



Facts & Figures

Japan: Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (GJET)

4 year anniversary

11 March 2015

General Background

- On 11 March 2011 at 02.46 PM, Japan was struck by a magnitude 9.0 earthquake, with its epicentre 130 kilometres from the countries' north-eastern Pacific coast. The earthquake triggered a devastating tsunami with waves estimated to have reached 38 metres. As a result, in the initial weeks and months more than 470,000 people were displaced. The disaster triggered a triple meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power plant.
- As of November 2014, some 15,889 people were confirmed dead, 2,597 remain officially classified as missing and 6,152 were injured in the disaster, according to the Japanese National Police Agency.
- According to the Government, there are still 229,897 evacuees as of January 15, 2015.
- 89,327 evacuees in September 2014 (compared to 103,958 in September 2013) are still living in temporary housing.
- There are 121,585 evacuees from Fukushima prefecture. Approximately 75,601 people are staying in Fukushima prefecture, while approximately 45,934 people have evacuated to other prefectures as of December 2014.
- As of December 2014, 10 municipalities still had areas that were restricted because of radiation. In the four most affected municipalities more than half of the evacuees said they are not going to return. This includes Namie (48.4 per cent), Futaba (55.7 per cent), Okuma (57.9 per cent) and Tomioka (49.4 per cent). The same survey showed that few people in these areas wanted to return home, 17.6 per cent in Namie, 12.3 per cent in Futaba, 13.3 per cent in Okuma, and 11.9 per cent in Tomioka. Most of the area in these four municipalities is land where it is expected that residents will face difficulties returning for a long time because of radioactive contamination.
- To solve the considerable delays in the construction of permanent homes, the government took measures to accelerate the process. Firstly, the government published the reconstruction plan to facilitate faster land acquisition. Secondly, land expropriation proceedings were made simpler and more efficient. Finally, to accelerate housing reconstruction, the government streamlined procurement procedures. These measures allowed the reconstruction process to move more quickly from the land acquisition stage to the construction stage.
- The following are the official figures for the number of homes reconstructed with Government support in seven prefectures (Miyagi, Iwate, Ibaraki, Chiba, Aomori, Niigata,

Nagano). As of 13 November 2014, according to the Government, 21,895 units were planned, and land had been acquired for 19,061 units, about 87 per cent of the planned units. As of 13 November, 3,057 units had been completed, compared to 509 completed units in January 2014.

- Fukushima Prefecture has developed plans to build public housing for evacuees and disaster affected citizens. This includes a total of 4,890 homes, out of which 2,100 are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016 (Based on Steps for Revitalization in Fukushima October 2014).
- According to the Government, the disaster left an estimated 10.9 million tons of tsunami debris and 17 million tons of industrial waste. So far, 10.5 million tons (96 per cent) of tsunami debris and 16.8 million tons (99 per cent) of industrial waste has been cleaned up and transported to waste disposal sites. 82 percent of industrial waste and 100 percent of tsunami debris will be recycled. However, this figure does not include radioactive waste.
- By September 2014, 49.1 per cent of contaminated homes in Fukushima had been decontaminated. This includes 153,867 out of 313,303 homes scheduled for decontamination. At the same time 69.3 per cent of contaminated farmland in Fukushima had been decontaminated. This includes 21,023 out of 30,357 farms that have been scheduled for decontamination. The decontamination process consists of removal of surface soil, reverse ploughing, and scraping of the bark of trees.

Japanese Red Cross Operations

The JRCS produced quarterly and annual reports for the first three years after the disaster, while evaluations were last conducted in September 2013.

Emergency relief and Medical support

- Immediately after the disaster, the main focus of the Japanese Red Cross (JRCS) was on providing emergency medical care to survivors. In the six months following the disaster, 896 JRCS medical teams were deployed to the affected areas. These teams treated 87,445 patients.
- In the emergency phase, 728 JRCS psychosocial workers deployed to the affected area from all over the country and provided support to 14,039 people in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures. As of 2012/early 2013, Psychosocial Support Programme (PSP) activities were being run by JRCS Chapters in Iwate and Fukushima, with staff and volunteers visiting communities in prefabricated housing units every two weeks. PSP activities include Nordic style walking in Iwate and Fukushima, and health and social classes in Fukushima, including tea ceremonies and health activities.
- JRCS is supporting reconstruction of temporary or permanent hospitals hit by the disaster in Miyagi and Fukushima.
 - Ishinomaki Red Cross Hospital has received funding to build a temporary hospital ward and emergency health training centre to enhance the hospital's capacity.
 - Ishinomaki City Hospital, run by the city was supported with the construction of a temporary night-time emergency medical center.
 - Shizugawa Hospital, a public hospital in Minami Sanriku, received financial support to build a temporary and permanent hospital.
 - Onagawa Community Medical Center also underwent renovation with support from the JRCS.

- Motoyoshi Hospital in Kesenuma utilized JRCS funding to rehabilitate medical equipment and hospital interiors.
- Fukushima Red Cross Hospital is currently planning to enhance their facility.

Rebuilding lives

- 133,183 households (324,000 beneficiaries) living in temporary accommodation were provided with a package of six home electrical appliances (microwave, rice cooker, hot water dispenser, refrigerator, washing machine and TV set) which form part of the standard Japanese household.
- 729 locations 137,438 items “to stay warm” measures to deal with the cold of winter
- 34,597 items such as Automated External Defibrillators, chairs, desks and white boards for 806 prefabricated meeting areas were provided.

Social Welfare support

- Construct public housing in nine locations. 798 homes for elderly who lost their homes in Iwate and Fukushima prefecture.
- Provision of 338 welfare vans essential for wheelchair users in 207 facilities and 959 nursing beds in 161 facilities.

Educational support

- JRCS supports the construction of five nursery schools and three after school clubs, health check-up materials for 154 schools, 8,933 items for 16 schools cafeteria, three school gymnasiums for 1,088 children, 19 buses for 13 schools.
- In Fukushima, 13 sessions of a temporary indoor playground (Smile Park) were run in 2012 to 2013, benefiting over 53,538 children in total under the age of five (86,764 people including parents). Children in the prefecture, whose parents are often wary about allowing them to play outdoors, enjoyed the indoor slides, trampoline, jungle gym, “ball pool” etc., free from worries about radiation.
- In July and August 2014, summer camps were organized in Fukushima, Miyagi, and Iwate prefectures. 93 children from the disaster-stricken areas came to the summer camp in Miyagi and enjoyed adventure games in the mountains. 46 children participated in a networking event with JRC youth members at the summer camp in Iwate. At the summer camp in Fukushima, 38 children who live in prefabricated houses near the Fukushima nuclear plant were able to go trekking in the mountains and travel around in canoes. The summer camps, which are based on educational perspectives, have been held every summer from 2012 through workshops on environmental issues, international understanding, dietary education, and understanding physically challenged people and the elderly.

Strengthening disaster preparedness

- Enhancing the JRCS disaster response capability by supplying large tents for first-aid stations, communication command vehicles, and medical equipment kits.
- 27 municipalities 432 sets of materials and storage space for disaster preparedness in affected local governments. Materials include portable toilets, water supply systems, generators, lighting equipment, lanterns, water purification systems and other materials.

Response to the Daiichi nuclear power plant accident

- 258,085 Fukushima residents have been tested for radiation in the six towns using the

seven whole body counter purchased with cash contributions from Red Cross Red Crescent partners overseas. The whole body counter measures the radiation exposure of the body throughout a person's lifetime. According to the government, a total of 211,749 people have been examined with whole body counters by Fukushima Prefectural Government. In these examinations two examinees were found to have been exposed to more than 3mSV, and 24 examinees had been exposed to 1-3mSV.

- In Miyagi and Fukushima Prefecture, JRCS has provided 109 radiation scanners in 68 places to check the levels of radioactivity in food and water. 90,043 beneficiaries have used it. In addition, eight whole body counters and two thyroid gland monitors have also been donated to Fukushima Red Cross hospital. These will be used for long-term health checks for residents under the age of 18, starting from next year.

Financial Update

- As of February 6, 2015, JRCS had received more than JPY 334.3 billion (CHF 2.63 billion, USD 2.82 billion, EUR 2.48 billion) in donations – mainly from within Japan. These funds have been distributed through a cash grant programme. Since the end of March 2014 the JRCS has been the only organization still collecting donations for the victims of the disaster. All the funds go to distribution committees in municipal governments who disburse the funds in the form of cash grants to survivors of the disaster.
- According to the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Wealth, JPY 373.1 billion (CHF 2.94 billion, USD 3.15 billion, EUR 2.77 billion) which is 99 per cent of the total amount (374.3 billion JPY, please see the table below) collected for the cash grant programme had been distributed to the survivors up to November 30, 2014.
- As of November 28, 2014, money donated to JRCS by Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (including hard pledges) totalled 60 billion yen (CHF 470 million, USD 510 million, EUR 450 million).
- The 60 billion yen donated by Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies has been allocated to relief and recovery programmes conducted by JRCS. As of March, 2015 approximately 84.1 per cent of this amount (JPY 50.5 billion) had been spent on relief and recovery activities implemented by JRCS. The remaining funds have been allocated mainly for the on-going large-scale construction projects including hospitals (under Health Infrastructure), social welfare centre (under Social Welfare Support), public housing units and community centres (both under Improving the Living Conditions). Most of the work is expected to be completed by FY 2018 (March). In addition, nuclear related activities are planned to continue in Fukushima until FY 2021 (March) by the JRCS.
- A break down of expenditures of the funds donated by Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies includes;
 - improving the living conditions of affected people in evacuation centres and temporary housing JPY 29.7 billion (USD 220 million, CHF 230 million, EUR 220 million)
 - social welfare support JPY 2 billion (USD 17 million, CHF 16 million, EUR 15 million)
 - children's education support JPY 3.6 billion (USD 30 million, CHF 28 million, EUR 27 million)
 - rehabilitation of health infrastructure JPY 15.4 billion (USD 130 million, CHF 121 million, EUR 114 million)

- assistance for nuclear power plant disaster victims JPY 2.2 billion (USD 16 million, CHF 17 million, EUR 16 million)
 - enhancement of disaster response capacity JPY 3.5 billion (USD 30 million, CHF 27 million, EUR 26 million)
- Although these are a fraction of the total funds received since the GEJET, JRCS has continued to receive donations. Funds continue to be disbursed by local authorities to survivors as the form of cash grants. As of February 2015, a total of approximately 434 billion JPY had been received in donations by JRCS. This included c.a. 334 billion yen received directly by JRCS domestically to be distributed as cash grants to survivors through distribution committees, c.a. 60 billion JPY in cash contributions from national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies around the world, and 40 billion JPY from the government of Kuwait in the form of crude oil. In total contributions through the JRCS from overseas amounted to approximately 100.2 billion JPY, or almost one fourth of the total funds received, managed and distributed by the JRCS.

Funds received, managed and distributed by JRCS

Cash contribution	Amount	Expenditure
Donations received directly by JRCS to be distributed as cash grant to survivors through distribution committees' channels (mainly raised domestically)	334.3 billion JPY 2.63 billion CHF 2.82 billion USD 2.48 billion EUR (As of February, 2015.)	Combined with the funds raised by other fund-collecting bodies, 100 per cent of this money goes to survivors through local municipalities.
Cash contribution from PNS	60.2 billion JPY 470 million CHF 510 million USD 450 million EUR	As of March 2015, 84.1 per cent has been spent.
Contribution from Kuwait Government in the form of crude oil	40 billion JPY 310 million CHF 340 million USD 300 million EUR	Allocated to Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima prefectures, JPY 8.4 billion, JPY 16.2 billion, JPY 15.4 billion respectively.