

Retrospective Analysis of Community's Concerns on Flood Risk and Its Reduction in Shiga Prefecture, Japan

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The study focuses on the case of Shiga Prefecture in Japan, which successfully established the basic policy of integrated flood risk management including flood risk information provision, land use regulation and restriction of new construction in the flood prone areas.

The study divides the entire process into four phases: starting phase with city government officers, public meeting to make directions of the basic policy and give the ownership of the policy to the public, professional workshop to establish the basic policies, and administration workshops to overcome the difficulties to implement the policy in the real world.

Since one of the authors was involved deeply in the process, the paper investigates the reasons for the success based on data taken by the internal observation, the documents and interviews. Opinions and concerns related flood risk management were widely discussed and the collected concerns and opinions were used to develop policies. If the river authority cannot handle them, stakeholders were expanded by including other stakeholders which has a capability or authority to present solutions. Comparing with the risk governance framework of IRGC, the process in Shiga Prefecture is examined and also implication for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction will be presented.