

Japan Since 3/11: Recovery and Reconstruction

Date: Wednesday 31st October 2012, 17:00 - 20:00

Venue: Creative Lounge, Showroom Workstation, Sheffield

JSPS is pleased to announce a regional film screening event for our Alumni, Japanese Researchers and friends of our organisation as part of our series of 80th anniversary events. This event is jointly sponsored by the Japan Foundation. The schedule will be as follows:

- 17:00 Tea / Coffee
- 17:10 Opening remarks by Prof Kozo Hiramatsu, Director of JSPS London, Mr Ikuo Fukui, JSPS Fellows Plaza, JSPS Tokyo (tbc) and Mr Tsuyoshi Takahashi, Director-General of Japan Foundation London.
- 17:15 **Dr Peter Matanle** from the University of Sheffield will present research from his recent paper *The Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunami and nuclear meltdown: towards the (re)construction of a safe, sustainable, and compassionate society in Japan's shrinking regions*.
- 17:45 Film: *Setting Sail from the Ruins*
- 18:15 Drinks & Finger Buffet
- 18:45 Film: *Can You See Our Lights?*
- 19:30 Response to the films by Dr Peter Matanle, followed by discussion.
- 20:00 Close



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Setting Sail from the Ruins

Ofunato, in Iwate Prefecture, suffered devastating damage in the Great East Japan Earthquake. Kenichiro Yagi, an online fish salesman, quickly tried to respond to the tragedy along with fellow fishermen. He took the first step toward recovery by resuming fishing from the debris-filled port, despite many boats having been washed away. This film documents the local fishermen's road to recovery three months after the disaster.

Can You See Our Lights?

Japanese summer festivals serve as a time to hold memorial services for the souls of the departed. Although some of the many places devastated by the disaster of March 2011 were unable to hold their colorful and passionate centuries-old festivals, the people of Rikuzentakata, Soma, Minami Soma and some other cities decided to go ahead as usual. The film shows festival committee members busily repairing damaged floats and drums and encouraging the participation of dispersed former residents.



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This event is free to attend but booking is essential. To reserve a place, please visit <http://goo.gl/qNb67> to register before 23rd October.