

Evaluating Disaster Recovery: Japanese Experiences after the 1995 Kobe
Earthquake

Norio MAKI, Haruo HAYASHI

Research Center for Disaster Reduction Systems, DPRI, Kyoto University

Gokanosyo, Uji, Kyoto 6110011, JAPAN

maki@drs.dpri.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Can we define what kind of social condition after disaster as the completion of long term recovery? We don't have any common consensus about the social status about completion of recovery. How we can say that we have completed the recovery? Only the resource we can use to define the completion of recovery is the long term recovery plan which defines the goal, and objectives of the recovery. So recovery evaluation based on the recovery plan is only way to monitor and evaluate the recovery.

This paper discusses about how we should evaluate and monitor the recovery process from the case studies about the 1995 Kobe and the 2004 Niigata Earthquake. Case of local government evaluation about the Kobe earthquake recovery, and evaluation program of Ojiya city which was designed by authors to evaluate recovery from the 2004 Niigata earthquake will be discussed in this paper. Program evaluation framework which is evaluation on 1) need for the program, 2) program design and theory, 3) program process and implementation, 4) program outcome/Impact, and 5) program cost and efficiency is used for the analytical framework.

In Japanese recovery evaluation, three evaluating points such as evaluation about 1) program design and theory, 2) program outcome/impact, and 3) program cost and efficiency was not conducted. Insufficiencies about evaluation inherent in the structure of plan. In Japan, a long-term recovery plan does not have contents about performance measure, and budget. And it was barrier to evaluate outcome, and cost and efficiency. Structure of the plan affects evaluation, and the plan should be developed considering evaluation because the plan is only bases to define the recovery. Stakeholder involvement really worked to assess the needs of programs. Based on those lessons, evaluation program for Ojiya city which contains all the five points of evaluation were developed.