



Pathways of Housing Recovery after the 2016 Meinong and 2022 Chishang Earthquakes

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After a major earthquake, extensive damage to housing causes disturbances to households and society. By understanding the process of housing recovery, we can better evaluate recovery assistance policies and address potential recovery issues before disasters, thus promoting the planning and preparedness for housing recovery.

This study focuses on the 2016 Meinong Earthquake and the 2022 Chishang Earthquake in Taiwan, which recently caused notable damage to housing. It investigates households whose houses were red or yellow labeled. By employing a survey method, this study examines the process and circumstances of their housing recovery and explores the different pathways of housing recovery following these two moderate earthquakes.

After the disaster, the main pathways of housing recovery include home repairs, reconstruction on the original site, purchasing new homes, or leasing a house elsewhere. Among the cases investigated in this study, repairs were the most common, followed by reconstruction on the original site. On average, repairs and purchasing new homes elsewhere took 13 months, while reconstruction on the original site took an average of 52 months. Within two years after the disaster, over 50% of households had finished housing recovery; within seven years, the completion rate reached 90%.