Disaster prevention measures implemented and education provided by municipalities located along the Itoigawa-Shizuoka tectonic line – from a residents' perspective

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Disaster prevention involves a number of fields, which can be roughly classified into four areas: mechanism of disaster, role of national government, disaster prevention engineering/technology, and disaster prevention measures implemented by local communities. Since the nature of disasters can vary depending on the natural environment of the affected region, teachers who provide disaster prevention education must consider the local characteristics of natural disasters in their regions. For their disaster prevention education to be of practical use, they must also know the social environment, such as disaster countermeasures and other activities implemented by local governments and communities, because this environment greatly affects the scale of a disaster and the process of restoration. (It should be noted, however, that, as a prerequisite for understanding or discovering such localized factors, teachers must acquire an understanding of the basic and universal concepts of disasters.) To ascertain these features of disaster prevention education, the authors investigated disaster countermeasures implemented by local governments of areas located along the Itoigawa-Shizuoka tectonic line, particularly from a residents' perspective. Although these municipalities share a common natural condition in that they are located just above a large-scale active fault, we found that their disaster countermeasures vary greatly. In this paper, based on our survey results, we discuss how these differences influence disaster prevention education.

Keywords: disaster prevention education, the Itoigawa-Shizuoka tectonic line, disaster prevention measures, municipality