

# **TOWARDS HOLISTIC RECOVERY: LESSONS FROM PAST DISASTERS IN JAPAN**

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## **Abstract**

In this presentation, I would like to share lessons about recovery processes from disaster which we learned from many disasters occurred in Japan and the world. Recovery is not just restoring what it was before the disaster. Recovery should be regarded as a great chance for realizing a better and sustainable way of life or the new ideal for the community and society. Recovery planning is the key for taking concerted actions to realize the new ideal among all stakeholders. These points will be articulated using the recovery process from the 1995 Kobe earthquake and that from the 2004 Niigataken Chuetsu Earthquake as examples.