



## Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Humanitarian Appeal

Japan is reeling under the effects of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, with reports of a rising death toll and property damage still coming in.

The death toll in the Miyagi region itself could exceed 10,000. Over 300,000 people have been displaced and are in emergency shelters.

Reaching the affected areas on the ground is extremely difficult as of now, and the national emergency response agencies are mounting a massive search and rescue operation. Most international aid agencies have so far not decided to engage in this disaster, as Japan is a developed country. The scale of the emergency, however, is beyond the capacity of any institutional system, and thousands of families are in desperate need of support.

SEEDS Asia, with its head office in Kobe, has set out to support the affected families in their recovery process. Our partner agencies are already on the ground and are reporting extreme difficulties that the survivors are facing. Our immediate response focus is on:

- support to relief camps
- local volunteer coordination
- communication support for information dissemination

In this hour of need, we urge our friends across the globe to come forth generously and help us support the families in despair.

SEEDS will work with local partners, community organizations, and local governments to draw up long term recovery support plans in the coming weeks, once the relief process is underway.

SEEDS has a long standing experience of post disaster relief in the Asian region, and works closely with national and regional NGOs, universities and UN agencies towards a technically sound humanitarian response.

SEEDS is a member of Japan Platform ([www.japanplatform.org](http://www.japanplatform.org)) and the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network ([www.adrrn.org](http://www.adrrn.org)). The SEEDS group adheres to the Red Cross Code of Conduct, Sphere Minimum Standards and the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership benchmarks.

A rigorous reporting system will be followed to ensure transparency and accountability in the deployment of appeal funds.

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