

Emergency Disaster Relief

— Providing Timely Support to Disaster Victims

From Emergency Disaster Relief to Seamless Cooperation

JICA is responsible for executing Japan's disaster relief operations in response to requests from government of affected countries or international organization following large-scale disasters. The emergency disaster relief consists of sending Rescue Teams, Medical Teams and Experts Teams and providing relief goods. JICA dispatches Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams under the direction of the Foreign Minister to disaster-affected areas, and sends relief goods in these areas.

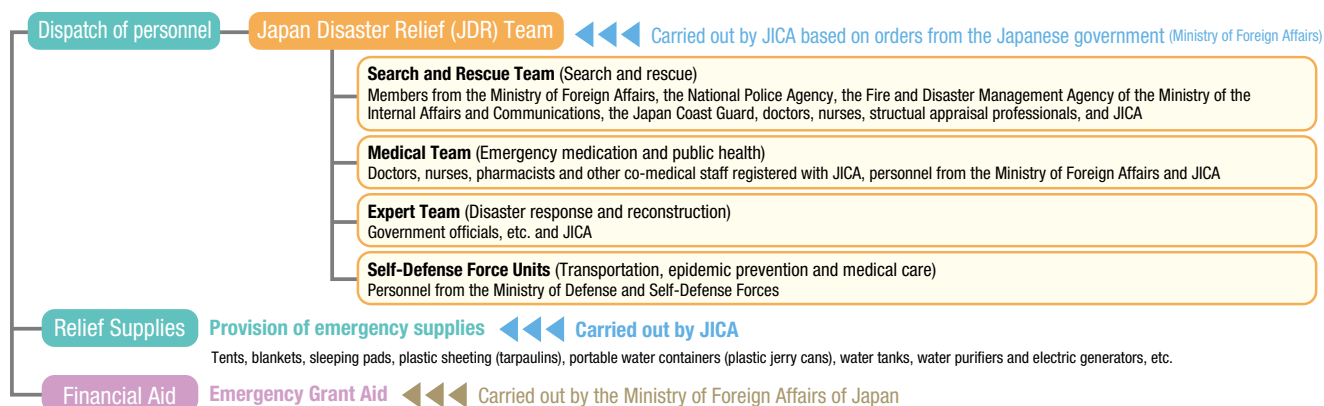
The experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake highlighted the importance of incorporating disaster risk management mainstreaming in development agendas [see page 88]. JICA covers humanitarian aid in the form of both emergency relief and development aid to support the development of countries. JICA therefore continues its efforts to realize disaster prevention and disaster minimization by achieving seamless cooperation for providing emergency response services by assisting in recovery and reconstruction.

Operations and Challenges of the Japan Disaster Relief Secretariat

When the Japanese government decides to dispatch a JDR Team, the Secretariat of JDR arranges flights for the team and organizes the cargo. In addition to organizing the team members, the secretariat sends office personnel for logistics support and provides various other types of support in order to ensure smooth operations in the field.

To enable the team to fully utilize its capabilities in disaster-stricken locations, it is essential to maintain readiness in normal times by undertaking various types of training and exercises. Members of the rescue team, who come from different agencies all over Japan following an emergency, undertake comprehensive exercises and other training so they can carry out activities in overseas environments. The medical team members are supposed to receive preparatory training for registration of the team over the course of three days and two nights for acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary as qualified members. These individuals then receive brush-up training aimed at enhancing their knowledge and skills for overseas disaster medical care.

Japan's International Disaster Relief



Case Study

Activities of the Japan Medical Team for Disaster Relief

International Emergency Relief Group Medical Team Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

An anniversary seminar was held to look back over the history of the Japan Medical Team for Disaster Relief (JMTDR), the predecessor of the JDR Medical Team, since it was first established 30 years ago, and also to discuss the current and future issues.

The JMTDR was established in 1982 by using lessons from the Cambodian refugee relief of 1979. By registering medical workers in normal times, the team was able to be assembled promptly and to go overseas quickly when disasters strike. Then JDR Medical Team was set up in 1987 to take over JMTDR's roles. At present, more than 1,000 doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and logisticians, etc. are voluntarily registered.

The team was first dispatched to provide medical services to the affected people of the drought in Ethiopia in 1984. Subsequently, the team provided assistance for Iraqi refugees in 1991, victims of the tsunami of the affected countries around the Indian Ocean in 2004, victims of the Pakistan earthquake of 2005, people affected by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and many others. To date, a total of 60 teams comprising approximately 900 members have

been dispatched.

The team has now grown into an international-level medical team by revising its composition, introducing more advanced equipment, establishing operating guidelines, etc. The team will continuously improve its capabilities for providing a higher level of medical services such as sanitation and infection control measures to address the needs of people in need of aid.

The JDR Secretariat itself also undertakes simulation training with the aim of mastering prompt dispatch procedures when a disaster occurs.

It is said that you cannot do better than what you have learned from training when responding to actual disasters. By diligently practicing and training on a daily basis, JDR ensures the quality and speed of the team's deployment in an emergency.

Furthermore, the rescue team aims to gain certification of as a 'Heavy Team' by INSARAG (International Search and Rescue

Advisory Group) by taking IER (INSARAG External Re-classifications) in 2015, therefore this team is working even harder to reinforce its rescue and search capabilities.

The medical team also aims to reinforce its ability to provide additional emergency medical services. This includes facilities and equipment for surgery, medical wards and dialysis in addition to existing services. Procurement of necessary equipment and drafting operating manuals are under way.



Rescue team: A rescue dog and a handler conducting search activities (earthquake in New Zealand in 2011)



Medical team: A nurse caring for a child (earthquake in Haiti in 2010)



Provision of relief goods: Hand-over of relief goods (flood in Nigeria in 2012)

Provision of Disaster Relief Supplies in Fiscal 2012 (April 2012 – March 2013, 17 cases)

| No | Disaster occurrence date | Country/Region | Type of disaster | Type of relief | Value of material aid | Supplies provided |
|----|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | April 2012 | Fiji | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥18 million | Portable water containers, water tanks, water purifiers, generators |
| 2 | May 2012 | Comoros | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥10 million | Sleeping pads, plastic sheets, portable water containers, generators |
| 3 | August 2012 | Iran | Earthquake | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥18 million | Portable toilets & showers |
| 4 | September 2012 | Niger | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥20 million | Blankets, plastic sheets, portable water containers |
| 5 | November 2012 | Cuba | Hurricane | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥31 million | Blankets, sleeping pads |
| 6 | November 2012 | Pakistan | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥35 million | Tents, blankets, plastic sheets |
| 7 | November 2012 | Nigeria | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥52 million | Tents, blankets, water purifiers |
| 8 | November 2012 | Guatemala | Earthquake | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥12 million | Blankets, water tanks, water purifiers, generators |
| 9 | November 2012 | Myanmar | Earthquake | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥10 million | Blankets, sleeping pads, plastic sheets, generators |
| 10 | December 2012 | Philippines | Typhoon | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥45 million | Tents, sleeping pads, plastic sheets, portable water containers |
| 11 | December 2012 | Palau | Typhoon | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥5 million | Blankets, plastic sheets, portable water containers, generators |
| 12 | December 2012 | Samoa | Cyclone | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥10 million | Tents, portable water containers |
| 13 | December 2012 | Fiji | Cyclone | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥12 million | Tents, sleeping pads, plastic sheets, portable water containers, generators |
| 14 | January 2013 | Sri Lanka | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥23 million | Tents, sleeping pads, plastic sheets |
| 15 | January 2013 | Jordan | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥13 million | Tents, blankets |
| 16 | January 2013 | Mozambique | Flooding | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥21 million | Tents, plastic sheets, water purifiers, water purification liquids, mosquito nets, soaps |
| 17 | February 2013 | Solomon Islands | Earthquake, tsunami | Provision of supplies | Approx. ¥10 million | Blankets, portable water containers, water purification tablets |

Case Study Comprehensive Training for Rescue Teams

Undertaking Various Types of Training to Meet the Needs of Disaster Stricken Nations

The JDR Rescue Team, with the cooperation from Hyogo Prefecture, undertook a hands-on, comprehensive exercise (including continuous 48-hour rescue activity) at the Hyogo Prefectural Emergency Management and Training Center (Miki City, Hyogo Prefecture) between November 27 and December 1.

A 69-person strong JDR rescue team annually undertakes various types of training to enhance its ability for search and rescue operations.

The JDR Rescue Team was first dispatched for rescue activities following the 1990 Iran earthquake, and has been sent to various locations worldwide on 17 occasions to date. Its advanced rescue skills and dedicated activities have been highly valued in disaster zones.

In March 2010, the JDR Rescue Team was certified as a 'Heavy Team' for international Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) activities by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian

Affairs (UN OCHA)-sponsored INSARAG External Classification (IEC). As a Heavy Team, the JDR Rescue Team is required to have the capabilities of continuously performing 24-hour search and rescue activities for periods of ten days in two separate locations simultaneously, and to establish and operate provisional Onsite Operations Coordination Centres (OSSOC) in the disaster affected country. The team must also gather information and data about the disaster for use by other USAR teams. Through simulation-style comprehensive exercises, the team can verify the members' expertise and skills necessary for search and rescue activities

overseas and foster a real sense of mutual understanding and solid teamwork among the members.



Comprehensive exercise continues around the clock as – Rescue team members break through concrete to reach victim.