

Annual Report on PWJ Relief Operations in 2012 for the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake Acknowledgement of supports

Dear Readers,

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your support for our relief operations in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

Two years have passed since the earthquake, followed by series of tsunami devastated the northern east coast of Japan on March 11, 2011. I'd like to extend my heartfelt thoughts to those who affected by the devastating disaster.

Currently, reconstruction work for infrastructure, permanent public housings and facilities, has been in progress and accelerate the local recovery. While the affected population still remains in temporary housings with unforeseeable future, I have been strongly impressed by the people in Tohoku who move forward with their firm determination throughout the reconstruction process.

Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) will continue to deliver our assistance for people in Tohoku in association with local NPOs, volunteer organizations and local governments. PWJ will keep on seeking the best way to tackle with local problems in the area during the shifting phase from relief from reconstruction period.

I would like to emphasize my sincere gratitude extends to both domestic and international supporters from all private, public and corporate sectors for your continuous support and cooperation to Peace Winds Japan.

March, 2013 Peace Winds Japan
Chairperson Ohnishi Kensuke



▼ 2011.3

▼ 2012.3

▼ 2013.3

▼ 2015.3

Urgent Phase

Recovery Phase

Renaissance & Development Phase

Distribution of materials to fulfill urgent needs

Action for the recovery of livelihood

Aim for the continuous independence and growth of the area

Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is currently promoting support activities in Tohoku area, featuring three kinds of actions; Economic Recovery, Youth and Community Support, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness.

① Economic Recovery – To revitalize people and town

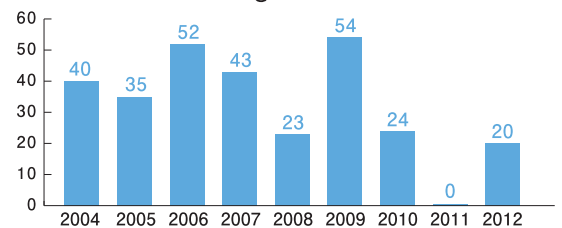
In order to revitalize the affected economy, it is necessary to support sustainable development of the areas. PWJ continues to provide our support for the local economic recovery through the fishery cooperatives and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Restart of abalone-fishing in Minamisanriku town

After the Disaster, despite the fact that abalone fishing is one of the largest income source in winter, fishermen in Minamisanriku couldn't go fishing for abalone during the first year due to the massive damage caused by the tsunami. In addition, it was financial challenges for fishermen to purchase new fishing tools such as rods, hooks, and sea glasses. Thus PWJ, through working with the Minamisanriku Fishery Cooperatives, provided fishermen a subsidy for the part of their expenditures to purchase the necessary abalone fishing tools of 550 fishermen: 274 in Shizugawa and 276 in Utatsu.

On November 2012, fishermen were able to resume the abalone fishing for the first time after the disaster and harvested about 20 tons!

Abalone Fishing in Minamisanriku



Source: From "Research for statistics of production in fishing on sea face" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries



start-up at dawn



Fishermen choosing abalones

※This project was supported by Peace Winds America and individual donations.

Interview on scene



Mr. Takahashi in Utatsu district, Minamisanriku

"Once I got on a boat to the first abalone fishing, I felt so great and happy because I finally be able to harvest abalone again after two years. It was a little different scenery this year with much fewer boats and they are mostly new boats and new equipment" said Mr. Takahashi, a fisherman in Utatsu. "I am grateful for this subsidy program because it eased our financial burden to purchase the pricy equipment for abalone fishing."

Revitalization of local economy with small shop owners

After the Disaster, temporary shopping streets were built in order to bring back tsunami-affected towns to what it used to be. Although the construction of temporary shops was covered by the governmental fund, many small business owners faced problems with purchasing supplies or arranging interior decorations. PWJ provided a subsidy program through the local Chamber of Commerce so that small business owners could purchase necessary supplies along with their individual support. Our subsidy contributed to the restore thier business as well as their livelihood activities. With this support, restaurants were decorated, and shops were equipped with necessary showcases, registers, and fixtures.



resumed Shops at Yume Shotengai (shopping mall) in Ofunato



relaxed community shared area at a temporary shopping mall

※This program was supported by JTI Foundation and individual donations.

●Number of shops supported

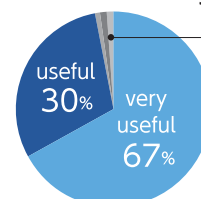
Rikuzentakada City

Ohfunado City

Minamisanriku town



●Questionnaire to objective persons



no answer 1%

Sent questionnaires to dealers in Ohfunado 238, in Rikuzentakada 80 and received answers from 256 dealers.

Comments

●I was thinking about giving up my business, but this subsidy made me change my mind to try once again. ●I lost everything, and I couldn't think of anything for the past one year. I was really worried and wondered whether I should restart my business or not, because I still have loans from the store which was swept away by tsunami. So, this support from PWJ was very helpful to let me restart. ●I'm thankful for this subsidy program. Because it enabled me to purchase culinary supplies. I was able to restart my shop earlier than I imagined.

② Youth and Community Support – for smile and future of children

In Minamisanriku, since temporary housings were constructed in school grounds and other public spaces, play ground for children were severely reduced. PWJ, in collaboration with a local volunteer group, started a youth program called “Furusato Gakushukai” or “Learning about my town”. the project goal is to provide children in the disaster area opportunities to learn about their township, its history, culture and industries.

PWJ has offered various programs so far: the fieldtrip to a kamaboko factory (Japanese traditional fish cake), and a tour of a salmon hatchery and kiriko crafts (a traditional and Shinto-regional paperwork craft). To further, PWJ also seeks corporate partners to offer special lectures with their own skills. Since June 2012, we have offered over 50 classes and more than 639 participated in this program.



fieldtrip to a kamaboko plant



children praying in the local jinja, Shinto-temple



Salmon is back to the river of hometown!

Interview on scene



PWJ Tohoku Program Staff: Sachie Saijo

Minamisanriku is my hometown. Here in this town, I feel people are trying to restore the town into the pre-disaster sceneries. But I have been wondering maybe they forgot to think about future of the children who will be growing up in this town and reconstruction of the town has been proceeding with only eyes of the adults.

This program aims to reconnect the communities, and regain a sense of pride from residents in their hometown while

telling and teaching children about the charms of the town.

During the program, I have seen some children exert leaderships while others show their talents for arts or crafts. It’s a place for children to express. Our corporate supporters have also given additional value to this program where they can provide varieties of new learning opportunities for the children. Through this project, I hope children will gain their own visions of the future.

※This program was supported by Japan Platform and individual donations.

③ Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness – Sharing the lessons learned for the next disaster

While reconstruction progresses in the tsunami damaged districts, it is important for residents to prepare for the next disaster. Working with the community groups, PWJ is working for analyzing the disaster experiences and sharing their lessons learned to strengthen the community capacity to deal with next disasters.

Hirota Town, Rikuzentakada city, is located in a peninsula. This town was isolated immediately after the tsunami, the roads to the town were cut down. Without tap water, electricity and gas, people in town jointly overcame the difficult situation by helping each other until the rescue arrived.

PWJ working with Jisyubou, a community association group for disaster prevention, to make a booklet to share the experiences. Workshops was held to analyze their activities; Questionnaires were distributed to all residents in Hirota; Narratives of individual experience were corrected.

PWJ plans to expand community networks to strengthen community disaster preparedness.



workshop of Jisyubou

This program was supported by Mercy Corps, our partner group, and individual donations.

PWJ looking into the future and next phase of support

PWJ will continue our activities in Tohoku. We will work with the local people, from children to seniors, to create their community where everyone is proud to live in. Tohoku area has been facing challenges for years such as aging population, the falling birthrate and population outflow. While we think about the reconstruction from the tsunami disaster, local development should be considered at the same time.

PWJ will expand our current Youth and Community program and Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention program into other areas, as well as we are planning to add a program to promote local tourism in 2015.

I would like to thank you for your continuous support!

Chief of Mission, PWJ Tohoku Program Masatoshi Kakumen



4th_gallery of pictures

Hosted a musical performed by children from Tohoku.

On December 2012, PWJ and our partner group called CARE-WAVE, hosted a children's musical in Tokyo. Participating children were all from disaster affected area in Tohoku. The total of 37 children performed the show which reflects on their own experiences and feeling of the disaster as well as the wish for the peace and hope for the people. "Please do not forget the feelings of connection, or "Kizuna", which was felt all over the country at the time of the disaster"



PWJ Search and Rescue Team (and rescue dogs too)!

PWJ believes the importance of the life saving skills during the early stage of the disaster is critical. PWJ started training search and rescue (SAR) dogs for the future disaster for over two years. We also began trainings on our staff for the basic SAR skills. Our young male staffs are being trained by the SAR specialists.



Cookies? Biscotti? No, it's a "Cootie"! - Delicious snacks using ingredients from Tohoku.

Developed and produced by our partner organization, Peace Nature Lab, PWJ began selling "Cootie" as seasonal goods. "Cootie" is a baked goods, made out of ingredients procured directly from farmers in Miyagi and Iwate prefectures and made in Kessennuma. Through this work, PWJ aims to help local farmers, employment and economy.



Maritime High School support from American donors

With donations from Peace Winds America, our sister organization, PWJ provided materials and school supplies to Koyo High School in Kessennuma, Miyagi prefecture. The tsunami completely destroyed the school, and 360 students needed lab and classroom equipment in order to continue their school work. The principal of the school, Mr. Seto, said, "We will transform the support from abroad into positive spirit, and together, we will move forward."



You can see our Tohoku activities in our homepage
<http://www.peace-winds.org/jp/act/touhoku.html>

Please check out our HP, Twitter and Facebook:
HP(English) <http://www.peace-winds.org/en/>
twitter <http://twitter.com/#!/peacewindsjapan>
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