

JAPAN PLATFORM

Aid to Victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake

FY 2017 Report



Cover photo:

‘Cows, originally destined to put to sleep following the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Accident, continue to graze at the “Farm of Hope” located between Odaka district of Minamisoma city and Namie town in Fukushima Prefecture.

Both areas were designated as mandatory evacuation zones following the nuclear accident, and a state instruction was issued to put to sleep cattle left behind in such areas. The evacuation orders to both areas were subsequently lifted, while container bags with radioactive waste continue to be stored in piles just next to the farm”.



Message from Co-chairperson

We at JAPAN PLATFORM (JPF) are sincerely grateful for your continuing support.

This year marked the eighth year of JPF's activities to aid victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, efforts launched on March 11, 2011. We have been able to continue our activities, thanks to more than 7.2 billion yen in donations from over 4,000 companies and organizations and over 45,000 individuals. We have a renewed appreciation for your warm support.

In fiscal year 2017, JPF maintained its "Strengthening Aid to Fukushima" strategy, whereby, through the "Living Together" Fund, it was able to support 18 new projects working toward recovery in Fukushima, which faces a complex range of issues, as well as in areas where wider-area evacuees from Fukushima have resettled. Other JPF activities included support for building networks to address various issues through cooperation between aid providers and local communities in areas where evacuation orders had been lifted. Although we ceased to accept grant applications to the "Living Together" Fund from Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures, we continued activities, including joint efforts with local organizations, to address specific issues, such as poverty resulting from the disaster, and support in operating organizations that received grants in the past.

In fiscal year 2018, JPF's activities target three goals: responding to emergency humanitarian issues and developing community support structures; improving problem-solving functions and resilience in affected areas; and putting the lessons learned in Tohoku to work in responding to future large-scale wide-area disasters. These activities will lead to sustainable, community-led aid as much as possible, rather than simply providing aid in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. JPF will maintain its efforts based on consideration undertaken side by side with local communities of the ideal form of aid to victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, both now and in the future. We ask for your continued understanding and support as we move forward.

September 2018

NAGAI Shusai
Co-chairperson
JAPAN PLATFORM

永井秀哉

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Cherry - blossom trees along Ukedo river, Namie town.
The evacuation order to the area has been lifted by the end of March 2017.
©JPF

Topics in JAPAN PLATFORM (JPF) Activities

2011 Emergency aid by JPF member NGOs:

Drawing on each NGO's specialities with a more than 5.4 billion yen donation, a total of 59 projects were implemented in a wide range of fields (continued through 2014).

Matching in-kind donations:

JPF successfully matched more than 200 offers of materials and services from companies and other organizations with NGO needs for relief supplies.

Began accepting grant applications to the "Living Together" Fund:

JPF began accepting grant applications to this fund, which provides a wide range of grants to nonprofits other than JPF member organizations.

Established four aid fields:

JPF provided aid intended to support self-reliance, harmonious coexistence, and spirit of disaster victims in the four priority aid fields of Community Aid, Safety-Net Aid, Occupational Aid, and Coordination Aid.

Published an evaluation report on the initial response period:

This report evaluated activities over the initial three-month period. (Evaluation reports were published in 2011, 2012, and 2016.)

2012 Published an evaluation report on the emergency response period:

This report featured expert evaluations of aid projects and recommendations for future aid.

2014 Verified cooperation and coordination among aid providers:

JPF analyzed the roles played by and issues faced by network organizations formed in Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima Prefectures.

2015 Strengthened aid to Fukushima:

JPF decided to strengthen aid to Fukushima Prefecture, where recovery was taking longer than in other prefectures due to the impact of the nuclear accident.

2017 Coordination Project for disaster victim support commissioned by the Reconstruction Agency launched:

The decision was made to support a network for responding to new issues arising in connection with the lifting of evacuation orders and the aid phase shifts in Fukushima, with a focus on enhancing community capabilities.

Verification of aid to victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake:

Projects implemented in March 2011 – March 2017 were verified.

2011



Swift aid was required under chaotic circumstances.

2012



Increasingly diverse needs were identified.

2013



The lives of victims in temporary housing became a long-term situation.

2014



Efforts to move to public disaster housing and other facilities began.

2015



A need was identified for aid to rebuild communities.

2016



New issues arose with the progress of lifting of evacuation orders in Fukushima Prefecture.

2017



(Refer to this Report.)

Overview of Activities in Fiscal Year 2017

Strengthening Aid to Fukushima (“Living Together” Fund, Focusing on Fukushima)

Based on the determination that aid activities for Fukushima and for evacuees from the nuclear disaster faced numerous multifaceted challenges, the JAPAN PLATFORM (JPF), in cooperation with local intermediary aid organizations (the Fukushima Renkei Fukko Center and Minpuku), implemented the “Living Together” Fund program to subsidize nonprofits other than member NGOs, centered on the following five top-priority activities. Resident staff assigned to the region checked on the progress of activities for each project and organization and conducted monitoring activities through which the staff provided consultations to respond to the concerns of individual organizations. Specifically, support was provided during this fiscal year for 34 projects, including 18 new ones launched during the fiscal year.

Aid to socially disadvantaged people

Strengthening local safety nets

Sustaining regional culture

Addressing concerns about radiation

Facilitation of locally-led networks

Please see details on page.6

Strengthening the base of our network and supporting human resources development (enhancing community capabilities)

Amid growing need for cooperation among aid organizations to address humanitarian issues difficult to resolve by individual organizations, sectors, or persons, JPF has sought to promote cooperation among aid providers across the boundaries between sectors and organizations, including government agencies, social welfare councils, and nonprofits, NGOs, and companies both inside and outside affected areas.

Initiated in August 2017, the Coordination Project for disaster victim support commissioned by the Reconstruction Agency commenced building networks in areas which, after evacuation orders have been lifted, continue to suffer from extreme need for resources including labor and human resources, and on specific themes, such as psychological care and aid for the impoverished. Intended to coordinate public and private resources in affected areas, this project has assigned eight regional coordinators to areas where evacuation orders have been lifted; organized five periodic general meetings of residents to exchange information; and begun building related networks to improve functions for cooperation and coordination in communities and to strengthen problem-solving capabilities.

Responding to specific issues (Iwate, Miyagi)

JPF is carrying out a number of projects led by its secretariat to respond to specific humanitarian issues raised by the disaster, such as poverty and social isolation. In fiscal 2017, in cooperation with Food Bank Iwate and other organizations, we implemented a support project for the impoverished based on food banks, centered on Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures, from which we ceased to accept grant applications. In cooperation with the Iwate Fukko Collaboration Center and the Sanaburi Foundation, we also sought to enhance organizational infrastructure and develop human resources in aid organizations to support efforts to establish systems under which local communities can resolve local humanitarian concerns over the long term.

Under the food bank project, three organizations have begun operating new food banks. This is expected to strengthen mutual support in the community through food aid. Under efforts to enhance organizational infrastructure and develop human resources in aid organizations, 10 organizations in each of Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures are visited on a continual basis to support activities in areas such as organizational management based on monitoring of project continuity and ripple effects.

Aid projects related to radiation contamination

Again this fiscal year, JPF identified private sector activities to address the anxiety of residents resulting from the nuclear accident and radiation contamination as one of the priority aid fields, supporting the activities of organizations addressing these topics. For example, Shalom measures radiation levels in areas such as public parks and routes to and from school in Nakadori, Fukushima Prefecture, at a height matched to that of small children, providing easily understandable information on hot spots to households with small children. The Fukushima 30-Year Project, grounded in the perspectives of mothers of small children in the prefecture, carries out activities that include measuring cesium in common surroundings (such as laundry and vacuum cleaner bags) and providing opportunities for discussion among worried mothers. Mother's Radiation Lab Fukushima (Tarachine) has sought to measure beta rays, which have previously not been commonly available due to measurement difficulties, but are said to affect the human body, and to publish the resulting measurement data. Opportunities for the exchange of information and networking are also being formed among private sector organizations measuring radiation levels.



Outdoor radiation measurement © JPF



Measuring beta-ray nuclide radiation © JPF

Providing psychological care

JPF sees as major issues isolation, suicide, and similar circumstances arising during the period of moving from temporary emergency housing to public recovery housing. These are the themes on which it has focused most intensively ever since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. In Fukushima, suicide, which once grew at double-digit percentages, significantly above the other two prefectures most affected by the disaster, has emerged as the highest-priority issue. Minpuku, which carries out activities in and around the city of Iwaki, has been entrusted by the prefecture with community exchange activities in public recovery housing, as it strives to address these issues. Médecins du Monde Japon, a JPF member NGO, is undertaking psychological care projects in cooperation with Nagomi, a local mental health care center, for all areas around Minamisoma in which evacuation orders have been lifted. Furthermore, in a project entrusted to it by the Reconstruction Agency, the JPF secretariat is helping Minpuku develop human resources and strengthen its capabilities as well as building networks in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted.



Training and skills building for Minpuku community exchange staff © JPF



A psychological care project undertaken by Médecins du Monde Japon © JPF

Building a support network for impoverished households of disaster victims through food banks

Today, more than seven years after the Great East Japan Earthquake, residential aspects are improving with certain progress made on the construction of public recovery (disaster) housing. At the same time, a look at ways of life shows that the impact of the disaster remains strong. Many people feel deep anxiety about their lives for various reasons associated with the disaster, including scattered family members, social isolation generated by repeated relocation, the end of temporary disaster-related employment, the end of programs to support disaster victims, and rent for public housing. Seeing the stimulation of mutual aid activities for local residents through food (food banks and food drives) as one solution to these challenges, JPF, in cooperation with Food Bank Iwate, a pioneer in these activities in the Tohoku region, is establishing and providing operational support for food bank projects in Fukushima Prefecture and elsewhere in efforts to build sustained structures for resolving recovery-related issues based on the power of local communities.



Students conduct a food drive at a supermarket © Food Bank Iwate



Loading donated food products onto a truck © Food Bank Iwate

Future Plans

From the start, while deploying emergency aid projects in response to the disaster, JPF saw as potential major issues lengthening stays in temporary shelters such as evacuation centers and temporary housing facilities in the three affected prefectures, as well as isolation, poverty, and suicide during progress of forming new communities after relocation from temporary housing to permanent shelters in public housing and other residences. In May 2011, in light of the importance of getting close to the local community and supporting recovery led by local residents, JPF established the “Living Together” Fund, which also provides aid to non-JPF member organizations based on open applications and accompaniment (assigning resident staff to help implement projects while responding to consultations from aid organizations). These activities continue today.

While the “Living Together” Fund was discontinued in Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures in 2015 with the completion of most construction on public disaster housing, we have continued to implement the “Living Together” Fund in Fukushima Prefecture based on the five top priority activities. These efforts are intended to strengthen aid to Fukushima in light of the delays in the construction and occupancy of public disaster housing and public recovery housing in that prefecture and the emergence of multifaceted humanitarian issues across a wide area due to the major nuclear accident, the implications of which have never before been experienced in Japan. In Fukushima Prefecture as well, the process of relocation from temporary housing to public recovery housing is expected to be largely completed during fiscal 2018 with the completion of construction of public recovery housing in the city of Iwaki. Thus, JPF will discontinue acceptance of grant applications under the “Living Together” Fund as of the autumn of fiscal year 2018. In addition, from activities such as verification projects* currently underway, including those related to disasters and strife overseas, we have learned that humanitarian issues persist over the long term following large-scale disasters affecting wide areas like the Great East Japan Earthquake. Short-term outside aid alone cannot resolve the essential humanitarian issues affecting residents in affected areas; in fact, in some cases, such aid may have effects opposite of those intended.

Based on these lessons, in addition to implementing aid programs and other activities through joint efforts with local organizations (mainly intermediary aid organizations covering prefecture areas) in the affected areas since the disaster, JPF has helped these and other community organizations, even after the end of individual programs, to build organizational infrastructures and develop human resources, with the goal of empowering local organizations to deploy long-lasting activities in their communities. We have also supported responses to community issues difficult for a single organization to address by providing opportunities for aid organizations from inside and outside the affected areas to come together and exchange information, as well as building community networks through which such organizations can build ties with each other to cooperate in responding to various issues and concerns.

In Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures, in fiscal year 2018, we plan to complete efforts spanning roughly two years to strengthen the organizational infrastructures of community organizations. However, in Fukushima Prefecture, due to the large number of humanitarian issues that persist and the fact that evacuation orders in some areas have been lifted only recently, we plan to continue efforts in fiscal year 2019 to build community networks and strengthen the organizational infrastructures of aid organizations, in cooperation with intermediary aid organizations covering the prefecture.

*Verification of aid programs for victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake

To enable efficient humanitarian aid in response to future disasters in Japan, JPF has implemented a verification project to review and learn from experience aiding victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake for roughly seven years. (The period subject to verification is March 2011 – March 2017.) Dividing the roles performed by JPF into three main categories—① serving as a liaison for recovery aid from businesses and other organizations, ② serving as a grant-providing organization, and ③ serving as a coordinator—this verification project asked outside experts to provide advice on how to respond more effectively to future domestic disasters based on the results of the verification.

Their recommendations included “training disaster-response coordinators to coordinate the roles of government, social welfare councils, and nonprofits, based on an understanding of legal systems for responding to disasters”; “introducing a required human resource roster system during normal times to secure the human resources needed to respond to disasters”; “preparing in advance for cooperation with private sector companies”; “setting up a liaison to accept resources from overseas in the event of a massive disaster”; and “promoting use of information and communication technologies to enable more efficient sharing of aid information among related parties.” During fiscal year 2018, we plan to begin practical study toward putting these recommendations into effect.



Meeting room in Namie temporary emergency housing facility in Miyashiro, Fukushima ©JPF



Tower at the Namie-Ukeda fishing port ©JPF

During FY2019, we plan to hold a meeting to report on this verification project and to publish a written report.

List of Projects Funded by the “Living Together” Fund

To improve abilities to support affected areas and local capacity for their recovery and reconstruction, JPF established the “Living Together” Fund immediately after the earthquake. This fund is intended to provide grants to aid organizations other than just member NGOs. This program not only provides funding, but assigns resident staff in local communities to advise aid organizations on activity planning and on project operation and management. Based on four aid fields established in consideration of community aid needs (Community Aid, Safety-Net Aid, Occupational Aid, and Coordination Aid), it provided grants to 390 projects from April 2011 through February 2018. During fiscal year 2017 in particular, it strengthened aid for Fukushima, supporting organizations providing aid in the areas of the five top priority activities.

29th through 31st Screenings (fiscal year 2017)

Organization Name	Project Description	Project Period	Amount of grant
Aid to socially disadvantaged people			
Fukushima Jyosanshi Kai	Project to continue providing care after childbirth	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	¥9,996,000
Médecins du Monde Japon	Sustainable psychological care and connections project in Fukushima	January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018	¥3,190,625
N.P.O. The People	Disaster impoverishment aid program through Food Bank Iwaki the People	April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥7,977,380
Médecins du Monde Japon	Sustainable psychological care and connections project, phase II, in Fukushima	April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥9,988,428
Strengthening local safety nets			
NPO CoffeeTime	Community-building project in both Minamisoma public disaster/recovery housing, an evacuation center for Namie residents, and their return destination of Namie	July 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018	¥447,200
Genki ni Narou Fukushima	Community-building and maintenance program based on a reassessment of the assets and appeal of hometowns	July 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018	¥3,218,560
Aozora Hoiku Takenoko	Project to build an adventure playground where people can gather	July 1, 2017 – June 20, 2018	¥1,132,000
Yamagata Kizuna no Kakehashi Network	Fukushima Heart Community Center project	July 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018	¥4,000,000
Aozora Hoiku Takenoko	Business planning and preparations to build a sustainable playground and lodging facilities for recuperation for the parents and children of Fukushima	October 23, 2017 – April 30, 2018	¥1,955,800
Ryouzen Satoyama Gakkou	Ensuring safety for returnee families and the best parenting support in Japan	November 1, 2017 – October 31, 2018	¥5,650,000
Shinsei	Building a structure to support communities where evacuees with disabilities who are unable to return to their hometowns can continue to live in peace of mind	April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥5,962,942
Yamagata Kizuna no Kakehashi Network	Fukushima Heart Community Center project	April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥5,550,000
Costar	Continuing to support daily life and community building in response to loneliness and the risk of suicide after residents of Kawauchi return to their hometown	April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥4,439,000
Sustaining regional culture			
Wunder ground	Passing along the fishing culture of the Fukushima Hamadori and rebuilding local communities centered on fishing	August 20, 2017 – November 20, 2017	¥1,257,494
Addressing concerns about radiation			
Shalom	Visualizing radioactive contamination after decontamination and providing information so that the child-rearing generation can live in peace of mind	April 10, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥4,655,066
Mother's Radiation Lab Fukushima	Support project to live face-to-face with radioactive contamination, eight years and counting since the Great East Japan Earthquake	April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019	¥9,991,272
Fukushima 30-Year Project	Activities to show a human path to recovery for residents uneasy about living in Fukushima today	April 1, 2018 – June 30, 2018	¥555,930
Facilitation of locally-led networks			
Association for Aid and Relief, Japan	Salon activities in Koriyama, surveying current conditions through home visits, and coordination and support for diverse aid providers	July 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018	¥4,599,166

Companies and Organizations Which Have Supported JAPAN PLATFORM (FY2017) We are grateful for your warm support.

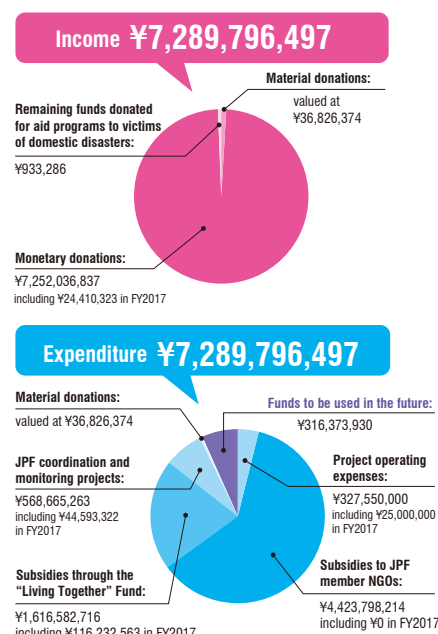
Aichi Prefecture Anjo Senior High School of Agriculture and Forestry
ASK MUSIC Co., Ltd.
Anritsu Corporation
Anritsu Workers Union
AEON Bank “Fundraiser to Aid Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake”
ITOCHU Corporation
Inaho Suzuki Kabushikigaisha
Umi Co., Ltd.
NSD Co., Ltd.
CROSSY Co., Ltd.
Iryo Shadanhojin Kunkikai, Yamada Hifuka Clinic
Samurai Cut Japan, Inc.
SHISEIDO Camellia Fund
Serendipity Inc.
Tsuda University h.IMAGINE
Natural Set
Hitachi Inspharma, Ltd.
fabCouture
MUFG Bank, Ltd.

MUFG Bank Social Contribution Fund
Metal One Steel Service
Yahoo Japan Corporation
Kabushikigaisha U-Land
YOROZU Corporation
Komyouji, Yokohama Kuboyama
LINE Corporation
Ryohin Keikaku Co., Ltd.
Good Place Co., Ltd.
Dream World OHATA
Dream Foundation
BAR Magic Time
POWER ESTATE Co., Ltd.
Public Resource Foundation
PRSOF Co., Ltd.

Notes

- Company names are listed in order of Japanese syllabary; honorifics are omitted.
- The names of companies and organizations providing support in fiscal year 2017 are listed above. For companies that provided support in fiscal year 2016 or before, please see our past reports.
- The names of companies and organizations that did not wish their information to be made public or from which we did not receive donation consent forms are not listed above.
- We also received many donations from individual donors but have not listed their names in the interest of preserving their privacy.
- Companies and organizations name English is referred to their respective website. For the names that were not found on the website, JPF has translated it from the Japanese name.

Income and Expenditure Report (March 11, 2011 – March 31, 2018)

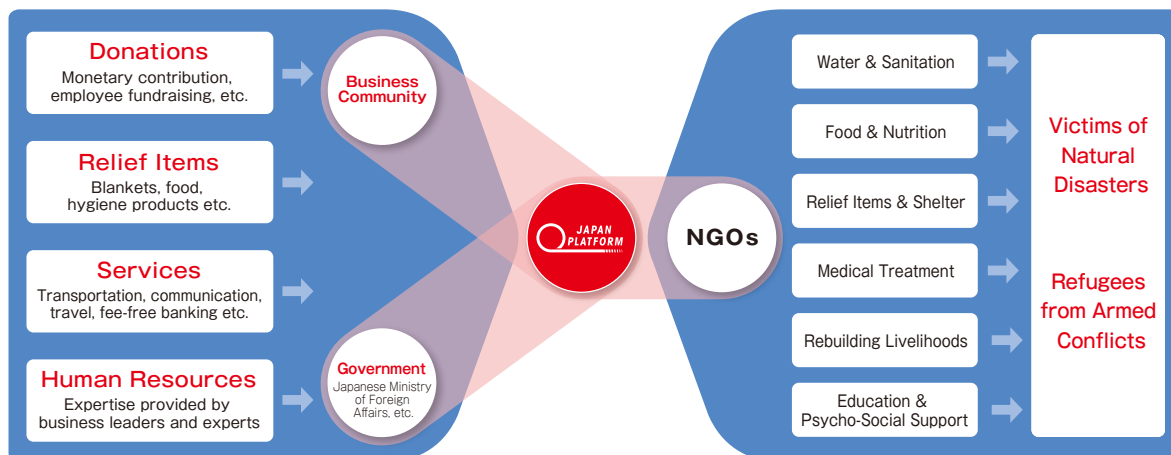


Note: The amounts shown for subsidies and JPF coordination and monitoring projects are the original amounts of the budget for each project less unused funds, which were returned (the total sum returned was ¥1,212,627,481 as of March 31, 2018). Returned funds are included in “Funds to be used in the future.”

What is JAPAN PLATFORM (JPF)?

JPF is a non-profit organization working together with civil society to provide humanitarian aid in partnership with its 42 allied NGOs, the business community, and government.

※As of January 2019



Emergency Response for People Fleeing Myanmar
©Turjoy Chowdhury /
Disasters Emergency Committee



Emergency Response to Western Japan Floods
©JPF

Since our foundation in 2000, we have implemented over 1,400 humanitarian aid projects totaling 54 billion yen in 47 countries and regions.

Appeal for Donations

We ask for your support as we continue our activities to speed recovery.

Aid to Tohoku

Donations will be used for JPF's activities, including strengthening local systems of recovery aid through cooperation with local coordinating agencies in Miyagi, Iwate and Fukushima, dealing with particular challenges such as poverty, and inspection of JPF's aid to victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Information for donating by bank transfer

Account Name: TOKUHI JAPAN PLATFORM
Bank name: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ
Branch: Head Office (001)
Bank Address: 2-7-1, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8388 Japan
Swift code: BOTKJPJT
Account Type: Ordinary
Account No.: 1354054

Note: A portion of donations will be applied to administrative expenses.

No more than 10% of funds donated will be used in this way, and we will work to keep expenses to a minimum.

We are also accepting donations online.

<https://www.japanplatform.org/E/donation/>

JPF Great East Japan

Search



JAPAN PLATFORM

Specified Non-Profit Organization (Authorized NPO)

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