

Global Humanitarian Assistance

# Japan country profile

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## Overview

In 2009 Japan was the sixth most generous aid (official development assistance, ODA) donor and the twelfth most generous humanitarian aid donor, reporting US\$8.5 billion and US\$269.5 million respectively. Between 1998 and 2000 Japan was the largest aid donor and in 2004 it was the fourth largest humanitarian aid donor after the United States, the European Union (EU) and the United Kingdom, contributing US\$832.6 million. Whilst Japan is a major aid donor, its humanitarian aid as a proportion of its overall aid is relatively low. Since 1995 this proportion has, on average, been 3% with peaks in 2004 (10%) and 2005 (9%).

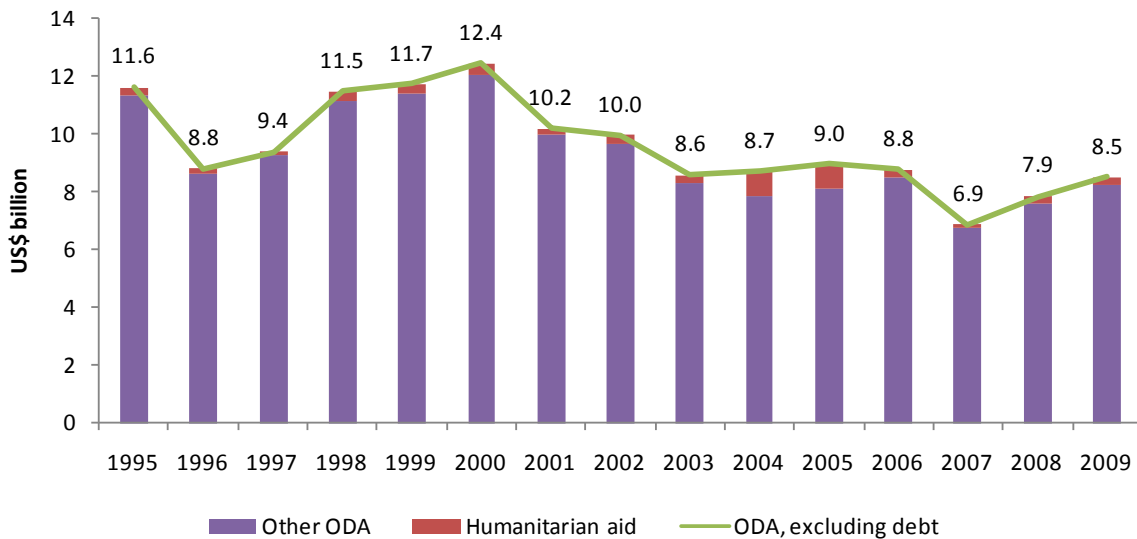


Figure 1: Japan’s total official development assistance (ODA) and humanitarian aid expenditure, 1995-2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC (constant 2008 prices) data].

## Given/Received

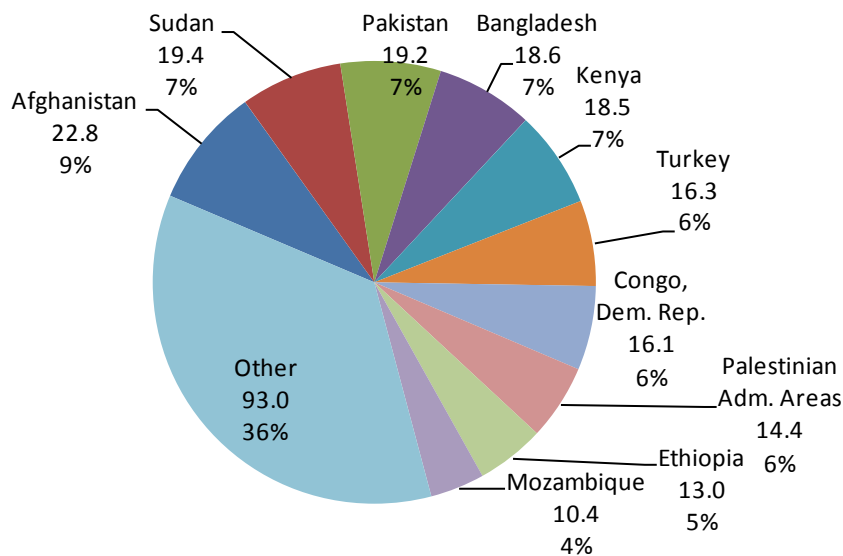


Figure 2: Top 10 recipients of total humanitarian aid from Japan (US\$ million), 2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC (constant 2008 prices) and UN CERF data].

In 2009 Afghanistan was the largest recipient of humanitarian aid from Japan, receiving US\$22.8 million, and was also the top recipient in 2002 and 2008. Since 1995 Iraq has received the largest volume of total humanitarian aid, US\$939.1million, and has been the top recipient in 2004 (US\$629.2 million), 2005 (US\$262.0 million). Between 2006 and 2009 Sudan was the second largest recipient and Palestine/OPT has appeared in the top three recipients four times between 2000 and 2004.

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Timor-Leste 27.5	Pakistan 14.5	Afghanistan 29.1	China 21.5	Iraq 629.2	Iraq 262.0	Palestine /OPT 51.6	Iraq 23.5	Afghanistan 42.8	Afghanistan 22.8
Palestine /OPT 25.6	Palestine /OPT 12.7	Ethiopia 10.7	Angola 9.2	Iran 19.3	Indonesia 141.3	Sudan 20.6	Sudan 17.3	Sudan 40.5	Sudan 19.4
Serbia 14.6	Serbia 8.8	Palestine/OPT 10.6	Kenya 7.9	Palestine /OPT 15.6	Sri Lanka 78.3	Pakistan 19.6	DRC 9.9	DRC 17.8	Pakistan 19.2

Figure 3: Top three recipients of total humanitarian aid from Japan, 1999-2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC (constant 2008 prices) and UN CERF data].

### What on?

Between 2005 and 2007 Japan spent the largest proportion of its humanitarian aid on ‘material relief assistance and services’. Since 2008 a growing proportion of Japan’s directly administered humanitarian aid has been spent on ‘relief coordination; protection and support services’ as well as an increase in disaster prevention and preparedness.

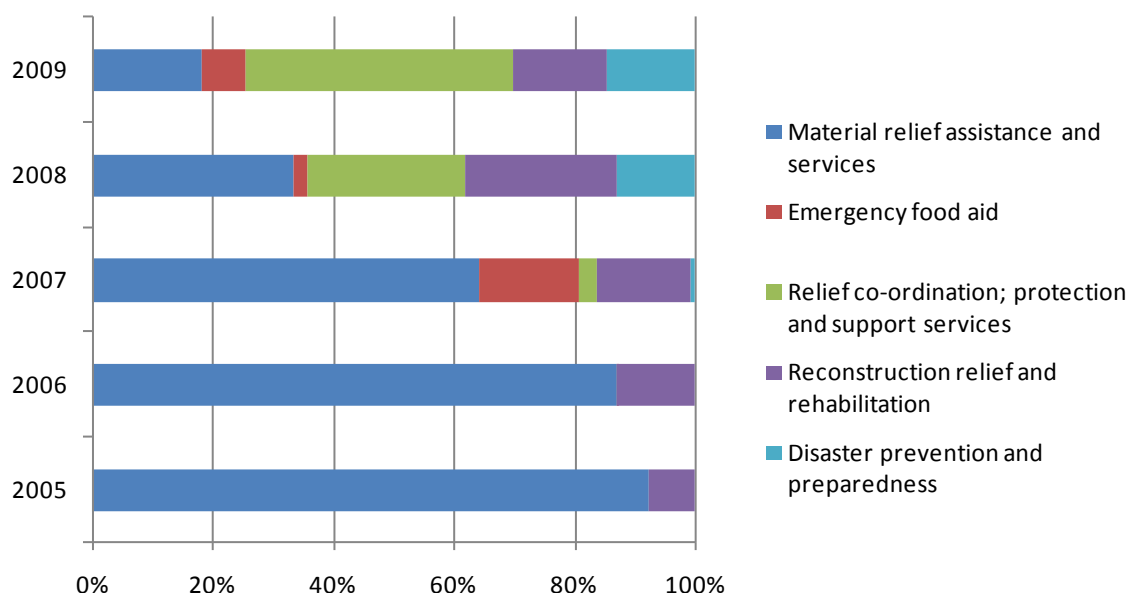


Figure 4: What Japan spent its directly administered humanitarian aid on, 2005-2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC (constant 2008 prices) data. This does not include core ODA (or ‘aid’) contributions to UNHCR, UNRWA or WFP]

## Sectors

Since 2005 the food sector has received the largest proportion of Japan’s humanitarian aid, 23%, featuring as the largest sector in 2009. In 2005 over 40% of Japan’s humanitarian aid went to the economic recovery and infrastructure sector, US\$302.7 million, the majority of which went to the Indian Ocean earthquake-tsunami.

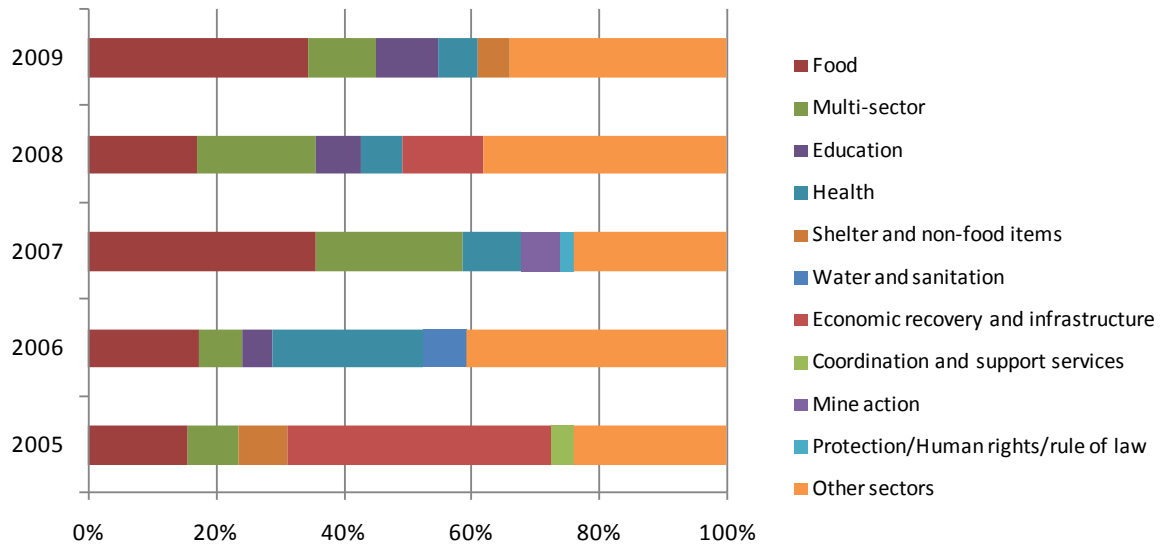


Figure 5: Humanitarian aid sectors, 2005-2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS].

## Pooled funds

Japan does not spend a large amount of its humanitarian aid through pooled funding mechanisms and has channelled a total of US\$12.7 million through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) between 2006 and 2010.

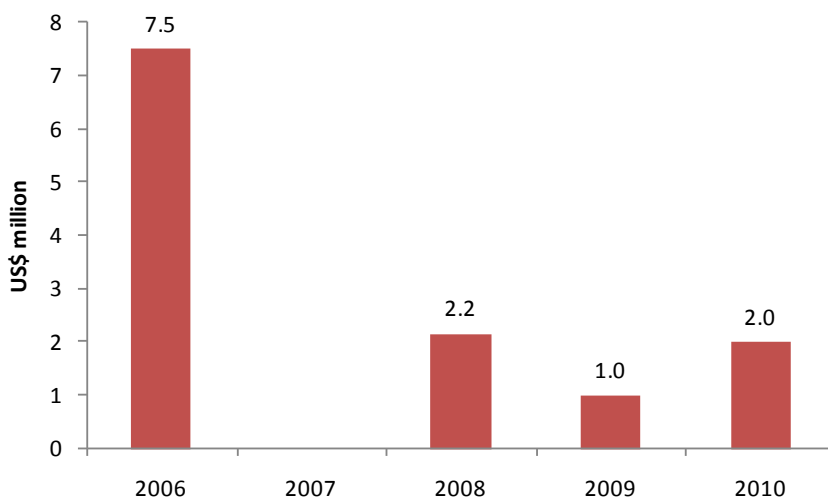


Figure 6: Japan’s contributions to CERF, 2006-2010. [Source: Development Initiatives based on UN CERF].

Japan has channelled development aid through the Iraq multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) and was the largest donor to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) managed fund in 2004, giving US\$361.0 million. It also provided a total of US\$130.6 million through the World Bank managed fund between 2004 and 2006.

## Appeals

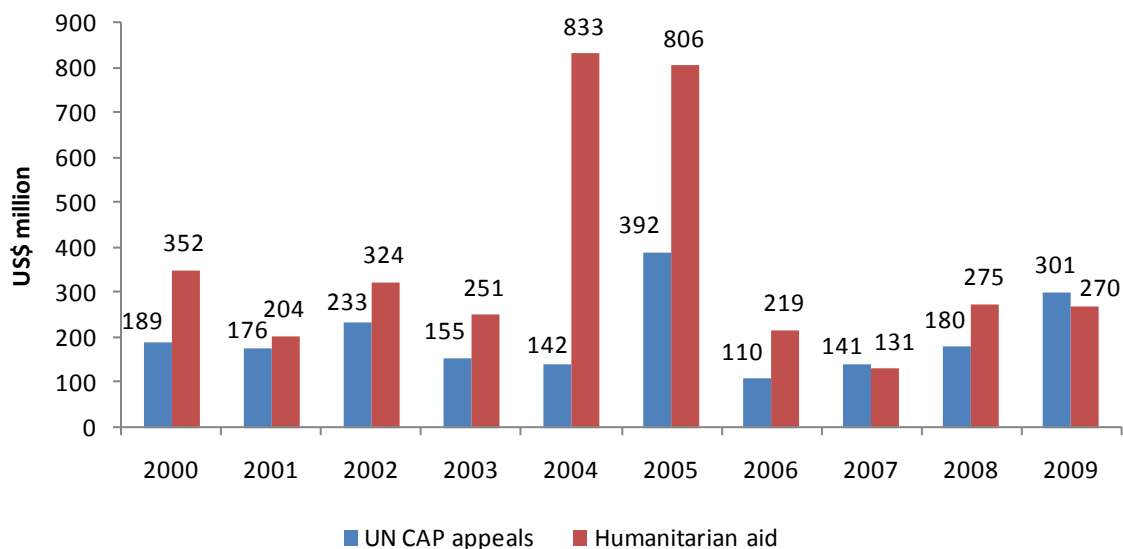


Figure 7: Total humanitarian aid from Japan alongside its funding for UN CAP appeals, 2000-2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC and UN OCHA FTS data]. CAP appeal data is in current prices, whereas humanitarian aid is in constant 2008 prices.

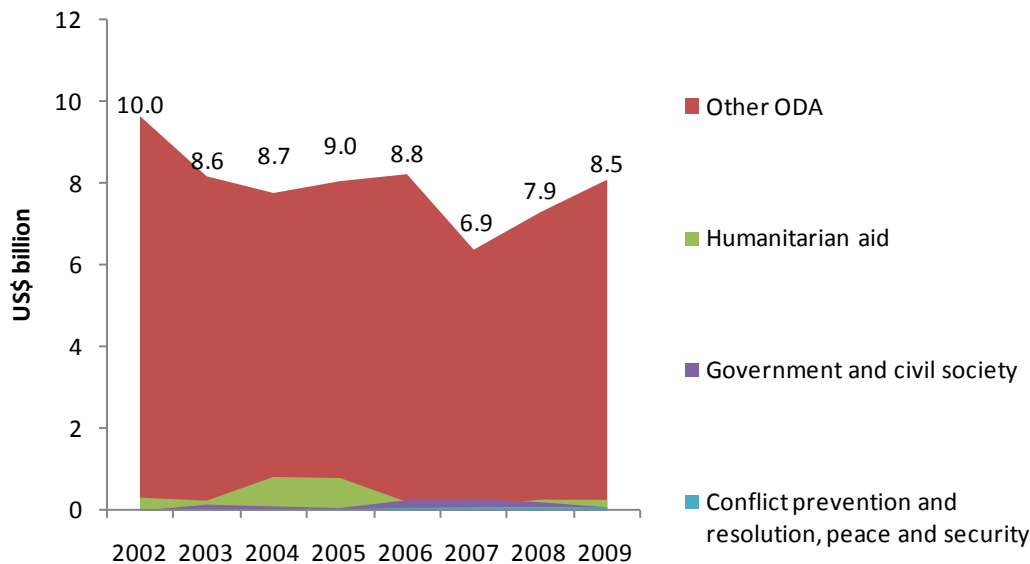
Japan has channelled a significant amount of humanitarian aid through the United Nations (UN) consolidated appeals process (CAP), its largest contribution being given in 2005 (of US\$392 million). In 2009 it gave US\$85.2million to the Afghanistan Humanitarian Action Plan for that year, which made up 12.8% of all donor contributions to that appeal.

UN CAP Appeals 2009	Donor contributions to the appeal (US\$m)	Donor contributions to the appeal (%)	UN CAP appeal requirements	UN CAP appeal needs not met
Afghanistan Humanitarian Action Plan 2009	85.2	12.8%	664.9	21.8%
Central African Republic 2009	4.4	4.3%	100.4	30.2%
Chad 2009	13.5	3.4%	400.6	9.0%
Côte d'Ivoire 2009	1.5	4.1%	36.7	62.6%
Democratic Republic of the Congo 2009	16.7	1.8%	946.3	33.9%
Iraq and the region 2009	0.9	0.1%	650.2	35.5%
Kenya Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan 2009	24.1	4.1%	581.1	15.7%
Palestine/OPT 2009	14.0	1.7%	804.5	22.5%
Pakistan Humanitarian Response Plan (Revised) 2008-2009	31.8	4.7%	680.1	20.5%
Philippines Flash Appeal (Revised) (October 2009 - March 2010)	4.5	3.1%	143.8	60.1%
Somalia 2009	16.5	1.9%	851.8	35.1%
Sri Lanka Common Humanitarian Action Plan 2009	9.0	3.3%	270.1	26.0%
Sudan 2009	53.9	2.6%	2111.3	26.9%
Uganda 2009	6.6	2.7%	247.0	23.7%
West Africa 2009	8.2	2.0%	404.4	35.9%
Yemen Flash Appeal (Revised) (September - December 2009)	1.9	8.5%	22.7	12.2%
Zimbabwe 2009	8.8	1.2%	722.2	35.2%

Figure 8: Japan's funding for UN CAP appeals in 2009. [Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS data].

## Governance and security

Between 2002 and 2009 Japan’s humanitarian aid as a proportion of its total aid (official development assistance, ODA) has, on average, remained relatively low at 3%, with peaks in 2004 (10%) and 2005 (9%). Throughout this period Japan spent only US\$0.3 million of its aid on conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security and US\$1.2 million on government and civil society, the majority of which went towards public sector policy and administration management.



**Figure 9: Japan’s total humanitarian aid alongside other ODA spent on governance and security.** [Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC (constant 2008 prices) data].

## Policy

Japan has been a member of the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) group since its inception in 2003. It is also a member of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and has been reporting its aid to this database since 1965. Japan’s aid volume, policy and structure was last peer reviewed by the [OECD DAC in 2010](#).

Japan’s humanitarian budget is allocated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and administered by the Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Relief Division. Japan’s legal and policy framework differentiates its humanitarian response in relation to natural disasters and complex emergencies. There is currently no overarching humanitarian aid policy.

Japan is prone to natural disasters and is one of the leading countries in disaster risk reduction and mitigation. In March 2011 the north east of the country was hit by a devastating earthquake and tsunami which killed at least 10,000 people.

Further reading on Japan’s humanitarian assistance is available [here](#).



A DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE 

Author: Kerry Smith [Kerry@devinit.org](mailto:Kerry@devinit.org)

Development Initiatives, Keward Court, Jocelyn Drive, Wells, Somerset, BA5 1DB, UK

T: +44 (0)1749 671343

W: [globalhumanitarianassistance.org](http://globalhumanitarianassistance.org)

Twitter: [GHA\\_org](https://twitter.com/GHA_org)