

Flood risk management scheme and risk communication in Korea

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Casualty and loss of property as a result of natural disasters are increasing steadily as our modern societies are urbanized and industrialized. So it is very important that we prevent our life from various disasters in advance and have an ability to manage it to minimize damages in the face of a disaster.

The overall pattern of the natural disaster in the world is increasing, and the situation in Korea cannot be an exception. Korea has suffered by natural disaster in almost every year. The floods caused by the torrential rainfall associated with typhoons are the major disasters in Korea. It has been estimated that the 80% of total casualties was caused by floods. Recently, flood damages are increasing due to more concentrated rainfalls. To reduce the flood damage it is necessary to understand the characteristics of torrential rainfall and the flooding mechanism.

Preparedness and counteraction to flood disasters should be more active and progressive in a manner of handling the potential flood disaster treat in the future.

Flood risk management in Korea pose an interesting question: why do the same kind of disasters occur repeatedly? Can we learn from past experience?

The successive disasters gave us an unforgettable experience with people isolated from other town, the paralyzed public and personal infrastructures, wide-spread destruction of properties and large human casualties.

Despite considerable effort and expenditure on disaster planning and disaster management, levels of disaster preparedness remain low.

Risk communication using the continual on flood risk management was proposed and implemented to

enhance the capability of community flood risk mitigation. Recently, it comes to be considered that disaster mitigation by residents' response is important. But a few people who had felt danger took the evacuation action. Most of reasons not taking evacuation was overconfident themselves about risk situation.

This study we focused on improving flood risk management and enhancing risk communication in Korea. In case study, We are here concerned with Gangwon province in Korea. Flood occurs repeatedly and the loss rate of lives and finance are most highest in Korea.

The social structure of Gangwon province is dramatically changing with rapid urbanization in Korea. But the natural disaster prevention capacity is declining marginally. There are some problem about risk management and risk communication due to population decrease, aging of society and low social capital investment from the central government.

In order to reduce flood damage, it is necessary to build up comprehensive flood control and countermeasures. The purpose of this study is grasping and improving the flood risk management and risk communication.