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IDRiM Virtual Workshop for Interactive Discussions between Senior and Early-Career Scientists

# **The Role of Relief Support Agency and Measures to Improve the Disaster Relief System - Case Study of 2019 Goseong Fire -**

Hope Bridge, Korea Relief Disaster Association

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# Hope Bridge Korea Relief Disaster Association (The Relief Support Agency )



Legal Name

**Korea Relief Disaster Association**

BI

**Hope Bridge**

Established in 1961, Hope Bridge is Korea's very first civil association established by broadcasting companies, newspaper companies, and social organizations to help our neighbors who are suffering from unexpected disasters.



## Legal Basis

- Basis of establishment (Article 29 of the Disaster Relief Act)
- General management of donations for natural disasters  
(Article 25 of the Disaster Relief Act)

## Partner Organization

- In case of a national-scale disaster in Korea or abroad, conduct emergency relief activity with cooperation of Ministry of Interior and Safety
- Local governments : Prompt relief service to residents in disaster-affected area through cooperation with 247 cities/provinces/counties

# Donations for Natural Disasters vs. Social Disasters

Donations for Natural Disasters		Donations for Social Disasters
<p>Donations collected <b>for natural disasters</b> like typhoon, earthquake and flood</p> <p>Example: Gyeonju Earthquake, Typhoon Mitag etc.</p>	Definition	<p>Donations collected for <b>social disasters</b> like forest fire, various accidents and <b>for the poor</b></p> <p>Example: Gangwon Forest fire, Market fire</p>
Victims of natural disasters	Target	Victims of social disasters and the poor etc.
Disaster Relief Act	Basis	Law regarding donations and usage
<p>Donations collected by each agency are <b>gathered together and distributed equally</b></p> <p>→ <b>Equal distribution</b> after considering the characteristics of disaster</p>	Characteristics	<p>Each agency <b>distributes donation each agency collected</b></p>

# 2019 Gangwon East Coast Districts Forest Fire

- **Time of Occurrence** : 19:15 April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- **Location**: Wonam-li, Toseong-myeon,  
Goseong-gun, Gangwon-do
- **Human Damage**: 3 deaths, 565 households,  
1,289 victims
- **Damage** : 2,832ha of forest, 219 public  
facilities, 956 Private facilities  
(553 household included)



# Relief activities for Gangwon East Coast Forest Fire

## Major Disaster Relief Activities

With a forest fire that occurred in April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in districts (Goseong, Sokcho, Gangneung, Donghae, Injae) of Gangwon, East Coast



Image of loading the relief goods at Relief Logistics Center (4/4)



Image of Mobile Laundry Vehicle in Goseong (4/13)

### · Disaster Relief Goods

- Emergency relief sets (male, female) **1,700 sets**
- Agency's donated goods **532,944 goods/sets**
  - ※ Dividers at shelter, blanket/bedding, clothing (Underwear, socks, gym clothes etc.), Drinking water and food, daily necessities (toiletries, facial towels, make-up, etc.), disaster relief supplies (consigned business)

### · Relief activities on site

- Mobile Laundry Vehicle (4/8~6/20, Goseong)
  - : **978 households 26,180kg, 97 volunteers**
- 1 Portable toilets set (4/8~6/20, Goseong)
- 2 Portable shower booths (4/8~6/27, Goseong)



# Sokcho's Community Disaster Prevention Team

## 2019 Gangwon Forest Fire Prevention Activities



Extinguishing fire at Jangsa-dong



Organizing donated goods



Recovery of Bogwangsa



Safety environment at beaches



Typhoon Mitag, Ganagneung Support



Providing ice at Cooling Centers

# Problems with Gangwon Forest Fire Disaster Relief



## Problems with Disaster Relief

- ✓ Relief department is to be avoided
- ✓ Always a first time in disaster relief
- ✓ Inexperienced government officials



Disaster  
relief is hit  
and miss?!

Welcome! First  
time with  
Disaster?



- ✓ Support system that is based on the type of disaster, not focusing on beneficiaries

# Problems with Gangwon Forest Fire Disaster Relief



## Problems with disaster relief

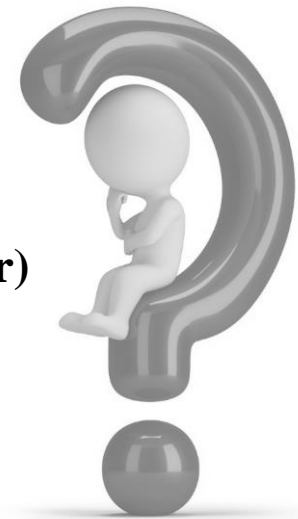
- ✓ A deluge of complaints
- ✓ National donation that is regarded as compensation, not a comfort

- ✓ Inadequate basis for distribution target and standard

Do you have basis?



(Social Disaster)



- ✓ Giving the reported amount of damage without any scene investigation nor check



# Problems with Gangwon Forest Fire Disaster Relief



## Disaster Relief and Donated Goods

### Weakness

- ✓ **Confusion even with a manual!**  
Frequent changes, lack of professionalism, inadequate training
- ✓ **Local government officials do not know basic tasks, such as handling receipts of donated goods and etc**
- ✓ **Once the experiences are gained in a hard way, personnel are transferred to a different as a 'well done;' experiences are not accumulated**

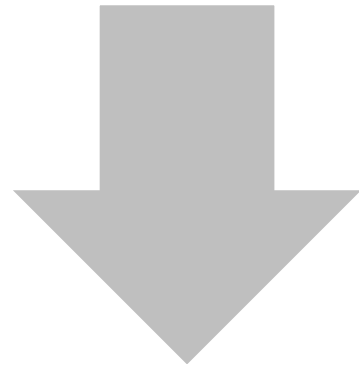


### Solution

- ✓ **Need for professional disaster relief training every time a person in charge changes**
- ✓ **Reflect operational manual in government, disaster relief plan**
- ✓ **Need for institutional improvement as disaster relief tasks require 'professionalism and accumulated experiences'**



Donation for social disaster is hit and miss?



**80 million won**

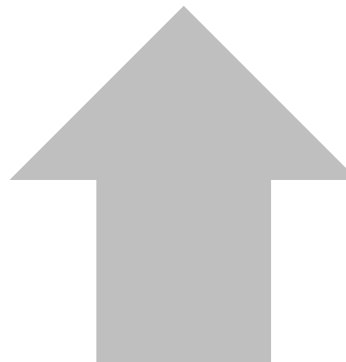
(Damaged households, 2019 Goseong)

- ✓ The difference in the cost of support exists for same damage, different year



**2.4 million won**

(Damaged households, 2018 Goseong)



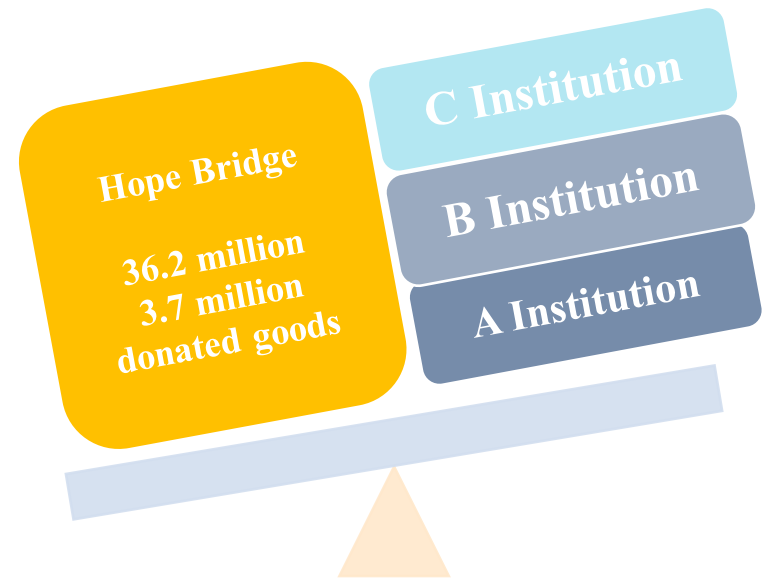
- ✓ Need for a discussion on establishing system of consistent relief support like natural disasters' donations

# Problems with Gangwon Forest Fire Disaster Relief



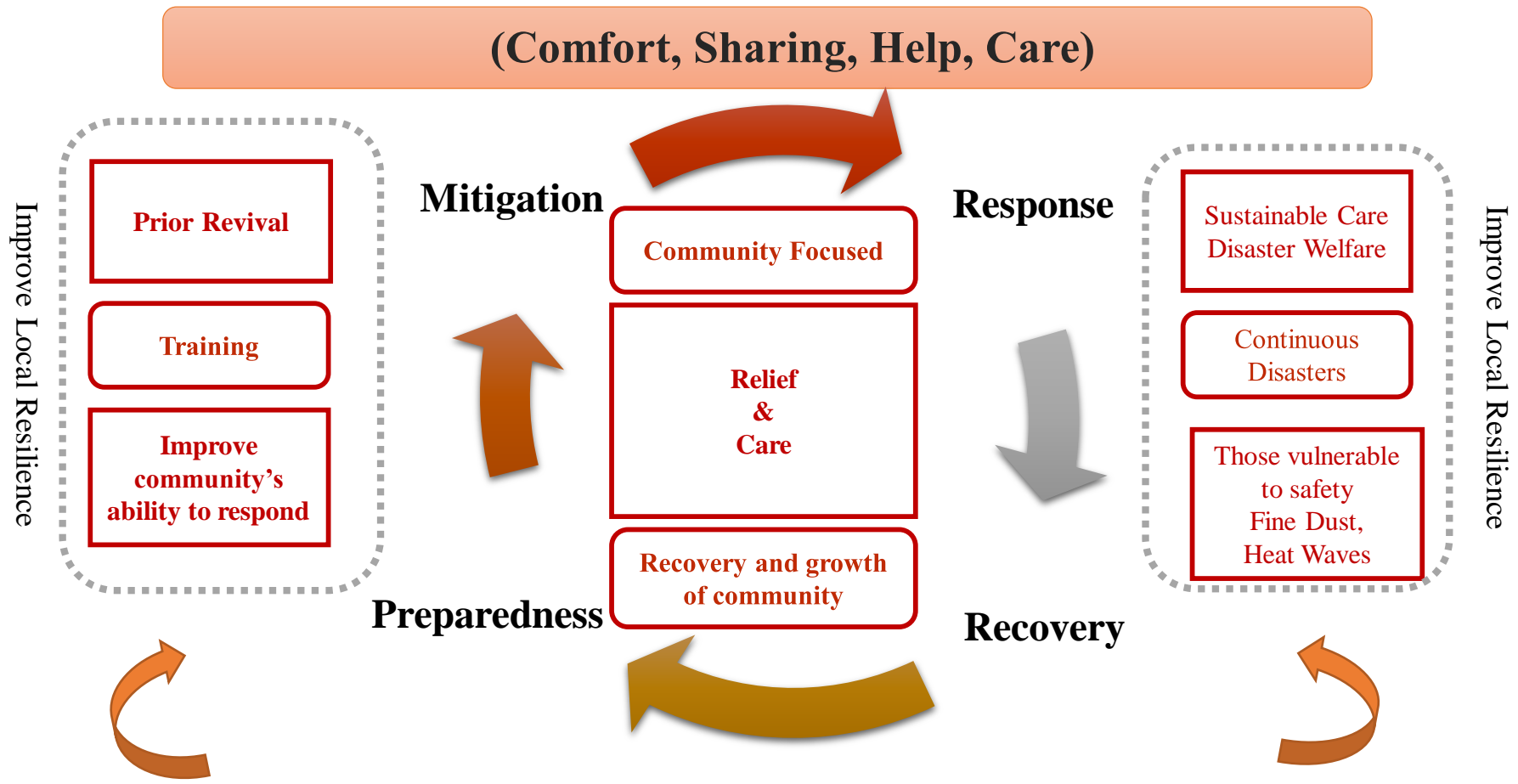
## Participation of various institutions in distribution in case of social disasters

- ✓ Distribution is not unified due to a different law system than natural disasters
- ✓ Conflicts and divisions are created in the community as the donations are based on communities
- ✓ New forms of conflicts occur and are difficult to mediate due to separate distributions from different support agencies



# Practicing Sustainable Relief & Care for Recovery & Re-growth in Local Community

## Sustainable Relief & Care for Recovery & Re-growth in Local Community



Basis on solidarity and cooperative system with community groups, social enterprises and etc.



# Specific Case Study of Sustainable Relief and Care

## Gangwon Forest Fire Donation Support - Mid Long Term Relief

- **Provision of 95 million won worth of gift certificates to 18 affected villages**
  - :Through a public discussion, it was used as a luncheon, establishment of village storage, public distribution and etc.
- **Community event to heal from forest fire damage**  
(Sokcho-city, Yeongrang-dong)
  - Comforting victims' loss and distress; resolving the community conflict from direct and indirect damage and recovering the psychological stability
  - Hosted by Community Social Security Council at Sokcho High school Gym on 2019.10.26
  - 700 victims, local residents, sponsoring institutions, volunteers participated



## ➤ Local Resilience Capacity

: Growing the capacity to minimize the disaster damage and for community to return to daily lives quickly



# Korea Disaster Response Association Disaster Relief Specialist Training Organization (July, 2019)

Sokcho-city, Goseong's Community Disaster Prevention Team Disaster Relief Specialist



# The Role of Relief Support Agency to Enhance Disaster Relief Policies

## Cooperation • Cooperative Framework for Community Recovery

Establishing Mutual Cooperation System	Community's Self-Planning and Practice	Establish Evaluation System of validation and support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Write cooperative plan by sharing visions</b> of community and members</li><li>• Intrinsic and extrinsic motivation (acknowledgement and encouragement)</li><li>• <u>Create stage of communication for information/vision/knowledge sharing and support participation</u></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plan and execute things that can be done first!!</li><li>• <b>Systemize and internalize the PDCA cycle</b></li><li>• Train leaders, personnel and create cooperative ties between local, governance, NPO, relief support agencies</li></ul>	<p>Continuous monitoring (governance participation, exchange of opinion, expression of willingness)</p> <p>Regular presentation and reporting of the people, by the people, for the people <b>(Support and encouragement of relief support agency, governance and community)</b></p>

Thank you

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