

Japan's International Cooperation on Disaster Reduction



**International Cooperation Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

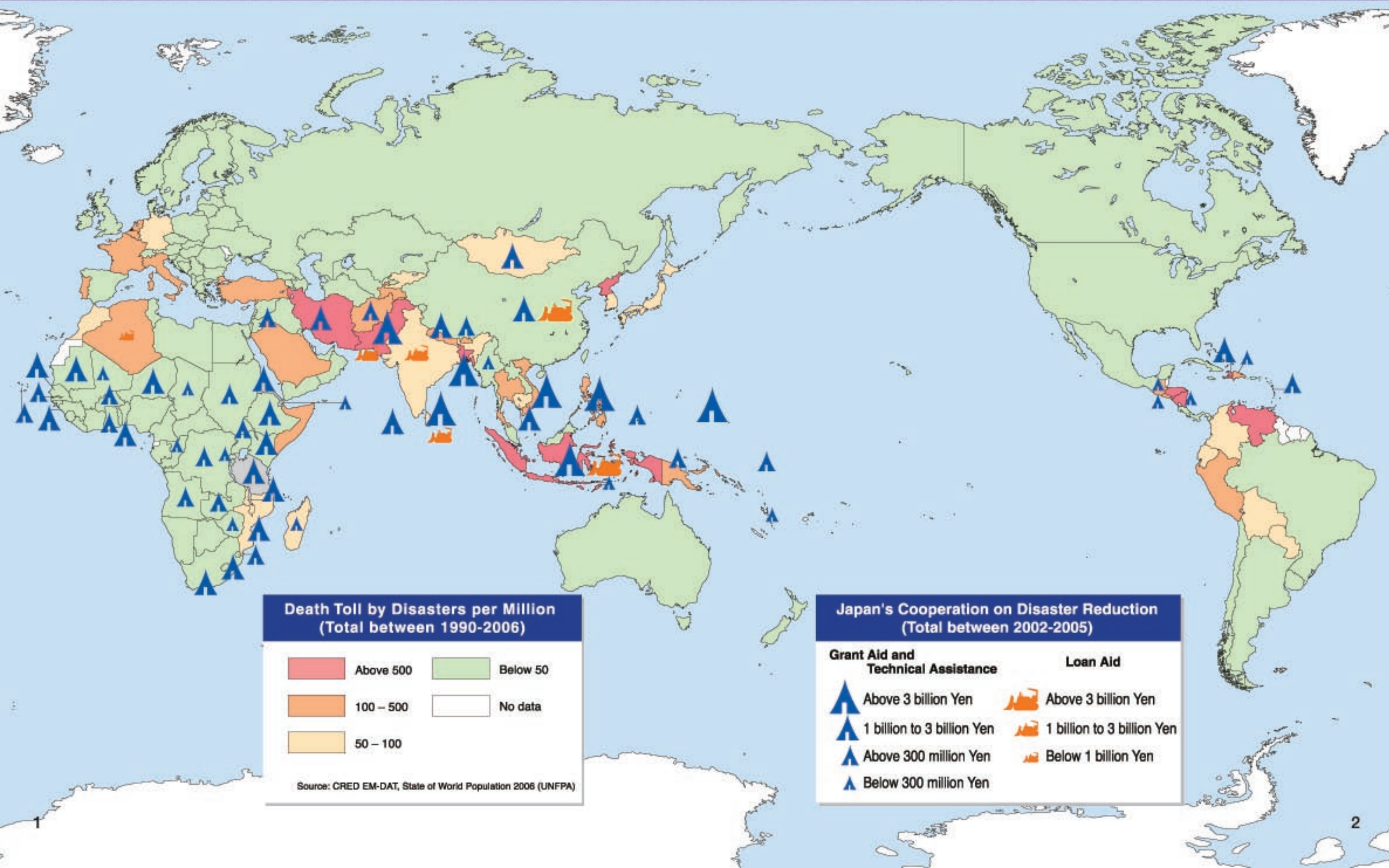
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**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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I. Disaster damage around the World and Japan's International Cooperation on Disaster Reduction



II. Towards Sustainable Development

In Japan, activities on disaster reduction are carried out at various levels to make use of knowledge, technology and culture of disaster reduction that have been fostered through experiences from numerous, severe disasters. In recent years, it has come to be recognized throughout the world that natural disasters could seriously interfere with "human security" by hindering development efforts and the accomplishment of "sustainable development".

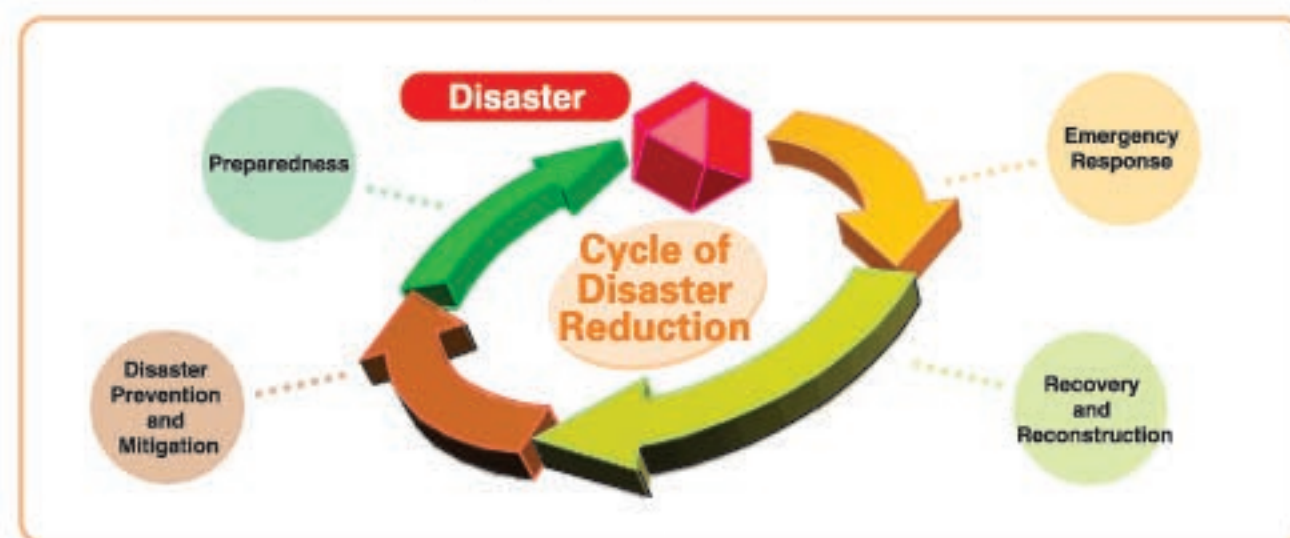
It has been reported that around the world, approximately 160 million people become victims of disasters each year. Of the victims, 100,000 lives are lost, and the amount of damage exceeds 3.3 billion US dollars (Average between 1970 and 2004. Source: Disaster Prevention White Paper). Occurrence of natural disasters and number of victims are on the rise. Asian region in particular faces frequent occurrence of disasters, and it has suffered from enormous damage.

To prepare against such disasters and mitigate the impact, wide range of efforts is necessary in transforming the society as a whole into a resilient structure with lower risk. Along with the mainstreaming of disaster reduction into development plans and

projects at both national and local levels, it is essential to involve grassroots activities such as disaster prevention education and development of disaster-resilient communities. In addition to disaster preventive efforts, it is necessary to prepare emergency relief and take measures to cut the vicious circle of disasters by bringing in perspective of risk reduction in the reconstruction phase.

Making the maximum use of empirical knowledge and technology that Japan has fostered in such broader sense of disaster reduction, Japan assists of other countries through the followings:

- (1) Multilateral cooperation through international organizations
- (2) Promotion of cooperation within Asian region
- (3) Bilateral cooperation through ODA



1. Cooperation through International Organizations

To mitigate damages caused by disasters, it is necessary to coordinate pre-disaster measures and post-disaster efforts of emergency relief and recovery/reconstruction. Traditionally, international cooperation during large-scale disasters has been centered on humanitarian assistance through United Nations organizations, governments or International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC). Currently, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) coordinate search and rescue activities in emergency situations.

On the other hand, pre-disaster measures have not necessarily been given priority in every country's development strategies, but it has become recognized that such efforts are essential in achieving

sustainable development. In 1987, following a joint submission from 155 countries led by Japan, UN General Assembly decided that 1990s be The "International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction" (IDNDR). In the mid-decade year of 1994, Japan hosted World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction in Yokohama, the first international conference on disaster reduction, and contributed in the adoption of Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World.

Furthermore, in 2005, Japan hosted the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe in its effort to promote "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)" that had begun in 2000 to succeed IDNDR. The Hyogo Framework for Action was adopted at this conference.

To promote the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Hyogo Framework for Action, Japan cooperates with diverse organizations

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)

<http://www.unisdr.org>
United Nations placed the secretariat in Geneva to promote the "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction". The secretariat plays a role of the main promoter of the "Hyogo Framework for Action" inside the United Nations.

United Nations/ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN/OCHA)

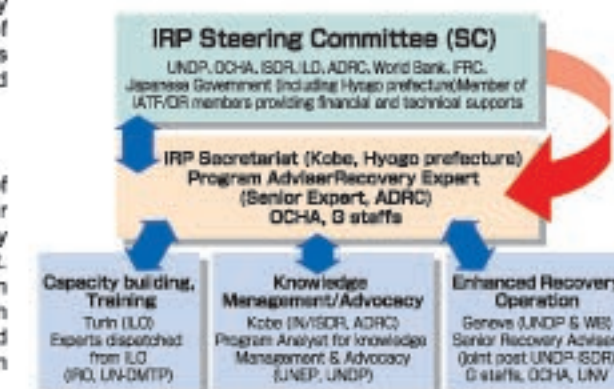
<http://ochaonline.un.org>
The UNDR, established in 1971 by the UN-General Assembly resolution, was incorporated into the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) in 1992. This Department was reorganized into OCHA as a part of Headquarters of the United Nations. One of OCHA offices is located in Kobe.

World Bank (IBRD/IDA)

<http://www.worldbank.org/japan/jp>
The World Bank provides development loans with the aim of global poverty reduction. The World Bank considers the Disaster Reduction as an important part of the agenda of poverty reduction, so as not that natural disasters obstruct development. In 2006, it established the "Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery" (GDFRR) to support each country to mainstream the disaster reduction into national development plans and policies in line with the "Hyogo Framework for Action". Japan supports effective implementation of this facility.

International Recovery Platform (IRP)

<http://www.recoveryplatform.org/jp/>
One of the strategic goals of the "Hyogo Framework for Action" is to integrate risk reduction approach into post disaster recovery. To translate this policy into practice, the IRP was established in 2005 as a network of organizations such as ISDR, UNDP, ILO, the World Bank, ADRC and several countries including Japan. Having its secretariat in Kobe, IRP is promoting knowledge sharing, capacity building and supports of the disaster recovery programs.



Sustainable development

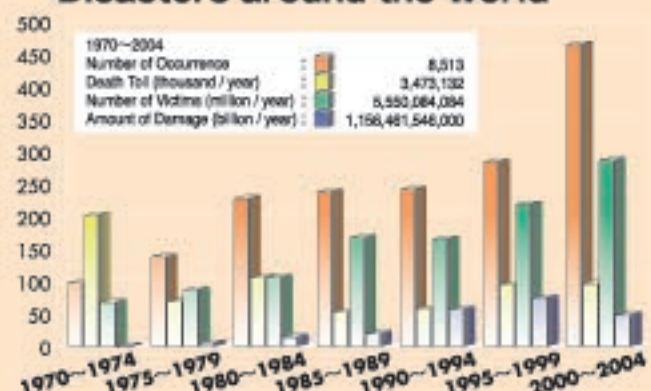
"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". This is a concept to think that environment and development can coexist and advocate development that gives considerations to conservation of the environment. To realize sustainable development, Japan takes various measures such as giving environmental consideration in the implementation of ODA, but such efforts can be instantly lost by large-scale disasters. Thus, building a disaster resilient society becomes a necessary pre-condition for sustainable development.

Human Security

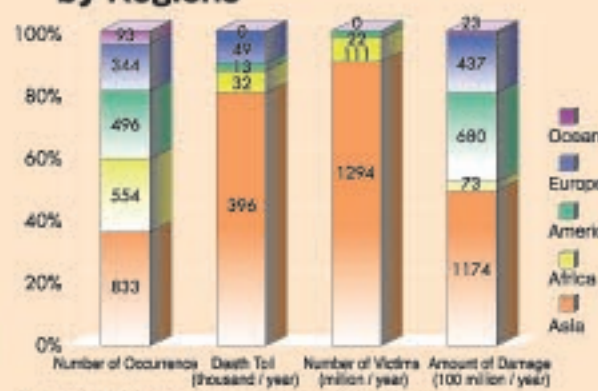
It is a human-centered concept that aims to build a society where all individuals can live their lives in dignity through protection and empowerment of individuals and communities under potential threats of fear and want or currently suffering such threats.



Change in the Number of Natural Disasters around the World



Occurrence of Natural Disasters by Regions



Source: White book on disaster reduction, 2006

1. Cooperation through International Organizations

World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR)

Japan hosted the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction from 18th to 22nd January 2005 in Kobe. Along with the review of "Yokohama Strategy" implemented for 10 years, the participants of the conference examined a guiding framework in disaster reduction and adopted the "Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015" (HFA) that gathered up priorities of the disaster reduction measures that each country and international organization should carry out for the coming ten years.

It is decided that the UN/ISDR plays a key role in following up the implementation of HFA, and the result is to be reviewed in the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development 2014/2015. "Hyogo declaration" was adopted at the same time, which advocated the importance of consolidating sustainable development and disaster reduction, and spreading the culture of disaster reduction and called for an action to implement and follow-up the HFA.

Furthermore, the Special Session on Indian Ocean Tsunami of December 2004, just before the Conference was held on the initiative of Japan. At this session, Common Statement was released calling for the establishment of an effective and durable tsunami early warning system for the Indian Ocean. More than 4,000 people participated in the WCDR from 168 countries, 78 international organizations and 161 NGO groups. Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress attended the opening ceremony and Prime Minister Koizumi attended the inter-

governmental session. The Minister of State for Disaster Management, Mr. Murata, acted as the president of the Conference.

To follow up this Conference, Japan has been cooperating closely with the ISDR and other organizations and providing support for sustainable development of each country.



At the WCDR, Prime Minister Koizumi announced Japan's Initiative for Disaster Reduction through ODA p.16 that indicated the comprehensive and consistent cooperation strategy corresponding to each stage of disaster prevention, emergency relief and reconstruction.

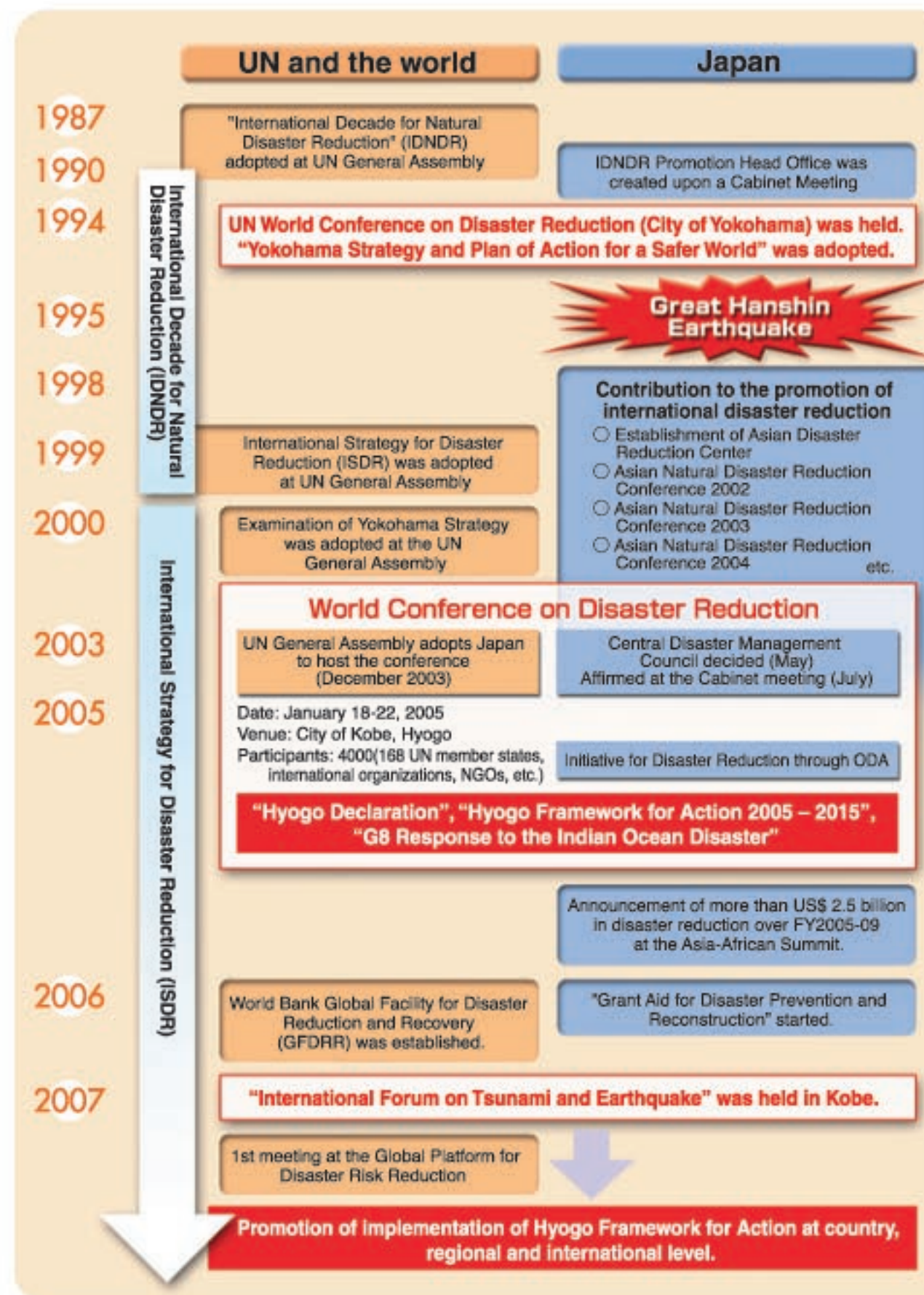
Case file

The Government of Japan is also deeply contributing to Emergency Response to Disasters through international organizations. The Government especially put its efforts in multi-lateral and bi-lateral cooperation. By collaborating together, it will become possible to raise effectiveness of total ODA implementation and effectively respond to disasters.



IOM staff and self-defense force cooperate on delivery of medical services

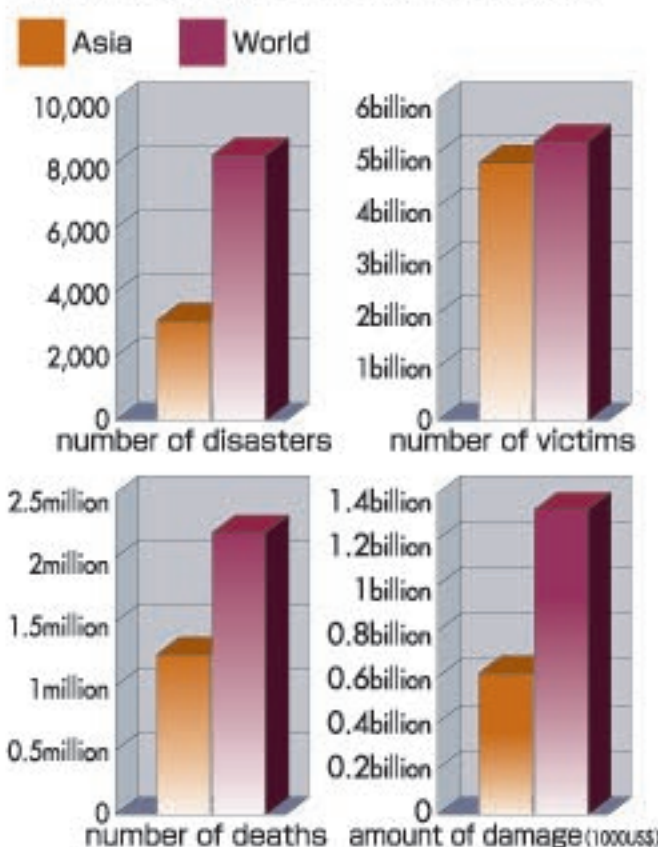
Chronology of International Cooperation on Disaster Reduction



2. Promoting Cooperation in Asia

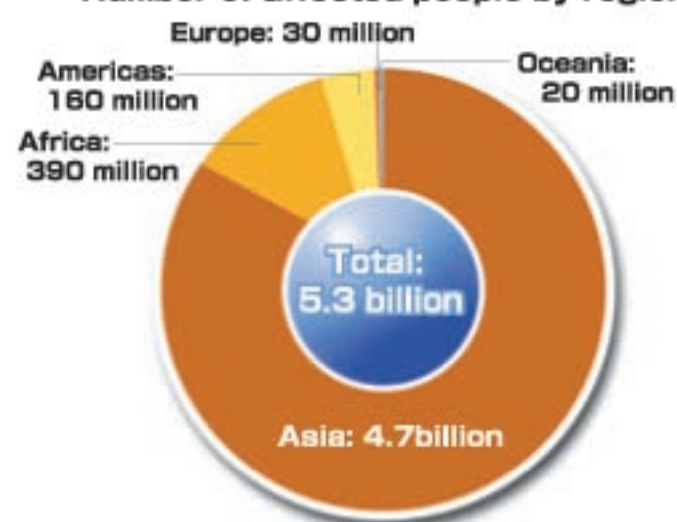
It is crucial to promote cooperation on disaster reduction at regional level where countries share the meteorological, geological and topographical characteristics. Especially in Asia, a number of natural disasters occurred as represented by the Sumatra Earthquake and the subsequent Great Indian Ocean Tsunami in December 2004, Pakistan Earthquake and Java Earthquake. Such disasters take a heavy toll of lives and damage the sustainable development of the affected countries.

Natural disasters in Asia (1975-2005)



Source: CRED-EMDAT (Universite Catholique de Louvain, Belgium)

Number of affected people by region



Source: ADRC Data book 2005

at the Asian-African Summit in April 2005, Japan announced that it would be providing more than US\$2.5 billion over the next five years in assistance for disaster prevention and mitigation and reconstruction measures. And the achievement of the fiscal year 2005 is more than US\$800 million. (P.15)

In December 2005, at the 9th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Kuala Lumpur, the collaboration between ASEAN and Japan in the field of disasters management was reaffirmed on the Joint Statement. Furthermore, at the 10th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Cebu, Prime Minister Abe declared that Japan would contribute about 5.6 million US dollars to provide to ASEAN countries materials for disaster risk reduction.

9th ASEAN-Japan Summit (extract)

Enhancing Disaster Management

10. We reaffirmed our determination to undertake concerted efforts and collaboration between ASEAN and Japan, and with others in the region and the world to address the challenges caused by Tsunami, earthquake, flood and other forms of natural disasters. In this regard, Japan will extend its assistance to regional efforts in establishing an early warning system and standby arrangements for disaster relief and emergency response, as well as reinforcing reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.

Establishment of Tsunami Early Warning System in the Indian Ocean

At the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) which was held just after the Indian Ocean Tsunami in December 2004, Japan initiated the Special Session on the Indian Ocean Disaster, when published the Common Statement was issued calling for the establishment of an effective and sustainable tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean. Since then, UNESCO and the countries in the region have been making efforts towards its establishment. Japan is actively supporting these efforts by providing know-how and technologies through the International Coordination Meetings, organizing training courses and seminars, participating in the national assessments of tsunami affected countries, and dispatching an expert to UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) secretariat. Moreover, until such a tsunami early warning system becomes fully operational, Japan is providing as an interim measure Tsunami Watch Information (TWI), in coordination with the United States, in response to requests from the countries of the region.

Cooperation with Indonesia on Natural Disaster Reduction

Japan promotes the knowledge sharing on Natural Disaster Reduction through bilateral cooperation with its neighboring countries.

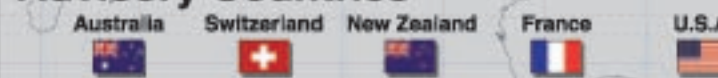
In December 2004, Indonesia experienced unprecedented disasters due to the Sumatra Earthquake and the subsequent Indian Ocean Tsunami. After this experience, when the President of Indonesia Yudhoyono visited Japan in June 2005, the Prime Minister Koizumi and President Yudhoyono issued a "Joint Announcement on the Cooperation between the Two Countries on Natural Disaster Reduction" and there by the "Committee on Disaster Reduction" was established, co-chaired by Japan's Minister of State for Disaster Management and Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare. In July 2006, this Joint Committee released a report which is designed to share the Japanese experience and knowledge on various natural disasters such as earthquakes, local tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods/debris flows and landslide, and to suggest comprehensive and effective measures to counter such disasters.

When President Yudhoyono visited Japan as the State Guest in November 2006, the Prime Minister Abe and President Yudhoyono signed the Japan-Indonesia Joint Statement "Strategic Partnership for Peaceful and Prosperous Future" in which two leaders were committed to promote the disaster reduction and to further cooperate in this field. In this way, the cooperation between two countries has been promoted steadily.

Member Countries



Advisory Countries



Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

Asian Disaster Reduction Center has been established in July 1998 in Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan as a result of "Asian Disaster Reduction Experts Meeting" in 1996 and "Asian Disaster Reduction Cooperation Promotion Meeting" in 1997.

Member Countries (25 countries)

Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyz, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

Advisory Countries

Australia, France, New Zealand, Switzerland, U.S.A

Activities

1. Accumulation and provision of information on natural disasters and disaster reduction
2. studies on the promotion of disaster reduction cooperation
3. gathering of information on emergency relief during times of disaster
4. developing of materials for dissemination of knowledge and raising of disaster reduction awareness
5. developing of education and training programs dealing with disaster reduction information

Especially, in fiscal year 2007, in making use of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), Japan provides 3 million US dollars in total to support ADRC projects on disaster risk reduction in ASEAN member countries.

- Development of Disaster Education Materials and Teachers' Training to Promote Disaster Education
- Disaster Management Training for Local Government Officials
- Utilization of data provided by satellite image on disaster prevention
- Development of Web-based GLIDE-associated Disaster Event Databases

2. Promoting Cooperation in Asia

Japans response to recent major disasters

1 Major earthquake in Pakistan

① Damage situation

On October 8th, 2005, a strong earthquake that scaled 7.6 on the Richter scale hit Kashmir region in the North-eastern part of Pakistan. Major damages were concentrated in Pakistan, as well as in India and Afghanistan. Death toll rose above 73,000 and more than 69,000 were heavily injured. In addition to human lives, infrastructure such as houses and roads were utterly destroyed which made the rescue activities difficult in the mountainous areas.



Japanese NGO at assistance

① Japan's Main Contribution

Grant Aid

- Implementation of Grant Aid: approximately US\$ 5.5 million

Loan Aid

- Provision of Yen Loan: approximately 11.2 billion yen

Emergency Disaster Assistance

- Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Team (JDR): Rescue Team 49 persons, Medical Team (1st, 2nd) 42 persons, units of the Self Defense Force
- Supply of emergency relief goods: approximately 25 million yen

Assistance through International Organization

- Emergency humanitarian assistance through international organizations: US\$ 28 million
- Assistance through Japan Fund: US\$ 10 million

Assistance to NGOs

- Assistance to operations of NGOs & etc. and Camp Japan: approximately 830 million yen

2 Major Earthquake off the Coast of Sumatra and Tsunami in the Indian Ocean

① Damage situation

On December 26, 2004, there was an earthquake that is estimated to have measured 9.0 on Richter scale off the coast of Aceh province in the island of Sumatra in Indonesia, and a massive tsunami following it. Unprecedented scale of damage was experienced in countries along the Indian Ocean. Number of victims was approximately 1.2 million, and the total of dead and missing rose up to approximately 240,000.



Emergency relief team at rescue of tsunami victims (photo: JICA)

① Japan's Main Contribution

Grant Aid

- Implementation of grant aid: equivalent to approximately US\$ 500 million

Loan Aid

- Provision of yen loan: approximately 10 billion yen (Sri Lanka)
- Debt relief (moratorium on debt payment):
Approximately 161.5 billion yen (Indonesia)
Approximately 20.5 billion yen (Sri Lanka)

Emergency Disaster Assistance

- Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Team (JDR): Rescue Team, Medical Team, Expert Team, units of the Self-Defense Force Team Total: approximately 1,900 members
- Supply of emergency relief goods: equivalent to approximately 60 million yen

Assistance to NGOs

- Assistance to operations of NGOs & etc.: equivalent to approximately 700 million yen

3. Bilateral Assistance through ODA

① Integration of disaster prevention into development policies

In order to minimize the escalation of damage caused by natural disasters in developing countries, it is essential to take into account the preparedness for possible disasters. In order to introduce the 'culture of prevention' into long-term national policy, city planning, regional planning, regulations and standards, Japan will provide assistance relating to policy recommendations, institution-building and human resources development.

- Institution building that incorporate the perspectives of disaster prevention
- Training of experts and developing capacity for disaster prevention
- Raising awareness and building capacity of local communities on disaster reduction

Case file

▶▶▶ Raising Capacity to Respond and Enhancing Disaster Prevention Framework of Administrative Institutions (Turkey)

In 1999, Turkey was hit by two large earthquakes that exceeded magnitude of seven on the Richter scale, causing heavy damages leaving more than 25,000 dead. The Government of Japan extended assistance through Loan Aid, namely "Emergency Measures for Rehabilitation of Earthquake Damage" (FY 1999, 23.6 billion Yen) and "The Seismic Reinforcement Project for Large Scale Bridges in Istanbul" (FY 2001, 12.0 billion Yen). Reflecting that government bodies' inability to adequately respond may have led to far larger scale of damages than estimated, the Government of Turkey requested the Government of Japan for technical assistance in raising its administrative capacity to respond to disasters, and enhancing its disaster prevention framework.

Technical assistance that began in 2001 emphasizes disaster prevention trainings of administrative officials. First, Vice-governors and district governors of Turkey received trainings on the efforts of reconstruction after Hanshin/Awaji Earthquake. From 2003, using the training curriculum developed by returned-trainees, "Disaster Prevention Measure Training Project" was conducted to 260 Vice-governors and district governors. From 2005, "Earthquake Damage Mitigation Project" is being carried out which also includes trainings to mayors and urban-planning directors.

These efforts are furthering the city planning that would not repeat the disaster tragedy and enhancement of administrative institutions' ability to



Disaster destruction in 1999 (photo: JICA)



Trainees challenging community hazard map making (photo: JICA)

3. Bilateral Assistance through ODA

② Rapid and appropriate assistance in the immediate aftermath of disaster

In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, Japan will provide rapid assistance such as dispatching the Japan Disaster Relief Team for lifesaving, providing basic necessities and food aid, and restoration of basic human economic and social infrastructure. In addition, Japan will dispatch experts specializing in such field as training, risk assessment of buildings and flood control to assist in the human capacity development of which will enable an emergency response.

- Prompt and appropriate emergency assistance
- Training of experts and transfer of expertise for emergency response
- Food aid in response to food shortage caused by disasters
- Coherent cooperation corresponding to each phase of disaster

Case file

Seamless Assistance after the Occurrence of Disaster (Indonesia)

In May 2006, heavy damage was caused by a large-scale earthquake that generated in the Central Java in the Republic of Indonesia with more than 5,700 death casualties. Utilizing learned-lessons from our past experiences in post-disaster assistance and recognizing the importance of seamlessly connecting emergency response to recovery and reconstruction phase, the Government of Japan carried out assistance in close coordination of various schemes.

Directly after the earthquake, dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Team (JDR: Medical Team and Unit of the Self-Defense Force), and distribution of emergency relief goods and assistance of goods through emergency grant aid cooperation were conducted. For example, distribution of tents, blankets and other goods necessary for the period of evacuation, emergency treatment of the injured, and establishment of temporary classrooms for the resumption of school education were implemented.

After the emergency phase, recovery and reconstruction assistance were conducted seamlessly through utilization of Grant Aid for Disaster Prevention / Disaster Reconstruction (refer to the box below) and technical assistance. For example, official resumption of school education was assisted through distribution of textbooks and other goods upon reconstruction of school buildings and trainings of teachers. In addition, upon reconstruction of health center, technical assistance such as treatment of trauma and rehabilitation assistance were conducted to enhance medical service.

Such seamless assistance conducted directly after the disaster has facilitated steady progress of reconstruction in Bantul Province of Central Java.



Children studying in classroom tents.

Grant Aid for Disaster Prevention and Reconstruction

Grant Aid for Disaster Reconstruction is an assistance scheme that was introduced in FY 2006. Its main objective is to realize seamless assistance from immediate emergency relief after an occurrence of disaster to full-scale recovery and reconstruction assistance by introducing program-type grant aid in addition to existing project-type grant aid.

Previous project-type grant aid required detailed studies and designs in prior to project implementation which consumed certain amount of time before reaching the phase of full-scale recovery and reconstruction from emergency relief. For this reason, program-type grant aid that allows lump-sum contribution of aid to developing countries before selection and construction of required projects was newly introduced to enable swift and flexible response.

Such change will make it possible to respond comprehensively to a certain size of damages caused by disasters which will allow seamless assistance to rehabilitation of several components such as schools, medical facilities and roads, with consideration to needs of disaster affected areas and reflection of changes in such needs.

3. Bilateral Assistance through ODA

Japan Disaster Relief Team

Japan's Disaster Relief Team consists of 4 teams, Rescue Team, Medical Team, Expert Team and Unit of the Self Defense Force. Depending on requests of the affected country, scales of disasters, types of disasters and factors, any of the four teams or any combination of them may be dispatched.

Rescue Team	Team Type	Medical team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Personnel from Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), National Police Agency, Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Japan Coast Guard and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). ● Approximately 50 members (Persons that are highly experienced and well-trained in search and rescue operation) 	Composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Doctors, nurses, pharmacists, MoFA officer and JICA staff (coordinator) ● Approximately 20 members (Persons that are highly experienced and well-trained in emergency medical operation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effective search-and-rescue, first aid and transport of disaster victims to a safe place in/around collapsed structures caused by earthquakes or other disasters ● Operation sites are determined in close coordination with local emergency management authority of the affected country 	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emergency medical treatment to disaster-affected people in its own field clinic ● Operation sites are determined in close coordination with concerned authority of the affected country
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● About 1 week *Possibility of rescuing survivors decreases after 72 hours from the occurrence of a disaster 	Terms of deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● About 2weeks *Although number of patients in emergency tends to decline in ten days or so from the occurrence of a disaster, dispatch of additional team is considerable if necessary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rock drills, electric cutters, underground sound detectors, household materials ● Weight: 4-6 t 	Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Medical equipment, medicines and household materials ● Weight: 1.5-2t. (plus 2t in case of



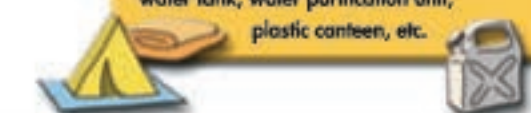
Supply of Emergency Relief Goods



Upon request from the affected country, Japan provides relief goods that are required by disaster victims after they suffer a disaster.

Japan's emergency relief goods
(stocked in warehouses in Singapore, Miami, Frankfurt and Johannesburg)

Tent, sleeping mattress, blanket, generator, water tank, water purification unit, plastic canteen, etc.



3. Bilateral Assistance through ODA

③ Cooperation that extend from reconstruction to sustainable development

Japan will support actions by developing countries to end the vicious circle of disaster in the reconstruction phase towards developing a disaster-resilient community and sustainable development, targeting areas where severe damage from earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, and floods is widely spread and frequent occurrence of natural disaster is hindering economic growth. For this purpose, Japan will provide cooperation with an emphasis on economic and social infrastructure, building, and systems that are disaster-resilient.

- Assistance for developing disaster-resilient economic and social infrastructure and architecture
- Dissemination of disaster-resilient systems and technology
- Provision of financial assistance necessary for reconstruction and development

Case file

▶▶▶ Prevention of Water Disasters caused by Intensive Rainfall in the Urban Area (Tunisia)

While majority of Tunisia's urban area is within sub-arid area, intensive rainfalls in a short period of time cause floods that could lead to extensive damages. To prevent such damages, the Government of Japan decided to extend its assistance to "Inundation Protection Project" (FY 1997, approximately 9,100 million Yen) through Loan Aid in response to a request from the Government of the Republic of Tunisia.

This project is a counter-flood measure plan in Ariana situated in the northern Tunis, the capital, and Kairouan which is the hub of the country's central region. In Ariana, rehabilitation of drainage and reservoirs as well as rehabilitation of existing channels are in progress along the Enkhil River. In Kairouan, flood control channels and river dikes are being constructed for Merguelli River and the Zeroud River, which flow into the

Kairouan Plain that surrounds the city.

These efforts have mitigated flood damages and have promoted economic and social development in the targeted areas. In particular, in Kairouan, the project will make it possible for a large area of land that has not been utilized because of flooding to be used effectively for agricultural purposes.



Development of waterways that prevent floods in cities (photo: JIBC)



Map of the Republic of Tunisia

III. Utilization of Japanese Experiences, Knowledge and Technologies

Japan has experienced extensive devastation caused by a multitude of disasters including earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons, floods, and volcanic eruptions. Based on harsh experiences, Japan has developed disaster management system, and takes full advantage of its experience, knowledge, and technologies to contribute to the improvement of disaster management capabilities in the developing countries.

Early Warning Systems and Hazard Maps

For early warning systems to be useful in mitigating natural disasters, it needs to:

- ① enable the issuance of prompt and accurate early warning information based on accurate, real-time measurements of various natural phenomena and scientific data analysis,
- ② incorporate systems for sharing warning information among relevant organizations and disseminating it to people, and
- ③ raise awareness on disaster reduction to ensure that more timely and appropriate disaster reduction actions are taken based on the warning information issued.

Japanese municipalities generally create and distribute hazard maps that show the areas vulnerable to earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, and landslides, as well as evacuation information.

Throughout the country, in particular on September 1, Disaster Reduction Day, many disaster reduction drills and outreach activities are conducted to prepare for future disasters.

Community-based Disaster Reduction Activities and Disaster Reduction Education

It is important to improve the general public's awareness of disaster risks and disaster reduction at the communities level so that everyone can take the appropriate actions when a disaster strikes. Some communities organize activities designed to increase public understanding of hazard maps and activities to create community-based disaster reduction maps. These include "town watching" activities in which people actually go around the town they live in and identify its disaster risks, and workshops on disaster reduction. Such activities raise local residents' awareness of disasters and disaster reduction, lead to suggestions for improving the community's vulnerabilities, and contribute significantly to improving the disaster reduction capabilities of the community.

To promote disaster reduction education, education materials were created and distributed in 8 Asian countries, in which the tale of "Inamura no Hi" ("Fire of Rice Sheaves") based on an actual disaster experience in Wakayama Prefecture was translated into local languages.



Community-based drill (photo: General Insurance Association of Japan)



Education materials using the tale of "Inamura no Hi" created by the Asian Disaster Reduction Center

Case file

Asian Monsoon areas, especially East and Southeast Asian areas experience numbers of floods each year. Many human lives and properties are lost due to the floods. In order to reduce damage caused by floods, built infrastructures like river dikes or reservoirs are very effective. On the other hand, non-built infrastructures such as "Flood Hazard Map", which can offer information on past flood track records, flood estimation, evacuation route, evacuation place, etc. to the residents, are also important. Effectiveness is higher and

quicker especially in areas where built measures are not yet in place. From such point of view, in 2006, the Government of Japan implemented a training course called "Flood Hazard Mapping" to technical managers and/or engineers involved in flood or river management in the public sector from 8 countries in East and Southeast Asia (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam). It is expected that after the training, knowledge and technique will be spread in each country, and flood

damages in each areas are mitigated through development of flood hazard map.



IV. Japan's Assistance

Japanese cooperation in the field of disaster prevention has been at the highest standard, even compared internationally. In April 2005, during the Asia-Africa Conference, Japan declared that it will be:

"providing more than US\$ 2.5 billion (including more than US\$ 1.5 billion of grant aid) over the next five years in assistance for disaster prevention and mitigation, and reconstruction measures in Asia, Africa and other regions."

Based on this declaration, Japan is increasing its efforts in international cooperation.

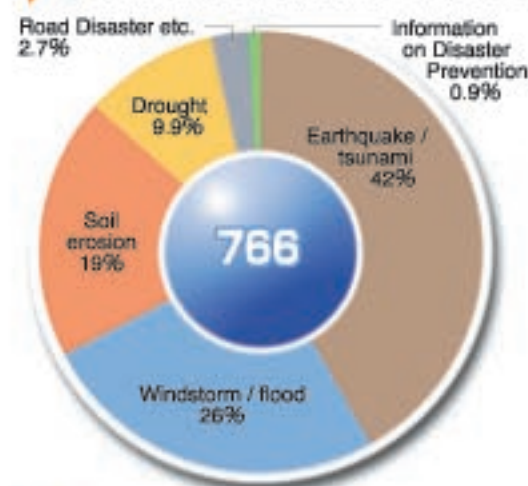
Assistance in FY 2005



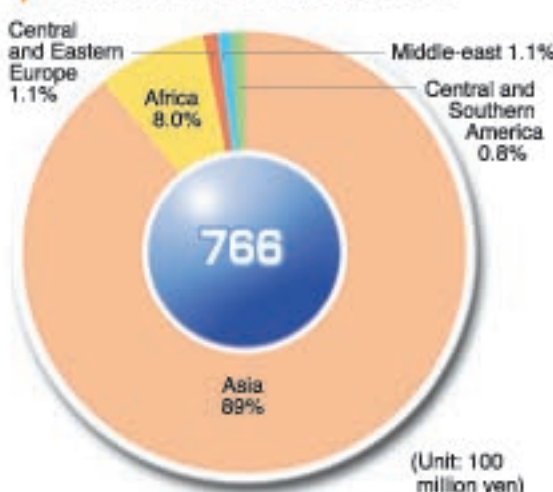
Bilateral Assistance*

*Sum of grant aid (excluding Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid and Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects) and loan aid

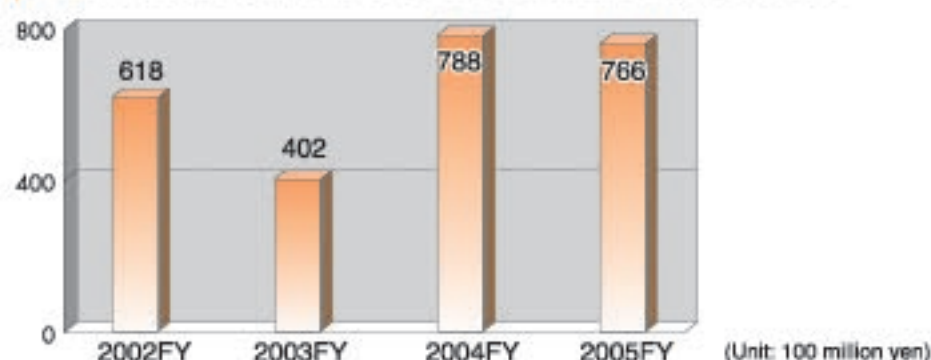
Assistance by Types of Disasters



Assistance by Regions



Recent changes in the amount of assistance



Outline of "Initiative for Disaster Reduction through ODA"

Initiative for Disaster Reduction through ODA

January 2005
Government of Japan

1. About the Initiative

- The Initiative will strengthen appropriate measures against tsunami and other various natural disasters.
- The Initiative is a sectoral assistance policy under the ODA Charter and the Medium-term Policy on ODA.
- The Government of Japan launched it on the occasion of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction.

2. Basic principles

- Disaster reduction is one of the most important preconditions for achieving poverty reduction and sustainable development.
- Ninety percent of the death toll from natural disasters is concentrated in developing countries.
- Attach importance on partnership that supports the self-help efforts of developing countries.

3. Basic policies

- (1) Raising the priority attached to disaster reduction
- (2) Perspective of human security
- (3) Gender perspective
- (4) Importance of assistance regarding software
- (5) Mobilization of Japan's experience, expertise, and technology
- (6) Mobilization and dissemination of locally available and suitable technology
- (7) Promoting partnerships with various stakeholders

4. Cooperation corresponding to each phase of disaster

- (1) Integration of disaster prevention into development policies
 - a) Institution building that incorporates the perspectives of disaster prevention
 - b) Training of experts and developing capacity for disaster prevention
 - c) Raising awareness and building capacity of local communities on disaster reduction
- (2) Rapid and appropriate assistance in the immediate aftermath of a disaster
 - a) Prompt and appropriate emergency assistance
 - b) Training of experts and transfer of expertise for emergency response
 - c) Food aid in response to food shortage caused by disasters
 - d) Coherent cooperation corresponding to each phase of disaster
- (3) Cooperation that extends from reconstruction to sustainable development
 - a) Assistance for developing disaster-resilient economic and social infrastructure and architecture
 - b) Dissemination of disaster-resilient systems and technology
 - c) Provision of financial assistance necessary for reconstruction and development

5. Concrete measures

- (1) Institution building
- (2) Human resources development
- (3) Development of economic and social infrastructure
- (4) Assistance for the reconstruction of livelihoods