



Disability inclusion in Shelter Management

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Outline



Introduction



Shelter Management in Thailand



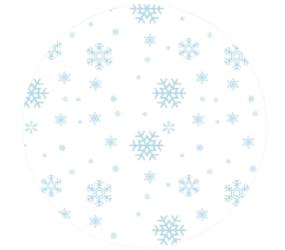
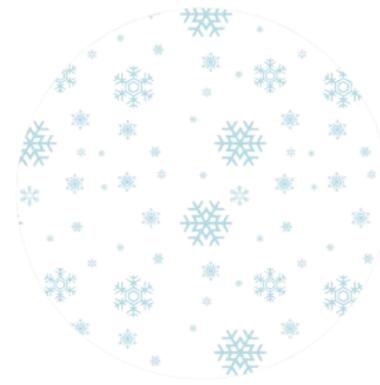
Shelter Management in Japan



Key findings and Recommendations



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Introduction

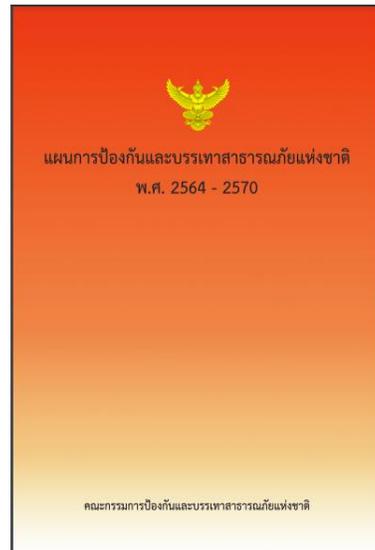
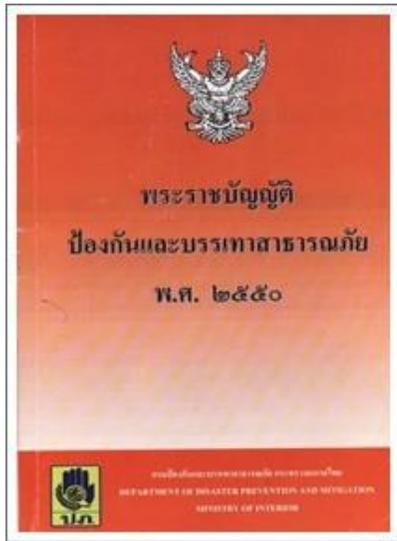
Challenges: Thailand becomes aged society, it is necessary to consider about challenges of increasing of elderly among regular people and people with disabilities.

Specific Aims: To have an insight about Japanese standards, practices, and challenge on preparing and managing a disability-inclusive shelter as well as to learn from good examples of accessible shelter.

Scope of Study: The research focuses on the development of practical guidance or recommendations for temporary shelter establishment and management in Thailand to be more inclusive for people with disabilities or special needs in preparation, management, and simulation exercise, by applying knowledge and experience from Japan.

Shelter Management in Thailand

1. Legal Framework



When a disaster occurs or is likely to occur, **the local government** of the affected area is required to setup emergency operations center (EOC) to direct, control, and coordinate emergency response operations within its jurisdiction.

Authority to order evacuation

Authority to designate locations and arrange temporary shelters for affected people

At national level, ESF 6: Social Welfare and Human Security is responsible for coordinating with and support agencies concerned in setting up temporary shelters. Ministry of Social Development and Human Security is designated as a primary agency.

Shelter Management in Thailand

2. National Guidelines



Guidelines on temporary shelter establishment and management is developed to be a framework for systematic temporary shelter management which is in line with international standards.

Part 1 - [criteria](#) of temporary shelter area selection, establishment of temporary shelter management [committee](#), [space and layout design](#), and [procedure](#) of opening, operating, and closing temporary shelter

Part 2 - [examples of tools and concrete practices](#) for the staff e.g. check list for temporary shelter establishment and management, basic rules for living in temporary shelter, related forms, and procedure of managing temporary shelter during Covid-19 situation.

Shelter Management in Thailand

3. Trainings and exercises



Thailand and International Organization on Migration (IOM) has conducted Train of Trainers on shelter management during 2012 – 2014, and refreshed the training again since 2020 – present.

The trainers will expand knowledge to stakeholders in local level. The exercises has usually conducted annually in provincial and local level. IOM conducted TTx in 2022 to make the training modules be more fit with Thailand's context.

Shelter Management in Japan

1. Legal Framework

The Basic Act on Disaster Management (enacted 1961) formulates a provision on protection of affected population and their livelihood which includes the following actions:

1) Prior preparation of the lists of the people requiring assistance in the case of disaster and Individual Evacuation Plans 2) Stipulation of the framework for wide-scale temporary evacuation stays and goods transportation 3) Clarification of the standards for evacuation centers and facilities in the case of disaster and 4) Improvement and expansion of protection measures for affected people. **Municipalities** in affected area will be primarily responsible for disaster response.

Shelter Management in Japan

2. Japan's initiative on Welfare Shelter

In 2016, the [Guidelines for Securing and Managing Welfare Shelters](#) was formulated as a substantial revision and amendment of the Guidelines for Welfare Shelters' Establishment and Management released in 2008 which was not fully recognized, considering the lesson learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake. [A welfare shelter is a facility for evacuation of accepted recipients \(people requiring special assistance\) and their families.](#) It recognizes that it is impossible to conduct emergency response in times of disaster without efforts in normal times, and emphasizes [municipalities to primarily make such efforts regarding welfare shelters as well as preparation of Individual Evacuation Plans based on priorities.](#)

Shelter Management in Japan

3. Implementation of Welfare Shelter in Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City

About 1,100 facilities are designated to be welfare shelters in Hyogo Prefecture, 402 facilities are designated to be welfare shelters in Kobe City and 21 special nursing homes to be core welfare shelters”.



City name	# Total Welfare Evac. Shelter	XXX	City name	# Total Welfare Evac. Shelter	# of shelters designated by law
神戸市	402	359	丹波市	25	9
姫路市	73	0	南あわじ市	6	6
尼崎市	44	0	朝来市	14	14
明石市	22	21	淡路市	8	0
西宮市	34	3	宍粟市	19	1
洲本市	11	4	加東市	33	0
芦屋市	17	17	たつの市	20	20
伊丹市	40	3	猪名川町	1	1
相生市	20	20	多可町	12	0
豊岡市	35	35	稲美町	6	3
加古川市	32	0	播磨町	13	13
赤穂市	7	0	市川町	2	2
西脇市	8	8	福崎町	5	5
宝塚市	24	24	神河町	6	6
三木市	22	22	太子町	7	0
高砂市	11	4	上郡町	12	12
川西市	15	15	佐用町	12	0
小野市	12	3	香美町	10	0
三田市	28	5	新温泉町	13	1
加西市	15	1	計(R4.12.1) (a)	1,109	643
丹波篠山市	6	6	計(R3.12.1) (b)	1,104	614
養父市	7	0	増減数 (a)-(b)	5	29

- Stockpiles Base (7 bases)**
- (i) Konan Elementary School Warehouse (Higashinada Ward)
 - (ii) Shiawase no Mura (Kita Ward)
 - (iii) Maruyama Community Centre (Nagata Ward)
 - (iv) Myodani Community Exchange Centre (Tarumi Ward)
 - (v) Kobe Winery (Nishi Ward)
 - (vi) Kobe City College of Nursing (Nishi Ward)
 - (vii) Ogo Environment Centre (Nishi Ward)



Shelter Management in Japan

4. Process of developing Individual Evacuation Plans and Beppu City role model

Step 1 - Development of a promotion system within and outside the city office

Step 2 - Selection of targets based on priority

Step 3 - Explain the significance of creating a plan to social workers/welfare professionals

Step 4 - Explain the significance of creating a plan to community residents who will be evacuation supporters

Step 5 - Gathering basic information about the person and Prior Coordination with relevant parties
(ex. welfare professional and families)

Step 6 - Creating Individual Support Plans with city officers, people with disabilities, families, welfare professionals, and community members

Step 7 - Conducting drills and other activities to confirm the effectiveness of each Individual Support Plan.



Key findings and Recommendations

Similarities between Thailand and Japan that enable the development of inclusive temporary shelter management are as follows:

1) Legal Framework

The two countries have major laws on disaster risk management that state the role of local authorities in developing a local disaster risk management plan in normal times, which includes creating a list of vulnerable people or persons requiring special care during disaster, developing evacuation plans and designating safe areas for establishing an evacuation shelter, as well as assigning responsible staff, preparing resources, supplies, and logistics in need for temporary shelter management as well as BCP plans, and conducting simulation exercises for evacuation and temporary shelter management. Meanwhile, during disaster times, the local government has authorities to order and facilitate evacuation as well as establish and manage temporary shelters.

Key findings and Recommendations

Similarities between Thailand and Japan that enable the development of inclusive temporary shelter management are as follows:

2) National Guidelines

The two countries have national guidelines for temporary shelter management, along with the procedures for opening, operating, and closing temporary shelters and the concept of protection for vulnerable people, including arrangements for special needs, appropriate spaces and facilities, and public health and medical care services. However, Japan's initiatives for supporting those who need special assistance in times of disaster are more advanced. The initiatives of welfare evacuation shelters have been introduced since 2008, and the Guidelines for Securing and Managing Welfare Shelters was formulated in 2016, emphasizing municipalities to primarily make efforts in preparing welfare shelters and creating Individual Evacuation Plans based on priorities.

Key findings and Recommendations

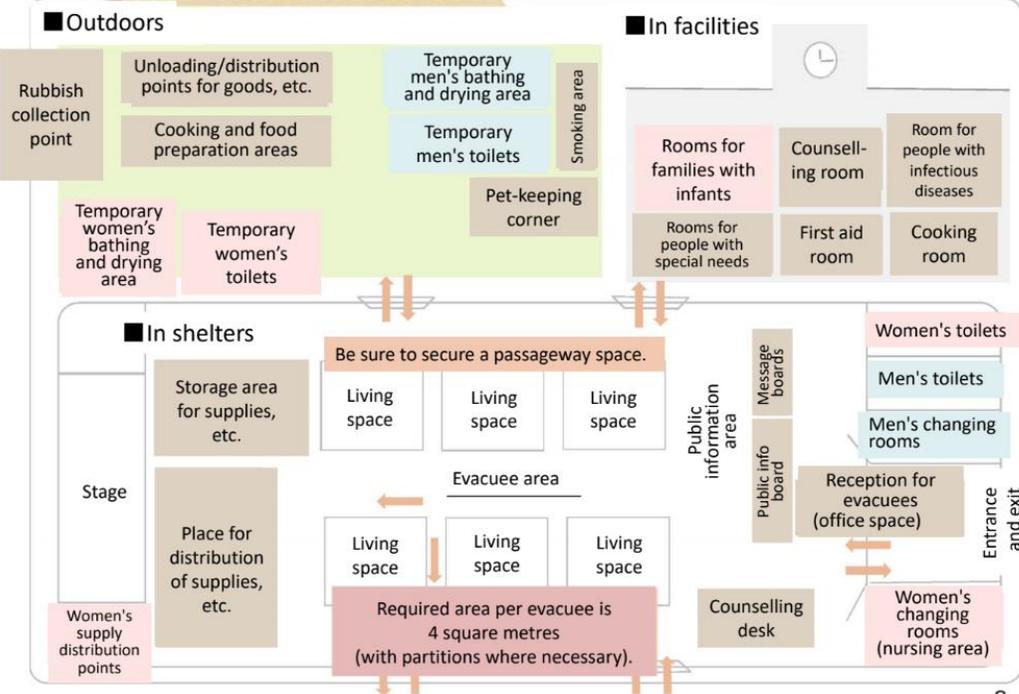
- Some municipalities, like Kobe City initiated **core welfare shelters** to reduce the burden of the city and people requiring assistance in transferring from general shelters to welfare shelters, together with implementing disaster countermeasures to secure good living conditions for citizens during disaster situations.
- Michi-no-Eki Arai in Myoko City, Niigata Prefecture, is also a good initiative in the **utilization of Michi-no-Eki for DRR purposes and is suitable for serving as an evacuation shelter**. It is complex facilities comprised of shops and restaurants, parking spaces, resting areas, **24-hour** accessible toilets, **24-hour** childcare support facilities, communication facilities, cooking buildings, power and water supplies, etc.
- **Alliance forming among local governments** is one good method for pre-agreement to support each other in relief, emergency shelter, and recovery including dispatched staff.

Key findings and Recommendations

- To achieve inclusive temporary shelter management, it is needed to break the silos (good practices from Beppu City) in developing comprehensive community evacuation plans and drills that integrate individual support plans for people requiring special assistance.
- The training modules for temporary shelter management have been developing, and have just become more concrete and practical with Thailand's context when the national guidelines was published and Table-top exercises were conducted in **2022** with support from IOM. While, it seems the Prefectures and Municipalities in Japan developed their own manual for shelter operation and training. The academic sector also has roles in developing human resources who are capable to work in real situation such as facilitating evacuation drill and supporting shelter management such as Kansai University's Bosaishi program.

Key findings and Recommendations

- The two countries do not have a general layout standard for every evacuation shelter but adjust the layout and space arrangement as appropriate for each building, considering minimum standards such as required spaces for individuals and gender aspects.



Key findings and Recommendations

Challenging issues in Japan:

- Aging and Shrinking Society has been affecting government and community's capacity in responding to disasters.
- Preparation for a massive and prolonged evacuation under the power and water disruption ex. Nankai Trough earthquake and Tokyo Inland Earthquake, considering lesson learned from Noto Peninsula earthquake.
- Awareness of the roles of welfare shelters, manpower needed to support the welfare shelter, and BCP for welfare shelters.

Conclusion

- The learning from Japan's experiences and practices are very valuable and can apply to improve Thailand's temporary shelter establishment and management to be more inclusive for people with disabilities or special needs in preparation, management, and simulation exercise.
- The definition of people requiring special assistance is cover all type of vulnerable people who are unable to evacuate by themselves or live in shelter without special cares, including people with disabilities and elderly people.

Conclusion

- However, comparing to Japan, Thailand has never experienced large-scale disasters which cause large-scale disruption in public utility services in long period, and large amount of death, injured and evacuees. Usually, the major of disaster in Thailand is floods which might force people in some areas to evacuate and stay in shelters around 1 - 3 months in maximum.

Conclusion

The following items are key lessons that can improve Thailand's practices on preparing for inclusive shelter management that is accessible for people with special needs:

- 1) Utilizing [GIS and satellite data](#) for collecting demographic and risk information to create maps and databases of people who need special assistance during disaster and safe areas for establishing temporary shelters.
- 2) Developing an [Application](#) that is accessible for publics and inputting information about shelter's capacity to accommodate people requiring special assistance to reduce traffic in one shelter and support decision-making for evacuation routes that leads to suitable temporary shelters.

Conclusion

3) Engaging collaboration among local stakeholders, especially disaster officers, welfare officers, medical officers, volunteers, and community members including vulnerable people, to discuss and create **Individual Evacuation Plans** by following 7 steps mentioned in Guidelines for Supporting the Evacuation Behavior of Those Who Require Assistance Evacuating, and test the plan during evacuation exercise, if possible, in shelter management simulation exercise too.

4) Developing **BCP** for each temporary shelter to ensure its continuity in providing services during disruption. Meanwhile, the suppliers should also have BCP to ensure their capacity to deliver supporting services to temporary shelters.

Conclusion

5) Cooperating with welfare or healthcare centers / facilities to be designated and be trained to serve as welfare shelters for people who need special consideration during disaster.

6) Working with professionals and volunteers to create community-building activities in temporary shelters to strengthen new community relationships among evacuees in order to leave no one behind.

**Thank you
for
your kind attention**

