

12th Volunteer Activity Supporting Restoration and Recovery



Date	Thursday, December 8 through Friday, December 9, 2011
Activity site	Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi
Participants	25 (17 men, 6 women, 2 administration office staff)

● Activity Details



On the first day, we went to the fire station of Minamisanriku, located next to the town's Disaster Volunteer Center, to sort and bag potatoes.

The potatoes were a donation from an owner-operator of a car dealership in Ibaraki, and we were assigned to sort them into smaller packages for distribution to the town's temporary housing facilities, as well as to households that had been badly affected by the disaster.



On the second day, we went to the Tsunomiya fishing port in the Togura district of town to help the fishermen make ballasts for aquaculture rafts.

The fishermen and volunteers turned out hundreds of these ballasts that day. But we learned afterwards that the fishermen had to actually make a far greater number of these ballasts for their rafts, and that there weren't nearly as many volunteers as needed to accomplish this. Knowing this reaffirmed in our minds the need for the continuation of our volunteer activities.

Snow was falling while we worked. According to the volunteer center, the weather that day was comparatively mild as winters go in the area, although it was certainly cold enough for us all the same. This made us realize the need for protecting the volunteers against the normal harsh winters in the area. It also strengthened our resolve to continue providing assistance to the disaster victims who were and are striving to achieve restoration and recovery in the cold.