

Japan International
Volunteer Center
2014 Annual Report





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Annual Message



Japan International Volunteer Center
President

Hiroshi Taniyama

I visited the Gaza Strip in Palestine last April. The Shuja'yya area, where JVC was active previously, remains severely damaged. I met a female volunteer who had joined JVC's program to improve the nutritional situation for her children inside her half-destroyed home. The women like her who had stood up to help other mothers and children were not spared by the war.

Just before the war in Palestine, the government of Japan adopted a cabinet decision on the exercise of the right of collective self-defense. The existing strict Three Principles on Arms Exports was also de facto abolished and it was announced during a visit by the prime minister of Israel that defense cooperation between Japan and Israel would be strengthened. There is even a plan to export to Israel the sophisticated new fighters that Japan is jointly developing.

In Mozambique, a large-scale agriculture development project which aims to create food exports for Japan is currently proceeding despite strong objections by local farmers. Farmers are also reacting against foreign companies land grabs in Laos and Cambodia, but the governments of those countries have clamped down on the NGOs trying to deal with the problem.

Violence, profit seeking and the seizure of natural resources. It's becoming a world without a common sense of fairness, and it seems to me that Japan is now attempting to take a central place within that world.

In carefully observing our project areas, however, we can see "small citizens" resolutely and flexibly resisting these absurd external pressures in order to survive. The aforementioned women in Gaza and the farmers in Cambodia and Thailand struggling to adapt their way of farming to overcome the effects of climate change are just some examples of this. We, JVC, are supporting them, learning from their efforts and passing those lessons on, person to person, transcending borders.

JVC will create new mid-term objectives for itself in 2015, taking into consideration our role in changing the upside-down state of the world, where war is waged "for peace" and "wealth" is created through "theft". We would like to serve as a milestone for hope by resolutely and flexibly resisting the worsening crises in Japan and the world. How much JVC is supported by the people's power will be tested in 2015. Empowered by their support, we aim to find hope in the midst of despair.

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
2. create new lifestyles and human relations to protect and revitalize global environment

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.

Awards

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

Research and Advocacy



Japan
Miyagi, Fukushima

Thailand



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 are therefore affected by these developments. Some have gone into debt or lost their farms. Although these factories have brought new jobs, workers often find it difficult to support their families due to low wages. Maintaining the stability of farm life is very important for decreasing economic gaps within Cambodia.



Improving Community Livelihoods through Ecological Agriculture



Farmers listening to a trainer about ecological farming



Women's group making Chinese radish pickles



Study tour for learning food processing



JVC staff conducting environment education at primary school

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

1. Training on Ecological Farming

JVC has provided training in a system of rice intensification (SRI) that can contribute to improving rice yields without the use of external inputs such as chemical fertilizers and pesticides. 343 farmers were trained in SRI in 2014. JVC has also continued Home Garden Training in order to improve families' self-sufficiency and provide for their nutritional needs. 30 families established model gardens in their home yards after receiving JVC training.

2. Food Processing Group

Women's groups in 4 villages have produced processed foods that are regularly bought by local residents. JVC conducted a study tour in 2014 to teach more skills related to food processing and 20 group members participated. These skills have also been passed on by existing group members to newcomers.

3. Environmental Education and Reforestation

In this program, JVC provided environmental education in 8 schools. These students and their teachers, along with local residents, grew 8,905 seedlings and then planted them along roads and in devastated forests in their communities. JVC also worked to create rules on community forest use in cooperation with residential forest committees and local authorities. Illegal logging has decreased as a result.

4. Trainers' Resources Center (TRC)

TRC continued to provide information and documentation on agriculture, community development, and the environment. In 2014, more than 996 users visited our center and JVC lent out more than 1,379 books. In addition, a total of 111 university students attended a series of seminars and discussed development and the environment based on their JVC experiences.

Laos

Program Background

With their rich biodiversity, forests in Laos are sources of food and income for villagers. They are also used agriculturally by farmers practicing shifting cultivation and grazing livestock. Rapid economic growth and the land expropriation and deforestation that have accompanied the industrial planting of cash crops have endangered their food security, however. In order to actively achieve food sustainably, it is essential to establish a system in which villagers can manage their forests, improve agricultural production and have access to clean water.



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



Seeds of rattan. We achieved more than 90% germination in 2014



JVC staff confirming the rules of rice bank with the villagers



Villagers borrowing rice from the rice bank



We dugged 25 wells and conducted trainings about repairing

1. Community-Based Sustainable Forest Management

JVC aims to help villagers actively manage their forest and natural resources and prevent the undesirable acquisition of their traditional forests by companies practicing industrial plantation.

■ JVC continued its work on Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) in 2 villages where it has done so since 2013. We also launched PLUP in 2 more but neither has been completed due to staff changes.

■ JVC conducted training in 14 villages on villagers' legal rights over land and forests under Laotian law. JVC also organized an ethnic minority student group in the target area which performed plays teaching villagers about natural resource management and their rights over their lands and forests.

■ JVC helped villagers establish sustainable community forests in 2 villages and fish conservation areas in 2 more.

2. Sustainable Agriculture / Rural Development

Villagers in the target areas face problems such as low rice yields, rice shortages and low income. JVC helps villagers secure food through sustainable agriculture and group activities.

■ 37 farmers in 12 villages implemented SRI (System of Rice Intensification), improving their yields by 20%. The rattan germination activity met success with a germination rate over 90%.

■ Rice banks are communal systems allowing villagers to borrow rice with low interest rather than expend resources following a rice shortage. JVC established 2 rice banks in addition to the 8 already in existence and began creating another 3. Cows are valuable as assets in responding to unforeseen situations. JVC established an additional cow bank allowing families to borrow female cows and return them for other families to borrow after calves were born. The number of cows borrowed by villagers increased from 13 to 22 in 2014.

■ JVC also improved villagers' access to clean water by constructing 24 bore wells and 1 shallow well. JVC also conducted training on repairs which was attended by 98 villagers.

South Africa

Program Background

20 years have passed since the end of apartheid in 1994. Yet the unemployment rate among the black population is still high at 60% and inequality is widening. Additionally, 12% of the South African population are infected with HIV and more than 600 lives are lost daily to AIDS. With the introduction of free ARVs in public health facilities in 2004, however, people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) live longer and healthier. The perception of HIV/AIDS as diseases leading immediately to death has decreased, affecting the support given to tackling HIV.



Supporting people living with HIV/AIDS



First aid training for Home Based Care volunteers



Home garden is expanding in the villages through JVC's training



Drop in Center Volunteers with her harvested tomatoes. Volunteers use these vegetables for events for children



Drop in Center Volunteers provide information on HIV prevention and some other social issues at school

In 2012, JVC started the Project on Participatory HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care, and Support for PLWHA, in cooperation with a local NGO, Light of Mercy Community Care (LMCC), in Vhembe District, Limpopo Province. JVC began working with another local NGO, Tshirunzanani, in 2014.

1. Training for Home-Based Carers (HBCs)

HBCs support PLWHAs, who are often left isolated, by visiting them daily and helping them maintain their medications. Tshirunzanani HBCs received HIV Treatment Literacy Training and first aid training, giving them practical knowledge and skills for providing care to their patients.

2. Home Vegetable Garden Training

PLWHAs require a healthy diet to stay on ARVs, so JVC has trained 6 facilitators with LMCC whose role is to spread home gardening training within their own communities. In 2014 they provided training to 50 community members, many of whom now obtain home-grown vegetables year-round. JVC has also begun training child care volunteers who grow vegetables for children at their centers. In the project area with Thirunzanani, JVC has trained more than 70 people.

3. Child Care Volunteer Training

LMCC child care volunteers from 3 villages received training on supporting children in difficulty. Afterwards, the volunteers used this information and knowledge in their daily activities, helping them build trust with the children at their care centers. As a result, some children let the volunteers know about challenges facing other children. In some cases the volunteers found HIV-infected children not receiving proper care and were able to solve their problems.

4. Awareness and Peer Education on HIV/AIDS

In cooperation with a clinic, child care volunteers from 3 villages implemented awareness campaigns on "HIV Testing" and "Children and HIV". Nurses attended the campaigns with HIV kits and 20 to 30 people in each village got HIV testing afterwards.

5. Supporting PLWHA Support Groups

11 members from PLWHA support groups received training on home gardening, after which they have maintained their own gardens, even under difficult conditions.

Northeastern Thailand

Program Background

The modernization of agriculture that has accompanied economic development has caused a decline in subsistence farming and increased debt issues for farmers. JVC has worked with Thai farmers and NGOs to create a market for organic produce based on resource-circulating. Two nuclear power plant construction projects are being considered in Thai rural areas, but only limited information regarding the risks of nuclear power are available to the general public. The lessons of the Fukushima nuclear accident are needed in Thai civil society.



Learning about Sustainable Societies from Thai Rural Areas



Sending an intern to Thai village

We sent an intern to Thailand for 6 months, where she studied mutual cooperation from the villagers and the natural environment that surrounded their farming. We also offered a study tour in northeastern Thailand in February which had 6 participants. The ten-day program centered on experiencing farming provided a good opportunity for thinking about the origins of food and the participants' lifestyles in Japan.

Teaching the Experiences and Lessons of the Fukushima Nuclear Accident



Thinking about the origins of food through dressing a chicken



Symposium in Tokyo, speaking about what happening in Fukushima



Learn about the radioactive contamination map in Marumori Town

We passed on the experiences and lessons of the Fukushima nuclear plant accident to Thailand, where construction plans for nuclear power plants are going ahead. We invited 2 Thais (a researcher and a resident of one of the nuclear plant candidate sites) to Japan in June, where they stayed for 7 days. They visited Kitakata City, Minamisoma City and Nihonmatsu City in Fukushima Prefecture and Marumori Town in Miyagi Prefecture to hear stories from those who have been affected by the accident. We also invited 2 Thai NGO workers to Japan in March 2015. In addition to enabling them to see what Fukushima is like 4 years after the accident, we also provided them with the opportunity to hear from residents about their efforts towards reconstruction. They participated in symposiums in Tokyo and Fukushima during their visit and we appealed to the need, given the current nuclear plant situation in Thailand, for the lessons of Fukushima to be brought to Thai society.

Southern Thailand

Program Background

Although the transition to civilian rule in Burma has continued, it has not led to a large repatriation of the estimated two million Burmese workers in Thailand. Many Burmese workers engage in long hours at fishing sites, construction sites or farms for salaries below the minimum wage stipulated by the Thai government and often suffer workers-related injuries. They are in dire straits, with limited access to medical services because they cannot afford to join the insurance system and their employers do not cover the costs of treatment.



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

In collaboration with a local NGO supporting the Burmese, JVC provided emergency medical assistance and aided community health workers promoting community healthcare activities within Burmese worker communities in Phang Nga Province in southern Thailand.

1. Emergency Medical Assistance

JVC provided emergency medical assistance to a total of 82 Burmese workers and family members who could not afford medical care. JVC also aided 33 Burmese infected with or suffering complications of HIV or tuberculosis in buying health insurance. 11 Burmese workers were provided with emergency transportation to Thai public hospitals.

2. Supporting the Activities of Community Health Workers

Community health workers supported by JVC conducted healthcare activities in 14 communities and provided health education to 718 Burmese workers on topics such as first aid, dengue fever, malaria, tuberculosis, and hepatitis, increasing their knowledge of diseases and raising their awareness of the importance of prevention.

The community health workers also provided 378 Burmese workers and family members with treatment for minor injuries and illnesses.



People getting a health examination



The last house in the area which has resisted the land deprivation

Feasibility Study on Activities in Burma/Myanmar

JVC visited local and Japanese NGOs working in the Bago and Tanindari districts of suburban Yangon, Shan State and Kayah State to collect information on developmental issues caused by the recent transition to civilian rule. We observed some

negative aspects of economic growth in the Tirawa Special Economic Zone where there have been frequent cases of land seizure involving Japanese companies.

Afghanistan

Program Background

Presidential and Provincial Council Elections were held in 2014 in Afghanistan. Security situation continues to be fatal as the international forces, which have been deployed since 2001 to maintain security, are now handing over their mandate to the Afghan government. The local people are worried about the reduction of international assistance as well as the attention to such situation. JVC has been working on the community based project for health and education in some rural areas where people have very little access to even the basic services.



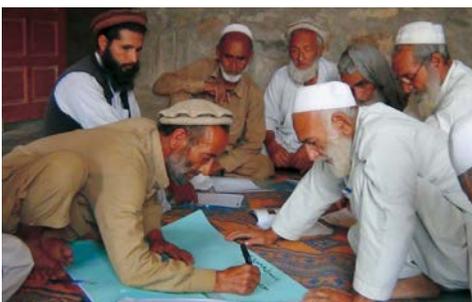
Community Health and Education Project



Vaccination activities in the remote communities



Malaria prevention campaign conducted by the health committees



Teachers' voluntary group discussing the method for health education at school



Teachers' training for a more enjoyable class environment

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 Khewa 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.

1. Clinic activities

The "Family health book," introduced by JVC, was effectively used for identifying frequent patients and visiting their houses to promote healthy habits at the family level. At the clinic, JVC delivered advises to the patients collectively and individually, with a special focus on the side effects of drug overdose.

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 worked in collaboration with the "Health Committees", members of which are male villagers. This year, the members called for young volunteers and contributed to detecting the malaria patients at an early stage.

JVC also worked with female villagers: the selected members formed a body called "FHAG", Family Health Action Group, who learn about such health related matters as hygiene, diseases, nutrition, safe birth, etc., and delivered the lesson to other families in their neighborhood.

School was also our focus for the community health promotion. An increasing number of the students participated in the Health Journal activity by researching and writing essays on health related topics. First aid training was also conducted.

3. Educational program at schools

"Lesson Study" is a mutual-learning training for teachers to acquire teaching skills. It has been a unique attempt in Afghanistan, as it is implemented at their own schools, meaning that they can apply their learnings in the real context. This year Lesson Study was implemented both in a female school and a male school, and the only female teacher of the region also participated.

Palestine

Program Background

In 2014 the Israeli army attacked Gaza, killing more than 2,000 people and leaving factories and electric plants in ruins. Even following the ceasefire, restrictions on the passage of people and supplies have continued; local industry remains destroyed and a serious shortage of materials prevents reconstruction. Inhabitants suffer from serious poverty and malnutrition in children is an urgent concern. The continued construction of the illegal “Separation Wall” and settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, divides areas and limits access to medical services, education, and employment.



Support for Improved Nutrition for Children (Gaza)

We have been working since 2003 to improve the status of children’s health in Gaza as they are the most vulnerable to the blockade. We implemented a project with the local NGO “Ard El Insan” and 30 female volunteers in Bir Alnaja’, Jabalia City, providing training to volunteers, health education to expectant mothers, and health check-ups for children. The trained volunteers gained expert knowledge on nutrition and communication skills, leading activities such as home visits to expectant and nursing mothers, providing counseling and demonstrating how to cook nutrition-rich food. Despite interruptions by military strikes, 4,300 women and 1,600 children directly benefited from our support in 2014.



Cooking demonstration to learn nutrition-rich food

School and Community Health Assistance (East Jerusalem)

We provided health education to 17,000 children from 53 schools and 15 kindergartens. Health committees have been established in 4 schools, and 70 students and 45 teachers have received specialized training on health education and first aid. They have started to take the initiative in keeping their schools clean, spreading awareness among students and parents, treating others’ injuries, monitoring hygiene, and following up on problems found in health check-ups.

We also provided health check-ups to 2,700 children and first aid training to 90 youths, who have become volunteer first aiders. Additionally, we provided health education and health check-ups to 1,500 residents of communities isolated from other parts of the West Bank by the construction of the “Separation Wall” and settlements.



Activity to improve school environment led by School Health Committee

Emergency Relief Assistance

The 50 day-long Israeli military offensive in the summer of 2014 killed and injured numerous Gazan civilians. From July to December, we provided urgently needed medical treatment, medicine, hygiene kits, hygiene education, and psychological support to 10,304 people through the 6.8 million yen contributed by 637 organizations and individuals in Japan.

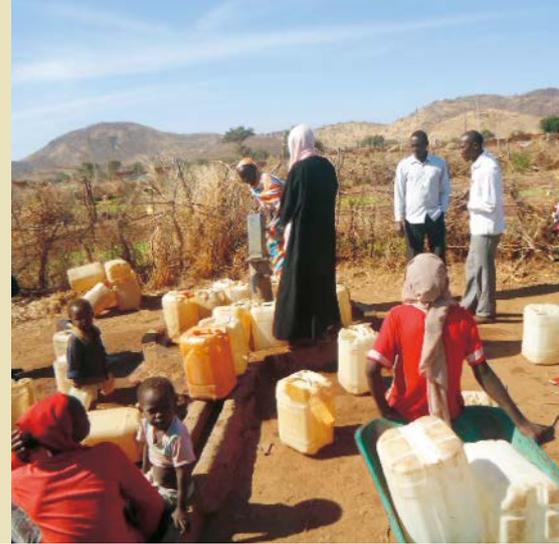


Medical treatment in emergency shelters in Gaza

Sudan

Program Background

The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 ended 22 years of civil war in Sudan. South Sudan gained independence in 2011, dividing the country in two. This separation has not solved the challenges that existed, however, and the security situation in parts of both countries has continued to be unstable. A large-scale conflict between the Sudanese government and an anti-government group, SPLM/A-N, erupted in June 2011 in South Kordofan. It is estimated that hundreds of thousands of people have fled from the rural areas that have become battlefields.



Development of Resettlement Infrastructure

As of January 2015, the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) who had arrived in Kadugli and Reif Asharqi Districts had reached 70,000 (UNOCHA). While these IDPs initially depended on relatives for refuge, friction has developed between the IDPs and their host communities as the situation has persisted; it has consequently become necessary for the IDPs to live independently. In light of this, JVC has assisted them in growing and selling grains and vegetables, thus helping to stabilize their lives and improve their means of living.

1. Assistance for Making Vegetable Gardens in the Dry Season

Around 300 people including 150 IDPs participated in agricultural training in Kadugli and Reif Asharqi. Previously, most people in the region had spent the dry season working as seasonal laborers or making charcoal; only a few grew crops. Aiming to increase household income during the dry season, JVC promoted vegetable growing by providing seeds, hand tools, and training to those people.

2. Supporting the Water Supply

JVC drilled or repaired a total of 21 wells in 2014. This resulted in 1,600 households in 11 areas having stable, secure access to safe drinking and agricultural water near their homes.

JVC also promoted the creation of 'water committees' within each community with a well, which were jointly organized by local residents and IDPs. These 'water committees' collect well maintenance costs from each household, make basic inspections and repairs, and promote awareness about the proper use of wells. JVC provided accounting training, technical training and maintenance tools.



Vegetable garden monitoring by JVC staff



Farming training by the local expert



Hand pump well built by JVC



Gathering of 'water committee' members

Iraq

Program Background

JVC has supported an Iraqi hospital since 2002 and it has supported the NGO Insan, which works to foster reconciliation among ethnic groups in Kirkuk, since 2009. Many groups have long lived in Kirkuk, including the Kurds, Arabs and others, but historical factors dating from the Saddam Hussein regime on have caused antagonism between them to be severe.

In addition to these circumstances, many people have also fled to Kirkuk since June 2014 due to fighting with the extremist group, the Islamic State (IS).



From Emergency Support to Fostering Harmony



Emergency distribution to displaced people in Kirkuk city



Interviews the latest information to local NGO Insan in Sulaimaniya city



Invited JVC's partner local NGO Insan to Japan

Conditions in the areas surrounding Kirkuk rapidly deteriorated in June 2014 due to fighting with the extremist group, the Islamic State (IS) and the city experienced influxes of Internally Displaced Persons as well as refugees from Syria. As providing emergency support to refugees and other affected groups became a priority, we postponed our initial plans to implement "Children's Workshops to Build Local Peace". Instead, we provided emergency support to refugees as well as locals in vulnerable households, working primarily through Insan.

Insan staff and trained volunteers selected 300 households from among the 4,400 they had surveyed. We distributed approximately about \$40,000 of daily necessities such as food, stoves, and gas burners in 2 groups from November 2014 to February 2015. Although the scale of our support was small, we listened to and counseled the surveyed people with a great deal of care, building human relationships as we carried out our efforts. The trust built during these support efforts will surely contribute to our reconciliation work in the future.

Furthermore, we invited Ali Jabari, the general director of Insan, to the awareness events about the situations of refugees, which were held in Tokyo, Niigata and Toyama. He spoke about the turmoil back home, emphasizing the need for efforts fostering harmony and coexistence between refugees and locals in addition to emergency support.

Korea

Program Background

Official talks between Japan and North Korea (DPRK) resumed for the first time in several years in 2014. The two countries reached the Stockholm Agreement, increasing expectations for a comprehensive investigation into the abduction of Japanese and an easing of economic sanctions. Japanese hopes were not met, however, and the situation became deadlocked once again. Political relationships with South Korea and China are poor as well. There is growing anti-foreign sentiment in Japan; we are drawing away from our neighbors in terms of public attitudes also.



Interaction through Children's Exhibitions (Pyongyang, Seoul, Yanji, and Japan)

We have held children's art exhibitions annually since 2001. Through the exhibition and exchanging artwork created by children in Japan and the two Koreas, we aim to promote mutual understanding between the three nations. We also seek to inform adults as well as children of these interactions so that they are given an opportunity to consider what can be done for a peaceful future in Northeast Asia. These events are run by an executive committee consisting of representatives from 10 organizations in Japan.

In 2014, we held exhibitions in many places, including Tokyo, Pyongyang, Seoul, Yanji (China), Osaka and Fukuoka. At these venues we collected more than 150 messages to the children who drew the art from those who viewed it. At the final exhibition held in Tokyo, some of the messages were exhibited alongside the pictures so that visitors could read the wishes for peace.

Notably, an exhibition was held in Pyongyang for the first time in 8 years due to relaxing tensions between Japan and the DPRK. Some college students who had participated in past exhibitions attended an exhibition at Rulla Elementary School in the city and spoke about their own experiences to the school's students.



Exhibition was held in Pyongyang for the first time in 8 years



Japanese college students interact directly with students in Pyongyang who study Japanese language

Emergency Relief

As a participating organization in the "Relief Campaign Committee for Children, Japan (RCCJ)" since 1996, we have helped provide food assistance to North Korean children and emergency relief to regions severally affected by natural disasters. Providing this support in North Korea is difficult due to the economic sanctions imposed by the Japanese government.

Although JVC was not involved in any emergency relief actions in 2014, we visited international NGOs located in Pyongyang engaged in humanitarian aid, interviewing them to collect information about humanitarian conditions in the country. We also visited a communal farm in suburban Pyongyang to observe the situation in rural areas.



We handed over messages from foreign children to the boy who drew a picture

Kesennuma, Miyagi-pref

(Great East Japan Earthquake)

Program Background

Over 1,000 lives were lost and approximately 9,500 households destroyed in the city of Kesennuma, Miyagi Prefecture, by the tsunami of March 2011. Over 8,000 residents who lost their homes are still forced to live uncomfortably in temporary housing. JVC established an office in Kesennuma City in August 2011 and has continuously supported the citizens of the city's Shishiori District (home to approximately 280 households) as they have struggled with the numerous problems they face.



Supporting the Recovery of the Shishiori District of Kesennuma City



Gathering to enjoy the fresh green for both the home residents and the candidates for Collective Relocation for Disaster Prevention



Visit to the closed school facilities in Kochi Prefecture



Recreation for those who are listed for moving in the disaster recovery public housing in Shishiori

1. Supporting Collective Relocation for Disaster Prevention

JVC dispatched an advisory team composed of architects and town planners to Kesennuma City, where they have continually held individual consultations and visits to construction sites, and participated in briefing sessions by the local government. JVC has also been able to provide a collaborative construction system that serves as a safety net for those residents having difficulties raising money and in finding contractors.

2. Supporting the Regional Strengthening of the Urashima District

The Urashima District Promotion Committee established three subgroups ("Facility Utilization", "Regional Resources Development" and "Environment and Culture") to strengthen its functions. In order to make good use of the former Urashima Elementary School's facilities, JVC and the committee members visited previous projects in Niigata and Kochi Prefectures and conducted a public survey to collect opinion of the local inhabitants for future project planning.

3. Supporting the Residents of Temporary Housing

JVC has assisted the neighborhood association for those in temporary housing in cooperation with the regional assistants who provide it with administrative support. JVC has also organized recreational events for those residents planning to enter the disaster relief public housing being constructed in the Shishiori District to allow them to interact with each other beforehand. Since October, health and mental consultations have been held on a regular basis for the 60 residents of the temporary housings.

4. Support for Those Living in Their Own Homes

JVC paid regular visits to 9 families still living in their own homes and therefore having little contact with others. JVC also collaborated with several local groups to share information and discussed how to support those isolated families in the future.

Minamisoma, Fukushima-pref (Great East Japan Earthquake)

Program Background

Minamisoma City in Fukushima Prefecture was seriously affected by the earthquake, tsunami and radioactive disaster. The city is located in the eastern part of the prefecture and is one of the cities located closest to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. It is still prohibited to live in Odaka, the southern part of the city. Approximately 20,000 residents are still evacuated outside of the city and approximately 10,000 people live in shelters inside of the city.



Temporary Housing Site Salons Project



The community space in temporary housing site is a relaxing space for residents. It worked as a center of communication in temporary housing site



JVC has held minyo (Japanese folk song class) in cooperation with a local singer since 2012. Minamisoma is a famous city for minyo



A vegetable garden that JVC helped to open. It is placed near the temporary housing site. It gave chances to exercise and communication for residents in temporary housing site



JVC formed a liaison committee among aid workers who work in temporary housing site. Participants discussed actively

Approximately 2,500 temporary housing units were built in Minamisoma City. The people living in the new community do not know each other, which leads them to tend to stay home and not communicate with each other. Those who have been living in the shelters for a long time have also started to become exhausted with doing so.

In cooperation with Tsunagappe Minamisoma, a local NPO, JVC organized 4 “salons” using the communal spaces of selected temporary housing sites. There, tea, coffee, and equipment such as electric massage chairs were provided and singing and exercise classes were held on a monthly basis. Roughly 30 to 40 people visited each salon a day, helping them to interact with fellow residents. We also opened a vegetable garden in a communal space and made it available to residents. We continually worked to connect outside volunteers with the temporary housing sites and hosted more than 30 groups at the salons, providing them with a place where they could interact with residents. Because many family members were evacuated outside of the city, the sense of community has weakened and the number of people dying alone and unnoticed has gradually increased. We’ve focused on preventing these “lonely deaths” in the temporary housing sites through the salons.

We’ve also made efforts to strengthen the cooperation among those involved with the temporary housing and create a system in which all of the residents are watched over. We formed a liaison committee in cooperation with local NPOs to ensure that such a system is in place in those temporary housing sites without a salon as well. Meetings are held every month for those working at the temporary housing sites to encourage cooperation among them.

Research and Advocacy

Program Background

Japanese and international economic, aid and security policies greatly affect the state of affairs that causes the widening gap between rich and poor, conflicts and environmental destruction in developing nations. JVC is thus cooperating with other NGOs and local citizens in appealing to the Japanese government and companies conducting economic activities in developing countries for social and environmental concerns to be taken into account when aid and business projects are implemented. We also make proposals to international bodies and governments based on our experiences with the goal of building a peaceful society in which problems are solved through dialogue rather than force. We also speak with a variety of stakeholders in the world in order to create an environmentally friendly, equitable and peaceful society.



Palestine

In concert with other NGOs, JVC organized a peaceful candle demonstration against the Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip which began in July 2014. JVC also made 28 media statements advocating for a ceasefire between the armed parties such as Hamas and Israel. After a ceasefire was reached, JVC called on the Japanese foreign ministry to push the Israeli government to allow the UN Human Rights Commission Investigation Team to enter Gaza. In addition, through a network of 80 international NGOs, JVC made joint statements appealing for a mechanism to prevent a repeat of the destruction in Gaza, the lifting of the blockade, the protection of human rights and



Peaceful demonstration organized by NGOs against the Israeli attacks on Gaza

accountability for violations of international law. JVC also held 35 conferences and seminars to help the Japanese public understand this issue.

Afghanistan

A number of explosions occurred during the presidential election. Because clinics are commonly used as polling places even though they need to be prepared for incidents and emergencies, we made an urgent statement in cooperation with other NGOs opposing the use of clinics for voting. JVC was ultimately able to change the polling places in the areas we are active. In other areas, however, the Afghan Local Police (ALP), which consists of local residents organized and

armed by the government, forcibly used NGO offices as polling places and continued to occupy them afterwards. We asked the government and other NGOs to discuss this matter and succeeded in removing ALP from the offices. In December 2014, JVC played a central role in the London Conference on Afghanistan by issuing advocacy papers and holding events on Japanese and Afghan civil society and engaging in a dialogue with governments.

ODA-Related Activities

1. Proposal on the Large-Scale Agricultural Development in Mozambique

The Japanese government and JICA's "Program of Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development of the Tropical Savannah in Mozambique" (ProSAVANA-JBM), which covers a roughly 14 million hectare area in the country's northern three provinces, has continued. ProSAVANA was created to support Japanese and Brazil corporations in expanding their business opportunities in Africa rather than to meet the needs of local farmers. JVC has therefore been lobbying to have the

government reconsider the program. The situation has not yet changed, however, and as a result Mozambican civil society organizations (including farmers' organizations) launched a "No! to ProSAVANA" campaign in June 2014. JVC and other organizations conducted their own research in Mozambique in 2013 and 2014. JVC then presented analysis and proposals concerning ProSAVANA to the public and the government.

2. NGO-MOFA Regular Meeting

The NGO-MOFA Regular Meeting on ODA Policy is a forum for NGOs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to exchange opinions. It held three regular meetings and an ad hoc meeting in 2014. JVC Research and Advocacy Officer Takahashi, representing the ODA Reform Network, and JVC President Taniyama, vice-chairman of JANIC, served as coordinators. The discussions mainly focused on revising the ODA Charter.

3. Development Project Accountability Committee

While serving as an elected member of the 'Development Project Accountability Committee', JVC Research and Advocacy Officer Takahashi conducted reviews of ODA projects prior to their implementation from the perspective of the public. This committee was established to improve the transparency and effective implementation of ODA projects during the PDCA cycle. During the meetings, the members primarily discussed whether individual project items were appropriately connected to larger frameworks (master plans, country assistance policies, "rolling plans", etc.)

The Act on the Protection of Specially Designated Secrets

JVC is concerned that SDS could obstruct the activities of NGOs by making it difficult to obtain safety information from governments in areas affected by conflicts. JVC's president Taniyama founded the Japan NGO Action Network on the Security Law (NANSL) in cooperation with other NGOs. In November, NANSL signed a mutual cooperation agreement with a lawyers' group and jointly organized study meeting on the issue. It also lobbied the government to prevent the act from harming NGOs.

Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)

As an active member of the "National Executive Committee for a Dialogue between the Citizens and Government on the TPP", JVC advocated for the disclosure of information and a public dialogue on the TPP. JVC also sent staff members to Mexico to investigate the social effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), a precedent for the TPP.

Prime Statements in 2014

- Joint NGO statement requesting revision of the ODA Charter (April)
- Statement on the right of collective self-defense (June)
- Letter calling for an immediate end to the indiscriminate attacks on Gaza and the protection of its citizens in accordance with international humanitarian law (July)
- Statement for the London Conference on Afghanistan (October)
- Analysis of and NGO statements on ProSAVANA (October)



An event related to Don't Forget Afghanistan Campaign held in Tokyo



JVC Afghanistan local staff at the interview in the parallel event of the London Conference on Afghanistan

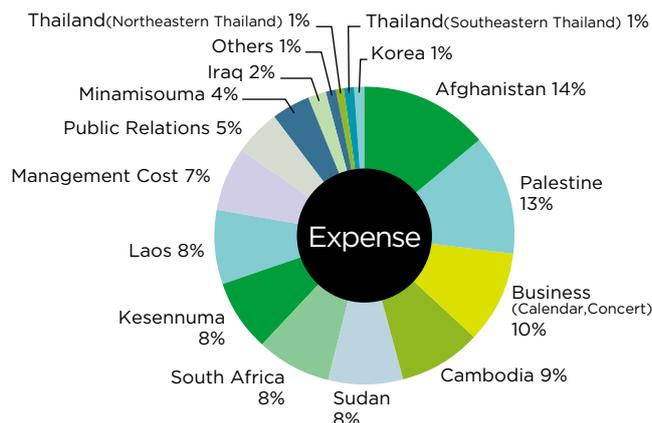
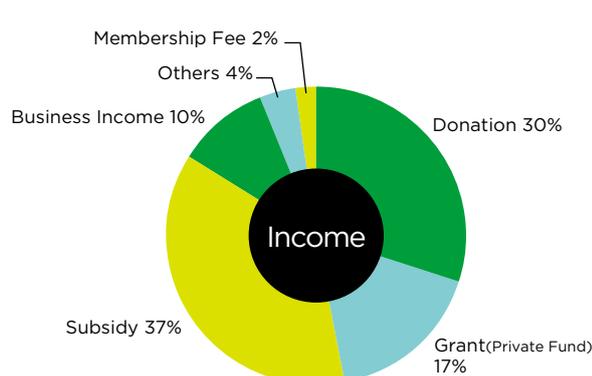


Multinational companies produce soybeans in the land seized from the small farmers in Mozambique



People's Conference organized by Mozambican farmers/civil society organizations. The governments of Mozambique, Brazil and Japan and JICA also attended it

Account	Project	Calendar	Concert	Total
I Ordinary income section				
1. Membership Fee	9,578,000	0	0	9,578,000
2. Donation	116,715,790	0	3,401,540	120,117,330
3. Grant (Private Fund)	64,771,165	0	0	64,771,165
4. Subsidy	147,900,083	0	0	147,900,083
5. Business income				
Calendar	0	28,240,588	0	28,240,588
Concert	0	0	11,456,281	11,456,281
6. Others	16,686,200	22,121	10,216	16,718,537
Total	355,651,238	28,262,709	14,868,037	398,781,984
II Ordinary expenses section				
1. Project cost				
(1) Salary expense	151,739,218	12,054,311	3,506,805	167,300,334
(2) Others	172,495,096	14,748,560	10,661,534	197,905,190
Total	324,234,314	26,802,871	14,168,339	365,205,524
2. Management cost				
(1) Salary expense	19,323,986	0	0	19,323,986
(2) Others	7,485,442	0	0	7,485,442
Total	26,809,428	0	0	26,809,428
Total ordinary expenses section	351,043,742	26,802,871	14,168,339	392,014,952
Ordinary profit and loss	4,607,496	1,459,838	699,698	6,767,032
III Extraordinary income section				
Miscellaneous income	17,149	0	0	17,149
Profits from period adjustment	1,196,874	189,834	102,185	1,488,893
Total	1,214,023	189,834	102,185	1,506,042
IV Extraordinary expenses section				
Miscellaneous cost	740,599	0	0	740,599
Non recurring cost	3,526,671	0	200,000	3,726,671
Total	-3,053,247	189,834	-97,815	-2,961,228
Transfer to project and management	2,251,555	-1,649,672	-601,883	0
Income before taxes				3,805,804
Corporation tax and inhabitant taxes				141,984
Net income				3,663,820
Retained earnings brought forward				315,731,026
Carry-over				319,394,846



Balance Sheet

Japan International Volunteer Center
As of March 31, 2015 (Unit: JPY)

I Assets section		II Liabilities section	
1. Current assets		1. Current liabilities	
Cash on hand and in banks	487,784,239	Accounts payable	8,712,211
Inventories	1,102,565	Advance received	155,941,491
Temporary payment	199,897	Employee's deposits received	1,639,393
Payment for others	604,184	Deposits received withholding tax	1,697,657
Accounts receivable	12,293,885	Income tax payable	141,984
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-7,575	Consumption tax payable	740,800
Prepaid expenses	3,067,484	Total	168,873,536
Short-term loans	259,140		
Total	505,303,819	2. Fixed liabilities	
		Reserve for retirement allowance	31,483,053
		Total	31,483,053
		Total liabilities	200,356,589
2. Fixed assets		III Equity section	
Equipment and Fixtures	2,090,798	Balance brought forward	315,731,026
Investment in capital	5,100,000	Net income	3,663,820
Deposit	7,256,818	Total	319,394,846
Total	14,447,616	Total equity and liabilities	519,751,435
Total assets	519,751,435		

Independent Auditor's Report

監査報告書 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	
<p>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2014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。</p>	
<p>We have audited the financial statement of JVC as of March 2015 and acknowledged that revenue, expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2014 and the balance sheet were based on generally accepted accounting principles.</p>	
<p>2015年5月22日 May 22, 2015</p>	
監事	<p>梶谷(黒田) 伸一 </p>
監事	<p>矢崎 芽生 </p>

Activities in Japan

Raising Awareness and Expanding Public Support

Events, Conferences, Development Education

JVC plays an important role in informing the Japanese public of the conditions in the areas we are active, and offers opportunities to think about the world. JVC participated in events related to international cooperation such as “Earth Day” and “Global Festa” for this reason. JVC also organized its own events to exhibit its activities and boost its public relations and supporters. Additionally, JVC extended its reach to the young through orientations for high school and junior high school students as well as lectures for university students. More than 200 people attended the JVC briefing and consultation sessions held three times a month at our office.



Craft sale and public relations at the JVC booth in Global Festa

JVC Benefit Calendar

JVC has produced a benefit calendar for 29 years, since 1987. The 2015 edition, “Travelers on This Planet,” was accompanied by pictures taken by photographer Uruma Takezawa. About 20,000 copies were sold, many to serve as New Year’s holiday greetings and gifts. JVC’s “Smile Greeting Cards,” which feature drawings by children at our project sites, sold about 1,600 copies. The 2016 edition of the calendar will be entitled “Full of Lives.” It will be accompanied by the same photographer’s work and a new poem by the poet Shuntaro Tanikawa.



2015 Calendar with the photographs of Mr. Uruma Takezawa

JVC Benefit Concerts

The 2014 JVC Benefit Concerts - J.S. Bach’s “Christmas Oratorio” and “Magnificat” in Osaka and G.F. Handel’s “Messiah” in Tokyo - were performed by the conductor MaNOj Kamps from the Netherlands and four soloists. It was the third consecutive year that Messiah was played and the rich performance by Mr. Kamps was greatly appreciated by the audience and performers alike. It was the first concert for JVC organized by the new Executive Committee members following the retirement of Ms Baskerville, who had served as the director of the Concert Executive Committee for 25 years. The 2015 Concert will be performed by the conductor Kathleen Allan from Canada.



2014 JVC Tokyo Benefit Concert

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

Kohei YABANA

Auditors

Kaori KURODA

Mei YAZAKI

Staff (As of July 2015)

109 (38 Japanese, including 9 working overseas, 71 local staff members)

Tokyo



Cambodia



Laos



Afghanistan



South Africa



Sudan



Kesennuma



Palestine



Thailand





Japan International Volunteer Center (JVC)

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