

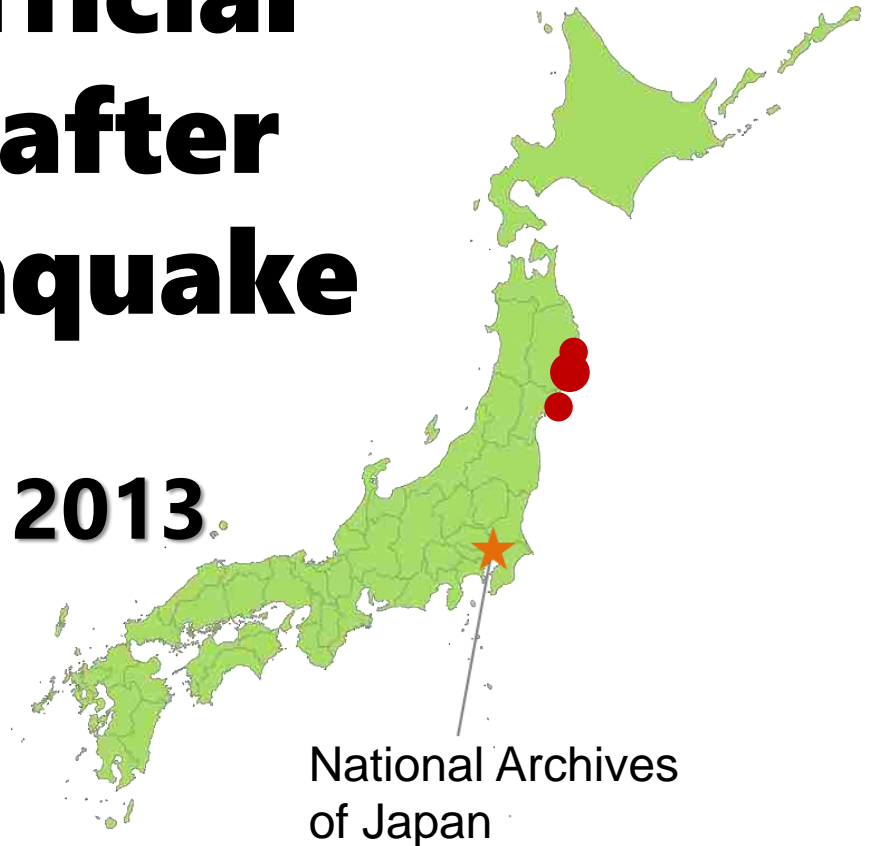
# Rescue Operations for Records Damaged by Natural Disasters

National Archives of Japan  
2nd Global Policy Forum  
21-22 Sep, 2021



# Restoration Project for Damaged Official Documents after Tohoku Earthquake

Sept 2011- Feb 2013



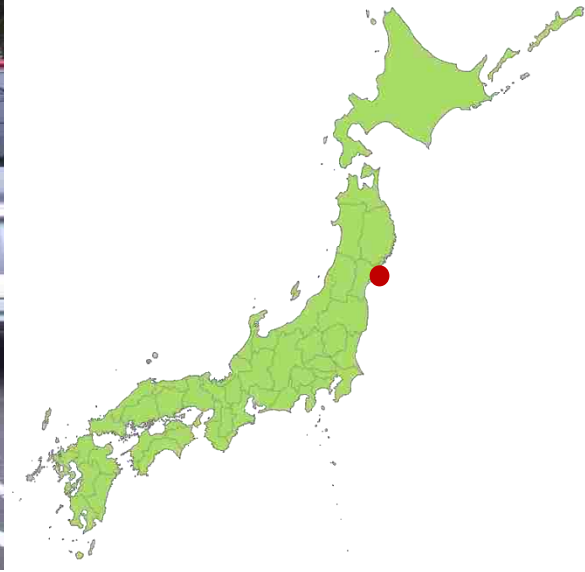
National Archives  
of Japan



▲ Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture: Arrival of Tsunami (left), and the 1<sup>st</sup> Branch Office affected by the disaster (right)  
(Photo source: Website of “Great East Japan Earthquake Archive Miyagi” © Ishinomaki City)



▶ Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture: Severely damaged City office  
(Photo source: Website of “Iwate Earthquake Tsunami Archive” © Rikuzentakata City)



# **Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture** **(Feb-Sept, 2012)**



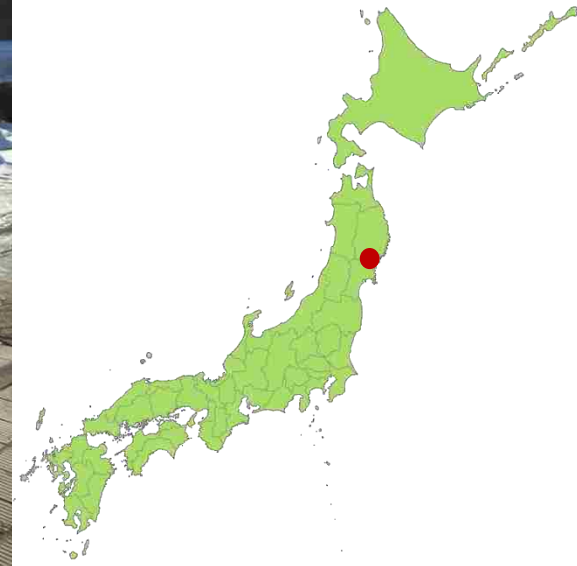
**Session at the former City office  
(working on “Washing” the documents affected by seawater)**



**Trainees concentrating on the lecture**



**Session proceeded in serious but friendly atmosphere**



# **Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture (Jan-Mar and Oct-Nov, 2012)**





**Practice on papers in a large format**



**Teamwork is the oil that makes the team work!**



**Always active and full of passion**

# **Rescue Operations for Public Records Damaged by Heavy Rains -Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture-**

**Dec 2015 – Mar 2016**



National Archives  
of Japan

# Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture

## City office affected by the disaster



(Photo source: City magazine "Remember 10<sup>th</sup> September" © Joso City 2016)

**Parking in front of the  
main building**

**Ground floor of the  
main building**



**At the 1st Branch Office of Joso City**



**Fully protected against dust and mould**



**Water-damaged records are air-dried,  
using electric fans**

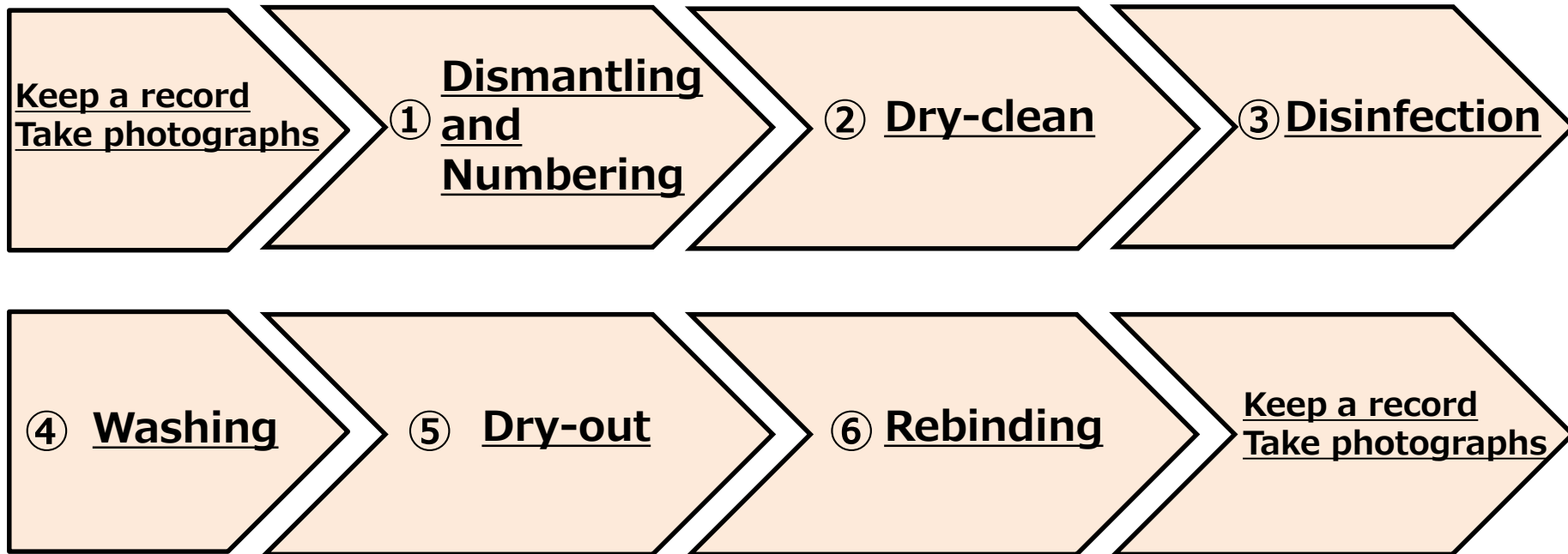




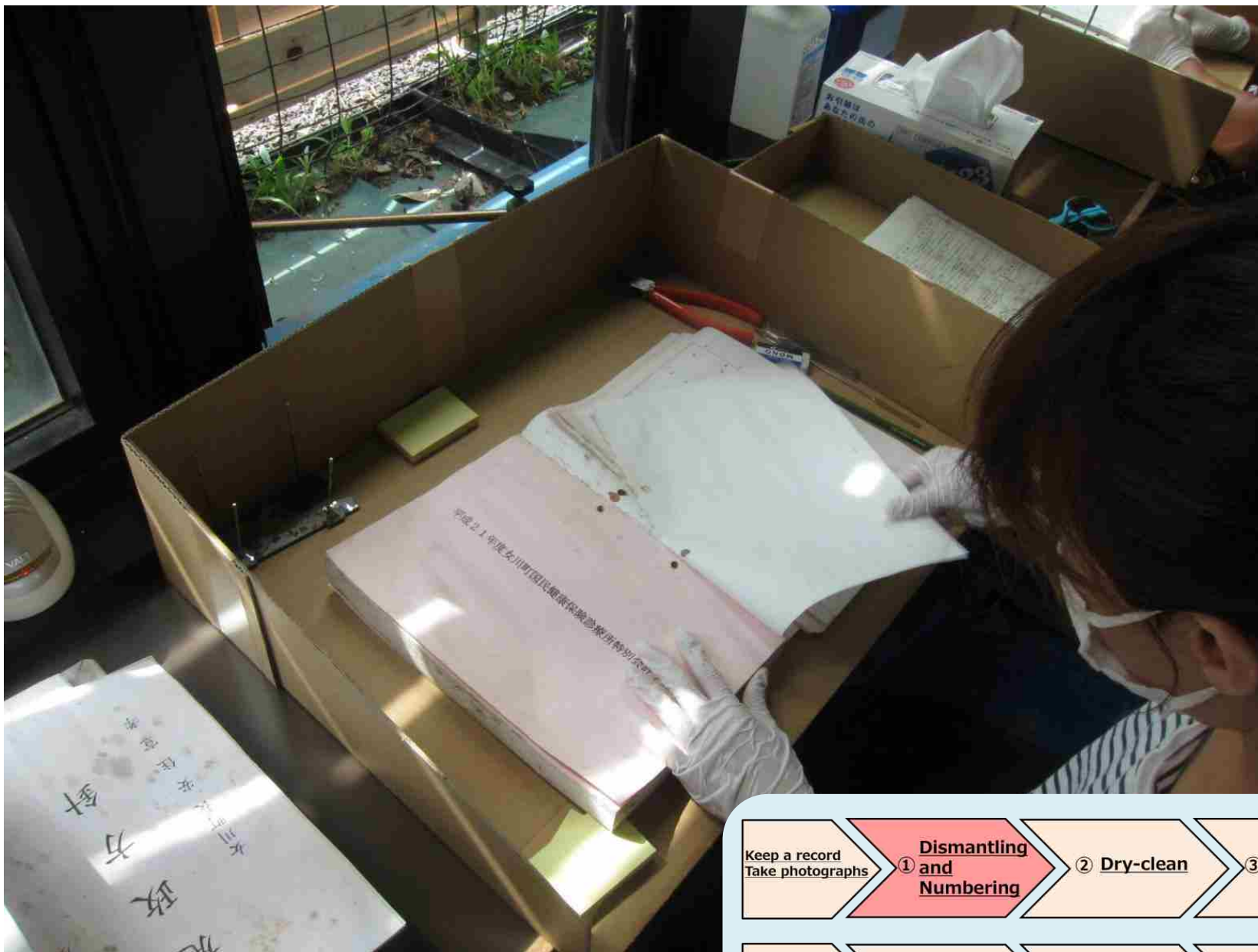
**Records successfully prevented further mould growth,  
using electric fans to air-dry**

# **Process of Rescue Operation for Records Damaged by Natural Disasters**

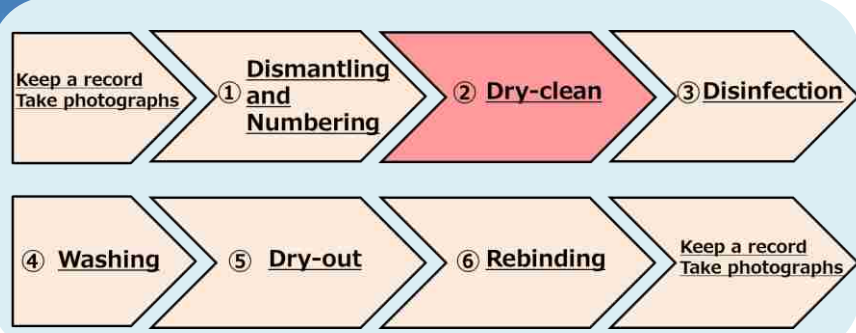
# Process of restoring disaster-affected documents



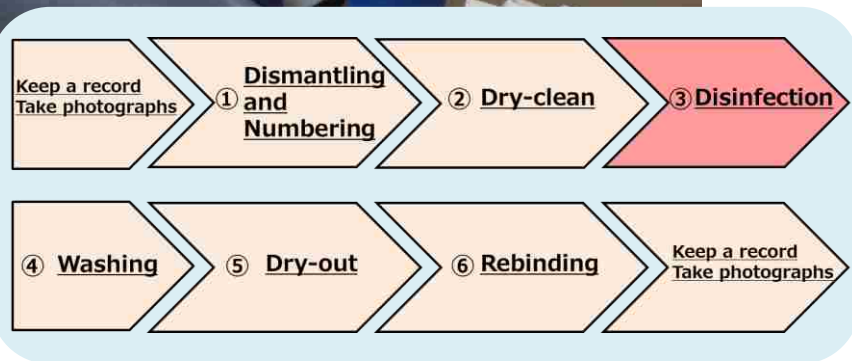
**\*Process may change according to the level of damage of documents**



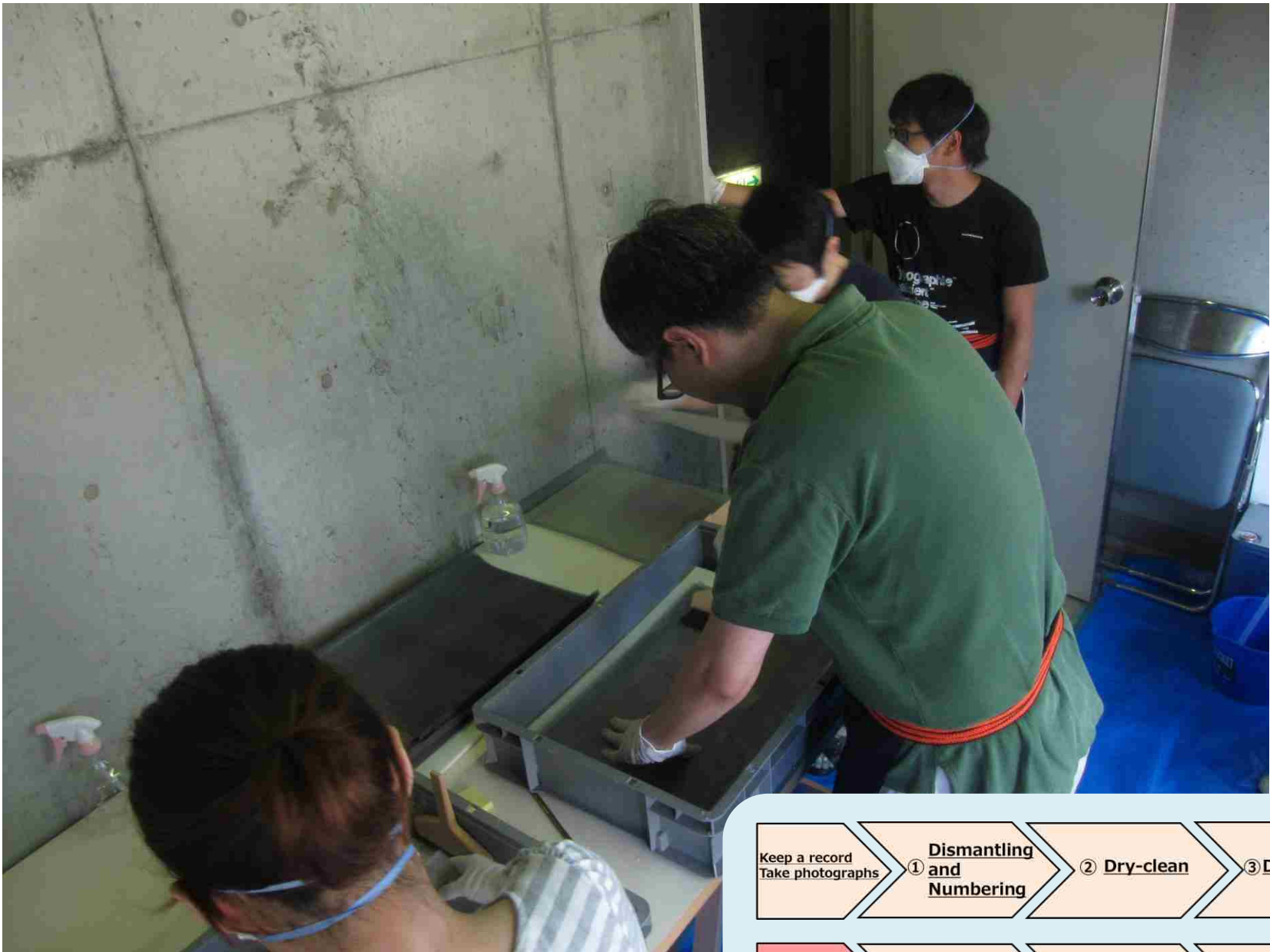
# ① Dismantling and Numbering



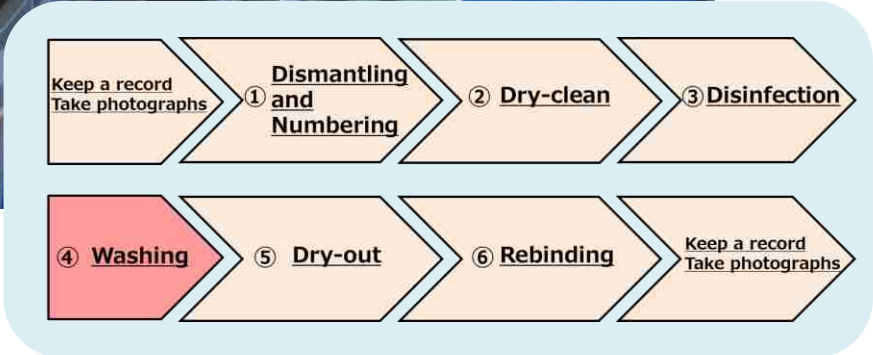
# ② Dry-clean

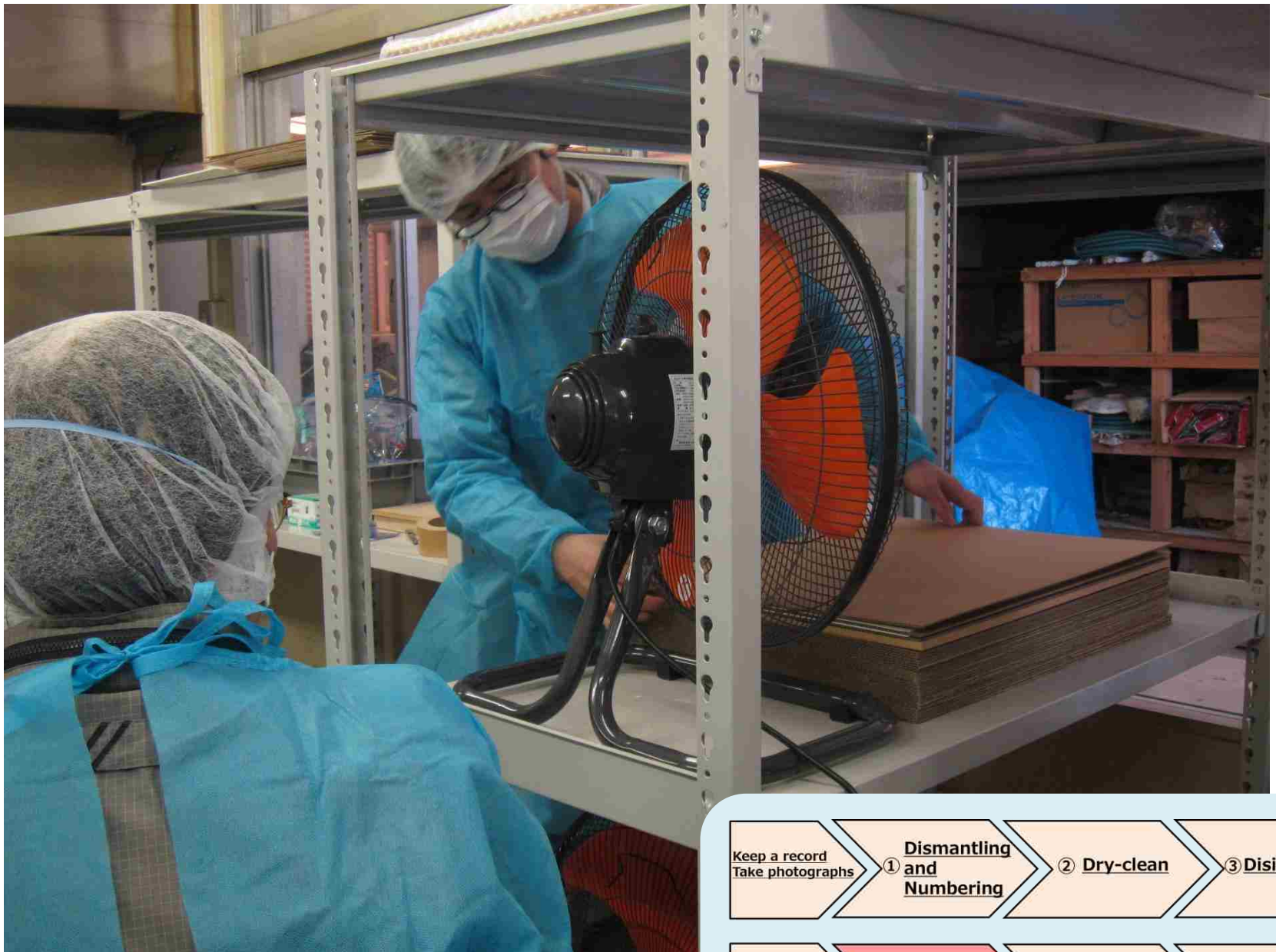


# ③ Disinfection

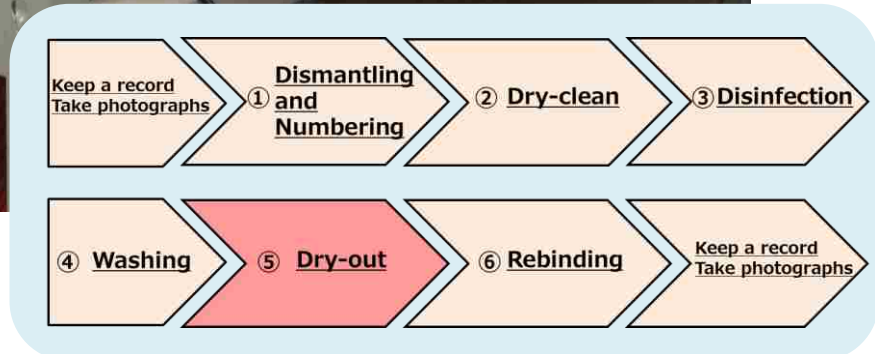


# ④ Washing





# ⑤ Dry-out







# ⑥ Rebinding



Before restoration



After restoration

**Example of restored public records  
affected by Tsunami**