

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

## Information bulletin Japan: Earthquake

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>Information bulletin n° 2;Glide n° EQ-2018-000143-JPN</b>	<b>Date of issue:</b> 14 September 2018
<b>Date of disaster:</b> 6 September 2018	<b>Point of contact (name and title):</b> Nobuaki Sato, International Relief Division, International Department
<b>Operation start date:</b> 6 September 2018	<b>Expected timeframe:</b> -
<b>Host National Society:</b> Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS)	
<b>Number of people affected:</b> 3 million households	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b> -

***This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.***

<click [here](#) for detailed contact information>

### The situation

The 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck the island of Hokkaido, located in the northern part of Japan, on Thursday 6 September 2018. The tremor struck 62km (39 miles) south-east of the regional capital Sapporo in the early hours in the morning (local time).

The earthquake recorded a tremor with an intensity of 7 based on the Japanese seven-stage seismic scale, which is one of the strongest earthquakes Hokkaido island as ever experienced, leading to the cause of landslides, liquefaction and ripping roads apart.

According to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, as of 12 September 2018, 41 people have lost their lives, 9 are in critical condition, 672 people injured and are being continuously evaluated for their injuries. About 3,800 landslides have been confirmed, as reported by media. A total of 24 evacuation centres are being set up, with 1,339 people taking shelter, according to the Hokkaido Government's report.

The quake caused a cut off of electrical power supply to nearly three million households and damaged the key thermal power plant in Hokkaido. As of now, the plants have been brought back and electricity supply resumed, yet the Hokkaido Island is still facing electricity shortages, thus the government and Hokkaido Electric Power Company are urging households and businesses to reduce the use of electricity by 20 per cent to avoid blackouts.



The quake causing liquefaction in the regional capital Sapporo (left), and landslide in Atsuma town (right). (Photo: JRCS)

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

JRCS has chapters in the affected prefecture, which have distributed 1,410 blankets, 2,114 sleeping kits (sleeping mats with pillows) and 830 emergency kits (includes mobile radio, electric torch, toothbrush, towel, wet tissue, work gloves, ointment, bandage and others). Details of the distribution activities are as per Table 1 below.

Since the quake, JRCS has also been deploying 19 JRCS National Medical Relief Teams to the affected cities, and Medical coordination teams for the coordination with the local government and other humanitarian actors. The National Medical Relief Teams are visiting the evacuation centres, providing medical services and Psychosocial support. Psychosocial support is provided also for the relief actors who are working round the clock.

With the temperature falling to 5.4 C in the morning on 11 September in the hardest-hit town of Atsuma, emergency beds made of cardboard were brought in to the evacuation centres by the JRCS team, to avoid putting residents at health risks from sleeping directly on the cold floor.

To avoid elderly from falling sick after staying long days in the evacuation centre, the JRCS volunteer groups are organising Nordic walking sessions.

IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur is in constant communication with JRCS and monitoring the situation closely. APRO is on standby to provide any assistance if required.



Volunteers and staff members of JRCS preparing the relief items. (Photo: JRCS)



JRCS team providing medical treatment to people in the evacuation centre. (Photo: JRCS)



Volunteers providing the Nordic walking sessions in the evacuation centre. (Photo: JRCS)



JRCS team setting up the emergency beds made of cardboard. (Photo: JRCS)

**Table 1: Distribution activities**

Chapter	Items			Distribution Point	Distribution Date
	Blanket	Sleeping kit	Emergency Kit		
Hokkaido	350	20	350	Saporro ward Kiyota	6 September
	500	500	-	Atsuma City	6 September
	400	70	400	Abira City	6 September
	-	1,000	-	Mukawa City	6 September
	100	324	-	Abira City (Oiwake public hall)	8 September
	60	-	-	Atsuma City	8 September
	-	-	80	Abira City (Toasa public hall)	8 September
Aomori	-	200	-	Abira City (Oiwake public hall)	10 September
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>2,114</b>	<b>830</b>		

## Contact information

### For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Japanese Red Cross Society:** Nobuaki Sato, international relief division, international department; phone: +81-3-3437-7088; email: [disaster-info@jrc.or.jp](mailto:disaster-info@jrc.or.jp)
- **In IFRC Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) Beijing Office:** Gwendolyn Pang, head of CCST Beijing; email: [gwendolyn.pang@ifrc.org](mailto:gwendolyn.pang@ifrc.org)
- **In IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office:**
  - Martin Faller, deputy director; email: [martin.faller@ifrc.org](mailto:martin.faller@ifrc.org)
  - Necephor Mghendi, head of DCPRR; email: [necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org](mailto:necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org)
  - Alice Ho, operations coordinator; email: [alice.ho@ifrc.org](mailto:alice.ho@ifrc.org)
- **In Geneva:** Nelson Castano, manager operations coordination; email: [nelson.castano@ifrc.org](mailto:nelson.castano@ifrc.org)

### For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Asia Pacific regional office:** Sophia Keri, resource mobilization in emergencies coordinator; email: [sophia.keri@ifrc.org](mailto:sophia.keri@ifrc.org)

### For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries):

- **IFRC Asia Pacific regional office:** Liew Siew Hui, PMER manager; email: [siewhui.liew@ifrc.org](mailto:siewhui.liew@ifrc.org)

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

---

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives.**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace.**

---