



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

Japan – Earthquake and Tsunami

Fact Sheet #4, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

March 14, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 13, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On March 14, the Government of Japan (GoJ) National Police Agency (NPA) reported increased casualty numbers due to the earthquake and tsunami, with the current death toll at 1,897, the number of missing persons at 3,002, and the number of injured at 1,885. Japanese media sources continue to report that the number of fatalities may increase significantly in the coming days as officials recover additional bodies in isolated coastal communities. International media sources have reported that the earthquake and tsunami death toll may be as high as 10,000 individuals.
- Two U.S. urban search and rescue (USAR) teams established a base of operations in Ofunato City—one of the most-affected areas in Iwate Prefecture, on March 14.
- The outer building housing Unit 3 at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant exploded at approximately 2200 EDT on March 13, or 1100 hours local time on March 14. The explosion injured 11 individuals and released hydrogen gas into the reactor containment building. To date, GoJ officials reported that the reactor containment vessel remains intact and has emitted no major radiation. Nearly 210,000 people remain preemptively evacuated from the vicinities of Fukushima Daiichi and Fukushima Daini nuclear power plants.
- The Japanese Meteorological Agency (JMA) reported a 70 percent chance that a magnitude 7.0 earthquake may occur near Japan before March 16, with the probability dropping to 50 percent between March 16 and March 19. An estimated 30 aftershocks measuring more than magnitude 6.0 have occurred near Japan since March 11.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Confirmed Deaths	1,897	GoJ NPA ¹ – March 14, 2011
Missing Persons	3,002	GoJ NPA ¹ – March 14, 2011
Number of people in evacuation centers	371,800	OCHA ² – March 14, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO JAPAN TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$740,600
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami \$740,600

CONTEXT

- On March 11 at 0046 hours EST, or 1446 hours local time, a magnitude 8.9 earthquake occurred near the east coast of Honshu—the largest and main island of Japan—at a depth of approximately 15 miles. According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the epicenter of the earthquake was located 80 miles east of Sendai, the capital of Miyagi Prefecture, and 231 miles northeast of Tokyo. The earthquake also generated a large tsunami that resulted in additional fatalities and damage, particularly in Miyagi, Fukushima, and Iwate prefectures.
- On March 11, U.S. Ambassador to Japan John V. Roos declared a disaster due to the effects of the earthquake and tsunami. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to assist with local relief efforts. In addition, USAID activated a Response Management Team (RMT) in Washington, D.C., and deployed a DART—including two USAR teams from Fairfax County, Virginia, and Los Angeles County, California—to Japan to coordinate USG response and support Japanese USAR efforts.
- InterAction, an alliance of U.S.-based non-governmental organizations, maintains a list of organizations accepting donations for the Japanese earthquake response. The American Red Cross (ARC) also receives donations through text messages of “redcross” sent to 90999.

¹ Figures remain preliminary and are expected to change.

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Infrastructure and Public Services

- The GoJ NPA reported increased figures for infrastructure damage. To date, the earthquake has damaged or destroyed nearly 60,000 buildings, as well as an estimated 704 roads, 26 bridges, and 8 railways throughout northeastern Japan. Transportation systems remain paralyzed, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, communication services are not functioning for more than 20,000 people in Miyagi and Iwate Prefectures.
- Approximately 371,800 people remain in more than 2,050 GoJ-established emergency evacuation centers throughout Japan, according to OCHA. While temperatures drop, disruptions in electrical and gas supplies have limited heating for shelters.
- As of March 14, the GoJ reported that approximately 1.25 million households were without electricity and nearly 3.2 million people may be affected by reduced gas supplies in the coming days. According to international media, Tokyo Electric Power has suspended plans to impose rolling power cuts—scheduled to begin in eight prefectures and cities today—but has requested that residents of Tokyo and other areas limit electricity use.
- A fire at the Cosmo Oil Company refinery in Ichihara city, located 25 miles east of Tokyo, continues to burn, despite firefighters' attempts to extinguish the flames since March 11.

USAR Teams

- As of March 14, the Japan Ministry of Defense (MoD) had deployed 60,000 of an expected 100,000 personnel to conduct USAR activities. The MoD had also deployed 96 helicopters, 7 planes, and 58 naval vessels for that purpose.
- On March 14, two USAR teams from Fairfax and Los Angeles counties—composed of 144 personnel and 12 canines trained to detect live victims—traveled from Misawa Air Force Base (AFB) in the northern part of Japan's Honshu Island to Ofunato City, Iwate Prefecture. The teams established a combined base of operations with a United Kingdom USAR team and expect to begin search and rescue operations on March 15.
- As of March 14, Japan has accepted assistance from approximately 15 countries, including USAR teams from China, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand.
- U.S. Navy aircraft and ships continue to support search and rescue at sea, including conducting aerial surveillance. U.S. Forces–Japan (USFJ) is providing air transport of Japanese Self-Defense Force (JSDF) personnel and vehicles responding to the disaster.
- The USFJ and JSDF are working to establish a Joint Task Force in Yamagata Prefecture in order to establish a Civil-Military Operations Center that will coordinate all foreign military aid efforts and establish a refueling location for helicopters.

Health

- As of March 13, Japanese health officials reported that 552 Japanese Disaster Medical Assistance Teams, comprising five individuals each, were providing medical assistance to disaster-affected individuals. Japanese health officials have also established three staging care units in affected areas and conducted medical evacuations via air. According to OCHA, hospitals are coping with the number of patients, with 145 of 170 designated emergency response hospitals fully functioning.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- The GoJ reported that an estimated 1.4 million households in 14 prefectures throughout Japan have no access to safe drinking water, according to OCHA. Safe drinking water in tsunami-affected areas is a concern due to water contamination and salination.
- USFJ is providing emergency relief supplies—including safe drinking water and blankets—to affected populations.

USAID 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	Japan	\$100,000
	USAID/DART Support Costs		\$640,600
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$740,600
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN FY 2011			\$740,600

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 14, 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.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:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov
 - 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