

The “Headquarters of Fukushima Partnership Operations_” was established to strengthen the structure to response to the nuclear accident in Fukushima Prefecture

The Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA, President: Atsuyuki Suzuki), as the sole comprehensive nuclear R&D institute in Japan, established the “Headquarters of Fukushima Partnership Operations_” on May 6, 2011, to construct a framework to contribute to the resolution of the medium- and long-term technological challenges for the ultimate restoration from the nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, utilizing systematically and effectively its experts and test research facilities,

As the designated public institution specified in the Item 5, the Article 2 of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness, JAEA has cooperated in the environmental monitoring directed by the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security as well as provided technological advice and scientific knowledge by sending its experts to the special projects of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters and the Nuclear Safety Commission since immediately after the occurrence of the accident.

While it was required to strengthen efforts of JAEA to support Fukushima, TEPCO issued a “Roadmap towards Restoration from the Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant” outlining various measures, and there are issues that are considered to be significant in the medium- to long-term. JAEA recognizes that it is important to launch full-scale efforts to conduct investigation/examination or R&D activities and be prepared to make contribution to the future measures. Accordingly, JAEA established the “Headquarters of Fukushima Partnership Operations” to strengthen the structure to provide strategic assistance to Fukushima, which each of the research departments and centers of JAEA deems its own duties.

Headquarters of Fukushima Partnership Operations_is led by its president so that it will make the most of the expertise of the related sections of the organization to work on strategically the medium- to long-term issues to be solved regarding the assistance for the restoration in Fukushima. Also, the “Department for Planning and Management of Partnership Operations”, the “Department of Partnership Operations for Plant Restoration”, and the “Department of Partnership Operations for Environmental Remediation” are placed in the Headquarters.

Under this new framework, JAEA will make contribution to the restoration from the accident of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant and the restoration from the environmental disaster through making use of knowledge and technological abilities regarding nuclear energy and radiation.

Outline of the organization
Current support activities

[Outline of the organization]

- (1) The president of JAEA directs the Headquarters.
- (2) As the command center of the support activity, the Headquarters will plan support measures and lead efforts of each of the research centers and institutes of JAEA to implement the measures.
- (3) Three divisions are placed in the Headquarters:
 - ① Department for Planning and Management of Partnership Operations
This division will develop implementation plans, make arrangements within JAEA, conduct negotiation and coordination with administrative bodies and other related organizations, and perform PR activities.
 - ② Department of Partnership Operations for Plant Restoration
This division will provide technical support required to solve technical challenges in restoration from the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant such as treating technology for the fuel and water accumulated in the turbine buildings, remote handling technology, etc.
 - ③ Department of Partnership Operations for Environmental Remediation
This division will provide technical support for the environmental restoration of the surrounding area of the nuclear power plant including mapping of the results of radiation monitoring conducted in the area, development of environmental restoration measures, providing remote radiation measuring technology, etc.

[Current support activities]

As a designated public institution, JAEA is conducting the following activities, let by Nuclear Emergency Assistance and Training Center (NEAT) with the cooperation of each of the centers of JAEA.

< Environmental radiation monitoring >

- JAEA is conducting environmental radiation measurement in the area outside of a 20 kilometers radius of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant with monitoring cars, in addition to screening surveys of body contamination.
- JAEA is conducting measurement of body contamination and decontamination with body cleaning cars and body surface measuring cars stationed at Fukushima Prefectural Medical University.
- JAEA is conducting internal radioactivity measurement to assess the internal dose of the workers with whole body counter measuring cars.
- On the request from MEXT, JAEA conducted environmental radiation measurement at 52 elementary and junior high schools in Fukushima Prefecture on April 4, and subsequently on April 22 resurveyed air dose rates at the school yards. Since April 28, it is periodically conducting environmental radiation measurement at elementally and junior high schools.

< Analysis of environmental radiation >

- JAEA is continuously conducting environmental radiation measurement mainly at its centers in Ibaraki Prefecture, as well as taking air dust samples regularly to conduct radioactivity measurement.
- JAEA is regularly conducting radioactivity measurement of the dust and seawater samples taken at the offshore of Fukushima Prefecture by the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC).
- On the request from TEPCO, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency and MEXT, JAEA is conducting radioactivity measurement of soil samplings taken within the site of the nuclear power plant.

< Operation of the consultation desk for residents >

- The Health Counseling Hotline opened in NEAT is responding to about 400 inquiries every day. The system to respond to inquiries was improved at the end of March

with the cooperation of the related organizations.

- JAEA is responding to the inquiries from the residents at the consultation desks set up in the Ibaraki Prefectural Office and a public hall in Fukushima Prefecture.

<Offering of scientific knowledge and technology>

- JAEA is sending its experts to Nuclear Safety Commission to cooperate in the fields of diffusion evaluative analysis and radiation control. Each department of JAEA is supporting such experts by compiling scientific knowledge which is used in their decision.
- JAEA is helping Emergency Operation Center (EOC) of MEXT to compile environmental radiation/radioactivity data on a round-the-clock basis.
- JAEA is cooperating with EOC of MEXT in efforts to respond internationally.
- JAEA is cooperating with METI (the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) in PR activities.
- JAEA is cooperating in the development of the environmental monitoring plan of Ibaraki Prefecture by sending its experts to the prefecture and examining the environmental sample analysis plan.
- On the request from TEPCO, JAEA is planning to analyze the water accumulated in the turbine buildings of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

<Offering of equipment>

- In addition to its monitoring cars, JAEA is sending whole body counter measuring cars, body surface measurement cars and body cleaning cars to Fukushima Prefecture and conducting radiation measurement. Also, it contributed to the improvement of radiation measurement by offering a robot operating car (nicknamed TEAM NIPPON), survey meters and individual dosimeters to local governments and TEPCO.