JAPAN PLATFORM

Aid to Victims of the Kumamoto Earthquakes
(Emergency Response to Earthquake in Kumamoto)

FY 2016 Report

JAPAN PLATFORM
Specified Non-Profit Organization (Authorized NPO)
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Note: This is the English translation of the report published by JAPAN PLATFORM. The original report is written in Japanese.
**Summary of the Extent of Damage and of Aid Program**

**The Extent of Damage**

- **Loss of Life:** 225 deaths
  - Number of deaths confirmed by police investigations: 50
  - Number of deaths due to the worsening of injuries sustained in the disaster or due to the physical stress of living in evacuation centers: 175
  - Number of deaths which occurred during the torrential rains from June 19–June 25 which were determined to be related to the Kumamoto Earthquakes:

- **Evacuation Situation** (maximum extent of evacuations observed on April 17):
  - 85 evacuation centers
  - 183,882 evacuees

- **Damage to Housing:** 191,216 buildings damaged
  - Structures which were completely or partially destroyed, or partially damaged, including destruction or damage which occurred during the torrential rains in June which was determined to be related to the Kumamoto Earthquakes:

**Occupation of temporary emergency housing: 20,209 units (both within and outside the prefecture)
- Constructed temporary housing: 4,157 units
- Leased temporary housing: 14,492 units
- Public housing, etc.: 1,157 units

**The Function of JPF**

JAPAN PLATFORM is an organization providing humanitarian aid from Japan, in cooperation with NGOs, the business community, and the government as equal partners.

**Timeline of Aid to Victims of the Kumamoto Earthquakes**

**April 14**
- Earthquake

**April 15**
- Ossification to mobilize aid

**Phase 1 (Swift and large-scale on emergency humanitarian aid utilizing the expertise of JPF's member organizations)**

- Assessment of evacuation centers, talks and information other organizations, etc.
- Matching aid from businesses with local needs
- Grants to JPF's member NGOs, and on-site monitoring of funded project's progress check, advice for improvement, etc.
- Coordinating aid, etc.

**Phase 2 (Strengthening community power towards self-recovery in the disaster-affected areas)**

- Monitoring and evaluating
- Assisting with community participation in community meetings, sharing information with member NGOs, designing ways to aid, etc.
- Domestic and international dissemination of information about the disaster, holding media events, and panel discussions with the needs, etc.
Phase 1
(Swift and large-scale emergency humanitarian aid utilizing the expertise of JPF’s member organizations)

Right after the 6.5 foreshock on April 14, JPF began collecting information, and immediately following the main quake on April 16, it decided to mobilize “ Aid to Wider Area Disaster Victims in the Kyushu Region.” Since then, JPF has been deploying aid to victims of the disaster.

By coordinating through local networks and grant funding for member NGOs, JPF has carried out aid work that responds to local needs. Based on its wide experiences in domestic and international emergency response, and on the Sphere Standards (a humanitarian charter and international standards for humanitarian response), it has paid particular attention to gender issues and to socially disadvantaged disaster victims such as the elderly, women, children, and people with disabilities.

In the affected areas, JPF provided detailed support corresponding to the needs of the victims: real time assessment of evacuation centers based on international standards, mobile medical care; nutritionally balanced meals; mobile bathing facilities; securing the privacy at evacuation centers, and assistance in operating disaster volunteer centers.

Characteristics of the Evacuation Following the Kumamoto Earthquakes

The evacuation after the Kumamoto Earthquakes was characterized by the diversity of methods involved. Along with those forced to live in evacuation centers, many people pitched tents in their gardens or slept in their cars. The challenge was how to contact and confirm the safety of the people who were scattered in places other than evacuation centers. This situation made it difficult to deliver necessary aid to the people who needed it, which led to gaps in aid. To address this, Humanitarian Medical Assistance (HuMA), a JPF member organization, sent traveling clinic to treat people staying in their cars. Among other activities, the clinic’s work included providing medication for patients with suspected infections.

Selected aid activities

- Running a traveling clinic in evacuation centers and mountainous areas where voluntary evacuees live
  - Humanitarian Medical Assistance (HuMA)

- Offering advice to local governments and relevant supporters on how to make evacuation centers gender and diversity friendly
  - Japan Association for Refugees (JAR)

- Assisting in operating disaster make up for staff shortage
  - Good Neighbors Japan (GNJP)

- Neighborhood watch activities among elderly people who had designated temporary housing
  - Japan Asian Association and Asian Friendship Society (JAFS)

- Setting up and running a tent-center where people can bring village evacuation their pets
  - Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)

- Sustaining psychological health for children and parents/caregivers through a family café
  - Médecins du Monde Japan (MDM)

Activities of the JPF secretariat in Phase 1

Directly after the main quake, two JPF staff entered the disaster area and began working to assess the extent of the disaster and to facilitate coordination between JPF’s member NGOs. The staff inspected evacuation centers throughout the region and collected information by attending the “Nihonsha Meetings,” held daily in Kumamoto City. They shared this information with JPF’s member NGOs, making it possible for JPF to provide efficient and effective aid. The second and the third assessment teams engaged in maintaining activities of the member NGOs to check progress and to provide advice for improvement.
Messages from Organizations Engaged in Aid Work in Phase 1

**Aid for Management of Disaster Volunteer Centers**

Based on our experiences providing aid in the disaster-affected areas after the Great East Japan Earthquake, we predicted that there would be a staff shortage to manage volunteer centers. Accordingly, we visited volunteer centers and social welfare councils as soon as we arrived in the disaster area, searching for partners while assessing needs. Soon afterward, we received a request from the Minamisoma Social Welfare Council for assisting operations at the volunteer center and decided to carry out this project. The Minamisoma Volunteer Center was being operated by transient assistants dispatched by social welfare councils in Oita and other prefectures throughout Kyushu. The constant turnover among these staff created a need for long-term personnel dedicated to operating the volunteer center. We supported the center’s operation by sending two long-term resident staff. As a result, the operation of the volunteer center was stabilized, and we were able to maintain high standards, with an almost 100% match between the supply of and the demand for volunteers every day. We are grateful to everyone who supported our activities.

**Aid for Operation of Evacuation Centers**

The purpose of our activities was delivering support to people who are left out of aid delivery. In doing this, we took advantage of our experiences providing aid in disaster areas and to refugees who have fled to Japan. In order to create evacuation centers that take diversity into account, we consulted with the government and with managers of evacuation centers to create designated zones to meet the needs of various evacuees, such as children, families with children, elderly people, and families in need of nursing care. We also worked to ensure that there would be spaces for pregnant women, people with young children, people with disabilities, and the families of these people. Furthermore, we added diapers and feminine hygiene products and cards with the telephone number for a sexual violence counseling service in restrooms, in order to direct attention to elderly people and women who are often overlooked in evacuation center management. We worked with a philosophy of minimizing the number of people left behind in aid activities at each evacuation center. In addition, we collaborated with the government and with local NGOs in sharing what we learned so that we can all make ourselves prepared for the next disaster.

**Aid for Parents and Children (Psycho-Social Support)**

When we sent in our survey team of doctors and coordinators immediately after the disaster, we saw that in Nishihara, the situation did not allow adults to provide adequate care for their children. In response, we worked with the Nishihara Board of Education to set up a “Cafe for Parent and Child.” The purpose of the cafe was to provide a safe and secure place for children to play, and to reduce the adverse effects on children’s growth and psyches due to the earthquake, the disaster, and the evacuation. We stationed pediatric psychiatrists and specialists in child psychology in the play area to carry out programs promoting psychological support under the supervision of pediatricians. For parents and educators, we also held lectures on how to interact with children and how to understand changes in their mental states.

We are deeply grateful to the many people whose support made the implementation of our project possible.

**Comments from Beneficiaries**

After we moved into temporary housing, we didn’t have much chance to talk with each other. But through these tea parties, we’ve been able to relax and speak to one another.

It was a great shock to us to lose our house, our greenhouse and our barn. Thankfully all is now fine, but with the help of the people from JAP, we did our best to forget the thing we could still see.

As my husband had finally gone out of the hospital, we’d just moved into temporary housing. We were not acquainted with most of the people at the temporary housing, and our house is still a mess. I’m glad that the people from JAP were here to support us.

I go back to my house during the day and come back to the evacuation center in the evening. This makes me feel the distance from the hospital and JAP more clearly.

Solitary death is not a problem limited to temporary housing. We have to take actions now as we interact with our families and in neighborhoods.

At first, public health nurses dispatched to the disaster areas were hard put to perform timely health checks for infants. Now public health nurses are able to return to their regular duties, such as performing timely health check for infants.

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**Good Neighbors Japan (JAP)**

Matching volunteers to support activities requested by disaster victims

An evacuation center set up with much consideration for diversity as existing resources allow

A lecture on interacting with children delivered by a pediatrician and a psychiatrist

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**Good Neighbors Japan (JAP)**

Yabuki Kazuya (left) Project Manager
Akane Katoaka (right) Project Officer

Messages from Organizations Engaged in Aid Work in Phase 1

**Aid for Operation of Evacuation Centers**

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Phase 2
(Working to Strengthen Community Power for Self Recovery in the Disaster-Affected Areas)

In September 2016, Kumamoto entered a new phase, as disaster victims who have begun to move from evacuation centers to new places, such as temporary housing. Based on its wide experiences accumulated from domestic and international disaster support, JPF set forth a new course of support to strengthen local power with an aim that the disaster victims would acquire power to reconstruct livelihoods by themselves. JPF implemented two projects to strengthen local power: training local personnel to empower community (strengthening the ability of people to help one another within their communities, and also the ability to accept outside aid), and networking of intermediary aid organizations to increase resilience (the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties). JPF will continue these activities into fiscal year 2017.

Aid Strategy in Phase 2

“Aid for Activities in Temporary Housing During the Recovery Period”
- Aid for operation and activities of residents’ associations in temporary housing complexes
- Watching over elderly people living alone

“Community Empowerment”
Implemented by two JPF’s member NGOs, local NPOs, and organizations cooperating with JPF

“Aid for Activities in Temporary Housing”

Specifics of Aid in Phase 2

Aid for Activities in Temporary Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aid for Activities in Temporary Housing During the Recovery Period</th>
<th>Training staff to support locally-led work to rebuild livelihoods</th>
<th>Developing infrastructure to support personnel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P8</td>
<td>P9</td>
<td>P10</td>
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- Small grants to local NPOs
- Indivisualized strengthening of capacity
- Building networks
- Identifying intermediary aid organizations that can bring together people involved in aid
- Providing fund for the activities of intermediary aid organizations
- Strengthening organizational foundations (providing know-how)


As life in temporary housing begins in earnest, two JPF’s member NGOs, the specified non-profit corporation Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) and the public interest incorporated association Japan Asian Association and Asian Friendship Society (JAFS), are providing aid for the activities of residents’ associations in temporary housing complexes.

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Specifcs of Aid in Phase 2

Training Local Personnel

Transferring experiences and insights from the past recovery process to local organizations in Kumamoto

In order to materialize locally-led recovery in Kumamoto, JPF believes that increasing the number of aid actors in every sector who have multifaceted knowledge about recovery work is essential. In line with this belief, JPF has provided local actors in Kumamoto with training sessions by more than twenty aid workers and experts who have wide experiences in the past disaster recovery. Their insights and experiences were of great use for aid workers of private NPOs, residents’ associations, volunteer organizations, government offices, medical and welfare workers, and social welfare councils in Kumamoto to learn the challenges that are expected to arise during the recovery process. JPF keeps records of the content of each training session and work to share the insights gained for future use.

Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group lecture and briefing on grants</td>
<td>Public offering of organization to local people</td>
<td>Screening panel and planning of on-site training sessions</td>
<td>On-site training at past disaster stricken areas</td>
<td>Peer training group session</td>
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List of lectures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is “Recovery”?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial and Legal Systems That Support Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community- and Consensus-Building for Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Picture of Recovery Aid</td>
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<td>Job Creation and Reasons for Living</td>
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<tr>
<td>Role of Intermediary Aid Organizations in Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aid for Community-Building in Temporary Housing</td>
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<td>Aid and Challenges for Women and the Child-Rearing Generation</td>
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<td>Facilitating Meetings</td>
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<td>Recovery Aid Work for University Students: How to Be Involved While in School and After Graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basics of Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design for Participation in Community-Building</td>
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<td>Fundraising in the Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Community-Building through Coordination and Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples and Philosophy of Memorial Projects</td>
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<td>Aid to Disaster Victims from the Perspective of the Health and Welfare Fields</td>
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<tr>
<td>Setting Tasks and Goals</td>
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<td>Issues in Aid Work in Light of International Standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Studies in Community-Building for Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aid to Children and Young People Living Through Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation of Results and Advertising Strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creating Jobs and Reviving Industries in Local Communities</td>
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<td>Supplementary Lecture and General Remarks</td>
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<td>Supplementary Lecture and General Remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basics of Interpersonal Support</td>
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<td>Basics of Personnel Management</td>
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Comments from Participants

There were a total of 349 participants in the group lectures that began on February 17, including people affiliated with government, people involved in aid who belong to NPOs and NGOs, and college students. Here, we present a selection of comments from the participants.

I had been interested in agriculture without understanding the practical labor and environmental perspectives. Now I see NGOs play an important role.

This gave me a lot to think about. I’d like to share something I’ve been thinking about myself. I’ve been thinking about the future.

I was inspired to draw a roadmap to recovery, and to continue my work into the future.

I learned that the more we connect to aid work that is not only in the time of the disaster, but also the future.

I feel how important it is to look at our situation objectively with reference to precedents like the Tohoku disaster.

JPF has contracted with the Sanaburi Foundation to provide consultation and administrative services for this project.

Specifcs of Aid in Phase 2

Developing Infrastructure

Strengthening Intermediary Aid Organizations in Their Role as “Uniting Agent” of Disaster Victims, Aid Organizations, and Governments

In April 2017, in cooperation with Kumamoto Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (KVOAD), JPF began its project to promote collaboration among disaster victims, aid organizations and governments. At the same time, it has been providing grants to fund the activities of organizations which promote collaboration and engage in “uniting activities” in the 15 municipalities affected by the Kumamoto Earthquakes.

The Importance of “Organizations Promoting Collaboration” in Drawing Communities’ Strengths and Connecting Relevant organizations

Kumamoto has entered a new phase in which people have begun to move into temporary housing on a full scale. New challenges have emerged, such as forming residents’ associations in the new communities and watching over elderly people. In order to cope with these challenges, efforts are being made with regard to information exchange between aid organizations, pursuit of collaboration, and hosting meetings between governments and residents’ associations, to work on building community. So that these efforts can function properly, disaster victims, aid organizations and governments must take advantage of their strengths to synergize effectively. The “organizations promoting collaboration” which drive this work are indispensable.

Aid for Activities of Local “Organizations Promoting Collaboration”

JPF cooperates with the local organization KYOAD, taking on the role of identifying and supporting “organizations promoting collaboration” in the 15 municipalities. After the Kumamoto Earthquakes, KYOAD took the lead in organizing “Hinokuni Meetings” where businesses, governments, academia, and organizations, and private citizens came together to exchange information about the disaster-affected areas, shared achievements, KYOAD has worked closely with local communities to lead efforts to collect information and assess needs in the disaster-affected areas, and to provide planning support for aid projects.

Additionally, JPF has conducted strict screenings of the “organizations promoting collaboration” endorsed by KYOAD’s Professional Joint Meeting. JPF provides up to three million yen in funding for the activities of up to 12 selected organizations.

By working together to support local “organizations promoting coordination,” KYOAD and JPF have gained an accurate understanding of ever-changing needs in the disaster-affected areas and of the gaps in aid. We hope to continue working together toward locally-led, carefully-crafted recovery.

The Sanaburi Foundation is a public interest incorporated association founded on private donations to promote recovery aid and revitalization of communities after the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred on March 11, 2011. We collaborate with JPF in our work to further locally-led recovery in the areas hit by the Great East Japan Earthquake.
We are grateful for your warm support.
A Selection of Examples of Collaboration with Businesses and the Media

We are grateful to the many businesses and organizations that have supported our aid work in various unique ways. Here, we present a selection of examples of this support. Although we are unable to present all of the examples, we express our gratitude to all those who have supported us.

The following companies have appealed to their customers to donate, and have offered various ways to donate, such as schemes for donating points when using services, systems for donating on online shopping sites, and bank accounts to which transfers are free of charge.

- American Express International, Inc.
- The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd.
- Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation
- Ryojin Keikaku Co., Ltd.

Some corporations coordinated fundraising from employees in their corporate groups, and introduced JPF as a recipient for donations. In particular, aid to victims of the current disaster was characterized by the volume of donations from the overseas employees of various companies.

- Tokio Marine Holdings, Inc. and many others

The following companies provided relief items to improve the situation at evacuation centers in response to requests from the disaster-affected areas.

- TOSHIBA Corporation
- Panasonic Corporation
- NANKAI Electric Corporation

The following companies provided support for the activities of JPF’s member organizations in terms of mobility, logistics, and equipment.

- ANA Holdings Inc.
- Solased Air Inc.
- Takada Pharmaceutical Company Limited
- Jetstar Japan Co., Ltd.
- Nissan Car Rental Solutions Co., Ltd.
- Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.

Thanks to support from online companies, JPF’s member NGOs were able to enter many areas to provide aid. The medical team from one of those member NGOs, the Japanese Red Cross Society, sent the following comment: “Thanks to your help, the Japanese Red Cross Medical Aid Team was able to enter the disaster area quickly and on an ongoing basis. We were able to carry out swift, contained rescue activities in Kumamoto Prefecture.”

Media that Reported on JPF’s Aid Work

Phase 1

Main media reports:
- NHK Tokyo Area News
- Waseda
- The Tokyo Shimbun

Main Media Relations:
JPF held a panel discussion for reporters on April 26, 2016. The discussion was titled, “Response to the Kumamoto Earthquakes by JPF and NGOs: What can JPF and NGOs do?”

Phase 2

Main media reports:
- NHK Kumamoto
- Kumamoto Asahi Broadcasting
- Kumamoto Michaels’ Shimbun
- Mainichi Shimbun
- YUMINURU ONLINE and others

A Training Session on Disaster Reporting: “What and How to Report When Disaster Strikes: Toward Effective Disaster Response by the Media, NGOs, and Local Governments”

On February 15 and 16, 2017, JPF and the National Council to Promote Ethics of Mass Media co-hosted the above training session. Participants shared challenges relating to the publication of information about the Kumamoto Earthquakes, and learned about the subjects such as the necessity of information triage and who is considered a socially disadvantaged disaster victim. A total of 148 people participated, including more than 60 people affiliated with the media. The training session was a valuable opportunity for media, local governments, and NGOs to gather in one place to discuss what should be publicized and how during disasters, and to work toward further cooperation.

Income and Expenditure Report (as of May 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Income and Expenditure Report (as of May 2017)</th>
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<tr>
<td>¥521,297,880</td>
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- Fees to be used in the future ¥16,131,722
- Expenses for Funding Projects of the JPF Secretariat ¥5,403,680
- Donations from Businesses and Organizations ¥4,474,901
- Donations from individuals ¥1,508,830
- Material donations valued at ¥1,508,830

A note: Amounts of funding for grants were based on internal budgets.

Support for NGOs’ Activities Through Donations and Services

Organization Name | Area of activity | Project Description | Venue for Activities | Project Period | Amount of Grant |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|

List of Projects (As of May 2017)