

Schedule

Workshop	Outline	Date / Venue
Opening session: Fukushima in the World	Staff members from several foreign embassies in Japan will give presentations on how Fukushima Prefecture is perceived in their countries. Through their presentations, participants will gain a better understanding of how Fukushima Prefecture is perceived by people around the world, and exchange views, based on these perceptions, about what efforts they should make in the future to achieve better mutual understanding.	13:00 – 15:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
Play by high school students (performance)	After a “question presentation”-style play is performed by students from Futaba Mirai Gakuen High School, participants will discuss the questions presented by them.	15:15 – 15:30 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
Two affected areas —Kumamoto and Fukushima	Sharing the experience of a convener, who has provided support for the reconstruction of areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and who also survived the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake, panelists will look back at the two earthquakes and discuss what measures Fukushima and Kumamoto Prefectures can take in cooperation with each other as affected areas.	15:30 – 17:30 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
The honest opinions that experts from abroad heard through individual interviews, aimed at helping residents guide themselves towards the future	In September 2015, three scholars from abroad conducted one-on-one interviews with residents living in temporary emergency shelters. A discussion will be conducted on these residents’ honest opinions regarding restoration of the affected area, opinions that had not even been anticipated by Hirono Town officials and yet were obtained through these intercultural interactions, with the scholars from abroad joining us.	25th (Fri) 15:30 – 17:30 Hirono Town Community Center (Training Room 1)
Thinking about coexistence with residents in public restoration housing	Given the fact that public restoration housing is being built in Hirono Town as the first public restoration housing project in the Futaba District, participants will think about how to solve possible problems to promote coexistence with residents in the housing in the Futaba District, referring to past cases.	15:30 – 17:30 Hirono Town Gymnasium (2F Meeting Room)
Association for the Future of the Futaba District (not open to the public)	Young staff members from eight municipal governments in the Futaba District will exchange views about the future of the Futaba District.	13:30 – 17:00 Naraha Town Hall
Introduction of Futaba Mirai Gakuen High School	Futaba Mirai Gakuen High School aims to develop with local communities and residents. An outline of the school and design overview of permanent school buildings will be introduced. Also, messages relaying students’ thoughts and feelings of the school will be widely dispatched from the site.	17:30 – 18:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Training Room 1)
Dialogue between local residents and experts after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident —What have we learned?	The French Institut de radioprotection et de sûreté nucléaire (IRSN) (“Radioprotection and Nuclear Safety Institute”) will introduce the efforts made in the Futaba District and other affected areas. Participants will exchange views on the future reconstruction of the affected areas.	10:00 – 12:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
Fukushima seen from the perspective of foreigners —Let’s think about Fukushima Prefecture while eating snacks!	Young foreigners living in Hirono Town and Iwaki City will talk about Fukushima Prefecture from the perspective of foreigners.	12:00 – 13:30 Hirono Town Community Center (Training Room 1)
“Presented to the Hometown in 30 Years’ Time” Report on the visit to the Republic of Belarus by high school students from the Hamadori area in Fukushima Prefecture	This summer, high school students from the Hamadori area in Fukushima Prefecture visited the area contaminated by the nuclear accident in Chernobyl 30 years ago. They will give a presentation on what they thought and felt there and exchange views, looking at the future of Fukushima Prefecture.	26th (Sat) 13:30 – 15:30 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
How should we connect Fukushima Prefecture with the world?—The role of people who send out information	A licensed guide who accompanied the foreign media as an interpreter will give a presentation on Fukushima Prefecture seen from the perspective of foreigners. There will then be a group discussion based on the presentation.	14:00 – 17:00 Hirono Town Gymnasium (2F Meeting Room)
Thinking about nursing children from disaster affected areas @ Futaba World	Participants will think about nursing children from their various perspectives through a “Café philosophique”-style discussion.	14:00 – 16:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Training Room 1)
Passing down hope to future generations, coping with the long-term disaster aftermath	The current situation, as well as issues in affected areas, which have been recognized through research and support activities for the past five years, will be reported. Participants will discuss the hopes of residents as well as the difficulties living in affected areas to explore recommendations for the future.	17:00 – 18:30 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
Thinking about a succession of traditional events to foster mental restoration	Participants will exchange views about the resumption of festivals to reconfirm the significance of strengthening people-to-people ties.	10:00 – 12:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
Report on the overseas training by junior high school students from Hirono Town —Cross-cultural communication program in Canada	Junior high school students from Hirono Town who visited Canada will report on their overseas training.	27th (Sun) 10:00 – 12:00 Hirono Town Gymnasium (2F Meeting Room)
Restoration of farmland and the environment in the Futaba District—Thinking about community renovation through food and agriculture	Participants will think about the restoration of farmland and community renovation through food and agriculture in the Futaba District after residents return to the district. They will also exchange views on how to take advantage of the ideas of young people for these purposes.	10:00 – 12:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Training Room 1)
Living in Hirono Town and radiation	The situation of decontamination in Hirono Town will be reported. The situation will also be evaluated in collaboration with students of Futaba Mirai Gakuen High School (Social Entrepreneur Club).	12:30 – 15:00 Hirono Town Community Center (Main Conference Room)
«Side Events»		
Tea Ceremony	Experience a tea ceremony in the tea house in Futatsunuma Park.	25th (Fri) 18:00 – Seimei-kan Hall, Futatsunuma Park
Panel display (1)	Support services provided at the Radiation Counseling Room will be presented through a panel display.	25th (Fri) – 26th (Sat) Hirono Town Community Center (Small Conference Room)
Panel display (2)	The ongoing restoration work and current situation in Fukushima Prefecture will be presented through a panel display concentrating on eight towns and villages.	25th (Fri) – 27th (Sun) Hirono Town Community Center (Small Conference Room)
Panel display (3)	Pieces of work that were created during tours guided by the Omotenashi Guide Fukushima group serving as interpreters and information on the Soso-district Study Tour will be presented through a panel display.	26th (Sat) 17:15 – 18:15 Hirono Town Gymnasium (2F Meeting Room)
Ceremony	In order to demonstrate the safety of our food products and thereby restore our reputation, mochi rice cakes using rice produced and harvested in Hirono this season will be freshly pounded and served to all participants here today.	27th (Sun) in the morning In front of the Hirono Town Gymnasium
«Closing» 27th (Sun) 16:00 –		

International Forum

“Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas”
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<http://www.town.hirono.fukushima.jp/>



ふくしまからはじめよう。
Future From Fukushima.

International Forum

“Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas”

November 25 – 27, 2016

[Summary]


Under the theme of “Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas,” an international forum was held from Friday, November 25 to Sunday, November 27, 2016. This international forum was organized based on the “Message from Hirono” adopted at the international forum “Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas and Hirono”—Towards “Happy Return and Reconstruction”—From “Early Return” to “Happy Return” held in September 2015. The aim of the forum was to discuss the reconstruction of the entire Fukushima Prefecture, a region affected by the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident, with various people concerned at one of the affected areas, since we believe that consensus about disaster issues should be formed involving a wide range of areas.

Advancing the efforts we made last year, we established the Planning and Organization Committee of the International Forum, comprising those concerned in Hirono Town as well as those interested in the Futaba district and experts working in the disaster-affected areas. Thorough consideration was given by the committee to discussing various issues in the affected areas at the forum.

During the forum, diverse issues in the Futaba district and other affected areas were discussed in 17 sessions with overseas guests.

On the final day of the forum, a new message was adopted by a consensus of the participants.

<http://www.town.hirono.fukushima.jp/kikaku/kokusaiforum.html>

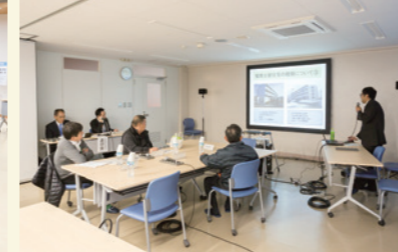
 **Hirono town, Fukushima Prefecture**

Organized by : Planning and Organization Committee of the International Forum

Co-organized by : Isotope Science Center, the University of Tokyo / Fukushima University
Higashi Nippon International University / Kumamoto Gakuen University
National Institute of Technology, Fukushima College

Sponsored by : Embassy of Canada to Japan / Embassy of France to Japan / Fukushima Prefecture
Iwaki City / Fukushima Bureau of Reconstruction Agency





Message from the International Forum

“Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas”



A message was issued from “Disaster Affected Areas & Hirono” in September 2015 under the theme of “Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas.” Acting upon this message, an international forum was held this time in order to hold dialogues on the diverse issues facing the disaster affected areas. This forum was realized by expanding upon the efforts from the previous fiscal year, with the establishment of the Planning and Organization Committee comprised of members not only from Hirono Town, but also residents from the Futaba area as well as experts working in the disaster affected areas. Repeated discussions were held by these members to make this forum happen.

For the first time at this forum, experts from outside of Japan hosted a session, which had great significance. We will work to make sure that such sessions are also held at our future forums. After a succession of discussions on important themes held at 17 sessions between November 25 and 27, we gained the following lessons on achieving recovery of the disaster affected areas.

1) Now that five years and eight months have passed since the disaster, areas that had been separated by the difference in the degree of their disaster level are now beginning to find common issues as they strive to resolve their different problems. In this situation, special mentioning deserves to be given to an initiative held by a gathering of mid-level officials from the eight towns of the Futaba region, with the results being put together in a report. In order to promote such efforts even further, we hope to see the implementation of a broad range of activities, such as creating opportunities for residents to have dialogues with the government without having them expect the government to take action for them implicitly.

2) In regional areas where recovery efforts are being advanced, new regional communities are beginning to materialize, such as with the start of constructions work on public restoration housing. In this

situation, each and every resident is required to think and act as a person concerned on what they want for their local community. As we face continuous changes to our local communities, we hope to advance initiatives that bring mutual cooperation amongst regional activities in order to bring back the good things about the local community that had existed from before, and to develop it even further.

3) As we can see from the Kumamoto Earthquake that occurred in April of this year, a number of disaster affected areas have sprung up, even by looking just at this year alone. Although there are differences, there are also many things that the different disaster affected areas share in common. However, not enough information is being shared amongst the disaster affected areas. Also, the same situation is occurring between communities within the same disaster affected area. In order to solve these issues, we need to utilize the perspectives on disaster affected areas by those outside of Japan, and work toward resolving the various issues by having residents of the disaster affected areas become aware of what is needed and promoting the practice of information sharing.

4) The level of interest in the disaster affected area of Fukushima is waning, both in and outside of Japan, with some media giving reports on Fukushima that are contrary to reality. From now on, it is vital that we send out accurate information in multiple languages, in a sustainable and active manner. We will not just simply get rid of the biased image being spread by the media, but obtain a solid grasp of the fact that such images have become widespread. Based on that, we will make the disaster affected area into a place that proposes and implements new ideologies for the world to take note of, such as energy strategies and regional community revitalization model.

5) There are diverse ways in how people see the disaster affected

areas. When we group the people outside of Japan as one, within that group, we see diverse countries and regions, with different views on the disaster affected areas based on the standpoint of their own country. Such views will likely change dramatically if they have the opportunity to actually visit the disaster affected areas and come in touch with the realities there. Moreover, such perspectives from outside of the disaster affected area may bring new realizations about the disaster affected area to its residents.

Thus, we will work to send out information in foreign languages and increase the opportunities for people from overseas to visit the disaster affected areas, while also implementing initiatives in partnership with special guide interpreters for Fukushima.

6) Physical recovery such as infrastructure development is crucial, but the issue of psychological recovery was brought up for the first time at this forum. There, we realized for the first time of the importance that festivals play in raising people’s spirits. In the future, we would like to work toward the recovery of the regional festivals, with participation by the local residents.

From the above lessons, we learned of the importance of exchanging viewpoints on the disaster affected areas, including the views held by people outside of Japan, and the importance of sending out appropriate information, as we proceed with our efforts themed to “thinking from disaster affected areas.” We believe it is of essential importance to have different regions work together in handling issues that the different disaster affected areas had hitherto been performing mainly on their own efforts.

November 27, 2016
International Forum “Thinking from Disaster Affected Areas”
Forum participants

