





## Situation Report

Typhoon Hagibis made landfall in Japan on October 12, 2019. Widespread torrential rains, strong winds and subsequent flooding and landslides followed in many parts of central Japan.

- In just two days, Japan received 30%-40% of its usual annual rainfall.
- Thirteen prefectures received Category 5 warnings, which means “Do whatever it takes to save your life.” Typhoon Hagibis submerged 250,000 hectares (approx. 618,000 acres) of land.
- Evacuation warning was given to more than 7 million people.
- By October 20th, 80 people had died, 11 were missing and 4,000+ people were living in evacuation shelters.

Typhoon Hagibis has devastated already areas that earlier disasters had hit, including Tateyama in Chiba where Typhoon Faxai hit last month. Thus, the initial CWS response there focuses on elderly people, who already vulnerable from health challenges and isolation. Together with the National Christian Council in Japan (NCCJ) and Action by Churches Together (ACT) Japan Forum, the CWS response will prioritize home and livelihood restoration.

For vulnerable elderly people affected by the typhoon, especially those who live alone, recovery is starting with volunteer help to clear debris inside and outside their homes. This is in preparation for cleaning and repair/rebuilding.

The ACT Forum Japan has called for skilled volunteers, and an operations base is being created in partnership with Operation Blessing Japan, which will support volunteer dispatch.

Now, CWS is partnering with a local organization, Awa Bunka Isan Forum (Awa Cultural Heritage Forum), for immediate response and support to preserve the culture and history of the area. “The community is aging, and they suffer from [aging] issues. Understanding this while assessing their disaster recovery needs is critical,” said Ms. Ikeda of the Awa Forum. The Forum’s strength is in knowing the communities well, and this is critical in assessing what specific assistance is required in each home.

This typhoon response in Tateyama, Chiba requires clear understanding of the nexus between supporting an aging population to survive and coping with intensified natural disasters related to complex climate change.

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Swift Code: BOTKJPJT



Clearing debris and restoring electricity are starting points for typhoon recovery.



Mold inside a house.