

AMDA

**ASSOCIATION OF
MEDICAL
DOCTORS OF
ASIA**



**2021
ANNUAL
REPORT**

MESSAGE FROM AMDA PRESIDENT



The fiscal year 2021 was another busy year for all of us at the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia, especially given the fact that the world has been facing one of the most complex situations in the last hundred years or so. Some might have described it as “apocalyptic” since the magnitude of the problems is grave and extensive, so much so that they felt powerless in rectifying the given state of affairs.

On one hand, by looking at the lives of ordinary people around the planet, I wonder how many of them are actually responsible for all of this. Whether it is a viral infection, natural calamity or man-made disaster, the ones that suffer most are always innocent civilians who are striving each day to live a good life.

Having been in the humanitarian sector for over three decades, I strongly feel what the world is lacking today is solidarity. Solidarity comes from compassion. It is all about caring for others. However, without being in someone else’s shoes, perhaps we would never be able to imagine the hardship, pain and agony of those who were forced to put into unwanted circumstances.

The world leaders are sure to have been doing their part. But let us not forget that it is the power of us ordinary people that can bring about positive change if we come together. The time is now to reiterate the strength of civil society when divisions are so apparent.

In closing, I must confess that all of our projects have been made possible not because of us, but because of the contribution of each of our compassionate supporters and partners who can be in someone else’s shoes.

I thank you for mustering up your courage to lend a helping hand.

Sincerely,

The block contains a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be '菅波 英' (Suganami Hidenori), and a circular blue ink stamp. The stamp contains the text 'Association of Medical Doctors of Asia' around the perimeter and 'AMDA' in the center.

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

AMDA's GPSP Concept



In 2014, AMDA established a concept of global network named, “Global Partnership for Sustainable Peace” (GPSP). The aim of this network is the coexistence of diversity, which is virtually indispensable for world peace. Under this concept, programs have been developed beyond borders with the philosophy of *Open Sogo-Fujo* (mutual assistance), which, AMDA believes, is the universal value of the 21st century. The framework consists of four activity fields, namely, 1) peace building, 2) health development, 3) educational support, and 4) livelihood assistance.

AMDA defines peace as “today’s family life with hope for a better tomorrow.” “Today’s family life” symbolizes a healthy family condition where one has sufficient food to maintain a decent living. The phrase, “hope for a better tomorrow” points to providing education to children. The said four fields of GPSP activities have been set to abate conflict, disaster, and poverty, all of which are considered hindrances to realizing peace.

By involving governments, local public authorities, public interest groups, corporate enterprises, and academia, AMDA hopes to enlighten the world with the concept of *Open Sogo-Fujo* to realize the coexistence of diversity. This is the end goal of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Peace.

GPSP’s three core values

1. **Partnership:** the natural feeling of mutual trust and respect attained through working together to overcome difficulties
2. **Open Sogo-Fujo:** expanding the concept of *Sogo-Fujo* (mutual assistance) into a universal value. It promotes mutual assistance across and beyond one’s own community, regardless of race, religion or culture
3. **Local Initiative:** maintaining the utmost respect for each and every community’s values and culture

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

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1. Peace Building

Emergency Relief

Be it a natural calamity or humanitarian crisis, AMDA prides itself on deploying relief personnel in the most prompt manner. Even at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, it did its utmost in responding to the needs on the ground by tapping into the vast network of aid workers around the globe.

Floods in Henan, China (July)



In response to the floods triggered by torrential rains in Henan Province, China, AMDA and its partners jointly organized emergency relief to support the victims in the nation's inland province.

A series of flooding was caused by excessive rainfall that affected the entire region since 16 July 2021, with some areas receiving up to 400 milliliters of rain in 24 hours (19-20 July). As a result, 56 people were killed and five people were reported missing as of the 23rd.

On the morning of the 21st, a relief effort was coordinated through AMDA's registered doctor who had a connection with Chinese officials. As a result, it was decided that AMDA would send funds through two China-related organizations in Japan that requested assistance in supporting disaster victims in Zhengzhou City.

The donation was sent to the province's overseas aid department through the said two organizations, namely, Henan Chamber of Commerce in Japan and the Henan Association of Japan, to be used for the procurement and distribution of relief supplies on the ground.

Earthquake in Haiti (August)



In response to the earthquake that struck Haiti on the morning of 14 August 2021, AMDA Haiti launched emergency relief on the 17th.

The devastating mag. 7.2 quake which hit the western part of the Central American nation killed 304 people, leaving at least 1,800 people injured. Over 1,000 buildings, including houses, schools and medical facilities, were toppled, media said.

AMDA Headquarters received a call for assistance from AMDA Haiti Chairperson Dr. Mac Keven Frederic immediately after the quake hit. As a result, emergency relief activities were conducted in two phases on the outskirts of Jeremie in the Grand'Anse Department.

◆ Beaumont (19 August):

The team worked in Beaumont, located an hour's drive from Jeremie, which suffered the heaviest damage in the peripheral areas. Many of the buildings were either fully destroyed or damaged, leaving several casualties. The team secured a space in a town square to organize medical relief. As there was no doctor or nurse in the town in the first place, the treatment and medication seemed to have been a lot of help for the residents.



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The team also distributed 150 sets of relief supplies, which consisted of foodstuffs and daily necessities.

◆ Latiboliere (20 August):



On the following day, the team visited the town of Latiboliere in Jeremie City, where a number of buildings were severely affected. Besides conducting medical relief (which saw 93 patients as a whole), the team also donated 150 sets of relief supplies (foodstuffs and daily goods) as the day before. Just as in Beaumont, AMDA Haiti's medical services were well appreciated as there was no doctor present in the town.

◆ Plain Matin/Coreil (26-28 August):



On 26 August, AMDA Haiti's second medical team conducted medical relief and item donation in Plain Matin, a district in which the preceding team dropped by on the way back from the first mission. This time, the second team returned to provide aid as the first team had earlier reported that the town needed much assistance. A local resident said AMDA Haiti was the first aid organization to reach the district.

On the 28th, the team visited the Boukan Noel district in Coreil, one of the severely affected communities, to organize medical relief and supply distribution.

Meanwhile in Japan, prior to joining the aid work in Haiti, AMDA coordinator Ms. Kanako Morita paid a visit to the Embassy of Haiti in Tokyo. She met Haitian ambassador His Excellency Mr. Heph Monod Honorat to seek advice regarding the relief activities. Besides her work with AMDA, Ms. Morita also heads her own organization, World Child House Project, which extends support to three orphanages in Port-au-Prince.



Ms. Morita (left) prior to her departure

Floods in South Sulawesi, Indonesia (October)

In response to the floods that affected Luwu Regency in South Sulawesi, Indonesia, on 3 October 2021, AMDA Indonesia conducted a three-party joint relief effort with the medical department of Universitas Muslim Indonesia (UMI) as well AMSA-UMI, the school's Asian Medical Students' Association chapter.

According to the Indonesian National Board for Disaster Management (BNPB) as of the 6th, four people were killed, 169 people were evacuated, and 3,084 people from 771 households were affected by flash floods and landslides in several areas.

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The joint team conducted relief work on the 6th and 7th in which it distributed medicine, foodstuffs and daily goods, while offering free medical services in two locations in the North Walenrang district. During the medical relief, the team saw 49 patients whose symptoms were mainly skin problems, acute respiratory disorders, diarrhea and hypertension.



On the 8th, the team returned to North Walenrang once again to provide medical assistance in two locations where no help had reached. At one of the sites, the team conducted mobile clinic activities in front of a village mosque. Additionally, the team visited the Bone district in a medical vehicle to deliver aid. As a whole, 133 patients benefited from AMDA's medical relief. On the 9th, after reporting the completion of activities to the deputy regent, the team returned to Makassar, the capital of South Sulawesi.

Tropical Strom “Maring”, Philippines (October)



In response to Maring, a severe tropical storm which appeared in the east of the Philippines on 8 October 2021, AMDA Philippines carried out emergency relief with its local partners.

The tropical storm made landfall on the island of Fuga located to the north of Luzon on the 12th after it moved northwestward with increasing strength. Although it did not stay, and moved off to the northwest, the damage it left was tremendous, causing flooding and mudslides in extensive areas. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) as of the 13th, 6,111 households (21,511 people) were affected.

◆ Luna

Under the slogan "ALL-IN-ONE BAYANIHAN" (Let us unite and help each other), AMDA Philippines carried out emergency relief in the town of Luna, La Union Province, in northern Luzon where 5,000 families had been displaced by the earlier storm.

On 17 October, the AMDA team (seven members including AMDA Philippines vice-chairperson) conducted a joint relief effort with Philippine Army Reserve Command and other organizations in Luna's Santo Domingo Norte district. The team provided free medical consultations and relief supplies.

The number of patients totaled 1,213, with the most common symptoms being musculoskeletal pain, followed by



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hypertension, allergic cough and colds as well as acute gastroenteritis. Medicine was prescribed as needed.

As for the item distribution, foodstuffs including rice, noodles and canned food were given to 350 households.

◆ San Juan



Following the initial emergency relief activities held in Luna, AMDA Philippines provided post-disaster assistance in San Juan with other aid organizations.

In addition to free medical consultation and prescription services, AMDA Philippines provided relief items such as bread, biscuits, children's school supplies and toys. While serving hot meals, a dance competition was also organized for this occasion. As a whole, 608 people from 110 households benefitted from this post-disaster

assistance. 39 volunteers (including doctors, nurses and medical students) took part in running the activities.

Coupled with lockdown measures and other restrictions due to COVID-19, the extent of the typhoon put an extra burden on people's livelihoods. However, many started rebuilding their houses and gradually began regaining their normal lives thanks to the support from their relatives and the municipal government.

Floods in Malaysia (December)

AMDA rendered assistance to relief activities organized by MERCY Malaysia, a leading Malaysian NGO, in response to the flooding that struck the central part of the Malay Peninsula in December 2021. According to media reports, incessant rainfall, which continued from 17 December and onward, affected eight Malaysian states, causing extensive flooding. As of the 25th, 46 people were killed and five people were missing.

When the disaster occurred, AMDA had been in touch with MERCY Malaysia which had worked with AMDA on a number of occasions. As there were evident needs for disaster relief, AMDA decided to back up MERCY Malaysia's aid work.

AMDA's relationship with the NGO goes back to the 2011 East Japan Great Earthquake and Tsunami in which the organization supported AMDA's relief work. Ever since, both organizations have kept collaborating on humanitarian efforts. In the most recent case, AMDA assisted MERCY Malaysia's COVID-19 vaccination campaign in the remote areas of Sabah, Malaysia.

Super Typhoon "Odette" (Rai), Philippines (December)

In response to the super typhoon "Odette" (Rai) which struck the Philippines on the afternoon of 16 December 2021, AMDA supported emergency relief coordinated and conducted by AMDA Philippines, local partners and other affiliated organizations.

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A massive tropical storm made landfall on the island of Siargao in the central part of the nation on 17 December 2021, affecting Bohol and Cebu in succession.

That day, after discussing matters with AMDA Philippines and Undersecretary Dr. Gloria Jumamil-Mercado of the Office of the President of the Philippines, it was decided that AMDA would launch local-driven emergency relief in hard-hit Bohol. (Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, AMDA Headquarters decided to forego the dispatch of relief personnel from Japan.)



According to the figures released on 21 February 2022 by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), it was confirmed that 405 people died, 1,371 people were injured, 1,371 went missing, and over 2.99 million households (10.61 million people) had been affected.

◆ Bohol

AMDA, the Philippine Navy, Mr. Leoncio Evasco Jr. (Secretary at the Office of the President), and WiNDS jointly carried out food distribution assistance. 20 bags of rice (five kilos each) and tinned food were delivered to the town mayors of Maribojoc and Loboc on the 23rd and 24th of December 2021 respectively. 1,000 families received the aid in total.



At the same time, relief activities in the city of Ubay were put on hold until procurement of relief goods and recovery of road conditions were completed. On the 27th, members of the Philippine Navy Reserve and local volunteers began packing relief items for the planned distribution. On the 29th, the team delivered the goods to 500 households in the city's coastal areas. The relief items were 20 bags of rice (five kilos per bag) and 1,000 cans of tinned food.

◆ Siargao

After receiving a request for assistance from Municipal Vice Mayor Coro of Del Carmen in Siargao, AMDA Philippines started preparing for aid work in two locations, namely, San Fernando and Domoyog, where no help had reached. On the morning of 24 December, AMDA Philippines' medical relief team departed Manila, and entered San Fernando by boat that afternoon. Upon arrival, the team started sorting out relief supplies with local medical workers.

On the early morning of the 25th, the team began providing aid in San Fernando. The activities included free medical consultation and prescription services (attended by two doctors), relief item distribution (mainly foodstuffs and sanitary goods) as well as mental health care for the affected children.



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Especially for small children and teenagers, various activities such as story telling, picture coloring contest, and dance competition were organized. In addition, while men's basketball games were held, a cheerleading contest was organized by women in allowing everyone to celebrate Christmas together.

After that, the team moved to Domoyog and conducted similar activities (including a game competition for children).

The team was forced to extend their stay until the 28th as their original flight was canceled on the 26th due to bad weather conditions. Accordingly, the team visited the local Tuburan and Quezon districts to provide free medical consultations and mental health care for children instead. On the 27th and 28th, the team also supported local clinics to conduct COVID-19 vaccination. The team returned to Manila on the 28th safely.

◆ Southern Leyte

Other than the above, additional assistance was provided in response to the request made by the former governor of Southern Leyte on 23 December 2021, where around 100,000 households were affected. On 16 January 2022, relief supplies such as water, rice, canned food, hygiene products and blue sheets left Manila with the cooperation of the Philippine Navy. The goods were prepared by several local partner organizations.



On 29 January 2022, relief efforts were carried out in three towns in the locality, to mainly support children who are often prone to long-term emotional and psychological trauma. As is the case, aid workers organized magic shows and other recreational activities alongside item distribution efforts. In total, 1,250 participants, including 58 children and 168 elderly people benefitted from the relief in three locations. On 13 March, the second round of relief

was held in two towns in the province. More than 700 children were present, receiving toys and stationery sets, while getting meals and snacks.

Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine (February 2022)

In response to the humanitarian crisis that occurred in Ukraine in late February 2022, AMDA started carrying out emergency relief in Hungary for Ukrainian evacuees that had fled the war zones. As of 31 March, it was reported around 4.04 million people had evacuated to neighbouring countries for their safety.

To begin with, on 7 March, AMDA sent one doctor and one medical student (Semmelweis University) for a needs assessment in Hungary where 370,000



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Ukrainians were taking refuge. After two days, a joint team of medical personnel (one doctor, one nurse and two coordinators) from AMDA and its partner organization, TICO, left Japan to join the preceding team. The party relocated themselves to areas on the border with Ukraine to conduct aid work with local medical workers. On the 19th, two doctors and one nurse were additionally sent to Hungary from Japan as the third batch of relief personnel.

◆ Beregsurany

AMDA's relief team worked at a help center for evacuees in Beregsurany, a village located on the Hungarian border with Ukraine. At its makeshift clinic, the team worked around the clock to cater to medical needs, seeing around 15 to 20 patients per day. The staff also did their rounds within the facility to see if anyone needed assistance. Likewise, they took care of the facility volunteers in the same manner as fatigue had been taking its toll on them because of their strenuous work. It is also worth mentioning that the team was offering foot-spa treatment and massage services to anyone that needed them.



The AMDA-TICO relief team started providing assistance in Zahony, another border town where medical services were offered to the evacuees at a local train station. The activities were realized in response to Zahony mayor's request. The medical activities were carried out for three hours from 5PM daily in accordance with the schedule of the trains arriving from Ukraine. One doctor, two nurses and one coordinator from the team, as well as one Ukrainian doctor from its local counterpart, offered free medical consultation services. To secure precise prescription, medicines were labeled in multiple languages (Hungarian, English and Japanese) to make them recognizable for the multi-national relief team. They were placed on the shelf provided by the said mayor himself.

◆ Assistance within Ukrainian territories

After being informed by AMDA's local counterpart, Kárpátalja Ház, based in the border town of Kisvarda, AMDA decided to donate medicine to medical facilities within Ukrainian territories where goods were in short supply. As Japanese nationals were not permitted to enter Ukraine at the time, the partner organization handled logistics on AMDA's behalf. Also, a portable electrocardiogram machine was donated to an affiliated Ukrainian doctor for further use in Ukraine.



Moreover, after learning that more people were seeking shelter at physical rehabilitation facilities in Ukraine, AMDA, in collaboration with TICO, donated home appliances such as refrigerators and microwaves. Also, through Várda Hagyományörző, Kulturális Egyesület (a Kárpátalja Ház affiliate), foodstuffs were distributed to those who were unable to obtain food items due to logistical and financial problems. The organization also signed a partnership agreement with AMDA later on.

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◆ List of AMDA Emergency Relief (April 2021 - March 2022)

Month	Project	Country
July	Floods in Henan	China
August	Earthquake in Haiti	Haiti
October	Floods in South Sulawesi	Indonesia
October	Tropical Storm “Maring”	Philippines
December	Floods in Malaysia	Malaysia
December	Super Typhoon “Odette” (Rai)	Philippines
February (2022)	Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine	Hungary

COVID-19 Response

Japan



Since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, AMDA has sent medical personnel to the southern-island prefecture of Okinawa several times, supporting local nursing facilities and a publicly-run call center that provided COVID-related hotline services.

In Japan, AMDA Headquarters has carried out an array of COVID-19 response nationwide from the country's northernmost Hokkaido Prefecture to Okinawa, providing aid workers and relief supplies since early 2020.

Nepal

After the first COVID-19 case was identified in Nepal in January 2020, the nation had seen a total of 621,056 infected cases and 8,726 deaths by 20 June 2021, its health ministry reported. To contain the viral infection, the government repeatedly imposed lockdown measures nationwide.

When the second wave of the outbreak hit Nepal in late April 2021, both public and private hospitals had to prioritize the coronavirus response. However, due to the lack of beds and oxygen devices, lives were lost one after the other. As the country's medical system was pushed to the brink of collapse, the health ministry requested AMDA Nepal to mobilize all of its hospitals and staff to concentrate on treating coronavirus patients. Accordingly, AMDA Headquarters in Japan was asked to support AMDA Nepal in early May 2021.



Of all AMDA Nepal hospitals, AMDA Damak Hospital and Siddhartha Women and Children Hospital immediately prepared themselves to accept severely-ill COVID patients. AMDA Headquarters' backing enabled them to purchase medical supplies needed to run intensive care units. At the same time, AMDA Nepal also provided masks, disinfectant sprays, pulse oximeters and medical thermometers to its staff members who were under self-isolation due to mild, symptomatic COVID-19 infections.

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Bhutan



AMDA was urgently requested by the Government of Bhutan to donate relief supplies in accordance with the surging coronavirus cases which forced the nation's stock of PPE to get scarce. On 30 July 2021, AMDA sent 1,500 pairs of medical gowns and 220 pairs of isolation gowns to designated destinations through arrangements made by the Bhutanese embassy in Japan. The nation, despite a number of contingency measures, had been seeing the soaring number of infected cases in June 2021, which had risen to 2,380 by mid-July that year (according to WHO). At the time, its neighbouring countries such as India and China were experiencing the same. The first infected case in Bhutan was identified in March 2020. The nation, with a total population of 750,000, remained vigilant by

implementing various precautionary measures, which included the active inoculation of its citizens since the beginning of 2021. Later on, AMDA received a letter of appreciation from Professor Pema Gyalpo, Special Representative of the Kingdom of Bhutan in Japan.

Malaysia

Between October and November 2021, AMDA rendered financial support to Malaysia's leading humanitarian NGO, MERCY Malaysia, in carrying out a COVID-19 inoculation drive in the country's remote region of Sabah on the Borneo island. Sabah Province is said to be relatively poor compared to other municipalities. Its limited means of transportation are hampering the residents in far-flung farming villages to access medical facilities in cities, let alone their chance of getting vaccinated.



MERCY Malaysia supported local health authorities in getting their inoculation campaign across, by sending a team of aid workers (one nurse and five volunteers) to the Nabawan district for around one month. The team inoculated local residents with 367 doses of vaccine shots in 20 locations. After meeting the initial goal of vaccinating 80% of the local population, the project came to completion on 2 November.

Cambodia



With a number of initiatives having been taken at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the year 2021 saw more activities focusing on the outskirts of Phnom Penn in accordance with the spread of vaccination campaigns outside the capital. In the previous year, AMDA Cambodia helped supply PPE and other precautionary items to Chenla

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University and organized a COVID-themed conference with nursing students and medical experts in attendance.

This year, the chapter distributed necessary supplies to vaccination teams, such as a team comprising the military and volunteers, as well as a volunteer medical team established by His Excellency Hun Many, a son of Prime Minister Hun Sen. Basically keeping this line of activities, AMDA Cambodia's pinnacle effort was its support to Punleu They COVID-19 Treatment Center in Kampong Speu Province. AMDA Cambodia donated PPE, oxygen masks, disinfectant sprays and other necessities to the facility being run by Dr. Long Viseth, who took part in AMDA's multi-national medical missions in Indonesia in 2005 and 2006.

Post-disaster Reconstruction Assistance

Supporting post-quake Haiti

Although the so-called emergency phase was over, the scars of devastation were visible in the regions heavily destroyed by the August quake. In Beaumont, while medical relief was taking place, AMDA Haiti chairperson Dr. Frederic started discussing post-disaster reconstruction assistance with the city mayor, with mid-to-long-term project duration in sight.



Due to Haiti's social instability in recent years, it is not easy to launch a long-term project, especially when it involves a third party, which often requires a certain amount of preparation. However, together with AMDA Haiti, AMDA Headquarters is constantly seeking feasible forms of assistance to help disaster victims who are often forced to bear the lasting effects of natural calamities.

◆ Street fundraising in Japan

AMDA's activities cannot be made possible without the generosity of kind-hearted supporters. The photos show a glimpse of street fundraising for the Haiti quake relief.



2020 Hurricanes Eta/Iota in Honduras

In response to two hurricanes, Eta and Iota, which wreaked havoc across Honduras in early November 2020, AMDA (Japan) and AMDA Honduras launched joint emergency relief activities to help the afflicted. The authorities said Eta alone affected more than 1.64 million people, of which around 10,000 people were forced to flee their homes due to mudslides and flooding that devastated the nation (as of 6 November 2020). With successive Iota combined, the affected population topped 4.66 million as a whole (cumulative total).



The request for assistance was made directly by H.E. Mr. Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, the Ambassador of the Republic of Honduras to Japan, upon his visit to AMDA-MINDS in

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Okayama. (AMDA-MINDS is AMDA's affiliated organization in liaison with AMDA Honduras.) The emergency relief activities took place in two locations, namely, Tegucigalpa (the capital) and Teupasenti (El Paraiso), both of which were heavily affected by the calamity.

After the emergency phase was over, AMDA shifted its focus on an array of disaster rehabilitation assistance.

◆ Repairing a school roof



AMDA helped repair a damaged roof of a local school in Teupasenti, El Paraiso. The school had trouble securing a proper studying environment after hurricanes destroyed the roof. Because of this, the classrooms often got flooded whenever there were downpours. After AMDA discussed the matter with the district health committee, a local health center and carpenters, the repair work began in late March 2021. The roof repair finished after three months. Although students could only come to school under limited

circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the teachers were thankful that their 40 students could study without having to worry about the rain.

◆ Rebuilding agriculture

As a post-disaster reconstruction effort, AMDA and AMDA Honduras jointly provided agricultural technical assistance to the Agua Caliente village in the city of Texigua, El Paraiso, which was devastated by the hurricanes. The program was aimed at allowing local farmers to learn how to grow disaster-resilient crops.

The project was attended by 65 farming families. Under the guidance of agricultural experts, they succeeded at making beans, potatoes and other vegetables, all of which resulted in an abundant harvest.

"I would like to thank AMDA and GGUIA (Grupo Güinopeño Ambientalista: AMDA's local partner organization) for the support and knowledge they have brought to us. We used to do slash-and-burn farming combined with the use of chemical fertilizers, but little did we know that it was killing the soil. After we learned how to make good use of the ecosystem and nature, we stopped using artificial fertilizers. Ever since, the crops seem to be surprisingly healthier," one of the farmers said.



"After consuming what we planted for ourselves, we were able to share the produce with our friends. We even sold the surplus for our income. Amid the crises caused by the hurricanes and COVID-19, being able to grow crops at home and harvest them for ourselves means a lot for the whole family. It is indeed a blessing. I honestly wish AMDA to continue the project in the long run, so that we can keep learning new techniques."

The project was completed at the end of August 2021.

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The Great East Japan Earthquake (2011~)

Over the past decade, AMDA has supported the disaster-hit communities of northern Japan, Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures in particular, which were devastated by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. The



deadliest tremors of an unprecedented scale (mag.9.0) coupled with a horrendous tsunami killed 15,800 people in the region, leaving more than 2,500 people missing. AMDA was quick to respond to the catastrophe by sending a relief team to Sendai in Miyagi Prefecture a day after the quake struck. The emergency phase of the relief activities lasted close to two months (in which 149 aid workers were dispatched in total), followed by the secondary phase with a focus on disaster reconstruction. Ever since, AMDA has worked with local partners in providing assistance to every nook and corner of the communities where people have different needs for support.

1. AMDA Health Support Center in Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture



The town of Otsuchi in Iwate Prefecture has been facing a gradual population decline in which the number has dwindled to around 11,400 in 2021 from what used to be 15,000 before the quake hit in 2011. Still, AMDA Health Support Center in the town has been continuously serving the local community for the last 10 years by providing acupuncture therapy and health-related guidance to its users. The center also holds handicraft and cooking workshops from time to time. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the center has held online exchange events with CO-OP Okayama, its biggest supporter, to give an update on its activities. The events provided donors the opportunities to learn about the long-term effects of the 2011 disaster.

2. “Gourmet F-1”- A foodie event for regional revitalization

Gourmet F-1, a foodie event that features local food produce, was originally started with the aim of revitalizing a local shopping street in Kesennuma, an island city in Miyagi Prefecture that was heavily affected by the 2011 quake and tsunami. Although it has been temporarily suspended since 2020 due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, the event organizer held a memorial gathering to mourn the victims of the 2011 disaster in March 2021. In an effort to remind the participants how vital it is to stock food items for emergencies, the organizer gave out a set of emergency food packets to be kept at home.



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For the last one and half years, the shopping street has also been providing free food supplies to those who have been facing financial difficulties stemming from the pandemic. A long-line of people queuing up to get the food revealed there would still be tough times ahead.

3. Support for the homeless in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture



AMDA has been supporting the Sendai Yomawari Group, a local NGO based in the city of Sendai in Miyagi Prefecture that offers meals to homeless people. Most of them are those who have been forced to live on the streets after the 2011 earthquake disaster. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic since 2020, the number has increased due to job losses. The NGO has been periodically extending a helping hand in the city's four locations, providing packed meals and new underwear while offering mobile shower services.

Furthermore, it supports the users to become self-reliant by helping them to apply for social welfare benefits, which include public housing, vocational training and employment-related assistance.

Noteworthy Events

Presenting freshly harvested rice to embassies and consulates in Japan



As a token of appreciation, AMDA has been presenting freshly harvested rice to embassies, consulates and other relevant bodies that worked with AMDA in one way or another at the end of each year. The rice was grown organically and harvested in the northern village of Shinjo in Okayama, Japan, at which AMDA has run an agricultural program since 2012. Until the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, it had usually been the case that AMDA staff members would visit the embassies and present the rice in

person. However, the pandemic forced them to suspend the direct visit. Thus, the rice was sent by post along with yearly activity reports, and letters from AMDA chapter chairpersons. (The photograph was taken at the time when Mr. Voltaire Mauricio, Consul General of the Philippines, paid a visit to AMDA Headquarters with Mrs. Mauricio in November 2021. It was a rare occasion in the past two years to present the rice vis-à-vis.)

AMDA to coordinate the dispatch of an expert as a WHO GOARN focal point

Serving as a GOARN focal point, AMDA coordinated Dr. Hideharu Hagiya's dispatch to Papua New Guinea for the work related to WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) in December 2021.

Dr. Hagiya is an infection prevention and control (IPC) expert at Okayama University Hospital in Okayama, Japan. He applied for a position offered by the said

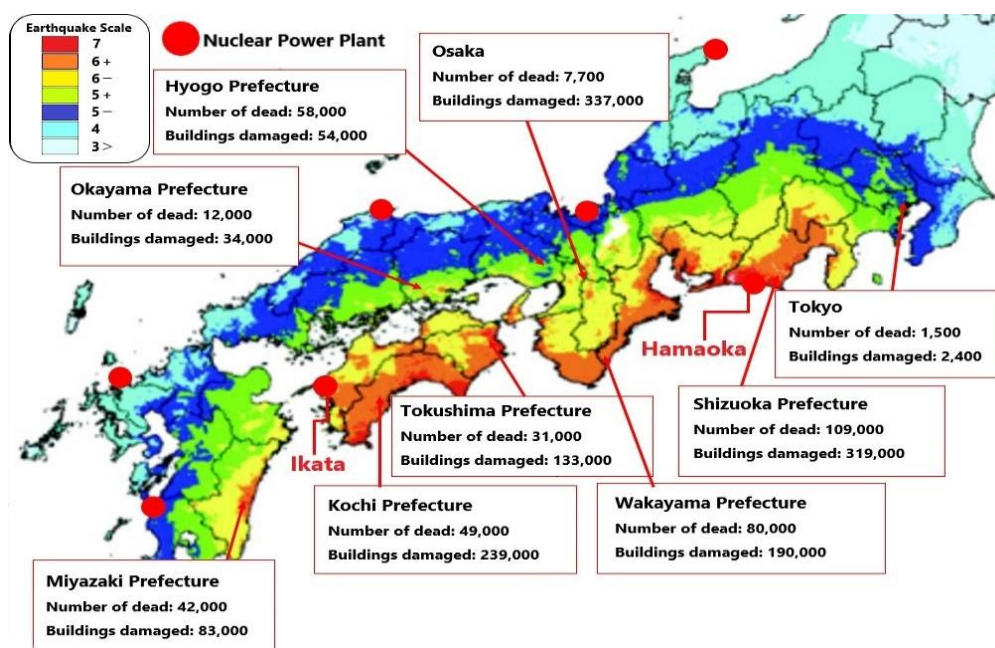


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office concerning COVID-19-related management in Papua New Guinea.

GOARN, which stands for Global Outbreak Alert Response Network, is a WHO network of over 250 technical institutions that responds to acute public health events with the deployment of staff and resources to affected countries. Having been a GOARN partner for over a decade, AMDA has closely worked with the network by participating in its technical meetings or by inviting its experts to AMDA's workshops.

Disaster Response Platform



What is the Great Nankai Trough Crisis?

The Japanese government predicts that an earthquake of an 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 extensive coastline along the Pacific Ocean from Shizuoka to Miyazaki Prefectures (throughout central to west Japan). The death toll is estimated to top 300,000 with 2 million buildings being destroyed. AMDA established a comprehensive counter-disaster scheme, “AMDA Platform for the Nankai Trough Earthquake Disaster Strategy” to prepare for this foreseen crisis. With the ultimate aim of being fully prepared for this calamity, the platform enables local governments, medical institutions, private corporations and NGOs to collaborate in a swift manner upon the occurrence of the disaster.

AMDA Platform for the Nankai Trough Earthquake Disaster Strategy

AMDA is focusing on the Shikoku region (Kochi and Tokushima in particular) given that, 1) access to these areas will be difficult once the disaster strikes, and 2) emergency assistance is expected to concentrate in major cities such as Osaka and Nagoya. By enhancing interactions between aid organizations, local governments and medical institutions, AMDA Platform for Nankai Trough Earthquake Disaster Strategy enables timely and coherent disaster response in remote areas.

2. Health Development

Primary Health

AMDA Peace Clinic in Bodhgaya, India



Established in 2009, AMDA Peace Clinic (APC) in Bodhgaya, Bihar, has contributed to the health development of local communities. The clinic has especially been focusing on maternal and infant health care since 2014.

In accordance with the resurgence of COVID-19 in India in 2021, APC was forced to close temporarily from late April to early July. For this reason, APC suspended its food distribution drives that required face-to-face interaction.

All this while, APC did what it could to continue offering maternal health care services to pregnant women in the locality. Instead of its regular in-person consultations, APC's local staff responded to their inquiries by phone, and recommended them to seek treatment at nearby clinics as needed.

In July, APC resumed its monthly food distribution and twice-monthly maternal health check-ups. In particular, the food assistance was much expected as many women and their families were facing financial difficulties. Usually the food package included items such as potatoes, dal beans, chickpeas, salt, and cooking oil, all of which were essential for Indian home cooking. Additionally, five kilos of wheat was given to households that were not entitled to the support by the government.

From food distribution to clothing donation, the assistance AMDA has provided to Bodhgaya's local community during the pandemic has been a comprehensive one. The helping hand was extended to the students of a school run by Ecoles De La Terre as well. Ecoles De La Terre is an AMDA counterpart that supports children from impoverished communities in pursuing education. For this assistance, AMDA's affiliated organization, Japan India Friendship Medical Center Trust (JIFMC), donated textbooks and stationery to let the students continue learning amid the financial difficulties each household had faced.



2. Health Development

Throughout the year 2021, a cumulative total of 683 women received the maternal health care services, and around 1,000 families received the food aid.

■Participating organizations: AMDA Headquarters, AMDA Peace Clinic, Japan India Friendship Medical Center Trust (JIFMC)

School health initiative in Rwanda



Since 2016, AMDA has been sending a group of Japanese doctors to Rwanda to pass on their expertise in pediatrics and transfer Japan's school medical-checkup system. (The project was part of the Okayama Prefectural Government's International Contribution Project for Local-to-Local Technical Transfer initiative.) Up until now, doctors have been dispatched to Kigali, and to the nation's western regions. At Umuco Mwiza School, Japanese doctors have conducted medical check-ups on students, and discussed with local medical practitioners, teachers, as well as children and their parents how pediatrics can be improved nationwide. A Fukushima-based NGO, Think About Education in Rwanda, has been partnering with AMDA on the project.

The aforementioned school was temporarily forced to close during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the staff worked hard to put precautionary measures in place against the infection, and planned to provide mental care for children prior to the resumption of normal schooling.

For this reason, AMDA commissioned the said Fukushima NGO to hire one school nurse locally to take charge of relevant work. This ranged from health monitoring of students and teachers, health check-ups, referral of patients to hospitals, to nutrition improvement efforts for children under the age of five in local villages. The nurse also made sure to keep close contact with students' families and local medical authorities. One of the school teachers expressed her gratitude for the nurse's work as there were quite a lot of children who already had different types of health problems: "Having a school nurse allows us to respond to emergency cases promptly as kids often get a high fever or simply fall ill."

■Participating organizations: AMDA Headquarters, Think About Education in Rwanda, Okayama University, Nagasaki University

Food donation to the entire AMDA Nepal team

AMDA Headquarters and Japan's AMDA Hyogo chapter supplied food items to AMDA Nepal's medical workers and staff members in September 2021. The donation was made in acknowledgment of their hard work when the country's medical system was pushed to the brink of collapse due to the recurring coronavirus pandemic in April. It was then that the Nepalese health ministry requested AMDA Nepal to mobilize



2. Health Development

all of its hospitals and staff to concentrate on COVID-19 response.

The foodstuffs were presented in time for the Dashain celebration, one of Nepal's major Hinduist festivals in October. A total of 516 staff each received 3,000 JPY worth of aid packages containing rice, beans, cooking oil, salt, sugar, and other items.

■ Participating organizations: AMDA Headquarters, AMDA Hyogo

AMDA Haiti's free dental services

On 12 February 2022, AMDA Haiti offered free dental services in Fond Des Negres located in central Haiti. The yearly program, which began in 2010, has been a collaborative effort between AMDA Haiti and Bethel Clinic, a local hospital run by the Salvation Army. With financial support from AMDA Headquarters, the project has been serving the local community for over a decade.

That day, a team of four staff headed by AMDA Haiti chapter chairperson Dr. Mac Keven Frederic (dentist) saw 56 patients in total. The number was more than that of last year in which 46 people came to receive treatment for dental carries, tooth extraction and dental cleaning amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, it is fair to say that there is a constant need for dental care services in the region where both dental and medical specialists are generally scarce.



■ Participating organizations: AMDA Haiti, Bethel Clinic (Salvation Army), AMDA Headquarters

Projects Expected to Resume after COVID-19

AMDA Cambodia's health initiatives for the youths



Over the years, AMDA Cambodia has organized a number of health-related projects for the country's young people. They include workshops on reproductive health, forums on HIV/AIDS and STDs, as well as youth sports programs to help distance youngsters from falling victim to drugs, violence and criminal activities. The projects were often held in cooperation with local health authorities and medical schools, however, all of the activities were suspended in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For now, AMDA Cambodia has shifted gears into providing support to medical facilities tackling the coronavirus pandemic. (See "COVID-19 Response" for details.)

■ Participating organizations: AMDA Cambodia, Yamaichi Kanko (Japan), AMDA Headquarters, Chenla University et al.

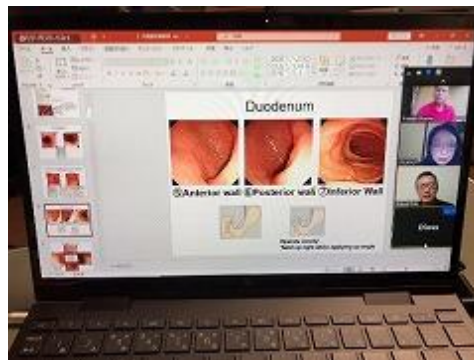
2. Health Development

Endoscopy training in Nepal

AMDA's technical transfer program on endoscopy in Nepal dates back to 2016 when an endoscopist from AMDA Damak Hospital received three-month training at Okayama Saiseikai General Hospital in Japan. It was held as part of Okayama Prefectural Government's International Contribution Project for Local-to-Local Technical Transfer initiative. This has led to frequent exchanges between Japan and Nepal.



Dr. Sato (left) giving guidance



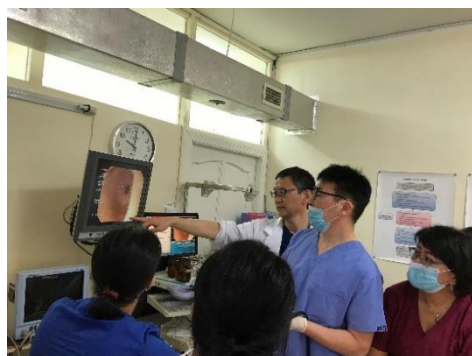
Online meeting and lecture (2021)

In 2018 and 2019, AMDA's endoscopy expert Dr. Takushi Sato was sent to AMDA Damak Hospital to provide technical guidance on upper gastrointestinal endoscopy and diagnosis of lesions. Although workshop plans for 2020 and 2021 were put off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an online lecture-meeting was held with concerned parties on 14 February 2021.

■ Participating organizations: AMDA Nepal, AMDA Headquarters

Medical technology transfer to Mongolia

Since 2016, AMDA has annually organized, 1) endoscopy technology transfer to the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences (MNUMS), and 2) training in the realm of emergency medicine at Ulaanbaatar Emergency Service 103. The programs have been postponed until the coronavirus pandemic is contained, however, the relationship and collaboration between AMDA and Mongolia have been gaining traction each year, so much so that the early resumption of the projects have already been discussed between both parties.



Endoscopy guidance (MNUMS, 2019)



ER training in Ulaanbaatar (2019)

■ Participating organizations: AMDA Headquarters, AMDA Mongolia, MNUMS, Mongolian Ministry of Health, Ulaanbaatar Emergency Service 103

2. Health Development

AMDA GPSP Hospitals

Japan Afghanistan Friendship Hospital (Afghanistan)



Headed by its chairperson and six other board members, AMDA Afghanistan has been running Japan Afghanistan Friendship Hospital in Kabul since 2011. The facility has contributed to providing quality medical services to the impoverished communities in the locality, while sending its doctors to Japan for professional training.

Japan Bangladesh Friendship Hospital (Bangladesh)

Located in central Dhaka, Japan Bangladesh Friendship Hospital (JBFH) is currently one of the leading hospitals in Bangladesh with a capacity of 100 beds. With AMDA president Dr. Suganami's support, JBFH was founded in 1993 by laparoscopic surgeon Dr. Sarder A. Nayeem (who later established AMDA Bangladesh) and pain specialist Dr. Jonaid Shafiq. Ever since, the hospital has been catering to a wide range of medical needs.



Japan Mongolia Friendship Hospital (Mongolia)

Established in August 2012, Japan Mongolia Friendship Hospital (JMFH) is the latest addition to the list of AMDA hospitals around the globe. While general medicine makes up 90% of medical needs at JMFH, it also runs a children's nursery in the same building. In the near future, the hospital is expected to function as a medical hub for local residents where, for instance, pregnant mothers can drop in for prenatal health check-ups or for children's vaccinations. There is also a plan to have young doctors from the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences (MNUMS) stationed at the hospital for their practical training.



AMDA Damak Hospital (Nepal)



AMDA Damak Hospital is a 75-bedded general hospital established in 1992 with the help of AMDA International and the Damak Municipality. In 1995, it became an implementing partner of UNHCR, and has served as a primary referral hospital for both local people and Bhutanese refugees in Nepal. AMDA Damak Hospital is now a popular hospital in the country's eastern region. The hospital provides services pertaining to anaesthesiology, general medicine, surgery, obstetrics/gynaecology, radiology, paediatrics, ENT, dentistry, orthopaedics and others. It also accepts medical students from different countries to offer learning opportunities.

2. Health Development

Siddhartha Children and Women's Hospital (Nepal)

Siddhartha Children and Women's Hospital is a 100-bedded specialty hospital for women and children. It is closely located to Lumbini, the birth place of Lord Buddha. (The name "Siddhartha" is his childhood name.) AMDA Nepal set up this hospital after signing a partnership agreement with the Lumbini Municipal Government and the local chamber of commerce. The hospital also offers non-profit-based health care services. The main hospital building was constructed with Japan's financial assistance.



AMDA Mechi Hospital (Nepal)

Located in southeast Nepal, AMDA Mechi Hospital was built on a property donated by a noble family that wished for better medical infrastructure in the region. The Embassy of Japan in Nepal and a few other donors also provided support. Now, AMDA Nepal is running the facility as a general hospital with a 15-bed capacity. The hospital is currently offering academic training for medical practitioners as well.



*“AMDA hospitals
are always
committed to
providing quality
medical services
to local
communities.”*



3. Educational Support

Educational Support

AMDA Middle and High School Students Club



Founded in 1995 at AMDA Headquarters in Japan, AMDA Middle and High School Students Club is a student group that carries out a range of activities which include street fundraising and peace building programs both at home and abroad. The group holds a monthly meeting to discuss topics such as international cooperation and disaster prevention. Its members consist of secondary school students from Okayama and its neighbouring areas.

For 2021, the club had to withhold itself from actively organizing in-person events and activities due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. However, all 39 members tried to maintain the monthly meeting online, making their time worthwhile by discussing further plans or reflecting on their past experiences. Here are some of the major activities in which they engaged themselves in 2021:

1. Annual exchange meeting with students in Kochi, Japan



Since 2017, the club has held an annual exchange meeting with junior high school and high school students from Kuroshio Town in Kochi, Japan. Just as the year before, the meeting had to be held online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. For this year, the club invited a guest speaker from Miyagi Prefecture to hear his experience as a survivor of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan in 2011. On the other hand, students from three local secondary schools in Kuroshio gave presentations on disaster prevention and other relevant topics. While some students expressed their concerns over fading stories of disaster experiences, some said they were more than willing to make use of them for a better emergency response.

3. Educational Support

2. Donating stationery to Guinea-Bissau



In January 2022, Soja City Government in Japan's Okayama Prefecture sent a batch of stationery to Guinea-Bissau. The aid was aimed at supporting children in the West African nation who would often find it difficult to obtain school materials. For this donation drive, AMDA Middle and High School Students Club supported Soja City in collecting unused items through street campaigns and other activities.

What prompted this donation drive goes back to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in which Soja City acted as a "host town" to accept Ms. Taciana Lima Cezar, a judo athlete from Guinea-Bissau. In September 2021, AMDA's student club members immediately started acting in response to Ms. Cezar's call, which stated that children in her country were in short supply of school items.

After the donation campaign was over, Soja city mayor Mr. Soichi Kataoka credited and thanked the students for their hard work.

3. Online exchange event with Bangladeshi students



In February 2022, an online exchange event was held between AMDA Middle and High School Club and students from Bangladesh for the second time, following the previous gathering that took place a year earlier. The event was held to make up for the suspended field trip to Bangladesh by the Japanese students which was initially planned before the COVID-19 pandemic struck.

Because the annual exchange has set "peace-building" as its pillar concept, participants from both sides shed light on social issues such as gender equality, eradication of poverty and disaster prevention through presentations and discussions. The event succeeded in inspiring students from both countries by allowing them to work on shared objectives irrespective of language, cultural and social differences. The students also introduced their own countries by showing traditional paper-craft, singing songs, and giving a talk on cultural-heritage sites.

Kodomo Shokudo Support Platform

Literally translated as "children's cafeteria", kodomo shokudo is a voluntary-run canteen that offers nutritional meals at a reasonable cost for economically-challenged children in Japan. While similar facilities have been set up around the nation to tackle poverty, AMDA has been donating funds and foodstuffs to a few canteens in the suburbs of Okayama, Japan, since December 2017, under the name of AMDA Kodomo Shokudo Support Platform.

3. Educational Support

For the last couple of years, the canteens have been forced to steer themselves through difficult circumstances inflicted by the coronavirus pandemic. However, thanks to the keen support of the donors who are willing to contribute to a good cause, the AMDA platform has managed to supply food items to several facilities in the locality, keeping the whole effort sustainable.



2021 WWL Well-being Forum – Establishing a school consortium for the promotion of well-being in Okayama, Japan



In February 2022, AMDA board member Dr. Takushi Sato gave a talk on the concept of well-being at the 2021 WWL Well-being Forum, a conference mainly organized by the Okayama Board of Education in

Okayama, Japan.

What prompted this forum was the education board's intention to implement a student program for fostering global talents. To kick-start the actual initiative, the forum was convened to establish a school consortium comprising nine local secondary schools and one school overseas. Dr. Sato was invited to the event as a guest speaker to share his experience on the given topic. He emphasized the importance of imagination and contemplation at every moment in life, both of which are essential in making life's important decisions.



Likewise, in the follow-up online session which took place in the following month, AMDA president Dr. Shigeru Suganami delivered a talk on what it means to work on the global stage. After explicating what he gained through his decades of work in the humanitarian sector at home and abroad, he stressed that “when turning knowledge into wisdom, it requires a lot of hands-on experience.”

3. Educational Support

Online seminar on disaster preparedness for students in Nepal



Targeting both school children and adults in Nepal, AMDA staff Dr. Archana Shrestha Joshi was asked to hold an online seminar on disaster preparedness, taking into account the 2015 earthquake that devastated Nepal.

In 2015, the country suffered tremendous damage from the horrendous quake. Because of this, many school facilities were either completely or partially destroyed. Reflecting on the lack of awareness of disaster

preparedness, Nepal's academic institutions strongly recognized the need for disaster prevention education. This led the schools to launch evacuation drills.

Although COVID-19 had put many school activities to a halt, Ms. Sujeeta, principal of the Adrasha Vidya Mandir school, was always aware of the fact that natural calamities could happen at any time. Her passion moved Dr. Joshi to conduct an online seminar after receiving Ms. Sujeeta's fervent request.

The seminar, which garnered 220 people in total, was well received as the tips on disaster preparedness Dr. Joshi shared were on-point and concrete. They came from her real-life experience during the 2015 quake where she herself served as a disaster relief coordinator on the frontline.



Students in Bodhgaya, India, to receive AMDA Awards

On 25 December 2021, 10 graduates of Jeanamitabh Free Boarding School in Bihar, India, received AMDA Awards for their outstanding academic achievements. After they graduated from the school, the students went on to pursue higher education in the locality.

The 10 students were chosen through a screening process in which the award commission comprising five members (mainly the school officials) assessed prospective candidates.



In addition to receiving a trophy, each awardee was also given a 500-rupee bursary, which could be used to cover the expenses for buying stationery and reference books, as well as for other academic purposes.

Mr. Anand Vikram, general secretary of the school, said: "Much like last year, we chose 10 students who could become role models for the younger generation of students. All of the awardees attended classes so well and excelled academically. I am in no doubt that this has

3. Educational Support



been so much encouragement for them as they seemed very happy about what they have accomplished. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many families have been struggling to make ends meet. I do hope every award recipient can pursue one's dream by continuing to work hard."

In the letters of appreciation they sent to AMDA Headquarters, each of the award winners said how much the bursary had helped them in their daily schooling. Expressing their gratitude, they vowed to work harder to achieve their goals.

Students usually study at the Jeanamitabh school until they finish 10th grade, and go on to pursue higher education elsewhere under the school's support. As of now, the award recipients have been furthering their studies in a variety of fields such as mathematics, biology and arts. Some of them attend one of the top schools in the city, and professions they want to pursue can be so diverse which include everything from police officer to the world's top badminton player.

In 2018, Jeanamitabh Free Boarding School collaborated with AMDA in providing clothes to impoverished people in Bodhgaya, Bihar. The school and its governing body have been working earnestly for less-privileged people in the region where poverty remains the biggest social problem.

【Comments from AMDA Award winners】

"I feel very thankful for the award. I am currently studying biology in university. My dream is to become a doctor and save the lives of many people. I wish to use the bursary to purchase educational materials. Again, thank you so much for your support." **(Sonny Kumari)**



"I am a college student pursuing graphic design which I think is a very creative field. It allows me to convey messages through different ideas. I am also into yoga and doing illustrations. I do have a little bit of income myself, but thanks to the bursary, I can reduce my working hours and concentrate more on studying. Thank you very much." **(Shei Shaw Kumari)**



"I have been studying at Gaya College which is one of the most famous schools in Gaya City. I feel very happy to be accepted at my school. Thanks to AMDA, Jeanamitabh Free Boarding School and others who supported us, I have been able to study so many things. My dream is to become an artist. Your continued assistance would be very much appreciated." **(Prithvi Kumari)**



"I feel very honoured to have been chosen as an AMDA Award winner. I have been studying arts in university and wish to join the police force in the future. Thank you very much for always supporting us." **(Samta Kumari)**



4. Livelihood Assistance

Livelihood Assistance

Organic farming: AMDA Malino Farm (Indonesia)



The year 2022 will mark the eighth anniversary of AMDA Malino Farm in Indonesia's South Sulawesi Province: an organic farm jointly run by AMDA, AMDA Indonesia and local farmers. It was launched in 2014 with the aim of allowing organic agriculture to take root in the greater Southeast Asia region. "Food is the source of life" as AMDA president Dr. Suganami put it, the farm has been promoting the importance of healthy food and environment-friendly crop cultivation. In fact, there seems to have been a gradual transition taking place at the Malino farm in which more farmers are going organic as years roll on.

While the last two years have been a tough time for every business due to the extent of the COVID-19 crisis, the agricultural sector has been one of the few fields that has been thriving amid the pandemic. Even at this difficult time, the farmers at the Malino farm are constantly adding new crops to their conventional produce. Along with popular ones such as shallots, mustard greens, lettuce, bok choy and eggplants, they have started planting Japanese cucumbers that are slightly different from those of Indonesia. Besides, one of the Malino clients is said to have developed a "rice face mask" using the farm's rice powder.

Assisting an elderly care home (India)



Ms. Vedha, a former staff member of AMDA Peace Clinic in Bodhgaya, India, has been running an elderly care home in the Shripur village, located on the outskirts of the city.

For the last few years, AMDA has constantly assisted the facility by constructing a bored well or donating foodstuffs. In January 2022, AMDA also started providing comprehensive financial assistance which covers everything from food purchases to funeral fees.

Currently, the nursing home houses about 15 people who are either old or disabled without families. Whenever she receives a call from the police, hospitals or villagers about an elderly person who has no one to turn to, Ms. Vedha hurries to the place in an auto-rickshaw to save the individual. She stays by the side of her residents and takes care of them until the end of their burial.



4. Livelihood Assistance

The meals provided here are simple, and the home is not well-furnished, to say the least. However, its level of hospitality is incomparable.

Campaign to support informal workers in the Philippines



On 13 September 2021, AMDA Philippines, in collaboration with the Philippine College of Occupational Medicine (PCOM) Makati Chapter, held a campaign entitled "Be the PCOM Hero" to thank Manila's informal workers that were proving key services in the city during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The informal workers are mainly motorbike riders by profession who are requested by the Makati city authorities to deliver medication, food supplies and other necessities to patients with the COVID-19 infection. They also include taxi and tricycle drivers, food stall owners, fast-food delivery staff, and street cleaners.

What prompted this campaign was the health risks and harsh economic conditions faced by those workers and their families due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. Many of them work and live in crowded places with poor sanitation and no access to medical care.

Expressing gratitude for their roles as essential service providers, AMDA Philippines and PCOM Makati decided to treat them as heroes by letting them know that they deserve care and will never be forgotten.

For the aid distribution part of the campaign, AMDA Philippines and PCOM Makati provided a kit containing a hand sanitizer, a face shield, 10 masks, and a bottle of sports drink, along with a flyer to promote infection prevention. Around 100 sets were distributed in total. A motorbike rider who received the aid commented: "The self-protection kit is very useful and helpful. Thank you." A man who ran a fruit stall also said, "As an essential business owner, I am confident that the work we are doing is important. We really feel appreciated, having been treated like this."



Informal workers are essential service providers in central Manila

International network of 32 chapters and over 100 collaborating organizations around the world



AMDA International Chapters

Afghanistan	Indonesia	Serbia
Albania	Kazakhstan	Singapore
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Korea	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	Kosovo	Sudan
Bolivia	Malaysia	Taiwan
Cambodia	Mongolia	Uganda
Canada	Nepal	Vietnam
Colombia	New Zealand	Zambia
Guyana	Pakistan	AMDA Group (Japan)
Haiti	Peru	
Honduras	Philippines	
India	Sakha Republic	

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