

Dear Our Friends,

As the Executive Director of the Japan Association of International Publications (JAIP) I am writing to all our members and overseas supplier colleagues, friends and associates to reassure you that it appears that all our members are well, despite the traumatic events you will have seen in the news.

Whilst we have been mercifully spared as an industry, that is not the universal case within the library infrastructure and other centres where your publications are appreciated and valued. There are parts of our country that will live with the consequences of nature's force for many years to come.

I am sure that many observers to this devastating catastrophe will wish to do what they can to offer support to the North-east region of Japan. I hear that some of our overseas friends wish to make donations as a direct contribution to ease the plight of those affected. As an Association, therefore, we feel that we are best placed to co-ordinate such a heart-warming act of international friendship to our colleagues in the affected area. If you wish to make a donation, either funds or practical materials, then the Association will be pleased to act as a conduit on your behalf. So, please let us know your consideration by return. Then we will respond to you and inform you of the most effective course of action to take.

As you are only too aware it is still impossible to assess the total loss in terms of life and infrastructure. As we gain a better understanding of these details I will issue subsequent bulletins to keep you apprised of the situation. Certainly, main research and education facilities and libraries along with their contents have been destroyed by the Tsunami. We are sure that we have lost many friends, clients and colleagues and appreciate your support and kind thoughts at this time.

Sincerely,
Takashi Yamakawa

Executive Director
Japan Association of International Publications