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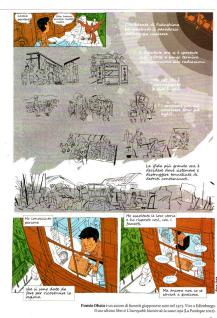


Reportage comics samples:

Areas include
Fukushima
regions and
various areas
in Japan that
were affected by
extreme weather
caused by
climate change
in the past 6 years.











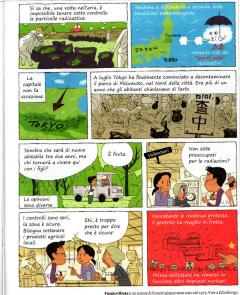
















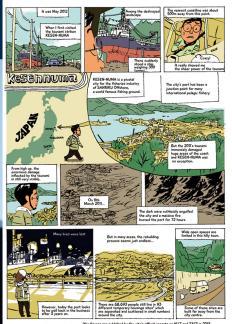


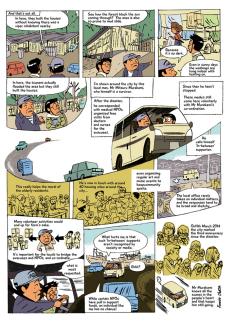




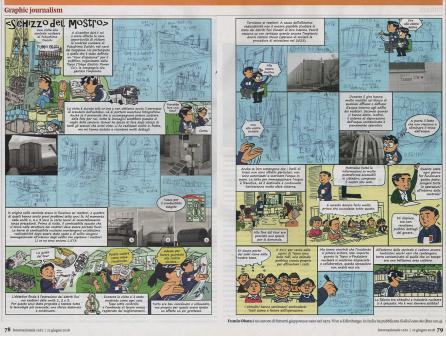












Internazionale

Internazionale











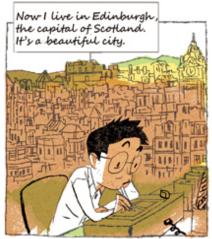






EDIMBURGO giapponese





However in the morning of 11 March 2011 I was dumb-struck by the news from Japan



And saw this endless dark wave engulfing everything on the way.



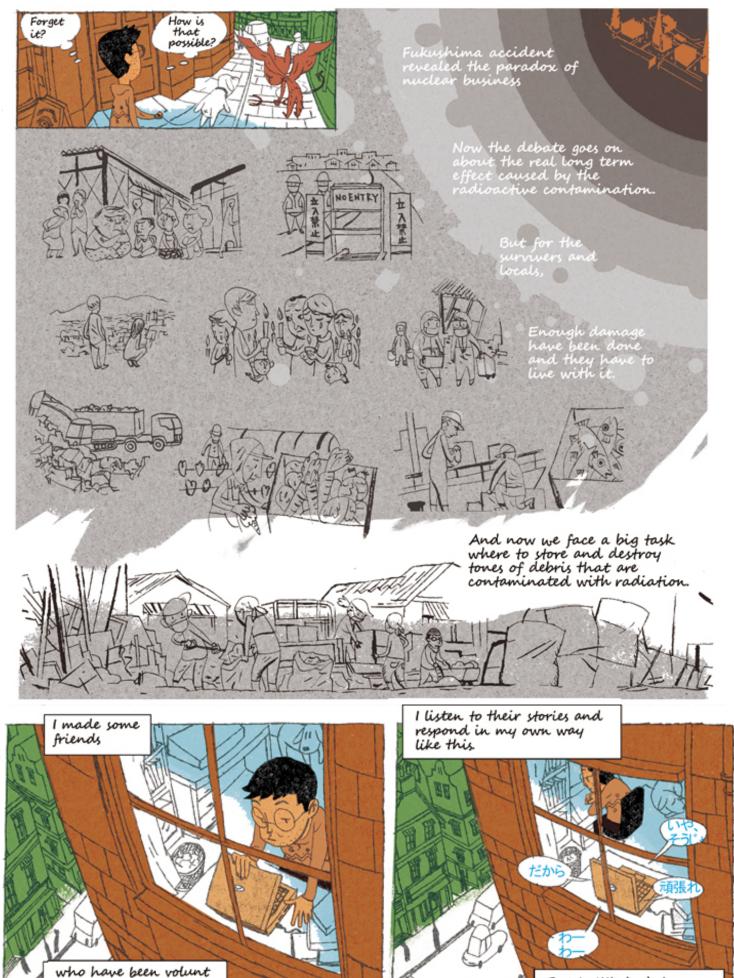












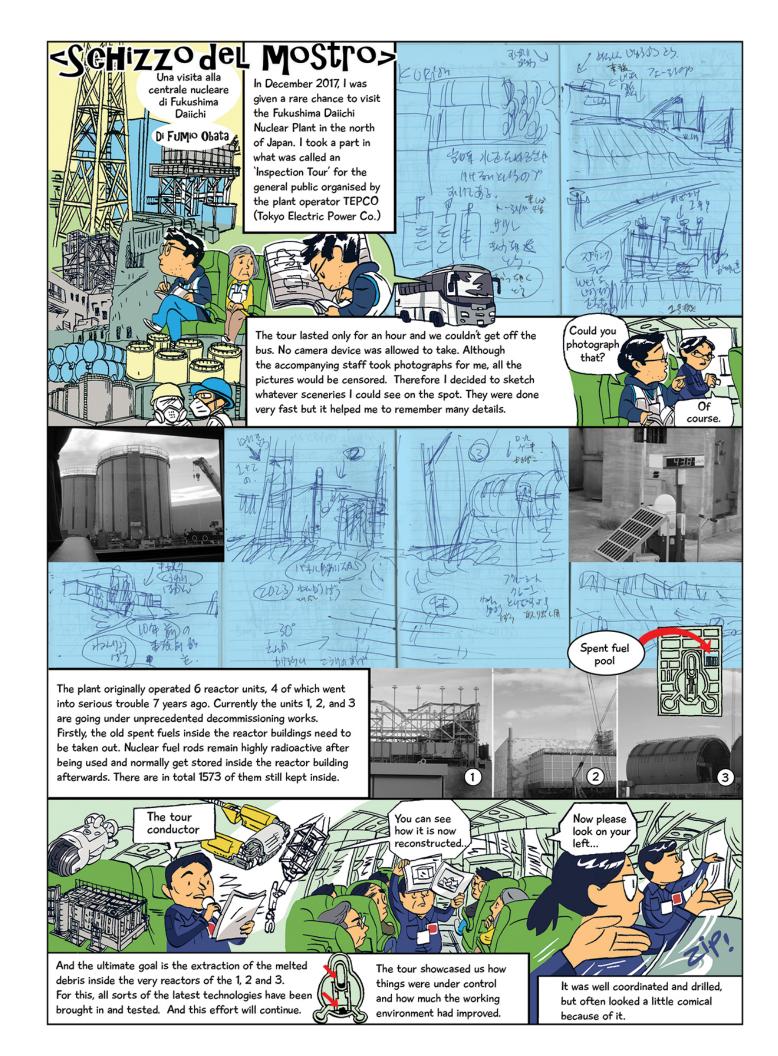
-eering to reconstract

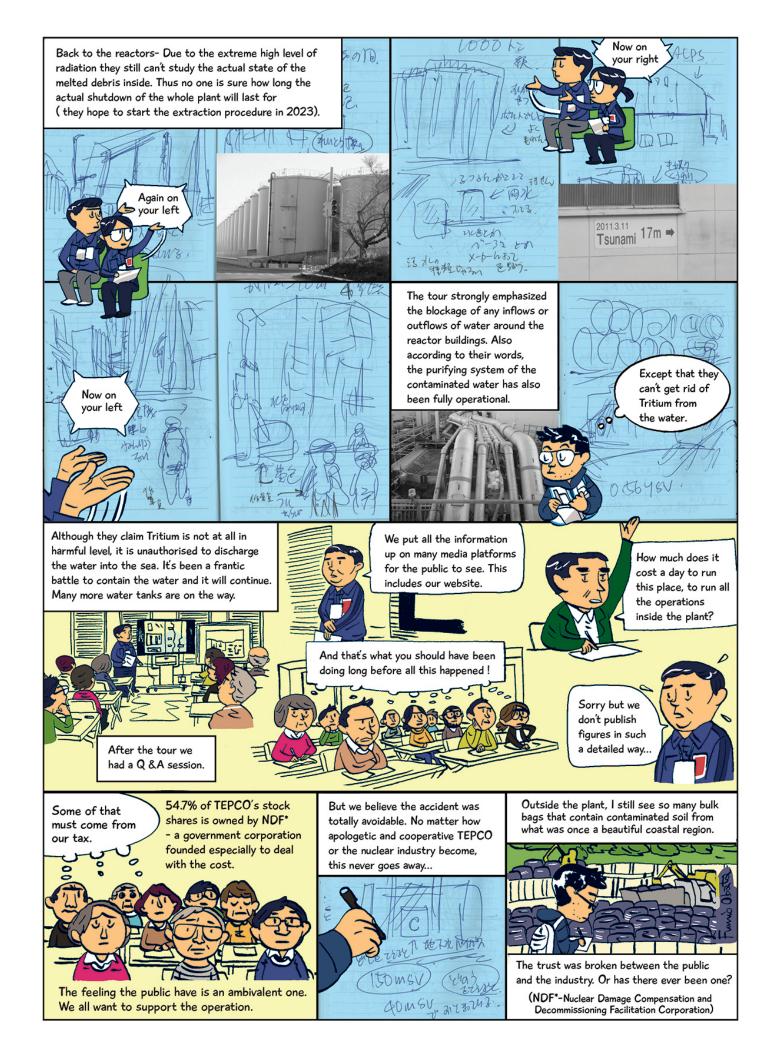
the region.

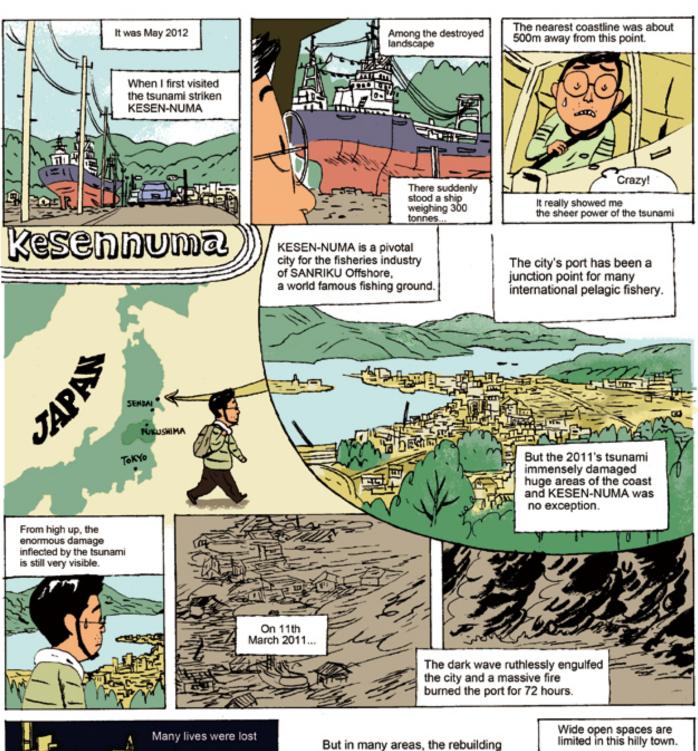
Franco Obotta

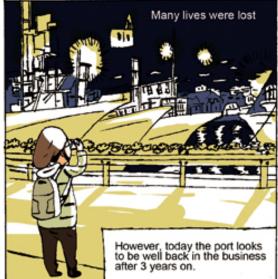
But I still don't know

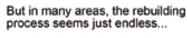
if it means anything.

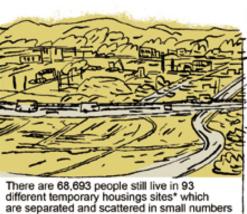






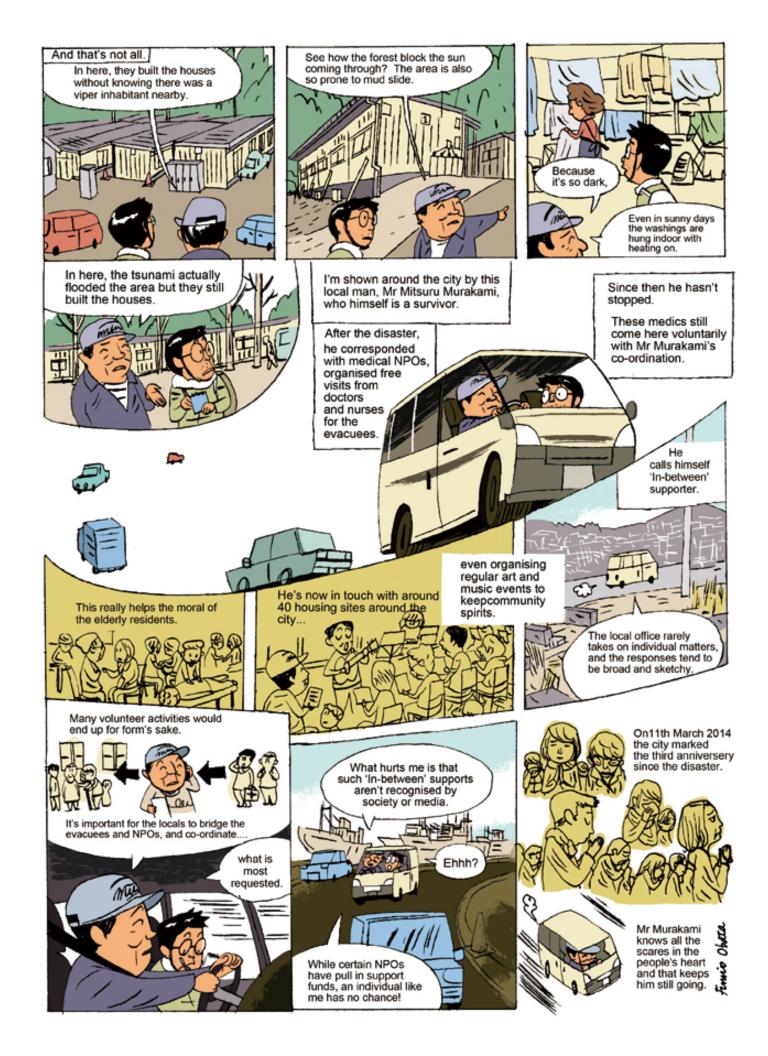


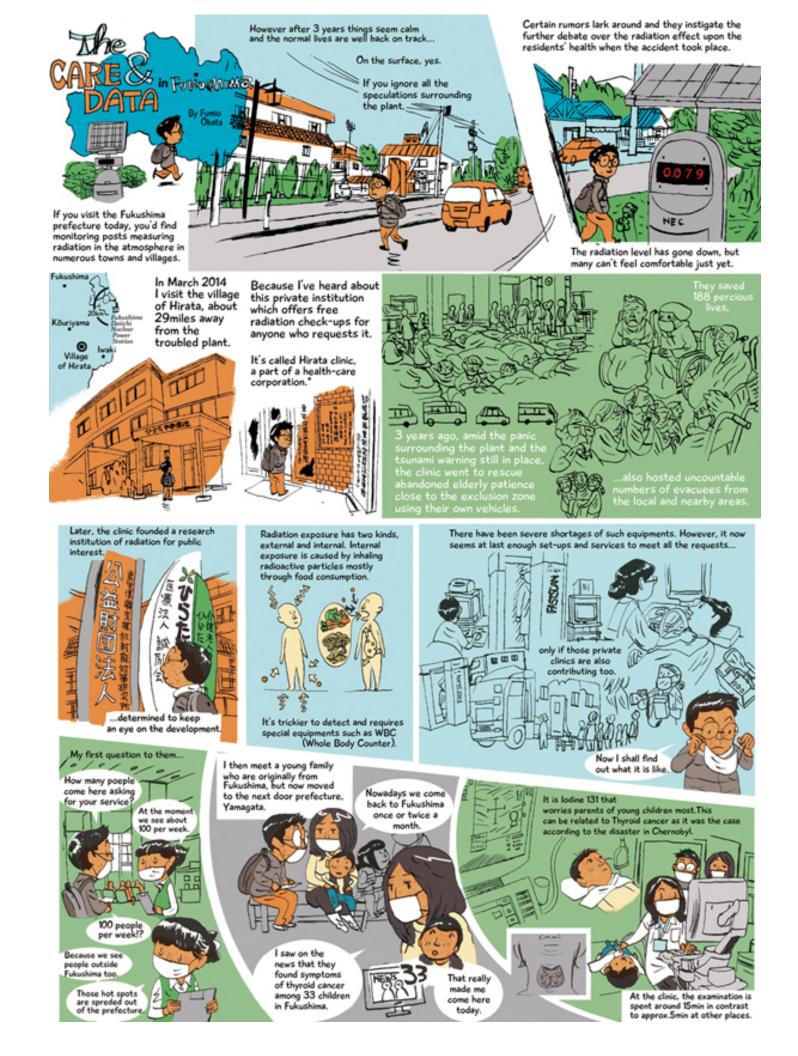


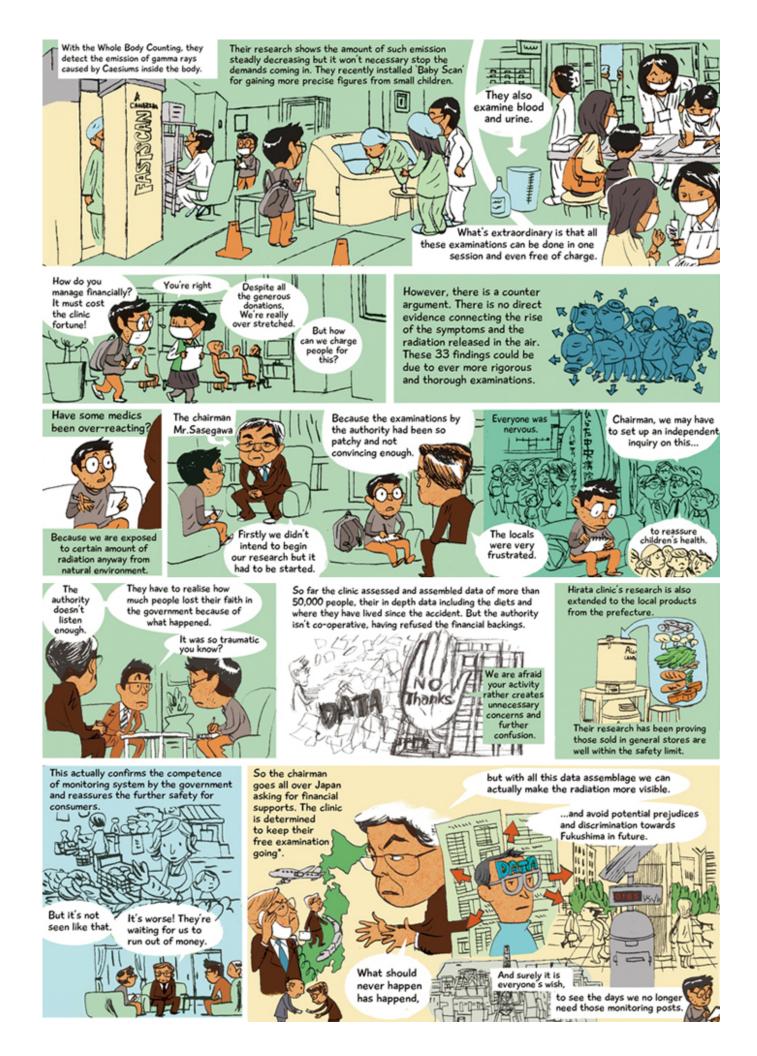


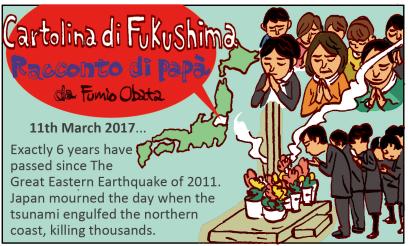
Some of these sites are built far away from the city centre.

around the city.









The total numbers of death, including the related, is now 19,416. On top of this 2553 people are still missing and there are approx.123,000 evacuees scattered all over Japan.



3 months prior to this, I met Mr Norio Kimura from Ōkuma town. His home town Ōkuma is within 10km of the Fukushima nuclear power plant.



Today when we talk about the coast of Fukushima, we need to know about the 3 zones.



- The difficult-to-return zone
- The restricted residence area
- The zone in preparation for the lifting of the evacuation order

They were regularly reviewed and updated over 6 years, but Namie, Futaba, and Ōkuma still remain in The difficult-toreturn zone.



In March 2011, Mr Kimura lost his father Wataro, his wife Miyuki, and the youngest daughter Yūna who was only 7 at that time, to the tsunami which engulfed the Ōkuma's shore line.



Then the nuclear accident took away the chances of the immediate rescue operation. It is said to be still possible to save some lives in the area.

The later searches were also hampered by the high level of radiation and the intolerable days started for the Fukushima evacuees.



The bodies of Mr Kimura's father and wife were both found in April 2011.



But his daughter, Yūna was kept on missing.

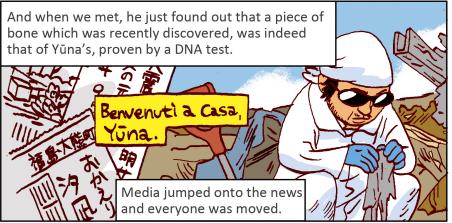
After the search was terminated Mr Kimura kept on looking for Yūna all by himself, doing the round trip of 1,000km each time to his home town, now inhabitable.



Then in 2013, supporters appeared and asked Mr Kimura to enter the area together despite the risk of minor radiation exposure.



Mr Takayuki Ueno who also lost 4 of his family members His father and son are still missing with same reason.







In 2011 the SDF* went into Ōkuma town from 21st May till 9th June to search for missing bodies, and subsequently begun removing the debris.
*Japan's Self Defense Forces

I knew roughly where Yūna could be, because she was with my father when the tsunami came. And from the traces left in the location, I feared the SDF's cranes had taken Yuna's body with debris...



What do you

mean?

He is determined to carry on the search to find more remainings.

Yūna was torn apart into small pieces, taken away with contaminated debris, now stored around anonymously



Had they done the search longer and more carefully from the start, she could have been found a lot earlier, with her body almost intact too. He doesn't blame the SDF but suspects the operation was rushed, as it was coincided with the residents' first permitted return to Ōkuma.



It reminds me of the traits the Japanese authority shows.

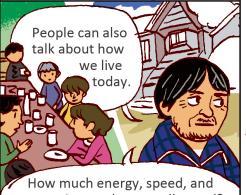


The top-to-bottom sectioning and ordering, efficient but once decided very inflexible

The nuclear plant was bulit to provide electricity to the capital region.



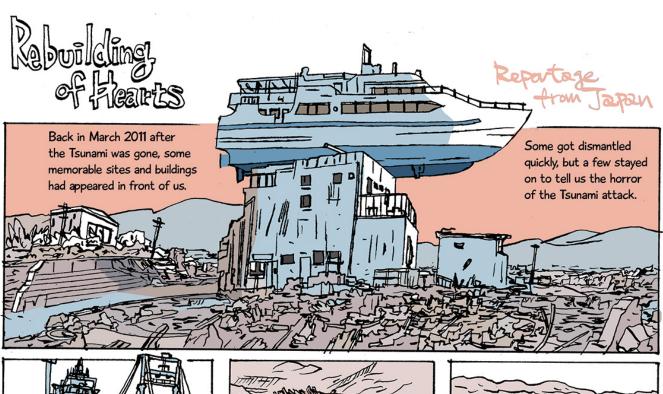
By knowing Fukushima today, Tokyo could look arrogant, with all the excess of lights and luxury. Where Mr Kimura re-settled, he started a hostel for his friends and supporters. He wants the place to be energy independent one day.



How much energy, speed, and conveniences do we really need?
There must be a more humane way.

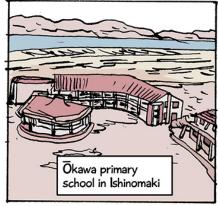
A child has been left out alone in the shadow of the reconstruction.



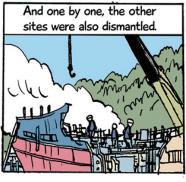






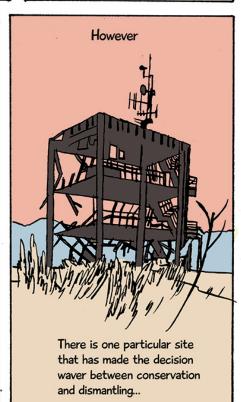


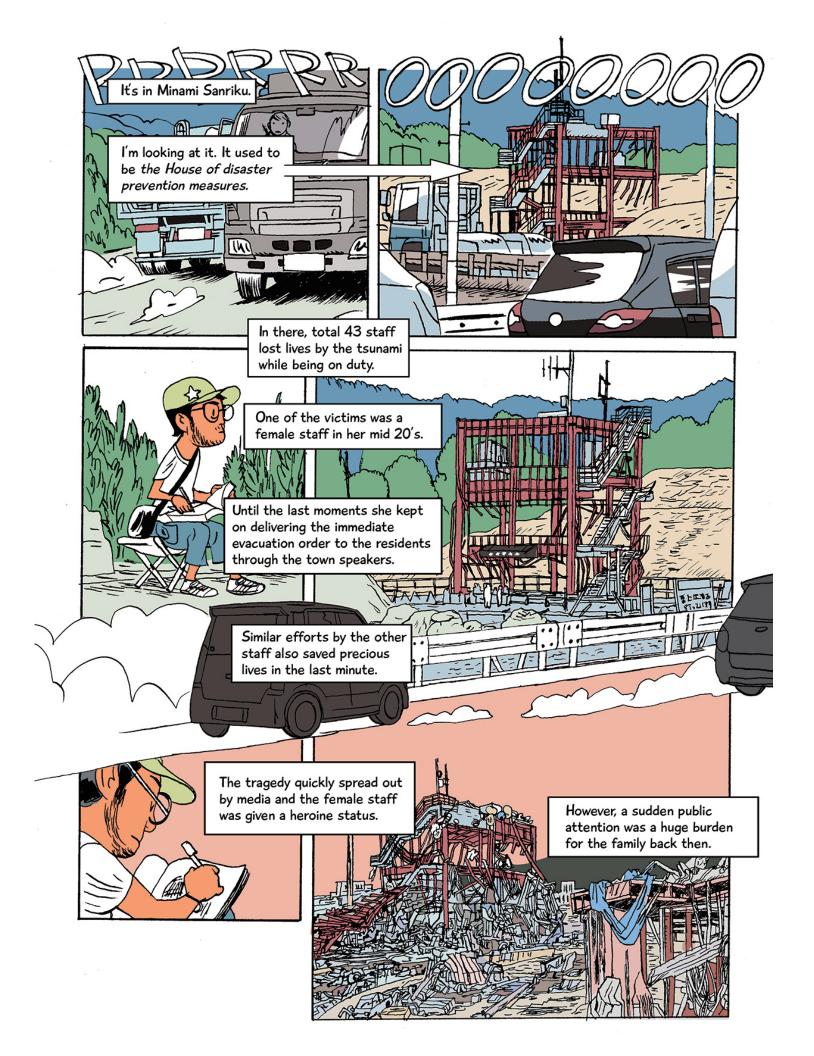


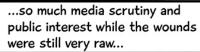


Quite simply the conservation cost was all too much, and they brought back agonizing momories for the victims' families.











Hello. How

are you?

everything?

How is

...at the same time they had to recover from the unfathomable scale of the disaster.



But the family showed an incredible resillience and unity with the help from close friends and volunteers.



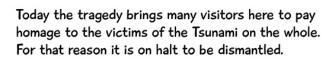
Of course you can't truly share someone's pain no matter how much sympathy you show.



...is your presence, a simple human presence.

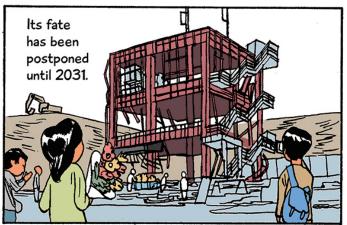




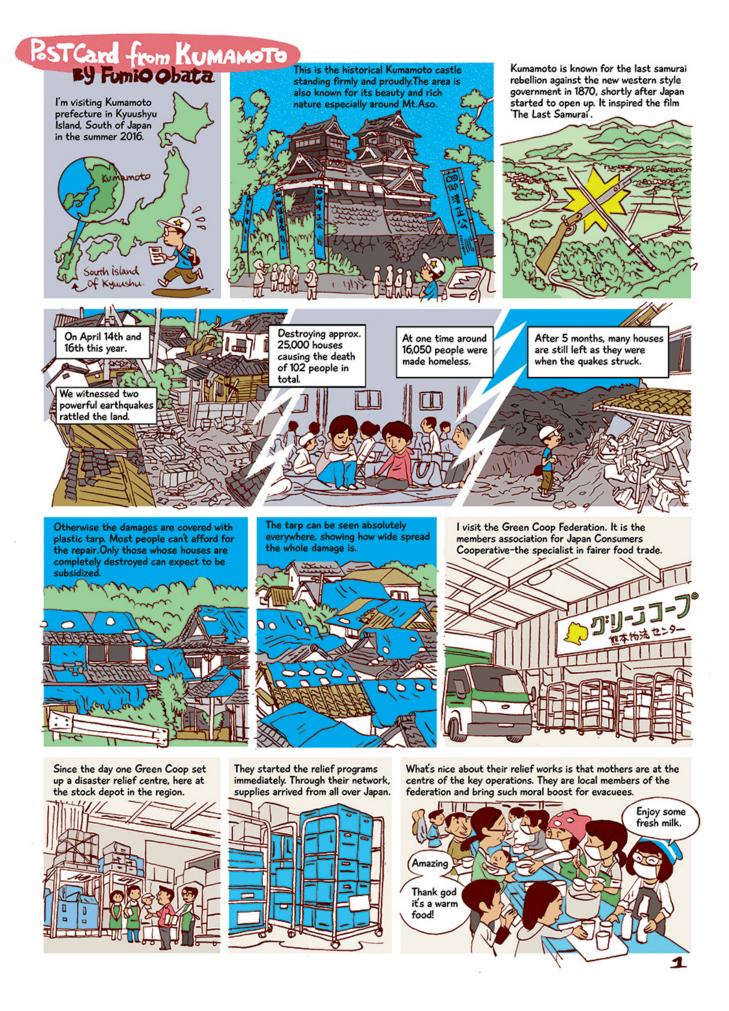


Fine! How

about you?







After a huge disaster, a quick provision of basic supplies is crucial. Green Coop certainly had the advantage as their trade spread in most of the South and West of Japan.



However one must know if it's the right goods and right quantity. And if it gets to where it is most needed. The information is vital



The local council is expected to lead the way. But it struggles with lack of experiences. There are things which training and drills can't offer.



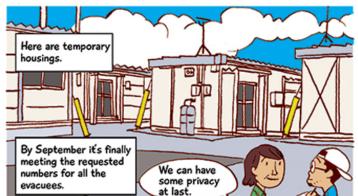
center?

There are many invisible cracks. One case is that not everyone goes to the designated evacuation sites.

Thus small NGOs step in to fill the holes. Their advantage is the size which brings flexibility and mobility. They equally know how to use local networks wisely.



The community leaders are ready to collaborate and they need support, not orders. And that's what Green Coop has been successful with.



Ah, no fridge, no electric fans...

How do we get those a new? We've lost all of them.

Many people have lost their basic home appliances by either landslides or when the houses collapsed, and they can't afford new ones.



Luckily China based home appliance company HAIER JAPAN stepped in and distributed many basic electrics such as fridges and washing machines etc, for free. This is not widely reported.



I got to know Green Coop's Mr Shozo Murakami well. He is an experienced manager of the relief center.



Ironically there was a volcanic eruption of Mt.Aso on 8th September that brought back attention to Kumamoto in a bad way.



The ash covered farms and grass all around and numerous crops could die in 2 weeks.

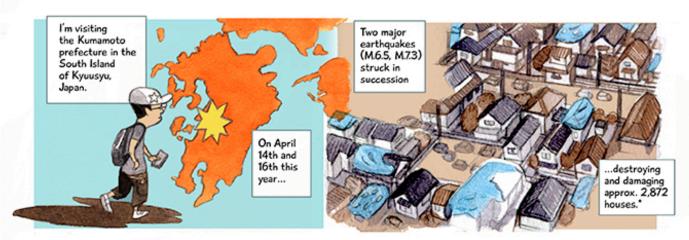
Green Coop is joined by other NGOs to help this apple farm in Nishimachi in the city of Aso.



...salvaging as many apple as they can by washing them carefully by hand.

Funio Oberta 2016









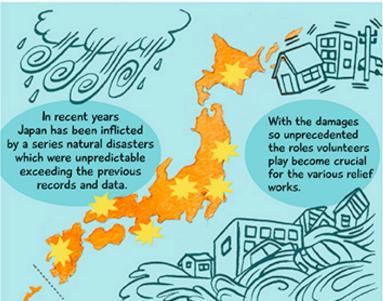




*The figures are referred to Asahi and Mainichi Shinbunn Newspaper





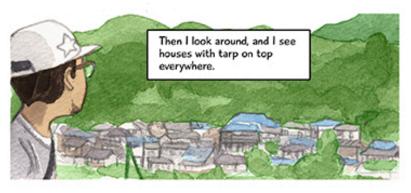


Here, I'm with a group called JAPAN HOPE led by Hiroyuki Hatorri who is also a media coordinator for foreign press.





They say there will be subsidies from the prefectures for dismantling the damaged buildings but they haven't yet clarified all the key legal issues.







However even in such circumstances, daily lives have to resume and continue. The jobs and schools don't wait for people.



I see how social duties and routines bring back the order so quickly. This is really important.





It attracts many visitors both nationally and internationally. The local tourism and farming have benefited from this fertile land, but this time it turned against them.



Tourists stopped coming and the sales of local products dropped sharply.

The earthquakes triggered massive landslides in many places and destroyed the important bypass routes beyond repair.



This farmer's market 'Moe No Sato' in the village of Nishihara, is a vital business hub for the local farmers, and usually packed with visitors and customers this time of the year.

