Performance and Evaluation of Earthquake Early Warning in Japan

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Abstract

Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) commenced a nation wide Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) service first in the world. EEWs are clearly defined as forecast or warning of strong ground motions caused by an earthquake in the Meteorological Service Law which legislate all of JMA's mandate of services for weather, climate, and oceanographic phenomena as well as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic phenomena. JMA provides EEWs for advance users in August 2006 as "Forecast" and for the public in October 2007 as "Warning" after the testing stage since February 2004 which demonstrated effectiveness of EEWs. JMA issued EEWs for advance users for more than 1600 earthquakes, and for the public for nine earthquakes by the end of 2008. In this presentation, the operation and performance of EEW services in Japan are described.