

What COVID-19 means for Japan's Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity

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My Background

- Education: International Law and Human Rights
- 10-year Humanitarian Career in the field
 - Palestine/Israel
 - East Japan Great Earthquake and Tsunami
 - the Philippines including Typhoon Haiyan Operation
 - Afghanistan
 - South Sudan
 - Myanmar including COVID-19 Operation
- Specialized in negotiation with arms carriers
- Experienced in volunteer coordination in disaster areas



COVID-19 Response

Myanmar



- Non-material Coping Mechanisms within Societies
- Voluntary Actions based on Compassion
- Decision-making in each context
- Groundless rumour and Non-scientific information

Japan



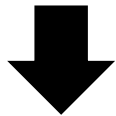
- Top-down Instructions and Obedient Mass
- Material Coping Mechanisms by Individuals
- Efficient Health Facilities and Staff
- Realtime Data Management and Disclosure

Disaster-prone Japan

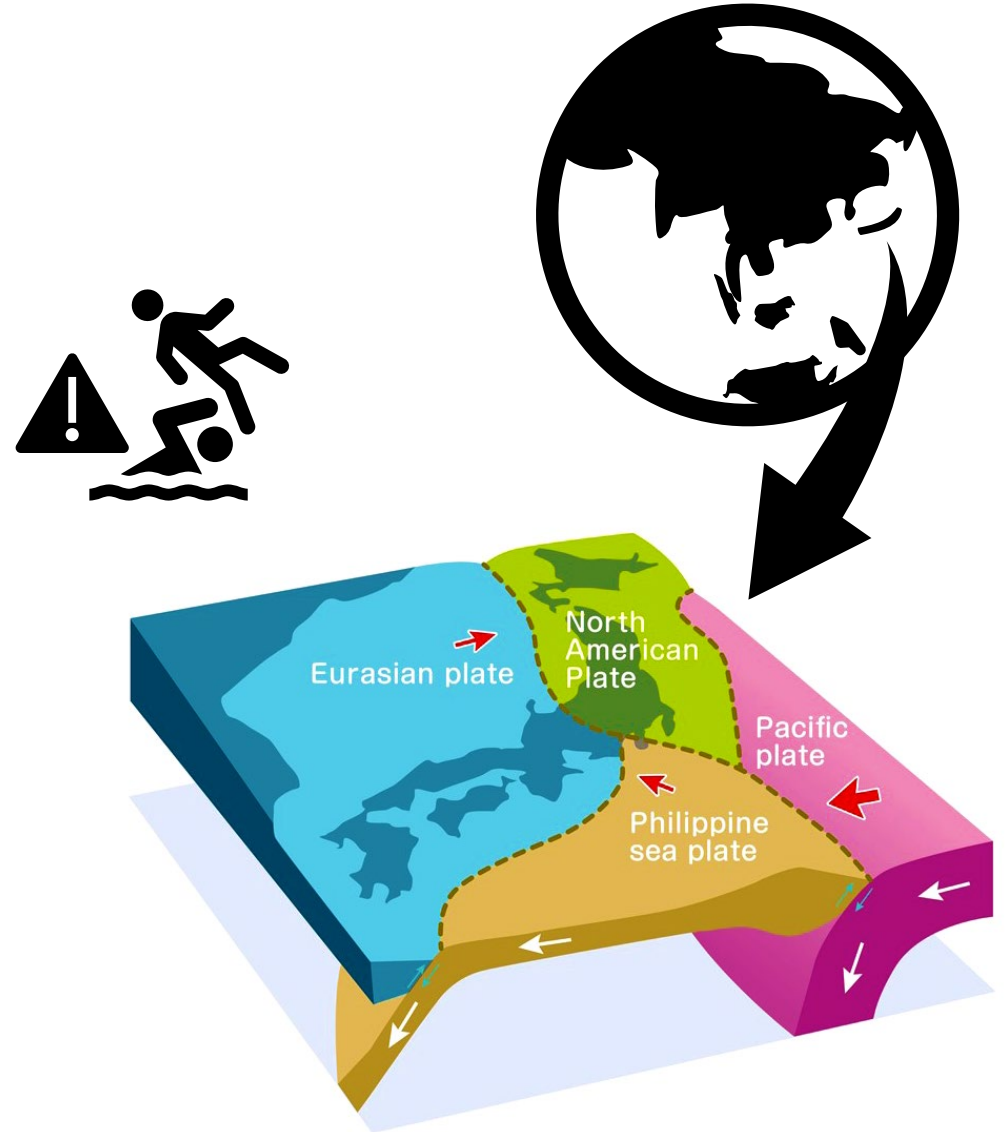
- Active Volcanos: 10%
- Earthquakes Larger than Magnitude Six: 20%



- More Likelihood to be Sheltered
- More Anxiety



- More Preparedness



*Data from Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport and Tourism
<https://www.mlit.go.jp/saiyojoho/manifesto/manifesto10.html>

** Picture from Oyo <https://www.oyo.co.jp/bousai-gensai/002.html>

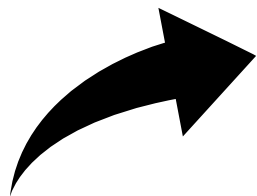
COVID-proof set-up



1990's



2010's



2020's

What does “Preparedness” mean?

- Infrastructure
- Guideline
- Training
- Equipment
- ICT
- Resources
- Awareness
- Discipline
- Governance



Kanagawa Prefecture – Shelter Management Guideline adjusted with COVID-19 measures
https://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/documents/90578/01_guideline_hontai.pdf

Disaster Volunteer Center at the response phase to the East Japan Great Earthquake and Tsunami

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At the end of the day, man power, teamwork, and their compassion are the driving force to save lives.

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Thank you for your attention.

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