

Shanti Volunteer Association Annual report

Continuing
Instability
in Myanmar
and Afghanistan
Moving
Forward
Driven by
Our 40 Years of
Experience

One book
can inspire
thousands.





Continuing Instability in Myanmar and Afghanistan

To respond to the humanitarian crises in Myanmar and Afghanistan, we re-evaluated our role to reform our mindset for providing humanitarian response, as well as educational and cultural support.

Greeting from President

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for making our mission possible. With your support, we marked our 40th anniversary this year. In 2021, political transitions took place in two of our target areas, Myanmar and Afghanistan. Although the situations are difficult, we feel we have no option to withdraw, leaving people in hardship behind. Particularly in difficult times like these, we must continue to help people in need, working with our supporters and capitalizing on our years of experience and knowledge. Even though humans have many

superficial differences, such as race, ethnicity, religion and nationality, there is one thing that is common to us all: every life is born for a purpose. The core of SVA's efforts, which has been unwavering for 40 years, is creating and developing ways to protect that dignity. We will continue to take steps towards the future we envision, working even closer with companies, groups, and individuals with the same vision. Although you may feel that we still have a long way to go, I sincerely ask for your continuing support to reach our goal, Shanti (peace).

若林恭英

Kyoei Wakabayashi



Topics in 2021

We received the 28th Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize

The Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize commends individuals and groups that have demonstrated by their own actions the importance of contributing to international society. This time, we received the prize for our continuing educational and cultural support centered around library activities in eight regions in seven Asian countries. We definitely couldn't have won this prize without your support. Galvanized by the recognition, we will continue to do everything within our power.



40th anniversary renewal of the website

To complete the series of renewals since 2020, including the organization logo and public relations tools, we renewed our website in December 2021. For our supporters to gain a deeper understanding of SVA, as well as new participants to understand who we are at a glance, our new website features the display of the latest messages from SVA, a design that allows visitors to get an idea about our recent activities, and a page with various interactive learning materials for the achievement of SDGs.



Renewal of the logo for the Campaign to Deliver Picture Books

We created the new logo based on the imagery of dandelion fluff. It was designed to align with SVA's logo, a sprout coming out of a book, and the 40th anniversary logo, a seed. The logo represents possibilities for the bright future that picture books can bring, as well as the delivery of a seed (a picture book) to make that future happen. The fluff represents an opened picture book seen from the side. We chose this logo, based on comments from all of our staff members, including overseas National staff.



絵本を届ける運動
Campaign to Deliver Picture Books

Political transitions in Myanmar and Afghanistan: coping with the ongoing crises

Following the coup in Myanmar in March, as well as the Taliban's seizure of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, in August, we immediately started doing all we could to account for the whereabouts of our National staff and make necessary arrangements for our projects. A while later, people in both countries began falling into extreme poverty. They were unable to ensure children's educational opportunities and the need for support kept increasing. Due to the situation, we had more difficulties than ever providing them with that support. We had to make tough decisions all the time for various reasons; we had to collect necessary funds in a short period of time; we were unable to ensure complete safety in the activity locations; and the implementation of our support activities could have political implications. Each of our staff members could have given up on their support activities at any moment for various risks, including the pandemic, which had been dragging on since 2020. However, we, as SVA, made up our mind to keep moving forward. We were greatly encouraged by your generous support and warm words. I feel that our 40 years of experience gives us the strength to overcome challenges and has united our supporters and us to walk towards the same goal. The crises that took place in 2021 were totally outside the scope of the crisis management plan we had developed. In previous crises, we were able to provide support in accordance with the needs in each phase. Today, however, situations are unstable and unpredictable, and our support activities have been prolonged. We need to rethink how we implement our projects, assuming that we will provide both emergency support and our usual educational and cultural support simultaneously.

Success achieved through the steady implementation of the Mid-Term Strategic Plan

The year 2021 was the halfway point of our 6-year Mid-Term Strategic Plan, which set out what we should work toward by 2024. As SVA, we continued to improve our work environments for better performance, particularly by enhancing our organizational foundation and streamlining our organization management. We reviewed our organizational rules, reorganized our organizational structure and roles, and more importantly, revised our policy of localized management. In SVA's history, the fact that we had defined the roles of our local staff more clearly was one of the biggest steps, which I believe will have a positive impact on our future activities. Furthermore, we announced our interim financial results for the first time. We made adjustments and decisions on our budgets and other affairs ahead of time, even though we were engaged in support activities under the crises, because we had been preparing for the statement on a daily basis. In addition, we secured a wide range of financial resources by asking for donations on the Web and via crowd funding. To help children in Japan, even during the pandemic, to think about and understand what is happening outside of their country, we developed educational materials, including videos, about children in refugee camps. When we adopted the Mid-Term Strategic Plan in 2019, we made up our mind to stick to its items without fail, and without lowering their priority. With that decision in mind, we implemented most parts of the plan as expected. In 2021, we steadily enhanced our organizational foundation and conducted domestic operations, along with the crisis response in Myanmar and Afghanistan. I believe these efforts ultimately lead to our success in 2021.

Moving Forward Driven by Our 40 Years of Experience



Eri Yamamoto

Eri Yamamoto
Secretary General

In 2021, our projects were affected by the political transitions in Myanmar and Afghanistan, as well as the coronavirus pandemic. Although we felt our path to the future we had been working towards was blocked, we remained determined to keep moving forward, no matter what it took.

I look back on the year as one where we felt like we were lost, faced with unexpected crises, and then made up our minds.

Transforming our 40 years of experience into the building blocks of our goal

Marking the 40th anniversary, this year was one of our milestones. We had many opportunities to reflect on our 40 years of experience. In deciding how to carry on our support activities in Myanmar and Afghanistan, we reflected on why SVA launched its educational and cultural support at the refugee camps in Cambodia in 1981: to protect human dignity. With this in mind, we were able to make decisions with confidence on what to do and what was most important as SVA. Marking the 40th anniversary, we renewed our logo, as well as our products and website. Expressing the vision we have cherished for 40 years with new designs was a great experience for the organization. It also galvanized us into making a firm resolve for the future we envision. SVA will continue to tackle complicated social, conflict, and poverty issues across the world, as well as to protect human dignity, even under crises, through its educational and cultural support. While all of our activities are essential for our goal, the realization of a peaceful society, we can't achieve it alone. We will continue to work with our supporters to address any unprecedented crises that may arise. Transforming our 40 years of experience into the building blocks of our goal, we will take further steps toward the future we envision. I ask for your continuous support and cooperation.



Crowd funding for emergency support for Myanmar



Crowd funding for emergency support for Afghanistan



40th anniversary online event: Responding to humanitarian crises: Rethinking NGOs' missions and possibilities on our 40th anniversary

Mid-Term Strategic Plan

In 2019, we adopted our Mid-Term Strategic Plan to take us through to the end of 2024.

With our focus on the following four areas, we are carrying out new projects:

1. Strengthen our expertise to launch new overseas projects

We will launch new overseas projects, putting more focus on reading promotion, which is our long-term effort centered on picture books and storytelling, as well as on life skills education.

- Create a package of know-how about library activities and utilize it in non-formal education
- Library activities as part of domestic and overseas humanitarian response
- Provide humanitarian response outside of Asia and expand to new countries and regions

* 2020: Following the spread of COVID-19, we implemented emergency support projects in our target countries and Japan.

* 2021: To strengthen our expertise in children's education, including reading promotion and life skills education, we organized resources for educational projects, created a library activities manual for our staff engaging in non-formal education, and held 16 study sessions on educational projects.

2. Promote new domestic projects

We will promote domestic projects in order to solve childhood poverty in Japan and problems faced by children with foreign roots by putting to use the experiences, lessons, and bonds we formed around Asia.

* 2020: We launched a domestic project: the child-friendly space development project for children with foreign roots. As the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing, we provide children with opportunities to interact with each other online.

* 2021: In response to the ongoing pandemic, we launched the inclusive support project for foreign residents in Toshima Ward, Tokyo.

3. Propose policies more proactively and strengthen our partnerships

We will strengthen our partnerships with our various stakeholders in order to contribute to the achievement of the aims of education specified in Articles 28 and 29 of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

- Strengthen our partnerships with companies and groups that promote reading
- Work with experts to verify the results and measure the impacts of our projects and activities, and publish the results of research
- Develop proposals that can help improve educational policies in our activity areas
- Promote "Campaign to Deliver Picture Books" workshops that allow local people to participate freely to improve communication with them

* 2020: We developed educational materials, including videos, about children in our activity areas in order to help Japanese children think about and understand what is happening outside Japan.

* 2021: Amid the pandemic, we proactively held online workshops to provide learning opportunities.

4. Globalize our organization

To promote our projects further as a Japanese NGO, we will enhance our organizational foundation by, for example, developing human resources and introducing diverse work styles.

- Enhance our organizational foundation
- Develop staff competencies and train the next leaders
- Assign international staff across countries
- Develop a system that allows for diverse work styles
- Increase brand recognition both inside and outside Japan and secure diverse financial resources

* 2019: To train leaders of next generation, our overseas staff came to Japan to receive training with our staff in the Tokyo Office.

* 2021: Marking the 40th anniversary, we renewed our public relations materials and website. To enhance our organizational foundation, we revised our organizational rules and reviewed our localized management policy.

For more than four decades, SVA has engaged in activities at eight regions in Asia. Essential supports differ from place to place due to social circumstances. Staff with expertise live locally and support continuously. Collaboration with local people, they are cultivating a culture of learning.

Achievement (As of the end of 2021)

1 The Books and activities needed for study

	2021	Total
Publication of Picture Book	3 titles	647 titles
Picture Books Delivered	15,682 books	362,717 books
Users of Libraries	0.21 million	16.23 million



3 Place where people can learn safely

	2021	Total
Schools constructed	3 schools	429 schools
Libraries / Library rooms opened	13 libraries / rooms	1,016 libraries / rooms



2 Developing human resource

	2021	Total
Training participants	104 times, 3,705 people	674 times, 38,679 people



4 Humanitarian Response

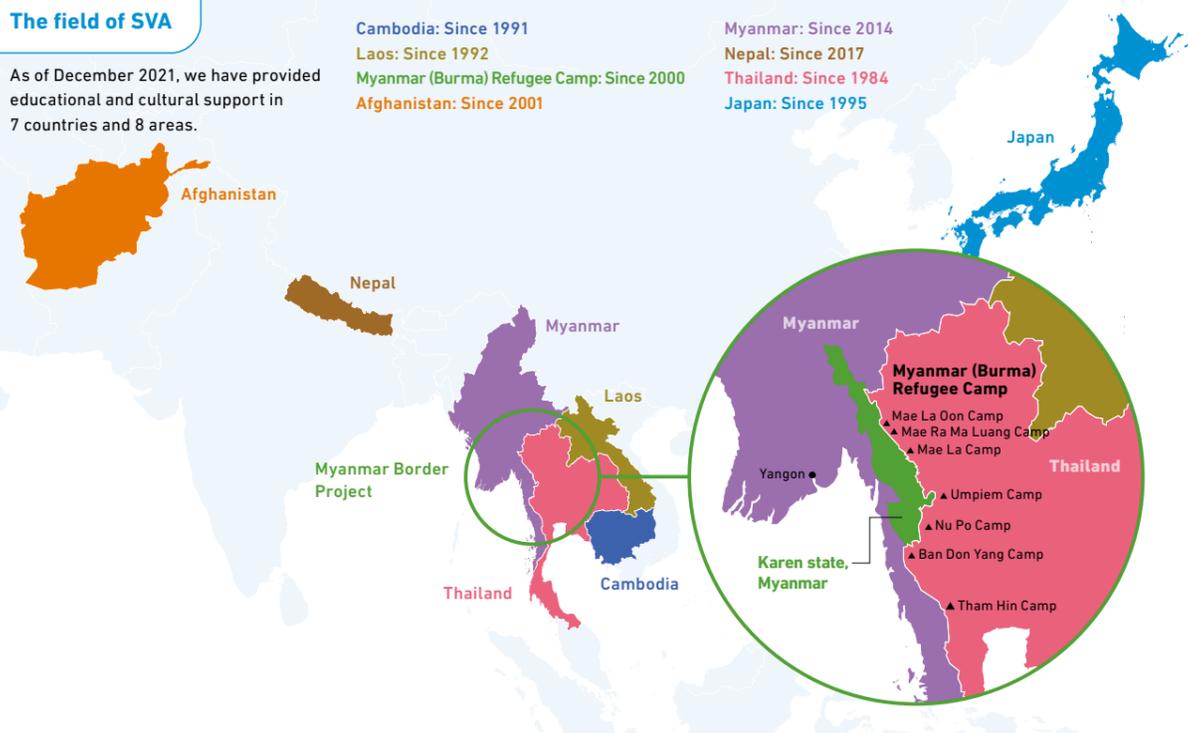
	2020	Total
Numbers of response	5	81
	• Overseas: 4 • In Japan: 1	• Overseas: 51 • In Japan: 30



The field of SVA

As of December 2021, we have provided educational and cultural support in 7 countries and 8 areas.

- Cambodia: Since 1991
- Laos: Since 1992
- Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Camp: Since 2000
- Afghanistan: Since 2001
- Myanmar: Since 2014
- Nepal: Since 2017
- Thailand: Since 1984
- Japan: Since 1995



Thailand

Educational support in slums and areas where ethnic minorities and migrants live

In Thailand, the third wave of COVID-19 started to spread in April, with the number of cases a day exceeding a then-record high of 23,000 in August, and accordingly, the government tightened its regulations. Schools were closed for a long time, and there was concern about negative impacts on children's education. Under those circumstances, we awarded scholarships to 367 students in 2021. In addition, we continued our mobile library services with necessary measures in place, such as changing locations and limiting the number of participants allowed. A total of 2,093 participated in the activity during the year.



Achievements

Library activity participants: **2,093 people**
Scholarship recipients: **367 people**



Projects

1. Project to improve educational opportunities

We awarded scholarships to 348 middle school and high school students (26 in Bangkok, 137 in Phayao, and 185 in Tak) and 19 university students, for a total of 367. In this scholarship program, we usually visit students' homes in our three target areas in February. However, like the previous year, the selection of scholarship students was delayed due to the pandemic.

We held scholarship awards ceremonies for the first and second semesters in two places, Phayao and Bangkok. However, it was not possible to hold award ceremonies at the same time in Tak, because the eight main schools in Tak had been used as field hospitals. In the future, as soon as necessary arrangements are made, we will work with schools so that scholarships will be awarded to students through the schools.

2. Reading promotion project through mobile libraries

Schools were closed since April due to the third wave of COVID-19. Even though the mobile library services were suspended for some time, we provided reading promotion activities between July and September,

mainly at the library in the Klong Toey slum. From October to December, as the number of cases decreased, we conducted our activities, taking measures under the government's regulations, such as limiting the number of participants to 50 or less.

- In 2021, we provided mobile library services in the slums in Bangkok, as well as Samut Sakhon and Samut Prakan, Bangkok suburbs with many Burmese people, and a total of 2,093 people participated.

- We distributed masks and alcohol for COVID-19 prevention, as well as basic necessities.



Staff of Sikkha Asia Foundation

* The activities in Thailand are conducted by the Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF), the former SVA Thailand office. SAF is a partner of SVA and the two organizations work together in project management.

Message

Ms. Nareerat Tangcharoenbamrungsuk
Sikkha Asia Foundation (SAF)
Secretary General

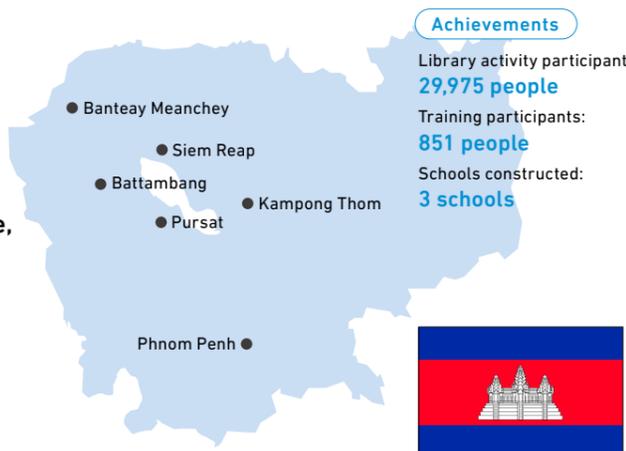


In Thailand, COVID-19 cases surged in April and exceeded a then-record high of 23,000 in August. The Thai government strengthened its restrictive measures, which had significant impacts on people's everyday lives and the economy. As for education, the government ordered schools and kindergartens to close, and schools started giving classes over the internet. Our activities were affected by the changes, as well. The mobile library activity was suspended, and fewer activities were conducted during the year. In addition, it became difficult to hold the biannual scholarship awards ceremony as before. We awarded scholarships to students while taking necessary measures, such as limiting the number of attendees and asking teachers to award scholarships on behalf of the foundation. Under the pandemic, people in the slums and migrant workers from neighboring countries have been losing their jobs and are faced with serious poverty issues. We will continue to help them through our educational and cultural supports.

Cambodia

The 30th anniversary of the office

All schools were closed from March to November due to the spread of COVID-19. It is expected to take a long time to make up for the learning opportunities that children missed during the prolonged school closure. Even though online classes were given during the closure, about half of children had no access to them. Now schools are open again with limits on the number of students allowed in each classroom and children are going to school three days a week.



Projects

1. Dream School Project

We built three primary schools, using online tools to monitor the construction sites. At our target schools, we provided training on how to maintain their school buildings and toilets.

2. Community Learning Center (CLC) Project

We purchased and distributed infection prevention products such as facemasks and alcohol at the request of the local residents who manage Community Learning Center (CLC). We also provided mobile library services with infection control measures and 102 people participated. We also provided the CLC Management Committee with training on fundraising.

3. Quality Improvement of Early Childhood Education (ECE) Project

We conducted a baseline survey in the target preschools and distributed furniture and teaching materials to improve their classroom environments. We worked with a task team comprised of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and educators to develop three guidebooks for teachers. Using online tools, we also provided technical guidance by nursery and kindergarten teachers in Japan.

Other

We added digital picture books, storytelling videos, and videos with audio for illiterate people to the digital library we opened last year. By improving the library, we ensure that children and adults who are missing learning opportunities due to the closure of educational facilities get opportunities to read various stories.



Staff of Phnom Penh Office



Staff of Battambang Office

Message

Mr. Takashi Kase
Cambodia Office
Director



In 2021, the Cambodia Office celebrated its 30th anniversary. Unfortunately, we were unable to invite you to Cambodia due to the pandemic, but we held 30th anniversary event online in December. Although some of our onsite activities were suspended due to pandemic-related restrictions, we carried on our Dream School Project, Community Learning Center Project, and Quality Improvement of Early Childhood Education Project by introducing online activities. In 2022, we will continue to provide educational and cultural support, coping with the country's current situation, cherishing traditional cultures, and aligning with the goal in the SDGs: Leave No One Behind.

Laos

Supporting the education of children in remote areas under the pandemic

In Laos, even though border control measures have been taken, the number of COVID-19 cases exceeded 100 thousand since mid-2021, and schools were closed. As a result, we were restricted from conducting our activities as planned, including visits to the target areas of our projects. To support children's education, particularly in rural areas, we continued our activities as much as possible, by adjusting our plans.



Projects

1. School Construction Activities

- We conducted inspections of one year after completion in two primary schools built in 2019 and the eight-month after completion inspection of the restrooms in another school.
- We conducted 80% and 100% construction inspections in two primary schools built in 2020.
- We were unable to start constructing schools in 2021 due to the spread of COVID-19. We conducted field surveys for selecting three schools, selected construction companies, and helped community prepare for construction.

2. Reading Promotion Activities through Mobile Library Services

- A total of 1,200 copies of a picture book was published and 125 sets of a paper theater (KAMISHIBAI) were reprinted.
- From March to April, we conducted mobile library activities in 10 schools in Luang Prabang Province. We had 610 students and 41 teachers participating in these activities and a total of 492 books were borrowed.
- We created four apron theaters.

3. Project on Improvement of Multi-Grade Class Management by Enhancing the Teaching Capacity in Primary Education

- At the schools in two districts in Luang Prabang Province, we observed the classes of 137 teachers who had received our training and provided them with additional advice.
- We requested for approval of the "Multi-Grade Teaching Handbook" to the Ministry of Education and Sport. In November, we attended the meeting for official approval of the Handbook.
- In two districts in Luang Prabang Province, a follow-up training on multi-grade teaching (teacher training) was conducted, and a total of 60 teachers participated, 30 from each district.



Staff of Laos Office

Message

Mr. Kiyotaka Tamari
Laos Office
Director



In Laos, COVID-19 began to spread in the second half of 2021 and had serious impacts, including lockdowns, on people's everyday lives and jobs. In many areas, schools were unable to start the new school year in September and remained closed even until the end of 2021. Although the government promoted home learning via TV or over the internet, children in remote areas had no access to these resources and were thus unable to study. There has been a serious concern about the impact on the children's learning outcome. Meanwhile, our staff could not visit the schools to conduct activities as planned. However, the spread of COVID-19 has slowed down since the end of the year and some schools have started preparing to reopen. By taking the utmost infection prevention measures, we are planning to resume our activities to support children and teachers in even more difficult situations due to the pandemic.

Afghanistan

Picture books and libraries are the only hope for children

Over half of the population were faced with food insecurity due to the first devastating drought in 4 years, as well as the political changes. Child starvation, child labor, begging, early marriages, and an increase in human trafficking were reported. Since the political changes in August, female junior high and high school students have been prohibited from going to school; they have no access to education. In the face of unstable public security and the spread of COVID-19, our staff members worked hard to carry on educational and cultural support, as well as humanitarian response.

Achievements

Library activity participants:
33,973 people
Training participants:
97 people



Projects

1. Development Project for Diffusion of "Library for children" in Afghanistan

- We began construction of a model school library at a large-scale girls' school (elementary, junior high and high school) in Nangarhar. Scheduled to be completed in 2022, the library is expected to be used by approximately 5,700 students and 154 teachers, as well as other children and teachers from neighboring areas.
- We provided training to 10 master trainers for library promotion.
- We finalized the guidebooks on school libraries.
- As a library activity promotion campaign during the COVID-19 pandemic, we broadcast storytelling across the country via radio, and also provided mobile library services at a total of 18 schools in Kabul, Nangarhar, and Laghman. (a cumulative total of 5,575 children participated)

2. Operation of Children's Libraries

The children's library we operate in Nangarhar was open a total of 187 days during a period of about 10 months. The annual number of users was 25,749 (females accounted for 53%) and the daily average was

137. 28% of the users were highly vulnerable children, including orphans, former refugees, internally displaced people, and those with disabilities. In addition to library activities, we held handicraft and sewing classes, special learning classes for children who are unable to attend school, and monthly events. One of the users commented: "I see a bit of hope for the future, thanks to the Children's Library. The library is a precious place for me and other children. I really thank our supporters in Japan for caring about us."

3. Picture book and paper theater (KAMISHIBAI) publication

In 2021, with approval from the Ministry of Education, we published five children's books (four picture books and a paper theater), which we had been working on since 2020. We distributed them to 175 schools and 12 public libraries. We also created three children's books (two picture books and a paper theater).

Message

Ms. Eri Yamamoto
Secretary General and
Afghanistan Office Director



In Afghanistan, there was an urgent need for a humanitarian response as more than half of the population was said to have been faced with humanitarian crises. However, after the announcement in April of the withdrawal of all US troops, the Taliban, which had taken control of more than half the country, gained more power, seizing major cities one after another. They seized the capital, Kabul, on August 15th and the former government collapsed and the Taliban formed the de facto government in Afghanistan. The country was thrown into turmoil with people who were afraid of their rule by terror. Many were forced to evacuate to safer places in and outside the country as refugees. Fortunately, all of our SVA staff members worked together to continue providing educational and cultural support, as well as humanitarian response, giving top priority to the safety of the staff and parties concerned. We will continue our activities to protect children's lives and educational opportunities, considering the security situation in the country.

Myanmar

We continued educational and cultural support activities under the coup

Children in Myanmar missed learning opportunities for almost two years due to the military coup and spread of COVID-19. Although the new term began in June as scheduled, many children and teachers did not go back to school. Our library activities, which started in 2014, had begun taking root in the country and we were preparing to expand them, but we had to suspend some of the activities due to the coup. Under these circumstances, we steadily pressed ahead with what we could do, revising our plans.

Achievements

Library activity participants:
18,689 people
Training participants:
385 people
Library /
Library rooms opened
2 rooms



Projects

1. School Construction Project

- The two schools that had been under construction since 2020 were completed.
- We provided 40 people with school maintenance training and library training.

2. Infrastructure Development Project for School Library

- We opened model school libraries in 2 schools and provided each library with 966 picture books and paper theaters (Kamishibai).
- 10 people took a series of school library training sessions and 44 people, including teachers and school principals, took our new series of trainer training sessions.

3. Reading Promotion Project in East Bago Region

- We worked with 14 public libraries to conduct online storytelling activities.
- It became difficult to continue the activities and we stopped all of them at the end of July.

4. Community Resource Center (CRC) Project

- We held management training and quarterly meetings at the CRCs in 5 villages in Karen state.
- CRCs were used by 18,352 people, providing

them with 7,325 books and picture books.
• We delivered 5,092 picture books through mobile libraries and school library boxes.



Staff of Yangon Office



Staff of Pyay Office



Staff of Hpa-An Office

Message

Ms. Aki Nakahara
Myanmar Office
Director



This year, we had to witness everything we'd worked to create being destroyed in the blink of an eye, due to the February 1 coup. Our activities had finally taken root, and we were seeing an increasing number of supporters. We had set our minds on working even harder together for children's education and future. I felt a tide of frustration and anger welling up inside myself. However, it's the people in Myanmar who are sadder than anyone. It's frustrating that we can't carry on our recently started projects on the boarder due to the new waves of refugees into Thailand. However, I learned from our staff's positive attitude that it is important to continue doing what we can. What we should do now is to carry on our educational and cultural support activities to help develop human resources even just a little bit. Although proceeding with the activities in the unstable political situation is not easy, I want to stand by the people in Myanmar through our activities.

Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project

Ongoing support to community library management under infection control measures

COVID-19 spread across Thailand and cases were confirmed in the refugee camp. Our staff was restricted from entering the camp area. Education facilities, including the community libraries, were closed. We figured out alternative ways to operate, such as lending books to individuals and groups, to carry on our activities. Currently, when the libraries are open, we provide services with infection control measures. The process for people in the refugee camps to return to their country has been suspended due to the military coup in Myanmar and people are feeling increasingly anxious.

Achievements

Library activity participants:
118,802 people
Training participants:
465 people



Projects

1. Community Library Management

- In 2000, we began supporting the community libraries in the refugee camps in Thailand with their management. In 2021, 15 libraries in 7 camps were used by a total of 118,802 people (75,582 children and 43,220 adults). We distributed infection prevention supplies for COVID-19 to the libraries and ran them with infection control measures, including temperature screening, hand washing, and social distancing.
- We provided the 15 libraries with 7,350 books (newspapers, magazines, novels, etc.) for adults, 5,393 picture books (in Karen and Burmese languages) for children, and 2,220 reference books.
- Using mobile library boxes, we lent books to 55 elementary, junior high, and other schools, as well as to 30 organizations working in the camps, even during the library closure.
- We provided library users with information on new books and COVID-19 through the information boards and computers in the libraries.
- We shared our plans, details of library activities, and challenges with the libraries by holding meetings and monitoring, and improved our services. In addition, we shared our storytelling techniques and recreation

programs with the libraries in order to improve our library activities.



Staff of Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project Office

Message

Ms. Chiraphorn Rawirung
Myanmar (Burma) Refugee
Project Office
Deputy Director



Following the spread of COVID-19, we closed the community libraries temporarily. During the closure, we continued to provide users with reading opportunities by lending books and mobile library boxes. Now the libraries are reopened, and we are working closely with library staff to ensure infection control. In addition, the process for the residents of the refugee camps to return to Myanmar has been suspended this year due to the military coup in the country. Their anxiety, fear, and stress have been growing over time. The need to help people living in the refugee camps and the border areas has increased more than ever. We will continue to help people living in the border areas as much as possible.

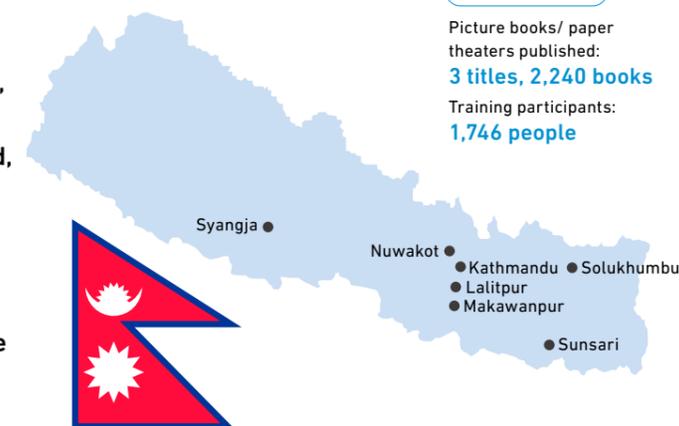
Nepal

Working toward high-quality education, particularly in the face of the pandemic

In Nepal, schools remained closed until September, 2021, because of the spread of COVID-19 and the Delta variant in particular. Although the schools later reopened, there has been concern about insufficient learning hours, as well as consequent lower levels of learning. In addition, there has been an increase in child marriage and labor. Despite the impacts of travel restrictions and lockdowns, we have been pushing forward with our three projects to work towards quality education, steadily achieving positive results.

Achievements

Picture books/ paper
theaters published:
3 titles, 2,240 books
Training participants:
1,746 people



Projects

1. Community Library Project

- A new library building opened to provide library services and learning programs. As one of the learning programs, we held a training for children to create picture books by collecting folk stories from their grandparents. As a result, we published one picture book with 1,000 copies.
- For the construction of the three libraries scheduled to be completed next year, we are currently giving capacity building training to the Library Management Committee, which consists of resident representatives.

2. Developing a Local Curriculum for the Use for Indigenous Peoples Project

- Many of the Chepang, an indigenous people, live in Raksirang Rural Municipality in Makwanpur. Targeting all of the 52 schools in this region, we created a textbook and trained teachers, so that 6th to 8th graders can learn about their own municipality. We also set up book corners in each classroom of these schools. The project was commended as one of the best project in the education sector by the National Association of Rural Municipality in Nepal. We also provided writers, illustrators, and editors in Nepal with paper theater (KAMISHIBAI) production

training, connecting them with paper theater experts in Japan through online.

3. United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) school meals project Aligned Nutrition Education Improvement Project

- The target of the project is all of the 440 schools in Nuwakot. We created two paper theaters (KAMISHIBAI), one about local production for local consumption and one about food digestion, a poster that illustrates the amounts of food that can provide the nutrients necessary for health as a pyramid, and a teachers' guidebook on nutrition education, and then, we trained the teachers. In addition, we broadcast a local radio program for nutrition education.



Staff of Nepal Office

Message

Mr. Takafumi Miyake
Nepal Office
Director



In 2021, like the previous year, the entire country was locked down, from April to June, with the schools closed and children left without learning opportunities. The three projects we launched in 2020 also didn't progress as expected. In the community library project, a library was completed. The total number of the library users and learning program participants increased by 6 times, compared to the past, to 664. As for humanitarian response, we provided four hospitals with necessary medical equipment for intensive care for patients with severe coronavirus, including medical ventilators and ICU beds. We also distributed highly nutritious food to people in need through four community libraries. In addition, we provided 15 target schools of the local curriculum project with infection prevention supplies for them to reopen. We also provided the hospital in the target village with the freezer to store vaccines.

Japan

Launch of COVID-19 emergency support for foreign residents

The prolonged pandemic has directly affected the unstable lives of foreign residents in Japan. Many foreign residents have been forced to lead difficult lives. At SVA, we launched an emergency inclusive support project in Toshima Ward, where many foreign nationals live. In this project, we worked with local groups to strengthen the livelihoods of foreign residents by, for example, distributing food and providing consultation sessions. In addition, the project to create spaces for children with foreign backgrounds, which was launched in 2020, has been active online.

Achievements

Participants in the inclusive support project: **310 people**

Participants in the online child-friendly space: **459 people**



Projects

1. Emergency inclusive support project for foreign residents

- In May, as part of our COVID-19 emergency response, we began providing foreign residents in Toshima, Tokyo, with inclusive support, in cooperation with the Toshima Ward Residents Council of Social Welfare, Tokyo Public Law Office, and local support groups. This effort is centered around livelihood support, legal assistance, and social inclusion of foreign nationals.
- We held 10 food pantry and consultation events for foreign residents at different locations in Toshima. In these events, we distributed food to 310 households to learn their needs. Of the households, those requiring further support were individually provided with support by lawyers, the social welfare council, and coordinators.
- We concluded contracts with 3 foreign coordinators for them to support foreign residents on-site. We will train them as non-Japanese who can act as supporters in the region so that foreign residents will not always remain on the supported side.

2. Child-friendly space development project for children with foreign roots

- In May 2020, in cooperation with Toshima

Children's WAKUWAKU Network, we began creating spaces where children with foreign backgrounds can feel at home. We have been providing such spaces online due to the prolonged pandemic.

- In 2021, we held 51 online events to provide a cumulative total of 459 children with a homey virtual space. These events are planned and managed by grad students as management staff and university students from Nepal and China as interpreters.
- To help foreign residents gain more knowledge to make plans for the future and stay in Japan stably, we provide them with career counseling services and seminars about the statuses of residence. In the counseling sessions, foreign residents can ask experienced people with foreign backgrounds for advice on their careers.



Staff of the Global Citizenship Division

Message

Mr. Hitoshi Ichikawa
Manager
Global Citizenship Division



In Japan, Specified Skilled Worker, a new status of residence, was created in 2019. This status permits foreign nationals to perform unskilled jobs that had been permitted to only some people. The number of foreign nationals in Japan increased to a record breaking 2.93 million in 2020. Most foreign residents work as nonregular workers at low wages due to their unstable residential status and limited Japanese language skills. As a result, they are liable to fall into poverty, with poor access to public support. In addition, they are not well connected to their communities and are often cut off from local mutual aid systems. In our target area, Toshima, there are 27,023 foreign residents and they account for 9.4 percent of the population. Although this is the eighth highest figure among all the municipalities in Japan, there is no public support center, such as an international exchange association, in the area. I believe that it is really meaningful to work with government agencies and local support groups towards the realization of a multicultural society, with SVA's mission, "live together, learn together," in mind.

Humanitarian Response

Activities in overseas

Nepal:

Delivery of emergency medical supplies in response to the spread of COVID-19

We finished the COVID-19 Delivery of Emergency Medical Supplies Project in October, which was launched in June. In response to the spread of COVID-19 and prevalence of the Delta variant in neighboring India, we provided four overwhelmed hospitals in Nepal with medical equipment and supplies for intensive care of patients with severe coronavirus. The supplies we provided include ICU beds, medical monitors, artificial ventilators, emergency carts, and oxygen cylinders.



Monitoring provided medical equipment

Afghanistan:

COVID-19 humanitarian response

To respond to the immediate food crisis and to prevent COVID-19 infection, we distributed emergency food to 1,380 households in Nangarhar and Kunar for five months, starting in March, while raising awareness about infection prevention.

Humanitarian response to internally displaced people and the needy

In August, we began distributing food and hygiene supplies for COVID-19 prevention to internally displaced people (IDP) and the needy in Kunar. In addition, we launched a support activity to promote awareness of the challenges in protecting women, within the community overall, including men. Although the activity was suspended following the political changes in August, we started working again after our local staff gathered information and made necessary arrangement with the defact government. In resuming the activity, we also took account of how other NGOs were responding to the situation. We will continue the activity, adjusting our plan as necessary and taking safety measures for our local staff.



A created awareness poster to prevent COVID-19



People who are receiving food items

Myanmar–Thailand border:

Distribution of supplies to refugees and emergency initial assessment of their needs

From May to July, based on the areas in Northern Thailand along the Myanmar–Thailand border, we conducted an assessment to understand the needs of refugees affected by combat and airstrikes associated with the military coup near Myanmar's boarder, and then distributed emergency relief goods, such as food, to the refugees. To carry out this project, private donations and the Japan Platform's funds were utilized. The results of the assessment showed that the refugees were forced to live with poor hygiene as their evacuation had been prolonged and that children had no access to education. For this reason, we distributed hygiene supplies, such as masks and sanitizer, as well as stationery.

Emergency food distribution to refugees

We have been distributing food to states near Thailand's border where urgent needs were confirmed in the assessment conducted from August to December. In addition, to help refugees arriving in Thailand to escape combat and airstrikes, we have been distributing emergency supplies, such as drinking water and blankets, in temporary shelters within Thailand since December.



Children receiving stationery supplies



Preparing for distribution of emergency drinking water

Activities in Japan

Activities for the heavy rain in August 2021

The long heavy rain which set in on August 11th caused flood damage in Saga and other areas. In response to this, we sent our staff to Takeo, Saga, and other locations to investigate the extent of damage and conducted salon activities, partly to distribute goods. Our activities also included creating spaces for affected children to spend time in on weekends and helping inundated business places, such as after-school daycare centers and kindergartens, to recover their book stocks by providing the new ones.

Disaster prevention and mitigation activities

As a daily disaster prevention and mitigation activity, we established a nationwide disaster prevention and mitigation network of religious facilities and religious people. For this purpose, we held four study sessions with the theme "Disaster prevention and mitigation for religious facilities." We will carry on our activities to increase the number of religious facilities with disaster readiness, working with communities and municipalities.



Visiting residents door to door



An online disaster prevention and mitigation study session



絵本を届ける運動 Campaign to Deliver Picture Books

This activity is to attach stickers with local languages on Japanese picture books and deliver them to children in our target areas. Launched in 1999 as a program both individuals and groups of all ages can join freely, it marked its 22nd anniversary in 2021.

Expanding participation in the face of the pandemic

Delivering 15,682 books to children in Asia

Picture books collected through the Campaign to Deliver Picture Books are delivered to children living in SVA's target areas. Launched in 1999, the program has marked its 22nd anniversary, with many people joining each year. The number of picture books delivered through the program has reached over 360,000. In 2021, we delivered a total of 15,682 picture books representing 50 different titles translated into Khmer, Lao, Pashto, Burmese and Karen for Cambodia, Laos, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Myanmar (Burma) refugee camps along Thailand's border.

Themes of picture books we deliver to the target areas

We select picture books, considering the activities we provide in our target regions, the children's ages, cultural backgrounds, etc., as well as advice from librarians and publishers with deep knowledge of picture books. In 2021, we delivered science picture books about the evolution of creatures, as well as those that help children think about peace and war, in addition to animal and transportation picture books, which are very popular among children.

An international cooperation activity you can join freely

As of 2021, a cumulative total of 14,127 people and 417 companies/groups participated in the program. Many people enjoy the activity of putting translation stickers in picture books because anyone can do it, regardless of their age. The comments received from participants include: "I put the stickers on, hoping that this book will make the children in the region smile," and "My children and I had a heartwarming time, working together."

Achievements

Participation	15,682 books
	1,608 people
Titles	50 titles
Cooperation Publishing house	18 publishing houses



Left: Making translated picture books at elementary schools
Right: Picture book arrived at the refugee camp

CRAFT AID

Fairtrade Project

Craft Aid is a fair-trade program operated by SVA, which sells hand-made products that women around Asia put their time and effort into producing with care. Together with our local partner organizations, these women make products that incorporate traditional culture and techniques passed down from generation to generation, such as embroidery and weaving, and we introduce them in Japan.

Delivering products made with love

Craftspeople during the pandemic and political changes of today

In 2021, the project was affected by the spread of COVID-19 in and outside the country, as well as worsening situations in various areas. The arrival of goods was delayed, the production of some goods was discontinued, and sales events were canceled. In Thailand and Laos, craftspeople from ethnic minorities living in rural mountainous areas had difficulty procuring the materials necessary for making goods, such as fabric and thread, due to travel restrictions. In Cambodia, sewing factories were closed one after another due to COVID-19. In Afghanistan and Myanmar, situations deteriorated and shipment of goods to Japan was restricted. Despite these difficult situations, however, the craftspeople kept embroidering and weaving while doing housework and field work. As a result, they managed to start selling 28 new products. In Japan, we disseminated information via social media on a continuous basis and received 1,326 orders—including orders from 472 new customers—mainly via our online store. The products were also sold at 36 stores, including two special sales events at department stores. We also held an online event connecting craftspeople from around the world for the first time, and 197 people participated.

Expanding our online network

In 2021, in spite of the difficult situation, we pushed forward with the project, building stronger partnerships with craftspeople abroad by maintaining close contact with them. While our in-person sales activities were restricted, our Fairtrade network grew through social media and our online store. We will continue to expand our network with great care.

Achievements

Dealerships	36 shops
Limited time sale	2 times
Number of purchases	1,326 cases



Left: Myanmar/Craftspeople in Pakokku making a hand-woven drip mat (photo provided by) dacco.myanmar
Right: Thailand/Lisu tribe's overlapped-seam two-way bag



Donation: Monthly Supporter

Asian Library Supporter

This program provides continuous support for granting opportunities to read books and a place where children enjoy learning safely and peacefully. Your support will help children develop to nurtures and enhances the future.

Supporting children living in difficult conditions

449 new Monthly Supporters (Asian Library Supporters) joined us

To let as many people as possible know about the situations in the target areas even during the coronavirus pandemic, we put our booklets on the brochure racks in libraries across the country, and also disseminated information via social media throughout the year. As a result, we received support from many people. In August, in collaboration with Craft Aid, we launched a promotion with original giveaway bags made with Cambodian hand-woven fabric. The promotion was a great success. We also designed our annual cards, which convey messages from children in Asia, such that they can be used as photo stands.

Supporting a wide range of activities

Donations from Monthly Supporters (Asian Library Supporters), which are intended for our activities in any target country, are used for book-based educational and cultural support, such as improving libraries and building schools for children, promoting reading, and training teachers and librarians in target areas faced with more critical situations. Of the total amount of donations from individuals, about 30 percent is from Monthly Supporters (Asian Library Supporters). Steady, monthly donations from Monthly Supporters are the strong foundation for our educational and cultural support, which can take long periods of time to show fruit.

Achievements

New supporters
449 people



Message card with photos
Designed by: aurinco

Events

A year filled with anniversary events
We held 11 events and 1,188 people participated. We had anniversary events one after another throughout the year, including the Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project Office's 20th anniversary, Cambodia Office's 30th anniversary, and SVA's 40th anniversary. Because it was difficult to gather together in person due to the pandemic, we had virtual events, connecting online with the local staff and concerned parties in the activity locations. The recorded events are available on SVA's YouTube channel.

Lectures

More requests for online lectures for companies and schools
We provided 39 lectures to 1,829 attendees. We received 12 requests from schools and 13 requests from companies. Most of the lectures were given online due to the pandemic, which allowed the attendees online-specific flexibility; for example, some office workers who had shifted to remote work attended the lectures from home with their families.



Goods donation

Excess accessories, brand-name items, gift vouchers and marked postcards can be sold to our partner companies who will donate the assessed value.

We've been receiving more donations, as people have been spending more time at home

In 2021, we had fewer opportunities to promote donating goods through the Contribution Project at events than before the pandemic, so we mailed fliers and dedicated envelopes to the participants of SVA's other programs more often. In addition, we posted ads to social media and magazines, based on specific scenes, such as the New Year's holiday season, moving, and house cleanup. Many people joined the project as a volunteer activity since they were spending more time at home.

Achievements

Books, CDs, video game software	505 items	Total: 1,178 items
Gift and cash vouchers	232 items	
Other valuable items found at home	441 items	Total amount: 3,902,054 yen

Examples of items donated

Books, CDs, video game software
books, comic books, CDs, DVDs, Blu-rays, video game software, video game consoles



Examples of items donated

Gift and cash vouchers
nationwide gift certificates, beer/ rice coupons, book vouchers/card, miswritten postcards, unused stamps and postcards



Miswritten postcards

Other valuable items found at home
gold, platinum, precious metals, jewelry, brand-name items (bags, plates, and watches), old coins, old paper money/gold coins, coins, camera and lenses, musical instruments (guitars and wind instruments), etc.

Achievements

Media coverage	162 media channels
Lecture	39 times
	1,829 people
Event	11 times
	1,188 people

Media coverage

More media coverage on Myanmar and Afghanistan
We were introduced by 162 media channels, including TV, newspapers, and magazines. The breakdown is as follows: 95 newspapers, 24 magazines, 10 TV channels, 1 radio program, and 32 other internet media. Since the political transitions in Myanmar and Afghanistan, target areas of SVA, we have been interviewed more frequently about the state of things on the ground and how we work in these countries, as well as locals' opinions.

Media appearances (excerpt)

NHK BS1 International News Report 2021/
NHK Sunday Debate/NHK News Good Morning Japan/NHK News Watch 9/NHK G, BS4K Weekly Maruwakari News/NHK WORLD Newslite in Depth/TV Tokyo World Business Satellite (WBS)/Asahi Shimbun/Yomiuri Shimbun/Mainichi Shimbun/Tokyo Shimbun/Chugai Nippo/Bukkyo Times/STORY/Halmek/AERA/Junior AERA, etc.

Support and cooperation in 2021

In 2021, we continued to carry out joint projects, as well as receive donations from individuals and groups, to improve education environments. Our activities are supported by many people through various means of support and cooperation.

Support and cooperation (As of December, 2021)

Monthly Supporters

New support members	449 people
Total :	2,509 people (As of December, 2021)

Donation

Individuals Supporters	7,616 people
Organizations Supporters	1,776 organizations

Volunteers, Internship program

Joint program with Toyo University

Programme Support Division,	Translation Volunteers	3 people
CRAFT AID Division,	Volunteers	5 people
Tokyo office interns,	Public Relations and Donor Relations Division	4 people

Support members

aurinco
 Mr. Hiroyasu Ito
 Mr. Takaharu Eto
 Mr. Yoshifumi Kawabata
 Ms. Sayaka Kimura
 Ms. Emiko Kiyohara
 Ms. Yumi Yasaka Schultz
 Mr. Ryo Takada
 Ms. Asuka Takahashi
 Ms. Numata Tomomi
 Ms. Chihiro Fujiwara
 Mr. Takuya Hoda
 Mr. Kohei Matsuoka
 Ms. Yuuri Mikami
 Ms. Yasui Hiromi
 Mr. Hajime Wada

Collaboration with relevant organizations

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MoFA) "The Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects"

Nepal

- Strengthening Resilience of Earthquake Affected Schools in Nuwakot and Rasuwa district
- Project for improvement of quality of education in quake-affected areas and marginalized communities

Afghanistan

- Development project for Diffusion of "Library for children" in Afghanistan
- Myanmar
- The Reading Promotion Project at Primary Schools in West Bago Region
- Developing the School Library Infrastructure Project at Education College and Management School in Yangon Region and Pyay District

Myanmar Border

- The Project for Rehabilitation and Resettlement through Community Resource Center in Eastern and Southern Kayin state, Myanmar

Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA) "Partnership Program"

Laos

- Improvement of multi-grade class management by enhancing the teaching capacity of Teacher Training Collages in the Northern Laos (2nd Year)

Cambodia

- Quality Improvement of Early Childhood Education at State Preschools in Battambang Province, Cambodia

Japan Platform (JPF)

Afghanistan

- Emergency Education and WASH Assistance to Returnees and IDPs in Kunar Province, Afghanistan
- Emergency Protection, Education and WASH Assistance to Returnees and IDPs in Nangarhar and Kunar Province, Afghanistan
- Items distribution, hygiene awareness raising and women's protection support project for needy families in Kunar, Afghanistan

Nepal

- Provision of Medical supplies for intensive care for Covid-19 severely ill patients in Nuwakot

Myanmar Border

- Initial assessment and distribution of relief supplies for IDPs and refugees in Thai-Myanmar border
- Emergency food distribution support for vulnerable people including internally displaced people in Karen State

Japan

- Support for victims of the August 2021 torrential rain in Saga.

World Food Programme(WFP)

Nepal

- School meals programme in Nuwakot district

Support for our activities

"Campaign to Deliver Picture Books" "Monthly Supporter"

- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology(MEXT)
- Japan Library Association
- Japan Council for Promoting Book Reading

SVA About

For more than 40 years, SVA has been conducting educational and cultural support activities in Asian countries and regions.

We believe that "education has the power to change lives", and we are engaged in library activities, school construction, and human resource development while valuing local culture and dialogue.

Our identity

We Live Together and Learn Together

Around the world, there are a great many children who are unable to get a proper education because of conflicts, poverty, natural disasters, or other such factors. SVA is engaged in activities intended to create opportunities to learn in comfort, even under difficult circumstances.

Our Mission

We aim to bring about a peaceful (Shanti) society that has respect for human dignity and diversity, and allows people to "live together, learn together".

Our Vision

people, by supporting the power of people to think and to create.

To Create Safe and Secure Environment for Children to Study

SVA's goals are to create a culture of reading and to enhance the quality of education. To achieve the goals, books and teaching materials to learn, staff to teach, classrooms to study safely, and opportunities to learn are essential.



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) That We Seek to Achieve by 2030

These goals were adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015, following discussion among the countries of the world. There are 17 goals that both developed and developing countries are meant to strive for by 2030, with the shared goal of achieving sustainable development.

Toward the achievement of the 4th goal, SVA is engaged in various efforts toward not just solving the problems of education but the achievement of all of the goals outlined in the SDGs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goals of SDGs that SVA is engaged in

Organizational Profile

Organization Name:
Shanti Volunteer Association

Establishment:
December 10, 1981

Registered Date of Incorporated Association:
August 19, 1999

Registered Date of Public Interest Incorporated Association:
January 4, 2011

Advisor

Mr. Fusao Adachi | Advisor, The Supporting Organization of J. O. C. V.
Rev. Hojun Abe | Resident Priest, Koujuin Temple, Miyagi prefecture
Mr. Masahiro Onoda | Chairman, Shizuoka Volunteer Association
Rev. Eisho Kawahara | Head Priest, Rengein Tanjo-ji Temple, Kumamoto prefecture
 President, Association for Rengein Tanjoji International Cooperation

Mr. Takashi Shiraishi | Advisor, Arakawa Ward Staff Labor Union
 Chairman, Non-profit Organization Japan Laos Children's Future

Rev. Kenshi Fueoka | Resident Priest, Ryukoku-ji Temple, Shizuoka prefecture
 Director of Sotoshu Shizuoka Forth District Office

Counselor

Rev. Shunei Onyuda | President of Sotoshu Shumuchō
Rev. Shodo Kobayashi | Administrator of Eiheiji
Rev. Keiji Watanabe | Administrator of Sojiji

Board of Directors, Auditor

President
Rev. Kyoei Wakabayashi | President of Anrakutomonokai, Reverend of Anraku-ji temple, Nagano prefecture

Vice Presidents
Ms. Kayoko Kozu | President of KOZUstyle Co., Ltd.
Rev. Gido Sambe | Representative of Mogami Local production for Local consumption Energy, Reverend of Shorin-ji temple, Yamagata prefecture

Executive Director
Rev. Wako Okamoto | Representative of Kazusa Nature school, Reverend of Shinko-ji temple, Chiba prefecture

Managing Directors
Rev. Shiro Arima | Secretariat of Andenet, Reverend of Genkou-ji temple, Yamaguchi prefecture

Rev. Shunko Chino | Director of Niwano Peace Foundation, Reverend of Zuisho-ji temple, Nagano prefecture
Prof. Tatsuya Hata | Professor in Faculty of International Studies, Kindai University

Mr. Katsumasa Yagisawa | Advisor of Sikkha Asia Foundation

Board Members
Ms. Sachiko Asano | Visiting Researcher, Institute for Sustainable Community and Risk Management, Waseda University
Rev. Shoko Takemata | Director of All Japan Buddhist Nun Association, Reverend of Dairinin temple, Tokyo prefecture
Rev. Taiten Toukai | President of Shanti Tohoku, Reverend of Shogen-ji temple, Miyagi prefecture
Ms. Riyo Naoi | Affiliate Lecturer, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University / Film Director
Rev. Bunmei Hayasaka | Reverend of Tokuhon-ji temple, Miyagi prefecture
Rev. Kando Matsunaga | Reverend of Soutokuin temple, Shizuoka prefecture
Ms. Eri Yamamoto | Secretary General of Shanti Volunteer Association
Rev. Keiyu Yokosawa | Reverend of Tosho-ji temple, Nagano prefecture

Auditors
Mr. Masayuki Nakayama | Graduate School of Globalizing Asia, Kokushikan University Professor

Mr. Shigeru Nonaka | Nonaka Certified Public Accountant Office / Managing Partner

Technical Advisor

Dr. Noriyuki Amano | Director, Amano Clinic
Mr. Toshiyuki Osuga | Lecturer, Soto Institute for Buddhist Studies
Ms. Sachiko Kamakura | CEO, Kamakura Sachiko Co.
Mr. Hirotsugu Takata | Executive Producer, News Production Department, NHK Global Media Services, Inc.
Mr. Koji Tezuka | Advisor, Buddhist Institute, Ministry of Cult and Religion Kingdom of Cambodia
Mr. Takeshi Fujitani | Senior Enterprise Editor, The Asahi Shimbun

Award History

2021 | Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award
 2021 | International Activities of 25th Earth RINRI Promotion Award
 2021 | 28th Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize
 2020 | Kamenori Special Award
 2019 | Letter of gratitude from Commissioner of Japan Sports Agency
 2015 | ESD Okayama Award Global Prize
 2011 | Letter of gratitude from Miyagi Council of Social Welfare
 2008 | 7th Iue Memorial Foundation Asia Pacific Culture Prize
 2005 | Letter of gratitude from Governor of Hyogo Prefecture
 2004 | Minister of State for Disaster Management Award
 1995 | Letter of gratitude from Toshima Ward, Tokyo
 1994 | Mainichi International Exchange Award
 1988 | Foreign Minister's Commendation
 1985 | Soroptimist Japan Foundation Award
 1984 | Matsutaro Shoriki Award

Network

Overall
 Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)
 "Board members" / The Asia Disaster Reduction & Response Network (ADRRN) / Global Book Alliance

Cambodia
 Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) / NGO Education Partnership (NEP) / People's Forum on Cambodia, Japan (PEFOC, J) / Japanese NGO Worker's Network in Cambodia (JNNC)

Laos
 International NGO Network (INN) / Japanese NGO Meeting (JANM)

Myanmar (Burma) Refugee Project Office
 Committee for Co-ordination of Services to Displaced Persons in Thailand (CCSDPT)

Afghanistan
 Agency Coordinating Body For Afghan Relief (ACBAR)

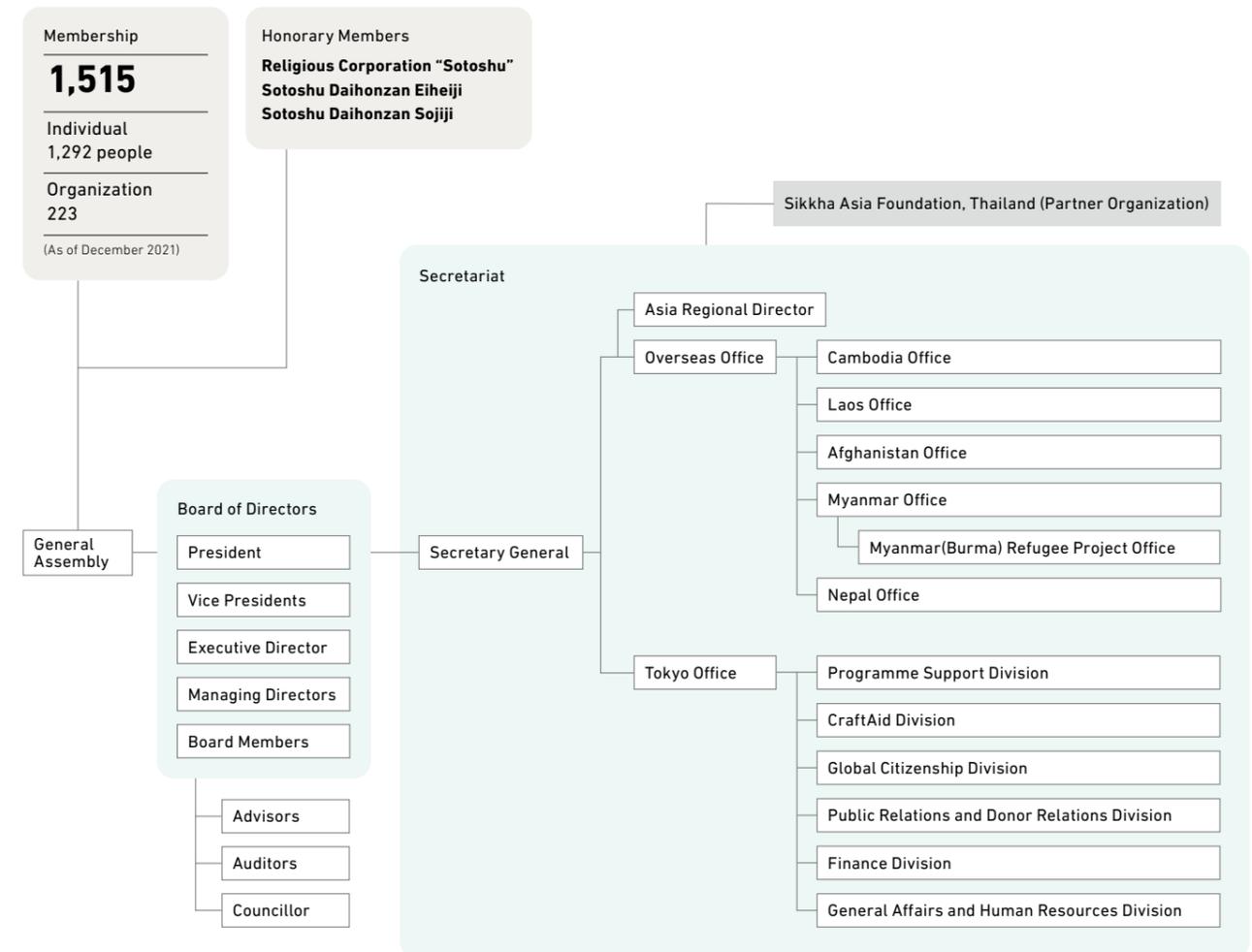
Myanmar
 Japan NGOs Network – Myanmar (JNN-Myanmar)

Nepal
 Association of International NGOs in Nepal (AIN)

Japan
 Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs / Japan NGO Initiative for Safety and Security, JaNISS "Directors"/ NGO-MOFA Regular Meetings / NGO-JICA Council "Coordinator"/ NGOs-Labor Unions International Collaboration Forum/ NGO NO WAR NETWORK "Proposer"/ Japan NGO Action Network for Civic Space (NANCIS) / Development Education Association and Resource Center (DEAR) "Board members"/ KAMISHIBAI Culture Promotion Council/ People's Forum on Cambodia, Japan (PEFOC, J) "Co-Representative"/ Japan NGO Network for Education (JNNE) "Secretary General"/ Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) / Japan Platform (JPF) / Multicultural Toshima Network / Tokyo Education Multicultural Network / Japan Campaign to Ban Landmines (JCBL) / Disaster Connection Japan Network / Tokyo Volunteer Network for Disaster Relief "Deputy representative"/ Action Plan Promotion Council of Tokyo Volunteer Center in Disaster "Organizer Organization"/ Japan Afghan NGO Network (JANN) / Japan NPO Center / Japan Library Association / Japan Fundraising Association / Japan Forum for UNHCR and NGOs / Niwano Peace Foundation "Director"/ Japan CSO Coalition for Disaster Risk Reduction (JCC-DRR) / Japan Civil Network for Disaster Relief in the East Japan (JCN) / TheBuddhist NGO Network of Japan (BNN) "Vice Chairman / Executive Director" / Sotoshu SDGs Promotion Committee / World Conference Religions for Peace (WCRP) / Actions for Afghans (AFA)

Organizational Chart

Staff total: 131(Not including SAF, Intern)
 Staff in Japan: 42
 Staff in other than Japan: 89
 (As of April 1, 2022)



Balance Sheet (as of December 31,2021)

(Unit JPY)		
Accounts	1. Current Year As of December 31,2021	2. Previous Year As of December 31,2020
Assets		
1. Current Assets		
Cash and Bank Accounts	59,885,961	34,451,470
Inventory Assets		
Handicrafts	5,623,541	6,445,653
Other Inventories	123,050	78,500
Account Receivables Sales	2,415,748	2,586,979
Advances paid	139,155	157,750
Short-term Loan Receivable	743,723	776,347
Prepaid Expenses	806,110	2,280,008
Temporary payment	693,698	278,740
Total Current Assets (A)	70,430,986	47,055,447
2. Fixed Assets		
(1) Basic Assets		
Started Capital Fund		7,939
Investment to Security (Japanese Government Bond)	50,000,000	49,992,061
Total Basic Assets	50,000,000	50,000,000
(2) Designated Assets		
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Myanmar)	14,648,397	4,461,226
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Myanmar Boarder Project)	0	28,137,785
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Afghanistan)	45,249,912	14,426,022
Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project (Nepal)	77,702,883	52,291,035
Donation Fund		
Domestic operation in Japan Operation Fund	1,790,000	4,231,721
Private Subsidy Funds	84,326,903	23,919,344
Reserve for Basic Asset Fund	112,000,000	112,000,000
Arima Human Resource Development Deposit	2,926,016	2,926,016
National staff Resouce Development Deposit	1,000,000	1,000,000
Asia Children Future Fund	4,187,178	3,015,167
Yakeno Education Donation Deposit	1,900,000	2,900,000
Seigetsu Okano Donation Fund	12,700,000	13,700,000
Public fund (Legacy)	57,258,331	10,246,995
Thailand Operation Donation Fund	0	432,000
Designated donation fund (Cambodia)	26,980,778	15,600,554
Designated donation fund (Laos)	20,855,300	6,504,985
Designated donation fund (Myanmar Boarder Project)	7,555,506	700,000
Designated donation fund (Afghanistan)	29,044,503	5,900,000
Designated donation fund (Myanmar)	889,703	9,163,330
Emergency Relief Donation deposit	1,210,000	2,165,321
Designated donation fund (Nepal)	800,000	664,000
East Japan Earthquake Support Donation Fund	13,430,452	13,320,632
Total Designated Assets	516,455,862	327,706,133
(3) Fixed Assets Others		
Vehicle	3,521,794	7,113,689
Guarantee deposits	2,520,972	2,459,837
Total Fixed Assets Others	6,042,766	9,573,526
Total Fixed Assets (B)	572,498,628	387,279,659
Total Assets (A)+(B)	642,929,614	434,335,106
Liabilities		
1. Current Liabilities		
Accrued Expense	2,651,223	8,432,585
Account Payable	30,099,201	5,672,505
Advance Received	52,160,576	39,246,543
Tax & Insurance Payable	3,216,469	3,039,206
Other Liabilities	500,000	89,209
Deposits Received Payable	2,858,736	2,848,140
Consumption tax Payable	438,200	430,800
Corporate taxes etc others	70,000	70,000
Total Current Liabilities (C)	91,994,405	59,828,988
2. Non Current Liabilities		
Allowance for retirement benefits	21,453,797	23,642,676
Foreign exchange gain or loss	4,650,907	0
Total Noncurrent Liabilities (D)	26,104,704	23,642,676
Total Liabilities (E) = (C)+(D)	118,099,109	83,471,664
Net Assets		
1. Restricted Net Assets		
(Appropriate amount to Basic Assets)	(50,000,000)	(50,000,000)
(Appropriate amount to Designated Assets)	(416,882,881)	(253,545,000)
2. General Net Assets		
(Appropriate amount to Basic Assets)	0	0
(Appropriate amount to Designated Assets)	(47,412,405)	(34,914,590)
Total Net Assets (F)	524,830,505	350,863,442
Total Liabilities & Net Assets (E)+(F)	642,929,614	434,335,106

Increase / Decrease in Net Assets

From January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

(Unit JPY)		
Accounts	1. Current Year As of December 31,2021	2. Previous Year As of December 31,2020
I General Net Assets		
1. Change in General Net Assets		
(1) Ordinary Income		
Basic Asset Investment Profit	105,439	97,500
Designated Asset Investment Profit	91,552	115,213
Membership fee received	21,457,000	22,902,500
Donation received	314,606,139	351,997,413
Transfer from Donation	114,149,442	175,659,962
Donation for Local office received	0	679,204
Donation for Asian Children	99,362,047	82,402,149
For Delivering Japanese Picture Books	44,429,787	44,034,146
For Asian Library Support	53,174,029	45,193,500
For Recycle Book Aid	3,490,834	4,028,452
Transfer from Public/Private Subsidy received	165,503,423	115,607,005
Transfer from Private Subsidy received	165,503,423	115,607,005
Operating Income	209,055,819	273,309,982
Income from Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan	183,090,133	246,423,754
Income from Fair-trade project [Craft Aid]	20,286,793	18,722,370
Income overseas office	93,487	2,910,462
Income from Public Relations Project	300,000	228,000
Income from Contract Project	1,200,000	1,200,000
Income from Recycle Book Aid	4,085,406	3,825,396
Foreign Exchange gain	2,062,523	0
Other income	1,103,352	1,111,475
Interest Income	11,735	194,972
Employment subsidy	228,000	0
Other miscellaneous Income	863,617	916,503
Total Ordinary Income (A)	713,985,247	765,141,088

(2) Ordinary Expense		
Operation Expense	671,405,969	768,590,827
Direct operating Expense	355,512,321	431,510,101
Direct operating Expense-Purchase	30,619,505	30,460,725
Personnel expense	168,167,662	172,033,724
Travel	5,027,021	10,066,095
Freight & Postage	13,164,700	12,549,442
Communication	1,350,891	2,797,691
House & Land rent	6,925,696	6,839,370
Leasing	1,784,781	1,555,623
Public Relations	43,224,349	52,162,834
Consumables Fixtures	1,088,838	1,361,567
Consumables	1,516,691	3,200,430
Repair	59,840	0
Office consumptions	3,279,452	2,709,760
Utility	1,083,650	1,021,537
Insurance	315,130	198,445
Research	1,569,256	2,657,328
Meeting	249,892	860,245
Study	179,856	138,027
Public relation	95,220	41,044
Site visitors expense	0	1,102,205
Handle charge	7,251,877	5,046,870
Taxes and Public dues	359,113	480,604
Outsourcing	25,369,202	22,420,451
Depreciation	2,633,438	3,265,959
Consumption Tax	438,200	430,800
Foreign Exchange gain and loss	0	3,667,765
Miscellaneous	139,388	12,185
Administration Expense	31,599,696	25,893,972
Personnel expense	22,510,201	14,063,909
Travel	23,740	94,610
Freight & Postage	379,813	252,787
Communication	208,135	252,558
House and Land rent	763,200	915,840
Leasing	208,155	144,921
Publicity	0	852
Consumables Fixtures	172,391	371,660
Consumables	298,966	299,102
Repair	10,560	0
Office consumptions	551,765	1,375,101
Utility	186,904	95,163
Insurance	54,640	18,485
Research	46,000	19,600
Meeting	215,758	242,836
Study	62,225	0
Public relation	26,500	17,050
Handle charge	793,608	372,903
Tax	1,650	1,400
Outsourcing	5,049,211	4,245,220
Depreciation	0	157,824
Foreign Exchange gain and loss	0	2,952,151
Miscellaneous loss	36,274	0
Total Ordinary Expense (B)	703,005,665	794,484,799
Current Change in Ordinary Profit without Appraisal	10,979,582	-29,343,711
Total Gain/Loss on Appraisals	0	0
Current Change in Ordinary Gain/Loss (A)-(B)-(C)	10,979,582	-29,343,711
Other Non-Ordinary Income	0	0
Other Non-Ordinary Expenses	280,400	606,209
Income Taxes	70,000	70,000
Increased Net Asset after Tax	10,629,182	-30,019,920
General Net Asset Beginning of Period	47,318,442	77,338,362
General Net Asset End of Period	57,947,624	47,318,442

The financial report were audited by the independent auditor,
Mr.Yoshiyuki Tanaka, Certified Public Accountant



Picture books in the photo:

- THE SECRET PROJECT by Jonah Winter, Jeanette Winter (illustrator), Yumiko Sakurai (translator), Suzuki Publishing
- ISSUNBOSHI, THE INCHEUNG by Momoko Ishii, Fuku Akimori (illustrator), Fukuninkan Shoten
- FEELINGS AFTER A FIGHT by Aiko Shibata, Hideo Ito (illustrator), POPLAR Publishing Co., Ltd.
- ONE PLASTIC BAG by Miranda Paul, Elizabeth Zunon (illustrator), Chie Fujita (translator), Sa-e-it-shoon
- BIGGEST, STRONGEST, FASTEST by Steve Jenkins, Mikamu Satoh (translator), Hyoronsha
- LETTING SWEET RIVER GO by Jane Yolen, Barbara Cooney (illustrator), Yasuko Kakegawa (translator), Heiwa Shuppan
- REMEMBER MARCH 11, 2011 by Yoh Shomei, Kosei Publishing Company
- THE BIG TURNIP- AN OLD RUSSIAN TALE Retold by A. Tokoi, Churyo Satoh (illustrator), Risako Uchida (translator), Fukuninkan Shoten
- THE PLANT SITTER by Gene Zion, Margareit Bloy Grahnan (illustrator), Hisashi Mori (translator), Penguin Shu