Communication gap between scientists and the society associated with uncertain risk information

*Takeshi Sagiya¹

1. Disaster Mitigation Research Center, Nagoya University

Many geoscientists are working on natural hazard. Sometimes it is an important responsibility for them to communicate with non-scientists, engineers, decision makers, the media, and citizens, to provide information about future natural hazard. A problem of such risk information is its uncertainty. Some scientists are careful enough and provide risk information deliberately. But such information does not satisfy needs of non-scientists. On the other hand, there some people (sometimes pretending themselves as scientists) provides specific risk information that does not have enough scientific evidence. But sometimes such information is widely accepted. Earthquake hazard is one of such typical examples because of its very low probability. How to communicate with non-scientsts has been a difficult problem for scientists and we should always pay attention to the way how scientific result will be accepted.

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