



## Recipients of the Eighth Nakasone Yasuhiro Award

**Mr. Robert D. Eldridge, PhD**

Award of Excellence

Born: January 23, 1968

United States of America

Occupation: Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-7;

Political Affairs and Public Diplomacy Officer, Marine Corps Installations Pacific (Okinawa, Japan)

In his extensive research into US-Japan relations, Dr. Eldridge strongly affirms the importance of the bilateral relationship. He possesses a depth of knowledge about the currently controversial issue relating to Okinawa. In 2009 he resigned his post as university faculty to take his current post as Political Affairs and Public Diplomacy Officer to work toward resolving issues surrounding Okinawa with a view to improving the US-Japan relationship. Besides his work in Okinawa, Dr. Eldridge was involved in disaster relief in the Tohoku region of Japan after the March 11, 2011 earthquake disaster through “Operation Tomodachi” which fostered friendly relations between the US and Japan. During a time of mutual distrust between the two countries, the work by Dr. Eldridge was determined to have great value in improving the important relationship between the US and Japan, and to peace and security in the region. The Nakasone Yasuhiro Award is granted in recognition of the research and activities led by Dr. Eldridge.

**Mr. Zubaidullo Ubaidulloev, PhD**

Incentive Award

Born: August 29, 1973

Republic of Tajikistan

Occupation: Research Fellow, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences

University of Tsukuba, Japan (until January 31, 2012)

Using source materials in India and other countries, Dr. Ubaidulloev conducted research and analysis of the relationship between Japan and India in geopolitical terms, especially with respect to the Tokyo Tribunal, in which the victors administered justice to the vanquished, and the view of Japan held immediately after the war by then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. He asserts that Prime Minister Nehru’s perspective contributed to peace and stability in Asia. In addition, in his work Dr. Ubaidulloev notes that Japan and India share the value of democracy and can together strengthen the link between other democratic nations to positively influence the region. This important research was determined to contribute to building peace and stability in Asia, and the Nakasone Yasuhiro Award is granted to encourage continuing work.

**Ms. Chigusa Tanaka BA**

Incentive Award

Born: June 28, 1978

Japan

Occupation: President

NPO Anacott Cambodia

As a volunteer for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ms. Tanaka went to Cambodia to work toward restoring the education system that had been destroyed after the brutal reign of the Pol Pot administration. Following the conclusion of her term at JICA, in response to the earnest requests of the people there, Ms. Tanaka remains in Cambodia to continue her volunteer work. Teaching music and physical education, she also serves as the assistant to the principal and provides training and support to other teachers at the school while also accepting children as a foster parent. The devotion evident in these steady efforts focused on-site in the field were determined to be worthy of commendation and recognition to encourage younger generations to take on this kind of endeavor.