Disability Inclusive DRR, widening the participation of persons with disabilities in the Post-2015 Framework for disaster risk reduction

Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Persons and Information and Communication Technology in the Face of the Great East Japan Earthquake

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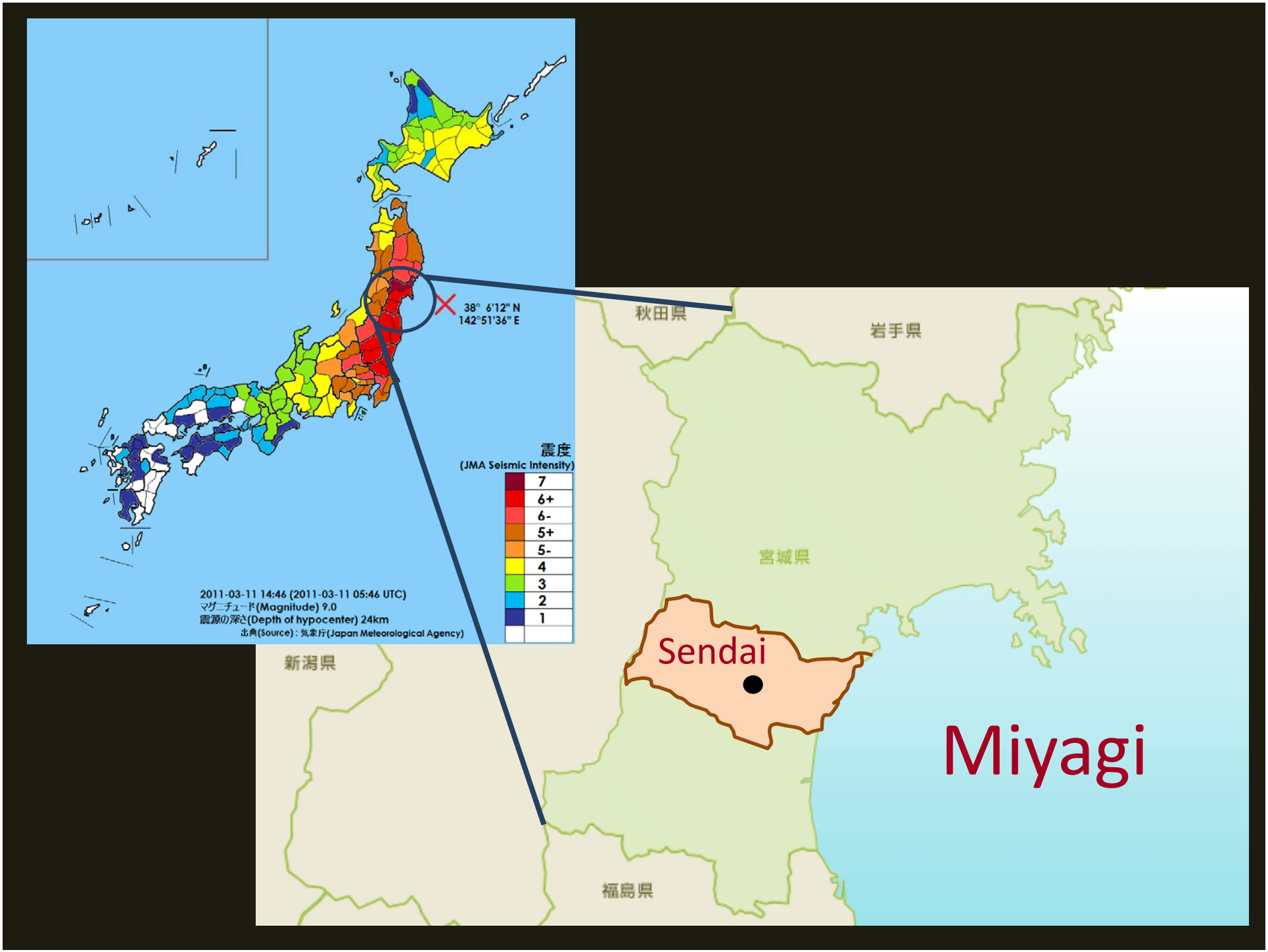
Death Rate of Persons with Disabilities in the East Japan Giant Earthquake

27 municipalities of Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima Prefectures	Death toll	Population	Death Rate
All citizens	12,853	1,244,167	1.03%
Persons with physical disabilities	1,243	53,928	2.30%
Persons with intellectual disabilities	80	8,362	0.96%
Persons with mental disabilities	79	5,286	1.44%

（Survey by NHK “Fukushi Network” Team, 2011）


震度
(JMA Seismic Intensity)
7
6+
6-
5+
5-
4
3
2
1
38° 6'12" N
142°51'36" E
2011-03-11 14:46 (2011-03-11 05:46 UTC)
マグニチュード(Magnitude) 9.0
震源の深さ(Depth of hypocenter) 24km
出典(Source) : 気象庁(Japan Meteorological Agency)
秋田県
岩手県
宮城県
新潟県
福島県
Sendai
Miyagi

Problems which Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Persons Confronted During the Great East Japan Earthquake

A. Cut off from information on relief and rescue activities

Loss of all communication media and tools

- Could not hear the tsunami alarm and failed to evacuate.
- Could not find ways to ask for help or obtain relief supplies.
- Could not receive welfare services because sign language interpreters and other supporters were also victimized
- Could not get information nor request assistance due to the lack of accessibility to ICT tools (such as Smartphones)

Problems which Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Persons Confronted During the Great East Japan Earthquake

B. Excluded from communication among people in the evacuation centers and temporary housing units

- Many stayed in their cars or broken houses because they felt isolated from the “community” in the evacuation centers
- Difficulty in confirming the safety of deaf citizens due to the indecisiveness of local administrations on whether to prioritize the protection of personal information or the protection of people’s lives.

Inclusion of Deaf and Hard-of-hearing persons in disaster preparedness, relief and restoration

A. Promotion of access to ICT and other technologies

1) Use of ICT, for audio information, as well as alternative modes of information (e.g. sign language, text, Braille) through multiple channels (e.g. e-mail、Twitter、Video Chat)

2) Making mobile terminals which are waterproof and which can be recharged with a portable hand-crank generator

3) ICT training in easy-to-understand language and sign language

United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Building Inclusive Society and Development through Promoting ICT Accessibility: Emerging Issues and Trends (Tokyo Japan, 19-21 April 2012) ttp://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1596

Inclusion of Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons in disaster preparedness, relief and restoration

B. Participation of persons with disabilities in planning and implementing disaster risk reduction measures

1) Making evacuation centers and temporary housing user-friendly and accessible for persons with disabilities

2) Making a local area database to support risk reduction and post-disaster recovery of persons with disabilities.

3) Incorporating the experience and know-how of persons with disabilities into local and national level DRR strategies (evacuation drills, DRR education, DRR tools, etc.)

HAVE YOU NOT FORGOTTEN PERSONS
with DISABILITIES
in your disaster preparedness, disaster relief
and restoration plans?