

Annual Report FY 2025



The NTT Surugadai Building, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo,
where the BHN Headquarters Office is located after the relocation

About BHN Association

Headed by top leaders from Japan's ICT industry, the BHN Association (BHN) was established in 1992 as a non-governmental organization specializing in ICT*. BHN commenced its first support activity (1992–94) for those affected by the catastrophic Chernobyl disaster, constructing a 120km microwave link between Obninsk and Moscow, and implementing both a medical information system and a teleconferencing system for hospitals. Since then, we have continued our efforts to realize a world where everyone, regardless of their environment or situation, has access to vital information, thereby creating a society that ensures safety and security for all.

BHN stands for Basic Human Needs, which are the fundamental requirements necessary for a person to live a decent life. Traditionally, essential needs such as food, clothing, and shelter have been thought of as essential components required to meet these needs. However, today, we can safely say that gaining access to ICT also constitutes a part of these essential requirements.

The activities of BHN are performed mostly by expert volunteers, including highly experienced and skilled ICT engineers and specialists. BHN mobilizes its intellectual and professional assets—such as expertise, experience, skills, and extensive networks—to carry out a variety of projects. In order to deliver the best results to local communities, we collaborate with local stakeholders, including community members, partner organizations, and governmental agencies. To this end, BHN operates across three major areas: (1) Social Development, (2) Emergency Relief, and (3) Human Resource Development.

*ICT=Information and Communication Technology

The fundamental importance of ICT infrastructures as an essential element in economic and social development was recognized at the United Nations Assembly in 1981.

Profile of BHN

Name	BHN Association
What is BHN?	“BHN” stands for “Basic Human Needs” that are indispensable for human life., While food, clothing, and shelter have traditionally been viewed as the core components of basic human needs, we believe another important component of BHN is also "information."
Address	NTT Surugadai Bldg., 1-6-5 Kanda-Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0062, Japan
Establishment	September 1992 (Voluntary Organization) September 1999 (Non-profit Organization)
Members	Corporations: 42, Individuals: 127 (As of March 2026)
Organization	Chairperson: Makoto YAMASHITA President: Hideo INO Secretary General: Takeshi TOMINO Board Members: 37 (Executive Directors:35, Auditors:2) Full-time Staff: 4 Part-time Staff/Volunteers: about 70 (including overseas staff)
Operating Expenses	427M JPY (about 2.69M USD) (FY2025)

BHN's Aims and Activities by Region

BHN's Aims are illustrated below.

What BHN is aiming for

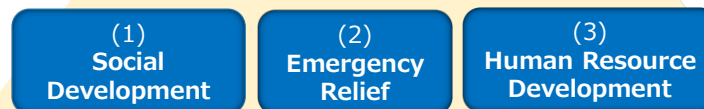
<Vision>

We aim **for everyone** in the world regardless of their environment or situation, to have **access to necessary information** and want to create a society that provides safety and security for all people.

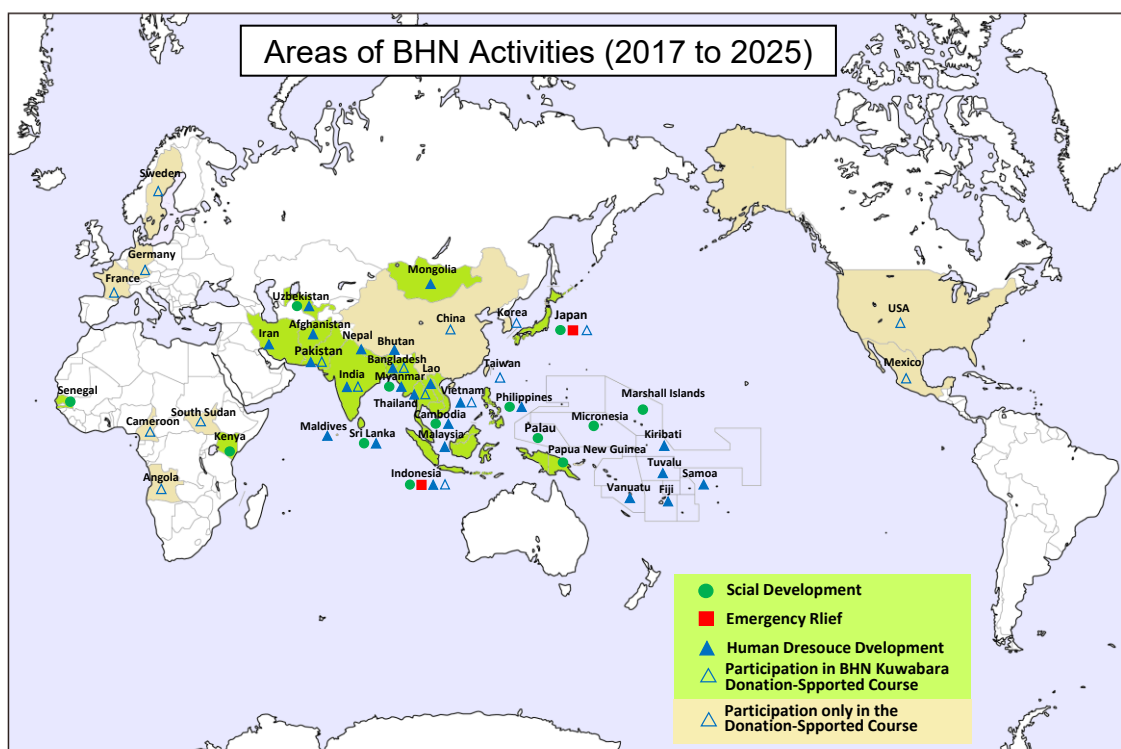
<Mission>

By **utilizing ICT**, we aim to provide safety, security, and relief for people in developing countries and disaster areas, improve their living environment, and help solve social issues.

<3 Core Pillars>



Over the past nine years, a total of 38 projects have been implemented to support local residents, disaster victims, trainees and students in 42 countries and regions as shown in the following map.



Review of BHN's Operations for FY 2025

Social Situation

Internationally, geopolitical tensions have intensified due to the military conflicts in the Middle East and the prolonged war in Ukraine, driving up inflationary pressures through rising energy and food prices. Furthermore, trade frictions and the fragmentation of the international order have led to a slowdown in the global economy, though it manages to maintain growth. On the other hand, the race for artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a new driver of growth. Domestic economic activity, despite being affected by rising prices, is on a path of moderate recovery, supported by resilient personal consumption driven by wage hikes and policy measures. However, close attention must continue to be paid to the impact of overseas developments.

Summary of Activities

In fiscal year 2025, prioritizing the safety of our executives, staff, volunteers, and stakeholders both in Japan and overseas, BHN advanced its three core pillars—(1) Social Development, (2) Emergency Relief, and (3) Human Resource Development—under our mid-to-long-term objective: "To contribute to the achievement of the SDGs from an NGO perspective by utilizing ICT." Furthermore, driving both quality improvement in our operations and the enhancement of fundraising as twin engines, we focused on pioneering new projects and securing human resources while managing risks associated with our operations in Myanmar.

Activities for Social Development

The project in the Ayeyarwady Region of Myanmar, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) grant, has progressed smoothly since its resumption and is on track for completion in June 2026. Regarding Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) projects, our telemedicine initiatives for the Philippines and the Marshall Islands were approved, and we also secured a contract for a portion of the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program. Domestically, we continued to operate the network for ICT support activities during domestic disasters and implemented a support project for those affected by the Noto Peninsula Earthquake, utilizing a grant from the Japan Platform (JPF).



Temporary housing complex for victims of the Noto Peninsula Earthquake (April 2024)



Training about how to use smartphones for victims (December 2025)

Support activities for victims of the Noto Peninsula Earthquake

Emergency Relief

Although no specific projects were implemented during fiscal year 2025, we maintained continuous efforts to exchange information and build networks on an ongoing basis.

Human Resource Development

Under the BHN Human Development Program, the second semester of the 26th session was conducted in Japan in October, followed by the first semester of the 27th session remotely from February to March in collaboration with Multimedia University (MMU) in Malaysia. We were also commissioned to conduct the APT Training Course, conducting an in-person session in Japan from February to March. For the BHN Dr. Kuwabara Donation-Supported Course, both the first and second-semester courses at the University of Electro-Communications (UEC) were delivered in a hybrid format. Regarding the BHN Dr. Kuwabara's Fund Scholarship Program, the fourth-intake scholar successfully earned a master's degree from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) and returned home. For the upcoming sixth intake, one student from Bangladesh was accepted into GRIPS, and another from the Philippines was admitted to the Hitotsubashi University Business School (HUB).



A fourth-intake scholar of the BHN Dr. Kuwabara's Fund Scholarship Program
at the GRIPS graduation ceremony (September 2025)

Organizational Management

Regarding organizational management, we achieved a reduction in rent expenses by cutting our office space at the NTT Ueno Building by half in May 2025, followed by relocating our office to the NTT Surugadai Building in January 2026. In addition to continuing our review of management issues and developing future operational policies, we actively worked on promoting digital transformation (DX), strengthening information security, and strategically utilizing artificial intelligence (AI).

Public Relations

As part of our ongoing public relations activities, we consistently published activity reports and announcements via our website, e-mail newsletters, and social media channels. Our key promotional efforts included publishing the newsletter *Crossroad* (May and December), contributing a monthly article as the "BHN Report" to the *Tsushin Kogyo Shimbun* newspaper (monthly), and exhibiting at Global Festa JAPAN 2025 (September). Additionally, we updated the BHN introductory video (July, September, and February), hosted activity report meetings (June and January), and participated in PR TIMES' special project "April Dream" (April). Following the relocation of our headquarters, we also updated our address on our website, leaflets, and other promotional materials.

The Kansai Office held its 17th Lecture and Photo Exhibition online from November 1 to 15, 2025. In February 2026, the office also ran an exhibition booth at the 33rd One World Festival to promote our activities and foster networking with other organizations.



The Umeda Sky Building in Osaka as an exhibition venue

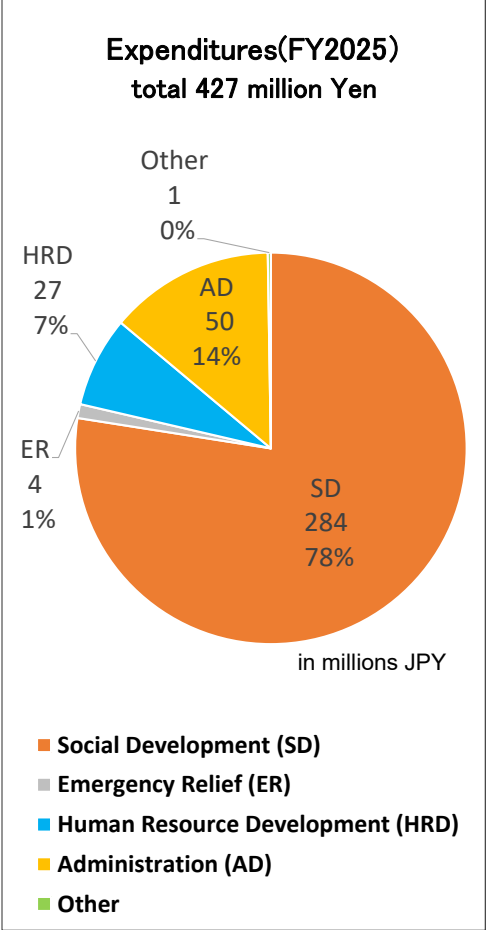
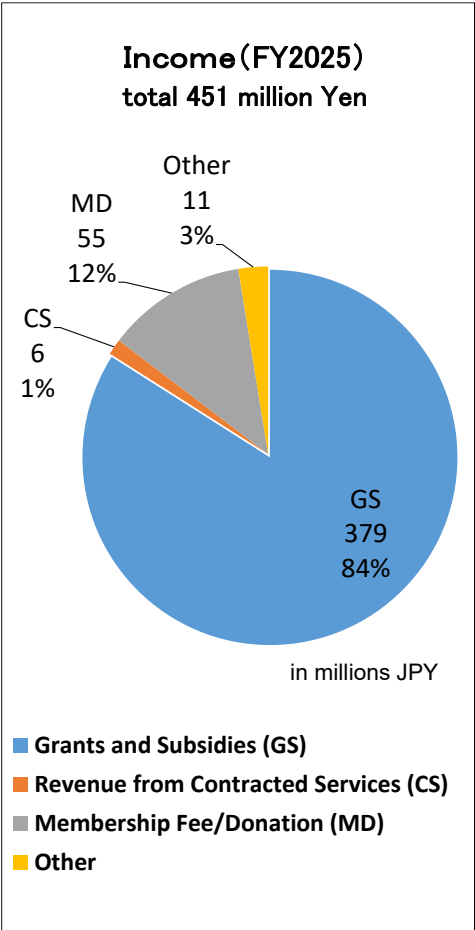


BHN Kansai Office staff explaining the exhibit to a visitor

33rd One World Festival (February 2026)

Financials

In the FY2025 financial results, ordinary revenue totaled 451,351 thousand yen (98% vs. budget), and ordinary expenses were 426,761 thousand yen (96% vs. budget). This resulted in an ordinary net income for the period of 24,590 thousand yen (+8,477 thousand yen vs. budget) and a net change in net assets of 24,627 thousand yen (+8,584 thousand yen vs. budget). Consequently, the net assets carried forward to the next period amounted to 231,196 thousand yen.



Appendix

Activities

I Social Development

There are a number of underprivileged people whose basic human needs are not being sufficiently met. BHN supports such people and communities to improve their standard of living and to develop their capabilities utilizing ICT.

Projects Conducted by BHN

- Establishment and management of community radio stations for disaster risk reduction and betterment of rural communities
- Electrification of rural habitation with solar power generation
- Training for the use and maintenance of ICT systems following installation
- Telemedicine networks over the internet for prenatal and postnatal care (perinatal period care)
- Telemetering system to monitor river water levels for disaster prevention
- Distance learning systems at isolated schools utilizing multimedia technology
- Sensor-based Smart villages with disaster resilient distributed area communication network
- Telemedicine to improve healthcare services



Photo A-1 Activities of APT-C2 Telemedicine Project in Micronesia (2024)

Table A-1 Major Social Development Support Activities

No.	Project Description	Country / Area	Period
1	Support for victims of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant accident (Microwave circuit construction for telemedicine via satellite)	Russia, Republic of Belarus, Kazakhstan	1992 - 1994
2	Support for wireless network construction for medical care centers in rural areas	Laos, Afghanistan	1998 - 2007 2003, 2008 - 2010
3	Provision of PBX equipment to hospitals	Myanmar, Ukraine, Afghanistan	1997 - 2003
4	Support for telemedicine systems	Malaysia, Thailand	1999 - 2008 2010 - 2013
5	Training in IT skills and wireless technology	Afghanistan	2004 - 2006
6	Local community information transmission system (for disaster management and improving the living environment), based on Japan's Disaster Management Administration Radio System	Myanmar	2013 - 2019
7	Construction of and training on how to use community FM radio station	Bangladesh	2013 - 2017
8	Support for victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake - Emergency Support - Broadcasting stations - ICT support	Japan Iwate pref. Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima pref. Ishinomaki, Miyagi pref. Iwate and Fukushima pref.	2011 2011 - 2014 2011 - 2019 2011 - 2020
9	ICT support in disaster-stricken areas - Earthquake in Kumamoto, Kyushu - Torrential rains in western Japan - Torrential rains in northern Kyushu - Smooth running of community activities and revitalization of local communities through ICT - Typhoon 15 & 19, in 2019 - Torrential rains in 2020 - Earthquake in Noto Peninsula	Japan Kumamoto pref. Hiroshima pref. Asakura, Fukuoka pref. Hiroshima, Miyagi, and Kumamoto pref. Marumori, Miyagi pref. Kure, Saka and Mihara, Hiroshima pref. Ishikawa pref.	2016 - 2023 2018 - 2023 2018 - 2020 2019 - 2020 - 2022 2020 - 2024 2024 -
10	Disaster risk reduction support and health and hygiene awareness improvement projects in schools and villages	Myanmar	2020 - 2022 2024 - 2026
11	Sensor-based Smart village with disaster resilient distributed area communication network (APT Project *)	Sri Lanka	2021 - 2025
12	Improving healthcare services using telemedicine (APT Project *)	Micronesia Philippines/Marshall Islands	2022 - 2026 2025 -

*: Asia Pacific Telecommunity

II Emergency Relief

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, cyclones and tsunamis disrupt communities and threaten people's lives. As emergency relief, BHN provides those affected in the devastated areas with ICT support to access lifeline information and communication networks for quick recovery after disasters.

Projects Conducted by BHN

- Community address system to furnish timely indispensable information
- Restoration of community radio stations and provision of broadcasting equipment
- ICT support – PC, printer and internet access – for local government and residents
- Safety confirmation system using satellite phones
- Implementation of ICT-based initiatives to revitalize local communities in temporary housing complexes and community centers in disaster-affected areas
- Wireless and satellite communication systems as an emergency measure



Photo A-2 Community radio station building and antenna tower



Photo A-3 The scene inside a community radio studio during a live show

Supporting Sulawesi earthquake affected areas through establishing a community radio station (2019).

Table A-2 Major Emergency Relief Activities

Event	No.	Country / Area	Description of Supports	Period
1. Earth-quake	(1)	Taiwan, Turkey	Providing radio equipment, free telephone services via satellite	1999
	(2)	India	Communication support for medical teams	2000
	(3)	Iran	Establishment of community FM station, Provision of radios	2004
	(4)	Pakistan	Free telephone services via satellite, Community Addressing (CA) Systems	2005
	(5)	Indonesia	Provision of well pumps and radios	2006, 2009
	(6)	Haiti	Restoration of community FM station Installation of CA system	2010 - 2014
	(7)	Japan (3 Prefectures in Tohoku)	Installation of internet connections for evacuation shelters, construction and restoration of temporary disaster broadcasting stations	2011
	(8)	Nepal	Construction and restoration of community FM broadcasting stations	2015 - 2016
	(9)	Japan (Kumamoto Pref)	Setting up PCs and Internet access at evacuation shelters	2016
	(10)	Japan (Hokkaido)	Setting up PCs and Internet access at evacuation shelters	2018
	(11)	Indonesia (Sulawesi)	Delivery of radio & establishment of community FM station	2018 - 2019
	(12)	Japan (Noto Peninsula)	Setting up PCs and Internet access at temporary housing complex	2024 -
2. Typhoon Cyclone Hurricane	(1)	Honduras	Providing communication equipment	1998
	(2)	Myanmar	Community Addressing System	2008 - 2011
	(3)	Philippines	CA System, ICT stations	2013 - 2014
	(4)	Japan (Hiroshima Pref)	ICT-based community recovery and revitalization for disaster-affected communities at temporary housing estates	2018
3. Tsunami	(1)	Indonesia, Sri Lanka	Community FM broadcasting station, distribution of radios	2005
	(2)	Japan (3 Prefectures in Tohoku)	-Installation of internet connections in temporary housing, operation support, etc. (Coastal cities in Iwate Prefecture, Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, etc.)	2011 - 2012
			- Construction of an Information Network for Victims (Iidate Village, Fukushima Prefecture)	2011 - 2012
			- Construction and restoration of broadcasting stations, distributing radios (Tohoku 3 prefectures)	2011 - 2012
4. Refugees	(1)	Afghanistan	Free telephone service via satellite	2002
	(2)	Iraq	Medical team communications support	2003

III Human Resource Development

Human resource development is a core activity of BHN. We provide ICT engineers and government officials working in ICT-related departments in developing countries with opportunities to learn cutting-edge technologies and their applications.

BHN Human Development Program

The BHN Human Development Program (the “Program”) was established in 1998 as BHN’s own human resource development initiative to foster future leaders in the ICT field in Asia. Each year, the Program invites promising individuals, currently from nine Asian countries, and provides them with a comprehensive training program consisting of two semesters: the first in Malaysia and the second in Japan. Since its inception, a total of 204 participants from 13 countries have taken part in the Program through the 26th intake (Table A-3).



Photo A-4 Presentation by a participant in the 26th BHN Human Development Program in Tokyo (October 2025)



Photo A-5 Study visit to the NTT Musashino R&D Center (October 2025)

Table A-3 Number of Participants in the BHN Human Development Program by Country

No.	Country	1st 1998 - 99	2nd 1999 - 00	3rd 2000 - 02	4th 2001 - 02	5th 2002 - 03	6th 2003 - 04	7th 2004 - 05	8th 2005 - 06	9th 2006 - 07	10th 2007 - 08	11th 2008 - 09	12th 2009 - 10	13th 2010 - 11	14th 2011 - 12	15th 2012 - 13	16th 2013 - 14	17th 2014 - 15	18th 2015 - 16	19th 2016 - 17	20th 2017 - 18	21st 2018 - 19	22nd 2019 - 21	23rd 2022	24th 2023	25th 2024	26th 2025	Total			
1	Afghanistan	Male+Female (Female)				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1														8			
2	Bangladesh	Male+Female (Female)			2	1	1	2					1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	19		
3	Cambodia	Male+Female (Female)						2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	22		
4	Indonesia	Male+Female (Female)							1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				1	*	2	*	1	18	
5	Kazakhstan	Male+Female (Female)													1	1		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)			1	*	(1)	*	(8)		
6	Lao	Male+Female (Female)	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	27		
7	Malaysia	Male+Female (Female)			1																							1			
8	Mongolia	Male+Female (Female)			1	1																						2			
9	Myanmar	Male+Female (Female)	1	1	2	3	1										1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	18			
10	Philippines	Male+Female (Female)							2	1		1		1		1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14		
11	Sri Lanka	Male+Female (Female)		1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	31		
12	Uzbekistan	Male+Female (Female)	2	1	1	2	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			2	1	1	25		
13	Vietnam	Male+Female (Female)					1	2		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	18		
	Total	Male+Female (Female)	3	3	5	10	9	9	10	9	8	8	8	7	8	8	9	8	9	8	8	6	8	7	10	*	10	*	9	9	204
			(1)	(1)		(2)		(2)	(1)		(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(5)	*	(4)	*	(4)	(50)	

* One of the two participants in the 25th program is the same as a participant in the 24th.
She participated in the first semester of the 24th program and the second semester of the 25th.

Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Training Course

APT, founded as a joint initiative between the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in 1979, has been providing human capacity development program to its member countries and territories.

BHN has been entrusted with implementing the APT/EBC-J* human resource development programs, which have been sponsored by APT since FY2011. Participants in the program come to Tokyo, attend lectures delivered by ICT experts, and visit companies and institutes to observe ICT applications firsthand. The program in FY2019 was suspended due to the widespread COVID-19 pandemic. It was subsequently conducted online in FY2020 - FY2022 with many participants attending from their home countries. The in-person program resumed in FY2023.

Since the program began, the total number of participants and participating countries/regions has reached 183 and 31, respectively (Table A-4).

*EBC-J: Extra-Budgetary Contribution from the Government of Japan



Photo A-6 Participants presenting during the APT Training Course in Tokyo (March 2026)

Table A-4 Number of Participants in the APT Training Course by Country

	Country	1st 2011 - 12	2nd 2012 - 13	3rd 2013 - 14	4th 2013 - 15	5th 2015 - 16	6th 2016 - 17	7th 2017 - 18	8th 2018 - 19	(Note) 2019 - 20	9th 2020 - 21	10th 2021 - 22	11th 2022 - 23	12th 2023 - 24	13th 2024 - 25	14th 2025 - 26	Total
1	Afghanistan			2	2	2		1			3		2				12
2	Bangladesh		1	1		1		2							1	1	7
3	Bhutan	1		1	1		1	1	1			1	2	1	1	1	12
4	Cambodia		1		1	1		1					3	1	1	2	11
5	China	1		2				1	1			1					6
6	Fiji															1	1
7	India	1		1	1	1	1	1	1				1				8
8	Indonesia							1			1		1				3
9	Iran			1	1						2		3		1		8
10	Kiribati											2	2	1			5
11	Lao							1	1					1	1		4
12	Malaysia				1	1			1				1	1	1		6
13	Maldives	1	1	1		1	1						3				8
14	Marshall Islands	1															1
15	Micronesia														1		1
16	Mongolia	1	1	1	1		1	2	1		1	1	4		1	1	16
17	Myanmar	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		2	2					11
18	Nauru	1													1		2
19	Nepal		1				1	1	1					1		1	6
20	Niue						1										1
21	Pakistan	1		1	1	1	1										5
22	Palau				1	1								1			3
23	Papua New Guinea															1	1
24	Philippines					2		1									3
25	Samoa					1					2	2					5
26	Sri Lanka		1			1		1			3	2	1	2	1	2	14
27	Thailand		1	1	1	1	1	2			1		1	1	1	1	12
28	Tonga	1				1	1										3
29	Tuvalu								1								1
30	Vanuatu					1							1				2
31	Vietnam	1	1		1		1									1	5
	Total	11	9	13	13	17	10	17	9	0	15	11	25	10	11	12	183

Note: Not implemented due to the Corona pandemic

BHN Dr. Kuwabara Donation-Supported Course

BHN Association, in collaboration with the University of Electro-Communications (UEC), Tokyo, established a course entitled “BHN Kuwabara Donation-Supported Course” in 2019. This graduate-level course is funded by an endowment from Dr. M. Kuwabara, Advisor to BHN and former Vice President of NTT, and has been offered annually at UEC since 2019.

The course is designed primarily for students from developing countries to deepen their understanding of the SDGs and ICTs that support the achievement of these goals. The donation-supported course consists of two courses—“Information and Communications Technologies for SDGs” and “International Communication for Science and Technology”—delivered over a full academic year (two semesters). To date, a total of 242 students from 19 countries/regions, including international students, have participated in the course.

The course is delivered in a hybrid format. UEC students attend classes on campus, while students from other universities—participating under the “Super Partnership Program for Graduate Schools”, such as Muroran Institute of Technology and Akita Prefectural University—also join the classes online.



Photo A-7 Lecture at the University of Electro-Communications (April 2025)

The BHN Dr. Kuwabara's Fund Scholarship Program

The BHN Dr. Kuwabara's Fund Scholarship Program (the "Kuwabara Scholarship") was established in March 2020, funded by a generous donation from Dr. Moriiji Kuwabara, former Chairman of the BHN Association.

Based on Dr. Kuwabara's vision, the Kuwabara Scholarship provides former participants of the BHN Human Development Program with opportunities to enroll in a one-year master's degree program at leading Japanese institutions, including the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) and the Hitotsubashi University Business School (HUB), in order to enhance their knowledge and skills. The scholarship typically supports two students each year.

To date, four students have benefited from the program.

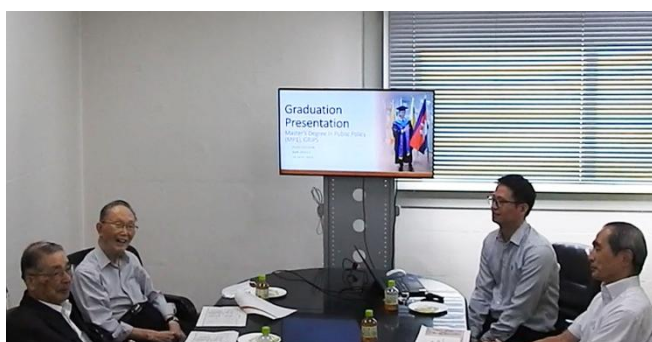


Photo A-8 Graduation presentation by a fourth intake BHN scholar at the BHN office (September 2025)



Photo A-9 Dr. Kuwabara (left) congratulating a BHN fourth intake scholar and wishing him future success (September 2025)

Table A-5 The BHN Dr. Kuwabara's Fund Scholars

Period of study	Number of scholars	Country	Graduate school	Program
Oct. 2022 – Sep. 2023	2	Bangladesh	GRIPS	One-Year Master's Program of Public Policy
Oct. 2023 – Sep. 2024	1	Bangladesh	GRIPS	One-Year Master's Program of Public Policy
Oct. 2024 – Sep. 2025	1	Cambodia	GRIPS	One-Year Master's Program of Public Policy

GRIPS: National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies