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We welcome your comments or suggetions.
Please direct letters to **editor@goodneighbors.org** 

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Good Neighbors is an international humanitarian development NGO founded in Korea in 1991. It was granted General Consultative Status from the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC).

To make the world a place without hunger, where people live together in harmony, we work in 35 field countries and 191 communities with our focus on community development projects to protect children's rights and encourage the self-reliance of communities, and humanitarian assistance programs.



# BE HAPPY!

Sharing is happiness, growing more with each neighbor.

A PICTURE FROM GOOD NEIGHBORS RWANDA

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT Summer 2017 4

#### **DEAR PARTNERS AND COLLEAGUES,**

It is my great pleasure to have this opportunity to greet all of you through the organization's first magazine for the year of 2017.

At the core of every Good Neighbors project around the world, one can find a set of unified principles; our efforts to promote the autonomy and the rights of our marginalized neighbors around the world are centered on three core strategies of Conventions on the Rights of the Child (CRC), network, and advocacy. Our projects are designed to protect the rights of survival, protection, development, and participation for all children around the world, and to promote community awareness on the need to secure these rights. Campaigns and education programs on birth registration, prohibition of child labor, and child marriage lead to good change from the family units to the region, and then to the country itself through policy recommendations.

For this year, our project directions will take us yet again to international development cooperation projects, bringing assistance to our neighbors in 35 field countries and 191 community development projects (CDPs) in our aim to create a self-reliant community where the rights of children are fully respected. We also plan to enhance our impact research on the successes of our project, providing a better measure of project results and thereby enhancing our expertise even further.

We will continue to work toward strengthening international partnerships with our stakeholders, such as the government, private enterprises, and international organizations in our project areas, while playing a crucial role of support countries. Thus, with this, working on the registration of Good Neighbors in Canada is in progress, followed by Korea, USA, and Japan.

Good Neighbors pledge to give our utmost in the remaining half of the year and offer trust and heartfelt change for our partners.

Thank you.

Jinok Yang

President, Good Neighbors International



# WE MAKE THE GOOD CHANGE FOR THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

BY JISUN GU / GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL

It is evident that children have rights to a healthy and happy development. But it is also true that the most basic rights of the child are violated in many places around the world. One can find these violations in Good Neighbors' project areas as well. Therefore, Good Neighbors has focused on advocacy activities for the rights of the children, resulting in good changes for the family, the area, and the state.

## FORLORN PROMISES OF CHILD MARRIAGE

Among the many violations of the rights of the child, child marriage is a problem that specifically affects girls. One out of three girls in the world marry before the age of 15, whereas over 700 million girls marry before the age of 18. (UNICEF, Ending Child Marriage: Progress and Prospects, 2014)

Child marriage has an additional risk of AIDS or other STDs. On top of the that, early childbirth causes serious threats to the health of the infant and the mother. Children who are deprived of opportunities to learn due to child marriage tend to have difficulties in employment, which leads to a vicious cycle of poverty. Child marriage, in this sense, damages not only the healthy development of the children but also their dreams and potential.

#### A PROMISE FROM GOOD DADDY

According to "The State of the World's Children (UNICEF, 2016)" nearly 52% of the total female population of Bangladesh marry before the age of 18, with other 18% marrying before the age of 15. Although child marriage is prohibited by law, it is hardly obeyed when the birth registration of the children is missing.

Good Neighbors Bangladesh implemented various awareness-raising campaigns to fight against child labor and child marriage. Because the role of the father is critical to this situation, Good Neighbors implemented a program called "Good Daddy Campaign". Participants in the Good Daddy Campaign made a pledge not to force their daughters to get married before they reach adulthood.

The "Good Daddies" who showed particular care and attention to the development and education of their daughter were awarded as well. The campaign included not only the parents and the children but also the teachers and other community members, providing an opportunity for the community as a whole to reflect on the problems of child marriage and the rights of the child.

There were 22,000 members who took part in this program for the year 2016. The participants of this program were able to bring greater change to many regions in Bangladesh by drawing the attention of the media and the government. This change allowed 40 children to escape from the dangers of child marriage and reclaim their right to dream.

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## ADVOCACY PROJECT BY GOOD NEIGHBORS

#### **BANGLADESH**

Protecting the rights of the children "Good Daddy Campaign"



#### INDONESIA

Child abuse prevention concert



#### **KENYA**

Safe Club, Puppet play on child rights and prohibiting child abuse



#### HAITI

Walk parade for rights to education



#### MONGOLIA

Rights of the child radio program





#### MALAWI

Good Sisters, Education on sexuality, child rights, child marriage and gender equality



#### PARAGUAY

Child Rights education by student groups





#### CAMBODIA

Cambodian youth groups for community developmen





- on Advocacy campaign for the rights of the child and the women in Kenya
- 02 Members of Bangladesh student groups distributing child marriage prevention flyers





#### A MOVEMENT FOR BIGGER CHANGE

The advocacy division of Good Neighbors has carried out policy recommendations and lobbying in their activities in addition to education and campaigning.

Last year, Good Neighbors Mongolia submitted its recommendations through a shadow report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. It has also submitted a proposal to amend the Family Act that protects the children of divorced parents, which currently awaits approval from the parliament. Meanwhile, Good Neighbors Malawi cooperated with the community members of the Chiwoza region to draft a village code against child marriage. Moreover, on a national level, the collective efforts of civil society has finally made it possible for the government to pass the prohibition of child marriage in 2015.

If the children have rights to a healthy and happy development, Good Neighbors has the duty to stand by the children. Good Neighbors stands to safeguard the rights of our children through our advocacy work, and in doing so, we look forward to seeing greater changes in the future leaders of our community.

[FIELD REPORT 1]

# LET'S WALK TOWARD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Last year, Good Neighbors carried out a project to provide shoes for children in Africa. They slipped their feet into the shoes and tied the laces carefully. They don't have to worry about the gravel scratching the soles of their feet. Let's meet our friends from Rwanda, who are now walking toward a brighter future with shoes from Good Neighbors.

BY **HOJEONG BAN**/ GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL





- 02 Jiggers wound on Eric's feet
- 03 Eric with his new pair of shoes







## CHIGOE BITES ON THE FEET

Eric Muragijimana(9) lives with his sick mother in Rwanda, Mukiza CDP. Putting food on the table is already a problem for them, so Eric's family simply has no time to consider their health and sanitation. Eric has to walk on the road scattered with the rough gravel with his naked feet every day. That's why he suffers from chigoe flea infection. Chigoe fleas lay eggs on the hands or feet of humans. Preventing chigoe flea infection is simple: one merely needs to wear shoes and always wash his/her hands and feet.

## SHOES FOR 7,000 CHILDREN

Good Neighbors has implemented the Kokkasin Project—named after the children's shoes in Korean—in five CDPs in Rwanda: Cyiri, Gisozi, Mukiza, Ngoma, and Runda. There were 7,000 children (including Eric) provided with a pair of athletic shoes. The children also attended educational programs on the dangers of skin infection and the importance of sanitation. The children took the lessons to heart and began to wash their feet before putting on their shoes. They also had new shoes to protect their soles against the rough gravel of the roads in their hometown, which resulted in a safer walk to school. Staff members of Good Neighbors also conducted door-to-door visits and informed the parents and other family members of the importance of domestic hygiene.

## THE ROLE OF SHOES AND HYGIENE EDUCATION

However, providing simple metarial support is not enough to heal the wounds on children's feet. For a fundamental solution to the problem, the children must be provided with a holistic response, from hygiene education to medical facilities in which they can obtain relevant help if they are wounded. This is the mission of Good Neighbors—to bring people around the world together, in search of a healthier future for our children.

For this year, Good Neighbors plans to focus on providing more support to maternal and children's health as well as for disease prevention and management. Good Neighbors has also been conducting a series of public health projects, which combines facility support with education and awareness campaigns.





## WE OPEN A DOOR TO THE WORLD FOR OUR CHILDREN

BY HOJEONG BAN / GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL

A world where everyone has equal access to education—this is the world that Good Neighbors dreams of. But children living in Compostela Valley, Philippines, are cut off from basic education because of geographic reasons. There is no access to a wide variety of books, let alone basic learning materials, rendering most of the children illiterate. Good Neighbors stepped in to give a boost to the children of the region, providing them with a mobile library and teacher training, in the end, bringing the world one step closer to our ideal of education for all.

## THE VICIOUS CYCLE OF LOW LITERACY

Good Neighbors Philippines organized the LEAP (Learning Enrichment Accessibility Program) project for children without access to educational materials because of social or environmental limitations. The children living in two CDP areas of Kilagding Longanapan, Aguinaldo have differing levels of literacy compared to urban areas owing to the area's extreme geographic distance from cities. Three out of 10 children in these areas have trouble reading and writing texts.

The parents of these children faced severe difficulties in providing education for their children, as their livelihood precluded them from spending time with their children. Low literacy in early development stages drags down the child's will to learn and self-esteem, ultimately reducing their interest in education. Children who are disinterested in education are likely to give up on their studies in the future, which results to low literacy and leads to poor education.











#### 01, 02 Children in linguistics training

- Mobile library with a wide variety of books and materials
- 04 Teachers participating in the Literacy Program Workshop
- 05 Teachers after completing the training program

## MOBILE LIBRARY FOR EVERY NOOK IN THE MOUNTAINS

Good Neighbors built a system of mobile libraries in Compostela Valley to break this vicious cycle. With multimedia educational materials like books and computers, the mobile library brings the wider world to the children living in the most secluded villages in the mountains. A photovoltaic generation system allows the mobile library to operate in areas without electricity, making this new medium of education a sustainable one.

## TEACHER'S TRAINING IN PASSION

Good Neighbors also implemented a teacher's training program to give more accessible literacy education techniques to the teachers of the region. The teacher's training program teaches the teachers how to use the supplementary materials provided by Good Neighbors and provides them with education techniques to help the children learn more easily.

The teachers are passionately engaged in the program, perhaps bringing the joyful faces of the children to their mind.

Good Neighbors Philippines plans to enhance this program's success by developing more effective projects and tools for the students of the region. We hope that, using the new mobile libraries of the region, children overcome their geographic difficulties which make it hard for the children to have a better future.



"For me, the training provided to the teachers gave us supplementary knowledge that will help the children who have difficulty when it comes to reading and writing, and to encourage them to continue practicing reading and writing. It also provided the teachers with new strategies that could help the children enhance their reading and writing skills. The implementation of the LEAP project will be an instrument to increase the knowledge and skills of the children."

Mrs. Marcelina A. Duria, LEAP teachers, Kilagding, Laak, Compostela Valley

## **WE DREAM ON TOGETHER**

BY HOJEONG BAN / GOOD NEIGHBORS INTERNATIONAL

Good Neighbors conducts social economy projects that are designed to build capacities for cooperation and self-reliance in communities, with the ultimate goal of helping the community members become autonomous and self-reliant economic agents. Our social economy projects provide support to help establish and manage cooperatives or community-based social economy groups. These cooperatives serve as the basis for various social economy activities, which include agriculture, livestock farming, small-scale enterprises, by using revolving funds\*. Let's take a look at how community cooperatives dream together and create positive change with the help from Good Neighbors.

\*Revolving fund funds that remain accumulate and revolve within the community through credit and payment, which serve as bases for sustainable community economics.

"I have joined the social economy project implemented by Good Neighbors as a member of Sanauta Agriculture Cooperative, Bardiya CDP. With the revolving fund program, I was able to start a goat-farming business, which has been a great help toward our livelihood, including my children's education, thanks to the good income it has given us. I am very happy, and in the upcoming days, I am planning to expand my business and make more money so I could send my children to higher education. I am grateful to the organization for their support, and I hope to receive the same support in the upcoming days as well. Thank you!"





"After working with Good Neighbors' social economy project, my fruit-selling business has doubled its income in 2016, which enables me to pay the health insurance of all my family members. We wish for a better and hopeful life in 2017."

#### **PARTICIPATING FAMILIES** IN GOOD NEIGHBORS COOPERATIVES

52,079 households participating in cooperatives 1,093 cooperatives around the world (December 2016)

Household | Income Generation Group











6.404 | 135

Agriculture Development Livestock / Fisheries

8.352 | 300

11.862 | 227 Microcredit

4,299 | 239

21.162 | 192

Small-scale Enterprise Savings Groups



"After participating in the social economy project of Good Neighbors, I can increase strawberry yield, which helps me obtain benefits and improve the quality of my life. With this program, my children and family could get better quality education and health care. In 2017, we hope to maintain the good condition and produce a great amount of strawberries, by using new techniques and technologies, and being trained by Good Neighbors for the cultivation."



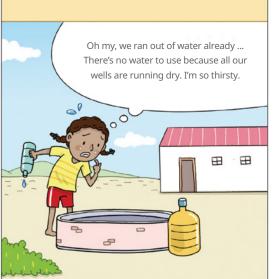
"I had an accident quite recently, and because of that our family could not help going through some hard times. But, thanks to the support of good neighbors around the world, we were able to start our chicken farm. Our children have enough food and, even more, enough money for school. I look forward to next year's harvest, and also to the day when I can provide my children with good food, good education, and good health."

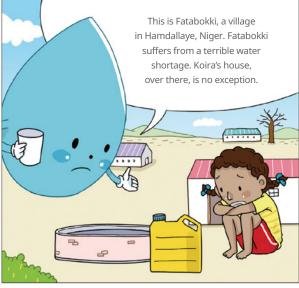


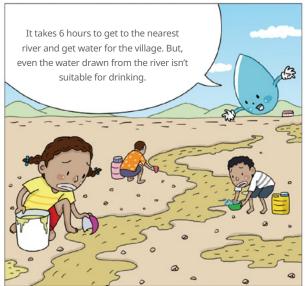


The dry climate causes the villages wells to dry up.

They are not operating at all due to the fact that many
of them are either broken or malfunctioning.







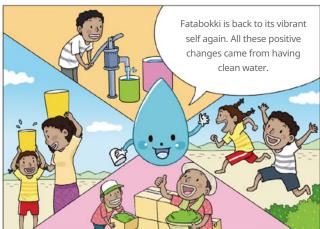
Good Neighbors Niger joined with the members of the community in seeking new solutions for water shortage. The community was able to fix the well, ensuring that the members have access to clean water, as well as establish the Water Committee to manage the wells.



Community members were overjoyed with the fact that they can get clean water from a place close to the village. Koira and the other children can now go to school because they no longer have to walk to the river every day for water.

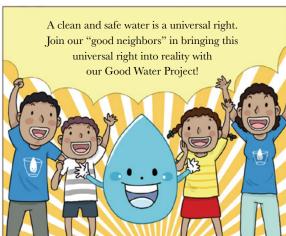






Good Neighbors operates sanitation training programs centered around the village clinic to raise awareness on the importance of water and hygiene. Good Neighbors also conducts education programs and awareness-raising campaigns on the management of wells and the right to clean water.







Through Good Water Project, Good Neighbors will conduct various activities such as facility support, education, and awareness campaigns in 26 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Caribbean regional in 2017.

### **Good Neighbors NEWS**

#### THE 100th HOPE SCHOOL IN AFRICA COMPLETED



On January 11, Good Neighbors, in cooperation with Seoul Broadcasting System (here after SBS), KOICA, Korea Institute of Registered Architects, introduced the Kwarara Tumaini Secondary School in Tanzania, the 100th school to be built under the Hope School Project of which the purpose is to build 100 Hope school within 5 years. The Project was started in 2012 with Hope TV SBS and five NGOs aiming to provide the opportunities of quality education for African children. Good Neighbors has already built 52 Hope Schools; 34 in cooperation with Hope TV SBS and 18 by Good Neighbors alone. This time, the school has been completed, furthermore, Media Education Center has also been established. Using the new media equipment, students will have more education opportunities to create advocacy films on child rights.

## PARTICIPATED IN THE ADEA 2017 TRIENNALE, AND KOREA-AFRICA CONFERENCE



From March 14 to 17, Good Neighbors took part in ADEA 2017 Triennale in Dakar, Senegal. This conference was attended by the Ministers of Education from 54 African countries, 1,000 participants and representatives from the African Union, African Development Bank, World Bank, and other international development cooperation agencies. Good Neighbors also took part in the "2nd Korea–Africa Day" Conference, which was organized by the Korean Ministry of Education on the first day of the Triennale, and provided information on the results of the Hope School Project through VR booth.

#### GOOD WATER PROJECT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LG ELECTRONICS



Good Neighbors Bangladesh held a completion ceremony in one village as part of the cooperative project with LG Electronics, whose name is "Good Water Project", on May 3. The Good Water Project is a water and sanitation project that installs water pumps and purification facilities in three villages within the Sirajgnj CDP. It is expected to offer clean drinking water for 12,500 residents in 2,500 households. Good Neighbors and LG Electronics will continue to provide support for clean water and sanitation by organizing and assisting the Water Committee, working on awareness-raising campaigns on water safety, and conducting facility maintenance training.

#### **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN CHILE**



Good Neighbors Chile kicked off with humanitarian assistance to community members who were displaced as a result of mountain fires in the Hualane and El Carmen regions. The community of El Carmen and Hualane has suffered from over 3,000 mountain fires since 2016, which caused mass displacement, significant economic damages, and loss of livelihood for the majority of the community members in the region. Good Neighbors provided humanitarian assistance in the form of 100 food kits containing basic food items, 2,000 face masks, 3,000 bottles of water, and 15,000 cereal nutrition bars.

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#### 2017 UNHCR ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH NGOS



Good Neighbors took part in the 2017 UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs, which was held throughout from June 14 to 17. The theme of this event was "From Global Responsibility to Local Action–Implementing the Comprehensive Refugee Response Frame-work". Good Neighbors has been a partner of the UNHCR in refugee vocational training and livelihood since 2014.

## GOOD NEIGHBORS KENYA BUILDS "ST. GABRIEL NA HYEON COMMUNITY CENTER"



Good Neighbors Kenya hosted the completion ceremony for the St. Gabriel Na Hyeon Community Center in Dandora slums on March 3. The St. Gabriel Na Hyeon Community Center is funded by the family of the late Na Hyeon, a team leader of KOICA, and KOICA. The Community Center is expected to provide quality elementary education for children living in deprived areas.

## GOOD NEIGHBORS LAOS CONDUCTS SEXUAL EDUCATION FOR ADOLESCENTS



Good Neighbors Laos provided women's health training to 6th and 7th graders across the Meun CDP in Laos from May 15 to 16. The joint training session between Good Neighbors, the Office of Education, and selected hospitals was designed to inform the girls about puberty and childbirth, as well as prevent child marriage and adolescent childbirth. Sanitary towels were also provided for the children.

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