

Facts and Issues of Decontamination in Special Decontamination Area: Based on Questionnaire Surveys to Municipalities from 2013 to 2016

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Summary

This study discusses facts and issues of decontamination in 11 municipalities in Fukushima Prefecture designated as Special Decontamination Area based on questionnaire surveys to the 11 municipalities which were conducted every year from 2013 to 2016. In the areas designated as the “Zone in Preparation for Lifting of the Evacuation Orders” and the “Restricted Residence Zone” in Special Decontamination Area, decontamination work is planned to complete by the end of March 2017 which is six years after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident. However, this study clarifies that many issues concerning decontamination are left in this area. This study identifies (1) implementation of “decontamination” of forests, reservoirs and rivers to restore environments, (2) implementation of follow-up decontamination in accordance with the characteristics of places as one of a mean of radiation protection measures, (3) early completion of interim storage facilities, appropriate management of temporary storage sites and discussion of feasibility of final disposal outside Fukushima prefecture, and (4) planning and implementation of decontamination of the whole areas designated as the “Difficult-to-return Zone” as main issues concerning decontamination in Special Decontamination Area.

Key Words: Decontamination, Special Decontamination Area, Revitalization, Municipality, Fukushima
