

Landslides in urban residential region induced by the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake

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Recent destructive earthquakes in urban regions, such as the 1978 Miyagiken-oki earthquake the 1995 Kobe earthquake, and the 2011 Tohoku earthquake have destabilized many of the gentle slopes in residential areas around large cities in Japan. Beyond the serious danger to residents of the earthquake affected areas, these landslides revealed the weaknesses of urban development in cities of Japan. The 2016 Kumamoto earthquake induced serious damages in the suburbs of Kumamoto city. The strong motion along the earthquake fault across the urban region caused slope damages, that are building deconstruction, collapse of houses, and landslides of artificial steep slopes, but also the ground condition controlled their distribution and landslide mechanism.

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