



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

***Japan – Earthquake and Tsunami***

Fact Sheet #16, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

April 15, 2011

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated April 8, 2011.*

**KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- On April 11 at 1716 hours Japan Standard Time (JST), or 0416 hours Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), a magnitude 6.6 aftershock occurred in eastern Honshu—approximately 22 miles west of Iwaki, Fukushima Prefecture, and 161 miles northeast of Tokyo—at a depth of approximately 6 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The earthquake killed one person, disrupted power for approximately 220,000 households, and temporarily interrupted power and pumps used for cooling reactors 1, 2, and 3 at the Fukushima Daiichi site.
- On April 12 at 0808 hours JST, or 1908 hours EDT on April 11, a magnitude 6.2 aftershock occurred just off the east coast of Honshu—47 miles southeast of Tokyo—at a depth of approximately 8 miles. Minimal damage occurred due to the aftershock. USGS and the Japan Meteorological Agency noted that aftershocks of magnitudes above 6.0 will likely continue to occur regularly throughout the coming months.
- The March 11 earthquake and tsunami have resulted in more than 13,500 deaths and left nearly 15,000 people missing, the GoJ reported on April 15. The natural disasters also damaged or destroyed more than 217,000 buildings and 2,100 roads.
- The number of people staying in evacuation centers continues to decrease, with approximately 138,000 people remaining in centers as of April 15. More than 16,000 people have left evacuation centers since April 8.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>Confirmed Deaths</b>	13,591	GoJ NPA – April 15, 2011
<b>Missing Persons</b>	14,497	GoJ NPA – April 15, 2011
<b>Number of People in Evacuation Centers</b>	138,212	GoJ NPA – April 15, 2011

**FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO JAPAN TO DATE**

**USAID/OFDA Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami ..... \$6,959,436**  
**DoD<sup>2</sup> Humanitarian Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami ..... \$70,754,829**  
**Total USAID and DoD Assistance for the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami ..... \$77,714,265**

**CONTEXT**

- On March 11 at 0046 hours Eastern Standard Time, or 1446 hours JST, 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 tsunami significantly damaged the Fukushima Daiichi power plant located approximately 150 miles north of Tokyo, leading to a serious nuclear incident.
- 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***

- To address the psychosocial health of disaster-affected children, on April 13, the GoJ Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology reported plans to deploy more than 1,000 additional school counselors to areas impacted by the March 11 tsunami.
- The Japan Platform (JPF)—a coordinating body for organizations responding to the tsunami—reported that member organizations have raised more than \$60.3 million in the month since the tsunami, indicating a high level of Japanese and international private support for disaster relief and recovery efforts. Private individuals and organizations have given a total of more than \$525 million for the Japan response—approximately 80

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

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

percent of total assistance—according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs’ Financial Tracking Service.

- Approximately 40 families moved into GoJ-provided transitional housing in Rikuzentakata city, Iwate Prefecture, on April 9, representing the first group of affected individuals to move from evacuation centers to GoJ transitional housing. According to JPF, transitional housing construction has faced delays in recent weeks, as nearly 50 percent of pre-tsunami Japanese plywood production occurred in affected areas of northeastern Japan. The GoJ is working to source construction materials and coordinating with Japan Red Cross Society (JRCS), which will provide electric appliances for the housing structures.
- The GoJ Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare had coordinated the deployment of nearly 300 medical teams to affected areas, including 146 teams from the JRCS as of April 8, according to JPF. However, JPF stated that emergency medical personnel have begun returning home as medical supply chains recover and health needs transition from emergency to long-term.

**Logistics and Relief Supplies**

- On April 13, Sendai Airport reopened to domestic commercial flights from Tokyo and Osaka. The airport had been operational only for a limited number of humanitarian after sustaining damage during the March 11 tsunami. U.S. Forces-Japan efforts contributed to the reopening of the airport.

**Situation at Nuclear Power Plants**

- GoJ officials have confirmed that the raising of the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES) rating for the Fukushima accident from INES 5 to INES 7 reflects the cumulative measurement of radioactive material released to date rather than a recent change in the plant’s status. Nuclear experts on the DART note that reactor and spent fuel status at the Fukushima Daiichi site have improved slightly in recent days and continue to describe the situation as static but not stable.
- The GoJ continues to monitor produce and other food items from northern Japan for radioactivity. Effective April 13, the GoJ temporarily banned shipments of shitake mushrooms grown outdoors in five cities, eight towns, and three villages in eastern Fukushima Prefecture due to levels of radioactive compounds above Japanese safety standards.
- On April 13, the GoJ announced plans to develop guidelines to allow residents of the 20-km exclusion zone around the Fukushima Daiichi plant to temporarily return home to retrieve belongings and attend to other personal matters. The GoJ guidelines will take into account cumulative radiation levels, the situation at the Fukushima plant, and wind direction, and the GoJ will implement the visits with assistance from the Japan Self-Defense Forces and police.
- Under the direction of the GoJ Cabinet Secretariat, U.S. experts and Japanese counterparts regularly discuss priority issues and needed assistance. Working together, the experts review scientific and technical data to develop solutions to the unique challenges of the Fukushima Daiichi site.

**USAID AND DOD 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>			
DoD	USAR Operations (Transport of USAR cargo)	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
L.A. County USAR Team	USAR Operations	Affected Areas	\$1,423,842
Fairfax County USAR Team	USAR Operations	Affected Areas	\$2,058,000
	USAID/DART Support Costs		\$1,618,240
	Administrative Support		\$859,354
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$6,959,436</b>
<b>DOD ASSISTANCE</b>			
	Emergency Relief Support	Affected Areas	\$70,754,829
<b>TOTAL DOD</b>			<b>\$70,754,829</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN FY 2011</b>			<b>\$77,714,265</b>

<sup>1</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 15, 2011. Amounts are subject to change.

<sup>2</sup>Estimated expenditure as of April 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.usaid.gov/japanquake](http://www.usaid.gov/japanquake) or [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:
  - 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)