Fifth US-Japan Conference on Flood Control and Water Resources Management January 2009

Flood damage mitigation efforts in Japan

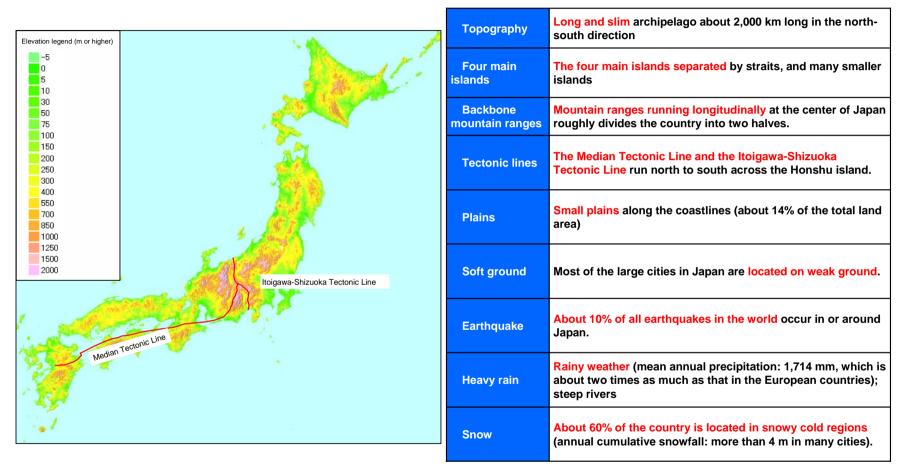
Toshiyuki Adachi Director, River Planning Division, River Bureau Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

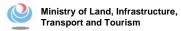
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Natural conditions of Japan





Snowy region: The average of maximum snow depths in February is 50 cm or more. Cold region: The average of mean temperatures in January is 0°C or lower.



1. Basic system of measures for flood damage mitigation in Japan

2 . Preparedness for major floods

 Past major floods and state-level efforts
Role of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

MLIT's disaster prevention efforts



Disaster prevention

·River improvement

·Dam construction

- · Provision of river information system
- Improvement of forecasting and warning systems
- ·Maintenance of rivers
- ·Construction of disaster prevention stations, etc.

Occurrence of flood

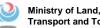
Crisis response

- · Patrolling rivers
- ·Reporting damage status
- · Observing and predicting precipitation and water level
- · Delivering flood warnings, etc.

Emergency measures and restoration/recovery

- Implementing emergency restoration measures
- Implementing post-disaster recovery measures
- ·Restoration/recovery of affected areas

Disaster response laws related to MLIT



Ministry of Land. Infrastructure. Transport and Tourism

Disaster Measures Basic Act

Establishes systems necessary for disaster prevention.

Clarifies where the responsibility for disaster prevention lies.

Stipulates basic requirements for disaster prevention planning and necessary basic disaster prevention measures such as emergency measures.

Aims to make comprehensive management of rivers so as to prevent river-related disasters such as floods and storm surges.

Aims to prepare people for floods and storm surges, protect people from them and mitigate damage due to floods and storm surges.

River Act

Flood Protection Act

This law aims to protect life, health and property of the people of Japan and thereby contribute to the maintenance of public order and the achievement of public welfare.

1. Definition of disasters

Natural disaster: disaster caused by anomalous natural phenomenon such as an earthquake or heavy rain

Accident disaster: disaster caused by a major accident such as a large-scale fire or explosion, a large-scale spill of a radioactive substance or a ship wreck involving many people

2. Clarification of where the responsibility for disaster prevention lies

Responsibilities of the state, prefectural and municipal governments and designated public organizations: Formulation and implementation of and cooperation concerning plans related to disaster prevention, etc.

Responsibilities of the public: Preparedness for disasters, participation in voluntary disaster prevention activities, etc.

3. Organization related to disaster prevention: Establishment and implementation of comprehensive disaster prevention administration

State level: Central Disaster Prevention Council, headquarters for emergency disaster control

Prefectural and municipal levels: local disaster prevention councils, disaster response headquarters

4. Disaster prevention planning: Establishment and implementation of systematic disaster prevention administration

Central Disaster Prevention Council: Basic disaster prevention plan

Designated administrative organizations and designated public organizations: operation plans for disaster prevention

Prefectural and municipal levels: regional plans for disaster prevention

5. Implementation of disaster prevention measures

The role and authority of each entity at the stages of disaster prevention, emergency response and post-disaster recovery are stipulated.

Mayors are authorized to give evacuation directions, designate warning areas, order emergency expropriation, etc. (Municipal governments are primarily responsible for disaster prevention measures.)

6. Fiscal and monetary measures

Principle: "Implementers Pay" principle

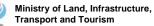
Exceptions: Special financial assistance from the state government to local governments in the event of an extreme disaster, etc. Act Concerning Special Financial Assistance Etc. in Case of Severe Disaster

7. Disaster emergencies

Declaration of a disaster emergency Establishment of emergency response headquarters

Emergency measures (restriction on distribution of daily necessities, grace for payment, the adoption of emergency government ordinances regarding the acceptance of assistance from other countries)

River Act (disaster-related provisions) July 10, 1964, Law No. 167



Purpose

The purpose of this law is to manage rivers in a comprehensive manner in order to prevent disasters resulting from floods, storm surges, etc.

River administrators

Class A rivers: Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
* The management of designated river sections is relegated from the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism to prefectural governors.

Class B rivers: Prefectural governors

River administrators manage rivers in a comprehensive manner.

Major disaster response measures

Emergency measures in the event of flood

• The river administrator may use or expropriate necessary land, earth materials, bamboos, wood or other materials and use vehicles or other transportation equipment or devices, or dispose of structures or other obstacles or have people who live near or are present at the flood hazard site perform the flood protection activities.

Role of the state government in times of emergency

Directions of the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

In the event that a disaster has occurred or is likely to occur because of a flood, storm surge, etc. and it is deemed necessary in order to prevent or mitigate such disaster, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism may direct the prefectural governor who performs part of the management of a Class A river in a designated section or the management of a Class B river to take necessary measures.

Flood Protection Act (disaster-related provisions) June 4, 1949, Law No. 193

Purpose

The purpose of this law is to watch for and guard against water-related disasters caused by floods or storm surges and mitigate damage in order to maintain public safety.

Flood protection manager

The head of the municipal government or flood defence association that is a flood protection management organization

Major damage mitigation measures

· Patrol of rivers, etc. · Mobilization of flood-fighting and fire-fighting organizations

·Ordering residents, etc., to move out ·Reporting

·Reporting and publishing water levels

·Reporting levee breaches

Ministry of Land. Infrastructure.

Transport and Tourism

Role of the state government

Flood forecasting

Director-General of Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)

In the event of the imminence of a flood or storm surge, the Director-General of JMA informs the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and the prefectural governors concerned of the present state.

Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

· Informs, jointly with the Director-General of JMA, for a class A river (excluding designated sections), the prefectural governors concerned of

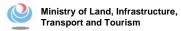
water level or discharge if the possibility of flooding is deemed high or

water level or discharge, or the flood hazard area and the flood water depth if flooding has already occurred.

Prefectural governors

· Communicates the information received as described above to the flood protection managers and stage gauge managers.

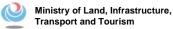
Issuing flood watch advisories



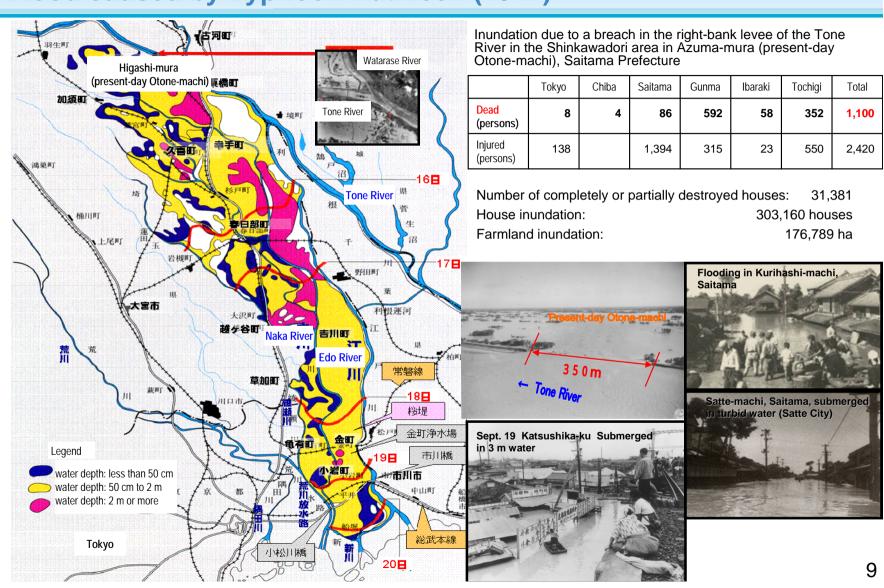
1. Japan's basic flood protection system

2. Preparedness for major floods

Past major floods and state-level efforts
Role of MLIT



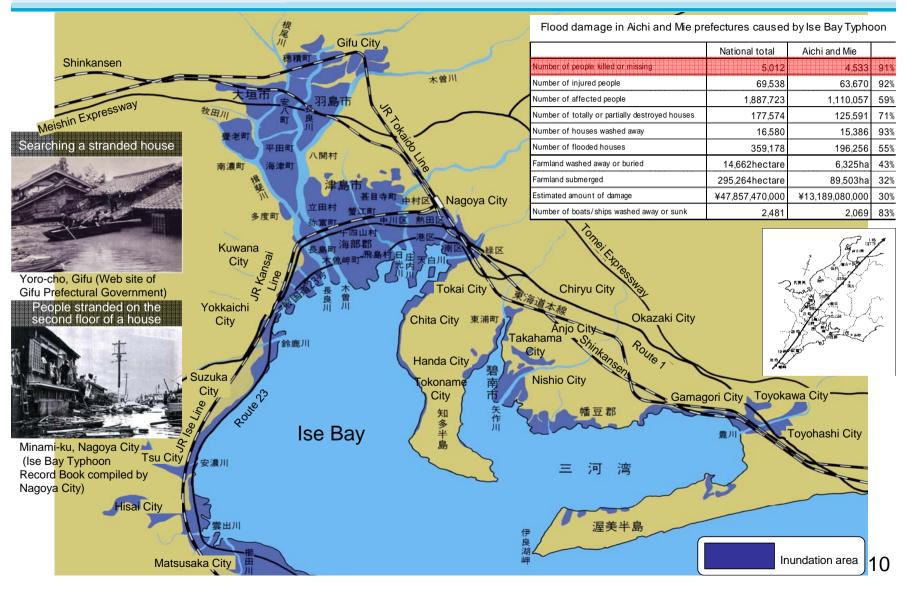
Flood caused by Typhoon Kathleen (1947)



Storm surge caused by Ise Bay Typhoon (1959)

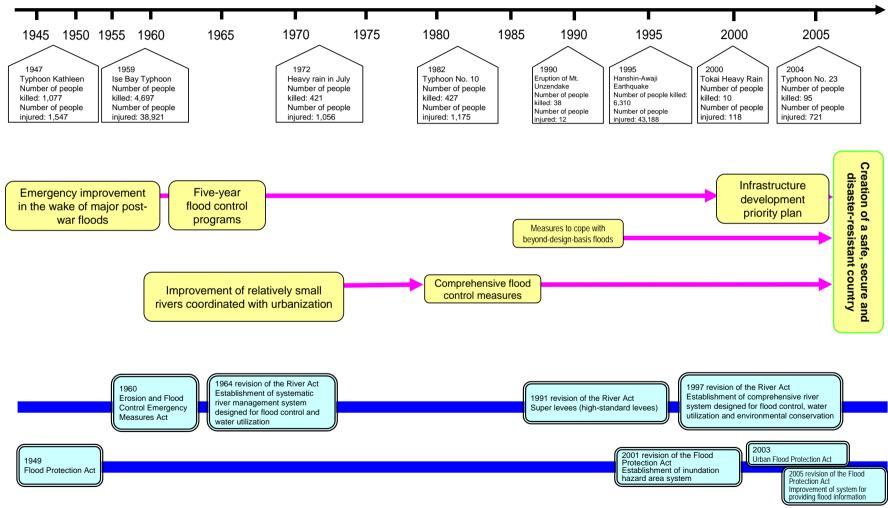


Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



History of river improvement

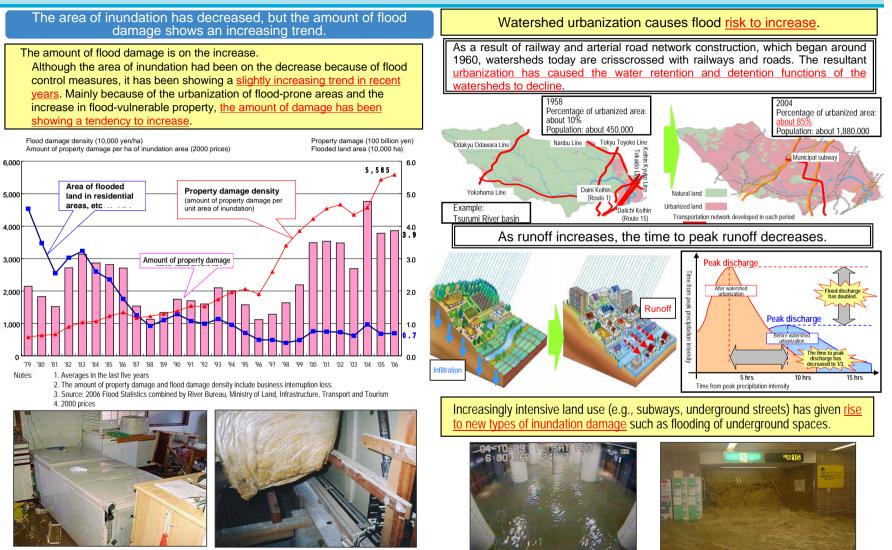




Characteristics of flood damage in recent years



Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



Tokyo Metro's Azabu Juban Station (October, 2004)

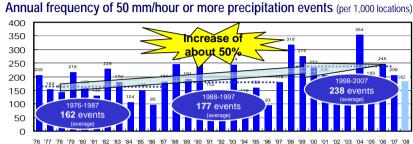
If submerged in water, even if only once, electronic appliances are rendered useless.

Having absorbed water, insulation materials have become useless.

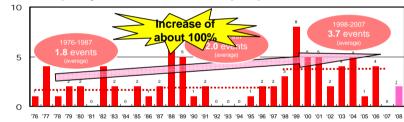
Fukuoka municipal subway (July, 2003)

Increasing frequency of heavy rains: The trend is expected to continue.

Both hourly rainfall and daily rainfall tend to increase.

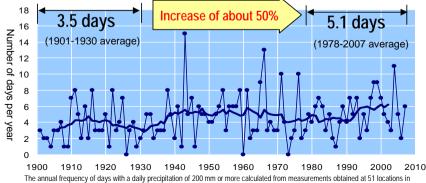


Annual frequency of 100 mm/hour or more precipitation events (per 1,000 locations)



. The annual frequency of precipitation events with different hourly precipitations was calculated from AMeDAS data obtained from about 1.300 locations in Japan The 2008 data are data obtained on or before September 2, 2008.

Annual frequency of days with a daily precipitation of 200 mm or more

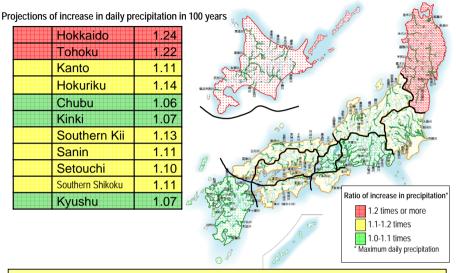


Japan. Both values in each year (thin line) and 11-year moving averages (thick line) are shown. (JMA data)

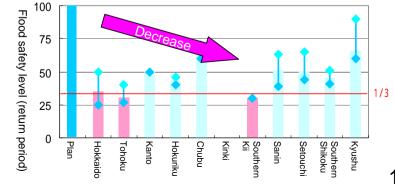
In future, precipitation is likely to increase throughout the country.

Ministry of Land. Infrastructure.

Transport and Tourism



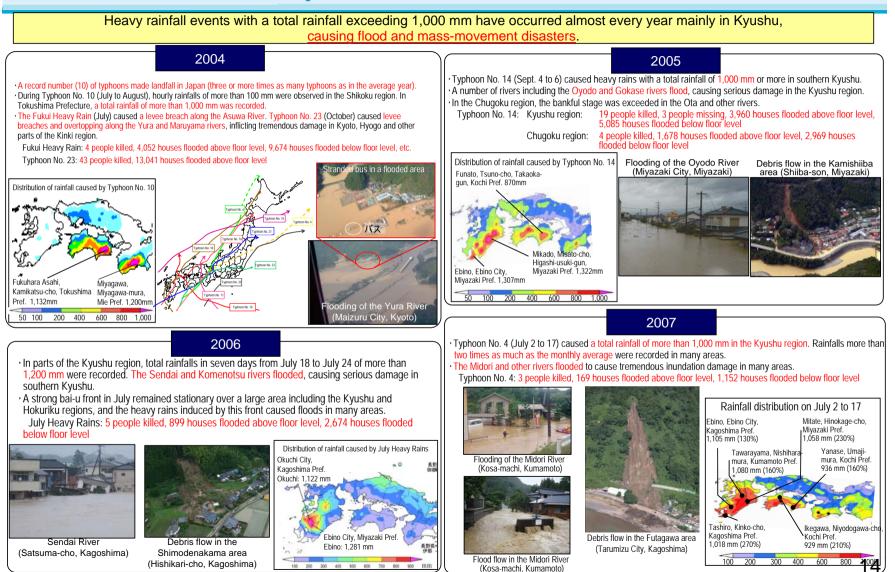
The level of flood safety will decline because of a future increase in precipitation. For example, in some regions such as Hokkaido and Tohoku, the target level of flood safety of 1/100 will decrease to about 1/30 so that the flood safety level will decrease to about 1/3 of the target level.



13

Consecutive occurrence of major flood and mass-movement disasters

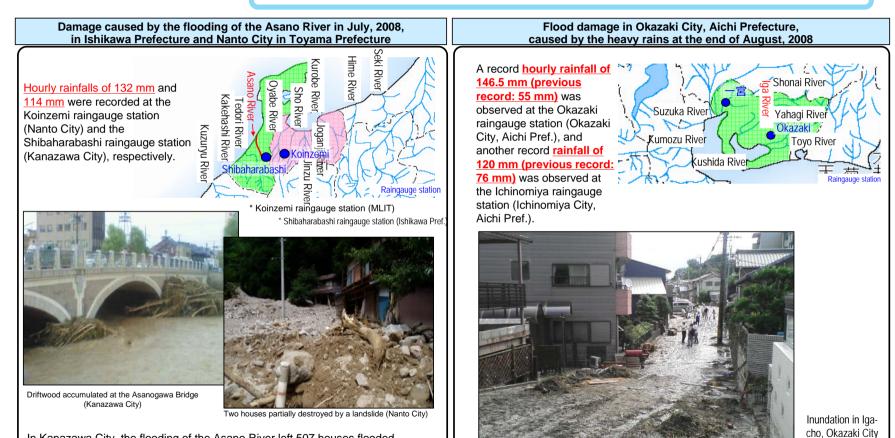
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



Damage caused by localized heavy rains

Flood damage in 2008

The heavy rains on July 28, 2008, and at the end of August <u>brought about localized heavy rains</u> with an hourly rainfall of more than 100 mm and caused inundation damage in many parts of the country.

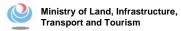


In Kanazawa City, the flooding of the Asano River left <u>507 houses flooded</u> <u>above floor level</u> and <u>1,476 houses flooded below floor level</u>. A total of <u>55</u> <u>landslides occurred</u> in Ishikawa and Toyama prefectures, <u>causing damage to</u> <u>20 houses</u>.

In Okazaki City, <u>620 houses were flooded above floor level</u>, and <u>705 houses were flooded below floor level</u>.

-15





1. Japan's basic flood protection system

2. Preparedness for major floods

Past major floods and state-level efforts
<u>Role of MLIT</u>



Emergency status

• In the case where an organization such as a regional development bureau has moved to the emergency status and serious damage has occurred or may occur

• In the case where extensive windstorm or flood damage is almost certain to occur and in any of the following cases:

(a) The likelihood of occurrence of a levee breach in a particular river section is high or such a breach has already occurred and the occurrence of extensive damage is thought likely.

(b) Extensive damage due to a storm surge is almost certain to occur, judging from the magnitude, intensity, course and speed of a typhoon and tide level and other information.

(c) Extensive damage due to mass movement, etc., has occurred and the occurrence of further damage due to mass movement, etc., is thought likely.

(d) Serious human suffering or property damage other than those mentioned above has occurred or may occur.

Alert status

· An organization such as a regional development bureau has moved to the alert status.

• Transportation facilities that could affect many passengers have been damaged because of the approach, landfall or other behavior of a typhoon.

Watch status

· An organization such as a regional development bureau has moved to the watch status.

• Transportation systems in two or more prefectures have been rendered inoperable because of the approach, landfall or other behavior of a typhoon.

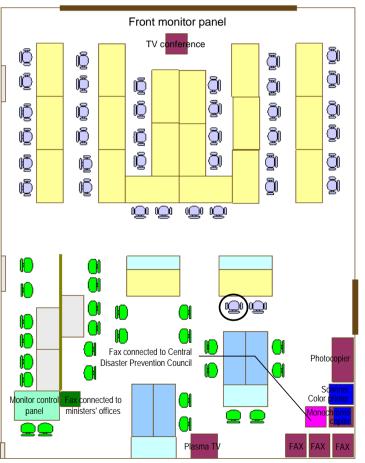
Role of MLIT

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

- Mobilizing leaders, staff members and related department members
- •Observing and distributing meteorological information, site images, etc.
- Collecting and sharing information (integrating damage information)
- •Exchanging information with ministers' offices, other ministries and agencies, local departments, etc.
- ·Providing information to the public
- Regional assistance, assistance to local governments



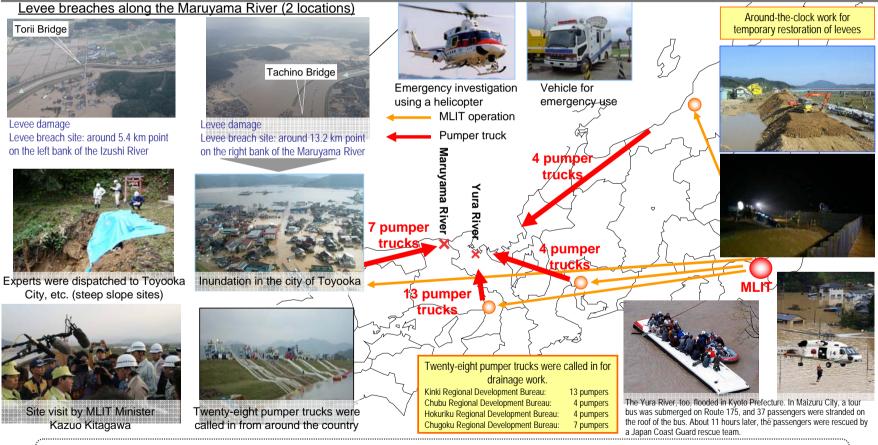
14th floor, Building No. 2



MLIT's response to a major emergency (state level response to the 2004 flood (Typhoon No. 23))



On October 20, 2004, Typhoon No. 23 caused serious damage in Hyogo Prefecture and the northern part of Kyoto Prefecture. River levees were breached at several locations. For the MLIT-managed Maruyama River, where flood damage was particularly severe, temporary restoration works were carried out with the assistance of nearby regional development bureaus in order to guard against future flooding. Temporary restoration works at two sites were completed in five days.



Temporary restoration of the MLIT-managed river sections (two levee breach sites) were completed in five days with the assistance of nearby regional development bureaus. The levee breaches in the sections managed by Hyogo Prefecture (four sites) were smaller than the breach sites in the MLIT-managed sections, but the temporary restoration of the four breached sections took 17 days.



To cope with the flooding of the Kariyata and Ikarashi rivers managed by Niigata Prefecture, pumper trucks and mobile lighting systems were dispatched not only from within the region covered by the Hokuriku Regional Development Bureau but also from the Tohoku, Kanto and Chubu regional development bureaus.

Dispatched emergency equ

Pumper truck	36 units
Breakdown Hokuriku Regional Development Bureau	20 units
Tohoku Regional Development Bureau	5 units
Kanto Regional Development Bureau	8 units
Chubu Regional Development Bureau	3 units
Mobile lighting system	17 units
Breakdown Hokuriku Regional Development Bureau	11 units
Tohoku Regional Development Bureau	3 units
Kanto Regional Development Bureau	3 units
Satellite communications vehicle	1 uni
Mobile command vehicle	2 units
Standby support vehicle	3 units
Ku-SAT	4 units
Portable helicopter TV receiver station	1 uni
Truck-mounted drain cleaning machine	1 uni
Truck-mounted roadside gutter cleaning machine	1 uni



Pumper truck in action



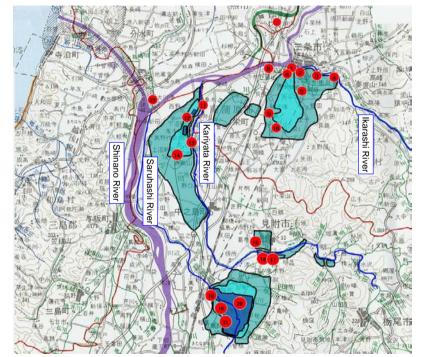
Nighttime work using a mobile lighting system

Inundation damage mitigation by use of pumper trucks

12 municipalities in Niigata Prefecture

(Sanjo City, Mitsuke City, Nagaoka City, Nakanoshima-machi, Sakae-machi, Niigata City, Gosen City, Tsubame City, Mishima-machi, Bunsui-machi, Tagami-machi, Koide-machi)

3 municipalities in Fukushima Prefecture (Kitakata City, Aizubange-machi, Shiokawa-machi)



Inundation areas and pumper truck locations



MLIT's assistance to local governments in case of emergency



Assistance process flow

Prevention of further spread of damage in the affected area and early restoration and recovery

Timely and effective support and assistance to local governments, etc.

Dissemination of information on options for support and assistance to local governments, etc., in the affected area

Assistance options

Providing images, maps, information, etc. (e.g., providing images of the affected area)	Shelters, relief goods, etc. (e.g., providing shelters, using "Michi no Eki" (stopovers along national roads))
Risk evaluation, etc. (e.g., inspection of mass movement risk sites)	Housing (e.g., assistance for the construction of temporary housing)
Damage survey (e.g., assistance for damage surveys, disaster prevention expert assistance for surveys)	Post-disaster restoration (e.g., technical assistance for post-disaster restoration)
Support (e.g., lending emergency vehicles, dispatching experts)	Recovery (e.g., assistance for recovery planning, assistance for tourism campaigns)

Currently available emergency resources

Mobile command vehicle



Emergency helicopter



Portable image transmission system: Ku-sat



Satellite communications vehicle



Mobile lighting system

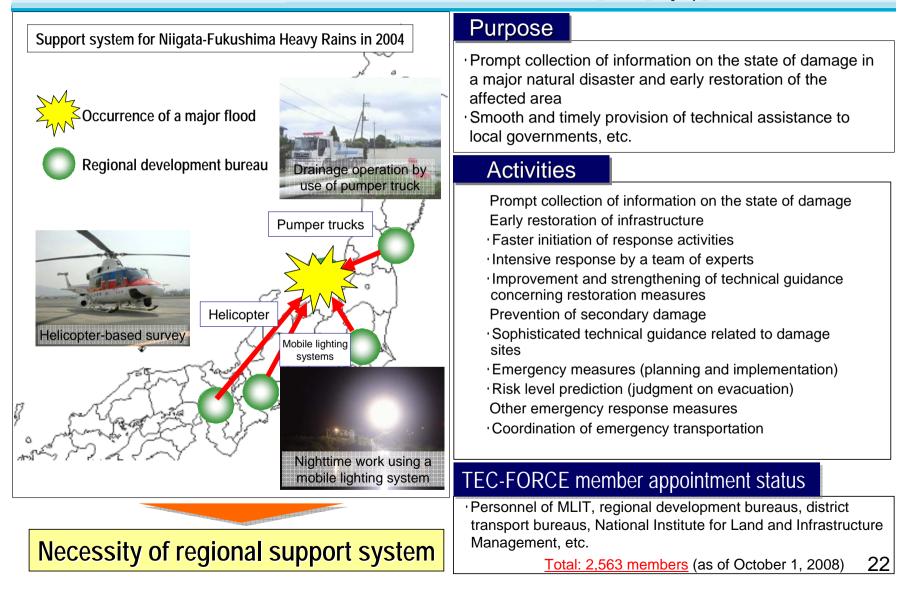
Adopted by MLIT's disaster prevention council on June 27, 2005



Establishment of Technical Emergency Control Force (TEC-FORCE*)

Transport and Tourism Technical Emergency Control Force

Vinistry of Land. Infrastructure.



Activities of TEC-FORCE



The TEC-FORCE was dispatched after the Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku Earthquake (from June 14, i.e., the day of the earthquake, to July 22) and the Iwate-ken Engan Hokubu Earthquake (from July 24, i.e., the day of the earthquake, to July 29) to investigate the affected areas, provide guidance on restoration methods, take secondary damage prevention measures.

Activity results

Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku Earthquake: Iwate-ken Engan Hokubu Earthquake:

515 vehicle-days, 1,499 person-days 4 vehicle-days, 381 person-days



Advance team (helicopter-based survey)



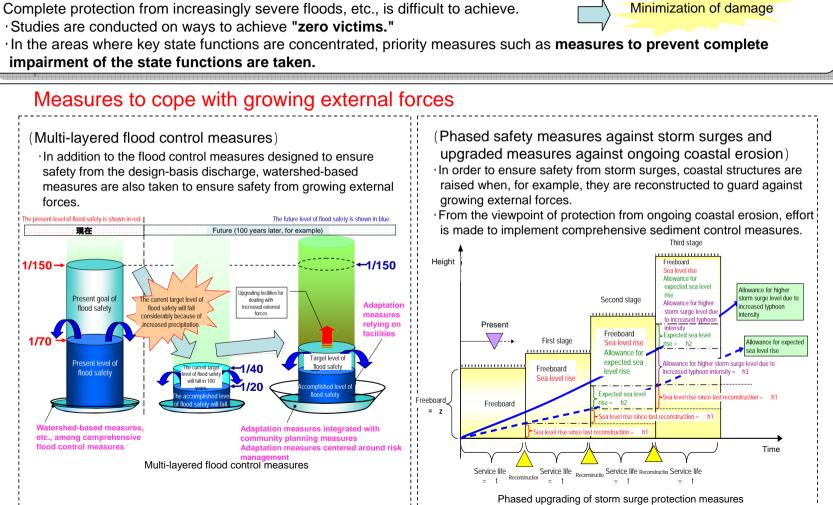


Specialized technical guidance team (river channel blocking)

24

Direction of future MLIT efforts

Clarification of goal: Working toward "zero victims"



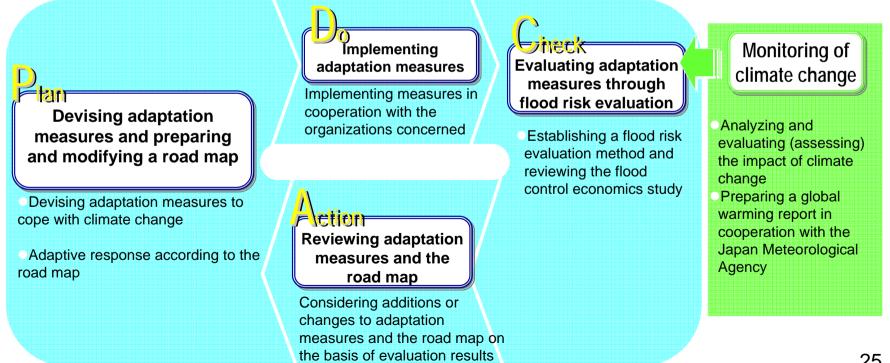
Transport and Tourism

Ministry of Land. Infrastructure.

River improvement plan incorporating measures against climate change

- A road map indicating the procedures for adaptation measures is prepared, taking the impact of climate change into consideration.
- •The potential disaster risk of the watershed under consideration is evaluated by monitoring the present state of climate change and predicting the future state.
- The evaluated disaster risk is shared in the watershed to consider adaptation measures to be taken and reflect the findings on the road map.
- •Adaptation measures to be taken are prioritized according to the degree of necessity, and effort is made to achieve mainstreaming of climate change adaptation.

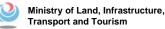
River improvement plan adapted to cope with climate change



Ministry of Land. Infrastructure.

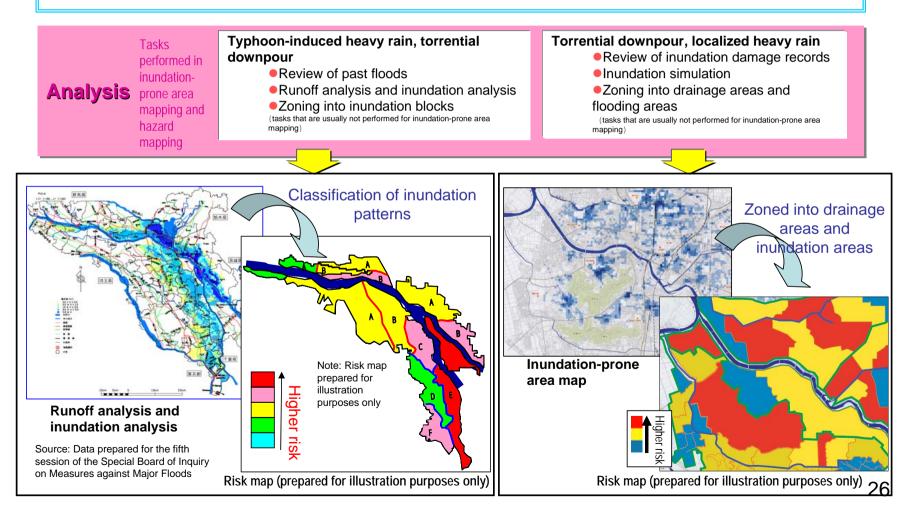
Transport and Tourism

Example of flood risk analysis



Concepts of flood risk analysis associated with different phenomena

River flooding due to typhoon-induced heavy rains or torrential downpours and inundation due to localized heavy rains are different phenomena that require different zoning approaches for flood risk analysis.



Example of flood risk analysis



A road map indicating the adaptation measures to be taken and procedures to be followed for different types of inundation and different blocks is prepared and shared within the watershed.

Road map (typical example)

	Type of inundation	Block	Place name	Present damage risk	Target level of damage risk 30 years later	Planned facilities	Facility plan (1-10 years)	Facility plan (11-30 years)	Watershed goal	Type of inundation									
Right Dank	Type of inundation	A	AAA Town, BBB City	Green	Green			-											
	Type of inundation F	ndation A	A CCC Town, DDD City			Levee reinforcement	¢		Improvement measures are										
				Yellow	Blue	Road embankment	¢		taken in order to lower the risk	Type of inundation									
						Disaster prevention station	¢>		level of each block 30 years										
		В	EEE Town, FFF City	Yellow	Green	Levee reinforcement		،	later by at least one level.										
						Road embankment		¢	(If the goal mentioned in										
		C	GGG Town, HHH City										Pink	Green	Road embankment	د		is not achieved) Nonstructural	
				T IIK	T IIK	T IIK	T IIK	T IIK	THIK	THIK	\bigcirc	Flood control reservoir	-	\$	measures are upgraded so that the safety				
		D	III Town, JJJ City	Green	Blue				level of higher- flood-risk blocks	Problems (tasks)									
		E	KKK Town, LLL City	Red	Green	Drainage pump			can be raised.										
		F	MMM Town, NNN City	Pink	Yellow	Drainage pump	¢	->											
	Type of inundation		OOO Town, PPP City		OOO Town, PPP City		Red	Green	Levee reinforcement				evaluation items and						
							\bigcirc	Drainage pump	¢>			methods needed to							
Left bank	Type of inundation	A	QQQ Town, RRR City	Green	Green					measure the degree of									
		В	SSS Town, TTT City	Yellow	Yellow	Flood control reservoir		•		achievement of such									
	Type of inundation	A	UUU Town, VVV City	Yellow	Blue	Levee reinforcement		¢>		goals as "zero victim" and "the prevention of									
		В	WWW Town, XXX City	Pink	Yellow	Drainage pump	¢	 >		paralysis of the central									
		A	YYY Town, ZZZ City	Yellow	Blue	Levee reinforcement		د		functions of the state"									
			AAA Town, BBB City	Pink	Yellow	Drainage pump	e	4		3. Finding ways to evaluate									

area that satisfies certain conditions in connection with nonstructural measures for disaster resistance enhancement

Examples: the existence of a system for achieving evacuation in 30 minutes after receiving notice, the implementation of neighborhood associations' disaster prevention drills



Comparison between different types of inundation

comprehensively

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Note: Prepared for

Establishment of flood forecast centers (provisional name)

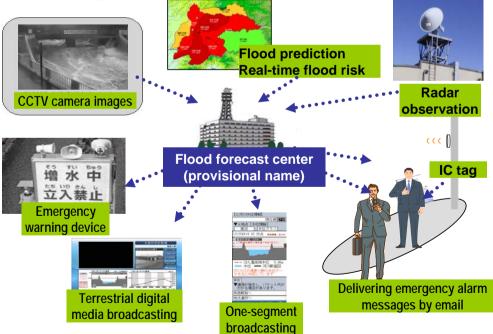


In order to achieve the "zero victim" goal in the face of increasingly intense floods and localized heavy rains caused by climate change, flood forecast centers (provisional name) will be established in regional development bureaus to strengthen risk management measures in, for example, monitoring floods and providing information to municipal governments, the mass media, etc.

Flood forecast centers are to perform such tasks as climate change monitoring, flood risk evaluation and the development of an advanced flood prediction system.

Strengthening flood-monitoring and information-providing capability

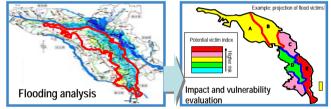
• High-accuracy weather radar systems and flood prediction systems are used for flood monitoring and information is provided by use of a variety of means of communication in order to better help municipal governments and the public make appropriate judgments and take <u>appropriate actions</u>.



Climate change monitoring and flood risk evaluation

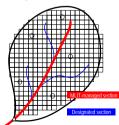
• The effects of increases and intensification of floods caused by climate change on people's daily life and the socio-economic conditions are identified through climate change monitoring and flood risk evaluation.

Example prepared for illustration purposes only



Development of an advanced flood prediction system

• With the aim of proper risk management consistent throughout the watershed, a flood prediction system for estimating flood distribution patterns, flood risk including landside flooding risk, real-time flooding patterns, etc., will be developed.







Left: Distributed runoff model (prepared for illustration purposes only) Center: Watershed-by-watershed flood risk representation (prepared for illustration purposes only)

Right: Result of high-accuracy flooding simulation (prepared for illustration purposes only)