

How can we evaluate recovery from disaster?

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It takes four year from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake (GEJE). Construction of huge sea walls and resettlement in higher ground continues, though many people still lives in the temporary settlements such as manufacture housings or rental housings. It is important to monitor and evaluate the status of recovery for recovery management. However it is very difficult to define the status of completion of recovery. In the impacted area, it is expected that the population will not recover as it was even after all the recovery projects has been completed. And there is no consensus about the definition about the status about completion of recovery even among disaster researchers. This paper discuss about the proper way of recovery monitoring from the analysis of challenges about recovery monitoring for the GEJE.

Many local governments do output evaluation, which is the evaluation about completion or status of projects such as levee construction or public facilities reconstruction, though the outcome evaluation is necessary. The number of outcome evaluation is very limited, which is the evaluation about how the set goal of recovery is accomplished such as recovery of livelihood, or business resumption. Iwate prefecture does outcome evaluation based on questionnaire survey on business resumption and objectives on recovery plan, but the other local governments do only output evaluation. In addition to those policy based monitoring by local governments, researchers propose new scheme of recovery monitoring and evaluation, such new technique to monitor or evaluate recovery using CCD camera. Based on analysis on present activities of local government, and proposed new techniques from researchers about recovery monitoring and evaluation, this paper propose possible scheme for the long term recovery monitoring and evaluation.

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