IWATE
Moving toward Reconstruction

A record of the reconstruction from March 2011 to March 2017 after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

July 2017

Kitakami
The 15th National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities “The Land of Hope, Iwate” Opening Ceremony
(October 2016)
The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami struck the coast of Iwate on March 11, 2011, and claimed the lives of 5,135 people, both directly and indirectly. We offer our prayers for those who were lost. Even now, 1,122 people are still missing, and we wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to their families.

As we work on reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, we honor the victims and the love that they had for their communities. We also strive to protect the lives, education, and livelihood of the disaster survivors and ensure their right to the pursuit of happiness. These basic principles form the basis of our mission to protect lives, live in harmony with the land and sea, and create a homeland in Iwate and Sanriku. In this way, the prefectural government has been working at an unprecedented scale to rebuild as quickly as possible.

Looking back, we progressed through the first phase of the reconstruction (from 2011 until 2013) while being supported by people both in Iwate and beyond. Our primary focus for this foundational period was to prioritize the emergency restoration efforts that would serve as the very first step to recovery. During phase 2, the full-fledged reconstruction period (from 2014 until 2016), we proceeded with community development in concurrence with the reconstruction, brought stability to the lives of survivors, rebuilt homes, and restored industries in hopes of creating sustainable communities for the future.

A shining example of that was the "Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival and the "Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities. These events, held in 2016, were a bridge to reconstruction, with the slogan, “Spreading the joy, Giving thanks.” These events were a rousing success and gave us the opportunity to show the strength of our local communities as well as celebrate the new relationships forged in the embers of the disaster.

We will use the strength we have gained from these relationships to bring a strong finish to the reconstruction, and to develop the region into the future past the reconstruction. We will march strongly forward to rebuild a Sanriku that shines even brighter than before. We humbly request your continued understanding and support going forward.

I hope that this publication will help people learn about the reconstruction in Iwate, and that people in Japan and throughout the world use this information to help respond to various natural disasters and advanced reconstruction work wherever it is needed.
The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
(Data provided by the Iwate Disaster Countermeasures Headquarters)

- Name: Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
- Date and time of occurrence: March 11, 2011 (Fri) 2:46pm
- Epicenter depth and magnitude: 24km, magnitude 9.0 (moment magnitude)
- Name: Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (March 11, 2011 (Fri) 2:46pm)
- Ofunato: 3/11 3:18 p.m.: over 8 meters

Casualties and Damage in Iwate
Highest tsunami height - number of deaths and people missing - number of buildings destroyed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Highest tsunami height (m)</th>
<th>Number of buildings destroyed</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
<th>Number of people missing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ofunato City</td>
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<td>Fujisawa Town</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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The Reconstruction Plan for the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in Iwate

In order to overcome the disaster and work on strong recovery efforts in Iwate, the Reconstruction Plan was drawn up on August 11, 2011, as a blueprint for the future of the area.

With this plan, we will create a safe, comfortable place to live where we will strive to never again lose lives to a tsunami.

Contact: Reconstruction Promotion Division, Reconstruction Bureau Phone: 019-629-6945
The largest coastal levee in Iwate (12.5 meters high and 2,000 meters long) primarily finished in Rikuzentakata, a city which suffered enormous damage as a result of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. Construction began in March 2013, and the Kesen River water gate that borders the coast and a connecting coastal levee are planned to be completed by 2019. This coastal levee was built to withstand the large tsunami that occur once every few decades or centuries.

Restoring and developing coastal protection facilities planned completed: 134

Extensions to reconstruction roads planned extension: 359km

Ensuring safety
Processing disaster waste estimated 5,263 million tons of disaster waste

Rebuilding lives
People living in temporary housing (including subsidized housing)
Peak period: October 2011 43,734 people

Medical facilities (coastal area)
240 facilities before the disaster (March 2011)

Public housing for disaster survivors
Planned units: 5,673

Restoration of public school facilities (coastal area)
Schools affected by the disaster: 86 schools

Support systems for rebuilding the lives of the survivors
Initial monetary support payments: 23,121

Restoration of public cultural facilities and gymnasiums
Facilities planned: 68 facilities

Processing disaster waste
Waste processed: 6.184 million tons

Waste disposed of: 2.11 million tons

Restoring and developing coastal protection facilities
Number of locations: 138

Under construction: 61%

Lots allocated for housing
Planned number of housing lots: 7,809

Catch levels at local fish markets
Three-year average prior to the disaster (2008-2010): 43,734 tons

Additional support payments: 12,057

Support systems for rebuilding the lives of the survivors
Initial monetary support payments only: 46%

Catch levels of farm-raised fish and other marine life
Three-year average prior to the disaster (2008-2010): 47,767 tons

Completed: 482ha

Disaster-affected workplaces that have restarted operations (estimate)
Workplaces: 2,490

Disaster-affected workplaces that have not yet resumed work: 515

Workplaces that have partially or resumed operations or have less sales than before the disaster: 664

Workplaces that either have not partially or resumed operations or have less sales than before the disaster: 627 workplaces

Visits to main tourist destinations
Prior to the disaster (2010): 4.703 million visits

*All progress is as of March 31, 2017 unless otherwise stated.

*14 major tourist destinations in Iwate were surveyed.
Many aid groups from other countries came to assist in the disaster-affected areas. In Iwate, many people (and dogs) from aid groups in the United States, the United Kingdom, and China came to engage in relief activities in Ofunato and Kamaishi. On top of that, the United States military mobilized immediately following the disaster to help out. They called it “Operation TOMODACHI,” using the word for “friend” in Japanese. At its peak, there were 24,500 people, 24 ships, and 189 airplanes and helicopters providing support in the disaster-affected areas.

Supporting the restoration of the Sanriku Railway

All lines reopened with the support of Kuwait

In 2011, the government of Kuwait donated 5 million barrels of crude oil to support the reconstruction of the affected areas in the wake of the disaster. It resulted in 8.4 billion yen of aid money coming to Iwate through the Japanese Red Cross. In Iwate, this aid money was used to fund new cars and station buildings for the Sanriku Railway to reopen all lines in the disaster-affected areas by April of 2014. The Sanriku Railway plays an important role as basic transportation in the coastal area of Iwate, and also forms a foundation for tourism and local development.

Supporting the improvement of welfare and daily life on the coast

Support from the Singapore Red Cross funded the Taro Support Center in Miyako City, where elderly residents of temporary housing receive care and health checkups. Support is also expected to invigorate the local community in Rikuzentakata City, where they are developing a community hall.

Supporting children in the disaster-affected area

For their hopes, dreams, and future

Tsunami-devastated daycare centers and kindergartens in Yamada Town and Otuschi Town were able to rebuild thanks to funds provided by the Taiwanese Red Cross and the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, which Iwate has maintained friendly ties with since 1999.

Preparing public facilities

Supporting the improvement of welfare and daily life on the coast

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Support through Sports

Using the power of sports for the reconstruction

Since Kamaishi was designated as one of the venues for the 2019 Rugby World Cup in February 2015, rugby players from the former World Cup champion New Zealand team visited Kamaishi and engaged with children and local residents in the area affected by the disaster, supporting the reconstruction with the power of sports.

Support through culture and art

Exchange with the Louvre

In 2012, the Louvre Museum brought 23 art pieces in a traveling exhibition called “Message from the Louvre. Encounter” is marked the beginning of a relationship between Iwate and the Louvre. We have received continuous support for the “Art Caravan,” an exhibition which travels throughout Iwate led by museum curators in hopes to reach out to local residents.

Foreign aid groups (Ofunato City - March 2011)
Main Initiatives So Far

Disposing of waste and debris
About 6.18 million tons (14 years worth of domestic waste in Iwate) was disposed of.

The earthquake and tsunami left 6.18 million tons of waste in its wake here in Iwate. With the cooperation of local governments in Iwate and throughout Japan and the assistance of individuals and local residents, we were able to finish disposal work in March 2014.

Testing of radiation levels in the environment
Results released online

We measure radiation levels in our neighborhoods and radioactive particles in the atmosphere, rain, snow, groundwater, agriculture, forestry and fishery products. These results are published online. Since August 2013, the radiation levels for all of these areas have measured below the standards for contamination, and recently have remained at fairly low levels.

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Restoring local communities
Creating safe communities resilient against disasters

We have worked on preparing land sites for residential housing as well as moved residential districts to higher ground. These projects are based on the reconstruction plans of each involved municipality, and take into account the opinions of local residents.

As of the end of March 2017, construction has begun on all planned 7,809 land plots, and of those 4,169 (about 53%) have been completed. Community development in disaster affected areas will soon be in full swing.

Restoring and developing coastal protection facilities
Restoring and developing tidal walls and water gates to revitalize the community

Our first step was to immediately build temporary tidal walls in areas where the original walls were damaged and at risk of high tides. A group of specialists in tsunami, city planning, and earthquakes came together to form the “Iwate Tsunami and Disaster Management Expert Committee.” They discussed the direction of the community revitalization efforts and studied the placement and height of the tidal walls based on their scientific and technological knowledge. By October of 2011, they had divided the coastal area of Iwate into 24 sections and announced proper heights and other specifications for the tidal walls.

Additionally, in order to build coastal protection facilities as quickly as possible, we held voluntary negotiations to appropriate land, and used factory-made products to shorten construction periods and mitigate a lack of resources.

As a result, of the 134 locations that require restoration and development, 50 locations have been completed and the rest are now under construction as of March 2017.

An automated closing system for water and floodwall gates
The water and floodwall gates will automatically close when tsunami warnings are in effect

Many volunteer firefighters lost their lives trying to close water and floodwall gates during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. In order to ensure the safety of water gate operators and protect the lives and property of residents, we are installing automatic closing systems that are operated via satellite.

When the system receives a tsunami warning sent by the national government (J-Alert), it will simultaneously order all water gates and floodwall gates throughout Iwate to close, setting off an automatic safety alarm.

Partial operations began in July 2017, and about 220 water gate and floodwall gate systems will be in operation soon.

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Developing Sanriku Reconstruction Roads
Building roads at an unprecedented speed to move towards reconstruction

In order to build a disaster-resistant road network, we have built Reconstruction Roads which include north-south roads on the Sanriku coast and arterial high-standard highways that connect the inland and coastal areas. We have also built Reconstruction Support Roads, which are east-west roads that run between municipalities in coastal and inland areas, as well as Reconstruction-related Roads that provide access to disaster protection centers.

By the end of March 2017, eight sections (58.4km) of Reconstruction Roads were accessible, and development of the remaining sections is proceeding at a breathtaking speed to move towards reconstruction.

Restoring the Sanriku Railway
Under the eyes of the entire nation, the railway was completely reopened in April of 2014

The tsunami damaged 317 places on the Sanriku Railway including bridges, rails, and station buildings. All the train lines were down, but with the support of numerous companies, groups, and individuals, all lines were reopened by April 2014.

The Sanriku Railway appeared in “Ama-chan,” an NHK serial TV drama that aired during 2013, and garnered nationwide attention.

JR East is also restoring the JR Yamada Line (the 55.4km stretch between Miyako and Kamaishi). Once restoration is complete, management of the line will be transferred to the Sanriku Railway. When this takes place in 2018, the North and South sections of the Sanriku Railway will be joined together in one single 163 stretch of rail along the coast of Iwate. This will make it the longest 3rd sector railway in all of Japan.

Public housing for survivors in the Terano district of Otsuchi Town (Completed in July 2016)

A ceremony held for the first trip of a special memorial train celebrating the reopening of all routes on the South Rias Line (Shimane City, April 1, 2017)

Establishing consultation support centers for survivors and the Iwate Inland Evacuee Support Center
Various consultations to help rebuild lives

Consultation support centers for survivors were established in four areas on the coast in July 2011. They provide consultation on all of the support systems available for rebuilding lives, and help address worries about the future.

In May 2016, the Iwate Inland Evacuee Support Center was established to address the needs of survivors that live inland or outside of the prefecture.

Public housing for survivors in Matsubara, Kamaishi City (Completed in March 2017)

Supporting the development of public housing and rebuilding residences
Permanent housing for survivors

The Iwate Residence Reconstruction Plan was established in October 2011 to provide permanent housing to those who lost their homes. We are engaged in the development of public housing for survivors and supporting the reconstruction of private homes as well as providing people in rental properties.

Part of this plan is to build public housing for survivors. As of March 2017, 4,594 of a planned 5,964 units have been completed.

Job creation in the region
Supporting the reconstruction of the disaster-affected areas by providing stable employment for survivors

We will strive to stabilize the lives of survivors and rebuild the area by creating steady jobs that will strengthen the local economy and major industries. To do this, we subsidize employers up to 1,200,000 yen over a period of three years to cover the cost of hiring a survivor.
Health services in disaster-affected areas
Preventative medicine for people living long-term in temporary housing

The prefecture, local municipalities, and related organizations have united to send nursing staff to make rounds to temporary housing. They take residents’ blood pressure, and provide everything from general health checkups, consultations on daily health, and health education.

Additionally, with the cooperation of the Prefectural Dental Association and the Prefectural Association of Dental Hygienists, dentists and dental hygienists are sent out to disaster-affected areas. They provide dental exams, consultations, instruction on brushing teeth, and other services.

Mental care initiatives
Providing warm care to every survivor

The Iwate Mental Health Center

A team made up of people from Iwate and other areas engaged in a mental healthcare initiative to ease the psychological burden on survivors. Thirty teams provided 9,800 instances of mental care until March 2012.

In February 2012, the Iwate Mental Health Center was established within Iwate Medical University to continue these activities. In March, local mental health care centers were established in four locations on the coast (Kuji City, Miyako City, Kamaishi City, and Ofunato City). These centers provide individualized mental care to any survivor who needs it.

The Iwate Children’s Care Center

In June 2011, the Children’s Mental Care Center opened in Miyako to address the mental health of children stressed by their experience of the disaster. Soon after, more of these centers were opened in the Kesen area and then the Kamaishi area.

With support from the Japanese Red Cross and Kuwait, in May 2013, the Iwate Children’s Care Center opened in Yabah to continue support on a long-term basis. The center provides outpatient psychiatric treatment for children, sends staff to coastal areas, and holds training workshops for those in the community who want to help.

Medical support in disaster-affected areas
So people can live in peace and good health in their own communities

Saiseikai Rikuzentakata Clinic opened

The Saiseikai Rikuzentakata Clinic provided medical treatment as a temporary medical facility to support the area affected by the disaster. It was turned into a permanent facility, and an inauguration ceremony was held on February 19, 2017. This clinic was built within the prefecture’s program to support the reconstruction of medical facilities in the disaster-affected areas. This facility is expected to fulfill dual roles both as a medical facility and as a meeting place for residents of the area.

Rebuilding the prefectoral hospitals damaged by the tsunami

We are continuing to rebuild the prefectoral hospitals damaged in the tsunami. In May 2016, the new Otsuchi Hospital opened. In September, the new Yamada Hospital opened as well. We are now working to open the new Takata Hospital in 2017.

Reaching out to the elderly in the disaster areas
So people can live in peace and good health in their own communities

Supporting the creation of all-in-one care systems for disaster-affected areas

We provide technical advice to traveling staff who give preventative care and rehabilitation care to seniors in temporary housing who require it. We also support workshops, health consultations, and casual chats for these staff members that aim to educate on changes in care needs. In this way we are supporting the creation of an all-in-one care system within the disaster-affected municipalities.

Supporting disaster preparedness volunteers
Public-private cooperation that trains efficient disaster preparedness volunteers

Volunteer activities aren’t just a way to supplement the lack of manpower in areas affected by the disaster. They also support many survivors with well-tuned, flexible support activities.

The Iwate Disaster Preparedness Volunteer Network was set up by a public-private partnership to further promote these activities and to set up a system for smoothly accepting volunteers during emergencies. This network was based on the Guidelines for Iwate Disaster Management Volunteer Activities that were established in March 2014.

During Typhoon No. 10 in 2016, groups affiliated with this network cooperated to support the disaster volunteer center, registering more than 23,000 volunteers.

Guidelines for Iwate Disaster Management Volunteer Activity Promotion (JPN only): http://www.pref.iwate.jp/fukushi/chiiki/fukushisuishin/023266.html

Establishing the Iwate Disaster Relief Welfare Team
Making sure welfare is properly carried out in the event of a disaster for all of Iwate

In 2013, the Iwate Disaster Relief Welfare Team was established in a coordinated public-private-academic effort among the prefecture and welfare-related groups based on lessons learned from the disaster. The team handles emergency assistance during a large-scale disaster and studies the needs associated with nursing care and general welfare of the elderly and people with disabilities in emergency shelters.

During the Kumamoto Earthquake and Typhoon No. 10 in 2016, teams were dispatched to Kumamoto and Iwazumi Town where they coordinated with local support staff, took stock of what was needed at evacuation centers and how to improve the situation, and provided emergency care. They worked to provide a support system for people with special needs.

*People with special needs: elder and disabled, pregnant women, infants, those affected by illness and other people requiring special care.

Iwate Disaster Relief Welfare Team: http://www.pref.iwate.jp/fukushi/chiiki/fukushisuishin/023589.html

Health check at a meeting hall in a temporary housing building

Iwate Mental Health Center home visiting/consultation

Iwate Children’s Care Center

Saiseikai Rikuzentakata Clinic

Iwate Prefectural Hospital

Yamada Prefectural Hospital

Seniors exercising class

Disaster Preparedness Volunteer Support Network Workshop

Senior Happiness Class “Ippon-matsu Club” Disaster Prevention Class and Tea Salon

Team member training
### Lessons from the disaster – Three principles

- **To Live** - A person’s life and soul. The disaster taught us to cherish our life, soul, and bodily and mental health.
- **To Get Involved** - with people and communities. The disaster taught us the importance of relationships with others, community building, and social involvement.
- **To Get Prepared** - disaster management and safety. The disaster taught us to learn more about natural disasters, disaster management, and safety.

#### Example

**Developing the region, people, and the community with firewood**

This project used firewood in a number of events including a pizza-making class with a firewood oven, woodcutting, and a bath heated with firewood. These events served to improve survivors’ bodily health and mental spirit, restore stability due to the exchange of young and old, and contributed to the improvement of the community.

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### Support through art and culture

Making children happy through the power of art and culture

Part of the reconstruction support from abroad has included venues for exchange and opportunities to appreciate art and culture. One of those events was a performance of “Bonds of Reconstruction” by Ivry Gitlis, the oldest living active violinist.

Another project has been held at elementary and middle schools in the disaster-affected areas: “Educating Children with Art and Culture” sends out artists to perform music, puppet theater, and plays.

#### Example

**Iwate “Bonds of Reconstruction” Concert (September 16, 2016)**

A lecture and workshop called “Thinking about disaster and reconstruction from a perspective of gender-balanced reconstruction” was held in six locations for the disaster-affected region, with roundtables for young people active in disaster-affected areas. Participation in the Reconstruction, whose members are women active in various fields.

### Rebuilding and restoring schools

Improving and enhancing the educational environment

We are progressing with the reconstruction of schools damaged in the disaster. By the end of March 2017, 84 of 86 public schools damaged by the disaster have been rebuilt.

#### Example

**Akasaki Elementary School in Ofunato (Completed in March 2017)**

In 2012, a guide to restoring Iwate’s hometown beauty was produced by the prefectural government. In 2015, they published a Landscape and Lifestyle Design Guide, which is being used along with the dispatch of experts to support community planning for the reconstruction.

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### Iwate Learning Hope Fund

For the lives and education of children

The Iwate Learning Hope Fund was established in Iwate to support the living conditions and education of children from disaster-affected areas. We are accepting donations from people all over Japan and abroad.

We have already received 19,971 donations for a total of 8.8 billion yen (as of March 2017). This money is being used for scholarships for orphans, to buy textbooks for high school students, and to fund school club activities and outings. It will continue to provide support to children in disaster-affected areas for many years to come.

#### Example

**Supplementary reading material (for 1st to 3rd grade students)**

Viewing an educational DVD on disaster prevention (June 2014)

Volunteering to build flower beds at coastal areas affected by the disaster (June 2016)

Contact: Reconstruction Promotion Division, Reconstruction Bureau  Phone: 019-629-6922

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### Supporting reconstruction activities carried out by NPOs and other groups

Improving management skills in groups that support the reconstruction

NPOs use their mobility, networks, and expertise to play a major role in solving problems in supporting the reconstruction and other various fields.

Since 2013, the prefectural government has supported these NPOs by strengthening their management foundations – management of activities, survivor support, and their organizations as a whole. The government has done this through a program entitled NPO Support Initiatives for the Reconstruction. In 2016, 31 groups received subsidies to support their activities.

In order to prevent memories of the disaster from fading, a product exhibition, social gatherings, and publicity campaigns were used to facilitate real communication between the supporters who have come to love the disaster-affected area and the survivors.

### Supporting community development led by residents

Smiles and hope – new beginnings in our hometowns

In 2012, a guide to restoring Iwate’s hometown beauty was produced by the prefectural government to protect and nurture the landscape of our hometowns and create a new beautiful region. Additionally, in 2013 – 2014, a Community Planning Committee was formed with residents in order to improve the local scenery and familiar hometown feel. In 2015, they published a Landscape and Lifestyle Design Guide, which is being used along with the dispatch of experts to support community planning for the reconstruction.

Contact: Office of Youth Affairs, Gender Equality, and NPOs, Department of Environment and Residential Living  Phone: 019-629-5198

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### Encouraging the participation of young people and women

A reconstruction where each and every resident takes part

The prefectural government has established an Expert Committee on Promoting Women’s Participation in the Reconstruction, whose members are women active in various fields. They also hold roundtables for young people active in disaster-affected areas.

A lecture and workshop called “Thinking about disaster and reconstruction from a gender-balanced perspective” was held in six locations (Miyako City, Kujir City, Ofunato City, Rikuzentakata City, Kamishi City, and Otsuchi Town) and two inland areas (Ichinoseki City and Takizawa City) to accelerate the reconstruction by incorporating gender-balanced perspectives.

Contact: Reconstruction Promotion Division, Reconstruction Bureau  Phone: 019-629-6922

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### Main Initiatives So Far

- Improving and enhancing the educational environment
- Rebuilding and restoring schools
- Support through art and culture
- Support from abroad has included venues for exchange and opportunities to appreciate art and culture.
- Supporting reconstruction activities carried out by NPOs and other groups
- Supporting community development led by residents
- Encouraging the participation of young people and women
- NPOs use their mobility, networks, and expertise to play a major role in solving problems in supporting the reconstruction and other various fields.
- Since 2013, the prefectural government has supported these NPOs by strengthening their management foundations – management of activities, survivor support, and their organizations as a whole.
Restoring and supplying resources – fishing boats, shared facilities, and nurseries

Supporting the rapid resumption of fishing activities

The fishing industry was devastated by the disaster and needed to resume operations as soon as possible. Projects included the collective maintenance of fishing boats and aquaculture facilities by fisheries cooperatives, and the restoration of pickup points and workspaces. As a result of these efforts, fishing boats and aquaculture facilities have been completely restored as of March 2017. Wakame seaweed farm production is at 70%, and the abalone harvest has returned to 60 to 80% of the levels seen before the tsunami.

We continue to work to add value to the fishing industry by promoting six sector industrialization (vertical integration of primary, secondary, and tertiary industries). We will also cultivate the next generation by attracting new marine workers and training motivated fishermen in order to restore production.

Distribution networks and product processing at the local fish market

Restoring fisheries vital to the community

We need an integrated approach to restore the fishing, distribution, and processing industries. The prefecture has restored and installed freight facilities, ice production, ice storage, and refrigeration/freezer facilities to help out distribution and processing systems headed by local fish markets.

As of March 2017, all of the fish markets affected by the disaster have reopened and production levels are at 90% of pre-disaster levels. Ice production, ice storage, refrigeration, and freezing functions have also been restored to pre-disaster levels.

We will further enhance our competitiveness and restore and expand the distribution network lost in the disaster by building a comprehensive and advanced hygiene and quality control system. This will span from the port to distribution and processing in partnership with restored fish markets and processing plants.

Spreading the word about the safety and appeal of Iwate's agricultural, forest, and fishery products

Expanding and restoring the market and taking measures against harmful rumors

We need to address the damage done by the nuclear accident to the reputation of Iwate’s agricultural, forestry, and marine products, and expand the reduced market for Iwate’s products. We are promoting the safety and quality of Iwate’s agricultural, forestry, and marine products through magazine articles targeting consumers and chefs throughout the country. We’ve also shown off our products through train advertisements, professional cooking magazines, trade shows, business meetings in large cities, and field trips to local production sites.

However, there are still harmful rumors regarding the safety of agricultural, forestry, and marine products from Iwate. We are therefore engaged in restoring consumer trust as well as restoring and expanding the market for Iwate’s agricultural, forestry, and marine products.

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As of March 2017, all of the fish markets affected by the disaster have reopened and production levels are at 90% of pre-disaster levels. Ice production, ice storage, refrigeration, and freezing functions have also been restored to pre-disaster levels.

We will further enhance our competitiveness and restore and expand the distribution network lost in the disaster by building a comprehensive and advanced hygiene and quality control system. This will span from the port to distribution and processing in partnership with restored fish markets and processing plants.

Promoting tourism linked to the reconstruction

Tourism has returned to pre-disaster levels

The Iwate Destination Campaign (DC) was held to promote Iwate as a tourist destination and was in effect from April to June 2012 to bring more tourists by advertising Iwate through a partnership with JR (Japan Railways). The relationship also developed alternative methods of transportation, promoting the manufacture and sales of travel goods, and organized various events throughout Iwate. At the same time, 2013 saw an expansion in reconstruction bus tours and a great increase in tourists to the area thanks to the popular NHK serial TV drama “Ama-chan” set in the north coastal area of Iwate. In 2016, there was a focused effort to attract and prepare for disaster education tours for students and research visits for the area.

As a result of these initiatives, in 2016 the number of tourists visiting Iwate as a whole was restored to the pre-disaster level (and coastal areas have returned to 70% of pre-disaster levels).

Examples of businesses or activities making use of this system

- A store that specializes in healthy, low-sugar, low-calorie sweets
- A fitness club established to prevent the necessity ofices under the supervision of physical therapists and other professionals
- The only nail salon in the northern area
- Roasting and selling herbal tea made with home-grown ingredients
- A new style of Japanese café next to a public library
- Making jewelry using a special material, Cobalion (high-value-added alloy developed in Iwate)

Distribution networks and product processing at the local fish market

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Spreading the word about the safety and appeal of Iwate’s agricultural, forest, and fishery products

Expanding and restoring the market and taking measures against harmful rumors

We need to address the damage done by the nuclear accident to the reputation of Iwate’s agricultural, forestry, and marine products, and expand the reduced market for Iwate’s products. We are promoting the safety and quality of Iwate’s agricultural, forestry, and marine products through magazine articles targeting consumers and chefs throughout the country. We’ve also shown off our products through train advertisements, professional cooking magazines, trade shows, business meetings in large cities, and field trips to local production sites.

However, there are still harmful rumors regarding the safety of agricultural, forestry, and marine products from Iwate. We are therefore engaged in restoring consumer trust as well as restoring and expanding the market for Iwate’s agricultural, forestry, and marine products.

Ice production and refrigeration power at four main ports (Kujū, Miyako, Kamaishi, and Ofunato)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Prior to disaster (t)</th>
<th>Current state (t)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ice production</td>
<td>513 tons/day</td>
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<td>Ice storage</td>
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**Self Defense Force Activities**

Wide-ranging support activities during a 138 day period

The Self Defense Forces dispatched an unprecedented 107,000 personnel during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. It was the first time outside of training that Ground, Maritime, and Air units acted as one. The Self Defense Forces carried out rescue operations and searches, removal of rubble, delivery of aid supplies, food, and water, and other wide-ranging activities. Female Self Defense Forces members also made rounds to evacuation shelters to talk with survivors.

Iwate's request for emergency fire rescue teams led to the dispatch of emergency relief teams from all over Japan, with a total of 2,279 teams sending 7,633 people. There was support from firefighting teams in various prefectures, and the Nagoya City Fire Department took command of general firefighting in Iwate.

Additionally, many of the local fire brigade members (who were themselves survivors of the disaster) carried out rescue operations for local residents, supported the operation of evacuation shelters, and searched for missing people. Over 1,400 fire brigade members from nearby municipalities participated in these activities.

**Government workers sent to municipalities across the country**

Over 3,100 people sent from local governments throughout the country

Five municipalities along the coast together lost 108 civil servants in the disaster. Immediately following the disaster at the end of March, Nagoya City proposed to send their government workers to Rikuzentakata. After that, similar offers were received from within Iwate and all over Japan. 171 workers arrived in 2011, and those numbers reached more than 3,100 by March of 2017. Today we are still requesting the cooperation of various local governments around Japan.

**Medical teams dispatched to the area**

Doctors from all over Japan provide medical support for the disaster-affected area

Immediately after the disaster, DAMTs (Disaster Medical Assistance Teams) from all over the country came in response to a request from the national government, and 128 teams from 29 prefectures provided triage, emergency treatment, and other medical services.

Additionally, Iwate Medical University established the Center for Research and Training on Community Health Services During Disaster immediately following the quake and tsunami. By the end of December 2011, 48 teams and a total of 4,463 medical personnel came from other prefectures to provide support.

Furthermore, two prefectural hospitals received support from Iwate JMAT (Japanese Medical Association Team) as part of medical support activities carried out by inland areas on the coast.

**Fire fighting**

Help from local fire brigades and relief units from all over Japan

Over 3,100 people sent from local governments throughout the country

Firefighting operations for local residents, supported the operation of evacuation shelters, and searched for missing people. Over 1,400 fire brigade members from nearby municipalities participated in these activities.

**Support from Abroad**

Gratitude for Solidarity

Many rescue operations and groups from the United States, the United Kingdom, China, and other countries were active on the coast, including the United States Military, which together with the Self Defense Force on Operation TOMODACHI.

Also, many countries sent supplies right after the disaster as well as donations that contributed to the repair of the Sanriku Railway and the provision of facilities including day-care centers, after-school facilities, and public halls in disaster-affected areas.

**The support we have received**

Our sincerest thanks to everyone both in Japan and abroad for all your support and encouragement following the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

Number of volunteers: 548,936

Donations for reconstruction projects: 19.6 billion yen

Donations for survivors: 53.6 billion yen

Iwate Learning Hope Fund: 8.8 billion yen

Furusato Iwate Support Donations (Hometown tax): 1 billion yen

We request your continued support for disaster survivors and their households.

*Other* includes mechanical engineers, electrical engineers, nurses, social workers, childcare workers, physical therapists, and judicial volunteers.
Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forums

Talking about the current state of reconstruction and encouraging participation

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forums are held to spread information on the current state of the affected areas and reconstruction initiatives. Forums have been held in Iwate and other locations in Japan to boost understanding of current reconstruction initiatives, and to ask for participation and continued support. By periodically holding these events we can ask for continued support from the rest of the world, and prevent the disaster from fading from memory.

“News from the Iwate’s Reconstruction”

Thank you for all your support! Spreading information about the current situation in Iwate both domestically and abroad

“News from Iwate’s Reconstruction” has been sharing information on the current state of Iwate since its founding on July 1st, 2011. Its goal is to share the current state of the reconstruction in Iwate, and convey the gratitude we feel toward the multitude of support we have received. “News from Iwate’s Reconstruction” is also translated into English for people abroad.

“News from Iwate’s Reconstruction” on the Web has been online since May 2013, and features many videos and photos that provide a vivid picture of the state of the reconstruction.

“Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow” Seminars

Industry, academia and government join together to promote the reconstruction

Various groups, organizations and individuals involved in the reconstruction regularly hold “Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow” seminars to study each other’s ideas and exchange information while planning how to progress with the reconstruction.

The Iwate Reconstruction Dramas

Sharing the stories of the Iwate people working towards reconstruction

Two short films, “Japan’s Smallest Bookstore” and “Winter Firefly,” were produced to depict how far we’ve come since the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. Through these films, we have showcased people working towards reconstruction, conveyed how Iwate is moving forward, and prevented memories from fading. These films also encourage others to continue supporting our reconstruction.

Iwate Governor Takuya Tasso presents!

“Iwate Hope Channel” — Iwate’s Online Streaming Show

To prevent the memories of the disaster from fading and to increase interest in Iwate, a videocast called “Iwate Hope Channel” starring Governor Iwate Tasso airs once a month on “Niconico Live.”

Sanriku Industry Promotion Project

Building competitive industries that reflect the rich personality of Sanriku

Example: Promoting industry through new transportation networks

A gantry crane will be installed in 2017 (Kamaishi Port) and a new ferry route between Miyako and Muroran, Hokkaido is planned to open in 2018 (Miyako Port). These new transportation networks, along with the development of Reconstruction Roads, will attract new companies and increase usage of the ports.

Sanriku Eco Town Project

We will create an ecologically friendly town in harmony with the environment

Example: Introducing community-based renewable energy

We are creating the foundation for an independent, decentralized energy supply system that can provide the area with power even during a disaster. Through renewable energy seminars, study sessions, spreading information, and publicizing a map to aid in the introduction of renewable energy, we are supporting the development of renewable energy integral to the region.

Sanriku Geopark Creation Project

Moving toward a diverse population

The Sanriku Geopark Creation Project aims to create a sustainable new Sanriku community by utilizing the potential of Sanriku’s unique qualities and environment. The Sanriku Geopark will be a stimulus for the local economy and a driving force for the development of the Sanriku area.

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Sanriku Eco Town Project

Creating an exciting community by attracting new residents and visitors

Example: Introducing community-based renewable energy

We are supporting the installation of solar power and storage batteries in local disaster management bases such as municipalities, fire departments, and hospitals, as well as in schools and community centers that become evacuation shelters during a disaster. Solar powered street lights are also being installed.

National Research Exchange Project

We will never forget – raising individuals to be strong in the face of disaster; building a community resistant to disaster

Example: Collecting information and experiences, and passing it along to future generations

We are developing a Disaster Memorial Complex in the Takata-Matsubara Tsunami Memorial Park to ensure that the facts and lessons we learned from past earthquakes and tsunamis, including the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, are passed on to future generations.

Sanriku Geopark – Shikagahara/Kitamatsubara Village

Memories of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami: Community Development Project

Example: Promoting tourism by improving Sanriku Geopark and establishing DMOs

In April 2016, the Sanriku DMO Center was established by the Sanriku Monetary Fund, a Public Interest Incorporated Foundation. Its activities are not limited to tourism. It acts in broad cooperation with local organizations and municipalities, and is moving forward with a comprehensive system promoting the Sanriku area. It is also promoting tourism centered on Sanriku Geopark, and is working to get UNESCO certification for Sanriku Geopark.

Sanriku Eco Town Project

Bases for international research and exchange, a zone for international science and research

Example: Forming an international academic/research city centered on the International Linear Collider (ILC)

The ILC is a subatomic particle research facility planned to be built in an underground tunnel 31-50km long. On August 23, 2013, the ILC Site Evaluation Committee decided on a proposed construction site in the Kikuzaki mountain range that stretches from northern Iwate to northern Miyagi. If these plans are realized, we could see the formation of an international science and research zone that will accelerate research and promote industry.

The Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Nagano (December 2016)

Spreading Information and Strengthening our Relationships

The Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Nagano (December 2016)
Outlook for Major Restoration and Reconstruction Projects

Reconstruction
March 2011 – March 2017

Past initiatives for reconstruction
March 2011 – March 2017

2011

March 11
Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

- Iwate Disaster Countermeasures Headquarters is established
- 12,000 people including those in temporary housing
- First ship loaded with relief supplies arrives in Kamaishi Port
- The North Tohoku Line of Sanriku Railway resume service

April 21
Construction starts on temporary housing (Kujuakataki City, Kamaishi City)

April 29
9 first temporary housing units in Iwate open to residents (Kujuakataki City)

11
"Gamban" event in Tokyo is unveiled; "Gamban" is translated to " bathing together, Iwate"

Iwate Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Committee is established

May 2
Children's Mental Care Center opens in Miyako City

Progress

100% 5,270 5,774 5,964

Roadmap for the Restoration and Reconstruction of Infrastructure

0%

- Progress

- As of March 31, 2017

- This graph displays actual results up to 2016 (brown) and projections for 2017 and beyond (gray)

- Projections may change depending on future circumstances.

2012

February 15
Iwate Mental Care Center opens at Iwate Medical University

- The national government establishes the Reconstruction Agency
- the Iwate Reconstruction Bureau opens in Morioka City with branches in Miyako City and Kamaishi City

March 6
Restoration begins on the basin roads at the mouth of Kamaishi Port (Kamaishi City)

March 8
Restoration begins on new roads throughout Iwate (Kamaishi City, Tanohata Village)

11 Memorial services held throughout Iwate on the one year anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

Local mental health care centers are established in four locations on the coast

April 7
First residents in Iwate move into public housing (Sakari, Ofunato City)

May 26
Tobiko announces that it will accept debris from Iwate, the first such region thus far

October 2
Iwate Industrial Reconstruction Center opens

November 20
Work starts on Reconstruction Roads (Sanriku Coast Road (Tanohata Section)) (Tanohata Village)

December 7
Law on the Special Great East Japan Earthquake Recon Area passes

2013

- Not available in the current document

Roadmap for the Restoration and Reconstruction of Infrastructure

Current activities and future plans have been compiled in the Roadmap of the Restoration and Reconstruction of Infrastructure. This report is divided into 8 fields including community development and public housing for survivors. It is available on the prefectural website.

Roadmap of the Restoration and Reconstruction of Infrastructure [JPN only]: http://www.pref.iwate.jp/anzen/machiizuki18200/index.html
Construction has now started on all Reconstruction Roads in Iwate.

A new law is established to revise the Law on the Special Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Areas to speed the acquisition of land (until the 5th, Tono City, Sumita Town, Ofunato City, Rikuzentakata City, and Ichinoseki City).

Decontamination work is completed on pasture land in Iwate.

All areas on the Reconstruction Road “Sanriku Coastal Road (Takata Road)” opened (Rikuzentakata City).

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Nagano held in Nagano Prefecture.

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Tohoku East-West Expressway opened (Tono City).

March 21

Otsuchi Prefectural Hospital is rebuilt, and an inauguration ceremony is held (until the 11th, Kuji City, Iwate Town, Shizukuishi Town, Yahaba Town, Morioka City, and Kitakami City).

Temporary housing units on the grounds of Taro #3 elementary school in Miyako are dismantled, the first such complete removal (until the 24th, Kamaishi City).

Classes start at the newly built and relocated Funakoshi Public Elementary School in Yamada, the first school to be rebuilt in 6

Three UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction is held in Sendai as the main location (until the 31st, and from February 23rd to 27th).

Reconstruction Road “Miyako-Morioka Crossing Road (Yanagawa Road)” opens (Morioka City).

BRT begins operation on the JR Ofunato Line between Kesennuma and Sakari.

Reconstruction Road “Sanriku Coastal Road (Fudai Road)” opens.

February 2

A basic schematic is decided for the Takata-Matsubara Tsunami Reconstruction Memorial Park by Rikuzentakata City, Iwate

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum is held in Otsuchi Prefecture.

A new shopping area is established to move the Line on the Special Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Areas to upgrade the acquisition of land (until the 8th, Hanamaki City, Tono City, Kamaishi City, Otsuchi Town, Yamada Town, Kitakami City, and Morioka City).

The “Taro Town Opening Commemorative Ceremony” is held in the Taro district where construction for residential relocation to a new neighborhood is completed (Miyako City).

Creation of the Sanriku Reconstruction National Park

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Ofunato City is held.

The Hashima Iron-Interlocking and Smelting Site in Kamagari is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as part of “Sites of Japan’s Map of Industrial Revolution”

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum is held in Ofunato City.

The Sanriku Geopark on Iwate’s coast is certified as a Japanese Geopark

Tohoku Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Ofunato City is held.

Otsuchi Prefectural Hospital is rebuilt, and an inauguration ceremony is held (until the 1st, Morioka City, Hanamaki City, Tono City, Kamaishi City, Otsuchi Town, Yamada Town, Kitakami City, and Morioka City).

April 11

Iwate Children’s Care Center opens in Yahaba Town.

Ocean City Prefectural Hospital is rebuilt, and an inauguration ceremony is held (until the 1st, Morioka City, Shiwa Town, Miyako City, Iwaizumi Town, and Tanohata Village).

The “Taro Town Opening Commemorative Ceremony” is held in the Taro district where construction for residential relocation to a new neighborhood is completed (Miyako City).

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Otsuchi City is held.

Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction is held in Sendai as the main location (until the 31st, and from February 23rd to 27th).

A new shopping area is established to move the Line on the Special Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Areas to upgrade the acquisition of land (until the 24th, Kamaishi City, Ofunato City, Yahaba Town, Hanamaki City, and Kitakami City).

Reconstruction Road “Sanriku Coastal Road (Takata Road)” opened (Yamada Town, Kesennuma City, Ofunato City, and Morioka City).

The North Rias Line completely reopens with the reopening of the section from Omoto to Tanohata

The South Rias Line of the Sanriku Railway completely reopens with the reopening of the section from Shichinohe to Kamaishi

The “Taro Town Opening Commemorative Ceremony” is held in the Taro district where construction for residential relocation to a new neighborhood is completed (Miyako City).

This Prince and Princess Akiko visits the disaster affected area (until the 5th, Kamaishi City, Otsuchi Town, Oshu City, and Hanamaki City).

Prince Akishino visits the disaster affected area (until the 7th, Otsuchi Town, Kamaishi City, Ofunato City, and Morioka City).

Prince Tomohito of Mikasa visits the disaster affected area (until the 7th, Ofunato City, Kamaishi City, Hanamaki City, and Oshu City).

Princess Mako of Akishino visits the disaster affected area (until the 24th, Morioka City, Hanamaki City, Kitakami City, and Morioka City).

Kamaishi, Iwate is confirmed as a venue for the Rugby World Cup 2019

July 8

The Sanriku Geopark on Iwate’s coast is certified as a Japanese Geopark

The Hashima Iron-Interlocking and Smelting Site in Kamagari is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as part of “Sites of Japan’s Map of Industrial Revolution”

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The “Taro Town Opening Commemorative Ceremony” is held in the Taro district where construction for residential relocation to a new neighborhood is completed (Miyako City).

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum is held in Ofunato City.

April 13

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Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Ofunato City is held.

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum is held in Ofunato City.
About Iwate

Iwate Prefecture

Prefectural Flag/Symbol

The Japane se Pheasant: These birds live throughout all of Iwate. Males have shiny, dark green feathers and a long tail, while females are a less flashy tan color with dark spots dotting their feathers. The Japanese pheasant is an elegant, humble, and friendly bird whose character is said to resemble the people of the region.

Nanbu Japanese Red Pine: The Nanbu Japanese red pine can be found throughout Iwate, and is Iwate's most famous native tree. Many grow in the hilly, mountainous regions with Paleozoic strata; and are a quickly growing species. The red pine has a high oil content that gives it a nice gloss factor as you polish the wood. We're proud to say that the red pine is the most popular wood used in high-quality Japanese wooden products.

Paulownia: Iwate's paulownia is a gorgeous flower, with a glossy sheen and a delicate light purple color. It is known as the Nanbu purple paulownia.

Nanbu Salmon: The Nanbu salmon sports a spindle-shaped body with a length of 90 cm, and can be found swimming up the river in autumn every year to lay its eggs in the fertile sandy bottom upstream. Iwate catches the largest amount of Nanbu sake in all of Honshu (the largest island of the Japan archipelago), and has long been a favorite of the Iwate people.

Prefectural Tree

Prefectural Flower

Prefectural Fish

Shinkansen (Bullet Train) To Morioka Station

Airports To Itae Hanamaki Airport

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Shinkansen (Bullet Train) To Morioka Station

Access to Iwate

Over 200,000 documents available on the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

http://iwate-archive.pref.iwate.jp/

Access it today

For creating education tools on the reconstruction

For reference on disaster management programs

For passing on the memories of the disaster

The Iwate Prefectural Government has created the “Iwate Earthquake and Tsunami Archive – Kibou (Hope) –” with the cooperation of various municipal governments and related disaster management organizations. This archive was built to use the lessons we learned in the disaster to further promote disaster management programs and educate people throughout the world. It also aims to preserve information on the reconstruction and restoration for future generations.

Photos provided by: Iwate Construction Association | Iwate Nippon | Ofutachi City | Ofunato City | Iwate Prefecture | Noda Village | Noda Tourism Association | Miyako City | Yamada Town | Rikuzentakata City

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A record of the reconstruction from March 2011 to March 2017 after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

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