



Photo taken from temporary housing location Greenpia Sanriku Miyako (January 2012)

We are deeply grateful for the heartwarming encouragement and support received from both within and outside of Japan in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, which struck on March 11, 2011. The precious bonds created during this time will always be cherished.

So, the New Year is upon us. 2013 is the final year in Foundational Reconstruction Period as laid out in Iwate's Reconstruction Plan. We are going to accelerate prefecture's reconstruction even further. We will now bring you news from Iwate's reconstruction.

Currently in the Affected Areas

Revival of Horai's Lighthouse

December 13 saw the lighting ceremony of the rebuilt lighthouse on Horai Island in Otsuchi Town.

Horai Island is considered the model for the fictional island in the marionette show *Hyokkori Hyotanjima*.

The lighthouse on Horai Island was damaged by the tsunami to the point where it was leaning over. The rebuilt lighthouse was designed with contributions from Otsuchi's citizens, and the day of its lighting ceremony finally came.

Horai Island's lighthouse will be a symbol of the reconstruction, and will now continue to light up the sea for the people of the region, just as it had before.



Casualties & Damage in Iwate (as of November 30, 2012)

Human casualties/deaths: 4,671;

Missing: 1,173

Buildings destroyed (residences only, total/partial): 24,560

Iwate Disaster Information Portal (about damage, etc.):

<http://www.pref.iwate.jp/~bousai/taioujoukyou/index.html#new>

Reconstruction Aid from a University Student Coalition

In order to revive industries in the affected coastal region, it is important to expand trade outlets and strengthen the brands of the region. This is why a group of graduate students in the University of Tokyo set up the website "Saving the Taste of Tohoku" (*Oishii Sanriku Oendan*) in the autumn of 2011. Fearing that with the passage of time people's memory of the disaster might fade away, the students' website publishes original content relating to enterprises in the affected areas, and informs outsiders and students about the affected businesses.



Shunsuke Kishi, University of Tokyo graduate student and staff-member of Saving the Taste of Tohoku

For more info (or previous episodes), see <http://bit.ly/raM4Ty>
Prefectural Broadcast "Iwate: One Step Towards Hope"
No. 35: "Saving the Taste of Tohoku"



(Broadcast on December 3, 4, 5, 6, 9)

Thank you for all your support!

Donations for survivors (as of October 31):

Around ¥17.47754 billion (82,159 donations)

Donations for reconstruction projects (as of October 31):

Around ¥16.34869 billion (5,579 donations)

Iwate Learning Hope Fund donations (as of November 30):

Around ¥4.88300 billion (8,130 donations)

To assist in the study and daily life of affected children by encouraging sport and study activities

Donations:

<http://www.pref.iwate.jp/~bousai/jyouhou/volunteer.html>

Iwate Reconstruction Supporters registration page → <http://www.pref.iwate.jp/~hp0777/ooendan.html>

We are now recruiting both individual and group (corporate or other) members of the "Iwate Reconstruction Supporters" in the Greater Tokyo Area. Members will receive a membership certificate, and will be e-mailed information regarding reconstruction and tourism in Iwate, upcoming events in the Tokyo area and much more!

Iwate's Efforts

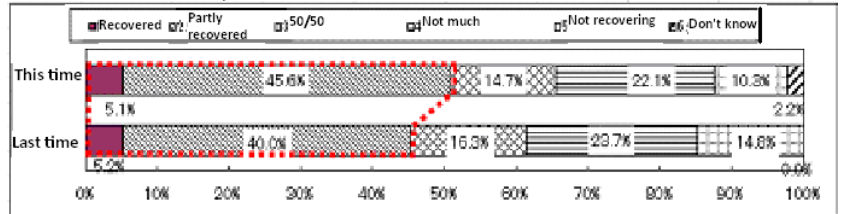
Publication of "Iwate Reconstruction Watchers Survey" Results

As part of managing the progress of our reconstruction plan, Iwate has published the results of its 4th "Iwate Reconstruction Watchers Survey".

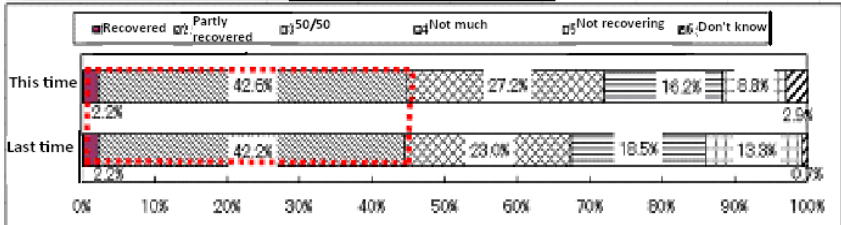
The survey asks those living or working in damaged coastal municipalities how they feel the reconstruction is going. It is conducted four times a year (February, May, August and November), and the results are summarized to the right.

The results for "recovery of lifestyle" (1) show that the proportion that answered "recovered" or "partly recovered" is trending towards an increase from when the survey started. This is the first time it has surpassed 50%. On the other hand, with regard to how people feel about the construction of safe, disaster-proof communities (3), a large portion of the population are still unsatisfied.

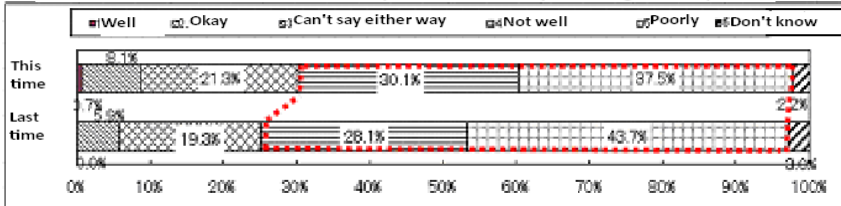
1. Have the residents lifestyles been able to recover after the disaster?



2. How do you feel about the pace of recovery in the regional economy?



3. How has the move toward disaster-proof community building developed?



For more info... <http://www.pref.iwate.jp/view.rbz?cd=43224&ik=0&pnp=14>

◆ Iwate Reconstruction Net also reports on Iwate's reconstruction, so why not check it out?

→ <http://www.pref.iwate.jp/view.rbz?cd=39696&ik=0&pnp=14>

Videos created in thanks for aid in the reconstruction

Iwate Prefecture has created a series of videos to convey the message of *Arigato* ("thank you") to everyone who has helped in Iwate's recovery. The autumn edition is out, and contains videos 7 to 12, so why not have a look?

<http://www.iwatekara.jp/thanks/thanks07.html>

Video No. 7

Kamaage-ya restaurant in Yamada Town



Video No. 8

Yonesaki Apples in Rikuzentakata City



Video No. 9

Rice farmer in Noda Village



Video No. 10

Suisen Sake Brewers in Ofunato City



Video No. 11

Kirikirikoku in Otsuchi Town



Video No. 7

Miyako Technical High School in Miyako City



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◆ News from Iwate's Reconstruction Archives → <http://bit.ly/qBFB0z>