

# **Challenges of Returning to Kawauchi Village**

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This paper describes the evacuation of residents of Kawauchi village just after the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident, and the challenges conducted for their returning to the village after the evacuation.

Kawauchi village is situated in 10 - 30 km radius from the NPP site. All residents have been evacuated outside of the village in 16th March 2011. In January 2012, the declaration of return to Kawauchi village has been done according to the decrease of the radiation level. In April 2012, the village government office resumed normal services for schools and other public facilities.

This paper introduces the influences of the accidents of the nuclear power plants to the residents, three keywords and specific policies for returning to Kawauchi village, reasons that residents do not return to the village and, decontamination works and the results of living environment. Three keywords for returning to Kawauchi village are as follows; Choice (respect each resident's choice), self-support (encourage the residents to restart their life on their own feet) and, reliability (build a good relationship between governments and the residents).