



# International Cooperation and NGOs

Partnership between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and Japanese NGOs





## **About the Non-Governmental Organizations Cooperation Division**

The Non-Governmental Organizations Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs mainly conducts work that promotes partnerships with Japanese NGOs engaged in international cooperation. The Division (1) extends funding assistance to support activities implemented by Japanese NGOs utilizing their knowhow and expertise while meeting the needs of local residents; (2) creates an appropriate environment for NGO activities, aiming to build their capacity; and (3) holds regular dialogues with NGOs, among other efforts. Through these initiatives, the Division aims to increase the “visible Japanese cooperation” implemented by Japanese NGOs and realize Japan-wide ODA with broad public participation.

# International Cooperation and NGOs

Partnership between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japanese NGOs

## CONTENTS

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<b>01</b>	<b>International cooperation and NGOs</b> .....	3
	(1) What is an International Cooperation NGO?	
	(2) Partnerships with NGOs	
	(3) Three Pillars of Partnerships	
<b>02</b>	<b>Funding Assistance for Japanese NGOs</b> .....	7
	(1) Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects	
	(2) Emergency Humanitarian Assistance through the Japan Platform (JPF)	
	(3) NGO Project Subsidies (International Development Cooperation related NGO Subsidies)	
<b>03</b>	<b>Creation of an enabling environment for NGOs</b> .....	12
	(1) NGO Study Group	
	(2) NGO Consultants	
	(3) NGO Intern Program	
	(4) NGO Study Program	
<b>04</b>	<b>Dialogue with NGOs</b> .....	17
	(1) NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting	
	(2) Other Dialogues	

## ACTIVITIES INTRODUCTION .....

### Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects .....

<b>Southeast Asia</b>	① Cambodia	② Timor-Leste	③ Myanmar	
<b>South Asia</b>	④ Nepal	⑤ Pakistan		
<b>Middle East</b>	⑥ Afghanistan			
<b>Latin America</b>	⑦ Honduras			
<b>Europe</b>	⑧ Ukraine			
<b>Africa</b>	⑨ Ethiopia	⑩ Kenya	⑪ Senegal	⑫ Rwanda

### JAPAN PLATFORM (JPF) .....

<b>Middle East</b>	⑬ Afghanistan	⑭ Palestine
<b>Europe</b>	⑮ Ukraine	
<b>Africa</b>	⑯ Sudan	

## (1) What is an International Cooperation NGO?

NGO stands for non-governmental organization. Originally coined by the United Nations (UN) to indicate a non-governmental entity, the term has since acquired a wider application. Today, the term NGO is used to refer to non-governmental and non-profit organizations that, of their own accord, address global issues such as development, poverty, peace, humanitarian issues, and the environment.

Based on good relationships with local stakeholders built through long-term experience in conducting activities on the ground, Japanese international cooperation NGOs provide fine-tuned support that closely meet residents' needs, while leveraging their respective areas of expertise. They make significant contributions to enhancing Japan's presence in developing countries. Moreover, NGOs have the agility to rapidly roll out activities in emergencies such as natural disasters.

## (2) Partnerships with NGOs

The Development Cooperation Charter, approved by the Cabinet in June 2023, states, "Having newly positioned civil society as a strategic partner in Japan's development cooperation, Japan will utilize the expertise of civil society and strive for more effective and sustainable cooperation that is attuned to the needs of populations that are difficult to reach through bilateral assistance between governments. Japan will support the capacity building of its civil society and further strengthen development cooperation implemented through civil society in Japan and abroad by constantly improving its support schemes." MOFA will continue to strengthen its partnership with NGOs, who are the providers of such "visible" support.



Good Neighbors Japan (Ethiopia)

## (3) Three Pillars of Partnerships

### 1. Funding Assistance

- (1) **Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects:** Funding Assistance for economic and social development projects by Japanese NGOs in developing countries and regions ——— p.7
- (2) **Japan Platform (JPF):** A consortium of NGOs, the business community, and the Government working together to provide effective and rapid emergency humanitarian assistance. MOFA provides funding assistance through the Grant Aid budget ——— p.9
- (3) **NGO Project Subsidies:** Support for preliminary surveys for projects, post-project follow-up, networking within Japan and/or abroad, and other activities ——— p.11

### 2. Capacity-building Support (Support to Improve the Enabling Environment for NGOs)

- (1) **NGO Study Group:** Holding workshops and other events on themes as challenges that NGOs should address ——— p.12
- (2) **NGO Consultants:** Responding to various inquiries and consultations from NGO organizations and the public regarding international cooperation and NGOs ——— p.13
- (3) **NGO Intern Program:** Commissioning NGOs to conduct human resource development for young people, and open up opportunities for those engaged in NGO work ——— p.15
- (4) **NGO Study Program:** Providing overseas training for mid-career NGO personnel at international NGOs ——— p.16

### 3. Dialogue

- (1) **NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Regular Consultation Meeting:** A forum for exchanging opinions on a regular and official basis between NGOs and MOFA ——— p.17



CWS Japan (Afghanistan)



SHAPLA NEER = Citizens' Committee in Japan for Overseas Support (Nepal)

# The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been strengthening NGOs through these three pillars.



①



**1**  
Funding Assistance

E  
Jap  
Emerg



②



③

**2**  
Capacity-building

Young people



④



⑤

**3**  
Dialogue

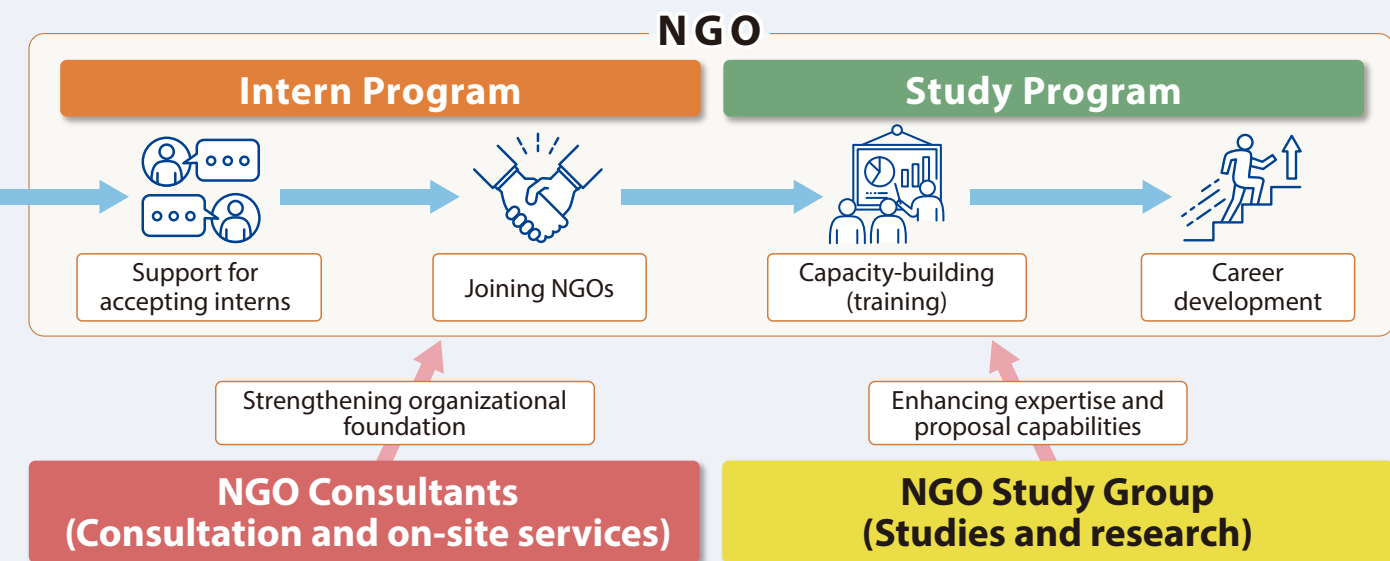
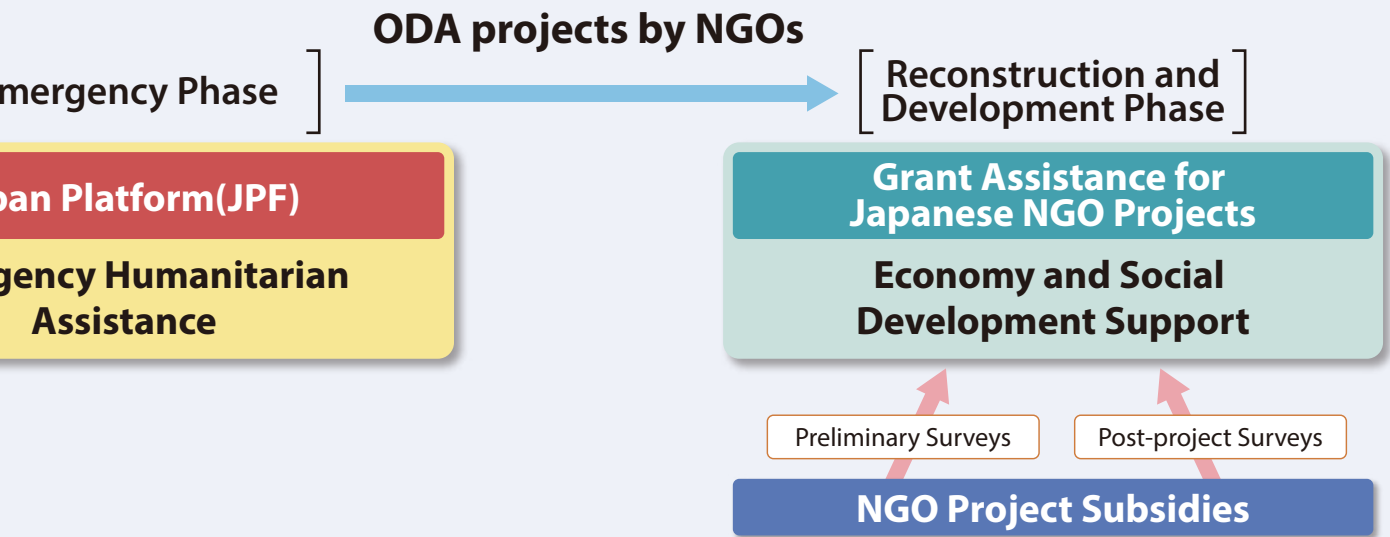
NGO  
N C

- ① ADRA Japan/Nepal
- ② Peace Winds Japan/Sri Lanka
- ③ Save the Children Japan/Mongolia
- ④ IVY/Iraq
- ⑤ Japan Mine Action Service/Cambodia



“ODA website” Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
<https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/index.html>

# cooperation with



## NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting



## (1) Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

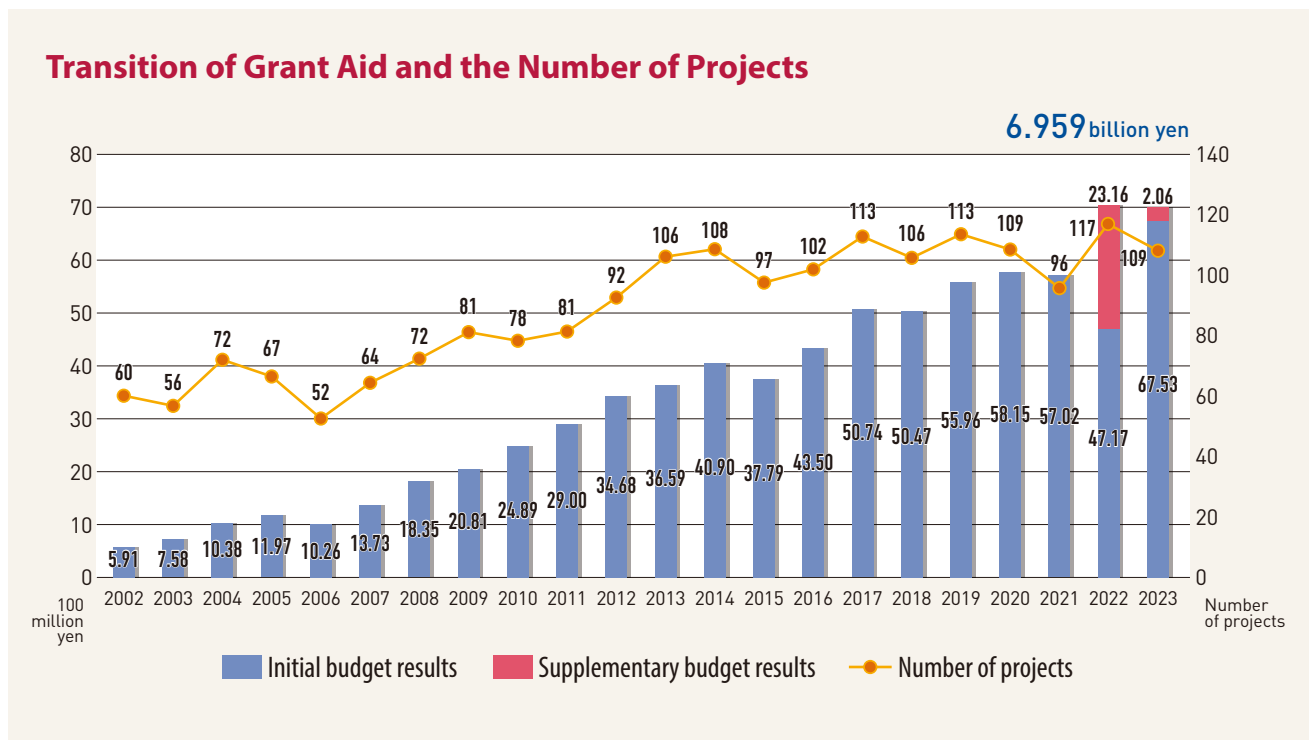
The scheme “Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects” provides government funds for economic and social development projects undertaken by Japanese NGOs in developing countries and regions.

To apply, the organization must be registered as a specified non-profit corporation, public interest incorporated association/foundation, or general incorporated association/foundation in Japan and must have its headquarters in Japan. The organization must have been active in international cooperation activities as a corporation for at least two years. The main purpose of its establishment must be to engage in international cooperation activities and not to generate profit.

The size of grant assistance has grown steadily since its launch in FY2002. From FY2002 to FY2023, a total of approximately 75.9 billion yen in funding assistance was provided to 79 countries and to one region.

### ► Track Record of Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

“The Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects” program was established in 2002 by organizing and integrating programs for Japanese NGOs and those for other entities under the previous Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (now the “Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects program.”) As shown in the graph below, in 2023, the amount of funding provided by the scheme increased by a factor of approximately twelve compared to 2002.



List of “Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects”

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/shien/jngo\\_j.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/shien/jngo_j.html)

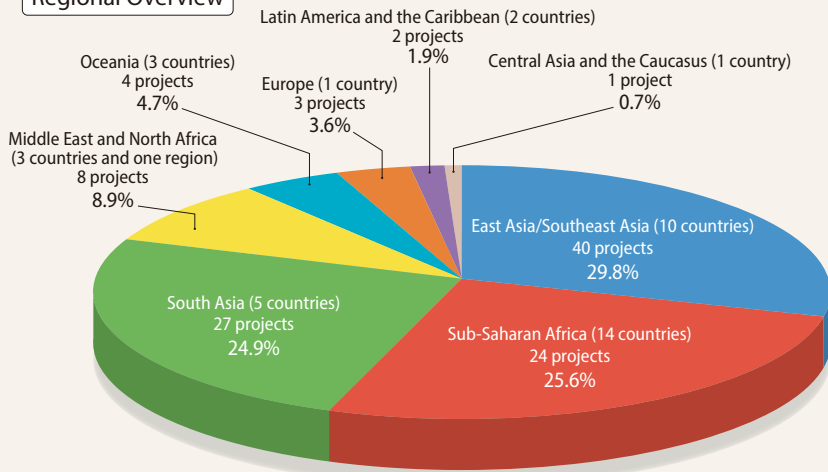
Past records and reports pertaining to projects are published here. This website is updated as needed.



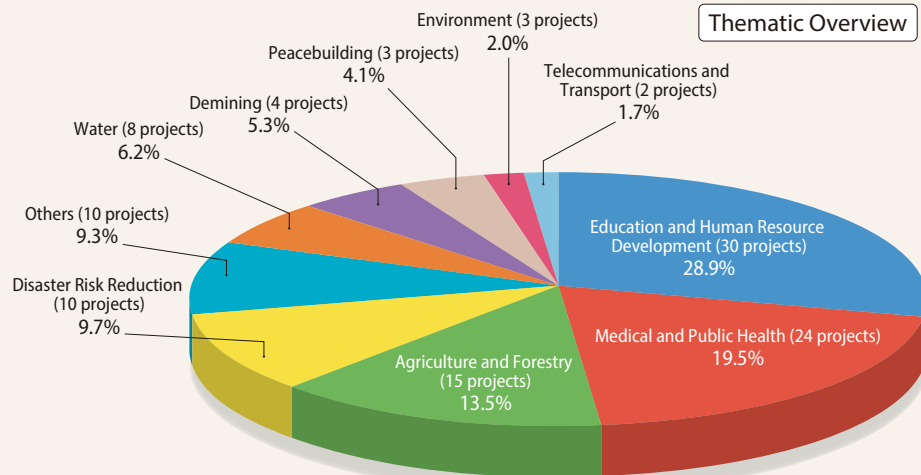
## FY2023 Implementation of the “Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects”

● Number of projects: 109 projects ● Implemented countries and regions: 39 countries, 1 region ● Amount of actual disbursement: Approx. 7 billion yen  
(Percentages are based on amounts)

### Regional Overview



### Thematic Overview



### ► Safety Measures in Project Countries and Regions

Please consult the Non-Governmental Organizations Cooperation Division for target countries and regions of “Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects.” The provision of grant assistance to some project countries and regions may not be granted if NGO activities are not approved by the government of the project country or region, or if the security situation of the project country does not permit the activities.

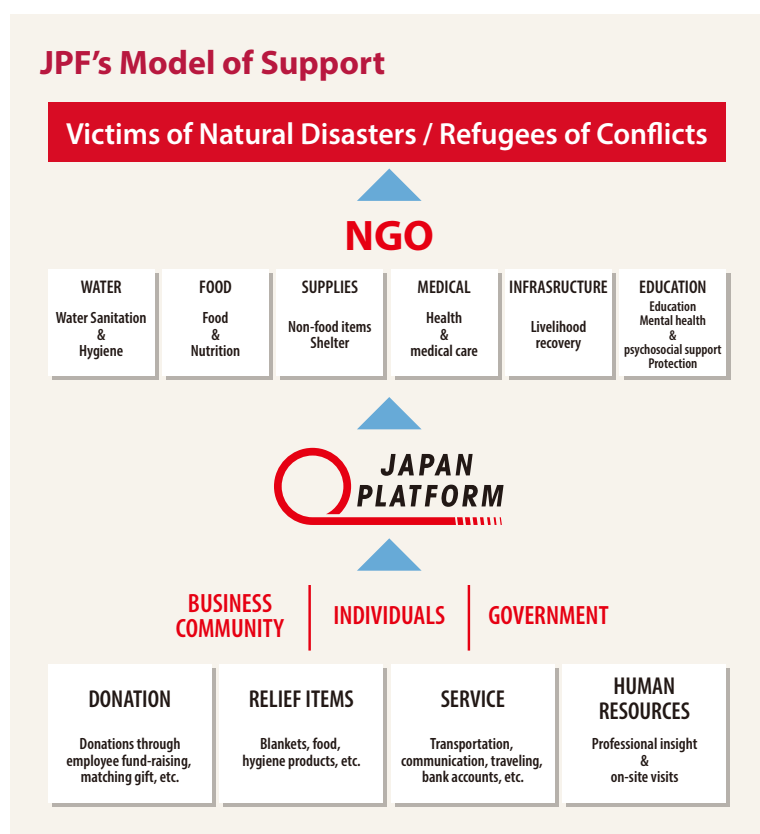
For all Japanese nationals who are involved in NGO activities to fully understand the risks associated with them, it is recommended that they check MOFA’s Overseas Safety website on a regular basis. It is also advised that everyone notifies their whereabouts to the Japanese Embassy or Consulate-General with jurisdiction over the project area, as well as their family in Japan, and registers with “Tabi Reji,” MOFA’s overseas travel registration site.

## (2) Emergency Humanitarian Assistance through the Japan Platform (JPF)

Japan Platform (JPF) is a consortium of NGOs, the business community, and the Government working together to provide effective and rapid emergency humanitarian assistance in response to refugee crises and natural disasters.

The Government (the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) allocates funds in advance for this purpose. Decisions regarding the implementation of emergency humanitarian aid are made by the Project Examination Committee, which operates under the mandate of the JPF Standing Committee and consists of representatives from the business community (companies and foundations), the Government, and external experts.

Since its establishment in 2000, JPF has carried out government-funded projects in 67 countries and regions by the end of FY2023. It will continue to provide assistance while understanding people's needs to receive assistance based on the international requirements of humanitarian aid.



**Emergency Response to Morocco Earthquake 2023**  
A JPF member NGO began conducting emergency assistance and on-site needs assessment two days after the earthquake, identified the required assistance, and provided relief items, such as water and food. / Peace Winds Japan

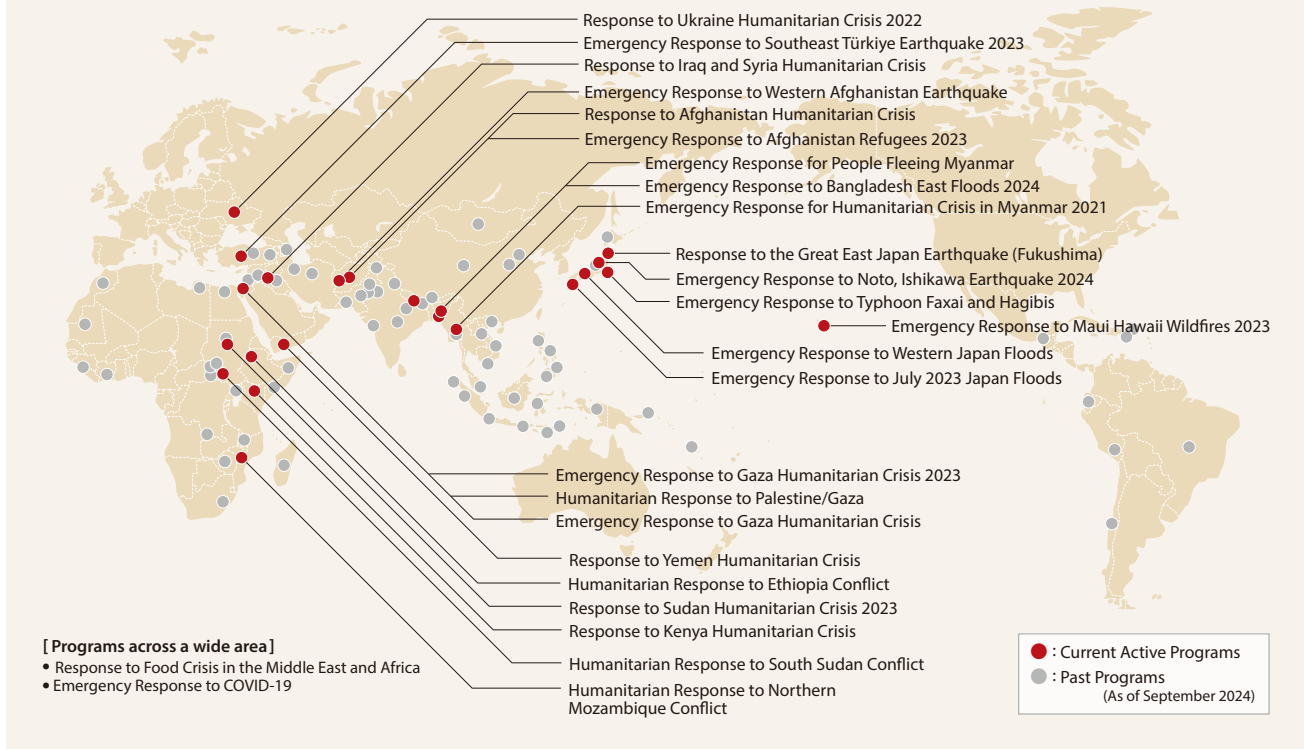


**Response to Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis 2022**  
A JPF member NGO created a protective environment for children in Romania by operating a learning space for children. / Plan International Japan

### ► NGO Unit (JPF's Member NGOs) 47 organizations total (as of September 2024)

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR)       | Japan Asian Association and Asian Friendship Society (JAFS)        | Peace Winds Japan (PW)   |
| Accept International (ACCEPT)                     | Japan Chernobyl Foundation (JCF)                                   | Reconstruction Aid Person Business Network (RABENET)                 |
| ADRA Japan (ADRA)                                 | Japan Car Sharing Association (JCSA)                               | Reach Alternatives (REALS)   |
| BHN Association (BHN)                             | JEN (JEN)  | RESULTS Japan (RESULTS)  |
| CCP Japan (CCP)                                   | International Medical Volunteers Japan Heart (JH)                  | Save the Children Japan (SCJ)  |
| CARE International Japan (CIJ)                    | Japan International Support Program (JISP)                         | Second Harvest Japan (2HJ)   |
| CWS Japan (CWS)                                   | Japan Rescue Association (JRA)                                     | SEEDS Asia (SEEDS)   |
| Frontline (FL)                                    | Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS)                                  | SHAPLA NEER = Citizens' Committee in Japan for Overseas Support (SN) |
| Community Media FMYY (FMYY)                       | Psychosomatic Care Magokoro (KCM)                                  | SDGs Promise Japan (SPJ)   |
| Good Neighbors Japan (GNJP)                       | Kokkyo naki Kodomotachi (KnK)                                      | Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)                                   |
| Habitat for Humanity Japan (HFHJ)                 | Médecins du Monde Japan (Mdm)                                      | Iwaki Citizens' Radiation Measurement Center (TARACHINE) (MRLF)      |
| HOPE International Development Agency (HOPE)      | Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO) | tasukeai haiki 0 (tasukeai)  |
| Humanitarian Medical Assistance (HuMA)            | Operation Blessing Japan (OBJ)                                     | Voluntary Architects' Network (VAN)                                  |
| International Children's Action Network (ICAN)    | PARC Interpeoples' Cooperation (PARCIC)                            | Vnet (Vnet)  |
| IVY (IVY)   | Peace Boat Disaster Relief (PBV)                                   | World Vision Japan (WVJ)   |
| Japan Agency for Development and Emergency (JADE) | Plan International Japan (PLAN)                                    |  |

## Current Active Programs (as of September 2024)



## ► Implementation Status of Government-Funded Programs

Since its foundation, the JPF has implemented 2,245 government-funded overseas programs (as of March 2023). JPF has been working to distribute emergency relief items, such as food and shelter, provide water and sanitation, medical treatment, assistance for livelihood recovery, education, and psychosocial support. Targeted countries and regions include Afghanistan, which have endured 40 years of conflict, political instability, and frequent natural disasters; Ukraine and the Gaza Strip of Palestine, where many civilians are facing humanitarian crises; South Sudan, which is grappling with compounded issues such as a deteriorating security situation and domestic economy challenges due to armed conflict; Syria and its neighboring countries, where the demand for support for people in shelters remains high despite the repatriation movement by refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs); and Bangladesh, which has accepted over 1 million Myanmar refugees. The services provided by JPF include the distribution of relief supplies such as food and shelters, water and sanitation programs, healthcare, reconstruction of livelihoods, and educational and psychosocial support. From its inception to FY2023, the Government has contributed 86.7 billion yen to JPF.



**Emergency Response to Gaza Humanitarian Crisis 2023**  
A JPF member NGO provided support for physical and mental health care for pregnant women, mothers, and children at a clinic in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip. / CCP Japan



Japan Platform  
<https://www.japanplatform.org/>



### (3) NGO Project Subsidies (International Development Cooperation related NGO Subsidies)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides subsidies on a cost settlement basis to Japanese NGOs that have conducted or are planning to carry out economic and social development projects in developing countries. They are designed for use in activities such as preliminary surveys to identify and formulate projects, post-project evaluations, and training seminars and workshops within Japan and/or abroad. The maximum amount for the subsidies is set to one-half of the total project budget and up to two million yen.

#### ► Examples of NGO Project Subsidies

The Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association (JATA) conducted an ex-post evaluation on the “Comprehensive TB and HIV Control with a Strengthened Community Participation in a Rural Area in Chongwe District, Zambia,” which had been carried out as a FY2017 Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Project. Interviews were conducted with 68 people, mainly health volunteers and health workers who had been trained during the project, to verify whether their activities were continuing after the project ended. Although it was found that the target health facilities had issues such as a shortage of consumables, equipment and the transfer of health staff who had received training, the success rate of tuberculosis treatment remains high, confirming the effectiveness of the assistance. Additionally, nearly half of the volunteers trained during the project are still active today, which demonstrates that incorporating a system for filling vacancies into volunteer activities has been effective. This was a valuable learning experience for planning the future projects.



An analysis meeting being held based on the collected data

#### COLUMN >>

The Japan International Medical Technology Foundation (JIMTEF), in collaboration with the Japanese Physical Therapy Association (JPTA), the Vietnam Association of Rehabilitation (VINAREHA), and the Vietnam Physical Therapy Association (VNPTA), held the “Vietnam International Seminar on Rehabilitation – Japanese-style Physical Therapy Contributing to the Improvement of Medical Care” in Hanoi, Vietnam. A total of approximately 135



Four Japanese and Vietnamese organizations involved in the project signed a memorandum of understanding for collaboration and cooperation

people, including doctors and physical therapists working in the same field, as well as staff from the Vietnamese Ministry of Health, learned about Japan’s excellent physical therapy techniques. The four organizations also discussed and signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the promotion of Japanese-style physical therapy in Vietnam. In addition to holding seminars and dispatching experts, these organizations will also strengthen their collaboration for the implementation of international cooperation projects aimed at improving the capabilities of Vietnamese doctors and physical therapists and fostering human resources to improve patients’ quality of life and promote the health of the citizens of the country.



NGO Project Subsidies For more information, please visit:

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/shien/hojyokin.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/shien/hojyokin.html)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs undertakes a variety of projects aimed at further strengthening the organizational structure and project implementation capabilities of Japanese NGOs, as well as enhancing their expertise.

\* More information about these projects and the outcomes of the activities are available on MOFA's ODA website.

## (1) NGO Study Group

With focus on themes in priority areas of assistance for developing countries and common issues faced by NGOs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissions NGOs to carry out research. Commissioned NGOs conduct studies, seminars, workshops, and symposiums, and present specific improvement measures and recommendations.

In FY2023, study groups were organized under themes relating to international trends in common topics of interest to Japanese NGOs and development fields. The study groups were: "Analysis on Development Cooperation Issues in the G7/C7 and Ideal Roles of Japanese NGOs based on the Discussions at the G7 Hiroshima Summit"; and "Past achievements in strengthening the foundations of NGOs (strengthening measures taken by NGOs themselves, governments, companies, etc.), and the methods and measures required in the new era." Activity reports and outcomes are available on the ODA website.

### MEMO

The themes of the NGO study group are solicited widely from NGOs every year. It is important that the themes concern common topics of interest among Japanese NGOs and that they contribute broadly to future development cooperation activities, among other considerations.

Once the themes have been decided, NGOs wishing to run a study group on each theme are invited to apply to open recruitment. The submitted proposals are then rigorously assessed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to select the implementing organizations.

Each organization holds a study group based on its proposal, and the activities are wide-ranging. For example, an organization in Tokyo may ask for cooperation from NGOs in other regions to hold joint seminars in local areas, or invite experts to collect information about new trends. NGOs are to compile numerous activities, as well as outcomes and suggestions obtained through these activities, and submit reports at the end of the fiscal year. While the reports can be read on the MOFA website, the Non-Governmental Organizations Cooperation Division directly receives inquiries from many NGOs and the general public about some of the reports. The NGO study group thus returns the benefits back not only to the implementing organizations but also to the broader society.



NGO Study Group

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/shien/kenkyukai.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/shien/kenkyukai.html)

## (2) NGO Consultants

Japanese NGOs with experience and success in international cooperation are appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be implementation organizations as “NGO consultants.” Their role is to respond to various inquiries from the public and NGO stakeholders, including questions about the international cooperation activities of NGOs, the establishment of NGOs, their organizational management and operations, and employment with NGOs.

Japan is divided into nine regional blocks from Hokkaido to Okinawa, with NGO consultants being assigned to each block. NGO consultants provide on-site services in the areas under their jurisdiction either upon request from local governments, educational institutions, companies, etc., or upon their own planning initiatives.



On-site services (providing consultations at the NGO consultant's booth)

### [ Eligibility to apply ]

Applicants must be NGOs which engage mainly in international cooperation activities with specialized knowledge and experience in that particular area. The applicant NGO must be able to appoint its staff as consultants, who have extensive experience and are able to provide consultation services continuously for the duration of the contract.

### [ Contract duration ]

From the date that the contract is signed until the end of the same fiscal year.

### [ Commission fee ]

Remuneration of a fixed sum will be paid for the services in accordance with the agreement.

### ► FY2024 List of NGO Consultants

#### HOKKAIDO INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

14-1, Motomachi, Hakodate City, Hokkaido, 040-0054, JAPAN

**TEL** 0138-22-0770 **MAIL** [info@hlf.or.jp](mailto:info@hlf.or.jp)  
**FAX** 0138-22-0660 **URL** <http://www.hlf.or.jp/>

#### IVY

1-17-40, Aratatecho, Yamagata City, Yamagata Prefecture, 990-2432, JAPAN

**TEL** 023-634-9830 **MAIL** [link@ivyjapan.org](mailto:link@ivyjapan.org)  
**FAX** 023-634-9884 **URL** <http://ivyivy.org/>

#### Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)

7F, Mizuho Building, 2-12-2 Kamiosaki, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, 141-0021, JAPAN

**TEL** 03-5423-4511 **MAIL** [info@aarjapan.gr.jp](mailto:info@aarjapan.gr.jp)  
**FAX** 03-5423-4450 **URL** <https://www.aarjapan.gr.jp/en/>

#### Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC)

C/O mingle, 4/F Nishiyama Building, 4-7-1 Shiba, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0014, JAPAN

**TEL** 03-6435-2945 **MAIL** [janicsodan@janic.org](mailto:janicsodan@janic.org)  
**URL** <https://www.janic.org/en/>

#### Nagoya NGO Center

7F, YWCA Building, 2-3, Sinsakae-machi, Naka-ku, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture, 460-0004, JAPAN

**TEL** 052-228-8109 **MAIL** [info@nangoc.org](mailto:info@nangoc.org)  
**FAX** 052-228-8109 **URL** <http://www.nangoc.org/english/>

#### Kansai NGO Council

4F, Osaka St. Paul's Church, 2-30, Chaya-machi, Kita-ku, Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture, 530-0013, JAPAN

**TEL** 06-6377-5144 **MAIL** [knc@kansaingo.net](mailto:knc@kansaingo.net)  
**FAX** 06-6377-5148 **URL** <https://kansaingo.net/english/index.html>

#### AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS)

3F, Okayama Sen'i Kaikan, 4-5, Banzancho, Kita-ku, Okayama City, Okayama Prefecture, 700-0818, JAPAN

**TEL** 086-232-8815 **MAIL** [info@amda-minds.org](mailto:info@amda-minds.org)  
**FAX** 086-232-7668 **URL** <https://amda-minds.org/english/>

#### Shikoku Global Network

5-6, Shinonome-cho, Matsuyama City, Ehime Prefecture, 790-0803, JAPAN

**TEL** 089-993-6271 **MAIL** [sakusaku@sgn.or.jp](mailto:sakusaku@sgn.or.jp)  
**FAX** 089-993-6227 **URL** <https://www.sgn.or.jp/>

#### Fukuoka NGO Network

4A, Komori Building, 3-6-1, Hakataekimae, Hakata-ku, Fukuoka City, Fukuoka Prefecture, 812-0011, Japan

**TEL** 092-405-9870 **MAIL** [funn@ngofukuoka.net](mailto:funn@ngofukuoka.net)  
**FAX** 092-405-9870 **URL** <https://ngofukuoka.net/>

#### Okinawa NGO Center

3-23-52, Ginowan, Ginowan City, Okinawa Prefecture, 901-2211, JAPAN

**TEL** 098-892-4758 **MAIL** [onc@oki-ngo.org](mailto:onc@oki-ngo.org)  
**FAX** 098-892-9908 **URL** <https://www.oki-ngo.org/>



NGO consultants

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/shien/soudanin.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/shien/soudanin.html)

## ▶ NGO Consultant's Duties

### (1) Consultation

NGO consultants provide consultation to NGO stakeholders, the general public, and other sectors (local governments, educational institutions, companies, etc.) regarding international cooperation and NGOs, as well as schemes operated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA.

- **Examples of questions and inquiries from the general public:**  
"What is an NGO?"  
"I want to make a donation, but what should I do?"  
"How can I get involved in NGO activities or get a job at an NGO?"
- **Examples of questions and inquiries from other NGOs**  
"About establishing an NGO and building an organization"  
"Procedures for obtaining NGO legal entity status"  
"Organizational operation and management"

### (2) On-site services

At the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, local governments, educational institutions, companies, etc., and also based on the organizations' own initiatives, NGO consultants provide on-site services such as consultation services regarding international cooperation and NGOs, lectures, seminars, workshops, and outreach in the areas under their jurisdiction for NGO stakeholders and the general public.

- **Setting up consultation booths at international cooperation events**
- **Organizing seminars on international cooperation**
- **Conducting lectures and classes at educational institutions**  
(Topics: ODA Public Relations, SDGs, refugees, and many more)



On-site services (visiting a school)

## NGO Consultants' Comment



### KURITA Yoshinori

Director/Secretary-General,  
Kansai NGO Council

After graduating from university, I gained experience working for a Japanese NGO dealing with issues such as landmines and child soldiers, and I am currently working for the Kansai NGO Council. At the Kansai NGO Council, I serve as an NGO consultant for the Kansai region and answer questions about international cooperation activities, how to get involved, and how to set up and run an NGO in person, online, by email, and over the phone. In addition, I also provide on-site services by participating in events related to international cooperation and offering consultations and lectures. We utilize our network and experience to provide heartfelt support to not only those already involved in international cooperation but also to those who are interested in international cooperation and want to start working in it. Please do not hesitate to talk to a consultant in your area, without thinking, "I wonder if this is a silly question?" I believe that this first step will eventually open up new possibilities for you.



### SASAKI Ayana

Staff,  
Okinawa NGO Center (ONC)

I majored in intercultural studies in university, and I decided to enter the world of NGOs because I believed that human interaction and mutual understanding could be the keys to resolving problems that transcend national and regional borders. The Okinawa NGO Center (ONC) operates under the slogan "Connecting with the World from Okinawa." In particular, providing opportunities to consider global issues as if they were personal matters and promoting development education are important activities that the ONC has been working on for many years. Additionally, Okinawa has a history of producing many emigrants, and the ONC is also supporting foreigners, including people of Japanese descent, who live in Okinawa in search of work and a better life. Although NGOs cover a wide range of activities, if you are even slightly interested or have questions, I suggest that you first knock on the door of an NGO consultant in your area! There are consultants active throughout Japan who will listen sympathetically to any concerns you may have. In addition to providing information and advice, NGO consultants also connect people to specialized NGOs and assist with ongoing activities. Take the first step—we are here to support you from Okinawa.

### (3) NGO Intern Program

As public interest in international cooperation grows, more and more young people are seeking employment at NGOs, which are responsible for conducting citizens-led international cooperation. However, many Japanese NGOs, due to financial constraints and staffing shortages, do not have the capacity to train young personnel. This program commissions Japanese NGOs to accept and train young people interested in international cooperation in order to open up opportunities for those wanting to engage in NGO work and, through the enlargement of the human resources pool, expand and develop the multilayered international cooperation activities of NGOs.

#### [ Program description ]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissions Japanese NGOs engaged in international cooperation to accept young people for a certain period to provide them with practical training. Funds to cover the expenses are provided by MOFA through the Secretariat to those NGOs accepting the interns.

#### [ Selection method ]

The call for applications is announced on the websites of MOFA and the Secretariat. The training period is from the date that the memorandum is signed until the last day of March of that fiscal year.

#### Intern's Comment

##### INOUE Haruka

Intern, The PHD Foundation

In the NGO Intern Program, in addition to improving my skills in public relations and awareness-raising, my assigned responsibilities, I participated in overseas training, which broadened my perspective on international cooperation. During the overseas training, I took photographs and conducted interviews in the field, which helped me improve the quality of my PR work, including writing articles for the newsletter.

Above all, I gained an irreplaceable treasure: the connections I made with fellow interns. When I joined the PHD Foundation, it was an industry in which I had no experience and was an environment where I had no peers. So, I was extremely grateful to be able to interact with interns who shared the same aspirations as me, which is international cooperation. In fact, exchanging information with fellow interns led to our foundation being able to introduce a new public relations material production tool, and I was deeply inspired when I visited my fellow interns' office during my overseas training in Cambodia.

I would like to continue working at an NGO for as long as possible, utilizing the connections and experiences I gained through this program, and continue to grow as a person who can contribute to grassroots international cooperation.



With former trainees in Indonesia



During a visit at a former trainee's village in Nepal



NGO Intern Program

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/shien/intern\\_p.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/shien/intern_p.html)



## (4) NGO Study Program

This program aims at organizational reinforcement of Japanese NGOs through human resource development. It provides mid-career personnel of Japanese NGOs with overseas training for a maximum of one month to strengthen their capacities. Two types of programs are offered: “Practical training” and “Training enrollment.” This program is unique in that the trainees are permitted to set a theme based on the issues their affiliated NGOs have and formulate an independent training plan. After returning to Japan, trainees and their affiliated NGOs are required to leverage the fruit from the training in the activities of said NGOs, and share the information widely with other NGOs.

### [ Program description ]

Mid-career personnel who are selected through open recruitment receive training in line with the training plan. Funds to cover the expenses are provided through the Secretariat by MOFA.

### [ Practical Training ]

This program is designed to strengthen the capacities of personnel through work experience at overseas NGOs or international organizations that have had success with development projects and policy recommendations.

### [ Training enrollment ]

This program is designed to strengthen the capacities of personnel by enrolling them in programs offered by overseas training institutions.

### [ Selection method ]

The call for applications is announced on the websites of MOFA and the Secretariat.

### [ Sample research themes ]

Capacity-building in project design, implementation, and management; enhancement of funding and financial bases (e.g., expansion of funding procurement, development of an accurate allocation method and scheme); information and public relations strategy (e.g., promotion of social understanding of NGOs, methods of communicating appropriate information to supporters and beneficiaries); capacity improvement in organizational management (e.g., creation of organizational management system, leadership, personnel evaluation, team building, staff capacity improvement); policy recommendations, etc.

## Participant Comment

### KANDA Seiko

World Vision Japan (WVJ)

Given the increasing frequency of prolonged humanitarian crises today, international aid must extend beyond the traditional boundaries of humanitarian aid, development, and peacebuilding to effectively address evolving needs. Through the NGO Study Program, I had the opportunity to visit Honduras to observe the Fragile Contexts Programming Approach (FCPA) in action. The approach considers the variability of fragile project contexts and anticipates multiple scenarios, enabling the project to quickly adjust its activities in response to changes in the operational environment, such as disasters or deteriorating security conditions. During this program, I deepened my understanding of the FCPA through field visits and discussions with the local stakeholders. Building on this experience, I aim to design and manage projects that are better aligned with local needs and contribute to the sustainability of their impact.



Interviewing beneficiaries



Observing livelihood improvement activities (tortilla sales)



NGO Study Program

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/shien/study\\_p.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/shien/study_p.html)

To promote stronger partnerships between NGOs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it is very important to enhance mutual understanding. MOFA engages in dialogue with NGOs through the following frameworks.

## (1) NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting

To promote stronger partnerships and dialogue between NGOs and MOFA, meetings were launched in FY1996 as a forum for exchanging opinions on a regular basis to share information on ODA and establish measures to strengthen partnerships with NGOs.

### • General Meeting

This meeting is usually held at the beginning of the fiscal year and involves sharing the matters discussed in each committee in the previous fiscal year and exchanging opinions regarding policies up for discussion in the current fiscal year based on those matters. It is held once a year.

### • Committee

#### 1) ODA Policy Council

Exchanges opinions regarding ODA policy in general. This council meeting is held three times a year.

#### 2) Partnership Promotion Committee

Exchanges opinions regarding MOFA's assistance of and collaborative measures with NGOs. This committee meeting is held three times a year.



FY2024, First Partnership Promotion Committee Meeting / MOFA



NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/taiwa/kyougikai.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/taiwa/kyougikai.html)

## (2) Other Dialogues

In addition to the above council and consultation meetings, there are also consultations on various fields, such as the "Open Regular Dialogues of MOFA/NGO on GII/IDI"\* for global health, and the "Liaison Conference of International Education Cooperation" for international education cooperation.

Meanwhile, overseas, Japanese embassies, JICA, and NGOs work together in an all-Japan manner to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of ODA and hold discussions with the aim of promoting "visible Japanese support."

\* GII is the abbreviation for the Global Issues Initiative announced in 1994, and IDI is the abbreviation for the Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative announced in 2000.

### Comment from an involved party



**IMANISHI Hiroaki**

Partnership Promotion Committee  
Member on the NGO side and  
Secretary General, Foundation for  
International Development/Relief

I have been involved in the field of international cooperation since I was dispatched to Bangladesh as a member of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in 1989 and since 2005 as an NGO staff member. Since 2008, I have served as a member of the NGO side of the Partnership Promotion Committee, which provides an opportunity for dialogue between MOFA and NGOs, on three occasions totaling nine years. During those nine years, the Partnership Promotion Committee sometimes had the Minister for Foreign Affairs in attendance, providing a valuable opportunity to discuss and exchange opinions on various themes and issues related to the partnership between NGOs and MOFA. In recent years, in addition to the committees, task forces divided by theme have also been established, in which the frank exchange of opinions and sometimes heated debates take place while respecting the positions and ideas of both sides. These task forces have become a place where we work together toward the common goal of making Japan's international cooperation as effective as possible.

## Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects / JPF

# ACTIVITIES INTRODUCTION

### Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

#### ■ Southeast Asia

- ① Cambodia Foundation for International Development/Relief (FIDR)
- ② Timor-Leste Services for the Health in Asian and African Regions (SHARE)
- ③ Myanmar BHN Association (BHN)

#### ■ South Asia

- ④ Nepal ChildFund Japan
- ⑤ Pakistan Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)

#### ■ Middle East

- ⑥ Afghanistan Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)

#### ■ Latin America

- ⑦ Honduras AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS)

#### ■ Europe

- ⑧ Ukraine ADRA Japan (ADRA)

#### ■ Africa

- ⑨ Ethiopia HOPE International Development Agency Japan
- ⑩ Kenya Health and Development Service (HANDS)
- ⑪ Senegal Mura no Mirai
- ⑫ Rwanda WaterAid Japan

### JAPAN PLATFORM (JPF)

#### ■ Middle East

- ⑬ Afghanistan Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)
- ⑭ Palestine PARC Interpeoples' Cooperation (PARCIC)

#### ■ Europe

- ⑮ Ukraine Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO)

#### ■ Africa

- ⑯ Sudan Plan International Japan

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda) is a set of international development goals from 2016 to 2030, which was adopted by the UN Sustainable Development Summit held in September 2015 building on the success of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The 2030 Agenda listed "Sustainable Development Goals" consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets in order to eradicate poverty and realize a sustainable world. The SDGs are universal goals applicable, not only to developing countries but also developed countries, and pledge "Leave no one behind" through the implementation process.

Japan makes utmost efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda with international community based on the concept of human security.



**1 Cambodia**

Foundation for International Development/Relief (FIDR)



**Project for Enhancing Medical System to Practice Pediatric Surgery in Kratie Province**

**Background and Objectives**

In rural areas of Cambodia, medical institutions and patients face challenges in pediatric surgery: for the former, it is the low capacity of medical institutions to treat children's surgical diseases, and for the latter, it is the issue of patients not visiting hospitals promptly and properly. This project focuses on strengthening the medical system of pediatric surgery and promoting the health of children in Kratie Province, northeastern Cambodia.

**Details and Results**

In this project, a surgical inpatient ward was constructed and equipped with medical equipment so that Kratie Provincial Referral Hospital (KPRH) could function as a flagship hospital for pediatric surgery. Since the old ward for surgical inpatients was dilapidated and located far from the operating ward, patients suffered a significant burden physically and mentally. The new ward produced by the project solved such problems and now patients can stay in the hospital in a safe and secure environment.

The doctors at KPRH had little experience in dealing with surgical diseases in children before the project was launched. Through lectures and advice by Japanese experts as well as senior doctors of the National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh, they significantly improved their skills in diagnosis and treatment. In parallel, this project provided training for health center workers in the province and regularly disseminated information to the local residents with the aim of shifting their health behavior. These efforts solidified a base for properly treating pediatric surgery in the province, centered on KPRH.



The head nurse of the surgical department looking after a patient in the new ward

**2 Timor-Leste**

Services for the Health in Asian and African Regions (SHARE)



**The project for strengthening primary health care service delivery through community participation**

**Background and Objectives**

In remote areas of Timor-Leste, medical facilities are inaccessible due to underdeveloped roads and other factors, and residents have a low level of awareness about health. As a result, utilization rates of health care services, including child vaccinations and general medical consultations, are lower than in other regions. This project aimed to strengthen primary health care by promoting preventive behaviors, self-care practices among residents, and increased utilization of health care services.

**Details and Results**

A health post was built in a village without a doctor in the mountainous area of Dili municipality, improving access to medical care for the surrounding residents. On the remote island of Atauro, the project provided a boat to offer health care services and began providing mobile clinics by boat to villages with undeveloped roads. The project also provided training to doctors and nurses to enhance their patient care and vaccination administration skills. In addition, by training health volunteers selected from among the residents, improvements were made to communicate basic health information and the importance of prevention to residents. As a result, physical access, delivery of health care services, and understanding among residents have improved, leading to increased outpatient visits and vaccination rates for children in the target remote areas, contributing to improving the health of residents.



Mothers and children gathering at the health post for child vaccinations

## 3 Myanmar

BHN Association (BHN)



### Disaster risk reduction support and health and hygiene awareness improvement projects in schools and villages in Gwa Township, Rakhine State

#### Background and Objectives

In 2008, Cyclone Nargis caused devastating damage in western Myanmar, leaving over 138,000 people dead or missing. Meanwhile, in rural areas, high morbidity rates among residents lacking sufficient access to medical services has been a problem. Regarding both natural disasters and morbidity, inadequate emergency information communication to local residents as well as a lack of basic knowledge and awareness about risks have been identified as key issues. This project aims to reduce disaster-related risk by raising residents' awareness of disaster risk reduction and health, in addition to developing broadcasting facilities to communicate information early.

#### Details and Results

In this project, a Learning and Communication Assist (LCA) system (equipment to support learning and village information transmission) and disaster risk reduction hazard maps were installed in 15 schools, including junior high schools, with the aim of improving disaster risk reduction literacy and awareness of health and hygiene among local residents and students. The LCA system has been used to communicate disaster risk reduction information and information on the prevention of COVID-19 to local residents through broadcasting equipment with speakers for both inside and outside the school. In addition, the audiovisual equipment is utilized for health and hygiene education on infectious and lifestyle diseases. In these support activities, the effectiveness of the LCA system was highly praised by the local health instructors, and an expectation to broadly expand the measures to other areas has been expressed. For the school students, the lessons using the audiovisual equipment were extremely well received. Furthermore, many local residents expressed their gratitude for these support activities.



Briefing session to explain the project overview, data collection, and other topics at DoTann School

## 4 Nepal

ChildFund Japan



### Rehabilitating Schools and Building School Resilience to Disaster in Sindhupalchowk, Nepal

#### Background and Objectives

This project aimed to ensure that children could learn at school with peace of mind through constructing earthquake-resistant school buildings and supporting the development and implementation of school safety plans by local residents and schools in Sindhupalchowk District, which suffered immense damage caused by the 2015 Nepal Earthquake.

#### Details and Results

Through this project, earthquake-resistant buildings were constructed at two schools, desks and chairs were provided in the classrooms, and lavatories, hand-washing facilities, fencing, playgrounds, and other facilities were also constructed, creating a safe learning environment for children.

For school safety plan development, seven schools conducted evacuation drills and other activities in accordance with the plans with the cooperation of school management committees, PTAs, children's clubs, and local governments. The poorest segments of the population were also encouraged to participate, and currently some of them are taking on leadership roles in the PTA and children's clubs. Regarding disaster risk reduction, which is an important part of the school safety plan, Japan's experience was conveyed through a booklet for children called "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for Children," videos, and other materials. The school safety plans formulated in this project are being continuously reviewed and operated in many of the project target schools even after the project's completion.



Evacuation drills at school

## 5 Pakistan

Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)



### Promoting Inclusive Education in Primary Schools in Haripur District and Abbottabad District

#### Background and Objectives

Pakistan has the second highest number of out-of-school children in the world, and children with disabilities, in particular, have limited educational opportunities due to inadequate school facilities and a lack of understanding from people around them. This project aims to improve the learning environment and promote understanding of disabilities to enable all children, including those with disabilities, to learn at school with peace of mind.

#### Details and Results

Efforts are being made to create an environment where children with disabilities can learn safely in nine primary schools. Ramps and barrier-free toilets were installed in school buildings, creating a learning environment where children with disabilities can attend classes in the same way as children without disabilities. The training sessions for teachers, school staff, and local residents deepened their understanding of “disabilities” and “inclusive education,” raising awareness that disabilities are not just an individual issue, but a challenge that must be addressed by society as a whole. As a result of the school enrollment promotion campaign and home visits, 13 children with disabilities have enrolled in schools. In cooperation with the Elementary & Secondary Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, five Inclusive Education officers have been assigned in each district, and this project supports the establishment of a system that will enable more children with disabilities to receive an education.



Understanding of classmates and AAR staff members

## 6 Afghanistan Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)



### Development Project for Diffusion of “Library for Children” in Afghanistan

#### Background and Objectives

In Afghanistan, access to education is limited due to reasons such as lack of schools and classrooms. This project aims to improve the quality of education by building and strengthening libraries and their infrastructure, thereby promoting library services as places of learning.

#### Details and Results

In this project, a Model School Library and a local Children’s Library were built at a primary school in Nangarhar Province, and one Model School Library was built at a primary school in Laghman Province. For the Model School Libraries, a guidebook was created that includes training content on facility construction, operation, and activities, so that they can serve as models for the construction of libraries in other regions in the future. After the libraries were built, training on operation and management was provided to over 130 librarians and local residents. Currently, the libraries are managed by schools and local residents, and they are gaining recognition and being used as new educational facilities. In addition to activities such as lending and reading aloud, librarians and local residents are actively running a variety of programs, including mobile libraries and reading awareness campaigns.



A girl picking up a book at the newly constructed children’s library

## 7 Honduras

### AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS)



#### Project for Strengthening Maternal Care in San Lucas and San Antonio de Flores Municipalities

##### Background and Objectives

The municipalities of San Lucas and San Antonio de Flores, located in the mountainous area of El Paraíso Department, are particularly underdeveloped regions of the country with high maternal and infant mortality rates, making the improvement of maternal and child health a major challenge.

##### Details and Results

To ensure that expectant and nursing mothers could receive necessary health care services, this project implemented various activities, including providing medical equipment such as an ultrasound diagnostic machine, obstetric beds, and testing instruments; conducting training for health care staff, health volunteers, and traditional birth attendants; and providing maternal and child health education to residents, particularly expectant and nursing mothers. Additionally, based on the Japanese Maternal and Child Health Handbook, a Honduran version was created and distributed to expectant and nursing mothers through local health care facilities. As a result of these activities, the quality of prenatal and postnatal checkups has improved, and the number of women seeking care has increased. Moreover, births at health care facilities have increased by 35%, and it became possible to adequately transport patients to hospitals when necessary. Furthermore, the use of the Maternal and Child Health Handbook has been expanded beyond the two target municipalities to three other municipalities in El Paraíso Department, contributing to the improvement of maternal and child health.



Ultrasound examination training for health care staff

## 8 Ukraine

### ADRA Japan (ADRA)



#### Project to support the restoration of public service functions and goods transportation systems in Ukraine

##### Background and Objectives

The purpose of this project is to restore the functions of medical institutions that were disrupted by the war and maintain the provision of necessary medical services. The project also aims to provide supplies to war victims in areas that are difficult to reach, improve the environment to meet essential needs, and prepare for the coming reconstruction.

##### Details and Results

A total of 16 generators were provided to medical institutions in Ukraine, enabling them to continue medical operations 24 hours a day even during power outages. Health care workers said, "Previously, we were unable to continue treatment during power outages, so we eagerly awaited the arrival of generators. We are now able to save precious lives." In addition, one large truck and one small truck were procured, and a total of four mobile container warehouses were placed in the Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, and Kharkiv oblasts, establishing a humanitarian reconstruction line to transport supplies from the Mukachevo Central Logistics Warehouse in the west to southeastern Ukraine. This made it possible to transport supplies to residents in the hard-to-reach southeastern region, delivering humanitarian aid to more than 25,000 beneficiaries.



A truck delivering supplies to eastern Ukraine in January 2024

## 9 Ethiopia

HOPE International Development Agency Japan



### Women's Empowerment through Community Participatory Water Supply System in Oyda Project

#### Background and Objectives

Women in rural Ethiopia typically spend two hours a day fetching water and raising children, and have had very little employment opportunities or interaction with society. This project aimed to provide training, protect the dignity of women, and help them achieve economic self-reliance.

#### Details and Results

The project first constructed water supply facilities so that residents in the project area could fetch water within a 15-minute round trip. Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of 20 members each were organized, consisting of the women who had more time due to reduced water-fetching duties, and these groups conducted trainings about literacy as well as how to manage and use money to earn an income. Each member saves 15 yen per week as a group, and everyone borrows the necessary funds to start a small business. Within the 920 households where women were active in the SHGs, the average annual household income increased more than five-fold compared with before this project's implementation. These women have gained confidence through their social connections and are contributing to the revitalization of their communities by returning to elementary schools they had previously dropped out of and speaking on an equal footing with men at local meetings.



Women in front of bundles of thread they spun themselves. A smile after completing a task

## 10 Kenya

Health and Development Service (HANDS)



### Community-Based Child Nutrition Improvement Project Centering Around ECDE Centres

#### Background and Objectives

The nutrition status of children under the age of five in the project target area of Kericho County is low compared to the national average, and there is no active intervention in the healthcare system targeting children after the vaccination at 18 months. We aimed to develop human resources and to improve the nutrition status of pupils in Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centres in the target area.

#### Details and Results

To improve water, sanitation and hygiene at 31 ECDE centres, local residents participated in building 12 ventilated and improved pit latrines, 7 rain water harvesting tanks and 5 school kitchens with smokeless stoves. Additionally, 5 school roads were improved by using Do-nou technology. School feeding programmes were introduced to supplement children's nutrition, and teachers began monitoring their growth. A school model kitchen garden was also established to grow a variety of crops, and human resources were developed to promote kitchen gardening with the aim of protecting the health of young children at all levels of the community, including school officials, community health volunteers, local residents, and parents. To support these activities, an implementation manual for nutrition improvement was created and distributed to all public ECDE centres in the county. Today, all facilities built under this project are still carefully maintained and managed, and school feeding programmes continue to be provided. In some cases, parents of the children requested that the provision of school lunches continue as they transitioned to primary school.



Community health volunteers participating in kitchen gardening training



## 11 Senegal

Mura no Mirai



### Establishment of a Sustainable Agricultural Extension Base in the Department of Mbour

#### Background and Objectives

Although modern agriculture is expanding in Senegal, the country still faces problems like soil erosion and groundwater depletion due to environmental pressures and a lack of knowledge about agricultural management. This project aimed to enable smallholder farmers to manage sustainable agricultural businesses while effectively saving and conserving resources.



Model farm (2021: at the start of the project)



Model farm (2023: at the end of the project)

#### Details and Results

The main activities of this project were to develop a model farm and train agricultural instructors. First, a model farm was developed to showcase agricultural practices that recycle local resources. This included planting for green manure and animal feed, composting livestock manure, employing planting methods that mitigate problems related to crop rotation, and implementing measures to prevent soil erosion while improving the soil's water retention. As a result, the cost of chemical fertilizers was eliminated. In addition, it was proven that water resources were saved and conserved with a 20% reduction in agricultural water use and an increase in well water levels during the dry season. This model farm became a vital resource where locals could learn about resource circulation-type agricultural practices at any time. The knowledge and techniques gained from the model farm were compiled into a textbook, which was then used in training to develop agricultural instructors. These instructors continue to promote circular agriculture to farmers.

## 12 Rwanda

WaterAid Japan



### The Project for Improvement of Water, Sanitation and Hygienic Environment in Kirehe District, Eastern Province

#### Background and Objectives

The Republic of Rwanda has set a national goal to ensure that everyone has access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene. However, in Kirehe District, a rural area in Eastern Province, only 68% of the population has access to safe water. Additionally, the lack of toilets and good hygiene behaviors hinders people from leading healthy lives.

#### Details and Results

In Kirehe District, Eastern Province, a 19-kilometer water supply pipeline and 17 water points were installed, and water user committees were established, providing 8,621 people with stable access to safe water. Additionally, 24 separate toilets for boys and girls were constructed in three schools, of which three were equipped with handrails to accommodate students with disabilities. As a result, 5,507 students now have access to hygienic toilets. To promote hygiene awareness in communities, communities worked to eliminate open defecation, and toilets and handwashing facilities were improved through self-help efforts in 1,406 households. Furthermore, community radio programs and commercials broadcast messages on disease prevention and health promotion through proper handwashing over 100 times to urge people to actively keep good hygiene behaviors.



A water point constructed under the project and maintained by the water user committee in the village

**13 Afghanistan** Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)



**Project of food package distribution for winterization, and explosive ordnance risk education**

**Background and Objectives**

The humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan has worsened since the political upheaval in 2021. In particular, food shortages and the risks of landmines and unexploded ordnances are major challenges. This project provided food assistance and explosive ordnance risk education for socially vulnerable households, with the aim to ensure safe lives and livelihoods for the people of the country.

**Details and Results**

“That accident drastically changed my life. We lead difficult lives, and I am sincerely grateful to the Japanese people for providing us with food.” These were the words of a man who received food assistance. He was not able to find stable employment, began work to collect scrap metal to support his family, then lost one of his legs from an accidental explosion of unexploded ordnances mixed in with the scrap metal.

In Afghanistan, the economically vulnerable population tends to collect and sell scrap metal to earn a small income for survival. Under these circumstances, there are many cases of some explosives in these scrap metals detonating while being collected, resulting in accidents that lead to the loss of people’s lives or serious injuries. To respond to the food security situation that has deteriorated further since the political upheaval, food assistance was provided to 800 vulnerable households, such as those consisting only of children or women and those with family members with disabilities. Awareness-raising activities on how to avoid the accidents from explosive ordnances were also conducted for approximately 7,000 people.



Food distribution to a man who lost his leg due to a landmine

**14 Palestine** PARC Interpeoples’ Cooperation (PARCIC)



**Project for Food and NFIs Distribution and Support for Purchasing Winter Items for Vulnerable People in Middle/South of Gaza**

**Background and Objectives**

Due to the worsening situation in Gaza since October 2023, 90% of the residents in the Gaza Strip have been forced to live in evacuation shelters. There is an extreme shortage of daily necessities such as food, water, medicine, clothing, and fuel, and humanitarian assistance is urgently needed to protect people’s lives.

**Details and Results**

From January to August 2024, this project distributed food, hygiene products, and clothing to people who evacuated to the central and southern Gaza Strip. The relief goods, which included preserved foods such as rice, canned goods, and locally grown vegetables, helped people obtain the nutrition they needed even while living as evacuees. In addition, the provision of soap, sanitary items and other hygiene products, as well as disposable tableware, helped improve the sanitary environment for people in Gaza who had limited access to clean water. Cold weather clothing was also distributed to people who had been repeatedly forced to evacuate in their summer clothes; these people only had the clothes they were wearing at the time and were unable to return to their homes. Prayer clothing for women, which covers the body from head to ankle, was also provided, helping to protect the dignity of women living in temporary tents where privacy is difficult to ensure.



A woman smiling after receiving supplies in Khan Younis Governorate in the southern Gaza Strip

## 15 Ukraine

Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO)



### Distributing Cash, Food, Daily Necessities and Generators to Internally Displaced Persons in Odesa Oblast in Izmail City and Surrounding Areas

#### Background and Objectives

Since Russia's aggression against Ukraine, more than 14 million Ukrainian people have been forced to live as refugees inside and outside of the country. This project provided assistance through cash transfers to displaced people for purchasing food and other items, distributed food and daily necessities, and provided generators to host communities to help displaced people.

#### Details and Results

In Izmail City and its surrounding areas in Odesa Oblast, which borders Romania, not only displaced people affected by the prolonged fighting, but also the members of the host communities that have accepted them are struggling with unemployment and rising living costs.

Through this project, 400 displaced people were provided with assistance through cash transfers to purchase food, daily necessities, medicines, etc., and food and daily necessities were distributed to 1,100 people. In addition, electricity was supplied to 40 host families through the provision of generators. As heating appliances are essential for surviving Ukraine's harsh winters, the electricity supply was an important means of supporting the lives of both displaced people and their host families.

Currently, we are considering reconstruction initiatives through this project while responding to the various needs of displaced people who are experiencing prolonged evacuation.



A family that received a generator

## 16 Sudan

Plan International Japan



### Emergency Assistance Project for Protection, Water Supply, and Sanitation for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Gezira State

#### Background and Objectives

More than 10 million people have been internally displaced due to the conflict that occurred in Sudan in April 2023. This project provided life-saving assistance, such as provision of protection services for youth, safe water by water trucking for evacuation sites, and toilet repairs.

#### Details and Results

Due to the effects of armed conflict, an estimated 4.3 million children in Sudan are in need of protection services and sexual violence against women is on the rise, making assistance essential. It is difficult to secure safe water at the evacuation sites, and IDPs are being forced to live in an environment with insufficient sanitation facilities and hygiene products.

This project not only provided a safe space for over 2,200 children but also provided protection services for 470 young people at risk of violence, conducted awareness-raising activities to prevent sexual violence, installed water tanks and provided water trucking, repaired toilets in evacuation shelters, and distributed sanitary items to 850 women. In addition, community capacity was strengthened so that they could continue activities to protect themselves even beyond the completion of the project. Currently, the project continues to provide life-sustaining support through water trucking and food distribution.



Water tanks installed at an evacuation shelter, enabling regular water supply assistance



This pamphlet aims to provide clear explanations of the programs of the Non-Governmental Organizations Cooperation Division and to promote the effective use of its multifaceted schemes. We hope that the pamphlet will help more people learn the active roles played by Japanese NGOs and develop a deeper understanding of their activities.

front cover  
photo above: Plan International Japan/Laos  
photo below: Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning/Zambia  
back cover  
photo: CWS Japan/Pakistan



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the People of Japan**

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