



# DONOR REPORT

## JAPAN: ONE YEAR LATER

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## A message from the Secretary General

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting Red Cross operations following the devastating earthquake in Japan. For more than 100 years, the Canadian Red Cross has been trusted to transform financial contributions into help and hope to those who need us most.

We are committed to standing by the Japanese Red Cross as they continue to help survivors recover from the worst devastation imaginable and invest in long-term preparedness activities to ensure communities are stronger, safer and more resilient should they be impacted by another disaster.

I am extremely proud of the humanitarian response by both the teams on the ground, in Canada and by the support shown by generous Canadians like you. On behalf of everyone at the Canadian Red Cross, thank you.

**Conrad Sauvé**  
Secretary General & CEO



**CANADIAN  
RED CROSS**



## A message of thanks from the Ambassador of Japan to Canada

One year has passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami hit the northeast coast of Japan on March 11, 2011. Once again, I would like to express deepest gratitude for the sincere compassion and solidarity extended to Japan by the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian people.

The affected region of Japan is slowly but steadily recovering and the rebuilding effort is progressing unwaveringly. Roads, railways, and supply chains are returning to normal. Numerous reconstruction projects have been initiated. For many, day to day life is still arduous, however people in the affected regions are employing innovative approaches to building resilient, and self-sufficient communities.

We believe that the best way to express our gratitude for the warmth extended to Japan from friends around the world would be to recover fully from the tragedy. We will continue, undeterred, to make a vital contribution to the global community and to make the world a better place for our children and grand-children.

**Kaoru Ishikawa**  
Ambassador of Japan to Canada

## ON FRIDAY MARCH 11, 2011, the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in Japan were forever changed when a 9.0 magnitude earthquake followed by a massive tsunami devastated the country.

Despite being one of the best prepared countries in the world, the toll was far worse than anything that could have ever been expected or planned for. In an instant, people lost everything – their loved ones, their homes, their livelihoods and their communities. The consequences of the earthquake and tsunami, followed by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster, in terms of deaths, injuries, economic and environmental damage are enormous. Official estimates indicate the disaster left over 15,000 people dead, and over 3,000 remain missing.

Immediately following the disaster, Red Cross volunteers in Japan and across affected communities rapidly mobilized to support disaster response operations. Despite many being victims themselves, these volunteers worked around the clock to provide search and rescue, emergency medical assistance, psychosocial support and the provision of basic necessities.

One year later, Red Cross efforts continue as teams work to help thousands of families recover and rebuild their lives.

What the earthquake destroyed in just moments will take years to rebuild. In the months ahead, Red Cross efforts will continue as we work to support over 100,000 people in rebuilding their lives. This support includes health, psychosocial activities, distribution of basic necessities and early recovery activities.

The Red Cross is dedicated to strengthen health infrastructure in Japan, as many buildings were damaged by the tsunami. This includes the construction of an emergency night-time medical centre, three temporary hospitals and strengthening the disaster and emergency medical capacity of Ishinomaki Red Cross hospital.

As part of the Red Cross family, the Canadian Red Cross often works side by side with the Japanese Red Cross to respond to disasters around the world. We have a long-standing history of solidarity and support and are committed to continue working with Japanese Red Cross as they help survivors recover from the worst devastation imaginable. The recovery is far from over but we salute the people of Japan, its government and the Japanese Red Cross for what they have endured and for what they have accomplished in the face of incalculable odds.



## Helping families adjust to their new lives

For **TAMAMI MORINO** and her family, it's been a rare carefree and happy afternoon as her two small children have played around in the pool of multi-coloured plastic balls, the bouncy castle and the inflatable roller.

She sits on a bench watching them play at the Smile Park indoor playground, set up by the Japanese Red Cross in Fukushima City, some 70 kilometres from the stricken Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

"Today I feel very grateful to the Red Cross for creating an indoor play area like this; the two kids look very happy and they don't want to go home," says Morino. "We initially registered them for two hours, and then extended their stay to four hours."



Since being evacuated from their home in the town of Namie, which lies within the 20 kilometres exclusion zone around the plant, the family have stayed in their car, in hotels, with relatives and in several different locations, but now they are living in a prefabricated home in Fukushima city. Like 125,000 other new households who lost their homes to the tsunami, they have been given a set of six domestic appliances by Red Cross to help them settle in. These appliances include a refrigerator, rice cooker and television.

It will be a long road ahead for earthquake survivors but the Red Cross is dedicated to standing by affected communities to ensure a full recovery.

**"Today I feel very grateful to the Red Cross for creating an indoor play area like this; the two kids look very happy and they don't want to go home"**

**Tamami Morino  
Fukushima City, Japan**



**For more  
information  
on how your  
support continues  
to help Red Cross  
efforts in Japan  
please visit  
[www.redcross.ca](http://www.redcross.ca)**

## RED CROSS RESPONSE by the numbers

- Over **2 million** registered Red Cross volunteers in Japan
- **896** Red Cross medical teams and **161,876** volunteers mobilized to support earthquake survivors
- More than **87,000** patients treated by Japanese Red Cross medical teams
- **718** Japanese Red Cross psychosocial workers have provided counselling support to **14,039** people
- More than **126,504** sets of electronic appliances distributed to help over **126,000** families settle into their new home
- Over **30,000** emergency relief kits distributed to support thousands of families living in evacuation centres
- **3,500** sleeping kits to provide families with a comfortable place to sleep
- Water taps in **9** evacuation centres have provided clean drinking water and improved hygiene for over **2,000** people
- **959** medical beds have been distributed in **161** facilities throughout the 3 most affected prefectures
- **137,389** winter amenity items, including heating pads, distributed to keep families warm during the cold months
- **14,787** students supported through a Red Cross lunch program in their schools
- **735** students are enjoying temporary school gymnasiums and playing areas

