

Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers

Outline of the Program

The Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program assists and encourages overseas activities on the part of young people who wish to cooperate in the economic and social development of developing countries on the basis of requests from these countries.

JOCV generally spend two years in developing countries, living and working with the local people while taking part in cooperation activities. Furthermore, the experience also benefits the volunteers themselves as they strive to overcome the various difficulties they face in their personal relations and work.

Cooperation is provided in seven fields: agriculture, forestry and fisheries, processing, maintenance, civil engineering, public health care, education and culture, and sport. Around 140 occupations are involved in all.

The Dispatch of JOCV program began in 1965 with the dispatch of the first batch of 26 volunteers to four countries: 4 to Cambodia, 5 to Laos, 5 to Malaysia, and 12 to the Philippines.

In fiscal 2000, the dispatch of volunteers to Djibouti and Belize began, and in fiscal 2001, dispatch of volunteers to Madagascar and Uganda is planned. Furthermore, in fiscal 2000, the following countries concluded JOCV dispatch agreements with Japan: South Africa, Dominica, Saint Vincent and Venezuela. These additions mean that, as of the end of March 2001, 77 countries had concluded JOCV dispatch agreements with Japan. We expect to conclude JOCV dispatch agreements with Benin, Gabon, Mozambique and Kiribati in the future.

In fiscal 2000, 1,273 volunteers were newly dispatched to various destinations. As of the end of March 2001, 2,615 volunteers were stationed in 64 countries,



A volunteer conducting a study to improve the living environment of local people in Sri Lanka.

making a total of 21,506 since the program's inception.

Female volunteers have increased in recent years: at the end of March 2001, 51% of active JOCV were women. The proportion of women among all JOCV since the program's start has also risen to 35%.

Volunteers are generally sent abroad for two years, but demand has grown for a one-year term dispatch. This is because of the difficulties encountered by JOCV in resuming their employment after returning to Japan and of restrictions placed by companies on the length of time that employees can take off to engage in voluntary work. A one-year dispatch system was therefore instituted in fiscal 1997. In fiscal 2000, five such "ordinary short-term volunteers" were sent to five countries.

On the basis of requests from the United Nations, the JOCV Secretariat also sends experienced individuals to serve as United Nations volunteers. At the end of March 2001, there were 26 active United Nations volunteers from Japan, making a total of 181 to date.

The JOCV Secretariat is engaged in the following activities aimed at promoting these programs.

From Recruitment to Dispatch

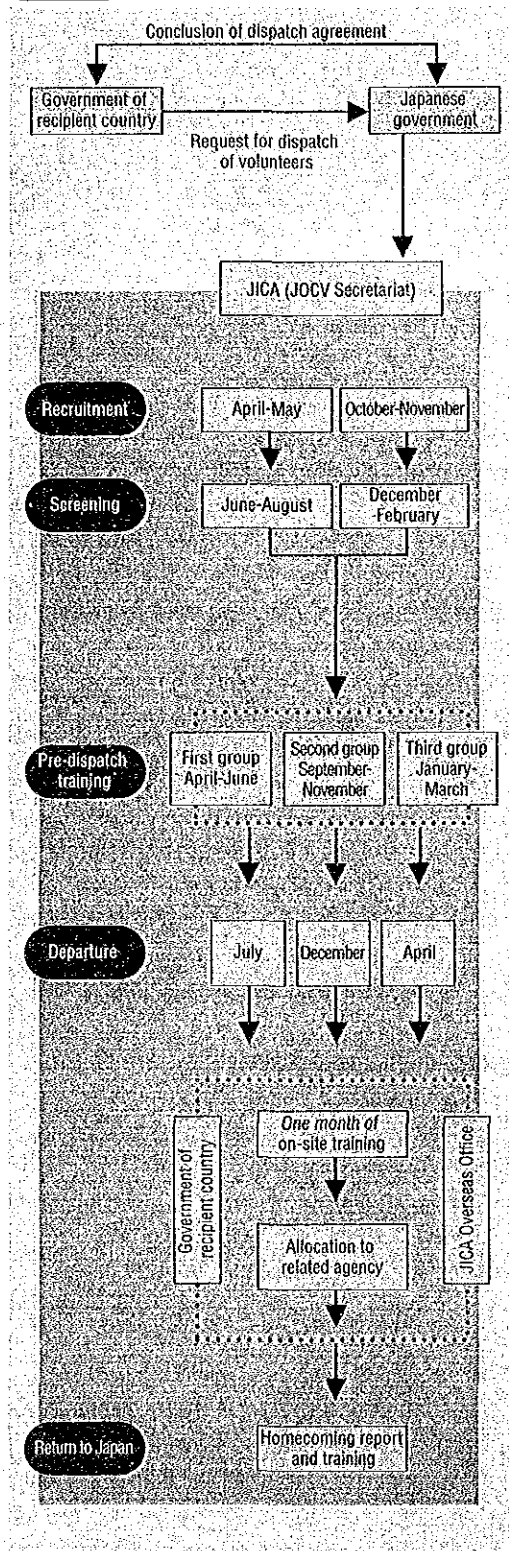
1. Recruitment and Selection of Volunteers

Volunteers are recruited twice a year, spring and fall, with the cooperation of local government bodies and private organizations throughout Japan. In the spring 2000 recruitment campaign, explanatory sessions at 266 venues nationwide were attended by 12,018 people, of whom 3,411 applied. In the fall campaign, sessions at 266 venues were attended by 12,086 people, of whom 4,074 applied.

The selection process includes primary and secondary screenings: the former including written examinations on language, technical skills, and aptitude as well as an examination of the candidate's medical



Figure 3-10 The JOCV Dispatch System



history, and the latter comprising technical and personal interviews and a medical check-up.

There were 566 successful candidates in the spring and 531 in the fall of fiscal 2000.

2. Pre-dispatch Training

Successful applicants undergo around 80 days of residential pre-dispatch training as probationary volunteers. The aim of this training is to improve their ability to adapt to life and work at their postings. The main courses in the program are:

- (1) The conceptual basis of JOCV activities, understanding other cultures, etc.;
- (2) Politics, economy, history, etc., of host countries;
- (3) Language training: Courses are provided in around 22 languages including English, French, Spanish, Swahili and Nepali.
- (4) Health, hygiene and vaccinations;
- (5) Security concerns;
- (6) Physical and outdoor training.

Training is held three times a year at the JOCV Hiroo Training and Study Centre in Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, the Nihonmatsu Training Centre in Fukushima Prefecture and the Komagane Training Centre in Nagano Prefecture.

3. Supplementary Technical Training

A "supplementary technical training" system has been established as outlined below to improve the practical skills needed for cooperation activities and to ensure that volunteers can answer the needs of recipient countries. Altogether 576 people took part in fiscal 2000, receiving training lasting between several days and nine months as necessary.

(1) Training in request-specific skills

Training is provided for volunteers who passed the secondary screening process with adequate technical skills but require further instructions in line with specific requests. This training is also given to JOCV on temporary home leave after extension of their period of service in cases where additional training is deemed necessary.

(2) Training in practical skills

Training for volunteers who have attained pass levels in basic technical knowledge during secondary screening but who possess insufficient practical skills.

Backup Support for Volunteer Activities

1. Technical Instructor (Advisor) System

To make JOCV cooperation more effective, a technical advisor system employing experts in various disciplines gives volunteers technical assistance and ensures that the requests presented by developing countries are closely examined. It also ensures that the specialized technical abilities of applicants are accurately assessed during the recruitment and selection processes.

2. Managing Volunteers' Health

In April 1999, the "Staff Health Management Office," the "Experts Health Management Office" and the "JOCV Medical Office" were integrated into the "JICA Medical Support Center." In January 2001, this Centre came under the management of the JICA Human Resources Assignment Department, which has resulted in better administrative efficiency and centralization of procurement and transport of medicines.

It is expected that in future, medical services will drastically improve due to a unified response to injuries and sickness overseas; and the progression towards a single position for both the JOCV medical coordinator and expert health administrator.

3. Injury Compensation

Compensation and disbursement for medical treatment and travel are available if a volunteer dies, falls ill, or is injured at any time from the start of pre-dispatch training until return to Japan at the end of overseas service.

4. Careers Guidance for Returning Volunteers

Many volunteers give up their previous jobs or join immediately after leaving school. To assist them with their careers once they are back in Japan, counselors at the JOCV Secretariat and JICA branches and centers in Japan are on hand to give advice, provide employment information, and explore future career possibilities.

Front Line

The JOCV Hands-on Program

Nagano

Aiming for High Quality Joint Programs with the Community

◆ Local Government Walks Side by Side with JOCV

Since it was set up in 1979, the Komagane Training Centre has taken part in active interaction with the residents of Komagane City. In particular, Komagane City and the Komagane Junior Chamber have been promoting internationalization and municipal development unique to the area based on the slogans "A town that walks side by side with the JOCV," "Municipal development based on JOCV training centre" and "Japan's largest assembly of former volunteers."

In concrete terms, many of the members of the Junior Chamber have joined the Komagane branch of the Supporting Organization of JOCV, where they support volunteer program and participate in various activities under the Youth Invitation Program. They also interact with probationary volunteers who are undergoing training, hold social events such as tug-of-war contests, and plan exchanges in which instruction in Senegalese drumming and other activities are offered to probationary volunteers. In terms of direct interaction with local people, the probationary volunteers participate in activities outside the training centre at 55 farms, welfare facilities and public organizations around town about three times during their training, where they engage in warm exchanges with the local people.

◆ Increasing Children's Awareness of Global Citizenship Through Hands-on Contact with JOCV

The "JOCV hands on experience program," which is jointly run by the training centre and the Junior Chamber every year, was held for the eleventh time in 2000. It forms part of the interaction between JOCV and local people, and it aims to give children, who will be the driving force of the 21st century, an appreciation of the fact that they are citizens of the world.

Around 30 junior high school students from Komagane, nearby towns and villages, and Iwata (Komagane's sister city in Shizuoka



Hoping to become upstanding citizens of the world.

Prefecture) took part in the program, which was held over two days and one night with the assistance of 30 Junior Chamber members.

By staying at the training centre, the students had the opportunity to interact with probationary volunteers and experience development education programs. The program has become very popular, with many junior high school students saying they hope to participate again the next year.

It is our hope that many of the JOCV of the future will come from among these children, and that this experience will help them develop a firm awareness of their role as global citizens.

In this way, we are working to improve the quality of our joint programs year by year with the warm cooperation and support of the local community.

(JICA Komagane Training Centre)

Of the 1,000 volunteers who returned in fiscal 1999, 917 had decided on their careers by the end of the fiscal 2000: 212 returned to their previous jobs, 425 took up employment (including self-employment), 108 decided to continue their studies, and 172 got part-time jobs, married, etc.

Related Activities

In addition to the above activities involving dispatch of volunteers, the JOCV Secretariat is engaged in various other activities aimed at promoting the program.

1. Advertising the Program

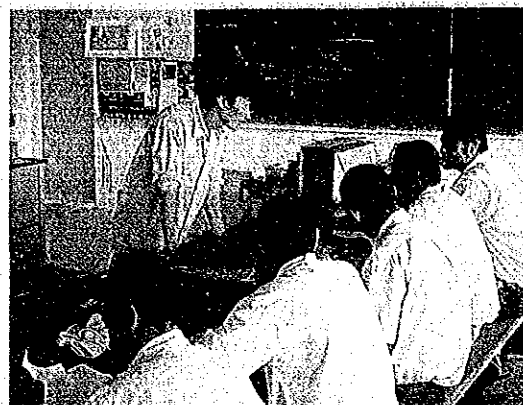
The following activities aim to increase understanding of JOCV activities among the general public, to attract more volunteers and to provide a forum for the exchange of information with others active in the same field:

1. Preparation of informative literature on the program, etc.
2. Issue of the monthly magazine *Crossroads*
3. Twice monthly issue of *JOCV NEWS*
4. Channeling of information to the mass media and cooperation with media coverage
5. Dispatch of Junior JOCV

Contact with conditions in developing countries and understanding of the realities of international cooperation are likely to stimulate an interest in cooperation activities among young people. Started in 1998, the Junior JOCV program takes advantage of the school holidays in the summer to send young people overseas. Senior high school students in particular are targeted. Up till now, 50 students have been sent since 1998. In 1998, Junior JOCV were sent from Fukushima to the Philippines, and from Ibaraki to Malaysia; in 1999 from Ishikawa to Nepal; and in 2000, from Saitama to Thailand.

6. Backup program dispatch

This system involves the dispatch of ordinary volunteers for one month to provide temporary support for JOCV on active service. For example, a serving teacher is dispatched to support a volunteer teacher when special courses or seminars are being conducted; or, when a volunteer is performing a certain study, another volunteer can be dispatched to support that study.



A volunteer teaching physics to high school students (Fiji).

In fiscal 2000, two professors from Kitasato University were dispatched to Costa Rica to instruct an aquaculture volunteer doing research on red tides; one professor and two students from Kansai University were dispatched to Niger to support an audio-visual volunteer; one lecturer and one student from the Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology were dispatched to Senegal to support the study and analysis of a rice crop and vegetable volunteer; and one person was dispatched to instruct Judo to police officers in Tanzania and another dispatched to prepare Swahili textbooks.

2. Job Retention Scheme

Many people abandon the idea of joining the JOCV or join only after resigning from their previous employment because their employers cannot guarantee them reemployment once their period of service is over. JICA has therefore been approaching economic and labor organizations and private companies to persuade them to allow employees serving as volunteers to retain their employment status.

JICA has made provision for paying some of the personnel expenses and miscellaneous costs incurred by employers in this connection to reduce the burden placed on them.

Likewise, there are cases where public school teachers hoping to join the JOCV were not approved by their schools or school boards, despite having passed the selection tests. In order to allow such teachers to participate, a new participation system for incumbent teachers was established in fiscal 2001.

This system, which has been implemented since the spring recruitment, is outlined as follows. First of all, cases are selected from education-related assignments that: a) would be difficult to fill with ordinary applicants; and b) would be best met through the dispatch of serving teachers. Then, from the spring recruitment of each year, a list of about 100 "request for incumbent

teachers" is confirmed, and the list is submitted to the education boards of various local governments via the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Those teachers who are interested in participating as JOCV are recommended to the JOCV Secretariat through MEXT by the education boards of cities under the jurisdiction of local government bodies.

In fiscal 2000, the participation of serving professionals could be broken down as follows: three civil servants from national government bodies, 92 local government employees and 92 private company employees. It is anticipated that with the introduction of this system, the participation of serving teachers will increase.

3. Cooperation with Related Organizations

(1) The Supporting Organization of JOCV

The organization was formed by private benefactors in 1976 to support the Dispatch of JOCV program through advertising, career support for volunteers after their return to Japan and promotion of development education. The organization also aims to expand the regional network of support organizations: 34 local support organizations have so far been formed, 32 in urban and rural prefectures and two in cities.

As well as collaborating with the organization,

JICA provides materials and sends lecturers to events and study sessions held by youth groups and organizations such as the Japan Senior High School Association for International Educational Research.

(2) Japan Overseas Cooperative Association (JOCA)

This association was established in 1983 to support and encourage the activities of returning volunteers. It uses the experience of returning volunteers who cooperate with various projects in forms such as personal support for volunteer groups and volunteer recruitment and selection.

(3) Linkage with groups of returning volunteers

Groups of returning volunteers have been formed throughout Japan, according to prefecture of origin, type of work, and country of dispatch. They are now cooperating with education projects to promote international understanding and with foreign exchange projects implemented by local governments. Prefectural groups of returning volunteers are assisting JICA with recruitment and enhancing awareness of the Dispatch of JOCV program.

(4) Cooperation with local government

Assistance from local government is very important when carrying out the Dispatch of JOCV program. Regular meetings are held with representatives of local government departments responsible for

Front Line

Mongol Friendship Hospital (Xieng Khouang Province)

Laos

Washing Machines and JOCV Make a Contribution

◆ Provision of Sanitation Goods and Equipment

Up to the present, a total of four midwives and nurses have been dispatched as JOCV to the Mongol Friendship Hospital, located in the town of Pek in the central Lao province Xieng Khouang. It is the only general hospital in the province, and it has a key position in protecting the health of the townspeople as well as everyone who lives in the province. That is why JICA has been working to create an environment that enables better provision of medical care and personnel training through this frontline project.

In addition to the dispatch of volunteers, JICA has provided sanitation goods and equipment such as sterilization equipment, incubators, hospital bedding, mosquito nets, washing machines, disinfectant and gloves. Through these activities, the lives of patients within the hospital have gradually become more comfortable.

The bedding and washing machines are used particularly often. The laundry orderly collects used linen that has accumulated in each hospital wing and washes it every morning. Electricity can currently only be used for five hours a day, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. However, the introduction of the new laundry system means that the hospital pays for

gasoline to run an electrical generator for two hours during the morning, which allows laundering and sterilization to be carried out.

◆ Reducing the Burden on Patients' Families

Now all inpatients are able to receive medical treatment on clean beds. Previously, as patients either brought their own sheets or simply lay directly on the mattress, which meant that there were problems in terms of in-hospital infections and hygiene. Not only have these problems been alleviated, but the burden on the families of patients has also been eased considerably with regard to laundry. The freshly washed, clean white sheets that the nurses change each time they become soiled by blood or other dirt are also greatly appreciated by patients, who enjoy how the cleaned sheets feel.

Mosquito nets are also very effective for preventing malaria and dengue fever, which have high infection rates during the monsoon season. As well as removing the danger of being infected while in the hospital, their provision presents a good opportunity for instruction in and popularization of the use of mosquito nets in homes, and in this way they play a role in health education for patients and their families.

(JICA Laos Office)

volunteer activities. Officials are also given the chance to observe the activities of the Dispatch of JOCV program. Such measures enhance understanding of the Dispatch of JOCV program and strengthen cooperation with local government.

The JOCV Secretariat recommends counterparts* for JOCV volunteers in connection with the technical training in Japan of overseas participants provided by local government. Such training is carried out through either subsidies for organizations engaged in overseas Technical Cooperation (local government subsidies) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or independent sources of funding. In fiscal 2000, 75 overseas participants from 35 countries completed technical training in various specialized fields for about ten months under the auspices of 31 local governments.

(5) Cooperation with other organizations

Opinions are exchanged with economic and labor organizations in connection with the job retention scheme and corporate and institutional involvement in volunteer work.

Other Volunteer Activities

The JOCV Secretariat also dispatches Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers, Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities and Senior Volunteers.

The Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers and Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities programs are aimed at ethnic Japanese communities in Latin America. Ethnic Japanese are contributing significantly to nation-building in their respective countries and Japanese volunteers are being sent to assist them.

The Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteer program, which started out as the overseas development youth dispatch in fiscal 1985, gained its current name and content after being transferred to the JOCV Secretariat in fiscal 1996. As of the end of March 2001, 134 volunteers were at work in eight countries, primarily in the educational and cultural sectors. A total of 652 volunteers have been sent overseas since the inception of the program.



A senior cooperation expert instructing ethnic Japanese children at a Japanese language school (Paraguay).

Projects involving the Senior Volunteers and the Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities programs began in fiscal 1990 and were transferred to the JOCV Secretariat in fiscal 1996. At the end of March 2001, 261 Senior Volunteers and 38 Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities were active in 16 and 7 countries respectively. The total numbers of volunteers dispatched since these programs began have reached 511 and 183 respectively.

Future Responses

The ODA budget has been seriously affected by Japan's prolonged economic downturn. The Japanese public has high expectations and regard for the Dispatch of JOCV program as a pioneer in "aid with a clearly visible profile." Reflecting this, the budget for the Dispatch of JOCV program in fiscal 2001 is 23.4 billion yen, an increase of 8.9% over that of the previous year.

In response to the Japanese public's expectations, and in order to expand the activities of the Senior Volunteer program, we are aiming to improve the quantity and quality of Dispatch of JOCV programs. We will also continue to place great importance on support packages for returning volunteers, which is an issue remaining from previous years. We intend to move proactively in this area.

In order to respond accurately to needs from overseas and within Japan, the JOCV Secretariat is continuing to strengthen work in the following core activities:

- (1) Secure new volunteers;
- (2) Improve the recruitment and selection procedures;
- (3) Improve pre-dispatch training;
- (4) Enrich support for volunteer activities;
- (5) Enhance support for the career development of returning volunteers.

Senior Volunteer

Outline of the Program

How the Program Started

The Senior Volunteer program was preceded by the senior cooperation expert dispatch program, which was established in 1990 as a scheme aimed specifically at elder people with a strong interest in technical support activities in developing countries and who wished to make use of their skills and experience for the benefit of the developing world. Under this program, volunteers, aged between 40 and 69, were recruited from among people with extensive skills and plentiful professional experience. The recruits were then dispatched to developing countries in accordance with requests received from the governments of those countries. The program might therefore be described as a senior version of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program. In fiscal 1991 when the program got underway, eleven volunteers were sent to Malaysia, Paraguay and Samoa.

There was subsequently a significant increase in the degree of interest shown in volunteer activities within Japan. Therefore, to clarify the status of this program as a support program involving volunteers, the name was changed in 1996 to the Senior Volunteer program. There has since been a solid increase in both the number of countries to which senior volunteers are sent and in the number of volunteers.

It was around this time that the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake struck the Kansai area of Japan, and a serious accident involving spillage of crude oil from a grounded tanker occurred in the Sea of Japan. On both these occasions the activities of rescue volunteers were highlighted in the mass media, and this stimulated increased interest in and understanding of volunteer activities. As a result of this social context, the



A senior volunteer teaching at a vocational training school (Samoa).

Non-Profit Organization Law (the NPO Law) was enacted in 1998. There has also been an increase in the number of companies allowing their employees to take time off to engage in volunteer activities.

In addition, since 1991, Japan's ODA budget has been larger than that of any other country. As interest in assisting developing countries has increased, so public opinion came to realize more than ever the importance of providing participatory cooperation with a clearly visible profile. Such was the context in which the Senior Volunteer program came into being and has since developed.

As the economic strength of Japan and other advanced countries grew, and the economic gap between advanced and developing nations increased, a new situation also arose in which the skills and knowledge needed by developing countries matched those that had supported Japan during its period of high economic growth. There was thus increased demand from developing countries for skilled personnel with a wide range of professional and social experience. In the sense that this is a program capable of responding precisely to the needs of developing countries, the importance of the senior volunteers is constantly growing.

Participatory Cooperation

Japan has been the world's largest donor* of ODA since 1991, and more and more people have become interested in ODA and wish to participate themselves. One manifestation of this is the fact that many members of the general public have taken part in the International Cooperation Festival, an annual event that has been held in Tokyo's Hibiya Park since 1992.

Moreover, the number of applicants to the JOCV program exceeded 7,500 in fiscal 2000. In fiscal 2000,

III

Chapter 2

Program Implementation/8 Senior Volunteer

around 1,690 people applied to be senior volunteers, this number having greatly increased from a figure of 1,198 applicants in fiscal 1999. These figures give some indication of the huge number of private citizens that are interested in overseas volunteer activities, and of the desire that so many people clearly have to take part in these activities. There are several factors that have enhanced interest in international cooperation and in the increased desire to participate. These include the internationalization of local communities, the increasing vitality of international exchange at the community level and an awareness of the world obtained from information gained through the mass media.

Latching on to these changes in public perception, JICA has been attempting to expand the Senior Volunteer program. Whereas 100 people were dispatched overseas on this program in fiscal 1999, the figure for fiscal 2000 quadrupled to 400, and there are plans to dispatch 500 people in fiscal 2001. Senior volunteers are currently active in 34 countries and this figure is likely to increase substantially in the future.

The activities of senior volunteers are closely connected with daily life in local communities of the counterpart* countries. Volunteers are assigned to hospitals, schools, companies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) rather than to the central government. Considering their settings, these activities might be described as cooperation with community participation.

Content of the Program

1. Dispatch Record

As of the end of April 2001, 386 senior volunteers are active in 27 countries, which means that a total of 662 participants have been involved in the program since its inception. The number of countries to which volunteers are sent is expected to expand in the future.

2. Recruitment and Selection

The rapid growth in the Senior Volunteer program has meant that a variety of revisions have had to be made on how the program is implemented. The method of recruitment has been changed from the

Front Line

Low-cost Agricultural Guidance

Paraguay

Using Waste to Reduce Production Costs

◆ New Challenges Following Project Completion

The city of Coronel Oviedo is located approximately 140km east of the Paraguayan capital of Asuncion, and it is an important transport hub where highways number 2, 3 and 8 intersect. In light of this geographical significance, efforts were made to enhance both the "hardware" and "software" aspects of transport through the Project to Improve Distribution of Agricultural Products, which was implemented in the 1990s, with suggestions and advice from experts in this region.

Several years after the completion of the project, the Oviedo Agricultural Cooperative requested the dispatch of a senior volunteer in vegetable cultivation because it needed to overcome obstacles to repeated cultivation that had been a challenge in the past and introduce non-traditional crops that could compete in the market. In this context, the senior volunteer is providing advice on farming that does not require capital and working to use waste in order to reduce production costs.

◆ Former Waste Cotton Lees as Fertilizer

As part of this, the volunteer proposed the use of cotton lees. Cotton cultivation has been popular in the region for many years, but the lees left behind after the cotton flower was picked and the oil extracted from the seed has simply been incinerated as waste until now. Fermentation of the lees and using them as *bokashi* fertilizer helped solve the lack of organic material in the soil as it was found to be effective in growing crops such as tomatoes. By the end of 2000,



A senior volunteer supervising a farmer making potting compost with strained lees from locally produced cotton.

three model farms had been selected and efforts were being made to popularize the use of *bokashi* fertilizer made from cotton lees.

This is significant because purchasing fertilizer and agricultural chemicals is not easy for micro-farmers. In addition, crops produced by organic farming methods and with fewer agricultural chemicals have been gradually gaining interest from consumers in Paraguay.

The model farms have finally started to see results in the cultivation of tomatoes and cucumbers using *bokashi* fertilizer. Low-cost farming that places minimal financial burden on farmers while at the same time being friendly to people and the environment looks set to take root in the soil of Coronel Oviedo.

(JICA Paraguay Office)

earlier method of preliminary registration to open recruitment. Recruitment explanatory sessions are held twice a year, in the spring and fall, in various parts of the country. In the spring 2000 recruitment campaign, explanatory sessions were held at 66 venues nationwide and were attended by 3,426 people, of whom 687 subsequently applied as volunteers. In the fall 2000 recruitment campaign, explanatory sessions were held at 76 venues nationwide and were attended by 2,759 people, of whom 646 applied to become volunteers.

The selection process involves primary screening and secondary screening. In the primary screening, examination of written submissions and medical documents is carried out. In the secondary screening, a detailed medical checkup is performed in addition to a personal interview and a language test. Altogether, 323 candidates passed the selection process and were dispatched in fiscal 2000.

3. Pre-dispatch Training

Successful applicants undergo approximately 30 days of training prior to dispatch. The first two weeks are devoted to orientation in connection with basic knowledge of Japanese ODA and JICA programs in addition to the systems connected to the Senior Volunteer program, health management, safety measures and travel preparations. The final 20 days are devoted to language training. The languages studied include English and Spanish as well as Indonesian, Thai and other local languages. Participation by some accompanying family members is permitted, and many people take part in the training with family members each time.

4. Health Control

Volunteers will be living and working in environments that are completely different from Japan. Therefore, advisory doctors are on hand at the JICA Medical Support Center. In addition to lectures on health-related matters as a part of the orientation provided prior to dispatch, there are local medical checkups as well as provision of health and treatment advice at any time.

Emergence of New Needs

An important feature of the years between the late

1980s and the early 1990s was the trend toward reform of political and economic systems, centering on the former communist countries, that accompanied the end of the Cold War between the East and West. Specifically, in several countries governmental controls were abolished, democratic political structures were introduced and markets were liberalized through policies such as the privatization of state-controlled enterprises that involved introduction of the principle of competition. ODA has supported such reforms.

In addition to aid requirements in traditional fields such as medical care, agriculture and education, the need for cooperation has increased in areas such as modernization of factories and companies, and production, management and quality control. Most developing countries think highly of Japan's postwar reconstruction effort and wish to obtain Japan's expertise in this regard. There has been an increase recently in requests for the dispatch of senior volunteers with proficiency in such areas, and this trend seems likely to continue in the future.

JICA has been implementing new strategies in order to effectively link the diversifying needs of developing countries with domestic human resources. For example, in fiscal 2000, it introduced new systems that include the "qualified applicants system" in which applicants who fulfill certain criteria are registered as qualified and offered to developing countries. There is also the "group dispatch system" in which a number of volunteers from the registering body in Japan are dispatched to the same destination, increasing the effectiveness of the cooperation.

Significance of the Senior Volunteer

JICA's mission statement is "human development, national development, bringing people together." The Senior Volunteer program translates this mission statement into practice: the contribution that volunteers make directly to the development of human resources in developing countries assists the process of national development, while the relationships established between the volunteers and the local community constitute a fine example of international exchange.

Moreover, it is particularly significant that it is

people from among the Japanese general public who are engaged in these activities. Since most of the participants are engaged in volunteer activities in foreign countries with which they have no prior experience, there is obviously no guarantee that their efforts will invariably result in success. But the true significance of JICA volunteer programs, including the Senior Volunteer program, lies not merely in the results but also in the opportunity these programs provide for spontaneous participation from among members of the community at large.

Volunteers returning to Japan after completing their terms discuss their experiences with the people around them, and this prompts yet more people to volunteer. They also maintain the relationships they have established with friends in the countries where they were active

and retain their emotional links with these countries. This cyclical form of development is precisely the byproduct that JICA's volunteer programs hope to achieve.

We have been hearing talk about the "borderless society" for many years. In the sense that this program supports international exchange and activities especially on the community level, the necessity and indeed the very existence of the Senior Volunteer program are sure to grow in importance in the future. On the basis of a proposal submitted by the Japanese government, the year 2001 has been designated as International Year of Volunteers by the General Assembly of the United Nations. JICA intends to consider this year as an opportunity to develop its Senior Volunteer program on the basis of increasing community participation.

Development Cooperation

Outline of the Program

The Development Cooperation program contributes to self-sustaining economic and social development in developing countries by providing financial and technical support on a governmental basis for development projects implemented by Japanese private companies in these countries.

This program is concerned primarily with projects that contribute to social development and the development of agriculture, forestry, mining and industry. After assessing the public benefits, technical and economic risks, experimental features, and profitability of a project, JICA makes funds for implementation available under long-term, low-interest conditions. JICA also provides technical support and performs studies to ensure smooth implementation of a project.

Development Cooperation program is classified as shown in Figure 3-11.

Contents of Program

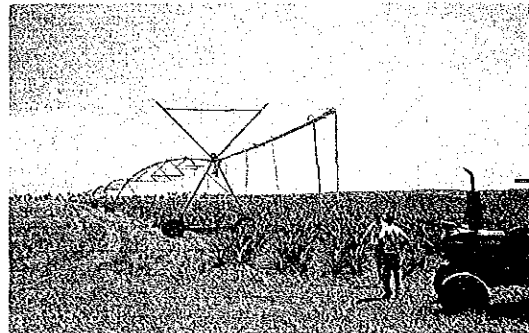
Investment and Financing

Long-term, low-interest financing is provided to Japanese corporations, including both those that undertake development projects in developing countries themselves and those that finance local corporations undertaking such projects.

As well as engaging in consultations with companies, JICA holds seminars in Japan and overseas to introduce JICA's financing system. Projects available in JICA's financing system come within the following categories.

1. Improvement of Loan-related Infrastructure

When development projects have already received loans, guarantees of obligation, or financing from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation* (JBIC), the

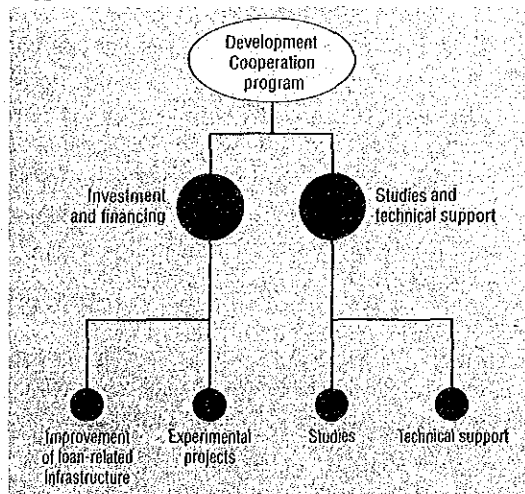


The Japan-Brazil Agricultural Development Cooperation Project in the Cerrado Region for large-scale development through introduction of center pivot sprinkler systems (Brazil).

Japan National Oil Corporation, the Metal Mining Agency of Japan, the Central Bank for Agriculture and Forestry, and the Shoko Chukin Bank or JICA, it may sometimes be difficult to obtain loans from JBIC for the improvement of infrastructure*. Projects involving the improvement of loan-related infrastructure are intended to deal with such situations. Loans or guarantees of obligation are provided for projects considered to be useful for developing the local area of the project site and for contributing to the social welfare of the local people. Funds are made available for the following cases:

- (1) Public facilities that help to improve the lives and well-being of local people such as schools, hospitals, community halls, churches, temples, public administration offices, post offices, fire stations and athletic facilities.
- (2) Facilities needed for projects likely to benefit local communities such as roads, port facilities, water

Figure 3-11 Development Cooperation Program



supply and sewerage, assembly halls, vocational training centers, and electrical installations/distribution systems.

- (3) Afforestation projects oriented toward environmental conservation and improving the local environment.

2. Experimental Projects

An experimental project is a type of development project unrealizable unless combined with technical improvement and development. Loans, guarantees of obligations, or investment are provided for such projects when they lie outside the scope of financing from JBIC.

Experimental projects include cultivation of crops, livestock breeding and fodder, afforestation, development of timber resources, excavation, screening and refining of non-ferrous minerals (such as limestone, rock phosphate, and coal), effective use of waste materials and construction of low-cost housing. Five such loans, worth a total of ¥500 million, were made in fiscal 2000.

Studies and Technical Support

Under JICA's investment and financing system, various types of technical support are provided at the request of companies to ensure that development projects proceed smoothly and that they entail benefits for people in developing countries. Technical support is one of the main features of this system.

Technical support assumes three forms: 1) studies and the collection of data prior to investment and financing; 2) dispatch of experts after the loan has been provided; and 3) acceptance of overseas participants for technical training.

1. Studies

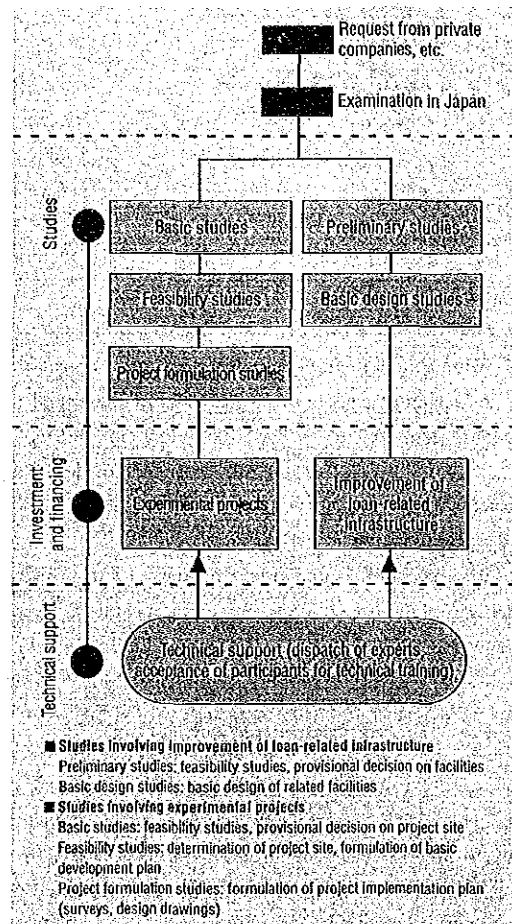
- (1) Basic development studies

JICA examines local conditions, gathers data, examines project feasibility and formulates basic concepts and project execution plans when implementing companies lack the ability to perform these actions on their own. The findings are then provided to the companies at no cost.

- (2) Development studies

Study team members are sent for extended periods to look at the feasibility of agricultural and forestry projects involving regional development that cannot be embarked on for some time owing to insufficient data. The data gathered in these studies is then

Figure 3-12 Flow of Development Cooperation Program



submitted for reference purposes to companies wishing to execute the projects.

The following four ongoing studies involve collection and analysis of crop and tree growth data, compilation of manuals and preparation of management models of crop cultivation and afforestation:

- **Development Study on Fast-growing Native Tree Species in Malaysia**

The aim of this survey is to select relatively fast-growing, high-quality native tropical tree species that have hitherto been seldom employed for afforestation purposes in the state of Perak in Malaysia. It also aims to develop technology for the cultivation and afforestation of these species, and to establish a sustainable, cost-effective and environment-friendly forest management model.

- **Development Study on Rape Seed Quality Improvement in Hubei Province, China**
This study is intended to contribute to higher quality and increased production of rape seed in the mid and lower Changjiang river basin by developing rape seed species that are harmless to both humans and livestock in Hubei Province, the largest rape seed-producing center in China.
- **Development Study on Alkaline Soil Improvement in Shanxi Province, China**
This study is intended to develop methods for alkaline soil improvement in Shanxi Province, China. Specifically, it aims at facilitating agricultural development and improving agricultural conditions in northern China through further modification of a soil conditioner developed by Saitama Prefecture, Japan, and through tests to improve alkaline soil with the use of calcium sulfate (CaSO₄).
- **Development Study on Carbon Fixation in Indonesia**
This study aims at developing an environment-friendly forest management method in which carbon dioxide emissions are reduced as much as

possible by using charred sawmill scraps as a soil conditioner in areas designated for afforestation.

(3) Other studies

Other studies include the following:

- **Examination of investment and financing**
These studies look at how a project is progressing and how to deal with any problems that may arise before or after its implementation.
- **Evaluation study**
Some time after the start of a project, the extent to which it is contributing to the development of the surrounding region is examined.
- **Project finding study for environmental consultation**
This type of study looks at how companies are dealing with problems related to environmental conservation that arise during the course of development. The aim is to identify and formulate projects worthy of receiving environment-related investment and financing. Meetings are held overseas to explain investment and financing systems. Individual consultations on loans are also provided.

Table 3-13 Loan Conditions for Financing and Investment

Type of Project	Size of Project	Investment Percentage	Maximum Financing	Interest Rate	Repayment Period	Grace Period
Improvement of Loan-related Infrastructure (1) Ordinary	Up to ¥700 million	100%	¥700 million	0.25% 0.50%	max. 20 years	max. 5 years
	¥700 million to ¥3 billion	85%	¥2.655 billion	0.75%	max. 20 years	max. 5 years
	¥3 billion to ¥4.5 billion	85%	¥3.93 billion	JBIC loan interest for overseas investment: -1.5% (min. 0.25%, max. 3.5%)	max. 30 years	max. 5 years
(2) Special	Up to ¥4.5 billion	100%	¥4.5 billion	0.25% 0.50% 0.75%	max. 30 years	max. 10 years

Notes: 1. Financing conditions in cases of special need when the project costs more than ¥4.5 billion are determined through separate discussions.
2. The conditions of *1 apply to cases of transfer at no cost to the government of the recipient country following provision of the facilities, projects involving repairs to facilities owned by the government of the recipient country, environmental conservation and afforestation projects (projects contributing to forest recovery and protection of ecosystems in developing countries) and provision of facilities for relieving pressure on the environment (only in cases where the environmental standards of the recipient country are exceeded).

Type of Project	Size of Project	Investment Percentage	Maximum Financing	Interest Rate	Repayment Period	Grace Period
Experimental Projects	Up to ¥500 million	100%	¥500 million	0.25% 0.50% 0.75%	max. 20 years (30 years)*2	max. 5 years (10 years)*2
	¥500 million to ¥2 billion	85% (100%)*3	¥1.775 billion (¥2 billion)*3	JBIC loan interest for overseas investment: -1.0% (min. 0.25%, max. 3.5%)	max. 20 years (30 years)*2	max. 5 years (10 years)*2

Notes: 1. When necessary, separate discussions are held in connection with projects worth more than ¥2 billion and executed in developed countries.
2. The conditions of *2 apply to infrastructural, afforestation, and environmental conservation and afforestation projects.
3. The conditions of *3 apply to environmental conservation and afforestation projects.

Notes: 1. With regard to the interest rates shown in the interest rate columns, if the JBIC loan interest rate for overseas investment is fixed at a level below 0.25%, interest shall be the same as this rate.
2. Guarantees provided by a Japanese bank or other company, etc., or physical securities (Japanese government bonds, etc.) are required for financing.

2. Dispatch of Experts

When a company is unable to deal on its own with technical problems arising during project implementation, it asks JICA to send appropriately skilled experts to provide technical support.

3. Training

When requested by a company, JICA may provide

technical training in Japan to the company's local employees.

4. Studies and Technical Support in Fiscal 2000

Thirty-one study teams and 42 experts (new and continued) were dispatched overseas, and 20 people came to Japan for training.

Disaster Relief

Outline of the Program

Objectives and Significance

Every year large-scale natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, drought and accidents such as the collapse of buildings and oil spills occur all over the world. At times, there is enormous cost to human life and property as well as damage to the environment. In developing countries, damage is liable to be serious whenever a disaster occurs, and the present situation is that the countries that suffer such damage are unable to provide sufficient aid or conduct relief activities on their own.

JICA's Disaster Relief program generally involves the dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams (JDR) and provision of emergency relief supplies when major disasters occur, on the basis of requests received from the governments of affected countries or international agencies.

History

Emergency aid activities date back to the late 1970s, when medical teams were dispatched to assist in the relief of Cambodian refugees. Following that, a team of experts in emergency recovery support was sent in response to a major earthquake that struck



A medical team treating an earthquake victim (India, January 2001).

Mexico in 1985.

In September 1987, the Japan Disaster Relief Team Law (the JDR Law) was enacted to provide for the dispatch of rescue teams. This law resulted in the establishment of Japan's comprehensive emergency relief system.

The JDR Law was partially amended in June 1992, making it possible for the Minister for Foreign Affairs, after consultations with the Director-General of the Defense Agency, to send teams from the Japanese Self-Defense Forces when large-scale aid is required and when aid based on self-reliance is needed in the disaster area. This has further strengthened the JDR emergency relief system.

Duties of JDR

JDR consist of rescue teams, medical teams or expert teams. After receiving a request from the government of the afflicted country or from an international agency, either one team of a single type or one that combines several types is dispatched. The work conducted by these teams is as follows:

1. Rescue Teams

The main tasks of a rescue team are to search for

Figure 3-14 Mechanism for Implementation of Disaster Relief (Excluding Financial Assistance)

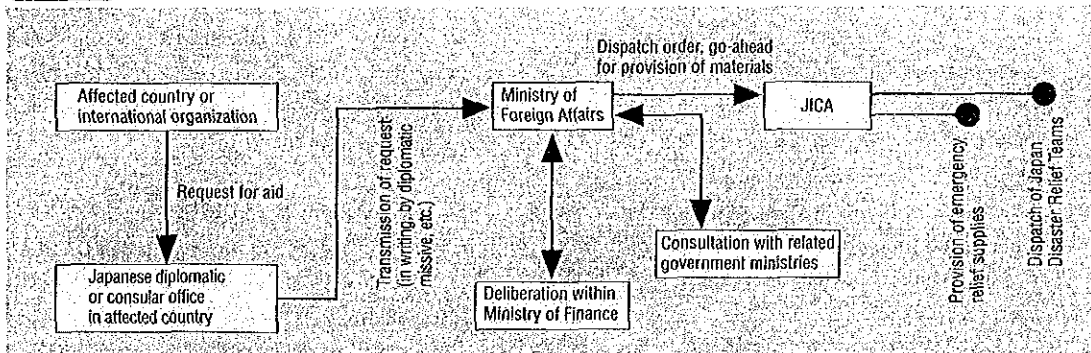
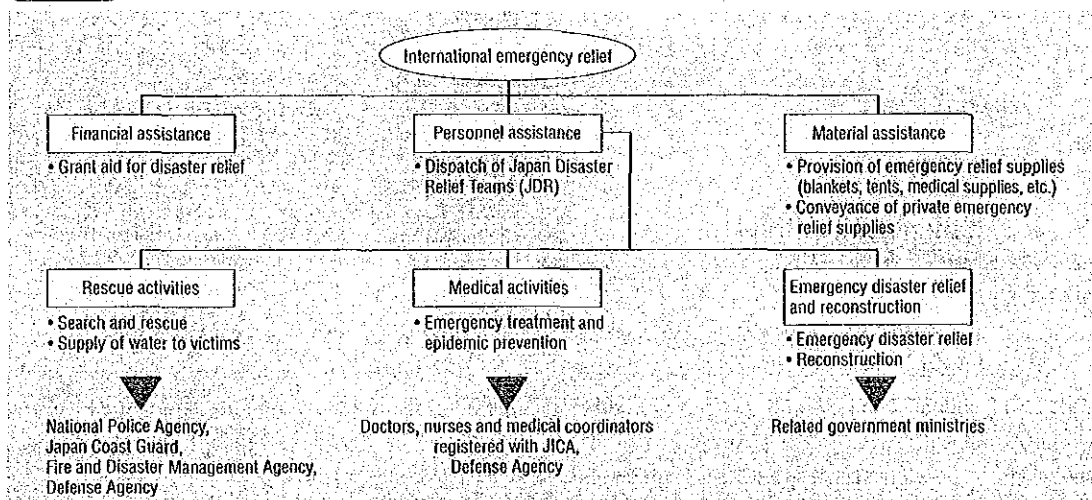


Figure 3-15 Japan's International Emergency Relief System



missing people, rescue victims, provide first aid and move victims to safety. Teams are made up of rescue personnel from the National Police Agency, the Japan Coast Guard and the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, and they aim to leave Japan within 24 hours of the decision for dispatch.

2. Medical Teams

Medical teams are expected to diagnose or to assist in the diagnosis of victims, and when necessary they work at preventing infection and the spread of diseases. A medical team consists of doctors, nurses, and medical coordinators* registered with the JDR Secretariat.

Medical teams have taken over as the main dispatch units from their predecessors, the Japan Medical Team for Disaster Relief (JMTDR), which engaged in medical activities prior to the passage of the JDR Law.

At the end of March 2001, 509 people (168 doctors, 208 nurses, 15 pharmacists, 22 medical coordinators, and 96 administrative coordinators) were registered under this scheme.

3. Expert Teams

Expert teams take stopgap measures in the wake of disasters and provide guidance and advice on how best to achieve recovery. Teams made up of technicians and researchers recommended by related government ministries and agencies are sent according to the type of disaster.

Program Results

Four teams were dispatched in fiscal 2000: three medical teams, and one Self-Defense Forces team.

At the time of the June 2000 Indonesian earthquake, animated pictures were sent to JICA headquarters via Inmarsat (mobile satellite phone), and emergency relief work in the affected area was featured in real time on the JICA homepage.

When the January 2001 earthquake struck El Salvador, the medical team set out for El Salvador quickly with only seven hours between the dispatch decision and actual departure. They set up medical treatment centers in two locations in the affected area and treated a total of more than 1,600 patients over the course of nine days.

When the Indian earthquake took place on 26 January 2001, a team departed two days after the El Salvador earthquake team had returned to Japan. Tents and blankets from the store in the JICA Narita warehouse were flown to the affected area on Self-Defense Forces planes. Once in the area, the Self-Defense Force also supervised erection of the tents.

Related Activities

In addition to dispatch of these teams, the Disaster Relief program involves the following activities:

Provision, Procurement and Storage of Materials

Emergency relief supplies such as blankets, tents, water purifiers, generators, and pharmaceutical products are provided for relief purposes and to assist in the recovery process.

To ensure that such supplies can be provided promptly and in sufficient quantities, they need to be procured in advance and kept in constant readiness for use. Warehouses are located in five places worldwide: Narita in Japan, Singapore, Mexico, the UK and the US. In emergencies, medical supplies not suited to permanent storage are obtained from United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)'s Supply Division in Copenhagen.

In fiscal 2000, emergency relief supplies were provided on 11 occasions.

Emergency relief supplies were dispatched to Indonesia, El Salvador and India in response to earthquakes, together with medical teams.

Study and Training

Overseas aid activities take place in countries that

have customs, language and communications capabilities that are different from those in Japan. To ensure that relief activities in disaster areas are as efficient and effective as possible, study and training aimed at rescue teams and medical teams is provided with emphasis on enhancing teamwork and assumption of various disaster scenarios.

Conveyance of Private Emergency Relief Supplies

The large scale of some disasters sometimes calls for relief supplies in addition to those already provided by the Japanese government at the request of the affected country.

In such cases, JICA gathers supplies from local government bodies, private organizations, and private individuals and delivers them to the disaster area. JICA itself bears all costs involved in the assembly of relief supplies in Japan and their delivery to the disaster area. Generally, the supplies are then given to the recipient government through the Japanese embassy in that country.

Front Line

JDR Medical Team Dispatch

El Salvador

JOCV Support the JDR Medical Team

◆ In the Midst of Chaos

Memories of the large number of victims that resulted when a major earthquake struck El Salvador on 13 January 2001, are still fresh. The city was in chaos due to conflicting information and fear of tremors, and the people were worn down with fatigue. In response, JICA decided to dispatch a Japan Disaster Relief medical team; the first squad arrived on 16 January, three days after the earthquake, and the second arrived the following day. They quickly began medical treatment for victims.

◆ Volunteers' One-on-one Manner a Comfort to Victims

Before the earthquake struck, about 50 JOCV had been working to support grassroots international cooperation. However, with the Japanese government's decision to dispatch the medical team, many of the volunteers spontaneously took part in the medical team as support personnel. The medical team was made up of specialists in emergency medical treatment who were visiting El Salvador for the first time, and there were some anxieties about language and local customs. The work of the JOCV eliminated this problem. During the two-week period the team was dispatched, the JOCV provided all kinds of rear support including interpreting and transport of luggage and food. Meanwhile, by talking individually to victims and listening carefully to their concerns, the JOCV gained a new appreciation for the significance of their work in the region. The efforts of the JOCV were an important factor in the completion



Volunteers engaging in reception work.

of the medical team's activities.

◆ Towards Recovery—"Emotional Care and Support"

The volunteers who supported the medical teams have already gone back to their original work assignments to continue their respective activities. However, they are also working to provide emotional care and support by developing individual projects to support the victims who are still suffering.

(JICA/JOCV El Salvador Office)

Support for Japanese Emigrants and Ethnic Japanese

Background to the Program

Since the end of World War II, about 73,000 Japanese people have emigrated to other countries with help from JICA and other organizations. There are now thought to be more than 2.5 million ethnic Japanese living overseas.

Japanese emigrants and their descendants worldwide have overcome many difficulties to form mature communities in their adopted countries. During the immediate postwar years, many Japanese emigrated to Brazil and other parts of Latin America, where they are now playing key roles in their countries' industrial and economic development, particularly in the field of agriculture.

Trends and Content of the Program

Reviewing the Program

A new generation of ethnic Japanese is now emerging in these countries, and the communities themselves are, at present, largely second to fourth generation. Members of these later generations play a leading role in politics, administration, the economy, academia, and culture and are fueling national development. Their efforts are also contributing to international cooperation.

In countries with large Japanese immigrant communities, awareness of Japan is being enhanced by first and subsequent generation immigrants. The presence of these communities contributes significantly to the stimulation of friendship and cooperation between Japan and these countries.

In response to these changes in the situation surrounding ethnic Japanese communities, JICA has been reviewing the content of its Emigration Service Program since fiscal 1994 as follows:



Students of Japanese language school using textbooks sent from Japan (Paraguay).

- (1) Reorganization of training and departure services to new emigrants from fiscal 1994;
- (2) Emphasis on international cooperation to step up support and cooperation for Japanese overseas communities, while striving to ensure the stability of the lives of those who had emigrated earlier with JICA support.

Of the earlier projects that were part of the Emigration Service Program for overseas Japanese communities, JICA is concerned particularly with those strongly oriented toward Technical Cooperation (e.g., provision of training in Japan and dispatch of Japanese experts and volunteers). This effort, which has formed part of JICA's Technical Cooperation scheme since fiscal 1996, involves the following:

- (1) Acceptance of Japanese community training participants (formerly "acceptance of emigrant training participants");
- (2) Dispatch of experts to overseas Japanese communities (formerly "dispatch of emigration experts");
- (3) Dispatch of Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities (formerly "senior emigration experts");
- (4) Dispatch of Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers (formerly known as "overseas development youth dispatch").

Content of the Emigration Service Program

JICA performs the following activities in connection with Emigration Service Program:

1. Publicity

To deepen understanding among the Japanese public of overseas emigrants and overseas Japanese communities, the activities of emigrants and ethnic Japanese are presented through:

- (1) Publication of the bimonthly magazine *Kaigai Iju* (Overseas Emigration);

- (2) Invitation to Japan of prominent individuals of Japanese descent;
- (3) Subsidies to assist the organization of conferences for ethnic Japanese living outside Japan.

2. Training for Children of Emigrants

- (1) Training for students at Japanese language schools
Outstanding pupils of Japanese language schools are invited to Japan to gain firsthand experience of Japanese culture and society. During their stay they can improve their language proficiency by attending junior high schools and staying as home guests. This program, which began in fiscal 1987, takes place for one month every year. Forty-three pupils took part in fiscal 2000.
- (2) Technical training for ethnic Japanese working in Japan before returning home country
Begun in fiscal 1993, this program provides training to ethnic Japanese working in Japan who satisfy prescribed academic standards. They are given technical training before returning home to help them contribute to the development of their countries. Productivity enhancement and computer courses, attended by 15 students, were held in fiscal 2000.
- (3) Courses for ethnic Japanese people
To give overseas ethnic Japanese residing in Japan the chance to gain a better understanding of Japanese culture, 30-day culture and language

courses are provided with the cooperation of the International Women's Training Center.

- (4) Central training for overseas Japanese students
Assistance is provided to study courses organized twice a year by the Association of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad that are aimed primarily at overseas Japanese studying in Japan on prefectural government grants.

3. Support for Emigrants Overseas

Various projects are under way to support emigrants and improve their living conditions.

- (1) Extension of farming systems
JICA activities aimed at improving farm management, employed by emigrants, include the dispatch of agricultural experts from Brazil to other Latin American countries, training in the agricultural methods of industrialized countries, fostering of agricultural study groups and practical training for the staff of agricultural cooperatives.
- (2) Medical care and hygiene
JICA implements the operation of mobile clinics in Brazil, assists in the operation of five clinics in Paraguay and Bolivia, and has channeled medical aid to emigrants in Paraguay, Bolivia and the Dominican Republic on the basis of agreements with local physicians. Scholarships are made available to students of medicine and nursing in these countries.

Close Up

Scholarship System for Study Abroad for Ethnic Japanese

JICA Provides Scholarships for Ethnic Japanese Seeking Degrees at Graduate Schools in Japan

◆ Toward Further Improvement

Today, Japanese emigrants and ethnic Japanese in Latin America have achieved indisputable status and respect in their respective countries through many years of effort. Toward further improvement in this vein, JICA started a scholarship system for ethnic Japanese with six openings in fiscal 2000. It was started in response to the requests from local ethnic Japanese communities who believe the cultivation of outstanding human resources that can be active in local communities is indispensable.

This system provides a portion of the expenses needed for study abroad, including roundtrip travel expenses between the country of residence and Japan, admission fees, tuition fees and living expenses, over a two-year period. The main feature of this system is the two-year period of scholarship provision, which makes it possible to obtain a graduate-level degree.

Ethnic Japanese already studying abroad in Japan are currently studying a diverse range of disciplines that includes education, medicine and economics. After returning to their respective home countries,



Ethnic Japanese selected for the 2000 study abroad scholarship stand in front of the JICA Tokyo International Centre.

they become very active in local communities using their expertise, and it is hoped that their efforts will also bear significant fruit in regard to relations between their home countries and Japan.

(3) Education and culture

JICA provides grants in a number of forms, including reward payments to teachers with a view to supporting education in local languages. Support for Japanese language education is being provided through third-country training* of local Japanese language teachers in Latin America. In fiscal 2000, 39 Japanese language teachers took part in a course held in Brasilia, Brazil. JICA also provided subsidies for the extension of the Burzaco Japanese Language School in Argentina, and support in the form of reward payments to Japanese-language teachers and purchase of teaching materials.

(4) Support for improvements in social welfare and everyday infrastructure

In fiscal 2000, grants were provided for the construction of a residential home for elderly people with special needs in São Paulo in Brazil, and for repair work on wooden bridges in Paraguay.

4. Division of Settlements into Housing Lots

JICA assists with the division of Japanese settlements into housing lots. In fiscal 2000, one settlement zone and three urban zones in Paraguay,

and five settlement zones in Argentina were divided up in this manner.

5. Business Loans

JICA offers loans to businesses run by emigrants as well as to business groups that contribute to the permanence and stability of Japanese immigrant communities. In fiscal 2000, loans totaling ¥215 million were provided to emigrants of Bolivia and the Dominican Republic.

6. Studies on Migration

Every year studies are performed to gather basic data useful in supporting and giving guidance to Japanese emigrants and ethnic Japanese, and in enhancing understanding of overseas Japanese communities. In fiscal 2000, survey of farm household economy in five Latin American countries, studies on materials relating to migration and taping oral histories of emigrants were performed.

Since fiscal 1993, the Association of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad has been cooperating with JICA through consultations on matters of everyday concern as part of assistance given to overseas Japanese working in Japan.

Close Up

The Nikkei Third-country Expert Program

International Contributions by Ethnic Japanese

◆ Similarities in Language and Environment Create Added Effectiveness

Japanese emigrants and ethnic Japanese in Latin America are contributing greatly to the economic and social development of the countries where they live. A great number of ethnic Japanese engineers and researchers are currently very active in a wide range of fields.

From fiscal 1997, JICA initiated the Nikkei third-country expert program, which dispatches ethnic Japanese active in Latin America as experts to developing countries under Japan's Technical Cooperation scheme.

One of the merits of this program is that dispatching experts from countries with similar languages and environments creates added effectiveness. Another is the fact that the combined expertise and technical prowess of numerous ethnic Japanese who are active in various fields can be utilized.

◆ Construction of a Database of Human Resources in South America

In fiscal 2001, JICA dispatched two ethnic Japanese experts who are leaders of agricultural producers' unions from Brazil, to Nicaragua for a three-month period. The object of the dispatch was to try to improve agricultural productivity, cultivate farmers' institutions, and give added value to farm products for the purpose of increasing the income of small- and medium-sized farmers. The two experts utilized the wide



A lecture meeting planned by ethnic Japanese experts.

range of agricultural expertise they had accumulated in Brazil. Through seminars and other means, they provided guidance and advice at the Nicaraguan Agricultural Producers' Union and National Agricultural Livestock Industry Union. Their activities received high praise from both the Government of Nicaragua and the unions.

JICA has dispatched a total of 16 ethnic Japanese experts to date, and to ensure even smoother implementation of the program in the future, in fiscal 2000, JICA built a database of persons in South America who possess rich expert knowledge and experience. This database is expected to help broaden the range of fora for activities by ethnic Japanese.

Evaluation

Outline of the Program

History of Project Evaluation Activities

To ensure that aid for developing countries is provided and implemented effectively and transparently, it is important to identify, formulate and implement projects that meet their needs. At the end of a project and thereafter, evaluation of project effectiveness is proving to be essential. At the same time, the lessons learned from evaluation must be reflected in follow-up activities and in the formulation and execution of future projects so that improvements can be made. It is also important to publish these results.

It was from this standpoint that in July 1981, JICA set up an Evaluation Study Committee to look at how JICA projects should be evaluated and to develop evaluation methods. Currently, in addition to evaluation of projects being implemented by each project division, the Office of Evaluation and Post-project Monitoring in the Planning and Evaluation Department provides overall planning and coordination for JICA project evaluation.

In recent years, in the context of Japan's severe fiscal problems, there has been vigorous debate in various quarters about issues such as the significance of ODA and the form that Japanese aid should take. In addition, there have also been proposals for a shift from volume to quality in the provision of ODA. As a result of this debate, there has been a rediscovery of the role and importance of evaluation as an effective method for raising the quality of ODA and ensuring transparency. In March 2000, the Aid Evaluation Reviewing Panel at



An interview survey of workers in the ceramics industry, who are the final beneficiaries of a JICA project (Thematic Evaluation Study on Participatory Evaluation in Thailand).

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published the "Report on Reform of Japan's ODA Evaluation System." Further, in February 2001, the Study Group on ODA Evaluation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs made proposals to strengthen the evaluation system and enhance and improve evaluation activities.

Based on these debates and proposals, JICA is taking proactive steps to enhance and strengthen the evaluation of its projects. This includes the establishment of a consistent evaluation system from ex-ante evaluation and mid-term evaluation through to ex-post evaluation and the use of external experts.

Aims of Project Evaluation

As an organization providing Technical Cooperation and promoting Grant Aid, JICA offers follow-up as necessary after studying the relevance, impact and sustainability of individual cooperation projects. In addition to this, the lessons gained through evaluation are fed back into project planning, formulation and implementation, and various types of evaluation are conducted with the aim of improving programs. (See Figure 3-16)

The results of evaluations are published in order to ensure the transparency of JICA programs. Another important task of evaluation is therefore to increase the Japanese public's appreciation of ODA programs.

Types of Project Evaluation

JICA performs monitoring and evaluation at various stages of the project cycle so that projects are

properly managed. In order to execute projects more effectively by responding appropriately and flexibly to the needs of recipient countries and changes in conditions, we are currently working on improving the content of ex-ante and mid-term evaluations.

1. Ex-ante Evaluation

Ex-ante evaluations are performed when recipient countries request projects. They are carried out at the planning formulation stage to examine the details of the project, the appropriateness of cooperation, and the results to be expected. We have compiled the results of ex-ante evaluations into the "Ex-ante Project Evaluation," which we will begin publishing in fiscal 2001.

2. Mid-term Evaluation

Mid-term evaluations are performed while a project is under way. The aim of such evaluations is to look at how a project is progressing and at the needs of the recipient country in order to assess whether the original

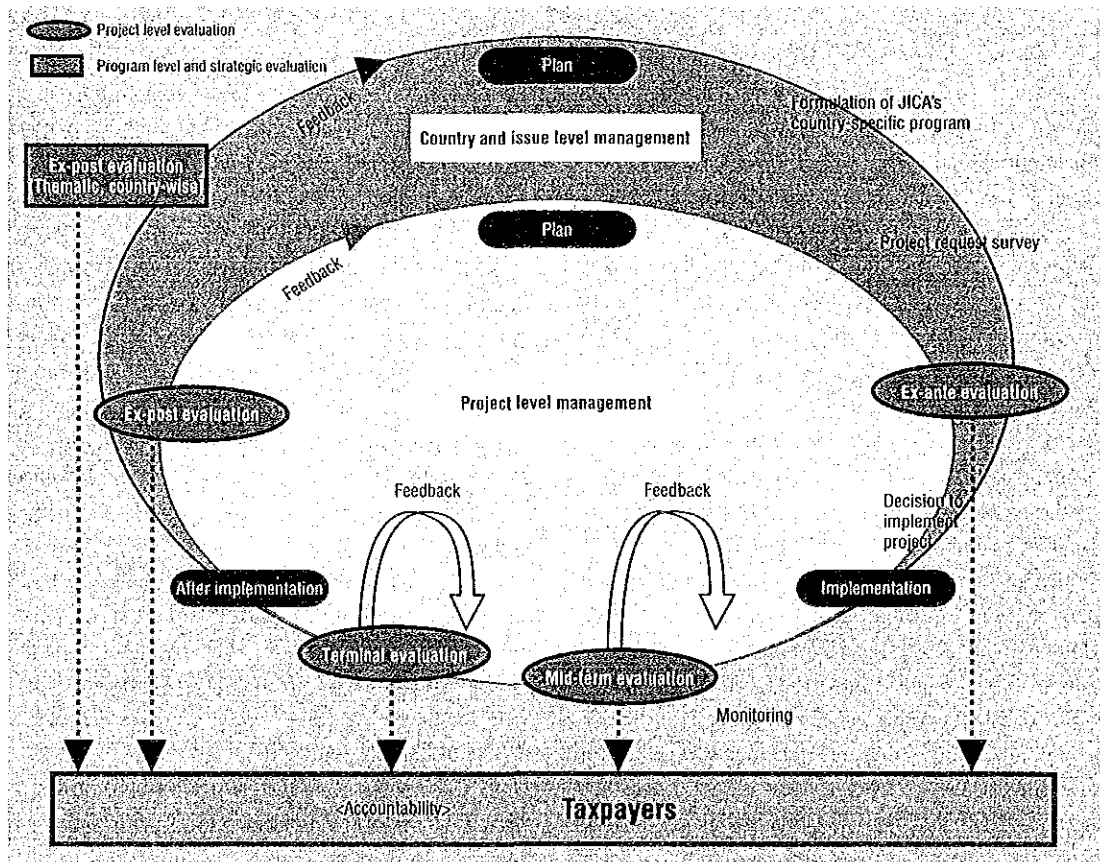
plan needs to be changed. Mid-term evaluations are performed by the department in charge of a particular project. The results are used for more effective and efficient formulation of plans and review of cooperation.

3. Terminal Evaluation

Terminal evaluations are carried out in collaboration with related organizations in the recipient country. They involve study and analysis of five criteria for evaluation: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability, with particular focus on efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. Their principal aim is to assess whether it is possible to finish the project or whether follow-up, including the extension of the project, needs to be provided.

Terminal evaluations are performed either by the department in charge or by the overseas office in the country where the project was executed. The timing of an evaluation depends on the type of project. For

Figure 3-16 Position of Evaluation Within the Project Cycle



Technical Cooperation projects (including Project-type Technical Cooperation, expert team dispatch and third-country training*), the evaluation is performed six months before the end of cooperation. In fiscal 2000, evaluations of this type were performed for 70 projects in 40 countries.

4. Ex-post Evaluation

The main objective in performing ex-post evaluations is to learn lessons that will contribute to the effective and efficient execution of projects in the future. They are carried out on projects once a certain period has elapsed after the completion of cooperation. They cover the same five issues as terminal evaluations and focus particularly on impact and sustainability.

The results of ex-post evaluations are reflected in the planning of JICA's country-specific programs, and are used in the identification and formulation of new projects. In the case of country-wise evaluations, on-site

evaluation seminars are also held to feed back the results to those involved in the project in the recipient country.

In fiscal 2000, 26 ex-post evaluations were held in 20 countries and evaluation seminars were held in two countries.

The Office of Evaluation and Post-Project Monitoring and JICA's overseas offices perform five types of ex-post evaluation.

(1) Country-wise evaluations

JICA's cooperation in the country in question is evaluated comprehensively. The effects and the problems involved in JICA's cooperation activities as a whole are collated and analyzed, and lessons are learned as to how best to cooperate with that country in the future.

(2) Thematic evaluation

This type of evaluation is concerned with specific fields and important topics (the environment,

Close Up

Project Monitoring by Local People

Local NGOs Conduct Monitoring of JICA Projects

◆ Responses from Nearly 10,000 People

In Indonesia, a country with a population of roughly 200 million, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are said to number from 4,000 to 7,000. In recent years, they have become active in the fields of advocacy, development cooperation, and research due to the democratization of the new political administration.

Project monitoring by local people is carried out with the aim of checking whether JICA assistance is reaching the local people and of reflecting the results obtained in future JICA projects.

In fiscal 2000, we carried out monitoring of 15 projects in Indonesia that included Grant Aid, Project-type Technical Cooperation, Development Study, Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), Acceptance of Technical Training Participants, and the Community Empowerment Program¹. Monitoring focused on the four key areas of health care and education, poverty alleviation, regional development and infrastructure and environment (education). It was carried out through survey tasks with three NGOs that have extensive track records in each field and an established network of NGOs from areas all around the country.

Monitoring involved the collection of oral questionnaire survey forms from a total of 9,698 people from 20 locations in 14 provinces around the country. An analysis of the questionnaires showed a high level of awareness about foreign aid in Indonesia: 86% of the respondents (7,755 valid responses) responded that JICA projects are effective, and 53% answered that the projects have been useful in improving living standards.

◆ Japanese Working at the Grassroots Level

A total of 6,985 residents replied that Japanese actually go to local



Local NGO personnel conducting an interview with students for the "Strengthening of Polytechnic Education in Electric-related Technology Project" (Project-type Technical Cooperation).

areas to carry out project activities. This provided a characteristic image of Japanese aid, and a picture of Japanese experts and volunteers working at the grass-roots level emerged.

Further, because monitoring was carried out by NGOs that are experts in local conditions and who understand the culture and language, it was possible to get the unreserved opinions of local residents. We were also able to hear a variety of opinions concerning the problems that residents face. These valuable comments will be useful in future aid.

As well as utilizing the results of monitoring in future projects, we will further strengthen the network with NGOs that we have established through monitoring, and aim to deliver aid that reaches the people.

poverty, impact on women, etc.) and with specific program types. The effects and problems of JICA programs are comprehensively analyzed. Lessons are then drawn as to how best to provide cooperation on these topics in the future. The most effective means of cooperation for specific topics are also examined.

(3) Evaluation by experts

External experts (scholars, journalists, representatives of NGOs and other experts) with knowledge of development aid and JICA programs are commissioned to conduct high-quality evaluations from a variety of angles to ensure the transparency of JICA programs and the neutrality of evaluations.

(4) Joint evaluations

These evaluations are performed jointly with related agencies or other donors* in recipient countries. Joint evaluations together with recipient countries make it possible for JICA and the recipient country to share perceptions of the effects and problems of cooperation, and they are also effective in enabling a recipient country to learn methods of evaluation and to improve its evaluation capacity. Joint evaluations carried out with other donors are effective in enabling both sides to study each other's evaluation methods and to strengthen collaboration.

(5) Evaluations by external organizations

To increase quality and improve neutrality, evaluations are entrusted to external development aid research organizations and consultants who: a) have the capacity to formulate plans and to gather and analyze information; and b) understand the structures of development aid and Technical Cooperation.

5. Post Project Monitoring

Post project monitorings are carried out through JICA's overseas offices in connection with Project-type Technical Cooperation, Grant Aid, and supply of technical cooperation-related equipment (supply of

individual items). Their aim is to assess the current status of the post-project situation, and they are performed on all projects after a certain period has elapsed following their completion.

The results of post project monitorings are used as base materials when preparing plans for the dispatch of experts, purchase and provision of repair parts and other forms of follow-up.

Evaluations of this type were performed in 76 countries in fiscal 2000.

6. Project Monitoring by Local People

The effects of JICA projects and their contribution are monitored by local NGOs and resident experts to help JICA obtain the viewpoint of the local community and other beneficiaries. This system was introduced in fiscal 2000.

The results of monitoring are used to review the content of project cooperation and to identify and formulate new projects.

Use of Evaluation Results

JICA makes use of evaluation results when preparing country-specific programs, formulating new projects and considering follow-up for projects subject to evaluation. Since fiscal 1995, the results of terminal evaluations and ex-post evaluations have been annually published under the title of "Annual Evaluation Report." These reports are being used to increase the transparency of JICA programs and to enhance appreciation of programs by the Japanese people. In addition, we are active in the publication of a wide range of reports, including Project Evaluation Reports, on the JICA Internet homepage.

Furthermore, the results of evaluations are being used to promote understanding of JICA programs and to plan and execute ever more effective and efficient projects through evaluation seminars held locally for the benefit of those directly involved in the recipient country and for other donors.

Follow-up



Installation and instruction on the use of environmental pollution measuring equipment (Mongolia).

Outline of the Program

Once a JICA cooperation project, such as one implemented under the Project-type Technical Cooperation scheme, reaches the end of its term, it is the responsibility of the developing country to undertake the project and to maintain and manage related facilities and equipment.

However, unexpected problems sometimes arise that interfere with this process. For instance, supplied equipment may develop faults, or an undertaking previously supported by a project may face financial difficulties. Therefore, when a project is completed, we need to monitor closely how undertakings once supported by the project are proceeding. We also need to encourage self-reliance on the part of the recipient country and, if necessary, provide additional support in the form of follow-up and aftercare* for sustainable development*.

Program Types and Results

Aftercare for the Acceptance of Training Participants Program

JICA's aftercare for the Acceptance of Training Participants Program includes support for alumni associations that consist of former participants who have returned home and who serve as links between their countries and Japan.

As of the end of fiscal 2000, 83 alumni associations had been formed in 77 countries. These associations are engaged in exchange activities such as introducing Japanese culture. In addition, there has been an increase recently in the number of alumni associations attempting to grapple with social development in their countries. One example is a program of the Pakistan alumni association to offer free medical services.

Furthermore, JICA also places considerable importance on alumni associations as an invaluable network to support JICA programs, and we are therefore providing grants for these organizations. One such example is a seminar on publicity of JICA programs in remote areas that is being carried out by the Papua New Guinea alumni association.

In addition to support for alumni associations, we also support individual former training participants by sending them materials on their respective disciplines for two years after their return home. Moreover, JICA sometimes provides follow-up equipment that is necessary for the on-site utilization of expertise acquired through training, when such utilization is particularly important for the success of a country-specific program or the resolution of a priority issue.

Aftercare for the Youth Invitation Program

In the Youth Invitation Program, aftercare teams are sent to various countries to solidify the bonds of friendship formed while young people from these countries were in Japan. Teams consist of Japanese youths who made friends with the visitors, families who offered them the hospitality of their homes, and personnel from related agencies.

Three aftercare teams were sent in fiscal 2000 to Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand, where members renewed their friendships with former participants in this program and visited their workplaces and homes. Wherever the team members went, they were assured of a warm welcome and a heartwarming reunion.

Alumni associations of former participants in the Youth Invitation Program are active throughout the ASEAN region, and JICA is providing grants to stimulate their activities. As well as holding annual exchange meetings, individual alumni associations are themselves

III

Chapter 3

Evaluation and Follow-up/2 Follow-up

promoting exchange projects with Japan and organizing youth camps and exhibitions of photographs and paintings. The associations are acting as bridges between their own countries and Japan, while at the same time making their own unique contributions to social development and youth training in their countries.

The aftercare program is thus contributing significantly to expansion of the bonds of friendship formed between Japan and various countries through the Youth Invitation Program.

Follow-up on Equipment and Facilities

Sudden deterioration in a recipient country's financial standing may make it difficult for the country to maintain and manage equipment and facilities supplied through Technical Cooperation and Grand Aid, while natural disasters may result in damage to equipment. As a result, technology transferred⁸ at considerable effort may not be used effectively, or all of the features of the facilities and the machines supplied may not be fully employed. In such cases, JICA provides additional support in the form of supply of spare parts and repairs, while at the same time encouraging self-reliance on the part of the recipient country as a guiding principle. Such support is intended to ensure that sustainable development can be maintained.

An example of support of this kind was provided at the Toamasina Central Hospital located in Tamatave, the second largest city of Madagascar. In fiscal 1993, Grand Aid was used to provide replacement medical equipment. The Toamasina Central Hospital, as the core hospital in the region, had offered medical services



An engineer repairing a dental treatment table at the Toamasina Central Hospital as staff members look on.

of the highest level in the country. The hospital had procured a large amount of funds for the maintenance of facilities and equipment, despite its severe financial situation. However, increasingly frequent equipment breakdowns due to age became technically and financially impossible for the hospital to deal with, and it consequently requested follow-up cooperation.

In response, JICA dispatched a follow-up study team. The team examined how the equipment was being used and how the faults were affecting its functioning. Then it determined the spare parts that were needed (while also fixing minor malfunctions that did not require replacement parts). The defective equipment will be repaired through the supply of the spare parts and the dispatch of repair engineers to restore operability. At the same time, instruction on maintenance will be given to prevent breakdowns from recurring.

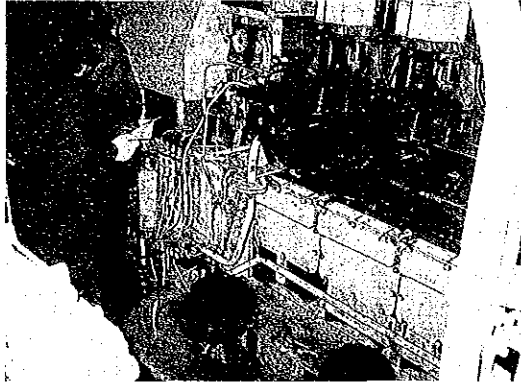
Another example of this kind of support was carried in the wake of a major earthquake in Turkey. In constructing temporary prefabricated housing donated by Hyogo Prefecture, technical guidance was provided by JICA to local constructors who were not familiar with Japanese-style prefabricated housing. It made a significant contribution to the establishment of two Japan-backed villages in Duzce and Adapazari.

Follow-up and Aftercare for Project-type Technical Cooperation Program

When Project-type Technical Cooperation ends, it may sometimes be necessary to provide follow-up by extending the original term of cooperation by one or two years. This is done when targets set in specific areas of cooperation have not been met and when there are needs for continued cooperation to assist self-reliant development. To reinvigorate a project, we may also need to provide aftercare by supplying additional equipment and dispatching experts several years after a project has ended.

1. Example of Follow-up Cooperation

Tanzania faced the important issue of how to improve maternal and child health care services. The state of medical care in the country was inadequate with shortages in medical personnel and facilities. JICA thus extended cooperation from 1994 to 1999 to reinforce the pediatrics and microbiology divisions of the



Repair work on the engine of a fisheries training ship (Morocco "Fisheries Training Ship Construction Plan" follow-up).

Muhimbili Medical Center and to strengthen maternal and child health care services in Tanga. The Muhimbili Medical Center is affiliated with the Health Care and Science Department of Dar es Salaam University, which is the most advanced facility in the country.

An evaluation of project achievements near the end of the cooperation term found that further efforts were necessary in certain areas. Specifically, it was determined that the pediatrics division of the Center needed assistance in enhancing its coordination among physicians, nurses and paramedics as well as its capabilities to manage and operate a clinical laboratory. With respect to Tanga, the lack of a referral system for traditional midwife deliveries and a pooling system of necessary activity funds were pointed out. JICA therefore offered two-year follow-up cooperation focusing on these areas to further enhance the results obtained so far.

2. Example of Aftercare Cooperation

The "Malaysia Fine Ceramics Research Project" was conducted from 1987 to 1992 as a part of "Japan-ASEAN Science and Technology Cooperation." This research cooperation project focused on oxide, nonoxide and glass ceramics, and it produced significant results.

After the completion of the project, the Ceramics Technology Center, an implementing organization of the project, offered third-country training* programs from 1994 to 1998 in neighboring countries based on the results of the project. It also organized seminar workshops on ceramics for companies, universities and governmental organizations from 1992 to 1997. Through these activities, the center facilitated progress

in this field.

Aftercare cooperation has been extended for two years from 1999, eight years after the end of the project, to 2001. It aims at further advancements in electronic ceramics technology by repairing and upgrading equipment supplied during the project and by cooperating with hysteresis curve analysis that is indispensable for ferroelectric assessment.

Follow-up on the Development Study Program

To enhance the efficacy of the Development Study program, follow-up studies are conducted specifically to determine the progress of projects on which Development Study has already been completed and to reflect the results in future studies.

In fiscal 2000, follow-up studies were carried out on 1,731 Development Studies that began after August 1974 and ended before the end of fiscal 1999. The studies were categorized according to country and region, year of completion, type and sector. The status of individual projects and how their studies were being used were monitored and analyzed, and proposals for improvements were compiled into a report. Details of how the outcome of the studies was being applied in practice were reported in the case of Development Studies completed within the past decade.

Continuing an effort started in fiscal 1999, ex-post evaluations on completed Development Studies were conducted in fiscal 2000.

One example is an evaluation study on the "Study on the Development Plan for Colombo Port in Sri Lanka." This development study was conducted in three stages: from 1979 to 1980, from 1988 to 1989, and from 1995 to 1996.

An evaluation study found that the purpose of the development study was mostly achieved, given that several yen loans for the realization of the project proposed in the development study were provided, that past master plans were referred to in Colombo Port development, and that the feasibility study project was implemented as proposed for the most part.

However, the evaluation pointed out, "the development study should have analyzed the capabilities of organizations in charge of implementation (expertise, clear authority and responsibility, incentive, etc.) in

order to make the proposed project more productive and effective." This recommendation will be taken as a lesson when similar projects are implemented in future.

Evaluations were performed on the sustainability and feasibility of such studies, and lessons obtained from evaluations will be used in the planning of future studies.

Follow-up on the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Program

There are times when social and economic changes may entail the need for supplementary cooperation for team dispatch projects whose prescribed period of cooperation has ended. In such cases, individual volunteers are sent on the basis of a request from the recipient country to enhance the effects of cooperation.

An example is the "Karey-Gorou Green Promotion Cooperation Project" in Niger. Teams were sent from January 1993, aiming at raising income from tree planting and vegetable and fruit growing through enhanced public awareness about environmental conservation as well as reducing deforestation through the use of improved ovens. In October 1998, a terminal

evaluation was conducted to examine the achievements of the previous six years, based on which the decision was made to extend the project for two and a half years to June 2001, in order to ensure that these achievements were firmly rooted. In December 2000, an evaluation team was dispatched again. The team confirmed that the technology transfer³ to local citizens was completed regarding vegetable and fruit growing and improved oven making, and that these technologies would be maintained by them even after the completion of the project. However, the team recommended the continued dispatch of experts in tree planting, citing further needs for cooperation on direct seeding forestation skills, which had been expected to take root during the extension period. It also proposed the continued dispatch of workers to promote village development because of further needs for education on environmental conservation. After the end of the project, a group led by a senior JOCV was dispatched. The group is working to make sure that the achievements of the project are successfully transferred to local citizens.

Chapter 4 Strengthening the Foundations of Program Implementation

Research

Outline of the Program

Over the last few years, there has been a need to provide ever more effective and efficient aid as a result of the tight fiscal situation in Japan, in addition to the increase in recipient countries and diversification of aid requirements. To achieve this, we have to accurately assess the needs of developing countries and respond



A public seminar of the Committee for Peacebuilding held with former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations (currently Chairman of the Japan Center for Preventive Diplomacy) Yasushi Akashi as a speaker.

flexibly to trends in the international community.

Research activities play an important role in formulating guidelines for addressing these issues and for finding a way to respond to country-specific and region-specific needs.

Research activities are carried out by research committees that are built around external specialists

Close Up

Assistance Strategy Research "Peacebuilding"

Proposing the Importance of Peacebuilding in Development Aid

◆ **Experience of Reconstruction Support Utilized in Peacebuilding**
Since the end of the Cold War, there have been many regional conflicts in all parts of the world, and, as civilian casualties have risen, the need to support peacebuilding through development aid has grown. Japan's Medium-term Policy on ODA and G8 Summits has also pointed out the necessity of supporting conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction. This has meant that JICA will be expected to provide more effective support for peacebuilding based on its previous experience in the reconstruction of Cambodia and East Timor.

For this reason, JICA set up the Committee for Peacebuilding in October, 1999 to examine development aid implemented by Japan and JICA that is related to peacebuilding. As a result of eighteen months of deliberations that included outside experts, the Committee published a report that presented concrete proposals for peacebuilding support and suggested guidelines based on practical JICA strategies.

◆ **Consideration of Peacebuilding When Providing Aid**
The report found that: a) in this era when regional conflicts occur frequently, JICA can play an enormous role in conflict prevention and reconstruction support; and b) it is essential to give consideration to peacebuilding when implementing even the most common forms of aid. It states that, in order to achieve these goals, JICA must have a complete understanding of the concept of peacebuilding, and it must work to thoroughly enmesh this concept with its country-specific

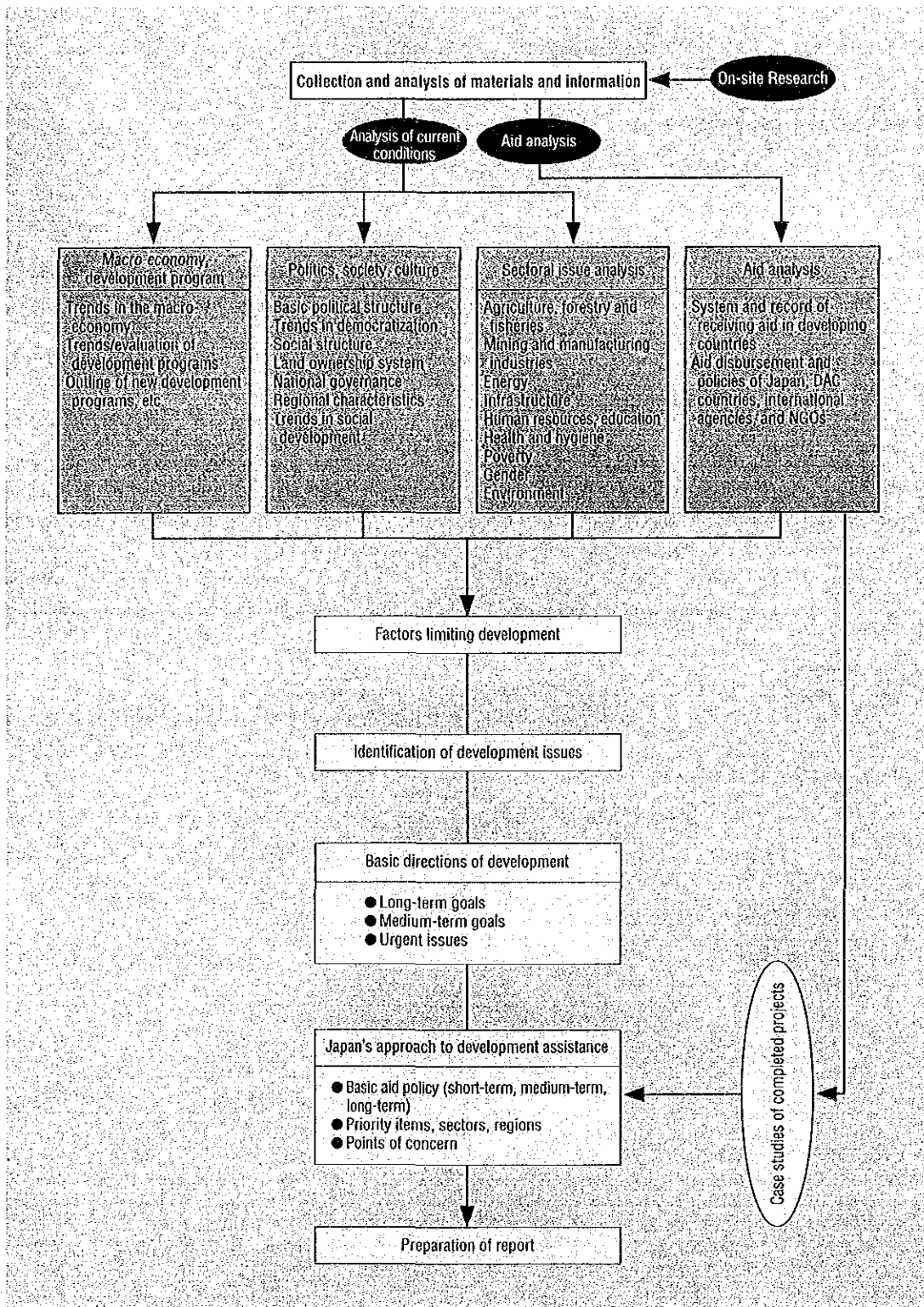
programs and the project cycle. Also, in terms of reconstruction and development aid, the report identified the need to give adequate consideration to ensuring that aid does not aggravate factors that may cause conflict to recur. This is in addition to provision of aid that both directly and indirectly helps to prevent the recurrence of conflict.

The report further states that it is necessary to continue examining ways to increase support for new areas of peacebuilding (security reform, reintegration of demobilized soldiers into society, regulation of small arms, measures to address the issue of child soldiers, peace education, etc.). The report also stresses that, when providing support for peacebuilding, JICA must give adequate consideration to the safety of aid workers while working in collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other donors, to other global issues (poverty, gender and the environment, etc.) and to securing and developing necessary human resources.

Using this report, JICA will need to increase understanding of peacebuilding both inside and outside of its organization while also implementing and improving peacebuilding activities to the maximum degree possible within its existing framework. In addition, by implementing the recommendations put forth in the report, we believe that we must build new systems to support peacebuilding while at the same time continuing the debate on ways to approach this issue in the future.



Figure 3-17 Flow of Country Studies for Japan's ODA



affiliated with universities or research institutes, with senior advisors* and JICA staff members also participating.

These groups contribute significantly to the formation of networks between JICA and these universities and institutes while also fulfilling their primary objective of assisting in the preparation of country, regional and issue guidelines.

Types and Results of Activities

In fiscal 2000, a total of 25 research activities in three categories were carried out. These were: (1) research on assistance strategies aimed at priority regions/countries and issues for cooperation and institutional frameworks (12 research activities); (2) research on aid methods relating to aid skills and methods (6 research activities);



Open Seminar: "Human Security and Women's Empowerment".

and (3) research on important individual issues in the provision of aid (7 research activities).

In addition, research on 18 topics was commissioned externally under the guest researcher system, which aims to commission specialists to perform

Table 3-18 Results of Research Conducted in FY 2000

Research Category	Area of Research
Assistance Strategy Research	Participation in International Cooperation Projects of Municipal Governments (Phase II)
	Finance
	Environment II (sectoral aid research)
	Peacebuilding
	Cambodia (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Nepal (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Brazil (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Indonesia (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Southern Africa (South Africa, Zambia, Mozambique) (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Central Asia (Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz) (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Population (sectoral aid research)
	Poverty Reduction Strategy
Research on Aid Methods	Okinawa's Development Experience in Public Health and Medical Sector
	Application of Advanced Telecommunications Technology to ODA Projects
	Country-specific and Issue-specific Health and Medical Care Cooperation Information
	Research on Systemization of Agricultural Development Cooperation Experience (Cerrado)
	Application of the Region-specific and Country-specific Approach to Volunteer Projects
	Investigation of Plan to Introduce PCM Phase II (application to country-specific and issue-specific approaches)
Research on Individual Issues	Methods of Information Access
	Basic Study on Participatory Evaluation
	Local Government and Decentralization
	Disaster Prevention and Development
	Studies on the Feedback of Evaluation Results
	Feedback of Evaluation Results and Accountability
	Plan to Foster Internationally Viable Development Professionals
International Conferences on Technology Transfer	DAC Evaluation Seminar in Tokyo
	Assisting and Strengthening Democratic Institutions in Developing Countries Hitotsubashi University and JICA International Symposium on Decentralization
Guest Researchers	Eighteen guest researchers

research in specific areas and to build a network with universities and research institutions.

We also held three international conferences on technology transfer to which we invited personnel from developing and developed countries and international agencies whose work is related Technical Cooperation. These conferences gave the participants the opportunity to take part in exchanges of information and opinions on themes where cooperation between a number of donor nations and agencies is necessary, such as democratization and evaluation techniques.

The results of research in fiscal 2000 are as shown

in Table 3-18.

In fiscal 2000, we further strengthened the system for implementing research, with the aim of disseminating results that are useful for programs in a more timely manner. As a result, research that better meets needs is being carried out more efficiently. This includes the completion of high quality reports within a short time of the establishment of a research committee.

The results of these studies are utilized in such activities as formulation of guidelines for JICA programs, improvement of cooperation methods, and preparation of teaching materials used in the training of experts.

Front Line

Assistance Strategy Research: Participation in International Cooperation Projects of Municipal Governments

Tokyo

Aiming for Even Greater Collaboration with Local Governments

◆ Background to the Need for Collaboration with Local Governments In Japan

Improvement in the capabilities of regional governments in developing countries is essential for resolving such urgent issues as poverty, education and the environment. In this respect, the accumulated knowledge, technology and expertise of local governments in Japan is needed by many countries.

Meanwhile, the strengthening of collaboration between JICA and local governments will become more important in terms of deepening public understanding of ODA. In this context, a research project named Participation in International Cooperation Projects of Municipal Governments was implemented with the aim of examining the basic concepts and strategies needed to promote further collaboration between JICA and local governments.

◆ Seminars and Report Result from Research

The Tokyo Metropolitan Area, eight prefectures and three cities took part in Phase I of the project (September 1997–October 1998), where they made proposals for fostering cooperation between JICA and local governments in Japan based on the results of a questionnaire addressed to local governments.

Phase II (October 1998–October 2000) examined the significance of local governments' implementation of international cooperation projects and directions for pursuing such cooperation. Strategies that both JICA and local governments should take to promote mutual collaboration were also studied based on consideration of legal ramifications and historical background. These activities took into account methods of cooperation directed at developing countries that are conducted by the United States and Canada in collaboration with local governments in their own countries.

Based on the results of the research, we held seminars in Okinawa



Open seminar: "Participation in International Cooperation Projects of Municipal Governments."

Prefecture and Iwate Prefecture in early November 2000. At these seminars, research committee chairman Yuji Suzuki, Head of the Law Department at Hosei University, gave lectures on the form that region-to-region international cooperation should take. Local government personnel responsible for international cooperation also held discussions on the role that local governments should play.

A report that includes a large volume of related reference material was prepared to present the results of these research activities. It is intended to serve as an introduction to international cooperation for local governments that have little experience in international cooperation projects. We anticipate that it will be put to good use when consideration is given to future collaboration between JICA and local government.

(JICA Institute for International Cooperation)

Recruitment and Training of Technical Cooperation Experts

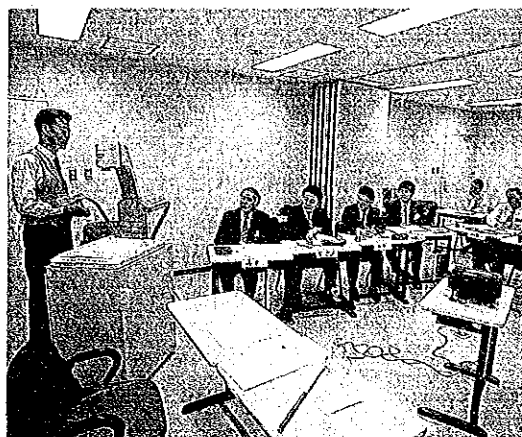
Outline of the Program

The foundation of Technical Cooperation is promotion of development through the transfer of technology on a person-to-person basis. The experts who are dispatched under this program must possess skills that are backed up by experience, communication skills and an understanding of technology transfer* methodology, and a thorough grasp of conditions in their country of assignment.

Furthermore, they are required to collaborate on even the smallest detail with personnel from other donor* countries in order to provide aid efficiently. Individual experts must not only fully understand the mechanisms and trends of aid, they must also have the skills to coordinate and negotiate with local counterparts*. JICA dispatches nearly 2,000 experts each year; however, it is not easy to find people who meet these requirements, and this makes full training necessary when dispatching personnel.

Moreover, for the last few years there has been an increasing diversification in the human resources required by developing countries. There has been increased demand for experts in intellectual areas—such as environmental policy, development of legal systems and the transition to a market economy—and in information technology (IT). However, it has sometimes been difficult to secure personnel in these areas, which makes the training of human resources that can address these needs an urgent challenge.

At JICA, these roles are played by the Human Resources Assignment Department and the Institute for International Cooperation, both of which are engaged actively in the recruitment and training of personnel. In fiscal 2000, JICA began a long-term domestic training system in which participants study issues related to



Training for prospective JICA experts.

development assistance at graduate schools in Japan, as well as a skills-enhancing training system for returned Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) who would like to act as experts in the future.

Recruitment of Experts

The following systems are intended to secure highly qualified experts that will enable a rapid and appropriate response to requests for experts received from developing countries.

1. Senior Advisors

Highly skilled experts with extensive experience in international cooperation are recruited to play key roles in overseas operations as leaders of Project-type Technical Cooperation and in Japan as advisors for Development Studies, training course leaders and leaders of Research activities. Ninety-seven senior advisors* were recruited in fiscal 2000.

2. Special Advisors

Special advisors are recruited primarily from among experts who have returned to Japan and are scheduled for re-dispatch. Thirty-five were recruited in fiscal 2000.

3. Specialized Technical Advisors

Personnel with advanced specialized skills and knowledge as well as plentiful experience are recruited to give advice on a wide range of Technical Cooperation matters. Three are currently active in this capacity, one in each of the fields of social development, mining and manufacturing development, and agricultural development.

4. Registration of Experts

People interested in serving as experts register beforehand to allow for prompt dispatch if and when



their services are required. As of the end of fiscal 2000, 3,758 individuals were registered under this system.

5. Open Recruitment of Experts

There is an increasing need for intellectual cooperation, such as policy and institutional support*, and for efforts to address global issues* that include the alleviation of poverty in developing countries and regions. However, it is no easy task to secure the human resources capable of responding to these new needs. Therefore, for requests that are difficult to fulfill through the registration of experts system, JICA strives to secure appropriate human resources by recruiting qualified personnel through open recruitment. In fiscal 2000, open recruitment was conducted three times, and 46 experts were recruited.

6. Regional International Cooperation Liaison Associations for Returning Experts

Regional International Cooperation Liaison Associations for Returning Experts are being set up by JICA's domestic branches and international centers. The aims are to forge closer links between experts who have returned to Japan after overseas services, to enhance international awareness in Japan's regions and to promote public understanding of international cooperation.

As of the end of fiscal 2000, liaison associations with around 3,300 members were active at 40 locations throughout Japan. Their activities include promoting understanding of international cooperation through seminars and symposiums, providing information to experts prior to dispatch, and producing reports and registers.

Cultivating Experts

Training as described below is provided with the

aim of cultivating experts possessing comprehensive and specialized skills in line with the needs of recipient countries.

1. Associate Specialists

Aimed specifically at young people with international experience (such as JOCV, Junior Professional Officers* [JPOs] and personnel of non-governmental organizations [NGOs], this training is intended to enable such people to play a part in international cooperation as experts or in other roles through practical in-country training and overseas dispatch. In fiscal 2000, 21 young people were newly recruited, and 80 people, including those continuing their training, received instruction both in Japan and overseas.

2. Long-term Overseas Training

This training is aimed at personnel from the private sector and government agencies, former JOCV, and JICA personnel. It is intended to foster their ability to take part in international cooperation. Participants acquire the expertise they will require to take leadership roles, balancing practical and theoretical expertise. In fiscal 2000, 31 people were sent to educational and research institutions and international organizations in both developed and developing countries for a maximum of two years.

Sixteen of these people were from the private sector (including former JOCV), eight were JICA staff members, and seven were government employees. The subjects studied included agricultural and rural village development, regional development, environmental conservation, public health and hygiene, and elementary education in developing countries. The studies were conducted at graduate schools and research institutes in Europe and the United States and at the offices of international organizations in Thailand and the Philippines.

Upon completion of their courses, the participants

Table 3-19 Training Courses for Prospective JICA Experts Held in FY 2000

First Course 19 June to 11 August	Second Course 25 September to 17 November	Third Course 22 January to 16 March
General agriculture Industry and energy development Infrastructure Primary health care Anti-poverty measures from a social and gender perspective Support for development of legal systems	Forest environments Conservation of marine environments Technical education and vocational training Global environment and environmental assessment Population and reproductive health Practice of social and gender study methods Measures to prevent infectious diseases (July 31 to August 28)	Rural infrastructure development Forestry Infrastructure Education Urban environments and anti-pollution measures Environmental health

return to Japan and take part in JICA programs as technical cooperation experts or as members of study teams to developing countries.

3. Long-term Domestic Training

This training is aimed at the same people eligible for long-term overseas training, but is conducted at graduate schools in Japan. It is hoped that it will play a significant role in expanding Japan's personnel network in international cooperation.

In fiscal 2000, we conducted training for nine people at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies. Five of these people were government employees, two were from the private sector and two were JICA staff members. The training covered areas such as development assistance policies and development economics.

4. Skill Enhancing Training for Experts

This is aimed at young people who have returned from JOCV with a relatively high level of technical skill. Through personalized programs lasting from six months to one year, participants receive practical and technical training both in Japan and overseas to foster human resources with the potential to become technical cooperation experts. In fiscal 2000, training was conducted for six people. The training covered arid zone agriculture, social participation of the disabled and wastewater usage technology in developing countries.

5. Training for Prospective JICA Experts

This training is intended to enable people who will soon be sent overseas as experts to acquire the wide range of knowledge and skills that will be demanded of them. In fiscal 2000, we held 19 courses attended by 133 people, each course lasting eight weeks. The content of the courses is shown in Table 3-19.

6. Links with Local Government and Human Resources Development

(1) Training in International Cooperation Administration for Local Government Officials

This training is intended to support international cooperation provided by local government. It comprises a one-week practical training course and an optional three-week language training course. In fiscal 2000, training was held on three occasions at the Institute for International Cooperation in Tokyo and once at the Osaka International Centre; a total

of 83 people attended.

(2) Joint NGO-JICA Training

In July 2000, 15 people from Japanese NGOs and 15 JICA staff members received this training, which was designed to enable NGOs and JICA to study each other's project management methods and to strengthen mutual links.

(3) NGO-JICA Joint Workshop

With the aim of furthering collaboration between Japanese NGO activities and ODA and of strengthening NGO organizations, Okinawan NGOs, local government and universities took part in a workshop held in Okinawa in March 2001.

(4) Training of International Cooperation Personnel

This training was held for nine days in November 2000 in Okinawa and Viet Nam with the aim of furthering understanding of international cooperation and equipping participants with the capacity to take part in related activities. It was attended by 29 people including personnel of the Okinawa prefectural government, employees of international exchange organizations and graduate students.

7. Intern System

Under the intern system, graduate students engaged in research on development aid that are likely to play a part in aid projects in the future receive the opportunity to engage in practical study to increase their understanding of international cooperation at JICA headquarters, institutes in Japan and overseas offices. Training of this type was provided in fiscal 2000 for a total of 23 interns: 10 students at offices in eight developing countries (including Viet Nam and Bolivia) and 13 students in Tokyo, Hiroshima and elsewhere in Japan.

8. Training for Experts

This is provided in principle for experts serving overseas for one year or more:

(1) Pre-dispatch Group Training

Intended for people whose overseas postings as experts have been decided, this training consists of two weeks of general training including instruction on the roles of experts, local conditions and health management, and a three-week language course. Emphasis is placed especially on raising communication skills such as presentation and appreciation of different cultures in developing regions. In fiscal



2000, these courses were held seven times and attended by a total of 1,025 people (816 experts and 209 spouses).

(2) Supplementary Language and Technical Training

Personalized language training is provided to experts who need to improve their linguistic proficiency. Twenty-nine people participated in fiscal 2000. To further improve on-site communication skills, JICA also has a system that involves training in local languages in the experts' countries of posting. A total of 165 people received this training in 33 countries in fiscal 2000.

Personalized technical training is also provided at

institutions in Japan in order to supplement and improve specialized skills. Forty-eight people took part in this kind of training in fiscal 2000.

9. Comprehensive Training in Technical Cooperation

This training is particularly aimed at leaders and coordinators* of Project-type Technical Cooperation. Training centering on project administration is currently taking place within the framework of pre-dispatch training.

Training attended by 45 people was held twice in fiscal 2000. Lasting approximately two weeks, it was aimed exclusively at coordinators and featured project administration.

Support for Activities of Experts

Outline of the Program

For experts sent to developing regions noted for their difficult living conditions, it is important to plan extensive health management and accident compensation in addition to a variety of remuneration systems so that they can lead healthy, stable lives while working in safety. These considerations are essential for the recruitment of highly qualified experts and are linked to maintaining morale; they form the foundations for high-quality Technical Cooperation.

JICA set up the Human Resources Assignment Department in fiscal 1999 in order to strengthen the support systems for experts. It provides an integrated system that includes every stage of the dispatch process' from pre-dispatch training through to their eventual return to Japan.

In order to support the activities of experts, JICA has established the following systems.

Main Provisions

1. Allowances, etc.

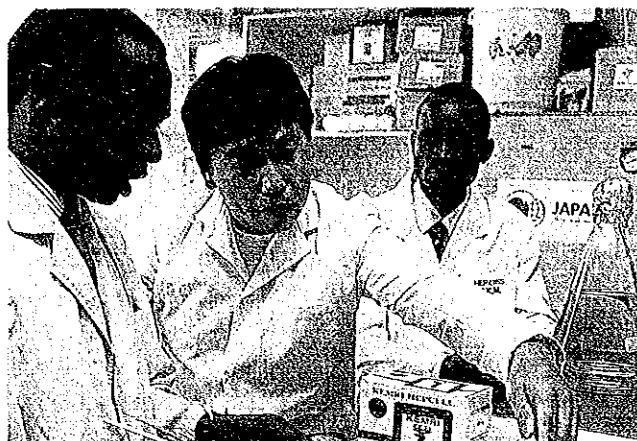
Experts are issued with the following overseas allowances and domestic payments based on those received by foreign service public servants:

(1) Overseas allowances

Long-term experts on dispatch for a year or more are issued with basic employment, residence, family, schooling and special skills allowances. Short-term experts on dispatch for less than a year are issued with traveling expenses and a special skills allowance.

(2) Allowances within Japan

Depending on the expert's affiliation within Japan, pay to supplement personnel costs in the organization to which he or she belongs, or domestic pay, may



An expert giving instruction in testing techniques (Kenya "The Research and Control of Infectious Diseases Project").

be issued.

2. System of Publicly Funded Temporary Return Visits to Japan

Long-term experts sent for two years or longer to regions designated by JICA as "unhealthy areas" with particularly severe living conditions may take temporary leave once every two years to return to Japan in order to rest and receive medical checks.

Long-term experts, who have completed at least one year of an overseas posting lasting for a minimum of two years, may return once to Japan during their period of service to attend a symposium or conference of an academic society to which they belong.

Moreover, if the spouse or a parent of a long-term expert dies, the expert may return to Japan temporarily for the funeral. However, the expert is responsible for paying part of the travel costs.

3. Health Maintenance Travel System

A travel system for health maintenance (health checks, regaining physical strength, etc.) is available for long-term experts sent for extended periods to regions designated by JICA as "specified unhealthy areas," those with living conditions that are even more severe than the "unhealthy areas" described above.

4. Dispatch of Spouses and Children

The following temporary dispatch facilities are provided for the physical and mental well-being of experts in long-term postings who have to live apart from their spouses and children:

(1) Temporary dispatch of children

Children remaining in Japan to attend school may be reunited during the school holidays with a parent serving as a long-term expert.

(2) Temporary dispatch of spouses to malarial regions

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Chapter 4

Strengthening the Foundations of Program Implementation/ 3 Support for Activities of Experts

Experts sent alone to areas with exceptionally poor living conditions may temporarily have their spouses living in Japan visit them.

5. Health Maintenance

In fiscal 2000, JICA reorganized and integrated the Experts Health Management Office, establishing the JICA Medical Support Center to provide centralized health care for JICA staff. Doctors and nurses are constantly on hand in the health clinic at JICA headquarters to provide advice on health matters to experts and their families. Medical examinations are carried out on each individual before and during dispatch and after their return to Japan.

Moreover, to maintain the health of experts during overseas service, health guidance teams made up principally of doctors and nurses are sent to each region. In addition to strengthening the health maintenance system available to experts and their accompanying families overseas, expert health administrators are currently assigned to eight overseas offices. This system will be expanded in the future.

6. Security Measures

JICA collects security-related information from all over the world, which it provides to staff members and experts after analysis through its overseas offices.

JICA's overseas offices hold Expert Security Measures Liaison Meetings for all JICA staff including experts and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) twice a year. Security information is made available and exchanged, and an emergency liaison network between overseas offices is in operation.

In addition, we provide telecommunications equipment for emergency use such as Inmarsat, wireless equipment and mobile phones in all areas to which we dispatch experts. Moreover, we provide funds for crime prevention equipment and employment of security guards.

Security officers are assigned to local offices to instruct JICA personnel on security matters, and itinerant security guidance teams are also regularly dispatched.

7. Accident Compensation

Special labor insurance under the state-sponsored Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance scheme covers experts who have met with an accident in the course of their work or while traveling to work during their period of overseas service.

Furthermore, an emergency system is available for

experts or their family members sent to countries with particularly poor medical conditions that provides for their transportation to medical institutions with a full range of facilities when injury or illness requires their hospitalization.

8. The Mutual Aid Association of JICA

The Mutual Aid Association of JICA was set up to stabilize the lives and to improve the welfare of experts dispatched by JICA and their accompanying families. It provides medical costs if an expert dispatched by JICA falls ill or is injured, and condolence payments in the event of death during overseas services. It is supported by installments paid by the experts themselves and by JICA grants.

Its main activities include payment of the necessary medical expenses for treatment of injury and disease incurred overseas outside of work-related activities, provision of benefits such as condolence payments, distribution of sympathy payments when disaster strikes, and welfare activities including the provision of portable medical supplies.

Table 3-20 Expert Compensation and Welfare Schemes

Allowances, etc.	Overseas allowances	Basic allowance Resident allowance Family allowance Children's educational allowance Language allowance Domestic allowances Special skills allowance
	Issued in Japan	Supplementation of personal expenses at expert's post Domestic payments
	Holidays, etc.	Temporary return to Japan for vacation Temporary return to Japan to attend conferences Temporary return to Japan owing to bereavement Health maintenance trip High altitude health maintenance trip Temporary visit by children Temporary visit of spouse in malarial regions
Welfare systems	Welfare, etc.	Compensation in the event of accident while en route to country of dispatch, during work, or while traveling to work Mutual aid payments Costs for employment of security guards Costs for improvements in living environment Social insurance system

Note: May not apply to certain terms of dispatch and under certain circumstances.

Information Disclosure and Publicity

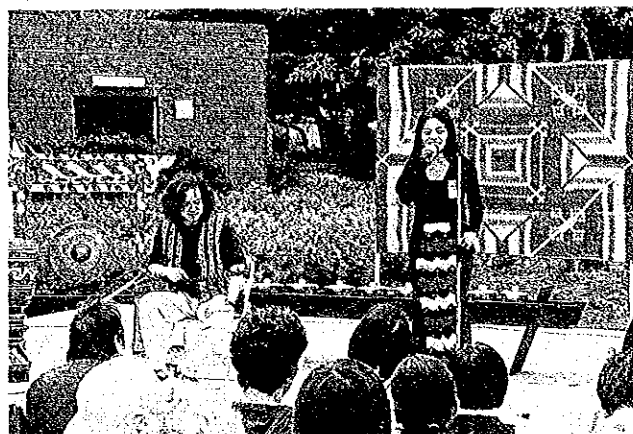
Outline of the Program

Addressing Information Disclosure

In April 2001, the Law Concerning Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs (hereafter called the "Freedom of Information Act") came into force, and an information disclosure system was subsequently installed and implemented.

JICA, which implements ODA programs, is subject to the Law Concerning Access to the Information Held by Independent Administrative Institutions, but its enactment was already scheduled by the Freedom of Information Act. Given the implementation of this law in fiscal 2002, JICA is carrying out preparation for the establishment of an information disclosure system.

This bill provides for a document disclosure request system for JICA and other government-related organizations, and the provision of information related to the organization's activities, with the aim of furthering the information disclosure and public



International Cooperation Festival held in Hibiya Park.

accountability of these organizations.

In addition, this draft requires these organizations to prepare documents and other materials recording basic information about their organizational structure, business and finances, and to make such information available in a timely and easily accessible manner. In this spirit, JICA has been working actively in advance of the law's enforcement to create and distribute the following regularly issued publicity materials, and to post them on our homepage.

- (1) Basic information on JICA's organizational structure, systems, etc. (Overview of the organization, organizational diagram, mission, location, telephone numbers, fax numbers, types of business, etc.)
- (2) Information on the current state of JICA's activities, etc. (State of project progress, reports, statistical materials, etc.)

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4 Information Disclosure and Publicity

Strengthening the Foundations of Program Implementation

• JICA Library

Address:

The Institute for International Cooperation,
10-5 Ichigaya Honmura-cho, Shinjuku-ku,
Tokyo

TEL: 03-3269-2301 (main switchboard)

Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Closed:

Weekends, public holidays, New Year,
JICA Foundation Day (August 1),
library inventory (last day of each month).

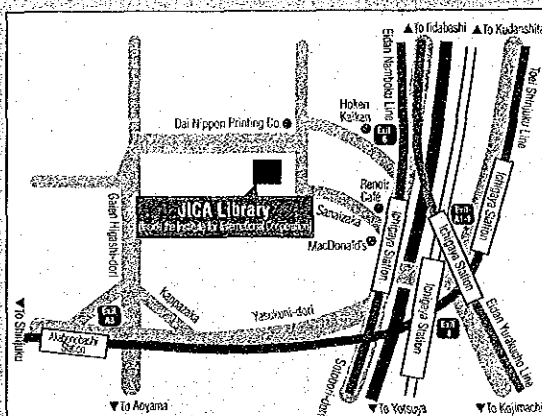
Access:

10 minutes on foot from Ichigaya Station
on the JR Chuo Line.

10 minutes on foot from Ichigaya Station
(Exit 6 or 4) on the Eidan Subway
Yurakucho Line or Namboku Line.

10 minutes on foot from Ichigaya Station (Exit A1-1 or 4) on the Toei Subway Shinjuku Line.

12 minutes on foot from Akebonobashi Station (Exit A3) on the Toei Subway Shinjuku Line.



- (3) Information on budget and settlement of accounts
- (4) Information on procurement of materials and construction (Announcement of projects based on open tender and results of tender, names of projects, main materials procured and construction, eligibility for participation, date of tender, bidding companies, bidding prices, successful bidders, contract prices)
- (5) Information on evaluations, etc. (*Annual Evaluation Report*, ex-post evaluation reports by experts and external organizations, ex-ante project evaluation charts)
- (6) Information gathered and accumulated by JICA that is in high-demand by individuals and enterprises (Country-specific living standards, cooperation and coordination with non-governmental organizations [NGOs], cooperation and coordination with local government, cooperation and coordination with private sector enterprises)

General Opening of the JICA Library and Information Access

The JICA Library has been open to the general public since 1977. The library's collection consists of around 149,000 items, including a wide range of reports prepared by JICA and data collected by JICA study teams, in addition to maps of developing countries, aid materials issued by international agencies, and many other items on developing countries. A PC search system has also been introduced at the library. In fiscal 2000, the library was used by an average of 46 people per day.

Information Access and Publicity Activities Through the Internet

JICA began enabling information access and carrying out publicity activities on an Internet website in 1996. Since then, we have launched an English-language page; provided country-specific project results, overviews of Technical Cooperation and evaluation and other information on our projects; and worked to enhance availability of human resources recruitment information on the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) and Senior Volunteer programs as well as employee hiring.

JICA has also taken several steps to enhance the visual attractiveness of the site. These include the addition

of the "Introducing JICA to Children" section, which explains conditions in developing countries to children, and "JICA Internet Television," which broadcasts the satellite TV program "The JICA Report" on the website.

In June 2001, the Japanese language pages were completely redesigned to provide an environment that enables more systematic viewing of JICA's organization and programs. As of June 2001, information on the main topics listed in Figure 3-21 can be accessed through JICA's English language web site.

In addition, 18 agencies in Japan and 28 overseas offices have set up their own websites to strengthen the flow of information from the front line. JICA has also undertaken the task of advancing the establishment of homepages for JICA's various programs, such as Project-type Technical Cooperation, Development Studies, and the JICA Partnership Program with NGOs, Local Governments and Institutes, with links to the main JICA homepage.

Figure 3-21 JICA Information Available on the Website (English Page)

- News & Columns
- About JICA
 - Japan's Official Development Assistance
 - What is JICA's Role?
 - Outline of JICA Activities
- Activities
 - Regions & Countries
 - Schemes
- Global Issues
 - WID/Gender Equality
 - Environment
 - Population/AIDS
 - Education
 - Disability
 - Poverty
 - Efforts Pertaining to Peacebuilding
- Evaluation
 - Evaluation Bulletin
 - Evaluation Report
 - Evaluation
 - Follow-up
- Publications
 - JICA Network
 - Annual Reports
 - Genetic Resources Project
 - Newsletter
 - Study Reports
- Photos
- Alumni
- Links
- Contacts
 - Domestic Offices
 - Overseas Offices



◆ JICA website (English Page):
<http://www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html>

As a result of this expansion in the content of the JICA website, every month the Japanese homepage receives 100,000 hits, and the English homepage receives 8,000 hits. In addition, since February 2001, JICA has been publishing the *JICA Mail Magazine*, which provides up-to-date event information through e-mail that is sent to registered addresses on the first and the fifteenth of every month. As of July 2001, 10,000 addresses have been registered to receive this service.

With the Information Disclosure Act going into effect in fiscal 2002, JICA intends to improve the structure and content of the homepage by enhancing search functions, offering more information, creating a corner for specific projects and providing the latest information from the field.

Public Relations Activities

JICA intends to play a role in the public relations activities of ODA programs. Extensive publicity activities are aimed at spreading awareness of aid projects at home and abroad and at ensuring that projects are accurately understood and well supported. In particular, JICA is publicizing ODA through a variety of methods that include publication of various materials and sponsorship of special events. JICA is also actively making information available to the mass media.

1. Utilization of Publications and Audiovisual Materials

Public relations activities aimed at the Japanese public and the nation's schools include issue of the monthly magazines *Kokusai Kyoryoku (International Cooperation)* and *Crossroads*. The monthly magazine *JICA Frontier* is issued for readers connected with JICA programs. These publications serve to widen the



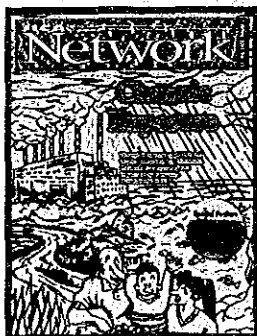
The ceremony to introduce Thailand Killifish, sponsored by the JICA Kanagawa International Fisheries Training Centre and Enoshima Aquarium.

scope of support for JICA's operations. In addition, *JICA Network*, available seasonally in English, French and Spanish, is aimed at overseas readers; its purpose is to improve the supply of information to recipient country governments and people as well as donors*, including international organizations.

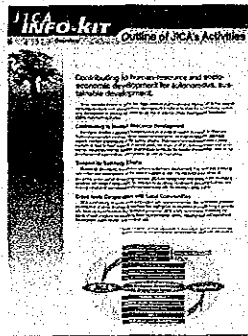
Television programs, videos, photographic panels, and pamphlets introducing JICA operations are constantly being produced to provide easily accessible information. Through the JICA Media Center, which was established in fiscal 1999 to enhance the public release of visual materials, we completed the digitalization of all of JICA's photographs in fiscal 2000, and we have worked toward the simplification of photograph searches and secondary usages. In addition, through the weekly television broadcast of *Chikyu Kazoku: The JICA Report* since fiscal 1999, we have been presenting the activities of experts and JOCV from around the world.

2. Organization of Events

The main event intended to enhance general awareness of international cooperation is International



JICA's publicity magazine and pamphlets.



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4 Information Disclosure and Publicity Strengthening the Foundations of Program Implementation/

Cooperation Day, which takes place on 6 October. Other events include international cooperation campaigns (lectures, seminars, video showings, panel displays, etc.) presented throughout Japan by JICA branches and centers in collaboration with local governments, NGOs, and related organizations. Civic lectures on international cooperation are held throughout the year for the benefit of the general public. Such events strengthen links with the regions and further international awareness.

In fiscal 2000, the International Cooperation Festival was held in Tokyo's Hibiya Park under the joint sponsorship of JICA, the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (formerly the Japanese NGO Center for International Cooperation), the Development Education Council of Japan, the Association for Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC), and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation* (JBIC), and with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Amidst a climate of enhanced partnership with NGOs, 198 organizations (including 114 NGOs) took part in the event, which attracted large crowds. It provided an ideal opportunity for people to come into contact with conditions in developing countries and with international cooperation activities.

3. Approaches to the Mass Media

Representatives of the mass media and other specialists are sent copies of the magazine *JICA Satellite*, which, in addition to general topics, presents a full range of up-to-date information on JICA programs. Several times a year, scholars and employees of national and local publications are given the opportunity to visit project sites in developing countries to acquire a better understanding of international cooperation. In 2000, articles on topics relating to JICA appeared on average twice a day in the national press and nine times a day in the local press.

4. Overseas Public Relations

JICA's overseas offices play a key role in promoting public relations activities overseas. In fiscal 2000, as many as 62 offices, including those in the more developed countries, were involved in presenting panel displays and symposiums, and producing pamphlets and videos. Such activities are increasing year by year. We have received high praise from journalists, who have



International Cooperation Festival—international exchange among children.

few opportunities to visit cooperation project sites, for organizing local press tours to project sites.

Programs to Support Development Education

JICA supports development education as it prompts individuals of any age to think about global issues*, such as development, environment and peace, while promoting a deeper understanding of the importance of international cooperation.

At the school level, the new curriculum that will start from April 2002 will include a period for Integrated Study. This will emphasize international understanding education as one of the main topics. Corresponding to the new focus on international understanding, JICA is responding to requests from schools and teachers by introducing JICA's human resources, such as technical cooperation experts and JOCV who have experience in developing countries. JICA also responds to requests by facilitating participation of students to the existing domestic programs such as the Acceptance of Technical Training Participants Program and the Youth Invitation Program.

For promoting the assistance with development education, JICA's domestic branches located throughout Japan, and regional coordinators for international cooperation (JICA Desk) placed in local international exchange associations, play the core role in coordinating closely with local organizations. JICA cooperates with local organizations such as boards of education, international support associations, international exchange organizations and NGOs, to conduct effective assistance with the local community.



Indonesian training participants visiting Oyachi Elementary School in Hokkaido, sharing their culture with Japanese children.

The following are the specific programs JICA conducts for assisting development education in educational institutions.

1. **Essay Competitions for Junior and Senior High School Pupils, Dissertation Competitions for University Students**
Essay and thesis competitions held under the topic

“Developing Countries and International Cooperation” create an opportunity for students to engage in such topics. In fiscal 2000, JICA received a total of 29,438 entries. The winning contestants are awarded invitations to study tours to developing countries, where they are offered a chance to visit experts and JOCV who are working at the front of the international cooperation field. These experiences lead to deeper understanding of JICA’s operations.

2. Study Programs in Developing Countries for Junior High and High School Teachers

This program focuses on junior high and high school teachers who are interested in teaching development education during class or club activities. The program enables participating teachers to observe the actual fields of international cooperation. In fiscal 2000, 65 teachers participated.



Front Line

Children Cooking Rice Meals with Training Participants

Hiroshima

Support for Development Education

The First Step to International Cooperation

◆ Rice as a Tool for International Understanding

It was the time of autumn harvest when the fifth year students of Higashi Hiroshima City Higashi Saijo Primary School told their teachers, “We want to make meals from around the world with the rice we cultivated.” They were very curious to see how rice has been adapted into people’s lives around the world in various ways. The students explained that they researched the history and culture of rice from the planting to harvest time.

When the students asked the training participants whether people in other countries ate rice and if rice looked different across the world, nine participants said that they would like to show their own country’s rice meals.

The students studied about the participants’ home countries and prepared questions. Meanwhile, participants from countries where men do not customarily cook tried their best to write down recipes for their favorite national dishes. The ingredients were whatever the students could manage to bring from home. Whatever else was needed was bought during a shopping excursion by the students and participants on the previous day. However, certain special herbs could either not be obtained at ordinary supermarkets or were too expensive. The students and participants conferred with each other regarding cheaper alternative ingredients that could bring out the actual tastes and smells of the dishes. The supermarket staff was completely bustling in an attempt to satisfy their special customers.

◆ Faraway Countries Just Moved Closer!

The participants eagerly showed off their cooking talents: steamed rice with vegetables from Panama, hot-and-sour tofu over rice from China, fried rice from Nauru. Each country had transformed the rice in its own way, and each new dish was greeted by cheers when being placed on the finishing table. Groups of children and participants



Together with a participant, “Let’s eat!”

formed naturally, tasting and sharing each other’s recipes.

Later, a letter from the students arrived at the Chugoku International Centre. In this letter, the students wrote, “Although we couldn’t understand each other’s language, I felt that we could understand by our feelings,” and “I learned that even people from faraway countries are no different from us.”

The children are now saying that they plan to research more about the participants and their countries, and about JICA, and present their findings at the school Culture Festival next year. The classroom walls of these students who have just taken their first step into international cooperation are now filled with posters introducing the countries they are studying. The students talk with smiling faces about their wish to visit these countries someday.

(JICA Chugoku International Centre)

3. Visits by Lecturers (Salmon Campaign)

JICA dispatches employees, former experts and JOCV, and training participants to educational institutions through JICA's branches placed throughout Japan. By dispatching lecturers, JICA assists education which promotes understanding towards developing countries. In fiscal 2000, 1,058 lectures about international cooperation and developing countries reached 117,000 people.

4. Students' ODA Experience Program at International Centers

This program is conducted for high school students at JICA's international centers which are located all over Japan. Through communication with training participants from developing countries and lectures by former JOCV and experts who have worked in developing countries, the participating students gain a deeper understanding of international cooperation. In fiscal 2000, 292 students participated in this program.

5. Student Visits to JOCV Training Centre

The JOCV Training Centers in Nihonmatsu and Komagane accept local junior high school students to participate in the training program of JOCV to promote understanding of the Dispatch of JOCV program. In 2000, 150 students participated.

6. Students' JOCV Experience Program

In this program high school students visit and participate in the actual field where JOCV are volunteering. Ten high school students participated in fiscal 2000.

7. Provision of Useful Materials for Development Education

- (1) Issue of the monthly magazine *Kokusai Kyoryoku* (*International Cooperation*) and the poster newspaper *Kokusai Rikai Kyoiku Topics* (*Education Topics on International Understanding*)

We are sending a monthly magazine called *Kokusai Kyoryoku* that is full of information about developing countries and international cooperation to all junior high schools, high schools, and libraries throughout Japan. For elementary and junior high schools we also send a quarterly poster newspaper called *Kokusai Rikai Kyoiku Topics*, which simply introduces the reality and actual life of the developing countries to the children.

- (2) Introducing JICA to Children: JICA's development education website

Introducing JICA to Children is a page on the JICA website that provides an opportunity for elementary and junior high school students to think about numerous global issues. Issues such as desertification, housing, population and global warming are presented in an easy to understand fashion.

- (3) Photo materials for development education: Photo Language

With the cooperation of teachers and NGOs involved in development education, JICA has published a set of educational photographs to be used as teaching materials. These photographs introduce the way of life in developing countries



Students visit JOCV Komagane Training Centre.



Elementary School pamphlet, *Gakko ni Ikitai* (I Want to Go to School).

and are placed in JICA's domestic branches or the Media Center for a rental service provided to teachers and NGOs.

- (4) Videos and pamphlets for elementary, junior high and high school students

JICA has made videos that explain JICA's programs and the Acceptance of Technical Training Participants program to an elementary and junior high school audience at an easy level. JICA has also produced pamphlets titled *Gakko ni Ikitai (I Want to Go to School)*, which are sent to elementary schools throughout Japan.

In addition to providing support on the educational

front, JICA also holds seminars and lectures throughout Japan to promote a deeper understanding of developing countries and international cooperation. The ODA citizen monitors program, which began in fiscal 1999, is aimed at deepening the general public's awareness by providing a chance to see the actual ODA field. In fiscal 2000, the number of participants was doubled and a total of 104 people (a man and a woman from each prefecture in Japan, and two men and two women from prefectures with high populations, such as Tokyo, Osaka, Kanagawa, Aichi and Saitama) were sent to 10 countries in Asia.

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Chapter 4

Strengthening the Foundations of Program Implementation/ 4 Information Disclosure and Publicity

