

## Section 3: Support for Crime Victims by Local Governments

Besides state's Basic Plan and approaches by relevant ministries and agencies based on the Plan, many local governments have been addressing implementation of comprehensive policies by establishing ordinances, plans and/or guidelines.

This section describes the situations of ordinances and basic plans and the introductions of consolation payment system and housing offer systems for crime victims.

### 1. Establishment of Ordinance on Crime Victim measures

As of April 1, 2013, 31 prefectures and/or ordinance-designated cities and 332 municipalities have enacted ordinances, and 35 prefectures and/or ordinance-designated cities and 24 municipalities have established plans and/or guidelines on crime victim measures. All municipalities and the Prefecture of Okayama and Akita have put ordinances for crime victim supports into operation by April 2012 and on April 1, 2013 respectively.

#### Establishment of Ordinance and plans/guidelines (as of April 1, 2013)

Contents of policies  Local governments (number of enactments and establishments/total)	Basic Principles	Responsibilities of local governments	Responsibilities of citizens (in municipalities)	Cooperation (including system improvement)	Basic measures									
					Consultation and Provision of information	Damage recovery and financial aid	Assistance for daily life	Securing safety	Stabilizing the residence	Stabilizing the employment	Fostering understanding among citizens	Research, studies and human resources development	Support for private entities	
Prefectures (39/47)	25	23	17	36	35	23	16	21	19	20	30	21	22	
Ordinance-designated cities (9/20)	8	8	6	9	9	3	4	1	6	5	7	3	6	
Municipalities (349/1722)	145	199	151	289	204	83	81	84	52	67	92	43	68	

### 2. Consolation Payment System

Despite the financial support by the Crime Victim Benefit System, the need to reduce victim's financial burden until the payment of the Benefit has been pointed out. Also the assistance from the local community in the form of solatium or emergency loan is expected to console victims' psychological damages.

As of April 2013, two ordinance-designated cities and 84 municipalities have adopted a solatium system, and two prefectures and seven municipalities have adopted a loan system. 12 local governments have newly started these systems from the last fiscal year.

The solatium seems to be easily applied by victims because the money need not be repaid. As of April 1, 2013, among 86 systems around the country, actual payments were for 92 cases.

With regards to the nine loan systems around the country, there were only eight applications, and of them, five cases were in Kanagawa Prefecture.

#### Solatium payment and loans

Name of local government	Amount of solatium	Amount of loan
Yamagata Pref.	-	1 case/ ¥300,000
Kanagawa Pref.	-	5 cases/ ¥2,485,615
Kyoto City	8 cases/ ¥2,400,000	-
Noshiro City, Akita Pref.	1 case/ ¥300,000	-
Yokote City, Akita Pref.	1 case/ ¥300,000	-
Odate City, Akita Pref.	1 case/ ¥100,000	-
Suginami City, Tokyo	-	1 case/ ¥100,000
Hadano City, Kanagawa Pref.	1 case/ ¥100,000	-
Echizen City, Fukui Pref.	1 case/ ¥100,000	-
Inuyama City, Aichi Pref.	16 cases/ ¥2,080,000	-
Nirasaki City, Yamanashi Pref.	1 case/ ¥100,000	-
Otsu City, Shiga Pref.	6 cases/ ¥1,000,000	-
Hikone City, Shiga Pref.	3 cases/ ¥300,000	-
Nagahama City,	4 cases/ ¥1,200,000	-

Shiga Pref.			
Kusatsu City, Shiga Pref.	3 cases/	¥500,000	-
Fukuchiyama City, Kyoto Pref.	1 case/	¥100,000	-
Maizuru City, Kyoto Pref.	1 case/	¥100,000	-
Uji City, Kyoto Pref.	3 cases/	¥300,000	-
Joyo City, Kyoto Pref.	2 cases/	¥200,000	-
Kyotango City, Kyoto Pref.	1 case/	¥100,000	-
Matsubara City, Osaka Pref.	22 cases/	¥1,100,000	-
Takarazuka City, Hyogo Pref.	3 cases/	¥300,000	-
Tatsuno City, Hyogo Pref.	2 cases/	¥400,000	-
Akashi City, Hyogo Pref.	4 cases/	¥400,000	1 case/ ¥500,000
Himeji City, Hyogo Pref.	6 cases/	¥800,000	-
Soja City,, Okayama Pref.	1 case/	¥100,000	-
Total	92 cases	¥12,380,000	8 cases ¥3,385,615

### 3. Securing Residence

Crime victims often need to move their residence for various reasons deriving from the victimization, for example, the residence became the crime scene thus physically unfit or unbearably painful to live in. For those victims to regain their peaceful lives, it is essential for them to be able to secure new stable residence. In this respect, some of the local governments have been implementing certain measures for better access for victims to the public housing. As of April 1, 2013, the number of prefectures or ordinance-designated cities with some measures for favorable treatment for crime victims with regards to public housings is 50 and the number of respective municipalities is 128. Those measures includes; preferential treatment (application of preferential success rate of the lottery or offer of the housing without competition)

provided that the victims' income and other conditions meet public housing requirements , relaxing public housing requirements, allowing temporary use even if the victim does not meet the housing requirement or combination of above measures.

#### Measures taken for victims to qualify for public housings

(Systems/total)	Without competition	Relaxation of conditions	Preferential lottery rate	Others
Prefectures (39/47)	9	7	26	12
Ordinance-designated cities (11/20)	4	3	6	4
Municipalities (128/1,722)	39	40	37	40

Further actions are explored to meet victims' needs as much as possible, for instance, to inquire neighboring municipalities or prefectural government for their vacancy or to connect victims to commercial rental housing with cooperation of the local real estate agencies. In some cases, local governments have established unique system to support victims, for example to make advance arrangements with local real estate agencies to introduce certain apartment free of intermediate fee (Kanagawa Pref.) or to subsidize a part of the rent (Settsu City in Osaka Pref., and Akashi City, Miki City, Shinoyama City in Hyogo Pref.).