A Seed Planted Today Will Grow into a Forest Tomorrow

The Initiative and Accomplishments of the Medical Human Resources Training Program for Friendly Nations

One of the core projects of the International Healthcare Cooperation Strategic Alliance (IHCSA) is the Healthcare Personnel Training Program. This training program focuses on helping nations receiving aid to develop local medical human resources and improve the quality of local medical services through up-to-date knowledge and technology.

In 2005, the first training program was held in Taiwan for medical practitioners from Vietnam. This project was initiated by the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) with the aim of promoting friendship between Taiwan and Vietnam through medical exchange. As the two governments have no formal diplomatic ties, the TaiwanICDF aimed to expand relations between the two nations through the transfer of medical knowledge. This project was highly successful, so the TaiwanICDF decided to make it a regular program.

In 2006, a total of 20 medical practitioners from 14 nations – including physicians in internal and external medicine, nurses and specialists in epidemiology, anesthesia and gynecology – received training and shared experiences with medical professionals in Taiwan from nine medical institutions. The scale and diversity of the group of participants increased significantly from the first year, showing that this program has been very effective.

In the process of transferring knowledge and technology, the trainees substantially improved their professional skills. And through daily interaction, they learned about Taiwan’s medical system and operations, as well as concepts and practices in modern doctor-patient relationships. In essence, the Healthcare Personnel Training Program is a comprehensive experience-sharing program, which reflects Taiwan’s devotion, as a member of the global community, to improving the quality of global medical services.