

Disaster and Gender

男女共同参画と防災・減災

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3災害が重なった東日本大震災

2011年3月11日

1. 地震
2. 津波
3. 原発事故

Great East Japan Earthquake



- 1) Magnitude 9.0 earthquake
- 2) Massive tsunami
- 3) Nuclear meltdown and explosions at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

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男女共同参画の視点の欠如 Problems with male-centered decision making

避難所で困難に直面した女性や高齢者、障害者、病人等

Women and the elderly, people with disabilities faced difficulties



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Demands for Inclusion of Gender Perspectives in all Issues Concerning the Great East Japan Earthquake

1. Increase women's participation in decision-making processes.
2. Increasing the number of women in the Reconstruction Design Council in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake
3. Create a mechanism by which victims (including women, the elderly and the disabled) can be actively involved in recovery planning

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Legislative Victories!

- The Basic Guidelines included 12 references to gender equality and social inclusion.
- The Basic Act on Disaster Control Measures was reformed, making it easier for prefectural governors and municipal mayors to include more women in local disaster committees.
- The Cabinet Office Gender Equality Bureau compiled the Guidelines for Disaster Prevention and Reconstruction from a Gender-Equal Perspective.

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Gender Equality Bureau's policy initiative (May 2013)

New disaster prevention and reconstruction guidelines were created. Responding to our demands, they included the following basic concepts:

- Promoting gender equality during normal times
- Assigning women to leadership roles
- Realizing how men and women are affected differently by disasters
- Providing a secure environment for disaster victims
- Promoting gender equality through close cooperation among various organizations.



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Evidence of our Advocacy's Success: Kumamoto Prefecture's Disaster Response



Ms. Fujii, Harmony Director

Led by the Women's Center, they followed the new guidelines for their activities. At many evacuation centers, nursing stations, changing rooms and laundry drying stations were set up. At centers where these were missing, such facilities were added.



Takuma Ward Office
Nursing Station



Cardboard
Changing Room at
Aqua Dome



Drying laundry,
Southern Sports
Center



Distributing signs

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東日本大震災以降も 火山の噴火、豪雨などの数多くの自然災害が発生

After 3/11, we have had other disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, torrential rains, and landslides



広島市土砂災害 2014年8月
Hiroshima city earth and sand disaster
August 2014



御嶽山噴火 2014年9月
Mitake eruption September 2014



九州北部豪雨 2017年7月
Northern Kyushu heavy rain July 2017



西日本豪雨 2018年7月
West Japan heavy rain July 2018

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台風15号が千葉県を直撃(2019年9月)

長期間の停電、断水、屋根瓦など家屋の損壊

Typhoon #15 (Faxai) hit Chiba Prefecture directly on September 2019

Long power and water outages; Damage to roofs and residences



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2019年9月26日 木更津市

Kisarazu City 9/26/2019



今回の災害の課題: 被害等情報収集、連絡体制の確保の遅れ
Problems during this disaster: Information gathering on damage, delayed communication systems

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What we learned from Typhoon No.15 and No.19 in Chiba Prefecture

Preparation for Predicable Disasters

- Prepare a support system when information about the path of the typhoon is available from weather information. Support should be both personnel and material support.
- When there are warnings for flooding, strong wind and rain, high waves, and landslides, we must immediately prepare necessary support and be ready for rescue operations.

In order to keep damage to a minimum, it is necessary to be prepared in this way.

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被害を受けた 福祉施設

Damaged Social
Welfare Facilities

ひとつぶしや
一粒舎



一粒舎は、知的、精神、身体などの障害がある者が通ってくる作業所
Hitotsubusha is a social welfare workshop to which people with mental, emotional, physical and other disabilities go to work every day.

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ブルーベリー畑
Blueberry field

ビニールが飛んだハウス: 作業所
Workshop greenhouse: vinyl roof blown off

雨に濡れた畳
Rain damaged tatami mat

災害ボランティアのごみの搬出作業
Disaster volunteers moving wreckage

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Elementary school gym
designated as
evacuation center

All toilets were squat toilets, causing difficulties for people in wheelchairs and the elderly. Another building had western style toilets, but going there was difficult due to steps and elevation differences.

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The need to strengthen and rejuvenate local and volunteer disaster prevention groups

1. **Diversity is crucial in disaster planning. Active participation by women, the elderly, disabled, foreigners, and others from various positions in society is necessary.**
2. **Women tend to be categorized as “vulnerable” during disasters, but not all women are vulnerable. In fact, women are able to contribute considerable support during times of disaster thanks to their experience with child raising, care for the elderly, and people with special needs.**
3. **Meal preparation, childcare and care for the elderly should not be defined as women’s work. It is best if men also engage in these activities from a daily basis.**
4. **Communities built by men and women working together on a daily basis make for strong communities in times of disaster.**

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