

BUILDING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

In order to expand the approach for poverty reduction based on geotechnical engineering, a non-profit organization (NPO), whose mission is to maintain the rural infrastructure in developing countries, was established in 2007. Fukubayashi received negative feedback on his plan to develop an NPO and work as a board member since graduation on account of the uncertain future. However, only a simple thank from the villagers, "Thank you for providing us with the technology!" encouraged us to start the NPO without any guarantee concerning the future of the organization.

Up to now, our activities have benefitted 11 countries in Asia, Oceania, and Africa, and 13 km of rural roads have been maintained under the NPO's direct supervision (Figure 19 and 20).



Figure 19. Prof. Kimura is supervising construction in Ghana



Figure 20. Fukubayashi is explaining the procedures to villagers in Papua New Guinea

It was in 2005 that road maintenance involving farmers using "Do-nou" was implemented for the first time in Papua New Guinea, which often referred to as the last paradise on earth. The

Secretary of Papua New Guinea's Department of Works has now recognized our organization. We are also providing management services for a project funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), in which 80 km of rural roads are being maintained using "Do-nou" technology. We plan to extend the socioeconomic benefits to the roadside communities. The ADB is also expecting to maintain the community infrastructure using "Do-nou" technology in another project in East Timor; therefore, we were asked to join the project to transfer this "Do-nou" technology.

A "Do-nou" team was established at a local university in the Philippines. The team consists of an associate professor in international affairs as a coordinator, and engineers of the technical faculty. They adopted "Do-nou" technology, and have been applying it for the maintenance of small infrastructures on the campus; they also transferred the technology to neighboring communities and local NGOs as means to contribute to society under the university initiative.

Our NPO was asked to collaborate in the study to promote a Base of Economic Pyramid (BOP) Business through road maintenance using "Do-nou" technology by an international consultant company. Beginning in 2011, the study commenced in Ghana with funding assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

In the middle of Africa, an ethnic group whose average height is unusually short; anthropologists define them as *Pygmy* whose adult men grow to less than 150 cm (4 feet 11 inches) in average height, are living. We are also a member of a study team attempting to develop sustainable agriculture in the ethnic group's living area. Our contribution is to develop and suggest methods of rural infrastructure maintenance utilizing locally available material.

There are many Japanese volunteers who are working in a number of developing countries with passion to help develop the area. Even though they are not engineers, requests from them such as "Please teach me road maintenance using "Do-nou" technology" have been e-mailed to us. To respond to such requests, in Uganda and Tanzania, training and demonstrations have been conducted with them. Afterwards, the volunteers have maintained roads in their assigned areas with villagers. They have been able to receive recognition and be accepted as members of their community.