

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

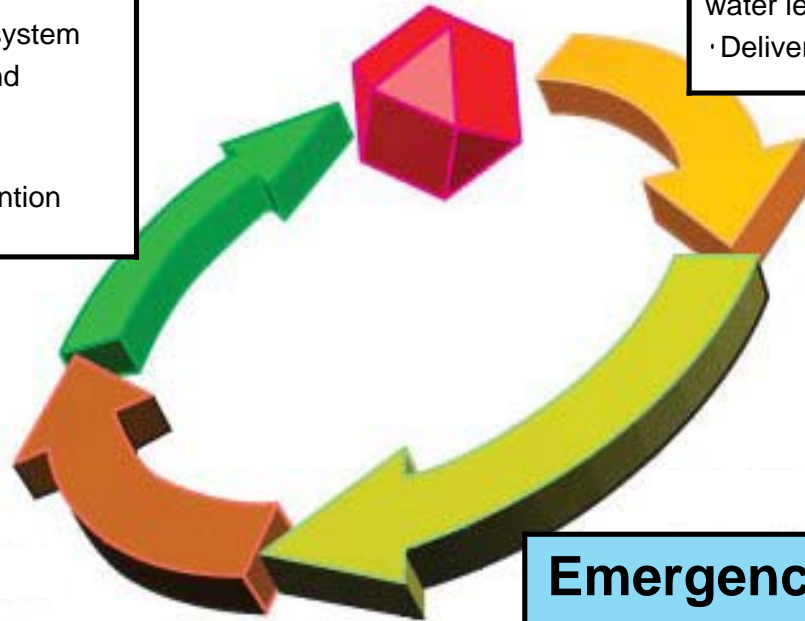
2 . Preparedness for major floods

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

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 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.

River Act

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

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)

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.

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 and publishing water levels
- Reporting levee breaches

Role of the state government

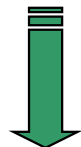
● Flood forecasting

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