

## About the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Tohoku society of Public Health

The 60th meeting Tohoku Society of Public Health was held at Fukushima Medical University School of Medicine, Fukushima City, July 22, 2011. This year's meeting was exceptional because of the society 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and most importantly it was held in the midst of recovery after the March 11<sup>th</sup> powerful quake and tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan, followed by the third nuclear disaster in Fukushima. We were honored by the presence of two special guest speakers: Professor Michael Reich from Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Global Health and Population and Dr. Yuriko Suzuki from the National Institute of Mental health, Department of Adult Mental Health. Professor Michael Reich discussed about a public health perspective on reconstructing post-disaster Tohoku by laying out six principles for a long-term and sustainable recovery, which principles pose three basic challenges: Redress, Rebuilding, and Renewal. Dr. Yuriko Suzuki, in turn, shared her extensive experience on post-disaster mental health care which is of paramount importance for a better recovery since post-traumatic stress disorders, depression, and suicide are looming in the region. Professor Yasumura Seiji, the chairperson of the event, closed the meeting by thanking the two guest speakers and all participants.

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