

Press Release

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**The Great East Japan Earthquake and The Indian Ocean Tsunami:
Share the lessons learned from each other at the community level
to strengthen disaster management and mitigation**

Banda Aceh City, Aceh Province

April 21st – 27th, 2013

JICA – in cooperation with a local Japanese newspaper company, Kahoku-shimpo Corporation – is dispatching a delegation to share the lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake with the government officials and the communities of Banda Aceh city, Banda Aceh Province, which was severely damaged by the Indian Ocean tsunami that occurred in 2004.

The delegation will exchange opinions and share experiences through several workshops with Banda Aceh residents on disaster risk reduction and mitigation, such as the development of evacuation routes, and transferring tsunami disaster experiences. Field visits around the city are also planned; to see how the city was reconstructed after the disaster, such as the housing reconstruction and relocation, the establishment of tsunami museum and monuments.

Kahoku-shimpo has been implementing workshops named "Musubi Jyuku" in Japan to encourage the preparation of residents, to let the readers rethink about disaster mitigation measures by recalling the pain felt since it killed so many, as well as, disaster reduction. They implemented community-based workshops not only in the Miyagi Prefecture, but also in Tahara City (Aichi Prefecture) and Shimanto Town (Kochi Prefecture), in which large-scaled disasters are expected to occur in the future, for the purpose of thinking about the "disaster management and mitigation."

This occasion will be the first international workshop for the media company in cooperation with JICA. We believe this workshop will serve as good opportunity to think about disaster management and mitigation efforts with cross-border international arena based on the experiences of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.

Joining this delegation is two of JICA's Reconstruction Facilitators who work in the Higashi-Matsushima City, Miyagi Prefecture, to support the community-based reconstruction for the purpose of understanding the current situation and challenges of reconstruction efforts in the Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster. They will share and promote and exchange experience in the community level.

Duration: **April 21 – 27, 2013**

Venue: **Banda Aceh City and Jakarta**

Delegation Members:

JICA Reconstruction Facilitators (2 people)

The survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake (3 people) and Workshop Coordinator (1 person)

Photographer and Editor of Kahoku-shimpo

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【For further information and request for interview with the delegation】
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