Emergency preparedness actions taken in participatory programs for improving local government workplaces in Northern Japan were analyzed. During 2014-2018, over 30% of 348 improvements were about communication measures, of which emergency preparedness actions accounted for 1/5. These actions tended to be undertaken together with other communication-related measures. Group work procedures using an ergonomics checklist facilitated these results.

About 2/3 of improvements were about work methods and environment, and 1/3 better communication. As shown in Table 1, preparedness accounted for up to 5% each year. Table 2 and Fig. 2 present measures for communication often done. Plans for emergency actions and for training were typical for urgency preparedness.

The results confirm that emergency preparedness is facilitated by local participatory steps. It is therefore recommended to use participatory work improvement for upgrading emergency plans in varied sectors.

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