

# Shanti Volunteer Association Annual report

30 years have passed since our first activities in Laos started. We now respond to emergencies faster while carrying out our activities

kuv yuav muab nyaj  
hab kub ma meb. Mas meb  
yuav ua zoo neej.



Meb yuav tsi pluag  
ib zag ntxiv le Lawm.



Tes tug Fuab tais txawm  
muab nyaj hab kub rua tug  
yawm txav tawg ob tug ob  
nam txiv.



ob tug txhaj le ua neej  
luag ntxhi moog le Lawm.  
Quas yawg tau nom ua.  
Yog quas pu j ntse.

### Embroidery picture book handcrafted by Mon children in Laos

These are part of an Embroidery picture book handcrafted by children who used to come to our library in a refugee camp at the Thailand-Laos border. The Mon people are very accomplished at embroidery, and girls start making stitches at the age of about five. The Mon originally had no script, so there were no books available in their language when we began working in the region, while they had made many embroidery picture books mainly from folk tales.

One book can inspire thousands.



## 30 years have passed since our first activities in Laos started.

In 1992, SVA began its activities in Laos, a country with 50 ethnic groups. While the country's educational environment has been improved, the educational gap between cities and rural areas has widened. We will continue to apply every effort to our work in Laos.

### We were awarded a Friendship Medal by the Lao government.

In 2022, marking our 30 years of activity, we held an online event to look back on our activities, as well as featured them in our public relations magazine, SHANTI. We were awarded a Friendship Medal by Lao government for our contribution to the preservation and inheritance of traditional Lao culture through the Children's Home, which opened in 1996, as well as the subsequent activities at Children's Cultural Center.



### Greeting from President

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for your help in making our mission possible.

Over the 41 years since our foundation in 1981, the philosophy behind our activities has been unchanged: Live together, learn together. The regions where SVA conducts educational and cultural support activities are faced with a wide range of problems, such as poverty, starvation, and violation of human rights, and we don't regard provision of sufficient food, clothing, and shelter as a solution to these problems. When we think what can encourage the people in these regions to take further steps from where they are now, the importance of education that aligns with their traditional culture surfaces. Learning new things alongside them, SVA strives to provide support to help them take a step forward towards a brighter future.

Our efforts need time to see results. However, the children who received learning opportunities through us when we were just established have become respectable adults and now we see them offering an educational helping hand to children faced with the same difficulties. I believe that expanding this circle of compassion is the way to contribute to the establishment of the peaceful civil society we have always envisioned and worked toward.

The need for our activities is growing ever greater as the global situation changes rapidly. Progress may be slow, but we are moving forward steadily. I ask for your continued support and cooperation.

若林恭英

Kyoei Wakabayashi



### Topics in 2022

#### Redesigned our English website

Following the renovation of our official website (Japanese) in 2021, we redesigned our English website in 2022.

We will continue to work with our supporters to provide more useful information to our domestic and overseas audiences.

[English website URL]  
<https://sva.or.jp/english/>

Also accessible from the language switch button at the upper right corner of our Japanese website.



#### Received a letter of gratitude from the National Reconstruction Authority of the Nepalese government

SVA launched a reconstruction assistance project, following the 2015 Nepal Earthquake, and then in 2017, opened the Nepal Office. After that, we concluded a cooperation agreement with the National Reconstruction Authority, which was organized after the earthquake, to implement the Project to Enhance Schools' Disaster Preparedness from 2017 through 2021. These our contributions were recognized and we received a letter of gratitude from the National Reconstruction Authority of the Nepalese government, particularly for our contribution to the nation's recovery from the earthquake.







In February 2022, Russia launched an invasion of Ukraine. It didn't take long before SVA, which had long been working to help create a peaceful world, to decide what action to take against this grave situation that could not be overlooked. As we responded to increased needs for humanitarian response while maintaining our regular activities in each target area, our organizational foundation, which had been enhanced in the past few years, was our greatest strength.

# Respond to Emergencies More Rapidly While Performing Regular Activities



*Eri Yamamoto*  
Eri Yamamoto  
Secretary General

## How should we face the new war that has broken out? Our key challenge is responding to increased needs for humanitarian response

Just as the COVID-19 pandemic started to ebb and we were about to resume whatever activities we could, Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022. SVA, as an organization that had been working to help create a peaceful world, could not overlook the fact that a new war had broken out and immediately began discussing what actions to take. Of course, we thought of focusing on our current target areas, as Ukraine would receive support from others whether we went there or not. However, recalling our principle of going to our candidate regions to see their actual situations with our own eyes to decide if our support is needed, we dispatched primary fact-finding teams to Poland and Ukraine in April. Our survey results showed that more and more people were crossing borders into neighboring countries as refugees and that sufficient support had not been provided. Children had been materially affected by the situation, so we decided to extend our activities to those countries and began working. I strongly feel it is time for the entire global community to think again about the miseries caused by war. The number of dispatches to other places, as well as to Ukraine and Poland, for humanitarian response has been increasing. We are currently working in six regions in five countries: Afghanistan, Myanmar, Ukraine, Poland and Pakistan. On top of that, we occasionally respond to domestic disasters, as well. The multitude of dispatches is one of

our challenges. In particular, working in Ukraine and Poland is different from other target regions, as they have different cultures and there is a greater time difference. As a result, we are facing many challenges in carrying out our projects in a smooth manner. I hope, however, that we will be able to continue to expand our support.



Recreation event at the evacuation center in Chisinou, Moldova

## 30 years have passed since our first activities in Laos started. Our enhanced, solid organizational foundation is our great strength

2022 marked 30 years since the launch of our first activities in Laos. When we launched our activities there, picture books and literary works had scarcely been published in the country, partly due to its colonialization by France and the civil war. Against that background, we started by publishing picture books. Over the years since, we have provided educational and cultural support in Laos, a multiethnic country faced with various yet-to-be-solved educational challenges. Our activities widely range from the develop-

ment of teaching materials, which started from making and promoting the use of Toshaban, a printing machine, the construction of schools as proper and secure learning environments, and support for running multi-grade classes. As some examples of the many positive results, total of 371,245 people have participated in our mobile library activity, we distributed Toshaban to 8,120 primary schools across Laos by 2020, and we have built 74 schools so far. Through long-term engagement, we have delivered opportunities for education to many children. For us to keep working this way, it is essential to create a strong organizational foundation. To build that foundation, we followed the Mid-Term Strategic Plan as our primary guide. This plan was developed in 2019 with the enhancement of our organizational foundation as the key goal. Making decisions based on the plan whenever possible, we moved steadily forward toward our goals. Leverage our strengths and improve our weaknesses. I expect that all of us working together, can follow this approach. In 2022, we faced uncertainty about the global community's future and regretted that we did not have a way to stop the new war from starting. This made me wonder what goals we should move towards, as well as feel the necessity of the roles that SVA plays in the global community. Looking as far as a hundred years ahead, we will work hard to deliver consistent support, to stay close to people in need and protect their right to live.



Online event for 30th anniversary of the Laos Office "30 Years of Effort to Improve Education"

## We conducted a mid evaluation of our Mid-Term Strategic Plan (2019 to 2024)

In 2019, SVA developed the Mid-Term Strategic Plan to outline what we should work on for a period of 6 years ending in 2024. In 2022, as three years had passed since the formulation of the plan, we conducted a mid evaluation to review our progress on the plan, according to our assessment policy. Executives and staff from all overseas offices and the Tokyo Office participated in the mid evaluation. We identified our achievements against the plan, evaluated them both qualitatively and quantitatively and reviewed the results after three years of progress, as well as challenges we should address moving forward. Compared to when we developed the plan in 2019, the circumstances surrounding us have changed drastically. In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic that affected the entire world, political disturbances in Myanmar and Afghanistan, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and many other unexpected situations unfolded in the past three years. We expanded our support even during these emergencies, which was possible thanks to our organizational foundation, which had been enhanced according to the Mid-Term Strategic Plan. We will strive to achieve its goals by the end of the period, acting on the suggestions provided in and the insights obtained from the interim assessment, which we will also utilize for our activities in the future.

## Mid-Term Strategic Plan and Mid Evaluation

### 1. Strengthen our expertise to launch new overseas projects

- We will launch new overseas projects, putting more focus on reading promotion, which is our long-term effort centered on picture books and storytelling, as well as on life skills education.
- Create a package of know-how about library activities and utilize it in non-formal education
- Library activities as part of domestic and overseas humanitarian response
- Provide humanitarian response outside of Asia and expand to new countries and regions

- \* 2020: Following the spread of COVID-19, we implemented emergency support projects in our target countries and Japan.
- \* 2021: To strengthen our expertise in children's education, including reading promotion and life skills education, we organized resources for educational projects, created a library activities manual that contributes to non-formal education, and held 16 study sessions on educational projects.
- \* 2022: Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, we launched emergency support projects in Ukraine and Poland. In addition, as was done in the previous year, we organized resources for educational projects and held study sessions.

### 2. Promote new domestic projects

- We will promote domestic projects in order to solve childhood poverty in Japan and problems faced by children with foreign roots by putting to use the experiences, lessons, and bonds we formed around Asia.

- \* 2020: We launched a domestic project: the child-friendly space development project for children with foreign roots. As the COVID-19 pandemic was still ongoing, we provided children with opportunities to interact with each other online.
- \* 2021: In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we launched an inclusive support project for foreign residents in Toshima Ward, Tokyo.
- \* 2022: We launched a disaster prevention and mitigation promotion project for religious facilities in Japan with three key activities (interaction among and training for religious facilities interested in disaster prevention and mitigation, functionality enhancement of model religious facilities for disaster prevention and mitigation, and development of a cross-cutting disaster prevention and mitigation network of religious facilities).

### 3. Propose policies more proactively and strengthen our partnerships

- We will strengthen our partnerships with our various stakeholders in order to contribute to the achievement of the aims of education specified in Articles 28 and 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Strengthen our partnerships with companies and groups that promote reading
- Work with experts to verify the results and measure the impacts of our projects and activities, and publish the results of research
- Develop proposals that can help improve educational policies in our activity areas
- Promote Campaign to Deliver Picture Books workshops that allow local people to participate freely to improve communication with them

- \* 2022: We worked with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Nepal to host a national meeting of public and community libraries and the Kathmandu Declaration, which specifies 10 items, including legislation and budgetary measures for promoting libraries, was adopted.

### 4. Globalize our organization

- To promote our projects further as a Japanese NGO, we will enhance our organizational foundation by, for example, developing human resources and introducing diverse work styles.
- Enhance our organizational foundation
- Develop staff competencies and train the next leaders
- Assign international staff across countries
- Develop a system that allows for diverse work styles
- Increase brand recognition both inside and outside Japan and secure diverse financial resources

- \* 2019: To train leaders of next generation, our overseas staff came to Japan to receive training with our staff in the Tokyo Office.
- \* 2021: Marking our 40th anniversary, we renewed our public relations materials and website. To enhance our organizational foundation, we revised our organizational rules and reviewed our localized management policy.
- \* 2022: To ensure diverse financial resources, we adopted continuous measures, including introduction of new approaches.
- \* 2022: We redesigned our English website.
- \* 2022: We developed a human resource development plan for overseas offices in accordance with our revised operation localization policy.
- \* 2022: We provided all of our staff, including those at overseas offices, with online training in safeguarding and educational projects.
- \* 2022: We actively introduced new systems for clerical work to standardize our work.



For more than four decades, SVA has engaged in activities at eight regions in Asia. Essential supports differ from place to place due to social circumstances. Staff with expertise live locally and support continuously. Collaboration with local people, they are cultivating a culture of learning.

## Achievement (As of the end of 2022)

### 1 The Books and Activities needed for study

	2022	Total
Publication of Picture Book	8 titles	655 titles
Picture Books Delivered	18,520 books	381,237 books
Users of Libraries	0.28 million	16.43 million



### 3 Place where people can learn safely

	2022	Total
Schools constructed	13 schools	442 schools
Libraries / Library rooms opened	37 libraries / rooms	1,055 libraries / rooms



### 2 Developing human resource

	2022	Total
Training participants	495 times, 11,512 people	1,284 times, 55,204 people



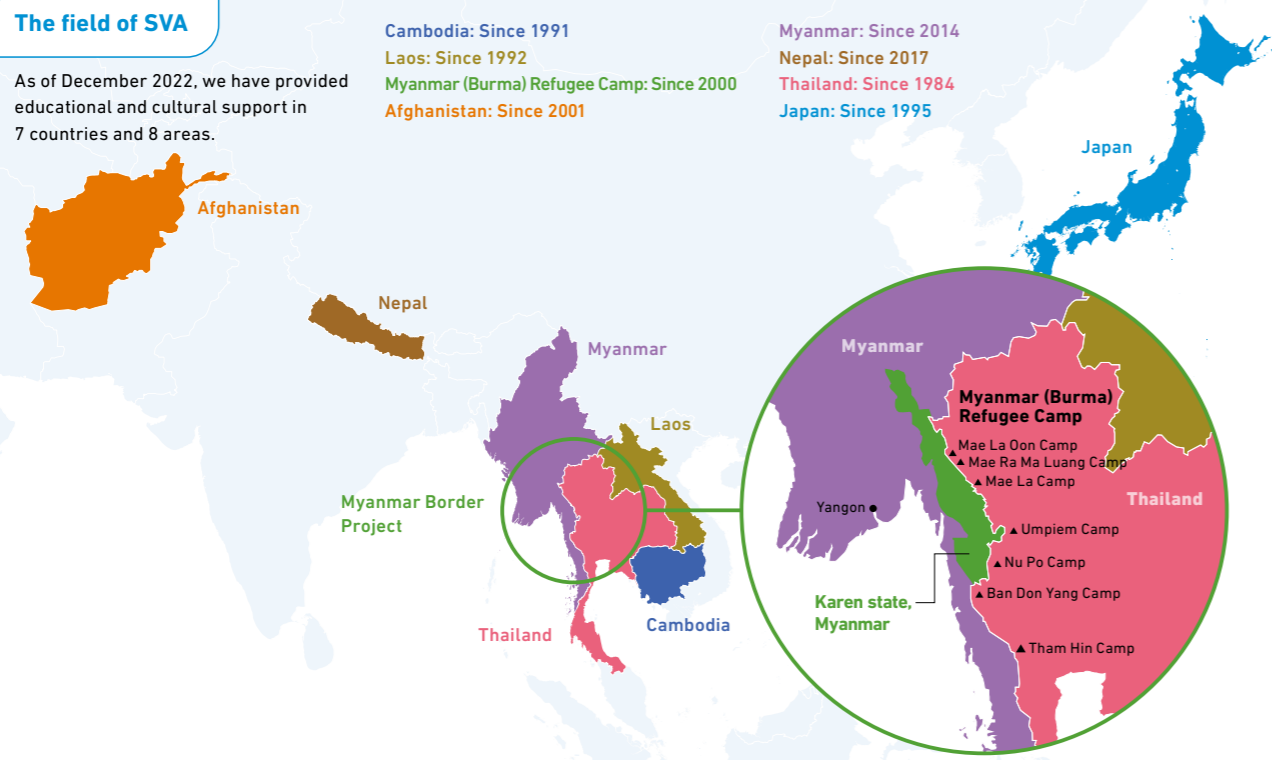
### 4 Humanitarian Response

	2022	Total
Numbers of response	11	93
	• Overseas: 9 • In Japan: 2	• Overseas: 61 • In Japan: 32



## The field of SVA

As of December 2022, we have provided educational and cultural support in 7 countries and 8 areas.



# Thailand

## Educational support activity in slums and areas where ethnic minorities and migrants live

In Thailand, the number of COVID-19 cases started to decline after hitting a peak in March. The government lifted entry and other restrictions and began taking measures to coexist with the coronavirus, instead. In schools, in-person classes were resumed and students now need to make up for about two years of delay in their learning. In 2022, we awarded scholarships to 368 students. In addition, we provided mobile library activities without limiting the number of participants like before, while still ensuring infection prevention. 4,467 children participated in the activities during the year.



### Achievements

Library Activity participants: **4,467 people**  
Scholarship recipients: **368 people**



### Projects

#### 1. Project to improve educational opportunities

We awarded scholarships to a total of 368 students: 348 middle school and high school students (34 in Bangkok, 169 in Phayao, and 145 in Tak) and 20 university students. For this scholarship program, we usually visit students' homes in our three target areas in February in order to select scholarship recipients. However, we changed the schedule due to the pandemic to conduct the process in March. We held scholarship award ceremonies for the first semester in June and July and for the second semester in November, in three places: Bangkok, Phayao, and Tak.

#### 2. Reading Promotion Project through Mobile Library Activity

In the first half of 2022, due to a surge in the COVID-19 cases, we provided mobile library activities, limiting the number of participants in accordance with the Thai government's measures. We provided a total of 58 library activities, covering slums in Bangkok, as well as Samut Sakhon and Samut Prakan, Bangkok suburbs with many Burmese people, and 954 children participated. In the second half of the year, the pandemic died

down and travel restrictions were lifted. As a result, we provided mobile library activities without limiting the number of participants, like before, while still ensuring infection prevention. We provided a total of 51 activities in the second half and 3,513 people participated. We also provided teacher training in storytelling methods and conducting recreation activities in Bangkok, and a total of 29 teachers participated.



Staff of Sikkha Asia Foundation  
\* The activities in Thailand are conducted by the Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF), the former SVA Thailand office. SAF is a partner of SVA and the two organizations work together in project management.

### Message

**Ms. Nareerat Tangcharoenbamrungasuk**  
**Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF)**  
**Secretary General**



Thailand is the country with the largest gap between the rich and the poor in the world. According to the National Economic and Social Development Council's report published in December 2022, 4.4 million people are living below the poverty line, as well as the Multidimensional Poverty Index, which measures poverty from the aspects of education, health, living standards, and financial stability, shows that 8.1 million people, or over 10 percent of the population, are suffering from poverty. We believe providing education to children and young people will lead to sustainable development of Thai society. Education allows them to acquire a wide range of knowledge and skills and learn manners, which will help them tackle life and social challenges. The Sikkha Asia Foundation will continue its scholarships, mobile library activity, community library activity, and student dormitory support in order to ensure educational opportunities and improve the quality of education for children in difficult circumstances, including stateless, ethnic minority, and migrant children.

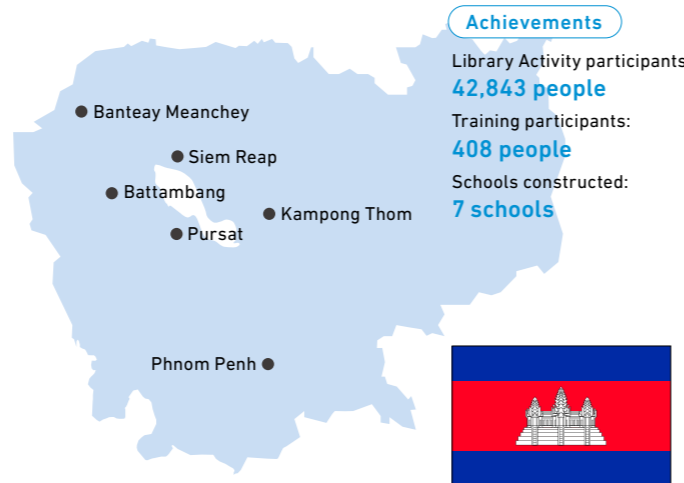


# Cambodia

## Make up for lost learning opportunities

All schools have reopened fully since January 2022, although they were shut down for a long period last year due to the spread of COVID-19.

The impact of the school closure has been enormous. The educational attainment, repetition rate, and dropout rate have all worsened as compared to those before the pandemic, indicating the need for measures to make up for lost learning opportunities.



### Projects

#### 1. Quality Improvement of Early Childhood Education (ECE) Project

- We worked with a task team comprised of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and educators to create a guidebook for teachers.
- Using online tools, we also provided opportunities to receive technical instructions from nursery and kindergarten teachers in Japan.
- We provided training for in-service teachers to inform them of the content of the guidebook.
- We provided the task team with training in Japan.
- We distributed packages of picture books, toys, and a reading promotion leaflet to the households of children who attended the target preschools.

#### 2. The Project to Improve The Learning Environment through A Primary School Construction

- We built primary school buildings with library functionality, restrooms, and handwashing facilities in three schools in Battambang.
- We provided the target schools with training in library room management and facility maintenance.

#### 3. Community Learning Center (CLC) Project

- We installed ICT equipment in some of the Community Learning Centers (CLC).
- We distributed books that could promote lifelong learning to the CLC libraries.
- We provided mobile library activities, aligned with the Project to Improve Learning Environment, and a total of 366 people participated.

#### 4. Dream School Project

- We built three new classroom buildings, as well as restrooms, in four schools in Pursat.
- We provided the target schools with training in school building and restroom maintenance.



Staff of the Cambodia Office

### Message

**Mr. Takashi Kase**  
Cambodia Office  
Director

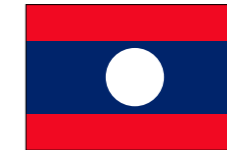
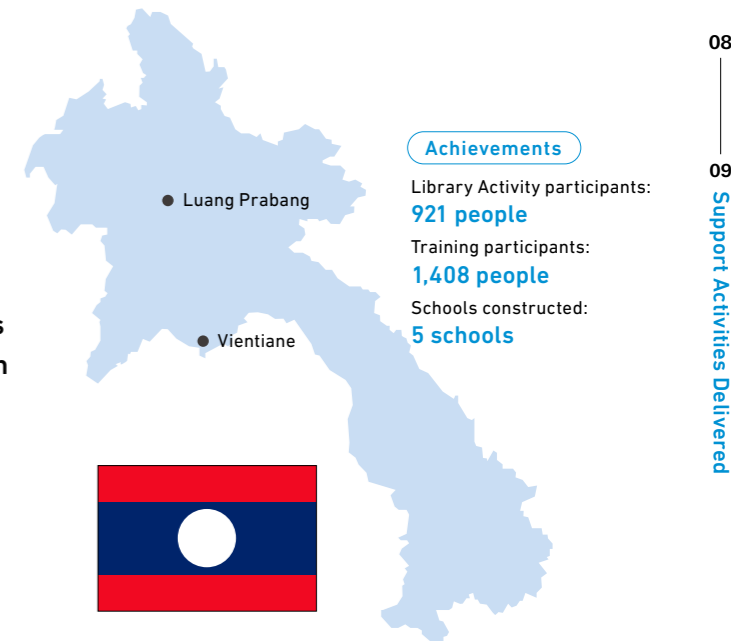


In 2022, schools reopened fully, allowing children to receive formal education like before the pandemic. However, their academic capabilities declined significantly due to the long-term school closure, according to a survey conducted by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, and there is thus a need to enhance measures to make up for the lost learning opportunities. Moreover, about 720 thousand households, or 3 million people, fall into the underclass and there is concern that the COVID-19 pandemic and inflation may cause more people to fall into that segment, affecting people's lives greatly. We have worked to improve education in Cambodia, building schools and carrying out the Community Learning Center (CLC) Project and Quality Improvement of Early Childhood Education Project, combining face-to-face and online working styles. Children have missed out on lots of learning opportunities and the loss has affected children in rural and remote areas most significantly. We are committed to leaving no one behind and will continue to support people who are in difficult situations.

# Laos

## Marking 30th anniversary, we accelerated our post-pandemic support in rural areas

In the regions where the Laos Office works, the schools reopened in or after January 2022. Most of the travel restrictions were lifted in May and we resumed our activities in our target areas gradually. Marking its 30th anniversary in 2022, the Laos Office was awarded a Friendship Medal by the Lao government in August for its contribution to the country. In Laos office, Lao staff will take a leading part along with Japanese staff to expand our activity further.



### Projects

#### 1. School Construction Activities

- We conducted a one-year inspection on the two primary schools we built in 2020. In addition, we conducted 80- and 100-percent completion inspections on the three schools we built in 2021.
- We provided health training at the two schools we built in 2020 and the three we built in 2021.
- We conducted field surveys for three schools to be built in 2022 to complete administrative procedures and make necessary construction arrangements.

#### 2. Reading Promotion Activities through Mobile Library Activity

- We reprinted 150 sets of one of our paper theaters (KAMISHIBAI).
- From March through May and from September through October, we conducted mobile library activities in 10 schools in Luang Prabang Province. 745 students and 36 teachers participated in these activities and a total of 908 books were borrowed.
- We provided internal training on reading promotion and storytelling.

#### 3. Project on Improvement of Multi-Grade Class Management

- The MGT handbook was officially approved by the Ministry of Education and Sport in January.
- In March, we provided training in multi-grade class management to three Teacher Training Colleges in Northern Laos and 90 people participated. We also provided training to five Teacher Training Colleges in other regions in May and 30 people participated.
- Upon review by the Lao government in June, we completed the 4-year project in August.



Staff of Laos Office

### Message

**Ms. Midori Yajima**  
Laos Office  
Director



In 2022, the Laos Office celebrated its 30th anniversary. Looking back over our work, I feel that the disparities have grown and the challenges have shifted as Lao society changes. In our target areas, while there are some positive changes, such as improved learning environments for children, and parent and local resident participation in school education and management, the learning challenges faced by children living in the mountainous and remote areas are becoming more serious. Empowering our Lao staff to work more independently, we will strive to provide effective support that is more tailored to each region's needs, considering post-pandemic circumstances. We will continue to deliver educational opportunities to a wider range of children in Laos, including ethnic minorities, staying even closer to people in these regions.



# Afghanistan

## Protecting jeopardized learning opportunities

Since the political transition in 2021, the situation in Afghanistan has been extremely chaotic. Many people have been forced to evacuate to safer places in and outside the country and are living in acute poverty. Women have been barred from educational and occupational opportunities; girls have been prohibited from receiving secondary or higher education, and female NGO staff have been prohibited to work. Even under these circumstances, our staff worked hard to carry on the projects to deliver support so that children whose right to education was denied could keep their hopes for the future.

### Achievements

Library Activity participants:

**47,989 people**

Training participants:

**527 people**

Libraries/library

rooms opened:

**1 library**



### Projects

#### 1. Development Project for Diffusion of "Library for children" in Afghanistan

- We completed the construction of the Model School Library in the city of Jalalabad and began constructing another Model School Library in a primary school in the city of Laghman. A total of 2,625 students used the Model School Library in the city of Kabul, and 697 books were borrowed. A total of 5,721 students used the school library in the city of Jalalabad, and these students borrowed 1,747 books.
- We completed a school library guidebook and provided trainings to the target schools' librarians, teachers, and the principals.
- We provided mobile library activities 132 times in 25 schools in the cities of Jalalabad and Laghman. A total of 18,959 students used the services and borrowed 11,064 books.

#### 2. Operation of Children's Libraries

The Children's Library in Jalalabad was open 246 days and used by 39,643 children (17% were internally displaced children, orphans, and children with disabilities). To promote reading, we held nine events and 1,712 children participated. The library has been a safe place for children, particularly girls

since the political change in 2021.

#### 3. Picture book and paper theater (KAMISHIBAI) publication

The plots of two picture books and one paper theater (KAMISHIBAI) were revised based on an expert's advice.

#### 4. Project to Consolidation and Expansion of Community-Based Education (CBE) in Afghanistan

- We set up community-based classes and accelerated-learning centers at 500 locations in 10 districts in Kunar to ensure 15,000 children's access to education (63.43% were girls).
- We distributed learning kits to 7,500 students as well as provided teaching material and hygiene/COVID-19 prevention training to 500 teachers.
- We established the School Management Shuras and invited elders and religious leaders to attend to discuss the importance of education.
- We conducted the Back to School Campaign in 10 districts in Kunar.

### Message

**Ms. Eri Yamamoto**  
Secretary General and  
Afghanistan Office Director



Since the political change in August 2021, Afghanistan has been suffering from severe food crisis due to financial difficulties, disasters, and droughts. For the first time, we implemented community-based education program by working together with local people to expand educational opportunities for out of school children. In 2023, we are accomplishing the 20th anniversary of the Afghanistan Office as it was established in 2003. Our continuous activities are the hope for children who have been deprived of educational opportunities. Working with a wide range of actors, we will continue our supports to protect educational opportunities for as many children as possible.

# Myanmar

## Providing safe learning environments to children wishing to learn

The military coup that took place in 2021 has still affected the fields of education in the country. While a new school term began in June, with 5.6 million students enrolled in school, the figure is lower than that before the coup. It is expected that it will take more time for all the children to return to school. SVA built a safe school building for children returning for education who are wishing to learn as well as school libraries for children to catch up on the education they missed the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Achievements

Library Activity participants:

**8,131 people**

Training participants:

**87 people**

Library/Library

rooms opened:

**4 libraries**

Schools constructed:

**1 school**



### Projects

#### 1. Construction of school building/school libraries

- We built a school building for a monastic school and four school libraries. Their inauguration and opening ceremonies were held in October and November with the participation of students, principals, teachers, and local residents. During the ceremonies, the students performed dances and teachers played storytelling.
- We distributed a total of 3,263 picture books and paper theaters (KAMISHIBAI) from Yangon, Thailand, and Japan to the four school libraries.
- We provided each school with facility maintenance training so that they will be able to use the buildings for a long time, as well as school library training in order to deepen their understanding of school library operation, and school services. We provided face-to-face training sessions to a total of 57 people.
- The four school libraries we built were used by a total of 5,926 children.
- One of the school libraries we built provided neighboring two schools with book leading service, which was used by a total of 2,205 children.



Staff of the Myanmar Office

### Message

**Ms. Aki Nakahara**  
Myanmar Office  
Director



Many children in the country missed out on learning opportunities for almost two years due to the coup and prolonged pandemic. Many children have been unable to go to school due to difficult circumstances, such as that their parents don't want them to go to schools ruled by the military and that they have to work to help their parents make ends meet. In 2022, we provided a monastic school with educational support. Monastic schools provide children from the underclass, street children, orphans, and other socially vulnerable children with opportunities for primary and secondary education free of charge. Since the coup, a wide range of restrictions have been placed on NGO activities. To continue to extend as much support as possible, we have been discussing with our national staff what we can do. Seeing the children of the schools for which we helped build school buildings and libraries smiling happily with picture books in their hands for the first time in their lives and getting excited to take classes in their new school buildings, I strongly felt that we must not stop providing learning opportunities.



# Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project

## Libraries back in operation as pandemic settles down

As the COVID-19 situation settled down and the restrictions on traveling and gathering relaxed, we opened our community libraries almost as usual. The situations in Myanmar and on the Myanmar–Thailand border are still unstable and people living in the refugee camps are feeling increasingly anxious.

### Achievements

Library Activity participants:  
**162,640 people**  
Training participants:  
**421 people**



### Projects

#### 1. Community Library Management

- We helped operate community libraries in refugee camps in Thailand. In 2022, a cumulative total of 162,640 people (109,443 children and 53,197 adults) used the 15 libraries in seven camps.
- We provided the 15 libraries with 10,200 books and periodicals (newspapers, magazines, novels, etc.), 4,592 picture books (in Karen and Burmese languages) for children, and 1,690 reference books.
- We published 2,000 copies of one picture book (in Karen and Burmese languages) and distributed them to the libraries.
- Using mobile library boxes, we lent books to 144 schools in the camps, as well as to 36 organizations working in the camps.
- We distributed alcohol disinfectants and other supplies for COVID-19 prevention, as well as supplies necessary for library management.
- We provided library users with news and library information through the information boards and computers in the libraries. In addition, we provided each camp with one new computer.
- We shared our plans, details of library activities, and challenges with the libraries by holding meetings and monitoring activities, and improved our services. In addition,

we shared our storytelling techniques and recreation programs with the libraries in order to improve our library activities.



Staff of the Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project Office

### Message

**Ms. Chiraphorn Rawirung**  
**Myanmar (Burma) Refugee**  
**Project Office**  
**Deputy Director**



About 91,000 people live in the refugee camps along the border between Thailand and Myanmar. The political instability in Myanmar, as well as the abrogation of the cease-fire agreement between the Myanmar government and the ethnic armed organizations, have exacerbated the anxiety of people living in refugee camps. In 2022, as the COVID-19 lockdowns in refugee camps were lifted, we entered the camps to help operate the libraries, distributing books and supplies, holding meetings, and monitoring activities. In addition, to respond to the unstable situation ongoing in the Myanmar–Thailand border area, we distributed food and other supplies to vulnerable people. Our current challenge is repairing the libraries. Because of their simple structure, they are wearing out year by year, requiring large-scale repairs. We will continue to support people in need in the Myanmar–Thailand border area, particularly by providing children with reading opportunities.

# Nepal

## Results start to show after prolonged pandemic

Local elections were held in May and then national and provincial assembly elections in November. The COVID-19 pandemic has settled down and things are going back to normal. Although the new school term began a month later than usual because of school closure in the previous year due to the pandemic, the schools are now in operation as usual. Marking three years since we launched the three projects, our activities have begun yielding results. Working towards the completion of the projects, we are strengthening our monitoring activity, providing follow ups, and making necessary arrangements.

### Achievements

Picture book/paper theater (KAMISHIBAI) published:  
**5 titles, 4,240 copies**  
Training participants:  
**10,029 people**  
Libraries/library rooms opened:  
**3 libraries**  
Library users:  
**11,002 people**



### Projects

#### 1. Community Library Project

We completed three community libraries and put furniture, books, and equipment in place. We provided the Library Management Committees of the libraries with training. At the libraries, we held workshops for children to create picture books based on folk stories collected from their grandparents and published each picture book with 1,000 copies. The number of people who used the Godawari Library, which opened in 2021, was 9,911 in 2022. We worked with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Nepal to host a national conference to present the results of a national survey of public and community libraries and 156 people, including library and education stakeholders, participated in the conference from across the country.

#### 2. Developing a Local Curriculum for the Use for Indigenous People Project

In Raksirang Rural Municipality in Makawanpur, where many of the indigenous Chepang people live, we revised the regional studies textbooks for first to fifth graders. We then distributed the revised textbooks to schools, along with the textbooks for sixth to eighth graders we created in 2021.

We provided teachers in charge of regional studies with refresher training so they could review the series of training sessions they had attended before. A total of 115 teachers participated in the training.

#### 3. School Meal Improvement Project (Nutrition Education Activity) in collaboration with United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

In this project, which covers all 434 schools in Nuwakot, we held an orientation session for our nutrition and hygiene education activity for the parents of the target schools' students and 8,535 people participated. We published two nutrition education paper theaters (KAMISHIBAI). We broadcasted 24 episodes of local radio program that focused on nutrition education.



Staff of Nepal Office

### Message

**Ms. Hiroko Hagihara**  
**Nepal Office**  
**Director**



In Nepal, we have entered the year of the final phase of our Community Library and Developing a Local Curriculum for the Use for Indigenous People Projects. As part of the Community Library Project, we built a total of four libraries, and activities that can contribute to the development of the communities, including book loan and other library services, empowerment training for women and youths, and entrepreneurship training, are now conducted in the libraries. In the National Library Conference in June, the Kathmandu Declaration was adopted with the goal of opening one library in each municipality. In the local curriculum project, the textbooks for regional studies developed under the project are now in practical use. Through the School Meal Improvement Project (Nutrition Education Activity), we provided nutrition education not only to the students but also to their parents, utilizing paper theater (KAMISHIBAI). As a result, a movement to work together to provide funds and labor for school meals has sprung up among local people. In 2023, we will continue to conduct our community-based activities.



# Japan

## Pushing ahead with foreign resident support and disaster prevention and mitigation activities

Amid the prolonged pandemic, the situation of foreign residents has been increasingly severe. A project to create spaces for children with foreign backgrounds and emergency support activities for foreign households that include their parents both launched in 2020, with the aim of helping to solve challenges in cooperation with local, concerned organizations. In addition, using religious facilities as community resources, we will further promote our disaster prevention and mitigation activities, along with rapid humanitarian response.

### Achievements

**Development of child-friendly spaces for children with foreign backgrounds**

Sessions: **46 times**  
Participants: **307 people** (cumulative total)

**Food pantry and consultation events for foreign residents**

Events: **14 times**  
Participants: **432 people** (cumulative total)

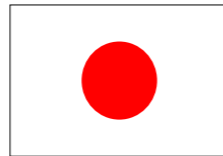
**2022 Fukushima Earthquake (Minamisoma Disaster Relief Team's activities)**

Period: **March 24 – Aug 1**  
Bathing tickets distributed: **510** (April to July, including those not purchased by SVA)  
Taxi tickets distributed: **15**  
Volunteer-need matches: **147** (April 11 to May 11)  
Visits: **182** (March 24 to July 31)

**Heavy rain in August 2022**

Support activities through spaces for children: **7**  
Participants: **155 people** (cumulative total)  
Book stock support: **3 libraries, 394 books**

Murakami City, Niigata  
Minamisoma City, Fukushima  
Toshima Ward, Tokyo



### Domestic Projects

#### Development of child-friendly spaces for children with foreign backgrounds

- In May 2020, in cooperation with Toshima Children's WAKUWAKU Network, we began creating spaces where children with foreign backgrounds can feel at home. We have been providing such spaces online due to the prolonged pandemic.
- In 2022, we held 46 online events to provide a total of 307 children with a homey virtual space. These events are planned and managed by grad students as management staff and university students from Nepal and China as interpreters.
- On May 27th and August 13th, we held a career counseling event for foreign residents to ask experienced people with foreign backgrounds for advice on their careers.
- As the existence of foreign residents in dire straits surfaced in the prolonged pandemic, we provided foreign households, including those with children, with emergency support. We held 14 food pantry and consultation events for foreign residents. Through these events, we distributed food and provided consultation sessions with experts to a total of 432 households. For households that needed continuous support, we supported them individually.

### Domestic Humanitarian Response

#### 1. Disaster relief

We dispatched our staff to Minamisoma City in Fukushima, an area severely affected by the 2022 Fukushima Earthquake, which occurred on March 16th with a maximum seismic intensity of six. We worked with local bodies to organize civilian volunteer teams. We dispatched our staff to Murakami City in Niigata, which was severely affected by the 2022 August Heavy Rain. We worked with outdoor play experts to support the effort of creating homey spaces for children initiated by local bodies following the disaster. In addition, we helped inundated children's facilities restore their supplies.

#### 2. Disaster prevention and mitigation project

We launched the Project to Promote Religious-Facility-Based Disaster Prevention and Mitigation. Supported by experts in the domain, we promoted awareness through our three key activities: (1) interaction among and training for religious facilities interested in disaster prevention and mitigation, (2) functionality enhancement of model religious facilities for disaster prevention and mitigation, and (3) development of a cross-cutting disaster prevention and mitigation network of religious facilities.

### Message

**Mr. Hitoshi Ichikawa**  
Manager  
Global Citizenship Division



Many foreign residents have been faced with unemployment and a sharp decrease in their income due to the pandemic, which can lead to the loss of their residency statuses. Furthermore, the longer they stay in Japan, the more challenges they face in their daily lives, such as injury, sickness, housing, and children's education. We are working with local NPOs and Social Welfare Councils to conduct support activities for foreign residents, considering their actual needs. In addition, the role of religious facilities as a local hub for disaster prevention and mitigation has been back in the spotlight since the Great East Japan Earthquake. Today, as many as 309 municipalities have concluded an agreement or arrangement for cooperation during disasters with a total of 2,065 religious facilities. Working with religious facilities in different locations through the network of different religions and sects, we have been promoting our disaster prevention and mitigation activities.

# Response Humanitarian

In the immediate aftermath of disasters and conflicts, we distribute daily necessities needed for immediate survival. To protect the educational opportunities of children, we also perform educational support activities.

In situations where people are forced to live in shelters for an extended period of time, SVA conducts activities in accordance with international standards for the protection of basic human rights.

## Humanitarian response outside Japan

### Myanmar

#### Humanitarian response in the Myanmar–Thailand border area

[November 2021 to March 2022]

On the border areas in Myanmar and Thailand, we distributed emergency food sets, including rice and beans, and hygiene kits, including soap, to about 6,000 refugees and host community members.

#### Distribution of learning kits for students in monastic schools

[October 2022 to December 2022]

We distributed learning materials for pupils and students, as well as supplemental teaching materials for teachers, to 46 monastic schools mainly funded by local donations. We will continue to improve learning environments for children who have been without learning opportunities due to the spread of COVID-19 and military coup.



Children with distributed supplies in a village near the border of Myanmar



Distribution of supplies to a monastic school

### Ukraine

#### Distributing supplies and providing educational support for displaced people in Ukraine and Poland

[From August 2022]

We are distributing food, such as pasta, flour, and canned food, powdered milk and daily necessities to displaced people in six cities in Ukraine and Poland. We are also providing educational support, such as distributing tablets to shelters, so that displaced children can receive education via the Internet.

#### Resettlement support and supply distribution for internally displaced people

[From October 2022]

We are offering various courses at local universities for internally displaced people who have been forced to live in shelters for extended periods of time in Poltava, a province in Central Ukraine, so that they can obtain knowledge and skills necessary to find jobs and resettle. In addition, we are distributing food and non-food items to internally displaced people who were evacuated from the battle fields in the east and other areas to university dormitories and neighboring areas.



Sewing machines for sewing courses for internally displaced people in Poltava



SVA staff member and local partner organizations' staff listening to displaced people in a shelter in Poland about how distributed supplies are used

### Afghanistan

#### Emergency winterization assistance for internally displaced people

[February 2022 to June 2022]

We distributed emergency food sets, including flour, beans, and cooking oil, and non-food item sets, including blankets and gas stoves, to the vulnerable, internally displaced people so they could survive the harsh winter. We distributed supplies to 700 households (about 4,900 people) during the 4-month project period.

#### Supplies distribution to the needy and support/protection of women

[August 2021 to August 2022]

For a period of a year, starting in August 2021, we distributed emergency food to the needy, as well as promoted their awareness of the COVID-19 prevention, in Kunar, a province in eastern Afghanistan. We also provided awareness-raising activities and distributed supplies, door-to-door, to women who had been placed in an even more vulnerable position since the political shift by the Taliban in August 2021. Although women's employment and education have been severely restricted by the Taliban's interim government, we will continue to provide all possible support, taking safety measures for our national staff, as well as gathering information and making arrangements carefully.

#### Food distribution to people affected by the earthquake in eastern Afghanistan

[August 2022 to December 2022]

Khost Province, we distributed food and non-food items, including plastic sheets, buckets, and cooking utensils, to 300 affected households (about 2,100 people).



Supply distribution site



Project to promote women's protection awareness door-to-door

### Pakistan

#### Food and non-food item distribution to people affected by devastating floods

[From October 2022]

Starting from June, Pakistan was hit by multiple floods. In the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, we are distributing three month supplies of food, such as flour, beans, and rice, as well as non-food items, including plastic sheets, plastic tanks, soap, and cooking utensils, to 600 affected households (about 4,200 people).



Children at the time of the beneficiary selection survey





## 絵本を届ける運動 Campaign to Deliver Picture Books

This activity is to attach stickers with local languages on Japanese picture books and deliver them to children in our target areas. Launched in 1999 as a program both individuals and groups of all ages can join freely. It marked its 23rd anniversary in 2022.

### A good starting point for international cooperation

#### Delivering 18,520 picture books to children

Picture books collected through the Campaign to Deliver Picture Books are delivered to children living in SVA's target areas. Launched in 1999, the program has marked its 23rd anniversary, with many people joining each year. We have delivered over 380,000 picture books to children through the campaign. In 2022, we delivered a total of 18,520 picture books representing 35 different titles translated into Khmer, Lao, Dari, Burmese, and Karen for Cambodia, Laos, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Myanmar (Burma) refugee camps along Thailand's border.

#### Themes of picture books we deliver to the target areas

We select picture books with consideration for the activities we provide in our target regions, the children's ages, cultural backgrounds, etc., as well as advice from librarians and publishers with deep knowledge of picture books. In 2022, we delivered picture books about daily lives, as well as those that help children think about feelings, in addition to animal and transportation picture books, which are very popular among children.

#### International cooperation you can join from home

In fiscal 2022, a cumulative total of 16,603 people and 504 companies/groups participated in the program. It received many applications as an international cooperation program that anyone could join from home even during the COVID-19 pandemic. The comments received from the participants include: "My children and I had a very meaningful time, working together," and "Thanks to the program, I've gotten interested in social contribution activities."

#### Achievements

Participation **18,520** books  
**1,782** people

Titles **35** titles

Cooperation Publishing house **15** publishing houses



Children holding picture books in Cambodia (left) and refugee camp (right)

## CRAFT AID

## Fairtrade Project

Craft Aid is a fair-trade program operated by SVA, which sells hand-made products that women around Asia put their time and effort into producing with care. Together with our local partner organizations, these women make products that incorporate traditional culture and techniques passed down from generation to generation, such as embroidery and weaving, and we introduce them in Japan.

### Delivering products made with love

#### Amid changing global circumstances

In 2022, to respond to rises in the prices of materials, such as thread and fabric, and international shipping costs, as well as the wild fluctuations in exchange rates, we revised the prices of most Craft Aid products. The commodity prices in the Asian countries where the craftspeople live have also gone up and some of the ethnic minorities living in the mountainous areas in Thailand stopped making products in order to focus on farming. On the other hand, things are going back to normal little by little; a new female group has joined Craft Aid in Cambodia and the shipping of products has resumed in Afghanistan and Myanmar. We will ensure that the craftspeople receive orders continuously so they can focus on making products without worry.

#### Establishing a trading system that connects craftspeople and customers directly

In 2022, we held two pop-up events with a Myanmar partner group. The events were successful with many people buying our products. We also participated in open-air markets in and around Kanto as well as events across Japan, a total of 25 times, and sold our products, sharing craftspeople's stories with shoppers in person. In mail-order sales, we received 952 purchase orders. We also received 88 purchase orders from stores that handle Craft Aid products. Craft Aid will continue to share relevant information through product catalogs and social media, as well as sell products at various events, in such a way that the craftspeople and shoppers can feel connected.

#### Achievements

Dealerships **45** shops

Limited time sale **20** times

Number of purchases **1,326** people



Hand-embroidered mini pencil case made by the Mon in Thailand (left) and how they hand-embroider (right)



Products sold at open-air market



## Donation: Monthly Supporter

Asian Library Supporter

This program provides continuous support for granting opportunities to read books and a place where children enjoy learning safely and peacefully. Your support will help children develop to nurtures and enhances the future.

### Help children keep learning

In 2022, 171 new supporters joined the program. As of December 2022, 2,431 supporters provide support on a regular basis. To make our supporters' activities known to a wider range of people, we redesigned the supporter recruitment webpage and posted their information on social media. This year, we also created postcards with pictures drawn by children, with design collaboration by aurinco. The postcards were sent to our supporters along with photo message cards from the children in the target areas. The cards from children who use the Children's Library in Afghanistan said that they were unable to go to school as their school had been shut down all of sudden and that, having spent time learning handicrafts, they were feeling more positive about the future. The cards also included their words of gratitude: "Thank you for building a library that will bring us a brighter future." In Afghanistan and Myanmar, many children are unable to even go to primary school. Places where they can learn even in an emergency situation and adults' support for learning can help them build a brighter future.

#### Achievements

New supporters **171** people



Message card  
Design: aurinco

#### Media coverage

##### Centered on our support activities in Afghanistan and Ukraine

We were introduced by 118 media channels, including TV, newspapers, and magazines. The breakdown is as follows: 87 newspapers, 11 magazines, and 20 Internet and other media. In connection with the circumstances in Afghanistan, one of our target countries, and Ukraine, where we began providing humanitarian response in 2022, we have been interviewed more frequently about the state of things on the ground and how we work in these countries, as well as locals' opinions.

##### Media appearances (excerpt)

Asahi Shimbun/Yomiuri Shimbun/Mainichi Shimbun/Tokyo Shimbun/Sankei Shimbun/Kobe Shimbun/Chugai Nippo/Bukkyo Times/Shinbunka/Yomiuri Quarterly, etc.

#### Events

##### Online events and face-to-face events

We held a total of 16 online and face-to-face events and 1,020 people participated. We held



## Goods Donation

Excess accessories, brand-name items, gift vouchers and marked postcards can be sold to our partner companies who will donate the assessed value.

### More goods donation channels for easier contribution

In 2022, as various events resumed partially, we had more opportunities to invite people to join our Goods Donation. Through our partnerships with companies, boxes to collect used books for donation to SVA were placed in some bookstores. In line with Book Week, we ran a campaign to increase assessed prices. We are mailing dedicated envelopes to our supporters who have participated in our other programs, inviting them to join the program. We are working to make goods donation easier.

#### Achievements

Books, CDs, video game software	<b>571</b> items	<b>Total:</b> <b>1,065</b> items
Gift/cash vouchers, miswritten postcards, and other valuable items found at home	<b>494</b> items	
		<b>Total amount:</b> <b>4,743,405</b> yen

#### Examples of items donated

Books, CDs, video game software

books, comic books, CDs, DVDs, Blu-rays, video game software, video game consoles



Examples of items donated

Gift and cash vouchers

nationwide gift certificates, beer/ rice coupons, book vouchers/card, miswritten postcards, unused stamps and postcards



Miswritten postcards

Other valuable items found at home

gold, platinum, precious metals, jewelry, brand-name items (bags, plates, and watches), old coins, old paper money/gold coins, camera and lenses, musical instruments (guitars and wind instruments), etc.

#### Achievements

Media coverage **118** media channels

Lecture **63** lectures /  
**5,009** attendees

Event **16** events /  
**1,020** people

a debriefing event on our survey of Ukraine, a debriefing event on our support activities in Afghanistan and in 2022, an event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our Laos office, all online. We have begun holding face-to-face events more often than 2021, as the COVID-19 pandemic is settling down. In December, we also held a hybrid event with both virtual and face-to-face attendees for a lecture by Ms. Prateep Ungsongtham Hata from Thailand. The recorded events are available on SVA's YouTube channel.

#### Lectures

##### Delivered more lectures at companies, schools, and temples

We provided 63 lectures to 5,009 attendees. We received 13 requests from schools and 21 requests from companies. While most of the lectures were given online due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, 2022 saw an increase in the number of face-to-face lectures. In addition, the Soto school's Baika convention was held. Things are going back to normal gradually.



# Support and cooperation in 2022

In 2021, we continued to carry out joint projects, as well as receive donations from individuals and groups, to improve education environments. Our activities are supported by many people through various means of support and cooperation.

## Support and cooperation (As of December, 2022)

### Monthly Supporters

New support members	171 people
Total :	2,431 people (As of December, 2022)

### Donation

Individuals Supporters	6,403 people
Organizations Supporters	1,806 organizations

### Volunteers at Tokyo office

Campaign to Deliver Picture Books	18 people
CRAFT AID Division	3 people

### Internship program

Public Relations and Donor Relations Division	12 people (Including 4 students from Toyo University and 4 students from Tsurumi University)
Programme Support Division	3 people
Global Citizenship Division	1 people

### Support members

aurinco  
 Ms. Tomomi Numata  
 Ms. Emiko Kiyohara  
 Mr. Takuya Hoda  
 Mr. Yoshifumi Kawabata  
 Ms. Hiromi Yasui  
 Mr. Takaharu Eto  
 Mr. Hajime Wada  
 Ms. Asuka Takahashi  
 Mr. Hiroyasu Ito  
 Ms. Sayaka Kimura  
 Ms. Yumi Yasaka Schultz  
 Mr. Ryo Takada  
 Ms. Chihiro Fujiwara  
 Ms. Yuuri Mikami  
 Mr. Kohei Matsuoka

## Collaboration with relevant organizations

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MoFA) "The Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects"

- Nepal**
  - Project for improvement of quality of education in quake-affected areas and marginalized communities
- Afghanistan**
  - Development project for Diffusion of "Library for children" in Afghanistan
- Myanmar**
  - Developing the School Library Infrastructure Project at Education College and Management School in Yangon Region and Pyay District
- Cambodia**
  - The Project to improve the learning environment through a primary school construction in Battambang Province

### Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) "Partnership Program"

- Laos**
  - Improvement of multi-grade class management by enhancing the teaching capacity of Teacher Training Colleges in the Northern Laos
- Cambodia**
  - Building Foundation for Implementation of "Learning through Play and the Environment" based on the Cambodian Curriculum

### Japan Platform (JPF) Afghanistan

- Winterization Project through Distribution of Food and Non-Food Items in Nangarhar and Kunar Districts
- Items distribution, hygiene awareness raising and women's protection support project for needy families in Kunar, Afghanistan

### Pakistan

- Food Items and Non-Food Items Distribution in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province

### Myanmar Border

- Emergency food distribution support for vulnerable people including internally displaced people in Karen State

### Myanmar

- Distribution of learning and teaching kits for students and teachers in monastery schools

### Ukraine

- Distribution of food items and non-food items and educational support for people affected by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine
- Livelihood Rehabilitation Assistance and Food/ Non-Food Items Distribution Project for IDPs in Ukraine

### World Food Programme (WFP)

- Nepal**
  - School meals programme in Nuwakot district
- Afghanistan**
  - Unconditional Seasonal Support Activity in Nangarhar

### United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

- Consolidation and Expansion of Community-Based Education (CBE) in Afghanistan

### Support for our activities

#### "Campaign to Deliver Picture Books" "Monthly Supporter"

- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology(MEXT)
- Japan Library Association
- Japan Council for Promoting Book Reading

# SVA About

## Our identity

# We Live Together and Learn Together

Around the world, there are a great many children who are unable to get a proper education because of conflicts, poverty, natural disasters, or other such factors. SVA is engaged in activities intended to create opportunities to learn in comfort, even under difficult circumstances.

### Our Mission

We aim to bring about a peaceful (Shanti) society that has respect for human dignity and diversity, and allows people to "live together, learn together".

### Our Vision

people, by supporting the power of people to think and to create.

For more than 40 years, SVA has been conducting educational and cultural support activities in Asian countries and regions. We believe that "education has the power to change lives", and we are engaged in library activities, school construction, and human resource development while valuing local culture and dialogue.

## To Create Safe and Secure Environment for Children to Study

SVA's goals are to create a culture of reading and to enhance the quality of education. To achieve the goals, books and teaching materials to learn, staff to teach, classrooms to study safely, and opportunities to learn are essential.



## The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) That We Seek to Achieve by 2030

These goals were adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015, following discussion among the countries of the world. There are 17 goals that both developed and developing countries are meant to strive for by 2030, with the shared goal of achieving sustainable development.

Toward the achievement of the 4th goal, SVA is engaged in various efforts toward not just solving the problems of education but the achievement of all of the goals outlined in the SDGs.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goals of SDGs that SVA is engaged in



# Organizational Profile

**Organization Name:**  
Shanti Volunteer Association

**Establishment:**  
December 10, 1981

**Registered Date of Incorporated Association:**  
August 19, 1999

**Registered Date of Public Interest Incorporated Association:**  
January 4, 2011

## Advisor

**Mr. Fusao Adachi** | Advisor, The Supporting Organization of J. O. C. V.  
**Rev. Hojun Abe** | Resident Priest, Koujuin Temple, Miyagi prefecture  
**Mr. Masahiro Onoda** | Chairman, Shizuoka Volunteer Association  
**Rev. Eisho Kawahara** | Head Priest, Rengein Tanjo-ji Temple, Kumamoto prefecture  
 President, Association for Rengein Tanjoji International Cooperation  
**Mr. Takashi Shiraiishi** | Advisor, Arakawa Ward Staff Labor Union  
 Chairman, Non-profit Organization Japan Laos Children's Future  
**Rev. Kenshi Fueoka** | Resident Priest, Ryukoku-ji Temple, Shizuoka prefecture

## Counselor

**Rev. Shusei Hattori** | President of Sotoshu Shumucho  
**Rev. Shodo Kobayashi** | Administrator of Eiheiji  
**Rev. Keiji Watanabe** | Administrator of Sojiji

## Board of Directors, Auditor

**President**  
**Rev. Kyoei Wakabayashi** | President of Anrakutomonokai, Priest of Anraku-ji temple, Nagano prefecture

### Vice Presidents

**Rev. Shunko Chino** | Director of Niwano Peace Foundation, Priest of Zuisho-ji temple, Nagano prefecture  
**Prof. Tatsuya Hata** | Professor in Faculty of International Studies, Kindai University

### Executive Director

**Rev. Wako Okamoto** | Representative of Kazusa Nature school, Priest of Shinko-ji temple, Chiba prefecture

### Managing Directors

**Rev. Shiro Arima** | Secretariat of Andenet, Priest of Genkou-ji temple, Yamaguchi prefecture  
**Ms. Kayoko Kozu** | President of KOZU style Co.,Ltd.  
**Rev. Kando Matsunaga** | Priest of Soutokuin temple, Shizuoka prefecture

### Board Members

**Ms. Sachiko Asano** | Visiting Researcher, Institute for Sustainable Community and Risk Management, Waseda University  
**Mr. Hiroyasu Ito** | Senior Director, TD SYNEX / Lecturer at Tsukuba University and Okayama University  
**Ms. Mami Sato** | Japan Representative of Earth Company  
**Rev. Ryuki Sekine** | Priest of Koshu-ji, Saitama prefecture  
**Rev. Taiten Toukai** | President of Shanti Tohoku, Priest of Shogen-ji temple, Miyagi prefecture  
**Ms. Riyo Naoi** | Lecturer, Professional Institute of International Fashion / Affiliate Lecturer, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University  
**Mr. Katsumasa Yagisawa** | Advisor of Sikkha Asia Foundation  
**Ms. Eri Yamamoto** | Secretary General of Shanti Volunteer Association  
**Rev. Keiyu Yokosawa** | Priest of Tosho-ji temple, Nagano prefecture  
**Rev. Shunken Yokoyama** | Lecturer, Sotoshu Comprehensive Research Center, Priest of Antouin temple, Fukushima prefecture

### Auditors

**Prof. Masayuki Nakayama** | Graduate School of Globalizing Asia, Kokushikan University  
**Mr. Shigeru Nonaka** | Nonaka Certified Public Accountant Office / Managing Partner

## Technical Advisor

**Dr. Noriyuki Amano** | Director, Amano Clinic  
**Mr. Toshiyuki Osuga** | Lecturer, Soto Institute for Buddhist Studies  
**Ms. Sachiko Kamakura** | CEO, Kamakura Sachiko Co.  
**Mr. Hirotsugu Takata** | Executive Producer, News Production Department, NHK Global Media Services, Inc.  
**Mr. Koji Tezuka** | Advisor, Buddhist Institute, Ministry of Cult and Religion Kingdom of Cambodia  
**Mr. Takeshi Fujitani** | Senior Enterprise Editor, The Asahi Shimbun  
**Mr. Takafumi Miyake** | College of Arts, Specially Appointed Professor, Rikkyo University

## Award History

2021 | Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award  
 2021 | International Activities of 25th Earth RINRI Promotion Award  
 2021 | 28th Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize  
 2020 | Kamenori Special Award  
 2019 | Letter of gratitude from Commissioner of Japan Sports Agency  
 2015 | ESD Okayama Award Global Prize  
 2011 | Letter of gratitude from Miyagi Council of Social Welfare  
 2008 | 7th Iue Memorial Foundation Asia Pacific Culture Prize  
 2005 | Letter of gratitude from Governor of Hyogo Prefecture  
 2004 | Minister of State for Disaster Management Award  
 1995 | Letter of gratitude from Toshima Ward, Tokyo  
 1994 | Mainichi International Exchange Award  
 1988 | Foreign Minister's Commendation  
 1985 | Soroptimist Japan Foundation Award  
 1984 | Matsutaro Shoriki Award

## Network

### Overall

Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)  
 "Board members" / The Asia Disaster Reduction & Response Network (ADRRN) / Global Book Alliance

### Cambodia

Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) / NGO Education Partnership (NEP) / People's Forum on Cambodia, Japan (PEFOC, J) / Japanese NGO Worker's Network in Cambodia (JNNC)

### Laos

International NGO Network (INN) / Japanese NGO Meeting (JANM)

### Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project Office

Committee for Co-ordination of Services to Displaced Persons in Thailand (CCSDPT)

### Afghanistan

Agency Coordinating Body For Afghan Relief (ACBAR)

### Myanmar

Japan NGOs Network - Myanmar (JNN-Myanmar) / INGO Forum

### Nepal

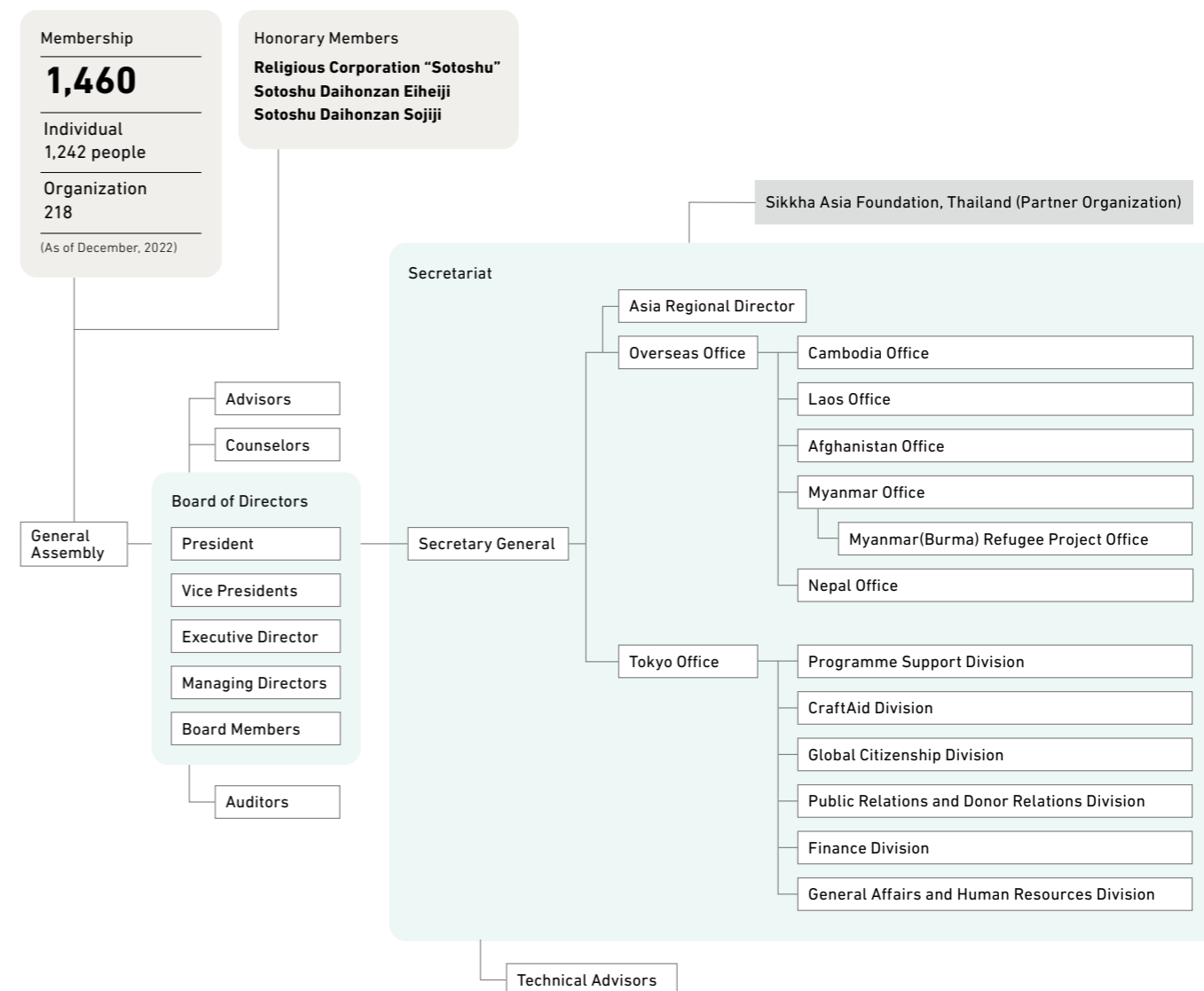
Association of International NGOs in Nepal (AIN)

### Japan

Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs / Japan NGO Initiative for Safety and Security, JaNISS "Directors" / NGO-MOFA Regular Meetings / NGO-JICA Council "Coordinator" / NGOs-Labor Unions International Collaboration Forum / NGO NO WAR NETWORK "Proposer" / Japan NGO Action Network for Civic Space (NANCIS) / Development Education Association and Resource Center (DEAR) "Board members" / KAMISHIBAI Culture Promotion Council / People's Forum on Cambodia, Japan (PEFOC, J) "Co-Representative" / Japan NGO Network for Education (JNNE) "Secretary General" / Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) / Japan Platform (JPF) / Multicultural Toshima Network / Japan Campaign to Ban Landmines (JCBL) / Disaster Connection Japan Network / Tokyo Volunteer Network for Disaster Relief "Deputy representative" / Action Plan Promotion Council of Tokyo Volunteer Center in Disaster "Organizer Organization" / Japan Afghan NGO Network (JANN) / Japan NPO Center / Japan Library Association / Japan Fundraising Association / Japan Forum for UNHCR and NGOs / Niwano Peace Foundation "Director" / Japan CSO Coalition for Disaster Risk Reduction (JCC-DRR) / Japan Civil Network for Disaster Relief in the East Japan (JCN) / Buddhist NGO Network (BNN) "Vice Chairman / Executive Director" / Sotoshu SDGs Promotion Committee / World Conference Religions for Peace (WCRP) / Actions for Afghans (AFA) / JANIC Afghanistan Working Group

# Organizational Chart

Staff total: 217(Not including SAF, Intern)  
 Staff in Japan: 45  
 Staff in other than Japan: 172  
 (As of April 1, 2023)





# Financial Report

The financial report were audited by the independent auditor,  
Mr.Yoshiyuki Tanaka, Certified Public Accountant

## Balance Sheet

(as of December 31,2022)

(Unit JPY)

Accounts	1. Current Year	2. Previous Year	(1-2)
	As of December 31,2022	As of December 31,2021	Difference
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>1. Current Assets</b>			
Cash, Bank Accounts	110,766,417	59,885,961	50,880,456
Inventory Assets			0
Handicrafts	4,373,976	5,623,541	-1,249,565
Other Inventories	113,630	123,050	-9,420
Account Receivables Sales	1,231,180	2,415,748	-1,184,568
Advances paid	408,846	139,155	269,691
Short-term loan receivable	542,537	743,723	-201,186
Prepaid Expenses	1,002,036	806,110	195,926
Temporary payment	5,146,418	693,698	4,452,720
Total Current Assets (A)	123,585,040	70,430,986	53,154,054
<b>2. Fixed Assets</b>			
<b>(1) Basic Assets</b>			
Investment to Security (Japanese Government Bond)	50,000,000	50,000,000	0
Total Basic Assets	50,000,000	50,000,000	0
<b>(2) Designated Assets</b>			
Buildings and Facilities	34,045,241	0	34,045,241
Land	24,257,015	0	24,257,015
Deposit of Donation Fund	645,151,117	516,455,862	128,695,255
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Myanmar)	10,588,172	14,648,397	-4,060,225
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Afghanistan)	39,928,822	45,249,912	-5,321,090
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Nepal)	29,642,263	77,702,883	-48,060,620
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Cambodia)	3,979,927	0	3,979,927
UNICEF fund for Afghanistan	83,716,950	0	83,716,950
Domestic operation in Japan Operation Fund	0	1,790,000	-1,790,000
Private Subsidy Funds	94,266,806	84,326,903	9,939,903
Reserve for Basic Asset Fund	112,000,000	112,000,000	0
Public fund (Rebuild asset Jibo-Kaikai)	51,247,400	0	51,247,400
Public fund (Provision for depreciation Jibo-Kaikai)	31,011,365	0	31,011,365
Public fund (Hibi)	7,000,000	0	7,000,000
Public fund (Provision for depreciation Hibi)	1,169,471	0	1,169,471
Arima Human Resource Development Deposit	2,926,016	2,926,016	0
National staff Resouce Development Deposit	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Asia Children Future Fund	4,292,720	4,187,178	105,542
Yakeno Education Donation Deposit	1,400,000	1,900,000	-500,000
Shizuki Okano Donation Fund	12,700,000	12,700,000	0
Public fund (Legacy)	57,288,171	57,258,331	29,840
Thailand Operation Donation Fund	384,000	0	384,000
Designated Donation Fund (Cambodia)	13,163,692	26,980,778	-13,817,086
Designated Donation Fund (Laos)	28,084,965	20,855,300	7,229,665
Designated Donation Fund (Myanmar Border Project)	0	7,555,506	-7,555,506
Designated Donation Fund (Afghanistan)	38,700,340	29,044,503	9,655,837
Designated Donation Fund (Myanmar)	2,448,523	889,703	1,558,820
Emergency Relief Donation deposit	6,157,651	1,210,000	4,947,651
Designated Donation Fund (Nepal)	941,000	800,000	141,000
East Japan Earthquake Support Donation Fund	11,112,863	13,430,452	-2,317,589
Total Designated Assets	703,453,373	516,455,862	186,997,511
<b>(3) Fixed Assets Others</b>			
Vehicle	1,630,695	3,521,794	-1,891,099
Fixtures and Fittings	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
Guarantee deposits	879,114	2,520,972	-1,641,858
Total Fixed Assets Others	7,509,809	6,042,766	1,467,043
Total Fixed Assets	760,963,182	572,498,628	188,464,554
Total Assets	884,548,222	642,929,614	241,618,608

<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>1. Current Liabilities</b>			
Accrued Expense	6,398,617	2,651,223	3,747,394
Account Payable	7,101,485	30,099,201	-22,997,716
Advance Received	87,696,877	52,160,576	35,536,301
Tax & Insurance Payable	5,819,017	3,216,469	2,602,548
Other Liabilities	11,494,607	500,000	10,994,607
Deposits Received Payable	2,634,784	2,858,736	-223,952
Consumption tax Payable	710,100	438,200	271,900
Corporate taxes etc others	70,000	70,000	0
Total Current Liabilities (C)	121,925,487	91,994,405	29,931,082
<b>2. NonCurrent Liabilities</b>			
Allowance for retirement benefits	21,525,026	21,453,797	71,229
Foreign currency translation adjustment	30,329,011	4,650,907	25,678,104
Total Noncurrent Liabilities (D)	51,854,037	26,104,704	25,749,333
Total Liabilities (E) = (C)+(D)	173,779,524	118,099,109	55,680,415
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>1. Restricted Net Assets</b>			
(Appropriate amount to Basic Assets)	(50,000,000)	(50,000,000)	0
(Appropriate amount to Designated Assets)	(590,234,399)	(416,882,881)	163,337,881
Total Restricted Net Assets	627,670,936	466,882,881	160,788,055
<b>2. General Net Assets</b>			
(Appropriate amount to Designated Assets)	(39,369,183)	(47,412,405)	-8,043,222
Total General Net Assets	83,097,762	57,947,624	25,150,138
Total Net Assets (F)	710,768,698	524,830,505	185,938,193
Total Liabilities & Net Assets (E)+(F)	884,548,222	642,929,614	241,618,608

## Increase / Decrease in Net Assets

January 1 — December 31,2022

(Unit JPY)

Accounts	1. Current Year	2. Previous Year	(1-2)
	January 1 – December 31, 2022	January 1 – December 31, 2021	Difference
<b>I General Net Assets</b>			
<b>1. Change in General Net Assets</b>			
<b>(1) Ordinary Income</b>			
Basic Asset Investment Profit	97,500	105,439	-7,939
Designated Asset Investment Profit	98,724	91,552	7,172
Membership fee received	21,909,000	21,457,000	452,000
Donation received	358,061,645	314,606,139	43,455,506
Transfer from Donation	143,440,309	114,149,442	29,290,867
Donation for Local office received	1,130,577	0	1,130,577
Donation for Asian Children	102,813,142	99,362,047	3,451,095
For Delivering Japanese Picture Books	51,385,470	44,429,787	6,955,683
For Asian Library Support	54,938,000	53,174,029	1,763,971
For Recycle Book Aid	4,354,147	3,490,834	863,313
Transfer from Public/Private Subsidy received	395,914,934	165,503,423	230,411,511
Transfer from Public Subsidy received	292,392,979	103,567,664	188,825,315
Transfer from Private Subsidy received	103,521,955	61,935,759	41,586,196
Operating Income	246,654,758	209,055,819	37,598,939
Income from Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan	213,641,512	183,090,133	30,551,379
Income from Fair-trade project [Craft Aid]	19,065,655	20,286,793	-1,221,138
Income Overseas office	239,829	93,487	146,342
Income from Public Relations Project	750,000	300,000	450,000
Income from Contract Project	8,806,841	1,200,000	7,606,841
Income from Recycle Book Aid	4,150,921	4,085,406	65,515
Foreign Exchange Gain	0	2,062,523	-2,062,523
Other income	960,964	1,103,352	-142,388
Interest Income	14,881	11,735	3,146
Employment subsidy	0	228,000	-228,000
Other miscellaneous Income	946,083	863,617	82,466
Total Ordinary Income (A)	1,023,697,525	713,985,247	309,712,278

<b>(2) Ordinary Expense</b>			
Operating Expense	962,558,332	671,405,969	291,152,363
Direct operating Expense	621,297,591	355,512,321	265,785,270
Direct operating Expense-Purchase	32,742,475	30,619,505	2,122,970
Personnel expense	168,857,136	168,167,662	689,474
Travel	19,042,968	5,027,021	14,015,947
Freight & Postage	8,962,720	13,164,700	-4,201,980
Communication	1,225,868	1,350,891	-125,023
House & Land rent	4,024,580	6,925,696	-2,901,116
Leasing	1,509,525	1,784,781	-275,256
Public Relations	36,334,673	43,224,349	-6,889,676
Consumables Fixtures	2,723,998	1,088,838	1,635,160
Consumables	2,451,300	1,516,691	934,609
Repair	55,710	59,840	-4,130
Office consumptions	9,241,714	3,279,452	5,962,262
Utility	1,458,039	1,083,650	374,389
Insurance	394,871	315,130	79,741
Research	1,738,207	1,569,256	168,951
Meeting	56,397	249,892	-193,495
Study	585,048	179,856	405,192
Public relation	147,432	95,220	52,212
Handle charge	5,513,813	7,251,877	-1,738,064
Taxes and Public dues	1,023,352	797,313	226,039
Outsourcing	29,346,538	25,369,202	3,977,336
Depreciation	4,144,875	2,633,438	1,511,437
Foreign Exchange gain and loss	9,663,452	0	9,663,452
Miscellaneous	16,050	139,388	-123,338
Administration Expense	35,449,283	31,599,696	3,849,587
Personnel expense	18,166,185	22,510,201	-4,344,016
Travel	417,961	23,740	394,221
Freight & Postage	822,406	379,813	442,593
Communication	249,155	208,135	41,020
House and Land rent	497,420	763,200	-265,780
Leasing	186,567	208,155	-21,588
Publicity	141,004	0	141,004
Consumables Fixtures	135,738	172,391	-36,653
Consumables	203,745	298,966	-95,221
Repair	6,190	10,560	-4,370
Office consumptions	1,039,271	551,765	487,506
Utility	180,225	186,904	-6,679
Insurance	43,319	54,640	-11,321
Research	190,000	46,000	144,000
Meeting	492,932	215,758	277,174
Study	5,500	62,225	-56,725
Public relation	74,794	26,500	48,294
Handle charge	1,073,114	793,608	279,506
Tax and Public dues	1,337,378	1,650	1,335,728
Outsourcing	9,992,633	5,049,211	4,943,422
Depreciation	192,866	0	192,866
Miscellaneous loss	880	36,274	-35,394
Total Ordinary Expense (B)	998,007,615	703,005,665	295,001,950
Current Change in Ordinary Profit without Appraisal	25,689,910	10,979,582	14,710,328
Total Gain/Loss on Appraisals	0	0	0
Current Change in Ordinary Gain/Loss (A)-(B)-(C)	25,689,910	10,979,582	14,710,328
Other Non-Ordinary Income	9,697,187	0	9,697,187
Other Non-Ordinary Expenses	10,166,959	280,400	9,886,559
Income Taxes	70,000	70,000	0
Increased Net Asset after Tax	25,150,138	10,629,182	14,520,956
General Net Asset Beginning of Period	57,947,624	47,318,442	10,629,182
General Net Asset End of Period	83,097,762	57,947,624	25,150,138





**Front cover of embroidery picture book:  
 Lumberjack, His Wife, and a Chicken (1990)**

The king visits the house of a poor lumberjack and his wife. The wife treats the king warmly with their one precious chicken, but the husband gets angry at her. When the king asks the wife why she is crying, she tactfully answers that her husband is angry because she should have treated him with a bigger feast. The image above is the last page of the picture book, where the impressed king "rewarded them with gold and silver and they lived happily ever after." The beautiful embroidery gives us a good idea about Mon people's everyday lives. The Mon text represented in the alphabet was also stitched by the children.



Picture books in the photo:  
 HARRY THE DIRTY DOG by Gene Zion; Margaret Bloy Graham (illustrator); Shigeo Watanabe (translator); Fukuinkan Shoten  
 THE TURNIP — AN OLD RUSSIAN TALE Retold by A. Tolstoy; Churyo Sato (illustrator); Risako Uchida (translator); Fukuinkan Shoten  
 THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR by Eric Carle; Hisashi Mori (translator); KAISEI-SHA Publishing Co., Ltd.  
 WHAT A FACE LOOKS LIKE by Ryohei Yanagihara; Koguma-sha  
 TINY by Nicola Davies; Emily Sutton (illustrator); Noriko Ochi (translator); Yosuke Degawa (supervision); Goblin-shobo  
 WILLIE'S WALK by Margaret Wise Brown; Ikumi Tsuboi (writer); Akiko Hayashi (illustrator); Ikumi Tsuboi (translator); Penguin-sha  
 ICE: THE MAGIC OF WINTER AND WATER by Takashi Katahira; POPLAR Publishing Co., Ltd.



For more information