

# Dispatch of Experts to Earthquake with Epicenter in Southeastern Turkey

(Research period: FY 2022)

Evaluation System Division   Urban Facilities Division   Bridge and Structures Division  
International Coordination Division

Head  
(Ph.D. in Eng.) MUKAI Tomohisa

Head SHINGAI Hiroyasu

Head (Ph.D. in  
Eng.)

SHIRATO Masahiro

Head  
OSHIRO Nodoka

(Keywords) Republic of Türkiye (Turkey), earthquake, Japan Disaster Relief Team, disaster survey

## 1. Overview of Expert Dispatch

A large with its epicenter in southeastern Turkey occurred on February 6, 2023. Based on a request from the government of the Republic of Türkiye (Turkey) to the government of Japan, NILIM dispatched 3 of its researchers (in the fields of building planning and structures, urban planning, and civil engineering structures) to the site from March 6 to March 16 as members of an expert team of a Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)<sup>1)</sup>.

## 2. Activities at the Site

At the site, the NILIM researchers conducted field surveys in connection with the building planning and structure field and urban planning field in Hatay, Antakya, Gölbaşı, Kahramanmaraş, etc., where the effects of the earthquake were comparatively large, and exchanged views, etc. with knowledgeable persons on future recovery and reconstruction efforts in Istanbul and Ankara based on the survey results.

In the field of civil structures, after consultation with the Turkish General Directorate of Highways, (KGM) in Ankara, NILIM's representative surveyed the condition of damage of bridges and other structures in Gaziantep, Nurdağı and Malatya.

## 3. Activities after Dispatch

After completing their assigned missions, the three NILIM team members, together with other members of the Japan Disaster Relief Team, reported to Minister Saito of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism on March 24 after returning to Japan (**Photo-2**).<sup>2)</sup>

Subsequently, on April 20, NILIM and the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) jointly held a lecture meeting, featuring lectures by Dr. Shirato, Head of the Bridge and Structures Division at NILIM, and Chief Researcher Atsushi Kajiyama of the Geology and Geotechnical Research Group at the PWRI, a team member who was dispatched from the PWRI. In November, NILIM released a report containing examples of damage of the surveyed roads and bridges<sup>3)</sup>, and in a Turkish television station<sup>4)</sup> program broadcast in January

2024, Dr. Mukai of the NILIM Evaluation System Division Head was interviewed, and introduced Japan's seismic standards for buildings, seismic countermeasures and experimental facilities.

For more information:

- 1) MLIT press release (March 3, 2023)  
<https://www.nilim.go.jp/lab/bcg/kisya/journal/kisya20230303.pdf>
- 2) MLIT press release (March 27, 2023)  
[https://www.mlit.go.jp/report/press/sogo07\\_hh\\_000670.html](https://www.mlit.go.jp/report/press/sogo07_hh_000670.html)
- 3) TECHNICAL NOTE of the National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management  
<https://www.nilim.go.jp/lab/bcg/siryuu/tnn/tnn1260.htm>
- 4) "How Did Japan Succeed? No. 3 | NTV  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-8Yp0N5YpQ>



Photo-1 Technical recommendations by the expert on buildings

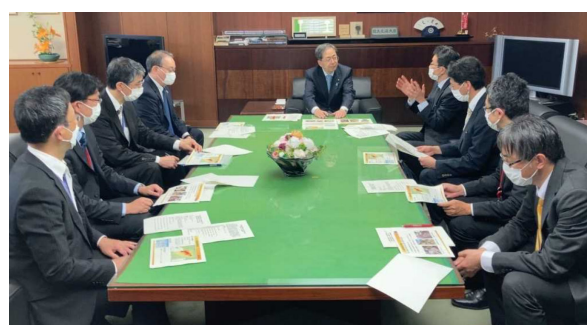


Photo-2 Debriefing report to Minister Saito of MLIT on returning to Japan