Needs and Challenges in Elderly Evacuation Support
— Lessons from the Noto Peninsula Earthquake, Ishikawa Prefecture —

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Peace Winds Japan Operational Areas (1996-2023)
Population in Suzu city (Before the Earthquake)

- Population: 12,627
  - Percentage of 65 and over: 51.6%

- Total households: 5,876
  - Single-Person Households: 27.8%
  - Percentage of 65 and over: 27.7%
## Trends in Number of Deaths, Disaster-Related Deaths, Evacuees, and Evacuation Shelters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Shortly after the disaster</th>
<th>Past 2 months</th>
<th>Past 6 months</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of deaths</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of disaster-related deaths</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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![Graph showing trends](image-url)

**Number of evacuees**
- Shortly after the disaster: 125 thousand
- Past 2 months: 10 thousand
- Past 6 months: 5 thousand

**Number of shelters**
- Shortly after the disaster: 50
- Past 2 months: 5
- Past 6 months: 1
Needs and Challenges Immediately After the Disaster
Elderly person who cannot reach evacuation shelters.

- Over 70% of those who died from house collapses were over 65 years old
- Most information immediately after the disaster is by audio
- Many elderly people suffer from age-related hearing loss,
Difficulties faced by elderly individuals in evacuation shelters.

- Some elderly face the risk of becoming bedridden if they need help to sit up.
- Proper meals were not available.
- Health conditions to worsen.
Needs and Challenges in the Months Following the Disaster
Needs and Challenges in the Months Following the Disaster

- Loss of community.
- Increased isolation among the elderly due to lost relationships.
- Isolation can lead to inactivity, depression, and even suicide.
Current Status and Challenges of Japan's Evacuation System
Current Status and Challenges of Japan's Evacuation System

Survey Findings:

- Only 8.7% of municipalities in Ishikawa Prefecture had completed plans.
- Many plans lacked details

Challenges:

- Support providers affected by disasters.
- Lack of helpers due to an aging population.
- Privacy concerns hinder information sharing.
Preparation for Creating Greater Resilience
Preparation for Creating Greater Resilience

- Training and Events Involving the Elderly and People with Disabilities
- Promoting Understanding of Local Healthcare and Welfare
- Support for Home-Based Evacuees
- Development of Individual Support Plans
➢ Self-help

➢ Mutual aid

➢ Public assistance