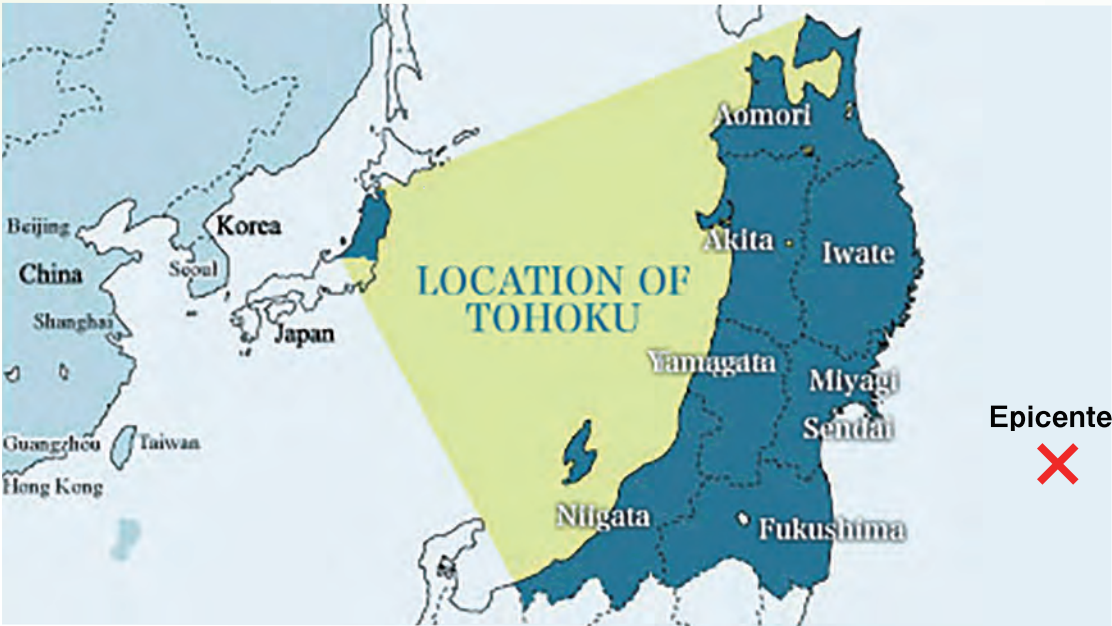


Background

Great East Japan Earthquake

In March 2011, the largest earthquake ever recorded in Japan and once-in-a-1,000-year tsunami caused unprecedented damage to Sendai and the Tohoku region. Sendai City suffered severe damage on its east coast due to the tsunami. Houses were damaged due mainly to large-scale landslides in the northwestern hills. The center of the city was spared from large-scale damage such as the collapse of buildings and spread of fire. The earthquake revealed various issues such as securing temporary shelters for stranded commuters.



《 Overview of the Great East Japan Earthquake 》

Date / time	Friday, March 11, 2011, 14:46
Scale	Magnitude 9.0
Tsunami height	7.1 m at the Sendai Port (estimated)
Personal suffering (Sendai City)	904 persons dead, 27 persons missing, 2,275 persons injured (as of March 2017)
Damage to buildings (Sendai City)	30,034 buildings completely collapsed, 27,016 buildings severely damaged, 82,593 buildings partially damaged, 116,046 buildings subject to minor damage (as of September 2013)
Evacuation centers	288 locations, up to 105,947 persons (about one-tenth of the population of Sendai City)
Temporary emergency housing	More than 12,000 households
Estimated amount of damage	About 1.3 trillion yen (as of March 2017)



Sendai City Earthquake Disaster Reconstruction Plan

On April 1, 2011, the City of Sendai formulated the Sendai City Basic Policy for Earthquake Disaster Reconstruction, which indicated a vision of measures toward reconstruction for the foreseeable future. It was confirmed that “bonds” and “cooperation” would help drive the reconstruction efforts. The basic plan set out four priorities toward reconstruction. In November 2011, the Sendai City Earthquake Disaster Reconstruction Plan was formulated. This five-year plan aimed to build a resilient city “A Disaster-Resilient, Environmental City of a New Level” while promoting the efforts in a comprehensive manner.

Four directions for reconstruction

- ① Rebuilding disaster prevention systems based on disaster reduction
- ② Addressing energy issues, etc.
- ③ Reconstruction with self-help, independence, cooperation, and mutual support
- ④ Creating economy/urban vitality to drive the reconstruction of Tohoku



“A disaster-resilient, environmental city of a new level”

Building a resilient city

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

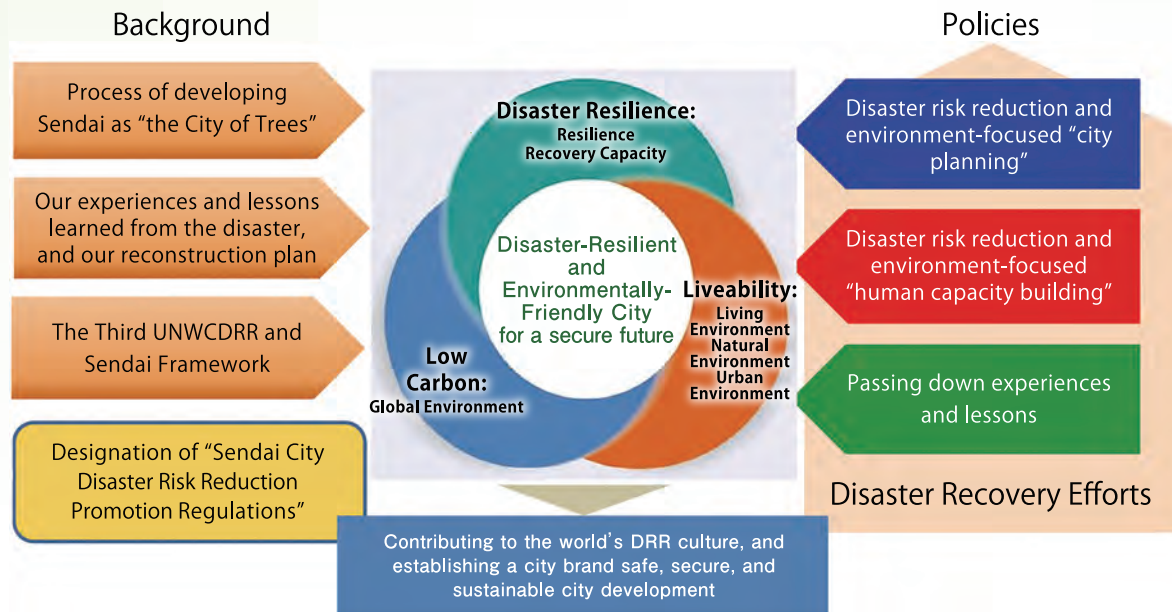
In March 2015, during the period of the reconstruction plan, the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held in Sendai. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which serves as a global policy guidance for international DRR efforts up to 2030, was adopted. A public forum was held as an official side event of the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to disseminate information about the DRR and reconstruction efforts. More than 150,000 people participated in total, including governmental organizations, universities and research institutes, NGOs and NPOs, companies, and community groups. The experience-based efforts were disseminated from Sendai, which was affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake.



Creation of a Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City

The City of Sendai decided to become a Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City, which is a resilient city with disaster risks taken into account, to deliver new value toward an affluent environmentally-friendly city by maintaining the efforts made by citizens to disseminate information at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and by passing on the experience and lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake to future generations and spreading them to the world.

《 Conceptual diagram of a Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City 》



Based on the rich natural environment of Sendai, the “City of Trees,” the city has been working to help foster a global culture of DRR and establish Sendai’s brand as a comfortable city with high DRR performance by building communities (to increase the DRR capacity of infrastructure and energy supply), developing human resources (who underpin DRR) in communities, and passing on the experience and lessons (i.e. passing on the experiences and lessons of the earthquake to future generations and spreading the knowledge gained by the city, in which the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction was adopted, in and outside Japan).

Strengthening lifelines

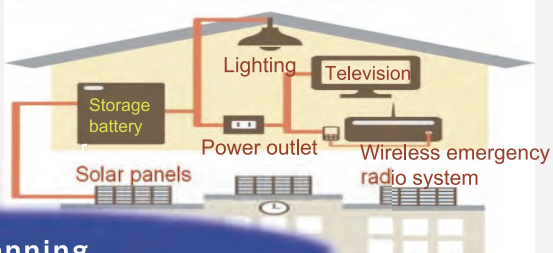
■ Building disaster-resilient, eco-friendly functions



Energy-related measures

■ installing solar energy system for disaster

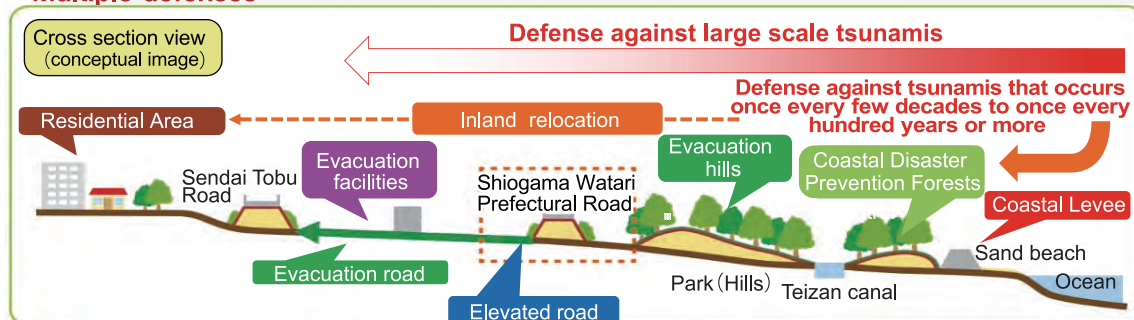
Image illustration of the system



City Planning

Tsunami Disaster preparedness

■ Multiple defenses



Efforts on disaster risk reduction based on the strengths of local characteristics



Promoting Sendai-version of education for disaster risk reduction



Women and Disaster Risk Reduction (Workshop on organizing shelters)

Preservation of disaster-affected building structures/ruins



Managing memorial community center



Passing down our experiences and lessons

Publishing memories and other articles related to the disaster



Deiivering messages at international meetings such as G7



About the Good Practice Case Studies

The Good Practices of Sendai City for Disaster Risk Reduction presents in-depth information about efforts made by the City of Sendai related to reconstruction and disaster risk reduction in various fields to become a Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City. As the city where the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction was adopted, the City of Sendai will help foster a global DRR culture by increasing best practice cases, updating information as needed, and promoting utilization of the good practices.