DEAR PARTNERS AND COLLEAGUES,

2015 is the year we reflect on the status of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that the world committed to meeting for the past 15 years and define new development goals for the post-2015 era. In joining the worldwide effort to halve global poverty, Good Neighbors continues to be eager to implement projects for the world’s marginalized communities with sincerity and professionalism.

Last January, our staff and managers engaged in cooperation projects with the World Food Programme (WFP), and gathered to review project goals and achievements as well as shared operation and management strategies. We also carried out emergency relief activities in the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya in cooperation with UNHCR, as part of our ongoing efforts to collaborate with international organizations.

Our colleagues around the world continue and work to bring change throughout the world by implementing and projects in education, protection, health, water and sanitation, income generation, human rights and advocacy, and partnership building with communities in 201 project sites in 37 countries.

We strive to meet our responsibilities as an NGO in setting our goals for the post-2015 development agenda and look forward to partnering with the international community to accelerate progress on the MDGs.

Sincerely,

Ilha Yi

President, Good Neighbors International

‘Good Sisters’ is a club for young girls in high-poverty communities in Malawi that focuses on empowering them to know their rights as women and to change the perception of what they are able to accomplish.
Water is essential to life. Without it, nothing can grow or thrive; water is required for the most basic things - drinking, washing, cooking, or even the flushing of toilets. According to the UN World Water Report, at least 1.8 billion people worldwide are drinking water contaminated with excrement and nearly 2.5 billion people are still living with poor or non-existent sanitation facilities. Good Neighbors is changing this, one community at a time, by implementing water and sanitation projects in areas where residents lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

Located in the village of Mudhumalai, India, is a small, old water well. The tube connected to this well was damaged due to excessive dirt and rocks, and once the water source dried up, residents walked to a nearby stream 1 km away from their village to get water. Sadhavani, a 10-year-old girl made over 10 round trips with a five-liter water bottle to this stream, to collect over 50 liters of water for her family each day. She suffered from blistered feet and the fear of encountering wild animals such as elephant, wild boar, or bison; but to make her journey far worse, the contaminated water caused her and the members of the community to suffer from water-borne illnesses including vomiting, stomachache issues, diarrhea, and skin diseases.
Creating Change
Through Water In Mudhumalai

The process of implementing change involves a number of factors, and in Mudhumalai, Good Neighbors worked closely with residents to bring about change.

Good Neighbors partners with residents and involves the community’s decision-making process to implement any water and sanitation projects.

The existing water wells in Mudhumalai were extremely difficult for the community to maintain. The Community Development Committee (CDC) which consists of local community leaders, suggested that instead of continuously attempting to repair the broken wells, a new water well should be built in a better location near their village. Good Neighbors respected the CDC’s suggestion and together decided to drill for water about 100 meters away from the village and installed a water tank for a consistent supply of drinking water.

Good Neighbors provides water and sanitation facilities that meet the needs of each community.

To drill for water in Mudhumalai, which is a forest reserve, permission is required from the local government and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The residents’ appeal and united message to the government allowed Good Neighbors to successfully implement the project. Currently, the well supplies 30,000 liters of water per day, which is enough for all the residents of Mudhumalai to use and store for up to two days.

Good Neighbors empowers residents to maintain their water and sanitation facilities through the CDC and the partnership with local government.

With the water well and tank in place, the local government and residents established a long-term plan and partnership for its operation and maintenance. The CDC is responsible for the maintenance of all electric parts needed for the operation of the well and tank. The local government is committed to helping the community improve and expand additional water and sanitation projects.

In addition, Good Neighbors provided awareness education about safe drinking water and sanitation for residents, addressing water-borne diseases, teaching correct hand-washing techniques and basic hygiene tips, and emphasizing the importance of clean water through proper management of water and sanitation facilities.

Water does change everything and access to clean water changed this entire community. Good Neighbors continues to generate good change in the world, together with community members who are empowered to create change in their communities.

“Because of the new water well, it now takes only 20 minutes to get water for my family. I now have more time to study while my mother has time to work. I never knew that my frequent stomachaches and itchy skin was all because of unclean water, but I am very happy to think that I’m not going to be sick again because I will drink clean water from now on.”

-Sadhavani-
"One of the huge benefits of G-saver is that I can sleep uninterrupted at night because I don’t have to wake up to add fuel to the heater. G-saver keeps my home warm all day and all night long, and I add fuel only twice a day."

-Hungerjol, Ulan Bator

Good Neighbors developed G-saver in 2009 in an effort to tackle the issues of high fuel costs and air pollution in Mongolia. G-saver, installed on an existing heater system, captures and maintains the heat from the heater for a longer period time. G-saver helps lower fuel costs, and its cost-saving effect became widely popular through word of mouth. Hungerjol, a 40-year-old mother living in Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia, has used G-saver for three years. During that time the G-saver has saved her family over 240,000 tugrik (approximately US$140) in fuel costs. Before using the G-saver, she used to spend most of her income on buying fuel, but now she uses the money saved for her children and her family’s savings.

The especially long and cold winter of Mongolia is all the more harsh to the poor and marginalized. Identifying the need to keep families safe and warm during the winter, Good Neighbors developed the “G-saver” through appropriate technology.

WARM BREEZES IN MONGOLIA

BY JISUN GU / GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL
In September 2010, Good Neighbors established “Good Sharing” factories in Mongolia for the production of G-saver, to facilitate the supply of G-saver to more residents. As a social enterprise, Good Sharing currently employs nearly 90 people in production, supply, and administration departments in its Ulan Bator and Javhlan factories.

In a country where the unemployment rate is high due to a weak manufacturing base, Good Sharing creates stable jobs, especially for urban immigrants. In addition, G-saver reduces the use of coal at home by increasing fuel efficiency, which leads to less carbon dioxide and monoxide in the atmosphere. Last November, G-saver obtained certification as a green product from the National Committee for Air Pollution Reduction of Mongolia.

G-saver has a number of advantages, such as improving the heating efficiency during the winter, and cutting down on air pollution. The passion of Good Neighbors to ensure sustainable change, not just temporary benefits for the marginalized, is as fierce as the heat from G-saver. We hope that the warm breeze of change that started in Mongolia will become an impactful step forward toward a world where everyone lives together in health and harmony.

“Traditional heaters used by Ger camps is the leading cause of air pollution in Mongolia. The Mongolian government is making various policy efforts to improve air quality, and one of them is to incentivize air pollution reduction. Good Sharing received incentives with the production and supply of G-saver, and was the very first beneficiary of the policy.”

- Chaepil Ahwilmad,
Deputy Director, Ministry of Environment and Green Development, Mongolia

“I migrated to Ulan Bator in 2002 when I lost all of my livestock to cold weather. Living a difficult life in a new city, a community center recommended a job at Good Sharing. I am very grateful to Good Neighbors for giving me this opportunity, even though I do not have a college degree.”

- Beollerrma,
Manager, Good Sharing Ulan Bator
NEW VILLAGE,  
NEW FUTURE

BY HYOWON JUN / GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL

In the 1970’s, the Saemaeul* movement was created in Korea with a goal to establish food security through farmland expansion, and the independence and development of communities through income generation projects. This initiative brought about dramatic change in rural communities nationwide in a short period of time.

Motivated by the Korean form of local community development, Good Neighbors successfully implemented Food For New Village (FFNV) in Nepal and Rwanda in cooperation with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and UN World Food Programme (WFP) in 2011; soon after, Bangladesh and Tanzania were added to the list in 2013. With three years of successful partnerships and progress, Good Neighbors is currently creating more impact and change with its Saemaeul Zero Hunger Community (SZHC) project.

* Saemaeul is a Korean word for a new village.
In Rwanda and Nepal, where the FFNV projects have operated in 2011, Good Neighbors considered how to upgrade project strategies and management skills as a result of our experiences, and how to improve the operation of SZHC projects to impact more people.

Our SZHC projects are tailored to meet the needs of each different community Good Neighbors works in, and rely on community members active participation, which is essential for the sustainability of any project. We hope that our SZHC projects will continue to be successful and grow, as a result of a collaborative partnership between Good Neighbors, local residents and other international organizations.

In Rwanda, 80% of the labor force is engaged in agriculture, but only 4% of land is used for farming. Because of this, Good Neighbors concentrated on building physical infrastructure for agriculture, reclaiming terraced fields and warehouses. In the process, we implemented income generation projects by allowing residents to actively participate in the construction of these infrastructures in three villages. In a culture where teamwork and “friendly competition” are encouraged, the collaboration and partnership with residents was crucial to its success.

Discrimination against women in Nepal is still extreme, where the caste system still exists. Good Neighbors supports women, the most socially marginalized and poor in Nepal, to be active in the community and engaged in economic activities. A growing number of women are creating change by participating in village development projects as members of the local CDC, or operating a business through micro-financing, thus making an additional income for their families.

Tanzania is a country where it does not rain for ten out of twelve months of the year. Residents depend on international organizations to help supply drinking water, but water shortages damage any productive farming. Instead of just simply supplying more water, Good Neighbors seized this opportunity to engage the community and empowered residents to join the construction of a small dam. In addition, we provided education for the community members to take ownership in their community’s development. Their active participation led to the creation of a drinking water management committee and a local development committee.

Good Neighbors is now exploring ways to assist residents to generate income through micro-financing. We are also providing residents with training and education on developing income generation projects on their own. Good Neighbors is focusing on income generation projects while improving economic environments to fight food shortages. Community members are empowered to influence the whole process of developing their communities and are integral to its current success.

In Bangladesh, Good Neighbors has implemented the construction of public infrastructure in cooperation with residents, such as community centers or schools. However, frequent floods leave roads divided and unpassable leaving villagers stranded. As a result, an SZHC project was initiated to focus on building community infrastructures with improved disaster-resilience. A Community Development Committee (CDC) of local residents was developed to decide how to improve their community, and make decisions such as whether to repair roads or plant trees, or raise the bottom of buildings and structures to prevent flooding.

Good neighbors provides a variety of education programs for capacity building of residents. We work to help residents lead SZHC projects through leadership training, income generation classes, and human and gender rights awareness workshops.

Our SZHC projects are tailored to meet the needs of each different community Good Neighbors works in, and relies on community members active participation, which is essential for the sustainability of any project. We hope that our SZHC projects will continue to be successful and grow, as a result of a collaborative partnership between Good Neighbors, local residents and other international organizations.
WE HOPE
"EDUCATION FOR ALL"
BECOMES A REALITY

BY KUHWAN CHUNG / GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL

The UNESCO report reveals that up to 58 million children worldwide cannot attend school due to early marriage and child labor issues. Global poverty leads to minimal access to education, which deprives children, the driving force of the future, of any opportunities. Good Neighbors held the Youth Model World Education Forum 2015 with Yonsei University from January 21 to 23, and became the site for 137 representatives from 71 high schools nationwide to discuss global poverty and education, and develop a wider perspective on this issue.
The opinion of youth has played a crucial role in the process of outlining agreements and agendas being discussed by the international community. The Youth Model World Education Forum 2015 marked a significant beginning to small actions of change being championed by youth. This forum holds significance in that participants explored concrete ways to resolve education issues ahead of the World Education Forum 2015, which will be held in Korea from May 19 to 22. The World Education Forum 2015 is the largest international conference in universalizing primary education, and is attended by education ministers, international organizations, and civic group representatives from around the world to adopt detailed action plans for the next 15 years.

In the Youth Model World Education Forum, participants learned the reality of global poverty and education through lectures, brainstorming sessions and symposiums to passionately discuss 18 agenda topics. As a result, they adopted six declarations and presented role plays performances, complete with dancing and singing, to express their understanding of these complex issues, which turned a seemingly boring process into a memorable experience.

“I thought about what we can do to improve access to education in Africa. What about a global festival bringing together youth from all over, sharing everyone’s talent? I think that would be a great way for our generation to have easier access to learning from one another.”
- Yonghwan Ryu, Inhang High School

“This forum has taught me the problems that exist regarding access to education in Latin America. I learned that Good Neighbors Paraguay is conducting many programs with the local children’s authority. I plan to tell my friends about the reality of the lack of education throughout Latin America when I go back to school.”
- Taehun Kim, Daein High School

In the international community, global issues are actively discussed, and there is a recent trend where the viewpoints of youth are incorporated into national policy. International organizations value this trend and are developing multifaceted programs to encourage their active involvement. Good Neighbors particularly supportive of this trend, is planning a campaign where youth experience global issues as volunteers and are guided to become future leaders through a youth club called Good Action. Participants, who learned that global poverty and education issues are a tragic reality from the Youth Model World Education Forum 2015, will grow into true global leaders whose goals can be set on the belief that “education for all” can become a reality.
On January 13, 2010, an earthquake with the magnitude of 7.0 struck the capital of Haiti, Port-au-Prince, damaging or destroying countless buildings and structures. The catastrophe impacted about 3 million people, roughly a third of the nation's population. Good Neighbors sent emergency relief teams to affected areas 14 times over four months. We distributed over 60 tons of food to approximately 43,600 victims from 8,720 households, and provided supplies such as tents and tarpaulins to over 3,400 displaced people from 690 households. In addition, we operated mobile clinics to treat the injured and prevent infectious diseases such as measles and diarrhea, and rebuilt medical facilities.

With emergency relief programs completed, Good Neighbors embarked on the reconstruction process by opening a new branch within Haiti. As part of the education support program, we established a public school that accommodates 720 students in Wharf Jeremie, one of the most affected areas. In addition, we built a shelter for displaced families to have a safe place. In August 2012, we signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with a Haitian governmental agency to construct a housing complex for over 250 people. The so-called “Good Neighbors Village” is equipped with drinking water facilities, restrooms, and shower stalls, in addition to basic living space for each family. To this day, we are still cooperating with residents and government agencies for a sustainable change in Haiti after the devastating earthquake.

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**DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE AND ITS AFTERMATH**

**GOOD NEIGHBORS HAITI**

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**CHILD RIGHTS ENHANCEMENT CONTEST**

**Good Neighbors Vietnam** held a Child Rights Enhancement Contest with the Child Protection Club of Vinh Loc on December 18, 2014. The latest contest was attended by the community members of the club and over 200 residents, who performed dancing and singing acts themed on child’s rights enhancement, which contributed to raising awareness on the issue.

**THE PHILIPPINES NGO COALITION**

**Good Neighbors Philippines** joined the Philippines NGO Coalition on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on January 9, 2015. The Philippines NGO Coalition provides additional reports of monitoring the implementation of the UN CRC within the country. As the newest member, Good Neighbors Philippines is expected to contribute to these reports by discussing the situation of children in its Community Development Projects.

**DAYCARE CENTER MAINTENANCE**

**Good Neighbors India** repaired a daycare center in Chickjala as part of the corporate social contribution activity of KOTRA Bengaluru and Irea Chemical Enterprise Co., Ltd. from December 26 to 29, 2014. Good Neighbors India renewed the daycare center into a safe and pleasant environment for children to thrive by repainting the inside and outside of the center with eco-friendly paint.
Good Neighbors Ethiopia implemented the Nutritious Program at Melkam Children’s Center in Lideta, under the support of GS Watsons in Korea, from November 2014 to January 2015. Nutritious breakfast and lunch were provided to 120 children between the ages of five and six to improve their nutrition conditions and attendance rates.

Good Neighbors Chad celebrated the opening of a computer class and library at the Lee&Chad School in Dogoree on February 4, 2015, with over 50 attendees. Good Neighbors Chad provided 20 computers and 1,000 donated books to the school, and the local Community Development Committee members will manage the computer class and library. 300 students will benefit from this new facility.

Good Neighbors Dominican Republic organized a commemoration ceremony on December 5, 2014, to honor 24 volunteers who served for one year, marking International Volunteers Day. The volunteers served as a messenger between the sponsors and the supported children and helped execute annual growth reports of the children. The ceremony shared the activities and thoughts of the volunteers and discussed improved plans for 2015.
Good Neighbors is an international humanitarian development NGO in General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC). We work in 37 countries around the world. In 2007, we were granted the 'Millennium Development Goals Award' for the advancement of primary education in developing countries.