

# Japan Disaster Relief



JPN-01

## Wins and Challenges

The flexible application of the coordination methodology was a core challenge.

The typical examples were, skipping ASR2 and directly jumping to ASR3, resulting in lack of reliable site information and Site ID. It reminded us of the importance of always keep asking ourselves “what if” situations, such as what if ICMS is not working, what if the host government requests teams to conduct ASR3 level without reliable assessment information etc.

As we were tasked Sector Coordinator of Kahramanmaras, we tried to adjust to the situation by using WhatsApp group as complementary to ICMS.



## Lessons Learned

### Reliable Communication Device

While JDR team has been relying on BGAN, some of the other teams have been trying to use stronger devices such as Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) and Starlink. The team needs to further explore the feasibility of internet communication devices to meet the required demand for communication in coordination.

### Safety and Security

The team learned that the locals may become very hostile and aggressive toward rescue crews as search and rescue operations took time to reach any tangible result. It was a reminder for the team to pay more attention to enhance security as well as safety, in engaging search and rescue operations in an abroad setting.

### Asbestos

We learned that not only hot zones where we are keen of asbestos contamination risks, but even the whole area with collapsed buildings might have been contaminated. In this case, not only the rescuers, but also non-rescue members may need the same level of PPE use. This includes the team logisticians, interpreters and drivers.

The guidance from INSARAG including the typology of model exposure, adequate level of PPE use and specifications, post-exposure procedures, incident reporting line etc. will be beneficial.



[Team Website](#)