

Emergency Disaster Relief

Providing Timely Support to Disaster Victims

Disaster Relief Activities by Team Dispatch and Relief Supplies

JICA is responsible for administering Japan's disaster relief operations as determined by the Japanese government in response to requests from affected governments or international organizations following major disasters. Search and rescue teams, medical teams, expert teams and/or Self-Defense Force units are dispatched as Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams. JICA also provides emergency relief supplies to disaster-affected areas.

Stockpiling Supplies Around the World for Rapid Responses

To facilitate the rapid and reliable supply of the large-volume of relief items, reserve supplies must be procured and appropriately stockpiled in advance at locations as close as possible to disaster areas. Accordingly, JICA has warehouses in four locations worldwide, namely Germany (Frankfurt), Singapore, the United States (Miami) and South Africa (Johannesburg).

Eight priority goods are stockpiled at these four locations—tents, sleeping pads, plastic sheets (tarpaulins), blankets, portable water containers (plastic jerry cans), water tanks, water purifiers and electric generators(with extension cords). In cases where other types of supplies are required, JICA takes emergency action to procure these in affected or neighboring countries. When requested, emergency medical supplies are also procured from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Supply Division in Denmark or the International Dispensary Association (IDA) in the Netherlands and are rapidly shipped to affected countries



A rescue dog and its handler conducting search operations

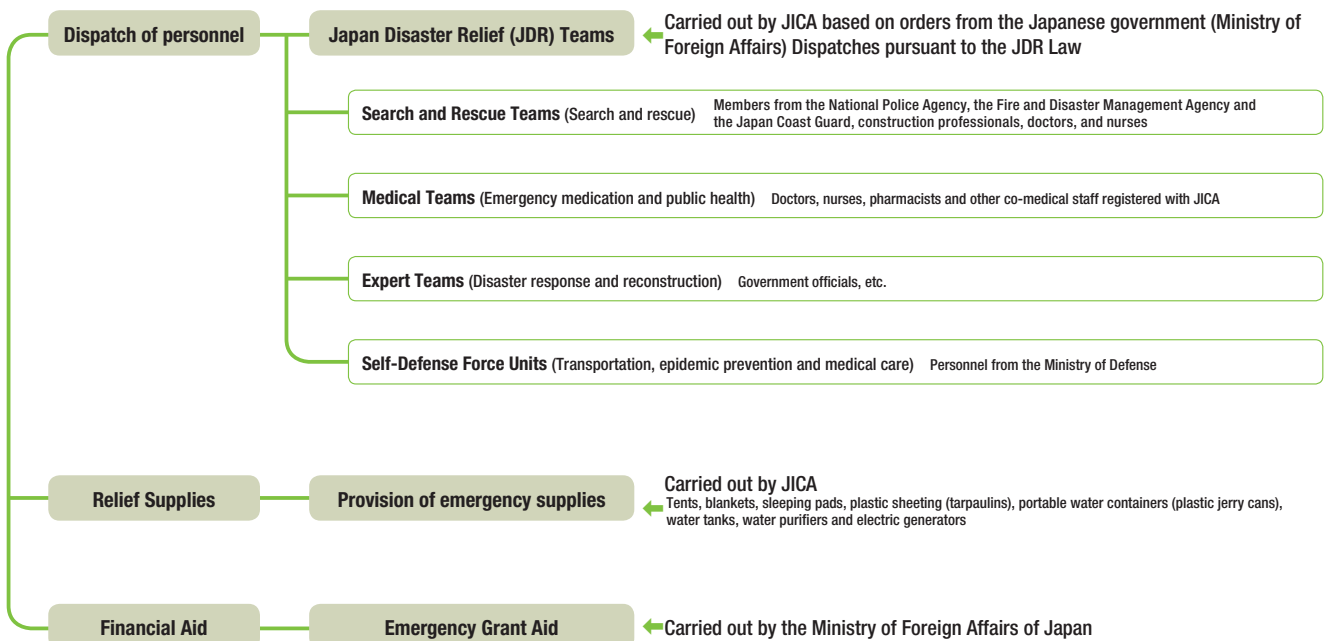
A rescue team member trying to bore through a beam during a UN-led team capacity assessment, INSARAG External Classification

* In March 2010, the Japan Disaster Relief rescue team obtained the Heavy-class qualification, the highest-level classification, by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG)



Handing over emergency relief supplies

Japan's International Disaster Relief



Provision of Disaster Relief Supplies in Fiscal 2010 (April 2010 – March 2011, 15cases)

No	Disaster occurrence date	Country	Type of disaster	Value of material aid	Supplies provided
1	April 2010	Guatemala	Tropical storm	Approx. ¥20 million	Tents, blankets, sleeping pads, water tanks
2	May 2010	Honduras	Tropical storm	Approx. ¥10 million	Blankets, sleeping pads, portable water containers, water tanks
3	June 2010	Myanmar	Torrential rains	Approx. ¥10 million	Tents, water purifiers, water tanks, generators, extension cords
4	July 2010	Pakistan	Flooding	Approx. ¥20 million	Tents, water purifiers, water tanks, drainage pumps (locally procured)
5	July 2010	Pakistan	Flooding	Approx. ¥20 million	Tents, water purifiers, purification tablets (locally procured)
6	October 2010	Viet Nam	Flooding	Approx. ¥20 million	Blankets, generators, extension cords, water purifiers, portable water containers, mosquito nets (locally procured)
7	October 2010	Haiti	Cholera	Approx. ¥15 million	Water tanks, water purifiers, portable water containers, plastic sheets
8	October 2010	Benin	Flooding	Approx. ¥20 million	Tents, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping pads
9	October 2010	The Caribbean (Saint Lucia)	Hurricane	Approx. ¥8 million	Generators, extension cords, water tanks, water purifiers, plastic sheets
10	October 2010	The Caribbean (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)	Hurricane	Approx. ¥7 million	Generators, extension cords, water purifiers, plastic sheets
11	November 2010	Ghana	Flooding	Approx. ¥13 million	Blankets, plastic sheets, portable water containers, water purifiers
12	November 2010	Costa Rica	Flooding	Approx. ¥8 million	Blankets, generators, extension cords
13	December 2010	Columbia	Flooding	Approx. ¥20 million	Tents, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping pads
14	December 2010	Venezuela	Flooding	Approx. ¥10 million	Blankets, sleeping pads, portable water containers, water purifiers, generators, extension cords
15	January 2011	Sri Lanka	Flooding	Approx. ¥20 million	Tents, sleeping pads

Case Study Earthquake Disaster in South Island, New Zealand

Japan Disaster Relief Teams Swiftly Arrive and Encourage Disaster Victims



A rescue team member searching crevices using devices headed with cameras.

At 12:51 p.m. (local time) on February 22, 2011, a 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck about 10 kilometers southeast of Christchurch on New Zealand's South Island. The earthquake caused a large number of buildings to collapse, including the Christ Church Cathedral located in the city center. The partial collapse of the Canterbury Television (CTV) building took many lives, including a large number of Japanese students studying at a language school located

in the same building. The number of deaths and missing persons resulting from the earthquake rose to over 350, of which 28 were Japanese.

Round-the-Clock Response

On the day of the earthquake, the emergency survey team was dispatched to the disaster area. On the afternoon of the following day, February 23, the first Japan Disaster Relief rescue team was dispatched using

the government aircraft of Japan and relief activities began. Although international rescue teams from seven countries, including the Japanese team, continued to make intense around the clock search efforts, the teams were unable to rescue any survivors. Nevertheless, the dedicated efforts of these teams served as a source of encouragement for the people in the stricken area. Moreover, in order to secure safety for relief activities, a structural assessment expert participated in the team to assess the safety of collapsed buildings.

JICA also dispatched its second and third rescue teams on a continuous basis, in addition to an expert team to provide psychosocial care for Japanese disaster victims and their families.

The return of the third rescue team to Japan on March 12, 2011, marked the conclusion of this series of rescue operations. The Japan Disaster Relief Team was highly praised for its quick arrival at the disaster area and coordinating with New Zealand and other countries to carry out search and rescue operations. The Japan Disaster Relief rescue team is certified as an International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Heavy USAR Team [→ See page 150] and is looked on to perform relief activities in prompt response to large-scale disasters throughout the world in the future.