

## **Long-term Consequences of Resettlement for Dam Construction Project in Japan - Case for New Village Building**

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Constructing dams has been and is one of measure approaches in water resources development in developing countries. It often involves number of households to be resettled involuntarily and is nowadays being faced with severe criticism in spite of various efforts by the concerned governments and donor agencies. In Japan, as a developed country, there were many cases of dam construction with involuntary resettlement, though the number of families affected in one project was fairly smaller than that in developing countries. Especially, in 1950s and '60s, as Japan experienced hyper economic growth, involuntary resettlement with dam construction became social issue.

In this study, involuntary resettlement of Ikawa Dam in Shizuoka Prefecture is examined as a unique case, which may provide useful lessons in the same practice in developing countries. Ikawa Dam, completed in 1957 along the Ohi River, was constructed for the purpose of hydro power generation by Chubu Electric Power Company. It caused involuntary resettlement of 193 households among 550 households in Ikawa village. The approach of compensation taken in this resettlement was "New Village Building" as to reconstruct resettlers' livelihood. As a relatively early development project in post-war Japan, Ikawa Dam Project adopted unique approach for resettlement and compensation instead of monetary compensation which was universally introduced under the common guideline established later in 1960s.

In planning and implementing the resettlement scheme, the role played by Shizuoka Prefecture government, illustrated in stationing agricultural expert more than a year in the newly constructed village for the safer transition period, was considered to be important. Also, villagers' participation in preparing resettlement scheme and effort thereafter seemed to be an important aspect. Reviewing these experiences of Ikawa Dam Project, namely the plan and implementation of the resettlement scheme, current livelihood of resettlers, and long-term consequences of resettlement, will give us valuable insights applicable to the current resettlement practice in developing countries.

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