

22 months since the Tohoku Earthquake CIVIC FORCE Activity Report

Osechi arrived to evacuees at temporary housing

Sincerely Greeting of New Year, 2013.

Although sustainable and substantial community reconstruction has only just begun, some disaster victims seemed to spend the New Year holidays more peacefully than last year. On December 31, 2012, disaster victims living in temporary housing compounds received *osechi* in a set of three stacking containers, provided by AEON Co., Ltd. The box was filled with Japanese traditional newyear's foods, supervised by Zeniya, a famous long established Japanese restaurant in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture. They hoped victims could spend the New Year holidays happily and positively. A total 600 boxes were delivered by non-profit-organizations assisting local communities, including Alice Box, Peace Nature Lab, and Tree Seed to 17 temporary compounds, houses with seniors and children's nursing homes.



Providing fancy food boxes delighted the people. One of them said "It has been too busy and upset to prepare *osechi*. Thank you so much". Some people made a phone call to convey their gratitude on January 1.

Wish everyone good luck for this year.

What we do in hard times

Civic Force launched the "Mid- and long- term reconstruction support activities," which focuses on support for reconstruction of disaster areas in a mid- and long-term viewpoint. Additionally, we also launched a new organization "Asia Pacific Alliance" with five Asian countries, where experience natural disasters frequently. Meanwhile, the aftershock with a seismic intensity of a lower 5 struck the Tohoku region on December 7, 2012. The earthquake reminded us of the importance of disaster prevention and reduction.

In 2013, we will make an effort to strengthen our alliance with corporations, governments and NPOs to prepare for next big scale disaster in addition to our current support activities toward Tohoku.

We cannot see the real recovery of the Japanese economy, which had stagnated for a long time. As the time has passed, not only disaster victims but also supporters are put in a tough situation. We resolve to focus on better results and more efficiency to surely support those who need help.

A message from the affected area will be brought to you.

Civic Force is now calling for donations to the Philippines for the New Year holidays. Please support the victims who are still living in disaster shelters due to Typhoon "Bopha" hitting the country in December. Your donation is delivered to the victims through CDRC, which is working at the site. Those who offer a donation during the period will receive a postcard with a message from the Philippines. The details are as follows:

- Period: December 21, 2012 - January 20, 2013
- Donate to: Donations to support the disaster victims of the Philippines typhoon.

<http://www.civic-force.org/news/news-1032.php>



“NPO Partner Projects” Progress Report

Civic Force has conducted the “NPO Partner Projects” since April 2011. In this term, we have decided to focus on supporting activities run by victims to reconstruct local areas. As of January 2013, we have been supporting six projects, including collaborations with “Shinrin” and “Iwate Society of Certified Clinical Psychologists,” both of which have been supported since last year. We monitor and screen their management systems, financial conditions, and activities, and conduct field survey with external experts. Partners must provide their monthly reports. For details, please visit the following website:

<http://www.civic-force.org/emergency/higashinohon/npo/>

■ New Projects

■ Shinrin×Civic Force

The Fukushima nuclear catastrophe spurs people to use renewable energy resources than ever. The Tohoku region, more than 70 percent of which is occupied by forest, is expected to be a birthplace of a new energy.

Civic Force have collaborated with Shinrin, a non-profit organization, which aims to develop a local community with using forest resources, such as wood pellet, domestic lumbers, and wood chips since October 2012. The organization was founded by the members of Japan Biomass Network, one of our cooperators.

“Tosa-no-mori Kyuentai,” which is based in Kochi Prefecture, support the organization through sharing their know-how and teaching their skills to the members of Shinrin. They aim to revitalize the lumber industry, which will be the centerpiece of



reconstruction through cultivating people who are capable of working for the industry and creating new jobs. They focus on environmental education and encourage to developing circulating society with reflecting real situation of devastated areas.

They start various activities, such as introducing human resource development programs, running a lumber yard having the system to ship thinning and unused timbers sustainably.

■ Iwate Society of Certified Clinical Psychologists×Civic Force

Iwate Society of Certified Clinical Psychologists, a professional group with 135 clinical psychotherapists, totally conducts 18 activities, such as telephone counseling, advice for hospital staff members, seminars on health at temporary housing. One and half year after the Tohoku Earthquake, victims require a mental health care more strongly than ever.

Civic Force mainly supports activities in the devastated coastal areas with poor access to health-care through helping psychotherapists improve their skills for counseling, reducing their burden, and assisting their business scheme to ease the anxiety of victims.

Specifically, we hold the “Super vision” once a month. “Super vision” is a session lectured by an expert to improve psychotherapists’ counseling skills. We arrange a lecturer’s schedule and book a venue to hold a session smoothly. We are planning to have a workshop to learn a program of stress management, which suits for the current situation surrounding victims.

■ Projects Report (As of January 11, 2013)

— Phase3rd& Phase4th Projects —

(Our activities for supporting reconstruction projects and local community development)

■ Mori wa Umi no Koibito×Civic Force

Mori waUmi no Koibito collaborates with

universities and colleges and corporations to investigate the sea off Kesennuma continuously. They have three missions: promoting environmental education; supporting forest improvement; conserving natural environment. They encourage people to think about a local community development coexisting with the sea.



**■ Kesennuma Future Plan Osawa Team
×Civic Force**

The 13th “Osawa Mirai Meeting” was held in December by “Kesennuma Future Plan Osawa Team” to discuss how to develop and reconstruct a town. The organization promotes a group relocation project and local reconstruction plans for Osawa district.

■ Oshima in Kesennuma community reconstruction support×Civic Force

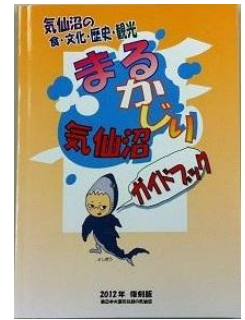
Oshima is an outlying island of Kesennuma. “Oshima in Kesennuma community reconstruction support” helps develop a new local community. Almost every weekends of last December, they helped farmers and fishers, cleaned up affected residences, and held some events with many volunteers who came from various prefectures, including Miyagi.



■ Slow Food Kesennuma×Civic Force

“Slow Food Kesennuma” finally published a renewal booklet: “Marukajiri Kesennuma guidebook” last December. One of the group’s missions was reprinting the “Marukajiri Kesennuma guidebook,” which was published before the earthquake. The new

booklet introduces the history, culture, and nature of Kesennuma as the previous one and additionally covers the reports of damages, and difficulties of reconstruction in the region. The group hopes that this book plays a role to introduce the identity of Kesennuma and triggers the progress of reconstruction in the region.



■ Tohoku Kyoeki Toshi Kikin decided to invest in two projects

“Tohoku KyoekiToshiKikin,” the general incorporated foundation for supporting revitalization of business and industries, has decided to invest in following two projects from the end of December 2012 to January 2013.

■ Turn “onagawa factory” into a stock company

The foundation has created the “*FukkoKigyō Capital*,” which supports entrepreneurs who contribute to reconstruction in Tohoku. As the second project of the fund, the foundation invested 5 million yen at the end of 2012 in “onagawa factory,” which was established in Onagawa-Cho, Ojika-Gun, Miyagi Prefecture. The members of onagawa factory started their business to sell handworks made by disaster victims to encourage their financial independence. We support their work to be a business for the next generation and turn onagawa factory into a stock company. In particular, we help create new products and explore new business opportunities.



■ Support “Onagawa Lodging Cooperative Association”

The foundation issued private placement bonds and offered 5 million yen to “Onagawa Lodging

Cooperative Association,” which opened the area where visitors can stay in camping trailer houses in Onagawa-Cho, Ojika-Gun, Miyagi Prefecture. The association was established by four Japanese-style inn managers who could not reconstruct their accommodations at the former places. Onagawa was seriously affected by the tsunami and 80 percent of buildings in the area were destroyed. A chronic shortage of accommodations made residents and those who engaged in reconstruction inconvenient. Introducing this type of accommodations stimulates local economy and financial benefits of 300 million yen per year are expected. Cooperating with local tourism associations and workers and supporters in the local industries, the foundation helps the lodging association not only realize reconstruction but also promote to visit Onagawa for tourists.

Let us hear your voices!

Twenty-two months have passed since Civic Force has started aids for the Tohoku earthquake. We have been expanding our services based on the many opinions we have received from corporations and individuals. Among them, requests of wanting to “hear the voices of the people affected by the Tohoku earthquake” have been frequently sent by many. We have also received requests from the disaster-affected areas wanting to “thank people who helped support us” or voices saying “please remember Tohoku and its disasters”.

In respond to both requests, we have decided to ask for “your voices” for those of you who have taken part in the Civic Force.

Please send your voices to info@civic-force.org. We would love to hear Tohoku reconstruction projects you are currently working on or any messages of support to the people in Tohoku.

Taking Part in Advanced Lifesaving Certificate courses

In December 2012, Civic Force staff participated in taking the Advanced Lifesaving Certificate course at Kojimachi Fire Department in Tokyo. We learned “the first aid” like rhythmic sternal compression and artificial respiration, just to name a few. We also were informed of how we can provide defibrillation using the AED, and bandage methods so that we are aware of what is required in emergency situations.



The next day was a course on “Sphere Standards”. The staff learned the principles and universal standards of the “Sphere Standards” as well as methods in how to apply them, required for practitioners who are managing or implementing humanitarian support.

Do you know about contribution deduction?

It's almost time to file your tax returns this year. Donations to Civic Force are given preferential tax treatment as they are donations to one of the specific corporations for promoting the public interests. Private donators can take contribution deduction by choosing either tax deduction or income deduction. You need to file your final returns and attach the receipts issued by Civic Force to the form to take the deduction.

You can ask for the receipts through the form on our website.

■ Request of receipts

<https://www.civic-force.org/contact/receipt/>

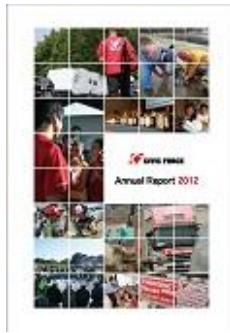
■ Please view details of contribution deduction

<https://www.civic-force.org/contribution/support/#tax>

We, however, ask those who made donations through Just Giving Japan (JG) request the receipts from "My Page" on JG's website.

Our activities in fiscal year 2012

Thank you very much for your kind and continuous support of Civic Force. We have disclosed the fiscal 2012 annual activity report on our web site. Please visit our web site and check out our activities carried out from September 2011 to August 2012.



You can also view our financial results:

<http://www.civic-force.org/news/news-1034.php>

Additionally, you can see our corporate supporters on the following page:

<http://www.civic-force.org/emergency/higashinohon/supporter/>

For corporate partners

We need your support in case there is another disaster. We have to strengthen our tie-ups with various corporations and organizations in preparation for possible next large-scale disaster. Our activities are greatly helped by our corporate supporters. We hope you will develop an interest in our activities and become a supporting member.

Please refer to the following web page:

<http://www.civic-force.org/about/membership/>

You can see our corporate partners on the following web site:

<http://www.civic-force.org/about/partner/>

Why don't you become a monthly supporter for only 1,000 yen per month?

Your donation will be a great help in backing up our activities to prepare for the next large-scale disaster. We must be ready for the "next one". Donate 1,000 yen per month to become a monthly supporter and you can participate in activities to prepare for a large scale disaster.

Payment can be made through a bank transfer to Civic Force. Our account numbers are as follows:

■ Bank: Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Aoyama Branch, savings account No. 6953964

■ JP Bank: 00140-6-361805

■ Credit card: Please check the "Donate Now!" section on the Civic Force web site:

https://bokinchan2.com/civicforce/donation/bokin/page1.php?bokin_type=donation

Support us with single-click on the web

When you just click the "Single-click donations" on the website, our sponsor will donate one yen.

<http://www.clickbokin.ekokoro.jp/139.html>

<http://www.psc-inc.co.jp/clickdonation/index.html>

Register your e-mail address, get our weekly mail magazine

We publish a weekly mail magazine "to know the current situation of affected areas" and send you assorted information.

The magazine shows our activities carried out in Japan and overseas. You can see the current situations of disaster areas, hear the voices of people who toil over reconstructive works and check out Civic Force's activities. Please register your e-mail address.

For registration: <http://www.civic-force.org/mailmag/>

*You can see our monthly reports, released around the 11th of each month, on the following web site:

<http://civic-force.org/news/monthly/>

We provide information via social networks.



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