



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

Japan – Earthquake and Tsunami

Fact Sheet #12, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

March 22, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 21, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The earthquake and tsunami have resulted in nearly 9,200 deaths and left nearly 13,800 people missing, as reported by the Government of Japan (GoJ) on March 22. The natural disasters also damaged or destroyed more than 128,000 buildings and 1,700 roads.
- Technicians and engineers have been repairing communications, transportation, and basic service infrastructure, allowing increased numbers of displaced persons to return home or travel to central evacuation centers.
- A magnitude 6.6 aftershock struck off the coast of eastern Honshu Island at a depth of 16.5 miles at approximately 1700 hours local time on March 22. According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the epicenter was located approximately 170 miles east of Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture, and 182 miles east-southeast of Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture. USGS reports that nearby towns on Honshu Island experienced Level III shaking on the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale, indicating that the earthquake was not likely to result in any damage to structures.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE¹		SOURCE
Confirmed Deaths	9,199	GoJ NPA ² – March 22, 2011
Missing Persons	13,786	GoJ NPA – March 22, 2011
Number of People in Evacuation Centers	263,915	GoJ NPA – March 22, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO JAPAN TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$7,135,894
DoD³ Humanitarian Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$20,900,000
Total USAID and DoD Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$28,035,894

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

- The newly created GoJ Special Headquarters—designed to assist disaster-affected individuals—began operations on March 20. The headquarters is relocating displaced individuals to unaffected prefectures and working to minimize the burden on local governments in the host prefectures. According to the GoJ Chief Cabinet Secretary, the special headquarters will meet regularly to ensure that displaced individuals receive adequate support. On March 22, the GoJ reported that approximately 264,000 people remained in shelters, representing a decrease of more than 55,000 people—17 percent of the population in shelters—since March 21.
- The number of evacuation centers hosting displaced persons has also decreased as road clearance has enabled displaced persons to congregate in larger evacuation centers that are easier to reach with humanitarian assistance.

¹ Figures remain preliminary and are expected to change.

² National Police Agency (NPA)

³ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

- Electrical supply continues to improve with power restored to approximately 27,000 households since March 21, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). As of March 22, approximately 217,000 households remained without power.
- Technicians have restored more than 90 percent of earthquake- and tsunami-damaged telecommunications and 90 percent of damaged roads are now accessible to the public, according to OCHA.

Logistics and Relief Supplies

- On March 22, the second shipment of equipment for a DoD-funded high-flow pump system arrived in Japan via two Australian military flights. The equipment will be assembled and transferred to the Fukushima Daiichi power plant to augment cooling capacity at the facility. The initial shipment of equipment for the pump system arrived in Japan on March 21.
- In response to a GoJ request, 10,000 sets of USAID/OFDA-funded personal protective equipment—including suits, masks, gloves, decontamination bags, and other supplies—have arrived at Yokota Air Force Base, near Tokyo. The equipment is en route to individuals working near the nuclear exclusion zone around Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.
- On March 22, DoD delivered 635 daily servings of drinking water and 32,720 daily servings of food to benefit more than 5,500 displaced individuals. At present, 17 ships and an estimated 17,000 personnel are involved in or prepared to assist with humanitarian efforts in Japan.

Situation at Nuclear Power Plants

- According to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), tests have found limited radioactive contamination of drinking water and certain foods grown in the vicinity of the Daiichi nuclear power plant. As a precautionary measure, the GoJ has suspended shipments of milk from Fukushima Prefecture and leafy vegetables from Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, and Fukushima prefectures, as well as recommended that individuals living near the Fukushima Daiichi facility avoid drinking tap water. However, the GoJ reported that consuming contaminated food or water would not pose a health risk, and WHO reported no evidence that contaminated food has reached other countries.
- U.S. Department of Energy, DART, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and U.S. Embassy staff continue to actively monitor and triangulate information on radiation levels in Tokyo. To date, U.S. agencies continue to report that there have not been any increases in radiation levels in Tokyo. DART nuclear specialists also note no significant changes in the situation at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant in recent days.

USAID AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
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		\$301,654
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$7,135,894
DOD ASSISTANCE			
	Emergency Relief Support	Affected Areas	\$20,900,000
TOTAL DOD			\$20,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN FY 2011			\$28,035,894

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 22, 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