



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

***Japan Earthquake and Tsunami***

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

March 12, 2011

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 11, 2011.*

**KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- On the morning of March 12, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center cancelled the tsunami warning for all countries in the Pacific region. In addition, USAID/OFDA field staff reported no significant damage in the Central and South America and regions and Europe, with no requests for international assistance.
- As of 1000 hours Eastern Standard Time (EST) on March 12, or 0000 hours local time on March 13, the Government of Japan (GoJ) National Police Agency (NPA) reported that the earthquake resulted in 686 deaths, 642 missing persons, and 1,426 injured people. International media sources report estimates of 1,700 deaths, with more than 10,000 individuals missing. In addition, the earthquake damaged or destroyed nearly 13,000 buildings throughout northeastern Japan. Approximately 25 aftershocks measuring more than 6.0 on the Richter Scale have occurred near Honshu Island since the 8.9 magnitude earthquake occurred on March 11.
- International media sources reported an explosion at the Fukushima 1 nuclear power plant—located approximately 160 miles northeast of Tokyo—at approximately 0130 hours EST, or 1530 hours local time, on March 12. GoJ officials have evacuated all residents within a 12-mile radius of the Fukushima 1 and a 6-mile radius of Fukushima 2 plant, according to international media sources.
- On March 11, USAID activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to coordinate the U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian response to the earthquake and resulting tsunami. In addition, U.S. Ambassador to Japan John V. Roos declared a disaster due to the effects of the earthquake and tsunami. In response, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) to Japan to respond to the humanitarian crisis. At the request of the GoJ, USAID also deployed, as part of the USAID/DART, two urban search and rescue (USAR) teams from Fairfax and Los Angeles counties. The teams traveled with rescue dogs and have emergency medical and water rescue capabilities.
- On March 11, USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to assist with local relief efforts. In addition, USAID/OFDA is also providing more than \$640,000 to support USAID/DART response activities in Japan.
- InterAction, an alliance of U.S.-based non-governmental organizations, has compiled a listing of organizations accepting donations for response. The American Red Cross (ARC) announced capacity to receive donations through individual texts containing the message “redcross” sent to 90999.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>Confirmed Deaths</b>	686	GoJ NPA <sup>1</sup>
<b>Missing Persons</b>	642	GoJ NPA <sup>1</sup>

**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, 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 struck Onahama city in Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, resulting in additional fatalities and damage.

***Infrastructure and Public Services***

- According to the GoJ NPA, the earthquake has damaged an estimated 400 roads, 40 bridges, and 9 railways throughout the country. The GoJ NPA also reported nearly 60 landslides throughout the country. Main

<sup>1</sup> Figures remain preliminary and are expected to change.

highways in the most affected areas of northeastern Japan remain closed, according to the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC).

- As of March 12, electrical services remained unavailable for approximately 5 million households, while 1 million households in the most affected areas have limited access to water, according to IFRC.
- As of March 12, the fire at a Cosmo Oil Company refinery in Ichihara city, located 25 miles east of Tokyo, continues to burn. Firefighters are maintaining efforts to extinguish the blaze.
- The Tokyo Electric Power Company —operator of Fukushima 1 nuclear power plant—reported that 450,000 households in Tochigi, Chiba, and Ibaraki prefectures northeast of Tokyo are without electrical power.

#### **Urban Search and Rescue Teams**

- Following the disaster, GoJ established an Emergency Response Team and mobilized thousands of Japanese military personnel to conduct rescue efforts, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- USAR teams from Fairfax and Los Angeles counties are scheduled to arrive in Japan on March 13. The teams—comprised of approximately 147 personnel and 12 canines trained to detect live victims—will conduct search and rescue activities in affected areas. The U.N. and international media sources have reported that teams from the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand will assist in search and rescue efforts in the coming days, with additional teams from at least 40 countries standing by to provide personnel, equipment, and rescue dogs, if requested by the GoJ.

#### **Health and Shelters**

- As of March 12, GoJ-established emergency evacuation centers throughout Japan continue to shelter approximately 215,000 people, according to OCHA. The Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) is providing medical care, psychological support, and emergency relief supplies to the centers.
- As of March 12, approximately 62 national disaster response teams—including more than 400 doctors, nurses, and administrative support personnel—were conducting assessments and providing medical care in affected areas, according to IFRC.
- The ARC International Services team is supporting the JRCS to assess the impact, determine response efforts, and assist the people of Japan.

#### **USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN**

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
U.S. Embassy in Tokyo	Emergency Relief Support	Japan	\$100,000
	USAID/DART Support Costs		\$640,600
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$740,600</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN FY 2011</b>			<b>\$740,600</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 12, 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](http://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](http://www.usaid.gov)
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)