Overview
(As of May 16, 4:30PM)

[Deaths] 69 persons (including 20 deaths due to post-quake deterioration of injuries & illness)

[Evacuation Shelters] 234 (in 24 municipalities)

[Evacuees] 10,305 persons

[Damages] 85,506 housing structures (incl. full/partial destruction & damages)

[Water Outage] About 2,300 households
*Some areas are still without running water

[Disaster Victim Certificates] 103,477 applications received; 30,682 certificates issued.
*There are delays in issuing of the certificates

[Schools] Damages (on water pipes, walls, etc.) at 371 public elementary and junior high schools in 29 municipalities
*All public schools in Kumamoto Prefecture have resumed classes as of May 11


One month has passes since the magnitude-6.5 foreshock at 9:26 p.m. on April 14 and the magnitude-7.3 main shock at 1:25 a.m. on April 16 struck Kyushu. Survivors still spend sleepless nights in uncertainty.

Conditions as of May 16

Thus far, 69 persons have died and one person is still missing. 20 people who survived the main quake lost their lives post-earthquake due to deterioration of injuries and illnesses caused by physical strain of evacuation. 10,606 people remain evacuated. 2,300 households still do not have running water.

With schools resuming classes, evacuation shelters have been consolidated, and level of fatigue has reached its peak for both evacuees and those who operate the shelters.

Construction of emergency temporary housing units have begun, starting with 1,728 units in 13 municipalities, while 2 other municipalities have begun discussions on their construction. These units are expected to be completed by mid-June, which would mean that some evacuees must expect to endure further prolonged stays in shelters.

Fewer evacuees continue to sleep in their vehicles, but it remains difficult to ascertain their actual numbers or their conditions. Networks of local relief providers and national organizations with expertise in livelihood assistance have begun assessment of vehicle-based evacuees.

In areas with severe damages, official damage investigation has yet to be completed. This has resulted in delayed issuing of disaster victim certificates, which are necessary for survivors to receive public assistance.

With the Golden Week long holidays ending, volunteer shortage has also become apparent. Disaster Volunteer Centers are building operational capacities and continue to disseminate information so that they can recruit and receive more volunteers.

JPF Secretariat’s Response

On April 16 when the main shock struck, JPF Secretariat decided on mobilizing the “Emergency Response to Earthquake in Kyushu,” dispatching two staff members to Kyushu the same day. For the past three weeks, we have worked to bring assistance to those in need through investigating damages and relief systems on the ground, assessing needs for coordination among JPF member NGOs, matching corporate goods donations with the needs, and sharing information and working in coordination with member NGOs and other relief providers.

Based on the initial response efforts, and using contributions by corporate, organizational, and individual donors, 11 NGOs have implemented 14 relief actions so far. (As of May 13, there are 10 ongoing relief actions and 1 is under review.) Our member NGOs’ relief activities are still being funded on a rolling basis as we determine grant provision for their relief actions. (*Please see relief action map on the next page.)

As evacuation prolongs, there has been a growing need for household appliances such as washing machines, and JPF has coordinated with corporate donors to match the needs on the ground with corporate relief services.

Also, evacuation is expected to last long term for vulnerable populations, the elderly, and others who face difficulty in rebuilding their lives. Assistance must then shift from emergency response to more hands-on support for the victims to rebuild their lives. We will continue our information gathering and coordinating efforts until this relief program is completed, so that our member NGOs can implement hands-on grassroots humanitarian assistance to regions and survivors who lack public assistance, building on the strong suit of the private sector.

Please find the most updated information on the Kyushu Disaster Victim Assistance on our website: http://www.japanplatform.org/E/programs/kyushu.html
Day-to-day updates on our relief activities can be found on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/japanplatform

Contact: Public Relations (Takasugi, Kobayashi) info@japanplatform.org
TEL: 03-6261-4750  FAX: 03-6261-4753
Emergency Response to Earthquake in Kyushu: JPF Member NGO Activity Report

Map courtesy of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan website

*Listed above are acronyms with the following official organizational names:
AAR = Association for Aid and Relief, Japan; ADRA= ADRA Japan; CF = Civic Force; GNJP = Good Neighbors Japan; HFHJ = Habitat for Humanity Japan; HuMA = Humanitarian Medical Assistance; JAFS = Japan Asian Association & Asian Friendship Society; JAR = Japan Association for Refugees; JEN = Japan Emergency NGO; JH = International Medical Volunteers Japan Heart; JRA = Japan Rescue Association; OBJ = Operation Blessing Japan; PBV = Peace Boat Disaster Relief Center; PLAN = Plan Japan; PWJ = Peace Winds Japan; RJP = RESULTS Japan; SCJ = Save the Children Japan; SEEDS = SEEDS Asia; SVA = Shanti Volunteer Association; TMN = Tono Magokoro Net; WP = Wakachiai Project; WVJ = World Vision Japan; JPF = Japan Platform

(Updated: May 16, 2016)