

## 17th Volunteer Activity Supporting Restoration and Recovery



Date	Thursday, July 5 through Friday, July 6, 2012
Activity site	Rikuzentakata-shi, Iwate
Participants	18 (14 men, 2 women, 2 administration office staff)

### ● Activity Details



On the first day, we headed to the city of Rikuzentakata by bus in stormy weather. On the way, the city's Disaster Volunteer Center informed us that our activities for the day were cancelled due to inclement weather. This was to be the 17th volunteer activity we had scheduled, but it was the first to be cancelled.

Although the participants were disappointed by the news, the group quickly pulled themselves together. Plans were changed to a bus tour of the affected areas. While listening to a local bus driver talk about the events of March 11, the group toured the cities of Ofunato, Rikuzentakata and Kesenuma, and the town of Minamisanriku.



Although our volunteer activities were effectively cancelled that day, the volunteers bought a large number of souvenirs and other goods in local shopping streets to do our possible. This was done in the hope of aiding people in the affected areas as much as possible through financial means.

On the second day, the volunteers cleared weeds and removed small rubble in the Yogai area of Kesen town.

The work was done only in the morning hours. During this time, the volunteers received a gift of beverages from locals and heard about conditions since the disaster. This volunteer activity provided the group with the opportunity to meet directly with the people who were directly affected by the disaster and had requested volunteer work. We hope that this opportunity conveyed to the locals our desire to assist people in the affected regions.