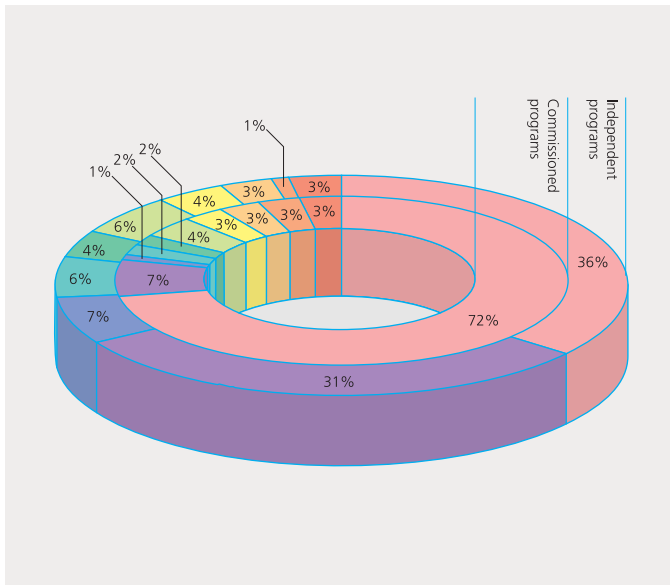
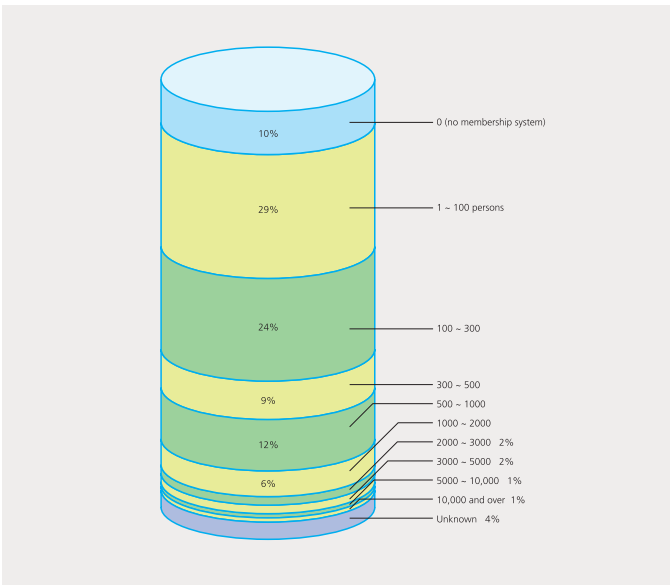
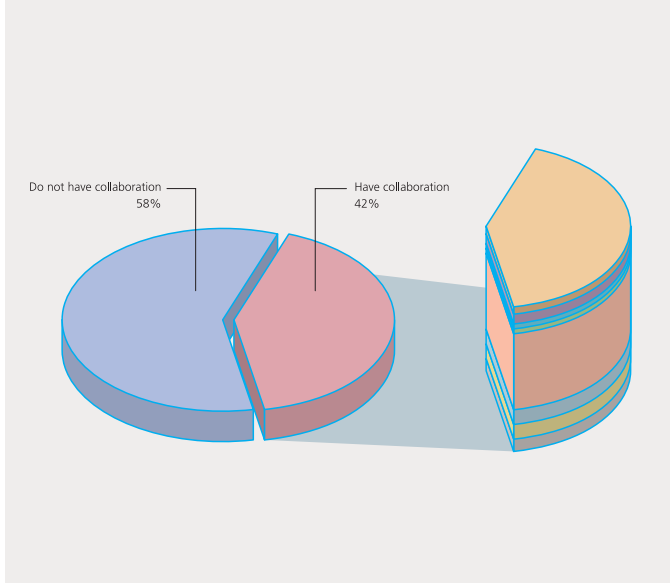
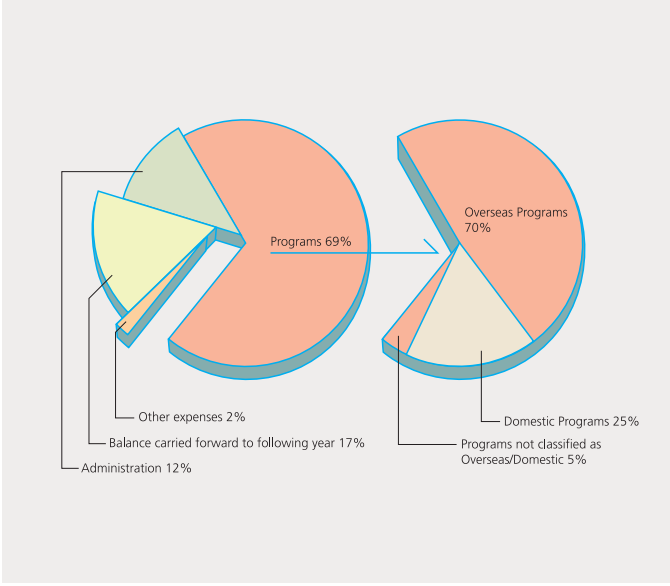


# Understanding Japanese NGOs from Facts and Practices



# **Understanding Japanese NGOs from Facts and Practices**

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Understanding Japanese NGOs from Facts and Practices, compiled by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in cooperation with the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC), aims to equip JICA overseas personnel working on the frontline of JICA – NGO collaboration with an overview of Japanese NGOs and their relationship with JICA.

It also aims to serve as an introduction for overseas practitioners and researchers in international cooperation who are interested in Japanese cooperation, especially that of Japanese NGOs and their collaboration with JICA.

The data and analysis provided in Chapters 1 to 7 are drawn from JANIC's past publications, mainly from Directory of Japanese NGOs Concerned with International Cooperation and Data Book of Japanese NGOs 2006 (both available only in Japanese). The analysis in those publications are based on the data collected from 277 NGOs in the questionnaire survey conducted from September 2005 to January 2006.

The full text and abstract can be downloaded in PDF format from the JICA website at <http://www.jica.go.jp/english/resources/brochures/index.html>

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photo: K.Yahata

# Overview of Japanese International Cooperation NGOs

1. Similar to “NGO” is the term “NPO” (Non-Profit Organization), both of which share basic characteristics. In Japan, the term “NGO” tends to be used to refer to civic organizations working in the field of international cooperation, while “NPO” describes organizations working at community level inside the country. However, this edition does not take such a view.

NGO, an acronym for Non-Governmental Organization, is a term originally used by the United Nations to refer to private organizations other than governments. At present, it is customary to use the term NGO to collectively refer to non-governmental, non-profit, citizen-led organizations working voluntarily (voluntarism) to resolve global issues such as development, human rights, the environment and peace<sup>1</sup>. In this edition, we define an “international cooperation NGO” as a non-governmental, non-profit civic organization. “International cooperation” is defined as a set of activities to address global issues (including development, human rights, peace, the environment and emergency relief work), whether within or outside the country.

## 1-1. History and Background

When did Japanese international cooperation NGOs (referred to below as “NGOs” ) begin working? It is said that the beginning of Japanese NGOs can be traced back to a medical mission composed of Christian doctors and medical students sent to China in 1938. The mission was sent in response to damage caused by the Japanese military invasion and to provide care for refugees. For the following 20 years or so, this work was disrupted because of the intensifying war and, in the post-war period, the need to reconstruct Japan itself. International cooperation by citizens resumed at the end of the 1950s.

The 1960s saw the birth of organizations that are still active today: the Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service (JOCS, established in 1960), born out of the group that sent the above medical mission to China; the Asian Rural Institute (ARI), an offspring of the Southeast Asia Christian Rural Leaders Training Course established in 1960 within the Tsurukawa Rural Institute (ARI became independent of Tsurukawa Rural Institute in 1973); and the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA, established in 1969 as the OISCA Industrial and Development Body), established by the International Organization for Cultivating Human Spirit (established in 1961). During the same decade, many citizens’ groups were formed to address and resolve issues in labor, pollution, atomic/hydrogen bombs and security fields as they became serious social issues.

During the 1970s, Shapla Neer (the Citizens’ Committee in Japan for Overseas Support ), a pioneer development NGO, was created (named the Help Bangladesh Committee at the time). The Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC), born in 1973, analyzed developments in citizens’ movements as well as in political and economic fields in Japan and distributed such analysis and information overseas through the creation of its English newsletter, named AMPO. Such activities can be seen as pioneering advocacy-type work. A Japanese branch of the international NGO Amnesty International was also set up in 1970.

The number of NGOs rapidly increased from 1979 through the late 1980s. In response to the outflow of a large number of Cambodian and Indochinese refugees in this period, many citizens hurried to these areas for relief activities and later set up NGOs. Examples include the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR JAPAN) (1971), the Shanti Volunteer Association (named the Japan Sotoshu Relief Committee at the time of its creation in 1979), and the Japan International Volunteer mCenter (named the Japan Volunteer Center at the time of its creation). Their initial activity focus was on emergency relief and the provision of goods, but later shifted from emergency relief to reconstruction and expanded to include support for self-reliance/self-help activities, facilitation of repatriation and assistance to internally

displaced people. Further, as the area of activity expanded from support for reconstruction to development, their understanding of the structure of poverty in the South and affluence in the North (known as the North-South problem) deepened, and development education rapidly expanded.

During this period, a variety of organizations were established other than these NGOs that began their work in response to the refugee crisis. In the 1980s, public interest in international issues grew through media reports as many events attracting worldwide attention occurred (such as the famine in Africa), and global environmental problems began to be debated in international conferences and reported by the media. Many NGOs were established, including those specializing in collecting donations and providing financial support to NGOs working in social development and environmental conservation fields, and those working to resolve human rights and environmental issues. It was also during this decade that Japanese branches or partner organizations of international NGOs began to increase in number.

2. In 1988, the Free East Timor! National Coalition (currently the East Timor Japan Coalition) was established. After 1990, the People's Forum on Cambodia, Japan (1993), the Japan NGO Network on Indonesia (JANNI, 1993), the Nippon NGO Network for Nepal (1993) and the Africa Japan Forum (1994) were formed.

3. Examples include the International Human Rights NGO Network (1990), the Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (1993) and the Solidarity Network with Migrants Japan (1997).

In the late 1980s, the need to share information and experience among NGOs grew as the number of such organizations increased. The Japanese NGO Center for International Cooperation (currently the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation), the Kansai NGO Council and the Nagoya and the Third World Exchange Center (currently the Nagoya NGO Center) were established to develop wide networks bridging different fields. These network-type NGOs began to play a large role in information- and experience-sharing among organizations, organizational development, distribution of information to the public, promotion of advocacy work, facilitation of dialogue with the government, promotion of national-level NGO networking and others. Also since the late 1980s, network-type NGOs by country/region<sup>2</sup> and by area of activity<sup>3</sup> have emerged.

The number of newly established organizations was the greatest during the 1990s. This occurred against a backdrop of a series of world-shaking events that generated greater interest among citizens in world affairs and a sense of participation in international cooperation. The 1991 Gulf War triggered a debate on international contribution, while the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines (1991) and the genocide in Rwanda (1994) contributed to the rapid growth of public attention on overseas cooperation work. Further, the use of the term NGO spread through media reports on a series of international conferences<sup>4</sup> held in the 1990s, starting with the 1992 Earth Summit (a.k.a. the UN Conference on Environment and Development). The active contribution of NGOs to relief work in the aftermath of the 1995 Hanshin-Awaji Great Earthquake also contributed to greater recognition from the public for the work of NGOs. As many as 130 groups and 20,000 volunteers from inside and outside Japan rushed to the affected areas, helping to raise awareness of the roles of volunteers and NGOs. Further, public opinion increasingly began to favor giving civic organizations juridical person status, which led to the enforcement of the Law to Promote Specified Non-profit Activities at the end of 1998. Now many organizations enjoy greater social recognition as specified non-profit corporations.

4. Among others, the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna), the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo), the 1995 World Summit on Social Development (Copenhagen), the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing) and the 1996 Second UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II, Istanbul).

The decade was also a difficult period for NGOs because income from membership fees and donations that had been rising steadily stagnated as a result of the stalled economy. In the latter half of the 1990s, many NGOs experienced deteriorating financial conditions, and various governmental funds to support NGO work began to be made available. In addition to the NGO Project Subsidy (1989) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the NGO

Agricultural and Forestry Cooperation Program of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (1989), Postal Savings for Global Voluntary Aid was launched by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (currently Japan Post) in 1991, the International Cooperation in Construction Program by the Ministry of Construction (currently the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport) in 1992, and the Japan Fund for Global Environment by the Environmental Agency in 1993 (now managed under the auspices of the Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency). Accordingly, many new NGOs were created, and existing organizations began to set up international cooperation sections. During the latter half of the 1990s, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) started to strengthen cooperation with NGOs. JICA launched the Community Empowerment Program in 1997, the Development Partnership Program (DPP, KAIHATSU PATONA JIGYOU) in 1999 and the Small-scale Development Partnership Program (SHOKIBO KAIHATSU PATONA JIGYOU) in 2000. These programs were remodelled later into the JICA Partnership Program and other relevant programs and still continues today.

5. Mr. Mitsuhiro Saotome (former Director-General, Non-Governmental Organizations Support Division, Bureau of Economic Cooperation, MOFA) describes the decade from 1989 through 1998 as a “period of supporting NGO’s projects” and the period after 1999 as a “period of supporting NGO’s organizational development.” (Yoshinori Ikezumi, “Chapter 1 NGOs’ Past and Present [NGO no ayumi to genzai],” in Manabi, Mirai, NGO [Learning, the Future and NGOs,] page 72.)

6. Examples include: NGOs’ “Alternative Declaration” adopted at the 1995 World Summit on Social Development (Copenhagen); the “NGO Statement” adopted at the APEC NGO International Conference for the APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Osaka in the same year; the Japan Campaign to Ban Landmines towards the signing of the 1997 Anti-Personnel Mine Total Ban Treaty; NGO involvement in drafting the new environmental guidelines for the Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC), created by the merger of the Japan Export Import Bank and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund in 1999; and activities related to the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Seattle in 1999.

7. The events occurring in 2000 and after included: earthquakes in western India and El Salvador in January 2001; the terrorist attacks in the US in September 2001; the US invasion in Afghanistan in October 2001; an earthquake in northern Afghanistan in March 2002; an earthquake in Algeria in May 2002; a great earthquake in Iran in December 2002; the Iraq War in March 2003; the bombing in Jakarta in August 2003; the bombing in Bali in October 2003; the bombing of a train in Spain in March 2004; the bombing in Jakarta in September 2004; an earthquake in the coastal area off Sumatra Island and the subsequent tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean in December 2004. 2005 saw a great earthquake that hit Iran in February, bombings in London in July, the bombing in Bali and a great earthquake in Pakistan in October. In February 2006, landslides caused damage in Leyte Island, the Philippines.

While the government and NGOs are enhancing cooperation in the area of finance as described above,<sup>5</sup> NGOs have begun to revisit their relationships with the government. Such action has included the critical engagement of NGOs towards ODA (Official Development Assistance) and the strengthening of advocacy and presentation of alternatives to the government and the business sector.<sup>6</sup> In 1996, NGO-MOFA regular meeting began, followed by the NGO-JICA regular meeting and the NGO-JICA Reciprocal Training Program in 1998. Efforts to improve such cooperation between NGOs and governmental bodies continue today. Japanese NGOs also began to take part in NGO networks that expanded worldwide thanks to economic globalization and the development of information/communications technology. Through such activities, NGOs are able to strengthen the areas of publicity and information provision as well as advocacy work towards the government and private corporations.

Since 2000, the number of new organizations has been decreasing. This is because, unlike in the preceding years when new organizations were established to cope with global phenomena, existing organizations have been widening the scope of their work by embarking on new ventures such as relief work.<sup>7</sup> Since the Miyazaki Initiative (announced at the 2000 Kyushu/Okinawa Summit) on the role of conflict resolution in the development field and Action from Japan on the implementation of the Initiative through close coordination and collaboration between the government, international agencies and NGOs, cooperation between the government and NGOs has further developed in the form of emergency financial assistance, the exchange and training of staff and the establishment of the Japan Platform in 2000. The Hottokenai Sekai no Mazushisa (Don’t Let it Be – World Poverty) campaign launched in 2005 in close coordination with the global campaign called G-CAP (Global Call to Action Against Poverty) has been carried out through the joint efforts of NGOs, supporting corporations and individual supporters. These examples show the increasing scope of the work carried out by NGOs.

## 1-2 Overview of Japanese international cooperation NGOs

### 1-2-1 Field of activities

The fields of activity for international cooperation NGOs in Japan vary widely, but can be roughly classified into the four areas of development, the environment, human rights and peace.

In the field of development, Japanese NGOs are engaged in regional development, agricultural training, health care services, improving living conditions, spreading education, vocational training, small-scale industries and so forth in rural areas or urban slums. In the field of the environment, they tackle reforestation, forest conservation, prevention of desertification and conservation of the ecosystem. In the field of human rights, NGOs are active in the protection of the rights of refugees, women, children, people with disabilities, disaster victims, indigenous peoples, minorities, people in detention and foreign workers in Japan, among others.

In the field of peace, major activities include disarmament, eradication of landmines and peace education.

Among these fields, education/children, health care, vocational training, gender/women and reforestation are especially actively pursued, while areas such as democracy/good governance and peacebuilding are also gaining greater attention. Regardless of the field of activity, a major distinguishing feature of NGOs is that they pursue activities to meet the basic needs of people in socially or economically vulnerable positions in different places of the world and encourage their self-reliance.

### 1-2-2 Types of activity

Types of cooperation directed abroad include financial aid, provision of materials, sending personnel and receiving trainees in Japan. In implementing these activities, some NGOs send Japanese representatives abroad while others provide support through local partner organizations. Meanwhile, activities directed inside Japan such as information provision and global civic education (development education) are also spreading. These activities aim to educate Japanese people on issues involving values and lifestyle and review the way Japanese society should be. Advocacy initiatives targeted toward governments and international institutions are also becoming more and more active, and “grassroots trade” -- or alternative trade -- to import goods produced by small-scale farmers or producers in developing countries and sell them in Japan is steadily expanding.

### 1-2-3 Area of activities overseas

Asia is the principal region where Japan’s international cooperation NGOs work (200 organizations, or 70% of the total). It is followed by Africa (54 organizations), Latin America (23 organizations), the former Soviet Union/Eastern Europe (14 organizations) and Oceania (5). In Asia, many organizations work in the Philippines, Cambodia, Nepal, India and Thailand. In Africa, Kenya, Zambia, Uganda and Ethiopia are the major countries, but the target regions are widely distributed rather than concentrated on certain countries. In Latin America, Japanese NGOs work in 16 countries including Peru, Brazil and Haiti; in the former Soviet Union/Eastern Europe, 10 countries including Ukraine and Belarus; and in Oceania, 7 countries including Papua New Guinea.





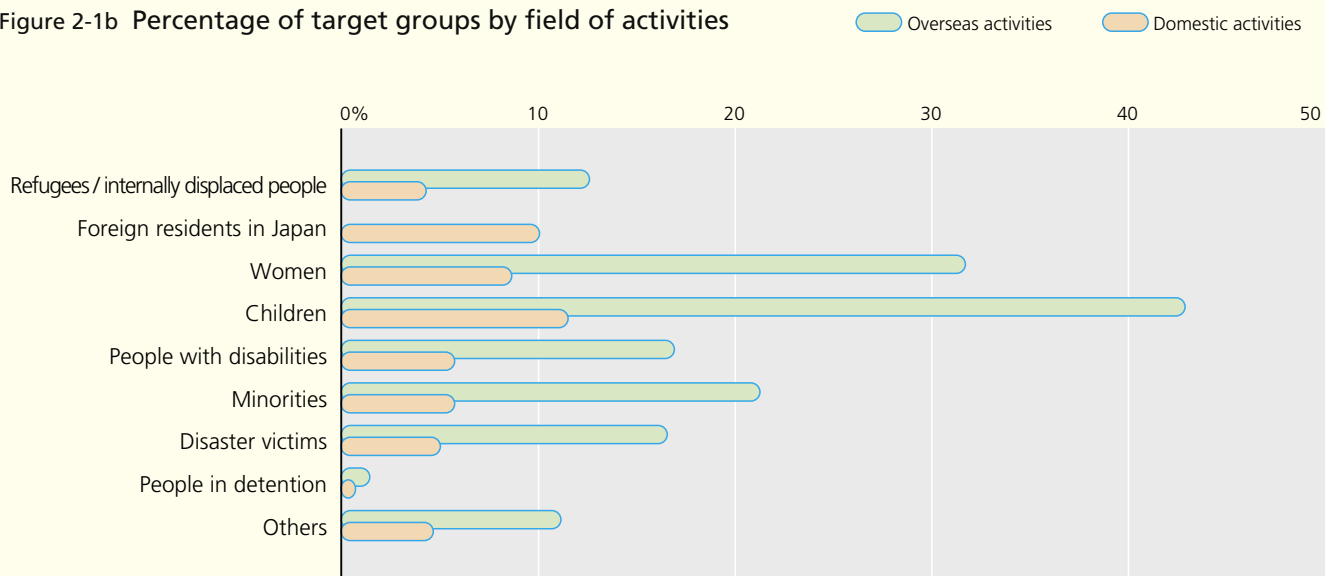
photo: K.Imamura

2-1. Fields of activity

In what fields do Japanese NGOs work? Let us take a look at the trends of overseas and domestic activities by classifying the fields into 33 categories.



Figure 2-1b Percentage of target groups by field of activities



The overwhelming majority of overseas activity is conducted in the field of education (Figure 2-1a). This is followed by health care, vocational training, rural development and reforestation/forest conservation. Data Book on Japanese NGOs 1998 published by JANIC (referred to below as Data Book 1998), stated that education/training, children/youth/family and health/hygiene/water were the major fields, and the survey this time showed that education and vocational training continues to be a major field even today. Fields related to day-to-day living such as health care, population/family planning and water supply/water resources are the most widely undertaken next to education. Since these fields are considered to correspond to the category of health/hygiene/water in Data Book 1998, they still comprise one of the major fields of activity along with education. In this survey, we classified the target groups separately from the fields of activity (Figure 2-1b). The top target group is children, followed by women, which shows that children maintain the position of top target group. It is said that emergency relief and peacebuilding activities are on the rise since the 2001 terrorist attacks in the US, and the survey results show that organizations engaged in relief activities as well as peace/political fields (especially peacebuilding and other peace-related activities) are on the rise. It is presumed that the frequent occurrence of not only conflicts but also large-scale natural disasters (earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, etc.) is related to this increase. In the environmental field, the ratio of reforestation/forest conservation and of environmental education is high.

What about activities in Japan? As with overseas activities, the majority is in the field of education, followed by support for foreign residents and environmental education. Education in domestic activities tends to consist of global civic education. The major type of activity in this field is the transmission of knowledge regarding situations and information acquired through overseas activities to Japanese elementary and middle school students. This is also supported by the fact that children are the top target group in domestic activities, overtaking foreign residents.

## 2-2. Types of activity

In what way do Japanese NGOs cooperate with the countries of the South? In this survey, we classified the types of activity broadly into the three categories of overseas activities, domestic activities and “not limited to either one.” The results were analyzed by 16 categories in total: 5 overseas; 7 domestic; and 4 “not limited to either one.”

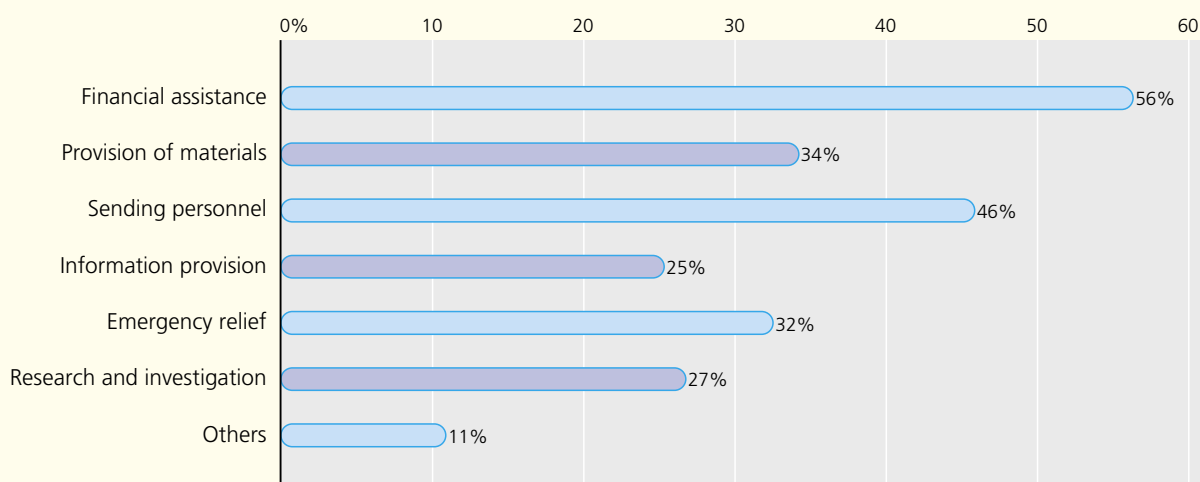
### Overseas activities

- Financial assistance (including scholarship programs): Providing funds that people in the South (referred to as developing countries) need.
- Provision of materials: Supplying materials that people in the South need.
- Sending personnel: Dispatching experts with technical expertise, managers for local offices, project coordinators, volunteers, etc. from Japan to other countries.
- Emergency relief: Providing emergency financial assistance, material support, personnel, information and others to offer relief to people facing life-threatening situations as a result of natural disasters (floods, droughts, earthquakes, etc.) and human-made disasters (wars, conflicts, nuclear power-plant accidents, etc.) from imminent threat.
- Research and investigation: Conducting overseas research and investigation into the problems and issues faced by local people as well as international cooperation.

### Domestic activities

- Financial assistance (including scholarship programs): Providing funds that foreign residents etc. from the countries of the South need.
- Provision of materials: Supplying materials that foreign residents etc. need.
- Sending personnel: Dispatching (placing) personnel for language support, support for living in general, legal counseling etc.

Figure 2-2a Type of overseas activities (multiple answers)

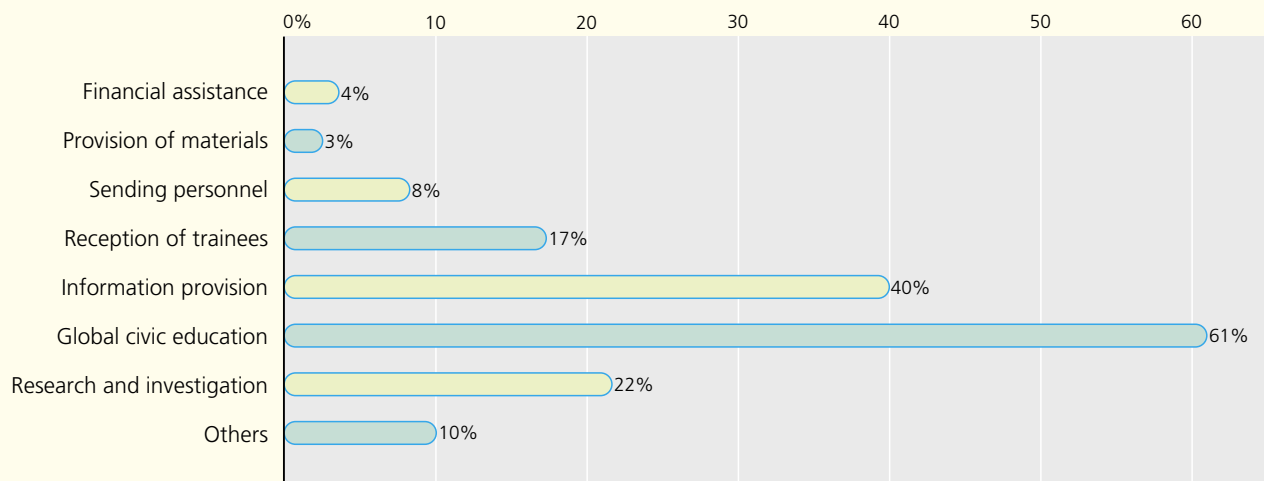


- Reception of trainees: Receiving people from the South as trainees and providing training to support the development of human resources.
- Information provision: Supplying political, economic, social, cultural, environmental, legal, technical and other types of information to Japanese society.
- Global civic education (development education, environmental education, human rights education, peace education): Educational activities (such as development education) that are aimed at deepening learning by informing Japanese society of situations in the South to enhance understanding of the issues of poverty, oppression, conflicts and environmental degradation as well as the structural causes of North-South gaps remaining wide, and to encourage action to redress these. Also includes other educational activities facilitating learning about environmental, human rights and peace issues to nurture global citizens who can think and act from a global perspective.
- Research and investigation: Conducting research and investigation within Japan into the problems and issues faced by local people as well as matters concerning international cooperation.

Activities not limited to either overseas or domestic

- Fair trade: Cooperation aiming at the realization of trade in which the goods of producers in the South will not be traded at unfairly low prices and producers will receive fair payment through grassroots trade.
- Advocacy: Cooperation by making constructive proposals beyond the criticism of the government and corporations to eliminate injustices and build a sustainable global society.
- Networking among NGOs: Cooperation by way of facilitating the exchange of information and the sharing of resources, and enhancing cooperation by creating networks.
- Funding: Cooperation by financial assistance to projects etc. of Japanese organizations

Figure 2-2b Type of domestic activities (multiple answers)



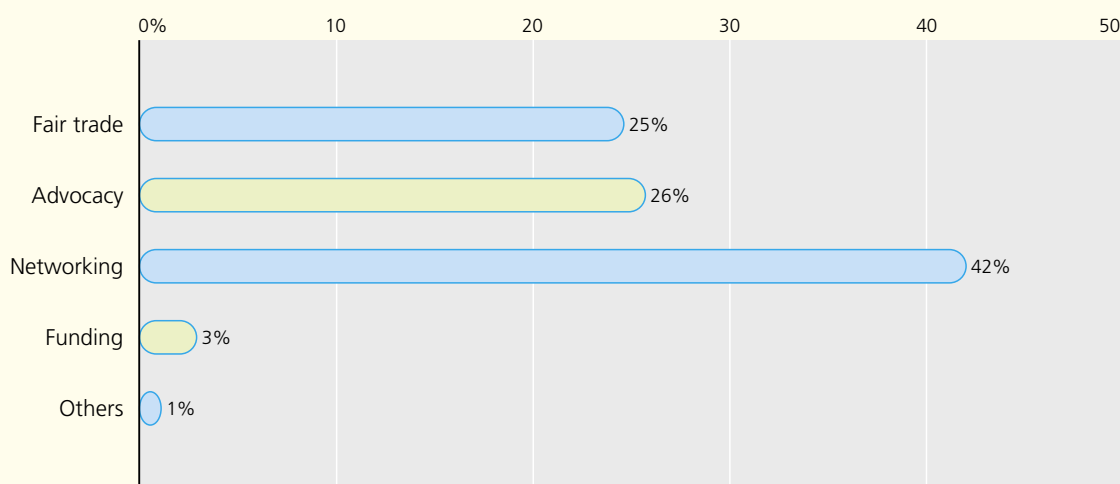
engaged in international cooperation.

The survey results are shown in Figures 2-2a – 2-2c. In overseas activities, the top two are financial assistance and sending personnel, which are also ranked at the top in the major programs of each organization. Financial assistance is the most common type of cooperation. Outside these two, the provision of materials and emergency relief is also common. One reason for this may be that action tends to be taken in response to natural disasters and conflicts as described above. Among other types of work, study tours and training of local staff were also common.

Within domestic activities, global civic education is by far the top category, followed by information provision. We stated earlier that education was placed at the top in domestic activities because of global civic education. This is evident from the results of this survey showing global civic education as the most common type of activity. Other types include international exchange programs, foreign language classes, training of personnel and organizational enhancement.

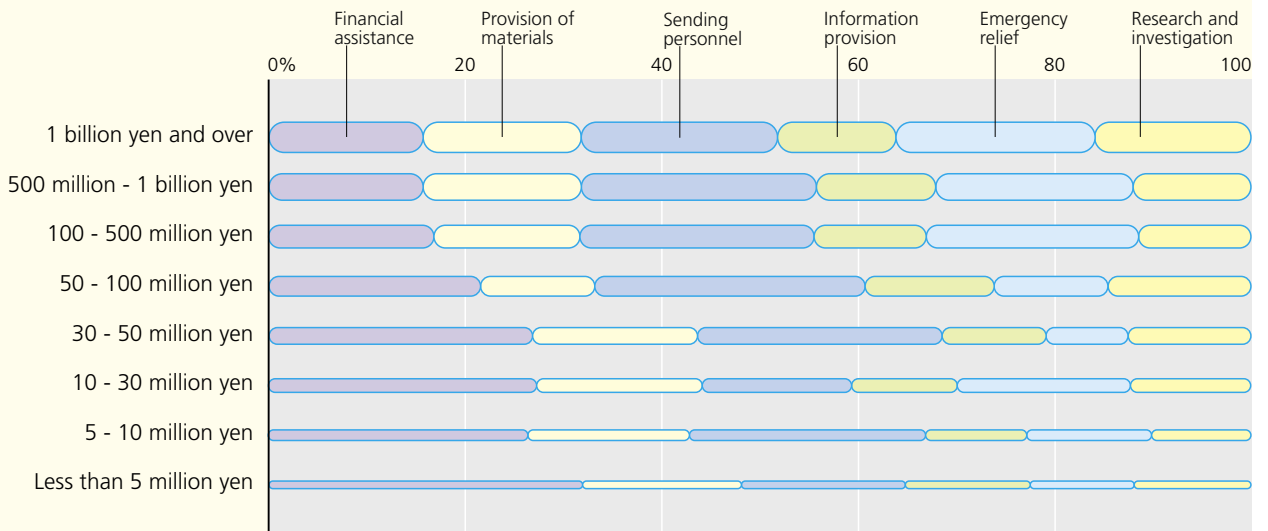
Among the activities not limited to either overseas or domestic, networking among NGOs was ranked at the top, followed by advocacy. NGO networking and advocacy were promoted in relation to the series of international conferences from the 1992 Earth Summit through the 1996 World Food Summit. Data Book 1998 pointed out that the number of organizations working in the relevant fields did not increase after that. In this survey, however, it is suggested

Figure 2-2c Type of activities not limited to either overseas or domestic



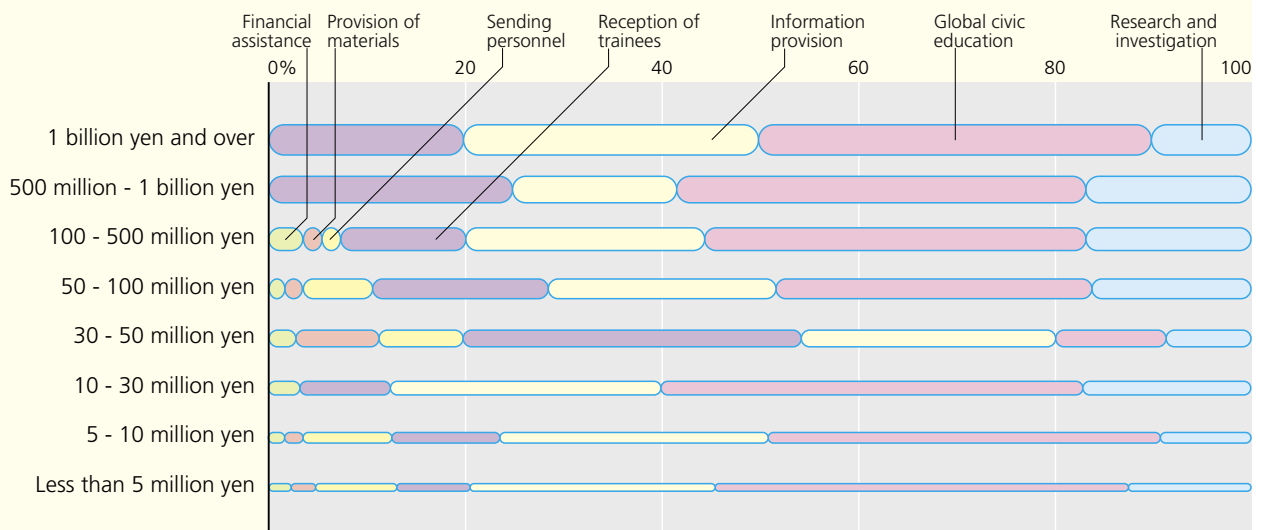
that the importance of networking and advocacy is attracting renewed attention.

Figure 2-2-1a Type of activities and budget size (overseas activities)



For organizations of all budget sizes, the two major types of activity represented by financial assistance and sending personnel comprise a high percentage of the budget. However, the ratio of financial assistance is higher in organizations with budgets of less than 50 million yen, while sending personnel is higher in those with budgets of 50 million yen or more. It is presumed that it is difficult to send personnel with a limited budget, and cooperation is thus limited to providing financial assistance. Emergency relief represents a high percentage in organizations

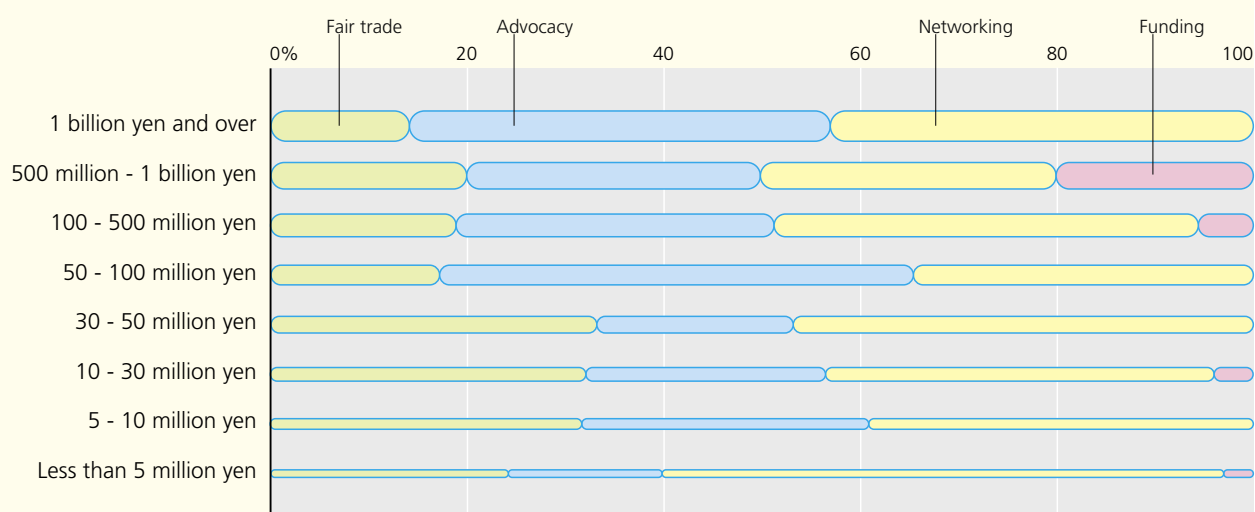
Figure 2-2-1b Type of activities and budget size (domestic activities)



with budgets of 100 million yen or more, which shows that it is difficult for organizations working with smaller budgets to engage in such activities, which require large amounts of funds. In general, the larger the budget size, the more diversified the types of activity become.

Among domestic activities, the two major types (i.e. information provision and global civic education) generally comprise a high percentage of the budget. For organizations with budgets of 30 to 50 million yen, however, reception of trainees is greater than these two. Taking on trainees requires a certain level of financial capacity as it is more costly than sending personnel overseas, and also demands constant implementation as the results of training are not readily seen within a short period of time. For these reasons, the rate of trainee intake is significantly small for organizations with budgets of less than 30 million yen. Research and investigation represents 20 to 30 percent for all organizations, which shows that it is a type of activity that can be carried out regardless of budget size.

Figure 2-2-1c Type of activities and budget size (activities not limited to either overseas or domestic)



Regarding activities not limited to overseas or domestic, networking represents a high proportion for organizations with budgets of less than 50 million yen, while the ratio of advocacy is higher for those with budgets of 50 million yen or more. Fair trade is high for organizations working with budgets of 10 to 50 million yen. The results of our analysis also support the notion that it is difficult to implement funding programs unless the organization has reached a certain level of financial size.



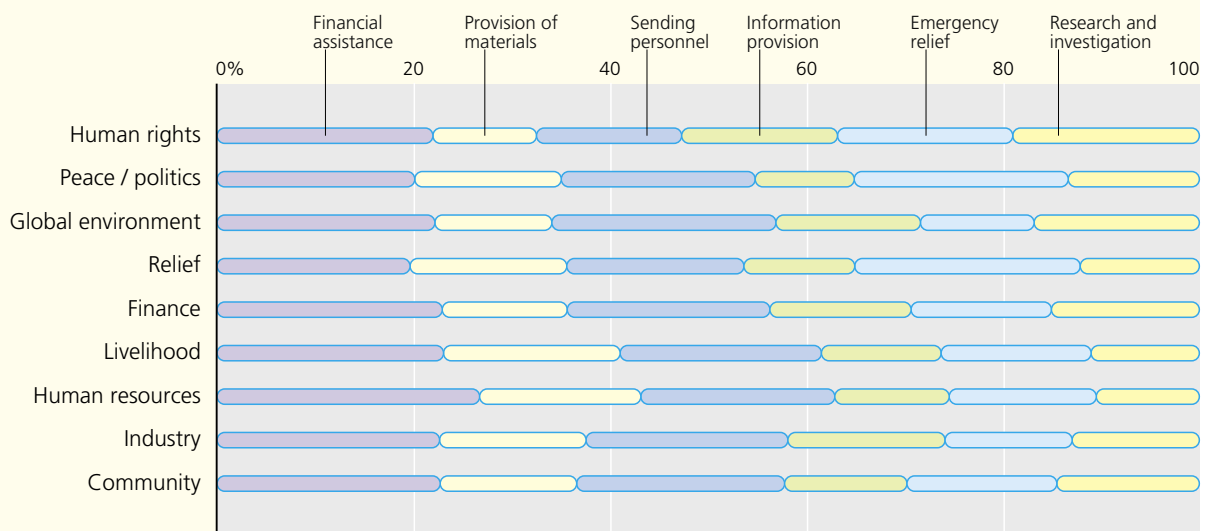
## 2-2-2. Fields of activity and types of work

Finally, let us take a look at the relationship between the fields and types of activity. Due to the wide-ranging nature of the areas of activity involved, we classified the 33 fields mentioned above into nine groups<sup>8</sup> for the purposes of analysis.

8. Community: agricultural development, urban development  
 Industry: agriculture, fishery, small-scale regional industry, small-scale enterprises/street vendors, appropriate technology  
 Human resources: education, vocational training  
 Livelihood: healthcare, population/family planning, water provision/water resources, support to foreigners in Japan  
 Finance: micro-credit, debt/international finance/trade  
 Relief: food/famine, natural disaster, human-made disaster, medical services and other relief activities  
 Global environment: reforestation/forest conservation, soil/air, biodiversity, alternative energy, global warming, environmental education and other issues related to the global environment  
 Peace/Politics: democracy/good governance, disarmament, preventive diplomacy, peacebuilding and other peace education  
 Human rights: human rights in general

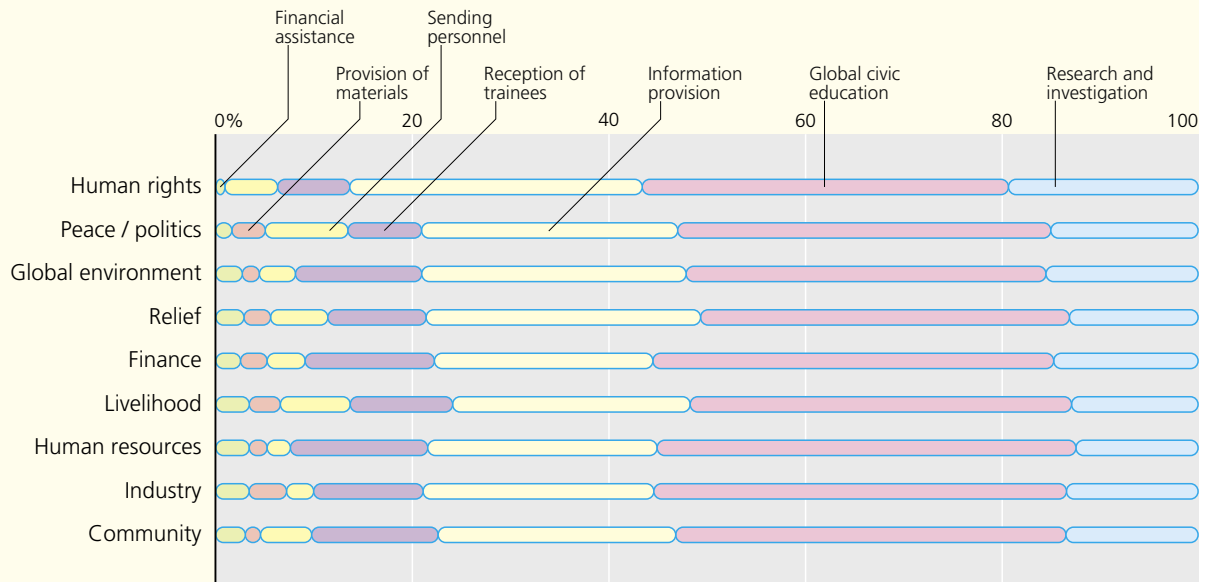
In the field of human resources (including the education and vocational training that rank high as overseas activities), financial assistance and provision of materials, the two major types of overseas activity, represent a high percentage. This shows that many organizations are engaged in providing financial assistance to build schools, sending personnel as teachers or assistants in local schools and stationary. It can also be pointed out that many groups are engaged in foster parenting activities to send financial aid to assist schooling. The field of livelihood, which includes another popular field, health and medical care, shows a trend similar to that of human resources. It is considered that the activities in this field focus on the provision of medicine and medical equipment, sending doctors and nursing staff and assistance in building medical facilities. In the global environment category, the major types of activity represented by financial assistance and sending personnel comprise a high percentage, but research and investigation enjoys the highest proportion among all nine groups, while information provision also represents a large share. It is presumed that in addition to sending volunteers for reforestation work and providing information on environmental protection and conservation to local people, organizations themselves carry out research and investigation into the causes of environmental destruction and ways to prevent it.

Figure 2-2-2a Field of activities and type of activities (overseas activities)



In domestic activities, the proportion of global civic education and information provision is generally high. It can be observed that domestic activities are centered on conveying experience and information obtained through overseas activities to a wide range of people in Japan. The intake of trainees is a major type of activity in the areas of human resources, global environment and livelihood. This is perhaps because many of the trainees taken on are teachers, health experts (such as nursing staff, health workers or social workers) or experts on the environment.

Figure 2-2-2b Field of activities and type of activities (domestic activities)



Among the activities not limited to overseas or domestic activities, fair trade, advocacy and networking have an equal share each, but the funding program is very low. Among these three, the networking ratio is generally high, which may be related to the fact that networking is the main program for network-type NGOs with no project sites overseas.

Figure 2-2-2c Field of activities and type of activities (activities not limited to either overseas or domestic)

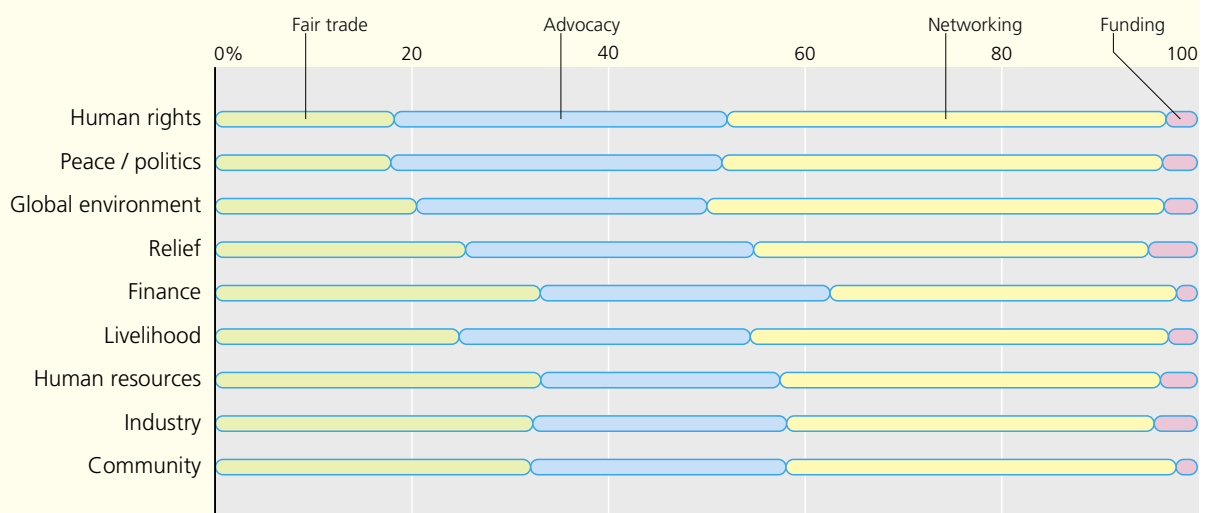




photo: K.Imamura

### 3-1 Countries/Regions

Which countries and regions are the targets of Japanese NGOs' work? This survey showed that the overwhelming majority of NGOs (70 percent, or 200 organizations) work in and for Asia.

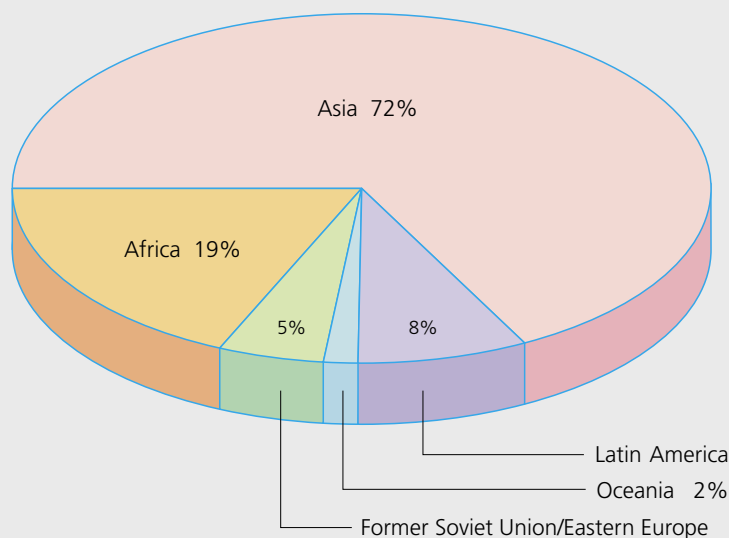
In Asia, Southeast Asia represents more than half, followed by South Asia (3-1b). In Africa, East Africa has the largest share followed by West Africa, and as Figure 3-1c shows, the distribution is more balanced, unlike in Asia where one sub-region comprises more than half.

Let us take a closer look at each region. Figures 3-1b and 3-1c show the number of organizations working in and for the country in each region. The figure represents the number of organizations.

In Asia, 28 countries were identified, among which the Philippines is outstanding, followed by Cambodia, both in Southeast Asia, and Nepal from South Asia. Data Book 1998 lists organizations working in Taiwan and Hong Kong in East Asia and Singapore in Southeast Asia, but there were no such organizations in the survey this time, as these countries no longer qualify to receive aid. In East Asia, China (with growing economic gaps between urban and rural areas), and Mongolia (which suffered a severe cold wave in 2000) are the focuses of activities. In Southeast Asia where more than half of NGOs are involved, many organizations work in the Philippines, Cambodia, Thailand and Indonesia. Many also took action in response to the bombings in Bali in October 2003 and October 2005, those in Jakarta in August 2003 and September 2004, and the earthquake off Sumatra and the subsequent tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean in December 2004. Comparison with the results from Data Book 1998 indicates that a growing number of NGOs are offering aid to East Timor, which was liberated from Indonesian rule as a result of the August 1999 UN-led referendum and became independent in May 2002. As for South Asia, the gap in the number of organizations by country is not as big as that of those working in Southeast Asia. In addition to conventional

aid, new organizations have started working in this region to respond to aid needs related to the earthquake off Sumatra and the tsunami disaster. The number of organizations working for Afghanistan has also significantly increased. As a result of the social upheaval caused by the American invasion and the collapse of the Taliban government after the 9.11 terrorist attacks in the US, many organizations have begun to provide assistance to the country. With the transfer in 2004 of government from the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan to the current presidential system, the chaos appears to be subsiding gradually. However, this will remain a country that will need assistance in the future. As for West Asia, many organizations work to help resolve problems related to the Palestinian issue, for which no resolution is in sight, and

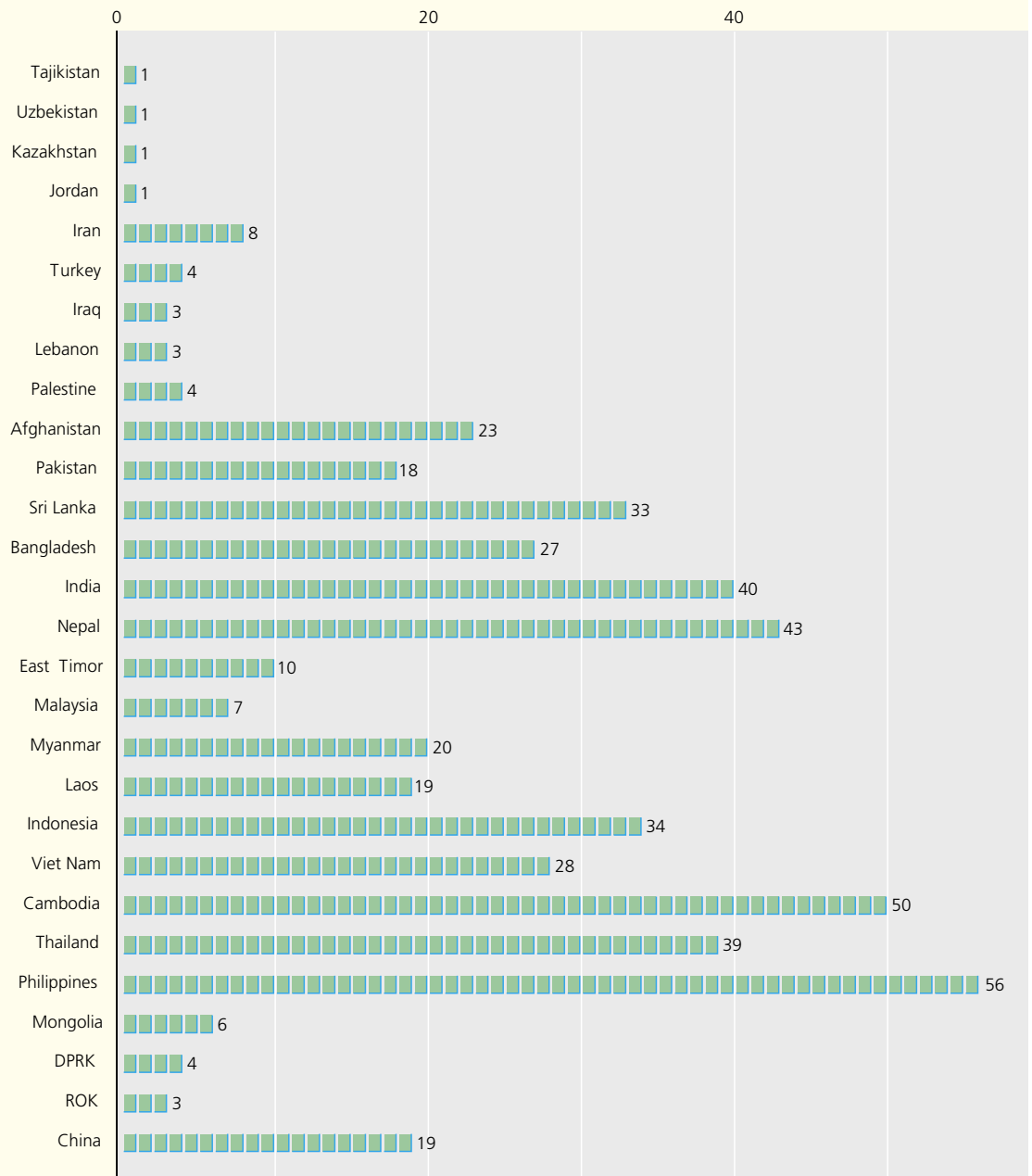
Figure 3-1a Region of activities (multiple answers)



issues related to the Iran-Iraq War. In Central Asia, which has the lowest number of working organizations, assistance is offered in the health-care field among others.

In Latin America, 16 countries were identified, with Brazil and Peru at the top, followed by Haiti and Ecuador. The major fields of work are agricultural development, agricultural training, reforestation and forest conservation, and support for producers through fair trade (small-scale/local industry assistance, appropriate technology assistance, etc.). Since Central America is prone to natural disasters such as hurricanes, food and material aid as well as other forms of relief activities are also conducted.

Figure 3-1b No. of organizations by country of activities (Asia)



In Oceania, seven countries were identified. Except for Papua New Guinea, only one organization works in one country. The major fields of activity are agricultural development, agricultural training, and reforestation and forest conservation. Some NGOs provide assistance in vocational training, small-scale/local industry and health and medical care.

Ten countries were identified in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, but the overwhelming majority work in Belarus. In the former Soviet Union, the major activities consist of medical assistance to the victims of radiation exposure from the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident and aid to the poor sector of the population generated in the process of transition to a market economy. In Eastern Europe, the former Yugoslavia (where ethnic rivalries and conflicts exacerbated the situation after the death of President Tito) is the focus of activities, which are focused on responding to refugee issues arising from the conflicts.

Africa is faced with a number of problems including a low growth rate, accumulated debts, food shortages from droughts, conflicts and refugee crises, and a growing number of people living with HIV among others.<sup>9</sup> Further, tribal power relationships cast long shadows over the political and economic conditions in many countries where multiple tribes exist and traditional tribal society is still deeply rooted. In 2000, we witnessed conflicts<sup>10</sup> occurring in many parts of Africa and a large-scale flood in Southern Africa. Refugees in Africa number 4,550,000:<sup>11</sup> factors contributing to the problem include difficult living conditions caused by droughts and others, in addition to political crises such as civil wars and regional conflicts. The majority of refugee-receiving countries themselves are found in developing areas, especially the least among less developed countries (LLDC). It is pointed out that this situation is aggravating refugee crises. In the years after 2000, the refugee situation appeared to have stabilized in some countries/areas with the end of Angola's civil war (2002) and peacebuilding activities launched in Sierra Leone, only to be followed by the re-emergence of conflicts in some countries/areas.<sup>12</sup> In 2004 and later, moves such as peace mediation and establishment of a transitional government were seen in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi, as well as an active pro-democracy movement in Rwanda, advances towards a democratic election in the Central African Republic, and stabilization of the political environment in Angola, among others. As we have seen, African countries face a number of serious problems for which NGOs are offering aid in various forms. The number of target countries is 32, with Kenya in East Africa receiving the most attention, followed by Zambia in Southern Africa, and Ethiopia and Uganda in Eastern Africa. The major fields of activity are assistance in response to disasters such as droughts and floods caused by heavy rain, aid to refugees and assistance to those living with HIV. In Zambia, which receives the greatest number of refugees in Southern Africa,<sup>13</sup> assistance is given in the fields of health and medicine.

9. According to the survey of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 40,300,000 people worldwide were infected with HIV as of December 2005. Sixty percent of these cases (25,800,000 people) were found in Sub-Saharan Africa.

10. In May 2000, war between Ethiopia and Eritrea broke out again, and anti-government forces in Sierra Leone launched a new offensive. The civil wars in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo generated a total of 160,000 refugees.

11. Research of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (as of January 1, 2005).

12. Including the conflict in the Ivory Coast in 2000, the coup d'état in the Central African Republic in 2003, the ethnic conflict in the Sudan in the same year, among others.

13. According to UNHCR, the number of refugees received is 281,766 people.

Figure 3-1c No. of organizations by country of activities (Africa)

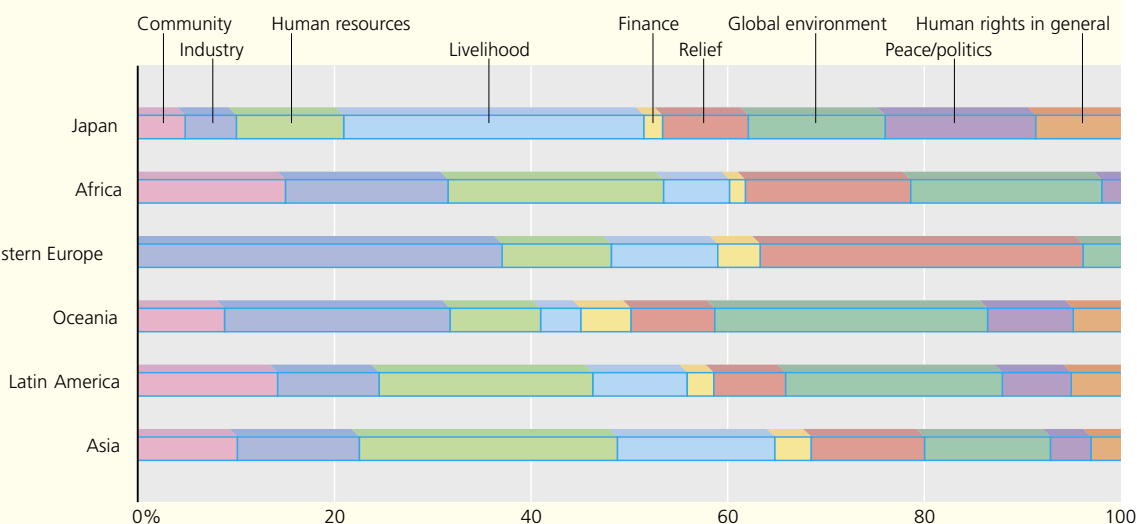


### 3-1-1. Fields and areas of activity

14. The denominator, or the number of organizations of each region, is 200 for Asia, 23 for Latin America, 5 for Oceania, 14 for the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, 54 for Africa and 50 for Japan. The replies include multiple answers.

Figure 3-1-1 shows the kinds of activity conducted by the area of activity.<sup>14</sup> Many organizations conducting activities in the field of human resources (which includes education/vocational training, the most popular category in overseas activities) work in Asia, Africa and Latin America. In Asia, the field of human resources is followed by those of livelihood, global environment and relief activities. In Latin America, the global environment field is high in comparison to human resources, which suggests that a number of reforestation projects are being conducted to respond to the decline in tropical rain forests. In Oceania, the top categories are global environment and industry, with agricultural support being the main activity in industry. In the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, industry and relief activities are the two major categories. These activities are intended as assistance for local industrial reconstruction (to mitigate the impact of the increasing unemployment rate caused by the transition to a market economy), support activities related to conflicts, and assistance to victims of radiation exposure. In Africa, human resources is ranked top, but the other categories of global environment, relief activities, industry and community have almost the same percentage, which implies that a variety of activities are being conducted in response to the wide-ranging problems facing the African region. The figures for Japan (taken from the 50 organizations whose major activities are conducted within Japan) show that the percentage of the livelihood field, which includes assistance to foreigners, is the greatest. Other categories such as global environment, peace/politics and human rights also enjoy a high percentage. These include activities such as environmental education, peace education and activities in response to human rights problems faced by foreigners.

Figure 3-1-1 Field of activities and region of activities





15. There are especially many organizations working in/for Southeast Asia and South Asia. There are not many changes in the areas of activities according to the period of establishment for those working in/for East, West and Central Asia.

### 3-1-2. Period of establishment and areas of activities

In this section, we will look at the relationship between the period of establishment and the area of activities. The ratio of organizations working in and for Asia<sup>15</sup> continues to be the largest since before the 1950s. Organizations working in/for Africa began to increase in number in the 1980s. This period saw a number of events occurring, including the large-scale drought in sub-Saharan countries in 1982, the 1984 drought that spread over large areas of East and Southern Africa, the great famine in Ethiopia, and food shortages, famine and refugee crises from the civil war in the Sudan in 1983 and in Liberia in 1989. It is assumed that many organizations were established in response to these crises. The number of organizations working in/for Asia increased in the first half of the 1990s when Africa was in an unstable political situation due to the 1991 Somali civil war, the 1992 recurrence of civil war in Angola triggered by confrontations over the presidential and parliamentary elections, and the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

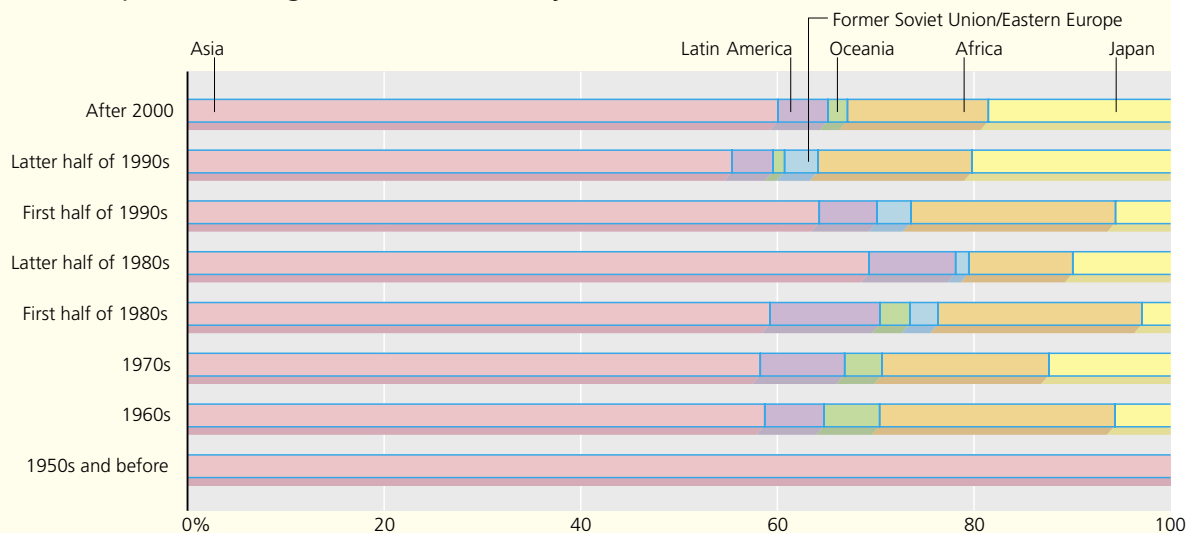
There was also an increase in the number of organizations working in/for Latin America during the 1980s, which corresponds to the period when deforestation of the rain forests in the Amazon caused by rapid development attracted worldwide attention.

The number of organizations working in/for the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe rose from the early 1990s. This was preceded by a series of events in the region, including the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident (1986) and the democratization of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe accompanied by events such as Perestroika (starting in 1985) and the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989). Another factor is presumed to be the conflict in the former Yugoslavia<sup>16</sup> from 1991 through 2000, which resulted in a large number of victims and refugees.

16. The Slovenian conflict in 1991, the Croatian conflict in 1991-1995, the Bosnia-Herzegovina conflict in 1992-1995, the Kosovo conflict in 1999, the Macedonia conflict in 2001.

Since the latter half of the 1980s, newly created organizations have increasingly tended to work inside Japan. The 1980s saw the activation of development education and advocacy work in Japan, and the call for networking became stronger in the latter half of the decade. This was also a period during which the number of foreign migrant workers rapidly increased, leading to the establishment of groups providing support to them.

Figure 3-1-2 Relationship between region of activities and year of establishment



### 3-1-3. Type of activities and area of activities

Next, what types of activities are conducted by organizations working in the same area? Let us limit our analysis to overseas activities and see if there are relationships between the two. In Asia, many groups engage in emergency relief and the provision of materials in addition to the two most common activities of financial assistance and sending personnel. Given the succession of disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and bombings, it is assumed that many activities were carried out to provide assistance to the affected areas and people. In Latin America, besides the two major types of activities, emergency relief was conducted in many instances. In Oceania and the former Soviet Union/Eastern Europe, there is not much difference among the different types. In Africa too, there were no big differences among the types, and activities are carried out in a well-balanced way. One difference from other regions was that emergency relief exceeds financial assistance, the most common type of activity. This is presumed to be a result of constant regional conflicts in Africa even after 2000 (as outlined earlier), motivating NGOs to provide assistance to the affected areas and people as in the case of Asia.

### 3-1-4. Budget size and areas of activities

Overall, it is obvious that Asia comprises the majority. In other regions, small-scale organizations with a budget of less than 5 million yen (income and expenditure) are found most commonly in those groups working primarily in Japan and the former Soviet Union/Eastern Europe. In Africa, organizations of this size comprise the smallest percentage, while those with a budget of 50 to 100 million yen form the largest group. The percentage of organizations with a budget of 500 million yen or more is the greatest among those working in/for Asia, as well as Latin America and Africa. Among organizations working in Asia and Latin America, each budget's size cluster has more or less the same percentage.

## 3-2. Overseas offices

127 organizations, or roughly half the total, have office(s) overseas. 60 percent of these are juridical persons, and 80 percent possess experience of 10 years or more. It is said that setting up an office overseas requires the development of a domestic organizational basis and is therefore difficult for organizations with fewer years of existence, which is supported by our findings in this survey.

Also, 70 percent of those with overseas offices have them in only one country, while the following six organizations replied that they had offices in 10 or more countries:

1. Médecins du Monde Japon (Doctors of the World Japan) (MDM)	16 countries
2. Medecins Sans Frontieres Japon (MSF Japon)	18 countries
3. The Institute of Cultural Affairs: Japan (ICA Japan)	26 countries
4. The Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA)	29 countries
5. Plan Japan	61 countries
6. WWF Japan	63 countries

Area-wide, a little less than 70 percent of organizations have offices in Asia, a principal area of activity for Japanese NGOs, and a little less than 40 percent have offices in Southeast Asia. Country-wide, Cambodia has the largest number with 19 NGOs, followed by 17 in the Philippines, 15 in Nepal, 13 in Thailand and 10 in India.



photo: K.Nomachi