

BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit



October 28-30, 2011

Venue

Organized by

Supported by

National Olympics Memorial Center

Global Fund for Education Assistance

Cabinet office; Ministry of Education,
Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

BEYOND Tomorrow is a project established to support the young victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake who, despite facing great adversity, did not lose hope and continue to embrace a dream to give back to society in the future.

BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit

Organizer

Global Fund for Education Assistance

Supporters

Cabinet office

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Date October 28-30, 2011

Participants

70 high school students who are from Iwate, Miyagi, or Fukushima prefectures during the earthquake and tsunami, and who have strong aspirations to become leaders who are active in a global stage. They were selected through an application process.

Objective

The summit was established to target young people who were victims of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami but have strong ambitions to overcome their challenges and become active citizens with a global perspective. The students created a proposal for the recovery of the Tohoku region, working in groups with support from advisors, a select group of professionals who are leaders in their respective fields. Each student group presented its proposal to an audience of leaders from areas such as politics, business administration, media, and NGOs. Furthermore, as the summit spanned multiple days, the students had the opportunity to discuss and explore career goals with invited experts from fields such as sports, music and arts. The goal of this summit was to offer a starting point for the student participants to fully realize their potential as influential citizens who can shape society. BEYOND Tomorrow strongly believes that because of their difficult experiences during the disaster, these students have a unique ability to empathize and identify with others, and we hope that with this summit they were able to reflect on how they can use this ability to fill an active role in society and how to convert these ideas into actions.



Message from Advisor

Heizo Takenaka

Director, Global Security Research
Institute; Professor, Faculty of Policy
Management , Keio University



“I am looking forward to watching these young people who have participated in BEYOND Tomorrow realize their leadership potential and grow into leaders who influence the Tohoku region, Japan, and the world in the years to come”

As a program that strives to nurture future global leaders from the young victims of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, BEYOND Tomorrow is filling a role that is extremely crucial in our society.

Through BEYOND Tomorrow, I had the honor to speak with the students from the affected areas. The pain and grief that they experienced through the disaster was beyond all belief. I was deeply moved to see that despite directly facing these challenges full-frontal, these students are still holding on to their dreams and hopes. It is so crucial that this young generation use their own voice to speak to the world of their experiences. These students are speaking up through BEYOND Tomorrow because they strongly believe that the tragedies brought by the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami should never be repeated in the same way.

This is precisely the kind of practical leadership that society seeks. In order to solve the world's complex problems that have diverse dimensions such as politics, economics, and law, it goes without saying that we need strong leadership. I fully believe that the dedication and ambition displayed by these young victims who have lived through an unimaginably harrowing experience are the seeds of such strong leadership. I am looking forward to watching these young people who have participated in BEYOND Tomorrow realize their leadership potential and grow into leaders who influence the Tohoku region, Japan, and the world in the years to come.

Message from the Co-chairs of the Board

“I still can’t believe what happened on 3.11” “Both my head and my feelings still feel mixed up” “This is the first time I have spoken about my experiences of the disaster to someone other than my family” “There are people out there who are much worse off than me, so I feel guilty”. I could hear the 70 high school students saying these such things in unison.

In the present of half a year on from the Earthquake, I discovered the genuine and innermost callings of these students who still carry around a huge amount of sadness, pain and conflict. However despite this, I also saw young people who were fighting to move forwards, whilst also self-reflecting and resolving to become strong and to independently engage in assisting with reconstruction. I myself learned and received courage.

These students are already true leaders, supporting those around them. I truly hope that through this Summit, due to the invaluable friends that have been made, the knowledge that adults exist to support them, and the chance to consider proposals and action plans for recovery, the students gained some self-confidence and the feeling that “there are things that even we can do”. I am truly grateful for those 3 days.

Chikara Funabashi
Founder and President, WiLLSeed Company Limited

“What kind of information are we receiving? We want to know the truth”. I was suddenly hit by these words of a high-school student from Fukushima prefecture. Every one of the high school students participating in this Summit had their sights firmly set on the future for their hometowns and the people living there, and it really brought home to me how they all had this intense sense of personal responsibility.

“All the adults are saying that young people will make the future, but what are the adults doing?” A high school student in asked their final presentation, but how many adults could precisely answer this question?

In the same way that this Summit could only be achieved through the cooperation of a large number of adults, if we don’t have the adults to support the young people who are responsible for the future then Japan’s positive prospects become distant. At this Summit, both adults and young people took responsibility, and it was the start for a bright future.

Kumi Fujisawa
Vice President, SophiaBank; Vice President Japan Social Entrepreneur Forum

When I actually spoke to the high school students participating in this Summit, I really sensed that they all very much had this strong altruistic desire to serve others. I hope for BEYOND Tomorrow to continue to do all it can in order to achieve the materialization of these student’s wishes and feelings.

Much was gained through this Summit, and I hope the students will treasure forever the encouragement they received from the proposal advisers, the brief but formative experiences they have had, the 70 precious companions they have made, and most of all the mobilization of their aspirations to do something for society.

Last but not least, without the understanding, support and cooperation of numerous people this Summit could never have taken place. I would therefore like to finish by expressing my sincere gratitude for this backing.

James Kondo
Country Manager, Twitter Japan; Visiting Professor, Hitotsubashi University



The level of the discussions and presentations was even higher than I had expected, and I was both pleasantly surprised and full of admiration.

By the end of the intensive two-night three-day period the still-energetic students were giving side-glances to the slightly worn-out adults, and their smiling faces during the closing ceremony were simply wonderful.

If their participation in the BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit has given rise to the opportunity for the students to recognize their own potential, then I am truly very happy.

I have been able to once more feel like the future of both Tohoku and Japan is bright. Thank you.

Kohey Takashima
CEO and Founder, Oisix, Inc.

Message from the Organizer

Minami Tsubouchi

Executive Director
Global Fund for Education
Assistance



“The thing that undeniably came to light was the sense of responsibility and compassion that was uniformly held by these 70 young individuals”

BEYOND Tomorrow is an educational support and leadership program aimed at nurturing young victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, so that despite immense adversity they do not lose sight of their hopes and ambitions and can become valuable contributors to society. As part of this program, “BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit” was held from the 28th -30th October 2011.

Seventy high-school students from Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures were narrowed down from over three times as many applicants, and spent three days and two nights in Tokyo under the theme of “Proposals by High-School Students from the Disaster Areas for the Future Form of Tohoku”. The students were divided into groups of seven, with each group comprising a mixture of students from different prefectures, schools and gender. Each group received assistance from a university student who acted as a team leader, and guidance from “proposal advisers” who are currently active in many different areas of society. Under this encouragement, they eventually put together a plan for a project for recovery that they themselves could actually implement, having begun the planning process by sharing their experiences of the disaster and debating recovery issues.

It was an intense time, mixing both laughter and tears. However within this, the thing that undeniably came to light was the sense of responsibility and the empathetic capacity that was uniformly held by these 70 young individuals. Despite the various difficulties the students have been forced into - losing one’s family, having one’s home washed away, living in fear of radiation - none of them had lost their sense of wondering if they were able to do something themselves for Tohoku, nor had they lost their desire to become people committed to others and to society. And no one had forgotten their attitude towards thinking seriously about their own future path.

Outstanding leadership is not about becoming the head of an organization. Desirable leadership that paves the way for a new era is surely about giving consideration and thought to more than just oneself and one’s closest circles, and about utilizing one’s strength to work actively in consideration of the situations of people belonging to wider society. The 70 students who gathered for the BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit have proved to us that this type of leadership is plentiful amongst the young people of Tohoku.

BEYOND Tomorrow aims to continue to provide support for young people like these 70 students - those who have clung onto their dreams despite great adversity and who are blazing forwards having overcome great difficulty, and who should play a leading role in the future. If this project can be of some help in assisting the young people affected by the disaster to develop their own visions, find a path to achieve their own dreams, and become leaders in taking action for the benefit of local areas, Japan, and the world at large, then I couldn’t be much happier.

In order to hold this Summit, we received the cooperation of a great number of people. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all those who approved the concept of fostering leadership candidates from the disaster areas and who subsequently gave their support. And finally, a word to the 70 high-school students who took part. Thank you so much for coming to Tokyo despite the ongoing difficult circumstances, and for bravely lending us your voice.

Contents

1.	Message from the Advisor.....	03
2.	Message from the Co-chairs of the Board.....	04
3.	Message from the Organizer.....	05
4.	Program Overview.....	07
	I. Introduction to the Participating Students	09
	II. Schedule.....	11
5.	Survivors' Stories.....	13
6.	Proposals for the Future of Tohoku.....	19
	I. Interview Session with an Expert on Tohoku's Recovery.....	20
	II. Dialogue with Leaders.....	24
	III. Final Presentations	25
7.	Participating Supporters.....	29
8.	Media Coverage.....	35
9.	Acknowledgements.....	36
10.	About BEYOND Tomorrow.....	37

Program Overview

BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit was held with 3 objectives:

1. To send “Proposals for the Future of Tohoku” to the Minister of National Strategy

2. To help students shape their visions for the future, through dialogue with leaders active in various domains

3. To bring together and build a strong community of 70 high school students, who are trying to rise above hardships with aspirations to become active global citizens

Select Comments(1/2)

The BEYOND Tomorrow Program is something which will act as a spark to set off further development to come in the future. I strongly believe that a large number of the people I have met at this Summit I will somehow be able to meet again in the not-so-distant future.

Gathering together a group of the younger generation who have some kind of common ground (whatever that may be), to question aspects of society, is a really meaningful thing. Through this, you create personal bonds. And through the convergence of each individual's strengths and the development of a large vision as a group, action is generated.

When coming up with our proposals we were limited to plans which met the condition of “something which could actually be executed by seven people working together continuously over a year”. So in other words, the proposals we were making were in fact “something we could actually execute ourselves by using our own strength”. If from now we are able to achieve a translation of our vision into real action, there would surely be no greater thing.

Ko Sato
Iwate Prefectural
Morioka First High
School



BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit, what with its large gathering of students of the same generation and its discussions aimed at yielding achievement, was a world I had never experienced before. Speaking as I did with many leaders from different fields gave rise to a new goal for me to break out into the larger world outside Japan.

Yuta Motokawa
Iwaki Shuei High
School



If I think back to the 3 days we have just had, truly the only word for it is amazing. I already want to have the same experience again. More than I could have imagined, it has become something that will stay with me the rest of my life. The fact there were so many brilliant high school students there suggests to me that Tohoku is going to be in good hands in the future. I also wanted to fit in to this group.

Naho Abe
Miyagi Prefecture
Kesenuma High
School



Right now, I really feel like I have spent the time of these three days very intensively. Given that I have never really had the chance to properly engage with other prefectures before, I'm really happy to have had the chance to participate in a Summit like this for that reason alone, but even more so given what a meaningful way it was to spend the time. I've noticed that I've ever so slightly changed having taken part in the Summit. From now on I really want to try my best to implement action in whatever way I can.

Yuki Sakamoto
Fukushima Prefectural
Yumoto High School



Program Overview

Select Comments (2/2)

BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit - I'm pretty exhausted, but far more importantly I got a lot out of it. I'm truly glad to have had chance to speak with the Country Manager for Twitter Japan and other such people at the top of their respective industries. I learned so much, and I'm so grateful for this precious experience. I want to try my hardest to carry out the project plans we made, to fulfill my dreams and to strengthen Tohoku's recovery.

Kokurin Saijo
Miyagi Prefecture
Kesenuma High
School



Up until I participated in the Summit, I had a strong sense of being a disaster victim. The level of painful experience I had had, the harm I had received, the difficulty I had faced. I could only think of this, and even during the team discussions I repeatedly returned to this point. However, when at the Summit I encountered questions such as "Well what action should be taken? What can be done to improve the situation?" I realized that I hadn't thought from that perspective at all, up until now.

Miki Mashiko
Fukushima Prefectural
Koriyama High School



After yesterday's summit, I feel that the things going on around me are not such a huge deal. The conversations I have had with people over this Summit have had a really big influence on me.

Shota Kikuchi
Iwate Prefectural
Ofunato High School



To have had this precious experience when I so rarely have such opportunities, I have been really inspired by everyone and I am overflowing with motivation! I want to thank from the bottom of my heart everyone who has been involved with this project. I want to become like you all someday!

Hitomi Sasaki
Miyagi Prefecture
Kesenuma High
School



The Leaders Summit was really enjoyable. We were kept extremely busy, but it was extremely fulfilling - to the extent that school might seem quite boring by comparison! The level of conversation was high and the venue prominent, but the time was spent rethinking afresh about assistance for reconstruction and town planning.

Shinpei Fujita
Kanagawa Prefectural
Kishine High School



Thank you very much for this truly wonderful experience I have been provided with. I think the opportunity to have spoken with people who are active in a range of different fields was extremely precious. On top of that, it's great that so many of my peers also had this opportunity. I really want us to have a hand in aiding Tohoku's recovery!

Ryota Chida
Senshu University
Kitakami High
School



Program Overview

Participants

70 high school students were selected through a competitive selection process from Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures with strong aspirations to become global leaders

List of Participants1/2)

Name	High School	Name	High School
Iwate Prefecture			
Daijiro Ito	Ofunato Higashi High School	Yusuke Sasaki	Hanamaki Gakuin Hanamaki Higashi High School
Yuta Iwata	Miyako Commercial High School	Kanako Sato	Takada High School
Yurie Imai	Morioka First High School	Ko Sato	Morioka First High School
Kai Iwasaki	Ofunato High School	Ryota Chida	Sensyu University Kitakami High School
Tomohiro Kamisawa	Morioka First High School	Masahide Chiba	Ofunato High School
Masahiro Kikuchi	Ofunato High School	Hikaru Nagaoka	Hanamaki Gakuin Hanamaki Higashi High School
Haruka Kikuchi	Hanakita Seiun High School	Haruka Nakano	Miyako Commercial High School
Masahiro Kikuchi	Takada High School	Kenta Hasegawa	Miyako High School
Chisato Kuramoto	Morioka First High School	Naomi Fukuda	Takada High School
Nana Sasaki	Ofunato High School	Emi Funakoshi	Miyako High School
Hitomi Sasaki	Morioka First High School	Asaka Yanada	Morioka First High School



Program Overview

Participants

70 high school students were selected through a competitive selection process from Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures with strong aspirations to become global leaders

List of Participants(2/2)

Name	High School	Name	High School
Miyagi			
Naho Abe	Kesenuma High School	Kaede Sato	Sendai Sanou High School
Risa Abe	Ishimaki Nishi High School	Keiji Sato	Shizukawa High School
Hitomi Ishikawa	Tokiwagi Gakuen High School	Takuma Sato	Tohoku High School
Ito Miharuru	Kesenuma High School	Sayaka Sugawara	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School
Arisa Endo	Higashi Matsushima High School	Hayato Sugiyama	Rifu High School
Takayuki Endo	Ishimaki Kita High School	Satoshi Suzuki	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School
Ryoko Endo	Toryo High School	Syono Sekimoto	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School
Saki Ogata	Kesenuma High School	Satoru Takahashi	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School
Yuka Ozawa	Sei Urusura Eichi Gakuin High School	Nanami Takahashi	Miyagi First High School
Sae Onodera	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School	Maya Takahashi	Sendai Shirayuri Gakuen High School
Yui Onodera	Tokiwagi Gakuen High School	Mai Takeyama	Ishinomaki Municipal Girl's Senior High School
Yasufumi Oyama	Kesenuma Kouyou High School	Masami Nakatani	Ishinomaki Municipal Girl's Senior High School
Eisuke Kato	Toryo High School	Makoto Hitaka	Seiwa Gakuen High School
Haruka Kikuchi	Ishinomaki Municipal Girl's Senior High School	Chiharu Fuda	Tokiwagi Gakuen High School
Maria Kusaka	Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School	Takaharu Matsuda	Rifu High School
Ryuji Kokuta	Kesenuma High School	Yu Miura	Kesenuma High school
Kokurin Saijyo	Kesenuma High School	Ryuji Mori	Kesenuma Kouyou High School
Hitomi Sasaki	Kesenuma High School	Rui Yamauchi	Sendai Shirayuri Gakuen High School
Fukushima			
Chizuru Imai	Iwaki Shuei High School	Miki Masuko	Koriyama High School
Takayuki Endo	Koriyama Commercial High School	Kaoru Matsumoto	Iwaki Shuei High School
Kazuki Ohashi	Asaka High School	Hiromi Meguro	Soma Higashi High School
Yuki Sakamoto	Yumoto High School	Yuta Motokawa	Iwaki Shuei High School
Tsubasa Sugeno	Technical High school	Kazuki Yanagisawa	Asaka Kaisei High School
Satoru Nizuma	Iwaki Shuei High School		
Kanagawa			
Shinpei Fujita	Kishine High School		

Program Overview

Schedule

28th October (Friday)

20:30 Arrival
20:45~21:55 Orientation

29th October (Saturday)

8:00~ 9:00 Breakfast Session – Guests:
Toru Takanarita Professor of Sendai University, President of the Fund
for the Future of Children affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake
Kouta Matsuda Member, House of Councillors

9:30~ 10:00 Choir Rehearsal
10:00~10:30 Presentation on the Assignment
10:30~12:00 Sharing of Experience – Guests:
Teruhide Sato President, Group CEO, netprice.com,Ltd
Dai Tamesue Hurdle Athlete

12:00~13:00 Lunch – Guest: Misa Matsuzaki CEO, ASIMODE Co., Ltd
13:00~13:30 Interview Preparation
13:30~14:45 Interview Session – Lecturers:
Retsu Fujisawa RCF Recovery Support Team Representative
Director, Reconstruction Headquarters in response to the Great
East Japan Earthquake Part Time Staff
Satoru Nishikawa Director of Land and Real Property Market Division,
MLIT Japan
Miyako Hamasaka Manager, External Relations

14:45~15:30 Presentation Preparation
16:00~16:30 Progress Review – Guests:
James Kondo Country Manager, Twitter Japan; Visiting Professor,
Hitotsubashi University
Kohey Takashima CEO and Founder, Oisix
Hideki Makihara Former member of the House of Representatives;
Attorney at Law admitted to Japan and the State of
New York; Researcher of the National Graduate
Institute for Policy Studies

16:30~18:00 Presentation Brush-Up
18:00~19:00 Orientation: BT Scholarship Program
19:30~21:30 Gala Dinner – Guests:
Keiichiro Asao Member, House of Representatives

30th October (Sunday)

8:00~ 8:30 Choir Rehearsal
8:30~ 9:30 Presentation Practice
10:30~ 13:00 Closing Ceremony / Final Presentations / Choir
13:00~ 13:30 Press Briefing





Survivors' Stories

What actually happened on the 11th March 2011? As the time for the sharing of experiences began and the participating students listened intently to each other's stories, the atmosphere of the room dramatically changed. Everyone squeezed out their words with great sincerity, and they were taken very seriously. Hearing other perspectives that many realized they hadn't even imagined until now, tears were shed over the experiences of their peers.

It was as if one could hear the switch being flipped on in every single person. On the first day, expressions, actions and attitudes that were almost unimaginable all completely naturally materialized. Each individual's story, and the bonds that were created through spending this time together, became the foundation and the start for this three day program.



Masahiro Kikuchi, Iwate Prefectural Takata High School

On the 11th March, I was painfully exposed to the terror of a major disaster. On that day, before my very eyes, I saw the town I knew extremely well utterly annihilated in seconds by an enormous tsunami. The wave encroached the town center carrying a huge volume of sand with it, and shortly after the town was shrouded in sand and smoke. All around me were elementary school students crying whilst evacuating and adults frozen to the spot. The scene was like something out of a terrible nightmare.

In my hometown of Rikuzentakata, around 1800 people fell victim to the disaster. My parents were no exception. I visited many different mortuaries, and all of the bodies were black and blue from bruising, and swollen from inhalation of water. There were also people who'd lost parts of their bodies. It was difficult to find my mother and father, as their bodies were covered in injuries leaving them changed from their original appearance. When I saw what they looked like, I was overcome with this terrible sadness, but it soon disappeared. My everyday life had become so tough, that I really had no leeway to allow myself to feel sad indefinitely.

However within these terrible circumstances, there was help not only from within Japan but also from countries around the world. Thanks to this help, many of us are still here today.

In August, I finally had the opportunity to express my appreciation. I was selected as a representative of the disaster victims to act as a High School Student Messenger of Peace, visiting the United Nations European Headquarters. There, I conveyed my heartfelt gratitude for the help received, and expressed the determination to achieve recovery. I also drew attention to the necessity of disaster prevention and the paramount importance of international cooperation, which I realized through my experiences of the earthquake. I think these activities must surely have given courage to the disaster areas. In the future too, I want to continue communicating with the world as one of the disaster victims.

Currently, the reestablishment of the town has been completed, and we are now moving towards recovery. However, the fact of the matter is that there are still many issues that are yet to be tackled. One example is the employment problem. Many people lost their place of work, and have now fallen into financial difficulty. A friend of mine's mother took her own life for this very reason. Until we break through these problems, the future of the devastated areas will remain bleak.

My goal is to become in the position where I can lead the way for the recovery of the disaster areas. I want to guide the town back to having its former spark of life. For this purpose we young people must take a stand and take responsibility for the future of the disaster areas. To the full extent of my ability I want to try my hardest to help the movement towards recovery happen as quickly as possible.

At this Tohoku Future Leaders Summit, I've had the opportunity to create a proposal along with other like-minded high school students. Thanks to various discussions I have had with the proposal advisers active in many different avenues, the breadth of my thinking has expanded and it has become clearer to us all as to what we can actually do. I want to make the most of the positive outcomes of this Summit, and I hope to exercise leadership in various areas and standpoints from here on.



Naho Abe Kesenuma High School

March 11th. On that day, due to the fact I had only had morning classes, I was already with my mother in Minami Sanriku at the time the earthquake struck. It was bigger than anything I had ever experienced before, to the extent that the surface of the ground started to crack, so it was easy to predict a tsunami would probably follow. As a result, me and my mother were evacuated to a junior high school on higher ground that had been designated as an evacuation shelter. My house and the whole area I lived in was swallowed in its entirety by the ocean in no time at all. But mere moments after the shock and sense of powerlessness had kicked in the wave began to swell, and in less than a minute it was bearing down on us as well even though we were on high ground, sweeping telephone poles and cars along with it. Frantically we began to run, trying desperately to scale the slope but failing to do so, and in an instant both me and my mother were enveloped by the wave.

The muddy water was pitch-black so you couldn't see a thing, and the pressure of the water so great that you couldn't move your arms or legs at all. At first I somehow managed to withstand not breathing, but I quickly ran out of air and started swallowing large amounts of the water, and I began preparing myself to die. But then my body got sandwiched between a roof and a car and I was able to make it to the surface of the water - it was a true miracle. However being unable to find my mother to this day, I can't find even the tiniest bit of joy in the fact that only I was saved.

On that day, my mother had suggested we go to the shopping center, and had we done so perhaps she might have been saved. Or maybe if we had fled in a different direction when the tsunami struck, she could have been saved. Or perhaps even being swept away in the same manner, if I had managed to grab onto the clothes of my mother who had been standing less than a meter away she might have survived. My sense of regret only grows as I vividly remember the events of that day and that time, and think about how if only I had done this or that differently. My beloved mother, who was my biggest supporter and sympathizer, who I adored up until now and will adore forever more, is already gone. My dream of being her devoted daughter is already something I cannot achieve.

Up until now there has been no place for high school students to seriously engage, treat, think about and debate issues relating to the disaster with each other. It is because of this, and because of the opportunity to meet other people with similar or perhaps even worse experiences with whom I can share my thoughts, that I decided to take part in this Summit.

The discussions and presentations of these three days are pretty much exactly what I've been hoping for, and the Summit has also surpassed my expectations in terms of how enjoyable it was. On top of this, I also received a lot of motivation from being gathered with a group of people who all had a strong desire to actually do something positive.

I think I would like to create a place where young people like me who have lost their parents can get together. I would like to share this feeling and create a place where people can receive the strength to move forwards. In participating in the BEYOND Tomorrow project, I have been able to renew my strong wish to take part in whatever small way with the recovery efforts.

My father is an emergency medical technician, and I have had an interest in medicine since a young age. Having also now experienced this terrible disaster, I strongly feel I would also like to pursue some kind of medical-related career. In the future, I want to become a nationally qualified clinical engineer and work in a hospital in Miyagi, and by making myself helpful to others establish the significance of my own existence.



Sayaka Sugawara Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School

March 11th was my middle school graduation day. It was the day that my classmates of 10 years were to begin embarking on a new journey, a day that was meant to remain as a happy memory.

The earthquake hit when I came home. It was a level of shaking that I had never felt before. The earthquake cut our power, so I was not able to receive information through the television. By the time I heard there was a tsunami coming and started to evacuate, it was already too late -- I heard a ground-shaking boom, and in an instant my family and I were swallowed whole by the tsunami, along with my house. As I was being swept away with the rubble and black water, thoughts rushed through my head: "This is it. I'm going to die." "I wish I had the chance to wear my high school uniform."

After being swept away for a while with the rubble, I heard my mother calling my name from underneath the debris. When I cleared away the rubble, I found my mother, pierced by nails and tree limbs, and a broken leg. Her right leg was stuck, and even though I tried my best to clear the debris, it was too heavy and too big. I wanted to save my mother, but I knew that staying there I would be swept away again by the tsunami. Do I stay and save my mother? Or do I run to safety? I chose my own life. It was a decision that makes me cry to this day. When I left my mother I told her many times, Thank you, and I love you. It was the most difficult moment of my life to turn away from my mother who implored to me, "Don't leave me." There was so much more I wanted to tell her. But I had to leave; I swam to my lower school and spent the night there.

There were many, many more difficult experiences after that moment. There were days that were so difficult that I thought of dying. There were days that I wondered why life is so cruel, and I cannot even begin to count the number of times I cried thinking about my family. Through this tsunami, I lost so much of my life.

But there are things that I have gained through this experience. And I believe that the more effort I put into it, the more I can gain. People may look at me and pity me, but that is not how I see myself. I have a loving grandmother and grandfather. I have friends who are very supportive. I have opportunities now because I have gone through this tragedy. I am confident that I am able to overcome any challenge life may throw at me. And I am able to understand other who have also suffered a great loss.

This is why in the future I hope to help other children who went through similar travesties. I would also like to participate in international volunteering organizations to give back to all the countries that helped Japan in this time of need.

I know that there will be many more challenges ahead in life. But I want to stay proactive, finding the ways in which I can help others so that I can give back as much as, if not more than, what I have lost.



Miki Masuko **Koriyama High School**

We residents of Fukushima Prefecture are currently in very trying times. The Great East Japan Earthquake wreaked great damage, but for the people of Fukushima there is also a huge problem on top of this which is the radioactive contamination from the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

In particular, the thoughtless rumours about Fukushima are for me personally very hurtful. For example, I have heard that peaches produced in Fukushima for use as gifts have been immediately returned despite the fact safety checks for the levels of radiation have been carried out. It's not just the fact that we ourselves have to live in fear of the dangers of radiation, but it's also the way in which certain other people in Japan seem to propagate this idea that people in Fukushima are at fault for spreading radiation to other prefectures, and this makes me incredibly sad.

We are working hard to live in Fukushima. We are making a united and concerted effort for the recovery of this prefecture and a revival of its pre-accident branding of "beautiful Fukushima". I really want people both in Japan and worldwide to understand this aspect of Fukushima. I want people to become supporters of Fukushima and to warmly watch over us with a sense of having some kinds of emotional tie. I want people to not be afraid to come and see this form. I want people to be aware of Fukushima's current situation. And I want people to cooperate with the decontamination process.

From summer next year, I will study abroad in Switzerland for one year. While I am away, I want to act as a high school ambassador passionately communicating the truth about Fukushima, the decontamination efforts, the serious considerations for recovery and the amazing energy and efforts being made to overcome the difficulties. This, I wonder, is what I can currently do to contribute to Fukushima's recovery.

We experienced this terrible disaster in Tohoku, but we can't just let ourselves lament that we are unhappy. I am grateful for all the support we have received from people, and I want to move forwards even though we might be sad, recover energy even though it might be tough, and discover my goals and hopes and start progressing towards my dreams. I believe that to have hopes and dreams and to work towards the regeneration of Tohoku with our youthful energy is our mission as Tohoku Future Leaders.



Shinpei Fujita **Kishine High School**

As a result of the earthquake disaster, my own home town of Kesenuma received a catastrophic level of damage. Included in this damage was the swimming club which I attended, and so I lost the place I had to go swimming. Deprived of the swimming I had done continuously for 13 years and at a loss without it, I was by luck contacted by the Kanagawa University Swimming Club through the internet, and I left my family in my hometown of Kesenuma and now live in Kanagawa prefecture.

I was therefore able to continue the swimming that I had been at one point about to give up, and 6 months after the disaster, having achieved 7th place in the Kanagawa Prefecture All High School Swimming Competition, I made my debut in the regional Kanto Competition. In September, as the Miyagi Prefecture representative at the National Athletics Meet held in Yamaguchi Prefecture, I managed to achieve a good result of 12th place whilst also setting a new personal best.

My dream is to go on to University and become the best swimmer in Japan. If I can continue to proceed forwards through my own hard endeavor to achieve results, I think it will help to pick up the spirits of the devastated area in Kesenuma and repay those people and the area instrumental in raising me, so I am devoting myself to training hard every day. I want to overcome that disaster, find my life's purpose, and help revitalize Tohoku.

I decided to participate in this Tohoku Future Leaders Summit because I thought the gathering together of we high school students from the three affected prefectures and the enabling of us to share our experiences of the disaster was a good opportunity. Since the disaster, I have been helped by countless numbers of people to get to where I am today. I believe that this is thanks to the fact my mother, father and siblings have always really valued links with other people, and so we all helped each other out.

I also think that to have been selected as a participant at this Leaders Summit and to have connected with these other young people I've met is also a miracle in itself.

In actually participating in this Leaders Summit, I have also talked with people who have been affected by the nuclear accident as well as by the earthquake and tsunami, and my desire to play a role in recovery from the disaster has even further increased. Furthermore, through team discussions and the formulation of a concrete project plan under the theme of helping victims of the disaster, I have been able to spend this time even more meaningfully than I had anticipated. From here on, I want to put into practice the plan that I formulated with my team.







Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

In the morning of Day 2, the students were asked to develop plans for Tohoku's future.

“Suppose you are formally acknowledged by Minister Furukawa, the Minister of National Strategy, as members of the Tohoku Revival teams. The mission of the teams is to create tangible project proposals that would help revive the Tohoku region, following the devastating effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake. In teams you have to meet the objective of creating proposals that could realistically be achieved, with the expectation that team members would commit to the management of the projects for a full year. “

Three different themes were outlined for the projects: Tohoku revitalization, disaster prevention and victim support. Each team created proposals based on the category to which they were assigned.

Revitalizing the work and business industries of Tohoku.

Teams assigned to this category were encouraged to identify the business sectors that have been struggling. Based on what they determined, teams went on to create business proposals that would bring life and energy back into the region and establish Tohoku as an entrepreneurial hub.

Disaster Prevention

Teams created proposals that would help the local populace of Tohoku feel more secure, by considering what safety measures could be implemented in order to minimize the damaging effects of potential tsunamis and earthquakes.

Victim support

For this category teams deliberated over what sort of aid and support the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake needed, or benefited from, the most. Their proposals envisioned plans that would provide the most effective aid to all victims, whilst considering the fact that the specific needs for individuals would undoubtedly vary.



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step1: Understanding the needs and listening to the voice of the local victims

The 70 participating students were invited to the work with one another at the summit as selected representatives of the victims of their respective prefectures.

Each student came to the summit with notes and stories from interviews that they had conducted with the local individuals of their prefectures. During the summit they shared the information that they had gathered and then, together, they discussed the common issues that the victims had encountered and the challenges that they would face. The students shouldered this responsibility bravely, as they objectively analysed the most emotional content in order to articulately speak for the region of Tohoku as a whole populace, whilst also considering what the best way to revive the region would be.

The united voice of the people of Tohoku

- Whilst the people of Tohoku are extremely grateful for the compassionate efforts of the volunteers, they maintain that volunteering is not always synonymous with being helpful; really effective volunteering comes from volunteers being thoughtful about what the real needs of the victims are. For example, hair dressers who lost their entire businesses and tools to the earthquake disaster could not fully appreciate the work of those volunteers who offered hair-dressing services to victims. For the local hairdressers, those volunteers inevitably became competitors who had an unfair advantage over them because they had tools.
- During the disaster mobile phones and electronic bulletin boards stopped working all together, and it was impossible for people to get in touch with family members in order ascertain their well-being. Having experienced this, people now realise the extreme importance of having alternative ways to re-group and get in touch with one another, in the event of another disaster.
- Although temporary housing has been constructed, they are not long-term solutions to the problem of housing. Problems with regards to employment, food and the even distribution of aid are outstanding as well.
- Tohoku desperately needs to develop an environment that encourages the youth to return. The establishment of employment opportunities and better hospitals also needs to be on the agenda. Furthermore, the maintenance of social ties amongst the population of Tohoku and a sense of community ought to be a high priority.
- There are many rumors that address the danger of products from areas close to the nuclear power plant. As a result, fruits are returned, and people are damaging cars with license plates from Fukushima. Something must be done immediately to solve this issue.
- With too many differing views and a lack of cohesive communication amongst the victims, decisive action and leadership are vital at this point.
- Too many people are becoming passive about organization, so public discourse and the amalgamation of ideas ought to take place. Furthermore, the problem of youth leaving Tohoku would be best addressed by the youth themselves.
- Many people find it difficult to think of strategies to revive Tohoku in the long-term, since short-term goals have not been outlined.
- The region needs to focus on building a safe and barrier free environment, particularly for the physically disabled. Furthermore, awareness and pre-emptive preparations regarding potential tsunamis and earthquakes must be raised.



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step 2 : Interview with experts on Tohoku revitalization

Having the chance to talk with some of the leading experts on reviving Tohoku, professionals with real-world experiences in reconstructing all relevant sectors, was a wonderful opportunity for the students to expand their perspective and develop realistic project plans.

Each team questioned and interviewed experts from the categories to which they were assigned. With the most pertinent knowledge and skills to share, the professionals responded to the enthusiastic questions and helped the students envision their plans both realistically and effectively. They differentiated the necessary from the unhelpful, the doable from the futile, with articulate and encouraging support.

It was invigorating to see the eager and looks on all of the students faces, as they all tried to fit in one more question and develop a deeper understanding of the situation and their projects. Even after the interview session was over, the students mingled around the professionals, waiting to hear what else they could learn.

Topic A

Reviving industry – how to revitalize Tohoku through business and work



Retsu Fujisawa Chief Director, General Incorporated Association RCF Reconstruction Support Team

A graduate of Hitotsubashi University, Fujisawa had significant experience working for McKinsey & Company before going on to independently consult for ventures and entrepreneurs. Immediately following the earthquake disaster, he initiated a project that connected victims with NPOs. He gathered data from 400 refuge centers within the Miyagi prefecture, in order to collaborate with the local NPOs and the media. He has founded the revival assistance team and works on related administration and education projects for the victims. Since March 2011, he has also been assigned a position as a member of government headquarters for monitoring NPO aid and relief.

Students Notes:

- Following the establishment of temporary housing in May, in order to approach the matter of rebuilding the livelihoods of the victims, a network amongst the victims and reconstruction teams must be powered and an appeal to the local governing body presented.
- With the assistance of financial aid for the purpose of rebuilding, a special focus needs to be made on the fishing industry, particularly with regards to repairing and building boats and other fishing facilities.
- For revitalization to take place in the most innovative and effective manner, projects must address the people of Tohoku and the needs of the region as a whole. The voices of civilians are the best sources of information, and they must be the central focus. Furthermore, issues must be approached with long-term solutions on top of short-term activities.

Students' Notes:

Q: How should we overcome the effects of rumours and prejudices?

A: As opposed to focusing solely on how to overcome rumours, you must think in terms of the big picture; think about ways to shed positive light on Japan and its prefectures.

Q: We realise that strong leadership is needed in order to rebuild and revitalize Tohoku, but what are your thoughts on youths as leaders?

A: I would like the youth to maintain a clear distinction between a "manager" and a "leader." A manager faces you and gives you instructions. Leaders turn their backs towards you and start walking forward. You are encouraged to follow them because they have conviction in what they are doing and are not afraid to take the first, bold step forward.



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step 2: Interview with experts on reviving Tohoku

Activities for Tohoku, students interviewed experts who have been in the foreground of reconstruction and rebuilding.

Topic B

Disaster prevention – building a safe city

Satoru Nishikawa Director of Land and Real Property Market Division, MLIT Japan



Originally from Kanagawa prefecture, Nishikawa graduated from the department of engineering in Tokyo University and completed his Master's degree before entering the Japanese Land Agency. Working on projects centering on land development, he also focused his skills on developing the metropolis of Nagoya before accepting a position as a guest researcher at MIT. In 1989 he began work on developing disaster prevention enterprises and disaster prevention in foreign countries, as a representative of the Japanese Land Agency. Between 1992 and 1995, he served as the head of emergency aid operations for the U.N. Upon his return to Japan, he worked on various projects that included long term planning for Japan's water resources and the reshuffling of the central government offices of Japan. Following this he became the head of the center of disaster prevention for Asia, and official councillor on disaster prevention for the cabinet during the earthquake disaster of Niigata Prefecture in 2004, and the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami. In 2005 he organized the UN disaster prevention global conference and as a professor of engineering, he has also been an active participant in the World Economic Forum.

Students' Notes:

- Disaster prevention can be effectively achieved through the collaboration between humanity and nature. The weaker a society is in facing unpredictable natural phenomena, the greater the risk of damage from natural disasters.
- Japan has a high occurrence of earthquakes relative to the rest of the world. After the damaging effects of the Isewan Typhoon, post-war Japan began investing in disaster prevention measure, which has been helpful to this day.
- It is very important to study maps carefully and appreciate the descriptive names that our ancestors left for us, which reveal the characteristics of terrains.

Students' Notes:

Q: What is safety and security?

A: The answer varies depending on whose safety you are taking into consideration. Always clearly identify whose safety you are targeting first and foremost; thereafter, in order to implement effective safety measures, you must differentiate between measures that will cost money and those which will not.

Q: Since the media has failed to honestly report the sentiments and issues of the local civilians, what can be done to change this?

A: Indeed, the government and other establishments of authority do have the tendency to control what is distributed via the media. In light of this, it is important for the public to take action and voice their sentiments which they feel are not adequately expressed.



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step 2: Interview with experts on reviving Tohoku

Regarding the revitalization of Tohoku, students interviewed experts who have been in the foreground of reconstruction and rebuilding.

Topic C Victim Support



Miyako Hamasaka JEN Manager, External Relations

Originally from Kyoto, Ms. Hamazaka worked for three years in the entrepreneurial sector before moving to Singapore and establishing her own public relations firm. She returned to Tokyo in 2006 and joined JEN, Inc. as a public relations manager. In 2007 she headed the public relations for a team that worked on reviving Niigata, and following that she went to Pakistan to head a video research project. In 2009 she entered her current position to head public and media relations. Immediately following the earthquake disaster in March, she headed a program that distributed aid material to victims. During the months of March and April, she was responsible for the successful execution of projects in Ishinomaki, particularly with regards to the distribution of aid.

Students' Notes:

Q: How do you rank types of aid, in order of importance?

A:

- This question is an extremely important one to ask and, at the same time, it is also a difficult one to provide answers to. What is vital is to avoid providing redundant aid, however, there are times when the provision of aid doesn't go as well as one would like.
- Since it is very difficult to attain specific, minute details, as a general rule of thumb, you should avoid distributing aid outside of refuge centres or large meeting spots.
- Since the damages are generally so large, it is very difficult for aid to function efficiently from the top down. NGOs also struggle to maintain accurate communication with the whole picture. As a result, a good structure would be to have NGOs functioning as the communication link between the government and victims.

Comments from the lecturer

Taking heed of the fact that my audience were high school students, I removed a few slides from my original presentation. I was pleasantly shocked to find that during the Q/A session, the students proceeded to address all the contents on the slides that I had removed. They were all extremely sharp and held impressive opinions. It really made me realise that these students, having experienced the damaging effects first hand, have an incredible capacity to consider what Tohoku needs and how to revitalize their home region. I am so excited to see what proposals they will create as a result.



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step 3: Dialogue with leaders

Through dialogue with top leaders, the students broadened their perspectives in many aspects. Interaction with these leaders made a powerful impact on the 70 student participants.

“It is not a sense of obligation or back-ward looking attitude but dreams and the future that brings people together and drives a team”

I would like to tell you about the qualities that an athlete must have in order to move and inspire people.

First of all, you must retain a sense of innocence. You must keep cherishing the feelings that you have in your own heart; value them. It is these people who change the flow of the game, influence the environment of the game. It is not a sense of obligation or back-ward looking attitude but dreams and the future that brings people together in and drives a team.

I hope that all of you can be someone who retains a sense of innocence and continues to believe in dreams.

My favorite speech is Martin Luther King, Jr's “I have a dream.” I believe that it is very meaningful that instead of saying “We have a dream,” he stated, “I have a dream.”

Only by having our own individual dreams can we arrive at a point where “We have a dream.” I hope that at the end of this Summit you are all able to say, “We have a dream.”

**Dai Tamesue
Hurdler**



“I urge you to tap into your own experiences”

I am currently sitting in The Reconstruction Design Council in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake, and I realize how crucial it is to have information.

In this summit, you will all be creating a proposal for shaping Tohoku's future. When doing so, I urge you to tap into your own experiences.

Be sure to always speak in your own words; this will enable you to be more persuasive when talking with others. It will also make your opinions and proposals richer and stronger.

**Toru Takanarita
Professor of Sendai University, President of the Fund for the Future of
Children affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake**



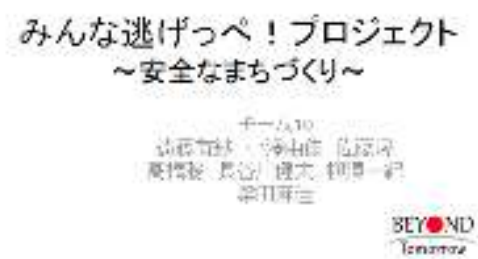
Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Final presentations

70 students built a strong community with one another, shared ideas and worked as teams for challenging three days. Drawing on their own experiences, whilst tirelessly representing the voices of so many, they endeavoured to listen to the advice of experts and create proposals that would envision a strong future for the Tohoku region. What the students finally presented at the end of the weekend impressed and astounded us all.

Each team had four minutes to present their proposals formally to the audience and a panel of judges. Two teams were respectively awarded the “Grade A” prize and a prize for excellence, for having the most impressively thought-out and structured proposals and presentations. The slides from team 10’s presentation, the winner for the Grade A prize, have been included here.

All team proposals will be presented to Minister of National Strategy Furukawa as suggestions for what can be initiated in Tohoku.



Judging Criteria

Presentation Skills	The application of personal experience	How realistic the proposal is	The originality of the proposal
4. On top of meeting the criteria of 3, the presentation leaves a strong impression and excels that of what may be usually expected from high school students. 3. On top of being well rehearsed, the presentation is both creative and original 2. It has been well rehearsed 1. Not enough practice	4. Personal experience has been tangibly incorporated into the whole proposal exceptionally well 3. Personal experience has been incorporated into the whole proposal in good detail 2. Sufficient reference to personal experience has been incorporated 1. The team has not made any references to personal experience	4. This project proposal can realistically be achieved and ought to officially move forward. 3. The project proposal is promising and ought to be improved upon so that it can officially move forward 2. This project proposal will struggle to be realistically achieved. 1. It will be very difficult to realistically achieve this project	4. Very important opinions were presented and through the goal of reinvigorating Tohoku, a completely original view point was established. 3. Very original and well considered ideas were presented. 2. Ideas that had not been suggested before were presented 1. The idea has not been finalized and needs elaboration

最終提言発表内容 (抜粋 1/2)
何が問題なのか

どのように解決するか

<p><u>体験①</u></p> <p>小学生や高齢者、障害者の避難が大変だった。</p> <p>理由 津波が来るタイムリミットと避難所までの距離</p>	<p><u>体験②</u></p> <p>どこに逃げるべきかわからなかった。</p> <p>理由 情報が入らなかった。情報が錯綜していた。</p>	<p><u>コンセプト</u></p> <p>『逃げやすい街づくり』</p>
--	---	--

Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Final presentations

最終提言発表内容 (抜粋 2/2)

どのように解決するか

解決案①

・避難ルート、避難場所の整備

→案内板(ユニバーサルサイン)の設置



どのように解決するか

解決案②

・防災教育の充実

→地域ぐるみの防災訓練とコミュニケーション



解決案③

・GPSと緊急地震速報の活用

→緊急地震速報とマップ(現在地と近くの避難所へのルート案内)の連携



具体的なプロジェクト案

解決案の実現に向けて

①案内板を作り、貼りまくる

②学校・企業・地域住民での合同避難訓練の呼びかけ

③GPS(マップ)+緊急地震速報のアプリ開発の提案



具体的なプロジェクト案

解決案の実現に向けて

・月に1回、第1回種目まとめ後に報告

→文籍地決定(東海・東南海域方)

→(案内板のサンプルと合同防災訓練の企画を持って)全県で現地入り

→自治体・企業が相談



解決案の実現に向けて

→①と②をその地域で実施(案内板貼りまくりと合同防災訓練)

※時間差(まず①をやり、1か月後に②を)

→結果を見て改善→文籍→改善→東北へ応用



解決案の実現に向けて

・下調べ:避難所を調べる(連絡、住所、標準)

・製作:案内板の製作(絵+ラミネート)
○市川、高橋、長谷川

・まとめ:全体の指揮、自治体や関係者への確認(③III)

・案内板の貼り付け・添削・防災訓練(全員)



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Final presentations

The Judges' Reviews (1 of 2)



Etsuko May Okajima President & CEO, ProNova Inc.

After working in an international consulting company, Ms Okajima founded a executive head hunting company. She became its executive director in 2005. She left the company in 2007 to found ProNova Inc, a think tank that focuses on recruiting "business management professionals" and became its president and CEO. Since that time she has successfully recruited roughly 100 executives per year for start up companies and companies restarting business. Her expertise is in advising business team structures and advising business training and skill development. As such, Ms Okajima is experienced in being a discussion partner for business leaders. She is also a BEYOND Tomorrow founder.

First and foremost, I am amazed that 70 people who did not know each other until two days ago were able to collaborate and pull together one proposal. Specifically, I would first like to highlight that this proposal has woven in unique perspectives that only the young victims of the disaster could express. The proposal contained many ideas that we outsiders could not create; they were direct growths from first-hand experiences. It was also clear that the authors were of a young generation, familiar with mobile technology and taking advantage of it.

Secondly, I imagine that the students learned a lot from the creative process. There were no doubt team members who had different opinions from each other. Different geographical regions experienced the tragedy differently, people react differently to events - by discovering these differences I sensed a great learning curve. I hope that this process allowed for a rich experience in of itself.

Thirdly, and most importantly, I am impressed at how the proposal delegates roles and creates an action plan, developing a detailed approach to this project. Of course there was the pressure of submitting the proposal to the Minister of State for National Policy, but I believe that it is very important that the students expressed their commitment in a goal-oriented manner, such as outlining next steps for each Saturday, or a milestone for every three months. I strongly believe that this summit is just the beginning.

To the students I would like to send a message that leaders are not born but made. Stay true to your peers and colleagues, and I look forward to seeing this proposal come into action. I will be supporting you every step of the way.



Yuzo Takada National Director AFS Intercultural Programs, Japan

Mr Takada is from Osaka prefecture. While attending Kitano High School, he studied abroad in California for a year in 1972 as a member of the 19th AFS class. He graduated from Tokyo University faculty of Law in 1979 and joined Mitsui & Co., Ltd. Since then Mr Takada has worked in the chemical industry, working in New York 4 times, totaling over 9 years. In 1999 he attended the Stanford Executive Program at Stanford Graduate School of Business. Since his university years he volunteered with AFS, and between 1980 and 2000 he intermittently served as AFS Intercultural Programs' board member. Between 2000 and 2008 he also served as a director of AFS's international headquarters in New York. In March 2008 Mr Takada left Mitsui & Co., Ltd and began his current post in July of 2008.

My first reaction was that I once heard that Japanese high school students were not as reliable as teenagers from other parts of the world. But hearing today's presentation, I saw that Japanese high school students are in fact nothing but, and I felt reassured to have Japan's future in their hands.

I am sure that the students' vivid experiences were at the foundation for a lot of their thinking, and I was most impressed at the fact that they took this important project into their own hands and approached it in a self-directed fashion. The proposal was shaped in a way that emphasized what they could do themselves and what their own responsibilities are in this situation. Instead of relying on others, such as leaders or politicians, they stood up and asked themselves what they could do with their own hands. I greatly admire this proactive nature.

After going through a painful experience, it is very difficult to convert the challenges into opportunities. But the students' insights and proposal detailed precisely how to do that: change the challenges into opportunities.

For a deliverable created over the course of three days, I was struck by the novel perspectives and creative analyses that were woven in. I believe that digging deeper would result in an even stronger proposal overall. Ultimately, this proposal is only the beginning, and what comes next will be the important part. They say that "strength lies in continuity," and I urge the students to think about what the next steps are, now that the proposal has been submitted. I imagine that the students will go on to become leaders in society, and as they embark on their journeys, I hope they always keep asking themselves, "What will I do next? What is the next step?"

Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Final presentations

The Judges' Reviews (2 of 2)



David H. Satterwhite

Fulbright Japan (Japan-U.S. Educational) Executive Director

Dr Satterwhite was born in the United States but has lived in Japan for 41 years. He received a Fulbright Scholarship to perform research at Korea university institute of Asian studies in Seoul, Korea and subsequently received a PhD in Politics from Washington University in Seattle. He has taught at various universities including Harvard University. Previously he has held positions as managing director of the Japan branch of the economist group and vice president of ACCJ (American Chamber of Commerce in Japan). He is currently the executive director of Fulbright Japan (Japan-U.S. Educational). Dr Satterwhite is fluent in Japanese and Korean, and he is currently studying Chinese.

I was struck by the students' persuasiveness. While each student played on his or her strength, together they communicated a unified message that was delivered beautifully. I felt that these strong qualities will translate into how Tohoku and Japan will be shaped in the future, and it was a great success. It was a great learning experience for me as well.

Although this summit was meant to bring together high school students who aspire to be leaders, I wonder if these students are not leaders already. Just sitting in the room, I could sense the leadership qualities that each student will undoubtedly continue to nurture. I hope that the students keep in mind that their strengths and experiences can be used to the fullest together as a group, not on their own.

While the earthquake and tsunami occurred in the Tohoku region, the disaster's impact was felt across the country and the world. I have lived in Japan for 41 years, and I was deeply moved by how the Japanese citizens responded to this disaster and came together. By leveraging each person's strength, everyone moves together and acts as a whole. This skill will become a crucial factor in recovering from the disaster.

Several times during today's presentation, the word "*kizuna* - bond - " was mentioned. I urge everyone to value *kizuna* formed not just within Tohoku or within Japan, but across the world, so that together we can translate that into action to overcome the obstacles that we are bound to encounter.

Participants

The program spanned 3 days and was centered around dialogue. A key component was having leaders as guests - leaders in fields ranging from sports and music to arts - to engage the students in discussions on their future career goals

Proposal Advisors (1 of 3)

Each student team had an advisor who is an expert in his or her field. The advisor offered insights on the students' discussions around their personal experiences and ideas for Tohoku's future, supporting them in creating a concrete proposal.



Team 1
William Hiroyuki Saito Founder & CEO, InTecur, K.K.

Mr Saito founded a software company in California in 1991. The company became a global leader in the security software industry. As an entrepreneur and a venture capitalist, over the course of 20 years Mr Saito began several new businesses and continues to manage private companies and work in the information security policy field. He is also an engineer, and he is involved in code and biometrics research, holding patents in Japan and the United States. He is a BEYOND Tomorrow founder.



Team 2
Nami Matsuko Head of Corporate Citizenship Department, Managing Director Nomura Holdings, Attorney at Law (New York)

Ms Matsuko graduated from Sophia University faculty of Law and joined Nomura research Institute . She obtained her law degrees from New York University and Georgetown University, and she is licensed to practice in New York state. Ms Matsuko is interested in aiding Japanese companies and their employees become globalized and communicate their strengths to the world. She is engaged in promoting corporate social responsibility activities.



Team 3
Seigo Hara Associate McKinsey & Company

Mr Hara graduated from Tokyo university faculty of Medicine and obtained an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business. After working at National Center for Global Health and Medicine, NCGM (International Medical Center of Japan, IMCJ: at that time), in 2007 he began working in designing Health and Global Policy Institute, HGPI. He was engaged in projects involving lifestyle-related diseases, global health/ international insurance issues. Currently he works at McKinsey and Company. Leveraging his training as a doctor, Mr Hara is active in areas that discuss how businesses, policies, and NPO/ NGO activities should contribute to current medical issues.



Team 4
Syugo Ikoh Stage Director

Mr Ikoh was born in Miyako city Iwate and graduated from Morioka High School No. 1. After obtaining his degree in economics at graduated school , University of Tokyo, he aspired to be an opera singer. He received scholarships from Rotary International and Nomura Foundation to go to London and study performance arts at Middlesex University graduate school. Mr Ikoh has since then performed at the Salzburger Festspiele , Wiener Staatsoper , Royal Opera House in London. His most memorable performances have included *Carmen*, *Così fan tutte*, *Rigoletto*, *Valkyrie*, *Bat*, and *Hansel and Gretel*. He is the recipient of The 19th (2008) Newcomer of the Opera Gotoh Memorial Cultural Award.

Participants

The program spanned 3 days and was centered around dialogue. A key component was having leaders as guests - leaders in fields ranging from sports and music to arts - to engage the students in discussions on their future career goals

Proposal Advisors (2 of 3)

Each student team had an advisor who is an expert in his or her field. The advisor offered insights on the students' discussions around their personal experiences and ideas for Tohoku's future, supporting them in creating a concrete proposal.



Team 5
Koji Kagoshima DENTSU INC Social•Design•Engine/Copy writer

While working in advertisement, Mr Kagoshima became involved in Social Design Engine and became its creator for social projects. Outside of the office he is involved in various projects through the 2025PROJECT, which collaborates with NGOs within the communication field. He works as a part-time lecturer at the University of Kyusyu , Sophia University graduate school and co-authored 「Luck of peace」(Aoi Miyazaki, Masaru Miyazaki)「Love letter to living creatures」(Christel Takigawa)「Job for changing world44」(Sweet Smile).



Team 6
Kumi Fujisawa Vice President, SophiaBank; Vice President, Japan Social Entrepreneur Forum

Ms Fujisawa worked as a presenter for three years on theNHK「21century School of business」 program, and during that time collected data on small- and middle-sized companies and start up companies throughout Japan. She subsequently continued her research through television, radio and magazines, ultimately researching over 800 companies. Ms Fujisawa currently performs interviews with administrators of businesses around the country and airs them through different media. She is currently involved in “Socio-incubation” to develop new socially-minded companies that attempts to bring together mass media and internet media. Ms Fujisawa is also a BEYOND Tomorrow founder.



Team 7
Rintaro Gushi Caloo Co., Ltd. CEO

Mr Gushi hails from Kanagawa prefecture and graduated from Keio university Faculty of Environment and information Studies in 2005. As a university student he was affiliated with AISEC in Japan, where he was primarily involved in overseeing its international internship program between Japan and China. He was deeply inspired by China's rapid development. From 2005 to 2010 he worked at Goldman Sachs in the investment research division . During this time he researched businesses and oversaw proprietary trading in the domestic bonds trading division. In 2010 he co-founded Caloo Co., Ltd. with three classmates from university. He serves as its CEO. He runs a website that enables users to research amateur reviews of hospitals. He is a proud father of two children, who are 7 months old and a 2 years old.



Team 8
Junko Sagara CTI Engineering Co., Ltd. Water system division the chief editor in Tokyo

Ms Sagara grew up in Shizuoka prefecture and transferred to a Canadian international school as a sophomore in high school. Inspired by her classmates from around the world and by getting exposed to global issues from a young age, Ms Sagara became determined to pursue a career that supports people's livelihood at its roots. She obtained her bachelor's degree at McGill University and studied civil and environmental engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was involved in designing a water purifying pump for villages in developing countries. She returned to Japan after her studies. Ms Sagara currently works as an engineer and is engaged with policy makers at the national and local levels to ensure distribution of safe water and reduction of flood damage.

Participating Supporters

In this interactive residential program, leading figures in a wide range of areas such as sports, music, creative writing etc. were invited, giving the opportunity for the students to think about their future plans.

Proposal Advisors (3/3)

Proposal advisors with various knowledge and backgrounds provided each team with assistance. They supported the students in sharing their experiences and thoughts, and then in using these things as the basis for discussion about the future of Tohoku. They also provided the students with guidance for the formation of a concrete proposal.

Team 9

Chikara Funabashi Founder and President, WILLSeed Company Limited



When studying at an international school whilst resident in Brazil, Funabashi became the first Japanese Student President and was given an award for ranking in the top 3% of high school students for achievement in the whole of America. Following graduation from University he entered a trading company, where he engaged in a project to develop the subway system in Jakarta. He also personally established a cross-industrial network which planned and ran various events and study groups, growing the network to around 3000 members in three years. Following his resignation from the trading company he established WILLSeed, which provides educational programs emphasizing sensory experience that are carried out both in corporate settings and in schools. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)

Team 10

Masatomo Miyazawa Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Public-Private Initiative Policy Division



A graduate of the University of Tokyo Faculty of Law and originally from Kanagawa Prefecture, Miyazawa became a civil servant in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism having been driven by a desire to make towns and cities in Japan more vibrant and easier to live in. He has since pursued many projects in his line of work, including making buildings more accessible to those with disabilities, maintaining bus services that are crucial for everyday life, and building partnerships between the government and the private sector in the area of town planning. Between 2004 and 2006, Miyazawa studied abroad at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in America to receive a master's degree in Urban Planning. During this time he drew up a redevelopment plan for America's declining commercial centers, and investigated methods of rejuvenating towns. A recent hobby of his is driving around various towns by car.

Guests (1/3)

Leaders active in a range of fields including politics, business, sport etc. were invited, giving messages to the 70 participating students whilst also engaging them in discussion.

Keiichiro Asao Member, House of Representatives



Following his graduation from the University of Tokyo Faculty of Law in 1987, Asao joined the Industrial Bank of Japan. He studied abroad at Stanford University in America whilst working for the bank, and received his MBA. Having resigned from the Bank, he was then elected to the House of Councillors for the first time in 1998, representing Kanagawa Prefecture. He was elected for a second term in 2004, and then was elected to the House of Representatives for the first time in 2009 from the proportional representation block for southern Kanto. In 2005, he was elected as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. He is currently Chairman of Policy Planning with political party Your Party. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)

Participating Supporters

In this interactive residential program, leading figures in a wide range of areas such as sports, music, creative writing etc. were invited, giving the opportunity for the students to think about their future plans.

Guests (2/3)

Leaders active in a range of fields including politics, business, sport etc. were invited, giving messages to the 70 participating students whilst also engaging them in discussion.



James Kondo Country Manager, Twitter Japan; Visiting Professor, Hitotsubashi University

James Kondo is a graduate of the Faculty of Economics at Keio University and the Graduate School of Business Administration at Harvard. He has experience in the formulation of economic policy in seven countries, and has carried out research activities in health policy at the University of Tokyo whilst also cultivating human resources in the same field through the administration of related courses and a health policy think-tank. He has also established an NPO which simultaneously tackles the issues of famine in developing countries and overeating and obesity in developed countries, providing food for African countries. Currently he is the Country Manager for Twitter Japan and Visiting Professor at Hitotsubashi University. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)



Teruhide Sato President, Group CEO, netprice.com,Ltd

Teruhide graduated from the Faculty of Policy Management at Keio University, and was an exchange student in Italy during his high school years. Following this he entered Softbank Corporation, during which time he was loaned for the launch of “Cyber Cash” in the Japanese market. In 2000 he took up the position of director of Gigaflops Japan Inc., and is also currently the president and CEO of Netprice. He has been responsible for the delivery of e-commerce enterprises such as “Gathering”, “Brandear” and “Sekaimon”, and is additionally currently in the process of developing business in Shanghai, Silicon Valley and Singapore. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)



Kohey Takashima CEO and Founder, Oisix, Inc.

Until May 2000, Takashima was active as one of the core members of the e-commerce group within a foreign management consultancy firm. In June 2000, he founded Oisix Group with the corporate philosophy of “achieving a rich and varied diet for the average family”, and became the group’s CEO and director. The company is driving forwards a useful service that takes the view point of the customer rather than following the logic of the producer, delivering food stuffs that households can give to their own children with peace of mind. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)



Toru Takanarita Professor of Sendai University, President of the Fund for the Future of Children affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake

Takanarita was a journalist in the business news department of the Asahi Shimbun Newspaper, working in its bureaus in Yamagata and Shizuoka and with additional experience working in the General Bureau for America in Washington, as the deputy director of the business news department, and as an editorial writer. From 1996 until 1997 he worked as a broadcaster for TV Asahi News Station, which was followed by 4 years as Director of the General Bureau for America in Washington from 1998 to 2002. Upon returning to Japan he went back to his position as an editorial writer, in charge of covering the Americas and the international economy. Upon reaching retirement age, as a senior journalist he took up the role of Bureau Chief for Ishinomaki from January 2008 until February 2011. In April he also became a Professor at Sendai University. With the development of the recent disaster, he took up the role of committee member for the Reconstruction Design Council in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. In addition to this, he is also the Director of the NPO Fund for the Future of Children Affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, which aims to provide support to children and students who were orphaned by the disaster.

Participating Supporters

In this interactive residential program, leading figures in a wide range of areas such as sports, music, creative writing etc. were invited, giving the opportunity for the students to think about their future plans.

Guests (3/3)

Leaders active in a range of fields including politics, business, sport etc. were invited, giving messages to the 70 participating students whilst also engaging them in discussion.



Dai Tamesue Hurdle Athlete

Dai Tamesue is a track and field athlete who has competed in three consecutive Olympic Games, and is the first Japanese to win 2 medals in track events at the World Championships. Currently he is training for his fourth Olympic appearance in the 2012 Games in London. In 2009 he moved to training grounds in San Diego, the United States, and has restarted preparations for the 2012 Olympic Games. Outside of competition, Tamesue is active in visiting elementary schools around the country to participate in “Kids Street Project” for the promotion of track and field athletics, and has also played a role in the implementation of “Tokyo Street Track and Field”, an event which aims to publicize track and field athletics on a closed public road in Marunouchi, Tokyo. In August 2010, he launched the “Athlete Society” which aims to provide independent support to athletes in minor sports.



Hideki Makihara Former member of the House of Representatives; Attorney at Law admitted to Japan and the State of New York; Researcher of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies

Hideki Makihara is a graduate of the University of Tokyo Faculty of Law. Following stints with Asahi Law Offices (now Nishimura & Asahi), the law department of the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Hogan & Hartson LLP and MASUDA&EJIRI (now the Nishimura & Asahi New York office), Makihara entered the Trade Policy Division of the Trade Policy Bureau in the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. In 2005 he was elected to the House of Representatives for the first time as candidate for Saitama electoral ward 5. In April 2008 Makihara was elected as the first Japanese representative (as one of 20 international representatives) for the Young Leaders Summit launched by the InterAction Council (OB Summit). (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)



Misa Matsuzaki CEO, ASIMODE Co., Ltd

After graduating from University and having worked for a consultancy firm, Matsuzaki founded a used-car sales company at the age of 26 back in 1997. Having had a child in 2007 whilst the company was achieving excellent results, Matsuzaki sold the company in 2009. In July of 2010, she opened the Blooming Lotus Studio in Tokyo under the theme of “adding something natural to everyday life”. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)



Kouta Matsuda Member, House of Councillors

Matsuda was born in 1968 in Shiogama City, Miyagi Prefecture, but between the age of 5 and 17 spent most of his time in Africa and America. In 1990, having graduated from the College of International Studies at the University of Tsukuba, he entered Sanwa Bank Ltd. (now the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ). Following this he then established Tully’s Coffee Japan in 1998, which in around 3 years had become an established coffee shop chain with outlets in 300 locations and a listing on the stock market. In 2007 Matsuda was elected as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (also commonly called the Davos Meeting), and is also a trustee for the NPO TABLE FOR TWO, which aims to eliminate hunger problems in developing countries. In 2010 Matsuda was elected to the Tokyo At-large constituency of the House of Councillors as a candidate of the Your Party. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)

Participating Supporters

In this interactive residential program, leading figures in a wide range of areas such as sports, music, creative writing etc. were invited, giving the opportunity for the students to think about their future plans.

Student Volunteers

Each team was assigned one University student team leader, who provided round-the-clock support to the participating students for things such as facilitating the discussion through to aspects of living and emotional support. Furthermore, in order to improve the quality of the experience the participating students had, there were also event support volunteers who were quite literally running around the venue, and without whom it would have been impossible to have achieved the smooth running of the event.

Jumpei Shida	Iwate University
Kazuki Kondo	Tohoku University
You Osawa	Waseda University
Rie Koga	Japan Women's University
Sansei Oda	Aoyama Gakuin University
Katsuki Shindo	Tokyo University Graduate School of Economics
Noburo Nishio	Keio University
Masanao Ishihara	Keio University Graduate School of Science and Technology
Maya Kokado	Waseda University
Ryo Kanasashi	Komazawa University
Shota Shiraishi	Aoyama Gakuin University
Yoko Takagaki	Chuo University
Ryo Yonemura	Keio University

Management



Minami Tsubouchi

Executive Director, BEYOND Tomorrow

A Tokyo native, Tsubouchi moved abroad to study in Canada after completing middle school, and subsequently graduated from the United World Colleges in Canada. She then received a Bachelor's degree in policy management from Keio University, and received a master's degree in urban planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Following a stint with McKinsey & Company, Tsubouchi was active in the post-war reconstruction activities in Afghanistan and worked with the World Economic Forum (Davos Meeting), and then finally was working for the Bahrain Economic Development Board in the Middle-East up until June this year. Currently Tsubouchi enjoys the new experience of interacting with young students from Tohoku with BEYOND Tomorrow. Her favorite phrase is "where there is a will, there is a way". (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)



Yuta Inoue

Program Manager, BEYOND Tomorrow

Inoue is originally from the city of Yonezawa, in Yamagata Prefecture, where the respected feudal lord Uesugi Yozan and Uesugi clan elder Naoe Kanetsugu were once active. A graduate of the Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Law at Keio University, Inoue worked for McKinsey and Company for 5 years since 2007. Here he carried out management consulting for domestic and foreign projects starting with reforming the structure of sales departments in the manufacturing, financial and medical industries, and designing a human resources development program for domestic projects aimed at expansion abroad. In addition to this, he also has experience in working on projects for government agencies and non-profit organizations.



Mayu Sakamoto

Coordinator, BEYOND Tomorrow

Sakamoto was born and raised in Nara, and from the age of 6 dedicated herself to figure skating for 15 years. She graduated from Osaka Women's University with a Bachelor's degree in applied mathematics. At the age of 22, Sakamoto joined Rohto Pharmaceutical and worked in the information technology (IT) department for four years. She took up classic ballet as a hobby when she was 25 years old. Wanting to help in some way upon watching the devastating news of the Tohoku earthquake unfold, Sakamoto contributed as a volunteer on-site. She left feeling struck and saddened by the uncertainty of the region's future. Sakamoto joined BEYOND Tomorrow because she believes that what she can do now is to champion the support of the affected children and their dreams.

Media Coverage

The event was featured on various media including key newspapers and websites.

TV

「NEWS23Cross」
(2011/11/11 TBS)

News Papers

“Proposed recovery of Tohoku Recruiting high school students in 3 prefectures”
(2011/10/12 Yomiuri Newspapers)

“Tohoku teens share views of survival”
(2011/11/10 JAPAN TIMES)

“Tohoku teens search recovery of Tohoku”
(2011/10/10 The Kahoku Shimpo)

“Application for a meeting of future leaders in Tohoku “
(2011/10/10 Iwate Nippo)

“Application for high school students “
(2011/10/12 Sanriku Sinpo)

“ Meeting of future leaders in Tohoku Application for participants till 14”
(2011/10/12 Iwaki Minpo)

“Application for high school students who want to share Tohoku earthquake”
(2011/10/13 Fukushima Minyu)

WEB

”Leadership Development Business”Tohoku Future Leaders Summit” will be held on”
(2011/10/14 LOVE & HOPE~human·care·project~)

“Support information:Scholar ship”
(2011/10/03 Mainichi. jp(Mainichi Newspapers))

Acknowledgements

The success of the event would not have been possible without cooperation of a number of organizations and individuals

Supporters

Cabinet Office

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Message from prefectural governors

Fukushima Prefecture

Iwate Prefecture

Miyagi Prefecture

Partner

The Fund for the Future of Children affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake

Sponsors

CLSA

FedEx Kinko's Japan

Gulliver International Co.,Ltd

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd,

ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co.Ltd

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited

Film Production

Kobe Design University infoGuild

Design

Ayako Nakagawa

About BEYOND Tomorrow



Objective

BEYOND Tomorrow is a project established to support the young victims who, despite facing great adversity, did not lose hope and continue to embrace a dream to give back to society in the future. By offering scholarships to attend top-class universities domestically and abroad, as well as providing opportunities for leadership development, BEYOND Tomorrow aims to give these young men and women the opportunity to continue pursuing their dreams and become leaders of tomorrow.

Characteristics

The program is intended for highly talented young individuals currently in high school and/or seeking higher education in universities with motivations to overcome their current hardships and become conscientious leaders who contribute to and improve society. However, the program understands that the concept of "leadership" encompasses a wide spectrum of abilities, ranging from art and sport, economics and politics, to fishery and agriculture. Our goal is not to create an elite group solely seeking degrees from top universities but to work with young individuals who hold passions and ambitions to make the world a better place.

Programs

- i. School Support - Providing scholarship that covers school tuition and living expense
- ii. Mentoring - Students will receive regular hands-on coaching sessions from founders as their "Mentors" to support their progress from inspirations to actions. Our hope is that by having the founders with extremely diverse and active careers be direct mentors, the students will be encouraged and stimulated to pursue their dreams
- iii. Corporate Program - We aim to engage corporate partners in direct interaction with the students through internship programs and other interactive events. This program is expected to take place during the spring and summer school holidays
- iv. Ambassador Program - Participants will act as disaster ambassadors to help other affected communities domestically and globally - they will act as a unique voice to help raise awareness for disaster relief and reconstruction around the world.



BEYOND Tomorrow

Global Fund for Education Assistance

<http://www.beyond-tomorrow.org/>

C/O ETIC. 1-5-7, Jinnan, Shibuya, Tokyo 150-0041 Japan

info@beyond-tomorrow.org