

# e-community and Digital Earth

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In order to reduce the risk of natural disaster, it is indispensable that the local community prepares for the disaster at the normal time and makes an effort toward the reduction of the damage in an emergency by the cooperation and the mutual support among the residents. However, in Japan, the social change such as the aging and the urbanization, the change of the employment structure is weakening social-systems such as solving the miscellaneous problems which occur to the local community by the cooperation among the residents in the neighborhood. For the society to deal with the uncertainty of disaster risk and to improve the safety and the relief of the local community, Risk governance becomes important. The risk governance is the efforts which reduce risk in the whole society through the mutual risk communication among the persons concerned about the safety and the relief of the areas such as the resident. The risk governance features the prevention of the disaster which utilized the social capitals such as the mutual support among the residents and the social-network by NPO and the corporate citizen and so on which is accumulated by the local community at the normal time and the damage reduction by it. In this research project we build a prototype of the e-community platform as the place on the internet to support the forming of communities and their activities and also to support the realization of the risk governance through the risk communication. In this paper, we propose the concept of Risk Governance in Regional Society Enhanced by Information Communication Technology and report the overview of the experiment in progress at present in some cities.

