



ADRC Study visit to the affected areas by Kumamoto Earthquakes
19-20 December 2016, Kumamoto, Japan

Fact Sheet : Assistance provided by local governments outside the affected areas **Case of Hyogo Prefecture: Lessons of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake**

After the earthquakes, many local governments in Japan have dispatched their teams to the affected local governments through the schemes of Kyushu-Yamaguchi Disaster Support Agreement, Union of Kansai Governments and National Governors' Association, as well as the 21 Major Cities Mutual Support Agreement in order to facilitate and support prompt response, reconstruction and recovery activities in affected areas.

The number of officials dispatched to the affected municipalities from other municipalities all around Japan peaked at 1,440 on 1 May 2016.

(Source: http://www.bousai.go.jp/updates/h280414jishin/h28kumamoto/pdf/h281025shiryo01_8.pdf)

1. Case of Hyogo prefecture: Utilizing Lessons of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake to Support Schools in Kumamoto

Local governments all across Japan sent support to Kumamoto to provide aid to the disaster-affected local governments which had themselves become victims of the earthquake. Hyogo Prefecture initiated various response measures after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, which struck the region 21 years ago. Particularly notable is the Emergency and Rescue Team comprised of public school faculty and staff (known as EARTH) which was developed in 2000 based on the experiences of that earthquake. Under this program, as many as 176 faculty members, teachers, counsellors and others have completed the Advanced Training Course for Instructors to promote DRR education (as of April 2016).

EARTH regularly conducts DRR education and dispatches members to disaster-affected areas when disasters strike. They provided support after the Sumatra Earthquake, Sichuan Earthquake, and Great East Japan Earthquake and have been dispatched to other disaster sites within and outside Japan. Likewise, EARTH dispatched approximately 93 members on April 16 to assist immediately after the Kumamoto Earthquakes. They have been providing ongoing support, including shelter management (mainly at schools serving as shelters), mental health care, the dissemination of disaster experiences and lessons learned, and the transmission of expertise accumulated over the course of their various disaster support efforts. In this way, valuable lessons have been shared with human resources throughout the prefecture, and these lessons are then passed on to disaster-affected sites.

2. Future Challenges (ADRC point of views)

- *How can local governments outside the affected areas could provide supports more adapted to the affected local governments? How could collaboration at wider regional and national levels be strengthened?*
- *How to reduce the gaps among recipient affected municipalities from those well-supported to those poorly supported, in particular at the initial phase?*
- *How could the experiences of affected local governments be shared with among other local governments for better preparing for disasters they may face in the future?*



Explaining disaster responses to



Workshop on training session for faculty and teachers



Educational support provided after classes resume