

Status of Dispatch of Experts such as TEC-FORCE and Technical Support Activities in Times of Disaster

1. Introduction

In recent years, it is already recognized that natural impacts are localized, concentrated, and becoming serious, and the efforts to generalize hardware and software measures and to minimize damage have been promoted more actively. Among such efforts, as one of effective measures, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism established TEC-FORCE (emergency disaster control expedition) in 2008, which has been accumulating activities for the purpose of the prevention of the occurrence and spread of damage as well as early recovery of affected areas.

2. Activities such as TEC-FORCE of NILIM

TEC-FORCE, dispatched from NILIM, acts as the “high technical assistance squad” that mainly responds to events and damage that are more complicated and difficult for experts to judge based on the experience accumulated through daily researches as backbone. Its main roles are investigation of the damage situation and evaluation of the safety of facilities, as well as provision of advice for the prevention of secondary disasters based on advanced judgement.

In the Kumamoto earthquake in April 2016, we dispatched specialists in various fields responding to the respective damage from landslides in the mountain area,

damage to highway structures such as bridges, and damage to various types of buildings.

In addition to the activities as TEC-FORCE, we dispatch specialists immediately to continue technical assistance activities in response to requests from local governments and regional development bureaus in the affected areas. Furthermore, we also actively conduct voluntary inspections as an activity to improve our technologies related to disaster prevention and reduction.

3. Evaluation of the Contribution of the Activities

We received the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism’s Award for activities of NILIM’s TEC-FORCE in response to the torrential rains in the Kanto and Tohoku regions in September 2015 at the national TEC-FORCE convention held in December 2016.

In addition, NILIM also dispatched its personnel in response to the landslide disaster occurred in Hiroshima city in August 2014 and received the Cabinet Office Disaster Prevention Achievement Award of 2016 from the Prime Minister for the TEC-FORCE activities of the entire Construction and Transport Ministry in response to this disaster in September 2016.

Table Record of the dispatch of specialists in 2016 (From January to December)

● Kumamoto Earthquake

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch	
Water Quality Control Department	Research Coordinator for Wastewater System Restoration	Tsutomu Uchida	Apr. 15 – Apr. 18	
		Head	Toshihiro Yokota	May 11 – May 13
	Wastewater System Division	Senior Researcher	Wataru Fukatani	Apr. 15 – Apr. 18, May 11 – May 13, May 25 – May 27
Researcher		Toyohisa Miyamoto	May 11 – May 13, May 26 – May 27	
River Department	River Division	Head	Atsushi Hattori	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16
		Senior Researcher	Hirotooshi Mori	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16, May 11 – May 12
			Masaki Fukushima	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16, Apr. 26 – Apr. 27, May 11 – May 12
			Yoko Yamamoto	Apr. 26 – Apr. 27
		Researcher	Kazuhiro Yanagawa	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16
			Yusuke Nishimura	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16
			Shingo Sasaoka	Apr. 26 – Apr. 27
			Atsunori Suzuki	Apr. 26 – Apr. 27, May 11 – May 12
		Research Engineer	Kento Nakamura	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16, May 11 – May 12

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch	
River Department	Large-scale Hydraulic Structure Division	Head	Masafumi Kondo	Apr. 17 – Apr. 20
		Researcher	Koushi Tanaka	Apr. 17 – Apr. 20
Sabo Department	Director		Atsushi Okamoto	Apr. 25 – Apr. 29
		Head	Wataru Sakurai	Apr. 18 – Apr. 24, May 4 – May 11
	Sabo Planning Division	Senior Researcher	Taro Uchida	Apr. 20 – Apr. 24
		Researcher	Naoki Matsumoto	Apr. 25 – Apr. 29
			Hiroaki Izumiyama	Apr. 26 – Apr. 29
	(Parallel appointment)		Norimitsu Shinohara	Apr. 20 – Apr. 22
			Masahide Matsuzawa	Apr. 23 – Apr. 25
			Hirokazu Domon	Apr. 26 – Apr. 29
			Masaru Kunitomo	Apr. 15 – Apr. 17, Apr. 23 – Apr. 28
	Sabo Risk-Management Division	Head	Ikuko Murata	Apr. 22 – Apr. 26
Researcher		Yamato Suzuki	Apr. 18 – Apr. 21	
Research Engineer				
Road Traffic Department	Road Environment Division	Head	Ryuji Inoue	Apr. 24 – Apr. 27
		Researcher	Tomoki Mitsutani	Apr. 24 – Apr. 27

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch		
Road Structures Department	Director	Yoshitomi Kimura	May 12 – May 13, Jul. 5		
	Research Coordinator for Road Structures	Shinji Fukushima	Jun. 1 – Jun. 2		
	Bridge and Structures Division	Head	Jyun'ichi Hoshikuma	Apr. 15 – Apr. 18, May 1, Jun. 16 – Jun. 17	
		Senior Researcher	Masahiro Shirato	Apr. 15 – Apr. 18, Apr. 19 – Apr. 21, Apr. 24 – Apr. 25, May 25 – May 26	
			Yutaka Kato	Apr. 21 – Apr. 23	
			Takehito Matsukawa	Apr. 21 – Apr. 23	
		Researcher	Yasuhiro Masuda	Apr. 25 – Apr. 28	
			Haruhiko Kohno	Apr. 15 – Apr. 18, Apr. 19 – Apr. 21	
			Fumi Miyahara	Apr. 25 – Apr. 28	
		Foundation, Tunnel and Substructures Division	Head	Toshiaki Mabuchi	Apr. 16 – Apr. 18, Jun. 14 – Jun. 15
			Senior Researcher	Shigeru Takagi	Apr. 19 – Apr. 23, May. 11 – May 12
	Hideaki Nishida			Apr. 21 – Apr. 23, May 25 – May 26	
	Minoru Abe			Apr. 21 – Apr. 23	
	Researcher		Yuki Uehara	Apr. 21 – Apr. 23, May 11 – May 12	
			Atsushi Nishifuji	Apr. 24 – Apr. 27, May 11 – May 12, May 25 – May 26	
	Pavement and Earthworks Division	Head	Kazuyuki Kubo	Apr. 21 – Apr. 23	
		Senior Researcher	Seiji Tanigawa	Apr. 16 – Apr. 18, Apr. 19 – Apr. 23	
			Tadao Enomoto	Apr. 21 – Apr. 23	
		Researcher	Yoshiki Ishihara	Jun. 1 – Jun. 2	
			Yoshiomi Funakoshi	Jun. 1 – Jun. 2	

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch	
Road Structures Department	Earthquake Disaster Management Division	Head	Shojiro Kataoka	Apr. 29 – Apr. 30
		Senior Researcher	Nobuhiro Imanaga	Apr. 25 – Apr. 28
			Yoshihiro Nakao	May 19, Jun. 6 – Jun. 7
		Researcher	Tatsufumi Kajio	Apr. 19 – Apr. 21
		Ryota Nakagawa	Apr. 29 – Apr. 30	
		Research Engineer	Yosuke Ishii	Apr. 25 – Apr. 28, Jun. 6 – Jun. 7
Building Department	Standards and Accreditation System Division	Senior Researcher	Takafumi Nakagawa	Apr. 16 – Apr. 19, Apr. 26 – Apr. 28, May 19 – May 20
			Yoshihiro Iwata	Apr. 28 – Apr. 29, Jun. 8 – Jun. 9
	Structural Standards Division	Head	Koichi Morita	Apr. 29 – Apr. 30
		Senior Researcher	Hisatoshi Kashiwa	Apr. 15 – Apr. 17, Apr. 22 – Apr. 24, May 19 – May 20
			Masashi Miyamura	Apr. 16 – Apr. 19
			Haruhiko Sawada	Apr. 28 – Apr. 29, Jun. 6 – Jun. 8
	Equipment Standards Division	Senior Researcher	Hideki Yamaguchi	Apr. 19 – Apr. 21
	Fire Standards Division	Senior Researcher	Keisuke Himoto	Apr. 26 – Apr. 28
	Evaluation System Division	Senior Researcher	Yoshio Wakiyama	Apr. 19 – Apr. 21, May 23 – May 25, Jun. 8 – Jun. 10
	Coastal, Marine and Disaster Prevention Department Coastal Disaster Prevention Division	Head	Takeshi Suzuki	Apr. 17 – Apr. 18
Senior Researcher		Ryoji Naito	Apr. 15 – Apr. 17	
Port and Harbor Department	Port Facilities Division	Senior Researcher	Masahiro Takenobu	Apr. 15 – Apr. 17
		Yusuke Fukunaga	Apr. 17 – Apr. 18	
	Airport Facilities Division	Head	Yoshitomo Tsubokawa	Apr. 16 – Apr. 17
Social Capital Management Research Center Landscape and Ecology Division		Head	Masao Kurihara	May. 16 – May 17
		Researcher	Keita Aragane	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16, May 16 – May 17
			Takashi Ikeda	Apr. 15 – Apr. 16

● Typhoon No. 10

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch	
River Department	River Division	Head	Yoshio Suwa	Sep. 1 – Sep. 3
		Researcher	Yusuke Nishimura	Sep. 1 – Sep. 3
			Shingo Sasaoka	Sep. 2
	Coast Division	Head	Fuminori Kato	Sep. 28
		Senior Researcher	Kenji Noguchi	Sep. 28
	Water Cycle Division	Researcher	Hideyuki Yamaji	Sep. 1 – Sep. 3
	Flood Disaster Prevention Division	Senior Researcher	Yoshinori Takeuchi	Sep. 1 – Sep. 3

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch	
Road Structures Department	Foundation, Tunnel and Substructures Division	Senior Researcher	Hideaki Nishida	Aug. 31 – Sep. 1
		Researcher	Atsushi Nishifuji	Aug. 31 – Sep. 1
	Pavement and Earthworks Division	Head	Kazuyuki Kubo	Sep. 3 – Sep. 4, Sep. 6 – Sep. 7
		Senior Researcher	Seiji Tanigawa	Sep. 3 – Sep. 4

● Typhoon No. 9 and No. 11

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch
Water Quality Control Department	Research Coordinator for Wastewater Restoration System	Tsutomu Uchida	Aug. 23
	Wastewater System Division	Senior Researcher Tatsuro Matsuura	Aug. 23
Road Structures Department Foundation, Tunnel and Substructures Division	Senior Researcher	Hideaki Nishida	Aug. 24 – Aug. 25
	Researcher	Atsushi Nishifuji	Aug. 24 – Aug. 25

● Typhoon No. 13

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch
Sabo Department Sabo Risk-Management Division	Senior Researcher	Jyoko Kamiyama	Sep. 9
	Researcher	Ikuo Murata	Sep. 9

● Tottori Earthquake

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch
Road Structures Department Pavement and Earthworks Division	Head	Kazuyuki Kubo	Oct. 23
	Senior Researcher	Seiji Tanigawa	Oct. 23

● Collapse of road in Hakata-ward, Fukuoka-city

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch
Road Structures Department Foundation, Tunnel and Substructures Division	Head	Toshiaki Mabuchi	Nov. 13 – Nov. 14

● Fire in Itoigawa city

Department, center, division and title		Name	Period of dispatch
Building Department	Fire Standards Division	Senior Researcher Keisuke Himoto	Dec. 25 – Dec. 26
		Tensei Mizukami	Dec. 25
Urban Planning Department	Urban Disaster Mitigation Division	Head Shuichi Takeya	Dec. 25

- * Only the emergency responses immediately after disaster are described, and other activities, such as technical assistance related to emergency and full recoveries, which were subsequently and continuously conducted, are omitted.
- * In the field of dispatched personnel, only the names of the relevant personnel of NILIM are described. (The department and titles are on the date of dispatch.)