12. Disaster Prevention and Reconstruction

■ Expansion of Women’s Participation in Prefectural Disaster Management Council and Council Members

In Japan, each prefecture has a Prefectural Disaster Management Council, which promotes the drawing up and implementation of a Local Disaster Management Plan for that region and which has jurisdiction over deliberations on important matters related to disaster management. The proportion of women council members for these Prefectural Disaster Management Councils are on an upward trend, and increased rapidly after 2013, following the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 2011; women currently account for 16.0% as of April 2019. Furthermore, as of 2013 the number of Prefectural Disaster Management Councils with no women members was zero, which is maintained since then.

■ Measures and Responses Necessary from the Perspective of Gender Equality

➢ With regard to measures and responses necessary from the perspective of gender equality, the Cabinet Office issued the Guidelines for Disaster Planning Response and Reconstruction from a Gender Equal Perspective, which serve as guidelines for local governments and related organizations.

➢ In addition, an English-language pamphlet outlining the above guidelines was created to share Japan’s experience with large-scale natural disasters with the international community.

➢ In June 2016, a Training Program on Disaster Risk Reduction from the Perspective of Gender Equality was established to train local government personnel who can plan, design, and implement disaster risk reduction measures based on the perspective of gender equality.

Source: Created from “Implementation Status of Measures for Promoting the Formation of a Gender-equal Society or policy considerations for gender in local government,” by Cabinet Office

Note: Data as of April 1 every year as a general rule.