

## Section 3 Enhancement and Strengthening of Local Nuclear Emergency Preparedness System

### 3-1 Development and Support of Local Disaster Management Plans and Evacuation Plans

Local governments are required to prepare a local disaster management plan (Nuclear Disaster Risk Management edition) (hereinafter referred to as "local disaster management plan" in this chapter) based on the "Basic Act on Disaster Management" to specify basic measures to be taken by prefectures and municipalities in response to nuclear disasters.

Currently, based on the Basic Disaster Management Plan and the NRA EPR Guide, local disaster management plans are formulated by relevant local governments within an approximate 30 km radius from nuclear power plants (FIG. 3-1-1). It is important to make local disaster management plans more concrete and comprehensive, and the government actively help the local governments with issues that are difficult to solve on their own as they proceed to embody evacuation plans and measures for persons requiring special care.

**FIG. 3-1-1 Status of Local Disaster Management Plans and Evacuation plans (as of March 31, 2022)**

	Target municipalities	The number of disaster management plans formulated	The number of evacuation plans formulated
Tomari Region	13	13	13
Higashidori Region	5	5	5
Onagawa Region	7	7	7
Fukushima Region	13	13	11
Kashiawazaki-Kariwa Region	9	9	9
Tokai Dai-ni Region	14	14	5
Hamaoka Region	11	11	11
Shiga Region	9	9	9
Fukui Area	23	23	23
Shimane Region	6	6	6
Ikata Region	8	8	8
Genkai Region	8	8	8
Sendai Region	9	9	9
Total 13 Regions	135	135	124

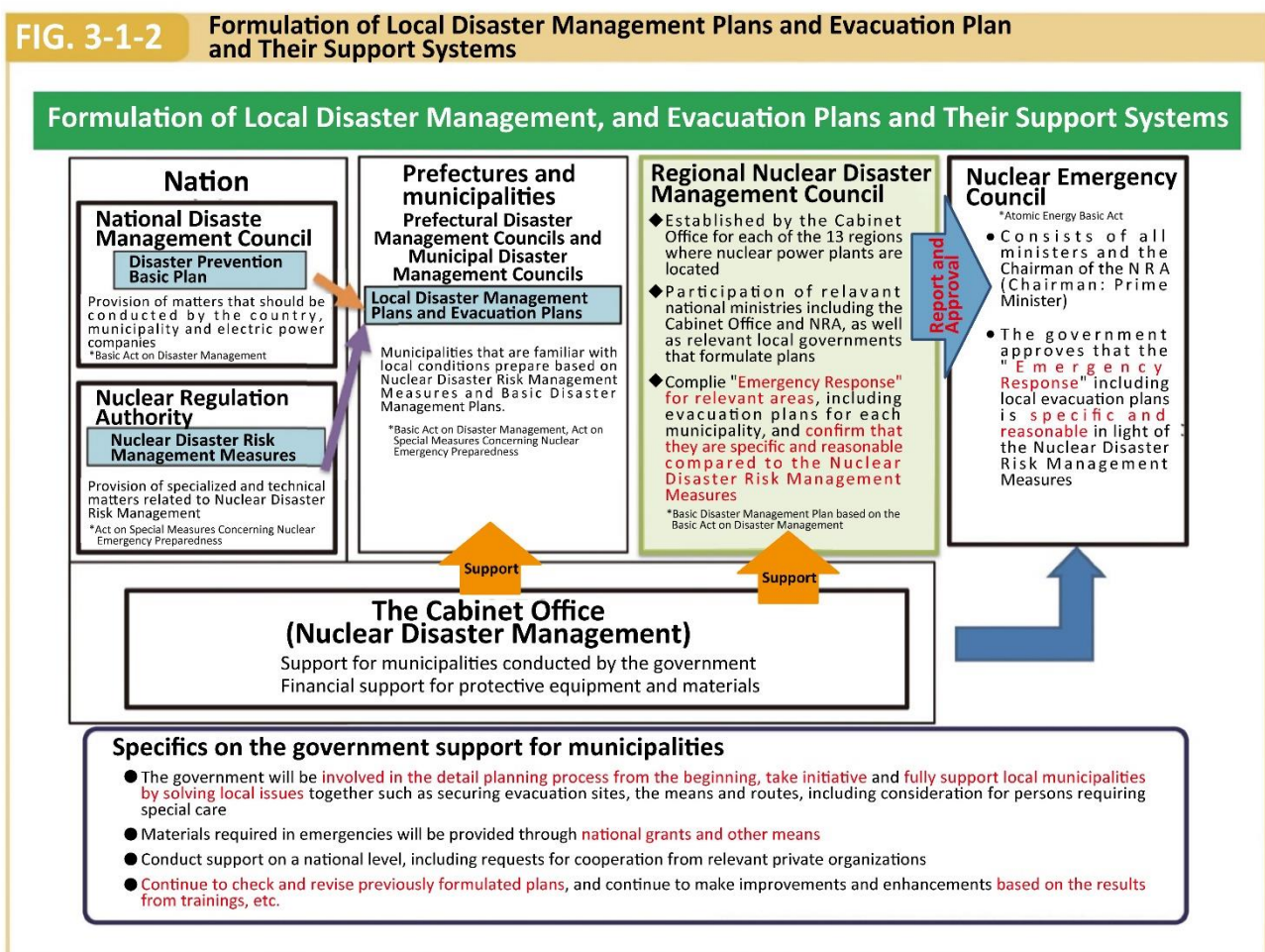
Source: Cabinet Office

The national government addresses and promotes the establishment and enhancement of the Nuclear Emergency Preparedness System, including the securing of evacuation routes through road construction and other measures.

The Cabinet Office established the Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council (hereinafter referred to as "Council") as a working team to solve issues raised at each of districts where nuclear power plants are located, and set a working group under this Council based on the "Future Actions to Enhance Local Disaster Management Plan" (decided by the Nuclear Disaster Management Council in September 2013) to support the implementation and

enhancement of local disaster management plans and evacuation plans prepared by prefectures and municipalities. Each regional working group considers support on developing evacuation plans, wide-area coordination, and support from the national government's working groups. The national government and relevant local governments work together to realize and enhance local disaster management plans and evacuation plans (FIG.3-1-2).

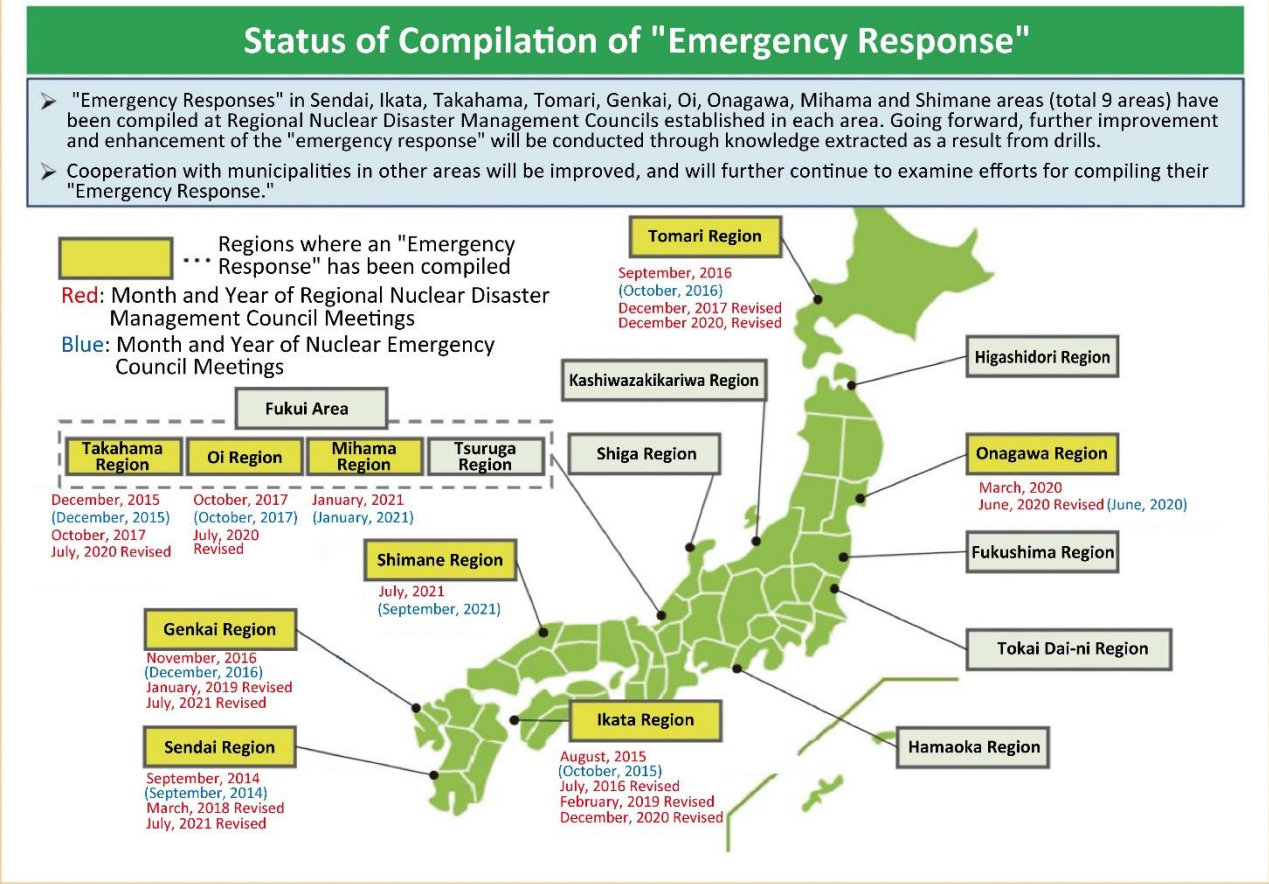
The "Emergency Response" including evacuation plans are compiled for regions where local disaster management plans and evacuation plans have been made specific and enhanced, and the Council confirms that these plans are specific and reasonable in light of the NRA EPR Guide. In addition, the Cabinet Office makes it a rule to report the confirmation results at the Council to the Nuclear Disaster Management Council for its approval. For regions whose "emergency response" is confirmed, the PDCA cycle has been introduced to continuously enhance and strengthen the local Nuclear Emergency Preparedness System with these steps: (1) "Plan" that those regions are provided support for the concrete formulation and enhancement of their "emergency response" and have the Council confirm this emergency response, (2) "Do" emergency drills based on the "emergency response" confirmed by the Council, (3) "Check" that the points to improve are identified from the drill results, and then (4) take "Action" to make improvements on the "Emergency Response" in the said regions based on the points learned from (3) "Check."



Source: Cabinet Office data

As for the example of "emergency response" in each region, in FY 2021, the "Emergency Response in the Shimane Region" plan was compiled at the first meeting of Shimane Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council and its contents were confirmed (FIG.3-1-3).

**FIG. 3-1-3 Status of Compilation of "Emergency Response"**



Source: Cabinet Office data

Note that for the Fukui area, subcommittees will be set up in Tsuruga, Mihama, Ohi and Takahama regions to discuss specific issues that need to be resolved in each region.

### (1) Shimane Region

In the Shimane Region, the Working Group of the Shimane Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council which was established under the Shimane Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council was held 33 times during the period from March 2015 to July 2021 to discuss emergency response in the event of a nuclear disaster. Subsequently, the "Emergency Response in the Shimane Region" plan was compiled at the first meeting of the Shimane Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council which was held on July 30, 2021.

(Reference: [https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku\\_bousai/kyougikai/02\\_shimane.html](https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku_bousai/kyougikai/02_shimane.html))

The following 4 points are important for "Emergency Response in the Shimane Region."

1. The PAZ (Precautionary Action Zone, within a 5-km radius of the power plant, or 9,487 people in 4,250 households) is where people will be evacuated in the event of a facility site emergency or a total emergency. Secure evacuation sites outside the 30 km radius.
2. The UPZ (Urgent Protective Action Planning Zone, within a 5 to 30 km radius of the power plant, or approximately 450,000 people in 190,000 households) is where people will be evacuated indoors under a total emergency situation. As a result of emergency monitoring, people in areas with radiation levels above a certain level will be temporarily relocated. Secure evacuation sites for approximately 450,000 people in the

UPZ.

3. Reflect protective measures such as implementing infection control in evacuations vehicles or shelters during an infection epidemic.
4. Implement measures to facilitate evacuation such as the introduction of a system that can control signals along evacuation routes and the provision of information on routes to evacuation facilities and road congestion by district via websites and apps.

At the first meeting of the Shimane Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council, the Council confirmed the status of measures to secure evacuation sites and means of transportation and the status of the maintenance of indoor evacuation facilities. Under unforeseen circumstances, the 4 ministries and agencies involved in the actual response: the National Police Agency, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, the Japan Coast Guard, and the Ministry of Defense will provide necessary support upon request from related organizations. In addition, Chugoku Electric Power Company indicated that it would do its best to respond as a business operator by securing welfare vehicles, mobilizing personnel and equipment for contamination screening and simple decontamination. Based on the above, it was confirmed that the response from Shimane and Tottori Prefectures and other relevant local governments as well as relevant government ministries and agencies were concrete and reasonable in light of the NRA EPR Guide.

In addition, at the 12th meeting of the Nuclear Disaster Management Council held on September 7, 2021, the results of the confirmation at the 1st meeting of the Shimane Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council were reported and approved.

## **(2) Genkai and Sendai Regions**

Based on the "basic concept of protective measures under the epidemic of infectious diseases based on the spread of COVID-19," the "Emergency Response in the Genkai Region" and "Emergency Response in the Sendai Region" plans were revised at the Genkai Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council (3<sup>rd</sup> meeting) and Sendai Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council (2<sup>nd</sup> meeting) in July 2021, respectively.

(Reference: [https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku\\_bousai/kyougikai/02\\_genkai.html](https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku_bousai/kyougikai/02_genkai.html)  
[https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku\\_bousai/kyougikai/02\\_sendai.html](https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku_bousai/kyougikai/02_sendai.html))

### **3-2 Other Support and Measures for Related Prefectures**

#### **(1) Stockpiling and Distribution of Stable Iodine Agents**

Stable iodine agents, which are taken to prevent or reduce internal exposure of the thyroid gland to radioactive iodine (I), are stockpiled and distributed in advance by local governments with financial support from the government in the PAZ (Precautionary Action Zone) and the UPZ (Urgent Protective Action Planning Zone). And the Cabinet Office has been stockpiling stable iodine agents for residents outside the UPZ.

With regard to advanced distribution, considering the burden of receiving stable iodine agents through emergency distribution, local governments are given support to operate advanced distribution appropriately for the residents in the UPZ where advanced distribution is expected to facilitate evacuation. As a part of limited and exceptional response to COVID-19 since 2020, local governments are encouraged to remotely hold the pre-distribution town-hall meetings by medical doctors, instead of in-person format. Remote format still complies with the NRA EPR Guide and NRA's manual regarding distribution and taking of stable iodine agents.

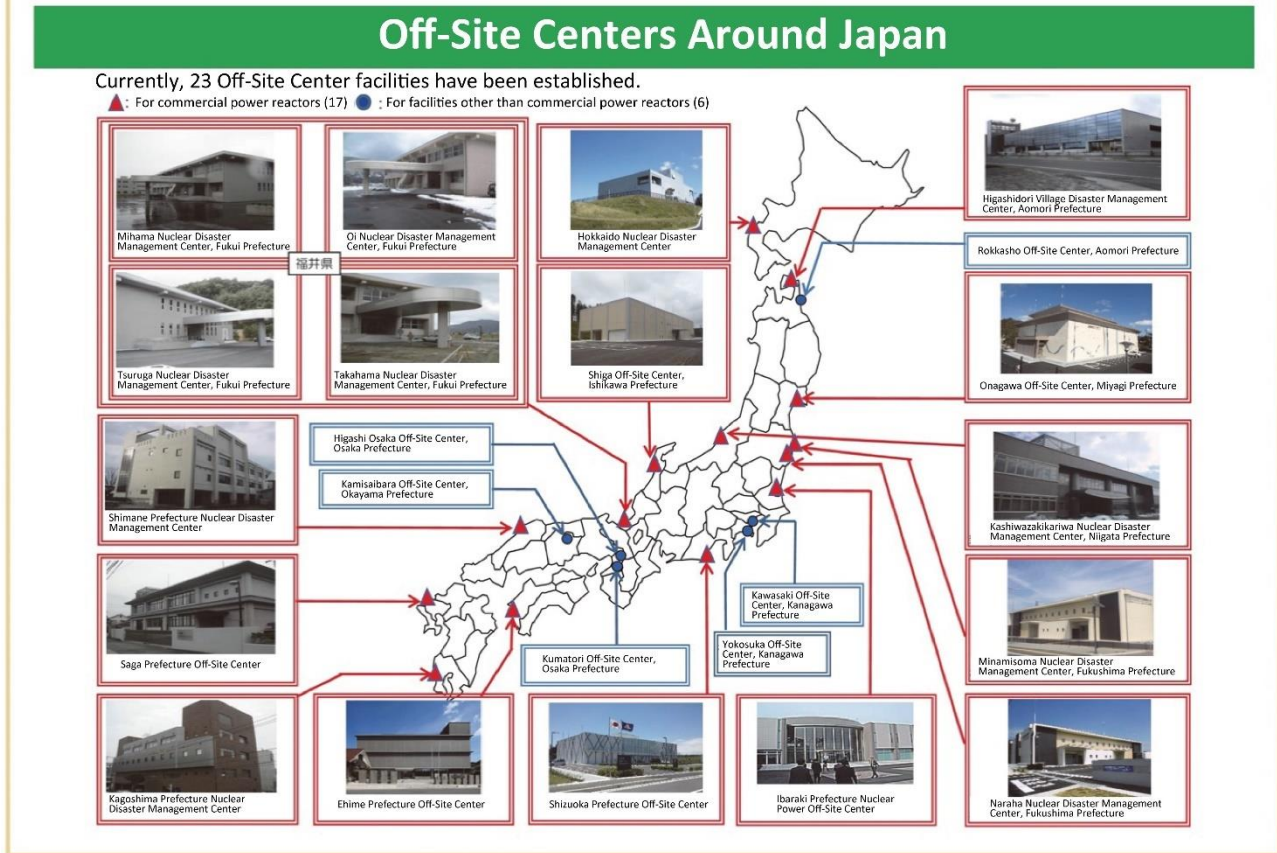
#### **(2) Designation of an Off-Site Center**

Under Article 12, paragraph 1 of the "Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness" (Act No. 156 of 1999), the Prime Minister is required to designate an emergency response center (off-site center) for each nuclear site (FIG. 3-2-1).

The requirement for off-site centers is set forth by a Cabinet Office Ordinance on Off-Site Centers pursuant to the "Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness." However, based on the lessons learned from the accident at the Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, the location of Off-Site Centers for commercial power reactors was revised in September 2012 to be within a 5 to 30 km-radius (within the UPZ). Subsequently, in March 2017, the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) revised the NRA EPR Guide and set the scope of priority areas for Nuclear Disaster Risk Management for nuclear fuel facilities. In August 2019, the requirements to be met by Off-Site Centers for nuclear fuel facilities were revised to be basically the same as those for power generation reactor facilities.

As for the Onagawa Off-Site Center, the former Off-Site Center was damaged by the tsunami brought on by the Great East Japan Earthquake, and the Fire Academy in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture was used as a temporary Off-Site Center. However, a new Off-Site Center was constructed in Onagawa Town in the same prefecture and designated in April 2020.

**FIG. 3-2-1 Off-Site Centers Around Japan**



Source: Cabinet Office data

### (3) Improving Nuclear Disaster Countermeasures

At the Inter-Ministerial Council for Nuclear Power held in March 2016, the "Stance on Enhancing Nuclear Emergency Response Measures" was compiled as a response to the request from the National Governors' Association in order to respond to the voices of local governments responsible for regional disaster management regarding nuclear energy policy. In April of the same year, a Committee of Relevant Ministries and Agencies on Nuclear Emergency Response Measures was held to address the enhancement of Nuclear Disaster Risk Management in a unified manner, and a decision was made to establish 3 subcommittees. These subcommittees operated on 3 different themes, or the cooperation of operational organizations (Subcommittee 1), the cooperation of private business operators (Subcommittee 2), and how to provide information including diffusion calculation (Subcommittee 3). In each subcommittee, related ministries and agencies collaborated and cooperated with each other, while listening to the opinions of local governments, to conduct specialized and practical studies, and the results were reported to the Inter-Ministerial Council for Nuclear Power held in July 2017 (FIG. 3-2-2).

### (4) Protective Measures in the Event of a Nuclear Disaster Under the Prevalence of Infectious Diseases based on the Spread of COVID-19

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, protective measures against a nuclear disaster under infectious disease epidemic conditions must be given the highest priority to protect the lives and health of the public from the dual risks of radiation exposure and infection. Therefore, on 2nd June, 2020, the Cabinet Office announced the "Basic

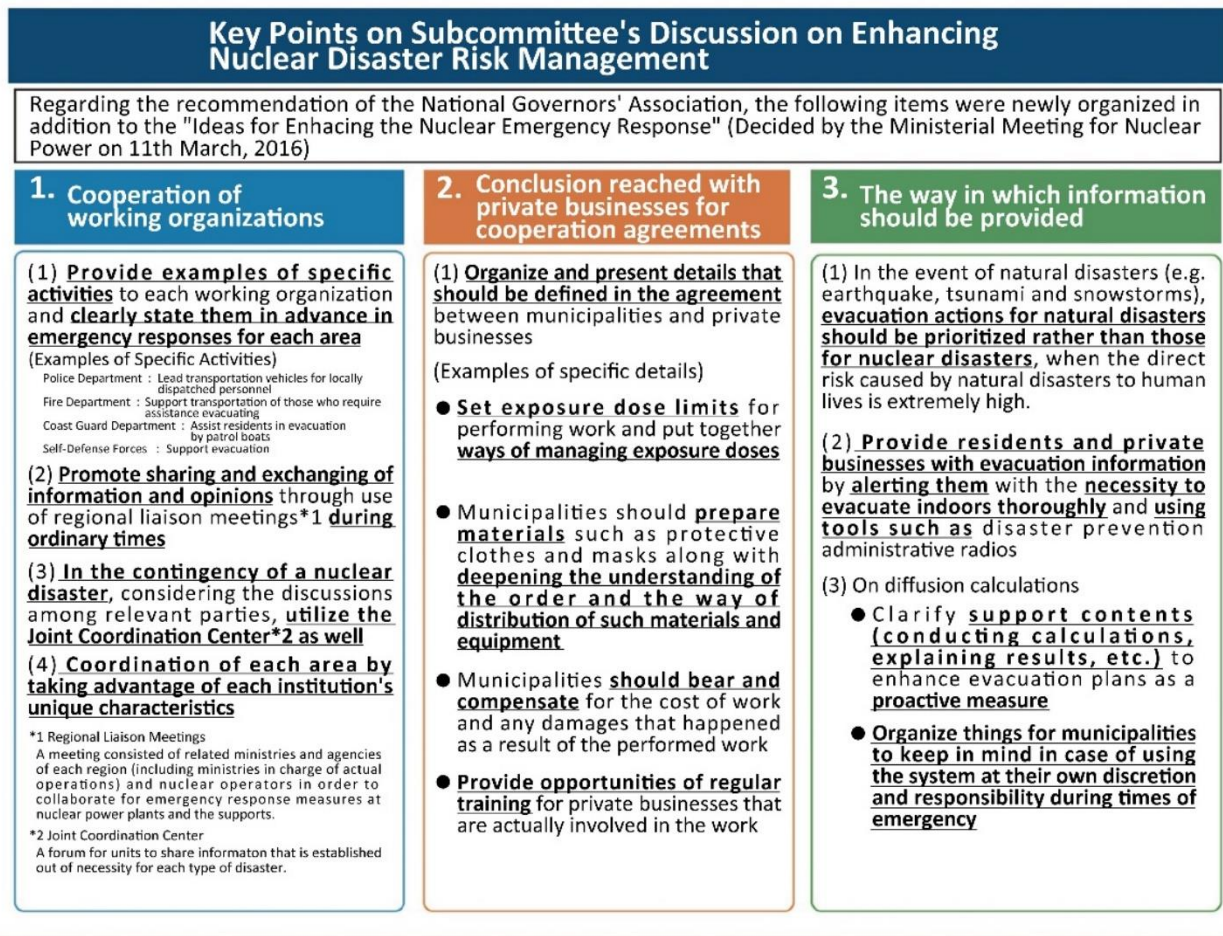
Concept of Protective Measures in Case of Nuclear Disasters during an Epidemic of Infectious Diseases Due to the Spread of the Novel Coronavirus" In a nuclear disaster, it was decided that protective measures under local emergency response and infection prevention measures stemming from the action plan from the "Act on Special Measures for Pandemic Influenza and New Infectious Diseases Preparedness and Response" will be employed to the extents possible to provide the best nuclear disaster risk management measures possible in case of concurrent infectious disease outbreak. In addition, on 2nd November, 2020, the "Guidelines for the Implementation of Protective Measures in Case of Nuclear Disasters during an Epidemic of Infectious Diseases Due to the Spread of the Novel Coronavirus" was specified to protect life and health reasonably, taking into consideration various risks, including the possibility of COVID-19 aggravation among the elderly. Here are some of the points listed in the guidelines:

- At shelters and in evacuation vehicles, infection control measures, such as maintaining adequate physical distance, wearing masks, and thoroughly disinfecting hands, must be implemented
- Efforts must be made to prevent infection by trying to separate and isolate close contacts with positive patients, symptomatic people with fevers, coughs, etc., and other asymptomatic people.
- In the cases of sheltering-in-place in avoidance of exposure to radioactive materials, shared ventilation should be avoided. However, from the viewpoint of countermeasures against infectious diseases, efforts should be made to ventilate the area for a few minutes every 30 minutes or so, while paying close attention to the release of radioactive materials.

In addition, local governments were instructed to take appropriate measures in consideration of the situation at the site, and to prepare nuclear disaster countermeasures in accordance with the specific situation of each region.

(Reference: [https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku\\_bousai/pdf/08\\_sonota\\_bougosochi.pdf](https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku_bousai/pdf/08_sonota_bougosochi.pdf)  
[https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku\\_bousai/pdf/08\\_sonota\\_guidelines.pdf](https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku_bousai/pdf/08_sonota_guidelines.pdf))

**FIG. 3-2-2 Key Points on Subcommittee's Discussion on Enhancing Nuclear Disaster Risk Management**



Source: Cabinet Office data

### 3-3 Drills and Training Related to Local Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Systems

#### (1) Support for Nuclear Emergency Drills in Local Governments

Local governments are required to conduct nuclear emergency response drills on a regular basis based on the "Basic Act on Disaster Management" and other relevant laws. In the drills organized by the prefectures, normally, prefectural governors, local governments, and relevant national and regional operational organizations such as the police, fire department, coast guard, and Self-Defense Forces will participate. There are some practical drills conducted for the evacuation of residents and contamination screening (FIG. 3-3-1).

Each Regional Nuclear Disaster Management Council provides necessary support for regions where the local disaster management plan and evacuation plan have been concretized and enhanced, such as planning and implementation of drills, dissemination of evaluation methods, and implementation of the PDCA cycle through drills, with the aim of verifying the concreteness and effectiveness of the local disaster management plan and evacuation plan.

In addition, in March 2018, the Cabinet Office formulated the "Guidance for Planning, Implementation and Evaluation of Nuclear Emergency Response Drills," which provides basic guidelines for all aspects of drills, from planning, implementation, to evaluation of drills led by prefectures, and revised it in March 2019.

(Reference: [https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku\\_bousai/kunren/kunren.html](https://www8.cao.go.jp/genshiryoku_bousai/kunren/kunren.html))



**FIG. 3-3-1 Status of Nuclear Emergency Response Exercises in All Areas Conducted by Local Governments in FY 2021**

Regions/ Areas	Exercise Name	Date
Tomari	Hokkaido Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	October 28, 2021
Higashidori	Aomori Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	November 1, 2021
Onagawa	Miyagi Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	February 10 to 12, 2022 (*Comprehensive Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise with the government)
Fukushima	Fukushima Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	November 24 and 27, 2021
Kashiwazakikariwa	Niigata Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	November 9 and 13, 2021
Shiga	Ishikawa Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	November 23, 2021
	Toyama Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	
Fukui	Fukui Prefecture Comprehensive Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	October 29 and 30, 2021
	Shiga Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	October 29 and November 20, 2021
	Gifu Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	October 29, November 20, November 24, November 28, 2021
	Kyoto Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	November 28, 2021
Hamaoka	Shizuoka Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	Exercise canceled due to rapid spread of COVID-19
Shimane	Shimane Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	February 2, 2022
	Tottori Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	February 2, 2022
Ikata	Ehime Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	October 15, 2021
	Yamaguchi Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	
Genkai	Saga Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	February 26, 2022
	Nagasaki Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	December 4, 2021
	Fukuoka Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	February 26, 2022
Sendai	Kagoshima Prefecture Nuclear Emergency Response Exercise	February 11, 2022

Source: Cabinet Office data

## (2) Training for Employees of National and Local Governments, Operational Organizations, etc.

### (Training program by the Government)

The Cabinet Office conducted a training course for nuclear disaster response personnel and tabletop exercises of on-site nuclear disaster management headquarters for those involved in disaster prevention work at the national and local governments, with the aim of helping them understand the concept of protective measures in the NRA EPR Guide and improve their ability to respond to a nuclear disaster.

In addition, a training course for core personnel was conducted for those who play a central role in disaster management to promote their understanding of the operation of a national headquarters in response to the developments of a nuclear disaster. Also, a training course for practical personnel was conducted for those involved in disaster management in local governments to improve their ability to share the information of protective measures necessary for smooth evacuation of residents in the event of a nuclear disaster.

Furthermore, a basic training course on nuclear disaster prevention was conducted for those involved in disaster prevention operations in the national government, with the aim of providing them with the basic knowledge necessary for radiation protection.

#### 1. Training for nuclear disaster response personnel

Training for personnel involved in disaster prevention operations of the government and local governments who respond to nuclear disasters is conducted for the purpose of acquiring basic knowledge about nuclear disaster risk management measures based on laws and regulations, NRA EPR Guide, and lessons learned from the accident at the Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. In FY 2021, 36 sessions were held,

and their main contents are as follows.

- Overview of laws and regulations related to nuclear emergency preparedness (classroom lecture).
- Basic concept of radiation protection based on the Nuclear Disaster Risk Management Emergency Response Measures (classroom lecture)
- Lessons learned from the accident at the Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (classroom lecture), etc.

## 2. On-site nuclear disaster management headquarters tabletop exercises

For personnel involved in disaster prevention operations of the government and local governments who respond to nuclear disasters, these exercises are implemented for the purpose of acquiring the ability to respond to nuclear disasters, and to verify and improve local disaster management plans and evacuation plans formulated by local governments. In FY 2021, 13 sessions were held, and its main contents are as follows.

- Activities at the emergency response base facility (classroom lecture)
- Functional group exercises
- Tabletop exercises based on scenarios, etc.

## 3. Core human resource development training

In order to develop human resources who can play a central role in responding to a nuclear disaster, a training course for core human resources development is conducted for personnel who play a central role in nuclear disaster in the national government and local governments, with the aim of acquiring necessary knowledge and improving their abilities. In FY 2021, 2 sessions were held for each of national and prefectural personnel, and their main contents of these training sessions are as follows.

- Emergencies in power reactors (classroom lecture)
- Nuclear emergencies and health effects (classroom lecture)
- Protective measures in nuclear emergencies (classroom lecture)
- Tabletop exercises

## 4. Practical human resource training

### a. Response to contamination screening

This training is for local government personnel in charge of implementation plans for contamination screening and simple decontamination. The purpose of this training is to develop personnel who will be in charge of preparing specific plans and manuals for contamination screening, as well as personnel who will be in charge of the screening sites. In FY 2021, 4 sessions were held, and their main contents are as follows.

- Basic concept of contamination screening (classroom lecture)
- Exercises on planning and operation of contamination screening

### b. Evacuation by bus, etc.

For local government officials in charge of bus evacuation plans, practical human resources training is conducted with the aim of developing human resources who can prepare specific plans and manuals for bus evacuation. In FY 2021, 4 sessions were held, and their main contents are as follows.

- Business procedures and preparations in advance for securing and arranging evacuation buses for residents (classroom lecture)

- Sharing of information on preparations for evacuation of residents by bus in each prefecture, identification of issues and consideration of improvements

c. Sharing of the status of protective measures and others

This training is designed for local government officials who are in charge of compiling and sharing information on the "status of protective measures," with the aim of helping them understand how to understand the situations surrounding a disaster and share information among related parties, which is necessary for the concrete implementation of protective measures in each situation. In FY 2021, 2 sessions were held, and their main contents are as follows.

- Operation of compiling and sharing information necessary for "sharing the status of protective measures" (classroom lecture)
- Organization of items to be confirmed in each situation, and examination of the confirmation method.

(Training programs by local governments)

Training courses for disaster prevention officials and basic training courses on nuclear disaster prevention were planned and implemented by prefectures on their own initiative, with support from the Cabinet Office as necessary.

1. Training for those involved in disaster prevention

This training program for disaster prevention workers was conducted for private business operators who will be involved in the protection of residents in the event of a nuclear disaster, with the aim of providing them with the basic knowledge necessary for radiation protection, the basic concept of protection of residents, and the flow of protection activities for residents.

2. Basic training on nuclear disaster prevention

Basic training on nuclear emergency preparedness was conducted for those involved in disaster prevention operations at local governments and other organizations that respond to nuclear disasters, with the aim of providing them with the basic knowledge necessary for radiation protection.



At a classroom for lecture (Training for nuclear emergency response personnel)



At a classroom during tabletop exercises (tabletop exercises at the nuclear disaster on-site disaster management headquarters)



At a classroom for lecture (Core human resources development training)



At a classroom for lecture (Practical human resources training)

### **3-4 Reinforcement of International Collaboration**

International organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other countries have been making various efforts for off-site nuclear emergency preparedness, and it is necessary to incorporate their advanced knowledge in order to improve the level of nuclear emergency preparedness in Japan.

In order to achieve this goal, cooperation has been strengthened with the departments in charge of nuclear emergency preparedness in various countries, opinions are exchanged on a regular basis, and the sharing of international knowledge and experience on nuclear emergency preparedness is promoted by mutual invitation to drills and other events. In addition, surveys have been conducted on IAEA standards for off-site nuclear emergency preparedness and the systems and operations of major nuclear power user countries.

#### **(1) Bilateral Cooperation on Nuclear Emergency Preparedness System**

##### **1. Cooperation with the United States of America (USA)**

Based on the framework of the Emergency Management Working Group (EMWG) established under the U.S.-Japan Bilateral Commission on Civil Nuclear Cooperation established in 2012, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and other relevant U.S. agencies and Japan have been engaged in cooperation regarding Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Systems through regular exchanges of views and mutual invitation to drills. In FY 2021, following meetings were held online due to the pandemic: one EMWG co-chairs' meeting and two technical workshops on protective measures, training and professional human resources development.

##### **2. Cooperation with the French Republic (France)**

Based on the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for Crisis Management in Case of Nuclear Accident" concluded in 2015 between the Parliamentary Secretary for the Cabinet Office and the Director-General of the National Safety and Crisis Management Directorate of the French Ministry of the Interior, collaboration on nuclear emergency preparedness systems has been deepened through regular exchanges of opinions with relevant organizations in France, such as the French Ministry of the Interior, and mutual invitations to drills. In July 2021, based on the action plan of the "Cooperation Committee for Planning and Crisis Management in Case of Nuclear Accident," which was initiated in 2019, we held its second meeting online.

### 3. Invitation to observe drills

Regarding the Nuclear Energy Disaster Prevention Drill, the aforementioned U.S., France, and other foreign countries and international organizations are invited to observe the exercises. During this observation, we remained at the site throughout the entire period, including pre-briefings and opinion exchange meetings, and introduced the nuclear emergency core hospitals, evacuation of residents, and the declaration of a nuclear emergency situation. In the opinion exchange meetings, there has been a deepened mutual understanding on Nuclear Energy Disaster Prevention Drills and emergency systems. Visitors from the U.S. and French embassies in Tokyo were accepted to the drill held in November 2020.

### 4. Other international cooperation

In addition to the above, information and opinions are exchanged, and visitors are accepted from overseas upon requested. In FY 2020, we discussed remotely with the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Taiwan, Sweden, and other countries, on issues including modifications of protective measures under the pandemic, nuclear emergency preparedness system, etc.

## **(2) Cooperation with International Agencies and Investigation of Overseas Trends**

There has also been active engagement in cooperation and information exchange with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD/NEA). With regard to the IAEA, in order to cooperate in the preparation of standards for offsite nuclear disaster prevention and to collect information, we regularly attend the Emergency Preparedness and Response Standards Committee (EPReSC). We also cooperate in various information exchange and human resources development activities. At meetings related to nuclear emergency preparedness, such as the Working Party on Nuclear Emergency Matters (WPNEM) held by the OECD/NEA, information is exchanged on the systems and operations related to nuclear emergency preparedness in major nuclear power user countries.

In FY 2021, we attended various international meetings remotely. The participants exchanged opinions on nuclear emergency preparedness under the epidemic of COVID-19. The IAEA issued a questionnaire on nuclear emergencies under COVID-19, and the Cabinet Office cooperated with the NRA in answering the questionnaire. At the WPNEM regular meeting, presentations were made by each country, and the Cabinet Office presented Japan's measures.