

Kumamoto Earthquake: Assistance Activities Report

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In April 2016, an earthquake, with a seismic intensity of 7, struck Kumamoto and Oita Prefectures. A-PAD Japan, in cooperation with companies, local governments, and other nonprofit organizations, promptly initiated emergency relief activities in Kumamoto. As the “NPO Partner Collaboration” ended in March 2018, our support activities in Kumamoto also concluded.



Procurement and Delivery of Relief Supplies

Immediately following the disaster, A-PAD Japan, in coordination with local municipalities and companies, delivered relief supplies to evacuation shelters. In addition, we also distributed items such as food, water, and clothing to small, non-designated evacuation centers that had not received sufficient supplies.



Partner Collaboration Project

In collaboration with the “Send Goodwill from Saga” campaign, volunteers were dispatched to affected areas. 48 people were tasked with improving the environment of the tent village and trailer houses and finding solutions to the evacuees’ daily problems.



Search-and-Rescue

In response to a series of large-scale earthquakes, the Search-and-Rescue Team and SAR dogs were dispatched by helicopters to the disaster sites. We searched for missing people in the towns of Minamiaso and Mashiki where landslides caused houses to collapse.



Operation of Tent Village & Trailer Houses

The day after the disaster, an inflatable emergency shelter was set up next to a gymnasium in Mashiki, which had overflowed with hundreds of evacuees. A-PAD Japan also installed 160 emergency tents and established a tent village where pets were allowed. 277 people with 91 pets from 76 households have been evacuated to the tent village. During the rainy season, we set up 80 trailer houses while more durable temporary houses were being constructed.





Voice – Words of Gratitude from the Affected People

New area for children

"I'm happy to have freshly cooked meals and lunch boxes. Thank you for making a playground for the children during their summer vacation and for taking care of them." – Trailer house resident



I can finally stretch my arms and legs with my dog!

"I have been really tired after living out of my car for over two weeks. Now I can lie down with my arms and legs stretched out and with my dog, too." – Woman sheltered in the emergency tent



I made new friends

"Life in the emergency tent became difficult due to the heat wave and rainy season. I'm thankful for the trailer house where I can live freely with my pet. I also made new friends." – Trailer house resident

I feel good!

"Taking a shower during the scorching heat feels great. It was nice having toilets, laundry machines, sinks, etc." – Tent village resident

Thank you for the supplies!

"Towels, underwear, diapers, fruits, and water...at last, relief supplies have arrived! Thank you for the regular delivery of these necessary items!" – Manager of a small evacuation center where supplies were lacking

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Thank You For Your Support

Amount raised through the Saga hometown tax scheme: 40,039,600 JPY

A-PAD Japan received generous support from 1,866 people from 15 April 2016 – 31 December 2016 that amounted to 40,039,600 JPY through the hometown tax scheme in Saga. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our donors. The lessons learned and network built from this disaster contributed to our efforts during the 2017 Kyushu heavy rains, 2018

West Japan floods, and 2018 Hokkaido earthquake.

The Airborne Rescue and Medical Team, consisting of SAR dogs and doctors from Saga University, is supported by donations from many supporters. Your continuous support will contribute to protect against future disasters.



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