

Information bulletin Japan: Typhoon Hagibis



Glide n° <u>TC-2019-000128-JPN</u>	Date of issue: 16 October 2019
Date of disaster: 12 October 2019	Point of contact (name and title): Nobuaki Sato, International Relief Division, International Department
Operation start date: 12 October 2019	Expected timeframe: -
Category of disaster: Yellow	
Host National Society(ies): Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS)	
Number of people affected: -	Number of people to be assisted: around 5,000

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

<cli>k here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>

The situation

Typhoon Hagibis, the most powerful typhoon in 2019 in the country, hit wide areas of Honshu island of Japan, especially Chubu, Kanto, Tohoku regions including Tokyo, from the evening on 12 October 2019 until early morning on 13 October 2019.

According to the Government figures, this typhoon, which caused violent floods and damages by strong winds, has left at least 49 dead, 15 missing and 234 injured. Around 13,081 houses are partially/completely collapsed, or exposure to water (as of 15 October 2019). 37,740 houses remain without power and more than 130,000 houses remain without water (as of 14 October 2019).

According to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), the typhoon was classified as "very strong", which is the highest category on Japan's typhoon scale. It is equivalent to a Category 5 hurricane. Its central pressure on 12 October was 950 hPa at highest and the maximum wind gust speed was reaching to 70 m/s.

In Tokai, Kanto, and Tohoku regions, the total rainfall in 72 hours was up to 750-1,000mm. The JMA issued heavy rain emergency warnings for many parts of central and eastern Japan. All the warnings were cleared by 8:40 AM 13 October, but still heavy rain fall continued throughout the morning. This extraordinary rainfalls in such a short time resulted in rapid increase of river water then many floods eventually. According to the Government, 66 embankments in 47 major rivers collapsed and 203 rivers overflowed. Many communities were reportedly isolated by the floods or/and the landslides.

Those people were evacuated by the rescue helicopters and boats deployed by the Fire Department and the Self Defense Force. Public transportation services such as trains and airlines have resumed the operation on 13 October 2019, however, some transportation facilities were heavily damaged by floods.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

JRCS has chapters in each prefecture and already distributed 6,699 blankets, 1,057 Red Cross relief kits including radios, toothbrushes and other critical items, 1,380 sleeping kits, and 1,313 cotton blankets to the evacuation centres in the affected areas



JRCS medical team checked the condition of the affected people at city centre, Fukushima Prefecture. (*Photo: JRCS*)



JRCS medical team leader coordinated medical team meeting with government medical teams, Miyagi Prefecture. (*Photo: JRCS*)

JRCS medical teams, including doctors, nurses and logisticians, have been deployed in the affected areas (Miyagi, Fukushima, Saitama, Gifu, Nagano prefectures) to support authorities in providing medical care in evacuation centres and help evacuate patients from damaged hospitals. As of 15 October 2019, 11 medical teams are already deployed in the areas, three more teams are expected to reach by 16 October 2019.

Currently, JRCS is focusing on needs assessment in the evacuation centres and coordination with the local government and other humanitarian actors.

IFRC Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) in Beijing has been closely monitoring the situation and providing support by facilitating a surge communication coordinator form IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) to be deployed, to support JRCS in its communication activities especially for international media.

No external funding and no assistance is required.

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Contact information

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How we work

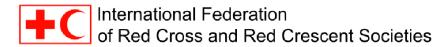
All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the <u>Code of Conduct</u> for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the <u>Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)</u> in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:





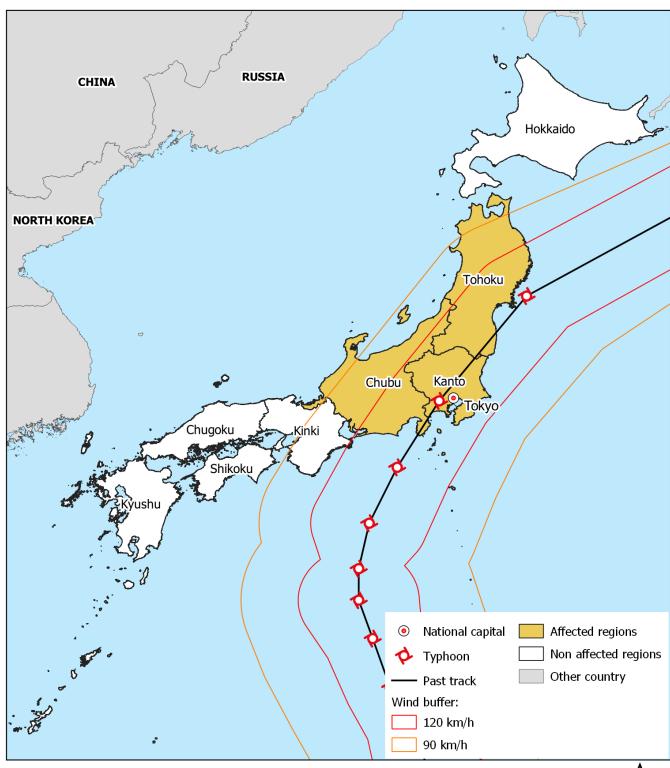




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