

Current State and Initiatives of Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake

- Towards a Future Society in Tohoku
with Creativity and Opportunities-

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May 7, 2014

Outline of the Great East Japan Earthquake

(1) Magnitude

- The earthquake occurred offshore Sanriku on March 11, 2011 at 14:46 JST.
- It was the greatest earthquake ever recorded in Japan (magnitude 9.0/maximum seismic intensity 7)



(2) Damage (as of April 10, 2014)

- Human Casualties
 - People Deceased: 15,885
 - People Missing: 2,623
 - People Injured: 6,148
- Damaged Buildings & Houses
 - Completely Destroyed: 127,305
 - Half Destroyed: 272,941
 - Partially Destroyed: 741,752

The Great East Japan Earthquake is a “complex disaster having affected wide areas” due to an earthquake, tsunami and a nuclear accident.

Norway's Support for Japan's Reconstruction after the Great East Japan Earthquake

- Donation of 10 million Norwegian krone (equivalent to 150 million yen) for disaster relief through the Red Cross.
- The Prime Minister of Norway in June 2011 proposed a “Team Norway” disaster relief initiative involving both Norwegian government and private sectors.
 - ✓ Focused support areas are fishery and seafood, renewable energy and environmental technology.
 - ✓ The “Women's Leadership Fund for Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake” has been established: Norway signed an agreement with Sendai City for the fund, and support activities have begun to help women participate in various social activities.
 - ✓ Norway signed an agreement with Miyagi University for the support of the university's “Tohoku Fisheries Reconstruction Study Group” and the provision of Norway's advanced techniques to process fishery products.



Japan is very grateful for Norway's Support.

For Accelerating the Reconstruction

(1) The Abe Cabinet's Policy

- Acceleration of the reconstruction is the top priorities of the Abe administration, together with economic revitalization and crisis management.
- All the Ministers shall regard themselves functioning as Ministers for Reconstruction, so that the Government of Japan can make concerted efforts to accelerate the reconstruction

(2) Principles as Minister for Reconstruction

Full adoption of the hands-on approach

Under the awareness that **the answers can be found onsite**, we will identify problems onsite and facilitate the national government to find the **concrete solutions**.

Strengthening the Reconstruction Agency's Function as the control tower

Set up a “**task force**” under the Minister for Reconstruction, which is composed of chiefs of bureaus of related ministries and agencies to promptly cope with various issues.

Initiatives that match the reconstruction stages (time scale)

New issues will appear as the reconstruction phase advances. The approach of “Full adoption of the hands-on approach” and the “task force” will be used to solve such issues.

Major Efforts to Accelerate the Reconstruction

1. Rebuilding Houses and Reconstructing Communities

2. Reviving Industries and Livelihoods

3. Health and Life Support

4. Revitalizing and Reconstructing Fukushima

5. Creating “New Tohoku”

Rebuilding Houses and Reconstructing Communities

(1) Reconstruction Measures

- A task force has been set up to accelerate the rebuilding of houses and the reconstruction of

Policy Packages to Accelerate the Reconstruction (4 packages in total)

(Examples of the Policy)

- Shortened the time required to process the property administration system from 6 months to 3 weeks.
 - Raised the rate for construction labor in affected areas.
- Officials have been dispatched from other non-affected local governments to the affected local governments (2,084 people).
 - Reconstruction Agency has dispatched **ex-public officials and former Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers** (156 people).
 - Photos to show the progress of the reconstruction have been published on the Reconstruction Agency's home page.

<http://www.reconstruction.go.jp/portal/index.html>

▼ How public housing for the Disaster-Affected was completed



August 2012



March 2013



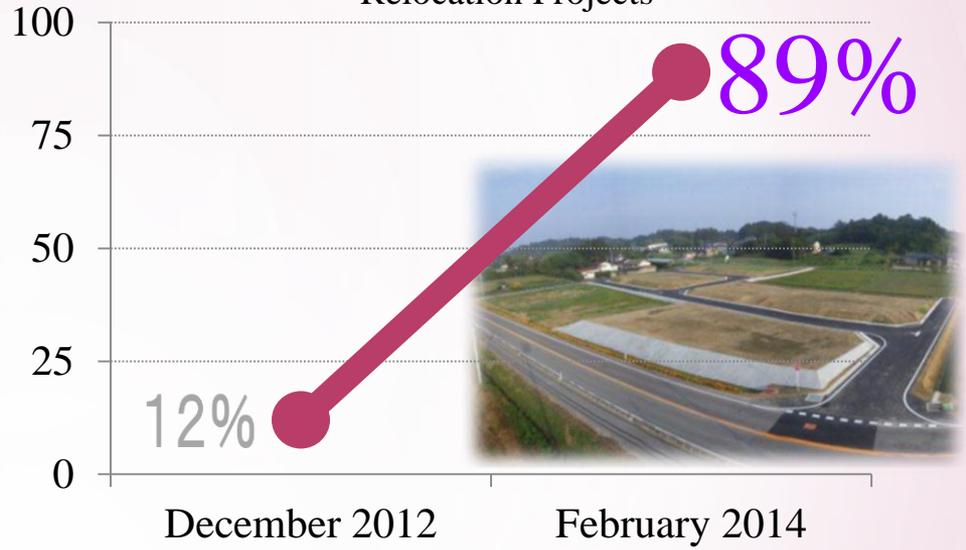
August 2013

Rebuilding Houses and Reconstructing Communities

(2) Relocation to Uplands



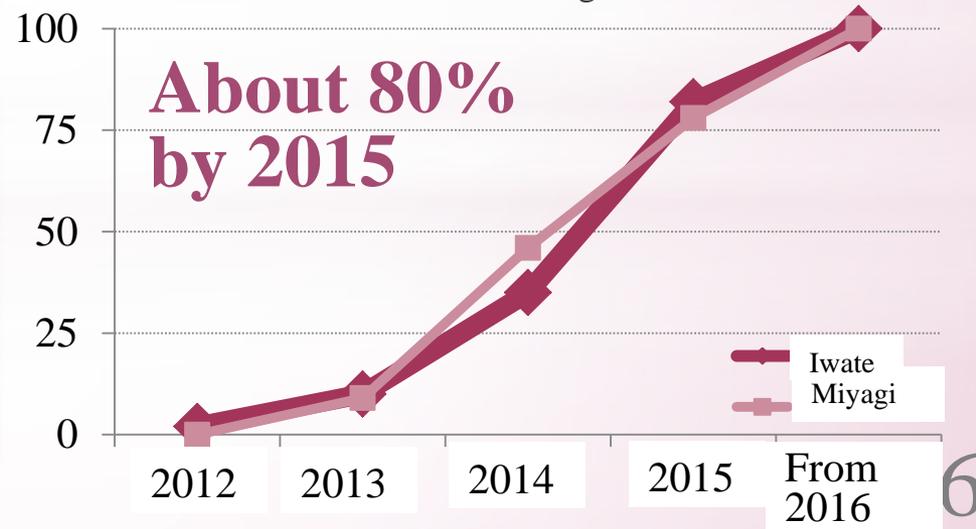
Percentage of Commenced Upland Relocation Projects



(3) Reconstruction of Public Housing for the Disaster-Affected



Forecast of Completed Public Housing



Reviving Industry and Livelihoods

(1) Reconstruction Measures

- The development of temporary stores and plants as well as the restoration of damaged facilities and equipment has been financially supported so that business activities can be resumed.
- Assistance for locating companies to areas stricken by the tsunami and the nuclear accident have been financially supported to accelerate local industries.
- The creation of new industries such as renewable energy has been facilitated.
- New Tohoku Partnership Promotion Committee has been established to strengthen cooperation among the government and private sectors.



▲ Image of a Fukushima Renewable Energy Research Laboratory (Koriyama, Fukushima)

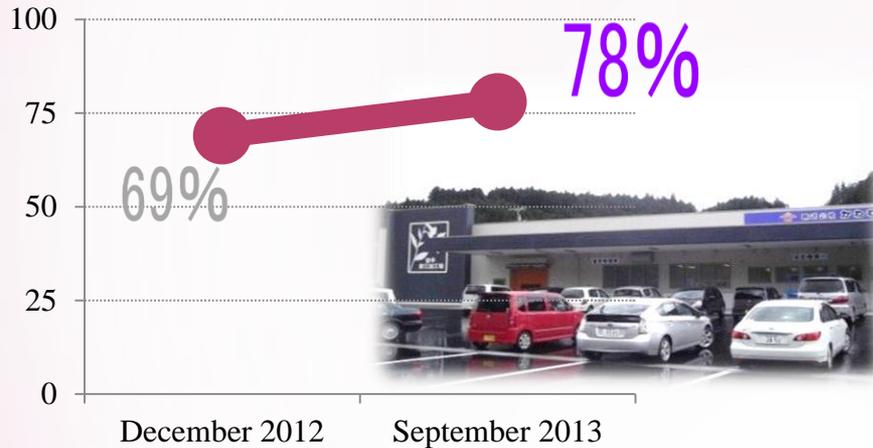


▲ Image of a Tsunami Disaster Management Center Development Project (Area in Front of Ofunato Station)

Reviving Industries and Livelihoods

(2) Progress of the Reconstruction

▼ Fishery Processing Facilities (3 Disaster-stricken Prefectures)



▼ Resumed Farming (Tsunami-Stricken Farmland)



▼ Support for Locating Companies to Disaster-Stricken Areas (Accumulated Total)



▼ Support to Small and Medium Enterprises (Accumulated Total)



Health and Life Support

(1) Support Measures

Supporting elderly people suffering from various types of anxiety caused by living in temporary housing.



▲ Establishing Care Support Centers



▲ Care Workers in Patrol



▲ Sending Information Journals Useful to Residents

Supporting children who need mental and physical care because of the earthquake disaster



▲ Dispatching School Counsellors



▲ Establishing Mental Care Centers



▲ Training Play Leaders

Revitalizing and Reconstructing Fukushima

(1) Hometown Fukushima Revival Project

For residents who evacuated from their homes because of the nuclear accident caused by the earthquake, efforts have been made to construct housing, to provide support for their new life, to provide health support, and to promote acquaintance among residents.

- Renewing Playground Equipment
- Maintaining Exercise Facilities

About **500** sites



▲ Exercise Facilities (Playground)

- Public Housing for the Disaster-Affected (in Progress)

About **2,600** houses/50,00 houses



▲ Public Housing for the Disaster-Affected (Image)

- Project to Promote Acquaintance among Evacuees
- Periodic Dispatch of Doctors etc.

180 projects contracted



▲ Events to Promote Acquaintance among Evacuees

(2) Efforts to Secure Food Safety

- Japan has established one of the most stringent reference values in the world, and has been conducting detailed inspections (more than 700,000 inspections so far).
- If foods exceed the reference values, they are to be restricted from shipment, and shall not be sold in market.

Foods from Tohoku are safe and secure.

Reference Values for the Densities of Radioactive Cesium Contained in Foods (Unit: Bq/kg)

	Japan (Since April 2012)	EU (Foods Circulated Regionally)	USA
Drinking Water	10	1000	1200
Milk	50	1000	1200
Common Foods	100	1250	1200
Baby Foods	50	400	1200

Creating “New Tohoku”

(1) Areas Stricken by the Disaster Are Facing Various Issues

- Disaster-stricken areas (the Tohoku District) had been facing issues such as a “declining population,” “a low birth rate and an aging population” and the “hollowing out of local industries” even before the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster.
- These issues are commonly faced by all areas in Japan, and are also problems need to be tackled by developed countries.

Not just restoring what it was, but taking an opportunity of the reconstruction after the earthquake to **“Create New Tohoku”** is needed which will solve these issues and become a model case for all areas in Japan as well as the rest of the world.

A community which supports children's sound growth

An active super aging community

A community supported by sustainable energy

A community highly resistant and resilient to disasters

A community making good use of local human and material resources

(2) Toward Creating “New Tohoku”

- Inventing new pilot projects to **support pioneering approaches**
- Working out schemes to **dispatch workforces** from companies, etc. to **reconstruction sites**
- Creating frameworks to **give advice and other support to entrepreneurs to start businesses** in areas stricken by the disaster

Creating “New Tohoku”

(3) Specific Efforts

Children

- ★ Efforts are made to train “play leaders” who can teach children how to play energetically and excitedly to their fullest and how to communicate proactively with their friends.



Elderly

- ★ Efforts are made to provide meeting places for the elderly in temporary housing so that opportunities are increased to make consultation about their daily lives, to provide care services, and to get them acquainted with each other.



Creating “New Tohoku”

Disaster Management

- ★ In addition to promoting relocation to uplands and construct tide walls, efforts are being made to make people aware of how it is important for them to “escape” from tsunami (both efforts to construct facilities and those to educate people are important).



Industry



- ★ Support for the “ development of high-value added new products” made from foods from disaster-stricken areas .
- ★ Support to set up a *Yui no Ba* where “matching opportunities” for various business entities to make them get acquainted with each other are provided so that their sales may expand.
- ★ Presentation of pioneering efforts of companies in disaster-stricken areas. (For example, self-righting munch dolls created with the wish to stand up and recover from the disaster. They are to be sold in Norway.)

Creating “New Tohoku”

(4) Focused Assistance for Industries

- Recovery from the disaster is progressing in the three prefectures as a whole, however, in the coasts of areas stricken by the disaster, there are not many business entities who have recovered to conditions before the disaster.
- It is important to grow industries which support the livings of local people and maintain local communities as well as **local key industries** which attract demands from outside of the disaster-stricken areas.
Such industries are manufacturing (including automobile industry), agriculture and fishery and seafood processing industry, and tourism.

- The Reconstruction Agency shall function as the control tower to systematically plan measures to revitalize local industries and to effectively promote the measures.
⇒ **An “Industrial Revitalization Task Force” has been set up**, so that the Government of Japan can make concerted efforts.
- Speedy follow-up actions have been and are being made so that the local governments and industrial sector stricken by the disaster can make good use of these measures. (Private business entities shall play the leading role for the industrial revitalization, and a public-private partnership shall be further promoted.)