

News from Iwate's Reconstruction

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



Volume 41
(June 1, 2013)

Iwate Prefecture

The news from Iwate as it moves toward reconstruction

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.

People are now gearing up for summer and the affected areas are continuing toward full recovery. We will now bring you the news from Iwate's reconstruction.

Connecting those who wish to provide support to those who need it

For those who wish to provide aid, and those who wish to receive it, please check this website!



Examples of success stories

AREA	RECIPIENT OF AID	DETAILS
Aid for the reconstruction of aquariums	Moguranpia and Machinaka aquariums (Kuji City)	Aid goods incl. stereoscopic microscopes, etc.
Mobile Tanabata Festival Project	The Central Festival Committee (Rikuzentakata City)	Funding for activities, tents, storage facilities for floats, tables, chairs, etc.
Donation of second-hand pianos	Hohoemi-no-Sato Nursing Care Facility (Miyako City) and others	Ready-tuned second-hand pianos

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Bridging Project

The Iwate Tomorrow Design Organization (Office of Policy Promotion, Iwate Prefectural Government) has been matching groups in Iwate that require assistance with groups and individuals that want to help the affected areas. Since December 2011, they have used their website, the Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Bridging Project, to make roughly 120 such connections.

This fiscal year they have designated some of their activities (including setting up local satellite offices and placing coordinators) to the organization "Tasukeai Japan". By the start of May, they had already set up offices in four coastal areas (Rikuzentakata City, Kamaishi City, Miyako City and Kuji City) with local coordinators who take inquiries and set up matches.

The website, which was redesigned this April, not only offers information on both aid seekers and aid providers, but also reports on the state of the reconstruction in the affected areas.

In the future, they plan to branch out from matching material aid into cultivating industry connections to develop new products and distribution networks. This will lead to more diverse and varied aid for the reconstruction.

<http://iwate-fukkou.net/english/>

Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Building Project

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Restoration work on Ofunato Port's coastal levee begins

Ofunato City
May 8

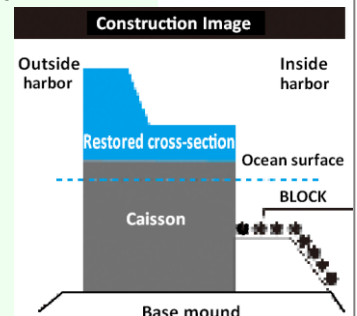
The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism's Tohoku Regional Maintenance Bureau (Kamaishi Port Branch Office) began work installing a caisson in order to restore Kamaishi Port's 736.36m long coastal levee, which received significant damage during the quake and tsunami. Work was be-



gun on Wednesday, May 8.

A "caisson" is a box that will serve as the base for the levee, and it will be 20 m long, 21.6 m wide and 17 m tall, in addition to weighing roughly 3,530 metric tons. In other words, the enormous box will be the size of a 6-story building.

This will be put under the water and serve as the hard base for the levee, and a steel frame will be built on top with concrete added to form the levee. The plan is that by the end of fiscal 2015, Ofunato Harbor will see 23 such caissons fitted, and the end result will be a levee rising 11.3 m above the ocean surface. Restoring the levee marks the first step towards our reconstruction goal of ensuring safety.



We are recruiting members for the Iwate Reconstruction Supporters Team!



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.

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

Iwate Ooendan

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Free to Register!

Completion of large-scale mushroom greenhouses in Rikuzentakata

Rikuzentakata City
May 22

The Rikuzentakata-based mushroom company Kinoko no Sato, which sustained significant damage following the disaster after seven of its cultivation facilities washed away, has completed construction of a large-scale greenhouse facility.



A completion ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 22 and in attendance were Takuya Tasso, Governor of Iwate Prefecture, Takashi Kubota, Deputy Mayor of Rikuzentakata, Miki Watanabe, Chairman of the Board of Watami Company (which has been providing management consulting to Kinoko no Sato), and Yoshihiko Niwa, Vice-Director of the Bureau of General Affairs of Nagoya City, another aid provider to Rikuzentakata.

The new facility has a total of 17 houses, and *shiitake* and *kikurage* mushrooms will be grown there.

The company plans to construct 50 greenhouses and employ 100 people by the end of fiscal 2015 as it aims to expand its overall production of mushrooms.

The company's representative director/president Hirofumi Sato said he wanted to increase his brand's recognition, not just in Rikuzentakata but throughout the Sanriku region, as well as all of Iwate Prefecture and around the world.

Volume 6 of the Iwate Reconstruction Index Report has been published

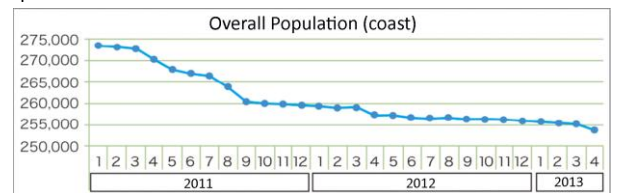
The Iwate Reconstruction Index is a report that summarizes the progress of Iwate's reconstruction in 28 areas under the three basic headings of "Ensuring Safety", "Rebuilding Lives" and "Regenerating Industries." The goal is to make it easier to understand the current states of affairs and recent trends in Iwate's reconstruction and restoration efforts, particularly in the 12 affected coastal municipalities.

Since last February, the Index has been published every three months. The current report (volume 6) details the state of affairs as of the end of April. The report's main points are below.

Rebuilding Lives

As of April 1, 2013, the population of the coastal region was at 253,664, showing a decline of 19,273 (7.1%) from before the disaster (March 1, 2011). (Graph 1)

Graph 1:



Ensuring Safety

The disposal of debris is 43.2% completed. Out of a total 5.2 million metric tons worth of damaged materials, some 2.27 million metric tons have been disposed of as of the end of April.

This rate has increased compared to the last Index. (Table 1)

Table 1:

	Volume 1 2012 January	Volume 2 April	Volume 3 July	Volume 4 October	Volume 5 2013 January	Volume 6 April
Index	—	9.8%	14.1%	19.7%	29.8%	43.2%
Data	—	0.51	0.74	1.04	1.57	2.27

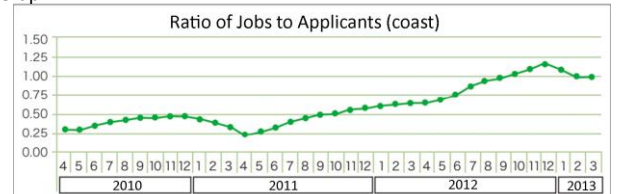
Index: Progress Rate Data: Debris disposal (unit: million metric tons)

Regenerating Industries

The ratio of jobs to applicants in the coastal areas (Kamaishi, Miyako, Ofunato, Kuji) in March 2013 was at 1.14, 0.20 points lower than last time (December 2012), and has been decreasing consistently for the three months.

In spite of the recent decrease, the ratio remains at a high level due to damaged firms reopening their doors, and demand growth due to the reconstruction. (Graph 2)

Graph 2:



Casualties & Damage in Iwate

As of April 30, 2013

- ▶ Human casualties/deaths: 4,672; Missing: 1,150
- ▶ Buildings destroyed (residences only, total/partial): 24,928

Thank you for all your support!

As of April 30, 2013

Donations for survivors:

Around ¥17.76660 billion (85,327 donations)

Donations for reconstruction projects:

Around ¥16.51829 billion (6,115 donations)

Iwate Learning Hope Fund donations:

Around ¥5.68605 billion (10,109 donations)

(This fund is to assist in the study and daily life of affected children by encouraging sport and study activities.)

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

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We continue to receive tremendous support from both within Japan and around the world. Thank you all very much!



Odashima Shouji Corporation Green Group



The Nippon Road Company



Tokyo Coalition of Social Workers and Children's Social Workers

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