

Institute for Disaster Reconstruction and Regeneration Research

Institute for Disaster Reconstruction and Regeneration Research, which Tohoku University established on April 2011, has pushed forward full-scale efforts for research, education and the social contribution toward reconstruction from the disaster on March 2011. As a university located at the center of the disaster-affected area, Tohoku University will work to fulfill the historic mission of reconstruction Tohoku region. Therefore, Tohoku University promotes its efforts following Eight Projects and Reconstruction Action 100+ in conjunction with national and local governments, in gathering the collective wisdom of foreign and Japanese institutions.

Institute for Disaster Reconstruction and Regeneration Research - Eight Projects

Project Leader	Project Description
International Research Project on Disaster Science Prof. Fumihiko IMAMURA	Based on the lessons and experiences from the Great East Japan Earthquake, the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), a global research center for disaster science, works research studies and social action programs to build up a disaster-resistant society. IRIDeS conducts the action-oriented research integrated the humanities and sciences, for example, deciphering the mechanisms of Mega earthquake and tsunami, conveying lessons from the disaster.
Project for the Reconstruction of Community Health Care Prof. Hideo HARIGAE Prof. Masayuki YAMAMOTO	The Comprehensive Training Center for Community Medicine aims to develop medical professionals who provide local medical services and offer lifelong education to locals. To fulfill these aims, the center accepts medical staffs affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and provides them with opportunities to receive training in advanced medicine. Further, the Tohoku Medical Megabank Organization conducts a long-term survey on the health status of residents in disaster affected areas, and compiles a database from the gathered medical information of the residents with informed consent, to create the foundation for genomic medical care and drug development research.
Project for Environmental Energy Prof. Kazuyuki TOHJI	To support the recovery of the Tohoku region and overcome Japan's energy problems, Tohoku University plays a central role as the core institution of a consortium which includes universities and local governments stricken by the Great East Japan Earthquake. The consortium members work on "the Next-generation Energies for Tohoku Recovery Project". Our aim is to develop renewable energy and an energy management system that suits the regional characteristics.
ICT Reconstruction Project Prof. Masataka NAKAZAWA	The Great East Japan Earthquake revealed the vulnerability of our information communication technology (ICT) including the disruption of communication lines, the failure of information gathering, and the insufficiency of information. The Research Organization of Electrical Communication (ROEC) aims to develop and demonstrate a disaster-resistant ICT network in collaboration with the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT).
Tohoku Marine Science Project Prof. Akihiro KIJIMA	Its aim is to scientifically unravel the influence of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami on the marine environment of the coastal areas of the Tohoku region and its ecosystem, and to investigate the regeneration process from the disaster, while contributing to the reconstruction of fisheries industries and the regeneration of the communities. Tohoku University, the University of Tokyo Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (AORI) and the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC) play a central role to conduct surveys with the participation of researchers across the nation and the cooperation of local fishermen.
Radioactive Decontamination Project Prof. Keizo ISHII Prof. Manabu FUKUMOTO	We promote the development of technologies to restore the living environment contaminated by radioactive substances, through developing new technology, radiation-contaminated soil restoration and gamma ray detection. Further, we have collected organs of disposed farm and wild animals that were exposed to radiation due to the nuclear power plant accident, and set up an organ bank to measure the body distribution of artificial radionuclides in those animals.
Regional Industries Restoration Support Project Prof. Masahiko FUJIMOTO	Our aim is to support the restoration of industries and communities in the Tohoku region. Therefore, we promote the Regional Industries Restoration Research Project which clarifies the situation and problems of reconstruction and to propose policies regarding society and economy of Tohoku region. Also we provide the Regional Innovative Producer School which develops innovative producers who can contribute to the reconstruction of regional industries and produce the business innovations which should lead to employment.
Industry-University Collaboration Development Project for Reconstruction Executive Vice President Hideo SHINDO	An industry-academia-government collaboration is essential to foster and strengthen the industrial infrastructure, which serves as the basis for the economic revitalization of the disaster-affected areas. To achieve the objectives, Tohoku University enhances the cooperative relationships with industrial organizations and municipalities in Miyagi Prefecture. Also Tohoku University makes full use of the reconstruction policies of government ministries and agencies. We will contribute the economic revitalization of the disaster-affected areas through the commercializing of our innovative research seeds utilizing companies in these areas.

Reconstruction Action 100+

Reconstruction Action 100+ (Plus) is the generic name of more than 100 reconstruction support activities in which Tohoku University's faculty members work on a voluntary basis. Institute for Disaster Reconstruction and Regeneration Research supports for those activities, and gathers and disseminates information on the projects.

The Institute for Disaster Reconstruction and Regeneration Research sends out information about Tohoku University's actions toward reconstruction and their efforts, through publishing brochures, utilizing website and holding symposium.



Brochure



Website



The special lecture by the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon at Tohoku University Symposium in March, 2015.