of a disaster. Therefore, it is extremely important for local governments to formulate a business continuity plan and establish a business continuity system. The percentage of local governments with business continuity plans in place reached 100% of all prefectures in FY2016, and approximately 97% of all municipalities as of June 2021, up 3 percentage points from the previous year (FIG. 1-8-1).



Source: November 2009: Survey on the Status of Business Continuity Systems in the Event of an Earthquake (survey by the Cabinet Office Disaster Prevention and Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)

August 2013: Preliminary Figures for the Rate of BCP Formulation for Matural Disasters such as Large-Scale Earthquakes (Fire and Disaster Management Agency survey, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)

December 2015: Survey on the "Status of Formulation of Business Continuity Plans" and "Status of Formulation of Specific Standards for Issuing Evacuation Recommendations" in Local Governments (Fire and Disaster Management Agency survey, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)

April 2016, June 2017, June 2018, June 2019, June 2020 and June 2021: Results of a Survey on the Status of Business Continuity Planning in Local Governments (Fire and Disaster Management Agency survey, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)

In order to support municipalities in formulating business continuity plans, the Cabinet Office developed the "Business Continuity Plan Formulation Guidelines for Municipalities" in May 2015 so that even small municipalities can easily formulate business continuity plans. In February 2016, based on past disaster examples, the "Guide and Explanation for Business Continuity of Local Governments in the Event of an Earthquake" was revised as the "Guidelines for Business Continuity of Local Governments in the Event of a Major Disaster," which was then sent to local governments.

In the event of a large-scale disaster, it is difficult for the affected municipalities to handle the enormous amount of disaster response work on their own. Therefore, in establishing a business continuity system, local governments

must have a business continuity plan as well as a support receiving system to quickly and accurately receive support from the national government, local governments, private companies, volunteer groups, and others, to share information, and make various adjustments. In April 2020, the Cabinet Office formulated the "Guide to Formulate Aid Acceptance Plans Regarding the Receipt of Human Support for Municipalities" to help municipalities with concerns about their disaster management systems, such as the lack of full-time disaster management staff, and to help them understand how to develop a support receiving system and prepare a support receiving plan with as little burden as possible. And in June 2021, a revised and expanded version of this guide was published.

Furthermore, to support the establishment of a business continuity system in local governments, the Cabinet Office and the Fire and Disaster Management Agency have jointly hosted a training seminar for officials in charge of disaster management in municipalities every year since FY2015.

Through these efforts, in addition to the formulation of business continuity plans, we will continue to support its establishment in local governments in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, including the six critical elements* in the formulated business continuity plans and the development of support receiving systems.

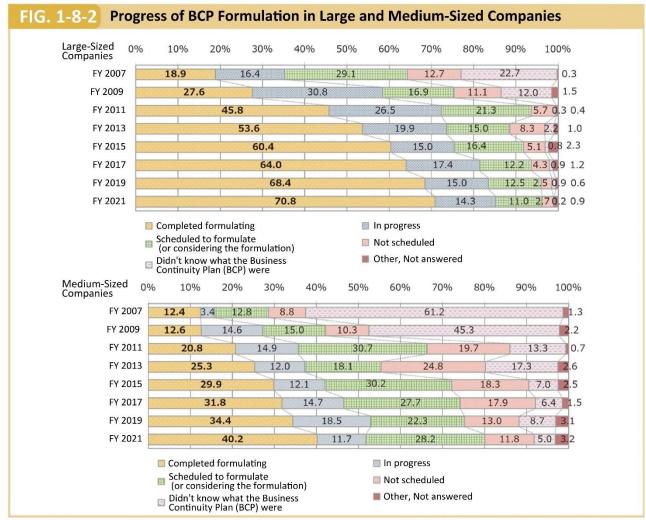
*Six critical elements (Source: Cabinet Office, "Guidelines for Business Continuity of Local Governments in the Event of a Major Disaster"):

- <1> Clear order of succession and staff assembly system in absence of the head of organization
- <2> Identification of alternative government buildings in the event that the main government building is no longer available
- <3> Securing electricity, water, food, etc. (for staff to carry out their duties)
- <4> Ensure a variety of communication means that are easy to access even in times of disaster
- <5> Backup of important administrative data
- <6> Organization of priority tasks in case of emergency

(3) State of Business Continuity Systems of Private Companies

In 2005, the Cabinet Office established the "Business Continuity Guidelines" to promote the formulation of business continuity plans (BCP) by companies, and in 2013, the Guidelines were revised to incorporate the concept of business continuity management (BCM), taking into account changes in social conditions and other factors. In April 2021, a revised version of the "Business Continuity Guidelines - Strategies and Responses to Overcome All Types of Crisis Incidents" was published to promote the spread of the guidelines and to encourage the formulation of BCPs in accordance with the guidelines.

The Cabinet Office has conducted a fact-finding survey on the private sector's initiatives, including the rate of BCP formulation, on a biannual basis. According to the "Survey on Business Continuity and Disaster Risk Reduction Efforts of Corporations," conducted in January 2022, there was an observed increase of the formulation of a BCP where 70.8% of large companies (68.4% in the previous survey conducted in January 2020) and 40.2% of medium-sized companies (34.4% in the previous survey) had formulated a BCP. Including those in the process of formulating a BCP, about 85% of large companies and 52% of medium-sized companies have it (FIG. 1-8-2, FIG. 1-8-3).



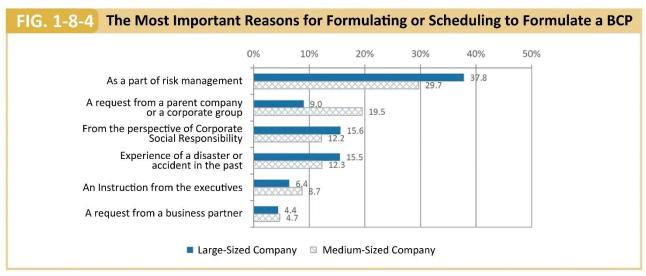
Source: Cabinet Office using "The Fact-Finding Survey for Business Continuity and Disaster Management in Companies in FY 2021."

FIG. 1-8-3 Questionnaire Results of Company Survey (FY2021)

			Total	Large-Sized Companies (Capital stock of more than one billion yen and have over 50 regular employees)	Medium-Sized Companies (Capital stock of under one billion yen and have over 50 regular employees)	Other Companies (Capital stock over 100 million yen, excluding large and medium-sized companies)
Total		The Number of Companies	1,839	608	607	62
Total		BCP Formulation Rate	45.7%	70.8%	40.2%	41.99
erience on Affecti Disaster	Have	The Number of Companies	1058	421	355	28
	Experience BCP Formulation Rate	47.7%	70.9%	38.9%	44.2	
	No Experience	The Number of Companies	772	185	247	34
	BCP Formulat	BCP Formulation Rate	43.6%	70.2%	41.2%	40.5

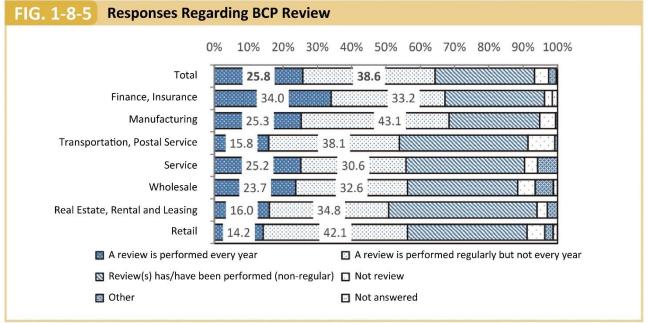
Source: Cabinet Office using "The Fact-Finding Survey for Business Continuity and Disaster Management in Companies in FY 2021."

In addition to the percentage of respondents who have a BCP in place, the main findings of the survey are as follows (FIG. 1-8-4 to FIG. 1-8-6).



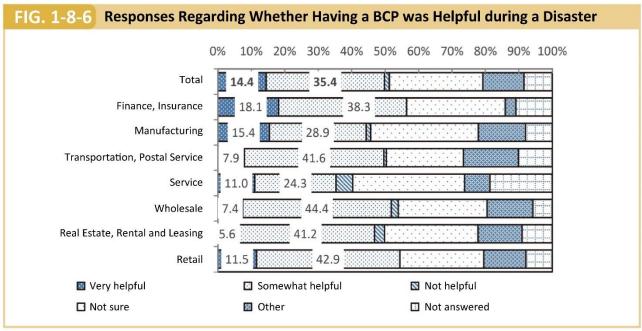
n: 585 Large-Sized Companies, 492 Medium-Sized Companies

Target: Companies that formulated a Business Continuity Plan (BCP) or are in process or scheduled to formulate a plan. The top answers are extracted. Source: Cabinet Office using "The Fact-Finding Survey for Business Continuity and Disaster Management in Companies in FY 2021."



n: 954

Target: Companies that completed the formulation of Business Continuity Plans (BCP). This chart only shows industries that have the most answers. Source: Cabinet Office using "The Fact-Finding Survey for Business Continuity and Disaster Management in Companies in FY 2021."



n: 954
Target: Companies that completed the formulation of Business Continuity Plan (BCP). This chart only shows industries with the most responses. Source: Cabinet Office using "The Fact-Finding Survey for Business Continuity and Disaster Management in Companies in FY 2021."

1-9 Collaboration with Industry

In order to improve the disaster risk management capacity of society as a whole, there is a need for business operators to improve their advance preparedness for large-scale natural disasters. For this purpose, the "Disaster Risk Management Economic Consortium" was established on March 23, 2018, as a forum for business operators to exchange views and ideas (FIG. 1-9-1).

The Cabinet Office provides appropriate support, including information exchange so that the public and private sectors can cooperatively promote such industry measures.

(Reference: https://www.bousai.go.jp/kyoiku/consortium/index.html)

The "Disaster Risk Management Economic Consortium" has formulated the "Principles of Disaster Management Economic Action" (FIG. 1-9-2) as a common philosophy for business operators to prepare for disasters in advance.

In FY2021, members of 17 organizations were mainly engaged in activities for spreading and raising awareness of these principles to their respective subsidiary organizations. In addition to the exchange of opinions among the members, three administrative subcommittee meetings were held, including various government agencies providing information on disaster risk reduction and lectures by experts.

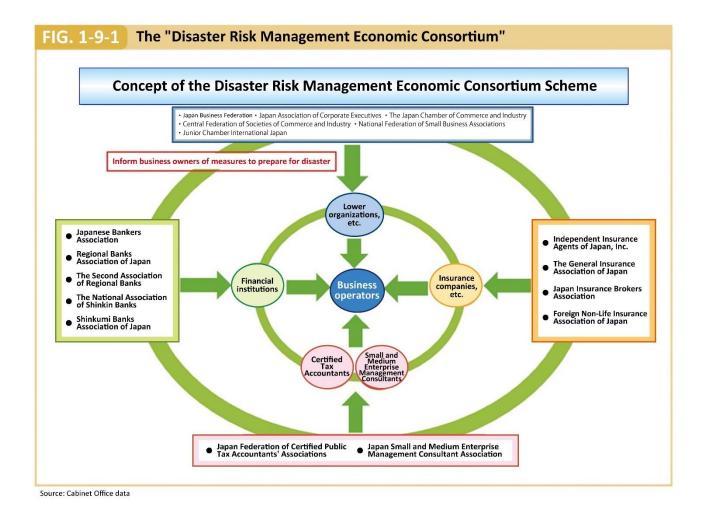


FIG. 1-9-2 The "Principles of Disaster Management Economic Action"

Principles of Disaster Management Economic Action

March 23, 2018
Disaster Risk Management
Economic Consortium

Preamble

Due to its natural conditions, Japan is prone to disasters. Therefore, it is important for business operators to take actions such as making decisions based on the recognition that disaster risk management is fundamental for their business management. Since public support is limited especially during a large-scale disaster, it is key for them to make advanced preparations of (1) to (4) below through self-help and mutual support.

- (1) For business operators to recognize and understand their disaster risks properly.
- (2) Depending on their disaster risks, for business operators to take disaster management measures by effective disaster risk management combining risk control (seismic reinforcement, BCP, etc.) and risk finance (insurance, loan, cash preparation, etc.)
- (3) So that business operators take action proactively, to improve the awareness by enhancing disaster management education for their executives.
- (4) For business operators to take disaster management measures by self-help and mutual support, collaborating and communicating with relevant organizations that are essential for their business, such as business partners, financial institutions and trade associations.

Members of the Disaster Risk Management Economic Consortium should respect the Principles of Disaster Management Economic Action in their activities so that business operators' preparations through self-help and mutual support will improve the disaster risk management capacity of the society as a whole.

Principles of Disaster Management Economic Action

- 1. For the Members of the Disaster Risk Management Economic Consortium to promote measures to achieve (1) to (4) as written in the preamble.
- 2. By sharing obtained information with the Disaster Risk Management Economic Consortium and giving back to business operators as much as possible, for members of the Consortium to develop the disaster risk management capacity of the society as a whole.
- 3. For members of the Disaster Risk Management Economic Consortium to aim for the spreading of knowledge and education to improve business operators' disaster risk management capacity through their creativity that makes the best use of the strengths of their industries.

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Source: Cabinet Office website (Reference: https://www.bousai.go.jp/kyoiku/consortium/index.html)

1-10 Initiatives in the Academic Field

In Japan, research is being performed on disaster risk reduction in various fields, including natural phenomena such as earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes and heavy rain; structures such as civil engineering and architecture; medicine and hygiene such as emergency medicine and environmental sanitation; human activities such as the economy, geography, and history; and other various fields such as information and energy. In the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, there was a recognition that research on disaster prevention and mitigation from a comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective in these fields is essential. And it was also recognized that the promotion of information sharing and exchange with different disciplines beyond the boundaries of specialized fields and engagement in interdisciplinary collaboration is needed. To this end, after discussions at the Science Council of Japan and related academic societies, the "Japan Academic Network for Disaster Reduction" was established in January 2016 as a network of academic societies involved in disaster prevention, mitigation and recovery, bringing together 47 academic societies. As of the end of February 2022, 62 academic societies (59 groups of regular members and 3 associations of special members) participate in this academic network.

In August 2021, the academic network held the third "Liaison Conference on Disaster Management among the Science Council of Japan, Academic Societies, and Government Ministries and Agencies" under the theme of "Preparing for Intensifying Meteorological Disasters," at which both the national government's ministries and agencies and academic circles presented their respective efforts. In November 2021, the 12th Academic Network for Disaster Reduction Symposium, "Education for Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Culture," a forum sponsored by the Science Council of Japan was held online. And the Special Symposium on "Diverse Perspectives on Education for Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Culture - 10 years after the Great East Japan Earthquake -," hosted by the Japan Academic Network for Disaster Reduction, was also conducted online. Based on the experiences and education during the 10 years after the Great East Japan Earthquake, presentations were made on future measures for education for disaster risk reduction and disaster culture.



The 3rd "Liaison Conference on Disaster Management among the Science Council of Japan, Academic Societies, and Government Ministries and Agencies" commemorative photo

1-11 Strengthening Disaster Response Efforts from Gender Equality Perspectives

Large-scale disasters threaten the lives of all people. While women account for 51.4% of the population (Population Estimates, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, as of August 1, 2021), it is essential to sufficiently take into account the differences in the impact of disasters on women and men when implementing a disaster response and disaster risk reduction and for the realization of a resilient society. Based on this recognition, the government has been promoting disaster risk reduction and recovery efforts from a gender equality perspective in accordance with the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality (approved by the Cabinet on December 25, 2020) * and the Basic Disaster Management Plan.

In the 2021 revision of the Basic Disaster Management Plan, some new provisions were included. One new provision is that local governments should work to increase the percentage of women on Local Disaster Management Councils. The plan also includes a new provision for municipalities to prevent sexual violence and domestic violence in shelters. On the national level as well, the number of women on the National Disaster

Management Council (excluding cabinet ministers) went up from one to three.

In addition, "Women's Perspectives to Strengthening Disaster Response Capabilities - Guidelines for disaster preparedness and recovery from the perspective of gender equality -" (prepared in May 2020, hereinafter referred to as the "Guidelines" in this section) summarizes the issues to be addressed at the stages of preparation during normal time, initial response, life in shelters, and recovery and reconstruction, for local governments to refer to when promoting disaster response efforts from the gender perspective. In May 2021, the "Practical Learning Program" was developed to further promote awareness of and thoroughly utilize the Guidelines. Itis designed to help local government officials better understand the content of the guidelines and plan and implement measures for disaster response from the gender perspective. And it also provides lectures and video materials for use at various opportunities such as training and events.

(Reference: https://www.gender.go.jp/policy/saigai/program/index.html)

In order to incorporate gender equality into disaster response, the Director-General of Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office was appointed* for the first time as a member of the Authorized Disaster Management Headquarters for the Heavy Rain from July 1 of 2021, and the Authorized Disaster Management Headquarters for the Heavy Rain in August of 2021, and attended these meetings. In addition, when a sediment disaster (landslide disaster) occurred in Atami City, Shizuoka Prefecture in July, the bureau dispatched its staff to the site to check on the situation at shelters and provide disaster response form a gender perspective. Furthermore, the "Mutual Support Network for Gender Equality Promotion Centers at the Time of Disaster" has begun operation. This is in order to "promote mutual support among centers for promotion of gender equality by utilizing the mutual support system operated by the National Council of Women's Centers so that centers for promotion of gender equality can play an effective role in times of disaster," as stated in the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality.

(Reference: https://saigai-network.j-kaikan.jp/)

*The Director-General of Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office was appointed as a member of the government's disaster management headquarters for the first time in case of the Authorized Disaster Management Headquarters for the Heavy Rainfall from July 1 of 2021.

Recognizing that the private sector is indispensable in disaster response as well as the government, the Cabinet Office is also working to strengthen cooperation between the government and the private sector, for example, by compiling a collection of case studies and know-how on how women can work as disaster management leaders in communities. We will continue to work for the active engagement of women in the decision-making process of disaster risk reduction and recovery and in disaster management, and for disaster response from a gender equality perspective to spread through all regions of Japan.

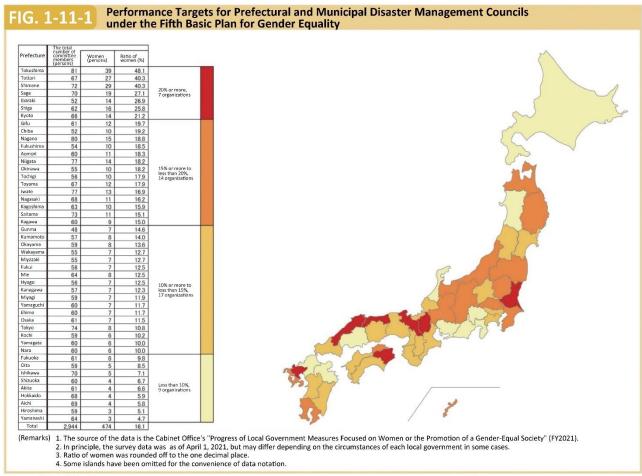
*Main measures in the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality:

- Promote the government and local governments to lead disaster risk reduction and recovery efforts
 from a gender perspective through closer collaboration and cooperation between disaster/ risk
 management departments and gender equality departments from the normal time.
- Request each prefecture to promote increase the engagement of women in Prefectural Disaster
 Management Councils with regard to the percentage of female members of such councils. In addition,

in order to quickly eliminate the number of Municipal Disaster Management Councils without female members and to promote to increase the ratio of female council members, collaborate with prefectures to develop good practices in municipalities where women are actively appointed to these councils. (FIG. 1.11-1, FIG. 1.11-2)

- Encourage local governments to assign female and gender equality staff to the local Disaster Management Headquarters and promote understanding of a gender perspective among male members of the headquarters from normal time.
- Follow up and "visualize" the state of efforts of gender equality in disaster risk reduction by local governments based on the guidelines.

(Reference: https://www.gender.go.jp/about_danjo/basic_plans/5th/pdf/2-08.pdf)



Source: Cabinet Office data

FIG. 1-11-2 Performance Targets for Prefectural and Municipal Disaster Management Councils under the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality

Item		Present Status	Performance Target (Deadline)		
Proportion of Women among Prefectural Disaster Management Councils' committee members		16.1% (2021)	30% (2025)		
Prop Cou	Proportion of Women among Municipal Disaster Management Councils' committee members				
	The number of organizations with no women in committee members	328 (2021)	0 (2025)		
	Proportion of Women among committee members	9.3% (2021)	Aiming for 15% (in early stage), and even for 30% (by 2025)		

Source: Compiled from "The Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality 'Toward a Reiwa Society Where All Women and Girls Can Thrive and Achieve Their Full Potential' (Cabinet decision on December 25, 2020).

(Column)

National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction, 2021 Let's Gather together! Female Disaster Management Officials and Their Supporters

On November 7, 2021, the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office hosted one of the sessions for the first time at the "National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction, 2021" (online) held in Kamaishi, Iwate Prefecture.

One of the goals of the session, "Let's Gather! Female Disaster Management Officials and Their Supporters" was to help female disaster management officials "connect" each other. Since the role of local government is very important in disaster response, and it is essential for each local government to promote measures from a gender perspective, one of the specific measures is to "assign female staff to disaster management departments." At present, however, the number of female employees in disaster management departments is limited, and some say that female employees often feel lonely in their departments, for example, they find it difficult to express their opinions in the organization or to discuss their problems in disaster response. Therefore, a workshop was held to hear female disaster management staff openly about the questions and concerns they had in their daily work and actual disaster response in order to think together about the solutions.

Another objective is to "connect" the governments and the private sector. In light of the importance of cooperation with the private sector in disaster response, people involved in disaster risk reduction in the community were invited to participate as "Support Groups" to introduce case studies of how to connect the governments and private sector from normal time.

The session was attended by about 100 participants, including female officials from national and local governments in disaster management and gender equality department, as well as local disaster management leaders and disaster management specialists. With the cooperation of the co-sponsored organizations, "Women's Department of Yonnana (or 47) Disaster Risk Reduction Association" and "Illustration and *Gurareco* (or graphic recording) Section, Design Department, Online City Office," workshops were held on three themes after introducing case studies based on the experiences of city office employees who performed disaster response duties and information provided by the Cabinet Office on disaster response from the gender perspective.

On theme 1, "Disaster Management x Female Administrative Staff," participants discussed their concerns caused by the lack of women in disaster management departments, and some participants commented that they are encouraged by finding others who were in the same position and working hard. On theme 2, which dealt with "Disaster Management and Child Care/Caregiving," participants were introduced to the "Emergency Attendance Support System" by the Self-Defense Forces and they shared difficulties they had in disaster response duties, which led to raise their awareness of the importance of speaking up about the need for employees who have to take care of their family or children in their daily life. On theme 3, "Disaster Preparedness and Gender Equality/Welfare," based on the role of government officials as coordinators in the community, there was a discussion led to conclusion that cooperation through dialogue with various stakeholders was important to solve local problems.

Through the sessions, the participants shared the importance of expanding connections and networking among female disaster management officials and ones between the administration and local disaster management leaders.

Here is the URL for further information:

https://www.gender.go.jp/public/kyodosankaku/2021/202112/202112.html

