Current Status of Reconstruction and Challenges

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II Current status and challenges
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January 2021
## Comparison of the level of damage with the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake</th>
<th>Great East Japan Earthquake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date &amp; time of occurrence</strong></td>
<td>January 17, 1995 5:46</td>
<td>March 11, 2011 14:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Magnitude</strong></td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of earthquake</strong></td>
<td>Near field</td>
<td>Subduction zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disaster area</strong></td>
<td>City center</td>
<td>Agriculture, forestry and fisheries area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of prefectures with a seismic intensity of 6-lower or greater</strong></td>
<td>1 (Hyogo)</td>
<td>8 (Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Iwate, Gunma, Saitama, Chiba)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tsunami</strong></td>
<td>Reports of tsunami several tens of centimeters high, no damage</td>
<td>Observations of large tsunamis at various locations (max. wave height: Soma (9.3m and higher), Miyako (8.5m and higher), Ofutano (8.0m and higher))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Characteristics of damage</strong></td>
<td>Collapsed buildings. Large-scale fires mainly in Nagata ward.</td>
<td>Tsunamis caused extensive damage along the coast and destroyed many areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deaths Missing</strong></td>
<td>Deaths: 6,434 Missing: 3 (May 19, 2006)</td>
<td>Deaths: 19,729 (* includes disaster-related deaths) Missing: 2,559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing damage (Completely destroyed)</strong></td>
<td>104,906</td>
<td>121,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application of Disaster Relief Act</strong></td>
<td>25 cities/towns (2 prefectures)</td>
<td>241 municipalities (10 prefectures) (*)Includes 4 municipalities (2 prefectures) where this was applied in an earthquake centered in northern Nagano Prefecture.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Seismic intensity map
(Displays areas with seismic intensity 4 or greater)

Source: White Paper on Disaster Management FY2020, Appendix 17 (as of March 1, 2020)
Ⅱ Current status and challenges (Summary)

1. Support for Evacuees
   1. Decrease in number of evacuees from 470,000 after the disaster to 42,000
   2. Physical/mental care and preventing isolation with support bases for care and monitoring by counselors
   3. Counseling and support for reconstructing housing and livelihoods and support for “Mental Recovery” project and community development to create purpose in life

2. Housing Reconstruction & Community development
   1. Independent reconstruction
   2. Development of residential land with relocation
   3. Public housing

3. Reviving industry & livelihoods
   1. Production levels in three disaster-affected prefectures have almost recovered to pre-disaster levels
      94% of farmland has recovered. 97% of fishery processing facilities have reopened.
   2. Recovery of sales levels varies by industry
      • Support for the development of sales channels in the fishery processing industry that has been slow to recover, promotion of inbound-oriented tourism, and support for securing human resources for companies in disaster-affected areas
      • Comprehensive support for dispelling rumors to revive agricultural, forestry and fisheries industries in Fukushima Prefecture
      • Wide encouragement of the use of various company relocation support measures to promote the new relocation and expansion of companies

4. Revitalizing & Reconstructing Fukushima
   1. Promotion of improvements to living environment to help evacuees return to areas where evacuation orders have been lifted
   2. Promotion of the establishment of “Specific Reconstruction and Revitalization Bases” in areas where returning is difficult
   3. Self-reliance support by public-private joint teams, promotion of the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework, and promotion of actions to restore the environment
   4. Promotion of measures to counter reputational damage based on Strategies to Dispel Rumors and Improve Risk Communication
1. Support for Evacuees

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**Detailed response to issues that emerge as reconstruction progresses**

(1) Policies and achievements

① Decrease in the number of evacuees from 470,000 to 42,000 (December 2020)
   Of these, approximately 2,000 evacuees are in temporary housing (December 2020)

② Physical/mental care and preventing isolation with support bases for care (3 locations as of April 2020) and monitoring by counselors (448 as of March 2020)

(2) Challenges and measures

① Rush to reconstruct housing and move evacuees from temporary housing
   - Iwate and Miyagi prefectures aim to remove temporary housing by the end of FY 2020

② Continuous support in line with new stages of reconstruction
   - Monitoring and support for physical/mental care
   - Support for community development
   - “Mental Recovery" project to create purpose in life
   - Counseling and support for reconstructing housing and livelihoods
2. Housing Reconstruction and Community Development

(1) Policies and achievements

① Reconstructing housing
   Steady progress as a result of measures to accelerate construction (such as by expediting procedures to acquire land, etc.)
   ○ Development of residential land with relocation to uplands (Planned number of units: Approx. 18,000)
      • All planned units (approx. 18,000 units) completed in December 2020
   ○ Public housing (Planned number of units: Approx. 30,000)
      • All planned units (approx. 30,000 units) completed in December 2020
      * Excluding units under coordination and for returnees from evacuation from the nuclear accident
   ○ Independent reconstruction  Approx. 154,000 units
      * Number of cases where victims received the Support Grants for Reconstructing Livelihoods of Disaster Victims (additional support)

② Schools and hospitals have mostly been rebuilt

③ Disposal of debris (excluding areas under evacuation orders) and restoration of infrastructure are mostly complete

(2) Challenges and measures

① Practical support for help to move forward with reconstructing housing and support for independent reconstruction

② Formation of transportation network in new towns and development of medical and nursing care systems, etc.

③ Development of transportation and logistics networks that will serve as the foundation for development (Reconstruction Roads and Reconstruction Support Roads, railroads, ports, etc.)
3. Reviving Industry and Livelihoods

Production facilities have mostly been restored. Support is being provided to develop sales channels for the fishery processing industry and sweep away harmful rumors.

(1) Policies

- Efforts to support the restart and continuation of company activities
  - Free rental of temporary shops
  - Emergency loans and double loan measures
  - Restoration of facilities and equipment using “group subsidies”
  - Support for company relocation, etc.

(2) Achievements

- Shipments of manufactured products from the three prefectures have almost recovered to a level before the earthquake.
- 94% of farmland affected by the tsunami have recovered and 97% of fishery processing facilities have reopened.
- 44% of companies that received “group subsidies” have recovered to sales levels of just before the earthquake.
  - In comparison with the construction industry (70.7%), sales have only recovered to 31.2% in the fishery and food processing industries.

(3) Challenges and measures

- Support for the development of sales channels for the fishery processing industry, promotion of inbound-oriented tourism, and securing human resources for companies in disaster-affected areas, since the recovery of sales varies according to industry.
- Comprehensive support for dispelling rumors to revive agricultural, forestry and fisheries industries in Fukushima Prefecture.
- Wide encouragement of the use of various company relocation support measures to promote the new location and expansion of companies.
4. Revitalizing and Reconstructing Fukushima

Evacuation orders have been lifted in most areas other than areas where returning is difficult. Full-scale advance towards reconstruction and revitalization

(1) Improvement of the living environment in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted
   • Housing: Reconstruction Public Housings (4,767 units completed out of 4,890 planned units),
     public housing for people who have returned to areas (397 units completed out of 455 planned units)
   • Medical: Medical institutions reopened, opening of Futaba Medical Center (April 2018)
   • Nursing care: Securing the necessary number of caregivers, reopening of nursing care facilities and operational support
   • Education: Reopening of elementary and junior high schools (resumption of classes in 10 municipalities)
     Opening of Futaba Future Junior High School (April 2019)
     Opening of new high schools (Futaba Future High School, Odaka Industrial Technology and Commerce High School have already opened)
   • Shopping: Support for the establishment of publicly built and privately operated facilities (Odaka Store in Minamisoma City opened in Dec. 2018), York Benimaru Haranomachi (supermarket) opened in Minamisoma (Feb. 2020)
   • Transportation: JR Joban Line is in full operation from March 14, 2020

(2) Reconstruction and revitalization of areas where returning is difficult
   • Promotion of plans approved by the Prime Minister to establish Specific Reconstruction and Revitalization Bases developed by the following towns in areas where returning is difficult:
     Futaba Town (approved in Sep. 2017), Okuma Town (approved in Nov. 2017)
     Namie Town (approved in Dec. 2017), Tomioka Town (approved in Mar. 2018)
     Iitate Village (approved in Apr. 2018), Katsurao Village (approved in May 2018)
4. Revitalizing and Reconstructing Fukushima

(3) Actions to revitalize industries and livelihoods and build new industrial bases

- Detailed support based on individual situations offered through individual visits to about 5,400 commercial and industrial companies and about 2,100 farmers (as of December 1, 2020) by the Public-Private Fukushima Soso Reconstruction Joint Team.
  - Restructuring business operations: Support for capital investment, securing human resources, developing sales channels, etc.
  - Resumption of farming: Support for guidance on agricultural technologies/techniques, "sixth industrialization" (integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industries to add more value), and development of sales channels, etc.

- Promotion of the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework
  - Support for the creation of new industries through the development of technologies in the areas of decommissioning reactors, robotics, energy, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, etc.
  - Progress in the development of bases
    - Full opening of Fukushima Robot Test Field at the end of March 2020
    - Start of production and shipping of hydrogen on the world's largest hydrogen production plant from renewable energy (March 2020)
  - Support for the development of human resources at elementary, junior high and high schools and research activities at universities
  - Achievement of autonomous and sustainable industrial development by clustering industries with the promotion of cooperation between local companies and those entering the market

(4) Actions to restore the environment

- Delivery of contaminated soil removed from sites to intermediate storage facility
  - About 10.01 million m³ of soil (out of approximately 14 million m³ slated for transport) has been delivered to the storage facility (as of December 17, 2020)
  - Aim to complete delivery of removed soil, etc. that is temporarily stored in the prefecture by the end of FY2021 (excluding soil in areas where returning is difficult) and continue delivery of removed soil, etc. from the areas of the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base
- Transport specified waste, etc. to specified landfill disposal facility (former Fukushima Eco-Tech Clean Center)
4. Revitalizing and Reconstructing Fukushima

(5) Measures to counter reputational damage

① Task Force on Measures to Counter the Impacts of Nuclear Hazards Including Reputational Damage
   (presided by the Minister of Reconstruction)
   - Formulation of a strategy to dispel rumors and improve risk communication (decision by the Minister of Reconstruction on December 12, 2017)
   - Information disseminated from three perspectives: I "Informing", II "Treating", III "Inviting"
   - Follow-up on strategy to dispel rumors and improve risk communication (April 12, 2019)
   - Instructions from the Minister of Reconstruction to related ministries (April 12, 2019)

   - Instruction 1: Actively disseminate information abroad at every opportunity, such as the G20 and other international meetings, etc.
   - Instruction 2: Steady implementation of measures in this fiscal year and request of budget for the next fiscal year for the effective implementation of measures based on the impacts of measures implemented

   - Instructions from Minister of Reconstruction to related ministries (November 1, 2019)
     - Instruction 1: Strengthen initiatives overseas, such as calling for the easing/elimination of import restrictions in other countries and regions and promoting inbound tourism
     - Instruction 2: Enhance initiatives in Japan

   (Main measures based on the following three perspectives)
   - "Informing": Promoting the use of side readers on radiation at schools, etc.
   - "Treating": Resolving discrepancies in understanding in attitudes at each stage of distribution based on surveys on distribution
   - "Inviting": Further promotion of "Hope Tourism" to revive interest in educational trips, etc.

   - Compilation of an “Initiative for 2020" to dispel rumors as a priority action by the Reconstruction Agency (November 1, 2019)

② Effective dissemination of information using media mix
   - Dissemination of information from the three perspectives of “informing" the current state of reconstruction in Fukushima, “treating" people with products from Fukushima, and "inviting" them to Fukushima Prefecture through a media mix using all types of media, such as TV, internet, SNS, radio program and manga (from February 2019)

   - Radio program “Hand in Hand"
     - Information disseminated to dispel rumors affecting the reputation of Fukushima using TOKYO FM’s new radio program, “Hand in Hand ”, to support the recovery efforts from disasters in various regions around the country (from October 2019). "Hand in Hand " reports with video are also available on the Agency’s website

   - “Delicious Fukushima”
     - Fun to watch and easy to understand, the “Delicious Fukushima” video series on YouTube showcases the appeal and safety of agricultural products, with a focus on those produced and sold by Fukushima Prefecture.
5. Reconstruction Olympics and Paralympics
— Initiatives by the Reconstruction Agency for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games —

(1) Overview
- Communicate the state of reconstruction efforts to the world in cooperation with disaster-affected areas so that the Tokyo 2020 Games can support the reconstruction of these areas as the "Reconstruction Olympics and Paralympics".
  - Baseball and softball games will be played in Fukushima Prefecture (Fukushima Azuma Baseball Stadium) and football games are going to be played in Miyagi Prefecture (Miyagi Stadium) and Ibaraki Prefecture (Ibaraki Kashima Stadium).
  - Fiji vs. Uruguay at the Rugby World Cup was held in Kamaishi City in Iwate Prefecture (Kamaishi Unosumai Memorial Stadium) on September 25, 2019.
  - The Olympic torch was exhibited as “Fire of Reconstruction” in the disaster-affected three prefectures from March 20 until 25, 2020, and at National Training Center J-Village (Fukushima Prefecture) from April 2 until 7, 2020.
  - Plans are in place to provide cuisine at the Athletes' Village using foods from the disaster-affected areas and to arrange Victory Bouquets using flowers from these areas.

(2) Major efforts
- Promote actions in cooperation with related ministries and disaster-affected areas through the "Reconstruction Olympics and Paralympics Liaison and Coordination Council"
  - Torch Relay to be run through disaster-affected areas
  - Promote the registration of host towns (local governments looking to interact with nations participating in the Games) in disaster-affected areas, such as Reconstruction “Arigato (Thank you)” host towns, etc.
  - Strengthening information dissemination about the Tokyo Games, in addition to information on reconstruction, on the agency's "Reconstruction Olympics and Paralympics Portal Site"
  - Events introducing attractive food and flows from three disaster-affected prefectures and disseminating information on reconstruction efforts.
  - Information dissemination to embassies in Tokyo

World Press Briefing (2nd) reception (Oct. 15, 2019)
Advertise foods and flowers from the disaster-affected area at the opening event of the new National Stadium (Dec. 21, 2019)
III Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake After the "Reconstruction and Revitalization Period"

〇 Summarizes the reconstruction measures implemented to date and establishes policies for actions in each field, systems to support reconstruction, and organizations after the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period, based on Article 3 of the Basic Act on Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Reconstruction Projects

〇 In areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami, the national government and local governments in the affected areas will continue to work together during the five years after the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period on remaining projects with the aim of having reconstruction projects fulfill their objectives.
* Consider how to provide support for affected people, such as mental health care, and support for children that will not be completed within five years in line with the progress of projects and respond appropriately.
〇 The national government continues to take the lead in areas affected by the nuclear disaster where a medium- to long-term response is needed. For the next 10 years, the national government will take action with a view towards full-scale reconstruction and revitalization. In the fifth year, the overall status of projects will be reviewed.

〇 Extend the period of establishment for the Reconstruction Agency to 10 years (re-examine the organization in five years)
〇 Be directly under the Cabinet. Establishment of Reconstruction Minister post with the Prime Minister as the competent minister. Maintain comprehensive coordination functions, such as consolidating requests for budgets.
〇 Add functions to share and utilize the collective know-how with related governmental organizations, etc.
〇 Relocate the Iwate Reconstruction Bureau and Miyagi Reconstruction Bureau to the coastal areas. The Fukushima Reconstruction Bureau continues to be located in Fukushima City.

Financial resources

〇 Steady implementation of required recovery and reconstruction projects by setting the scale of projects for the coming five years and securing the required financial resources.
〇 Project scale: Lower range of JPY 31 trillion (past 10 years) + mid-range of JPY 1 trillion (next 5 years) = upper range of JPY 32 trillion
〇 Financial resources: Approx. JPY 32 trillion (past 10 years) + actual increase in tax revenue, etc. = upper range of JPY 32 trillion
⇒ Project scale and financial resources are expected to be roughly commensurate (the Reconstruction Financial Resources Framework is slated for provision in the summer of 2020)
〇 Continue the implementation of the Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Special Local Allocation Tax for Recovery from Earthquake Disasters

Legal systems

〇 Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake: Prioritize the target areas for special regulatory, financial and tax cases. Discontinue reconstruction grants.
〇 Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima: Promotes internal migration and increase the number of visitors and related populations. Promotes the concentrated use of farmland and development of sixth industry facilities (production, processing and distribution/sales).
Consider tax measures in response to issues, such as the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework and reputational damage, etc.

Organizations (Act for Establishment of the Reconstruction Agency)

〇 Extend the period of establishment for the Reconstruction Agency to 10 years (re-examine the organization in five years)
〇 Be directly under the Cabinet. Establishment of Reconstruction Minister post with the Prime Minister as the competent minister. Maintain comprehensive coordination functions, such as consolidating requests for budgets.
〇 Add functions to share and utilize the collective know-how with related governmental organizations, etc.
〇 Relocate the Iwate Reconstruction Bureau and Miyagi Reconstruction Bureau to the coastal areas. The Fukushima Reconstruction Bureau continues to be located in Fukushima City.

⇒ Plan to submit required bills to the next ordinary session of the Diet
Background

Areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami are at the stage of “overall completion” of reconstruction, and areas affected by the nuclear disaster continue to require a medium- to long-term response. In light of these circumstances, based on the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake after the “Reconstruction and Revitalization Period” (Cabinet Decision of December 20, 2019), the systems, organizations and financial resources supporting reconstruction in FY 2021 and beyond (following the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period) require improvement according to the following revisions.

Systems, organizations and financial resources supporting reconstruction

1. Act for Establishment of the Reconstruction Agency

- Extend the period of establishment for the Reconstruction Agency by 10 years (to March 31, 2031)
- Maintain current comprehensive coordination function, establish the post of Reconstruction Minister
- Delegate location of reconstruction bureaus, etc. to Cabinet Order etc.
  * Relocate the Iwate Reconstruction Bureau and Miyagi Reconstruction Bureau to coastal areas, continue to locate the Fukushima Reconstruction Bureau in Fukushima City

2. Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

- Prioritize target areas for special regulatory cases, reconstruction and development plans, and special financial cases (specify by Cabinet Order those local governments requiring intensive promotion of reconstruction efforts)
- Prioritize target areas for the tax system of Special Zones for Reconstruction (specify by Cabinet Order those particular municipalities requiring formation and development of industrial clusters)
- Discontinue reconstruction grants (prescribe required transitional measures)

3. Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima

- In addition to promoting the return of residents, promote internal migration, etc. (expand eligibility of grants to measures which help promote internal migration and increase the number of visitors and related populations)
- Accelerate the resumption of farming (create special provisions for promoting the concentrated use of farmland and the development of sixth industry facilities, etc.)
- Facilitate industrial clusters based on promotion of the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework (prescribe special provisions on taxation, etc.)
- Implement measures to control reputational damage (prescribe special provisions on taxation, etc.)
- Create a system in which the Fukushima Prefectural Government prepares the Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization Plan and gets national approval (integrate three existing plans)

4. Act on Securing Financial Resources for Reconstruction / Act on Special Accounts

- Extend the issuance period for Reconstruction Bonds
- Extend the period that proceeds from the sale of shares are transferred to redemption funds etc.

* Date of enforcement: April 1, 2021 (parts of 3. and 4. take effect on the date of promulgation)
The national government will stipulate the reconstruction period from FY 2021, issues to consider for that period, project scale and financial resources based on the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake after the “Reconstruction and Revitalization Period” and the Act Partially Amending the Act for Establishment of the Reconstruction Agency, etc.

**Reconstruction Period**

The new five-year reconstruction period from FY 2021 to FY 2025 has been positioned as the “Second Reconstruction and Revitalization Period” in order to carry forward the philosophy of the First Reconstruction and Revitalization Period and to further promote actions to achieve this goals.

**Future Actions**

1. **Areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami**
   
   (Issues to consider)
   
   (1) **Location of the Iwate and Miyagi Reconstruction Bureaus**
   
   ・**Relocation to coastal areas** where problems are concentrated
   
   (2) Prioritizing target areas for the Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake
   
   (3) Strengthening collaboration with regional revitalization

2. **Areas affected by the nuclear disaster**
   
   (Issues to consider)
   
   (1) **Promoting internal migration, etc.**
   
   (2) **International educational and research base**
   
   ・Finalize summary of expert meetings (June 8)
   
   ・Submit government definite plan by year’s end
   
   (3) Accelerating the resumption of farming, tax measures, etc.

**Project Scale & Financial Resources**

- **Project scale**: Approx. JPY 31.3 trillion (FY 2011 to FY 2020) + approx. JPY 1.6 trillion (FY 2021 to FY 2025) = approx. JPY 32.9 trillion
- **Financial resources**: Approx. JPY 32 trillion (FY2011 to FY2020) + actual increase in tax revenue, etc. = approx. JPY 32.9 trillion