Updates on Current Projects and SPF Activities

Research on Maritime Security in the Persian Gulf

The Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund launched its Workshop on Japan’s Role in the Gulf Security project in October 2009. Despite the importance of maritime security in the Persian Gulf (Arabian Gulf) for ensuring that Japan’s energy needs are met, there has been a lack of research from this perspective. This project focuses on the issues affecting maritime security in the Persian Gulf and examines Japan’s role by supporting a study group in Tokyo comprising Japanese and international experts on security issues and an international workshop in Baku for security experts from Japan, the US and Gulf nations.

Project to Establish Maritime Safety System in Micronesia

The Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund introduced its International Committee for Establishment of Maritime Safety System in Micronesia in October. This project has established an international committee of representatives from three Micronesian nations, plus Japan, the US, and Australia. The committee will discuss concrete ways to strengthen marine surveillance capacity in the Micronesian region and coordinate each country’s role in providing security. By March 2011, the project will compile a report outlining specific support measures and submit it to the governments of the three Micronesian nations. The first International Committee meeting is scheduled for the end of the current fiscal year.

International Workshop on Global Demographic Change and Labor Migration in Asia project, SPF will hold an international workshop on January 14, 2010. Following the first held last year, entitled “Cross-Cultural Care in Globalization—Management of Nursing/Carework in Multicultural Settings,” the 2010 workshop will focus on various social integration policies enacted around the world, examining related issues and challenges, roles played by national and local governments, analysis of Japanese policies, and possibilities for multilateral cooperation in the area of global migration. The workshop will bring to Japan speakers from Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea and the EU who will address three specific topics: diverse development in social integration policy dynamism in the EU, ethnic movement of social integration policy in Asia, and social integration at the community level put forward by diverse actors.

Grant Project Provides Support for Foreign Nurses and Caregivers Taking National Exams

SPF will support a new grant project for the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship, Japan. The project will create an e-learning system designed to provide online study opportunities for foreign nurses and caregivers who have come from Indonesia and the Philippines to Japan under Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) and are preparing for national license exams. Mentoring services and short-term boarding school education is also provided under the project. The project is expected to improve the success ratios for foreign nurses and caregivers taking these national exams in Japan.

SPF Joins in Publishing of AsiaViews for Better Public Relations Overseas

SPF has been working with the publishers of AsiaViews since October this year to boost overseas awareness of the impact of its work. AsiaViews is a monthly magazine published jointly by English-language publications in Southeast Asia (including Malaysian Business in Malaysia, Bangkok Post in Thailand, Newzine in the Philippines, Today in Singapore, and Tempo in Indonesia). The magazine has a monthly circulation of approximately 20,000, and features articles on particularly timely topics each month in the fields of politics, economics and social issues in Asia. SPF will regularly contribute information on project activities and outcomes for future issues of the magazine.

Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund Issues Third Period Program Guidelines (FY2009-2013)

The Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund (SPAF) has noted the increasing influence of China and India, the acceleration of globalization, and other dramatic changes taking place in the relationships among Asian nations. Faced with these global and regional changes, it is time for Asia to boost regional collaboration and unification. To do so, the region must nurture those who will lead Asia in a new direction across a variety of fields, as well as promote exchanges and dialogue among the countries and regions of Asia.

It is against this backdrop that SPAF has issued its Third Period Program Guidelines (FY2009-2013). Focusing on Southeast and South Asia, the new guidelines emphasize people-to-people exchanges and human resource development to resolve various issues related to regional collaboration and integration in Asia. Projects supported by SPF and the sectors targeted are outlined below:

- Promotion of People-to-People Exchanges between Japan and Asian countries
- Exchanges of future leaders
- Information dissemination

SPF has focused its past efforts on the areas listed above. The guidelines for the new period have expanded this focus to include Southeast, South, and Central Asia. Since then, SPAF has enhanced its efforts in people-to-people exchanges, human resource development, policy-oriented-research for development, and cooperation within the Asian region.

New SPAF Projects

Journalist Training in Myanmar and Cambodia

Implementing Agencies: SPF, Post Media Ltd. (Cambodia)

This project provides capacity-building opportunities for young journalists in Myanmar and Cambodia. In an effort to strengthen the impact of Myanmar’s nascent press and to supplement the training the journalists receive from the government, this project also focuses on Myanmar, which is not yet able to fulfill the needs of young journalists by training them from the insiders’ perspectives. This project will provide workshops and seminars to young journalists in Myanmar in the skills necessary for newspaper publishing, including writing articles and editing articles. The project’s activities include one-day training sessions and workshops to young journalists in Myanmar. The aim of the project is to help the two countries develop sound journalism practices.

Exchange Program for Young Asian Members of Parliament

Implementing Agencies: SPF, Secretariat of National Assembly of Cambodia (National Assembly), Mongolian Development Research Center ( Mongolia)

This exchange program invites young members of parliament in Asia who would otherwise have few opportunities to visit Japan. It aims to provide short-term training to meet participants’ specific needs, such as parliamentary procedures, legislative processes, the prevention of corruption, and ethics regulations. In the current fiscal year, young MPs from Cambodia and Mongolia are scheduled to visit Japan in February and March 2010. The project is designed to build the channels and networks needed to resolve issues between Japan and other countries in Asia. Similar projects are supported by SPAF: Exchange Ideas, Asia Views, and Asia Views.

For more detail, go to: http://www.spf.org/spaf/index.html
Exchange Programs between Japan and the US on Track

Under its new program policy established in June 2008, SPF outlined Exchange Programs between Japan and the US as part of its focus on Promotion of Mutual Understanding between Priority Regions and Japan. The Foundation has introduced four of these projects to date. This issue features several program activities designed to promote more multi-layered exchanges between Japan and the US.

Victor Cha, Former NSC Director for Asian Affairs, Visits Japan

SPF welcomed Dr. Victor Cha to Japan for the week of December 5–12, 2009 under the Promoting US-Japan Relations: An Opinion Leaders’ Dialogue project. As director for Asian affairs in the National Security Council (NSC) of the White House and deputy head of the United States delegation to the Six-Party Talks during the second term of the Bush administration, Dr. Cha was involved in fine-tuning policy on the Korean peninsula, including the issue of North Korean nuclear capabilities. He is now an associate professor at Georgetown University and Korea chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. In addition to meeting with former prime minister Shinzo Abe and other Japanese politicians and officials, Dr. Cha held a lecture on December 10 entitled “Obama and Asia.” Former US secretary of transportation Norman Mineta visited Japan (in February 2009) as part of last year’s program.

Perry Speaks on Nuclear-Free World

Former US Secretary of Defense William Perry Speaks on Nuclear-Free World

Under its Strengthening US-Japan Initiatives for Common Concerns: Strategic, Political, and Security Issues project, SPF joined with the Washington DC-based Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars to hold the “Japan-US Partnership toward a World Free of Nuclear Weapons” on October 21–22. The forum featured a keynote address by Dr. William Perry, former US secretary of defense. Co-author of the Wall Street Journal editorial entitled “A World Free of Nuclear Weapons” (January 8, 2007), Dr. Perry is credited with helping shape the speech in Prague given by former US president John F. Kennedy’s words, “Our problem is man-made, therefore they may be solved by man.” Former permanent representative of Japan to the UN Yukiya Amano also addressed the forum, noting that stability in supervising the process of global nuclear disarmament is crucial to progress. Next was a conversation between Shoteraro Yachi, former vice minister of foreign affairs, and Dr. Perry, moderated by former policy journalist Ryuichi Teshima. The second day of the forum featured a panel discussion on two topics: “Ensuring the Credibility of Extended Deterrence in Promoting Nuclear Disarmament,” and “Toward US-Japan Global Partnership for Nuclear Threat Reduction.” A total of 280 persons attended the two-day forum.

The forum allowed Japanese and US experts to discuss a shared global vision for a nuclear-free world, as well as to discuss in greater depth the crucial issues related to the abolition of nuclear weapons such as deterrence and reduction of nuclear threats. SPF will hold regular US-Japan Joint Public Policy Forums over the next three years to foster dialogue on the important issues that the two nations face.

New Projects under Exchange Programs between Japan and the US

Expansion of Strategic Horizon for Japan’s National Security and the Future of the US-Japan Relations

Implementing Agency: Japan Matters for America

This project gives junior researchers in Japan opportunities to study Japanese security policy with scholars analyzing international affairs and US strategy toward Asia for 15 years to come. Researchers will evaluate the geopolitical focus of Japanese international relations not only between the US and Japan and Northeast Asia, but in terms of a strategic horizon that stretches to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. The results of this research will be published in both Japanese and English as part of outreach to policymakers in Japan and the US.

Japan Matters for America/Asia Matters for Japan

Implementing Agency: East-West Center (EWC)

This project supports the development of a website, “Japan Matters for America/Asia Matters for Japan,” based on the East-West Center’s website, “Asia Matters for American/American Matters for Asia.” Designed to Japan-related public relations and to promoting mutual understanding between Japan and the US, the website will feature information based on objective, quantitative data and provide details on the status of Japan and US ties in the areas of trade, tourism, sister cities, and foreign exchange programs for students, by Japanese prefecture and individual US state and congressional district.

For more detail, go to: http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/index.html

Promoting Mutual Understanding between Japan and China

—Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund Activities

Over the 20 years since its formation in December 1989, the Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund has supported and implemented a variety of projects designed to maintain and promote friendly relations between Japan and China. Several of these projects are outlined below.

Chinese Officials and Experts from Areas Struck by the Great Sichuan Earthquake Visit Japan

Under the Training Program for Creating an Emergency Manual for Local Governments in Sichuan Province, 20 government officials and experts from China’s Sichuan Province visited Japan November 8–19, 2009. The group received training in Kobe on how to create an emergency disaster manual that makes use of the lessons learned from the Great Sichuan Earthquake and addresses the needs of affected areas. The program also included visits to Cabinet Offices, local government agencies in Hyogo and Kobe Prefectures, the Hyogo Prefecture Disaster Prevention Center, and areas affected by the Nigata Chunetsu Earthquake. The fund worked with Hyogo Prefecture government officials, academic institutions and private groups to select training program topics: risk management, disaster recovery, prevention education/training, municipal crisis management, corporate disaster prevention management, disaster information distribution, NGO/NPO programs, and psychological counseling. The program is operated by the Japan-China Asia-Economic Strategy Forum with the cooperation of the Schoell of Public Administration at Rennmin University. The emergency disaster manual is on track for completion next year.

Future Chinese Leaders Visits Japan—Japan-China Dialogue on Financial Cooperation

As part of its focus on promoting strategic exchanges on specific topics between young Japanese and Chinese leaders under its Facilitating Dialogue between Future Leaders project, 15 future leaders from China led by the chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People’s Congress and former Chinese foreign minister Li Zhaoxing visited Japan December 1–4, 2009. Following on last year’s topic of food safety issues, the dialogue this year addressed Japan-China financial cooperation. The group discussed the topic of Japanese and Chinese financial policy with representatives from the Ministry of Finance and the Financial Services Agency, as well as attended a public symposium, “Japanese-Chinese Cooperation in A New International Financial Framework,” held December 3. This project is designed to develop new channels and promote networking for a sustained dialogue between Japanese and Chinese business people.

New Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund Project

Expanding Public Relations Activities of the Japan-China Friendship Fund

Implementing Agencies: SPF, People’s Daily Online Japan Co., Ltd.

This project is designed to expand the Fund’s impact and boost name recognition in China in commemoration of its 20th anniversary in December 2009. The People’s Daily Online, the country’s most influential online newspaper, with 250 million hits each month, will feature a full weekly page commemorating the Fund’s 20th anniversary. This feature page will outline the Fund’s activities since its foundation; give readers an overview of the commemorative events and the Fund’s current projects; and include pictures and videos of the Fund’s activities.

For more information on the project, go to http://www.sasakawa.org/e/project/2009/02a.html
The Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund

Promoting Mutual Understanding between Japan and China
—Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund Activities

Over the 20 years since its formation in December 1989, the Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund has supported and implemented a variety of projects designed to maintain and promote friendly relations between Japan and China. Several of these projects are outlined below.

**Future Chinese Leaders Visit Japan for China-Japan Dialogue on Financial Cooperation**

As part of its focus on promoting strategic exchanges on specific topics between young Japanese and Chinese leaders under its Facilitating Dialogue between Future Leaders project, 15 future leaders from China led by the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress and former Chinese foreign minister Li Zhaoxing visited Japan December 1–4, 2009. Following on last year’s topic of food safety issues, the dialogue this year addressed Japan-China financial cooperation. The group discussed the topic of Japanese and Chinese financial policy with representatives from the Ministry of Finance and the Financial Services Agency, as well as attended a public symposium, “Japanese-Chinese Cooperation in a New International Financial Framework,” held December 3. This project is designed to develop new channels and promote networking for a sustained dialogue between Japanese and Chinese business people.

For more information on the project, go to [http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/c4_02e.html](http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/c4_02e.html)

---

**New Projects under Exchange Programs between Japan and China**

The Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund

**Expansion of Strategic Horizon for Japan’s National Security and the Future of Japan-US Relations,**

**Project Director:** Dr. William Perry, former US secretary of defense, and Dr. Perry, who led a training program on Japan-US relations, was cordially received in Tokyo and other areas by Japanese officials and business leaders.

**Project Scope:**

- **The project provides opportunities for young leaders to study and discuss Japan-US relations with leading scholars and policymakers in Japan and the US.**
- **The project includes a series of seminars and discussions on topics such as the future of Japan-US relations, the role of the US in Asia, and the impact of the US military on Japan.**
- **The project also includes visits to key institutions in Japan and the US, such as the US Department of Defense and the Japanese government.**

**Implementing Agency:** SPF

**New Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund Project**

**Promoting China-Japan Economic and Cultural Cooperation**

Under the auspices of the Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund, a project designed to promote cultural and economic cooperation between Japan and China, the fund has supported a variety of initiatives.

**Project Focus:**

- **The project focuses on promoting mutual understanding and cultural exchange between Japan and China.**
- **The project includes a series of seminars and workshops on topics such as Japan-China economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and educational exchange.**
- **The project also includes visits to key institutions in Japan and China, such as the Japanese government and the Chinese Ministry of Culture.**

**Implementing Agency:** SPF

**New Projects under Exchange Programs between Japan and the US**

The Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund

**Exchange Programs between Japan and the US on Track**

Under its new program established in June 2008, SPF outlined Exchange Programs between Japan and the US as part of its focus on Promotion of Mutual Understanding between Priority Regions and Japan. The Foundation has introduced four of these projects to date. This issue features several program activities designed to promote more multi-layered exchanges between Japan and the US.

**Victor Cha, Former NSC Director for Asian Affairs, Visits Japan**

SPF welcomed Dr. Victor Cha to Japan for the week of December 5–12, 2009 under the Promoting Japan-US Relations: An Opinion Leaders’ Dialogue project. As director for Asian affairs in the National Security Council (NSC) of the White House and deputy head of the United States delegation to the Six-Party Talks during the second term of the Bush administration, Dr. Cha was involved in fine-tuning US policy on the Korean peninsula, including the issue of North Korean nuclear capabilities. He is now an associate professor at Georgetown University and Korea chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. In addition to meeting with former prime minister Shinsō Abe and other Japanese politicians and officials, Dr. Cha held a lecture on US policy on the Korean peninsula, including the issue of the Bush administration, Dr. Cha was involved in fine-tuning US policy on the Korean peninsula, including the issue of nuclear disarmament. The forum allowed Japanese and US experts to discuss a shared global vision for a nuclear-free world, as well as to discuss in greater depth the crucial issues related to the proliferation of nuclear weapons such as deterrence and reduction of nuclear threats. SPF will hold regular US-Japan Joint Public Policy Forums over the next three years to foster dialogue on the important issues that the two nations face.

**Shōtarō Yachi, former vice minister of foreign affairs, and Dr. Perry, moderated by foreign policy journalist Ryuichi Tashima. The second day of the forum featured a panel discussion on two topics: “Ensuring the Credibility of Extended Deterrence in Promoting Nuclear Disarmament,” and “Toward US-Japan Global Partnership for Nuclear Threat Reduction.” A total of 280 persons attended the two-day forum.**

**For more information on the project, go to:** [http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/c4_02e.html](http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/c4_02e.html)

---

**Chinese Officials and Experts from Areas Struck by the Great Sichuan Earthquake Visit Japan**

Under the Training Program for Creating an Emergency Manual for Local Governments in Sichuan Prefecture, 20 government officials and experts from China’s Sichuan Province visited Japan November 8–18, 2009. The group received training in Kobe on how to create an emergency disaster manual that makes use of the lessons learned from the Great Sichuan Earthquake and addresses the needs of affected areas. The program also included visits to Cabinet Offices, local government agencies in Hyogo and Kobe Prefectures, the Hyogo Prefecture Disaster Prevention Center, and areas affected by the Nōgata Chuetsu Earthquake. The fund worked with Hyogo Prefecture government officials, academic institutions and private groups to select training program topics: risk management, disaster recovery, prevention education and training, municipal crisis management, corporate disaster prevention management, disaster information distribution, NGO/NGO programs, and psychological counseling. The program is operated by the Japan-China Asia Economic Strategy Forum with the cooperation of the Scofield of Public Administration at Renmin University. The emergency disaster manual is on track for completion next year.

**For more information on the project, go to:** [http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/c4_02e.html](http://www.spf.org/e/project/2009/c4_02e.html)
Updates on Current Projects and SPF Activities

Research on Maritime Security in the Persian Gulf

The Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund launched its Workshop on Japan’s Role in the Gulf Security project in October 2009. Despite the importance of maritime security in the Persian Gulf (Arabian Gulf) for ensuring that Japan’s energy needs are met, there has been a lack of research from this perspective. This project focuses on the issues affecting maritime security in the Persian Gulf and examines Japan’s role by supporting a study group in Tokyo comprising Japanese and international experts on security issues and an international workshop in Bahrain for security experts from Japan, the US and Gulf nations.

Project to Establish Maritime Safety System in Micronesia

The Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund introduced its International Committee for Establishment of Maritime Safety System in Micronesia in October. This project has established an international committee of representatives from three Micronesian nations, plus Japan, the US, and Australia. The committee will discuss concrete ways to strengthen marine surveillance capacity in the Micronesian region and coordinate each country’s role in providing security. By March 2011, the project will compile a report outlining specific support measures and submit it to the governments of the three Micronesian nations. The first International Committee meeting is scheduled for the end of the current fiscal year.

International Workshop on Global Demographic Change Set for January 2010

Under the Global Demographic Change and Labor Migration in Asia project, SPF will hold an international workshop on January 14, 2010. Following the first held last year, entitled “Cross-Cultural Care in Globalization—Management of Nursing/Carerwork in Multicultural Settings,” the 2010 workshop will focus on various social integration policies enacted around the world, examining related issues and challenges, roles played by national and local governments, analysis of Japanese policies, and possibilities for multilateral cooperation in the area of global migration. The workshop will bring to Japan speakers from Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea and the EU who will address three specific topics: diverse development in social integration policy-dynamism in the EU, embryonic movement of social integration policy in Asia, and social integration at the community level put forward by diverse actors.

Grant Project Provides Support for Foreign Nurses and Caregivers Taking National Exam

SPF will support a new grant project for the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship, Japan. The project will create an e-learning system designed to provide online study opportunities to foreign nurses and caregivers who have come from Indonesia and the Philippines to Japan under Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) and are preparing for national license exams. Mentoring services and short-term boarding school education is also provided under the project. The project’s expected to improve the success rates for Filipinos and other nurses taking these national exams in Japan.

SPF Joins in Publishing of AsiaViews for Better Public Relations Overseas

SPF has been working with the publishers of AsiaViews since October this year to boost overseas awareness of the impact of its work. AsiaViews is a monthly magazine published jointly by English-language publications in Southeast Asia (including Malaysian Business in Malaysia, Bangkok Post in Thailand, Nwesweek in the Philippines, Today in Singapore, and Tempo in Indonesia). The magazine has a monthly circulation of approximately 20,000, and features articles on particularly timely topics each month in the fields of politics, economics and social issues in Asia. SPF will regularly contribute information on project activities and outcomes for future issues of the magazine.

SPF MEDIAsource

SPF MEDIAsource is a project of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation to provide information to the media on the substance and results of its projects and activities.

SPF publishes (Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund, Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund, Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund, and Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund).

Projects fall within two categories: regular projects that address issues in a specific sector, and projects implemented by four special funds targeting specific regions (Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund, Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund, Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund, and Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund).

About SPF

SPF was established within SIP in 1982 as the Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund, primarily to provide support for four countries preparing to join ASEAN: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (the CLMV countries). In 2002, SPF adopted its present title and expanded its scope to include Northeast, South, and Central Asia. Since then, SPF has enhanced its efforts in people-to-people exchanges, human resource development, policy-oriented research for development, and cooperation within the Asian region.

SPF MEDIAsource

SPF MEDIAsource is a project of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation to provide information to the media on the substance and results of its projects and activities.

SPF publishes (Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund, Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund, Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund, and Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund).

Projects fall within two categories: regular projects that address issues in a specific sector, and projects implemented by four special funds targeting specific regions (Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund, Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund, Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund, and Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund).

About SPF

SPF was established within SIP in 1982 as the Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund, primarily to provide support for four countries preparing to join ASEAN: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (the CLMV countries). In 2002, SPF adopted its present title and expanded its scope to include Northeast, South, and Central Asia. Since then, SPF has enhanced its efforts in people-to-people exchanges, human resource development, policy-oriented research for development, and cooperation within the Asian region.

New SPAF Projects

Journalist Training in Myanmar and Cambodia

Implementing Agency: SPF, Post Media Ltd. (Cambodia)

This project provides capacity-building opportunities for young亚洲新闻journalists from Cambodia and Myanmar countries that have yet to fully develop free and unbiased media. In the first category, five journalists from each country are selected to receive training in the basics of writing articles, conducting interviews, and editing articles. The project also focuses on Myanmar, which at this point lacks a sufficient number of quality journalists and editors, and provides training for three journalists from Myanmar in the skills necessary for newspaper publishing, including writing articles and editing editorial. The series of courses will be on-the-job training and is consigned to Post Media Ltd., the publisher of an English-language newspaper in Cambodia. The aim of the project is to help these two countries develop sound journalism practices.

Exchange Program for Young Asian Members of Parliament

Implementing Agency: SPF, Secretariat of National Assembly of Cambodia (Cambodia), Mongolian Development Research Center (Mongolia)

This exchange program invites young members of parliament in Asia who would otherwise have few opportunities to visit Japan. Its purpose is to promote an exchange of ideas with members of the Japanese Diet, government officials, leaders in financial circles, and scholars, as well as to provide short-term training to meet participants’ specific needs, in such areas as parliamentary procedures, parliamentary legislation processes, the prevention of corruption, and ethics regulations. In the current fiscal year, young MPs from Cambodia and Mongolia are scheduled to visit Japan in February and March 2010. This project is designed to build the channels and networks needed to resolve issues between Japan and other countries in Asia. Similar projects are supported by SPF: include Enhancing India-Japan Relations: Visit to Japan by Indian Parliamentarians Phase II, a project consigned to the Conformation of the Indian Industry.

For more detail, go to: http://www.spf.org/spaf/index.html

The Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund (SPAF) has noted the increasing influence of China and India, the acceleration of globalization, and other dramatic changes taking place in the relationships between Asian nations. Faced with these global and regional changes, it is time for Asia to boost regional collaboration and unification. To do so, the region must nurture those who will lead Asia in a new direction across a variety of fields, as well as promote exchanges and dialogue among the countries and regions of Asia.

It is against this backdrop that SPAF has issued its Third Period Program Guidelines (FY2009-2013). Focusing on Southeast and South Asia, the new guidelines emphasize people-to-people exchanges and human resource development to resolve various issues related to regional collaboration and integration in Asia. Projects supported by SPF and the sectors targeted are outlined below:

1. Promotion of People-to-People Exchanges between Japan and Asian countries
2. Promotion of regional collaboration
3. Support to prioritized countries

In the first category, five journalists from each country are selected to receive training in the basics of writing articles, conducting interviews, and editing articles. The project also focuses on Myanmar, which at this point lacks a sufficient number of quality journalists and editors, and provides training for three journalists from Myanmar in the skills necessary for newspaper publishing, including writing articles and editing editorial. The series of courses will be on-the-job training and is consigned to Post Media Ltd., the publisher of an English-language newspaper in Cambodia. The aim of the project is to help these two countries develop sound journalism practices.

Exchange Program for Young Asian Members of Parliament

Implementing Agency: SPF, Secretariat of National Assembly of Cambodia (Cambodia), Mongolian Development Research Center (Mongolia)

This exchange program invites young members of parliament in Asia who would otherwise have few opportunities to visit Japan. Its purpose is to promote an exchange of ideas with members of the Japanese Diet, government officials, leaders in financial circles, and scholars, as well as to provide short-term training to meet participants’ specific needs, in such areas as parliamentary procedures, parliamentary legislation processes, the prevention of corruption, and ethics regulations. In the current fiscal year, young MPs from Cambodia and Mongolia are scheduled to visit Japan in February and March 2010. This project is designed to build the channels and networks needed to resolve issues between Japan and other countries in Asia. Similar projects are supported by SPF: include Enhancing India-Japan Relations: Visit to Japan by Indian Parliamentarians Phase II, a project consigned to the Conformation of the Indian Industry.

For more detail, go to: http://www.spf.org/spaf/index.html

*SPF publishes SPF MEDIAsource to provide information to the media on the substance and results of its projects and activities.

*The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) is a private non-profit organization that conducts international activities for the public good from a global perspective. SPF projects fall within two categories: regular projects that address issues in a specific sector, and projects implemented by four special funds targeting specific regions (Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund, Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund, Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund, and Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund).

http://www.spf.org/e/index.html