

**A Study on the Relationship between Local Residents and
Childcare Facilities from the Perspective of Utilizing
Evacuation Shelters for Childcare Facilities
in the Event of a Large-scale Disaster**

Ch. Risa Fujii

(Assistant Prof., Dep. of Architecture, Faculty of School of Science
and Technology for Future Life, Tokyo Denki University)

[SYNOPSIS]

In recent years, large-scale disasters have occurred continuously in Japan. However, life in evacuation shelters has been cited as the main cause of disaster-related deaths since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995, and many problems have been pointed out, especially the lack of consideration for people requiring special attention. On the other hand, there are cases where children's facilities were used as evacuation shelters, and it has been reported that children's facilities were a comfortable environment for families with infants, the elderly, and people with disabilities. The purpose of this study is to consider the possibility of shelter use of children facilities in the event of a disaster. The subject of the survey is a children's facility in the 23 wards of Tokyo, which is a densely populated area and has an area of zero meters above sea level.

As a result of the survey, it was found that many facilities are supposed to deal with disasters such as earthquakes, fires, and floods as disaster countermeasures for children's facilities, which leads to stockpiling and regional cooperation in the event of a disaster. However, the number of children's facilities designated as evacuation centers is small, only about 10% of the total. On the other hand, more than 60% of the facilities answered that they could provide support to the community in the event of a disaster if the children's facilities were not damaged. It was found that the characteristics of these facilities are that they are stockpiled, that they accept infants, and that regional exchanges are taking place. Furthermore, it became clear that the background of this situation is disaster countermeasure support from local governments, governments, and the national government.

This study revealed that children's facilities can be used as evacuation shelters for people requiring special attention. However, disaster countermeasure support from local governments for children's facilities is essential. As the future development of this research, it is necessary to investigate the existence of disaster countermeasure support for children's facilities in each local government and its detailed contents.