



NEWSLETTER

Network for Voluntary Development in Asia (NVDA)

Vol. 12 in December 2022

Executive Committee Meeting in Kawasaki, Japan on 2022.11.07



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Year End Greetings from President

The year 2022 is going to end soon. What were the biggest news for you? I hope, many happy memories have been made!

In the world, there was (and is) a war in Ukraine by Russia and so many other problems of peace, environment, poverty, rights of human being (and other livings) are still or even more. The long lasting COVID-19 disaster is getting smaller, but still suffering many people...

If you are a Star Wars lover, we may describe this year as "Episode 4" for our International Voluntary Service movement. International volunteers exchange is slowly, but gradually recovered though the speed is different in each area by such as the military oppression in Myanmar, zero corona policy in China, lack of human resources to recover the NGOs, etc.

I would like to greatly congratulate and appreciate to all the member NGOs, their volunteers, supporters, local host and partner organizations to have managed to survive the movement together by keeping the strong spirits, hot passions and warm collaborations.

Well, we may have the same or even bigger disaster near future (though I really don't wish!) and should be ready by using the learning experiences this time through the diversification of the projects and income resources.

Not a few members have developed the online programs, donation practices, national workcamps and/ or local development projects that knowhow and resources can be also utilized for our revived or new projects to have better qualities and bigger impact (e.g., online preparation meetings for the incoming vols.). The rain makes soil hard!

To get a life and to be alive are already miracle and so valuable, I believe. Our dramatic stories and exciting journey are restarting now! And main players are ALL OF YOU!!

Best wishes,

KAIZAWA Shinichiro (Kai), President of NVDA
on behalf of the Executive Committee with
Thazin, Baatar, Alex and Sophat

Report - IVS Summit & Special Workcamp

Written by KAIZAWA Shinichiro, NICE (President of NVDA)

The 4th Asian IVS Summit with Special Workcamp was wonderfully organized in Nov. 3-6 @ Osaka, Japan by NVDA and NICE (host) with 18 participants from 9 countries and financial support of MUFG bank.

On Day 1 (Nov. 3rd), we actively joined the NVDA's 25th & NICE West office's 20th anniversary events such as IVS Contest, World Café and of course, Party in the Osaka city!



On Day 2, we moved to Tondabayashi, 60km southwest from Osaka to stay in the "NICE house" which has been recently donated by an old lady who wish to activate the community by the power of colorful, fresh volunteers. Summit and Workcamp were organized simultaneously while eating and having a fun together.

Summit gathered the following 8 NGO leaders most of who are heads and founders!

Country	NGO	In NVDA	Name
Belgium	SVI	Member	Pierre
Cambodia	CYA	Vice President	Sophat
Indonesia	GREAT	Ex. Secretariat	Ben
Japan	NICE	President	Kai
Japan	NICE	(President)	Yasu
Korea	IWO	Ex. EC member	Yonghan
Mongolia	MCE	Treasurer	Baatar
Myanmar	GIVE	General Secretary	Thazin



We could share various common challenges and ideas for actions & collaboration such as;

- * Project Supporters: Include the donation for the first year in the participation fee of Incoming vols. and invite them to keep it annually with sending the newsletters, thank you card, etc.
- * NVDA Academy: Launch a series of the courses for the placement staff of Member NGOs since many staff retired during COVID-period and new ones have lack of knowledges and skills.

Workcamp gathered 10 volunteers from France, Japan, Indonesia and Hong Kong who cleaned up the big room to be used for the community gathering. They also helped threshing rice in the satoyama forest with the small kids!



The last dinner was "hand rolling sushi" that we can prepare together and take what we like to eat, so it was very popular.



It's been 3 years since NVDA had such a colorful gathering physically! NGO leaders and Volunteers greatly got empowered to create a colorful & healthy post COVID-19 world together!

IVS Starting Stories - from 5 countries!

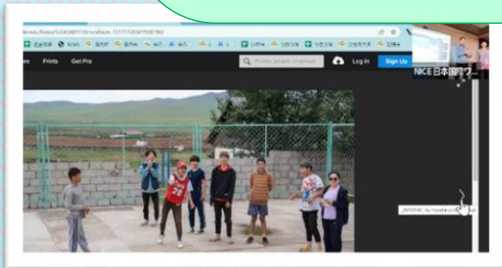
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In the night of Nov. 7th, a room in Tokyo was greatly heated by the passions and excitements from the special hybrid event, "Asian Volunteering Night - **Starting IVS stories by 4+1 NGO founders**".



Hi, I'm Baatar from Mongolia. I graduated from my univ. in 1998 where I was active in the student Unions. Then, I worked in the youth NGO named Mongolian Youth Federation for 3.5 years.

I found a news about a special workcamp in Vietnam and jumped into. In the end, I talked with Kai in the café about starting workcamps in Mongolia. I was a very poor English speaker, so he wrote the main points on the tissue paper, I brought it back to Mongolia and tried to understand...



Childhood



I am Ben from Indonesia. I'm not a NGO founder, but joined the creation. Before I got to know IVS, I had no hope in my life. One day, Japanese vols. visited my univ. I was amazed that they worked to plant mangrove in the dirty mud and stay in the poor house. I asked them why? Then, I got the most important thing in the life that is...



I am Sophat from Cambodia. When I was 20, I came to the city and could not find what to do. I tried many things such as electric stuff, NGOs for disaster response, then made success in business, but still could be satisfied.

In 2010, I found a NVDA event to gather NGO leaders, so asked my office to have 2 weeks vacation to join it, but they said no, so I quit my job...



I am Kai from Japan. I took one year vacation from my univ. and traveled around the world. I found a workcamp in Poland and enjoyed to dance with a nice lady (see photo).

It was so wonderful and searched the info, then got to know that there is no workcamp in Japan or even most of Asia. I came back to Japan and called 10 Japanese who are...



I am Thazin from Myanmar. My childhood was simple. My uncles were a sailor and a NGO staff, so I could hear about the world from them.

I started voluntary service to do practice not just think about theories and worked in the development NGO.

Then, I got a chance to join the training in Vietnam and met crazy people of NVDA in the swimming pool...

You can find much more contents of their stories from the movie at the following site; <https://www.facebook.com/nice.workcamp/videos/3165464073744587> (see 4:25-1:21:29 since last part about Japan was spoken only in Japanese due to lack of time). There are Japanese interpretation time by time due to the needs of many Japanese audience.



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SMILE



URGENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN INDIA
1-6 MONTHS
www.smilengo.org

Projects Available:

- Teaching basic English
- Rooftop Organic Garden
- Yoga and Meditation
- Pearl Farming Project
- Culture & Language Exch.
- Promotional Assistant
- Renovation and Repairing
- Teaching Art, Dance, Music
- Youth Development Assistant

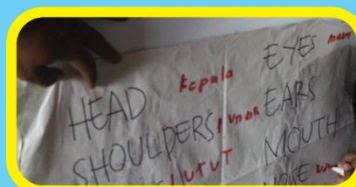
[Apply Soon](#)

Urgent Volunteers Needed in India

SMILE has started the voluntary programs in order to revive the spirit of volunteering after the pandemic situation is under control. Although the activities have been operating, the organization faced all short on volunteers and they hope to receive motivated and adequate volunteers from partner organization.

English Weekend Camp

On 15th and 16th October, Dejavato held an English Weekend Camp Clapar, Duren Village, Bandungan District, Semarang Regency where 22 participants did planting, team building activity, fun games and competition along with the local students. Through this camp, not only the participants will be improved in English language skill and communication skill with local community but also the local community be benefited for their economic and tourism opportunities through language skill.



Volunteer Companion

On 22nd November, in preparation to welcome international volunteers for 2023, Dejavato held a Volunteers Companion (Volscom) in Detekon view, Semarang where the Dejavato staffs provide orientation about companion procedure, city tour plan and basic Indonesian culture and tradition facts. It is aimed to involve local volunteers in international voluntary service through introducing Indonesian culture and uniqueness to foreign volunteers as a companion for them.





Myanmar (GIVE)

Through the community internship program, 9 youths gained working opportunities in times of coup. After the community internship program, these youths are working in Giving for Earth under Young Spirit project and leading voluntary workcamps and community development projects.



Korea (IWO)

IWO-71 Jangdo/ 1-10, July/ volunteers were supposed to record the activities with local women in the tidal flat but it rained for 3 days. Volunteers were brave and motivated to go into the tidal flat and local women were also happy to be with them although it is not very necessary to work as it rains. They became very close in the end and they spent so much time with local people at their home and community hall. It appeared that they were family.

Upcoming Members IVS Projects

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* They are **just examples** and more projects are organized by Member NGOs, so check their sites!

Australia: [IVP](#), Belgium: [SVI](#), Cambodia: [CYA](#), China: [DWC](#), Hong Kong: [VT](#), India: [FSL](#) [RUCHI](#) [SMILE](#), Indonesia: [DJ GREAT](#) [IWC](#), Japan: [NICE](#), Korea: [IWO](#), Laos: [HJA](#), Macau: [MNCYA](#), Malaysia: [MOVE](#), Mongolia: [MCE](#), Myanmar: [GIVE](#), Nepal: [FFN](#) [VIN](#), Philippines: [GIED](#), Sri Lanka: [GV4GF](#), Taiwan: [VYA](#), Thailand [DALAA](#), Vietnam: [CSDS](#) [SJV](#) [VPV](#)

* Dates are indicated by Month/Date order.

Cambodia ([CYA](#))

CSD - Teaching English, music arts to the kids and also organic farming for income generation of locals. 01/23-02/04, 02/06-02/18, 02/20-03/04, etc.



Nepal ([FFN](#))

Banepa - Rehabilitation still damaged by Earthquake in 2015, construct the elders home, forestation, etc. 02/01-02/14 and 03/01-03/14



Sri Lanka ([GV4GF](#))

GSS - Revive the organic farm stopped by COVID-19 by making nursery for 5,000 vegetable seedlings. 01/17-01/26, 03/07-03/16, 04/30-06/08, etc.



Indonesia ([GREAT](#))

Semarang - Help the cat shelter, feed the abandon cats on the streets/ market, awareness raising, etc. 02/22-02/27 and 02/22-03/07



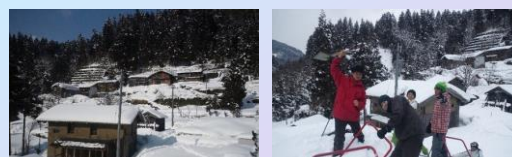
Malaysia ([MOVE](#))

Sabah - Teaching English and music to immigrated kids from Philippines, etc. who has no citizenship 02/19-02/24, 02/19-03/04, 03/05-03/10, 03/05-03/18



Japan ([NICE](#))

Ohara - Clearing snow to protect the cultural heritage of traditional houses in the beautiful mountain village 01/16-01/22, 01/16-02/19, 01/30-02/05, 02/13-02/19



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NVDA Newsletter (2022 December)

Issued by NVDA (Network for Voluntary Development in Asia) <https://nvda-asia.org/>
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