

2021 Business Report

Specified NPO Human Rights Now

1 Business results

In 2021, we continued to investigate and advocate for the human rights situations in the Asian region, including in Burma (Myanmar), Thailand, Cambodia, and China (human rights activists, violations of freedom of expression, business and human rights, and women and children's human rights), and we provided support for the restoration of democratic politics after the military coup in Myanmar. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, it will not be easy to provide local educational support, but we are making preparations.

We continued our advocacy at the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council in New York and the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, and we continued to engage in global campaigns on issues such as women's rights, conflict, weapons and human rights, and the ICC.

In Japan, we collaborated with other organizations and lobbied the Ministry of Justice's Criminal Law Review Committee and Legislative Review Council to revise the criminal law in line with the actual situation of victims. In addition, with an eye on lowering the age of majority, we continued our advocacy efforts to resolve the issue of people being forced to appear in pornographic videos. In addition, we conducted follow-up on fact-finding on human rights issues related to China's Hong Kong and Uyghur regions and the military coup in Myanmar, and for business and human rights, we engaged with companies by industry and encouraged ESG investment. In addition, we worked on domestic human rights issues such as freedom of speech and expression and the rights of foreigners, and we continued to provide legal consultation to areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

2 Matters related to business implementation

(1) Business related to specified non-profit activities

(Total project cost [23,960] thousand yen)

Business name stated in articles of incorporation	Business content	Date	Place	# of staff	Beneficiary range	# of beneficiaries	Expenses (1000 yen)
International support project	<p><Human Rights Violations Fact Investigation and Publication Project></p> <p>We have continued to conduct fact-finding, collect information and publish reports on the human rights situation in Asian regions such as Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, China, and Hong Kong, where human rights situations are a concern, and to make recommendations to government agencies, the United Nations, etc. We also conducted lobbying activities, etc.</p> <p>With regard to China, where the human rights situation has worsened in recent years, we submitted a report to the United Nations regarding the crackdown on democracy movements in Hong Kong, we started weekly meetings and carried out a film event on large-scale attacks on the Uyghur people and we held an online event about human rights violations.</p>	All year	Japan, Myanmar, China, etc. New York, Geneva	50	Citizens generally in Myanmar, China, Cambodia, Thailand, etc.	Countless	1,727

	<p>In addition, in response to the military coup in Myanmar in February 2021, we released a statement together with other organizations condemning serious human rights violations against peaceful civilians and calling for the restoration of democratic rule. Together with Myanmar organizations living in Japan, we submitted an open letter of inquiry to the government and held a meeting based on the responses last year on continuing human rights violations against civil society being committed, and the group submitted a statement criticizing the oppression of opposition parties and civil society.</p> <p>We also continued local information gathering, networking, and research related to business and human rights.</p>						
Inter-national support project	<p><Women's Human Rights Project></p> <p>In order to revise the criminal law in line with the actual situation of victims, we monitored the activities of the Ministry of Justice's "Criminal Law Review Committee on Sexual Crimes" and "Legislative Council" and conducted advocacy activities. In cooperation with other organizations, we sent requests and proposals to the government and political parties, and also strengthened activities to deepen the media's understanding and interest in criminal law reform through press lectures and press conferences. In addition, online events with timely themes such as digital sexual violence and sexual consent were also successfully held. In addition, we conducted a number of lobbying activities, including official meetings, in order to request legislation to address the issue of forcing people to appear in pornographic videos, which was a concern due to the lowering of the age of majority in April 2022.</p> <p>Furthermore, in the wake of the incident in which a Sri Lankan woman, Wishma Sandamali, lost her life in a detention facility run by the Nagoya Immigration Bureau, we appealed for improvements for the government to make efforts to ensure thorough protection and countermeasures</p>	All year	Japan, New York	35	Women generally in Japan, Asia, Middle East, etc.,	Countless	2,910

	<p>for foreign domestic violence victims through statements and press conferences.</p> <p>Also, in New York, we held an online event on the empowerment of women in global supply chains, in line with the theme of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March.</p>						
Inter-national support project	<p><Children's Human Rights Project></p> <p>Based on Title Nine of the U.S. Education Reform Act, we made policy recommendations and held events calling for the promotion of gender equality and the prohibition of gender discrimination in Japanese educational institutions. We also continued to monitor violations of children's rights overseas, including in Myanmar and Iraq.</p>	All year	Japan, etc.	30	Children in Japan, Myanmar, Iraq, etc.	Countless	1,778
Inter-national support project	<p><Overseas Human Rights Education Project></p> <p>In the past, we conducted human rights education in Myanmar for lawyers, students, etc. in collaboration with the Yangon Bar Association, but this year as well as last year, due to the impact of Coronavirus, instructors were unable to travel. Although it was difficult, we considered the possibility of implementing this at refugee camps near the border and we created a network. However, in the wake of the coup on 1 February 2021, we held multiple official meetings and press conferences, and in December we had a guest speaker from the Kachin ethnic group give a report delivered to society at the World Human Rights Day event.</p>	All year	Japan, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, China, etc.	25	Civil society, Lawyers, students in Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, China	About 100 people directly. The ripple effects are countless	2,701

<p>Research, research proposals, and dissemination projects for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	<p><Human Rights Policy Recommendation Project></p> <p>We provided policy recommendations and advocacy to improve the human rights situation in Japan in accordance with international standards and various United Nations recommendations, and we contributed to diplomatic and aid policies. We continued to make policy recommendations on mainstream human rights.</p> <p>In addition to continuing legal consultation in disaster-stricken areas, we have prepared and published a statement clarifying issues such as arbitrary detention from the perspective of international human rights standards regarding the “recommendations” from the expert committee for amending the Immigration Act.</p> <p>Regarding human rights issues related to business, we will continue to encourage the Japanese government, companies, and investors to comply with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.</p> <p>We encouraged people to respect and protect human rights and strengthened dialogue. In response to the formulation of the National Action Plan in Japan, we aim to legislate human rights due diligence in Japan in order to request further efforts to realize the purpose of the Guiding Principles as soon as possible.</p> <p>Preparations were made to publish the proposal. At the “ILO Parliamentary League for Activities Promotion 2022 First Study Session”, we also gave a lecture on responses to due diligence to members of the House of Representatives from each party, related ministries and agencies, the ILO Japan office, and the Japan Business Federation. In addition, we held a webinar on the proposal and its publication, on which the government has been active, and we conducted advocacy</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Japan</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Citizens in Japan, Asian countries, etc.</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>10,438</p>
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	<p>activities such as calling for information accessibility to be added to public procurement requirements in order to ensure the accessibility of information on products in the market, and proposing a relief system for small and medium-sized enterprises.</p> <p>From a fact-finding perspective, we have summarized and published the results of a survey of fishing industry-related companies conducted in response to the issue of human rights violations against Indonesian workers on a Chinese fishing vessel. At the same time, we made proposals to affiliated companies and the government to track and disclose their suppliers, and to improve domestic laws, and we held a press conference.</p> <p>Regarding the Y Complex development in Myanmar, a joint statement has been issued to investors and Japanese companies stating that the development may violate US sanctions. As for awareness-raising activities, we have held regular webinars and for the first time, we have held a one-month intensive course series called "Business and Human Rights Academy." Other Business and Human Rights events were held through the private platform, and we planned an event to look back on the past 10 years since the adoption of the Guiding Principles that attracted 480 people.</p>						
<p>Research, research proposals, and dissemination projects for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	<p><United Nations/International Human Rights Standards Research/Advocacy Project></p> <p>We participated in meetings of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, participated in discussions on human rights issues in Asia and other regions, and carried out our own activities in providing information, making policy recommendations, and advocacy. In New York, in collaboration with other</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Tokyo, New York, Geneva, etc.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>Japanese citizens in general</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>2,590</p>

	organizations, we promoted advocacy activities at the United Nations General Assembly, Security Council, and other forums on global issues such as humanitarian disarmament and responses to humanitarian crisis situations.						
Research, research proposals, and dissemination projects for the promotion and protection of human rights	<p><Domestic information provision project></p> <p>We provided information on the situation of human rights violations in Asia, Japan, and around the world and our organization's policy recommendations through our website, media, newsletter, etc. We also carried out awareness-raising activities through holding symposiums, talk events, debriefing sessions, and publishing. Through holding online events and other events, we worked to spread awareness about human rights at various levels and to disseminate international human rights standards. Furthermore, we are implementing human rights education projects and youth festivals for middle and high school students, holding a World Children's Day video speech contest, holding an online summer school, human rights English conversation classes, and human rights education materials for middle and high school students. We strengthened human rights awareness activities for the next generation through the promotion of human rights.</p>	All year	Tokyo, Geneva, etc.	600	Japan citizens generally	Countless	1,815

This year, due to the coronavirus pandemic, there are almost no offline events, and other businesses such as book and goods sales are not being held.