

FUKUSHIMA

福島



Do You Know
FUKUSHIMA?



Welcome to the Fukushima of today.

FUKU (福) means “good fortune” or “happiness” while SHIMA (島) means “island”. As the name denotes, this is a lucky land that has been blessed with a rich nature, history, and tradition dating back to ancient times.

Nearly 10 years have passed since the great earthquake of 2011. Fukushima has overcome unprecedented difficulties and is in the process of regaining its dynamism. This booklet was created to share the Fukushima of today to people all over the world.

photo by IWANAMI Yuki



Hula dancers mark the beginning of beach season IWAKI City

Chosen as one of Japan's 100 best beaches, the beautiful white sandy shoals of IWAKI City's Usuiso swimming beach were reopened a few years after the earthquake by local high school hula dancers. A popular spot visited by many beachgoers, it is recovering its former glory.





The Bon Festival dance, an iconic summer tradition NARAH Town

The Bon (or Lantern) Festival is a significant summer event; families are reunited with their deceased loved ones. Many return home for this period and get to see old friends and relatives, and dance to cheerful songs during the festival. NARAH Town's is particularly popular and delights participants of all ages.





Lush green rice paddies, rebirthed **KAWAUCHI Village**

The rice paddy landscape, taken for granted before the earthquake, has returned along with the children's laughs. In the evening, a lively chorus of frogs can be heard. Fukushima Prefecture was the first place in the world to institute radioactivity screening for bags of rice, certifying their safety, because we want everyone to know how delicious Fukushima rice is!





Return of fishing boats flying 'big-catch flags' NAMIE Town

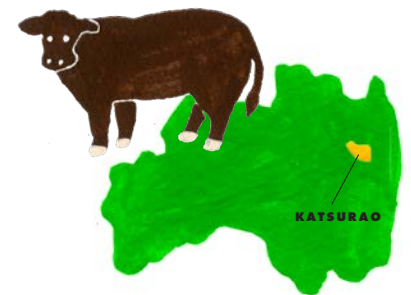
With colorful banners indicating rich, successful hauls fluttering in the wind, the fishing boats have returned to Ukedo port in Namie Town. The fish market has been rebuilt for sorting and auctioning, and the fresh seafood brought in here will be delivered throughout Japan.





Cattle as catalysts for village reconstruction KATSURAO Village

Surrounded by the great Abukuma Mountains and beautiful flowing rivers, KATSURAO Village is picturesque. Farmers like MATSUMOTO Kunihisa were initially forced to abandon cattle barns due to the 3.11 disasters, but they were able to begin raising cattle again in 2018. Mr. MATSUMOTO hopes to keep up the momentum for reconstruction in the village by maintaining pastureland and producing delicious foods.





Turning the lights back on MINAMISOMA City

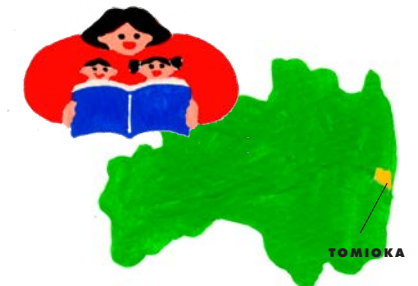
After the evacuation order was revoked, the restaurant Futaba Shokudo reopened in 2016. Customers come from far and wide to taste its traditional – even nostalgic – chicken-bone broth, soy sauce ramen. With lines forming at lunchtime, this spot is a staple of Odaka Ward. Every time the owner, TOYODA Eiko, looks around the crowded interior, she says she is so glad she came back. Here, people are regaining a sense of peaceful normalcy.





Revitalizing the town through a library TOMIOKA Town

HIGASHIYAMA Megumi used to work at a library in Tokyo. But when she visited TOMIOKA Town, smelled the earth and met the people, she knew immediately that she wanted to move here and work in its library. As TOMIOKA Town strives to not only recover but also exceed its vibrancy from before the earthquake, she says she wants the library to be part of residents' everyday lives.





Hard work for the most delicious peaches FUKUSHIMA City

Fukushima Prefecture is famous nationwide for its delicious peaches. After the earthquake, farmers decontaminated each fruit tree with power washers and relentlessly resumed their livelihood. While they did lose some customers, they gained others who wanted to support them. Akatsuki peaches, the variety the prefecture is known for, are incredibly juicy and so sweet they'll change the way you think about peaches. Please, come and eat your fill!





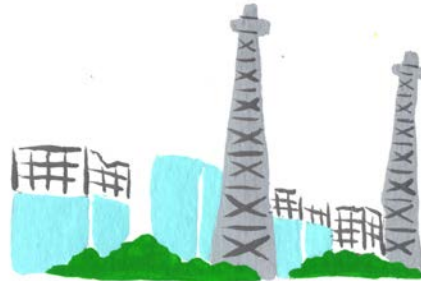
Making sake and protecting nature for the next century KORIYAMA City

The Great East Japan Earthquake struck on the 300th anniversary of Niida-Honke, a renowned sake brewery. As days without work stretched on, they considered throwing in the towel, but ultimately decided to press on toward the next 100 years. Using natural, fertilizer- and pesticide-free rice, their sake is carefully made and richly flavored. Fukushima Prefecture is home to over 50 sake breweries, each producing unique sake based on the regional technique and environment.



The Way to the Fukushima Revitalization

The Great East Japan Earthquake



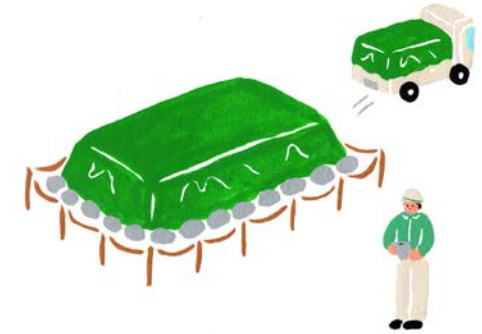
On March 11 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred followed by TEPCO Daiichi NPS accident which triggered the release of a large amount of radioactive substances. The national government issued an evacuation order to the residents right after the accident to avoid the negative effects on their health.

Decontamination



Decontamination works have been conducted to lower the impact on human health and living environment by radioactive substances as much as possible. By the end of March 2018, the whole area decontamination has been completed in 100 municipalities in 8 prefectures excluding the Difficult-to-Return Zones.

Storage and Transportation



Removed soil and waste generated from decontamination works have been safely stored in Temporary Storage Sites and on-site storage sites.

Interim Storage



Removed soil and waste generated from decontamination works in Fukushima Prefecture are supposed to be sequentially transported and stored safely and intensively in the Interim Storage Facility before the final disposal outside of the Prefecture, within 30 years after the launch of the interim storage.

Waste Treatment



As for the radioactive waste to be treated by the government, the volume reduction and the stabilization by incineration or other relevant processes have been implemented. These kinds of waste have been safely landfilled under the government responsibility.

Recycling



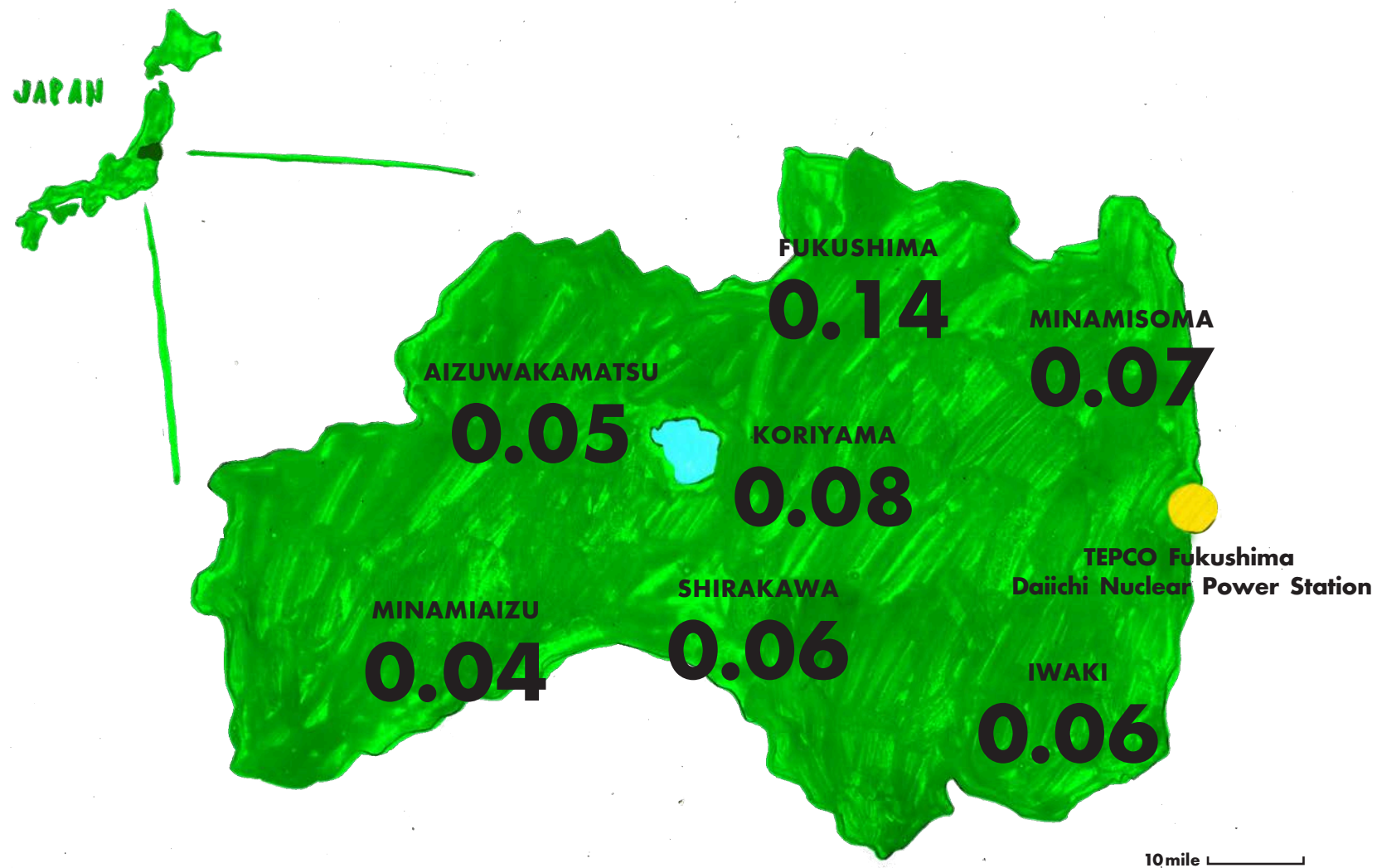
Technology development and demonstration projects for the safe recycle of the removed soil have been promoted towards the volume reduction for the final disposal outside of Fukushima Prefecture.

Revitalization and Regeneration



In most areas excluding the Difficult-to-Return Zones, the evacuation order has been lifted and efforts for the new living and the restart of industries have begun. Measures for decommissioning have been also steadily proceeded.

Air dose rates in Fukushima Prefecture and major cities in the world ($\mu\text{Sv/h}$)



The air dose rates in major cities in Fukushima Prefecture have been drastically decreasing year by year and reached to almost the equivalent level of other major cities in the world.

※ Values as of May 31 2019 for major cities in Fukushima Prefecture, January 25 2018 for Tokyo, October 15 2017 for Paris, January 23 2018 for New York, January 24 2018 for Singapore and Berlin, January 25 2018 for Beijing and Seoul Source: Fukushima Prefecture Radiation Measurement Map (as of May 31 2019), Japan Tourism Board and UNSCEAR2008



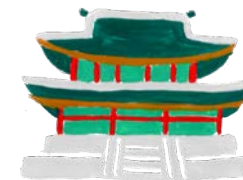
PARIS
FRANCE
0.04



BERLIN
GERMANY
0.07



BEIJING
CHINA
0.07



SEOUL
KOREA
0.12



An example with high natural air dose rate



KERALA
INDIA
1.05



SINGAPORE
SINGAPORE
0.10



TOKYO
JAPAN
0.04



NEW YORK
U.S.A
0.05

