

- **Great East Japan Earthquake Support Activity**

“Medical Support Team & Educational Environment Support Team ~Gathering Civil Network!~

- **Overseas Support Activities**

Continuous Support of Myanmar ~Human Development, Cataract Treatment, Ambulance, Radio Equipment~

Bhutanese Exchange Students ~First Ascent of Mount Fuji~

# The Great East Japan Earthquake Support Activity Report

## Medical Support Team

### Dynamic private network will be able support what really need at the stricken area

The Foundation for Global Children (FGC) Medical Support Team Dr. Masahiro Kami  
Research Professor, the Division of Social Communication System for Advanced Clinical Research,  
Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo

I am a physician. Since the Great East Japan Earthquake, I have involved in medical support activities in Fukushima such as local residential health-check and internal radiation exposure examination. In addition, I recently started helping young doctors to become permanent doctors in Fukushima.

In fact these activities can be run by the supports from the Foundation for Global Children. To Dr. Ryosuke Tsuchiya, Mr. Yasuo Miyazawa, and participants, I really want to show gratitude for supporting our activities.

I am appreciated with the Educational Environment Support Team (EEST) that they always helped the Medical Support Team (MST), where I belong to. For example, they arranged the quarter, meals, and transportation right after the earthquake at Minamisoma city for us.

It was a good memory that we entered into vacant Minamisoma city, which the most residents were evacuated and in the darkness, and reserved the Japanese-style hotel continued running. In addition, Seisa Group brought foods from nowhere and cooked for us.

At the end of May, 2011, our team enforced health-check of the residents starting from Iitate Village Tamano District in Soma city, and, Kawauchi Village. These took place before the village-wide evacuation. Soma city health-check was just taken place this year July (2013), third time since the earthquake. I cannot estimate how much we, including municipal office staff and doctors from all of the regions, felt secured for the EEST undertaking the preparation of the sites for health-check and stewards at the sites. My colleague doctors said that "My values changed since I was impressed by the EEST's sincere manner."

Moreover, the EEST set up the site for support activities, called "Sakura Building," which used as lodging facility and cafeteria. Later, this facility was called "SEISA Dormitory" and posted onto "Traps of Prometheus" on the Asahi Shimbun. Right after the earthquake, many supporters faced the difficulties to secure the place for sleep-over, which was a main concern. Luckily "SEISA Dormitory" prevented us from not having a place to sleep.

Many people have begun to use and visit "SEISA Dormitory" repetitively. For example, local Soma High School teacher, Mr. Yasuhiro Takamura (now he is moved to Shinchi High School in a neighboring town), is one of these people. He is a man of action that he immediately brought his friend teachers and students to the dormitory. I had a chance to meet with Mr. Shigero Matsumura, his colleague, and Mr. Shinya Fujiwara, university student, at the dormitory.

Mr. Matsumura contributed for increasing the educational level in Soma High School that his student was accepted to University of Tokyo. In Soma High School, the enrollment of student into University of Tokyo was after thirteen years' absence. On the other hand, after Mr. Fujiwara's graduation from the university, he started working as a music teacher at Kawauchi Village, which is the earthquake stricken area. Our team also supported and learned many things from their activities.

Human resources are the treasure of region. There is no exaggeration to say that reconstruction of the stricken areas would begin from education. The Medical Support Team will cooperate with the Educational

Environment Support Team to continue these activities.

**The Great East Japan Earthquake Support Activity Report (May, 2011 ~ July, 2013)**

**<<# of People Visited Radiation Ray Information Session & Health Check by the MST & EEST>>**

Region	General Citizen	Information Session for Teacher	Middle School Students	Medical Personnel	Sub-Total	Health Check (Temporary Housing Residents)
Soma City	2,494	240	Approx. 200		2,934	2,403
Minamisoma City	186	113		60	359	
Kawauchi Village	78				78	135
Koriyama City	25				25	
Iitate Village						424
Net Total	2,783	353	Approx. 200	60	3,396	2,962

## **Building a Teachers Network for Child Support**

**FGC Educational Environment Support Team: Katsuhiko Yoshida**

**(Soma Follower Team / Seisa University teacher)**

EEST conducted counseling and educational support at primary and secondary schools that are located mainly in Soso district (Soma, Minamisoma, and Shinchi) in Fukushima Prefecture. The school counselors visited the schools once or twice a week.

In volume 3, we will introduce about “Nursing Teacher Support Activities.”

Nurse teacher's job is not only observing and taking care of children's health conditions, injury and sickness, but also promoting health education such as food, sex, and other health related education. In addition, adjusting educational environment such as lighting in classroom, air, and water quality control. Therefore, nursing teachers plays a significant role in maintaining physical and mental health of children especially at the stricken areas. However, students in Soso district decreased due to the evacuation so that there is one nurse teacher per school. Since there is only one nurse teacher, s/he does not have an opportunity to get advices from senior colleagues. Even if the nurse teacher is a newbie, s/he is expected to work as much as the experienced, who have high specialties in their field. Being a nurse-teacher is one manned and necessary existence for child health and safety. Supporting nurse-teachers are necessary because it will prevent burnout of the nurse-teachers and improve children's healthcare in both physical and minds.

FGC hosted study seminars in order to develop specialties and improve a sense of solidarity and cooperation among nurse-teachers. Seminars includes individual supports, training seminars, and case studies. When the nurse-teacher needs individual supports, permanent school counselors in local area would provide necessary help, advice, and information. The case studies would be in session once in two weeks that 7-8 nurse teachers and FGC school counselors gather at weekday night to learn, discuss, and debate about actual cases, which nurse teachers are currently facing. Sometimes case is not set as specific example in seminars that to learn other nurse teachers' environment and daily work in different schools. In this summer, there was a study seminar on developmental disorder and counseling techniques. We believe that building a tight-knit network among nurse teachers would help local children's healthy development.

July, 2013)

	Middle School = MS Elementary School = ES	Counseling			*Consultati on	Behaviora l Observati on	Informati on Exchang e	Special Support/Psycholo gical Education Training Seminar	Class Support
		Stude nt	Teach er	Pare nt					
Working as Soma Follower Team	Nakamura Daini MS	55	93	22	15	14	33		
	Isobe MS	212	99	1	94	161	81		31 Classes
	Isobe ES	187	58	1	4	30	2	5 Seminars	16 Classes
	Nittaki ES	42	26	4	33	131	84		
	Tamano ES	1	1	0	0	0	0		
	Yamakami ES	1	2	2	4	50	44		
	Shinchi ES	3	0	1	4	0	3		
	Minamiso ma City Emergenc y Counselor Dispatch Activities	Haramachi Daisan MS	92	3	11	3	11	23	
Odaka MS		118	8	7	41	108	72	1 Seminars	
Odaka ES		78	27	11	47	85	66		
Hatohara/Kanabusa/Fu kuura ES		42	37	4	70	113	71		
Mano ES		5	2	4	26	48	25		
Total		836	356	68	341	752	504	6 Seminars	47 Classes

## For Children Smiles in Fukushima...

### Mr. Littbarsky in Soma Soccer Class

The soccer class was held second time in July 6<sup>th</sup> Saturday in Soma City, Fukushima, in which Mr. Littbarsky (Litti) taught children at the class. This time about 70 primary school students, who are in upper grades, joined the class. Litti's close training plan and friendly personality helped students to enjoy the warm-up once the class started. When Litti trapped the ball that was high in the air with his top of the foot, cheers arose from children. During two hours training, smile faces were always on children. When the class was about to finish, children asked for when next class will be held.

### Soccer Activity Supports related to Great East Japan Earthquake in Seisa Shonan Oiso Campus

In August 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, FGC invited a soccer training centre team for upper grades primary school students in Soso district, Fukushima (37 students and 21 adults). There were exchange games and soccer school training with Chigasaki Training Centre Team and Seisa OSA Junior. 9 volunteer students came from Soccer Club in University of Tokyo.

(Voices from attendee) Mr. Murakami, a chairperson of Soso Training Centre, commented that "The soccer trip to Kanagawa was a good experience for athletes, coaches, and athletes' parental guardians. Athletes enjoyed very much about the interleague matches among Kanagawa teams and soccer school. In addition, athletes really enjoyed the night study meeting by university students that their explanations were very clear to understand. From my point of view, parents attending the lecture "Thinking about a balanced diet for kids" were actively questioned and so on... I believe we should not be too much dependent on somebody's kindness that saying an excuse, in which we are the victims or living in the stricken areas by the earthquake. Continue from now on, I hope for further exchange between Soso district and Kanagawa Prefecture continue." Voices of parent O.M: "Thank you for let me involve in the soccer trip twice with my son. I think these interleague matches, soccer school, and study meeting by university students were memorable events for my son." Voices of 5<sup>th</sup> grader S.S: "This was my first time trip since I was accepted into the training center... Day 2 soccer school was very helpful for me. I would work hard to enroll again to next year training center team by using knowledge and experiences during this trip. My dream is to become professional soccer athlete so I'm training for my goal. Thank you for helping me during the 2-day trip."

## **Soma City Health Check-up & Health Consultation**

(July 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

In Soma City, health check-ups for these residents who suffered from the Great East Earthquake have taken place once a year since 2011. This time, total of 585 people attended the check-ups.

The feature of this health check-up is a locomotive syndrome examination is done by Kyushu University and Fukuoka Houeikai Hospital. The locomotive syndrome and metabolic syndrome among temporary shelter residents are still an issue that needed to be improved. On the other hand, reconstruction of houses in nine places are completed and more than 90% of residents would be able to move to the new resident.

Since many residents relieved from worries, many staff members noticed that many residents showed more smile faces than last year check-up.

## **2013 Summer Class, Learning from Nature**

In August 2013, Dr. Hideki Ishida, Professor in Graduate School of Environmental Studies in Tohoku University, taught a summer class for learning nature “Nature Technologies Create the Human Future ~ World Latest Human Life Technologies derived from nature study~.” Dr. Ishida was also introduced in TV show called “Yume no Tobira” (Door to Dream) on TBS TV. In this show, his ideas of wind power generator that can generate electricity with wind power of 20cm and tiles that are dirt-proofed derived from nature living organisms. The wind power generator derived from dragonfly’s wings and the tile from shape and structures of land snail’s shell. FGC planned this summer class for attendees to provide opportunities to think broadly about current energy issues, ways of life, role of the science, and life with energy that can be easily reached by hands. 14 attendees came to the class with age ranges from teenagers to eighties. The class was took place for two days that it was not only lectures, but also “nature walking,” “experiments and workshop to experience the greatness of nature” and “discussion of happy future life by attendees.”

**【Impressions from attendees】** ” I discovered many things from the themes that are not aware during daily life. First time workshop was a bit confused yet at the end I enjoyed it.” “Talk and lectures by Professor Ishida was very interesting and fun because I had a desire to learn about greatness in nature. I think I got many hints and ideas about what should we do for Japan’s future.”

## **Northern Land of Japan: Obihiro • Ashibetsu Course**

(July 27 ~ August 6, 2014)

This is a third time inviting children from the stricken areas to Hokkaido. Children were able to learn experientially with their friends through the activities such as playing at river bank, park golf, cooking “Butadon” (Pork Rice Bowl), enjoying local festivals, and natures in Hokkaido. Seisa high school students also worked as staff members that they quickly became friends with children whose age, gender, and birthplace didn’t matter at all. My impression on children during this course were that they had very good smiles on their faces, and full of curiosity in their eyes. I hope for a lots of happiness in his or her future lives.

**Tohoku Restoration Support**  
**“The Owl of Minerva and the Future of Japan”**  
**Exhibitions in All Parts of Japan**

The exhibition “The Owl of Minerva and the Future of Japan,” opened for supporting Tohoku restoration through culture and art, has been decided that the site for exhibition extended across the nation.

Mr. Seiichi Kondo, former foreign diplomat who was assigned to commissioner of Agency for Cultural Affairs in Japan (2010~2013), started a serial article “Challenges for Future” in Nihon Keizai Shimbun from January 2011. The column mainly discussed about culture policy in Japan. After a few month, the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred.

2 years has passed since the earthquake. Mr. Kondo claimed that continuous supports for the stricken areas are necessary by using the power of culture and art as restoration education. 21 artists sympathized with his claim and donated paintings for his serial article. Then, his articles and paintings were published as one book named “The Owl of Minerva and the Future of Japan.” Seisa Group Kokusai Gakuen School Corporation also supported Mr. Kondo’s claim and 21 artists by buying the books and artworks. Mr. Kondo and supporters donated profit, which made from books and artworks, to three organizations that working at the stricken areas for their budget.

- Santa Project (Representative: Mr. Yoshiharu Fukuhara (Honorary President of Shiseido Co., Ltd.))
- For Tohoku “Oppai Ippai Project”(Representative: Mr. Takashi Atouda (novelist, artist))
- Publisher Reconstruction Fund for Great East Japan Earthquake (Representative: Mr. Masahiro Oga (President of Shogakukan Inc.))

On July 19<sup>th</sup>, there was a press conference at Oiso Municipal Museum. Mr. Seiichi Kondo, a former commissioner of Agency for Cultural Affair, made a speech that “In traditional Japanese philosophy, Japanese people find the value not only on “existing objects,” but also on “invisible object” like a culture. I hope that the audience will notice the universality of thought through artwork. “

We hope that there will be a lot of people to see the artworks and feel the passion of Mr. Kondo and artists on culture and arts directly.

FGC will continue to host the exhibition throughout the Japan.

Moreover, FGC will continue the cultural art activities that children can also contribute to supporting the stricken areas by building cardboard donation boxes, which building kits are provided by the General Packaging Industry RENGO. Thank you for cooperating with us.

”The Owl of Minerva and the Future of Japan” Exhibition Schedule

First Exhibition Schedule: September 8 ~ 29, 2013

Site: Oiso Municipal Museum Exhibition Room

Address: 446-1 Nishikoiso Oiso-machi, Naka-gun, Kanagawa 255-0005

Second Exhibition Schedule: October 22 ~ 27, 2013

Site: Daimaru Fujii Central 7F Sky Hall

Address: 2, West 3, South 1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0061



The General Packaging Industry RENGO Cooperated with FGC

The Cardboard Donation Box Making Event

The General Packaging Industry RENGO donated cardboard donation boxes to FGC at this event.

At this event, children designed and drew on the blank cardboard donation boxes with the theme of “Supporting Cataract Treatment in Myanmar.” These donation boxes will be used.

Through these kind of events and activities, we believe that children will learn to establish sympathy for other’s suffering.

## **Myanmar**

### **Cataract of Myanmar: Sustainable Project to prevent from losing eyesight by Mr. Kenji SHIBUYA, Executive Director of JIGH**

The cataract is the eye illness which is often seen at aged people also in Japan. Looking at the world, it is rapidly spreading, especially in developing countries, reflecting the aging population and the increase of life-style-related diseases. If it is left as is, it may lead to losing the eyesight since natural healing cannot be expected. However, the weakened eyesight can be recovered or improved if appropriate medical treatments (intraocular lens insertion operation) are given.

The blindness rate of Myanmar (more than 8%) is the highest in the world; out of them, 70% are reportedly caused by the cataract. It is characterized by the fact that younger people develop the disease in Myanmar, contrary to Japan. They are actively engaged in business, so the illness causes both the society and the economy big burdens. The government of Myanmar gives top priority to the cataract. However, there are about 600,000 cataract patients who cannot have operations due to the lack of trained doctors, facilities and devices/equipment required for operation. At the request of the government of Myanmar, the Foundation for Global Children (FGC) and SEISA Group started the project of cataract curing in cooperation with Rohto Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. and so on. Only to provide necessary medical equipment/devices is not sufficient to establish cataract medical treatments in Myanmar. However, to supply everything free of charge is not sufficient to continue the project for years to come. Therefore, while providing medical equipment/devices free of charge, we offer this time trainings on cataract operation by a Japanese doctor, too, and at the same time, training on the maintenance of the equipment/devices and localized production of intraocular lens supported by a Japanese manufacturer. This enables the project to be sustainable for years, and also makes poor people accessible to the cataract medical treatment which was beyond their outreach.

The project started with 10 sets of movable equipment for cataract operation donated to Myanmar in May 2013. Then we visited the Ministry of Health and the Yangon Ophthalmic Hospital (Picture 1) from August 11 through 16, and worked out a future schedule, studying the possibility of giving on-the-job trainings to local doctors. Who was nominated as trainer was Dr. Kunishi HATTORI. He operated more than 10,000 cataract patients in Vietnam free of charge and saved them from the blindness. He is well versed in ophthalmological diseases including cataract in Southeast Asia as well as local examination systems, so he is indispensable to the transfer of expertise and skills.

He also brought the used Japanese-made equipment capable of inserting lens of next generation by himself and donated it to the Yangon Ophthalmic Hospital. He enjoys full trust of the local professor with whom he has kept good relationship for many years as well as of his staff members. So, he was soon requested to do difficult operations, too.

The first patient was the old woman who came from a far region, Shang, spending two days, and was about becoming blind due to diabetic retinopathy. She was cured thanks to Dr. Hattori's operation (Photograph 2 refers). He tried to have local doctors operate even difficult cases, while giving his support if necessary. Doctors of other countries also delegated to Myanmar, including Korea and Europe, were so impressed with his ability, that they often came to him to see his operations. Korean team was willing to provide him with

their operation materials so as to allow him to continue doing operations, and gave him big hands on the last day of operation. It was August 15; on that Memorial Day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> War, Japanese and Korean doctors jointly worked in the operation room of Myanmar (Photograph 3 refers).

These activities at the Yangon Ophthalmic Hospital were introduced by the National Broadcasting of Myanmar (MRTV), too. Health care and medical treatments are well accepted regardless borders and political situation. Next examination study is scheduled for December in order to continue cataract operations also in the future as a sustainable project.

### **Aiming at establishing a remote-location medical care system**

Agricultural areas of Myanmar face several problems like lack of medical treatment facilities and missing possibility of receiving sufficient treatments due to lack of infrastructure for transportation to go to medical care facilities in urban areas. To cope with regional discrimination, FGC introduced a medical examination vehicle in cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Myanmar to support medical treatment activities in remote areas.

FGC procured two used ambulance vehicles through the Society for Promotion of Japanese Diplomacy. After being overhauled and equipped with radio devices, they will be sent to Myanmar. The radio system will be very useful in the area where standard communication tools like mobile phones do not work, and will play an important role for saving the people's life.

FGC's mission is to further expand the project, so that the remote-location medical care system will work throughout the country, and to set up an appropriate environment which enables many people to keep their good health. In addition, FGC will train medical specialists and reduce the mother and child death rate, aiming at the improvement of health care and hygiene environment of Myanmar.

### **Set-up of Hand-Washing Sinks**

Supported by FGC, the Ministry of Health of Myanmar started the "School Health Program" (to improve the health of students) at schools. The program aims at having children become familiar with knowledge of health care and hygiene and change their life-style habits accordingly, which will lead to improving the health care and hygiene environment of the whole school. It is also expected that the change of the children's habit will lead to the improvement of their family's health and its community's health, too.

The Ministry of Health of Myanmar made the hand-washing sinks at two schools by July. FGC supplied soap, teeth paste and towel to 5 schools, giving practical training on hand-washing/tooth-brushing and also hygiene education.

The activities are to be monitored and evaluated. Who bears the future of the country are children and young people. To protect their health will contribute to the development of Myanmar; in this conjunction, the School Health Program will continue in the future, too.

### **Support to train resources in the area of science & technology**

Training science- and technology-related human resources is indispensable to the development of Myanmar's society. At the request of the Ministry of Science & Technology of Myanmar, FGC will build a new technical college and train there resources capable of making Myanmar a science- and technology-oriented nation. In this conjunction, FGC Director, Mr. Miyazawa, donated 50 units of PC to the ministry. In return, Mr. Ko Ko Oo, Minister of Science & Technology, appreciated his assistance, also expressing his expectation that the cooperation with FGC be further strengthened.

On the occasion of Mr. Miyazawa's re-visit to the Ministry in August, the establishment of the technical college was discussed in detail. And an agreement was made between FGC and the Ministry of Science and Technology of Myanmar as regards the delegation of Myanmar's technical high-school students to a Japanese technical high-school for a short period and the training of students of Yangon Technical College at a Japanese firm(s) on IT business and business management. Through these activities, FGC will continue contributing to the development of Myanmar's human resources.

### **Donation of radio equipment/devices to the Ministry of Information & Technology**

To set up a system for controlling illegal waves and also for strengthening the public peace, FGC donated high-quality receivers which can visualize invisible waves and also transceivers/antennas suitable for short-, medium- and long-distance communications. These will take an important role to secure the safety of Myanmar, and also to secure the communication in emergency cases like disaster.

## **Cambodia**

### **Mr. Miyazawa, Executive Director of FGC, decorated by Cambodian Government**

Mr. Miyazawa was honored with the Khmer Decoration, Bronze, for his long-year support to Cambodia. He initiated support activities mainly in the area of education and medical care, e.g. improve the facilities and environment of the Phnom Penh Thmay Vocational Training Center moved in the end of last year. He said he and his staff had been encouraged to continue support activities in the future, too, and confirmed they would do their best also in the future to assist Cambodian children and young people in becoming independent.

## **Bhutan**

### **Challenge to climbing Mt. Fuji by Bhutanese students**

On August 27, 2013, Kinzang Gyeltshen and Pema Khandhu Wangchuk receiving the Ashi Kezang – Miyazawa SEISA scholarship were on the top of Mt. Fuji. This 2-day climbing was one of what they wanted to do in Japan most. They had been very much eager to do the challenge since its beautiful figure is always seen from Oiso where they are studying, if the weather is fine. In Bhutan they often went to 3-day trekking, so they were good at climbing the rocky slope of the mountain. Waiting for the sunrise on the top, together with other climbers, it seemed that both were much moved by the beautiful celestial light emitted from the newly born sun, saying “I want to come here again”, “I have now understood why many Japanese climb Mt. Fuji.” Thanks to favorable weather, both could have a nice view from the top, and could also enjoy attractive landscapes of Lake Yamanaka and Lake Kawaguchi including night views during both climb-up and –down. They understand the important relation between the culture and the land from their study at SEISA.

We are confident that the above opportunity has given them a good opportunity to learn what Japanese feel in the front of Mt. Fuji recently registered as World Cultural Heritage and also to deepen their knowledge about the culture-land inter-influences. We hope they will explain their experiences made from the Mt. Fuji climbing to their families and colleagues when they return to Bhutan.

### **“We have experienced and learned lots from the study in Japan.”**

One year has passed since Kinzang and Pema came to Japan. Supposedly they had a difficulty living in an unfamiliar culture, but it gave them a challenge to train themselves through communications with various people and new experiences.

Especially, their Japanese has improved remarkably. Kinzang likes talking very much and is able to communicate everything in Japanese, while Pema is good at Kanji and persistently learns characters one by one and tries to use a new character not yet known to him, asking “how to write that character”.

They will return to Bhutan in a half year. We hope they will continue studying/learning as much as possible during the rest of their stay with us.

**Message written by Kinzang in Japanese**

One year has passed since I came to Japan. It has been my pleasure that I could learn much about Japanese culture. Before coming to Japan, I was very nervous since I did not understand Japanese and was not good at soccer. However, I am sure that I have meanwhile had remarkable improvements thanks to the support by SEIKA's teachers and friends of OSA. Last but not least, I would like to thank all the people who have helped me, and should be glad if they would provide me with the same support as they did before.

**Message written by Pema in Japanese**

On July 9 one year before, I came to Japan. I have made lots of experiences and visited many famous places in Japan so far. My Japanese has in the meantime improved, and I am doing my best in both soccer and studies. I find it very good that we both came to Japan.