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### **[Abstract Title]**

The Role of Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge in Adaptation to  
Landslide Disasters

### **[Abstract]**

Japan is particularly susceptible to different types of natural disasters. In recent years, landslides are identified as one of the most critical types of natural disasters. The degradation of the traditional cultural due to the rapid depopulation in mountainous areas is leading to the permanent disappearance of the best Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge (ITK) based adaptation for landslide disasters. Many scholars had emphasized the importance of incorporating ITK measures and related practices for disaster risk management in different contexts. This study investigates the ITK in adaptation to mitigate the landslides disaster situations by studying a village in Japan which is located in the hilly regions in Tokamachi in Niigata Prefecture. The selected area is vulnerable to landslide disasters and occurred several landslide disasters in history. This study employs field surveys, questionnaire surveys for data collection. The findings of the research indicate how ITK based practices had enhanced the disaster adaptation level of the community. Further, the ITK-based value systems act as a strong mechanism in identifying early signs of landslide disasters. Finally, the study contributes to the possibilities of upscaling such as local practices for mainstream disaster management practices.

### **[Keywords]**

Landslides, Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge, Adaptation