

DISASTER RESILIENCE

Surrounding central Tokyo are areas of close-set wooden houses. Along with constructing roads and rebuilding houses, these areas need to be transformed into safe districts surrounded by greenery by using opportunities presented by the rebuilding of old large-scale housing projects that are up for renewal.



In the past Tokyo had a green belt concept to control urban sprawl and makeup for the lack of green spaces.



Distribution of areas with close-set wooden houses

Areas with close-set wooden houses, found mainly outside the JR Yamanote train line, lack sufficient roads, parks and other urban infrastructure. Because they also have many old buildings, it is predicted that they will be very vulnerable to fires caused by earthquakes. The rebuilding of large-scale housing complexes would present an opportunity for creating quality space.



Initiatives are being taken to build city planning roads that will stop the spread of fires and serve as routes for evacuation and rescue efforts. Buildings along the roads are also being made fire-resistant.

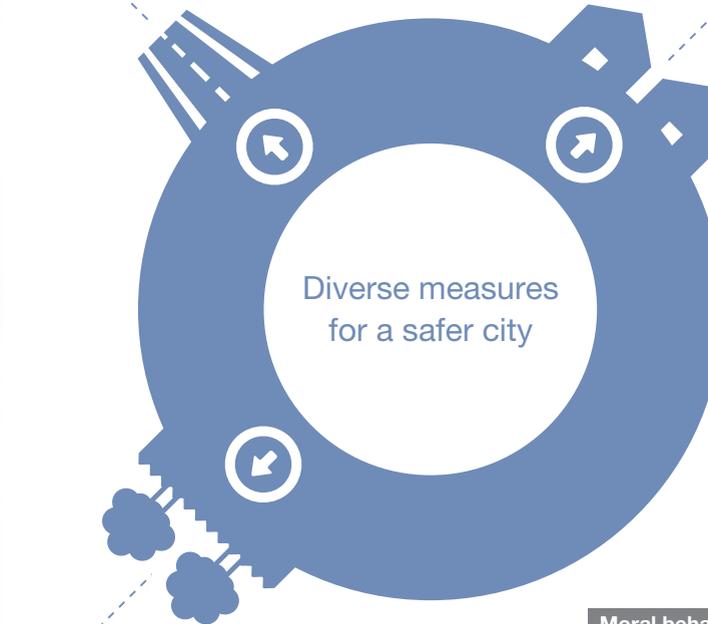


The lives of Tokyo residents will be protected from large-scale fires by expanding “safe, no-evacuation districts,” which have their own safe evacuation areas and do not require residents to move to sites outside the district. Along with the construction of large urban development projects, by installing emergency generators, and building storerooms for emergency stockpiles and temporary accommodation for persons unable to return home, Tokyo is being turned into a city that is self-supporting even in a disaster.

Photo credit: “Moral behavior in a disaster” ©Asahi Shimbun

Creation of firebreaks

Making built-up areas fire-resistant



Securing evacuation areas, etc.

Moral behavior in a disaster

The orderly behavior of victims amid the turmoil immediately after the March 2011 earthquake received praise from overseas and was taken up in newspapers.



Work is underway to improve the fire-resistance of built-up areas by encouraging the rebuilding of old houses in order to achieve a city that is safe from fire.

