

65) Preservation of disaster heritage sites and development of disaster legacy centers

- [Issues] (1) How to build consensus on the preservation of earthquake-damaged sites.
 (2) How to set up, maintain, and manage bases for passing on the legacy of the earthquake disaster.

[Initiatives in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake]

- **Preserving earthquake remnants with the participation of local residents (Issues [1] and [2])**
 Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, established the Ishinomaki City Disaster Heritage Sites Coordinating Council to deliberate on issues and maintenance costs that would arise if the Kadonowaki Elementary School building and Okawa Elementary School building were to be preserved as disaster heritage sites. Later, "Disaster Heritage Site Study Councils" were formed to listen to various opinions and formulate a policy for their development.
- **Integrated development of Reconstruction Memorial Parks, disaster heritage sites, and memorial museums through cooperation among related parties (Issue [2])**
 When the national government collaborates with local public authorities in building memorial parks developed by local governments in Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima Prefectures, the national government develops national government-managed facilities for memorial and prayer in the form of installing hills, plazas, etc., that serve as the core facilities of these parks. In Rikuzentakata City, the "Takata Matsubara Tsunami Reconstruction Memorial Park" was built, and a Memorial Museum, Disaster Heritage Site, and other facilities were integrated on the park's premises.
- **Networking disaster legacy groups and facilities via the 3.11 Legacy Road (Issue [2])**
 By networking different Disaster Memorial Facilities, the 3.11 Densho Road Promotion Organization, in cooperation with the Disaster Legacy Network Council, promotes the popularization and spread of activities to pass on the memories and experiences from the disaster by publicizing Disaster Memorial Facilities in an easy to understand way.

[Lessons and Know-How Gained]

- (1) With respect to the preservation of disaster remnant sites, allocate a sufficient period of time to gather and consider diverse opinions.
 - With respect to the preservation of earthquake disaster sites, establish a forum for dialogue consisting of diverse entities, including government agencies; businesses in commerce, industry, and tourism; residents; and experts.
 - Give careful consideration to the timing and duration of dialogue as public opinion may shift over time.
- (2) Public and private sectors collaborate and cooperate in the development and maintenance of Disaster Memorial Facilities.
 - Attract visitors by developing locations with convenient transportation, and by integrating tourist facilities with facilities for having personal interactions.
 - Secure funds for maintenance and management through a variety of methods, including donations and fundraising, as well as public funds.
 - Form a network of Disaster Memorial Facilities, etc., and carry out activities to pass on lessons learned from the disaster that are consistent throughout all affected areas.