

IN PICTURES:

Children from Tohoku present their recovery plans to Japan's Minister for Reconstruction



Children from tsunami-hit towns of Ishinomaki, Rikuzentakata and Yamada, formally present their recovery plans to Japan's Minister for Reconstruction, Mr. Tatsuo Hirano. Photo: Noriko Sato/Save the Children



Ryota Konno, 12, from Rikuzentakata, presents the children's recovery plan to Japan's Minister for Reconstruction, Mr. Tatsuo Hirano. Photo: Noriko Sato/Save the Children



Children from tsunami-hit towns of Ishinomaki, Rikuzentakata and Yamada, prepare to present their recovery plans to Japan's Minister for Reconstruction, Mr. Tatsuo Hirano, during a press event held at the headquarters of Japan's Reconstruction Agency in Tokyo on February 25, 2012. Photo: Noriko Sato/Save the Children



Matsuoka Yuiga, 12, presents the children's recovery plan to Japan's Minister for Reconstruction. Matsuoka came down from their hometown of Ishinomaki, a coastal town still recovering from last year's earthquake and tsunami. Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Japan's Minister for Reconstruction Mr. Tatsuo Hirano, responds to the children presentations on their plans for recovery. Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Japan's Minister for Reconstruction Mr. Tatsuo Hirano (right), listens as the children from Rikuzentakata present their plans for recovery. Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Japan's Minister for Reconstruction, Mr. Tatsuo Hirano, poses for a picture with the children from Save the Children's Child-Led Clubs, following the children's presentations of their recovery plans. Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Eri Takashima, 15, responds to questions from journalists following the children's presentations of their recovery plans to the Minister for Reconstruction. She says of her meeting with the Minister, "he was very serious when he was listening to us - I was very impressed." Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Mizuki Taguchi, 14, participates in a press conference following her presentation of the children's recovery plan for Rikuzentakata at Japan's newly created Reconstruction Agency. "I think the Minister treated us as citizens, not just as children. He was sincerely listening to our ideas." Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Matsuoka Yuiga, 12, answers questions from journalists following his meeting with Japan's Minister for Reconstruction, Mr. Tatsuo Hirano. "I asked him about the timeframe and the budget for reconstruction. I can see he is seriously thinking about the recover process, and about how to move it forward." Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



A Save the Children worker helps children prepare for questions from the press following their meeting with Japan's Minister for Reconstruction, Mr. Tatsuo Hirano. Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Matsuoka Yuiga, 12, shares a laugh with his friends in between questions from journalists following his meeting with Japan's Minister for Reconstruction. Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children



Ryota Konno, 12, answers questions from the press following his meeting with Japan's Minister for Reconstruction. Before he began participating in Save the Children's Child-Led Club, Ryota says he didn't have the confidence to speak out and share his ideas. "Before, I wanted to speak out but I couldn't. Now, I can speak out naturally, and express my own opinions." Photo: Annie Bodmer-Roy/Save the Children