

## 5th Volunteer Activity Supporting Restoration and Recovery



Date	Wednesday, August 10 through Thursday, August 11, 2011
Activity site	Rikuzentakata-shi, Iwate
Participants	23 (17 men, 4 women, 2 administration office staff)

### ● Activity Details



On the first day, we went to private homes that had sustained damage to clear away the rubble and cut the weeds.

The day was sunny, and the temperature appeared as though it would rise. We received a message from the disaster volunteer center instructing us to finish our work at 2 p.m., an hour earlier than scheduled, to avoid the risk of heatstroke. We felt grateful for this thoughtfulness as we worked together with the many other individuals and groups who had been assigned to our area.



After we finished our work early at 2 p.m., we were driven through Kesenuma City to observe the areas that had sustained damage. The fishing boats strewn ashore and burnt remains of buildings we saw at first hand were much more disturbing than the news footage we were already familiar with.

On the second day, we went to the Ryogae fishing port in Hirota Bay to help identify and sort out various items that had gone adrift and washed ashore.

Despite the enormous damage the bay had sustained in the tsunami, members of the Hirota Bay Fisheries Cooperative Association were already hard at work restarting the cultivation of giant kelp and wakame seaweed. We felt glad to participate and contribute in a small way to their recovery efforts.