

AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services

# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT



# Foreword

As we present our annual report, we extend our deepest gratitude for your invaluable cooperation and support. With renewed commitment, our entire team, along with the people and stakeholders in the countries where we carry out our mission, is reflecting on how we can further enhance our efforts to support future activities.

In the fiscal year 2023, May marked the end of various infection control measures as COVID-19 was reclassified to Category 5, the lowest level under Japan's public health classification system. As a result, except for those still suffering from long-term effects, the adverse impact on socio-economic activities and public health has significantly diminished. However, the drastic measures imposed over nearly three years have resulted in side effects, one of which is global inflation, which has presented even greater challenges than the pandemic itself. The sharp rise in prices of essential goods such as food, daily necessities, and fuel has severely impacted the livelihoods of those who rely primarily on cash income and lack investment-based risk mitigation strategies. Furthermore, the crises are being worsened by the prolonged war in Russian-Ukraine.



The digital transformation (DX) that accelerated and spread during the COVID-19 pandemic, along with new technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), has created new opportunities in various fields. However, it is also important to recognize that, despite their significance, these advancements may inadvertently exacerbate inequalities, isolation, and issues such as the digital divide and economic disparities.

AMDA-MINDS is committed to operating projects that contribute to human and community development in regions with the poverty, particularly areas where administrative services are difficult to access, where many minority groups with different languages, cultures, and customs reside, and where the global adverse impacts mentioned earlier are most concerning. Under the theme of "Today's Family Life with Hope for a Better Tomorrow," we focus on identifying development needs on the ground, assessing our own capacity to provide support in these areas, and further enhancing our activities. Through this, we aim to play a part in Japan's international contributions and, as one of civil society organizations, continue to work towards "People-to-People Cooperation."

We focus on supporting the health and medical sectors while addressing the diverse needs of the target regions through integrated community development efforts, including the supports to livelihood improvement, small-scale infrastructure, and economic development. For example, in El Paraíso Department, Honduras, we are promoting home gardening, improving school facilities, and installing water tanks; in the Atsimondrano District of Madagascar, we are supporting home gardening and poultry farming; in Meiktila Township, Myanmar, we are managing the microfinance institution; in Mongyai Township, Myanmar, we are working on the installation of water supply facilities; in Kailali District, Nepal, we are building health facilities; and in Gorkha District, Nepal, we are supporting improvements in coffee cultivation techniques. These activities play a crucial role in maximizing impact, where collective efforts yield results greater than the sum of their parts—turning "1 plus 1 equals 3."—and reflect our commitment to providing multisectoral and integrated development services, as stated in our organization's name, AMDA Multisectoral & Integrated Development Services. These projects are funded not only by Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA), but also by the support of private companies, various organizations, and the generous individual donors.

As a responsible organization, we are committed not only to achieving project outcomes but also to fulfilling our accountability regarding the results. While we continue to face challenging circumstances, such as the depreciation of the yen and a shortage of human resources, we sincerely ask for your continued support to further strengthen our role in Japan's international contributions and "People-to-People Cooperation".

Shunsuke SUZUKI, Managing Director,

# Highlights of our Programs 2023

## 1. Reducing Health Disparities

Health disparities are a global challenge that disproportionately affect vulnerable people, particularly in remote and low-income areas. Healthcare access inequalities are responsible for preventable diseases and deaths, undermining overall well-being and development. AMDA-MINDS, we are committed to working towards a future where everyone, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to live a healthy life.

### Promoting Health Seeking Behavior Myanmar



▲ Explaining how to use a ceramic water filter

In areas with a high population of ethnic minorities, we are working to improve maternal and child health and sanitation. Our efforts include providing health education, conducting nutritious cooking workshops, promoting fly-proof latrines, and installing ceramic water filters.

### Bridging Health Gaps for Remote Communities Nepal



▲ Raising awareness about safe pregnancy

With the goal of ensuring the safe birth of as many lives as possible in regions with extremely limited access to healthcare facilities, we have been working to establish birth centers, promote ultrasound screenings for identifying high-risk pregnancies, and conduct awareness-raising activities for local communities.

## 2. Addressing Malnutrition and Food Insecurity

Malnutrition and food insecurity remain serious threats to vulnerable people. Millions, including young children, suffer from chronic malnutrition, leading to severe health risks and hindering sustainable development. AMDA-MINDS addresses these challenges by promoting sustainable food production, enhancing nutrition education, and improving access to diverse diets through collaboration with local and international partners.

### Combating Malnutrition in Children under 5 Madagascar



▲ Farmers receiving home gardening kits

In areas with a high prevalence of stunting among children under five, we are working to develop local capacity for nutrition education, promote home gardening, construct hygienic latrines, and broadcast nutrition awareness programs via radio.

### Sowing Food Security in Homes and Schools Honduras



▲ Children harvesting vegetables in the school garden

To ensure that local communities have access to a diverse diet, we provide training on cultivating vegetables and fruits that can thrive in dry conditions using environmentally friendly farming methods in home and school gardens.



### 3. Promoting Women's Health and Well-being

Women's health is a fundamental human right and vital for sustainable development. Yet, many lack essential healthcare, leading to preventable deaths and long-term issues. AMDA-MINDS improves women's health by strengthening healthcare systems, raising awareness, and expanding access to quality care. We strive to create a future where every woman leads a healthy, dignified life.

#### Protecting Women's Health with Screenings Nepal



▲ Breast cancer screening through palpation

In order to ensure that local residents have access to breast and cervical cancer screenings at public health clinics, we provide training for clinic staff on screening techniques, supply essential medical equipment, and conduct awareness campaigns to emphasize the importance of cancer screenings.

#### Continuum of Care for Safe Motherhood Honduras



▲ Explaining the contents of the maternal and child health handbook

To reduce maternal and neonatal mortality, we provide medical equipment to public health facilities, strengthen the competency of health personnel, and conduct awareness-raising activities for local residents. Additionally, we promote the use of maternal and child health handbooks to ensure continuous care.

### 4. Ensuring Quality Education & Healthcare for Every Child

Ensuring access to quality education and healthcare is essential for every child's development and well-being. Unfortunately, millions of children around the world face barriers to these basic rights, leading to long-term consequences. AMDA-MINDS works to address these challenges by improving school infrastructure, providing healthcare resources, and promoting hygiene practices.

#### Creating Safe, Effective Learning Environments Honduras



▲ Children learning in a well-equipped classroom

We support the enhancement of children's learning environments by renovating aging school facilities, including roofs, floors, and walls, to create a safer educational setting. In addition, we promote better hygiene practices by installing handwashing stations for students.

#### Supporting the Only Children's Hospital Sierra Leone



▲ Medical staff providing treatment and care

At the nation's only pediatric hospital, we support its operations by providing essential medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, and diagnostic reagents for pediatric care. We also assist in repairing electrical systems and water supply infrastructure.

## 5. Fostering Economic and Social Empowerment

Economic and social empowerment is crucial for individuals and communities to overcome poverty and achieve sustainable development. Many vulnerable people still face systemic barriers to opportunities and resources, hindering their potential. AMDA-MINDS empowers individuals by providing skills training, promoting entrepreneurship, and fostering inclusive economic growth.

### Microfinance for Women's Empowerment Myanmar



▲ A woman who started sewing business with a loan

AMDA-MINDS provides microfinance and financial education services to women from impoverished communities who lack access to urban financial services. These efforts contribute to improving their livelihoods by reducing dependency on unstable and limited incomes.

### Boosting Nutrition with Poultry Farming Madagascar



▲ A smiling woman receiving chickens.

We are working to improve the nutrition of households with children under five suffering from stunting by promoting protein intake through poultry farming. This includes providing technical guidance on poultry farming, supplying necessary materials, and offering regular monitoring.

## 6. Empowering Communities for Environmental Action

Environmental sustainability is an urgent global challenge that impacts the health and well-being of communities worldwide. AMDA-MINDS is committed to empowering local communities to take proactive environmental actions. By providing the necessary tools, knowledge, and support, our projects strengthen their capacity to manage resources effectively, ultimately contributing to a healthier and more sustainable future for all.

### Building a Green Future Honduras



▲ Distributed saplings and beneficiaries

AMDA-MINDS is promoting sustainable agriculture and harmonious coexistence with nature through activities such as tree planting, establishing nurseries, and setting up enclosures around water sources to prevent wildlife damage.

### Advancing Agroforestry and Forest Conservation Nepal



▲ Monitoring the growth status after tree planting

We have worked to restore biodiversity-rich forests and promote sustainable community development through knowledge dissemination on climate-smart agricultural production, environmental impacts, and forest conservation, as well as activities like tree planting and installing small-scale water reservoirs.



## 7. Activities in Japan

In Japan, we have actively shared updates on its activities, achievements, and voices of beneficiaries and staff from around the world through lectures, exhibitions at events, and various communication channels such as its website and social media. Additionally, to ensure the continuity and further enhancement of its initiatives, AMDA-MINDS has been working to expand its network of supporters and strengthen collaborations with companies and organizations.



A booth to showcase our collaborative activities in Nepal through panels at the 'COOP Festa' hosted by our partner the Okayama Coop.



A talk event titled "Providing Cancer Screening Opportunities for Women in Nepal" held in collaboration with our partner the Daiichi Sankyo Co., Ltd.

## Corporate Collaboration Case Study



### Partnering for Impact: Donation Menus for AMDA-MINDS ~BOTEJYU Group

BOTEJYU Holdings, the operator of the long-established okonomiyaki specialty restaurant 'Botejyu®', donates a portion of the sales from its 'Special International Cooperation Support Menu' to AMDA-MINDS. The funds support AMDA-MINDS' initiatives, particularly in poverty reduction, improving maternal and child nutrition and healthcare services, and promoting access to education.

## Staff Voice



### Your support changes Malagasy communities ~Andréas RANJALAHY, Admin and Finance Officer, Madagascar Office

I am in charge of administrative tasks, but I also have the opportunity to visit the project sites and witness the activities within the communities. It is truly impactful to see the vegetables growing in the gardens of those who received the home gardening kits, and eventually making it to their tables. I can assure you that your generous contributions are being utilized in a visible and meaningful way.

# Our Projects

Myanmar	Location	Relevant SDGs
Livelihood Improvement Program in Meiktila Township	Meiktila District	1, 4, 5
Maternal and child health improvement project in mountainous area of Mongyai Township in northern Shan State	Lashio District	2, 3, 6
Nepal		
Project for Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Camp	Kathmandu District	3, 5
Project for Revitalizing Market Oriented Coffee Production in 2 Rural Municipalities of Gorkha District	Gorkha District	1, 2, 5, 10
Project for Improving Health Seeking Behaviors of Mothers and Children (HSBMC) Chure Rural Municipality, Kailali	Kailali District	3, 5, 10
Project for Empowering the Smallholder farmers' Actions (PESHA)	Gorkha District	1, 2, 5, 10
Honduras		
Project for Strengthening Maternal care in San Lucas and San Antonio de Flores Municipalities	San Lucas and San Antonio de Flores Municipalities	3, 5
Promotion of breast and cervical cancer prevention through early detection and treatment in Honduras	El Paraiso Department	3, 5
Project for establishing safe learning enviromnet for children in Honduras	San Lucas Municipality	4
Project for improvement of oral health in San Lucas Municipality	San Lucas Municipality	3
Project for promotion of home gardening and tree planting to conserve environment and improve nutrition	El Paraiso Department	2, 5, 6, 15
The Project for the Strengthening of Health Service Delivery of Integrated Health Service Network (RISS)	Francisco Morazan and El Paraiso Departments	3
Project for Strengthening a Continuum of Care for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health in Municipalities of Reitoca and Curarén	Reitoca and Curarén Municipalities	3, 5
Madagascar		
Project for Improvement of Nutrition among Under-5 Children in Atsimondrano District	Atsimondrano District	2, 3, 6
Sierra Leone		
Project for support Ola During Children's Hospital	Freetown	3

※The above-mentioned projects have been implemented during the fiscal year 2023 (April 2023 - March 2024).

## SDGs

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, are 17 goals adopted by the United Nations (UN) in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for all people by 2030.





amdamins 

AMDAMINDS(AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services)

**Address** | c/o Okayama Sen' i Kaikan, 4-5 Banzancho,  
Kita-ku, Okayama City, 700-0818, JAPAN  
**Phone** | +81-86-232-8815

**Fax** | +81-86-232-7668  
**E-mail** | [contact@amda-minds.org](mailto:contact@amda-minds.org)  
**WEB** | <https://www.amda-minds.org/english>

