

## 1. Tohoku Microcredit Project

New project, Tohoku or East Japan microcredit project was started to help recover the daily life of those who suffered from the March disaster. The main activities are to hand over the handbook depicting the remedial measures for them, published by the Cabinet Office, to conduct the questionnaire survey, to conduct consultation by lawyers, medical doctors, and small enterprise consultants in the Tsunami-hit areas such as Kamaishi City, Rikuzen-takata City, and Otsuchi Town. RJ staff and volunteers visited each temporary shelter to provide them with 8,500 copies of the government handbook. RJ collected the questionnaire of about 400 as of September 15, opened the lunch meetings with consultation by various experts. Continuously, RJ will act to meet the changing needs by them and compile their request to submit the Cabinet Office and other decision makers.

### ◆ *Changing Power, Changing World*: an excerpt from the diary by Ms. Tomomi Murakami

On August 20, today, we had an event at temporary shelter in Kamaishi City, where there are many aged of over 70. The lunch was delicious and welcomed by them. I was very happy to see most of them eat with a smile. Also I was pleased to see them relaxed with a chat. They lined up in order, free massage, foot bath, consultation by MD and nurses, and checkups of blood pressure. We visited each person staying at the shelter to bring them to the event site. I had tears in my eyes when one aged man said to me that he became happy to be able to find free aged glasses provided by the eye glasses company. He recovered clear vision with new eye glasses. I will do my best to visit the temporary houses, share difficulty with them and to find hope for them.



Time for a delicious meal



That's the one!



Any health problem today?

### ◆ **Government Reply to the Query on the Government Handbook**

The written reply was sent on August 30 to Mr. Masayoshi Hamada, member of House of Councilors, who had submitted the query on the utilization of the handbook. Mr. Hamada, having heard from the voices of the sufferers collected by Results Japan, criticized that the content of booklet and the method of distribution were unfriendly to readers and asked the government to spare no effort for them. The government replied that they will listen more to them to improve the atmosphere.

## ◆Tono City Gelato Project

In July the new Gelato Project was started to associate with the sufferer of Tsunami disaster those who suffer from poverty and disaster in the world, with the gelato produced by Tada Farm in Tono City, Iwate Prefecture. Since March, many Japanese realized the importance of helping and connecting each other, while observing how fragile is the today's life targeting economy with efficiency. The target is to let visitors enjoy the gelato with Haitian mango or rum, think about how others suffer in other parts of the world like Haiti, and think how to improve it. The key is to increase the number of people who address large social issues such as the Tsunami disaster. Through enjoying tasty gelato, let us take action against poverty! Now we are asking cafés, restaurants and companies which would like to participate in this project.

## 2. International TB Training before Haitian TB project

Dr. T. Kaku, who went to Haiti last February, made a special presentation on TB in Haiti, at the 86<sup>th</sup> Japan TB Society of June 2 and 3. The research report was distributed to this assembly, MOFA, etc, and that in English in July for wider circulation. Ms. Aya Ishizuka, who will be sent to Haiti this autumn, took the international training course of Stop TB action for the three months, May to July, organized by JICA and RIT. The course has a long history of 48 years starting 1963 with over 2100 graduates. For this year, 10 MDs from Africa and Asia with two Japanese trainees participated in it. With funding by *Japan Platform*, RJ will conduct a pilot project on LAMP method or Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification, which was developed by Eiken Chemical Co., Ltd. This new diagnostic method is simple, safe and precise, so that it is fit to high burden countries like Haiti which lacks laboratory technicians. One of the training sites for LAMP will be the national TB center in Signeau where Doctor and Sister Sudo, called Mother Teresa in Haiti, works.



Excursion to Nagano with other trainees



Participated trainees in the class



Closing ceremony

## 3. Activities for Innovative Financial Mechanism

### ◆1) Establishment of International Solidarity Levy Forum and its Symposium

The general assembly for ISL Forum was convened at Aoyama University in Tokyo on June 25<sup>th</sup>, which was followed by the commemorating symposium with 70 participants. The ISL Forum is the successor of ACIST or association of citizens for IST, and envelops corporate members such as labor union. There are 10 members including Results Japan, and Ms. Shirasu was elected the board representative with Prof. F. Kaneko, Yokohama City University and Mr. T. Tanaka, representative of ISL NGO, *Altermonde*. The ISLF action plan includes lobbying for ISL this year, holding a symposium, working for mass media, coordination with other international NGOs, participation in LG, and consultation by ISLF expert group including Mr. Sato, certified tax accountant, RJ.

## ◆2) Participation in 9<sup>th</sup> Leading Group Meeting in Mali

The 9<sup>th</sup> leading group for innovative financial mechanism for development was held in Bamako, capital of Mali on June 24 and 25. 63 countries including many African countries, 18 international organizations including UN agencies and African Development Bank, and 30 NGOs got together. Mr. Ebihara, RJ, invited by the LG secretariat, made a presentation on the latest situation in Japan, and pledged to make more effort to materialize ISL despite the East Japan disaster. The 10<sup>th</sup> LG will be held in Spain this December.



Opening ceremony by President of the Republic of Mali

## ◆3) The General Assembly for the Diet Member Group for ISL

The board met three times since the ISL Forum was established to decide with the secretariat of the Diet Group for ISL that we hold the general assembly on August 8<sup>th</sup>. On that day, more than 70 people including citizens, NGOs, and media, in addition to Diet members and their secretaries, participated in the assembly at the Diet member office building. Mr. Minezaki, Cabinet Consultant and former vice-finance minister said that it was regrettable not to have introduced air ticket levy last year and that Prof. Emeritus H. Kaneko of Tokyo University was the creator of international humanity tax, which is in line with the National Constitution, and that his disciples are many at MOF and the Tax Commission so that MOFA should make greater effort than last year. The president of the Group, Mr. Y. Hayashi, LDP leader, said that we will submit the request letter to MOF, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, etc. The secretary general, Mr. T. Saito, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, said that last year we made a success in putting the word of ISL on the official document, and that this year the Group will try to put it on the budget line by working together with NGOs, etc.

## ◆On UN High Level Meeting for HIV/AIDS

The third high level meeting for HIV/AIDS was held with the top leaders of the world: presidents, prime and health ministers at the general assembly hall of UN Headquarters in New York during June 8 and 10. The Japanese delegate comprised vice minister of Foreign Affairs, officials of MOFA and MHLW, and NGOs(including Mr. Kano, RJ). Mr. Ban-Ki-moon, UN secretary general made an opening remark: the progress has been made for the past 30 years, however, we still face a number of challenges:



universal access, lowering the drug prices, enlargement of Global Fund, implementation of the New Global Plan toward 2015, health system strengthening, and introduction of IFM. RJ is worried that the Japanese public has little awareness of these infectious diseases raged globally.





## The Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization (GAVI) Related Activities

### ◆Part 1: GAVI Pledge Conference in London

On June 13, there was a GAVI pledging conference in London. Ms. Shirasu, invited by GAVI and UK, participated with Mr. Naoki Kakuda, a volunteer in London. Japan pledged 9.3 million dollars to GAVI for the first time in history and expressed it will continue to do so next year onward. The total amount pledged was 4.1 billion dollars exceeding the conference target of 3.7 billion dollars. She met with the GAVI secretariat, international NGOs for vaccines, and staff of Results UK. She was back in Tokyo with a joy of success of the conference and wishes the pledged amount be used effectively to help more children's lives.



### ◆Part 2: GAVI Secretariat Visit to Tokyo

There was a workshop on GAVI at a JICA conference place in Tokyo on August 23. Japanese global health NGOs including RJ got together to get latest information and exchange opinions. Mr. Brian Tisdall and Ms. Chika Kitajima, senior donor relation managers, came to Tokyo to raise the vaccine momentum in Japan by visiting MOFA, NGOs, private sectors, etc



Lecture for NGOs

### ◆Part 3: GAVI seminar for female parliamentarians

On August 26, RJ organized a study seminar on GAVI and Japanese contribution, targeting concerned female parliamentarians. Several leading parliamentarians, like Ms. E. Ishige (domestic vaccine supporter) and Ms. C. Nishimura (former vice minister of Foreign Affairs), and their secretaries heard the presentation by Ms. Kitajima and Mr. Tisdall, and Mr. H. Matsuura, director of MOFA in charge made a remark on Japanese policy to GAVI. RJ will continue to plan meetings like this by consulting the GAVI secretariat to get them understand more on global vaccination, with an intention of realizing Japanese pledge of 5 billion yen a year from 2012.



#### ◆Against Reduction in ODA including Global Fund

Since the March disaster, the government proposed 100 billion yen reduction in ODA at the first supplementary budget. However, JANIC, or Japanese association of NGOs for international cooperation, GCAP Japan, and RJ were all opposed to it and lowered the reduction amount into half at the end. Then, on May 2, the general assembly for Diet Group for Stop TB Partnership was held. The meeting agreed to that it will ask the recovery of such reduction: 50.1 billion yen in ODA including 15.9 billion yen in Global Fund at the next budget opportunity. RJ explained that RJ together with several volunteers visited all parliamentarians to hand over the request letter in April and will keep opposing the idea of ODA reduction. With the resolution of the Diet Group for Stop TB Partnership, leading parliamentarians with Ms. Shirasu went to visit the Prime Minister House where Mr. Edano, Cabinet Secretary met them and promised to recover the reduced amount at the next supplementary budget in view of the importance of ODA including Global Fund.

Announcement: On World Polio Day, which is the upcoming October 24, RJ along with the Japan Committee Vaccines for the World's Children (JCV) plans to hold an open event in Tokyo to let those concerned learn what Japan is doing in global health like polio eradication and access to vaccination, responding the request from MOFA, Japan Global Health Association, etc. On the day, we plan with those suffered polio to introduce the latest development of polio eradication. The panel discussion elaborates on how one may increase vaccine access. RJ will inform you all of the details on the web.

#### 4. Our partners

##### ◆Save the Poor Children in the Philippines from Tanashi, Tokyo

On August 1, the members of the Basura Heart Link project visited RJ office. They are Mr. Wakui, owner of Italian restaurant, in Nishi-Tokyo City; Mr. Harada, representative of the Tanashi City Social Media Society; and Mr. Suzuki, its deputy representative. Mr. Wakui handed over the donation collected from May to July, to Ms. Shirasu, to help the poor children living around the so-called Smokey Mountain or ground in Manila. He added that they would be happy to have more citizens interested in children who are in poor atmosphere in the world. The project is to donate 50% of the sales of baked cookies at the Italian restaurant, to poor children in difficult environment.



##### ◆Present a Summer Vacation Full of Fun Memories to the Children of Fukushima

From that day onward, children playing in nature had suddenly disappeared in Fukushima. In order to revive their normal summer, we organized from end July to August a series of their short stay to Kawasaki City, next to Tokyo, far away from the Fukushima accident. For the first term, 30 pupils, 5 to 12 year old, came to Kawasaki City from Fukushima to enjoy 8-day activities in nature. For the second term, 20 couples of parents and children participated in summer school for 5 days. This was realized thanking to 130 volunteers including students, and funding from over 500 individuals and corporations.



*By Ms. Machiko Takahashi, Vice Representative of Citizens of Kawasaki City for Fukushima Children*

## 4. New Staff



Ms. Tomoko Murakami and Mr. Tetsujiro Hioki



Mr. Kaname Sakuma, Driver

RJ, with the funding by Japan Bicycle Race Association (JKA), opened a project office in Tono City, Eastern Japan, where RJ partakes in daily activity for assistance to those who suffered from the Tohoku Earthquake. There are two staffs: Mr. Tetsujiro Hioki and Ms. Tomoko Murakami.

## 5. Information on Events and International Conferences

### < Domestic events >

September 9, Haiti and Tsunami donation campaign at Suidoubashi, Tokyo

It will continue on October 11, November 11, and December 9.

October 1 to 17, *Stand Up Campaign* all over Japan: at Diet member building, government offices, etc., organized by GCAP Japan

October 23 to 25, World Polio Day commemorative events in Tokyo by MOFA, JICA, UNICEF, etc.

October 29, ISL Symposium organized by ISL Forum at Aoyama University, Tokyo

### < International Events >

September 19 and 20, UN HLM for non-infectious diseases (NCD), New York

October 23 to 26, World Health Summit, Berlin

October 26 to 30, IUATLD assembly, France

November 5 to 13, International strategy meeting of RESULTS group, Nairobi

November 14 to 17, Microcredit Summit, Spain

November 21 to 22, the 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting of Global Fund, Ghana

December, the 10<sup>th</sup> Leading Group for IFM assembly by Spain ( in plan)

Results Japan is continuing various volunteer activities for those suffered since the East Japan Great Earthquake. One of the activities is to help those who would try to live on their own with the Tohoku microcredit project. To enhance this micro loan project, we sincerely welcome your contribution.