

News from Iwate's Reconstruction

The news from Iwate as it moves toward reconstruction

Ganbaro, Iwate!
Let's stick together, Iwate!



Volume 43
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Iwate Prefecture

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.

It is summer. The rains are pleasant and the sun is hot. The affected areas continue to move toward reconstruction. We will now bring you the news from Iwate's reconstruction.

Publication of results from the second "Iwate Reconstruction Watchers Survey" for 2013

Iwate Prefecture has published the results from the second "Iwate Reconstruction Watchers Survey" for 2013. The survey is conducted on people living or working in municipalities affected by the disaster, and is meant to help measure the reconstruction progress following the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

The survey asks people how well they feel the reconstruction is going, and is conducted four times a year (in February, May, August and November). The current results are for May 2013.

Noteworthy among the results are that the percentage of those surveyed who feel that their lives have "fully recovered" or "mostly recovered" is 49.6%, up 4.5 points from February, and the percentage who answered "not really recovered" or "not recovered at all" is at 27.7%,

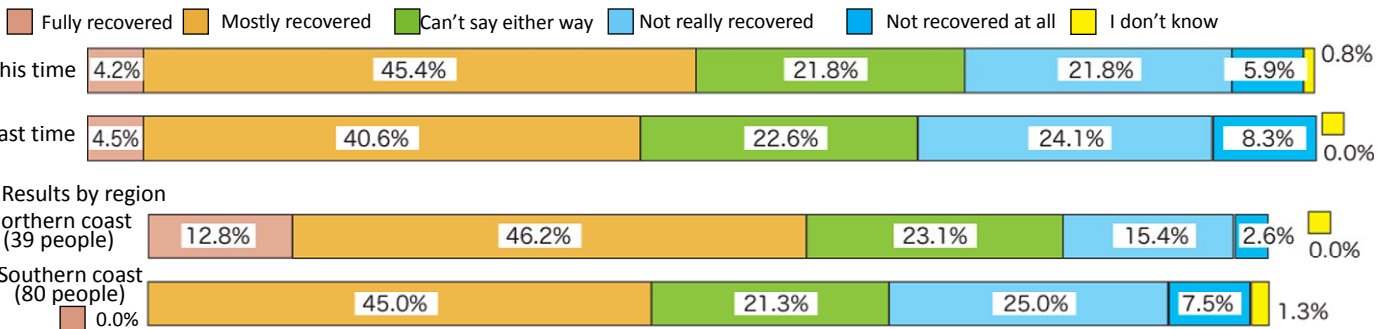
down 4.7 points from February.

Broken down by region, 59.0% (up 7.9 points from February) in the northern coastal area answered "fully recovered" or "mostly recovered," but the southern coastal region is at 45.0% (only up 3.0 points from February).

In the free comments section, many people (primarily in the northern area) wrote positively about the work being begun and/or completed on public housing for the disaster-affected areas. It may be that these works are leading to the concrete sense that lives are being rebuilt. However, many also expressed the view that they had a deeper sense of a disparity in their living environments.

The next survey will be conducted in August 2013. We will continue to perform these surveys, and work to base our reconstruction efforts as closely as possible on the views expressed by survivors in the affected areas.

Iwate Pref 46339



Ohmachi Hoho-M Square Grand Opening!

On June 2 (Sunday), the "Ohmachi Hoho-M Square" opened in the Ohmachi area of Kamaishi City, to be a new center for Kamaishi's kitchen cars.

There are currently eight kitchen cars participating in the project, which was established to support people who have difficulty shopping and revitalize the region along with providing employment through the establishment of new industries and the strengthening of small- and medium-sized businesses that suffered damage in the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

The newly-opened "Ohmachi Hoho-M Square" is an eating area built on a wooden deck surrounded by kitchen cars, where people can freely enjoy curry made with locally-grown vegetables, Japanese- and

western-style food, coffee, hamburgers, tako-yaki, crepes and more.

Afterhours some of the shops also serve alcoholic beverages, and the Square is quickly becoming a popular gathering place in the heart of Kamaishi City.



※Vendors at the Square vary at different days and times.

We are recruiting members for the Iwate Reconstruction Supporters Team!

Know, Buy, Eat, Go – and help support us!



We are now recruiting both individual and group (corporate or other) members in the Greater Tokyo Area for the "Iwate Reconstruction Supporters". Members are e-mailed information regarding reconstruction and tourism in Iwate, and upcoming events in the Tokyo area.

Free to Register!

For more information, please see the website of the Tokyo Branch Office of the Iwate Prefectural Government:

Iwate Ooendan

Revival Bazaar held in Morioka Inland areas aiding coastal reconstruction

On Sunday, June 16, the "Revival Bazaar" was held in the Iwate Citizen's Plaza on the fourth floor of Aiina.

The aim of the event is to donate profits from the bazaar to aid the disaster-affected areas. It started back in June 2011, and this was the seventh time it was held.

The bazaar features shopping stalls selling small trinkets that had been hand-made by survivors, marine products from the coastal area, and so on. Other booths sold goods that had been provided by welfare groups, organizations based in the Aiina hall, etc. Overall there were around 30 booths there to welcome the tremendous crowd. Governor Tasso showed up.

Photo: Crowds gather at the bazaar



The 173,781 yen collected this time, as well as the 838,629 yen collected at the six previous bazaars, are being donated to the Iwate Prefecture Disaster Relief Charity Committee.

The 8th Revival Bazaar is scheduled to take place on Sunday, October 6, in the same place. The event's organizer, Koji Matsumiya, expressed the hope of sending aid from the inland region to the coast: "We hope to continue to provide aid to the affected areas by running these bazaars in the inland region. I hope as many people as possible will come in October as well."



A vendor from Ofunato City

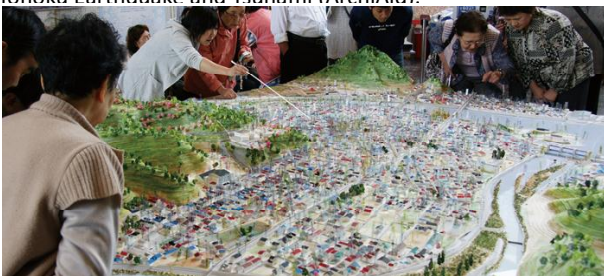


A vendor from Otsuchi Town

"Memories of Our Hometown" Lost Homes Project -Scale Model Exhibit held in Otsuchi Town-

From Friday, June 28 to Sunday, June 30, the Otsuchi Central Community Center played host to the "Memories of Our Hometown: Iwate's Lost Homes Scale Model Restoration Project Exhibition for Otsuchi Town". The event was organized by NHK Morioka in association with the Lost Homes Project implementation committee, Otsuchi Town, and the Otsuchi Town Board of Education.

The "Lost Homes Project" implementation committee is working to create 1/500 scale models of towns and villages that were lost in the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, in order to preserve the image of what the towns looked like before the disaster, as well as the memories of those who lived there. The project is being planned and organized by Osamu Tsukihashi and Kobe University's Tsukihashi Laboratory, with cooperation from Relief and Recovery by Architects for Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami (ArchiAid).



Visitors examining the Otsuchi scale model

At the center, a model of a restored Otsuchi Town was displayed, and local people could point at the model and say "Oh, here's my house!" or "Turn this corner and it's Mr. X's house", and as they did this their memories came back to life.

Further, June 29 (Saturday) saw the open recording of the NHK Archives' "Otsuchi Town, Iwate – Awakening the Memories of Our Hometown!"

Nostalgic images of the way Otsuchi used to be were shown, and a talk show hosted by NHK announcer Yoko Sakurai was held with jazz pianist Makoto Ozone, singer Misaki Usuzawa (who lives in Otsuchi), local Otsuchi fishermen, Kyohei Yamada of the Lost Homes Project, and Ken Sasaki, head of the Otsuchi Central Community Center. The event brought together some 200 visitors, who looked back on the old Otsuchi, and expressed their hopes for reconstruction.

Broadcast Schedule for "Memories of Our Hometown" Show
9.13 (Fri) Ofunato central area – NHK (Iwate region)
10.4 (Fri) Rikuzentakata central area, Kesen – NHK (Iwate region)
11.1 (Fri) Tanohata Shimanokoshi area – NHK (Iwate region)
12.6 (Fri) Iwaizumi Omoto area – NHK (Iwate region)
1.10 (Fri) Noda central area – NHK (Iwate region)
10.4 (Fri) Rikuzentakata central area, Kesen – NHK (Iwate region)
NHK National plans to broadcast the whole series next March

Casualties & Damage in Iwate As of June 30, 2013

- ▶ Human casualties/deaths: 4,672; Missing: 1,146
- ▶ Buildings destroyed (residences only, total/partial): 24,928

For more information on damage in Iwate, or to make a donation, go to the Iwate Disaster Information Portal:

Iwate Pref Bousai

Thank you for all your support!

As of May 31, 2013

- Donations for survivors:** Around ¥17.77811 billion (85,635 donations)
- Donations for reconstruction projects:** Around ¥16.52091 billion (6,163 donations)
- Iwate Learning Hope Fund donations:** Around ¥5.76417 billion (10,317 donations)
 - ※ This fund is to assist in the study and daily life of affected children by encouraging sport and study activities.

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