



Japan International Volunteer Center

2013 Annual Report



Photo: Cambodia

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Annual Message

Japan International Volunteer Center

President

Hiroshi Taniyama



In 2015 it will be 35 years since the Japan International Volunteer Center (JVC) was established. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all those who have supported us during this time. I would like to take this occasion of presenting our activities here to draw your attention to what kind of situations civil society organizations (CSOs), JVC as one, are facing.

As we look around, we see conflicts breaking out here and there. The disputes over their territories and historical recognition between Japan and Korea, and Japan and China, are intensifying. The disputes between China and Vietnam, and China and the Philippines are also serious. In July 2014 Israel attacked Gaza making victims of many civilians. And now, the threat posed by "the Islamic State" is shaking the world.

The centralization of state powers and the growth of intolerant nationalism are manifesting along with these conflicts. On the other hand, amidst the excessively free competition promoted by Trans-Pacific Partnership(TPP) and similar structures, the "small" citizens are inevitably isolated to be exposed to the "powerful" capitalism. The globalization of the economy and the nationalism will overwhelm the world like the two wheels of a cart.

We JVC have kept working in our project fields of the recipient countries toward alternative lifestyles of the cosmopolitans who tackle issues beyond borders, and toward alternative society where the economy goes on with most of the money circulating locally and where the residents are decision makers for their own matters. Now both of our aims are currently facing severe testing.

Having experiences in areas of conflicts, JVC has expressed its opinion that it would be extremely dangerous to have the Japanese military involved in solving conflicts in foreign countries. We have raised voices on behalf of the local farmers we have met through our activities concerning the problems created by a large scale agricultural development projects of the Japanese ODA in Mozambique and TPP issues.

Through providing cross-border, cross-project learning occasions for our project associates in Thailand, Laos and Cambodia, we have come so far as to envisage the Indochina network to enable them to cope with increasingly rapid changes of their circumstances.

JVC considers each problem occurring in and out of Japan as a danger commonly confronting all citizens. We will continue every activity of JVC in hopes of overcoming these challenges of the difficult times we live in.

Where We Work

Humanitarian Assistance

Afghanistan



Palestine



Iraq



Sudan



Thailand



Korea



Japan



Community Development

Cambodia



Laos



South Africa



Vision

To realize a society where we all people can live in harmony with each other and with nature:

1. support people in various parts of the world who are struggling to improve their living conditions despite of their socially imposed hardships; and
2. create new lifestyles and human relations to protect and revitalize global environment.

Research and Advocacy



Japan
Miyagi, Fukushima

Mission

1. Community-based Sustainable Development
2. Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Reconciliation
3. Disaster Relief and Reconstruction
4. Grass-roots Networking

Code of Conduct for Development

1. Indigenous knowledge and techniques as well as diverse cultures;
2. Community based environmental conservation and management;
3. People's initiative and participation;
4. Development of people's potentials and capabilities in diverse fields;
5. People's self-reliance and equal partnership;
6. Equal participation of women and men: gender equity

History

JVC was founded in 1980 by Japanese volunteers who rushed to Thailand to save the displaced people in Indochina. Later our activities were developed from refugee relief to rural development for a safe and stable life, which JVC thought was the ultimate solution to prevent refugees. The main pillars of activity at present are rural development, emergency relief, peace exchange, and advocacy.

Thailand



Awards

- 1988 The Tokyo Bar Association Prize for Human Rights
- 1989 Asahi Welfare Prize
- 1992 Mainichi International Exchange Awards
- 1995 Prime Minister's Awards

Cambodia

Program Background

At the national level, Cambodia has enjoyed a period of high economic growth. Companies are developing rural areas that were previously farmlands and forest. Currently about 70% of the population still lives in rural areas and is therefore affected by these developments. Some have gone into debt or lost their farms. Although new jobs have been created along with these factories, workers often find it difficult to support their families because of the low wages. Maintaining the stability of farm life is very important for decreasing economic gaps within Cambodia.



Community Livelihood Improvement through Ecological Agriculture



Training in a system of rice intensification



Food processing group



Environmental education



Forest resource survey with villagers

Most Cambodian farmers operate small-scale subsistence farms. Since 2007, JVC has been promoting ecologically friendly agricultural practices in order to reduce the use of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers which have a negative impact on the natural environment and those living in these areas.

1. Training on Ecological Farming

JVC has provided trainings in a system of rice intensification (SRI) that can contribute to improving rice yields without external inputs such as chemical fertilizers and pesticides. More than 227 farmers have been trained in SRI. And also JVC has continued Home Garden Trainings in order to improve the self-sufficiency and to provide for the nutritional needs of families. More than 398 families have established a home garden at their home yard after receiving JVC training.

2. Food Processing Group

A food processing group for women, established in 2011, is producing processed foods that are regularly bought by local restaurants. Three new groups have been established in which new members have been taught these processing skills by existing group members.

3. Environmental Education and Reforestation

As a part of this program, JVC provided environmental education to 600 children in cooperation with 16 teachers in eight schools. These students and their teachers, along with local residents, grew seedlings and then planted 8,000 trees along roads in their communities. And JVC worked to create rules on community forest use in cooperation with the residential forest committees and the local authorities. As a result of these efforts, the number of cases of illegal logging decreased.

4. Trainers' Resources Center (TRC)

TRC continued to provide information and documents on agriculture, community development and environment. In 2013, more than 1,000 users visited our center and JVC lent them more than 1,800 books. In addition, fifty university students attended a series of four seminars and discussed development and the environment based on JVC experiences.

Laos

Program Background

The forests in Laos are characterized with rich biodiversity, which are the sources of food and income for villagers. At the same time, some of them are where farmers practice shifting and livestock graze grasses. Along with a rapid economic growth in Laos, however, the forests have been jeopardized because of the land acquisition associated with industrial plantation for cash crops. Forest destruction results in food insecurity for villagers. It is indispensable to establish a system in which villagers manage their forests and improve their agricultural productions in order to secure food sustainably.



Food Security through Community Based Sustainable Forest Management and Sustainable Agriculture / Rural Development



Training on villagers' legal rights over land and forests



Participants of training



Villagers helping each other to run their rice bank



Bore well surrounded by the fences built by villagers

1. Community Based Sustainable Forest Management

- Applying a new approach of Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP), which reflects villagers' voices more, JVC embarked on the PLUP in two villages and also provided a training session for government officials to ensure sustainability.
- In the legal training activity, JVC took a leading role in making visualized training materials with the government and other NGOs and conducted training on the villagers' legal rights over land and forests, utilizing them.
- To raise awareness of villagers about the land and forest issues and their own rights, the ethnic minority youths trained by JVC performed puppet shows and dramas in their own ethnic language. Natural resource management by villagers themselves is also important.
- JVC embarked on helping villagers establish their community forest for sustainable use of NTFP (Non-Timber Forest Products) in 2 villages and also fish conservation areas in another two villages.

2. Sustainable Agriculture / Rural Development

- The number of SRI (System of Rice Intensification) implementers decreased for the first time after several years of increase. Its causes have to be scrutinized. On the other hand, JVC saw an ethnic minority SRI model farmer for the first time. Rattan germination trainings were also conducted.
- Risk management is as important as production increase for food security. The rice bank is a communal system where villagers can borrow rice with low interest to avoid "rice-borrowing debts" with high interest. JVC reviewed performances of eight existent rice banks and conducted a survey for establishment of new ones.
- Large domestic animals are valuable as assets in responding to unforeseen situations. JVC established a cow bank which let families borrow parent cows and return calves, which other families later borrow in 2 villages. JVC also improved villagers' access to clean water by constructing bore wells and shallow wells.

South Africa

Program Background

The year 2014 marked the 20th anniversary of the end of the apartheid (racial segregation). Yet, the unemployment rate among the black population is still at 60%, and inequality is widening. In addition, 12% of the South African population is infected with HIV. More than 600 lives are lost daily due to AIDS. On the other hand, since the introduction of free ARVs in the public health facilities in 2004, people with HIV have been living longer and healthier. HIV/AIDS is less perceived as a disease immediately leading to death, which has also been affecting the care and measures needed to tackle HIV.



Supporting people living with HIV/AIDS



Home vegetable garden training



First aid training



Support children who need special care



Volunteers who completed trainings

In 2012, JVC started the Project on Participatory HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care, and Support for PLWHA (People Living with HIV and AIDS), which was to run for three years in cooperation with a local NGO, LMCC (Light of Mercy Community Care), in Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

1. Trainings for Home-Based Carers (HBCs)

The HBCs support PLWHAs, who are often isolated, by visiting them daily and advising to adhere to their medications. About 40 HBCs in nine villages received HIV Treatment Literacy Training (TLT) where they learned about how HIV attacks the immune system and how to take ARVs properly. Some HBCs already started to show some changes in their practices. For example, some HBCs actively referred their patients who were failing to take ARVs to the hospital.

2. Home Vegetable Garden Trainings

JVC supports PLWHAs who require healthy diet to stay on ARVs, by training them on home vegetable gardening. In the reporting year twenty-three community members received training, five out of whom continued throughout the year to produce vegetables. JVC also provided trainings at the Child Care Center and some children were able to take vegetables home from its garden.

3. Training for Child Care Volunteers

Eighteen Child Care Volunteers from three villages received the second round of Psychosocial Training. They also completed trainings on TLT and First Aid. After these trainings, the volunteers started to build relations with community stakeholders such as school and village chiefs. They also started a door-to-door survey on the children based on knowledge acquired from the trainings.

4. Awareness and Peer Education

The HBCs started to utilize their knowledge from the trainings to raise awareness on the HIV/AIDS issue. They now provide information on PMTCT (prevention on mother to child transmission) for pregnant women and recommend them to take HIV test at an early stage of pregnancy. In one village, some Child Care Volunteers were invited by a school to educate their students on HIV prevention.

Thailand (Northeastern Region)

Program Background

The agricultural sector in Thailand is undergoing a modernization phase that includes a monoculture system for commercial crops. However, small farmers working with organic farming are trying to overcome the negative effects of the modern commercial agriculture. Yet many people among the younger generations do not want to engage in farming. Therefore, those young farmers who do engage in farming tend to have feelings of isolation. In order to build their confidence and pride in these efforts to create sustainable community, JVC collaborates with these Thai farmers.



Programs for learning sustainable society from the rural areas in Thailand



To learn the origin of food



Planting Banana Trees

We offered a study tour in North-eastern Thailand in February. Six participants visited.

It was a good opportunity to think about the origin of food and their lifestyle in Japan through their stay with farmers at their homes in Thailand.

The exchange and learning of the young farmers in Japan and Thailand



To learn about face-to-face merchandising

It is necessary for young farmers who are willing to create a sustainable life to share their experiences and to communicate with each other to build a partnership so that they make achievements with their confidence and pride as farmer without being isolated. JVC cooperates in providing opportunities for young farmers in Thailand and Japan to connect with each other.

1. Exchange program in Japan for Thai farmers

In the reporting year three Thai farmers visited Japan for around two weeks. Through their work, they learned about face-to-face merchandising without using mass distributors and also about planning events that connect producers with consumers. Additionally, Thai farmers visited Minami-Soma City, Nihonmatsu City in Fukushima pref., and Marumori Town in Miyagi pref. and its nearby areas to hear stories from people who have been affected by the accident in Fukushima nuclear power plant. Through talking with the residents working voluntarily for the decontamination and the inspection of the radioactive substance in agricultural products of the affected areas, they could realize the risk of the nuclear power plant.



To hear about inspection of the radioactive substance

2. Visit the candidate site of the nuclear power plant in Thailand

We visited Ubon Ratchathani province which is the candidate site of the nuclear power plant in Thailand. We were able to hear about the current situation from the residents. The people who know the current situation of three years since the Fukushima nuclear accident in whom became involved in the protest movement was found that very few.



Visiting JVC Minamisoma project site

Thailand (Southern Region)

Program Background

Approximately two million Burmese workers have migrated to Thailand because of scarce job opportunities and medical services in their own country. Hard physical labor in rubber plantations, construction sites and fishery areas is taken by Burmese migrants, who are exposed to the risk of limited access to Thailand's public medical services. In response to the "democratizing" efforts of the Burmese government, not only the corporations but also the international aid have relocated to Burma/Myanmar although vulnerable migrants still remain in Thailand. Hence, protection of the life and health of such migrants is even more needed.



Medical Assistance for Burmese Workers in Phang Nga Province, Southern Thailand



First aid training

Since Indian Ocean earthquake in 2004, JVC supported small-scale farmers and migrant workers, and is currently offering small scaled medical assistance to them in cooperation with a local NGO.

1. Emergency medical assistance

In 2013 JVC delivered emergency medical assistance to 142 people who had been underpaid by their employers, severely injured, or who could not afford their medical expenses. JVC not only assisted the migrants who cannot speak Thai with their communication in medical care and administrative procedures but also offered support to 18 Burmese migrants and their family members for buying health insurance in order to ensure their access to medical services.



Medical checkup

2. Capacity building of community health workers

Furthermore, the community health workers (CHWs) supported by JVC conducted 40 times of health education for 1,200 migrants in order to prevent preventable illness and sickness. By utilizing examples familiar to migrants and choosing seasonally relevant topics, the participants' awareness of prevention increased. The CHWs are well trusted by the community because they are from the community and some of CHWs are formerly migrants themselves. To deepen understanding of the situation of the Burmese migrants, JVC organized a study tour to Phang Nga.

Feasibility Study of Activities in Burma/Myanmar



Research in Kayah State

As a result of internal discussions, JVC decided not to start providing support to local NGOs in Burma/Myanmar yet. It watched the "democratic" process inside Burma/Myanmar and also researched the current situation.

In order to justify social significance, effectiveness and feasibility of establishing a new project in Burma/Myanmar, JVC conducted a brief survey in Kayah State where demands for development assistance remain high. It thus decided to continue surveys in Burma/Myanmar for next year accordingly.

Afghanistan

Program Background

Since the “war against terrorism” started in 2001, international forces have been deployed in Afghanistan. They are now handing back the control of the security to the Afghan government, and local people are forced to live in the deteriorating security situation as well as the possible reduction of international support. In particular, the infant and maternal mortality rate of Afghanistan continues to be among the highest in the world. In this context, JVC has been providing community based assistance for health and education in some rural areas where people have very little access to basic services.



Community Health and Education Project



Vaccination for children



Health education at the clinic



Community library for health related information



Lesson study for better education

1. Clinic activities

JVC has been operating the only clinic in the Gorek area since 2005 and the only sub-clinic in Kuz Kashkot since 2009 both in Shewa district, Nangarhar province. Each clinic cares respectively for around 100 patients daily, covering a population of more than 21,000. The focus of JVC is to promote preventive care by making good use of its close relationship with the communities.

The “Family health book” system introduced by JVC has been effectively used to better understand the health-related habits of the patients, and to offer a comprehensive care and prevention regimen that focuses on individualized family practices and needs.

2. Community health in the village

In addition to the medical attention and advice at the clinics, JVC has also worked through community based approaches to promote preventive care inside the community where the actors are the villagers themselves.

JVC has encouraged the establishment and consolidation of “Health Committee”, members of which are male villagers. One remarkable achievement of their activities the reporting year was setting up a small library so villagers should have access to some health related books and materials.

JVC conducted “Women’s Class” for female villagers to learn about such health related matters as hygiene, diseases, nutrition, safe birth, etc. The class was called for and organized by trained female villagers on regular bases, and along the courses some of them became capable of teaching others.

3. Educational program at schools

Schools have been also an important base for community activities. JVC implemented “Lesson Study”, which provided opportunities for the participant teachers to become familiar with the teachers’ guidebook and to acquire teaching skills. This has been a unique attempt because the participants can learn and practice in their own schools, meaning that they can apply their learning in the real context. Our school activities also include ones for health education such as first aid training and health-essay contests.

Palestine

Program Background

The closure of the Gaza Strip restricts movement of personnel and goods, causing serious shortage of supplies. The people are suffering from poverty, lack of security and freedom; especially the children are suffering from severe malnutrition. The people in the West Bank are also under threat of forced eviction and house demolition while the "Separation Wall" and illegal settlements expand. Due to the seizure and fragmentation, the Palestinians have limited access to health-care, education and employment, resulting in the continued violation of their basic human rights.



Support for improved nutrition for children (Gaza)



Cooking demonstration



Mothers and children participating in cooking demonstration

JVC started its project in Gaza in 2003 and since has been working with the residents for child health protection because children are the most vulnerable to the closure and the conflict.

We cooperate with the local NGO Ard El Insan (AEI) and 30 female volunteers in Bir Alnaja', Jabalia city in the north of Gaza. During the reporting year we implemented in the communities such health promotion activities as lectures, workshops and cooking demonstrations, where mothers learn how to check children's health conditions, how to tackle malnutrition and anemia and how to fix dishes rich with nutrition.

We also organized daily home visits, where the health workers and volunteers conducted health checkups for children, gave counseling and advice to expectant and nursing mothers. With intensive activities we delivered health education and health checkups for more than 6,600 females and 1,100 children, and referred the children with severe health condition to the partner clinic.

School and community health assistance (East Jerusalem)



Health education in schools



Students finished trainings

JVC has been working in the East Jerusalem since 2006, and in 2013 we organized health education for approx. 20,000 children, students and mothers in 45 schools and 15 kindergartens in cooperation with the local NGO Medical Relief Society (MRS). We also organized students and teachers to set up health committees in 4 schools and gave them lectures on health issues, communication and first aid trainings.

After the training was conducted, the trainees gave lectures to others on health and hygiene issues and also took initiatives to organize cleanup activities, to monitor the canteens and to follow up the referred cases which needed special attentions, found through the medical checkups.

We also conducted health checkups for 2,000 children and provided the youths with emergency medical trainings so that they could serve as first-aid volunteers.

We also conducted mobile clinics in the villages separated from the urban centers by the closure and provided health education and checkups for about 2,000 residents.

Sudan

Program Background

Since the beginning of June 2011, a severe civil-war has been persisting in the States of South Kordofan and Blue Nile, which was caused by the marginalization of the rural areas. Either the Sudanese government army (SAF and allegedly militias) or the anti-government group, SPLM/A-N, both has not shown mood for cease fire or for execution of the peace agreement yet. In South Kordofan, over 700,000 people have fled to other areas such as the state capital Kadugli, or even to other states. Most of the displaced people are women and children from the rural mountainous areas, which turned into violent battlefields.



Supporting those under the impacts of the conflict



Farming training by the local expert



Monitoring the field by JVC staff



Distribution of vegetable seeds



Repairing the abandoned well

Since June 2011, thousands of people have fled their villages to other areas, and then over 45,000 displaced people have rushed into around Kadugli. The current conflict occurred subsequently to the civil war (1970's ~ 2005) when they were still in the process of recovering from the severe damages caused by that war. The situation of Kadugli can hardly afford to have IDPs stay at the host community.

1. Livelihood Assistance for the affected people in the conflict area

JVC started to support the IDPs and the host community residents both to improve their livelihood in the outskirts of Kadugli, through such activities as the operation of common vegetable fields and the assistance for water supply. JVC also provided some farming tools and seeds of vegetables and offered farming trainings with a local expert for the IDPs and the host community residents who wished to join farming cooperatively, in the surrounding areas of Kadugli, e.g. Asama, Shair and Tilow that have higher populations of IDPs.

In 2012, JVC supported them to start again their rainy season farming which depends on rainfall only. In 2013, JVC also focused on facilitating and improvement of the dry season farming, which is carried out with irrigation, and offered technical training opportunities.

2. Supporting Water-Supply

JVC also assisted establishment and repairing of small-scaled irrigation to improve their living conditions by themselves. JVC drilled nine wells newly and repaired ten wells, and also provided some tools.

Then, JVC suggested to organize 'water committee' in the communities respectively, which is the management and maintenance system of the water sources and small-scaled irrigation cooperatively including the IDPs. Also, the establishment of relationship between the IDPs and the host communities brought them closer to each other enabling them to talk about their community life and to have a venue for dialogues among them.

It was operated in collaboration with the governmental assistance body HAC and the South Kordofan State Government.

Iraq

Program Background

Since the spring of 2013, incidents of terrorism have increased again, with 2013 seeing 8,868 deaths caused by terrorism, making that year three times deadlier than the previous year and the bloodiest since 2008. In addition, Iraq has felt ripple effects of the conditions in Syria. In Anbar Province in the west, militant groups and the Iraqi security forces have been clashing since September 2013, contributing to the displacement of nearly 430,000 people. Meanwhile, the international aid continues to fall as ten years have passed since the beginning of the Iraq War, and is becoming less and less able to meet people's needs. However, even then, there are local people striving to build up peace from the ground.



Children's Peace Workshops (Kirkuk Province, City of Kirkuk)



Discussing our future direction with Iraqi partner NGO



"How to build peace" workshop, held in Japan

Being a city where diverse groups live together, Kirkuk is one of the places where history and resource interests (oil interests) cause divisions and conflict. INSAN, a local NGO, works to encourage locals to manage divisions through dialogue. For example, INSAN creates spaces in which locals can talk to solve community issues. JVC has been cooperating with INSAN to hold "children's peace workshops," an effort that is also part of INSAN's larger dialogue work. Through children of different ethnic groups making artwork together, this initiative deepens mutual understanding among the many ethnic groups, including adults who see and hear about the children working together.

In 2013, JVC reevaluated its aid to Iraq and considered the future direction of its initiatives there. The children's peace workshops were postponed for financial reasons. To address what can be done to help Iraq in the future and to gather information, JVC conducted site visits with an expert and held internal discussions including one with JVC's board. JVC has thus reconfirmed the gravity of the local situation as well as NGO INSAN's commitment to and the necessity of the above mentioned peace workshops. JVC has decided that peace workshops in Iraq and Japan should be the pillar of its activities in 2014.

Medical support for children with leukemia (Basra)



Providing medicine to children with leukemia

The medical support undertaken in conjunction with JIM-NET (Japan Iraq Medical Network) since 2009 phased out in 2013 after reviewing their initiatives up to that point. Although Iraq's health needs continue to be acute and the country still needs support, JVC opted to phase out the cancer treatment initiative as a joint endeavor and entrusted it to JIM-NET, which possesses the necessary specialized knowledge. From now on, JVC will provide indirect support, such as in logistics, as a JIM-NET member organization.

In cooperation with JIM-NET, JVC delivered support to children's hospitals in Basra in the form of medical supplies needed for treating leukemia and childhood cancer. JVC is phasing out this initiative begun in 2009.

Korea

Program Background

Sparked by the territorial disputes, the tensions between Japan and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and the People's Republic of China, respectively, have risen. In addition to these diplomatic difficulties, there have been military tensions between Japan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) as they carry out nuclear tests. Resentment towards these three countries has also been rising among some of Japan's citizens. It is essential to create space for dialogue and to rebuild a framework for comprehensive diplomatic negotiations in North-East Asia.



Interaction through the children's art exhibition (Pyongyang, Seoul, Yanji, and various locations in Japan)



Collaborative work painted by children of Northeast Asia

We have held Children's art exhibitions annually since 2001. Through the exhibitions and the exchange of artwork created by children in Japan, North Korea and South Korea, we aim to create friendships and to promote mutual understanding between the three nations and to "co-build a peaceful future for Northeast Asia." This event is run by an executive committee including representatives from 10 organizations within Japan, in partnership with the South Korean NGO 'Okedongmu'. Artwork from children in China has also been included since 2010.



Workshop in Pyongyang

In 2013 JVC hosted workshops in which children learned about peace through the picture book titled "What is Peace?" They took place in various locations including Tokyo, Pyongyang, Seoul, Yanji, Kesenuma, and Osaka. The voices of the children were heard and booklets of the voice were distributed. The children also painted a scene from the picture book and this painting was exhibited in Tokyo. More than 500 people attended these workshops in Tokyo. The Japanese children were able to interact with the children from Korea and China. Creating this kind of opportunities for direct communication has become increasingly important in the current negative environment in Northeast Asia.



Exhibition in Tokyo



Booklet of children's voices

Emergency Relief

As a participating organization on the "Relief Campaign Committee for Children, Japan (RCCJ)", we hosted activities to provide food aid to North Korean children. Since 1996, we have also supported recovery efforts in the regions severely affected by natural disasters. Providing this support in North Korea is difficult due to the sanctions imposed by the

Japanese government.

According to the annual report of the United Nations, over the past three years, there were not any serious natural disasters and so their grain harvests were successful in North Korea. In this period JVC was not involved in any emergency relief actions.

Kesennuma, Miyagi-pref. (Great East Japan Earthquake)

Program Background

In the city of Kesennuma in Miyagi prefecture, over 1,000 lives were lost and approximately 9,500 households were devastated by the tsunami in March 2011. Many residents who lost their houses are still forced to live uncomfortably in temporary housing. In addition, the support systems for residents still living in their homes are insufficient.

Since August 2011 when JVC established an office in Kesennuma City, we have continuously supported the citizens of the Shishiori district, who continue to struggle with numerous problems.



Support for recovery of Shishiori-District in Kesennuma City



Workshop with advisors

1. Sent advisors for group relocations

In support of their relocation efforts, we formed an advisory team that included architects and town planners and sent them to Kesennuma City. After gaining the support of the residents, plans for the development of housing areas were created with their wishes in mind. Construction work then began. JVC also hosted 14 town meetings for the residents. The topics covered in these meetings included “development rules for making their living more comfortable” and information regarding the housing construction.



Urashima district promotional meeting

2. Support in the Urashima district

The Urashima district established the "Urashima district promotional meeting." JVC supported the meeting and held two seminars to discuss how to utilize the former Urashima primary schoolhouse. JVC also helped to clean up the area and to publish an informational bulletin. JVC hosted two mariculture experience program in February and March. This put mariculture producers in touch with potential customers. There were 22 participants.



Mariculture experience program

3. Creating opportunities for scattered residents and support for people at home

Whereas support has tended to concentrate on the people living in the temporary housing, JVC has worked to solve problems experienced by those still living in their own homes. These people often feel isolated. JVC provided opportunities for those who have scattered, and those who have stayed, to communicate on a regular basis. There were five events in which 79 people participated.



Nordic walking as "Hobby Time" event

4. Prevention of Disuse Syndrome

In collaboration with local organizations, JVC organized “Hobby Time” events to help those feeling isolated in their temporary shelters. There were 12 such events attended by about 195 people. The activities included handicrafts and sports. JVC also hosted the “Shishiori Ikiiki Club” for the prevention of disuse syndrome, where we introduced a new type of exercise.

Minamisoma, Fukushima-Pref. (Great East Japan Earthquake)

Program Background

Minamisoma is located in the eastern part of Fukushima prefecture and it is one of the closest cities to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. It is prohibited to live in the southern part of the city "Odaka" and thus the original population of approximately 13,000, has not been permitted to go back to their homes and has been living in the temporary shelters. The Japanese government has announced that they will open Odaka district but the decontamination of the radioactive particles has been getting delayed leaving the people in the shelters in anxiety.



Community space project in temporary housing site



Community space in temporary housing site

There are approximately 2,500 temporary housing sites in Minamisoma. The people who live in the temporary housing tend to stay home and lose contacts with others because their communities are new. It leads to both psychological and physical problems. The number of the residents who have died in isolation has increased in the temporary housing sites.

During 2013, in cooperation with local organizations, Tsunagappe Minamisoma, JVC managed four community space activities in the communal spaces of selected temporary housing sites. Tea, coffee, and equipment such as an electric massage chair were provided there. From 30 to 40 individuals a day visited the space and it helped them to communicate with each other.



Folk song class held in community space

Through the community space activities, residents got to know each other and they started to make new communities in the temporary housing sites. Also, it contributed to making the residents' council active and they started their own activities. In order to improve the activities, we started a quarterly review meeting and made a smooth discussion system in Tsunagappe.



Review meeting with partner NGO

In order to make a smooth communication among actors who work on temporary housing site, JVC and the local Non-profit organization "Minna no Tonarigumi" started preparation of building a liaison committee. We aim to hold a monthly meeting which is open for any actors who work in temporary housing site and make a horizontal relationship among them. We plan to hold a kick-off meeting in May 2014.

Supporting project for RSDR (Radio Station for Disaster Responses) in Minamisoma



Minamisoma Hibari FM

JVC has been supporting RSDR, "Hibari FM". People in Minamisoma are living with the worry of radiation pollution and what they need in order to stay protected from radiation is quick and accurate information about how to stay healthy.

In 2013 in order to make the radio station stable, JVC helped Hibari FM make their management structure. Minamisoma city decided to pay funds to Hibari FM from their budget.

Research and Advocacy

Program Background

The Japanese government is changing its national security policy to allow the Self Defense Force to act in cooperation with the USA army outside Japan. The government is also changing its aid and economic policies with little care for the poor and the minority in the world. Some NGOs are not keen to advocate these critical issues with policy makers. But we advocate towards the government building a peaceful society through dialogue and capacity building of civil society, denying solving problems with weapons, based on our experience in the fields.

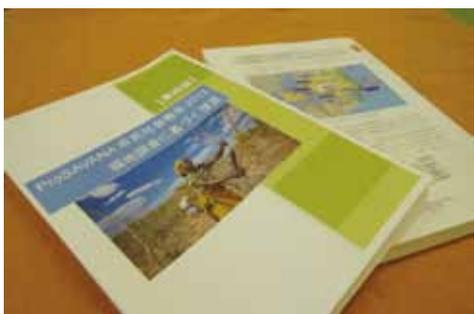
In addition to that, we are cooperating with other NGOs and local citizens to appeal towards the Japanese government and enterprises that are conducting economic activities in developing countries, requesting that they implement aid projects with social and environmental concerns in mind. We also dialogue with UNs and a variety of stakeholders in the world in order to make environmentally friendly, equitable and peaceful society.



Many farmers are losing land in Mozambique



The member of the Mozambique farmeres union



Report based on the investigation in Mozambique

ODA Related Activities

1. Proposal for large-scale agricultural development in Mozambique

The Japanese government and JICA created the “Program of Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development of the Tropical Savannah in Mozambique” (ProSAVANA-JBM) to promote the large scale export of beans and other agricultural products to Japan. It appears that ProSAVANA was created more in support of Japanese corporations looking to expand their business opportunities in Africa than for the needs of local farmers. This is why JVC wants the government to reconsider ProSAVANA. In 2013, JVC and other organizations conducted investigations in Mozambique. JVC then presented a report and statement concerning ProSAVANA. This advocated for the protection of small scale farmer land rights and food sovereignty within Mozambique. In May, members of the Mozambique farmers union visited Tokyo prior to the “Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)” and made an appeal that ProSAVANA be reconsidered.

2. NGO-MOFA regular meeting

JVC Research and Advocacy officer, representing the ODA Reform Network, and JVC Representative, as vice-chair of JANIC, serve as coordinators for the NGO-MOFA Regular Meeting on ODA Policy. This is a forum in which NGOs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs can exchange opinions.

3. Development Project Accountability Committee

JVC Research and Advocacy officer conducted estimates on ODA projects prior to their implementation from the perspective of citizens while serving as an elected member of the ‘Development Project Accountability Committee.’ This committee was established to improve transparency and to effectively evaluate ODA projects in the PDCA cycle.

Proposal concerning the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership)

The “Public Meetings between Citizens and the Government Concerning the TPP” national executive committee (including a member from JVC) made a

written request asking the Prime Minister “to hold public briefing sessions on the TPP and to allow for public comment”. This request met with the approval of three hundred and eighty organizations.

Proposal concerning the Act on the Protection of Specially Designated Secrets (SDS)

JVC is worried that SDS would obstruct the activities of NGOs by making it difficult to obtain safety information from governments in areas affected by conflict. NGOs are concerned they would be restricted from monitoring government projects. In November nearly one hundred NGOs throughout Japan, including JVC, made the following request - “International cooperation NGOs request that the SDS not be enacted”.



Citizens and parliament member joint press conference on TPP

Afghanistan

JVC’s Afghan staff, representing the civil society in the eastern Afghanistan, attended and spoke at a meeting hosted by an Afghan civil society organization. Topics of discussion revolved around issues of peace. Attendees included traditional and religious leaders, as well as government officials. JVC also conducted civil society capacity building training jointly with other Afghan and Japanese NGOs at various locations in Afghanistan. In Japan, JVC proposed as a public comment on the Japanese government’s country assistance policy for Afghanistan requesting that development assistance focus on basic services and on reduction of inequality.



NGO’s press conference on the secrecy law

Palestine

In partnership with thirty five international NGOs from various countries operating on Palestinian issues, we announced a statement demanding that Israel halt the demolition of Palestinian houses immediately in the West Bank. JVC, in cooperation with other NGOs, issued a statement insisting that humanitarian support groups be allowed into Israel and that those members of their staff currently being detained by Israel be released immediately.



Afghan civil society conference on peace

Iraq

JVC Representative Taniyama - as an executive committee member in the “Iraq Ten” campaign - handed the “Waseda Declaration” to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This declaration was adopted on the tenth anniversary of the Iraq War and it requests that the Japanese government provide information regarding its involvement in the Iraq War.



House demolition in Palestine

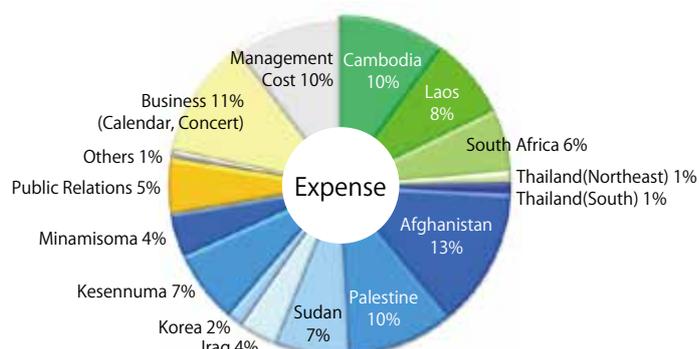
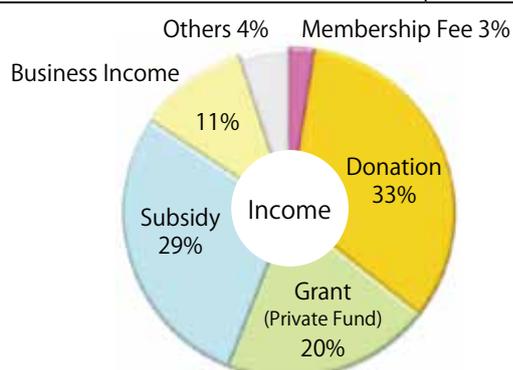
Fukushima

In 2012 “The Law to Support Children and other Victims of Nuclear Accidents” was passed to protect the rights of those who left, as well as those who stayed in Fukushima following the disaster. However, it appears that this law will only be enforced on a limited basis and without consideration of victim voices. JVC signed a petition requesting that the Reconstruction Agency reconsider its fundamental policy and that it listens to a wide range of victim voices through the use of public meetings and other available methods.



Handing the “Waseda Declaration” on Iraq war to MoFA

Account	Project	Calendar	Concert	Total
I Ordinary income section				
1. Membership Fee	9,933,000	0	0	9,933,000
2. Donation	124,093,252	0	5,201,945	129,295,197
3. Grant (Private Fund)	79,439,747	0	0	79,439,747
4. Subsidy	110,866,914	0	0	110,866,914
5. Business income				0
Calendar	0	27,239,664	0	27,239,664
Concert	0	0	14,658,540	14,658,540
6. Others	16,467,481	348	3,760	16,471,589
Total	340,800,394	27,240,012	19,864,245	387,904,651
II Ordinary expenses section				
1. Project cost				
(1) Salary expense	136,099,796	12,869,853	4,530,796	153,500,445
(2) Others	159,438,351	14,909,578	10,282,144	184,630,073
Total	295,538,147	27,779,431	14,812,940	338,130,518
2. Management cost				
(1) Salary expense	22,955,083	0	0	22,955,083
(2) Others	15,430,124	0	0	15,430,124
Total	38,385,207	0	0	38,385,207
Total ordinary expenses section	333,923,354	27,779,431	14,812,940	376,515,725
Ordinary profit and loss	6,877,040	-539,419	5,051,305	11,388,926
III Extraordinary income section				
Miscellaneous income	0	0	0	0
Profits from period adjustment	808,167	0	0	808,167
Total	808,167	0	0	808,167
IV Extraordinary expenses section				
Miscellaneous cost	0			
Non recurring cost	1,370,689	0	0	1,370,689
Total	1,370,689	0	0	1,370,689
Profit and loss	-562,522	0	0	-562,522
Transfer to project and management	4,511,886	539,419	-5,051,305	0
Income before taxes				10,826,404
Corporation tax and inhabitant taxes				117,858
Net income				10,708,546
Retained earnings brought forward				305,022,480
Carry-over				315,731,026



Balance Sheet

Japan International Volunteer Center
As of March 31, 2014 (Unit: JPY)

I Assets section		II Liabilities section	
1. Current assets		1. Current liabilities	
Cash on hand and in banks	485,689,906	Accounts payable	18,986,625
Inventories	782,371	Advance received	152,757,958
Temporary payment	149,549	Employee's deposits received	1,166,062
Payment for others	22,312	Deposits received withholding tax	1,882,375
Accounts receivable	13,056,842	Income tax payable	117,858
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-6,437	Consumption tax payable	169,600
Prepaid expenses	3,391,397	Total	175,080,478
Short-term loans	138,087		
Total	503,224,027	2. Fixed liabilities	
		Reserve for retirement allowance	30,928,001
		Total	30,928,001
2. Fixed assets		Total liabilities	206,008,479
Equipment and Fixtures	1,205,350		
Investment in capital	10,100,000	III Equity section	
Deposit	7,210,128	Balance brought forward	305,022,480
Total	18,515,478	Net income	10,708,546
		Total	315,731,026
Total assets	521,739,505	Total equity and liabilities	521,739,505

Independent Auditor's Report

監 査 報 告 書
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

特定非営利活動法人日本国際ボランティアセンター（JVC）の2013年度
決算について、監査の結果、事業は適正に実施され、また活動計算書および貸借対照表は、
一般に公正妥当と認められる会計原則に基づいて作成されていることを認める。

We have audited the financial statement of JVC as of March 2014 and
acknowledged that revenue, expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2013 and the
balance sheet were based on generally accepted accounting principles.

2014年5月23日
May 23, 2014

監事 梶谷(黒田) 正一 

監事 矢崎 芽生 

Board Members

President Hiroshi TANIYAMA

Vice President Atsuko ISODA

Inez M. BASKERVILLE KIM Kyungmook

Toshihiro SHIMIZU

Yu TANAKA

Koyu FURUSAWA

Shoji KINOSHITA Toshiaki SHIMA

Tetsuo TAKASHIMA

Nobuhiro TEMMYO

Kohe YABANA

Auditors Kaori KURODA Mei YAZAKI

Staff (As of July 2014)

103 (37 Japanese, including 8 working overseas, 66 local staff members)



Tokyo



Cambodia



Laos



Afghanistan



South Africa



Sudan



Kesenuma



Palestine



Thailand



Japan International Volunteer Center (JVC)

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