

EROPA Conference 2013
Tachikawa, Tokyo
Simultaneous Session

Efforts Towards Reconstruction

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Oct. 16, 2013, Local Autonomy College

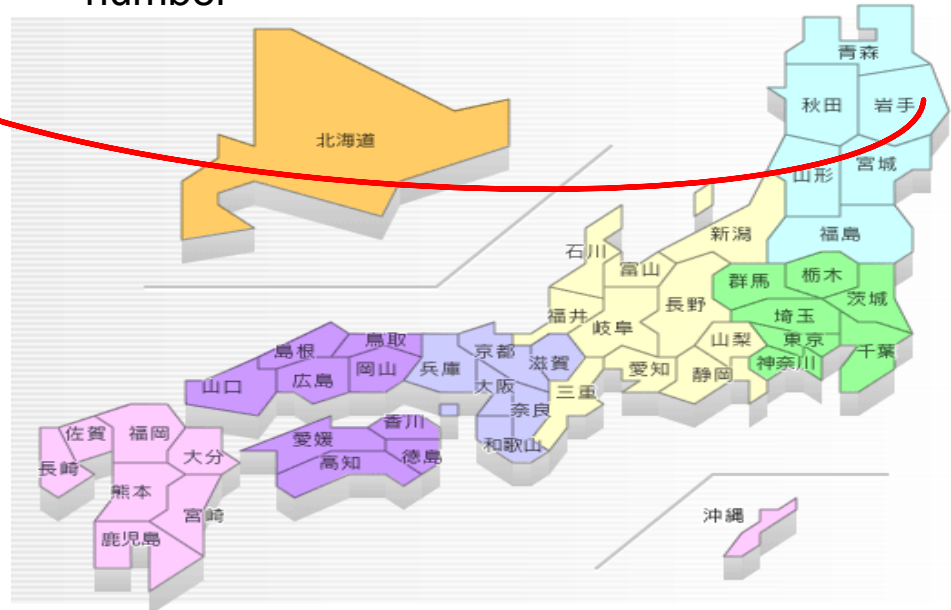
Scenic beauty Jodogahama
against the background of
a rising sun



Outline of Miyako City



- June 6, 2005: merged with Taro Town and Niisato Village to form new Miyako City
- Jan. 1, 2010: absorbed Kawai Village
- Total area: 1,260 km² (8th largest city in Japan)
- Located farthest in time distance from Tokyo among cities with a population of at least 50,000
- Population: 57,622 (as of Aug. 1, 2013)
*Down about 2,500 from pre-disaster population
- No. of households: 24,256 (as of Aug. 1, 2013)
*Down by 76 from pre-disaster household number

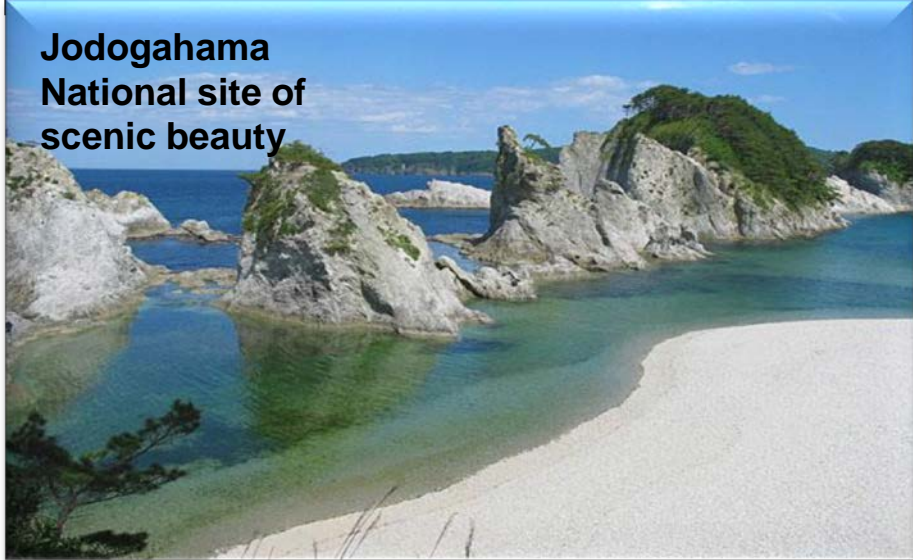




Easternmost city on the Honshu main island



Miyako Harbor



Jodogahama
National site of scenic beauty



Long. $142^{\circ} 04' 21''$ E.
Todogasaki: easternmost point on the Honshu main island



Damage caused by Great East Japan Earthquake

◆ Outbreak of tsunami

- **Time:** 14:46, March 11, 2011 (Friday)
- **Scale of earthquake:** Magnitude 9.0
- **Highest seismic intensity recorded in the city:** strong- 5 on the Japanese seismic scale
- **Time of arrival of highest wave/height :** 15:26 / higher than 8.5m
(reference) The tsunami ran up to the maximum height of 40.5m in the Aneyoshi District in Omoe.

◆ Damage from the disaster

- **Fatalities:** 517
 - **No. of injured people:** 33
- *4 city fire department officials, 16 volunteer firefighters and 2 police officers were killed while on duty
- * Of the total fatalities, about 70 percent were 60 or older.
- **Estimated financial loss from the disaster:** 245.6 billion yen
- *Initial budget of Miyako City for fiscal 2011: about 30.3 billion yen
- **No. of collapsed houses:** 9,088
 - **No. of temporary housing built after the disaster:** 2,010
- *At present 1,630 households still live in temporary housing.



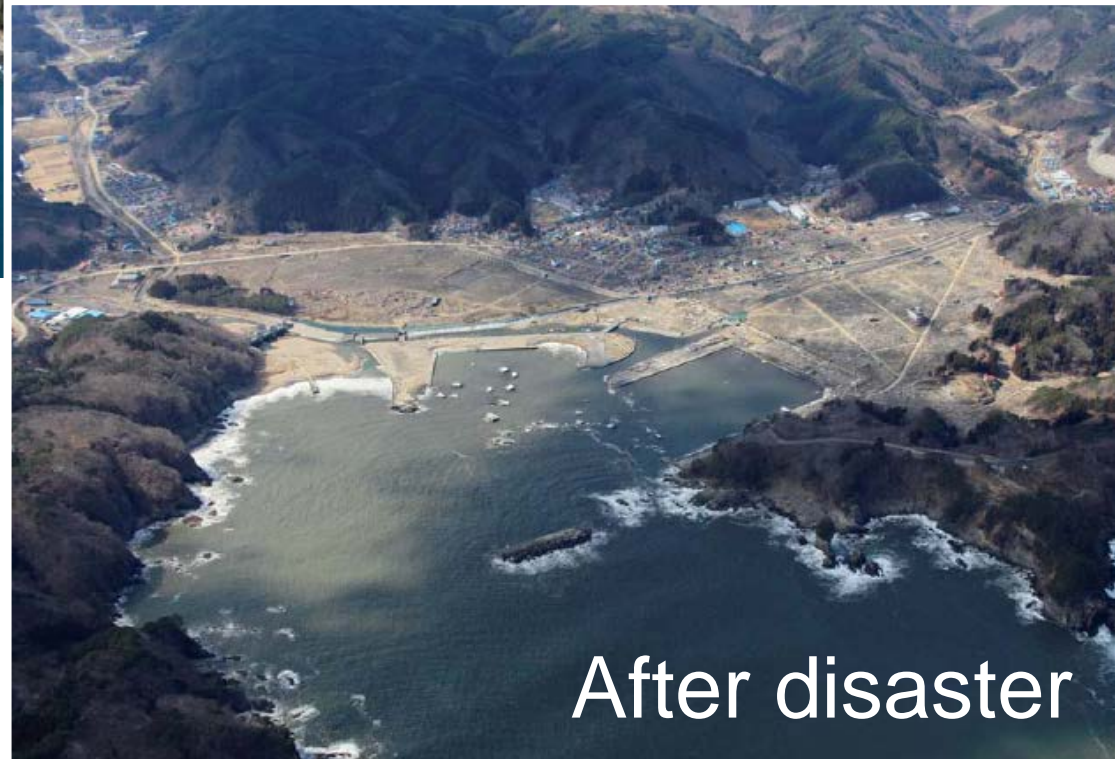
●●● Taro district shortly after the disaster (photo taken on April 13, 2011)



Before disaster



The photos show the central area of the Taro district. The district located on the Sanriku Coast was hit by devastating tsunami three times since the beginning of the Meiji Era (1868)— first in 1896, then in 1933, before being hit by the March 2011 tsunami.



After disaster



Breakwater in Taro district



The breakwater in the Taro district was 10m high, stretching 2.4 km along the coast in the district. The tsunami that hit the district on March 11, 2011 easily swept over the breakwater and hit the town.





Preservation of structures damaged by the disaster, and study tours of damaged areas



■ Taro Kanko Hotel

- 1st to 4th floor of the hotel was submerged
- Video of tsunami taken from the 6th floor is available
- Disaster prevention study tours to disaster-damaged areas are conducted by the Miyako Tourism Association
- Study under way for preservation of such structures



■ Destroyed tsunami breakwater

- Breakwater on the ocean side was breached
- Part of the breached portion is to be preserved



Reconstruction plan [Basic plan]

Reconstruction period (2011 – 2019)

1. Introduction
 2. Policy on establishing city infrastructure
 3. Efforts for reconstruction
 - Reconstruction of housing and daily life
 - Industrial and economic reconstruction
 - Efforts to ensure safety against disaster
 4. Priority projects for reconstruction
 - Project to support housing reconstruction
 - Project to promote port city industry
 - Project to generate renewable energy from forest, river and sea sources
 - Cooperative project to build disaster-resistant community
 - Project to hand down memory of the disaster to future generations
 5. Community rebuilding policies for each region
 - Taro region
 - Miyako region
 - Omoe region
 6. Framework for promoting reconstruction
- Reference materials

Reconstruction plan [Promotion plan]

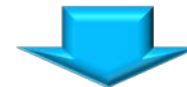
1. Promotion of reconstruction projects
2. Promotion of community rebuilding for each region



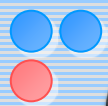
Community rebuilding plan for districts

Affected districts: 33 districts

- Creation of community-rebuilding patterns and their presentation
- Creation of district community rebuilding plans by residents
 - Launch of study task force by residents of districts
- Finalization of project methods and legal procedures
 - *Study task force style: 10 districts
 - Consultation of all residents style: 23 districts



Maximum consideration given to opinions of residents



Building a compact community that takes into account Miyako City's uniqueness

- ◆ **Building a safe community**
 - **Housing to be built in safe areas away from the assault of tsunami**
 - **Areas where the benefits of the sea can be enjoyed are to be used for economic activities, etc.**
- ◆ **Reconstruction of daily life**
 - **Various functions related to daily life are integrated and made more compact by concentrating public and welfare facilities and by developing public housing**
 - **Establishment of city infrastructure aimed at encouraging people to travel on foot or use public transportation systems with the aim of enabling everyone to lead a safe and comfortable life**
- ◆ **Reconstruction of economy and industry**

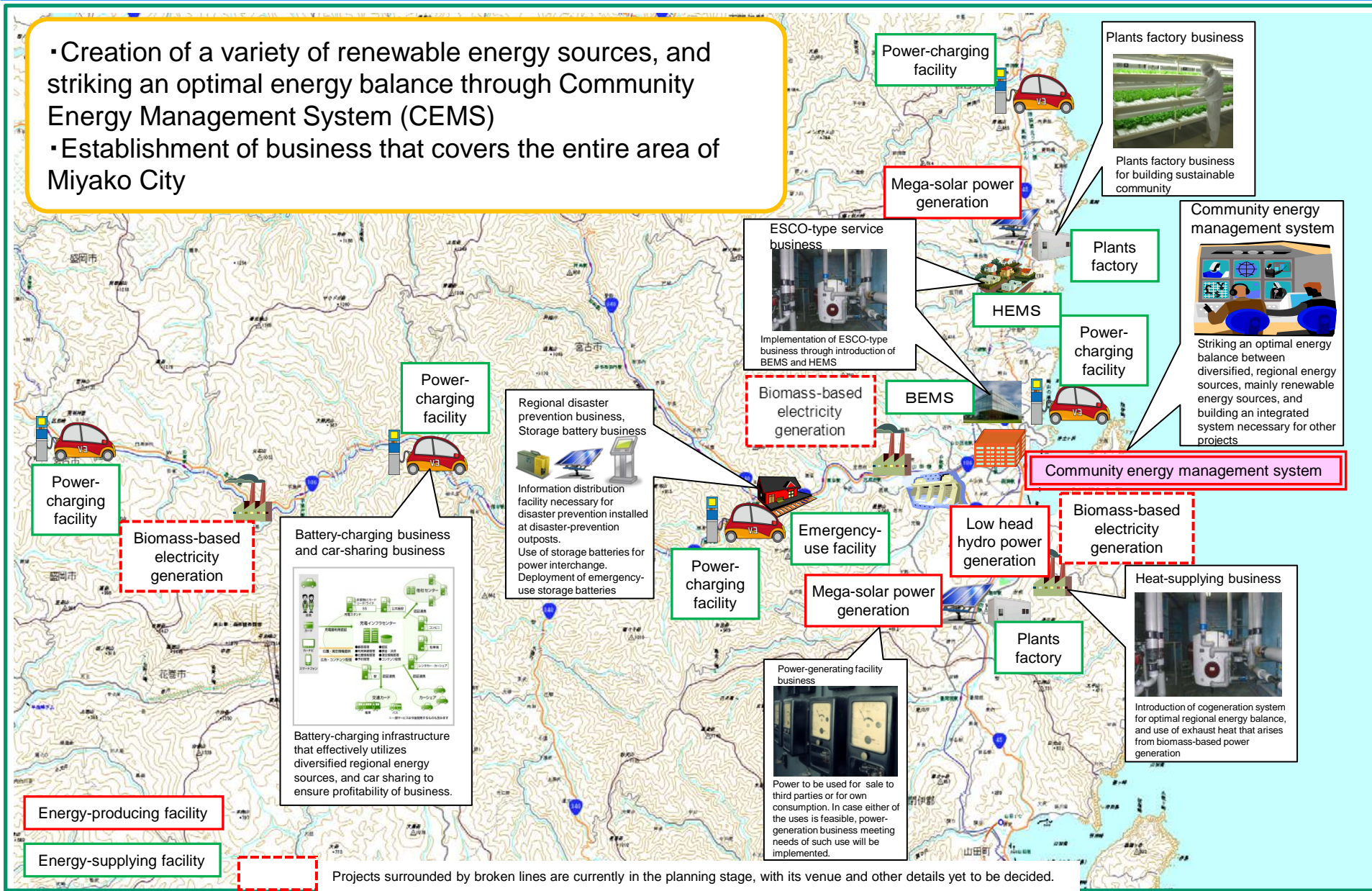


Reconstruction of Miyako City to be done with participation of all citizens.



Smart Community, Miyako City Version

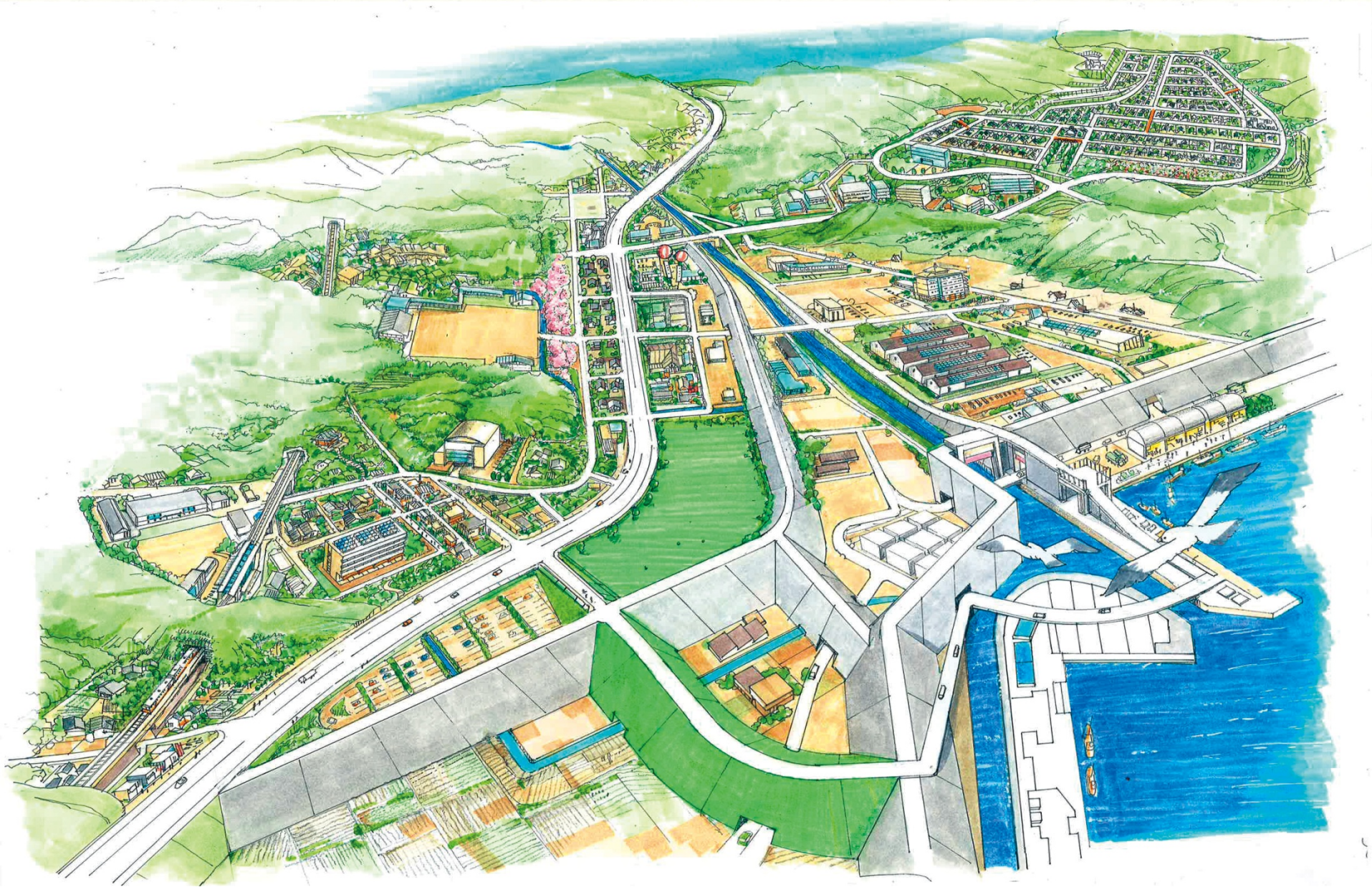
- Creation of a variety of renewable energy sources, and striking an optimal energy balance through Community Energy Management System (CEMS)
- Establishment of business that covers the entire area of Miyako City



Projects surrounded by broken lines are currently in the planning stage, with its venue and other details yet to be decided.



Visual image of reconstructed Taro district





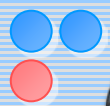
My spiritual home Miyako ~ authored by a first grader of a junior high school (as of 2013) ~

What I frequently think is when the nature of Miyako will be back to what it was before the disaster. I have a strong liking for Miyako's nature. I am attracted by urban life but seeing high-rise buildings all the time may be boring. Because I love nature, I don't have a grudge against the sea. I ate fish caught in the sea off Miyako. I swam in the sea off Miyako. My wonderful memories came with the sea. So, I cannot speak ill of our sea just because the tsunami hit us here. It's absolutely impossible for me to do.

The town where I was born and bred is now under rubble. I am certain that the wreckage will be cleared someday. But the rubble is originally houses and other things that are filled with many people's memories. I believe that a lot of such memories are piled up in Miyako. A photo of myself was found in the wreckage. I am smiling in the photo. From the smile, nobody could predict that my house would be lost. Soon after the photo was found, I was just happy having my memories revived with it. But now, I see the smile in the picture differently - taking it as a reminder that I can tide over any hardship if I smile. So, I will keep smiling under any circumstances.

(Omission of middle part)

I am sure, Miyako will be back to what it was before. And a new Miyako will be again full of fresh memories of people - happy memories and memories of eating delicious foods. And the smiles of Miyako will be back too; this is what I wish to tell to all the people in the world.



Main seasonal events in Miyako City

Spring



- ◆ Golden Week holiday season

Jodogahama festival

Summer

- ◆ Mid-July Cutter race at Miyako port
- ◆ Late-July Miyako summer festival
- ◆ Aug. 4 Omoe food festival



Autumn



- ◆ Early Sept. Rafting on Heigawa River
- ◆ Mid-Sept. Miyako autumn festival
- ◆ Early Oct. Miyako industrial fair
- ◆ 2nd Sunday of Nov. "Salmon" half marathon
- ◆ Late Nov. Salmon and abalone festival in Taro district

Winter



- ◆ Early Jan. Salmon festival in Miyako
- ◆ Mid.-Feb. Horsehair crab festival in Miyako



**The year of 2015 will mark the 400th anniversary
of the opening of Miyako port;
We are looking forward to seeing you here.**

