

18th ICRP Dialogue

Situation in Yamakiya

Nov 25-26, 2017

Summary report – Day 2

Yamakiya before

- One district of Kawamata Town
 - 1,000 inhabitants, 330 households
- Geography
 - Granitic geology
 - Rainy climate, hot in summer, cold in winter
 - Beautiful landscape
 - Abukuma mountains, forests
- Activities
 - Agriculture (mainly)
 - Industry (steel, cars, polyester...)
 - Good life in Yamakiya

NPP accident March 2011

- Evacuation in March 2011
 - Disruption of social life and economic activities
 - Experience of temporary houses
 - Decontamination
- Lifting of evacuation order in March 2017
 - 270 inhabitants returned (25%), 50 households, 2/3 > 65 old
- Radiation context
 - Monitoring , concerns, rumours...
- On-going recovery process

On-going recovery: infrastructure

- Accessibility of the district: roads
- Cafeteria to welcome visitors, shops
- New medical clinic
 - Challenge to provide day to day care
- Schools: elementary + middle
- Firemen station
- Post-office reopened

On-going recovery: Agriculture

- Back to traditional activities – Family business
 - Oak silkmoth
 - Black rice
 - Flowers: Dahlia, Eustoma; trade restarting
 - Mushrooms, tobacco...
 - Cows
- Quality improvement
 - Flower colours
 - Competitions (flowers)
 - Breed selection (silkmoth)
 - Organic production
 - Yamakiya tofu
- Support
 - Agricultural development association
 - University
- Challenges
 - Preservation of the landscape (not utilised fields) and livestock
 - Lack of manpower
 - Common ownership
 - Irrigation (need to clean all the channels)
 - Selection of production to get income, mixed production
 - False rumours about contamination

On-going recovery: community life

- Aging population
 - Almost no children
 - How to attract young people?
- Get people self-independent
- Discrepancy between central and local views
- Diversity of points of view, communication
- Networking
- Time is important (friend or enemy?)

On-going recovery: networking

- Between local residents
 - Community association
 - Knowledge transmission between generations
 - Newsletter like in litate ?
- With surrounding locations (common projects)
 - Similarities with litate, Futaba
- With outlanders
 - Volunteers, consumers, other publics
- With universities: searchers, experts, students
 - Study meetings
- Solidarity, conviviality

On-going recovery: culture heritage

- Close relationship with nature, mountains
- Three Lyons Yasaka shrine festival
- Possibility to attract tourists

On-going recovery: management of radiation

- Radiation monitoring
 - Survey of people: 60% people around 1 mSv/y
 - Survey of air, soil, water, products, food
 - Higher dose rates than around
 - Key issue of water (tap water, irrigation); very low contamination
- Decontamination
 - Where people are living
- Waste management (IST)
 - Fears about land contamination
 - Bad image
 - Takes place
- Research
 - Experimental area (soil, trees)
 - Radiation and agriculture

Key challenges

- Lack of people, young, manpower
- Decontamination, waste management
- Common ownership
- Small community to preserve large land
- Need to preserve connection with others
- Low doses, low contamination of products but still radiation – communication, understanding
- Insertion of the local economy in global economy
- Recover the well-being