

# Japan's Assistance to Recovery and Reconstruction from the Nepal Earthquake

announced at the International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction 2015 (June 25, in Kathmandu)

In light of urgent recovery and reconstruction needs, Japan will provide the following support based on the concept of "Build Back Better (BBB)," which was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015:

## 1. Sharing the knowledge and technologies of Japan, a country that has been affected by numerous natural disasters in the past

### ➤ **Dispatching experts immediately after the earthquake disaster, providing the know-how**

- Starting in early May, a series of JICA study teams has been dispatched in order to survey needs related to recovery and reconstruction.
- In mid-May, three experts from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism were dispatched (duration: approximately two months). These experts have offered their extensive knowledge to the National Planning Commission (NPC) and other relevant Nepalese authorities in the fields of 1) drawing up a basic policy for reconstruction and a master plan for developing disaster resilient cities; 2) reinforcement of buildings such as houses and schools and making them earthquake resistant; and 3) developing building standards related to earthquake resistance.
- On May 25, Japan hosted a "BBB" seminar in Kathmandu, which was attended by Dr. Akihiko Tanaka, President of JICA. Japan's technologies and achievement in the field of disaster risk reduction were introduced.
- On June 24 and 25, near the Conference venue, a demonstration event is scheduled to be held by JICA. Based on the BBB concept, an earthquake resistant house is constructed using local materials, and practical methods for reinforcements are to be introduced.

## 2. Focus areas of support

### ➤ **Schools: rebuilding schools so that children can return to school**

- Schools play an important role in disasters as shelters for protecting residents.
- Japan will support the formulation of earthquake-resistant construction guidelines for schools, and assist in the reconstruction of earthquake-resistant schools based on such guidelines.

### ➤ **Housing: early reconstruction of earthquake resistant houses**

- Japan will support the formulation of guidelines for building earthquake resistant housing, with a view to spreading low-cost and safe housing resilient to earthquakes utilizing technology and materials available in rural areas.
- Technical training for communities will be provided in order to disseminate the above-mentioned guidelines.
- Japan will also provide assistance in the actual reconstruction of housing resilient to earthquakes reflecting the guidelines.

### ➤ **Community infrastructure: developing resilient facilities that will save lives**

- Japan will provide assistance in restoring public facilities such as local government buildings and hospitals as well as community infrastructure such as roads and bridges in rural areas, making them resistant to earthquakes.

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## 3. Financial assistance

(Note: 1 USD is calculated as 125 JPY)

In order to support Nepal's "Build Back Better" after the earthquake, Japan will provide **assistance around over 32 billion Yen (approximately 260 million USD)** to address urgent recovery and reconstruction needs for schools, housing, and public facilities among others.

### **1. Collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

- **Co-financing with the ADB: 14 billion Yen (112 million USD)**: Support for rebuilding schools (utilizing Japan's know-how in earthquake resistant building standards) and recovering community infrastructure in rural areas; the ADB envisions providing an emergency loan amounting 200 million USD.
- **Assistance disbursed through the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) at the ADB: 1.875 billion Yen (15 million USD)**: Improvement of schools, disaster management capacity building, and restoring the livelihoods of agricultural producers.

### **2. Co-financing with the World Bank: 12 billion Yen (96 million dollars)**

- Support for rebuilding houses (introducing Japan's earthquake resistant technologies); to be utilized as the funds for for the Nepalese Government to subsidize housing reconstruction.
- The World Bank envisions providing an emergency loan amounting 200 million USD.

### **3. Rehabilitation and Recovery Programme (grant aid): 4 billion yen (32 million USD)**

- Reconstruction and restoration of community infrastructure including local government buildings, hospitals and roads, as well as facilities built under Japan's past ODA projects.

### **4. "School Sector Reform Programme" (grant aid): 300 million yen (2.4 million USD)**

- To be utilized for reconstruction support in the area of education, including rebuilding of schools.

### **5. Assistance through Japanese NGOs: 209 million yen (1.672 million dollars)**

- Japanese Government subsidy for aid projects implemented by Japanese NGOs that are the members of Japan Platform (JPF)\*, such as emergency restoration of water supply and construction of temporary houses and school buildings.

*\* JPF is a framework to facilitate collaboration among Japanese NGOs, business sector and the government to facilitate swift and effective aid. JPF is funded by government spending and private donations.*