# **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. JICA's emergency disaster relief consists of the provision of people and supplies. We send Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams that include a search and rescue team, medical team, expert team and/or Self-Defense Force units to disaster-affected areas and we also send emergency relief supplies in these areas.

### **Stockpiling Supplies Around the World for Rapid Responses**

To facilitate the rapid and reliable supply of the large-volume of emergency relief items, reserve supplies must be procured and appropriately stockpiled in advance at locations as close as possible to disaster areas. Eight priority goods are stockpiledtents, sleeping pads, plastic sheets (tarpaulins), blankets, portable water containers (plastic jerry cans), water tanks, water purifiers and electric generators (with extension cords). JICA stores these emergency supplies at warehouses worldwide: Germany (Frankfurt), Singapore and the United States (Miami). In addition, we signed an agreement in 2011 with the World Food Programme (WFP) to use the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), which is operated by the WFP. When needed, we use relief supplies stored at the UNHRD by other aid organizations or procure the necessary items in the country where the disaster occurred.

Emergency relief supplies were distributed in Kenya and Ethiopia (August-September) to aid refugees from Somalia where there is a severe drought. With the cooperation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), we performed a survey to determine the needs of the refugees, collected the necessary items, transported the supplies and distributed them at refugee camps.



Rescue Team members conducting rescue activities



Medical Team member examining a malaria patient



Hand-over of emergency relief supplies

# Carried out by JICA based on orders from the Japanese government (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) Search and Rescue Team (Search and rescue) Members from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Police Agency, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency of the Ministry of the Internal Affairs and Communications, the Japan Coast Guard, doctors, nurses, construction professionals, and JICA Medical Team (Emergency medication and public health) Doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other co-medical staff registered with JICA, personnel from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA Expert Team (Disaster response and reconstruction) Government officials, etc. and JICA Self-Defense Force Units (Transportation, epidemic prevention and medical care) Personnel from the Ministry of Defense and Self-Defense Forces **Relief Supplies** Provision of emergency supplies Tents, blankets, sleeping pads, plastic sheeting (tarpaulins), portable water containers (plastic jerry cans), water tanks, water purifiers and electric generators, etc Emergency Grant Aid < < Carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

#### Japan's International Disaster Relief

No	Date of aid	Country/Region	Type of disaster	Type of aid	Value of aid or number of persons dispatched	Supplies provided
1	May 2011	The United States	Tornado	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥10 million	Blankets, plastic sheets
2	May 2011	Namibia	Flooding	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥12 million	Blankets, water tanks, plastic sheets, water purifiers
3	August 2011	Russia	Fire accident of petroleum refining plant	Expert team	2 experts of burn injury	
4	August 2011	Kenya (assistance for Somali refugees)	Drought	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥50 million	Tents, sleeping pads, plastic sheets, blankets, portable water containers, water tanks, generators
5	September 2011	Ethiopia (assistance for Somali refugees)	Drought	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥40 million	Tents, generators
6	September 2011	Pakistan	Flooding	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥35 million	Tents, purification tablets
7	October 2011	Cambodia	Flooding	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥25 million	Tents, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping pads, portable water containers, water purifiers
8		Thailand	Flooding	Expert team	4 experts of water and sewerage	
9				Expert team	2 experts of subway	
10	October-December 2011 2			Expert team	2 experts of airport	
11				Expert team	51 experts of water discharge or others	
12				Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥30 million	Tents, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping pads, portable water containers, water purifiers, water tanks, generators
13				Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥25 million	Outboard engines for rescue boats, life jackets, temporary toilets, water tanks
14	October 2011	Tuvalu	Drought	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥8 million	Spare parts of seawater desalination unit
15	October 2011	El Salvador	Torrential rains	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥15 million	Sleeping pads, blankets, generators
16	October 2011	Honduras	Torrential rains	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥13 million	Sleeping pads, blankets, portable water containers, water purifiers
17	October 2011	Turkey	Earthquake	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥30 million	Tents
18	October 2011	Myanmar	Flooding	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥10 million	Water purifiers, generators, tents, blankets, sleeping pads
19	October 2011	Nicaragua	Torrential rains	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥8 million	Water purifiers, portable water containers, generators
20	October 2011	Viet Nam	Flooding	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥20 million	Water tanks, portable water containers, generators
21	December 2011	Philippines	Typhoon	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥25 million	Water tanks, generators, plastic sheets, tents, blankets, sleeping pads, portable water containers
22	January 2012	Fiji	Flooding	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥18 million	Tents, plastic sheets, portable water containers
23	February 2012	Mozambique	Cyclone	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥19 million	Portable water containers, generators, blankets, tents, plastic sheets
24	March 2012	Republic of the Congo	Explosion accident of ammunition depot	Provision of supplies	Approx. ¥10 million	Blankets, tents

## Provision of Disaster Relief Supplies in Fiscal 2011 (April 2011 - March 2012, 24 cases)

Case Study

## **Flooding in Thailand**

# Japan Disaster Relief Team Uses a Pump Truck Team for the First Time

Heavy rain that began in late July 2011 caused a flooding in the Chao Phraya River watershed of Thailand on a scale that is said to occur once in 50 years. The disaster caused about 700 deaths and a total of about 5 million people were affected. The economic impact was enormous as well because approximately 16,000 square kilometers was flooded, including industrial and agricultural areas.

JICA established a budget of about ¥55 million to send emergency relief supplies to Thailand in early October and again in the middle of the month. Flooding in the Bangkok area subsequently became more severe. In response to worries about the impact on the area's infrastructure, the teams of eight experts were formed and dispatched for subways, airports, water systems, and other infrastructure components in late October and early November. Most members were very familiar with the situation in Thailand through their engagement in the JICA's technical and financial cooperation. In Thailand, these teams assisted organizations in Thailand with regard to the operation and maintenance of key elements of the infrastructure during a flood.

To assist in the quick recovery of the vast area that was flooded, JICA sent a pump truck team (with a total of 51 members) to Thailand. Team members came from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), private-sector companies and other organizations. Ten pump trucks owned by MLIT that were shipped to Thailand. The trucks were also used to remove water left by the tsunami that followed the Great East Japan Earthquake. With the cooperation of Thailand's Ministry of Industry, the team used the pump trucks to remove water from industrial parks, residential areas, universities, farm land and other areas. The enormous cooperation from members of the Ministry of Industry, other workers in Thailand and residents of flooded areas was instrumental to enabling the pump truck team to remove water

efficiently. Between November 19 and December 20, a period of 32 days, 8.1 million cubic meters of water was pumped, which is enough to fill Tokyo Dome 6.5 times. Furthermore, water was removed from a total area of about 51.51 million square meters, which is about 100 times larger than Tokyo Disneyland.

The team of pump truck experts helped return the lives of residents of the flooded areas to normal by responding to Thailand's needs with flexibility. Furthermore, the team contributed to the quick restoration of operations in industrial areas, where flooding had created fears about a significant impact on the global economy.



Japan's pump truck team made a big contribution to alleviating flood damage in Thailand.