

Laboratory of Environmental Planning and Disaster Risk Management

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Introduction to laboratory researches

We live in a city which is exposed to various risks. Among them, disasters caused by natural hazards, which rarely happen, but bring about tremendous impacts into a society, are one of the risks with which to be coped. This laboratory focused on issues around such risks from the perspective of evaluation, management and governance.

To cope with disaster risks, the framework of self-support (*Jijo*), community-support (*Kyojo*) and governmental assistance (*Kojo*) is well known in Japan. Some issues related to each field are raised as follows:

- How to promote residents' preparedness or evacuation behaviors against disasters (*Jijo*).
- How to cope with people vulnerable to disasters in emergencies (*Kyojo*).
- How to activate self-support disaster reduction association, called "Jisyu-bousai-soshiki" in Japanese (*Kyojo*).
- How to evaluate benefits of physical infrastructures such as river levees or sediment control dams (*Kojo*).
- How to evaluate and implement land use regulations to reduce areas potentially exposed to disaster risks (*Kojo*).

In addition to the above theme, it is important to promote cooperative and collaborative activities among local stakeholders, including residents, public authorities, NPOs, educational institutions and hospitals, to achieve disaster risk reduction. This laboratory tackles these themes with methods such as questionnaire surveys, workshops, statistical analysis and simulation analysis.

Career passes after graduation

This laboratory began in April, 2016, but it has not produced graduates so far. For your reference, however, students who tackled a graduation or master's thesis with me have gotten jobs with organizations such as the national or local governments, financial institutions, general contractors and construction consultants.



Flood traces of Ohta River
(Hiroshima Prefecture)