The Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund

1 – Fostering Human Resources for 21st-Century Japan-China Relations
2 – Deepening Mutual Understanding in the 21st Century
3 – Activities to Promote Japan-China Relations in the 21st Century
4 – Activities to Advance the Fund’s International Role
Chinese personnel involved in Japan-China security exchange have fewer opportunities than people in other fields to undergo training in Japan, and only a small number are fluent in Japanese. Developing personnel with advanced language skills and a deep understanding of Japanese politics and defense policies is becoming a matter of long-term importance for Japan-China security relations.

This project consists of a component that supports training in Japan for Chinese personnel in the security field (see the following section) and a self-operated component designed to enable outstanding former trainees to pursue master's degrees at Peking University’s School of International Studies.

In fiscal 2007 the Sasakawa Japan-China Friendship Fund provided assistance for two trainees who had returned to China after completing their training in Japan, covering the cost of their master’s degree programs at Peking University’s School of International Studies (a three-year course for working people). The trainees attended lectures that included English, Japanese, international relations theory, the history of diplomatic thought, and area studies of various countries.

Past trainees are now serving in such positions as Japan-relations specialist at the Ministry of National Defense and Japan researcher and instructor at the education research institute of People’s Liberation Army, and the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Japan.

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
Asian Forum Japan (Japan)
¥6,734,955 (for FY2007, ¥576,000 in self-operated project expenses)

Cultivating Specialists in International Security Issues/Phase II

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
Asian Forum Japan (Japan)
¥6,158,955 (for FY2007)

Training Program for People’s Liberation Army Staff in Charge of Japan-China Security Exchange

The Fund has provided two Chinese officials involved in security exchange every year with the opportunity to undergo training for one year in Japan during Phase I (fiscal 1999–2003) and Phase II (fiscal 2004–2008) of this project. The training helps them to improve their language skills and develop their expertise in international relations and security policies.

In fiscal 2007, two defense officials in their late twenties were dispatched from the China Institute for International Strategic Studies to attend lectures on Japanese language and international issues at Waseda University’s Graduate School of Japanese Applied Linguistics and the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies.

In addition, the trainees exchanged views with young Japanese politicians and people involved in defense and visited historical landmarks. They also interpreted for a group of field officers from the People’s Liberation Army who had come to Japan under the Program for Promoting Japan-China Exchange in the Field of Security/Phase II (see page 36) and translated training materials.

Following the training, the two trainees wrote reports in Japanese on new insights into Japanese society and Japan-China relations.

(4th year of 5-year project)

China Association for International Friendly Contact (China)
¥5,467,414 (for FY2007)

Sasakawa Scholarship System for Chinese Students Studying Japanese/ Phase III

This project provides scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students of Japanese enrolled in Chinese universities with the aim of raising the level of student interest in Japanese language study and contributing to the development of personnel who will sustain Japan-China relations in the future.

Now in its thirteenth year, the project has provided scholarships to over 1,200 students. A selection committee has been set up in each of 13 Chinese universities.

In fiscal 2007 scholarships of 2,000 yuan each were awarded to 105 students: 15 each from Beijing Foreign Studies University, Shanghai International Studies University, and Dalian University of Foreign Languages; 10 each from Sichuan International Studies University and Guangdong University of Foreign Studies; and 5 each from Guizhou University, Northwest University, Hunan University, Guizhou University, Nanjing University, Heilongjiang University, Xiamen University, and Shandong University.

Many of the past scholarship recipients are now working for public institutions, media organizations, and the international divisions of large companies.

(3rd year of 5-year project)
2. Deepening Mutual Understanding in the 21st Century

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
China Institute for International Strategic Studies (China)
¥33,760,020 (for FY2007)

This project provides a platform for interaction and dialogue between personnel from both countries working at the forefront of national defense in order to build mutual trust in the field of security. Over the past seven years, nearly 80 members of Japan’s Self-Defense Forces have so far visited China, and over 140 high-ranking officers from the People’s Liberation Army have visited Japan.

In fiscal 2007, 12 field officers from the SDF visited Beijing, Shenyang, Yanji, and Dalian June 3–14, 2007. The delegation paid a courtesy call on Xu Caihou, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, and they toured ground, air, and naval units. They visited the Naval Vessels Academy, the Academy of Military Sciences, the border area between China and North Korea, and the Dalian Economic and Technological Development Zone.

The delegates also took part in interactive briefings with past program participants who had undergone training in Japan and with students of Peking University’s graduate school, as well as with high-ranking officers from the Shenyang Military Region and the Yanbian Garrison.

From the Chinese side, 21 field officers from the PLA visited Japan October 23–November 3, 2007. They paid courtesy calls on Minister of Defense Shigeru Ishiba and Takashi Saito, chief of staff of the Joint Staff Office, and exchanged views with personnel from the Ministry of Defense, the National Defense Academy, and the National Institute for Defense Studies. They visited Ground, Maritime, and Air Self-Defense Force bases and attended classes on the domestic and international policy, economy, and security of Japan.

Both delegations held preparatory meetings before their visits and wrap-up meetings after they returned. They presented the results of their exchange and training to defense-related institutions in both countries, sharing the experience and knowledge they had gained from their visits abroad.

(2nd year of 5-year project)

Japan Visiting Program for City Mayors

China Association for International Friendly Contact (China)
¥6,962,819 (for FY2007)

The purpose of this project is to provide opportunities for mayors of provincial Chinese cities to observe the administration of Japanese local governments and to apply the lessons learned in China. Launched in fiscal 1990, the project is now in its seventeenth year.

China is currently undergoing rapid economic growth, but the development is having a negative impact on ecosystems and the environment so that balancing economic growth with environmental conservation has become a major challenge. The theme for fiscal 2007 was therefore “Finding a Balance Between Environmental Conservation and Development of Cities.” A group of seven mayors and vice-mayors from the northwestern region of inland China were invited to visit Japan June 27–July 5, 2007.

The delegation visited the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism; Hokkaido Government; Tokyo Metropolitan Government; Osaka Prefectural Government; and Chitose City Hall, and exchanged views on improvements in the areas of tourism and transport, regional development, urban planning by local authorities, environmental assessment mechanisms, and the creation of a recycling-oriented society.

In addition, they visited the Osaka Center for the Promotion of ECO Industry to gain a further understanding of cooperative projects between the government and the industrial sector.

The delegation compiled a report after returning to China, and city governments are now working to dispatch personnel involved with environmental problems and urban planning to Japan.

(4th year of 5-year project)
2. Deepening Mutual Understanding in the 21st Century

**Sino-Japanese Relations: 30 Years (1978–2008)**

**Social Sciences Academic Press (China)**  
¥8,981,270 (for FY2007)

Marking 30 years of China’s policy of reform and opening up to the world as well as the thirtieth anniversary of the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People’s Republic of China, this project aims to close the gaps in recognition between the Chinese and the Japanese people and to contribute to the establishment of “strategically reciprocating relations.”

In fiscal 2007 the Social Sciences Academic Press set up a research team comprising specialists and researchers in Japan-China relations from the Institute of Modern History of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Institute of Japanese Studies, Tianjin Normal University, Nankai University, Peking University, Beijing Normal University, and Nanjing University.

The research team held workshops and conducted studies into three decades of Japan-China exchange and cooperation, and the results are to be published in both Japan and China in a book tentatively entitled *Sino-Japanese Relations: 30 Years*. The Chinese edition is planned for publication in August 2008, and the Japanese edition during fiscal 2008.

(1st year of 2-year project)

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3. Activities to Promote Japan–China Relations in the 21st Century

**Japan–China Young Historians Conference/Phase II**

**The Sasakawa Peace Foundation**  
¥7,457,427 (for FY 2007)

The Sasakawa Japan–China Friendship Fund organized the Japan–China Young Historians Conference/Phase I between fiscal 2001 and 2005 in an attempt to promote dialogue between historians from both countries over the main points of contention in modern Sino-Japanese history. The dialogues have been compiled into a book entitled *Contending Issues in Sino-Japanese Relations: Toward a History Beyond Borders*, which was praised in both countries.

With the success of Phase I, the Phase II project is continuing the dialogue between young historians. In fiscal 2007, dialogue in the form of study sessions and research camps was continued with an increase in the number of participants from mainland China. An annual report, tentatively entitled *The End of World War II and the Return Home: The Start of Postwar Sino-Japanese Relations*, was drawn up, and work has begun on editing a collection of articles based on the report for commercial release in both Japanese and Chinese.

As part of the efforts for disseminating information to the English-speaking world, *Contending Issues in Sino-Japanese Relations: Toward a History Beyond Borders*, is currently being translated into English with the cooperation of leading historians specializing in East Asian history in North America. Publication of the translated work is planned for fiscal 2008.

(1st year of 3-year project)

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4. Activities to Advance the Fund’s International Role

**Capacity-Building for NPO Evaluation in China**

**NGO Research Center, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University (China)**  
¥4,314,952 (for FY2007)

This project, which represents Phase II of the fiscal 2001–2003 project “Promoting Evaluation for Development of Chinese Nonprofit Sector,” aims to establish impartial evaluation standards for nonprofit organizations in China, with training in assessment given to government departments overseeing private organizations and to the staff of such organizations.

In fiscal 2007 training materials were drawn up using domestic and international evaluation case studies and documentary materials, as well as data regarding the status of evaluation trials in Shanghai, Beijing, Zhejiang, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Guangdong, Hubei, and Anhui; the development status of private organizations; and the needs of both the government and the private sector.

A two-day training workshop covering (1) an overview of evaluations of overseas private organizations, (2) an overview of evaluations of domestic private organizations, (3) evaluation methods, and (4) the sharing of experiences and identifying of problem areas was conducted in Qingdao City, Shandong Province, for 30 administrative officials and 10 representatives of private organizations. Individual guidance based on local conditions was also provided for such regions as Hubei, Zhejiang, Guangdong, Liaoning, Jiangxi, and Gansu.

(1st year of 3-year project)