Housing Recovery Process of The Temporary Housing Dwellers For The 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake: Natori City Case Study

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“As for the individual life recovery process, is there any difference between the residents in rented temporary housings and prefabricated temporary housing?”

“Government rented temporary housing is one of the ideal solution for the temporary housing issues, especially in the urban area”

- **Advantages**
  - Existing Assets
    - No construction cost
    - Better quality of living
    - No waiting time
  
- **Disadvantages**
  - Scattered in the city
  - Isolated from community
  - Less provision of disaster assistance
  - No experiences accumulated
Temporary Housings

Iwate: 13,984 units
Miyagi: 22,095 units
Fukushima: 17,143 units
Others: 315 units

Total: 53,537 units
(As of Jan. 4, 2013)

+ Private apartments rented by local gov.

60,843 units
(As of Jan. 22, 2013)

Source: MLIT, Japan
Government-rented temporary housings (GRTH)
Inundation area: 27km² (28% of city area)
Death: 885 (Yuriage: 753)
Missing: 38 (As of Aug. 31, 2014)

Maximum Tsunami Height: 10m
Inundation area: 27km² (28% of city area)

Over 10,000 buildings were damaged
Number of Government-rented temporary housings

Number of temporary housing units in Natori city

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>No. of Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prefabricated housings</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental housings</td>
<td>936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already moved out from prefabricated housings</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already moved out from rental housings</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(As of March 1, 2013)
Intervews

• 30 Interviews, who have experienced of GRTH
• October, 2012-March, 2014
• 2-3 hours for each interview
• Age: 40s - late 60s
• Focusing on the significant events in the post-disaster processes.
  – Housings, Jobs, supports, and networks
Transition of the place of living for 22 families in Natori city
Findings

- There was less provision of disaster assistance materials, information and other kind of services.
- The insufficiencies of public support encouraged the self-help initiatives.
- The sooner they have moved into GRTH units, the earlier they have started rebuilding their new homes.
- Those household with the elderly and/or physically/mentally handicapped person felt that public shelters were not well suited for their family members, therefore immediate efforts to look for private rental housing units utilizing kith and kin networks.
- Almost all rental units were located within a walking distance to train stations.
Volunteer Support to the Temporary Housing Complex

http://www.thinktheearth.net/jp/wasurenai/organization/2012/05/post-6.html

Support Center (Saloon) for GRTH residents

http://matsushima.lomo.jp/?cat=10

http://www.nack5.co.jp/oricon_2041810.shtml

http://natorishikasetsu.blog.fc2.com/blog-entry-79.html
Findings

• Bank loan availability seemed to be one of the most significant factors of house rebuilding.

• Local neighborhood community does not affect individual household life recovery.
Inundation Map

City Hall

Yuriage

Narumi City

Iwanuma City

Area of Construction Restriction