

April 2014 – March 2015

Association for Aid and Relief, Japan

Annual Report 2014



On behalf of AAR Japan, it is my pleasure to present to you our 2014 Annual Report. In the 2014 fiscal year, AAR Japan was able to extend its relief activities to 17 countries, including Japan. Our activities would not have been possible without the generous donations from both domestic and overseas supporters, contributions from various organizations and private companies, and grants/subsidies. I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest gratitude for all of your kind support and generosity.

Seventy years since the end of the Second World War, the world including Japan fall far short of peace. People suffers from conflicts and chronic violence, and not a single day passes without an act of atrocity being covered in the news media.

The fundamental spirit of AAR Japan, “we all are in the same boat,” has now its own role to play. It will open the hearts and the minds of Japanese people to walk alongside all our friends of the world, wherever they are.

AAR Japan was established in 1979 to support Indochinese refugees. Today, children and youth who know of that era only from their textbook are supporting AAR Japan’s activities through fundraising at schools and in communities along with through their school projects. Interests in international affairs and the above spirit are being passed on to next generations. Once again, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation for your help in making our activities possible. We hope that you will stand by us and continue your kind support to AAR Japan.

August 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Yukie Osa' in a cursive style.

Yukie OSA

President of Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)

Cover page photo: A cyclone-affected family received a bag full of clothes from Fukuro KAKIZAWA of AAR Japan. (Right) (Efate Island, Vanuatu, March 2015)

Photo Credit:

Upper photo of p.15 (c) HALO Trust / **all other photos** (c) AAR Japan

∞ Our Vision ∞

A world where all people, as unique and diverse human beings can coexist with respect for human dignity, and in harmony with the environment

By “all people” we mean.....

Our goal should be to bring about clear changes to the lives of every person involved, starting with the beneficiaries, and including donors, staff members and volunteers.

By “unique and diverse human beings” we mean...

We will respect the diversity of human beings, such as differences in culture, religion, or whether they have disabilities or not.

By “coexist” we mean...

All kinds of people, each with his or her individual personality, recognize each other's existence and learn to live together.

By “with respect for human dignity” we mean...

Basic human rights of all people are insured.

By “in harmony with the environment” we mean...

We will always make sure that our activities do not cause harm to the environment.

∞ Our Mission ∞

AAR Japan is aiming to assist those affected by hardships such as armed conflicts, remnants of armed conflicts, infectious diseases, disabilities, etc. In doing so, we hope to deliver the goodwill of the Japanese people, and to help realize a global society where people of diverse backgrounds coexist with respect for one another, for nature, and for human dignity.

Five Priority Fields

AAR Japan now operates in the following fields: 1. Emergency assistance, 2. Support for persons with disabilities, 3. Mine/UXO action, 4. Action against infectious diseases, 5. Public awareness raising.

Emergency assistance

We are providing emergency assistance to refugees and victims when a disaster or a dispute takes place.

* AAR Japan is a member organization of Japan Platform.

Support for persons with disabilities

We are supporting persons with disabilities including landmine victims, through the provision of wheel chair, vocational training, physiotherapy and rehabilitation services, emergency assistance, and Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR).

Mine/UXO action

We are educating people on how to avoid accidents with landmines and UXOs, as well as helping the victims of such accidents.

Action against infectious diseases

We are spreading awareness of infectious diseases like AIDS and malaria.

Public awareness raising

We are actively organizing events and seminars in Japan so that people are aware of the conditions around the world.

We strive to carry out our activities based on the following principles:

- ✓ To consider the importance of disaster prevention, risk reduction, and resilience
- ✓ To be cognizant of the existence as well as the needs of marginalized communities and minorities, including issues on gender and persons with disabilities
- ✓ To follow the fundamental rule of “Do No Harm”
- ✓ To fully respect the agency of local individuals and to develop human resources
- ✓ To always maintain neutrality

- ※ Article 1 of the Convention relating to the Status Refugees defines “refugee” as “a person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country...” In addition to such refugees, AAR Japan is committed to supporting all those faced with adversities in general, and our activities focus on serving the most vulnerable individuals on a long-term basis.
- ※ Mine risk education, or MRE, refers to educational activities aimed at reducing the risk of injury from mines by raising awareness and promoting behavioral change. Through MRE, we educate people on the existence of mine contaminated areas, how to identify them, and what actions to take when coming across a landmine.

Activity Report for the 2014 Fiscal Year (April 2014 - March 2015)

During the 2014 fiscal year, we proactively engaged in numerous overseas operations, including launching a project to support refugees from northern Syria while stepping up efforts to assist victims of Great East Japan Earthquake. We received numerous donations from supporters both in Japan and abroad, and we extend our sincere gratitude to those who assisted in making our activities possible. We were able to implement a total of 33 projects in 17 countries, including Japan, reaching approximately 2.5 million beneficiaries*.

With regard to our overseas activities, we have remained committed to our five major pillars of action: emergency assistance, support for persons with disabilities, mine/UXO action, action against infectious diseases, and raising public awareness. In regard to emergency assistance, we provided support to not only Syrian refugees, but also cyclone victims in Vanuatu. In Afghanistan and Sudan, we continued our efforts to raise awareness to prevent mine accidents. Furthermore, inclusive education projects were carried out to ensure that children with disabilities receive an education in Tajikistan, Cambodian and Haiti.

Domestically, we implemented various projects in Fukushima Prefecture to support affected children and families: setting up small libraries in childcare centers and in facilities for children with disabilities, and carrying out recreational activities in Nishiaizu Town, where radiation levels are low, to name a few. We also continued our support for those living in temporary housing complexes, focusing on the elderly in Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima Prefectures.

Moreover, concurrent with the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015, we held a disaster risk reduction event in Soma City, Fukushima Prefecture that included a symposium, concert and study tour.

In regards to finance, our total annual income reached approximately 1 billion 175 million yen, excluding the balance brought forward from the previous fiscal year. Approximately 935 million yen, equaling to 71.6% of the total expenditure, was spent for our projects in 14 countries abroad, and approximately 217 million, equaling to 16.6%, was spent for the relief activities in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. Refer to the following pages for details.

*This number includes an estimated 1,760,000 listeners of mine risk education radio programs in Sudan.

Countries where we work in



Lao PDR

Vientiane Office

AAR Japan established an office in the capital of Vientiane in 1999, and until today we continue to engage in providing assistance for persons with disabilities. In July 2014, we closed our branch office in Xiang Khouang in northern Lao, where we provided assistance for UXO survivors. We are now considering the possibility of launching a new project and are planning to open a branch office in Phongsaly Province.



Catfish fry grows to a size that can be sold in market in two to three months. AAR Japan staff regularly visit trainees' homes and monitors the progress of the growth. Pictured on the left is international staff member Noriyasu Okayama. (October 2014)



Ban Sainesouk Center staff member (on the left) and 11 year-old Mangkone who has been coming to the center over the past five years. (March 2015)

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 41,734,562 JPY

1 Promotion of Social Participation and Small Scale Entrepreneurship Among Persons with Disabilities

Target Area: Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province, Xayaburi Province, Lao PDR

Objective: To increase the income of persons with disabilities.

Achievement: AAR Japan conducted vocational training seminars on catfish farming and tailoring as a pilot project. Subsequently, after signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lao government, a JICA-funded project began in July 2014. Training for mushroom farming, catfish farming and tailoring were carried out during the 2014 fiscal year. The project aims to extend to a total of 100 beneficiaries (40 for mushroom farming, 40 for catfish farming, and 20 for tailoring).

Beneficiaries: 91 persons with disabilities (38 trainees for mushroom farming, 37 for catfish farming, and 16 for tailoring)

2 Assistance to a Care Center for Children with Disabilities

Target Area: Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR

Objective: To contribute to realizing the vision of Ban Sainesouk Center, a care center for children with disabilities, which is that "children with developmental disabilities (particularly those with cerebral palsy) receive adequate care and are guaranteed a minimum standard of well-being as human beings".

Achievement: AAR Japan financially supported Ban Sainesouk Center, which enabled children with disabilities to receive physical rehabilitation continuously.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 70 individuals including children with disabilities, their families, and staff members of Ban Sainesouk Center

3 Follow-up of Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid by Japanese NGOs

Target Area: Savannakhet, Salavan, and Sekong Provinces, Lao PDR

Objective: To evaluate the past projects of Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and recommend ideas for improvement.

Achievement: AAR Japan and IV Japan, a Japanese NGO, evaluated five Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid Projects on the construction of a water supply system, roads, health center and junior high school in three provinces of Southern Laos, and submitted a report proposing recommendations to MOFA.

Beneficiaries: None



AAR Japan staff conducts a training session explaining the emergency treatment for a victim of a UXO accident in Soumphai Village. (June 2014)

4 Assistance to Survivors of Unexploded Ordnance Including Cluster Munitions

(Completed June 2014)

Target Area: Xiang Khouang Province, Lao PDR

Objective: To reduce the number of casualties caused by unexploded ordnance (UXO) in rural areas of Lao PDR, where damages related to cluster munitions are the most severe in the world, through the improvement of first-aid techniques, victim transfer system, and risk education.

Achievement: Targeting village health volunteers and health center nurses, AAR Japan provided trainings and distributed informative materials on how to deal with UXO accidents, including proper first-aid treatment and victim transportation methods, in addition to the provision of emergency first-aid kits. For non-medical practitioners, AAR Japan held workshops on the risks of UXO and basic first-aid treatment, and distributed educational materials.

Beneficiaries: Survivors of UXOs and their families in Xiang Khouang Province, 80 village health volunteers, 14 health center nurses, and 220 villagers in six villages

Indirect beneficiaries: Approximately 250,000 individuals in Xiang Khouang Province

5 Strengthening Community Level Emergency Care Systems

Target Area: Lao PDR

Objective: To minimize injuries caused by accidents of unexploded ordnance and road accidents through strengthening emergency care system in mountainous region.

Achievement: Based on thorough on-site research, we came to learn that maternal and child health was in dire need of assistance in the mountainous regions. After discussion with the Lao Ministry of Health and other relevant agencies, AAR Japan developed a plan for the 2015 fiscal year to implement a maternal and child health project in Phongsaly Province, which has the worst mortality rates for neonatal infants, infants under one year of age and infants under five years of age.

Beneficiaries: None

Cluster munition: A conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive submunitions, including explosive submunitions.

Kingdom of Cambodia

Phnom Penh Office

Since its founding in 1979, AAR Japan has supported Indochinese refugees in the camps around the Cambodia-Thai border, as well as those who re-settled in Japan. AAR Japan opened an office in the capital of Phnom Penh in 1992, and began managing a vocational training school for persons with disabilities and a wheelchair workshop. The vocational training school and wheelchair workshop became independent local NGOs in 2006. In 2013, we re-opened the Phnom Penh office, and have since been implementing inclusive education project for children with disabilities.



Yoshiteru Horie, Senior Managing Director of AAR Japan, listens to an explanation about a wheelchair produced at the workshop. (December 2014)

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 14,300,914 JPY

1 Distribution of Wheelchairs (Assistance to Persons with Disabilities through Capacity Building of a Local NGO)

Target Area: Phnom Penh, Siem Reap Province, Battambang Province, Kampong Chhnang Province, Prey Veng Province, Takeo Province, Svay Rieng Province, Kampot Province, Kampong Speu Province, Kampong Thom Province, and Kandal Province, Kingdom of Cambodia

Objective: To promote social independence of persons with disabilities in Cambodia through capacity and skills building of a local NGO that engages in wheelchair production.

Achievement: The wheelchair production workshop that AAR Japan had managed since 1994 became an independent, local NGO in 2006. During the fiscal year 2014, 731 assistive device including wheelchairs that were made to fit different size and needs of each user were produced and provided. AAR Japan has continued to provide support to build the capacity of management after the localization of the workshop. Consequently, the reporting quality and communication of the local NGO has improved. Moreover, we financially supported the external audit, which contributed to the accountability of the workshop management.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 731 persons with disabilities

Indirect beneficiaries: Approximately 3,655 family members

2 Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities

Target Area: Ksach Kandal District, Kandal Province, Kingdom Cambodia

Objective: To ensure that children, regardless of their disabilities, receive quality education and to diversify opportunities of social participation for children with disabilities through promoting inclusive education in collaboration with schools and communities. AAR Japan will reflect lessons learned during the pilot project in 2013 into the current project management.

Achievement: In the target areas of the project implemented in 2013, AAR Japan monitored and conducted follow-up meetings with school teachers, children and community members. We also provided assistance for children with disabilities who needed medical care, and referrals to hospitals and rehabilitation centers. A community awareness campaign to communicate the importance of education for children with disabilities was also organized.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 600 people (approximately 100 children with disabilities and teachers who received follow-up assistance including for hospital visits and rehabilitation, as well as monitoring, and approximately 500 students and teachers who participated in public awareness events)

Indirect beneficiaries: Approximately 28,000 people (approximately 3,000 students of the target schools and approximately 25,000 local community members)



A student in a wheelchair studies in the same classroom as other children. AAR Japan provided the school with a customized desk for wheelchair users. (June 2014)

Inclusive education denotes that all children should be accepted, without any restrictions, in local educational programs so that they can learn together. Putting this policy into practice includes identifying the needs of children with disabilities and removing their physical and social barriers by adjusting teaching methods, materials, classrooms, the learning environment, and the educational system as a whole to their special needs.

Union of Myanmar

Yangon Office, Hpa-an Office

In 1999, AAR Japan dispatched international staff to open an office in Yangon (Rangoon), and established a vocational training center for persons with disabilities in the following year. In 2001, a foster parenting program in Japan to support children with physical and intellectual disabilities in Myanmar was launched under the title, “Future of the Children in Myanmar”. In 2013, the Hpa-an Office was opened in Kayin Province to support ethnic minority and repatriated refugees.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 81,892,864 JPY

1 Promotion of Employment and Schooling for Persons with Disabilities in Yangon District

Target Area: Yangon District, Union of Myanmar

Objective: To promote economic, social, and psychological independence, as well as social participation among persons with disabilities.

Achievement: At the vocational training center for persons with disabilities, we offered tailoring, beauty/cosmetics, and PC training courses for three consecutive terms in 2014. One term was for three and a half months, starting from January, May and September respectively. A total of 144 persons with disabilities graduated from the center (58 from tailoring, 52 from beauty/cosmetics and 34 from PC course). In addition, we introduced new curriculums and strengthened our employment replacement in order to increase the employment rate after graduation. As for our Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) activities, we continued providing assistance to the existing self-help groups and supported the establishment of four new self-help groups and three small shops. Furthermore, we organized a seminar for nutrition improvement for self-help members and their families. To ensure that children and persons with disabilities receive educational opportunities, AAR Japan also established a committee for school enrolment promotion and conducted workshops and events, through which government officials, educators, and community members deepened their understanding of disabilities.

Beneficiaries: 144 trainees at the vocational training center, 186 children with disabilities, 212 members of self-help groups, and 4,155 local community members including families, government officials, and educators. Approximately 960 self-help group members and their families participated to the seminars for nutrition improvement.



AAR Japan continues to improve the quality of training courses so as to help students find employment after graduation. (April 2015)

2 “Future of the Children in Myanmar”

(Foster Parenting Project)

Target Area: Yangon District, Union of Myanmar

Objective: To improve the conditions of children with intellectual and/or physical disabilities and provide them with opportunities to interact with the larger society, and to raise awareness among the family members of such children so that they can better provide care for their children.

Achievement: AAR Japan continued its financial support to a local rehabilitation center for children with disabilities, in addition to providing physiotherapy services as well as training, assistive devices, hygiene kits, and livelihood support to households with children with disabilities. We also organized excursions to provide opportunities for the children and their guardians to interact with community members and held educational workshops to deepen community members' awareness of the issues surrounding disability.

Beneficiaries: 40 children with intellectual and physical disabilities in Yangon District, approximately 110 family members, approximately 235 individuals related to the rehabilitation center including children with disabilities, their family members, and staff members, and approximately 100 local community members and educators.



Foster children and their families go on an excursion. Foster children who have few chances to communicate deepened their relationships. (December 2014)

3 Hygiene Promotion for Internally Displaced Persons including Landmine Survivors in Kayin State

Target Area: Thit Sar Aye Myaing Village, Hlaingbwe Township, Kayin State, Union of Myanmar

Objective: To ensure equal and stable access to water and improve hygiene among internally displaced persons including landmine survivors in Thit Sar Aye Myaing Village, Kayin State. To promote sustainable improvement of hygiene through hygiene promotion activities, which disseminate knowledge about basic hygiene to the villagers.

Achievement: AAR Japan ensured equal access to water among the villagers by exchanging broken water pipes for heavy-duty pipes in Thit Sar Aye Myaing Village. In addition, we installed a total of 75 public toilets, including barrier-free public toilets, and thereby the villagers, including landmine survivors with disabilities, gained access to clean toilets. Approximately 3,500 individuals participated in the workshops and events that we held in parallel to the construction of the public toilets and gained the knowledge to sustainably lead hygienic lifestyles.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 1,000 villagers



AAR Japan organized an event to teach the value of water during the dry season. (March 2015)

Republic of the Philippines

AAR Japan carried out emergency assistance projects in response to Typhoon Haiyan, which devastated the Philippines in November 2013.

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 41,793,298 JPY

1 Provision of Shelter Materials and Assistance to Resume School Education in Tacloban City and Palo Town, Leyte Island (Completed October 2014)

Target Area: Tacloban City and Palo Town, Leyte Island, Republic of the Philippines

Objective: To ensure that typhoon survivors have safe shelters and to contribute to rebuilding their lives after Typhoon Haiyan, which devastated the Philippines in November 2013. To improve access to education and to secure a safe learning environment for children in public schools that have special education classes.

Achievement: AAR Japan distributed shelter materials to families whose houses were destroyed during the typhoon and had not yet received any shelter assistance. This assistance contributed to securing a safe living environment and rebuilding their lives. AAR Japan also helped schools with special education classes create a safe learning environment by providing school furniture such as desks, chairs, and blackboards, learning materials for children with disabilities, and repairing school buildings. As a result, the four beneficiary schools were able to resume classes.

Beneficiaries: Shelter assistance - 688 households (approximately 3,440 individuals); Educational assistance - 480 students.

2 Workshops to Raise Awareness of Disaster Risk Reduction

Target Area: Leyte Island, Republic of the Philippines

Objective: To deepen community understanding of disasters, such as typhoons and earthquakes, and disseminate knowledge to prevent and mitigate disaster impact, so that community members in disaster-stricken areas including persons with disabilities are prepared to take appropriate action.

Achievement: As there were a number of organizations already delivering disaster risk reduction workshops in the affected areas, we decided not to implement this project to avoid overlapping.

Beneficiaries: None



We held a workshop to teach the typhoon survivors how to build disaster-resistant houses. Pictured on the left is AAR Japan's Tokyo Headquarters staff member Chiaki Furukawa. (August 2014)

3 Provision of Assistive Devices to Persons with Disabilities in Disaster-Strick Areas

(Completed December 2014)

Target Area: Leyte Island, Republic of the Philippines

Objective: To improve the quality of the lives of persons with disabilities after Typhoon Haiyan in Tacloban City and its proximity, and to contribute to rebuilding their lives through provision of assistive devices, such as wheelchairs and walkers.

Achievement: AAR Japan distributed assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, walkers and crutches that are tailored to different bodily and functional problems, to 67 persons with disabilities. The assistive devices helped typhoon survivors with disabilities to return to work and expand their range of activities, and ultimately contributed to improving the quality of their lives.

Beneficiaries: 67 persons with disabilities



The beneficiaries practiced going up and down stairs in wheelchairs provided by AAR Japan. (July 2014)

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

The heavy rainfall that occurred at the end of 2010 caused flooding across the nation, mainly in the 3 eastern provinces, which affected up to 2,500,000 individuals. In January 2011, AAR Japan deployed staff members to implement emergency response activities, followed by support for persons with disabilities.

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 0 JPY

1 Promotion of Social Participation of Persons with Disabilities and Landmine/UXO Survivors

Target Area: Eastern Province and Monaragala District, Uva Province, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Objective: To improve the quality of life among persons with disabilities and landmine/UXO survivors by supporting their employment.

Achievement: The director of the local partner organization changed and it became difficult to properly manage the project. Despite our efforts to find another local partner organization, we were not able to implement the project this year.

Beneficiaries: None

India

In 2014, AAR Japan started a pilot project in the state of Kashmir to help impoverished women, some of those whose families are missing, receive education and live independently.

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 2,030,937 JPY

1 Assisting Women in the Kashmir Region

Target Area: Jammu and Kashmir (State), India

Objective: To support impoverished women, some of whose families have gone missing, to receive an education and live independently in the India-side of the Kashmir region.

Achievement: In August 2014, a survey team entered the area and interviewed approximately 20 women, some of whose families were victims of kidnappings, to explore the possibility of implementing the project. In early September 2014, heavy rains caused flooding and landslides in Jammu and Kashmir. Through a local partner organization, AAR Japan distributed emergency relief supplies (food, daily necessities, and personal hygiene items) to those affected.

Beneficiaries: Flood victims - 30 households (Approximately 150 individuals)



Kenji Isezaki (right), the Vice President of AAR Japan, conducting a survey in Kashmir State. (August 2014)

Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Islamabad Office, Nowshera Office

When AAR Japan provided emergency assistance for survivors of the massive earthquake in 2005, a temporary office was set up in Islamabad. A temporary office was again established in Islamabad when AAR Japan provided assistance to internally displaced persons, generated by a sweep operation against the Taliban in 2009. In 2010, AAR Japan conducted emergency assistance for flood survivors and this led to the opening of the Islamabad Office. In 2012, AAR Japan opened another office in Nowshera District, and has been providing educational support to internally displaced persons / Afghan refugees and conducting sanitary equipment maintenance.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 76,911,545 JPY

1 Improvement of Educational Environment and Hygiene

Target Area: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Objective: To improve the conditions of schools and hygiene in camps for Afghan refugees and Pakistani internally displaced persons, as well as in host communities.

Achievement: At seven Pakistani government schools, in areas hosting Afghan refugees, AAR Japan expanded and renovated classrooms, installed new and repaired current bathrooms, established libraries, and provided sports equipment. AAR Japan also facilitated public awareness activities on hygiene aimed at teachers, students, and their parents. Additionally, AAR Japan installed 27 wells and conducted public awareness activities on hygiene for those living in the refugee camps.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 16,000 individuals in refugee camps and approximately 2,200 individuals including students, teachers and parents of seven Pakistani government schools



A local staff member (left) and international staff member Tamayo Haraguchi (right) teach students in early elementary on how to wash their hands for a contest among the students. (October 2014)

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Kabul Office

Since 1999, AAR Japan has been supporting landmine and UXO (unexploded ordnance) clearance efforts with the sales revenue of the picture book series “Not Mines, But Flowers”. Then, responding to the American bombings in 2001, AAR Japan established offices the following year in the capital city of Kabul and Taloqan, the capital of Takhar Province, located in the northeast of the country, and began mine risk education (MRE) and a physical rehabilitation program. In 2008, programs in the northeast region were transferred to another NGO operating in the area.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 59,585,310 JPY

1 Mine Risk Education (MRE) and Assistance to Persons with Disabilities including Victims of Landmine Accidents

Target Area: Kabul Province and Parwan Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Objective: To decrease the number of victims of landmines, UXO, and IEDs (improvised explosive devices) and to increase the quality of life of landmine victims, through MRE activities (disseminating accurate information on the dangers of landmines/UXO/IEDs and how to avoid them) and by increasing access to education among children with disabilities, including victims of landmines.

Achievement: In the heavily landmine/UXO contaminated Kabul and Parwan Provinces, AAR Japan utilized a mobile cinema to deepen the citizens' understanding of the dangers of landmines/UXO/IEDs and to raise awareness on how to protect themselves from them. In Parwan Province, AAR Japan recruited and trained locals to be instructors and built the necessary social infrastructure in order to implement a community-led MRE program. In addition, in Parwan Province, AAR Japan improved access to education for children with disabilities, including victims of landmines/UXOs, by upgrading schools to be barrier-free and by increasing public awareness of such issues.

Beneficiaries:

Mobile cinema programs: 20,424 individuals

Community based MRE: 160 individuals trained to be instructors and 52,428 individuals who participated in MRE session

Assistance to persons with disabilities including landmine survivors: nine children with disabilities and 17,580 family members, educators and community members.



An MRE session targeting women. (December 2014)

2 Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Clearance

Target Area: Baghlan Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Objective: To clear landmines and UXOs in Dushi and Nahrin Districts in order to prevent people from suffering landmine/ UXO injuries and to improve the safety of the target area

Achievement: In cooperation with a British NGO, landmine and UXO clearance activities were carried out in three villages in Dushi and Nahrin Districts of Baghlan Province containing a total of 637 households, which resulted in the removal of 49 landmines and two UXOs.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 637 households living in Dushi and Nahrin Districts, Baghlan Province (approximately 4,650 individuals)



A worker searches for buried landmines using a mine detector in Dushi District, Baghlan Province. (2014) ©HALO Trust

3 Capacity Building of Civil Society in Afghanistan

Target Area: 19 districts in Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Objective: To improve the skills and abilities of Afghan Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and promote cooperation among these organizations

Achievement: AAR Japan assisted two prominent CSO network organizations in Afghanistan conduct institutional-capacity-building training for 1,400 CSO members from 19 districts. The training covered topics essential to the work of CSOs, such as project management, financial management, codes of conduct, NGO law, income tax law, labor law, English, and computer skills. In addition to AAR Japan, this program was conducted in partnership with Peace Winds Japan, Japan International Volunteer Center, and Civil Sophia.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 1400 local NGO staff, civil organization members, and government employees



Afghan CSO members receiving project cycle management training. (May 2014)

4 Assistance to Victims of Landslide in Badakhshan

Please see Page 24.

Republic of Tajikistan

Dushanbe Office

AAR Japan opened an office in the capital city of Dushanbe in 2002 in order to secure a route of assistance for the northeastern area of Afghanistan. Subsequently, AAR Japan started its full-fledged support for persons with disabilities in Tajikistan. Currently, AAR Japan is promoting inclusive education for children with disabilities.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 34,726,865 JPY

1 Promotion of Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities

Target Area: Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan

Objective: To increase acceptance of children with disabilities in target sites, including public schools, in Dushanbe, through the preparation of equipment and training of personnel, and to increase access to education in Tajikistan for those with disabilities through the promotion of inclusive education.

Achievement: In two schools serving as model schools for promotion of inclusive education, ramps and handrails were installed, bathrooms were renovated, and a study-support room was added. Moreover, in cooperation with a local NGO, hands-on training was conducted for teachers in Dushanbe and a specialist in this field held seminars for officials from the Ministry of Education and members of local educational committees. AAR Japan held an inclusive education awareness event for students without disabilities and their parents. Principals from the two model schools and staff from local NGOs were invited to Japan to visit and observe schools practicing inclusive education, schools for special needs children, and firms supporting employment of persons with disabilities. As a result of this program, a total of 59 new students with disabilities started to attend the model schools.

Beneficiaries: 626 individuals (59 children with disabilities who started attending school, 118 parents of these students, 108 teachers who received training, 220 attendees of the public event, 100 teachers who attended the seminar for educators, and 21 officials who attended the seminar for the government)

Indirect Beneficiaries: 4060 individuals (3900 students and 160 teachers of model schools)



Evangelina (age eight, second grade) started attending school as a result of the inclusive education promotion program. Pictured on the right is international staff member Mai Kaizawa. (October 2014)

2 Assistance for Persons with Disabilities through Vocational Training

Target Area: Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan

Objective: To promote financial independence of persons with disabilities and their families by providing various vocational trainings.

Achievement: No vocational training was conducted this fiscal year due to a lack of financial resources. AAR Japan and a local partner organization are preparing to resume the project in fiscal year 2015.

Beneficiaries: None

Republic of Turkey / Syrian Arab Republic

Sanliurfa Office, Gaziantep Office

In response to the large scale earthquake that struck eastern Turkey in 2011, AAR Japan carried out emergency assistance for the disaster survivors. Since October 2012, AAR Japan has also been assisting Syrian refugees who fled to the south-east region of Turkey due to the internal conflict in Syria. The following year in 2013, AAR Japan opened an office in Şanlıurfa Province, and then in 2014 opened another office in Gaziantep Province. Through these offices AAR Japan is continuing to assist Syrian refugees in the region.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 180,805,167 JPY

1 Assistance to Syrian Refugees Rebuilding Their Lives in Sanliurfa Province

Target Area: Sanliurfa Region, Republic of Turkey

Objective: To provide Syrian refugees living outside of refugee camps with better access to information and the government services available in the region. To promote financial independence of the refugees by developing their skills through seminars conducted at the community center. To increase understanding towards the Syrian refugees among locals through events held at the community center.

Achievement: In Sanliurfa, AAR Japan increased access to information for Syrian refugees by establishing a community center where information and consultation services were provided. At this community center, Turkish, English, and computer classes were held to assist the Syrian refugees in obtaining new skills. In addition, AAR Japan regularly hosted events at this center to encourage community building amongst the Syrian refugees and also to provide an opportunity for the local Turkish people to build relationships with the refugees.

Beneficiaries: 514 Syrian refugees who utilized the information services, 578 Syrian refugees who attended the classes, and 4,538 Syrian refugees and 270 Turkish residents who attended the events



Opening ceremony for the community center. Pictured in the center is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan of Turkey Yutaka Yokoi; on the left is AAR Japan's Secretary General Yoshiteru Horie; on the right is international staff member Sachiko Kareki. (August 2014)

2 Humanitarian Assistance in Response to the Syrian Conflict

Target Area: Northern Region of Syrian Arab Republic

Objective: To alleviate the food shortage situation by distributing supplies to Syrian people who have faced economic hardship as a result of the Syrian conflict

Achievement: AAR Japan coordinated with a local partner organization and distributed 12,748 food packages, consisting of 14 items each, to Syrian internally displaced persons.

Beneficiaries: 6,422 Syrian households (32,590 individuals) in the Northern Region

3 Distribution of Emergency Relief Goods to Syrian Refugees from the Kobane Region

Please see Page 24.

Republic of the Sudan

Khartoum Office, Kassala Office

With the end of the 20 year civil war in 2005, AAR Japan established an office in the capital city of Khartoum and began conducting MRE activities. In 2012, AAR Japan expanded its activities with the opening of the Kassala office. Since 2013, AAR Japan has taken actions to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, such as mycetoma, and supported the management of a health clinic.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 52,309,646 JPY

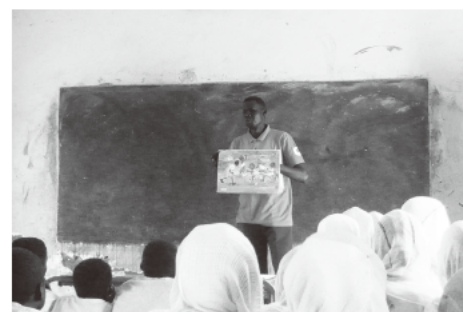
1 Mine Risk Education (MRE)

Target Area: Kassala State, South Kordofan State and the capital Khartoum, Republic of the Sudan

Objective: To reduce the number of landmine victims in Sudan.

Achievement: AAR Japan implemented MRE activities by visiting villages in Kassala State, where people still continue to suffer from landmines and UXOs. Information regarding landmines was disseminated through newly developed educational materials and radio broadcasts. AAR Japan also focused on training and capacity development, so that high quality MRE activities are continued within Sudan.

Beneficiaries: 17,464 individuals who participated in MRE sessions and 1,760,000 individuals who listened to the MRE programs on radio



A local staff member conducts an MRE session for children at an elementary school through illustrated stories. (January 2015)

2 Action to Combat Infectious Disease in Sennar State

Target Area: White Nile State, Republic of the Sudan

Objective: To contribute to the reduction of infectious disease mycetoma (fungus-foot) patients in White Nile State.

Achievement: AAR Japan had initially planned to implement this project in Sennar State, but after taking into consideration the budget and the condition of medical facilities in the state, the project location was changed to the White Nile State, where the facility was better equipped as last year's project site. In Al Andalous Village, where there are a particularly large number of cases of mycetoma, the patients received surgery, and a public awareness campaign for mycetoma prevention was conducted for the local residents.

Beneficiaries: 305 people who received surgery or received information through the public awareness campaign



International staff member Takashi Ujikawa and local staff teach residents about mycetoma prevention through illustrated stories. (November 2014)

Republic of South Sudan

Kapoeta Office

With the end of the civil war in 2005, AAR Japan established an office in Kapoeta, East Equatoria State, of what was then the Republic of Sudan and began water, hygiene and sanitation projects while supporting local health clinics. The Republic of South Sudan was established after a referendum in 2011, which resulted in an overwhelming vote for independence.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 98,883,020 JPY

1 Installation of Water Supply Facilities, Public Health Support, and Basic Health Promotion

Target Area: Kapoeta South, Kapoeta North, Kapoeta East, Lopa/Lafon, and Budi Counties in Eastern Equatoria State, Republic of South Sudan

Objective: To improve basic infrastructure needed to protect the lives and health of the local people including returnees, internally displaced persons, and host community members, as well as the sanitary learning environment for children, in Eastern Equatoria State, while establishing a self-sustainable management mechanism among the local administration and residents. Through this assistance, AAR Japan aims to reduce friction between the internally displaced persons and host community members and contribute to prevent the armed conflict in Northern region from reaching the state.

Achievement: AAR Japan installed four and restored 43 water wells while training local people to voluntarily and continuously manage these facilities. Elementary schoolteachers and representatives of guardians were invited to health promotion seminars so that they can teach proper sanitation and hygiene methods. AAR Japan also held sanitation and hygiene trainings to the general public and installed toilets in two elementary schools. One seminar and four workshops were held for local representatives, educators, and guardians with the aim of improving school management capacities. In the relatively distant county of Lopa/Lafon, an external specialist was sent to six primary health care units to provide training for community health workers. Basic medical equipment was also provided to these units.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 70,000 individuals (60,000 individuals between June and December, 2014 and 10,000 individuals between January and March, 2015)



At a borehole-maintenance seminar, residents learn about necessary tools and items. The residents who received the training will independently repair the broken boreholes in the area. (March 2014)

2 Establishment of a Public Library (Completed in February 2015)

Target Area: Kapoeta South, Eastern Equatoria State, Republic of South Sudan

Objective: To create an environment of self-study and self-improvement for the visitors, including students, by establishing a public library in Kapoeta South County, East Equatoria State.

Achievement: AAR Japan established one public library in Kapoeta South County, East Equatoria State. The library houses approximately 800 books (including novels, technical books, and textbooks in English and Swahili) and is managed by a librarian employed by the town office.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 10,000 residents of Kapoeta Town



Children reading books in the completed library. The library houses a large variety of approximately 800 books, ranging from children's books to those for adults.

Republic of Kenya

Nairobi Office, Garissa Office

In August 2011, AAR Japan launched emergency assistance in Kenya to respond to the drought that occurred in eastern African region (including Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia).



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 67,975,292 JPY

1 Improving Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Garissa County (Completed December 2014)

Target Area: Garissa County, North Eastern Province, Republic of Kenya

Objective: To create a hygienic learning environment at elementary schools in areas affected by the 2011 drought that are also at risk of facing future droughts, by increasing access to clean water.

Achievement: AAR Japan increased access to clean water for children and local residents by installing water supply facilities and toilets in elementary schools in two villages in Garissa County. A water management committee was created in each village to establish a sustainable system of maintaining the facilities. AAR Japan also promoted proper hygienic behaviors through training sessions for the children and residents.

Beneficiaries: 456 children at the target schools and 520 households (approximately 3,640 individuals) within the two villages



A local staff member explains to local residents how to use the water facilities. (May 2014)

2 Emergency Assistance to South Sudanese Refugees in Kakuma Refugee Camp (Republic of Kenya)

Target Area: Kakuma Refugee Camp, Republic of Kenya

Objective: To improve the quality of life of South Sudanese refugees, who have settled in Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya following the conflicts that erupted on December 15th, 2013, by providing education, water, and other necessities.

Achievement: 30 classroom tents, 30 blackboards, and 500 sets of desks and chairs were set-up in the Kakuma Refugee Camp. AAR Japan also installed 4.5km of piping, which now provides a stable water supply to the refugees. In cooperation with private sector and a UN agency, AAR Japan distributed clothing sent over from Japan.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 40,000 refugees from South Sudan (including teachers and children)



Thirty tents were set up in the Kakuma refugee camp and an elementary school was established using these tents. Pictured on right in the back row is international staff member Ryo Kakutani (May 2014)

Republic of Uganda

In March 2009, AAR Japan invited a representative of Uganda Landmine Survivors Association (ULSA) to Japan. Subsequently, AAR Japan and ULSA forged a collaborative partnership, and began assisting victims of landmines in Uganda to strengthen their network.

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 3,383,438 JPY

1 Livelihood Assistance for Survivors of Landmines

Target Area: Yumbe District, Republic of Uganda

Objective: To support income generation of survivors of landmines so that they can self-sustainably enhance their quality of life

Achievement: In northern Uganda, where there are many landmine victims, AAR Japan promoted entrepreneurship among landmine survivors through vocational training and by distributing business-starter-kits that were customized for each individual's needs. AAR Japan also held an assembly for landmine survivors to help establish a network amongst the survivors.

Beneficiaries: 25 individuals



With the help of AAR Japan, Muhammed Ule (center) started a bike repair shop. Pictured on the left is AAR Japan's Tokyo Headquarters staff member Naoki Umeda. (January 2015)

Republic of Zambia

Lusaka Office

For 20 years from 1984 to 2004, AAR Japan had supported refugees in Meheba Refugee Settlement. This work had been conducted through the offices established in Meheba and the capital city of Lusaka. The former was closed when the work came to an end in 2004, and since then, AAR Japan has been implementing initiatives to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS, a social problem that has plagued the Zambian society, particularly in and around the capital city of Lusaka.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 87,091,244 JPY

1 Implementation of Measures to Combat HIV/AIDS (Medication Assistance)

Target Area: Kafue and Chilanga Districts, Lusaka Province, Republic of Zambia

Objectives: To increase the number of ART (anti-retroviral therapy) patients who can continue the use of the medication by strengthening the support structure of ART, while reducing the risks of HIV/AIDS in the target area by raising public awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention.

Achievement: This fiscal year includes the second and third phases of a three-year plan. In phase two, which began on January 11th, 2014, activities were extended to the Mwembeshi Region. AAR Japan built a new ART Center in a clinic in the region, trained medical support volunteers, assisted in building a framework for AIDS Action Clubs in five schools, and supported public awareness campaigns in and out of the schools. In Kafue Town and Chilanga, which were included in phase one of the program, AAR Japan continued to equip the ART centers, digitize ART patient records, train medical support volunteers, and conduct public awareness activities for ART patients and their friends and family.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 30,645 individuals (ART patients, their family members, and medical support volunteers)

Indirect beneficiaries: Approximately 67,000 community members



At a seminar for HIV-positive patients and their families, a participant speaks about her own experiences since being diagnosed with HIV. (September 2014)

2 Assistance to HIV/AIDS Orphans

Target Area: Ng'ombe District, Lusaka Province, Republic of Zambia

Objectives: To support HIV/AIDS orphans attain an education through regular meetings and counseling sessions, and to support the livelihoods of their guardians by assisting in the management of income generating activities (maize milling and poultry farming).

Achievement: AAR Japan provided schooling support to the children by periodically monitoring school attendance and counseling them, and supported the management of income generation activities (poultry farming and maize milling) of a group consisting of their guardians so that they can self-sustainably earn an income to cover schooling fees for the children

Beneficiaries: 43 HIV/AIDS orphans and approximately 215 family members



The children are able to continue to attend school with the assistance they receive. On this day, t-shirts and personal hygiene items, donated by our supporters in Japan, were delivered. Pictured on the left is international staff member Tomomi Awamura. (May 2014)

Republic of Haiti

Port-au-Prince office

AAR Japan provided Haiti with emergency aid following the massive earthquake in 2010 and also established an office in the capital city of Port-au-Prince. In Haiti — known as the poorest country in the Western hemisphere — we provided aid towards reconstruction efforts and sanitation improvement projects, after which we began our current project of providing persons with disabilities with educational support.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 52,468,340 JPY

1 Hygiene and Sanitation Promotion in Carrefour District (Completed in March, 2015)

Target Area: Carrefour District, Port-au-Prince City, Republic of Haiti

Objectives: To reduce the risks of preventable infectious diseases among students through improving access to sanitary equipment, and promoting proper hygienic behavior at school and at home.

Achievement: We built/repaired 21 toilets at elementary schools in the target district, as well as constructing six simple water storage tanks for handwashing purposes. We also distributed sanitation equipment (such as mops and buckets) to the schools. In order to help schools become self-sufficient in sanitation and hygiene education, we fostered the necessary know-how to maintain sanitary conditions by organizing training activities for teachers, parents and guardians by establishing a sanitation club, and through training administrative staff in school management practices.

Beneficiaries: 2,253 individuals (1,964 elementary school students, 86 teachers and school administrative staff, and 200 guardians of the students)

Indirect beneficiaries: Approximately 11,480 individuals (families of the direct beneficiaries)



A child washing his hands with a hand-washing bucket provided by AAR Japan. (May 2014)

2 Educational Support for Children with Disabilities in Carrefour District

Target Area: Carrefour, Port-au-Prince, Republic of Haiti

Objectives: To increase enrolment and attendance rates of children with disabilities through improving the learning environments of schools in Carrefour District. To create a foundation to promote inclusive education for children with disabilities.

Achievement: This project launched on March 8th, 2015. We held coordination meetings with the target schools and partner organizations for full-scale implementation of the project in the next fiscal year.

Beneficiaries: To be determined – in progress

Emergency Assistance

2014 fiscal year final settlement: 39,352,829 JPY

1 Assistance to Flood Victims (Completed in August, 2014)

Target Area: Badakhshan Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Objectives: To improve sanitary conditions for flood victims, who were forced to live in tents and lacked access to basic sanitation due to continuous heavy rainfall and large-scale flooding since April, 2014.

Achievement: In cooperation with the Afghan Women Network, a local NGO in Badakhshan Province, AAR Japan distributed hygiene kits composed of soaps and detergents, plus mosquito nets to 350 households living in camps in Abi Barik Village, Argo District, Badakhshan Province.

Beneficiaries: 350 households (1,982 individuals)



Distributing hygiene kits and mosquito nets to flood victims in Badakhshan. (August 2014)

2 Distribution of Goods to Syrian Refugees from Kobane, Syria

Target Area: Sanliurfa Region, Republic of Turkey

Objectives: To meet the basic needs of Syrian refugees entering Turkey from the Kobane Region in northern Syria by distributing food, hygienic items, and kitchenware, and to improve the living standard of the refugees.

Achievement: In cooperation with a local organization in Turkey, we distributed hygiene packages to 400 family units (approximately 3,200 people), stoves to 500 family units (approximately 4,000 people), and fruits to 1,517 family units (approximately 12,130 people) living in refugee camps administered by Suruc District. Additionally, we distributed life-necessities and survival food rations to 1,895 Syrian refugee family units (approximately 11,370 people) staying in villages throughout Suruc, including those living in abandoned structures, as well as with friends or relatives.

Beneficiaries: 4,312 Syrian refugee family units (approximately 30,700 people) residing in Suruc District.



Yuichiro Yamamoto (on the left) from AAR Japan's Tokyo Headquarters Office handing out supplies to refugees from the Kobane Region in northern Syria. (November 2014)

3 Emergency Support Preparation and Research in for the Philippines for Typhoon Hagupit

Target Area: Manila and Leyte and Samar Islands, the Philippines

Objectives: To prepare the necessary aid before the massive Typhoon Hagupit touched ground in the Philippines.

Achievement: AAR Japan sent one staff member to the Philippines to conduct advance research before the typhoon struck as part of a combined research team with Japan Platform (JPF). However, the damage was found to be negligible, and thus emergency aid was deemed unnecessary. This was AAR Japan's first time entering a site prior to incurring damage in order to prepare for relief operation. Damage from typhoons can be estimated to an extent before they actually hit, so AAR Japan plans to use this method of preparation for emergency aid again in the future.

Beneficiaries: N/A

4 Vanuatu Cyclone Victim Assistance

Target Area: The Republic of Vanuatu

Objectives: To assess damage levels incurred by Super-Cyclone Pam in March 2015, and offer necessary assistance.

Achievement: AAR Japan assessed the damage affecting more than 166,000 people (more than half the population) in Vanuatu by sending one AAR Japan staff member to form a cooperative research team with Japan Platform (JPF). Based on the assessment, AAR Japan implemented emergency assistance activities. In an effort to assist in the reconstruction of living conditions, we distributed clothing, cookware, and other items on the east side of Efate Island, which was heavily damaged.

Beneficiaries: 135 households (Approximately 670 individuals)



Distributed clothing and cooking ware to 40 households in the riverside community of Primo Water in Port Vila, the capital city. On the right is AAR Japan's Tokyo Headquarters staff member Fukuro Kakizawa. (March 2015)

Activities in Japan

Tokyo Headquarters, Sendai Office

We provide a wide variety of assistance in Miyagi, Iwate, and Fukushima Prefectures, which were all affected by the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake on March 11th, 2011. For the first several years, we maintained offices in Sendai, Morioka and Soma Cities. AAR Japan closed its Morioka and Soma offices in 2013 and 2014 respectively to manage programs more efficiently in Sendai and Tokyo offices. We aim to provide long-term support for the disaster survivors.



2014 fiscal year final settlement: 216,818,795 JPY

1 Assistance to the Survivors of the Great East Japan

Target Area: Disaster-stricken areas in Fukushima, Miyagi, and Iwate Prefectures

Objectives: To create an environment where survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake, particularly persons with disabilities, the elderly and those who are socially vulnerable, can return to a stable lifestyle. To reduce the economic and psychological burden of people who have been forced to evacuate due to the earthquake, tsunami, and the nuclear disaster at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

Achievement: We conducted massage therapy and active listening sessions 186 times for elderly residents living in temporary housing complexes throughout Fukushima, Miyagi, and Iwate Prefectures. In addition, we held 33 community events and implemented gardening projects at 13 temporary housing complexes throughout Fukushima Prefecture. AAR Japan supported local organizations in Kesennuma City (Miyagi Prefecture); Yamada Town and Kamaishi City (Iwate Prefecture), organize community events 26 times, 207 times and 112 times respectively. In Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, we also supported the revival of a local festival, and held activities to relieve the stress of evacuees. In cooperation with Morioka Hospital, we examined 1,022 people for “economy class syndrome” (deep vein thrombosis), and in collaboration with Yamada Kyo-seikai in Yamada Town, we helped patients commute to and from their clinic and hospital visits 1,823 times. To help evacuees from the disaster areas settle into their new dwellings, we installed 69 anti-burglary lamps in Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures, and we continued the community safety patrol in Shinchi Town, Fukushima Prefecture. In terms of support for PWDs, we held an emergency evacuation drills, and distributed 254 emergency evacuation kits to 11 facilities for PWDs. Furthermore, we supported social welfare facilities through assisting the development of new products, bringing in measurement instruments for food production to 15 facilities, and offered vehicles to eight facilities. We also held 26 market events for the purpose of promoting the sales of new products from social welfare facilities. In Fukushima Prefecture, we focused on supporting children by providing drinking water to four nursery schools and fruit for school lunches to one school. We held four overnight recreational events in the Nishiaizu Town, which has low-radiation levels, for children and their guardians in order to alleviate their stress and problems of insufficient exercise while living in temporary housing complexes. We also established reading corners in 16 facilities for children with disabilities, and provided 2,571 donated books to 27 facilities. Moreover, we organized a symposium, concert, and bus tour in tandem with the Third UN Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai in March 2015.

Beneficiaries: 26,793 individuals



In an effort to revitalize the area's famous apple industry, we offered the necessary tools for apple cultivation at NPO Katatsumuri in Ofunato City, Iwate Prefecture, so that new products can be developed and sold. (January 2015)

2 Campaign to Ban Landmines

Achievement: We sent two staff members from AAR Japan Tokyo Office to participate in an international conference concerning the rights of landmine victims held in Colombia in May 2014. Additionally, we sent one staff member from the Tokyo Office to Mozambique in June to attend the Third Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, along with another staff member based in Sudan and one local staff member from Afghanistan, as well. At the convention, our staff made presentations on AAR Japan's mine action activities, while sharing information with people from other countries that are also engaged in landmine-related work. Further, in honor of the 15th anniversary of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (also known as the Ottawa Treaty), we held a photo exhibition entitled "Women in Mine Action" at Kensei Kinenkan from December 17th to 19th. We also held a memorial ceremony on the 18th, with guests from the Japanese Diet Member's League for a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Landmines, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), embassies, United Nations Information Center, Japan, as well as concerned public and private donors in attendance.



Dignitaries from various embassies and other guests attended the "Woman in Mine Action" convention memorial exhibition. (December 2014)

3 Assistance to Persons with Disabilities

Achievement: Through the monthly meeting and seminars held by staff in charge of the programs for assisting persons with disabilities, the lessons learned and challenges from various assistance activities carried out in Japan and overseas were shared. These meetings and seminars also helped to enhance specialized knowledge and deepen understanding of trends in the international dialogue on this subject, such as inclusive education and rights-based approaches. We actively participated in conventions, research groups, and information sharing with other organizations and groups in Japan and overseas. For instance, we participated the World Blind Union Asia-Pacific Mid-Term Regional General Assembly meeting in Hong Kong, and the Asia-Pacific Disability Forum in Vietnam in November 2014. We also participated in the preparation committee for the Third Asia-Pacific CBR (Community Based Rehabilitation) Congress, to be held in Tokyo in September 2015, as well as took part in the preparation committees for the CBR good-practice booklet that will be released at the Congress.

4 Education and Public Awareness Raising

(Promotion of Understanding Global Issues)

Achievement: AAR Japan carried out the "International Understanding Education Support Program", which began in 2013; holding 52 lectures and actively providing original educational materials to people and groups interested in international cooperation. With the help of volunteers from Shoei Girls' Sr. High School, we held the fifth public awareness summer event for elementary school students, titled "We're all Different, but We're all the Same," on disabilities. We also actively participated in the international cooperation events such as the African Festival (July 12th-13th), Global Festival (October 4th-5th), Myanmar Festival (October 18th-19th), as well as the International Blind Soccer Championship (November 22nd-24th), and local Shinagawa District events.

5 Campaign to Stop Killer Robots

Achievement: As a committee member of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, President Yukie Osa and one staff member from AAR Japan attended the informal meeting of experts of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) in Geneva in May, and gave speeches and participated in lobbying activities. Our activities during the meeting are reported on our website and in newsletters, and we held a meeting to report on international movements concerning this topic for our staff. We made efforts to promote understanding of the campaign through answering questions about killer robots from the general public, and held lectures for students.



AAR Japan's President Yukie Osa, calling for legislation restricting the use and development of killer robots at the CCW meeting of experts in Geneva.

6 Research

Achievement: AAR Japan carried out research in order to support our activities and to promote international cooperation. In terms of disaster prevention, we utilized the knowledge and experience accumulated through our domestic and international operations towards our emergency assistance activities, while disseminating this know-how through evacuation drills for persons with disabilities and holding a symposium on disaster risk reduction.

7 Assistance to Refugees in Japan

Achievement: AAR Japan continued cooperation with its sister organization, the social welfare foundation “Support 21”, on its assistance to refugees in Japan. AAR Japan staff members expanded their relationships with refugees and other foreigners living in Japan, while deepening their understanding of the issues surrounding these communities. As a refugee examination counselor under the Ministry of Justice, AAR Japan’s Chairperson Fusako Yanase assisted hearings of rejected refugees and stated her opinion on the review process of refugees who filed complaint against their rejection.

8 Public Relations and Fundraising

Achievement: On November 24, 2014, AAR Japan celebrated 35 years since our founding. We developed a 35th year anniversary logo for use in reports that highlighted our success, and also held several anniversary events. In addition to our general assembly on May 21st, we held the “35th Anniversary Get-Together”, where we highlighted AAR Japan’s achievements until now, and set our goals for the next 35 years of service. Furthermore, in order to widen Japan’s circle of international cooperation, we expanded our campaign entitled “Let’s Talk in Your Town! The Frontlines of International Cooperation”, where we held 16 lectures from Hokkaido to Nagasaki, led by our expatriate staff. More than 600 people attended these lectures.

In terms of fundraising, we put a lot of effort into cultivating new relationships with donor enterprises. With our public relations department at the head, all staff worked together to visit companies, either during the New Year holidays or when returning to Japan from stations abroad. Moreover, we welcomed the second and third groups of volunteers to the “Fundraising Volunteers” program that began in 2013, and held five different fundraising events such as bread-making lessons and walking events. We were able to achieve our revenue goals in all events.

For donor relations, we made an effort to keep in personal contact, sending postcards to our Tohoku and overseas supporters. While thanking our donors for their support, we developed several ways to encourage continued support, such as introducing the monthly supporter program and used books donation program. In the 2014 fiscal year, we received 23,805 donations from supporters. As of the end of March 2015, AAR Japan has 184 regular members, 791 associate members, and 1,109 month supporters.

Regular Members: Participate in organization activities and management through the general assembly meetings. Hold the right to vote once a year at the general assembly meeting.

Cooperation Members: Participate in organization activities and management through the general assembly meetings. No voting rights at general assembly meetings.

Monthly Supporters: Support AAR Japan’s activities through fixed, monthly contributions. No voting rights at general assembly meetings.

9 Seminars on AAR Japan's Activities

Achievement: In order to spread information on our activities, seminars were proactively organized, particularly around the times when expatriate staff came back to Japan. In fall, a symposium was held inviting Akira Ikegami, a well-known journalist, to commemorate the 35th anniversary of AAR Japan's establishment. [Number of participants]

Year 2014

April 11th	"Reports from Sites of Mine Action - Nader's Life, an Unexploded Ordnance Victim - Sana and the Future of the Children She Protects" @ Global Youth Bureau [34]
April 18th	"The Struggles and Efforts of an NGO Worker - Hard at Work in South East Asia" @AAR Japan [21]
April 26th	Linking Fun with Charity [63] - Volunteer with Bread-making (@ Meguro District Citizen Center Hall of Social Education) - Volunteer with Tourism Jobs (near Tokyo Tower) - Volunteer at Tokyo Tour (@ Tokyo Tower)
July 2nd	Three Years since Independence - Don't Give up Hope for Peace, South Sudan @3×3 Labo [80]
July 15th	Reporting from Emergency Aid Sites for Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines - A Staff's 168 Days @ AAR Japan [27]
August 9th	LINE - The Road to Connectivity - in Kamamura [12] Landmine Session: "Tell me, Sunny. What are Landmines?" @Yoshomei Art Museum [24]
August 20th	We're all Different, but We're all the Same - Let's Think About Disability and International Cooperation @3331 Arts Chiyoda [34]
September 27th	Turkish Bread Making Lesson to Support Syrian Refugees @ Meguro District Citizen Center Hall of Social Education [33]
November 11th	Aid for Syrian Refugees - Emergency Report Meeting @ AAR Japan [53]
November 27th	What Kind of World are We Living in? A Better Future through International Cooperation (35th Anniversary Symposium) @ UNU U Thant International Conference Room [241]
December 13th	Year End Party 2014 for Syrian Refugees @ Meguro District Youth Plaza [20]
December 17-19th	Photo Exhibition, "Women in Mine Action – Commemorating the 15th Anniversary since the Mine Ban Treaty"@ Kensei Kinenkan [Approximately 190 (cumulative number of visitors to the exhibition)/ 49 (participants to the ceremony on December 18th)]

Year 2015

February 11th	International Cooperation through Bread-Making and Northern European Goods @ Meguro District Citizen Center Hall of Social Education [37]
February 25th	Report Meeting "Resuscitation and Challenges of the Persons with Disabilities in Fukushima" @TIP*S/3×3 Labo [20]
March 15-16th	Bus Tour – Knowing the Current Circumstances of the Disaster-affected Areas and Thinking for the Future- Soma, Minamisoma, and Iwaki Cities, and Namie Town [84]
March 22nd	The Second Relay Marathon Earth - Not Mines, but Flowers- @ Chiba Prefecture Kashiwanoha Park Sports Stadium [769]
March 28th	Workshop "Listen to the Voice of the Syrian Refugee Children" @ Yoshomei Art Museum [24]



More than 200 people attended the AAR Japan 35th Anniversary Symposium (November 2014)

10 Charity Concerts and Sales of Charity Goods

Achievement: The “AAR Japan 35th Anniversary Charity Concert #3” was held on November 3rd, and the mezzo-soprano singer Mihoko Fujimura performed at the Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall (with Wolfram Rieger on piano). Having just received a Medal with Purple Ribbon the day before, Fujimura sang beautifully, and many people lined up for her autograph after the show.

As for charity goods, the previously sold-out Sunny necktie was brought back due to high demand. We also sold charity chocolate this year in the fall and winter, with the cooperation of Rokkatei Confectionery Company. We held a number of sales events with different corporations, and the charity chocolate was even talked about in the domestic newspapers and online. As a result, we were able to sell approximately 14,000 units this year.

11 NGO Counselor

Achievement: We received a commission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to offer correspondence and consultation about NGOs and international cooperation to the general public. We answered inquiries from students, companies and the media between May 2014 and March 2015. AAR Japan also dispatched our staff members eight times to schools, citizen groups, and international cooperation events in Ehime, Niigata, and Kyoto Prefectures to give lectures. The monthly reports AAR Japan submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs offer not only answers to questions received, but detailed explanations on topics such as NGOs and international cooperation, and developing countries. In the report, we highlighted the indispensable role NGOs play in promoting understanding of international cooperation among the general public.

12 Project Implementation and Organizational Structure

Achievement: We implemented 33 projects in 16 countries and the Tohoku region of Japan. We continued the structure of previous years, sending several personnel to reside on site at our overseas operations. At the end of this fiscal year, there were 25 personnel stationed abroad, which is four less than last year, due to the completion of the typhoon emergency aid in the Philippines and the water, sanitation and hygiene project in Kenya. Domestically, there was a decrease in personnel based in Tohoku, as some members from the Sendai Office were relocated to Tokyo, and the Soma Office was closed, leaving a total of 4 personnel in Tohoku. This decrease will enable us to continue providing Fukushima Prefecture with support despite funding limitations. As of March 31st, there are 53 personnel at the Tokyo Headquarters Office (unchanged from last year). The total number of personnel is 82 (last year, 94).

In August, our Tokyo Headquarters, Tohoku staff and roughly half of the personnel stationed abroad gathered for training and meetings. Each staff member was able to undergo training as deemed necessary. We particularly focused on drawing up mid- to long-term plan and strengthening the capacity of our organization.

In order to make the transition from being stationed abroad to returning to Tokyo Headquarters Office as smooth as possible for our staff, we expanded our transfer system.

At Tokyo Headquarters Office, approximately 50 volunteers actively participated in sending news bulletins and holding public relations events, among others. Through the Fundraising Volunteer program that began in 2013, we also held various events.

In cooperation with various organizations from many fields, we furthered efforts domestically and abroad. In particular, we carried out aid activities in Tohoku with “Social Welfare Organization Support 21”.

We followed the ISO26000, international standard guidelines for social responsibility. We examined the organizational challenges, made official regulations for documents management, and promoted the purchase of green articles and merchandise in light of the concepts, including accountability and transparency, labor laws, human rights, and working environment under ISO26000.

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2015

Assets

Subjects	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank Deposits	1,114,321,412	9,272,875
Accounts Receivable - Trade	865,585	7,203
Temporary Payments	1,414	12
Other Account Receivables	247,142	2,057
Prepaid Expenses	7,504,169	62,446
Supplies	1,632,812	13,588
Inventories	3,636,736	30,263
Total	1,128,209,270	9,388,444
Non-current Assets		
Vehicles	14,398,104	119,814
Equipments	5,083,217	42,300
Furniture & Fixtures	11,483,296	95,559
- Investment and Other Assets -		
Office Rental Deposit	8,335,260	69,362
Total	39,299,877	327,035
Total Assets	1,167,509,147	9,715,479

Liabilities and Net Assets

Subjects	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Advance Received	494,883,636	4,118,196
Account Payable - Non-trade	12,266,384	102,075
Temporarily Received	7,684,924	63,950
Tax Payable	70,000	583
Total	514,904,944	4,284,804
Non-current Liabilities		
Allowance for Retirement Benefit	6,010,000	50,013
Total	6,010,000	50,013
Total Liabilities	520,914,944	4,334,817
Net Assets		
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	566,081,914	4,710,676
Gain(Loss) for the Year	-95,321,510	-793,223
Balance at the End of the Year	470,760,404	3,917,453
Restricted Net Assets for Specific Project		
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	224,741,745	1,870,198
Increase/(Decrease) for the Year	-48,907,946	-406,989
Total Amount of Restricted Net Assets	175,833,799	1,463,209
Total Amount of Net Assets	646,594,203	5,380,662
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,167,509,147	9,715,479

Statement of Changes of Working Capital

for the Year Ended 31 March 2015

USD1=JPY 120.17

Income

Subjects	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)	Component Ratio (%)
General Accounting			
Membership Fees and Donations			
Membership Fees	4,619,000	38,437	
Donations	227,839,418	1,895,976	
Total	232,458,418	1,934,413	19.8%
Grants, etc.			
Domestic Private Funds	8,356,668	69,540	
Domestic Public Funds	732,104,968	6,092,244	
International Funds	149,539,076	1,244,396	
Total	890,000,712	7,406,180	75.7%
Other Income			
Project Income	5,000,328	41,611	
Interest Income	53,706	447	
Miscellaneous Income	4,204,539	34,988	
Gain on reversal of Lease and Guarantee Deposit	140,000	1,165	
Foreign Exchange Gain	19,302,606	160,627	
Total	28,701,179	238,838	2.4%
Total Income of General Accounting	1,151,160,309	9,579,431	97.9%
Profitable Business Accounting			
Operating Income (Sales)	23,918,956	199,043	
Non-operating Income	363,504	3,025	
Total Income of Profitable Business Accounting	24,282,460	202,068	2.1%
Total Income	(A) 1,175,442,769	9,781,499	100.0%

Expenditure

Subjects	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)	Component Ratio (%)
General Accounting			
Overseas Project Expenses			
Laos	41,734,562	347,296	
Cambodia	14,300,914	119,006	
Myanmar (Burma)	81,892,864	681,475	
Philippines	41,793,298	347,785	
Sri Lanka	0	0	
India	2,030,937	16,901	
Pakistan	76,911,545	640,023	
Afghanistan	59,585,310	495,842	
Tajikistan	34,726,865	288,981	
Turkey / Syria	180,805,167	1,504,578	
Sudan	52,309,646	435,297	
South Sudan	98,883,020	822,859	
Kenya	67,975,292	565,659	
Uganda	3,383,438	28,155	
Zambia	87,091,244	724,734	
Haiti	52,468,340	436,618	
Emergency Relief / Afghanistan Flood	2,310,846	19,230	
Emergency Relief / Syria	35,509,194	295,491	
Emergency Relief / Philippines Cyclone Survey	148,582	1,236	
Emergency Relief / Vanuatu Cyclone	1,384,207	11,519	
Total	935,245,271	7,782,685	71.6%
Domestic Project Expenses			
Emergency Relief for Tohoku Earthquake Victims	216,818,795	1,804,267	
Mine Action	3,572,598	29,729	
Support for Persons with disabilities	5,095,559	42,403	
Public Awareness	3,706,593	30,845	
Research	1,374,856	11,441	
Public Relations	57,371,769	477,422	
Commemorative Symposium	2,734,195	22,753	
Campaign to stop Killer Robots	207,118	1,724	
Total	290,881,483	2,420,584	22.3%
Purchases of fixed assets			
Vehicles	0	0	
Equipments	469,800	3,909	
Office Rental Deposit (Sendai)	450,000	3,745	
Total	919,800	7,654	0.1%
Administrative Expenses			
Personnel Expenses	30,190,620	251,232	
Others	22,366,628	186,125	
Total	52,557,248	437,357	4.0%
Other Expenditure			
Adjustment for Previous Year	623,980	5,192	
Total	623,980	5,192	0.0%
Total Expenditure of General Accounting	1,280,227,782	10,653,472	98.0%
Profitable Business Accounting			
Purchases	15,317,088	127,462	1.2%
Selling and General Administrative Expenses	9,930,761	82,639	0.7%
Taxation	924,900	7,697	0.1%
Expenditure of Profitable Business Accounting	26,172,749	217,798	2.0%
Total Expenditure (B)	1,306,400,531	10,871,270	100.0%
Net Income(Loss) (A-B)=(C)	-130,957,762	-1,089,771	
Working Capital at the Beginning of the Year (D)	738,992,540	6,149,559	
Working Capital at the End of the Year (C+D)	608,034,778	5,059,788	

Statement of Income for the Year Ended 31 March 2015

USD1=JPY

Subject	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)
I Operating Income		
1 Membership Fees		
Regular Membership Fees	1,134,000	9,437
Associate Membership Fees	3,485,000	29,000
SUBTOTAL	4,619,000	38,437
2 Donations		
Donations	174,188,811	1,449,520
Transfer from Restricted Net Assets	174,610,375	1,453,028
Gain on Donation of Assets	7,398,616	61,568
SUBTOTAL	356,197,802	2,964,116
3 Grants, etc.		
Private Funds	11,756,244	97,830
Public Funds	811,469,182	6,752,677
SUBTOTAL	823,225,426	6,850,507
4 Operating Income (Sales)		
Events	9,818,561	81,706
Charity Goods Sale	11,848,796	98,600
Commissioned Project	2,251,599	18,737
Miscellaneous Operating Income	93,104	775
SUBTOTAL	24,012,060	199,818
5 Other Income		
Interest Income	54,204	451
Project Income	4,933,828	41,057
Foreign Exchange Gain	19,302,606	160,628
Miscellaneous Income	4,541,041	37,788
SUBTOTAL	28,831,679	239,924
Operating Income Total	(A) 1,236,885,967	10,292,802
II Operating Expenses		
1 Project Expenses		
a) Personnel Expenses		
Salary	285,417,045	2,375,111
Retirement Benefits Expenses	815,000	6,782
Legal Welfare Expenses	35,951,933	299,176
Welfare Expenses	1,019,200	8,481
SUBTOTAL	323,203,178	2,689,550
b) Other Expenses		
Direct Cost of Project (e.g. Distributions, Equipment, Personnel)	714,785,929	5,948,123
Overseas Personnel	83,129,237	691,764
Overseas Travel Expenses	48,597,618	404,407
Local Travel Expenses	16,633,867	138,419
Depreciation Expenses	10,361,957	86,227
Printing Expenses	7,783,409	64,770
Advertizing Expenses	2,144,052	17,842
Communications Expenses	14,092,250	117,269
Rent	9,928,668	82,622
Fees/Charges	21,670,394	180,331
Sales Cost	6,600,048	54,923
Other Expenses	14,131,533	117,596
SUBTOTAL	949,858,962	7,904,293
Project Expenses Total	1,273,062,140	10,593,843

2 Administrative Expenses		
a) Personnel Expenses		
Salary	21,912,025	182,342
Retirement Benefits Expenses	3,270,000	27,211
Legal Welfare Expenses	4,391,433	36,544
Welfare Expenses	847,162	7,050
	SUBTOTAL	30,420,620
b) Other Expenses		
Consumables/ Equipment Expenses	586,762	4,883
Utilities Expenses	1,361,918	11,333
Communications/ Transportation Expenses	673,501	5,605
Rent	14,246,623	118,554
Travel Expenses	1,577,927	13,131
Fees/ Charges	2,190,749	18,230
Depreciation Expenses	456,294	3,797
Registration Fee	93,280	776
Other Administrative Expenses	2,514,718	20,926
	SUBTOTAL	23,701,772
Administrative Expenses Total	54,122,392	450,382
Operating Expenditure Total (B)	1,327,184,532	11,044,225
Net Income from Operating Activities (C)=(A)-(B)	-90,298,565	-751,423
III Non-Operating Profit		
n/a	0	0
Non-Operating Profit	0	0
IV Non-Operating Loss		
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	4,328,965	36,024
Loss on Previous Period Adjustment	623,980	5,192
Inventory Loss	0	0
Non-Operating Loss	4,952,945	41,216
Net Income from Non-Operating Activities (D)	-4,952,945	-41,216
Total Net Income (C)+(D)	-95,251,510	-792,639
Net Assets		
Total Net Income	-95,251,510	-792,639
Taxes	70,000	584
Net Increase/ (Decrease) for the Year	-95,321,510	-793,223
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	566,081,914	4,710,676
Balance at the End of the Year	470,760,404	3,917,453
Restricted Net Assets for Specific Project *		
Donations	53,650,607	446,454
Gain on Donation of Assets	5,276,536	43,911
Grants, etc.	66,775,286	555,674
I Transfer from Unrestricted Net Assets	0	0
II Transfer to Unrestricted Net Assets	-174,610,375	-1,453,028
Net Increase/ (Decrease) for the Year	-48,907,946	-406,989
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	224,741,745	1,870,198
Balance at the End of the Year	175,833,799	1,463,209
Balance of the Total Net Assets at the end of the Year	646,594,203	5,380,662

(*) Activities related to The Great East Japan Earthquake

Profitable Business Accounting
Statement of Income and Expenditure
for the Year Ended 31 March 2015

Income

		USD1=JPY		
Subjects	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)	Component Ratio (%)	
Operating Income (Sales)				
Concerts/Events	9,818,561	81,706		
Goods	11,848,796	98,600		
Projects Commissioned	2,251,599	18,737		
Total	23,918,956	199,043	98.5%	
Non-operating Income				
Copyright Royalty	93,104	775		
Miscellaneous Income	270,002	2247		
Interest Received	398	3		
Total	363,504	3,025	1.5%	
Total Income	(E)	24,282,460	202,068	100.0%

Expenditure

Subjects	Amount (in JPY)	Amount (EQ. USD)	Component Ratio (%)	
Purchases				
Concerts/Events	6,814,052	56,703		
Goods	8,513,172	70,843		
Projects Commissioned by MOFA	331,547	2,759		
Transfer to Other Account	-341,683	-2,843		
Total	15,317,088	127,462	60.7%	
Selling and Administrative Expenses				
Personnel Expenses	6,782,883	56,444		
Selling and General Administrative Expenses	3,147,878	26,195		
Total	9,930,761	82,639	39.3%	
Total Expenditure	(F)	25,247,849	210,101	100.0%

Net Ordinary Income (Loss)	(E-F)=(G)	-965,389	-8,033
Payment of Income taxes	(H)	924,900	7,697
Income transfered from General Account	(I)	724,814	6,032
Net Surplus from Income over Expenditure at the end of year	(G-H+I)	-1,165,475	-9,698

Japanese-English translation by Mr. Yasuhiro Kusakawa and Mr. Cameron Lombardo
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This annual report has been translated by volunteers as part of the AAR Japan's Volunteer Programme.
Their generous contributions allow us to spread our activities globally.



Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan) is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) established in 1979 with the original goal to assist the Indochinese refugees. Since then, its mission has evolved into providing long-term assistance to the most vulnerable people in the world, expanding its scope of activities. AAR Japan now operates in the following fields: 1. Emergency assistance, 2. Support for persons with disabilities, 3. Mine/UXO action, 4. Action against infectious diseases, and 5. Public awareness raising.

We have worked in over 60 countries / regions up until now, and are currently carrying out projects in 16 countries. In 1997, AAR Japan was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize as a member organization of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), and in 2008, was awarded Okinawa Peace Prize.

All of our relief efforts are based on financial and material aid from various organization and private companies, schools, and individuals.

We deeply appreciate your warm and generous support.

Association for Aid and Relief, Japan

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