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「東日本大震災アーカイブに関する国際サマ-カンファレンス」参考資料(英文)

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“101 Voices from Tohoku” Project (被災地の聞き書き 101)

*Lives of Tsunami Survivors as Told in Their Own Words*

1. Objectives

The “101 Voices from Tohoku” Project documents the lives and experiences of people affected by the tsunami in their own words. These accounts, told entirely in the first person, present a unique window into the minds and hearts of those who lived through the disaster, enabling readers to share their revelations and insights and pointing to the directions that the reconstruction effort should take. They also prompt us to reflect anew on the way we live our lives and the values we hold, and could shed new light on the essential qualities of our society.

2. Overview

This project employing a unique interviewing style called *kikigaki* was jointly launched in July 2011 by the Tokyo Foundation—an independent, not-for-profit public policy think tank whose concrete proposals are based on a solid grasp of everyday life—and the Kyouzon no Mori Network, an NPO dedicated to promoting sustainable lifestyles. Staff members from the two groups, as well as volunteers, visited 101 people living in evacuation centers and temporary homes in four tsunami-affected areas in Iwate (Kirikiri in the town of Otsuchi and the city of Rikuzentakata) and Miyagi Prefectures (Shizugawa in the town of Minamisanriku and the city of Ishinomaki) and interviewed them. The comments were transcribed and uploaded onto a special website (<http://kikigaki101.tokyofoundation.org>; in Japanese only) for the project. The reason for interviewing 101 people, rather than a round number like 100, is to symbolically suggest that the project does not end with the 100th interview but will be ongoing with the 101st person onward.





### 3. Excerpts from the Interviews

#### (1) Self-Reliance



“We took care of ourselves before the disaster, and we’ll do so again now. Handouts are appreciated but they won’t be enough.” (fisher)



“Rather than dwell on what we lost, we have to learn to stand on our own two feet and get the economy going again.” (social worker)



“Each one of us has a responsibility to do what he or she can, without relying on outside help. I think that’s what people who died in the disaster would want us to do.” (mailman)

#### (2) Strong Community Ties



“I really love my village. We all know each other here.” (homemaker)



“I don’t like arguing. I’d rather do something than talk. What’s really important is to look after one another and offer hearty greetings. That’s all you need to connect with people.” (stone dealer)



“Our neighborhood association was very active even before the disaster. So when the tsunami hit, we were able to distribute food and relief supplies very efficiently.” (homemaker)

#### (3) Love of One’s Home and Work



“My hope is to be able to go back to the land where we used to live with all our neighbors.” (carpenter)



“I think it’s important to make sure that our work and community life are passed on to future generations.” (Shinto priest)



“Without large community events like our annual festival, Kirikiri won’t be Kirikiri anymore.” (homemaker)