



SDGs No one will be left behind.

"I want to be a warm-hearted person."
The aim of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is that no one will be left behind. To achieve this aim we need to help people in need. However, Japan is becoming a country without pity, a country where people's hearts have hardened. This article has been written by a volunteer from RESULTS Japan. A disease has left her physically handicapped. She has written about a recent sad experience on a train, when she was left standing on the train in front of young people pretending to sleep on their seats. She felt left behind by society. I want to be a warm-hearted person so as to achieve the SDGs: No one will be left behind by 2030. I feel that more warm-hearted people are needed in Japan. A warm-hearted country could ensure that everyone has a happy life; including women, children, people with disabilities and the elderly.

Dear non-handicapped people who sit in priority seats

I ride the train everyday. I have cerebral palsy and have a game leg. Therefore, I stand in front of the priority marked seating on the train. I do not want someone to give me a seat. I do not want to bother other passengers because of my slow movement. This is my consideration for others passengers. Whenever I stand in front of the priority seating, the people sitting there pretend to be asleep. I am shocked. I feel unacknowledged in this society. In my opinion, non-handicapped people sitting on priority seating pretend to sleep because they are guilty. They take priority seating left for handicapped people, such as me. I insist that: "If you sit in a priority seat, please take responsibility for your decision. Please behave majestically. Never ignore me!" My life is a repetition of such things. Nobody deals with me sincerely. Everyone denies me. My dream of being acknowledged as a human being in society has not come true. I did not choose to be born with such a physical condition. I want to stop being treated unfairly by society.



Polio Day Vaccines for more people



October 24th is World Polio Day, held on the birthday of Dr. Jonas Salk, who invented the vaccine for polio. RESULTS Japan - a campaign secretariat of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance - implemented an advertising campaign at Ikebukuro Station in association with the medical think-tank JIGH. There is no curative treatment for polio once it has been contracted. Vaccination is the only viable solution to prevent the spread of this disease. The WHO is the primary organization that struggles to eradicate polio. Polio outbreaks still occur in Pakistan and Afghanistan, however, new polio incidences have also occurred in Nigeria in 2016. Ikebukuro Station is the largest in Tokyo by number of passengers. Approximately half a million people pass through Ikebukuro Station every day. RESULTS Japan in coordination with the Hon. Kenzo Fujisue (Secretary General of the Diet Caucus on Global Polio Eradication) and the Hon. Ichiro Aisawa (Head of the Task Force for Friends of the Global Fund, Japan) disseminated 5,000 flyers to passengers on October 19th. Thousands of flyers were also distributed to people who suffered in the Kumamoto earthquake.



Upper: The campaign at Ikebukuro Station with the Hon. Ichiro Aisawa, Head of the Task Force for Friends of the Global Fund, Japan.
Lower: Flyer for the World Polio Day campaign.



Over 10,000 copies!

For children who suffered in the by earthquake.

An expandable drawing book about disaster prevention.

KUMAMON



RESULTS Japan published a drawing book about disaster prevention after the Kumamoto Earthquake. This book is not just for Kumamoto, but has also been distributed at home in Kamaishi and Tokyo, and overseas in Kenya and Palestine. The number of issues published has already reached over 10,000.

Children are particularly sensitive to and have difficulty adjusting to situation change. Therefore, disasters stress children even more than adults. However, the typical disaster response focuses on providing material support, such as food, clothes and accommodation. RESULTS Japan has implemented a disaster response project that focuses on mental care for children and their mothers. Thus, this book has been published with drawings. There is a famous mascot character called "Kumamon" depicted in the book. RESULTS Japan plans to publish the drawing book in the Kamaishi area that suffered during the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.



Photo: Ms. Dora (Noriko) is called a witch or shaman among the Diet members and officers in Japan. Ms. Dora concentrates onto painting her book.



Photo: There are many Kumamon images in the drawing book.



Infectious diseases in Kenya : Masaki Osaki.

The epidemic of infectious diseases are a very serious issue in Kenya. The WHO has listed Kenya as a high burden country for tuberculosis, and No More Malaria has reported that 3.3 million people, or 76% of the population, face malarial infection. On top of this, 6% of all adults, or over 10,000 people, die of HIV/AIDS each year. Due to the spread of HIV infection, there is the double problem of patients who are infected with both tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.



Interesting Trip : Riku Shiraishi

I have experienced many interesting things during my two months in Kenya. I specialize in International Social Studies at Komazawa University in Japan. I discovered many interesting things about Kenyan society during my stay.

I tried to understand Kenyan people and communicate with them every day. Kenya has a multitude of environments including the seaside, mountains and savannah land. At the hotel in Kisumu the security officer is Maasai, the receptionist is Luo, the cook is Kamba and the manager is Kikuyu.

Such variety is very interesting not only in Kenya, but across the whole world. My dean told me, "There are 7.3 billion differentiations in the world." In Kenya I really understood this advice. I want to have both a local view and global objective on this trip. The academic knowledge obtained through my time at university and during my internship at RESULTS Japan have greatly contributed to this trip.

Collaborator for Shoe Collecting Campaign

Running is hot in Kasumigaseki.

On the 3rd of November, Mr. Kaunari Asanuma, Director of the Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases Control Division, MHLW, came to an event to give in his shoes. He introduced the campaign in the mail-out magazine of the Ministry of Health.

"Shoes are tools for saving lives."

Ms. Naoko Takahashi, Gold Medalist of the marathon at the Sydney Olympics, said at the event held in Ariake, Tokyo, "Shoes are not only for walking or running, but also for protecting oneself from injury and disease."

One day in October, Ms. Noriko Shirasu, Director of RESULTS Japan, called me and said, "Mr. Asanuma, could you do something about the 'jigger' problem in Kenya?"

Mr. Shiraishi, an intern of RESULTS Japan, is interested in the jigger problem in Kenya and talked to Ms. Shirasu.

"Jiggers" are a kind of chigger or mite that bites the skin.

They are found in Africa, Latin America and India, and can be parasitic in humans, especially on the soles of the feet. Infections are then caused by the bacteria rickettsia. A serious infection can leave the victim unable to walk anymore and in the worst cases can lead to death.

There is no magic bullet to this problem, but keeping the environment clean and wearing shoes are helpful preventative steps.

However, wearing shoes cannot be taken for granted in the poor regions of Kenya. This year, the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) was held in Kenya. At the conference it was estimated that about two million people are affected by jiggers.

My answer to Ms. Shirasu was, "The first thing they can do is to wear shoes, I think."

At that time I remembered the "Smile Africa Project". It is a project, launched in 2009 by Mr. Oguro, Chief Editor of Soto Coto, for sending used shoes to Africa. Ms. Naoko Takahashi is an ambassador of this project and has been to Kenya many times to give children smiles. This time I visited the running festival for the project and again was impressed with her experiences.

I introduced the project to Ms. Shirasu and of course, she immediately took action. She sent her staff member Ms. Nagasaka to the running event. Mr. Jun Hiromichi, Sydney Paralympic silver medalist, also participated in the event as a guest. A lot of people enjoyed running. Collecting shoes for free was one of the biggest events of the day. I brought in my shoes, and I heard that more than 290 pairs were collected that day.

The project is great because it speaks to the Japanese mind of "Mottainai". It is not for collecting new shoes but used ones. Each person washed his or her shoes properly and brought them along.

I hope these activities can help people acknowledge the poor people in the world.

I cannot keep up my running with my busy workload, but I will certainly join the festival next year with my friends. And of course with my shoes.



"Smile africa marathon fes 2016" on November 3rd in Ariake Tokyo.

Disseminating Japanese goods commodities to the world.

KINKAN

Do you know about "kinkan"? Kinkan, also known as kumquats, are a citrus fruit used as a traditional liniment in Japan. All our staff members love kinkan. The fruit also make a good medicine for the skin. When representative of RESULTS Japan, Noriko Shirasu, visited Haiti, only kinkan was effective against insect bites. Kinkan is also an effective treatment for stiff shoulders. I would like to disseminate such useful commodities to the world. Yuko Nagasaka, communication director at RESULTS Japan, released an opinion article in Asahi Shimbun on October 2nd. Yuko showed readers the importance of traditional commodities, such as kinkan, mosquito coils and mosquito netting for preventing infectious diseases in developing countries. RESULTS Japan looks forward to controlling infectious diseases by spreading good commodities, such as kinkan.



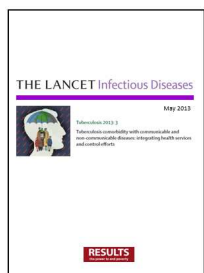
Completed to translation of the Global TB Report and The Lancet into Japanese.

TB infection is a constant global issue. Japan aims to be categorized as a low burden TB country by 2020, when the Tokyo Olympics will be held.

RESULTS Japan compiled "Tuberculosis comorbidity with communicable and non-communicable diseases: integrating health services and control efforts" under the supervision of Dr. Toru Mori, Executive Representative of the Stop TB Partnership Japan and a pioneer in TB treatment in Japan. The original text was published in The Lancet, one of the top five medical magazines in the world.



RESULTS Japan also made a summary in Japanese of the Global Tuberculosis Report 2016 issued by the World Health Organization. These documents were distributed to participants in the follow-up meeting of the Stop TB Japan Action plan including to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, JICA and Stop TB Partnership Japan. They have a very good reputation.



Upper: The "Global Tuberculosis Report 2016" issued by the WHO.
Lower: "Tuberculosis comorbidity with communicable and non-communicable diseases: integrating health services and control efforts" published in The Lancet.

Thank you for giving providing us with a full house!



The theme was, "The threat of infectious disease and the expansion of its prevention".

The thank you seminar at, the White Bear Cafe

We held a seminar on December 5th, the day when Nelson Mandela died who fought against Apartheid, and became the first black president of South Africa, died. Dr. Shigetaka Asano, also called the 'white bear doctor,' and President of RESULTS Japan, gave us a very interesting lecture on the essentials of science and bioethics.



Ms. Miki Oishi, the Secretary-General of Smile Africa, presented her project to send shoes that people don't use any more to countries in Africa.



Dr. Kazunari Asanuma, Director of the Tuberculosis and Infectious Diseases Control Division at the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare explained about syphilis, which is prevalent among young women.



Dr. Shigetaka Asano, also called the 'white bear doctor,' and President of RESULTS Japan, gave us a very interesting lecture on the essentials of science and bioethics.

Around 70 people attended the seminar even though it was at lunch time on a weekday! We didn't even have enough chairs and handouts for everybody!

Let's extend a helping hand to those suffering from TB.

- TB project in a Kangemi slum, Nairobi -

The multi-stakeholders' meeting and handing over ceremony of a TB clinic was held on October 25th in Kangemi, where Mr. Masaki Osaki from RESULTS Japan has been implementing an advocacy project on TB. In Kenya, Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) provide health situation management for local inhabitants. However, the quality of their activities is not as good as it could be due to a lack of capacity. In slum areas and the countryside inhabitants find it very difficult to access sufficient medical services.

RESULTS Japan started the advocacy project on TB in a Kangemi slum in order to address this situation. We trained 80 CHVs to deepen their understanding of TB and take measures conforming to local needs.

This event was held to hand over certificates of training to CHVs and celebrate the completion of the TB clinic renovation.

More than 150 people including representatives from the Kenyan Ministry of Health, Eiken Chemical Co. Ltd. and Mr. Toshitugu Uesawa, the Ambassador from the Embassy of Japan in Kenya discussed the TB situation in Kenya. We hope that this event was a good occasion to discuss TB control in Kenya and how it can be effectively improved.



Top: The Handing over ceremony of the TB clinic and multi-stakeholders' meeting on October 25th. All CHVs wore 'We Love Japan' TT-shirts!

Left: Two girls gave flowers as a sign of appreciation to Mr. Toshitugu Uesawa, Ambassador of the, Embassy of Japan in Kenya.

Bottom left: Ms. Noriko Shirasu, Executive Director of RESULTS Japan danced with the CHVs.





Aiming for Palestinian Refugees without a Hometown to live a Happy Life

RESULTS Japan has taken charge of the campaign secretariat for the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). Mr. Pierre Krahenbuhl, UNRWA Commissioner-General, visited Japan from 24th to 26th of October. He paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Natsuo Yamaguchi, Chief Representative of Komeito (the governing political party in Japan), gave many interviews to national newspapers and TV stations, and participated in an informal meeting with NGOs and at an event spoke about the real situation of Palestinian refugees.

Also during this visit to Japan, Mr. Akihiro Seita, Director of UNRWA's Health Programme made a courtesy call on Mrs. Akie Abe, the wife of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and introduced his own book, "Gaza children know only about war" and UNRWA's projects.

Previously working for the World Health Organization (WHO), Mr. Seita has been a director of UNRWA's Health Programme since 2010. His book was chosen as a recommended book by the Ministry of Health,

Labour and Welfare (MHLW) in 2015. Mrs. Abe was deeply impressed with the book.

When Mr. Seita showed a short movie called "The Dallata/Beit Jibreen School in Syria", which was built with funds from the Japanese government, Mrs. Abe was brought to tears. She introduced Mr. Seita's visit and his book on her Facebook page that is followed by over 100,000 people and the post was shared widely. We hope these kind of activities can lead to enhanced awareness of the plight of Palestinian refugees.



Commissioner-General Mr. Krahenbuhl together with Mr. Akihiro Seita, Maria Mohammedi, Senior Advisor, and Mr. Osamu Hattori visited Mr. Natsuo Yamaguchi, Chief representative of Komeito.



Mrs. Akie Abe and Mr. Akihiro Seita.



Mr. Seita's book: "Gaza children know only about war"



To Defeat Difficult Diseases, Mr. Mamoru Mouri Becomes a Leader at an Enlightening Conference on AMR

There was good news on drug-resistance issues in Japan. On the 1st of November, "The enlightening conference on drug-resistance" focusing on the problems of antibiotic resistance, was held for the first time with astronaut Mr. Mamoru Mouri as chairman. Drug-resistance bacteria are produced when you take too many antibiotics. Drug resistant infections are incredibly hard to treat, and can sometimes lead to death. RESULTS Japan has been supportive of Otsuka Pharmaceuticals (Clinical testing for Delamanid for Multidrug-Resistant Pulmonary Tuberculosis) and Eiken Chemicals (LAMP recommended by WHO) for a long time. Mr. Yasuhisa Shiozaki, the Minister of Health, also took part in this conference. It was announced that the best practice for drug-resistance will win a "Mouri Award".



Middle: Mr. Mamoru Mouri, Chairperson, Left: Mr. Yasuhisa Shiozaki, the Minister of Health, Right: Mr. Yasuhisa Yamada, Cabinet Counsellor at Cabinet Secretariat

Thank you for your support!



Wishing you a Happy New Year.

Light Nobel

Handy-andy in Kasumigaseki

The building stands right in front of the Cabinet Secretariat. It is old and white, and is called the "Sankyu (Thank You)" Building. Our director Noriko Shirasu lives there. She is proud of her name being the same as Princess Akishinomiya. She is 68 years old with her lips always red beautifully and her nails long. Some believe she is a witch. In fact, she has moved the government, people and presidents of famous companies... No one can say 'No' to her. You might already have become spellbound.