

Original

Municipalities' Understanding Concerning Current Status and Issues of Decontamination in Special Decontamination Area after Completion of Decontamination: A Study Based on Result of Questionnaire Surveys to Municipalities in 2018

Kota KAWASAKI*

Faculty of Symbiotic Systems Science, Fukushima University (1 Kanayagawa, Fukushima 960-1296, Japan)

Summary

Fukushima Prefecture was contaminated with large amounts of radioactive materials by the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station caused by the Tohoku-Pacific Ocean Earthquake of March 11, 2011. Although decontamination based on the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Radioactive Pollution has been implemented, it was completed by the end of March 2017 which is six years after the accident. This study discusses issues of decontamination after one year and a half since the completion of decontamination in 11 municipalities in Fukushima Prefecture designated as Special Decontamination Area based on the result of questionnaire surveys to the 11 municipalities. This study identifies (1) early completion of interim storage facilities, appropriate management of temporary storage sites and restoration of temporary storage sites corresponding to conditions, (2) implementation of “decontamination” of forests, rivers and reservoirs to restore environments based on a new act, (3) improvement of decontamination in specific reconstruction areas and implementation of decontamination of the whole areas designated as the “Difficult-to-return Zone”, and (4) implementation of follow-up decontamination in accordance with the characteristics of places as one of a mean of radiation protection measures as main issues concerning decontamination in Special Decontamination Area.

Key Words: Decontamination, Special decontamination area, Revitalization, Municipality, Fukushima
