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Urban Community-Based Adaptation in Taipei

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Recently, the extreme weather events caused by climate change have increased, putting people at greater risk of disasters. In response to the possible impact of extreme weather events, cities must establish strategies and mechanisms to reduce the climate risk of disasters according to the environment of local geography, the nature of local disaster and the conditions of local society. In recent years, therefore, urban community-based adaptation (urban CBA) has been received attention widely. CBA, a bottom-up and citizen-based approach of governance, emphasizes how to take actions that suit local contexts through the local inhabitants. In Taiwan, the residents of metropolis account for over 80% of all population, and Taipei metropolitan area accommodates about 30%. Moreover, according to the report of Lloyd's City Risk Index 2015-2025, Taipei is the most vulnerable city in the world. As Taipei is a highly populated and vulnerable city, it is worthy and urgent to figure out the way of facing this huge challenge. Consequently, this research explores how to carry on urban CBA under the contexts of Taiwan's natural environment and social situation; moreover, the way of connecting the power of grassroots with the government to become partners is concerned. This study uses the six steps of decision making support tool of Taiwan Integrated Research Programme on Climate Change Adaptation Technology (TaiCCAT) as a systematic framework of climate adaptation, and CBA as its central concept. The research methods consist of data collection, participant observation and key person interview. Besides, public participation geographic information systems (PPGIS) is used to strengthen the first and fourth steps in the six steps of TaiCCAT. Finally, a community version of decision making support tool and the network of actors of adaptation will be made as a guideline for those who want to embark on adaptation in urban community, and to equip them with the ability to collaborate with local government.