

Commemorative Lectures

At 10:00 O'clock of the 16th of October, following the opening greetings by our president Koizumi, the commemorative lectures of 3 winners started.

Summary of Lectures

Ms. Josette Sheeran.

“The winner of the Main Prize”

(Former Executive Director of UN/WFP./Vice Chairman of World Economic Forum.)

Also today, one child has died of starvation in every 10 seconds.

Every year, tens of thousands persons pass away by the cause which can be prevented.

World famous medical journal “Lancet” introduced the article which said it became clear that starvation caused the bad influence to the growth of the premature brain.

The proper nutrition should be given to children till 2 years old because if the growth of brain is retarded by the malnutrition it's function wouldn't be back later. Till 2 years old is the most important period for the brain forming. One of our effort to the problem is the chick-pea (*Cicer arietinum*) paste distribution to Pakistan. Chick-pea has high nutritional value and the type of paste is easy to take by the children without water.

Japan is one of the top three supporters of food in the world. Food problem is directly related to the human security. The leaders of the world have to join up to solve the problem.

Mr. Masanao Umebayashi

The winner of “Sano Tozaburo Special Prize”

(Professor Emeritus of Mie University)

I has been a forestry volunteer for 18 years to plant fruits that replace opium poppy in the mountainous area of Thailand which called “The Golden Triangle”.

At that time, extermination of the opium poppy field became the international problem but both

Mr. Hajime Koizumi



Ms. Josette Sheeran



Thai and Japan government didn't want to send the experts to such a dangerous place. When I retired the university and was thinking about my new life, I decided to start the "one man grass-roots movement" to help the area where no one wanted to go and to help. I research the area then bought the saplings of plum and contributed them to the community and planted them all by myself at my own expense.

I started from the 300 saplings now there are 22,000 plum trees and 18,000 manao trees. I experienced various things and the area is still somehow dangerous place because the mafia doesn't like the person who destroys their source of money. So I am acting very carefully. I want to continue this work as long as I live.

Mr. Nnaemeka C. Ikegwuonu

The winner of "21 Century's Hope Prize"

(Executive Director of Smallholders Foundation, Nigeria)

Many small-scale farmers (smallholders) are very poor though they work very hard.

The reason why is that they are lack of various knowledge about farming. They need skills and science to be strengthened.

I decided to establish the FM radio station for them on 2007. We are broadcasting various skills about the farming, how to supply materials and information of markets. And our foundation is also supporting young persons who want to do farming business. There is so huge amount of possible farming land in Nigeria that we made vegetable field of foundation's school and by the profits from the garden our young students cultivated their own vegetable fields at their houses.

Our goal is that these young students could live their own lives through agriculture.

For the purpose we are educating them with the concept of "Agriculture is Business".

After these guidance, now 1,615 our graduates started their own vegetable fields at their houses Please visit Nigeria, see what we are doing and support us.

Mr. Masanao Umebayashi



Mr. Nnaemeka C. Ikegwuonu

