

# Development Stage (FY 2018 - 2020)

**Recovery Initiatives Summary Report** 





植樹会前編書

# Introduction

It has been eleven years since the Great Fast Japan Earthquake struck, causing catastrophic damage and claiming many lives.We would like to once again express our gratitude for the tremendous support and cooperation we have received from individuals and organizations throughout Japan and across the world.

Since the disaster, the prefecture has worked together with the affected cities and towns, the national government, and the private sector, and has put all its efforts for recovery and reconstruction. Over the 10-year period of the Miyagi Prefecture Earthquake Disaster Recovery Plan, we have boldly taken up the challenges of creating a special fishery zone, establishing a new medical school, and privatizing Sendai Airport, among other efforts, with the goal of a creative recovery centered on drastic reconstruction that goes beyond restoration.

The Sanriku Expressway became fully operational this fiscal year and is expected to play a major role in both promoting industry in coastal areas, including the fisheries industry, and in increasing the the number of visitors to the area. Furthermore, the Miyagi 3.11 Tsunami Disaster Memorial Museum was opened in the Minamihama District of Ishinomaki City to commemorate those who lost their lives and to pass on memories and lessons from the disaster.

While a path has been paved for tangible projects, more intangible measures such as mental health care and community revitalization must continue to be addressed in the

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future. Furthermore, as the area most affected by the disaster. we have a duty to pass on the memories and lessons of the disaster to the future, both domestically and abroad. Miyagi Prefecture will strive to provide careful and ongoing support for each and every challenge.

This publication is a record of the efforts made toward the recovery of Miyagi Prefecture from fiscal years 2018 to 2020, which is the Development Stage outlined in the Miyagi Prefecture Earthquake Disaster Recovery Plan that was finalized in October 2011.

This publication aims to maintain the collective memories of the disaster and pass on the lessons learned from the disaster, which are otherwise likely to fade away in time. We believe that it can help guide effective responses in the event of a large-scale disaster, aid recovery and rebuilding efforts in disaster-affected areas, and serve as a blueprint for developing a disaster-resistant and safe community in any location. We hope this report will serve those important purposes in many regions.

March 2022 Yoshihiro Murai Governor of Miyagi Prefecture



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- 2 Kawamachi Terasu Yuriage
- 3 Minamisanriku Earthquake Disaster Memorial Park
- 4 Nikoniko Berry
- 5 Kesennuma-Oshima Ohashi Bridge
- 6 Natori Cycle Sports Center 7 Peach Aviation New Sendai -Naha Air Route
- 8 Opening Ceremony of the Tobu Reconstruction Road
- 9 Ishinomaki Minamihama Tsunami Memorial Park
  10 Yamamoto Town Disaster Memorial Ruins,
- Nakahama Elementary School
- 11 Watari Town Hall's New Building
- 12 Sanriku Expressway Kesennuma Bridge
- 13 Cherry Blossom Planting Event in the Green Buffe
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- 15 Fishermen's College in Fiscal Year 2020 (long-term) 16 Musubimaru dressed in "Haori and Hakama'
- makes his first public appearance

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## **Overview of the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster**

A magnitude 9.0 earthquake occurred at 2:46 p.m. JST on March 11, 2011. Its epicenter was located off the Sanriku Coast, 130 km east-southeast of the Oshika Peninsula, at a depth of 24 km below sea level. The earthquake caused strong tremors across Miyagi Prefecture, with Kurihara City registering a maximum of 7 on the 7-level Japanese seismic intensity scale, and other places throughout the prefecture recording seismic intensity ranging from an upper 5 to an upper 6. The earthquake triggered a massive tsunami that hit a wide area along the Pacific coast, spanning multiple prefectures including Miyagi. The huge waves not only inundated communities in coastal areas, but also ran up the rivers several kilometers inland to cause extensive flooding in lowland areas, as observed on the Sendai Plain.



### Photographs of the Disaster





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Photo: Shishiori District engulfed by a fire induced by the tsunami (Kesennuma City)



Photo: Kennan Sewage Treatment Center inundated by the tsunami (Iwanuma City)



Photo: Charred remains of vehicles and other debris near Kadonowaki Elementary School (Ishinomaki City)

Photo: Tsunami waves swamping over the pier of a tourist boat wharf (Shiogama City)

Photo: Farmland around Sakamoto Station swamped

by the tsunami (Yamamoto Town)









Photo: Sendai Airport damaged by the tsunami(Natori City)



Photo: An isolated Arahama Elementary School (Sendai City)



Photo: Shizugawa District surrounded by a large amount of debris (Mir



Photo: A police box toppled by the tsunami (Onagawa Town)