

2025/SOM3/EPWG/SDMOF/003

Agenda Item: S2.1.2

Applications of Identified Emerging Risk to Disaster Managements

Purpose: Information Submitted by: Korea



18th Senior Disaster Management Officials' Forum Incheon, Korea 31 July 2025



Applications of Identified Emerging Risk to Disaster Managements

Kyoungjun KIM (National Disaster Management Research Institute)



- 1. Progress Update
- 2. Emerging Risks identified in Korea
- 3. Applications to Disaster and Safety Management

Progress Update (so far)



- ♦ Announced the Reform Plan for National Safety System (27 of Jan.. 2023)
- ♦ Established the dedicated organization (20 of Feb., 2023)
- Organized the Emerging Risk Assessment Committee (14 of Mar., 2023)
- ♦ Held the kick-off meeting (21 of Mar., 2023)
- ♦ Held the committee 9 times (29 items identified → 18 reviewed & evaluated → 15 selected)
 (2023) 5.22., 6.20., 8.17., 11.21., (2024) 4.30., 8.27., 11.1., 11.25., (2025) 5.21.







Emerging Risks identified in Korea – Overview

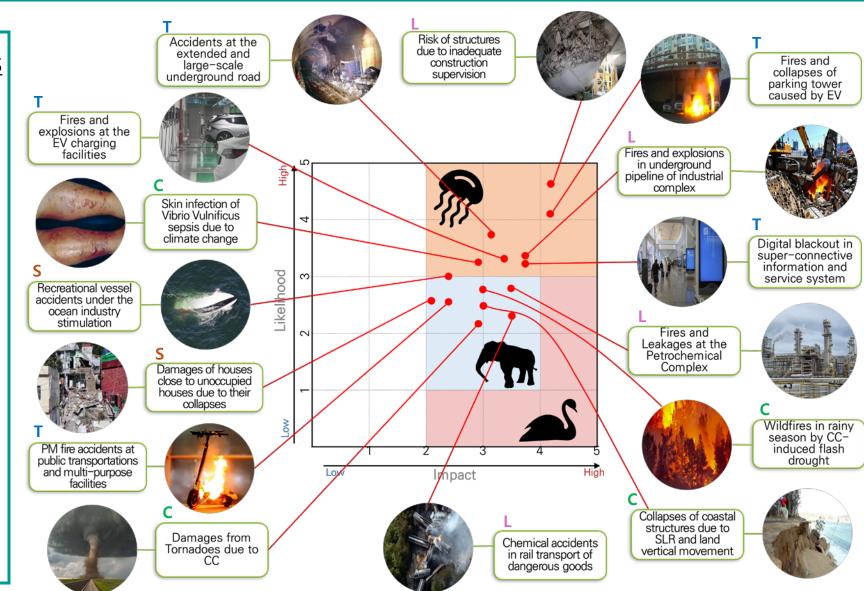


15 Emerging Risks w.r.t. Drivers

- Technical Advances: 5 items* EV, PM, DT, undergroundDevelopments ...
- Climate Change: 4 items
 * tornadoes, vibrio., flash drought, SLR ...
- Social Change: 2 items* unoccupied houses, ocean industry stimulation ...
- Latent Issues: 4 items

 (e.g. aging infra., problematic custom...)

 * aging chemical complex
- * aging chemical complex, inadequate construction supervision ...



Recreational Vessel



Recreational vessel's safety management

- Growth of the marine industry for leisure

- Change in industry related to maritime leisure
- -Enactment of Marine Leisure Tourism Promotion Act (2025)
- -Pan-governmental plan to promote maritime leisure (2019)
- -National plan for developing marinas (2010)
- Problems (management maturity)
 - * Relevant agencies: MOF, KCG, MOIS
- -Difficulty in tracking vessel's location during an accident
- \times #Distress incidents (Korea): ('15) 1,411 \rightarrow ('21) 2,581
- * w/o AIS, excluded from vessel traffic service (V-Pass) and notification of port entry and departure
- Poor safety education for crews and tourists
- ♦ Recommendations
- -Mandatory installation of AIS & V-Pass (MOF) and safety education for crews and tourists (KCG)



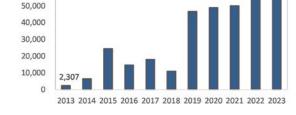


(Yacht)

80,000

70,000

60,000



[# annual yachting tourists in Korea] [National Plan for developing marinas]









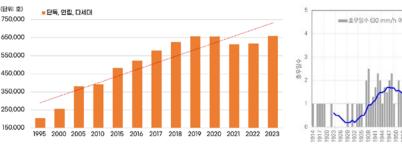
[Institutional Improvement Strategy for Leisure Boat Accident Prevention]

Unoccupied Houses



Unoccupied houses at the steep slope

- ♦ Population hollowing
- -Depopulation of old downtown at steep slope
- Mountainous area in Korea: 65% of the national territory
- -Growing vacant houses by 4.3% per year
- Problems (management maturity)
 - * Relevant agencies: MOLIT, MOIS, MOEF
- -Survey on vacant homes NOT considering the impact on neighboring properties
- -Unresolved liability issues when causing damage to neighboring properties
- -Difficulty in voluntarily demolishing vacant homes * Increased land taxes after demolition
- ♦ Recommendations
- -Enhancing the regular survey system for assessing the impact on neighboring properties (MOLIT)
- -Introduction of disaster liability insurance for vacant homes-related accidents (MOIS)
- -Tax system reform (MOEF, MOIS)
- X Vacant home tax, capital gains tax reduction, ...



【 #unoccupied Houses in Korea 】

【 #days of heavy rainfall in Korea 】



【 Collapse Accident (Oct. of 2024) 】



[Field Investigation (Oct. of 2024)]



Ultra-long Underground Road



Ultra-long and deep underground road

- ♦ Growing # underground road in Korea
 -#constructions (Korea): ('21) 890 → ('24) 938
 -#accidents (Korea): ('14) 257 → ('23) 2,651
- More long and deep underground road
 No exits except at both ends
 Seobu urban expressway: 9.4km (along the river)

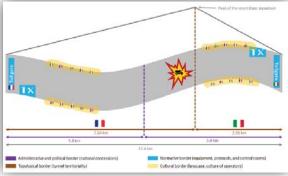
 - -Boryeong undersea Tunnel: 6.9km
- Problems (management maturity)
 * Relevant agencies: MOLIT, NFA, MOIS
 -Confusion over fire station jurisdiction for rescue operations
 -No restriction for the transport of hazardous materials
 -Lack of specialized training for firefighting and rescue
- ♦ Recommendations
- -Adjustment of jurisdictional boundaries for more effective firefighting and rescue (NFA)
 -Enactment on restriction for the transport (MOLIT)

 * hazardous materials

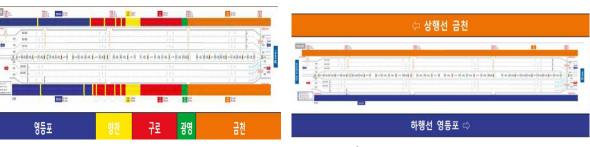
- -Regular training considering various risk factors (NFA)
- **X** EV fires, Inundations, ...







The Mont Blanc Tunnel Fire (1999)



[Fire station jurisdiction of Seobu expressway (L: current, R: recommended]





- National promotion of 'Digital Transformation' (National DT Strategy, Sep. of 2022)
 -Promotion of hyper-connectivity of information and
- service between public and private sectors
- X Cloud-based hospital and education information system...
- -Damage nationwide and worldwide
- ※ Fire-accident at the data center in Korea (Oct. of 2022)
- → 'Kakao talk' service outage (most widely used in Korea)
- MS's cloud service outage (Jul. of 2024)
- → Disruption of aviation, finance, healthcare service, and more
- Problems (management maturity)
 * Relevant agencies: MSIT, MOIS
 -Unpreparedness of protective measures against additional treats (e.g. C.C-induced inundations)
 - -Inadequate drills to respond to the Digital Blackout
- ♦ Recommendations
- -Systematic accident investigations and their information (statistics) collection (MSIT, MOIS) -Improvement of drills (MSIT, MOIS) ** Nationwide disaster exercises 'Ready Korea'



Korea Railway Company Local Offices of Education Water Supply Company Korea Education and Research Information Service Ministry of Economy **National Universities** A Cloud The Bank of Korea Service Korea Disease Control · Major Banks and Prevention Agency Korea Health Information Service National Election Commission Major General Hospitals Korea Communications Agency Major Broadcasting Stations

[Example of Linkages of Public and Private Digital Service and Information]



Fire and collapse accidents due to EVs

- ♦ Electronic Vehicles (EVs)
- -Battery (fire): Lithium ion Battery 'Thermal Runaway'
- -Weight (collapse): Heavier than general cars
- ♦ Changes in environments
- -Mandatory installation of charging station including in underground spaces (Eco-friendly energy promotion)
- * Difficulty of fire suppression in confined underground areas
- -Growing number of parking towers in the city center
- Problems (management maturity)* Relevant agencies: ME, MOTIE, MOLIT, NFA

 - -Absence of EV-specific fire suppression technique
 - -No regulation of exclusive EV charging zone
 - -Inadequate building code for EVs' weight
- -Lax restrictions on EVs using the parking tower
- ♦ Recommendations
 - -Enactment of regulation on exclusive EV charging zone (NFA)
 - -Introducing the battery registration and pre-certification (MOTIE)
 - -Revision of building code for parking tower (MOLIT)







【 EV Fire accidents in Incheon, Apr. of 2025



[Layout of underground parking lot]

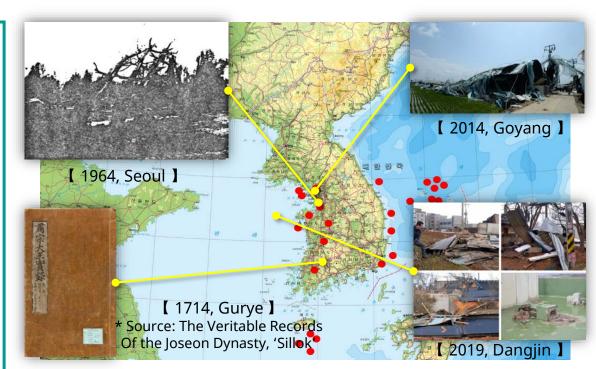
General cars		EVs	
Model	Weight	Model	Weight
현대 디 올 뉴 코나	1,360~1,495kg	현대 디 올 뉴 코나 Electric	1,630~1,740kg
제네시스 G80	1,785~1,965kg	제네시스 Electrified G80	2,265kg
BMW 520i	1,670kg	BMW i5	2,205kg
현대 포터2	1,740~1,770kg	현대 포터2 일렉트릭	1,930kg
지프 그랜드 체로키	2,130~2,190kg	지프 그랜드 체로키 4xe	2,475~2,555kg
GMC 허머 H3	2,087~2,223kg	GMC 하머 EV	4,103~4,282kg

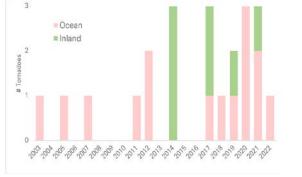
Emerging Risks identified in Korea – Tornadoes

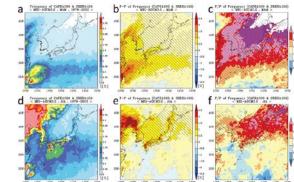


Tornadoes due to C.C.

- One of the Common Myths "Tornadoes do NOT occur in mountainous area"
- ♦ Climate Change
 drives the atmosphere more unstable
 → Tornado favorable condition
- Problems (management maturity)* Relevant agencies: MOIS, MOLIT, KMA
- -Limited understanding of tornado-related risks
- -No systematic data collection and management
- -Lack of comprehensive system to respond tornado threats
- ♦ Recommendations
 - -Revision of response guideline (MOIS)
 - -Development of tornado monitoring and investigation system (KMA)
 - -Public relation on risk and action protocol against tornado (MOIS)
 - -Review and revision of the building codes (MOLIT)







【 Trend of #Tornadoes in Korea 】

Applications to Disaster & Safety Management



National Comprehensive Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Comprehensive Plan for National Safety Management (every five years)
- Executive Plans for National Safety Management (every year)
 - →Line ministries, local governments, relevant institutes of private sector should involve the measures against the emerging risks identified by NDMI in their annual executive plans based on the guideline.



Revisions of Laws and Regulations

- About 150 recommendations on laws and regulations, response protocols (manuals) and so on
- EV fire protection facilities (National Fire Agency), Safety Codes of EV Charging Facility (Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy)

Applications to Disaster & Safety Management



Public Relations

- Press release on the publications of the National Emerging Risk Report
- Media coverages of about 230 articles

Exercises and Trainings

- Nationwide 'Ready Korea', 'Safe Korea' exercises

Research and Development (R&Ds)

- MOLIT(Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport) : Design code for parking tower
- KMA(Korea Meteorological Administration) : Monitoring system of tornadoes







Thank you for your Attention

Kyoungjun KIM

Leader of Emerging Risk Assessment Team
/ Ph.D. / Senior Research Officer
Center for Risk Identification and Assessment (CRIA)
National Disaster Management Research Institute (NDMI)
* E-mail: kjkim96@korea.kr