Peace Winds America has been fortunate to have strong partnerships throughout Asia Pacific. We have partners in all areas of disasters—preparedness, risk-reduction, mitigation, and also response and recovery. Our working partners are in the U.S., Japan, and the Asia Pacific. In 2015 we deepened these partnerships implementing programs to empower our partners.

In our civil-military disaster preparedness initiatives, PWA partnered with Japan, the U.S., and the Philippines, ASEAN, the UN family, Vietnam participants, plus several think-tanks. We continued to focus on “whole of society” preparedness with governments (national and local), militaries, NGOs, the private sector, and academics—all stakeholders in disasters preparedness and response. In our business resilience initiatives, PWA joined the sister cities of Seattle and Hai Phong, working with city/provincial governments, businesses, corporations, NGOs, USAID, JICA, and other NGOs. In our relief and recovery responses in the Philippines, Nepal, and Japan, PWA worked with local NGOs on the ground, combining our efforts with JICA, USAID, the U.N., and the host nations.

Strengthening these partnerships and empowering others have been rewarding to our staff, motivating us in our efforts to build a more stable, resilient Asia Pacific. This year one of our partners, the Japan Consulate General, on behalf of the Japanese Government, recognized our efforts. It honored PWA for strengthening disaster response and preparedness in the Asia Pacific.

These working partnerships are possible due to the support and sponsorship of many individuals, governments, businesses, and foundations. On behalf of PWA and its Board of Directors, we express our deepest appreciation. With solid support and excellent partners, we are accomplishing our mission.
Disaster Preparedness

Civil-Military Disaster Preparedness Initiative

This year PWA concluded the 2013-2015 Japan-U.S.-Philippines Civil-Military Disaster Preparedness Initiative. The Initiative was a notable success. In 2015 PWA:

- Held Tokyo policy forum and review meetings in Tokyo/Wash, DC complementing 2014 Manila and Tokyo workshops/forums
- Distributed Report widely—see PWA website for free copy
- Launched Report at the U.S. Embassy Tokyo American Center. Panel discussion included Japan Ministry of Defense Vice-Chair, CSIS Senior Vice President for Asia, JICA Vice President, Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary
- In total, the PWA Initiative trained over 250 personnel and added significant new knowledge and networks to the HA/DR field

*What Peace Winds America has done is really phenomenal...PWA has produced and presented some of the most influential and cutting edge analysis and policy recommendations of HA/DR operations. They tie together the seams that are such problems when stakeholders are trying to prepare and respond: whether the civil-military, the NGO, or the local host government.*

—Dr. Michael Green, Center for Strategic and International Studies

U.S.—Vietnam Sister Cities Disaster Preparedness Initiative

In 2015 PWA further developed the sister city relationship between Seattle and Hai Phong through exchanges, needs assessments/surveys, business risk reduction (BRR) training, community outreach, and public-private partnerships. In May, USAID and PWA launched the training component for developing disaster preparedness plans targeting 2,000+ businesses.

**January**
Ten Hai Phong officials visited Seattle, exchanging best practices in disaster preparedness focusing on public-private cooperation.

**January—April**
PWA and 300 businesses assessed their preparedness and how the city, community, and businesses could partner.

**May—December**
Trainers completed BRR curricula with 8 pilot companies; trained 30 more businesses; PWA signed agreements with business associations.

*We must learn from those countries like the U.S. that are more advanced in disaster planning and response; this experience will help us understand what is necessary for us to achieve readiness.*

—Vice Chairman Dr. Do Trung Thoai, Hai Phong People’s Committee
Disaster Relief and Recovery

Tohoku, Japan

After three years, PWA completed its innovative and highly successful 2012-2015 fishing sheds program. Working with local partners and drawing upon the immediate needs of displaced tsunami survivors, this program provided storage and work space for Minamisanriku fishing families. Over the course of this project we provided over 110 sheds, a vital resource that helped restart the local economy.

In 2015 PWA forged a new partnership, with the Cheerful Valley Community Center in Minamisanriku. PWA will be supporting the Peace Winds constructed center as it provides a place for local seniors

The Philippines

This year PWA wrapped up its disaster recovery assistance to the Philippines following the devastating Typhoon Haiyan of 2013. Keeping our commitment to long-term recovery, PWA funded livelihood and shelter programs on Busuanga Island, an under-served area. In partnership with local implementers, our innovative programs provided much-needed support alongside our local partners.

Over 510 families received livelihood assistance: livestock, fishing boat repair, new nets, farm tools and seeds.

Housing repair materials delivered to 90 families.

Through PWA’s civil-military initiative, over 75 Philippine government and military disaster responders received preparedness and response training.

Gorkha Earthquake, Nepal

The April 25th and subsequent May earthquakes were the deadliest disaster in Nepal in nearly 80 years.

Peace Winds concentrated relief and recovery efforts in Sindhupalchowk District where 90% of homes were damaged or destroyed.

Peace Winds identified the most pressing need—shelter—and moved quickly to provide durable housing to more than 1,000 families. Now Peace Winds is constructing community centers where women and girls will find safe-haven and engage in livelihood training.

500 households received emergency relief: food, water, medicine, and shelter.

52 masons trained villagers in earthquake-resistant building techniques. Together, experts and students built eight model community houses.

1,035 families received housing materials and training to rebuild safer homes (with another 1,500 planned).

A new Minamisanriku community center

A local Busuanga fisherman with a boat repaired by PWA

Trainers and community members rebuilding houses using earthquake-safe techniques
Plans for 2016

In 2016, Peace Winds America will continue to lead in the area of disaster preparedness in the Asia Pacific. We will strengthen the ability of communities to prepare and recover in Vietnam, Japan, Nepal, and Myanmar. We stand ready to respond quickly to disasters with programs that integrate recovery into relief efforts.

We will conduct training workshops and policy forums, dialogues and table-top exercises with our partners. We will also conduct analysis and produce policy and procedural recommendations to build a more resilient Asia-Pacific.

In Hai Phong Vietnam, PWA will train over 500 business leaders in business-contingency planning. PWA will also promote multi-stakeholder collaboration between the public & private sectors through dialogue and public events. A public information campaign aimed at small- and medium-sized businesses and particularly those in remote areas will increase awareness of disaster planning. We will also commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

Peace Winds America gratefully wishes to acknowledge donors who make our work possible. Particular thanks go to:

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