Non-structural measures against landslides and debris flows in Japan

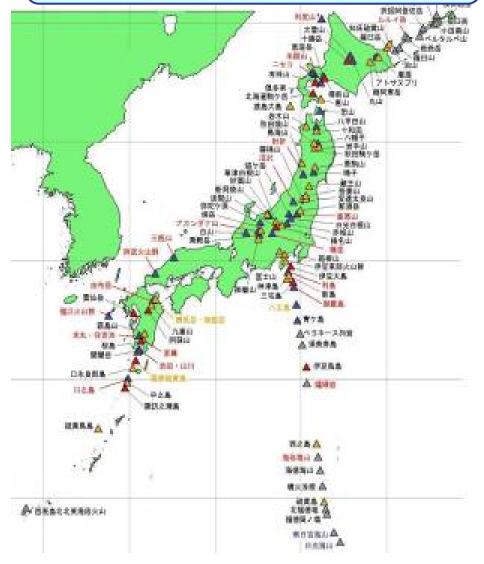
Keigo NAKAMURA, Ph.D

8 Sep. 2009 Sabo (Erosion and Sediment Control) Department, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

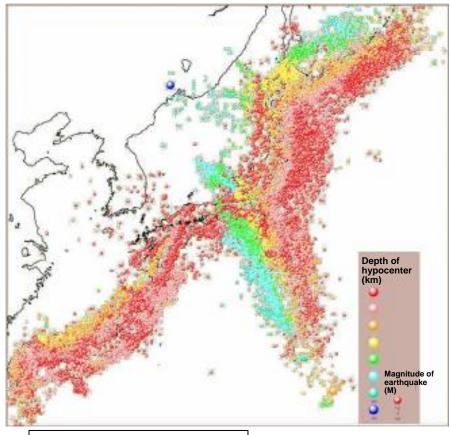
Japan: the hot spot of landslides and debris flows

Volcanic country

~10% of the world's active volcanoes (108 active volcanoes)



Earthquake country ~20% of the world's earthquakes



Distribution of epicenters of earthquakes with M=3.0 or more in 1998-2000

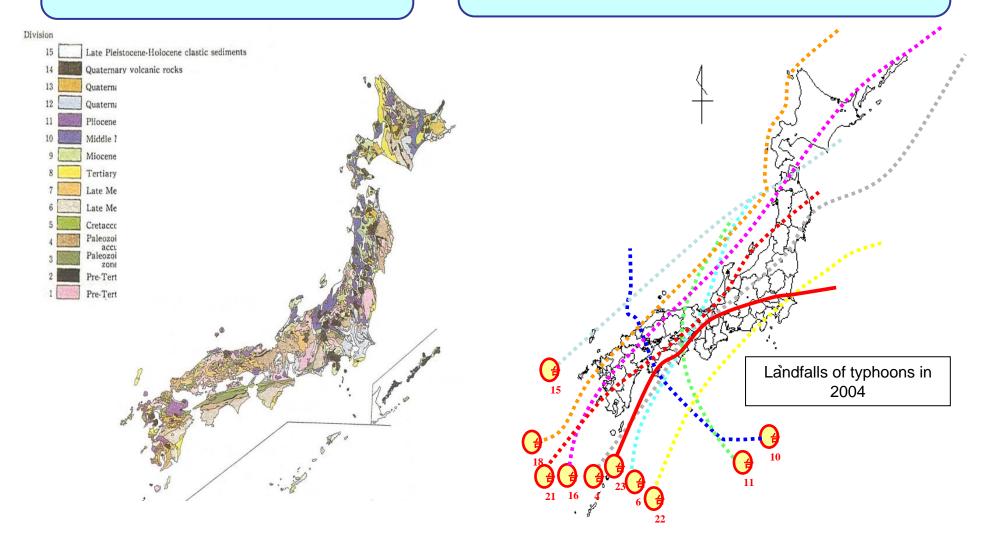
Japan: the hot spot of landslides and debris flows

Vulnerable and steep geology

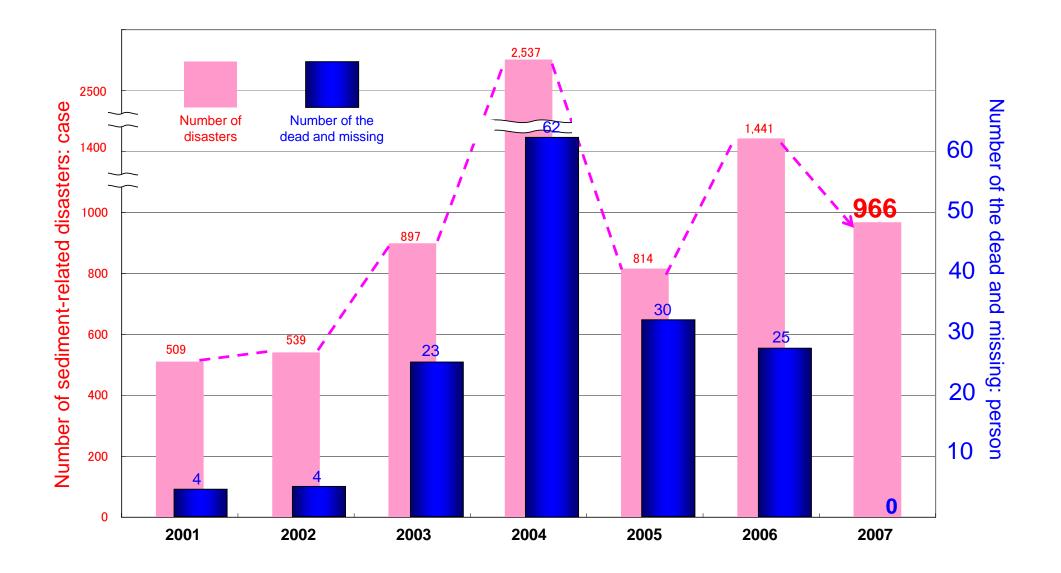
With many faults and complex geology, the Japanese islands are vulnerable to collapses.

Rainy country

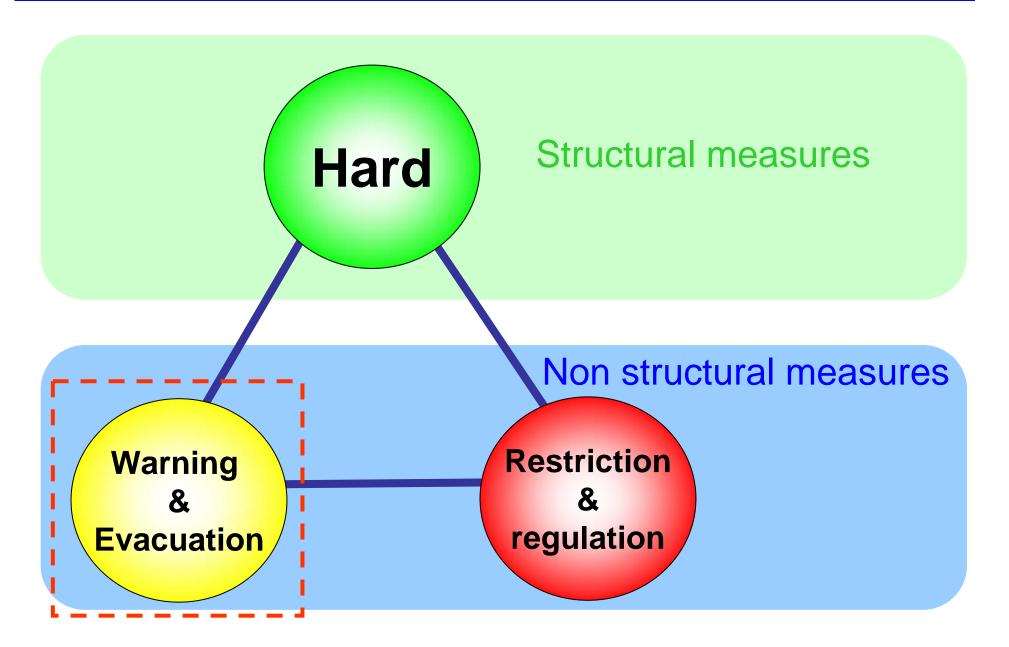
Heavy rains caused by the rainy season and typhoons.



Landslides and debris flows in recent years



Three major categories against landslides and debris flows mitigation

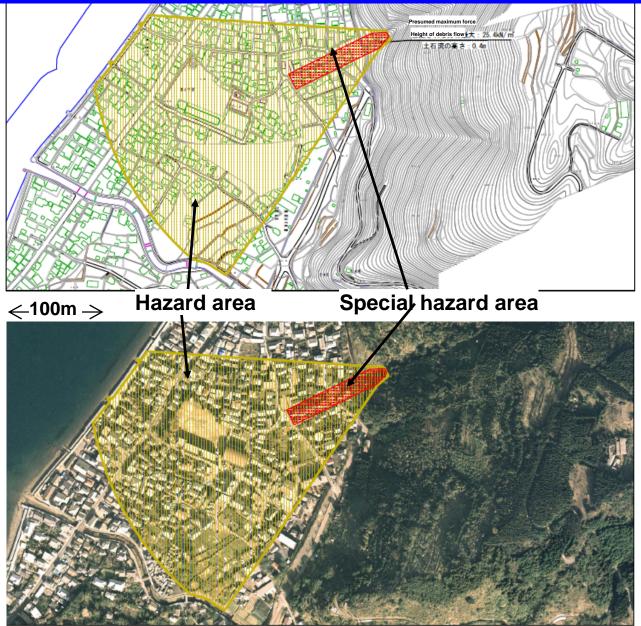


Essences of Public Warning

Timing and Area



Warning area designated by the Landslides and Debris flows Prevention Law



Landslides and debris flows Hazard Area

- An area prone to landslides and debris flows shall be designated as a landslides and debris flows hazard area (Yellow Zone).
- In the Yellow Zone,
 - Early warning systems must be established,
 - Hazard map against landslides and debris flows should be produced.
 - But NO RESTRICTION ON LANDUSE

Special landslides and debris flows Hazard Area

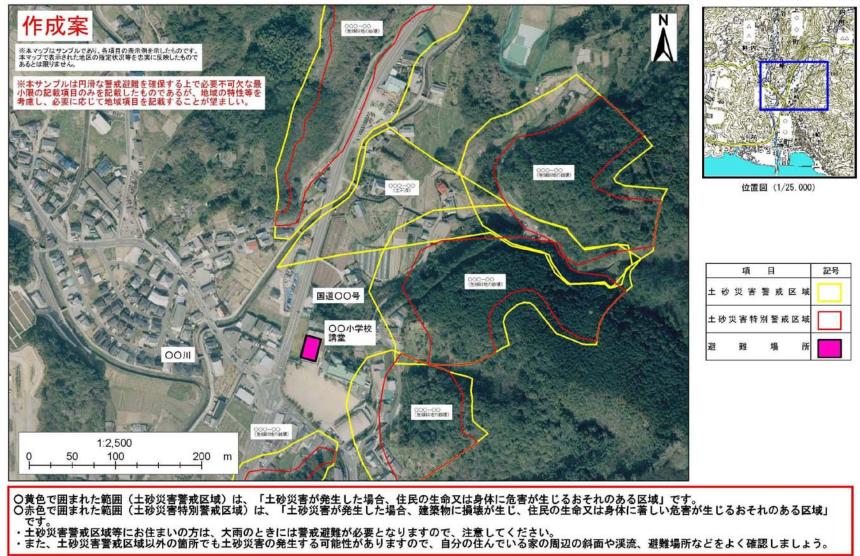
 An area in serious hazards shall be designated as a special landslides and debris flows hazard area (Red Zone).



Landslides and debris flows hazard map

OO市OO町OO地区 土砂災害ハザードマップ

問い合わせ先: OO県 OO部 OO課 電話 OOO-OOOO ホームページ(http://OOOOOOOOO) OO市 OO課 電話 OOO-OOOO ホームページ (http://00000000)

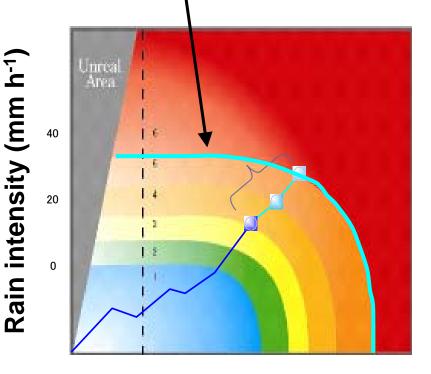




Warning information on landslides and debris flows (Sediment Disaster Alert)

•Warning information on landslides and debris flows (WILD) based on rainfall intensity and duration was launched in 2008 all through Japan in collaboration with JMA.

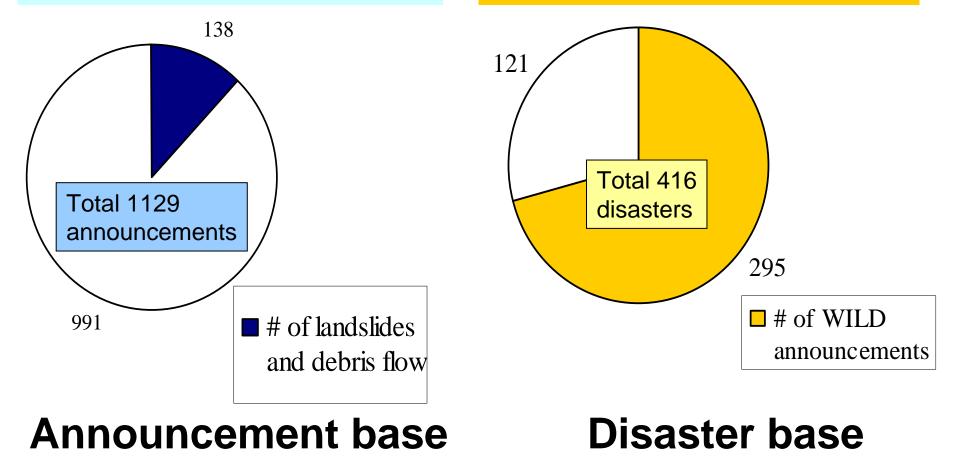
Critical line (CL): Threshold for landslides or debris flows



Index on soil moisture

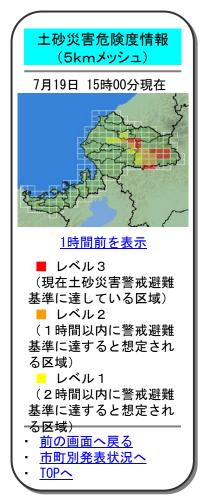
How WILD works?

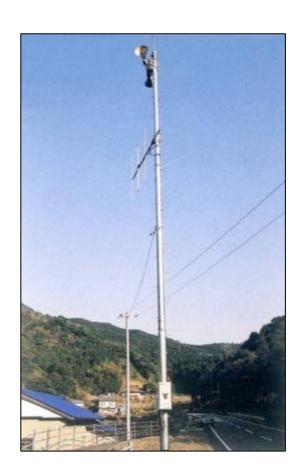
~12% of WILD announcement predicted landslides or debris flows. ~70% of landslides and debris flows was picked up by WILD.



Notify weather advisory, warnings and WILD through diverse media

【危険度情報】





loudspeaker broadcasting



Individual receiver

Push based mobile services

Education on symptoms of landslides and debris flows

