

# Lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Disaster Management Example in Tokyo

- Tokyo's Measures Concerning Stranded People -

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## 1. Profile of Tokyo

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# TOKYO

- Capital of Japan with population of over 13 million
- Center of Politics and Economy
- Headquarters of major companies are concentrated in Tokyo
- Long distance commuters

There is a 70% possibility of an earthquake directly hitting Tokyo within the next 30 years.

# Goal of Disaster Management Measures in Tokyo

- To Save People's Lives
- To Maintain the Function of Capital

## 2. Great East Japan Earthquake

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### March 11, 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake

- Stranded Persons
- Disruption of Communications
- Breakdown of Logistics Network
- Rolling Blackouts



# Great East Japan Earthquake

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## Lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake

- ◆ Necessary to reestablish comprehensive disaster management measures mobilizing all resources of Tokyo
- ◆ Cooperation between each stakeholder and mutually complementing measures, as well as enhancement of self-help, mutual assistance and public help are indispensable to seamless preparedness

### 3. Disaster Management after Great East Japan Earthquake

#### **Concepts of Disaster Management Measures based on the lessons**

##### **Strengthen cooperation among stakeholders as well as reinforce each effort**

- Cooperation among community members
- Stable communication tools
- Logistics and emergency stocks
- Stranded people measures involving entire society

##### **Undertake multiple measures to secure backup functions**

- Reduce close-set wooden housing areas and reinforce firefighting system
- Development of disaster preparedness facilities in cooperation with private sector
- Diversify sources of energy

## 4. TMG's Measures Concerning Stranded People

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- 3.5 million stranded people within Tokyo
- Traffic congestion
- Planned measures did not work during actual disaster
- Mobile phone network did not function



# TMG's Measures Concerning Stranded People

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## Lessons

- Enhancement of measures concerning stranded people is needed
- Comprehensive measures involving private sector and people themselves is necessary to deal with vast number of stranded people



## Responses

- Council for Measures on Stranded People (Cabinet Office, TMG) (2011)
- Ordinance for Measures Concerning Stranded People (2013)



# TMG's Measures Concerning Stranded People

## **Ordinance for Measures Concerning Stranded People**

### 1 Preventing People From Heading Home All at Once

- Employers and schools need to make reasonable endeavors to confirm the safety of facilities and ask people to stay at the facilities, and stockpile 3 days worth of products.
- Railway companies and commercial facilities need to make reasonable endeavors to protect their customers by taking measures such as providing temporary shelters and providing guidance to safe locations.

### 2 Securing Temporary Shelters

- TMG needs to work on securing the cooperation of the national government, municipalities, and the private sector to secure sufficient temporary shelters.

# TMG's Measures Concerning Stranded People

## **Ordinance for Measures Concerning Stranded People**

### 3 Providing Communication Tools and Information Services

- TMG needs to work together with related organizations to publicize family safety confirmation services and to provide disaster information.
- Employers should prompt employees to prepare multiple methods to get in touch with their families.

### 4 Assisting People Returning Home

- TMG needs to work on securing support stations to assist people walking home where water, lavatories, and other services are provided.
- TMG needs to work on securing alternative transportation such as buses and ships for railway users.

# TMG's Measures Concerning Stranded People

## Incentives for Private Sector

- Subsidy for expenses of stockpiles for stranded people
- Subsidy for costs of temporary shelter facilities such as spaces, storages for stockpiles for private companies near terminal stations
- Tax exemption on storages for stockpiles for stranded people

# TMG's Measures Concerning Stranded People

## Progress of TMG's Efforts

- Employees who stockpile water and emergency foods for their employers  
→ 50.1%
- Temporary shelters → 918 shelters (able to accommodate 328,000 people)
- Support stations to assist people walking home → 10,851 stations (schools, restaurants, convenience stores, etc.)