



Association of Medical Doctors of Asia

“As Long as There’s a Life to be Saved”

Message from the President



△Pakistan (2010)

Today “**peace**” simply does not mean that there is no war or civil strife that poses suffering on people. It is a state in which **ordinary people can sustain a decent living and realize their hopes for tomorrow**. It is a state in which people with the proper motivation and ability can **realize their potential**. With sufficient and proper motivation, people’s inherent capability can be unlocked once given the right opportunity. I have expressed this idea in the following equation which I believe leads to the joy of living.

$$\text{Motivation + Ability + Opportunity} \\ \parallel \\ \text{Self-realization}$$

The satisfaction people derive from realizing their potential creates joy in their lives. These people will be the ones to bring peace and harmony to their own communities and eventually to the whole world.

There are two sides of the coin pertaining to this joy of living. There is joy in receiving the opportunity to fulfill one’s potential and hopes. On the other hand, there is also joy in providing opportunities to help others realize their dreams for tomorrow. This cycle of giving and receiving opportunities is “**Sogo-Fujo**” in its true sense. “**Sogo-Fujo**”, the unfaltering core of **AMDA**’s existence is a traditional term meaning mutual assistance within a given community. **AMDA** has gone beyond the confinement of our own affinity groups, reaching out to people, far and near, whoever is in need of assistance. **AMDA** has opened up the spirit of “**Sogo-Fujo**” across and beyond one’s community. **AMDA** has been exercising over the past few decades what I would like to term “**Open Sogo-Fujo**”.

AMDA will pursue a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to our activities which I have named “**Global Partnership for Sustainable Peace**” (**GPSP**). It is a stepped-up version of what we have achieved since our inception in 1984. **GPSP** aims to realize the peaceful coexistence of diversity in which all people can live in a state of peace. Under “**Open Sogo-Fujo**”, **AMDA** will fortify its present network and incorporate new partners from all possible fields for collaboration and joint activities in emergency relief and peace-building efforts. Living in an age of uncertainties politically, economically and socially with ever-increasing natural threats, **AMDA** will continue to seek its own way to realize and sustain peace throughout the world.

Shigeru Suganami, M.D., Ph.D.
President, AMDA International

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AMDA

アマダ



What is AMDA?

AMDA is a **non-governmental, non-profit organization** dedicated to realizing a peaceful community through humanitarian activities in the **medical healthcare sector**.

AMDA was founded in 1984 in Okayama City, Japan. With its **international network of 32 chapters**, **AMDA** has worked in more than **67 countries** in partnership with various organizations including civil organizations, universities, governments, hospitals, UN agencies and other institutions. **AMDA** has been in General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2006.

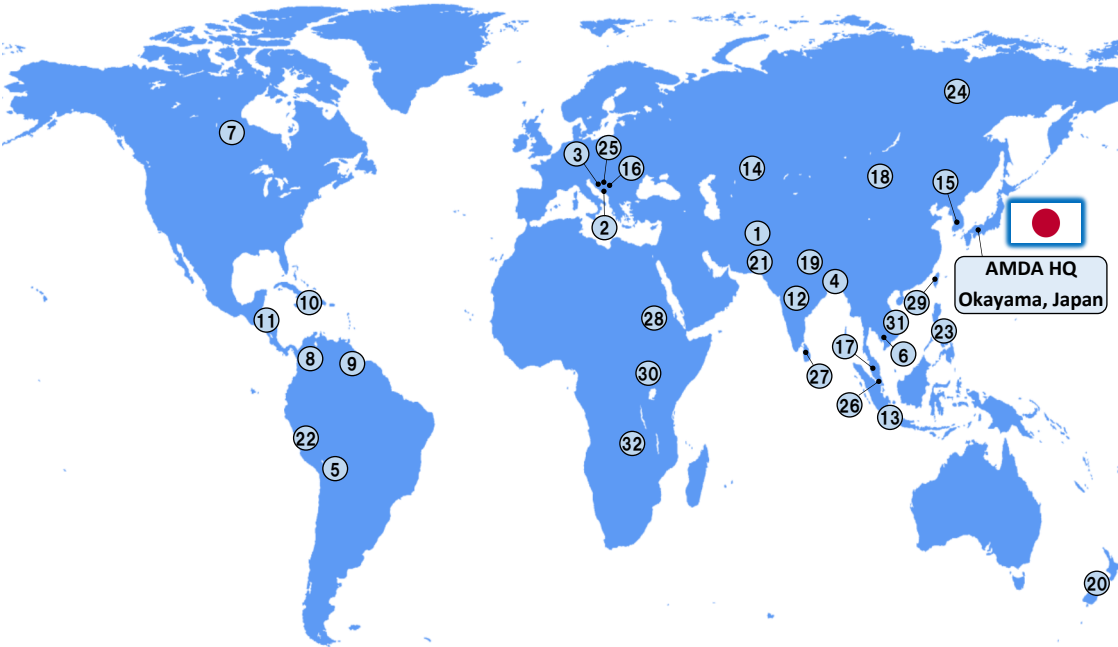


What does AMDA do?

AMDA provides **emergency medical aid** to people affected by natural as well as man-made disasters. With its specialization in the medical and healthcare sectors, **AMDA** also implements **mid- to long-term social development projects**, helping people to rebuild their communities.



AMDA International Chapters



① Afghanistan	⑨ Guyana	⑪ Malaysia	⑲ Serbia
② Albania	⑩ Haiti	⑫ Mongolia	⑳ Singapore
③ Bosnia & Herzegovina	⑪ Honduras	⑬ Nepal	㉑ Sri Lanka
④ Bangladesh	⑫ India	⑭ New Zealand	㉒ Sudan
⑤ Bolivia	⑬ Indonesia	⑮ Pakistan	㉓ Taiwan
⑥ Cambodia	⑭ Kazakhstan	⑯ Peru	㉔ Uganda
⑦ Canada	⑮ Korea	⑰ Philippines	㉕ Vietnam
⑧ Colombia	⑯ Kosovo	⑱ Sakha Republic	㉖ Zambia

Global Partnership for Sustainable Peace



‘Sogo-Fujo’ is a cycle of giving and receiving, a traditional value deeply rooted in the Japanese close-knit community life

AMDA’s **‘Global Partnership for Sustainable Peace’ (GPSP)** is a collection of **three values** to promote a **peaceful worldwide community**:

Partnership

is the natural feeling of **mutual trust** and **respect** that is nurtured through overcoming difficulties **together**.

Open Sogo-Fujo

is an expansion of **‘Sogo-Fujo’** into a universal value. It promotes **mutual assistance across and beyond** one’s own community, regardless of **race, religion or culture**.

Local Initiative

is maintaining the **utmost respect** for each and every community’s **values and culture**.

‘GPSP’ encompasses **four categories** of activities:



GPSP Peace Building

AMDA's fundamental philosophy is **mutual assistance (Sogo-Fujo)**. We help those in need as our equals, **regardless of race, culture or religion**. Once those afflicted by disasters get back on their feet, they may then in-turn be in a position to help others themselves. It is a cycle of reciprocation.

Emergency Relief

Since its foundation, **AMDA** has amassed a broad network of international chapters and other partners in order to maximize assistance to the victims of both **natural** and **man-made disasters**. As the swift dispatch of relief personnel and aid delivery are crucial for emergency assistance, **AMDA** keeps a close eye on the latest conditions around the world and acts as soon as disasters happen.



Medical relief in India



Distributing relief goods in the Philippines



Wheelchair construction program in Nepal



Cholera treatment in Haiti

Post-disaster Reconstruction

Following the decline in emergency medical needs after a disaster strikes, **AMDA's** activities change to a **mid- to long-term community rehabilitation phase**. Especially so in less developed areas around the world, it can take a long time for daily life to return to normal. **AMDA's** role is to hasten this as much as possible by conducting a vast array of rehabilitative activities for the affected.



COVID-19 Response

January 2020-Present

The COVID-19 crisis has wreaked havoc on many facets of our society which forced people to lose their jobs, experience a significant drop in their income, or face malnutrition. Solely based on partnership, AMDA has been tapping into its global network across 32 countries and regions to provide support to those who are withstanding the test of time. AMDA chapters help supply medical equipment, foodstuffs, funds and manpower while offering webinars and telemedicine services to meet every arising needs.



Floods in Masamba, Indonesia

July 2020

In response to flash floods that struck Masamba in the North Luwu Regency of South Sulawesi on 13 July 2020, AMDA Indonesia and AMSA UMI (Asian Medical Students' Association Muslim University Chapter) sent a joint medical team to organize three-day relief activities.

As global warming caused excessive rain falls, the water volume in the upper stream of the Rongkon River increased to the point in which the surrounding environment could not withstand. This eventually triggered the occurrence of the flash floods.



Typhoon Goni (Rolly), Philippines

November 2020



AMDA Philippines, AMSA Jonelta, AMDA Headquarters (Japan) and Catanduanes State University jointly launched relief activities in response to the super typhoon Goni (Rolly) which struck the Philippines in early November 2020. The joint effort took place in Catanduanes, an island in the disaster-hit Bicol region in the eastern part of the Philippines. Mainly focusing on the relief supply distribution, AMDA managed to deliver aid to 764 families in total in the locality.

Hurricanes Eta/Iota, Honduras

November 2020



In response to hurricanes Eta and Iota which devastated extensive areas across Honduras, AMDA Headquarters and AMDA Honduras launched a joint relief effort. According to the Honduran authorities, the massive tropical storm affected more than 1.64 million people, forcing around 10,000 people to flee homes (as of 6 November 2020). The initial inquiry for the emergency relief was directly made by H.E. Mr. Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, the Ambassador of the Republic of Honduras to Japan, on the 17th in which AMDA was asked to provide immediate aid to people in hard-hit regions.

Emergency Relief Activities (FY2019-2020)

Jan. 2021	Earthquake in Sulawesi, Indonesia
Nov. 2020	Hurricanes Eta/Iota, Honduras
Nov. 2020	Typhoons Goni/Vamco, Philippines
Jul. 2020	Flash Floods in Masamba, Indonesia
Jul. 2020	Flood Disaster in Kyushu, Japan
Feb. 2020	COVID-19 Global Response
Jan. 2020	Cold-Wave, Bangladesh
Jan. 2020	Floods in South Sulawesi, Indonesia
Jan. 2020	Taal Volcano Eruption, Philippines
Dec. 2019	Typhoon Kammuri, Philippines
Nov. 2019	Earthquake in Mindanao, Philippines
Oct. 2019	Typhoon Hagibis, Japan
Oct. 2019	Earthquake in Maluku, Indonesia
Sep. 2019	Civil Unrest in Papua, Indonesia
Sep. 2019	Typhoon in Chiba, Japan
Sep. 2019	Floods in Saga (Kyushu), Japan
Aug 2019	Floods in Karnataka, India
Jul. 2019	Floods in Kurigram, Bangladesh
Jun. 2019	Floods in Sulawesi, Indonesia
May. 2019	Cyclone Fani in Odisha, India



△ AMDA team at an evacuation shelter in Japan (2018)

AMDA has responded to **230** emergency cases in **59** countries and areas around the world.

(As of August 2021)



△ El Paraiso, Honduras (2020)



△ S. Sulawesi, Indonesia (2019)



△ Mindanao, Philippines (2019)



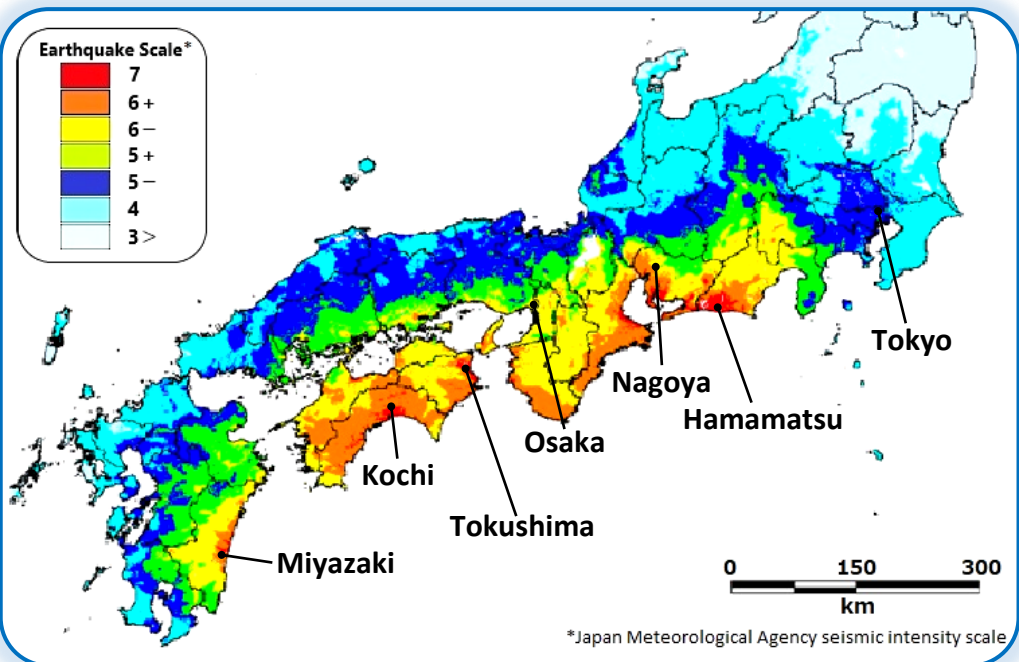
△ Kurigram, Bangladesh (2019)

Disaster Prevention

Preparing for a possible disaster in advance **saves lives**. This has become even more apparent since the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami which took more than **15,000** lives and left more than **300,000** homeless.

AMDA Nankai Trough Disaster Platform

The Japanese government predicts that an **earthquake of immeasurable scale** will strike Japan along the Nankai Trough within the next 30 years. It is predicted that the quake will cause a **massive tsunami** that could devastate the southern coastline, resulting in **over 300,000 deaths** and **two million buildings damaged**. **AMDA** has established a comprehensive counter-disaster scheme, “**AMDA Nankai Trough Disaster Platform**” to prepare for this foreseen crisis. This platform enables local governments, medical institutions, private corporations and NGOs to collaborate in a swift manner when the disaster occurs.

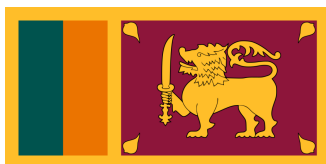


Rohingya Crisis Response



Under the lead of AMDA Bangladesh, AMDA set up a temporary clinic within one of the Rohingya refugee camps in October 2017 in response to the most recent crisis in August of the same year. The Rohingya community was displaced from their homes in Myanmar.

The AMDA clinic provided free medical treatment and medicine to anyone who needed it. Although it was obvious that living conditions remained far from ideal, having a secure and safe place available to receive general medical treatment seemed to have instilled a sense of security among the local community.



Peace Building Activities in Sri Lanka

AMDA's activities in Sri Lanka began during the ceasefire (2003-2006) of the 26 years of civil war. AMDA dispatched medical professionals from Japan to provide medical services and community health education to opposing sides in an equal manner.

From 2011, AMDA began an annual youth exchange program in Sri Lanka. Every year, Japanese students from the AMDA Students Club (see p.16) and Sri Lankan students from different ethnic and religious communities get together to do sports, dance as well as cultural and religious workshops. It is hoped that this program will encourage youths to acknowledge and embrace each other's differences.



Support for Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal



Ethnic strife in Bhutan in the 1990s triggered the influx of Nepali-Bhutanese refugees to Nepal. Since 1992, AMDA Nepal started providing medical assistance to the refugees seeking shelter in the country's evacuation camps. AMDA Damak Hospital played a central role in this project, followed by UNHCR's involvement in which the organization officially commissioned the hospital to undertake this work as full-scale refugee assistance. AMDA Damak Hospital provided primary health care services at a

medical post which the hospital established in each refugee camp.

Supporting Orphanages in Haiti

Since 2019, AMDA Haiti has been working with World Child House Project to support three orphanages in Haiti by donating food stuffs. All of the facilities have been faced with a lack of food supplies due to the nation's political and economic stalemate stemming from the 2010 earthquake.



Malnutrition has been the most pressing issue at the children's homes for some time. As of now, a vegetable-garden project has also been carried out at one of the facilities with the aim of complementing food shortages. What prompted the effort was a suggestion from a 15-year-old boy who said making a vegetable garden could be a viable solution to the immediate problem. As a result, it was decided that a two-year project would be launched at one orphanage which had the biggest courtyard of the three.



GPSP Health Development

One condition of attaining peace is having **adequate access to healthcare**. It is clear that many communities around the world still do not. **AMD**A has been carrying out activities with the aim of **sharing medical and general health knowledge** between developed and less-developed areas in order to **improve healthcare levels** throughout the world.

Primary Health Care

The aim of **AMD**A's **Primary Health Care** program is to **promote healthcare** and **awareness** to people living in poverty or in places where health literacy is low and even basic medical care is scarce. Educating people about healthy living is indispensable for the prosperity of the entire community.



AMD A Peace Clinic in Bodhgaya, India

The **AMD A Peace Clinic (APC)** in Bodhgaya has been providing various **community health** and **social development** services to the local community since 2009. The **APC** conducts home visits for expectant mothers and **educational workshops** covering **childbirth** and **child rearing**.

It also provides **dental checkups** for local residents.



School Health Project in Cambodia



This project was initiated in 2004 to target the youth in Phnom Penh City, including university and high school students as well as factory and construction workers with the aim of **promoting sex education**. The main focus of this project is to **raise awareness of HIV/AIDS** and **other STDs** (sexually transmitted diseases) through **peer to peer education**.

Medical Partnerships

AMDA believes that **medical knowledge should be readily accessible by all**. **AMDA** carries out a number of programs in cooperation with various medical institutions with the aim of sharing **medical knowledge** and **techniques** to everyone's benefit.



Endoscopy Training in Mongolia and Nepal

Endoscopy, a medical procedure used to examine the interior of the body, is indispensable for **examining**, **diagnosing** and **treating** illnesses such as cancer. **AMDA** has sent a Japanese specialist of gastrointestinal medicine to the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences, as well as to **AMDA Damak Hospital** in Nepal on a number of occasions to conduct **hands-on endoscopic training sessions**.



School Health Checkups in Rwanda



Since 2015, **AMDA** has carried out medical development projects between Japan and Rwanda in collaboration with the Okayama Prefectural Government. These projects have included a Rwandan doctor studying in Japan and sending Japanese doctors to schools in Rwanda to **teach** local medical students, parents and children about the **importance of school health checkups**.



Medical Training in Japan

AMDA has invited doctors from countries such as Nepal and Mongolia to gain practical experience at Saiseikai Hospital in Okayama. The aim of this project is to **share medical techniques** and **knowledge** with doctors and other medical personnel from all over the world.



Medical Mission

AMDA has been providing medical services to fulfill particular medical needs in areas around the world that don't have the means to do so themselves. Coordinating those needs with appropriate medical service providers is the basis of AMDA's medical mission.



Haiti Dental Project

In coordination with **AMDA Haiti**, **AMDA** has been conducting **annual dental checkups** at the Bethel Clinic in Fonds-des-Negres, Haiti since 2010. Many of those who visit had never had or had only a few dental checkups in their lives. The aim of this project is to **raise awareness of the importance of oral hygiene** throughout the country.



Eye Care in Mongolia



In 2011, **AMDA** started carrying out a project in Mongolia aimed at **promoting children's eye care**. **AMDA** teams **provided eye checkups to children** and, in collaboration with the Mongolian Ministry of Health and the Mongolia Ophthalmology Association, **actively promoted the need for improved eye care systems** in the country.



AMDA GPSP Hospitals

In addition to its chapters in various countries around the world, **AMDA** operates a number of hospitals in **Afghanistan**, **Bangladesh** and **Nepal**. These hospitals provide **quality medical services** to local people. Many of their medical staff have studied or were trained in Japan.

Another function of the **AMDA GPSP Hospitals** is to act as a **medical hub in the event of a disaster**. These hospitals allow **AMDA** to more efficiently send out relief goods and personnel.



Japan-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital

GPSP Educational Support

AMDA believes that **access to education should be the right of every human being**. Given the right opportunity, anything is achievable as long as one has the motivation to push for it. **AMDA** aims to help **provide decent opportunities to those who are less privileged**. **AMDA** continues to nurture **peace makers for the future global society**.

Global Human Resource Development



AMDA Students Club

The **AMDA Students Club** is a volunteer group founded in 1995, consisting of Japanese middle and high school students. As volunteers, members take on various activities such as the **Peace Building Programme in Sri Lanka** (see p.11). The aim of this club is to foster a greater sense of **understanding of various cultures and beliefs** in its members, and for them to have an open, international mindset.



Triple-A Partnership Program (TAPP)

AMDA works closely with **Asian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) International**, a representative organization for medical students across Asia, to **give medical students opportunities to use their knowledge in real-world cases**. It is **AMDA's** belief that this will give medical students the **wisdom to grow as effective medical personnel**.



'Kodomo Shokudo'

An increasing number of families are facing poverty in Japan. The term 'kodomo shokudo' (children's cafeteria) refers to a place (a shop, a temple, an individual's house, etc.) where children can go to eat free or low-cost healthy, nutritious meals. Sometimes they even learn how to cook by themselves.

AMDA has been supporting *kodomo shokudo* within Okayama Prefecture so that impoverished children have better opportunities for the future.

Student Internships

AMDA accepts Japanese and non-Japanese students to work as interns at **AMDA Headquarters** in Okayama, Japan. The program offers dynamic learning opportunities for students to participate in **AMDA's** various activities.

Scholarship Programs

For many years, **AMDA** has provided students who are persevering through difficult times (following natural and man-made disasters) with financial assistance to complete their studies. Until now, the beneficiaries of **AMDA's** scholarships have been mainly students who wish to pursue a medical career.

GPSP Livelihood Support

AMDA has been helping to provide communities with rich food resources that are essential for realizing an **ideal community life**. If a decent living can be secured in community life in a sustainable manner, it allows people to get **one step closer to living in peace**.

Organic Farming



AMDA Food Program

"Food is the source of life" - This motto embodies the **AMDA Food Program** which was launched in order to spread organic farming across Asia. In 2011, **AMDA** started a farm in Shinjo Village in the northern part of Okayama Prefecture, Japan.

Likewise, another organic farm was launched in Malino in South Sulawesi, Indonesia in 2014. While the program provides Indonesian farmers with training opportunities in Japan, Japanese agricultural experts are sometimes invited to Malino to give guidance.



Livelihood Support Projects in India




In June 2017, **AMDA** provided the means for a well to be built in an impoverished village in Bodhgaya in Bihar State, India. The well provides the village with an abundant water source which can be used by local families for daily purposes and by farmers for their crops.

As a result, **AMDA** hopes that this well will have a **positive effect on the villagers' livelihoods**. **AMDA** will continue to provide support for this village and other areas where people are living under less than ideal conditions.



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