



Good Neighbors International

PARTNERSHIP

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Picture of MDGs Award Winning



Brazilian President Lula handed the MDGs Award trophy to GNI President Yi

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“GNI Won the 1st MDGs Award”

Ms. Youn-Ju Kim

Team leader of International Development Team at GNI HQ

Good Neighbors International honorably won the first MDGs Award on 5th November 2007 at PALACIO DO PLANALTA, the Presidential residence in Brazil. Excellencies and distinguished persons like Presidents from Brazil, Mali and Cote d'Ivoire, the economy and social development ministers from many countries, UN officials, International NGO presidents gathered to celebrate the Award winners.

The MDGs Award was established to compliment the civic groups and public institutions on their remarkable achievement of

each area of eight MDGs, which were adopted by 189 nations and signed by 147 heads of states and governments during the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000.

The prize winners were the countries and organizations who had contributed to 'Achieving universal primary education', the second MDG. They were selected among countries, public institutions, companies and NGOs who had cooperated with the UN for at least 2 years and had experience and the ability to make a plan for starting education programs and who had new resources for the uneducated



and for developing a positive environment for teaching primary education.

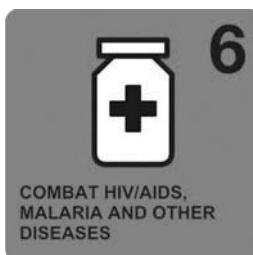
Good Neighbors International won the first MDGs Award for its sincere efforts in such fields as running children education centers and nurseries, conducting school support businesses to educate poor children in 25 countries, and providing 2,179 tons of textbook paper for North Korean children in order to achieve universal primary education.

It is of great significance that the first MDGs Award went to GNI, an NGO founded by South Koreans. It signifies that South Korea has gone from a recipient nation to a donor country. South Korea can be a model of development and is willing to share its considerable experiences with its partners.

Even though only a few were awarded the prize, the current achievements in the MDGs - the increase of primary school enrollment rates, the proportional growth of females in the assembly, and the reduction of fatalities due to measles - would have been impossible if all development organizations including the UN, International bodies, governments,

development NGOs, and other personnel had not cooperated in harmony. However, in the world, there are still a number of people whom we have to help and share our hope, dream and love with. Inspired by the award, GNI will strive to do more to meet the global challenges with every other development partner to achieve the MDGs.

"... Because our organization, Good Neighbors International, while working in 21 countries, has been carrying out child-centered programs with a focus on education, we were awarded the 2007 MDGs Award as the organization which demonstrates the most outstanding impact on the second MDGs of "Achieving universal primary education." I am pleased that our organization as a humanitarian development NGO has been making a contribution to achieving the MDGs through our work. I will keep on making every effort to take part in realizing the MDGs." - in the speech of GNI President after he was handed the MDGs Award at the ceremony.



Jambo, Korea!!

*Jambo means hello in Swahili

Ms. Bo-Ae Yoon
Officer of PR Team at GNI HQ



A cool winter breeze could be felt blowing through the winter evening. Songs of hope sung by African Angels kept the audience warm in mind and spirit. The hope in their hearts filled the air, changing them forever. Children who live in the garbage town of “Korogocho,” one of the poorest villages in the world, raised their voices and proclaimed the promise of a better future for the rest of the world to hear. Most of them have only known a life of picking up garbage. Let’s look into their 50-day stay in Korea.

Establishment of Jirani Children’s Choir

Jirani Children’s Choir was organized in October 2006. Singing was a luxury for children who lived in hunger and poverty but now it is their way of dreaming of a better tomorrow. Through auditions, hundreds of children were selected and undertook learning how to sing for

a year. At first, they didn't know anything about music, even how to read a musical score. The primary reason for participating was simply to get a meal, but later, they learned hope and gained confidence through singing.

Jirani Children’s Choir in Korea

On 26th November 2007, at Incheon International Airport, the Jirani children alighted from a plane, shivering from the bitter cold weather. They were a bit surprised mostly due to experiencing cold weather for the first time, but their sparkling eyes glowed their curiosity and excitement. The Jirani Children’s Choir came to Korea in order to meet Korean good neighbors, the providers of a gleam of hope in their lives.

The first special performance was held in Seoul Education-Culture-Art Center. Over 1,000 GNI





(Good Neighbors International) sponsors, who support poor children throughout the world, attended the performance. In particular, Jung-Soo Byun, a GNI Ambassador, who previously visited Kenya with her family, sang 'Jambo' for the children. At first the choir seemed nervous, but as time went by, they sang unique African songs whole-heartedly and cheerfully. The best songs were 'Doraji Taryung', a Korean traditional song, with rhythmical movements and 'Jambo,' a traditional song of Africa. They received lots of applause. On 4th December, the second special performance was held in Yangjae Flambeau Center with about 2,800 spectators. They performed in over 8 cities including Seoul, Busan, Daejeon and Yeosu until the middle of January.

Adaptation in Korea

On their first day in Korea, the children were afraid even of escalators. They would only get on the escalator after holding the hands of volunteers. They felt unfamiliar with not only modern buildings but also Korean food. At first, they didn't like Korean food and only ate Ugali



(African corn cake). But now, they are almost like Koreans. They eat spicy Kimchi and say hello in Korean. They also played soccer in the cold weather and said that they didn't care about cold weather. Once, all 35 children of the choir went to the public bath and played joyfully in the water, not caring of other people's staring gazes. They experienced some wonders of Korea and enjoyed Korean culture.

From Garbage Town to Village of Hope

Jirani Choir's singing is full of hope, love and miracles. When the choir sings, people become happy and smile. They call it the "hope virus of Jirani." We imagine that later the "Korogocho" garbage town will be changed to 'Toomaini' village, which means hope.



Hope for the Change

Mr. Sung-Rak Park

Former Country Director of GNI Kenya

Rushing into cities for water and jobs

With half of its land designated as a wild animal reserve, Kenya is well-known as a wild animals' paradise. Dividing the territory in two, they live in harmony with animals. Contrary to tropical rain forests or jungles, the reserve is a huge plain full of grass. The animals travel across the plains searching for water.

People in Kenya also move around to find a place to live. Depending on their natural environment, Kenyans have engaged in agriculture and sock-farming. However, the output has recently been reduced due to global warming. Many of them have moved to cities for water and jobs. From a total population of 30 million, 5 million Kenyans reside in Nairobi, the capital alone. Most of the wanderers are enduring a difficult life living in mud-huts and illegally settling on government property.

Kibera in Nairobi is famous for having the world's largest slums.

Movement for change

Since 1995, "Good Neighbors Kenya (GNK)" has been working in the slums, Dandora and Korogocho and adhering to three basic values. First, to improve children and juvenile protection and human rights, they provide primary education, health education, and vocational education. In addition, they are running a children's choir. Secondly, to benefit a large number of people with a limited fund, they offer to local people sex education and parenting skills. They are also doing an AIDS prevention campaign and a medical checkup. Lastly, in order to improve the quality of the life in the slums and enable young children to dream of a brighter future, they help the residents, the local communities and expert





groups cooperate with each other as well as supporting the long and short term volunteers in fulfilling their tasks with success. GNK gives direct services to over 400 children every year and more than 20 local professionals and volunteers work for them. It is estimated to have extensive influence on the magnitude of 100,000 people in Dandora and Korogocho.

For Dreams

We feel great sorrow for those who have accepted their situation of poverty, ignorance and starvation. Poverty is not a crime. However, the poor need to make efforts to fight their poverty when they starve and face adversities. At GNK development fields, staff members survey the poor's hopes and dreams every year. When those in need are young, they have about 6~7 goals they want to achieve, but as they grow up, their dreams change into only one thing - making money. Most teenagers say that they just want to have jobs and make money. GNK tries to show them diversity of jobs through various projects and GNK also exposes them to new experiences and challenges so that they can reach their dreams. One day, I met a girl, who graduated from GNK's elementary school, on the street. She said that she wanted to be a

designer in the future and was studying hard to realize her dream. It was amazing. I hope that all who study in Kenya strive for success and never give up on their dreams like she does.



Introduction of Good Neighbors Japan

Mr. Akira Takagi

General Manager of Good Neighbors Japan



First of all, let me say that I am very pleased to introduce Good Neighbors Japan as Good Neighbors family.

Good Neighbors Japan (GNJP) was founded in 2004 in Osaka, the second largest city in Japan. To strengthen its activities, GNJP moved its headquarter office to Tokyo in 2007.

I joined GNJP in March 2007, just after GNJP moved to Tokyo. GN Japan has only two staff members including myself for its daily

operations. The other staff member is Ms. Aiko Toguchi, who joined GNJP a few months earlier than I. We studied at the same graduate school in the United Kingdom. We both are still new, and we depend on GN Headquarters a lot for our works. GNJP plans to cover such field countries as Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, and North Korea. Our dream is to have a great number of sponsors so that we can expand our supports to all field countries.

Our Mission

GN Japan is not well-known in Japan yet. Our current mission is to make every effort for as many people as possible in Japan to know what is going on in developing countries and what GN field countries are doing for those matters.

I know that GN field countries do great things in each project. Therefore, I believe that the number of supporters will steadily increase if we reach more people with more information.

One of our child supporters was a female high-school student. (She is our supporter but has just graduated from high school.) Thinking back on the time I was a high school student, I can't help but have great respect for her.

Recent Events

We conducted our first study tour to Cambodia from Sep. 8 through Sep 16 in 2007. To plan and conduct this tour, we owed much to GN Cambodia, headquarters, JICA Cambodia office and my personal Cambodian friend Mr. So Vanna.

Also, we, with great pleasure, dispatched the first Japanese volunteer to Nepal as a Japanese-

language teacher. The volunteer, a female, is still young but she has adequate knowledge and experience in Japanese teaching, even in Nepal. We believe that she can make a valuable contribution to people in the area. The volunteer dispatching program was made at GN Nepal's request via GNI headquarters. We will be happy to receive further requests for volunteers from GN field countries.

Apart from these events, we are planning some events in Japan with volunteers. We will do what we can do in Japan. I believe that it will contribute to building a peaceful and better world.



Flying to you

Ms. Yang-Heun Goo and 23 Sponsors

2007 Sponsor Tour Team to Good Neighbors International in Bangladesh



Twenty three participants of Good Neighbors' sponsor tour began their journey to Bangladesh on July 27, 2007. Each of them had her or his own purpose - from office workers determined to spend their summer vacation in Bangladesh hoping to meet the children they support to a sponsor dragged along by his eager girlfriend and one person who chose this trip instead of his plan to take a summer language course in France. But after the week-long trip, they all confessed their love for Bangladesh on their journey back home. What attracted them so much to this country?

Stepping on the land

Volunteers, as soon as they arrived at the town, were besieged by dozens of curious village folks. It was the rendezvous of the week-long trip to warm their hearts, share love and learn life's lessons.

Embracing the children

The volunteers met children at Mirpur and Gulshan Mother & Baby Care Center. Those little kids clung to the arms of the sponsors and would not let them go. The kids missed mama's warm, comforting arms and love. The sponsor team bathed them and played with them. And the memory of the children's beautiful eyes and their small hands holding the sponsors' hands will last forever.

"There's no toilet?"

The sponsors who visited the Sirajgonj were flabbergasted. The village had no toilet so everyone was relieving themselves on the street, only to cover the excrement with soil.

The sponsors set out to build a restroom for the villagers. They dug a hole in the soil, set up the toilet and erected a wall and door with tinplates.





The restroom, although looking very humble and shaky, delighted and amazed the villagers.

They offered a better sanitary facility for village residents exposed to unsanitary living conditions and the danger of diseases.

Dressed in School Uniforms

Sponsors met children wearing school uniforms in Bhatara school and Ghatail school. When students are in their school uniforms - whether they are Bengalis or Koreans - they look adorable and pretty. What on earth can be more beautiful than the shining smile of children?

Sponsors had a really good time with children making origami, which they used to do in their school days, and also face painting each other. They also had nice snacks. As sponsors and children spent more time together, they became assimilated with each other so much that it was even hard to tell who was an adult and who was a child in the end. The more fun they had, the faster time flew and the time to say goodbye came.

Love

Through their journey, sponsors experienced something priceless that they had never imagined they could get in the beginning. Now back in Korea, they ponder upon the problem of 'poverty amid plenty.' They couldn't help thinking of how they'd behaved before. A week

ago; they were greedy, mean and selfish. Time in Bangladesh, however, changed them. Now sponsors understand why their ancestors were willing to share a tiny piece of the pie with neighbors even though there didn't have much food to eat back in their time. It's all about love. Their ancestors already knew the truth that the more you share what you have, the more happiness you will get. Now they know what a blessing it is to share what they have with those in need. They came to realize it in Bangladesh. And they all say, "We've fallen in love with Bangladesh."





Participation in Asian ODA Conference



Ms. Youn-Ju Kim, Team Manager of International Partnership Service Division at

Good Neighbors International, visited Manila in the Republic of the Philippines to attend the 'Asian ODA Conference' from 24th July to 28th July. The conference was under the joint auspices of GCAP (Global Call to Action Against Poverty) - Asia and the Philippines ODA Watch.

The agreement that the participants reached on the final day of the conference was that, provided that the donor country's aid development partner is based not on what donors can give but on what partners actually need, we expect that the effort of the global community to reduce poverty results in a practical achievement.

The Visit to Three African Fields Countries



Ms. Youn-Ju Kim, the Team Manager of the International Development Team at GNI, and Mr. Su-

Young Chang, the Team Manager of the Project Support Team, visited Ethiopia and Rwanda to

monitor business conditions from 17th to 25th May. They also visited Chad and the Central African Republic to discuss the validity and achievement of the development work in a new field.

2007 Good Neighbors International Regional Workshops in Asia and Africa

Good Neighbors International held the African Regional Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya from 27th May to 1st June and the Asian Regional Workshop in Pattaya, Thailand from 3rd to 7th September in 2007.



The workshop was programmed with a PCM expert, Ms. Sue Nancholas' lectures, the training of a child sponsorship program and group discussions for an effective business plan for the operation, evaluation, and management of the GNI field projects. There was also a practical work lecture on the selection standard and management of prospective projects and children sponsorship.



GNI's Attendance in the 60th UN DPI/NGO Annual Conference



The 60th UN DPI/NGO Annual Conference was held from 5th to 7th September 2007 in the UN headquarters in New York. Good Neighbors International, conferred a title of General Consultative Status, sent 3 representatives including President Il-Ha Yi to the conference. Under the theme "Climate Change," about 2,000 NGO representatives from 80 countries attended the conference and talked about the native inhabitant problems, water and land resource consumption and the energy problems. More details about the 60th UN DPI/NGO Annual Conference can be found on the official homepage.

(<http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/conference/>)

2007 Good Neighbors International Annual Conference in South Korea



Good Neighbors International held its 2007 Annual Conference from 10th to 12th October

with the theme, "Turning point of GNI's overseas projects." A total of 52 people including 19 directors of GNI's field countries attended the conference and talked over policies of overseas projects and new tasks of GNI. Through the conference, GNI decided to participate in ending poverty by achieving UN MDGs and to find a distinctive sphere of projects as a professional NGO for relief and development.

Chad Becomes GNI's 20th Field Country

Good Neighbors International established its 20th field country head office in Chad appointing Mr. Keun-Sun Park as the Chad country director. Its first projects are a child education project and a water development project in Walia where any education or health institute exists except a primary school. Through the projects, Good Neighbors Chad (GNC) will provide 117 children with intellectual and physical development programs and develop 3 wells for 14,400 local people in three villages.

Emergency Relief for Cyclone Victims in Bangladesh





Cyclone 'Sidr', the worst cyclone in 16 years, struck the Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh on the 15th November 2007. With heavy rain and strong winds, it killed approximately 10,000 people and there were numerous injuries. GNI's relief team was composed of five staff members including Director Sung Kim, who surveyed the situational damage and distributed emergency kits to the victims.

Attending the 23rd General Assembly of CONGO



The 23rd General Assembly of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) was held from 5th to 7th December 2007 at the International Conference Center in Geneva. (CONGO was established in 1948 to mediate opinions and to extend participation of the UN) Three delegates from GNI including President Il-Ha Yi attended the Conference. This conference was convened under the theme "Moving from Consultation to Partnership in Promoting Rights and Responsible Governance at All Levels" and about 120 NGO representatives attended the conference and talked about 'UN - Peace,

Gender, Development, Human Rights' and 'Civil Society - Capability Building, Solidarity and Governance.' More detail about the conference can be found on the official homepage (<http://www.ngocongo.org>).

Workshop for All Staff in Good Neighbors Afghanistan and Appointment of New Country Director



GNI conducted a Capacity Building Workshop for GN Afghanistan staff members from 6th to 13th December in Pakistan and also the newly appointed Country Director of GN Afghanistan to support and evaluate the local staff's operation. After the kidnap of Koreans last July, the GN Korean staff withdrew from Afghanistan and GN Afghanistan has since been managed only by local members. Therefore, GNI held enhancement workshops with programs about operation plans, new project designing, Project Cycle Management, emergency relief and framing 2008 plans to efficiently carry out projects and to solve difficulties any local staff may have. Currently, GN Afghanistan is working on Ibnisina Hospital Project, Kabul Clinics, Kabul Ultrasound Clinic and Kabul Women's Education and Culture Center.

Network of Good Neighbors International



- Field Offices -

- Asia -

Good Neighbors Afghanistan
P.O. Box 5774 Kabul, Afghanistan
TJ +93-799-309-835
agukyaka@gmail.com

Good Neighbors Bangladesh
House No. 282(5th flr.), Lane - 4,
D.O.H.S Baridhara Dhaka-1206,
Bangladesh
TJ +880-171-302-0668
bangla57@hanmail.net

Good Neighbors Cambodia
P.O. BOX 0141, Orchrov District, Ban
Teameanchey Province, Cambodia
TJ +855-12-217-154
domylee@goodneighbors.org

Good Neighbors Indonesia
JL. BGR Boulevard Villa Gading Indah
Blok A1 No.7 Kelapagading Jakarta
Utara 14240 Indonesia
OJ +62-21-450-9254/9255
heewoo11@hanmail.net

Good Neighbors Mongolia
63 Bair 1-1 Toot, 1-R Duchin Myangat,
3-R Horoo, Sukhbaatar Duureg,
Ulaanbaatar, Mogol
TJ +976-11-315411
sjhur0115@hanmail.net

Good Neighbors Myanmar
375E2 Shwehninsi st. Mayangone, T/S
Yangon, Myanmar

TJ +951-664044
maing@dmptmail.net.mm

Good Neighbors Nepal
G.P.O Box 8975, EPC 1605, Katmandu,
Nepal
TJ +977-1-553-8758
gnnepal@hanmail.net

Good Neighbors Pakistan
House No. 18, Workshop Road,
Habibullah Colony, Abbottabad,
Pakistan
TJ +92-992-382329
kijung@brain.net.pk

Good Neighbors Philippines
#90 Saint Andrew St. JPA SUBO
Tunasan Muntinlupa City METR. Manila
Philippines
TJ +63-2-861-3152
ijuhwang@hanmail.net

Good Neighbors Sri Lanka
No 46, 2/1, Quarry Road, Dehiwala,
Colombo, Sri Lanka
TJ +94-60-290-6353
seunghyung73@msn.com

Good Neighbors Tajikistan
PO Box 212, Main Post, 734025,
Dushanbe Tajikistan
TJ +992-918-68-5149
tajik91@hanmail.net

Good Neighbors Vietnam
1105 A4 Lang Quac Te Thang Long Cau
Giay Hanoi Vietnam
TJ +84-4-7545-077
dangian65@hotmail.com

Good Neighbors Yemen
PO box 15401 sana'a, Republic of
Yemen
TJ +967-733-085-439
gooisik@naver.com

- Africa -

Good Neighbors Chad
B.P 1490 N'djamena Chad
TJ +235-253-44-38
cdepark@gmail.com

Good Neighbors Egypt
4th floor, 10 Road 151, El Maadi, Cairo,
Egypt
TJ +202-2359-2390
gnepaul@gmail.com

Good Neighbors Ethiopia
PO Box 12937, House No.248, Kebele
15/16/17, Lideta Sub-city, Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia
TJ +251-115-518063
logosist@gmail.com

Good Neighbors Kenya
PO Box 76327, Nairobi, Kenya
TJ +254-20-2780435
gn1391@hotmail.com

Good Neighbors Rwanda
B.P.5125 Kigali, Rwanda
TJ +250-0840-9774
coreel@goodneighbors.org

Good Neighbors Tanzania
Plot No. 305 and 307, Block A Mikocheini
Area 17, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
TJ +255-22-2617-860

discbang@hanmail.net

- Support Offices -

**Good Neighbors International
Headquarters in Korea**
101-4, Choengpa-dong 2ga, Yongsang-
gu, Seoul, Korea 140-132
Mapo PO Box 7, Seoul, Korea 121-600
TJ +82-2-6717-4091
FJ +82-2-6717-4293
mail@goodneighbors.org

Good Neighbors USA
550 Township Line Rd, Suite 200 Blue
Bell, PA 19422
TJ +1-484-342-0155
FJ +1-484-342-0156
gniusa@aol.com

Good Neighbors USA in LA
3325 Wilshire Blvd suite 1350, Los
Angeles, CA 90010, USA
TJ +1-213-405-5363
gnusa@goodneighbors.org

Good Neighbors Japan
New Light Bldg. 205, 2-25-6 Hongou,
Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan
TJ +81-3-5848-4633
FJ +81-3-5848-4633
a-takagi@gnjp.org, http://www.gnjp.org

- UN Liaison Office in New York -

509 West 110th St. 8F, New York, NY
10025, U.S.A.
TJ +1-646-678-1696
sj2213@gmail.com