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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Japan – Earthquake and Tsunami

Fact Sheet #13, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

March 24, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 22, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The earthquake and tsunami have resulted in more than 9,800 deaths and left approximately 17,500 people missing, as reported by the Government of Japan (GoJ) on March 24. The natural disasters also damaged or destroyed more than 139,000 buildings and 2,000 roads.
- According to the GoJ, the number of people staying in evacuation centers continues to steadily decrease. On March 24, the GoJ reported that approximately 245,000 people remain in evacuation centers, representing a decrease of more than 18,000 people—7 percent of the population in evacuation centers—since March 22. More than half of the people in evacuation centers have left since the peak of displacement on March 16. Of the total number of people staying in evacuation centers, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that nearly 84,000 people had been evacuated from the GoJ’s 20 km exclusion zone around the Fukushima Daiichi facility.
- On March 24, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government lifted an advisory to avoid infant consumption of tap water after tests recorded decreased levels of radioactive iodine in the water, according to international media sources. Tokyo authorities issued the advisory as a precautionary measure on March 23 following detections of higher-than-normal levels of radioactive iodine in the water supply. The GoJ reported that the levels did not pose a health risk for adults.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE ¹		SOURCE
Confirmed Deaths	9,811	GoJ NPA ² – March 24, 2011
Missing Persons	17,541	GoJ NPA – March 24, 2011
Number of People in Evacuation Centers	245,394	GoJ NPA – March 24, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO JAPAN TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$7,291,550
DoD³ Humanitarian Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$24,960,294
Total USAID and DoD Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$32,251,844

CONTEXT

- On March 11 at 0046 hours Eastern Standard Time, or 1446 hours Japan Standard Time, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake occurred off the east coast of Honshu Island—approximately 231 miles northeast of Tokyo—at a depth of approximately 15 miles, generating a tsunami that struck the eastern coast of Japan and resulted in additional fatalities and damage, particularly in Miyagi, Fukushima, and Iwate prefectures. Furthermore, the natural disasters led to a serious nuclear incident at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant located approximately 150 miles north of Tokyo.
- USAID immediately activated a Response Management Team in Washington, D.C., and deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)—including urban search and rescue (USAR) specialists and nuclear experts—to support Japanese emergency response efforts. On March 11, U.S. Ambassador John V. Roos declared a disaster due to the effects of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

Humanitarian Situation and Response

- According to DART assessments, the GoJ continues to meet the immediate needs of individuals in affected areas, with sufficient relief items available locally and higher quantities of relief supplies flowing into affected areas as roads are repaired. DART staff also noted that local level coordination appeared strong and has continued improving across the GoJ as telecommunications repairs are completed.

¹ Figures remain preliminary and are expected to change.

² National Police Agency (NPA)

³ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

- Japanese authorities have commenced construction of temporary housing in Iwate and Fukushima prefectures, with preparations ongoing in Miyagi, Tochigi, and Chiba prefectures, according to the U.N. GoJ authorities plan to construct at least 33,000 temporary houses in the coming weeks.
- As of March 23, approximately 216,000 households remained without electricity—an improvement of more than 95 percent from the 5 million households without electrical services on March 12.

Logistics and Relief Supplies

- Approximately 10,000 USAID/OFDA-funded personal protective equipment sets—including suits, masks, gloves, decontamination bags, and other supplies—have arrived in Koriyama city, near the contaminated zone in Fukushima Prefecture, for distribution to individuals working near the nuclear exclusion zone around Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.
- As of March 23, DoD had delivered a total of 337,793 pounds of relief commodities to Japan in support of humanitarian response efforts.

Situation at Nuclear Power Plants

- On March 23, OCHA reported that electrical power had been restored to all six reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. Staff from the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, and the DART continue to actively monitor and triangulate information on radiation levels in Tokyo.
- The GoJ found radioactive materials exceeding national safety limits in 11 types of vegetables grown in Fukushima Prefecture as of March 23, according to OCHA. The U.N. World Health Organization notes that Japanese authorities have instituted monitoring and are taking measures to address food safety concerns.

USAID AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN

Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
U.S. Embassy in Tokyo	Emergency Relief Support	Affected Areas	\$100,000
DoD	USAR Operations (Transport of USAR cargo)	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
L.A. County USAR Team	USAR Operations	Affected Areas	\$2,058,000
Fairfax County USAR Team	USAR Operations	Affected Areas	\$2,058,000
	USAID/DART Support Costs		\$1,618,240
	Administrative Support		\$457,310
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$7,291,550
DOD ASSISTANCE			
	Emergency Relief Support	Affected Areas	\$24,960,294
TOTAL DOD			\$24,960,294
TOTAL USAID AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN FY 2011			\$32,251,844

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 24, 2011. Amounts are subject to change.

² Estimated expenditure as of March 22, 2011.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for earthquake and tsunami response efforts in Japan can be found at www.usaid.gov/japanquake or www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc.); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int