

News from Iwate's Reconstruction

The news from Iwate as it moves toward reconstruction

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



Volume 120

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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.

As we begin a new year, Iwate aims to step up the pace of the reconstruction, and make rapid progress developing its wonderful communities.

We will now bring you the news from Iwate's reconstruction.

Public and Private Groups Discuss How to Revitalize Local Communities

Kamaishi

On December 17th, 2016 (Sat), "New Tohoku", an association promoting partnerships between public and private groups, held a networking event at the Information Exchange Center in Kamaishi. Its theme was "Revitalizing Local Communities", and its objective was for local governments of disaster-hit areas, private companies, universities, charities and others, to exchange information and opinions about the reconstruction.

The event featured a panel discussion, where experts exchanged opinions about supporting local communities as they're rebuilt, and

considered the future direction of the reconstruction.

Later, there was a presentation from 8 groups involved in the revitalization of local communities, both in disaster-hit areas and elsewhere in the country. They showed recent examples of their work, giving perspective on the current state of the affected settlements and the problems they face in the future.

Yoshihiro Yamashita, Director of the national Reconstruction Agency's Iwate Office, gave a passionate speech. "Step by step, we have made progress with the reconstruction of homes and infrastructure following the Great East

Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. From here on, the rebirth of local communities will be extremely important. The Reconstruction Agency will spare no effort towards achieving that goal," he said.

There were several other activities. An event aimed at high school students introduced new ways of working using IT. A workshop for families showed parents how to make picture books using their smartphone. There was also a special screening of "In The Corner Of This World", a film which models how communities can pass on the experience of the tsunami to the next generation.



The panel discussion



A networking event for high school students



A workshop for families

Examining the Data in Vol. 19 of the Iwate Reconstruction Index Report

The Iwate Reconstruction Index Report is published periodically and serves to make it easier to understand the current state of affairs and recent trends in Iwate's reconstruction efforts, particularly in the 12 affected coastal municipalities.

Below are outlined the main points from volume 19 of the report (as of December 5th, 2016).

For more details:
(*available only in Japanese)

Iwate fukkoinde^{*}

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Rebuilding Lives

Progress Rate on Public Housing for Survivors: 74%

4,237 Completed Housing Units (2,080 prefectural, 2,157 municipal)
(as of October 31st, 2016)

There is a 74% completion rate on the 5,694 planned number of housing units (2,760 prefectural, 2,934 municipal).

Ensuring Safety

Progress Rate on Land Development for Town Building Purposes: 45%
Number of Sections Completed: 3,493 (as of October 31st, 2016)

There is a 45% completion rate on the 7,811 land plots planned for residential construction projects.

Regenerating Industries

Size of Fish Catch: 38,257 metric tons (57.7% of 3-year average)
(Current total for April - September 2016)

This figure represents 86.2% of the catch made during the same period last year. The main cause is the reduced number of mackerel, squid, and isada fish.

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. (Information only available in Japanese.)

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

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Free to Register!

