

Sendai Furusato-no-Mori Regeneration Project

Multiple Defenses

- System to minimize tsunami damage combining coastal disaster prevention forests regeneration (green infrastructure), coastal levee reconstruction, and elevated prefectural road (gray infrastructure)

(Cross-section view)

Defense against largest-possible tsunami



Location of Initiative



Regional Challenges and Objectives

【Regional Challenges】

- Many of the coastal forests that had protected the lives of local residents by preventing blowing sand, wind, and tides from entering the eastern area of Sendai since the era of the feudal government were lost or withered by tsunamis caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake on Mar. 11, 2011.

【Objectives】

- The coastal disaster prevention forests will be regenerated as “Furusato-no-Mori” by adding the function of multiple defenses against tsunamis onto the deeply rooted role that forests has played in the daily lives of local residents up until now.
- The project will also contribute to the revitalization of local communities and provide environmental education to children by involving locals, private sectors, NPOs, schools, and other stakeholders in regenerating coastal disaster prevention forests, thereby building new connections between disaster prevention forests and people.

Details of Initiative

- Since 2014, 11 tree-planting events have been held in coastal disaster prevention forests and other locations. In total, approximately 3,000 people, including local citizens, sponsors, and cooperating organizations, planted approximately 24,000 saplings.
- Since 2016, 25 tree-nurturing events have been held to help grow the saplings that were planted. In addition, insect and plant observation events and craft workshops using driftwood and other materials to familiarize children with coastal disaster prevention forests have been held.
- We will continue to hold tree-nurturing events until the trees are fully grown.



Effects of Initiative

Inland elementary schools are growing sapling from acorns to be planted in coastal forests. Interactions between citizens and private sectors, that have yet to have the opportunity to engage with coastal areas, and the eastern area emerge, and new connections are formed around coastal disaster prevention forests. In addition, elementary schools from other prefectures have also participated in these activities, creating new inter-community exchanges.

