

President's Message



This annual report covers a period that is particularly meaningful for JCIE and one that inspires me to reflect upon all of the support and encouragement we have received over the years from friends around the world.

One reason is that we celebrated our 40th anniversary in 2010, a remarkable milestone for a civil society organization dedicated to operating in a truly independent manner in a country that has had a limited history of such institutions and where the underpinnings of the nonprofit sector remain weaker than they should be. In 1962, after I returned from studying overseas in Wisconsin, one of the rising stars in Japan's business community, Tokusaburo Kosaka, brought me on to work in his office on a variety of international exchange initiatives, mainly to enhance US-Japan relations. I am deeply indebted to him for this, but after he entered politics in 1970, I felt that I had to become independent and create a full-fledged civil society organization in order to be effective in pursuing the ambitious goal of contributing to Japan's relations with the rest of the world. That year I decided to jump from the cliff, as it were, and leave Mr. Kosaka so that I could build this independent institution, which was very much a rarity in Japan. When I look back now, I am equally amazed at my audacity and at the trust that friends in Japan and overseas placed in me when they started to support this fledgling organization that we named the Japan Center for International Exchange. It is a testament to their faith and the hard work of my many colleagues over the years that JCIE has managed to grow into what it is today.

One of the most important initiatives that I helped launch while under Mr. Kosaka was the Shimoda Conference series, which we started in 1967 as the first high-level policy dialogue on US-Japan relations. This led to the creation of the US-Japan Parliamentary Exchange and eventually to the very establishment of JCIE. Therefore, it was particularly significant that we could convene the New Shimoda Conference in February 2011 with the participation of six US Congressional members, a dozen Diet members, and leaders from the policy, business, and governmental communities in our two countries. This came at an important time in US-Japan relations, when concerns had risen about the sense of drift in the bilateral relationship, and the success of this meeting not only reconfirmed the importance of this critical alliance, but also helped identify what these two countries should be doing to help build a more stable Asia and stronger global community. The nature of the discussions about shared challenges and the easy rapport that the Japanese and American leaders present had with one another showed just how far we have progressed in the past four decades.

A mere three weeks after the Shimoda Conference, on March 11, Japan was struck by an unthinkable disaster—the massive earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis that has taken such a toll on our nation. I am proud that JCIE has been able to contribute to the response, drawing upon its expertise in a wide range of areas to advise overseas responders and help introduce them to Japanese partners, serve as a bridge between the Japanese nonprofit sector and those overseas who wish to help, and channel millions of dollars in charitable donations from overseas to Japanese nonprofits engaged in relief and recovery activities. In these efforts, we have benefited from the generosity of spirit of old and new friends from Australia, China, Europe, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, the United States, and many other places. It is at times like these when one truly learns how important friends are.

It is a strange coincidence, but on March 11—hours before the disaster struck—JCIE also received final approval of its application to reorganize as a new type of nonprofit organization, a *koeki zaidan hojin* or public interest incorporated foundation, as mandated by the nationwide overhaul of the legal framework for Japan's nonprofit sector. This made JCIE one of the first organizations in the field of international affairs to complete this transition. In a sense, this serves as a capstone to JCIE's first 40 years, while strengthening its foundations so it can play a dynamic role in the international community in the next 40 years.

Meanwhile, the JCIE tradition of spanning diverse sectors of society and drawing together leaders from different walks of life that has proven so important in the disaster response has also been manifesting itself in our other programs. While we have long operated three core pillars of activities—our political exchange programs, “Global ThinkNet” policy studies, and “CivilNet” efforts to strengthen civil society's contributions—the challenges that we face in the international community increasingly require more comprehensive, cross-sectoral approaches. These growing needs have given rise to a new set of JCIE activities that deal with thematic issues such as global health, human security, and so on, and which draw upon and integrate the ties with political leaders, the policy community, civil society, and the other networks that have been built up through our three pillars of activities. These crosscutting activities have come to comprise a significant part of our overall activities, so we have begun to cluster them in a new programmatic category that we call “Human Security and Global Cooperation.”

Looking back over the past four decades, the way in which JCIE's diverse activities have converged seems a natural evolution and one that I feel makes JCIE's work even more relevant and meaningful for the challenges that face Japan and the international community in the decades to come. In tackling these challenges, I feel it is even more important to be able to

rely on the steadfast support and partnership of the many friends inside of Japan, throughout Asia, and around the globe who have enabled JCIE to survive and prosper, from our improbable start using a small two-bedroom Tokyo apartment as our office to the current day. So, it is with a deep sense of gratitude and humility that I ask for your continued guidance and support in the years ahead.

Tadashi Yamamoto
President

40 Years of JCIE

1964

1st Japanese School Teachers' Study Tour to the United States under the Japanese-American Teachers Exchange Program

1967

Inaugural Shimoda Conference, the first regular private dialogue between senior Japanese and American leaders, organized by JCIE's predecessor, the Japan Council for International Understanding



Tokusaburo Kosaka welcoming US Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield at the first Shimoda Conference in Tokyo (1967)

1968

1st US-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program Congressional Delegation to Japan

1970

Establishment of the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)



2nd US Congressional delegation to Japan, including Edmund Muskie, Mo Udall, Hugh Scott, Donald Rumsfeld, and Howard Baker (1969)

1973

Launch of the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)/JCIE US-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

Official incorporation of JCIE

Trilateral Commission Inaugural Tokyo Plenary Meeting



Inaugural meeting of the Trilateral Commission in Tokyo (1973)



Vice President Gerald Ford meets with the first Japanese Diet Delegation to the United States (1974)

1975

Founding of JCIE/USA, JCIE's North American affiliate



Governor Jimmy Carter (center) breaks from the US presidential campaign to meet participants in the US-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange (1976)

1979

Establishment of the Japan–United States Economic Relations Group (1st US-Japan Wisemen's Group) with JCIE serving as Japan secretariat

Establishment of the Asian Community Trust, Japan's first fundraising-style charitable trust



Henry Kissinger meets with a Japan Socialist Party delegation to the United States as part of the US-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program (1984)

1982

Launch of the US Congressional Staff Exchange Program in Japan

1983

1st Joint Meeting of United States–Japan Advisory Commission (2nd US-Japan Wisemen's Group)

Highlights and Accomplishments

- More than 1,000 political leaders have traveled on JCIE's US-Japan and Australia-Japan exchanges.
- Its policy studies are credited with helping make human security one pillar of Japan's foreign policy.
- Its programs to facilitate grantmaking in Japan for overseas organizations—such as Tiffany & Co. and Microsoft—have collected and distributed nearly US\$6 million to more than 250 innovative non-profits, including those responding to Japan's 3/11 earthquake and tsunami disaster.
- JCIE is widely recognized as playing a key role in laying the groundwork for the passage of Japan's historic 1998 NPO Law.
- Since the 2004 launch of the Friends of the Global Fund, Japan, the Japanese government has almost tripled its annual contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.



Rt. Hon. David Howell MP addresses the UK-Japan 2000 Group (1995)

1985

1st Meeting of the UK-Japan 2000 Group, jointly established by the prime ministers of Japan and the United Kingdom (now the UK-Japan 21st Century Group)

1988

Launch of the Korea-Japan 21st Century Committee

Groundbreaking study mission on “Good Corporate Citizenship in the United States” co-organized by Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organizations)



Former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori opens a conference on the Human Security Challenges of HIV/AIDS and other Communicable Diseases in Asia (2004)

1991

Launch of the Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

1993

1st Japan-US Women Leaders Dialogue co-organized with the Institute of International Education

1st Japanese-German Forum, jointly established by the chancellor and prime minister

1st Korea-Japan Forum, jointly established by the president and prime minister



Roundtable with U2's Bono on World AIDS Day for JCIE's Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (FGFJ), initiative (2006)

1994

Establishment of the Asia Pacific Agenda Project, a multinational consortium of policy research organizations and academic institutions, with JCIE as the secretariat

1997

Establishment of the Levi Strauss Foundation Donor Advised Fund, one of Japan's first donor advised funds

1998

Launch of the Intellectual Dialogue on Building Asia's Tomorrow



FGFJ Diet Task Force visit to African communities ravaged by AIDS (2006)

2000

JCIE serves as secretariat for the Prime Minister's Commission on Japan's Goals in the 21st Century

2002

Launch of the "Role of Philanthropy in Postwar US-Japan Relations" study

2004

Establishment of the Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (FGFJ), to support the fight against communicable diseases

2006

Launch of the *East Asia Insights* policy brief series



17th Japanese-German Forum participants with Chancellor Angela Merkel (2008)

2007

Establishment of the International Working Group on Challenges in Global Health

2008

Establishment of the Tiffany Foundation Award for the Preservation of Japanese Traditional Arts and Culture in Contemporary Society

2011

JCIE raises US\$3.5 million to support Japanese organizations responding to the 3/11 disaster



Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara speaks at the New Shimoda Conference in Tokyo (2011)

JCIE Activities:

April 2009–March 2011

2009

April 17	Africa Seminar on Global Action for Health System Strengthening [Nairobi] Co-sponsored by the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF)
April 18	Strategic Planning Workshop on Creating a Joint Learning Process to Save Lives and Promote Human Security [Nairobi] Co-sponsored by AMREF
April 24	Diet Roundtable with Henry Kissinger [Tokyo]
April 25–26	40th Annual Plenary Meeting of the Trilateral Commission [Tokyo]
April 27	Roundtable on the Role of China in East Asia Community Building [Tokyo] Co-sponsored by the Shibusawa Ei'ichi Memorial Foundation
May 16–21	2009 Jefferson Fellowship Program: The Impact of the Financial Crisis in Asia Co-sponsored by the East-West Center
June 23	FGFJ Seminar on Working for an International Organization in Public-Private Partnership [Tokyo]
June 26	2nd Tiffany Foundation Award Ceremony [Tokyo]
July 14	Roundtable on Human Resource Development and the Future of Africa [Tokyo]
July 31–August 7	2009 Toshiba Youth Conference for a Sustainable Future [Yokohama and Kamogawa]
September 23	Washington Visit Program for Minister of Internal Affairs Kazuhiro Haraguchi [Washington DC]
October 7	Seminar and Roundtable on US-Japan Cooperation on Global Health [Tokyo]
October 14	Roundtable on the Future of the North Korea Question and Prospects for Regional Security Co-sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations
October 15	Roundtable on US-Japan Cooperation on Health in the Trilateral Context of the China- US-Japan Relationship [Tokyo]
October 22	Roundtable on the Role of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Multisectoral Partnership [Tokyo]
October 23	Launch of the 3rd Azabu Tanaka Juku Seminar Series for Emerging Leaders [Tokyo]
November 4	Korea-Japan Forum for International Cooperation [Tokyo] Co-sponsored by the Seoul Forum for International Affairs
November 5–6	18th Japanese-German Forum [Tokyo]
November 7–20	US-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program, 26th US Delegation to Japan [Tokyo, Kanagawa, Hyogo, and Kyoto]
November 27–29	Trilateral Commission Pacific Asia Regional Meeting [Seoul]
November 29–30	15th APAP Forum: The Impact of Changing US Policy on the Emerging East Asia Community [Seoul]

December 6–8 17th Korea-Japan Forum [Seoul]
 December 9 Roundtable on US-Japan Collaboration on Global Health [Tokyo]

2010

January 18–19 Workshop on Strengthening Nongovernmental Contributions to Regional Security Cooperation [Tokyo]
 February 9 FGFJ Seminar: Japan Consultation on Joint Health System Strengthening [Tokyo]
 February 13–21 21st US Congressional Staff Exchange Program [Tokyo and Kanagawa]
 February 18–19 *Lancet*-Japan Series Odawara Workshop [Odawara]
 February 20–
 March 5 US-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program—22nd Japanese Delegation to the United States [Washington DC, Maryland, and Hawaii]
 February 26 Public Seminar on Okinawa, Toyako, and Beyond: Progress on Health and Development [Tokyo]
 February 27–
 March 5 Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program—19th Delegation to Japan [Tokyo, Kyoto, and Nagoya]
 March 18–21 26th UK-Japan 21st Century Group [London and Hampshire]
 March 27–28 APAP Workshop on the Impact of Changing US Policy on the Emerging East Asia Community [Honolulu]
 April 14 Capitol Hill 40th Anniversary Reception [Washington DC]
 May 7–9 41st Annual Plenary Meeting of the Trilateral Commission [Dublin]
 May 14 Seminar and Roundtable on Health and Human Security [New York]
 June 29 3rd Tiffany Foundation Award Ceremony [Tokyo]
 July 27 FGFJ Conference on Challenges in Global Health: New Opportunities for the Private Sector [Tokyo]
 July 31–August 6 2010 Toshiba Youth Conference for a Sustainable Future [Tokyo and Kamogawa]
 August 3–4 Workshop and Roundtable on Strengthening Nongovernmental Contributions to Regional Security Cooperation [Jakarta] | Co-sponsored by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta
 August 19 Seminar on Toward Community Revitalization: New Possibilities for Traditional Culture [Tokyo]
 September 1 International Symposium on Universal Coverage in the 21st Century: Redefining Japan's Health System [Tokyo]
 September 3 Access to Life Launch Event with Prime Minister Naoto Kan [Tokyo]
 September 5–22 Access to Life Photography Exhibition [Tokyo]
 September 25–
 October 8 US-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program—27th US Delegation to Japan [Tokyo, Yamagata, Aichi, and Kyoto]
 September 29 Lecture on Global Governance and Human Security [Tokyo]
 October 3–5 18th Korea-Japan Forum [Tokyo]
 October 5–6 Next Generation Seminar [Tokyo] | Co-sponsored by the East-West Center

- October 21–24 27th UK-Japan 21st Century Group [Tokyo and Karuizawa]
- November 11–13 19th Japanese-German Forum [Berlin]
- November 16 Seminar on Reinvigorating US-Japan Policy Dialogue and Discussion [Tokyo]
- November 16 Seminar on Managing China-Japan-US Relations and Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation [Tokyo]
- December 10–12 Trilateral Commission Pacific Asia Regional Meeting [Tokyo]

2011

- January 21 Launch of the 4th Azabu Tanaka Juku Seminar Series for Emerging Leaders [Tokyo]
- February 1 Roundtable on the United States, Japan, and North Korea: An Insider’s View [Washington DC] | Co-sponsored by the United States Association of Former Members of Congress
- February 20–24 US-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program—28th US Congressional Delegation to Japan [Tokyo]
- February 22 New Shimoda Conference: Revitalizing Japan-US Strategic Partnership for a Changing World [Tokyo]
- February 22–23 New Shimoda Emerging Leaders Program | Co-sponsored by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership
- March 5–12 Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program—20th Delegation to Japan [Tokyo, Kobe, and Kyoto]
- March 14 Launch of Japan NGO Earthquake Relief and Recovery Fund