



**The Japan NPO Center
Annual Report 2013
(English Digest Version)**

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Message from the Chairperson

July 2014

Noboru Hayase

Our Approach is Collaboration **– Organizational Capacity Building to Strengthen the Civic Sector**

With gratitude, we hereby present the 2013 Annual Report of the Japan NPO Center (JNPOC). Throughout FY2013, we ran a variety of projects with the aim of strengthening the infrastructure and support base of the non-profit sector in Japan, as well as promoting the sector's healthy partnership with the government and the private sector. We thank you very much for your support.

It has been 3 years and 3 months since the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, which brought unprecedented damage and suffering to the Tohoku region. The recovery and reconstruction efforts lag behind, and the effects of the nuclear accident still linger on, impacting the region's sense of safety. Many people are still living far from their homes, often separated from their family members. Faced with difficult situations, people in the region affected by the tsunami and the nuclear accident have ceaselessly worked hard to overcome their predicament. JNPOC in 2013 continued to support these people by implementing grant programs, which were made possible by the generous support of individuals and corporations, as well as by assisting with the organizational development and capacity building of NPOs (non-profit organizations) in the region and elsewhere working on the recovery and reconstruction.

Our focus on organizational development and capacity building is not limited to our work in Tohoku. In particular, we strive to strengthen "citizen participation" in organizational management. We feel this is a significant goal because it raises citizens' awareness of the fact that they should be the main actors to solve social issues. This theme is one on which JNPOC has placed the utmost importance since our founding.

The current Abe administration of the Japanese government promotes "Mutual Support Society," which focuses on the role of citizen participation in dealing with social issues. This is encouraging. On the other hand, however, the current administration has been taking this country down a path that could go against the values we uphold, including the

enactment of the Secret Information Protection Act and the active attempt to expand the role of Japan's Self Defense Force. Democracy and peace, as well as protecting the fundamental freedom of civic activities, are at the base of our mission, and we feel it necessary to be a strong advocate on these issues.

The year 2013 was the first year of implementation for the JNPOC's five-year plan, the Mid-Term Vision 2013-2017. This plan articulated 6 pillars through which JNPOC will strengthen its work. Our work in 2013 was based on these priorities. The 6 pillars are: 1) bolster human resource development for the non-profit sector through a variety of means; 2) strengthen avenues for collaboration with regional and local initiatives in Japan; 3) strengthen collaboration with local NPO Support Centers; 4) strengthen research and policy work; 5) strengthen collaboration with NPOs abroad; and 6) strengthen information dissemination through mass and other media.

We would like to sincerely ask you to provide us with any feedback you may have on our work as we continue to support one another in strengthening the non-profit sector in Japan.



Program Highlights in 2013

Information is the life blood of NPOs

- Partnering with the US-based non-profit TechSoup Global, JNPOC acts as **TechSoup Japan** and runs a software donation program, which makes donated software accessible to nonprofits. In 2013, 11,602 software products in total were provided to 1,649 nonprofits in Japan with 528,670,000 yen worth of products distributed.
- JNPOC published a **quarterly journal, NPO Hiroba** in Japanese (circulation 1,300) from vol. 67 to vol. 70, discussing cutting-edge social issues and the voices of those who have dedicated themselves to specific civic activities.
- The information of 1,333 nonprofits has been newly added to the searchable online **NPO database**, operated by JNPOC with the aim of promoting access to and disclosure of information about NPOs.

People convene to learn, and we coordinate

JNPOC provided a wide range of **forums and training opportunities** for NPOs seeking to build their capacity. The seminars and forums conducted in fiscal 2013 include:

- **Annual Forum for NPOs-Local Government Dialogue**, attended by 202 participants.
- **NPO Capacity Building Workshops** through funding from Panasonic Corporation in 5 prefectures in Japan.
- 2013 was the 10th anniversary of **NPO Public Relation Skills Improvement Workshops** in collaboration with Dentsu Incorporated. The cumulative number of workshops reached 91, with total participation of approximately 3,300.

One million yen is worth more if we use it wisely

- Since 2011, JNPOC has been at the forefront of citizen-led support for **Disaster Relief for East Japan** and has established multiple disaster relief funds in partnership with Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited, Daiwa Securities Corporation, Nissan Motor Company, Japan Tobacco International, Johnson & Johnson, and World Vision Japan. In 2013, grants – with a total amount of more than 451,400,000 yen -- and accompanying technical assistance for organizational management and development were provided for approximately 140 NPOs working for the needs of disaster affected communities. JNPOC works closely with the Civil Society Initiative Fund, the Japan Civic Network of Disaster Relief in East Japan, and other civil society groups and networks to assess the local needs.

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- Serving as a local advisor for the US-based non-profit **Give2Asia**, JNPOC facilitated charitable giving to nonprofits in Japan. By providing customized services to connect US donors with Japanese NPO recipients, we helped 25 organizations receive funds in 2014.

Knowledge and experience become more powerful _____ when brought together

- In the JNPOC-hosted the **CEO Conference**, in which CEOs of local NPO Support Centers throughout Japan met 3 times to discuss ongoing challenges and ways to improve strategic management.
- JNPOC's Executive Director Yoshifumi Tajiri participates as a member in the **Round Table for Mutual Support Society** hosted by the Government of Japan, which aims to deepen informational exchange in a multi-sector format.
- JNPOC continues to serve as the coordinating organization for the **NPO/NGO Network for Advancing Social Responsibility**.

Ideas can be transformed into innovative projects _____

JNPOC partners with several companies to facilitate creation of innovative projects:

- **Minna-no-Mori Oendan** project, in partnership with Kao Corporation, aims to facilitate dialogue about environmental issues across generations, and raise human resources for future environmental protection work. In 2013, 10 college students worked as news reporters and wrote an article about NPOs working on forest management.
- In coordination with Sumitomo Life Welfare and Culture Foundation and Foundation for Promoting Sound Growth of Children, JNPOC connects NPOs and local children's centers with the aim of addressing issues concerning children and promoting a sense of well-being among children at the community level (**Dondoko Project**).
- Partnering with Sompo Japan Insurance Incorporated, 139 environmental workshops and events were conducted to raise awareness on the protection of endangered species of all 47 prefectures in Japan. Approximately 7000 participated in 2013 (**Save Japan Project**).
- Through funding from Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Co. Ltd, and in collaboration with the Environmental Partnership Office, local NPOs supporting children and environmental conservation conducted hands-on workshops utilizing local natural resources in 16 locations in Japan (**Green Gift Project**)

Conducting research, informing policies and becoming an advocate

- JNPOC conducted various **research projects to inform public policy related to NPOs**, including a fact-finding study of NPO Support Center capacities (Japanese report available in print and online) and a survey of prefectural and local governments' support systems to NPOs (available on the JNPOC website in Japanese).
- JNPOC has partnered with NPO support centers throughout Japan and filed a petition **calling for non-profit corporate tax and regulation reform**.

Financial Summary (FY2013, Japanese Yen)

TOTAL REVENUE	690,458,615
Membership Fees	15,015,000
Donation	608,481,297
Program Fees and Contracts	57,154,231
Grants	9,737,834
Other	70,253
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	688,532,583
Program Services:	
Staff	75,400,403
Programs - Common	16,855,862
Information Services	16,923,984
Consultations	35,530
Networking	1,166,916
Research and Public Policy	180,450
Facilitative Projects	92,905,268
Forums and Training	8,826,932
Disaster Relief for East Japan	451,408,952
Supporting Services:	24,828,286



Board Of Directors

(elected in the General Assembly on May 23, 2014. Officers were chosen by consensus on July 1, 2014)

Noboru Hayase, Osaka Voluntary Action Center (Chairperson)

Natsuko Hagiwara, Rikkyo University (Vice Chairperson)

Masaaki Ohashi, Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (Vice Chairperson)

Yoshifumi Tajiri, Japan NPO Center (Executive Director)

Katsuji Imata, CSO Network Japan (Executive Director, from August 1, 2014)

Hiroshi Asaka, The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Koichi Kaneda, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited /
Sub-committee on Corporate Philanthropy, KEIDANREN

Takayuki Kasumi, Juon Network

Hideko Katsumata, Japan Center for International Exchange

Emiko Kitamura, Hokkaido NPO Support Center

Meri Kobayashi, Hamamatsu NPO Network Center

Momoko Koga, Fukuoka NPO Center

Yukie Osa, Association for Aid and Relief Japan

Makoto Oshima, Kubikino NPO Support Center

Atsuo Shibuya, Japan National Council of Social Welfare

Ichisaburo Tochimoto, Sophia University

Eiji Ueda, NPO NICE

Akiko Yamauchi, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union

Yoshihiro Yokota, COMMONS Ibaraki