

Sixteen months since the Tohoku Earthquake CIVIC FORCE Activity report

Passing on experience of the Tohoku Earthquake Tsunami to the world

Sixteen months has passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake Tsunami which caused unprecedented disaster including more than 15,000 deaths and about 3,000 missing people (as of June, 2012, excerpt from the website of the National Police Agency).

What have we learned? What should we share with? In the course of debate on developing new community for disaster prevention such as group relocation and construction of seawalls in the disaster areas, the future of Japan is attracting attention from the world considering earthquakes and other disasters frequently occurred in Japan and abroad. It is our duty to share the experience of the earthquake disaster and apply what we learned to the future since disasters occur frequently in Japan. This monthly report introduces the latest activities of Civic Force in the Asia-Pacific region.

In pursuit of system where Asian courtiers cooperate and support one another

Civic Force was established in 2009. Since then, Civic Force has been cooperating with NPOs/NGOs, companies, governments and administrations to share and utilize their information, human resources, fund and goods for quick support in case of large disaster in Japan. We are also striving to achieve more effective and efficient support. Civic Force held an international convention inviting specialists of disaster support at Hiroshima in April 2009. After that, we have continued surveys at the areas which are frequently attacked by disasters. In September, 2011, Civic Force held the “Asia-Pacific disaster support summit” in Tokyo and NGOs engaging in disaster support participated in the

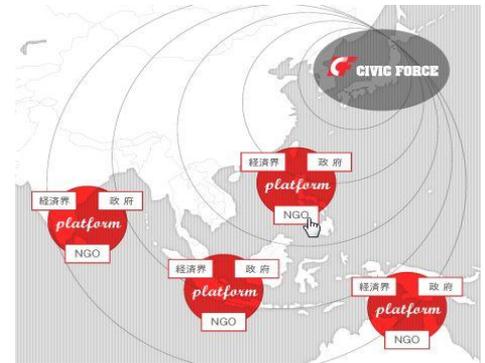


summit from Indonesia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Taiwan.

The objective of these activities is twofold; first, to

establish a platform in the Asia-Pacific region where disasters often strike, in which companies, NGOs, administrations, etc. cooperate to provide emergency support and ,second, to establish a mutual support system to provide funds, information, human resources through the platform of each country quickly and efficiently with one another.

Toward realization of this concept, the parties involved from five countries including Japan got together in Indonesia this May and formally agreed on the establishment of the Asia Pacific Platform (APP).



For the “Asia ministerial level disaster prevention meeting”

Cooperation among companies, NGOs and administrations in Asian countries is indispensable for this new organization. The Establishment of the organization will be announced as a formally registered project at the fifth Asia ministerial Conference on disaster Reduction to be held in Indonesia between 22 and 25 of October this year. In the preparation of APP establishment, an office will be temporarily opened in Japan to engage in creating relationship for mutual support among the platform of each country, enhancing function of each platform and other activities including enlightenment activities and funding while aiming to quick cooperation in an emergency based on the previous agreement.

Tohoku earthquake support Supporting recovery from the mid- to long-term viewpoint



On the following day after the Great East Japan Earthquake, Civic Force went into the disaster areas by helicopter. Since

then with the help of companies, governments, NPOs, and citizens, Civic Force has provided various supports including procurement/delivery of emergency relief supplies, setting/operation of handmade baths. We also launched the large car ferry service project.

We are especially focusing on “NPO Partner Projects”

to support recovery and development of local communities that are trying to their best to bounce back from due to the Quake and Tsunami. Civic Force is challenging the “mid- and long-term recovery support project” to expand trust relationship with local practitioners by utilizing intellectual resources and networks in disaster areas and other areas built through this project.

We are continuously engage ourselves in the ‘mid-and long-term recovery’ project, especially focusing the four programmes related to tourism promotion, renewable energy, public houses for disaster victims and group relocation and introduction of a helicopter for emergency medical care. We are developing and expanding reconstruction support activities from the mid-to-long term perspective.

The details of the projects are coming soon on our web site.

Mid- and long-term recovery support project, 1 “Tourism”

“We can work it out! And we could work it out!” —Memory of the disaster 20 years ago

Okushiri Island on the Japanese Sea southeast Hokkaido

While the island is known as a beautiful tourist site, it was seriously damaged by the earthquake off southwestern Hokkaido on July 12, 1993.

At the beginning of July, Kesennuma City which is working on strategies for tourism after the disaster dispatched a group of observers to Okushiri Island to learn its experience. Civic Force also participated in the tour as a tourism supporting project.

The group visited the tsunami museum, the seawall, the town with embankment, the forest of recovery, etc., exchanged opinions with the government office and the tourist association to deepen understanding on challenges and situations of tourism at Okushiri Island recovered from the disaster.

The meeting was held to exchange opinions between people in Okushiri island and citizens of Kesennuma.

Toward community development in the future, people mainly discussed how the memory of earthquake disasters is passed down to the generations. Okushiri Islanders said, “We worked hard while having the idea that we could work it out. And actually we could.” The participants from Kesennuma say, “The experience of people in Okushiri Island gave us energy. We are encouraged by them.”

Strategy for tourism after the disaster and for the future of community 10 years and 20 years from now. Civic Force is continuing to cooperate with people in disaster areas and to support reconstruction and community development for the future.



Memorial “Jikusho” (Okushiri Island)

“NPO Partner Projects” Progress report

In the third and fourth phase of “NPO Partner Projects” which supports projects led by local people toward recovery and reconstruction of community, nine projects are under operation as of July 2012. We report progress of each project.

■Projects currently underway (as of July 11, 2012)

-Phase II Projects-

(Projects with specialty and novelty in which local communities in the disaster areas participate)

■Moriwa Umi no Koibito×Civic Force

“Moriwa Umi no Koibito” is engaged in activities of environmental education, reforestation and environmental conservation based in Kesennuma City, Miyagi. A child



summer school lasting three days and two nights will be held three times from July 25 to August 8. The name of the school is “Satoumi Taiken & Satoyama Taiken (Experience of life at a seaside town and a mountain village).” Children from the fourth grade to the ninth grade can participate in the school to learn nature through activities such as tree claiming and observation of creatures living near water.

—Phase III/IV Projects—

(Community support, community development support projects toward local reconstruction with medium- and long-term viewpoint)

■Alice Box ×Civic Force

Alice box is continuing mobile vending for smaller-scale temporary housing in Kesennuma, Miyagi which cannot receive sufficient support. As of July, using one lightweight truck, Alice box visits three

to five areas a day to deliver vegetables and seasoning purchased from local farmers and shops to people living in temporary houses.



■Kesennuma Reconstruct Association (KRA) × Civic Force

Kesennuma Reconstruct Association (KRA) is engaged in activities to prevent residents from being isolated and supporting development of new community by holding tea ceremonies at temporary houses and other events. Along with these events, KRA is focusing on distributing information on group relocation for disaster prevention, government movement and events held in various places.

■Japan Forest Biomass Network × Civic Force



The open ceremony of “Tenohira ni Taiyo no Ie” to accommodate children and mothers from Fukushima

will be held in Tome City on July 21. Japan Forest Biomass Network started the preparation for this project one year ago. Finally the project will kick into gear.

■Network Orange × Civic Force

Network Orange is holding “Tohoku Marche” together with shop owners from the devastated Sanriku coast. Office staff of Network Orange is now busy for



the preparation of the event to be held on July 21 and 22. The workshop by an adviser from local area to learn pop advertising was also held on June 9 and 30.

■P@CT(pakuto)×Civic Force



The members of P@CT are all from Rikuzentakata City in Iwate. P@CT is operating programs in the city to support children in the area through the collaboration with local people. One of the Programs is an after school care program called “Michikusa room” in which college students participate as a volunteer and the other program is to experience agriculture activity called “Eco-farm.”

■Peace Jam × Civic Force



Peace Jam supports employment with mothers raising children in disaster areas through jam making business. In June, in addition to the development of jam products, inviting specialists of baby massage, etc., Peace Jam held “Parents salon.”

■Chiiki Saisei Project×Civic Force

In Chiiki Saisei Project, the “Car sharing project” to support people living in an isolated island, Oshima in Kesenuma who lost their vehicles due to the earthquake has been continued. The project is meeting high demand and helps job creation in the area. Therefore, we will transfer the project to a local organization by the end of the operation period.

■Koizumi Chiku no Asu wo Kangaeru Kai × Civic Force

Koizumi District, a disaster area, led by residents, quickly decided the relocation to the high ground. The residents held meetings, saying, “Let’s develop a new

community by all of us.” At the meeting held in June, residents had discussion under the theme



of “the warmth of my home.” Also, the district started exchange with Numazu City, Sizuoka which may be damaged by tsunami due to earthquakes along the Nankai Trough.

Preparing for the next disaster



Five second-year students of Nakano junior high school in Nakano Ward,

Tokyo visited the Tokyo Office of Civic Force on July 3, 2012, for an integrated study “Living together”. The objective of this study is that students ask an organization engaging in activities contributing to society about its activities, purposes and backgrounds of activities, etc. to find out problems of society and what they can do. Students listened to us earnestly and asked a lot of questions. They voiced “This visit made us think about disaster prevention in daily life.”

To those who support Civic Force

Thank you for your continuous support. Donated funds concerning the Great East Japan Earthquake are used according to the approval of the board. We disclose project operation, use of funds, the account settlement and the business report of fiscal 2011 on our website. We look forward to your continuous support.

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

Information on change in use of “designated donation” to support Tohoku

From March 2012, we changed the use of fund donated to Civic Force. All the “designated fund” to support our activities for the Great East Japan Earthquake donated until the end of February were spend on operational costs of the designated activities. However, we use 15% of the donations for operating expenses since March 1. Operating expenses mean expenses for key activities of Civic Force including operation of Civic Force Tokyo office and ordinary activities to prepare future disaster.

Request for monthly supporters

Regular preparation has a huge influence on the speed and quality of support when a disaster strikes. Civic force experienced this personally during the Tohoku Earthquake and is now preparing for the next large scale disaster. Your help has been necessary for the activities we have been able to conduct so far and will also be needed for our preparations for the next disaster. We ask that you participate in our activities, necessary for preparing for the next large scale disaster, as a monthly supporter, contributing an amount of ¥1,000 each month.

Disasters, particularly earthquakes, can occur anywhere at any time. Please help us prepare for the next earthquake in Japan so that we can provide more effective and efficient support.

We accept financial support for our activities at the accounts listed below.

■Bank: Sumitomo Mitsui Bank, Aoyama Branch, savings account no. 6953964

■JP Bank: 00140-6-361805

(The account holder for both of the above is (Civic Force))

■Credit card: Please check the “Donate Now!” section on the Civic Force homepage.

Request for supporting member

Civic Force is seeking corporations that support us to prepare large-scale quick supporting activities when a big disaster occurs. Please participate in emergency drills and other activities and support Civic Force as a supporting member Civic Force is preparing for the next disaster and engaging in developing systems where more and more companies support disaster areas by utilizing their area of specialty. For further information, please visit our website

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

*You can view our monthly reports, released around the 11th of each month, at

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



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