Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency

1973

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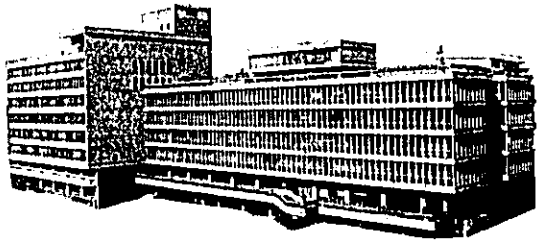


ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT

IT is more than ten years since the Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency (OTCA) was created, in June 1962, as the sole institution to execute all technical cooperation programs sponsored by the Government of Japan. During this period, government-sponsored technical cooperation expanded steadily as requirements increased at home and abroad. Accordingly, the Agency's organization was consolidated and its activities diversified.

Japan's government-sponsored technical cooperation began in 1954, long before the birth of OTCA, with her participation in the Colombo Plan as one of the donor countries. Nevertheless, the creation of OTCA marked the beginning of a new epoch in the history of Japanese technical cooperaation. Before its creation, government-sponsored cooperation was carried into effect by a few non-governmental organs. The creation of OTCA meant the establishment of a single, all-embracing organization to carry on all technical cooperation activities for the Government of Japan. It came into being through a special legislative measure, providing for its status as an autonomous semi-governmental body. It was designed as a new system to cope with the need for more efficient conduct of Japan's ever-expanding technical cooperation and the growing expectation of developing countries for Japanese cooperation.

Its budget, amounting to U.S. $5.38 million in its first year (1962), has grown steadily every year, amounting to U.S. $50.41 million, more than 9.38 times its original appropriation, in 1973 (Fig. 1).

In the meantime, the scope of its activities has also grown. In 1962, they were confined to four types: receiving foreign trainees, assigning Japanese experts overseas, sending out Development Survey missions, and establishing Overseas Technical Cooperation (Training) Centres. It 1964 it started to supply equipment in addition to that which was incidental

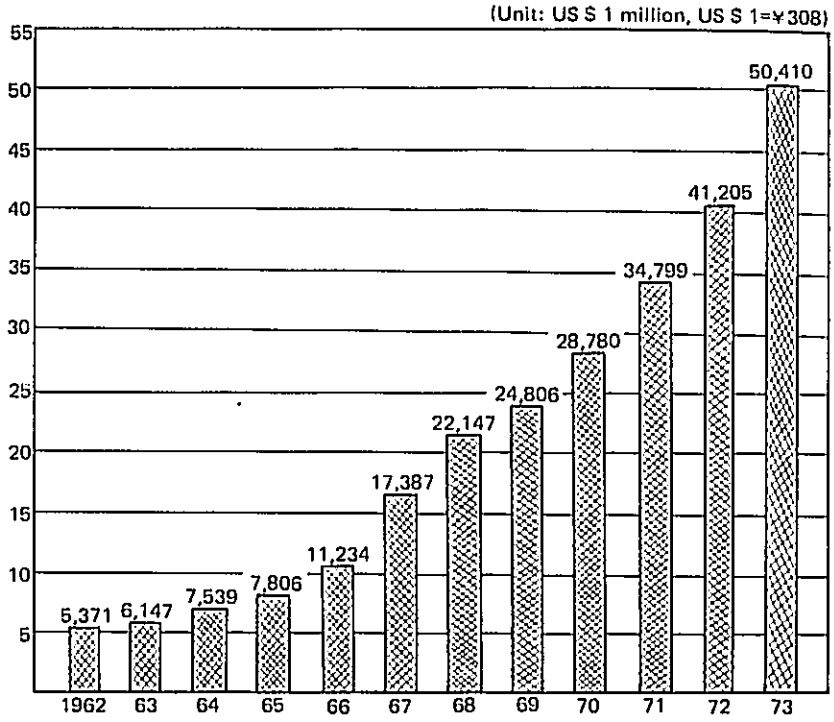


Fig. 1. OTCA's Budget

to various forms of technical cooperation. It 1965 Japan Overseas Cooperation Voluntees Cooperation was formed, and Japanese youths were dispatched to developing countries under this program. It 1966, two new schemes, Medical Cooperation and Science Education Cooperation were set up. Then, in 1967, two more field-oriented projects were put into practice, namely, the Agricultural Development Cooperation Project and the Primary Products Development Cooperation Project.

The scope of Japan's technical cooperation efforts is wide and diverse, ranging from rice cultivation to the peaceful uses of atomic energy. It is noteworthy that in recent years, reflecting perhaps a current tendency throughout the world, efforts have been directed toward agriculture and infrastructures such as transportation and telecommunications, while public administration and social welfare are also drawing increasing attention.

In terms of geographical areas, Japan's cooperation is primarily directed to the Asian region, owing to her geographical position and historical

associations, but cooperation of considerable scale has also been extended to the African region and the Central and South American regions. Thailand, Indonesia, India, Khmer Republic, Pakistan, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Iran in Asia, and Middle East and Turkey, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Nigeria in Africa, and Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, and El Salvador in Central and South America are the major recipient nations, according to statistical data.

Japan's government-sponsored technical cooperation thus has behind it a history of more than eighteen years, during which it has registered considerable achievements. According to the results of a number of care studies undertaken sometimes to assess the effectiveness of her technical cooperation, it can be said that it is making steady progress in the recipient countries and contributing to their social and economic development. On the other hand, it is believed to be important for Japan to expand her volume of technical cooperation, improve its quality, and to adapt its aid to the actual needs of developing countries.

Japan's technical cooperation is thus making steady progress, but there are still some problems to be overcome.

In the first place, its scale can hardly be said to be large enough, by international standard, either in its monetary amount or proportion to the total economic cooperation efforts of Japan. Accordingly, Japan is being urged by DAC (Development Assistance Committee) and the developed and developing countries to increase her total economic assistance, especially in technical cooperation, which is a highly effective form of assistance qualitatively. It is true that Japan's economic growth has been remarkable in recent years. Her gross national product in 1972 ranked second in the free world. Yet, in terms of the per capita national income, she ranks no higher than twelfth. In the meantime, in view of Japan's position in the world and the evergrowing demand at home and abroad for an increase in her assistance, it has obviously become necessary for her to overcome her domestic difficulties and expand systematically the scale of her assistance, particularly that technical cooperation.

Secondly, compared with European or American countries, Japan has disadvantages to overcome in extending technical cooperation, namely, the language handicap and differences in climate, customs and manners. On the other hand, Japan has similarities to developing countries in

natural and social environments. The experiences and knowledge she has gained through the process of development into a modern nation are believed to be capable of making contribution of greater value to the developing countries, especially to the countries of Asia, than other developed countries.

Japan's technical cooperation is basically intended to contribute to the development of the recipient countries and, through the closer relations and personal contacts that follow such cooperation, to promote mutual understanding and friendship. Technical cooperation is being urged in Japan as the mainstay of her economic cooperation. It is, therefore, expected to be enlarged in scope and improved in quality, by overcoming such difficulties as the above-mentioned and making the most of its advantages.

In recent years, Asian nations have been showing an increasing tendency toward regional cooperation.

The meetings of the Ministerial Conference for the development of Southeast Asia were held every year since 1966, and as a result, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centres were established in Bangkok and Singapore. OTCA, as the sole executive agency for technical cooperation, is playing an important part in this work.

ORGANIZATION

OTCA is a semi-governmental organization established as a juridical person by a special law, in order to execute all technical cooperation activities on behalf of the Government, and it is under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

OTCA is divided into two classes of departments and offices, under a group of directors headed by a Director-General. One is responsible for matters related to the overall administration of OTCA, such as planning, coordination, research, statistics, publicity, personnel, finance, and the like. The other executes different types of technical cooperation, such as receiving foreign trainees, assigning Japanese experts and setting up overseas centers, undertaking development-oriented surveys, and recruiting volunteers. The chart below shows the present organizational set-up of OTCA. A brief explanation of each department or office is given below:

1. General Affairs Department

In addition to looking after the overall coordination of the Agency's activities, this department deals with all affairs related to administration and documents, planning, personnel, salaries and welfare, budget, data processing and publicity. Training of the Agency's employees and communications with outside bodies, at home and abroad, also come under this department.

2. Accounting and Finance Department

To cope with the increase in budget appropriations for technical cooperation by the Japanese Government and the expansion of OTCA's activities, the Accounting and Finance Department was created. The department is in charge of accounts, contracts, and the maintenance of the Agency's property.

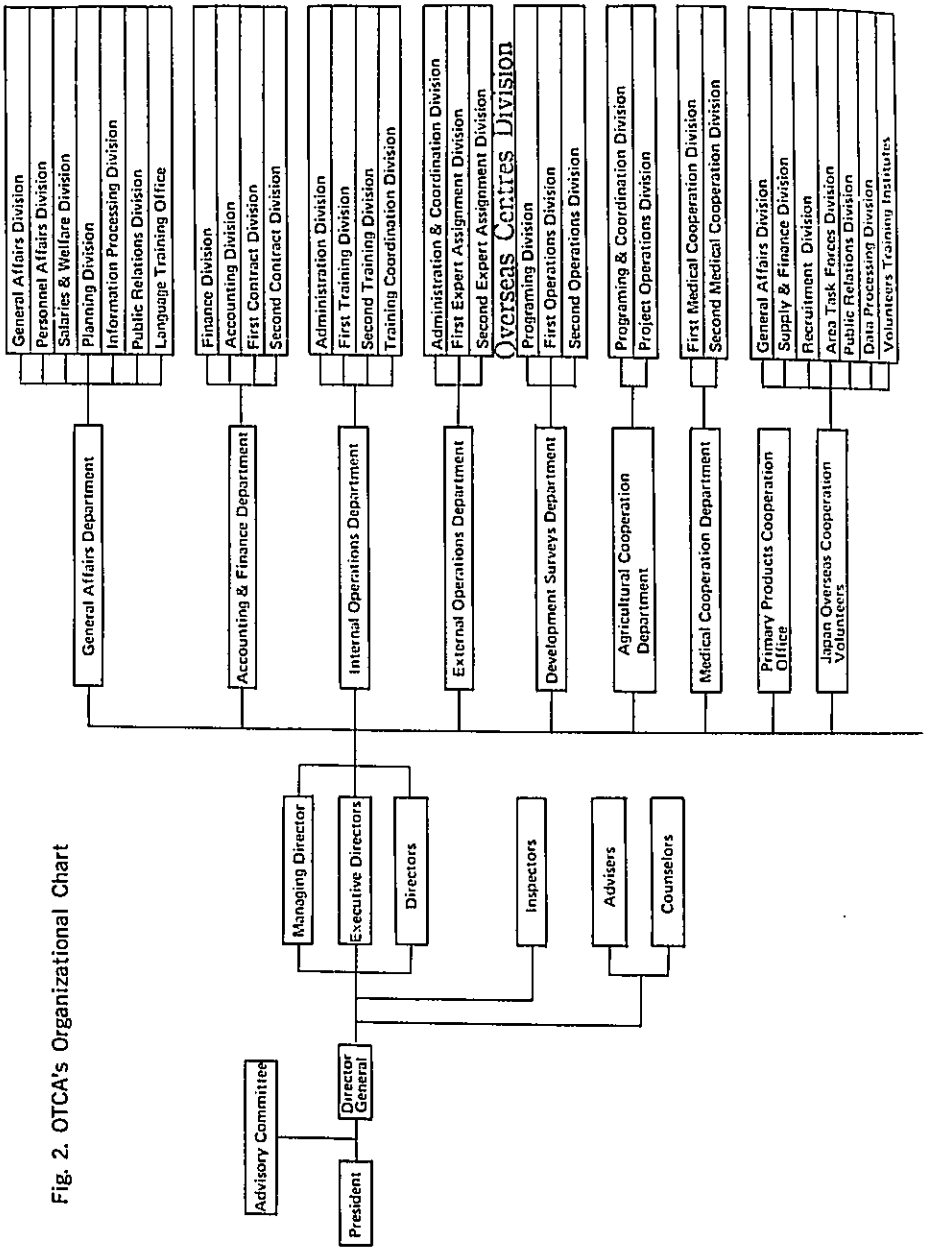


Fig. 2. OTCA's Organizational Chart

Tokyo International Centre
General Affairs Section
Operations Section
Accounting Section
Osaka International Training Centre
General Affairs Section
Nagoya International Training Centre
General Affairs Section
Uchihara International Agricultural Training Centre
General Affairs Section
Operations Section
Misaki International Fisheries Training Centre
Overseas Offices
Bangkok Office
New Delhi Office
Phnom-Penh Office (Temporarily Closed)
Manila Office
Djakarta Office
Dacca Office (Temporarily Closed)
Singapore Office
Nairobi Office
Saigon Office
Teheran Office
Mexico Office
Resident Representatives
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Malaysia
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Tanzania
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Laos
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Philippines
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Morocco
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Kenya
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., India
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Zambia
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Nepal
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Malawi
Resident Representative J.O.C.V., Ethiopia

3. Internal Operations Department

This department is responsible for everything related to the programing and execution of the training of participants from abroad, including pre-training orientation programs, Japanese language courses, health administration and recreation for the trainees, evaluation of their training programs, and follow-up of their training after their return home. The OTCA's training centers in Japan are administered by this department.

4. External Operations Department

This department deals with OTCA's activities abroad except those which are undertaken by the departments and offices mentioned below. It is responsible for setting up and managing the Overseas Technical Cooperation Centers of various kinds for recruiting and assigning Japanese experts abroad (including the centers staff), for procuring and supplying the equipment for the overseas centers and individual experts, and for the donation of equipment to developing countries. Field coordination with the United Nations Technical Cooperation Agencies and assignment of science education expert in these countries are also reponsibilities of this department.

5. Development Surveys Department

This department is responsible for OTCA's cooperation with developing countries in connection with their public development projects. At the request of the government of a developing country, this department organizes, sends out, and administers a survey team of experts, together with necessary equipment, in order to carry out the work requested by that government, and to investigate the feasibility of a proposed project. The department also assists the survey team in preparation of an official report on its findings and submits it to the government concerned.

6. Agricultural Cooperation Department

This department has been created recently, reflecting the growing interest of both the developing countries and Japan in agricultural development. The department is responsible for extending to these countries integrated cooperation in a special project for agricultural development, in the form of initial surveys, long-term plans of operation, provision of Japanese agricultural specialists in required fields, and supply of necessary

equipment.

7. Medical Cooperation Department

This department deals with the recruiting and assigning of medical experts and training of medical personel, setting up and managing medical institutions abroad, and procuring and supplying medical equipments for technical cooperation projects.

8. Primary Products Development Cooperation Office

This office is responsible for cooperation with developing countries in improving primary products by participating in long-term projects. A preliminary survey for such a project, the setting up of a base operation, and the provision of technical guidance, including a base staff and necessary equipment, are undertaken by this office.

9. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers

More or less independent from other departments of the Agency, this Office is solely responsible for undertaking activities related to the corps of volunteers who work in developing countries in order to take part in their national development, including the planning of the deployment of young volunteers, their recruitment, selection, orientation, and pre-service training and assigments, and providing all necessary supporting services and guidance to the corps members overseas, through the representatives of the secretary general of the Office. The Office also looks after the corps members after their return to Japan.

ACTIVITIES

THE technical cooperation projects carried out by OTCA are those undertaken on a government-to-government basis, which constitute the major part of Japan's technical cooperation, which in turn consists of two categories, one category based on bilateral agreements between the Japanese Government and the recipient governments and other international agreements, and the other category covering cooperation with the United Nations Agencies and other international organizations.

Therefore, only those requests which have been received by the Japanese Government through diplomatic channels are forwarded to OTCA. The Agency is not in a position to respond to any other forms of approach, such as a direct request from a private source for cooperation, a request for arranging a joint venture with a Japanese private enterprise, a personal request for study in Japan, or a request for facilities for group tours in Japan.

The cost of Japan's technical cooperation is borne by Japan in most cases, but sometimes an internationl organization or the recipient government bears a portion of the cost.

In carrying out its technical cooperation activities, internationally, OTCA gets in touch with the government of the developing countries concerned and with agencies for technical cooperation of various international organizations through the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; domestically, the Agency receives extensive cooperation from governmental and non-governmental bodies.

OTCA's activities are roughly divided into two kinds. One is the execution of technical cooperation projects, such as receiving foreign trainees, assigning Japanese experts overseas, and supplying equipment; the other is the supporting activities necessary for the execution of technical cooperation, such as planning, coordination, research, assessment,

publicity, information processing, and printing. Various activities will be briefly explained below.

1. Fellowship Training in Japan

This type of technical cooperation is designed to help developing countries cultivate people of talent needed for their social and economic development. At the request of the governments or the international organizations concerned, OTCA receives middle-and higher-level trainees from the developing countries and provides them with technical training, new knowledge, or refresher courses. Generally, all this is done through OTCA, unless otherwise arranged by international organizations or the government of the participants themselves. Fellowship training is also aimed at helping each participant acquaint himself with Japanese industry, culture, and way of life throughout his stay in Japan and promoting mutual understanding and friendship between his country and Japan.

The fields of training are very extensive, covering agriculture, forestry and fishery, mining, manufacturing and construction, communication, transportation, medicine and sanitation, and administration. Agriculture and fisheries attract the largest number of people. Next in popularity are administration, postal service and telecommunications, light industry, transportation, construction, and health and welfare.

There are two different forms of training: group training and individual training. Group training is given according to programs pre-arranged by OTCA to meet the common interest of a number of developing countries. The governments concerned are invited to send qualified people to participate in the proposed course. Individual training refers to a training program for an individual trainee, in accordance with a specific request of his government. In either instance, the period of training is usually from 1 to 12 months, averaging about 4.5 months. Many of the trainees are trained at the "International Training Centers" maintained by OTCA in five different parts of Japan exclusively for this type of of technical cooperation. Other trainees are attached to the experimental stations, research laboratories, or training institutes of various technical departments of the government, of colleges and universities, or of private enterprises, depending on their respective areas of study. Upon completion of the training program each trainee is awarded a certificate by the Japanese Government.

The planning and execution of these training programs and matters

concerning the administration of training are the responsibility of OTCA. It also takes care of the trainee's education in the Japanese language and their personal welfare. As a follow-up of their training in Japan, OTCA sends them an English quartely entitled "*Kenshu-In*," reference material, and under certain conditions, equipment they need.

Fellowship training is one of the oldest of Japan's technical cooperation activities, with a history of nearly eighteen years. Altogether 16,016 trainees have already been received from overseas. Geographically, the Far East and Southeast Asia combined have by far the largest share. Those countries which have sent a large number of trainees to Japan so far are Thailand and the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, the Philippines, India, and Taiwan. As the numbers of ex-trainees have grown large in some of these countries, an OTCA alumni association of a sort has been organized in several of them, serving as tie between its members and OTCA. The Near and Middle East and Africa combined have also sent many trainees, followed by Central and South America. In these areas, the principal countries are Iran, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Turkey, Nigeria, Ghana, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, and so on.

2. Assignment of Japanese Experts Abroad

At the request of developing countries, OTCA sends Japanese experts to these countries to be attached to government departments, or experiment or research organs, to render services in the form of technical guidance, research, advice, and so on.

The specialties of these experts are as varied and extensive as in the case of fellowship training. Agriculture, forestry, and fishery account for the majority of experts, followed by health and sanitation, light industry, telecommunications, transportation, and construction.

The Japanese experts are selected mostly from among those in active service at governmental or non-governmental organs and are fully qualified to meet the requirements of the recipient countries. OTCA attends to their general orientation and language training before they are assigned abroad.

The assignment of Japanese experts abroad initiated in 1955, has a history as long as that of fellowship training. Since then the total number of experts sent abroad has reached 3,561 (as of Mar. 1972). An overwhelming majority of them have been sent to the Far East,

Note: (figures quoted in this pamphlet are as of Mar. 31, 1972)

Trainees learning rice planting technique at the Uchihara International Agricultural Training Centre in Japan.

Japan overseas cooperation volunteer teaching Indian counterparts rice-harvesting technique.

Trainees studying computer application in Japan.

Trainees repairing fishing net at the A
Centre in Japan.

Trainees studying mechanical engineering in Japan.

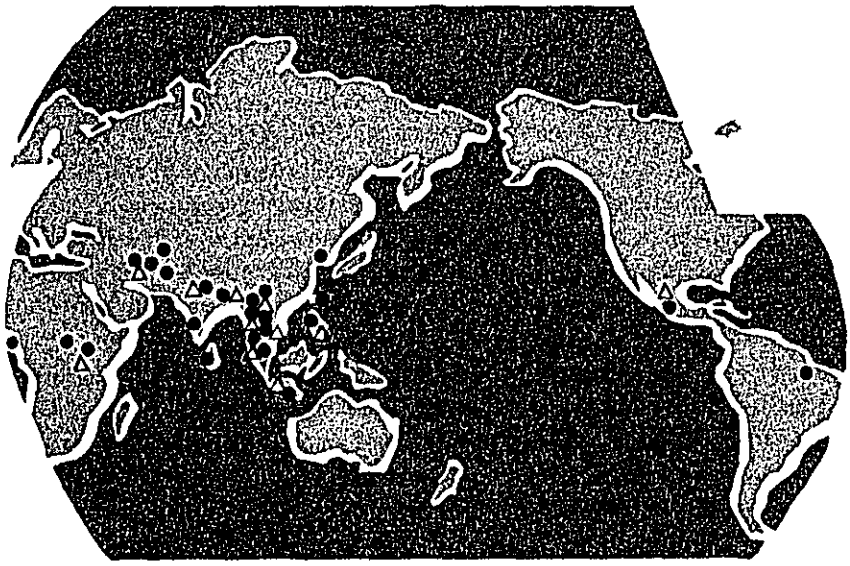
Aisaki International Fisheries Training

Japanese medical expert conducting a mass examination for inhabitants in Laos.

Trainees studying automobile engineering in Japan.

Bridge construction site over the Chao Praya River, in Bangkok, Thailand. (Designed and executed with a credit offered by the Japanese Government.)

Overseas Offices and Technical Cooperation Centers



–Republic of Korea–
Technical Training Centre for Industry
–*Republic of Korea*
Vocational Training Centres (2 Centres)
–Philippines–
△Manila Office
Technical Development Centre for Domestic and Small-Scale Industries
–Vietnam–
△Saigon Office
–*Khmer Republic*–
△Phnom-Penh Office (Temporarily Closed)
Agricultural Technical Centre of Friendship (Handed Over)
Live-stock *Breeding of Friendship* (Handed Over)
–Thailand–
△Bangkok Office
King Mongkut Institute of Technology
Technical Training Centres for Road Construction (2 Centres: Songkla, Surat-Thani)
Virus Research Institute
Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre
–Indonesia–
△Djakarta Office
Technical Cooperation Project for Fishing Industry
–Sri Lanka–
Fisheries Training Centre

–India–
△New Delhi Office
Marine Products Processing Training Centre
Agricultural Extension Centres (8 Centres)
–Bangladesh–
△Dacca Office (Temporarily Closed)
Training Centre for Farm Mechanization
–Singapore–
△Singapore Office
–Pakistan–
Telecommunications Research Centre
–Iran–
△Teheran Office
Technical Training Centre for Small-Scale Industries
–Afghanistan–
Training Centre for Small-Scale Industries
–Ghana–
Technical Training Centre in Textiles
–Kenya–
△Nairobi Office
Technical Training Centre for Small-Scale Industries
–Uganda–
Vocational Training Centre
–Mexico–
△*Mexico Office*
Technical Training Centre for Telecommunications
–Brazil–
Technical Training Centre for Fiber Industry
–El Salvador–
El Salvador National School of Industry

Southeast Asia, and other areas of Asia, followed by the Near and Middle East and Africa, and Central and South America. Major recipient countries are Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Pakistan, Khmer Republic, Sri Lanka, India, Taiwan, Iran, and Brazil.

3. Overseas Technical Cooperation Centers

These centers are established by agreement with the governments of the countries concerned. Japan provides the recipient country with a team of experts and the necessary equipment, while the recipient country furnishes, as a rule, the land and buildings required, together with a local staff. By this mode of cooperation, each center carries out technical training, demonstration, or research. It is usually handed over to the recipient country after three years of Japanese participation. However, this period is often extended further, and even after transfer to the recipient government, the assignment of Japanese experts is sometimes continued. To ensure satisfactory operation after the transfer, efforts are made to train the local staff. For that purpose, members of the local staff are often invited to Japan for further training.

Cooperation through these centers covers small-scale industries, agriculture, fishery, textile industry, marine products processing, telecommunications, road construction, vocational training and public Health, etc.

The first of these centers was formed in 1960 as the Agricultural Cooperation Centre of Bangladesh. At the outset, these centers aimed mainly at training local technical experts. Later, their aims became diversified, as witnessed by the Virus Research Institute of Thailand, aiming at research, and the Agricultural Centre in India, aiming primarily at demonstration.

In spite of its rather short history, this approach to technical cooperation seems to have proven practical and effective, since its activities take place right in the recipient countries, under actual local conditions. Each center is established for training purposes, it also enables more local people to recieve training than in the case of a similar training program in Japan. If it is of a research or experimental type, the method developed there can often be applied to local conditions.

There are 32 of these centers already in operation and another two are expected to come into existence in the near future (22 in Asia, 3 in Africa, 2 in the Near and Middle East, and 3 in Central and South

America). Four of these centers have been handed over to the governments of the recipient countries after several years of Japanese cooperation.

4. Development Surveys

Development surveys are conducted by OTCA for developing countries interested in public projects dealing with infrastructure, which is an important foundation for their economic development. At the request of the aid-requesting government, OTCA organizes a survey team of competent experts selected from public and private organizations and sends it to the country concerned. The substance of these surveys undertaken may vary from a general, preliminary examination of existing conditions and outlining of a project on the basis of these conditions to a more detailed feasibility survey for a project already decided on by the government concerned. More recently, there have been cases like the Nam Ngum Dam Project in Laos where the survey included the designing of the execution. Because of the nature and the scale of such a project, which usually requires a large amount of capital investment, pre-investment survey is essential in making the proposed project a sound and justifiable one.

In most cases, such a pre-investment survey is conducted on project basis for an individual country, but sometimes it is carried out on a regional scale, covering several countries, like the Mekong River Basin Development Project and the Asian Highway Project, both of which are sponsored by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) of the United Nations.

The objects of these surveys are diverse and include exploration of resources for agriculture, forestry and fishery, mineral resources, roads, canals, ports and harbors, resources for hydroelectric generation, dams, telecommunications, railways, bridges, and city planning. In recent years, surveys of larger scale and longer terms, covering over several countries, have been increasing. The findings of these survey teams are compiled into a report, including recommendations if necessary. The report is them submitted to the Japanese Government and to the government of the country concerned.

About 200 survey teams have been sent out, more than half of them to the Asian region, followed by Central and South America, and by the Near and Middle East and Africa. In 1970, many teams were sent

to Asia, Africa, the Near and Middle East, and Central and South America.

5. Supply of Equipment

This type of cooperation began in 1964. Earlier, equipment supplied by OTCA was limited to either what was needed for setting up an overseas center, or what was required by an individual Japanese expert to carry out his work. As is well known, social and economic development in many developing countrres is often hampered, not only by the shortage of trained people, but also by the lack of essential material and equipment. In recent years, the quantity of equipment for raising the effectiveness of technical cooperation has been increasing, as the number of returned trainees in their countries has increased and the scope of technical guidance by Japanese experts has expanded. Equipment supply project was thus started to meet these needs. Equipment is supplied to the developing coutries to support the promotion of their development. Efforts are being made to enhance the total effect of cooperation through combined efforts of men and material, along with a combination of equipments and the work of Japanese experts, volunteers and the returned trainees.

The equipment supply project was started only in 1964. Owing to its importance, the project will continue to be enlarged year by year.

6. Medical Cooperation

This program is designed to provide medical cooperations to developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America where the people are facing problems of health owing to poor medical conditions, which in turn affect their economic development adversely. Entirely field-oriented and self-contained, this cooperation is aimed at helping these countries improve their health conditions.

Japan's technical cooperation in the field of medicine has been carried out on a moderate scale, through fellowship training in Japan, assignment of Japanese medical experts overseas, supply of equipment, and opening of overseas medical (technical cooperation) centers. With a growing realization to relieve people from diseases and improve the health of people in developing countries, medical cooperation is not only a matter for humanitarian consideration but also a prerequisite for socio-economic development in these countries. Japan undertook it in 1966,

with new budget appropriations, as a comprehensive medical cooperation program to the developing countries. It is an expanded form of the former medical cooperation program and includes the dispatch of health and medical experts, the supply of medical equipment and medicines, and the construction of medical or clinical institutions. Under the new program, many projects have already been completed. In view of Japan's advance in medical technology and her concept of technical cooperation based on humanitarian considerations, further expansion of this program is expected.

7. Science Education Cooperation

This field-oriented program started in 1966, is designed to promote science education in developing countries, as a contribution toward improving the level of education, which is a basis of their socio-economic development. Still moderate in scale, this program consists of the assignment of Japanese experts and the supply of equipment, mainly for the purpose of in-service training of science teachers at secondary education level.

Needless to say, the promotion of education is indispensable to social and economic development in developing countries, as it was in developed countries. Especially, the advance of science education is urgently needed in this age of science. Although the educational system and the training of teachers are closely connected with the cultural background of each country, and therefore the extent of educational cooperation with developed countries may be limited, there is still much room for cooperation in improving the teaching of particular subjects.

It is known throughout the world that behind Japan's rapid advance in education up to its present level within a short period, there was an effective educational program. Science education in particular is excellent, and provides a solid basis for the development of Japan's science and technology. Therefore, her cooperation with developing countries in the field of science education will be increased and good results are anticipated.

In Asian, and African region, Burma, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Iran, Kenya, and others have participated in Japan's science education cooperation program.

8. Agricultural Cooperation

This is another field-oriented program, designed to help developing countries increase their output of agriculture, their basic industry, and raise the income of their farming population. In more concrete terms, it is comprehensive and integrated "project cooperation for agricultural development," namely, cooperation in survey, planning, design for execution, organization and dissemination of a system of agrarian operations, and procurement of necessary funds etc., in respect of an agricultural development project to be carried out at a suitable locality, as a model improvement of land and agrarian operations.

In recent years, there has been far growing recognition of the importance of agriculture in the economic development of developing countries, especially those of Southeast Asia, and regional cooperation centering on agriculture has become active in that part of the world.

In view of this tendency, Japan began this new program in 1967, in addition to continuing the work of agricultural cooperation she had previously been carrying out.

Japan has dispatched survey teams and agricultural specialists, and provided equipment. In view of the importance of agricultural development to developing countries, this program will be expanded further in the coming years.

9. Primary Products Development Cooperation

This program, introduced in 1967 as part of Japan's efforts at economic cooperation with developing countries, is designed to help them improve the grade, quality, and variety, and reduce the cost of their primary products, thus promoting the export of these products to more industrialized countries including Japan.

To extend cooperation under this program in a manner suitable to the conditions of the recipient country, a base of operation is established in that country; specialists in agriculture, marketing, management, and the like, are sent to the area as base personnel on a long-term basis, fertilizers and farming machinery are provided for purposes of demonstration and experimentation; technical assistance is given in the cultivation of exportable products, such as maize, sorghum, oil seed, etc.; and advice pertaining to the use of fertilizers and the eradication of blight and noxious insects is given with a view to improving the mechanism of

marketing fertilizers and products. Plans also include assisting the importation of the products concerned into Japan, the purchase of development goods, and the loan of the necessary funds. Though basically an integrated technical cooperation effort to develop primary products, this program is closely related to the mechanism of development finance and import through development. Therefore OTCA must maintain close contact with the trade and banking institutions concerned and obtain their cooperation in order to carry out this program effectively.

Japan is a major importer of a variety of primary products from all over the world, especially from Southeast Asian countries. In view of her natural and economic conditions, especially her economic relations with Asian countries, there is every reason to believe that her demand for the primary products of these countries will grow ever larger, and the importance of this form of technical cooperation will further increase in the future.

10. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers

This is a program whereby young people of Japan who have technical skill and an ardent spirit of service are sent to developing countries, mainly to those of Asia and Africa, to work toward social and economic development and the improvement of the people's life, by living and working together with the local people. The friendship thus cultivated between the youths destined to shoulder Japan's future and the people of the host country will contribute much to promoting amicable relations between the two countries.

The fields of work of the Japanese volunteers are diverse and include agriculture, forestry, fishery, mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation, telecommunications, health and medicine, physical training, and the teaching of the Japanese language. The volunteers are selected from among a large number of candidates through strict examinations on both technical skill and character. They undergo a three-month pre-assignment training course, which includes study of the languages spoken in their respective duty stations, and are then sent overseas, usually for a term of two years.

Since this program was started in 1965, a total of 1,160 volunteers have been sent out to different countries as of March 31, 1971: Khmer Republic, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, India, Kenya, Morocco, Syria, Tanzania, El Salvador, etc. The young people enjoy a very good re-

putation wherever they are sent.

11. Other Technical Cooperation Activities

In addition to the various forms of technical cooperation described above, OTCA carries out the following works on behalf of the Japanese Government:

a. Technical cooperation by Japan was provided since the end of World War II as her obligation under the reparations agreements, e.g., receiving trainees from Indonesia and the Philippines and establishing technical cooperation centers in the Khmer Republic of agriculture, stock-raising, and medical treatment.

b. Cooperation with the United Nations in its technical cooperation programs, by recommending technical experts it employs, by assisting in procurement of the equipment and materials it purchases, or by sharing the cost of receiving trainees.

c. Cooperation with the governments of developing countries, by sharing the cost of receiving the trainees they send to Japan at their expense or the cost of dispatching Japanese experts at their invitation.

12. Supporting Activities

In order to carry out effectively and properly the works entrusted to OTCA, it is necessary to conduct adequate surveys and research, to draw up careful plans, to collect reference material, to maintain liaison and exchange information with related organizations in Japan and abroad, and to inform the Japanese people of the importance of technical cooperation. Therefore OTCA is engaged in works such as planning, research, language study, printing, etc., as described below.

a. It is necessary, for fruitful technical cooperation, fully to understand the level of development, present state of progress, outline of the economic development plan, grade of technique suitable to existing circumstances, and other cultural and social features of the recipient country from the point of view of technical cooperation. Therefore OTCA conducts a study of the trends in the recipient country through the cooperation of trainees who have returned from Japan, Japanese experts sent to that country, and other knowledgeable people.

b. Evaluation of technical cooperation activities is extremely important in order not only to reexamine present activities but also to explore new, more efficient means of cooperation for the future. OTCA has

been trying to assess its own work wherever possible. For example, technical training in Japan is evaluated after the completion of each training course through comments of the trainees and by sending a detailed questionnaire to all ex-trainees. Meanwhile, there have also been cases where evaluation of individual projects was based on a follow-up investigation of their progress. Every year, comprehensive evaluation of all OTCA work is carried out, with the assistance of different organizations in Japan and abroad. This evaluation brings important results bearing upon the future planning and execution of Japan's programs of cooperation. This kind of supporting activity will be continued, perhaps with more accurate methods that will be worked out by OTCA.

c. In the field of technical survey and research, there have been symposia on rice cultivation in Malaysia, utilization of water resources, and overall agricultural development in Southeast Asia, and studies have been made of technical problems such as transportation and communication. Moreover, consultation services are offered to returned trainees in order to help them solve their technical problems, and technical books are published for distribution to returned trainees and other interested people overseas.

d. Public information services at home and abroad are very important for the promation of technical cooperation. Therefore OTCA publishes various materials (e.g. the English annual report, *Technical Cooperation of the Japanese Government, Statistical Report,* and others), produces motion pictures, and participates in many kinds of functions relating to economic and technical cooperation.

In its overseas publicity work, it receives the cooperation of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and displays various exhibits and photographs at the exhibition held at the annual meeting of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee. In addition, textbooks prepared by specialists and used by foreign trainees in Japan for their orientation program and technical courses, and reference materials useful abroad, such as the reports of the survey teams, are published periodically. OTCA also exchanges relevant documents with various organizations and research institutions in Japan, with international organizations, and with foreign libraries and universities, in order to collect as much reference materials and relevant literature as possible.

FACILITIES IN JAPAN

APART from its own headquarters in Tokyo, OTCA maintains five international centers in different parts of Japan. Each center provides the trainees from abroad with facilities for training and lodging. The trainees accommodated in each center are able to live comfortably, receive sufficient health care at minimum cost, use reference books, and join a free Japaneselanguage course and organized recreational or cultural activities provided by OTCA.

The following is a brief description of each of these OTCA facilities in Japan.

1. Tokyo International Centre

The Tokyo International Centre (T.I.C.) of OTCA was opened in 1964. But owing to the ever-increasing number of foreign trainees, T.I.C. became unable to accommodate all of them, and in 1968 an extension was built, which houses some 100 more people. Its six-storied reinforced concrete building includes one basement floor and is fully air-conditioned. The combined facilities can accommodate up to 291 guests in 276 rooms of different size and have every convenience of a modern hotel. In addition, T.I.C. has an auditorium with a capacity of 220 people, one medium-size conference room equipped with a simultaneous translation system, six lecture rooms.

Foreign trainees participating in OTCA's training programs are brought to T.I.C. from the Tokyo International Airport to spend their first night in Japan. Here they receive an orientation course for a few days before beginning their training courses. Though some of these courses, especially those of a seminar type, are held in T.I.C. itself, most of them are organized elsewhere in or near Tokyo.

2. Osaka International Training Centre

The Osaka International Training Centre was opened in 1967. The addition of this new center in the midst of the Kyoto-Osaka-Kobe district, which is the second major center of economy, industry, and culture in Japan, is of great significance to OTCA's activities.

With the completion of the Osaka Centre, OTCA is now able to accommodate up to 70 foreign trainees at a time participating in various training activities and observation programs in and around the city of Osaka. The Centre has made it possible for OTCA to broaden the fields of training, as it is now much easier to organize training courses in such fields as the textile industry, manufacturing of agricultural machinery, the light electric equipment industry, and some other fields of the nation's light industry, which are centered in the Osaka district. Especially promising in this respect are the courses in the medium and small enterprises, of which there are many in the district, and in which many of the developing countries are specially interested.

The Centre is built of reinforced concrete on a plot of over 3,000 square meters. The first floor consists of the office, a reception room, a Japanese-style room, and several others. On the second floor there are a large room capable of seating up to 40 persons, four smaller lecture rooms, a dining room, a lobby, and a lounge. On the third to the sixth floors there are altogether fifty-eight regular rooms and four special rooms to accommodate foreign lodgers. Each of these floors has one small lounge where a television set is provided. The whole building is equipped with an air-conditioning system so that the lodgers can live comfortably throughout the year. The garden of the Centre is laid out in accordance with the Kyoto style, which interests the foreign trainees.

3. Nagoya International Training Centre

This Centre was inaugurated in 1961 in the city of Nagoya, the third largest city of Japan and the core of the Chubu (central) district. Blessed with a mild climate and other favorable natural conditions, and thanks to the diligence of the local people, the Nagoya area was already famous before the war for its ceramic and precision instrument industries and poultry farming. This area is situated midway between Tokyo and Osaka and has grown in recent years into one of the nation's greatest centers of industry, particularly the iron and steel and automobile in-

dustries.

From the beginning, the Nagoya International Centre has served as an important base for those foreigners who are trained in such technical fields as ceramics, automobile maintenance, poultry, and medium and small enterprises. In 1971, the Centre was moved and expanded. The expansion houses some 90 people and includes many other new facilities. The reinforced concrete five-storied building includes one basement floor. It has a dining room, conference rooms, a library and an auditorium.

4. Uchihara International Agricultural Training Centre

The Uchihara International Agricultural Training Centre, also opened in 1961, was expanded in 1969. It is located in the midst of a fertile farming area called Uchihara, some 100 kilometers to the north of Tokyo. The Centre is a residential training institution, having fifty-four individual lodging rooms within its premises. The Centre is provided by OTCA with a group of agricultural experts and equipped with an experimental laboratory, a workshop, lecture rooms, and a wide range of farming machines, in addition to its own experimental paddy and dry fields. Primarily concerned with rice cultivation, the Centre is used exclusively for four group courses organized by OTCA: an extension course on rice cultivation, a course on the utilization of machinery for rice cultivation, a course on land improvement for rice culture, and a course on vegetables. All courses are designed to train people from various countries.

5. Misaki International Fisheries Training Centre

Also opened in 1961, the Misaki International Fisheries Training Centre is situated at the southern tip of the Miura Peninsula, some 100 kilometers to the south of Tokyo, known for its warm climate. Misaki has been one of the important bases of both coastal and deep sea fishing in Japan. The Misaki Centre is also a residential training institute, and it is equipped with every training facility, including a lecture room, a demonstration workshop, a display room, and three small fishing craft, as well as twenty-nine lodging rooms.

The fishery technology of Japan is among the most advanced in the world, as shown by her annual haul which is one of the largest in the world. In recent years, the development of fishing has also become a growing concern in many developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Of particular interest in this connection today is the regional

project of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre, proposed by several nations at the Southeast Asian Agricultural Development Conference. The Misaki Centre extends every possible cooperation to this regional centers.

6. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Training Institutes

Since the creation of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers as one of the programs of OTCA, the construction of a training center for the volunteers had been its cherished desire. The desire was fulfilled in April 1968, when the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Centre was completed in Tokyo. With this, a full-scale training of young volunteers has become possible.

The newly constructed center consists of a main building and an annex, which is the lodging quarters for the volunteers during their per-service training. The main building has a basement and three floors above the ground and contains a set of training facilites, including a group of class and conference rooms, a library, and a well-equipped language-training laboratory. The three-storied annex can accmmodate up to 150 pre-service trainees.

In 1973, a new language training institute was created at Yoyogi, Tokyo, which aims at providing pre-service volunteers with the knowledges of languages spoken in the countries of their assignments.

Facilities in Japan

1. Tokyo International Centre
   42-11, Ichigaya Honmura-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
   Phone: (03) 267-2311
2. Osaka International Training Centre
   5-1-28, Minamikasugaoka, Ibaraki City, Osaka
   Phone: (0726) 23-0631
3. Nagoya International Training Centre
   4-691-1440, Obasama, Takahari, Idaka-cho, Chigusa-ku, Nagoya
   Phone: (052) 702-1391
4. Uchihara International Agricultural Training Centre
   1397-1, Uchihara-machi, Higashiibaragi-gun, Ibaragi Prefecture
   Phone: (0292) 59-2111
5. Misaki International Fisheries Training Centre
   10-20, Suwa-cho, Miura City, Kanagawa Prefecture
   Phone: (0468) 81-5201
6. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers
   4-2-24 Hiroo-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo Training Institute (Hiroo)
   Phone: (03) 400-7261
7. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Intensive Language Institute (Yoyogi)
   c/o Olympics Memorial Youth Center, 3-1, Kamizono-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
   Phone: (03) 468-3388

OTCA's Overseas Offices

1. OTCA Bangkok (Thailand) Office
   c/o Embassy of Japan, 1974, New Petchburi Road, Bangkok 10, Thailand
2. OTCA New Delhi (India) Office
   c/o Embassy of Japan, 50-G, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India
3. OTCA Phnom-Penh (Khmer Republic) Office (Temporarily closed)
   A/S Ambassade du Japon, No. 4 Phlauv Barang, Phnom-Penh, Cambodge
4. OTCA Manila (Philippines) Office
   c/o Embassy of Japan, 3rd Floor, Sikatuna Building, No. 6762 Ayala Avenue, Makati, Rizal, Philippines
5. OTCA Djakarta (Indonesia) Office
   c/o Embassy of Japan, 24, Djalan Thamrin, Djakarta, Indonesia
6. OTCA Dacca (Bangladesh) Office (Temporarily closed)
   c/o Embassy of Japan, No. 1, Shantinagar, Dacca, Bangaldesh
7. OTCA Singapore (Singapore) Office
   c/o Embassy of Japan, 16 Nassim Road, Singapore 10, Singapore
8. OTCA Nairobi (Kenya) Office
   c/o Embassy of Japan, Bank of India Bldg., Kenyatta Avenue, Nairobi, Kenya
9. OTCA Saigon (Vietnam) Office
   A/S Ambassade du Japon, No.13-17 Boulevard Hguyen-Hue, Saigon, Vietnam
10. OTCA Teheran (Iran) Office
    c/o Emassy of Japan, Ave. Saba Shomali No. 53, Teheran, Iran
11. OTCA Mexico (Mexico) Office
    c/o Ambajada del Japón, Córdoba No. 127, Colonia Roma, México 7, D.F. México

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