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A Quarter of a Century of Disaster Volunteers in Japan

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Dr. Tomohide ATSUMI graduated from Osaka University, Japan, majoring social psychology and group dynamics. He went to the University of Michigan and received his Ph.D. in Psychology. When he was an associate professor at Kobe University, he became one of the survivors of the 1995 Kobe Earthquake. He volunteered for the residents in Kobe area and, since then, he has studied volunteer activities at disaster relief, recovery and preparedness phases of disasters. He is currently the president of Nippon Volunteer Network Active in Disaster and working for the survivors of earthquake, tsunami, and flood, for instance, in Niigata, Iwate, and Sichuan. He published academic papers in major journals and wrote several books.