



United We Stand Fukushima

~ Voices from Fukushima ~



Although it has been 3 years and 9 months since the nuclear accident, problems have remained, many people are still under the pressure of evacuation. On the other hand, the public infrastructures, reconstructions and revitalizations are steadily being implemented.

At Fukushima International Association (FIA), we started to provide free papers like *Gyro post-disaster edition* and *United We Stand Fukushima* after the earthquake. We hope to convey the current state of Fukushima and our local internationalization to more people.

※You can download the Chinese, Tagalog, Portuguese and Korean version of the free paper from our website.



Fukushima Scenery

Joban Highway Direct connection from Namie to Sendai area

The Joban Highway, which originally built from Tokyo to Sendai extended its distance since 1987, from Iwaki city to Sendai. In 2002, section from Minami-soma to Miyagi prefecture/yamamoto IC was started; unfortunately due to the earthquake and nuclear accident in 2011, the construction had been halted for a while. Afterwards, reconstruction was tempted and it is finally opened this year in April (Minami-soma to Soma IC), and on the 6th of Dec, section from Namie to Minami-soma IC and Soma to Yamamoto IC were opened.

The new Highway sections has connected some northern villages in Namie-cho area. It is expected this Highway will smooth out the evacuation process, bring more visitors and accelerate revitalization.



Miyagi prefecture-Yamamoto IC opening ceremony
(Photo by Fukushima Prefecture)



The unchanged damages from Tsunami at Tomioka station

The 4th Fukushima reinforcement tour

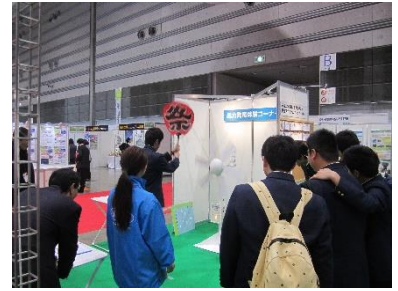
“The 4th Fukushima reinforcement tour” was held on the 29th and the 30th in Nov hosted by JICA Fukushima Youth association. 50 Participants from as North as Hokkaido, South as Kyushu joined the tour. All participants were surprised at how Tomioka station has remained its state many years from the accident. Workers at the Spa Resort Hawaiians talked about how the situations were like and how they dialed with the situations post the disaster.

Participants all agreed to tell their friends about what they saw and heard after they go back to their hometowns. They all wanted to do something for Fukushima.

New technologies born by the earthquake experiences

On Dec 3rd and 4th, “Fukushima revitalization and renewable energy industry fair 2014” was held at Koriyama Big Palatte. Approximately 170 companies and organizations within and outside the prefecture came to display their renewable energy technology research results.

Moreover, the companies and organizations introduced new technologies developed after the disaster such as magnesium air battery, which can be used to charge electrical cars when the power is down.



High school students experimenting with wind power



Voice from the citizens in Fukushima

Karuka Nancy Sachi (Currently living in Aizu-wakamatsu city, from Brazil)

My father came from Futaba town and my grandparents from my mother’s side came from Motomiya city (the old Motomiya town). I participated activities at Brazil Fukushima prefecture organization in Brazil since young, so when I heard about the Great East Japan Earthquake, I felt pain in my heart.

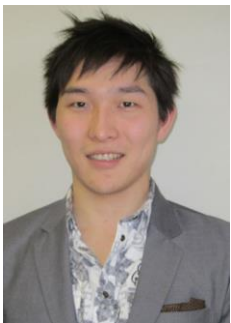
Now as a prefecture-paid exchange student, I am studying graphic design at Aizu University collage short-term. During this exchange, I am grateful to have the opportunity to study what I desire and to see Fukushima firsthand.



Sainbuyan Odbayar (Currently living in Fukushima city, from Mongol)

I came to Fukushima University on exchange right after the earthquake in 2011, I planned to attend grad school next spring. Other than business, I want to study entrepreneur programs and do an internship in the United States. I desire to master the mechanics of entrepreneurship for the future.

A few days ago, I attended “National Students English Speech Contest” and made a speech titled “Accelerate revitalization!” I believe that young and strong candidates are the ones who will truly benefit the society in the future. I expect myself to experience much and grow into someone like this.



Sawakami Chan (Currently living in Koriyama, from Vietnam)

I came to Japan in 2007, currently we have family restaurant business in Koriyama city. Although our restaurant had received various damages from the disaster, we rebuilt it and the old customers had come back eventually. At our Vietnamese restaurant, there are foreign staff other than Vietnamese. We understand how hard it is to comprehend Japanese, therefore, we are all connected and bear in mind that mutual helping is crucial.

In recent years, many Vietnamese students came to Fukushima to do research, I do my best to provide resources and advice to them in order to help them smoothing out their Japan experience.



Measurement of radiation level in Fukushima Prefecture (provisional value)

The homepage of Fukushima prefecture publishes radiation level (tentative) all over the prefecture. At the Fukushima International Association homepage, we have the levels updated in English, Chinese, Tagalog, Portuguese and Korean regularly for many more to read.

Unit : $\mu\text{Gy/h} \approx \mu\text{Sv/h}$ (micro gray/hour \approx micro sievert/hour)

Date, Measuring time	Fukushima City	Koriyama City	Shirakawa City	Aizu Wakamatsu City	Minami Aizu Town	Minami Soma City	Iwaki City
(Normal value)	0.04	0.04-0.06	0.04-0.05	0.04-0.05	0.02-0.04	0.05	0.05-0.06
2014.12.16 9:00	0.23	0.13	0.09	0.06	0.04	0.12	0.08
Measurement device	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP
Direction and Distance from 1st power plant	North west About 63km	West About 58km	West south west About	West About 98km	West south West About	North About 24 km	South south west About

※Measurement of the radiation level in Fukushima city was taken in the parking lot on the north side of the Kenpoku District Health and Welfare Office, Koriyama city was taken in the parking lot on the south side of the Koriyama government office complex, the other cities and town were taken in the parking lot on the every joint government offices.

※The normal value mentioned above are from the result of radioactivity levels surveyed within Fukushima prefecture in 2009 (21st year of Heisei period).

※MMP is Portable Radiation Monitoring Equipment (Mobile Monitoring Post).

FIA Information

Information service for foreigners

Here at the International Association, we provide information services for foreigners in English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, and Portuguese.

- English, Chinese, Japanese
Every Tuesday to Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm
- Korean, Tagalog, Portuguese
Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm
※Appointment necessary for the 4th and 5th Thursdays.

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