

5 Gathering of Information on Emergency Relief during Times of Disaster

5-1 Latest Information on Disasters

5-1-1 Background and Policy

The purpose of gathering and providing the latest information on ongoing disaster situations and required emergency relief is to provide a standard of judgement on emergency measures by affected countries and agencies concerned and emergency relief by countries and agencies concerned, NGOs and individuals.

5-1-2 Gathering Method and Accumulated Information

Upon receiving disaster information from the press or directly from affected countries, the Center starts gathering related information on the Internet. The information is sent to the Center by related sections of the affected countries as well as by international organizations.

The information gathered is accumulated for classification in the Center's database after new information is added. An "ADRC Disaster Report" is automatically generated for each disaster case, and then posted on our website. Shown Fig. 5-1-2-1 is an example of one of these reports.

5-1-3 Future Policy

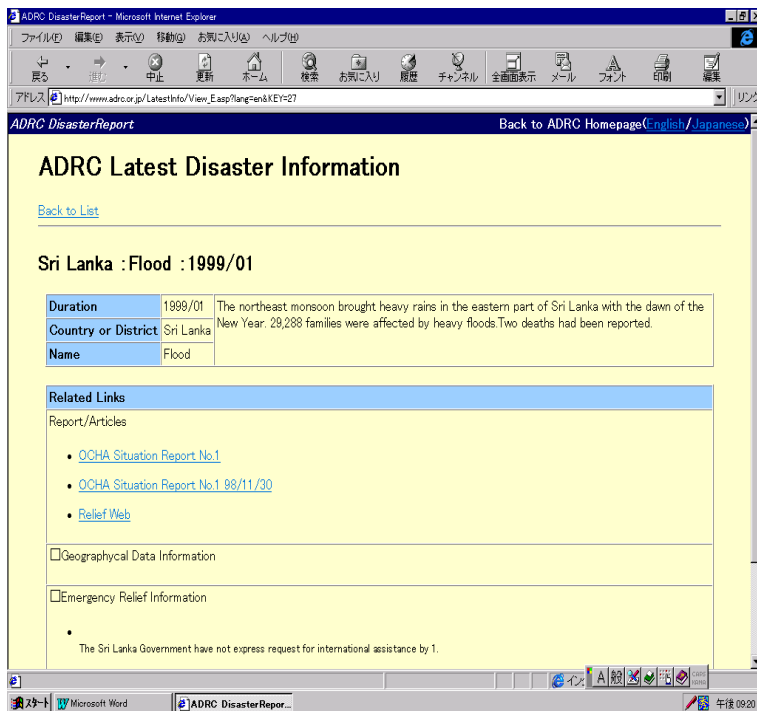
At present, the Center gathers information and accumulates it in its database. Some information is contributed by our overseas counterparts as well as cooperative members. In future, we plan to promote autonomous information gathering, in which the informants themselves access and upgrade the database by taking advantage of the database upgrading facility via the network.

Because detection of the first report of a disaster depends on the voluntary efforts of information updating staff, detection of serious disasters may be delayed depending on how the disaster occurred and how much interest is shown by the press. To assure early detection of the first report, we will develop a network that monitors occurrence of disasters in cooperation with our counterparts and disaster research institutes in member/advisory countries.

Table 5-1-2-1 Items on the Disaster Case and Disaster Information Database

Database of disaster cases	Database of disaster information
ID number	ID number
Disaster code	ID number of the disaster
Order of occurrence	Disaster category
Country	Source (Japanese)
Disaster category (Japanese)	Source (English)
Disaster category (English)	Summary of the article (Japanese)
Data of occurrence	Summary of the article (English)
Brief description of the disaster (Japanese)	Link to home pages (URLs)
Brief description of the disaster (English)	

Fig.5-1-2-1 Disaster Report



5-2 Information on Emergency Relief

5-2-1 Background and Policy

When a disaster occurs in the Asian region on such a large scale that it is impossible for one country to take quick and effective measures by itself, neighboring countries and other countries offer a helping hand. To understand on what basis, when and how such relief was provided, and what effect it had provides useful data for determining what kind of information an affected country should provide and when, as well as for judging how other countries should respond to it in the most efficient manner.

It is therefore important to gather and share information that helps match the needs and seeds of both parties and information on evaluation of the relief provided.

As the first step toward this end, we have gathered as much related information as possible from existing databases, country reports and other data from member countries. At the same time, we put together information on how emergency relief is provided in Japan.

5-2-2 Accumulated Information on Emergency Relief

1) Information on Emergency Relief from 1995 onward

Information on how affected countries coped with disasters and relief from overseas countries is posted on the OCHA Situation Report and other locations on the Relief Web.

In fiscal 1998, we collected information on overseas emergency relief during major disasters from 1995 onward from the Relief Web and other sources on the Internet, country reports and reports announced at international symposia, and compiled a list of their locations.

(Excerpts can be found in Table 5-2-2-1. The entire text can be found at <https://www.adrc.asia/annual98/h5-2-2-1eg.xls>)

2) International Emergency Relief by Japan (Activities by the Japan Disaster Relief Team, JICA)

Japan is one of the largest relief providers in the world for major natural disasters. We therefore started by making a summary of international emergency relief provided by Japan, as a first step towards investigating the emergency relief situation in the Asian region.

Japan's emergency relief can be classified into "personnel relief," "material relief" and "financial relief." In fiscal 1997, we considered providing relief to 111 overseas disasters and sent relief to 27 cases.

The Japan Disaster Relief Team is responsible for personnel relief. Three different types of teams (rescue, medical and experts' teams) and troops of the Self-Defence Forces are dispatched. Depending on the scale of the disaster, up to 100 staff can be sent, but on average 10 staff members are dispatched for about three weeks.

Since 1990, a total of 36 teams have been dispatched overseas, half of which (18 teams) were dispatched to ADRC member/advisory countries.(Table 5-2-2-2)

Shown in Table 5-2-2-3are the Japan Disaster Relief Teams dispatched, the host countries' evaluation of and response to relief supplies and relief measures, and the relief activities by other countries in FY 1997.

Table 5-2-2-1 Emergency Relief Information for Disasters from 1995 onward (Excerpts= Nepal Flood Aug.98 . . . one of hundreds)

(Entire Table→ <https://www.adrc.asia/annual98/h5-2-2-1eg.xls>)

<Nepal Flood Aug.98>

Home Page	Source	Report	Date of Issue	Donor	Channel	The outline of contents
ReliefWeb	ECHO	ECHO: Humanitarian aid: news in brief	11-Jan-99	EU		Humanism-support project capital of 1,407,000euroes (the purification institution of water, medical support, a temporary shelter, clothes, a lifesaving bag, and a cooking tool offer these contents of support for about 20,000 households)
ReliefWeb	IFRC	Nepal : floods	18-Sep-98	DREF		CHF 50,000
ReliefWeb	IFRC	South Asia : Disasters	1-Sep-98			The Government is seeking domestic and international assistance to provide basic relief to the flood victims.
ReliefWeb	IFRC	South Asia : Disasters	1-Sep-98	IFRCS	DREF	CHF 50,000
ReliefWeb	IFRC	South Asia : Disasters	1-Sep-98	Netherlands RC	IFRC	A fund is offered
ReliefWeb	OCHA	OCHA Situation Report No. 1	12-Aug-98	The UN Disaster Management Team		Any assistance expected is [possible] ready.
ReliefWeb	OCHA	OCHA Situation Report No. 2	8-Sep-98	The UN Disaster Management Team		Any assistance expected is [possible] ready.
ReliefWeb	OCHA	OCHA Situation Report No. 2	8-Sep-98	German		In order to supply medicine, a water purifier, a hot-water-supply machine, a biscuit, and powder milk to the flood victim of southern part Nepal, support of 38,054USD is vowed.
ReliefWeb	OCHA	OCHA Situation Report No. 2	8-Sep-98	IFRCS		USD 34,000
ReliefWeb	UNDP	Poverty and poor preparation increase toll from natural disasters	20-Oct-98	UNDP		UNDP assists governments with the management of their responses to disasters by helping to recruit emergency personnel, providing transportation for emergency workers and supplies, providing communications equipment and by coordinating international aid.
ADRC	Nepal	Country Report(1998)		Japan		1000 blankets, 21 boxes of medical articles
ADRC	Nepal	Country Report(1998)		Republic of Korea		50,000 Nepal rupee
ADRC	Nepal	Country Report(1998)		CARE		It is 680,000 Nepal rupee to restoration of water for irrigation, waterworks, and a road.
ADRC	Nepal	Country Report(1998)		UMN		Food and the medical article for 50,000 Nepal rupee

Table 5-2-2-2 Dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief Team

(FY 1990 - FY 1998)

Year	Country	Category	Date	Casualties	Team Category	〈ADRC member countries〉		
						Dispatch decided	Duration	Size of team
1990	Philippines	Earthquake	July.16,'90	1,660	Rescue	7/17/90	7/18~7/26	26
Member					Medical	7/17/90	7/17~7/24	8
					Experts	7/27/90	7/29~8/7	8
	3	teams			42	persons		
Total	6	teams			84	persons		¥160,814,000
1991	Bangladesh	Cyclone	Apr.29,'91	120,000	Rescue	5/13/91	5/15~6/4	50
Member	Philippines	Typhoon	Nov.5,'91	2,699	Medical	11/11/91	11/11~11/23	6
	2	teams			56	persons		
Total	9	teams			125	persons		¥471,777,000
1992	インドネシア	Earthquake	Dec.12,'92	1,216	Experts	12/18/92	12/20~12/30	8
Member		Tsunami						
	1	teams			8	persons		
Total	3	teams			29	persons		¥80,860,000

1993	Nepal	Floods	July.29, '93	1,048	Medical	1/29/93	1/31~8/13	9
					Experts	8/24/93	8/25~9/7	7
	Malaysia	Collapsed building	Dec.11, '93	1	Rescue	12/13/93	12/13~12/20	24
	3	teams			40	persons		
	3	teams			40	persons		¥89,281,000
Total								
1994	Indonesia	Eruption	Nov.26, '94	58	Experts	11/26/94	11/25~12/13	5
	1	teams			5	persons		
	Total	1	teams		5	persons		¥7,260,000
1995	Indonesia	Earthquake Tsunami	Feb.27, '95		Experts	Feb.95	2/26~3/5	3
	1	teams			3	persons		
	Total	1	teams		3	persons		¥8,911,000
1996	Bangladesh	Tornado	May 16, '96	525	Medical	5/16/96	5/17~5/30	16
	1	teams			16	persons		
	Total	2	teams		40	persons		¥133,669,000
1997	Malaysia	Air pollution	Late June		Experts	9/26/97	9/29~10/10	6
Member	Indonesia	Forest Fires	Late June		Experts1	9/26/97	9/29~10/10	6
					Experts2	10/20/97	10/22~11/11	44
	Singapore	Oil spills	Oct.15, '97		Experts	10/17/97	10/18~11/1	7
	4	teams			63	persons		
	Total	4	teams		63	persons		¥358,420,000
1998	PNG	Tsunami	July 17, '98	1,540	Medical		7/21~8/3	11
	Bangladesh	Floods	Mid July	783	Experts		10/2~10/15	7
	2	teams			18	persons		
	Total	7	teams		295	persons		
1990~1998 ADRC member/advisory countries total			18	teams		251	Persons	
1990~1998 Global total			36	teams		684	persons	

Source: Outline of International Emergency Relief

Project(JICA, Feb.'99), Front Lines of International Emergency Relief (International Cooperation Press)

Table 5-2-2-3 Emergency Relief Provided by Japan and other Countries and Evaluation of Host Countries

<ADRC member countries only (FY 1997)>

Country	Category	Date	Dispatch of Experts	Supplies donated	Response by other countries (US\$1,000)	Evaluation of host countries
China	Typhoon	Aug.18 '97	----	Tents for 100 - 20 Tents for 20 - 14 Tents for 8 - 13	----	Expressed sincere gratitude for rapid emergency relief.
				¥29,912,240		
Myanmar	Floods	Late July	----	Sleeping mats - 1,000 Blankets (normal) - 1,750 Flashlights - 500 Detergent - 280 Soap - 3,000 Towels - 1,800 ¥11,745,134	Australia (funds) - 40 UK (funds) - 130 Germany (supplies) 100 Netherlands (funds) - 50 Norway (supplies) - 20 India (supplies) - 30 Korea (supplies) - 30 USA (funds) - 30	Much gratitude for the quick emergency relief. Should promote friendly relations between the two countries.
				¥11,745,134		
Indonesia	Forest fire	Late June	----	Back-carried fire-fighting water bag - 300	Australia (funds, dispatch of personnel) - 1,440 Canada (funds, dispatch of personnel) - 870	----
				¥17,390,000		

Malaysia	Air Pollution	Late June	----	Back-carried fire-fighting water bag - 300	China (supplies) - 120 Germany (supplies, dispatch of personnel) - 380	----
				¥18,038,000		
Indonesia	Forest Fire	Late June	Expert teams - 6 Ministry of Foreign Affairs - 1 Fire Defense Agency - 2 Physicians - 2 JICA - 1	¥17,390,000	Korea (funds) - 100 Netherlands (funds) - 130 Norway(funds, dispatch of personnel, supplies) - 290 Russia(supplies, dispatch of personnel) - 1,020	Deep gratitude for dispatch of expert teams. Will incorporate survey findings in future plans.
Malaysia	Air pollution	Late June	Expert team - 6 Ministry of Foreign Affairs -1 Experts on air pollution control - 2 Physicians - 2 JICA - 1	¥21,893,010	Sweden (dispatch of personnel) Thailand (supplies, dispatch of personnel) - 50 UK (funds) - 130 USA (funds, dispatch of personnel) - 30	Helped prepare English report that includes technical proposals on the environment and medical fields and made proposals concerning future contingency plans to the Ministry of Scientific Technology and Environment
Indonesia	Forest fire	Late June	----	Portable fire-fighting pump sets - 50 Back-carried fire-fighting water bags - 300 Portable loudspeakers - 50 Wireless equipment - 50	----	----
				¥74,816,500		
Indonesia	Forest fire	Late June	Expert teams - 44 Ministry of Foreign Affairs - 2 Fire Defense Agency - 1 Metropolitan Fire Board - 19 Yokohama Municipal Fire Bureau - 2 Nagoya Municipal Fire Bureau - 5 Osaka Municipal Fire Bureau - 3 Physicians/Nurses - 2 JICA - 5 All Nippon Airways Maintenance - 5	¥224,888,676	-----	President Suharto acknowledged the help.
Singapore	Oil spills	Oct.15.97	Expert teams - 7 Maritime Safety Agency - 1 3rd Regional Maritime Safety HQ - 4 JICA - 2	¥94,504,610	----	MPA and others concerned highly appreciated efforts to recover floating oil (so thin that it is difficult to identify) every day as well as the recovery techniques used.
Viet Nam	Typhoon	Nov .2.97	----	Medical supplies -3 ¥6,040,529	Australia (funds) - 230 China (funds) - 20 France (funds) - 110 Netherlands (funds) - 5 Norway (funds) - 4	Gratitude for valuable support. Will make most of the supplies to respond to the goodwill shown by Japan.
				¥6,040,529		
China	Earthquake	Jan 10.98	----	Tents for 20 - 15 Tents for 8 - 4	Australia (funds) - 50 Denmark (funds) - 30	Deep gratitude for the kind help from Japan whenever a disaster occurs. Will pass relief

				Sleeping mats - 600	France (funds) - 170	supplies to the affected area and convey the goodwill of the people and Government of Japan to the victims.
				Blankets (against cold) - 350	Germany (funds) - 40	
				Water purifiers - 14	Norway (funds) - 40	
				Portable generators - 30	Netherlands (funds) - 30	
				Cord reels - 30	UK (funds) - 330	
				Flashlights - 300	USA (funds) - 530	
				Dry batteries - 900		
				¥30,484,750		

Source: International Emergency Relief No. 22 (JICA)

5-2-3 Future Policy

In fiscal 1998, we gathered information on what kind of emergency relief was provided by other countries and other entities for what kind of disasters, by referring to existing documents and past cases in Japan.

We also gathered information on how host countries evaluated Japanese emergency relief.

In the future, we will gather such after-the-fact information through cooperation from the countries and organizations concerned, in the hope of finding an optimal way of providing and asking for relief by examining what concrete effects each type of emergency relief had on the affected countries, if timing and contents of the relief was appropriate, and how and to where affected countries should have provided information to enable other countries to provide relief in a more effective manner.