

DISASTER RELIEF VOLUNTEER CENTER



IT TAKES PEOPLE TO SUPPORT PEOPLE



Building Disaster Resilient Communities
– Communities cannot be resilient in isolation –

PEACE BOAT DISASTER RELIEF VOLUNTEER CENTER (PBV)

Peace Boat began its disaster relief work following the Kobe earthquake of 1995, and since then has provided disaster relief support in Japan and around the world. Following the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 2011, Peace Boat established the Peace Boat Disaster Relief Volunteer Center (PBV) to focus on emergency relief in the stricken region and long-term support for its recovery, specializing in the training, dispatch and coordination of volunteers to support the relief efforts.

Building on lessons learned in the 2011 disaster, Peace Boat – while continuing its work in North-East Japan – is focusing longer-term at disaster relief and risk reduction in a local, national and global context, with the following strategic goals:

1. Strengthen the capability and capacity of community and volunteer organizations through improving the management and coordination of volunteers
2. Strengthen the strategic role of the community and volunteers in all phases of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
3. Building disaster resilient communities – Communities cannot be resilient in isolation.

Peace Boat is active in supporting the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and is a member of the GNDR (Global Network for Disaster Reduction).

ABOUT PEACE BOAT

Founded in 1983, Peace Boat is a Tokyo-based international non-governmental and non-profit organization in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations that works to promote peace, human rights, equal and sustainable development and respect for the environment. Peace Boat carries out its main activities through a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages. The ship creates a neutral, mobile space and enables people to engage across borders in dialogue and mutual cooperation at sea, and in the ports we visit. Our activities are carried out on a partnership basis with other civil society organizations and communities in Japan, Northeast Asia, and around the world.

Peace Boat's ship is a unique tool for building awareness and capacity for action between citizens throughout the world, including in the field of disaster risk reduction.

EDUCATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Peace Boat creates a unique environment in which people can live, learn and relax together while visiting some of the most fascinating regions on earth. During each voyage, Peace Boat organizes a range of educational activities which encourage dialogue, critical thinking, reflection and active participation on current global issues.

PROGRAMMES ON BOARD: INTERNATIONAL GUEST EDUCATORS

Everyday onboard the ship, there are numerous lectures and workshops taking place on a wide variety of global issues including globalization, conflict, human rights and the environment. International guest educators – activists, academics, journalists and artists – direct each segment of the voyage to share their knowledge, experiences, expertise and world views.

PROGRAMMES IN PORT

Peace Boat works in cooperation with local and international civil society organizations and communities in the countries visited in order to create a wide range of study and exchange programmes to allow participants to interact and support grassroots initiatives and contribute to sustainable local development.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS PROGRAMMES

Peace Boat seeks to increase access to unique educational opportunities in the areas of peace building, conflict resolution, sustainability and disaster risk reduction to young people from the countries we visit. Through the creation of International Student programmes, students receive assistance that equips them to work for their communities by developing the knowledge, skills, experience and motivation for them to make a difference.



PEACE BOAT'S ONGOING PROJECTS AND CAMPAIGNS

Through educational programs, cooperative projects and advocacy activities, Peace Boat carries out projects and campaigns promoting

- Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding
- Disarmament and Nuclear Abolition
- Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Support
- Peace and Human Rights
- Sustainability and Environmental Protection

SOME OF OUR CAMPAIGNS AND AFFILIATIONS INCLUDE:

- Peace Boat Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Campaign
- Support Goods for Sustainability: United People's Alliance
- Mayors for Peace
- Peace Through Sports (Peace Ball)
- Global Partnership for the Prevention for Armed Conflict (GPPAC)
- Disarmament for Development
- Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World – Peace Boat Hibakusha Project
- International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ICNND)
- International Campaign to Stop Rape & Gender Violence in Conflict
- Peace Boat Mine Abolition Campaign (P-MAC)

For a full list visit: www.peaceboat.org

The main platform of Peace Boat's Disaster Relief Volunteer Center (PBV) is a rapid, sustained and continuous flow of volunteers to work in assisting communities affected by disaster

DISASTER VOLUNTEER DISPATCH & COORDINATION

DISASTER RELIEF SYSTEM



Peace Boat's principles for relief center on providing resources in four main areas: volunteers, supplies, funds, and information.

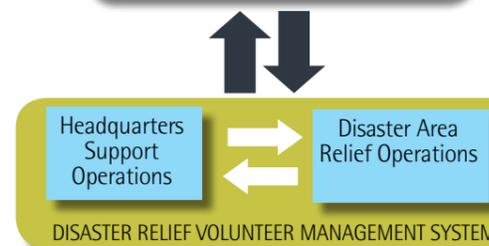


DISASTER VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The main platform of Peace Boat's Disaster Relief Volunteer Center (PBV) is a rapid, sustained and continuous flow of volunteers to work in assisting communities affected by disaster.

PBV's emergency response operations focus on the training, deployment and coordination of volunteers in the belief that well-coordinated volunteers can provide essential practical support in the physical regeneration of disaster affected regions, and that the human solidarity they provide is a vital factor in the comprehensive recovery of the region. The key to the effectiveness of PBV's volunteer management system is the equal emphasis that is placed on both the disaster area relief operations and the headquarter support operations, where volunteers are sourced and trained. This dual system is able to expand and contract in response to the situation and needs of the people we aim to assist.

SITUATION AND NEEDS OF DISASTER AREAS



VOLUNTEERS



INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS

"I want to help" is a very human response, and many individuals seek for practical ways to lend their support in times of disaster. PBV believes that, with expert coordination and simple training, even those people without previous experience in disaster relief can be a powerful and invaluable human resource for response and recovery. Through grouping such individuals together, and providing coordination, PBV both reduces the physical, psychological and financial burdens on the volunteers and maximizes their effectiveness in the field.

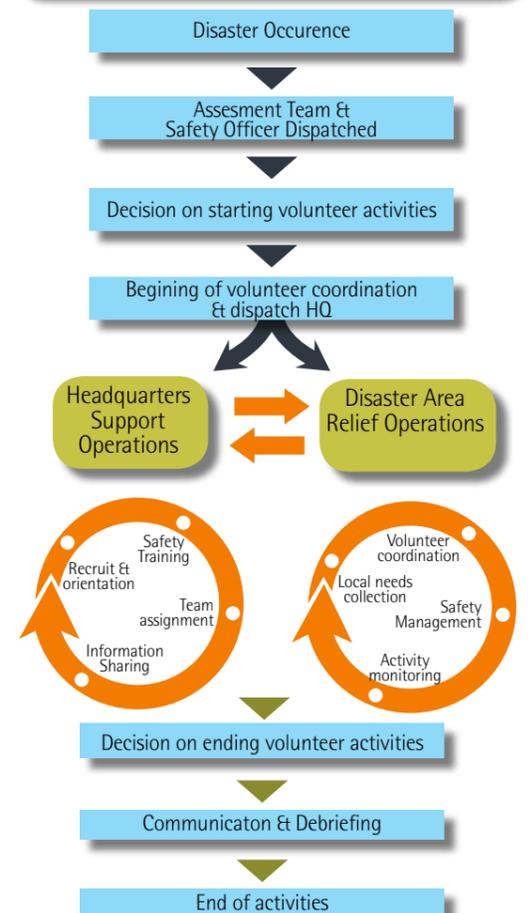
INSTITUTIONAL VOLUNTEERS AND COOPERATION

Peace Boat also works with institutions such as embassies, inter-governmental organizations, corporations, universities and Chambers of Commerce, which have proved to be an invaluable rallying point for sending volunteers, generating support and donating aid.

SOLIDARITY BEYOND BORDERS: INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

As an international NGO, Peace Boat receives and welcomes interest from the international community wanting to participate in disaster response and recovery. The presence of international volunteers and support from overseas helps people understand that they do not face the challenges of disaster alone, and that the world is with them in their efforts to recover.

DISASTER RELIEF VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



PEACE BOAT'S DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS



ACHIEVEMENTS:

Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
Period between 11 March 2011 - 31 March 2013



13,816 individual people
85,564 Total volunteer working days

3,471 volunteer working days, from 56 countries and regions

8,011 Corporate and Institution working days
102 companies / institutions

107,835 Hot meals distributed

1,790 Tonnes of relief supplies distributed

7 People in local employment

2,114 Buildings cleared of tsunami debris

190 Businesses re-opened

26,000 Beneficiaries covered by psychosocial support at temporary housings

130 Vegetable/community gardens to provide treatment for stress, depression, grief and post traumatic stress disorder

over 20,000 beneficiaries participated at Peace Boat community events.



Cleaning Mud and Debris
Large-scale volunteer activities after tsunami & flood devastation



International Emergency Relief Supplies
Peace Boat delivering emergency supplies



Emergency Bathing Facilities
Providing relief for both body and mind



Fishery Support for the Future of the Coastlines
Recovering Japan's leading fisheries



Relief Supplies Management & Distribution
Matching relief supplies with local needs



Regeneration of the City and Local Industry
Supporting the re-opening of local stores and factories and employment of local people



Relief Support for Evacuation Centers
Meeting the changing needs of extended stays in shelters



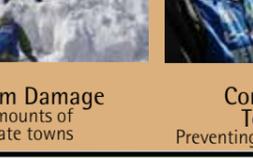
Leader and Administrative Support
Assisting local organizations maintain their operations



Hot Meal Provision and Other Relief Supplies
Distributing hot meals and supplies effectively



Snow Storm Damage
Record amounts of snow isolate towns



Community Support in Temporary Housing
Preventing isolation and working together

IN FOCUS: INTERNATIONAL New York Hurricane Sandy

In late October 2012, Hurricane Sandy struck the east coast of the United States. To show gratitude and return the support Japan received during the the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Peace Boat and Peace Boat U.S decided to commence volunteer operations in the New York City area. For over 6 months, PBV dispatched coordinating staff and volunteers to provide support to our local partner organization,

the World Cares Center. The volunteers were involved in both the field and the administrative sides of the relief efforts, focussing mainly on the management and coordination of local volunteers and collecting and fulfilling the needs of the local residents. This relief effort has become a symbol of U.S - Japan solidarity and a model of how small teams of experienced volunteers can provide support to enable local organizations fill their capacity in the surge following a disaster.

IN FOCUS: DOMESTIC JAPAN TOHOKU - Great East Earthquake & Tsunami

ISHINOMAKI:
Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, located on the Pacific coast in the Tohoku region of Japan, was one of the worst affected cities by the 11th March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. The city was struck by waves of up to 20 meters in height and suffered tremendous destruction to its infrastructure and industries, and the loss of more than three thousand of its citizens.

FUKUSHIMA:
Peace Boat started the Fukushima Youth Ambassadors Programme to provide a break from the radiation risk and an inspirational experience following the nuclear accident. These international exchanges have been undertaken with youth from Asia, Oceania and Latin America.



ATTEMPT TO MITIGATE FUTURE DISASTERS

DISASTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAMME

Many issues came to light during the relief efforts after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. In order to mitigate the damage caused by any future disasters, it is important to take advantage of the lessons learned.

Fundamentally, it is of greatest importance that relief efforts are not left solely up to the local disaster prevention and response professionals, such as the local government, fire department and medical staff. Citizens must also take responsibility to acquire skills that will allow them to volunteer to support the relief and recovery efforts. To this end, Peace Boat launched the following training programmes:



COMMUNITY DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Peace Boat recognizes the importance of disaster risk reduction and increased response capacities for communities to become more disaster resilient and has prioritized assistance to communities to achieve this.



DISASTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

-Help people, Protect yourself-

This lecture and workshop style training provides individuals with knowledge that enables them to protect themselves and the people around them in time of disaster, and to help their community in the immediate aftermath. It continues with how to volunteer to support other communities affected by disaster.

Curriculum: About disasters, safety, injury management, living in evacuation centers, disaster relief volunteering, community networks.



DISASTER VOLUNTEER CERTIFICATION

-Using knowledge to help in time of need-

This internet-based test and certification training is designed as a tool to introduce the basics of what to do in time of disaster and disaster relief volunteering. As the test also provides information about why an answer was correct or incorrect it can be used as the first point of training or used to confirm learnt knowledge in the Disaster Volunteer Training.



DISASTER VOLUNTEER LEADER TRAINING

-Coordinating your community, supporting other communities-

In the months following Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami it became clear that one of the issues preventing a swift recovery from the disaster was not only a lack of individuals trained in disaster relief, but more significantly, a lack of volunteer leaders with the capacity to organize efficient and safe deployment of volunteer groups.

Training volunteers and leaders, with the dual perspective of volunteering in your own community and being ready to accept volunteers that will come to help from other communities, will build a country's capacity for effective relief and recovery efforts in future natural disasters.

DISASTER VOLUNTEER SKILL-UP

-Skills that help-

To help build the skill base of volunteers, a collection of specialized trainings conducted by PBV or our partner organizations. The training varies in time and between lectures, workshops, and practical field training.



• NETWORKS

Peace Boat recognizes the importance that strong and established networks play in times of disaster and actively helps build formal networks between corporations, civil society organizations, government and communities. These networks further strengthen local community ties that are not only crucial to disaster responses, but also help the whole community to be more healthy and resilient.

• EDUCATION

To assist communities in becoming more resilient, Peace Boat has adopted a proactive approach to informing, motivating and involving people in all aspects of disaster risk reduction in their local communities by conducting lectures, workshops and practical lessons with individuals, community based groups, schools and businesses.

• RISK REDUCTION

Peace Boat conducts "Town Walks" and Hazard Mapping to help communities recognize their risks and vulnerabilities and then holds workshops with the relevant stakeholders to develop plans that reduce those risks and vulnerabilities.

• PREPAREDNESS

Peace Boats starts building community disaster preparedness with programmes that assist people in preparing their homes to be more disaster resistant, organizing emergency supplies and formulating family plans for evacuation.

Individual preparedness then builds into programmes that assist communities as a whole to prepare and respond to disaster. Programmes build skills to identify community members that are more vulnerable to disaster and put in place plans to assist them in time of evacuation, preparing evacuation centers and emergency supplies, and cooperating with relevant authorities in the response and recovery.

Training informs communities to consider the role of volunteers and how to accept them to enhance local capacities to mitigate and cope with disaster. Building a disaster resilient community does not have to be done in isolation. Peace Boat assists in building networks with outside communities and forming collaborative arrangements where people not only help people, but communities help communities.



LEARN
(lectures)

PRACTICE
(On-site training)

DECISION MAKING
(workshops)

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PEACE BOAT

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Peace Boat is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations



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