

Smart emergency preparedness and disaster risk management in Taiwan

Wei-Sen Li

Secretary General, National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction, Taiwan

Natural hazards such like earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides and debris flows are major challenges to people living in Taiwan. Besides learning experiences from, but people here must live with by using innovative way to prepare for, respond to and recover from adverse impacts possibly brought by natural disasters. In last three decades, investment and innovation in disaster risk management have been gradually increasing social and public awareness. After 2009 Typhoon Morakot, more efforts in information integration enables an information-intelligence-based system, which is aimed to shortening information gaps among stakeholders at both local and central governments. For example, during

typhoon emergency operations, common operational pictures delivered by the information system assist commanding officials in making decisions and allocating resources. To efficiently inform the general public of alters related to disaster, multiple Information-Communication-Technology (ICT) channels, mobile telecommunication, instant messengers or social media, are applied for enhancing information coverage. It is a learning process to researcher, governmental officials, practitioners and citizens about how to make the best use of information intelligence in a smart way. For building up disaster resilience, it needs more and direct dialogues to offer feasible solutions and meet actual demands.