

ICANS

International Conference on Asian Nonprofit Sectors
Collaboration for the shared future

Summary Report



March 2016

 **THE TOYOTA FOUNDATION**

Country Partners



Partners



Executive summary

International Conference on Asian Nonprofit Sectors (ICANS) was a two-day (January 21-22, 2016) conference with 4 plenaries and 2 breakout sessions (three parallel breakouts each), 40 moderators and speakers, and optional half or one day field visits (January 23, Sanya and Saitama areas) for overseas participants.

The conference was organized by the Toyota Foundation, with support from 4 country partners, The Japan Foundation Asia Center, Japan Association for Charitable Organizations, Japan NPO Center, and Japan Foundation Center and 4 overseas partners, The Asia Foundation, Asia Philanthropy Circle, Narada Foundation, and Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

Over 120 participants, including 58 overseas participants (from 14 countries and areas) joined the conference. They are mostly from organizations supporting nonprofit sectors in Northeast and Southeast Asia, including grantmakers, umbrella organizations and intermediaries, capacity building institutions, incubators, universities and knowledge centers, corporates, and regional and global networks.

A variety of knowledge and experience was shared from the overall situation of nonprofit sectors in Asia and each countries and areas, new initiatives and trends in nonprofit sectors, major social issues and the role of nonprofit sectors, and individual cases.

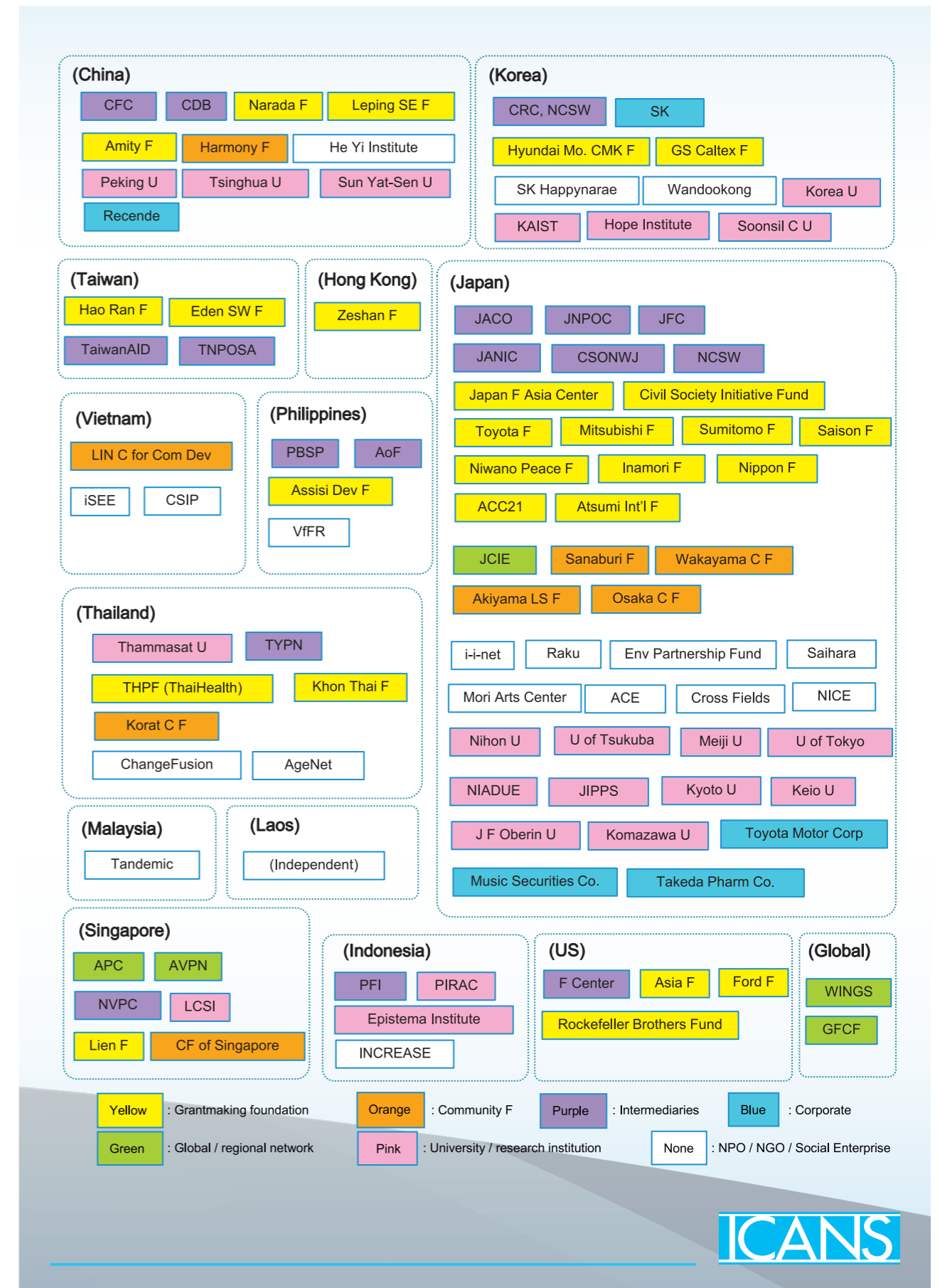
Group discussions in Plenary 4 (Day 2) developed 9 plans for future collaboration initiatives. Other suggestions for future cooperation raised during the conference include: 1. need to map and connect existing intermediaries and networks in different levels; 2. sharing knowledge and data; 3. allowing people to exchange and work together for projects; and 4. advocating together for better environment.

The organizer emphasized that this kind of collaboration initiatives should be co-owned and co-funded, and the conference should be organized in different countries, taking turns.

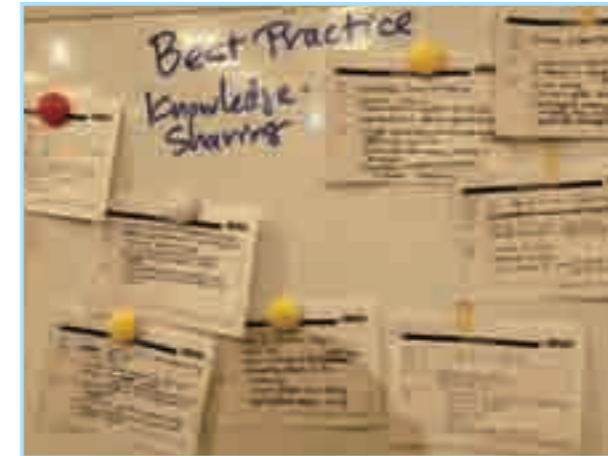
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ICANS Participant Network Chart



Photos



Photos by: Mr. KUSUDA Kenta

Opening Remarks (summary)

Opening Remarks 1: Ms. TOYAMA Atsuko, The Toyota Foundation

Appreciation to the Japan Foundation Asia Center and partners. Our Chairman Mr. OKUDA Hiroshi once said the “market economy with a human face” is in need. He has argued the global economic system may bring undesirable results to the society so it needs to be adjusted.



Japan needs to address various social issues including economic inequality, aging, increasing migrants and refugees, and declining rural areas. And these days I believe other Asian countries may share similar issues.

Nonprofit sectors in each country are expected to alleviate the pains of the affected people or to take preventive measures, and to give hope. The Toyota Foundation believes the opportunities for Asian nonprofit sectors to get together and exchange experiences and ideas will help improve the effectiveness of the sector.

Opening Remarks 2: Mr. SHIMOYAMA Masaya, The Japan Foundation Asia Center

This conference is very timely and important event to stimulate discussion for possible collaboration efforts among Asian non-profit sectors. There are different and complicated issues, from long-standing issues coming from excessive development to emerging threats of violence and terrorism, and natural disasters getting more frequent and destructive.



Non-profit sectors need both to collaborate with other sectors, as well as to re-examining their roles to maximize the strength. In Japan two major earthquake disasters: the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake and the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake were the focal points for the civil society development to bring in new resources, policy development, and new concepts and ideas.

The Japan Foundation has tried to support civil society in Asia by providing opportunities for dialogues and exchanges. I believe this conference will be another such endeavor and we are honored to be part of it. I hope this two-day discussion will provide endless supply of exchanging good ideas and networking.

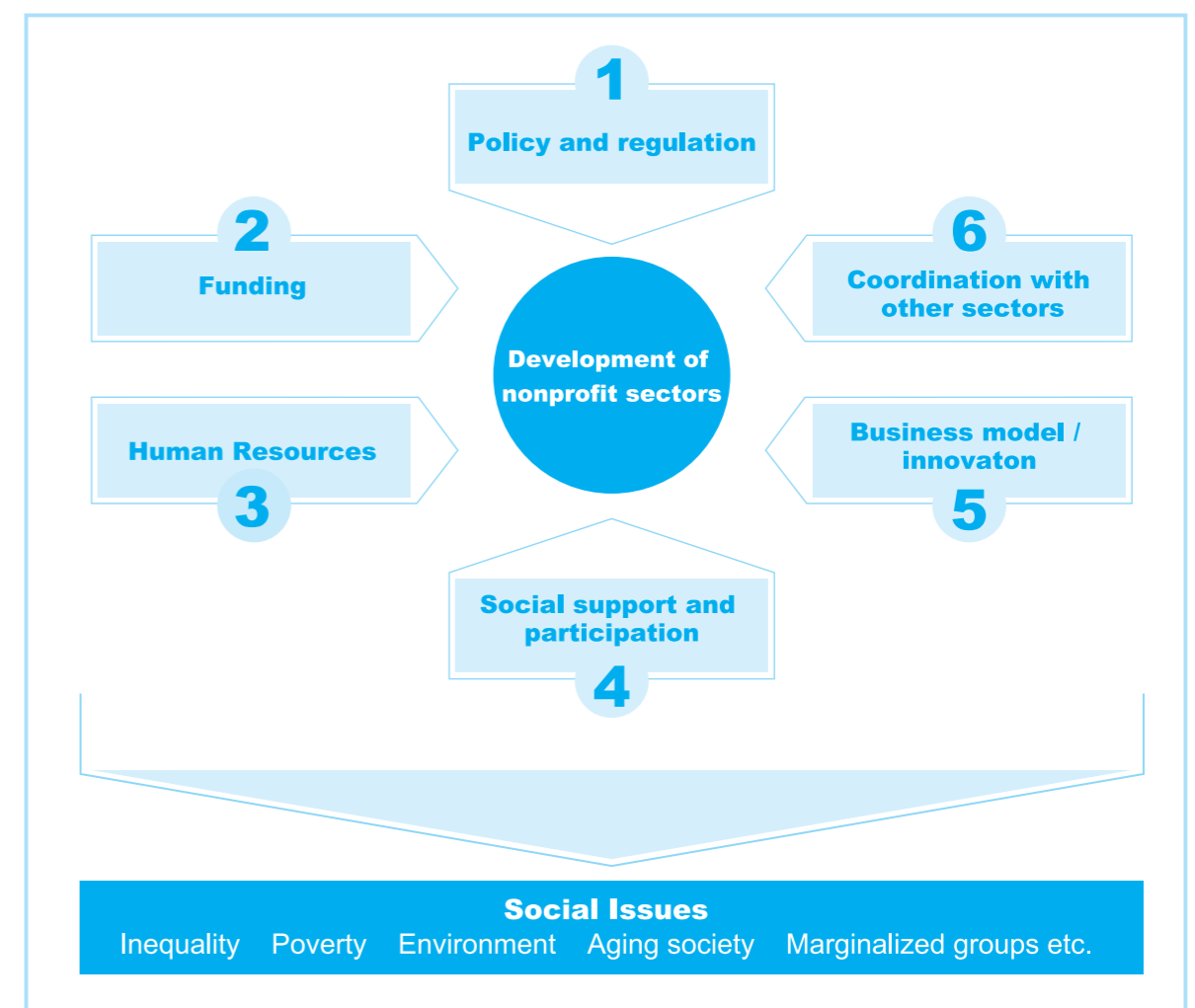
Introduction: Mr. AOO Ken, ICANS Secretariat

What can be included in the word “nonprofit sectors”: may include various concepts and sectors (foundations, NPOs/NGOs, social enterprises, etc.) without going into the difference and definition.



Some of the major challenges the nonprofit sectors in Asia face:

1. Policy and legal frameworks;
2. Funding;
3. Human resources;
4. Social support and participation;
5. Sustainable business model and innovation;
6. Coordination with other sectors (including governments, private sector, and local communities).



Great works are done, but often in isolation, without knowing what others are doing. There have been various efforts to connect people within Asia, including APPC, CAFO, AVPN, PIA Summit, and APC. But we still need to have a free space for key stakeholders to come together and have dialogues.



Two goals of ICANS:

1. To create a closed space for peers who support nonprofit sectors in Asia;
2. To develop ideas and plans for the future collaboration within the region.

Plenary 1: Past, present and future of nonprofit sectors in Asia

Background

The development of nonprofit sectors (including foundations, NPOs/NGOs, and social enterprises) in Asia has many twists and turns, receiving different kinds of expectations and criticism from the societies. In this opening session, three keynote speakers were invited to share their experiences and perspectives on different attempts and efforts, recent changes, and what they hope to see in the future. Then the panel discussion followed, with three speakers and moderation by Ms. KURODA Kaori, CSO Network Japan.

Highlights

“Here in Tokyo let us celebrate the creativity, dedication, resources, and tenacity of our (non-profit) sector and focus on how we can make the strongest possible contributions to a bright future for the Asia region and beyond”

Suzanne SISKEL

“To bring impact, we (philanthropy and civil society) have to play a complementary role to the government, not a supplementary one. Rather than doing charity or providing services which government should be providing, we should focus on being more strategic, such as advocacy, social change, and policy change”

Laurence LIEN

“Convergence of values and principle including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and new development agenda should be celebrated, but with reservation. In many countries, spaces for civil society are closing down. Japanese civil society is facing challenges, being isolated from others, fragmented, and depoliticized”

IMATA Katsuji

Moderator : Ms. KURODA Kaori, CSO Network Japan

Keynote speech 1 Ms. Suzanne SISKEL, The Asia Foundation

Pushing back and moving forward: Challenges and opportunities for the non-profit sector in Asia

I will talk about three interconnected actions that we should explore: 1. the identification of critical needs and issues that would benefit from the attention and action of nonprofit actors; 2. an exploration of ways in which nonprofit organizations can collaborate or work in complementarity with one another and with other partners in the public and private sectors; and 3. a commitment to learning and adaptation as work progresses so that it is effective and results in positive impact.



Remembering Barnett Baron and Tadashi Yamamoto, and their effort to create an enabling environment for philanthropy and nonprofit sectors in Asia, including the Asia Pacific Philanthropy Consortium. Three agendas they identified (legal and regulatory frameworks; public opinions; and resource mobilization) are still relevant today. In some parts of the world such as Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Ethiopia, and Kenya, there are more constraints and shrinking space for NGO work, and other citizen's organizations. The EU, US, and other governments also create technical challenges for funding to non-profits by strict anti-money laundering and counter terrorist measures, such as Financial Action Task Force. Self-regulation of the sector for accountability and transparency is crucial.

Some of the critical needs and issues in Asia are: 1. Poverty and income inequality; 2. Democratic governance; 3. Environmental challenges; 4. Urbanization; 5. Gender inequality; and 6. Violent conflict. These and other challenges encompassed by the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals could be addressed collaboratively for collective impact rather than separately or in competition.

Too often resources are used for short-term projects that are focused on achievable outputs rather than sustained impact. The Asia Foundation uses an approach called Strategy Testing for learning and adaptation in tackling complex problems to achieve positive social change.

Here in Tokyo let us celebrate the creativity, dedication, resources, and tenacity of our sector and focus on how we can make the strongest possible contributions to a bright future for the Asia region and beyond. And in doing so, let us demonstrate how vital our work is.

Keynote speech 2 Mr. Laurence LIEN, Asia Philanthropy Circle

Transforming Philanthropy: From narrow action to global change

Eco-system work like this conference is important, to have a space to talk frankly among friends. My talk is focused on philanthropy, but it is equally relevant to the nonprofit sector in general. I have worked in government, and the non-profit and philanthropy sectors, and all are connected. And a year ago some philanthropists started APC, a membership organization for and by philanthropists.



The size (money) of philanthropy is really small comparing with government or business. In 2014, Singapore's GDP was SGD 390 billion, government's budget SGD 70 billion and philanthropy to local institutions SGD 1.1 billion. To bring impact, we have to play a complementary role to the government, not supplementary. Rather than charity or providing services which government should be doing, we should focus on being more strategic, such as advocacy, social change, and policy change.

Civil society and philanthropy are better at doing those works than government or private sectors, for example creating new models and interventions, or doing research, by using the skillsets they have (neutrality, long-term perspective, ability to take risks, entrepreneurial instincts).

There are things the government would not do: e.g. Lien Foundation's work on end-of-life care and public awareness campaign, and Quality of Death Index. And there are things government cannot do, which philanthropists can do quickly, can fail, can advocate, can mobilize people. e.g. Lien Foundation's experimental initiatives on early childhood education. We can even take risk to fail, and if some initiatives are taken over by government, it is a big success.

Government should not be in every space. People should be a part of the solution, to contribute to it rather than being the recipient. We need people to make space to do things for themselves.

Social challenges are getting more complex, and if we work individually and narrowly, it is not going to work. Different organizations need to work together to create new models. e.g. Lien Foundation grantees visited eldercare facilities in Japan, and APC members are working in a *Rusunawa* community in Jakarta. We need to work with the whole ecosystem to bring systemic change.

We need to act, and need to have a leadership not to create followership but to work effectively across boundaries and to bridge people, mobilizing people to face issues and be part of the action. We will have much to learn from one another over the next two days.

Keynote speech 3 Mr. IMATA Katsuji, Japan NPO Center / CSO Network Japan

Convergence and contestation: World views in the post-2015 era and the role of civil society in Asia and the globe

In 2015, 19 million foreign people visited Japan, many from Asia. Increasing movement also has implication for civil society, which is today's topic.



Convergence of value and principle should be celebrated, but with a reservation. SDGs, Sustainable Development Goals, have been finalized, and civil society worked a lot to incorporate their voices in the final goals and targets. There are both traditional development goals as well as “universal” goals, which apply to all nations, such as inequality and sustainable cities and communities.

Also there is an emerging, new development consensus which encompasses accountability, transparency, participation and inclusion. Civil society groups and businesses are sharing these goals.

On the other hand, there are contestations: space for civil society is restricted and closing down in many countries. And international community could not agree on how to finance SDGs.

There are a few notable trends that can be maximized: 1. cross-coordination between traditional philanthropic and nonprofit sectors and new actors such as social enterprises and social innovation initiatives; 2. data revolution making more data available to hold governments accountable; 3. and active youth.

My personal observation about challenges of Japanese civil society: 1. Insularity: it is not effectively connected with civil society of the world, and unable to mobilize energy, insight, and resources that can be earned by connection; 2. Fragmentation: not only between nonprofit sector and social enterprise, but also between social welfare organizations, trade unions, consumer cooperatives, faith-based groups and others, all of which tend to work in silos; 3. Depoliticization: are we a part of larger social movement or social change working strategically, as Laurence spoke? We need to call that into a question.

Panel Discussion

KURODA Kaori : First, what brought each of you to nonprofit sectors? How did you nurture the value you have?

Suzanne SISKEL : My family raised me to be humble and attentive to others. This led to a lifetime of trying to understand people and their problems from their perspective, and work to improve lives. I first became an anthropologist to learn about people and societies from an academic viewpoint but realized my commitment was not to research and scholarship but working directly toward making a positive difference. In Asia this began 40 years ago under the Luce Scholars Program when I first lived in Indonesia and has spanned a career of helping to bring philanthropic and nonprofit resources, capacity and knowledge to critical challenges throughout the world (with the Ford Foundation and now The Asia Foundation).

Laurence LIEN : I come from a business family, but I studied abroad and worked in the government. Because I was more motivated in creating change, and also from my experience in family foundation, I got convinced that nonprofit sector in Singapore needed to develop, and I could make a difference. That led to run National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre for 6 years, and then decided to do something on Asian basis. We are all insular and fragmented, not only in Japan. We need to work together.

IMATA Katsuji : I was in California in the 1990s and that time Japanese people were starting to talk about “NPOs” as forces for social change, and many came to visit the US to study what nonprofit organizations were all about. They were impressed and started to replicate efforts in Japan, such as building a national infrastructure organization like the Japan NPO Center. I set up my own nonprofit to do nonprofit exchange and internship program between the US and Japan. In the 2000s, I came back to Tokyo and then I went to South Africa to work with CIVICUS where I got into the field of international development.

KURODA Kaori : What is needed to push cross-sector collaboration, or working together to bring social impact?

Suzanne SISKEL : Some of the most notable examples of effective collaboration have occurred where there is a disaster, when the nonprofit and other sectors have come together for immediate relief and, importantly, for longer-term collaboration continuing afterwards, sometimes for months and even years. We need to be prepared to collaborate, to break down barriers and coordinate our work.

IMATA Katsuji : In Japan, in the aftermath of great disasters such as the one in 1995 and 2011, we tried hard to figure out collectively what to do. In 1995, the disasters worked as an accelerator for NPO movement to move forward. We need to recognize ourselves as a value holder and communicator. That is how the CSO community pushed the new development agenda to international community. We need to build our confidence.

Laurence LIEN : There are many issues we can't wait for the disaster to happen. We need to find way to create some sense of crisis, sense of urgency, by doing advocacy and putting spotlight on issues. Then we need to find people who are willing to do leadership work, and build up their capacity to make the change. We also need to have collaborative platform to share challenges and failures, and finding partners for it.

KURODA Kaori : **Some of you mentioned about shrinking space. How can we deal with this issue?**

IMATA Katsuji : The role of civil society and the principles of democracy was a part of development dialogue before 2001, but it changed when the so-called developed economies of Western nations started to put a pressure on civil society's activities from security concern and "war on terror". That led political leaders of developing nations to think they can do the same. It is a tough question but we have to probably start with the recognition that this is a serious issue for us all. And then we need to ask ourselves how we can strike the balance between the legitimate concerns of our safety and also make sure we can support the rights of assembly and association.

Laurence LIEN : Distrust to civil society is there at many levels. I want to see civil society organizations having more self-regulation, being accountable and transparent, showing they are doing genuine work. We need to put a spotlight on civil society's work, and their important roles. And the civil society organizations also need to cross the boundaries, reaching to different stakeholders.

Suzanne SISKEL : When I worked in Indonesia, we brought NGOs together with people from government, so that the latter could see what NGOs do, and how they were contributing to the country's goals. Working with common issues or goals such as SDGs can be one way of building trust across sectors. Flexibility at our side will be required as well.

KURODA Kaori : **Last question, what do you expect from this conference?**

IMATA Katsuji : I would like to remind ourselves that we have the common challenges and issues. We spoke about issues, and we need to share what our own challenges are and how we can expand our horizon to see commonality among all of us in this region. That should be the starting point.

Laurence LIEN : For me, very simple – friendship. I think friendship is a start of building community which can start possible collaboration and cooperation.

Suzanne SISKEL : In addition, we should bring back home what we learned in this conference and share and inspire our colleagues, so that they feel themselves as a part of this community as well. Each of us can be a connector helping to build work toward common goals, toward more collective impact. We should also celebrate and enjoy this very rare opportunity.



Plenary 2: Current status of nonprofit sectors in Asia

Background

There are great level of difference in the situation of nonprofit sectors in Asia, reflecting the variety in cultures and histories, as well as policy frameworks in the countries and areas. However the diversity may be taken as a benefit, giving us an opportunity to learn from others. In this session four speakers presented to give a full picture of recent achievement and challenges in nonprofit sectors in different countries and areas, and to seek the potential of various experiences supplementing each other. A panel discussion and discussion with floor, moderated by Prof. INABA Yoji, Nihon University followed the presentations.

Highlights

“There is a potential for corporate venture philanthropy in Southeast Asia. Being inclusive of the private sector can really spur the growth, instead of just depending on the government or the social sector”

Jonathan CHANG

“Three sectors (government, corporate, and social sector) in China need to internalize social media, trans-boundary perspective, and social innovation in this new social field”

WANG Chao

“The number of NPOs has been steadily increasing in Korea. The challenges are the lack of management skills, lack of transparency / information and trust, and to find ways to collaborate with business”

MOON Hyoung Koo

“In Asian countries, nonprofit sector were asked to compensate the lack of welfare state. And in Japan's case local neighborhood association became a key to the good local governance, collaborating with local governments”

TSUJINAKA Yutaka

Moderator : Prof. INABA Yoji, Nihon University

In this session we hope to clarify the differences in a way nonprofit organizations operating in various parts of Asia. By the end of this session, hopefully we can have a general idea of three things: 1. What achievements do nonprofits have made in each of Asian countries / regions; 2. What are the problems and difficulties; 3. What kind of experiences and knowledges we can share.

Presentation 1 Mr. Jonathan CHANG, Lien Centre for Social Innovation

Social innovation trends and emerging themes in selected Southeast Asian countries

LCSI is in Singapore Management University, doing applied research and capacity building in Singapore and Southeast Asia. Recently LCSI published reports such as “From Charity to Change”, “Levers for Change”, and “A Handbook on Inequality, Poverty and Unmet Social Needs in Singapore”. We also have a Magazine publication “Social Space” to share best practices or failure stories within the region.



Although Southeast Asia is diverse, and I do not claim to be an expert, let me talk about emerging trends in Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand. In general, philanthropy is still very much local and family-centered, stand-alone approach. We need to have platforms to help people work together and bring bigger impact. There is a growing social enterprise movement, but staying locally. There is a lack of human and social capital for organizations to scale up beyond local areas, including the lack of trust and transparency, which avoid people from giving. Corporate philanthropy is coming in, and there is a potential for corporate venture philanthropy, although impact investment is still at early stage at this moment.

Presentation 2 Prof. WANG Chao, Institute for Philanthropy Tsinghua University

Emerging new field and transformation of GOs, NGOs and corporates of China

China is changing with new social fields, and there are four forces behind this: 1. Size – of economy and the number of NGOs (600,000 registered, 3 million including non-registered), potential for future social development, and increasing engagement with the rest of the world; 2. More cross-over happening between government, corporates and social sectors; 3. Arrival of new / social media; and 4. the rise of public awareness.

Since the change of the field, the three sectors are changing. They need to have global perspectives and impacts, strategic partnership of all three sectors, and a high transparency and public engagement on a shared social media platform. They have to deal with massive and highly complicated issues by internalizing social media, trans-boundary, and social innovation. There are some good cases for tri-sectoral partnerships and utilizing internet and social media, such as WWF / Coca-Cola's freshwater project in Yangtze River, and Earth Hour.



Presentation 3 Prof. MOON Hyoung Koo, Korea University

Challenges faced by NPOs in Korea

The number of registered NPOs has been increasing through so called Democratization Period, from 11,117 in 2003 to 29,732 in 2014.

More than half of them are religious organizations, followed by scholarship providing organizations and social welfare organizations.

Korean government passed the Law on the Promotion of Social Enterprises in 2007, and in 2014 the number of certified social enterprise (SE) is 1,251, the number of preliminary certified SE is 1,466. The number of corporate and individual foundations is not clear, without comprehensive information.

The challenges faced by NPOs in Korea are: 1. the lack of management skills, though supported by foundations, universities, or government; 2. lack of transparency and trust; 3. lack of information; and 4. the need to find ways to collaborate with business / for-profit organizations. From our study, they often develop pseudo employer-employee relationships rather than partnerships, and two parties have different languages and perspectives, which may lead to conflict without communication. The woods are dark and deep, and we have a long way to go.



Presentation 4 Prof. TSUJINAKA Yutaka, University of Tsukuba

Japan's good governance puzzle: Japan in comparison with other Asian countries

I will describe Japan's governance in comparison with other countries. First, all Asian countries including Japan were "late emerging" states, and did not have long period of time to grow strong labor sectors and civil society as Western countries did, nor to develop a welfare state. Therefore, all governments in Asia are relatively small, but interventionist. To compensate the lack of welfare state, government makes nonprofit sector and civil society work, and to control them, though in these days the intervention is getting more softened and indirect.

Also the nonprofit sector and civil society organizations prefer providing social services over advocacy, and like in Japan and China, many of them were related to for-profit sectors. Japan's case is a bit different. Most of nonprofit organizations were established earlier than other Asian countries in 1945-60, but we had nonprofit organizations growing before the World War II, even in the 19th Century. It was possible because of the relatively strong local governance and people's involvement in the local elections. Another point is the neighborhood association, which many Asian countries have the equivalent. In Japan these neighborhood associations have a long history, and doing variety of social activities, even pressuring local governments.

The strongpoint of Japan was the local governance, and to have good governance, we need capable local government and officials, who can be a partner of civil society and nonprofit sector, and also are accountable. We need some kind of decentralization in many Asian countries. The role of civil society is to do advocacy first, and also to keep their original roles to provide services, so that a virtuous cycle of participation and accountability between stakeholders can be obtained.



Panel Discussion

In Korea, Ban Sang Hwei as a formal local community association was used by authority to govern people, when military government was in power. Does that still fit your definition of community organization?

TSUJINAKA Yutaka : There is always a path dependency. Neighborhood association in Japan was also used for war mobilization, but it had the root not only in the government but also to the people. Now they are really civil society organizations, independent from local governments. These organizations can change their characteristics and have potentials to become more active civil society organizations.

Also in China, neighborhood organizations or committees are operated by the government. Should we call them as semi / quasi civil society organizations?

TSUJINAKA Yutaka : My definition of civil society is very broad, and it is very common in the history for some organizations to become very civic, or subordinate to the government or authority.

WANG Chao : Chinese government is taking different experiments in the community, and now it has institutional arrangement that is between nonprofit organization and governmental extension.

INABA Yoji : Jonathan, what is the difference with the relationship between government and nonprofit sector in the Unites States and in Southeast Asia?

Jonathan CHANG : I think, in the US, there is a strong sense that we don't believe the government and people do other things in private sector and social sector. One thing I realized in Asian countries is that there are still high expectations from people to government if there is a social issue.

How can civil society organizations help to develop social capital, like some North European countries such as Norway or Sweden?

TSUJINAKA Yutaka : Nonprofit organizations are small in size, but they can work with community organizations or neighborhood associations, and can be the social capital providers.

INABA Yoji : Just to add, nonprofit sector can host social capital promotion among the members of organizations, or even outside. Some European welfare states enjoyed high social capitals.

Question to Jonathan, what is the people's mindset of the philanthropy or international aid in Singapore?

Jonathan CHANG : In Singapore international aid is not applied very much. For philanthropy people want to know more what happens by the money they give. We need to think more about the continuation and sustainability of project, not just stopping effort when money stops.

INABA Yoji : Any final comments?

WANG Chao : Just to add, I expect social enterprise to be the mainstream of era China 4.0.

MOON Hyoung Koo : We need to think not only about the NPO sector, but also the whole picture of NPO related to business and government, and what kind of relationships to be developed.

TSUJINAKA Yutaka : Charity or philanthropy, local governance, and social business are three pillars. They are competing but not kicking out each other. We should think how one sector can help others grow.

INABA Yoji : We definitely see differences among regions, which should be respected because they reflect historical and cultural development. Two presenters spoke about the governance of nonprofit organizations, which is vitally important to gain trust and recognition. We should have a session for governance as well as social enterprise in the next meeting.



Breakout session 1: New initiatives in nonprofit sectors

Background

Recently there are numbers of innovations emerging in Asian nonprofit sectors, to build sustainable models and to enhance collaboration within the society. However this is often done in isolation, without knowing what the counterparts in other countries and areas are doing. In this breakout session some of the best practices in three areas are presented: A. social enterprise and social investment; B. community foundation; and C. social fundraising. Each session had three presentations followed by discussion to see how they can provide implications to other areas.

BS1-A : Social enterprise / Social investment

Highlights

“Social Enterprise, a combination of business and social mission is an experiment to solve social issues”

LEE Byungtae

“We focus on people, and when they grow they can be the mentor. It is creating eco-system”

SASAKI Kensuke

“We can scale up by replicating successful models”

Sunit SHRESTHA

Moderator : Dr. LEE Wonjae, The Hope Institute

Mr. Sunit SHRESTHA, ChangeFusion

Social Innovation in Thailand

There are different issues in Thailand, including inequality. Social enterprise (SE) is a tool for sustainable social solution. In Thailand there have been different kinds of SE since DoiTung, which is a part of the Royal Project to support upcountry area. Some of SEs is OpenDream, Grassroots Innovation Network, A-chieve, Muser Coffee, Local alike, and taejai, all working on different issues such as career counseling, organic farming, coffee production, tourism, and crowd giving.

Last year, B-KIND FUND, first social responsible investment fund in Thailand was set up by ChangeFusion, Khon Thai Foundation, and a management firm. It is a mutual fund with USD 66 million size, invests to listed companies with sustainability standards, and 0.8% goes directly into venture philanthropy supporting social projects and SEs. It can also invest up to 15% to SEs.

What we can collaborate: Crowd giving and mutual funds are easily replicable in other countries, and we should have a small group of people to work together. There are also potential to connect SEs from different countries, such as tourism.

Prof. LEE Byungtae, KAIST

A bold experiment to find and nurture social innovators in Korea

Although Korea is one of the most developed countries in Asia, it has a number of issues, including mismatch of high-quality jobs and high-quality labor supply, inequality, poverty among older generations, youth groups with disadvantaged backgrounds (single parent family, multicultural family, etc.), which leads to a low life satisfaction.

Since business, state and government, family are not functioning well to solve these problems, SE with a combination of business and social value is an experiment. To help social entrepreneurs, KAIST developed 2-year MBA course with support from SK Happiness Foundation. We also have Center for Social Entrepreneurship as incubator, and KAIST Venture Investment as investor to support future entrepreneurs. Already dozens of companies are created by students.

Lessons learnt: 1. Social entrepreneurship is attracting young talented students; 2. We cannot identify or create future Bill Gates or Steve Jobs through the program; 3. Entrepreneurial thinking is “act-learn-build”, not with predetermined answer.

Mr. SASAKI Kensuke, ETIC.

ETIC's development of the social innovation ecosystem in Japan

ETIC. was established in 1993, stands for "Entrepreneurial Training for Innovative Communities". Through training programs, our goal is to build up a social ecosystem where entrepreneur leaders are growing and increasing. We started from student internship coordination program for venture companies and nonprofits (2,800+ sent), then program to empower social entrepreneurs (400+ finished), and also build 60+ local networks. Since the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, we sent 200+ young professionals to Tohoku areas and 60% of them are staying in the area, some also starting their own business.

Our focus is on person, not business or activities. When program alumni grow with time, they can be a mentor / resource person for next generations. Creating this circulation will develop our ecosystem. Japan is facing various problems, for example rapid aging populations, decline of rural areas, change of workstyle, inclusion of sexual minorities, and children with development difficulties. Public administration and big business are not familiar with those kinds of issues, and social innovators have the good fit. We believe Japan can be the model of leading in these kinds of social problems and social innovations as well.

Discussion with the floor

What made it possible to develop KAIST Social entrepreneurship MBA course?

LEE Byungtae : Autonomy of KAIST to create new program, increasing social issues, and generous support from SK Happiness Foundation and the chairman of SK conglomerate.

How can we make SEs sustainable and scalable after the start up?

LEE Byungtae : To create such SEs with sustainability, you need top talents, and collaboration with corporate or government sectors.

Sunit SHRESTHA : First we have to accept that most of SEs fails after the startup, just like other SMEs. Still we can scale up by replicating the successful models in community or local levels. Also we need to continue supporting them for another few years after one-year incubation program, until they reach to the sustainable stage to access to impact investors or banks.

How do you maintain financial sustainability to run an incubator?

SASAKI Kensuke : Partnerships with corporates, governments, and foundations. When we produce results it will bring us new contracts.

Sunit SHRESTHA : The question is who supports supporters of SEs. We charge fees for incubation program to sponsors, and for investment side we take management fees and interest.

LEE Wonjae : Any ideas for future collaboration within Asia?

LEE Byungtae : We are organizing network of social entrepreneurship educators, and also sending our students to other countries.

SASAKI Kensuke : Making any fund or grant to support ecosystem cultivation will be helpful.

Sunit SHRESTHA : To connect cross-border investors or companies to SEs for their development.

LEE Wonjae : In this session we talked about importance of social entrepreneurs, the people and how to nurture people in education system, incubations, and investment. We have a loophole in this investment path. And we talked about how we can collaborate, including setting up a fund.



BS1-B : Community foundations

Highlights

“Our programs are designed to turn challenges into opportunities by sharing information, building trust and understanding between donors and NPOs, and providing long-term solutions for local problems”

NGUYEN Thi Thanh Truc

“We think person is very important. We try to look for them, and raise them to become the leaders for community development”

ZHU Jiangang

“Community foundations have the ability to create a leverage effect and rapidly solve a community’s complex issues”

SUZUKI Yuji

Moderator : Ms. Jenny HODGSON, Global Fund for Community Foundations

Community foundations (CF) in its purest form emerged in the United States 100 years ago, and in last 20 years we saw the emergence of CFs and other types of community philanthropy organizations around the world. There are ongoing discussion on what CF should do and what not to do, but let us listen to 3 different stories and discuss what is common.

Ms. NGUYEN Thi Thanh Truc, LIN Center for Community Development

Improving the effectiveness of community philanthropy in Vietnam

Vietnam had a tradition of community philanthropy since 15th Century, such as local compassion fund. Since Doi Moi in 1986, CSR practices and international funding came into the country. Recently there are growing trends of local giving circles, community based decision-making, and very new concept of community philanthropy.

The challenges are the lack of information; mistrust and misunderstanding between public / donors and NPOs, and the lack of good partnership between private sector and non-profit sector. Limited governance, management capacity and self-regulation of NPOs are also big issues.

Since 2009, LIN works to turn these challenges into opportunities by developing information platforms (VietnamCauses.org and BlueBees.org), facilitating the collaboration of local stakeholders, and building capacity of local NPOs, volunteers, and philanthropists. LIN collected over VND 4.3 billion (approx. USD 200,000) and allocated to 90 local projects.

Prof. ZHU Jiangang, School of Philanthropy, Sun Yet-sen University

Community foundations in China: Definition, typology and current trends

In China, CF is not a legal category. But recently there are different kinds of CFs such as government-initiated, or business-initiated, or civil society-initiated ones. Last year about 30 CFs were built by local governments, but the problem is that they have no professional staff. Guangdong Harmony Foundation (GHF) where I belong to has been established in 2006 by local philanthropists and in 2009 it became a foundation. First GHF focused on supporting NGO and community activities, then grantmaking, and since 2012 we focus on creating platform for cross-sector collaboration. GHF focused on Pearl River Delta and 3 issues (migrant workers, environmental protection, and community service) and by 2014 granted over RMB 10 million (approx. USD 1.5 million) to 129 local projects.

We set “Community grantmaking Plus” model and combine grantmaking with capacity building, action research, and network building to develop NGOs. We also build a platform of cross-sector collaboration with media, businesses, and universities, etc. We think person is very important, and try to raise them become the leaders for the local issues.

Mr. SUZUKI Yuji, The Sanaburi Foundation

The value of community foundation in the community

In Japan, the first CF, Osaka Community Foundation set up in 1991 and the number of CFs has increased after 2008. The Sanaburi Foundation was established after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami and raised almost USD 17 million (700 grantees). We have an alliance, Community Foundations Japan, since 2014 and developing guiding principles and advisory board for CFs.

There are diverse needs in the community, such as suicides (over 25,000 people / year commits suicide in Japan) but the government cannot address all issues. Community must have the capacity to respond. Civil society has power but it is limited and CF has the ability to create a leverage effect and rapidly solve a community's complex issues.

The Sanaburi Foundation provides grants, technical assistance, data and survey reports, and community leadership program to connect locals, NPOs, and local government. By doing so, we convene community resources, commit to a wide range of issues and create a team to address those issues.

Jenny HODGSON

Some of the themes coming out from 3 presentations are the roles of CF / community philanthropies. They build trust and social capital, and bring local development down to local levels. We can use local level initiatives and tools to work on tough issues, create spaces for sharing power, and holistic long-term views on community issues.

Discussion with the floor

What is the legal status of CF?

ZHU Jiangang : There is no definition of CF by law, and it is more about concept and roles we play.

NGUYEN Thi Thanh Truc : Same in Vietnam, we have no regulations regarding CF. We think what matters is our approach rather than registration or recognition as CF.

How big can the "community" be?

Jenny HODGSON : It depends on where you are, but need to be big enough to raise resources, and small enough to have local identity.

What is your fundraising strategy? How do you raise fund from community?

SUZUKI Yuji : We have general donation, donor advised fund, and we seek to have funds from market. We need to have a variety of funding sources.

ZHU Jiangang : We are in the stage of thinking about donor advised fund. International funding is also important, not only for the funding but also to bring in new approaches.

NGUYEN Thi Thanh Truc : We engage local donors and stakeholders by making the fundraising fun. Last year we used social media, introducing local activities and sponsor's name, and raised VND 300 million funds, and made everyone happy.



BS1-C: Social fundraising

Highlights

“Fundraising can be used as instrument to open people’s eyes about certain issues and problems”

Hamid ABIDIN

“With 660 million netizens now in China, we have a huge ocean in online fundraising market”

YE Ying

“Micro investment can bridge financial gap between subsidies and venture capital / bank loans”

SUGIYAMA Akiko

Moderator: Ms. Marianne Gaerlan QUEBRAL, Venture for Fund Raising

Mr. Hamid ABIDIN, Public Interest Research and Advocacy Center (PIRAC)

Fundraising for religious giving in Indonesia

Philanthropic giving in Indonesia is motivated by religious causes, including Islamic giving like Zakat, Infaq, Shadaqah, and Waqf. They are charitable and religious programs to support the poor, orphan, widow, elderly, and other groups of people in need. But Indonesian people are now using Zakat for social development and other non-religious or non-charitable causes.

One of the professional Zakat raising institutions are Dompot Dhuafa (DD), which started as a donation group of REPUBLIKA Newspaper journalists, and now developed to a foundation with 13 branches in Indonesia and international networks. In 2014 they collected fund of IDR 250 billion (approx. USD 18 million). DD uses proactive fundraising strategies and methods such as email, media, social media, online giving, membership, corporate fundraising, etc. DD has religious programs, emergency response, and other social services and advocacy programs including consumer protection, anti-corruption, and conservation campaigns. DD partners with non-religious NGOs for programs, which benefits both DD to develop new programs and NGOs to access public funding. The lesson from DD is that it uses fundraising as an instrument to educate people about certain problems and causes.

Ms. YE Ying, Recende

Online fundraising and campaigns in China

I am from China Association of Fundraising Professionals (CAFP), the membership association for Chinese professional fundraisers. CAFPA hosts forums for fundraisers, and also conducts researches related to fundraising. According to CAFPA Report in 2014, the total amount of third party online fundraising was RMB 437 million, approx. USD 66.4 million. 97.5% was raised by the third party online donation platforms, such as Alibaba, Ant Love, Tencent Gongyi, and Sina Gongyi. With 660 million netizens in China mostly using mobile devices, there is a huge future in this sector.

The challenges are the restrictions that only certified foundations can do public fundraising. There are 3 types of online fundraising platform, 1. donation platform; 2. charity crowdfunding platform; and 3. charity e-shop platform. Average amount of donation is small, under RMB10 (USD1.7). Youth from big cities are typically the most active in online donation.

As conclusion, different third-party platforms are becoming important infrastructure for online fundraising in China, giving access to NGOs for public donation.

Ms. SUGIYAMA Akiko, Music Securities

Micro investments by individuals: A way to supply patient risk capital to small businesses

Music Securities (MS) is a profitable company, using micro investments to support musicians and small businesses. We have created 466 funds, 308 business operators and raised JPY 6 billion (approx. USD 50 million). Some of the products are Hometown Investment Trust Funds; Music Funds; Sake (rice wine) Funds; and Tohoku Disaster Relief Funds.

With MS as mediator, investors can make small investments from USD 50 to 500 to support business, and receive financial return and/or products depending on the business performance. We believe that this is an investment, not a donation or a loan. It gives flexibility of payment schedule to some businesses like sake or farming, or disaster recovery. More than 80% of investors have decided to invest because of their interest to the company or project / products, not for the financial return.

For Disaster Relief Fund, half of the money is donation, the other half is investment. It raised JPY 1 billion (approx. USD 8 million) from 30,000 individuals. It helped investors and businesses to keep connected after 5 years of the disaster, unlike the donation.



Breakout session 2: Social issues and the roles of nonprofit sectors

Background

There are numerous social issues the nonprofit sectors are expected to tackle with, and there are more similarities among Asian countries and areas, reflecting economic development and demographic trends. Still there are strong perceptions to see nonprofit sectors only as a service provider, which underestimates their potential capacity. In this breakout session, three common social issues are chosen: A. aging Asia; B. environmental issues; C. revitalizing local communities, and each session had presentations and discussion with the floor. Participants examined different roles the nonprofit sectors can play in local communities, and even at the higher levels to support people in need, connect various stakeholders together, and to develop a model for the future policy.

BS2-A : Aging Asia

Highlights

“As we don’t have much money, we try to optimize for what we have and maximize social capital”

Viennarat CHUANGWIWAT

“Non-profit sectors could be an inclusive mediating space between government, market, community and families”

HUANG Chung-Yu

“As an NPO, providing care services only is not enough. We also need to build the relationships between the dementia patient, family, and the local community so that the patient can live in the community, in a real sense”

SHIBATA Noriko

Moderator: Prof. ASATO Wako, Kyoto University

Speed of aging is very quick in Asia. Age over 65 is about 25% in Japan followed by others. Demography estimate in 2050 shows that the biggest age group is over 65 in many countries. This means we must work harder to support old people.

And who takes care of elderly is also very important. There will be increasing number of elderly including dementia or cancer patients to take care of, and we need professional care providers. The roles of family, community (including NGOs and NPOs), state, and market need to be reconsidered. Japan introduced Long Term Care Insurance (LTCI) in 2000, Korea in 2008 and the care was “socialized”. 90% of its cost is shouldered by state in Japan’s case. Taiwan partially subsidize for the home visit. Thailand has Community Health Fund, which is partially provided by the state. Using domestic workers from other countries for elderly care is another popular practice.

Taking from Mr. Lien’s presentation, I changed the scale of commitment at different levels, from charity, service provision, substitution, social change, advocacy, and policy change. By the end of session, we will talk about what the future commitment would be.

Viennarat CHUANGWIWAT, AgeNet

Community based elderly supporting mechanisms

Thailand still has strength in family ties and cultural orientation to supporting others, including older people. But disparities in social protection are also wide and many people are not covered by pension system or other social security system. Although Health Care is free, social care of long-term care or dementia is not covered by it.

Still in Thailand the environment is very good to utilize social capital, such as millions of volunteers and social networks, and Buddhist temples utilizing traditional medicines and massage to provide care to support older people. We can provide check-up and follow-up, rehabilitation, income generation activities, and support active aging with self-esteem and dignity. Community based organizations including “Older Person’s Club” play a big role to provide service and advocate to the government. However there are difficulties to apply this in everywhere especially in urban areas, where individualism is growing. Also private sector is not very much aware of the aging issues.

As the conclusion, we have to optimize for what we have and maximize social capital. And knowledge and capacity building is very important, and can be done without much money. Nongovernmental sectors in Thailand can do many things, from providing food or moral / emotional support to doing the comprehensive long-term care program without government funding.

HUANG Chang-Yu (Grace), Eden Social Welfare Foundation

The role of NGOs in aging-in-place practices

Aging is accelerating in Taiwan, and the burden of long-term care is rising. The Long-Term Care 10-Year Plan (2008-2017) tries to establish fundamental long-term care system in every community. In 2015, the Long-Term Care Service Act has been passed. Government is working with NGOs to establish a long-term care service. Among aging population, 16.5% has functional disability. They are the targets of home care / community care / institutional care based on the Long-Term Care Service Act. Now community care or aging in place is a focal point in Taiwan.

One case from Eden Social Welfare Foundation is the Disadvantaged Community Service. We provide caregiving, accessibility and transportation assistance to support family members and promote the concept of “active aging” in the communities. Eden also integrates with the children services and new immigrant women training to help them to become qualified care workers. To promote aging-in-place, we want to create a mutual support environment to integrate all resources in the community. Another example of Hondao Senior Citizen’s Welfare Foundation also tries to include both foreign workers and young Taiwanese workers to elderly care service work and develop their career paths. Finally in our views, the non-profit sectors could be an inclusive mediating space between the government, market, communities and families.

SHIBATA Noriko, Raku NPO

The roles of NPO “Raku” in local community: Creating communities that can support people with dementia until the final days

I run an NPO along with my teaching in the university. My organization is in Kawasaki city, in the outskirts of Tokyo and provides both services covered by the LTCI and other community activities. I was feeling that the community spirit has diminished, and established the NPO to support the families and to fill the gap of LTCI.

When we started the NPO, people did not understand about dementia and the families were shouldering the whole burden. For dementia patients we had a day service with overnight stay, but families requested for a home-based care. So after the revision of LTCI in 2006, we created small scale multifunctional home-based care. Still more than providing care services, we had to connect the patients, families, and communities to create relationships so that the patients can live in the community in a true sense. If we were a private company or a social welfare organization we could not spend such time.

As an NPO who works on long-term care, we aim not to make the elderly bedridden. We support so that dementia patients can live with mobility and dignity. We are proud that we can be engaged until the very final stage, based on the community.

Discussion with the floor

ASATO Wako: How can you make younger people get involved into elderly care activities?

HUANG Chang-Yu : NGOs train volunteers, who are youth and younger elderly as professional care workers. NGOs target on youths who are not satisfied with the jobs they can get, and develop the training program.

Viennarat CHUANGWIWAT : People can still rely on family, relatives, or neighbors in the community in Thailand. Government supported funds such as National Health Security Fund and Health Promotion Fund. NPOs in Thailand, most of them not registered, are very active and come before the government for most cases.

ASATO Wako : Another question to Ms. Shibata. From the Japan's experience, what is your advice to other Asian countries in regard of LTCI?

SHIBATA Noriko : Japanese LTCI is not a complete system, and we have a lot to learn from others including what we hear today about voluntary community support. It is already 16 years since our LTCI has been introduced. Recently we had a big conference and practitioners were talking about how to live in community together with local people, without depending on the LTCI schemes. It will change, maybe in the next 10 or 15 years. Another issue is the financial sustainability of LTCI system, and that is one of the reasons why we are now seeking to build Integrated Community Care System. There are many issues to solve, but I am hopeful.

ASATO Wako : Two experiences from LTCI: 1. We change the perception about care. We put people as a bedridden, and we need to maximize his or her power. 2. We tried to socialize the care, which meant cutting off the role of community and family, but we could not. Now we are looking back to the community.

Do you have social enterprise (SE) in your country to deal with aging?

Viennarat CHUANGWIWAT : There are many SEs running for income generation for older people and they work well. We also expect SEs to fill the care gap for middle class people who can pay for the services, without making much profit.

HUANG Chang-Yu : SE scheme is still developing in Taiwan, but we apply SE model to support income generation of handicapped people and to run a restaurant inclusive of all age groups.

SHIBATA Noriko : People used different names and legal status, including NPOs, cooperatives, and others which helped diverse development of home based caregiving activities in Japan.

In the whole Asia region, there are increasing needs for foreign care workers. How should we deal with this problem?

HUANG Chang-Yu : It is true that shortage of care workers is a crucial issue in Taiwan, and solution may be found in the foreign workers. But in our cases we are trying to find opportunity to Taiwanese youth and younger elderly by giving necessary support.

Viennarat CHUANGWIWAT : Although there are foreign domestic workers working as caregivers, there is a difficulty to train them as professional care workers, because of the language barrier. We expect more from Thai who have experiences taking care of their families or out of jobs.

SHIBATA Noriko : We need to think how not to let people leave this job, by letting them enjoy their work. We also need to involve younger elderly, or utilize robots in the longer time span.

ASATO Wako : We cannot externalize care and need to fill the gaps. Probably it is the role of community and NPOs. This is also global issue. There are many things we can collaborate together in the future.



BS2-B : Environmental Issues

Highlights

“Change takes time, and we need to be more adaptive, and to collaborate with multi-level stakeholders including grass-root, local, and national levels.”

Myrna SAFITRI

“Chinese environmental NGOs can work with local community, government and industrial park, to have environmental audit and consultation, and let the park take action”

WU Haoliang

“Japanese environmental NGOs started in 1960s protesting to industrial pollution. Now they shift to more collaboration with other sectors, and suggestion oriented, proposing a new lifestyle to people”

HOSHINO Tomoko

Moderator: Prof. MATSUURA Masahiro, University of Tokyo

Myrna SAFITRI, Epistema Institute

Collective action and lawmaking: Indonesian civil society roles to support customary forests regulation

In Indonesia, the legislation recognizes the rights of indigenous people (IP), including the customary forest. However in reality the delineation and mapping process of the forest area are not done in many areas, and IP communities are living in National Park areas. Even after the Constitutional Court Ruling in 2013 to accept customary forest as a title forest, there was no customary forest recognized by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry until 2015, partly because of the absence of local (district) regulation.

My organization worked with IP organizations and other civil society organizations to empower local people, and to lobby with national and district level policy makers in Kasepuhan community in Lebak District, which is in western part of Java Island. After 15 years of working, District Regulation was finally enacted. The lesson is that we need to be more adaptive in our strategies, doing work at the grass root level and national policy making and lobbying. Collaboration and advocacy to multi-level stakeholders are needed.

WU Haoliang, He Yi Institute

Towards platform to deal with environmental crisis: China environmental organizations' practices

My organization, He Yi Institute supports Chinese environmental organizations (EO) through funding, training, and research. The history of EOs in China is quite new, starting from Friends of Nature established in 1994. After 2000, there are many EOs set up by students, some of them becoming professional organizations. Depending on who counts, there are from 500 to 8,000 of EOs in China, and the most popular issue is environmental education, followed by green community, wildlife conservation, water pollution, and zero waste. Many EOs started from environmental awareness education, and then gradually developed to monitoring pollution in site, scientific data collection and database development, reporting to the government, and using legal methodologies.

The case I want to show is from Nanjing Green Stone Organization. Instead of using the traditional “pressure” model, they worked with the government and environmental bureau of the industrial park, to have environmental audit and consultation together, so that the park can take actions and they investigated the results. By facilitating the multi-party dialogue and collaboration, the NGSO developed “Green neighborhood building model”.

HOSHINO Tomoko, Environmental Partnership Council

Environmental NGO activities and partnership case study in Japan

Environmental NGOs in Japan: there are around 14,000 environmental NGOs in Japan, but many of them are small in term of financial or membership size. The half of them runs by less than JPY 1 million (USD 8,000) a year, and only 3% have over JPY 100 million (USD 800,000) of annual budget. In 1960s-80s when there were severe industrial pollutions, NGOs were more like protests and citizen's movement, but in 1990s the focus moved to advocacy and policy proposal. After 2000, there are more NGOs doing communication and collaboration with government and cooperate or private sectors. Currently they suggest new lifestyle, such as living in rural areas, recycling and reusing of goods, green energy and other sustainable ways of living. There are different intermediary organizations including Environmental Partnership Offices in different areas providing information and consultation, and supporting partnership building.

There is one case study of ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) at Kyoyama, Okayama prefecture. Local residents, NPOs and companies, Schools and Universities, and other stakeholders conduct activities and using Komin-kan (community learning center).

Discussion with the floor

Question to Mr. Wu, what is happening regarding to big data in China?

WU Haoliang : We have environmental map which any one can access to, hosted by Alibaba. Data is collected from every province, and updated every hour or two. People can use these data to monitor the environment by themselves.

Environmental issues are global, but we see a few groups from Asia in global forum. What can we participate in these discussions

HOSHINO Tomoko : Although the time and budget of environmental NGOs are limited, we should share and exchange information and influence these conferences.

While ownership and right to use forest should be secured for the indigenous people, it may cause a governance of conservation issue to the natural resource. How do you build the mechanisms to avoid that?

Myrna SAFITRI : We as CSOs work together, and some of us work with national government, some with district, and some with grass-root. There are no rules for NGOs, but we continue engaging and finding opportunities.

MATSUURA Masahiro : Just to summarize the discussion, there are so many unique aspects in the presentations but there are common issues: 1. the lack of proper governance of environmental issues; 2. social capital issues that makes CSOs responsible to collaborating stakeholders; 3. multi-stakeholder involvement; 4. working on advocacy and policy issues; and 5. capacity and education issues, though Japan's case is a bit different by showing a new way of living to people.

Now I want to ask, what are the possible areas of collaboration? So far I hear that cross-country advocacy and pressuring, sharing data, representation in the international forums may be useful.

Suggestions: 1. Perhaps to share the impact of businesses applying new technologies to avoid pollution and waste could be shared; 2. We see similar challenges, stakeholders and communities related to other issues. Cross-sector dialogue and networking is needed; 3. There are some existing networks in the region, we should have mapping of those networks.



BS2-C : Revitalizing local communities

Highlights

“Gotong Royong is the spirit of mutual help among neighbors in a community, and has been widely adopted and institutionalized in Indonesia”

Yohanes GHEWA

“The role of Wandookong, a community newspaper, is recording, sharing and building a platform for the community”

LEE Yong Gyu

“We can keep community people together where 50% is over 65 years old, by asking local people to take actions, and also involving outsiders to start something new”

TOMISAWA Taro

Moderator : Prof. NAGAHATA Makoto, i-i-network / Meiji University

Yohanes GHEWA, INCREASE

Fostering Gotong Royong as a cultural heritage instrument for revitalizing local communities in Indonesia

My organization INCREASE focuses on empowering local communities. In Indonesia we had a cultural tradition of Gotong Royong, which is the principle of mutual help among neighbors in a community. But rapid development of government and donor driven programs since reformation era (1996-2010) decreased the spirit of Gotong Royong and made the people in rural area less powered, and dependent on outside help. The gaps between urban and rural areas are getting wider.

As a local NGO, we try to use Gotong Royong as a main tool to tackle the problem in rural villages. We started Nekamese Field School in 2010, without any donor. It trains young farmers for 3 years, to regenerate indigenous knowledge and local wisdoms of rural community in village development. After training we send them back as motivators and facilitators to each village. We select trainees from the youth who drop out from the secondary schools, or ask village people to recommend.

LEE Yong Gyu, Wandookong

The experiment of Wandookong in Wanju

Today I want to share a small story of Wandookong, a small village newspaper in Wanju County, Korea. Wanju County has a population of around 95,000 people, with aging population and weakening community. To restore the feeling of communities, Wandookong (meaning green pea) was set up as a cooperative in 2012, and started publishing as a monthly tabloid newspaper. It shares the stories of neighbors and the villages.

Other than publishing newspaper, Wandookong publishes records of residents' lives, provides educational lectures for residents and media school for youth. We also help other villagers making newspapers and newsletters. Many supporters from Wanju County encouraged the paper until it became stable, and the Circle Foundation in 2013 helped us to grow through customized consulting and education of Local Challenge Project.

The role of Wandookong is recording, sharing and building a platform for the community. In the future, Wandookong will be making effort to help people relate to one another.

TOMISAWA Taro, NPO Saihara

Effort for local revitalization in the aging society and depopulated area

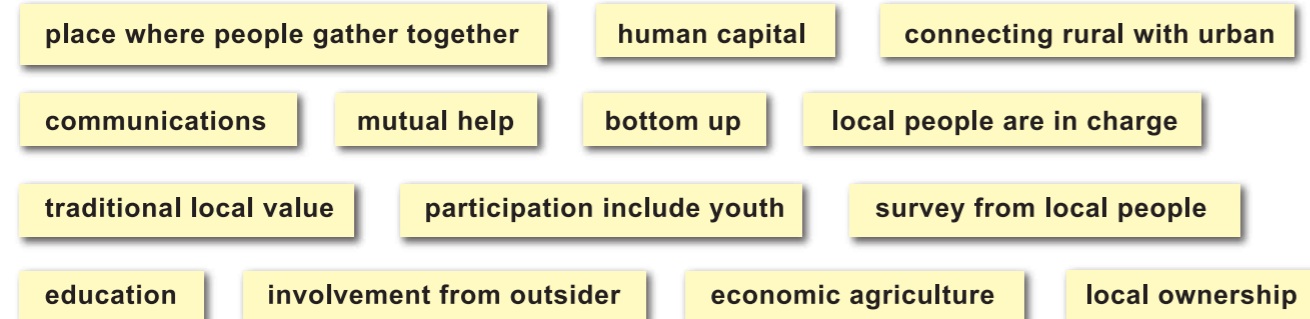
Let me present about Saihara area. The population used to be a village with 2,500 people in 1965, but now they have only 600 people, half of them above 65. High school and junior high school are closed, and elementary school only has 10 pupils. There is almost no job in the village. I am originally from Yokohama, an urban area, but live in this area. I do farming and also work as an NPO staff.

My NPO Saihara was started in 2010. It started by selling local products and organized events to attract people from urban areas. We asked local people what they need, and the result turns out that it is not about money or job, but about elderly care when they become too weak. So we organize weekly physical exercise class and individual health counseling, working with city government. It is a good way to keep community together, and we have the building, place, and the people. Initiatives of the local people are important, and some of them support our activities like driving participants for the exercise class. But outsiders like me are also useful, bringing new ideas and energy, and saying what locals cannot. There are still challenges, such as involving all local residents and raising money.

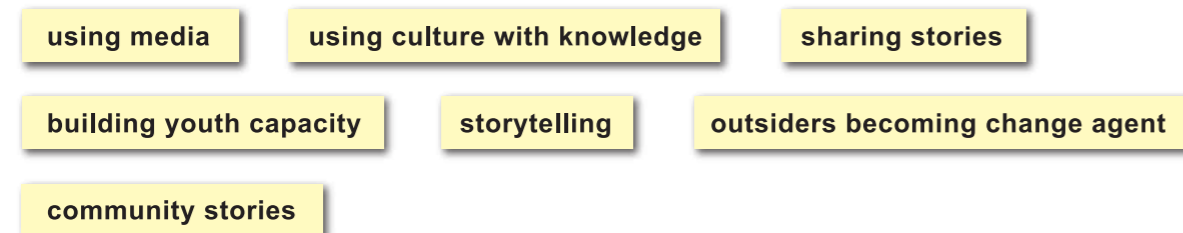
Discussion with the floor

NAGAHATA Makoto : Now please come front and put your cards for “Achievements”, “Challenges”, “Approaches”, “Unique” and “Commons”. Let me read out some keywords:

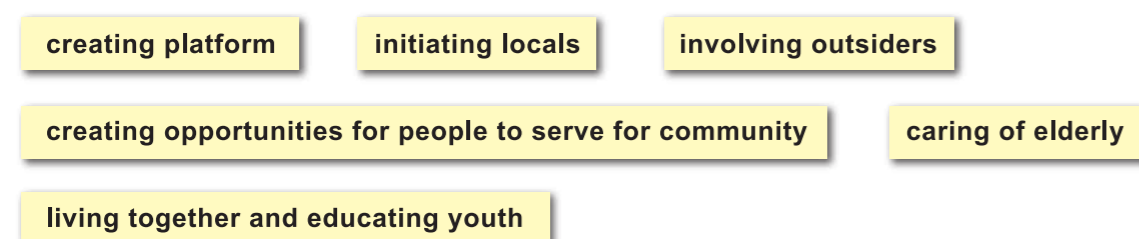
“Approach”



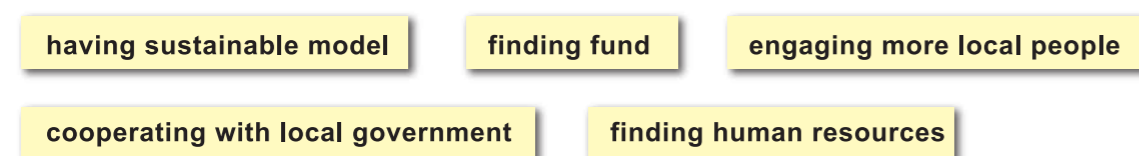
“Unique”



“Achievement”



“Challenges”



Regarding to the approaches we found out that involvement of both local people and outsiders as facilitator maybe are essential. Also it seems that there are common challenges. Now I want speakers to speak again about what they want to learn or share more with others.

TOMISAWA Taro : Movement from rural to urban areas is a global trend, and creating lots of challenges to community. Lots of traditional connections disappear, and people do not work with being paid. I am hoping to find what to do with this trend.

LEE Yong Gyu : I learned a lot from other presenters and felt that people is the key to change the society, in revitalizing local community. We welcome people to visit our place.

Yohanes GHEWA : I am touched hearing presentation from Japan, I did not think that such a modernized country is also facing the similar problem with developing country. Both Mr. Taro and Mr. Lee raised up ordinary people by doing positive things. Their stories are connected with my country case in Indonesia.



Plenary 3: Value of networking

Background

In this session, first two regional networks, Asia Philanthropy Circle (APC) and Asian Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) presented to share their vision, activities, and reflection on what values such networks can add to the nonprofit sectors in the region. Then by moderation of Ms. CHEN Yimei, China Development Brief, moderators from 6 Breakout sessions shared their session highlights and responded to the questions from the floor.

Moderator : Ms. CHEN Yimei, China Development Brief

Presentation 1 Dr. Mathias TERHEGGEN, Asia Philanthropy Circle

The Asia Philanthropy Circle: Enabling collaboration among Asia's private donors

Sharing what we have learnt from one-year APC experience. APC spoke to 400+ philanthropists and professionals in 21 countries. We now have 21 members, 8 events, and 6 collaborative projects. The lessons are to be focused, to share ownership and efforts with members, thus creating community and utilizing their capacity. Also emphasized that networking should go beyond just networking, to actual collaboration.



Presentation 2 Mr. Kevin TEO, Knowledge Centre, Asian Venture Philanthropy Network

Collaboration and capability development in the Asian philanthropy sector

AVPN has 250 members from 30 countries, which are mostly resource providers to social sector. Now focusing on 5 target areas, and we deliver best practices to member community in accessible formats.

AVPN's tools include case study creation, workshops, online portal, networking events, and annual AVPN conference, next in May 2016.



Panel discussion

Dr. LEE Wonjae (1-A Social enterprise / Social investment) : the key is people, to nurture social entrepreneurs. Need to map intermediaries supporting them. We also need to connect people who are close to grassroots.



Ms. Jenny HODGSON (1-B Community Foundations) : Community-based funds and philanthropies can connect different kinds of people for local development, with longer time span. Community philanthropy is still a lonely work in Asia, and people need to be connected, not only with USA and Asia, but with other parts of the world.

Ms. Marianne QUEBRAL (1-C Social fundraising) : 3 speakers shared that it is more about people before money. There are potential to network people, to exchange stories and comparing objective figures among countries.

Prof. ASATO Wako (2-A Aging Asia) : Aging is emerging and urgent issue in many Asian countries. Role of NPOs / communities to provide care services should be discussed with relationship between other stakeholders, which are government, family, and market. There are some things communities / NPOs can do better than formal / governmental service, such as supporting dementia patient living in the community.

Prof. MATSUURA Masahiro (2-B Environmental issues) : Environmental issues are various, and countries have different contexts. But there are similarities in lack of, or inadequate environmental governance, and the need for multi-party engagement with various stakeholders. Possible cross-country collaborations are to exchange data, raise voice, and give pressure together. Need to expand dialogues with other causes, not environmentalists only. Also need to map out existing organizations and networks in different levels, local, national and regional.

Prof. NAGAHATA Makoto (2-C Revitalizing local communities) : This phenomenon is not only for Japan but also for many countries in Asia, including rural communities in Indonesia. Similarities: building efforts based on what community has (culture, ideas, and people), with involvement of outsiders, including urban-rural connection. We need to learn from each other. Next time all of us may visit fields and discuss there.

Some questions and comments from the floor :

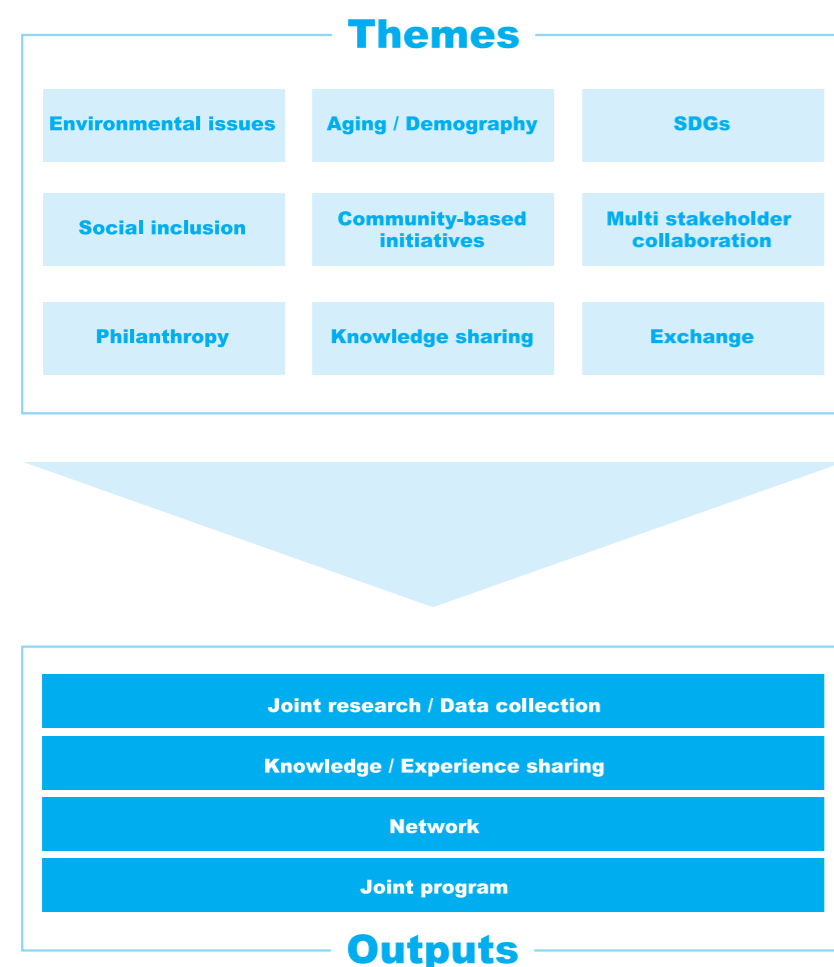
Need to have Asia Pacific network of intermediaries;

Warning to think networks only as a tool to bring short-term results, without appreciating the long-term value of having it to connect

Plenary 4: Exploring the areas for future cooperation

Background

In this final session, with co-facilitation of Mr. IMATA Katsuji (lead), Prof. MATSUURA Masahiro, and Mr. AOO Ken, participants discussed as groups based on their interests, and developed their idea cards and project ideas. Finally 9 groups presented their project ideas to the floor.



Group discussion results

Group 1 (SDGs)

Project name	ASIA Project
Goals	Accelerate achievement of SDGs in Asia
Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of SDGs priority per country • Awareness building of all stakeholders including general public • Secure commitment of various stakeholders including general public • Identify cross-border / regional issues for multi-country collaborations • Identify advocate / donors who can put this agenda together • Monitoring mechanism / tracking system with Asia • Youth involvement / capacity building • Identify, share, scale-up or replicate successful models of achieving SDG goals • Shared knowledge platform on progress across the region
Members	Suzanne Siskel, Benjamin D. Abadiano, Timotheus Lesmana Wanadjaja, Rafael Lopa, Linus Lee, Nagase Shinji, Maria Aurora Tolentino, Iwatsuki Yuka, Ito Hiroshi, Hoshino Tomoko
Contact	Timotheus Lesmana Wanadjaja



Group 2 (Aging)

Project name	Quality age care in Asia
Goals	Providing good quality of care to elderly population
Action items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stock-taking best practices 2. Capacity building of R&D, family and community members 3. Regional conference, multi-stakeholder dialogue 4. Model delegation of comprehensive integrated LTC, palliative end of life care for the elderly 5. Advocacy: evidence based policy advocacy (e.g. R&D) 6. Care innovation and participation of NGOs (e.g. CSOs, social enterprises)
Members	Vilayphone Choulamany, Yuan Ruijun, Viennarat Chuangwiwat, Chao Yan, Grace Huang, Suehiro Akira, Mino Yasuhisa, Chung Moosung, Kang Dae Sung, Asato Wako
Contact	Asato Wako, asatowako@gmail.com



Group 3 (Environmental issues)

Project name	GREEN ASIA (Growing Resilient, Environment Empowered Nations) in Asia
Goals	Encourage social and environmental best practices in Asia through a data / information sharing platform
Action items	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Sustainability Index</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">GREEN ASIA</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Green Financing</div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rank business • Localize existing indices • Establish a development and environmental data platform <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Building communities</div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax incentives • Priority access to green funds and corporate sponsorship, impact financing linked to environment indicators (SDG+) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business • Funding agencies • Local community • Regional community </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Institutional capacity building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy • Resilience • Institution building </div> </div>
Members	Sunit Shrestha (Change Fusion), Wu Haoliang (He Yi Institute), Myrna A. Safitri (Epistema Institute), Katsuji Suzuki (Japan Association of Charitable Organizations), Shenyu G. Belsky (Rockefeller Brothers Fund), Marianne Quebral (Oscar M. Lopez Center)
Contact	Myrna A. Safitri, myrna.safitri@epistema.or.id



Group 4 (Multi stakeholder collaboration)

Project name	Multi-stakeholder collaboration toolkit
Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Improve the quality of multi-stakeholder collaboration and collective learning 2.Promote the use of multi-stakeholder collaborations 3.Promote the tool for decision-making 4.Grow the visibility of ongoing efforts and past successes
Action items	<p>How we might do it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility assessment around toolkit creation • Identify funding sources • Select host / facilitator and executive committee • Start building <p>What it would look like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies (> Family? Academic partners?) • Directory of PPI in our network engaged in MSC • Qualified moderators and experts locally and internationally and their speciality • Identifying people who are well-connected • Website toolkit and workshop • Register your usage of the website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > contribute back content > increase visibility of efforts <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maybe one-size fits all doesn't work? • Specific training required using it? • Diversity of collaborations too wide? • Contextual relevance
Members	TBA
Contact	Kal Joffres, kal@tandemic.com



Group 5 (Community-based initiatives)

Project name	Community revitalization and empowerment through exchanges and learning in Asia
Goals	Community revitalized and empowered
Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish organizing committee • Exchange ideas and experiences among leaders • Comparative study • Training program to raise leadership • Share the best practice
Members	The Hope Institute, i-i-network, LIN Center, Korat Community Foundation, INCREASE, NVPC, Wandookong, ACC21
Contact	Youngest leader
Message	Find out own assets and take initiative!



Group 6 (Social Inclusion)

Project name	Fit in Nomad
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change society to enhance diversity • Make multi-ethnicity as advantages
Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-language education through NPOs / churches etc. • Cultural exchanges between cities / countries • Create social enterprises to have jobs for parents / children
Members	Lee Byungtae, Tsujinaka Yutaka, Kuroda Kaori, Le Quang Binh, Filip Graovac
Contact	Lee Wonjae
Message	Transform Disadvantages into advantages!



Group 7 (Exchange / Knowledge sharing)

Project name	Asian NPO exchange platform
Goals	“Building trust among organizations in this Exchange group”
Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue coordination among the interested organizations • Exchange of the steering committee members • Exchange of people, knowledge, and information
Members (Committee members)	Norman Joseph “Oman” Jiao (Association of Foundations, Philippines), Tsuchiya Kazuho (Japan NPO Center), Tananart Lorthong (ThaiHealth), Pham Kieu Oanh (CSIP), Chen Yimei (China Development Brief)
Contact	Norman Joseph “Oman” Jiao / Tsuchiya Kazuho oman@info.com.ph / ktsuchiya@jnpoc.ne.jp
Message	Start with quick wins, get to know what currently is available from countries/ committee members; have focal points; sharing on knowledge and information, and initiate collaboration activities



Group 8 (Philanthropy 1)

Project name	East Asia Philanthropy Platform
Goals	Focus Countries: ASEAN plus three (Korea, China, Japan)
Action items	<p>(Suggested members – National based agencies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Foundations (Philippines), Japan Foundation Center, China Foundation Center, China Development Brief, Thailand • Exchange and share knowledge on philanthropic best practices • Information clearing house -> collect data and comparative analysis • Thematic projects e.g. aging in Asia (facilitating function to convene theme based issues) • “Support group” for learning successes and failures • Capacity building for philanthropic organizational development • Minimum benchmarks for good standards of practice e.g. accountability, donor reporting, grantmaking
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia Philanthropy Association • Japan Alliance for Community Foundations • WINGS (Resource)
Contact	Tatsuaki Kobayashi / Joyce Teo tatsuaki.kobayashi@gmail.com / joyce@cf.org.sg
Message	Calling national agencies supporting philanthropy work to join and give comments. We need funding to get it off the ground too!



Group 9 (Philanthropy 2)

Project name	Leadership development for new philanthropists and philanthropy professionals
Goals	Make philanthropic organizations more effective
Action items	<p>Needs assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia Philanthropy Circle white paper on leadership needs of sector, and landscape evaluation of existing resources • Determining action plan and piloting leadership development
Members	Laurence Lien, China Foundation Center, Foundation Center, Ford Foundation Beijing Office, Tsinghua University Philanthropy Institute, Korea University Business School, Global Fund for Community Foundations
Contact	Laurence Lien



Comments from Ms. Suzanne SISKEL and Mr. Laurence LIEN

Ms. Suzanne SISKEL

We enjoyed working together, in such a group of doers, in a sense of commonality. I understand people having interests in exchange and sharing knowledge, using platforms especially digital ones to do it. Social inclusion group suggested a progressive idea. We were inspired and will go back with new friends.



Mr. Laurence LIEN

We enjoyed the successful gathering of people, and this needs to happen again. By that time, we hope something happens in the area of collaboration, trying some of the ideas developed here. We all need to put our resources – both money and time – to do small experiments. We can start something small and doable with a hope that we can build something much bigger.



Closing Remarks

Mr. ITO Hiroshi, The Toyota Foundation

Representing the organizer foundation, I appreciate the time and knowledge contribution of the participants from over 120 organizations with diversified background as shown in the ICANS Participant Network Chart. As Ms. Siskel mentioned in her keynote speech, these organizations exist for the betterment of our communities and societies albeit differences or uniqueness.



Having reviewed the two-day conference and discussions, Mr. Lien's remark that philanthropy need to be strategic because of its limited budget impressed me. In Plenary 4, nine groups developed ideas for future cooperation, and I wish some of them can be carried out in real life.

As the Toyota Foundation cannot be the sole grantor, I hope other grant giving foundations will do the same. Someday, there should be something like philanthropy meeting spots can be formed to discuss possible cooperation in Asia, like insurers gathered to underwrite risky business in the early days of the United Kingdom. Peter Drucker said it is difficult to evaluate the output of non-profit activities, but still I believe it is worthwhile to have this kind of networking opportunities like ICANS every a few years. This kind of international activities should not be monopolized by one country or one organization. We should take turns to hold another conference like this to be held in other part of Asia. The Toyota Foundation is open and willing to cooperate with such proposals.

We thank again to our partner organizations, speakers and moderators, and the team. Now the conference is adjourned.

Field visits

Field visit A: Sanya area

22 participants joined field visit to Sanya Area, at Taito ward, eastern part of Tokyo. The area used to be an area for day laborers who came from rural areas to stay. After 1990s the town became a place for elderly without family ties to stay with support from the government welfare systems and NPOs.

Two local NPOs Sanyukai and Cosmos who provide support to homeless people and elderly in the area gave presentations to the group about the history of the area and activities of two organizations. Then the group took a guided walk to visit inside the low-cost accommodation called Doya, support facilities, and assisted housing for the elderly in the area run by NPOs.



Field visit B: Saitama area

22 participants joined field visit to Ogawa-machi town at Saitama prefecture, 52 km away from Tokyo. The town is trying to build a network for sustainable and stable development.

In one day visit, the group visited local NPO Tsubasa Yuu, and Shimosato Farm, which is famous for organic farming using green energy such as biomass. Also they visited Beri café, a community café restaurant then toured local Sake (rice wine) brewery and Tofu (soy bean curd) factory to see practices of agriculture-commerce-industry collaborations.



Feedback from the participants

From the participant questionnaires (48 collected) during the conference, participants gave average of 8.2 / 10 points to the contents of the program.

And some of the comments were:

- Good diversity of participants, great opportunity to learn from peers from other countries.
- The conference covers diverse topics and issues from global to local perspectives.
- The contents were too diverse. Next conference should focus on some certain areas / specific topics (ecosystem issues, philanthropy, human resource issues in NPOs, social innovation, cross-sector collaboration, etc.).
- More attention on challenges and closing space for civil society, risk taking, what has not worked, and learnings and solutions should be given.
- Very good quality of presentations and facilitators, with good mix of scholars and practitioners.
- It is better if we can have the bios / documents / presentations shared.
- Time is so limited, not enough time to discuss and exchange experiences especially in the 90 minutes breakout sessions. We need another day!
- Sessions like plenary 4, where we can discuss and work as groups are welcomed.
- I wish I could attend other sessions as well (for breakout sessions).
- Most people enjoyed the coffee breaks and meals, as an opportunity to network with others and share stories.
- Conference venue / arrangement / organization are excellent.
- It would be better if everyone can stay in one venue / accommodation.
- The speakers / participants from South Asia and other regions should be considered.
- Follow-up from the organizer is appreciated.
- This kind of conference should be organized periodically.

Acknowledgements

Organizer

The Toyota Foundation



THE TOYOTA FOUNDATION

The Toyota Foundation was established in 1974 by the Toyota Motors Corporation, and is one of the major multi-purpose grant making foundations in Japan. The foundation also has a strong tradition of supporting nonprofit sectors development in Japan and other Asian countries.

National partners

The Japan Foundation Asia Center



The Japan Foundation is Japan's principal institution dedicated to carrying out comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world. The Asia Center, established in April 2014, is a specialized unit with the goal to connect people, expand networks, and develop cultural programs across Asia.

Japan Association for Charitable Organization



The Japan Association for Charitable Organization, established in 1972, is the largest umbrella body in the Public Interest Corporation sector of Japan. Its goal is to promote and support public benefit activities operated by PICs and development of third sector in Japan.

Japan NPO Center



Founded in 1996, Japan NPO Center acts as a national infrastructure organization for nonprofit sector in Japan. JNPOC aims to support the civic activities of Japanese civil society and the growth of its nonprofit sector.

Japan Foundation Center



The Japan Foundation Center was established in 1985 to facilitate and nurture development of grant making foundations in Japan. The Center also collect data and provide information to public use and enhance the social role of foundations.

Partners

The Asia Foundation



The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia. TAF programs address critical issues affecting Asia in the 21st century – governance and law, economic development, women’s empowerment, environment, and regional cooperation.

Asia Philanthropy Circle



Asia Philanthropy Circle is an exclusive membership platform fostering exchange, coordination and collaboration among Asian philanthropists. Through its members, it aims to “Advance a distinct Asian brand of philanthropy to accelerate the public good in Asia, by promoting and supporting leadership and collaboration for joint action”. Thus it will come to realize its vision of “A better Asia through Philanthropy”.

Narada Foundation



The Narada Foundation, founded on 11 May 2007, is a private foundation approved and supervised by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China, with a registered capital of RMB 100 million donated by the Shanghai Narada Group Co. Ltd. Narada Foundation focuses on social problems stemming from China’s economic transition and provides grants for outstanding philanthropic programs conducted by non-profit organizations so as to foster social innovation and promote social equality and harmony.

Rockefeller Brothers Fund



The Rockefeller Brothers Fund is a private, family foundation helping to advance social change that contributes to a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world. The Fund’s programs and grants are related to 3 global themes, Democratic Practice; Peacebuilding; and Sustainable Development and 3 pivotal places, New York City; Southern China; and Western Balkans among others.

Gratitude

The organizer is most grateful to the generous support from the Japan Foundation Asia Center and to all who contributed to make this event happen and to enrich it, either by contributing financial resources or personal networks, or giving inspirations and inputs to the draft plans and programs, including those who could not attend the conference.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to ICANS secretariat team and other supporters:

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