Engaging Private Citizens in DRR
Soka Gakkai International
Map of Tohoku

Death toll: More than 15,000

Missing: Nearly 3,000

Number of evacuees: 500,000
My workplace, Soka Gakkai Tohoku Culture Center
The Culture Center accommodated 1,000 evacuees at maximum.
Making of rice balls all through the night of March 11th
Relief supplies from outside the region
Delivery of breakfast to 600 evacuees at 6:35am, March 12th
Hand-written message was enclosed in the boxes.
Many evacuees volunteered in running the shelter.
Doctors’ health consultation session
Organ Newspaper covered a message from Daisaku Ikeda, President of SGI, on March 16th, 2011.
What enables us to continue relief activities:

- **Emergency evacuation shelters that were safe and stocked with relief supplies**
- **Regular interactions within the network of people rooted in the community**
Network of individuals built through daily religious activity
What enables us to continue relief activities:

• Emergency evacuation shelters that were safe and stocked with relief supplies
• Regular interactions within the network of people rooted in the community
• Emotional encouragement
Encouraging message came from throughout the world.
Members hold workshops and discuss how to prepare and conduct relief activity.
Sendai Framework 24.

To achieve this, it is important:

(g) To build the knowledge of government officials at all levels, civil society, communities and volunteers, as well as the private sector, through sharing experiences, lessons learned, good practices and training and education on disaster risk reduction, including the use of existing training and education mechanisms and peer learning;
Youth members conduct interviews with the affected people and published a book.


*This is carried on Preventionweb.*
In Japan evacuation drill is popular in schools, but not in work places.

MIRACLE IN KAMAISHI (northeastern Japan)

When a violent earthquake struck in 2011, children who had been educated in the traditional practice of every person fleeing to higher ground independently did so without hesitation, knowing that their family members would do so also. The survival rates for children where this traditional wisdom had been transmitted to the younger generations were much higher than in other communities.
Sendai Framework 7.

Governments should engage with relevant stakeholders, including women, children and youth, persons with disabilities...
Shikoku region members conduct awareness survey with around 5,000 respondents.
“Have you chosen a place to meet with family members during emergency?”
• Self-help, mutual help and public help. In reality public help is quite limited.

• The way in which each of us as citizens prepare for disasters will greatly influence the scale of the damage.
Thank you very much!

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