

Classification of natural hazards for Japanese events database

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In this study, we optimized the classification of natural hazards for building a database of such events. We defined five major categories of natural disasters: earthquake, volcano, storm and flood, heavy snowfall/hailstorm, and landslides. The major categories are divided into 25 subcategories. We are building a comprehensive database of events of natural hazards in Japan sourced from regional disaster management plans introduced by all local governments. These plans, spanning twenty centuries, use various terms that are now obsolete for describing historical natural hazards. We developed a table that compares the current classifications of natural hazards to the obsolete terms.

Keywords: Natural hazards, Classification of types, Natural hazard events, Database