Evaluation in community after nuclear disasters: from the perspectives of human security

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Human security

• focuses primarily on protecting people while promoting peace and assuring sustainable continuous development

• emphasizes aiding individuals by using a people-centered approach for resolving inequalities that affect security

Human security Initiative; http://www.humansecurityinitiative.org/definition-human-security
Key components of human security

• freedom from fear
• freedom from want
• Freedom to live in dignity

Fear is feeling of human being, and may last for long-term even after a disaster ends. (in particular because of the nature of radiation)

Importance of considering mental well-being

Source: A/Res/60/1
Basic Facts: Mental Well-being

- 1 out of 4 experience a mental disorder in their life
- 1 million people die due to suicide
- Suicide: 2nd leading cause of death among adolescents
- 1/5 at primary health care have a mental disorder
- 80% with serious mental disorders do not receive appropriate treatment in developing countries
- Economic impact: USD16.3 trillion between 2011-30

Number of Death due to Suicide and Violence

PTSD symptoms between students within 8 km and those over 8km from the plant (Tokaimura criticality accident)
Persistent distress after psychological exposure to the Nagasaki atomic bomb explosion

Knowledge of radiation

In Tohoku

- 2688 disaster-related deaths (as of the end of March 2013)
- 111 disaster-related suicide deaths (as of the end of November 2013)
Neglected Priority

As above mentioned, mental aspects play crucial roles in recovery;

- mental well-being tends to be left behind
- extremely limited human & financial resources with limited policies and programmes
Recommendation

Integrate mental well-being into all the recovery/development efforts as a key indicator (such as overall mental health status, suicide rate, hope, quality of life, or newly developed indicators) since human beings are emotional beings.