

JAPAN – BRAZIL AGRICULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAMS IN  
THE CERRADO REGION OF BRAZIL

JOINT EVALUATION STUDY

GENERAL REPORT

JANUARY 2002

## INTRODUCTION

In the cooperation for agricultural development of the Cerrados Region executed between Brazil and Japan, the Program of Japanese-Brazilian Cooperation for the Development of Cerrados – PRODECER is an outstanding case worthy to be recorded in the history of friendship between the two countries.

Brazil and Japan started Prodecer with the major global and strategic objectives of simultaneously developing technical and financial cooperation programs, of engaging public and private sectors, and of increasing grain production in Cerrados and the world food supply.

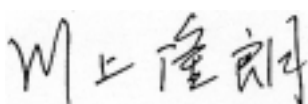
In Prodecer, five years was spent to design the detailed execution plan. This was the largest scale of program in the whole history of agricultural cooperation between the two countries, with an execution period of more than twenty years. Through demonstration and diffusion effects, it decisively contributed to the increase of agricultural productivity and production, as well as to the development of the Cerrados Region, transforming it within a period of a quarter of a century into one of the major grains producing regions in the world.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil – Mapa – and the Japan International Cooperation Agency – JICA – have evaluated this cooperation through precise and detailed surveys in order to understand and to analyze results, achievements and impacts. For this, consultative committees were installed in both countries and they analyzed, corrected and complemented each other on the report pre-designed by a Work Group formed by technical staff of both countries.

This document thus summarizes the product of a joint work, showing the efforts of all Brazilian and Japanese individuals who participated in this cooperation.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply and the Japan International Cooperation Agency are very sure that this report will be useful for future generations of both countries, and represent a very important document for the international community.

2002, January



Takao Kawakami  
President

Japan International Cooperation Agency



Marcus Vinicius Pratini de Moraes  
Minister

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply

## PREFACE I

The low world grain harvest which occurred in 1973 caused Japan to want to diversify its grain suppliers, mainly of soybean. At that time, Brazil wanted to increase its grain production through the development of agriculture in the Cerrados Region – then considered unsuitable for agriculture - that mainly covers the Brazilian Center-West region. Thus, Japan started to support and to collaborate with this Brazilian agricultural development which included the public and private sectors. In 1974, a communication was jointly issued together with the Brazilian Government and, in 1979, the Program of Japanese-Brazilian Cooperation for the Development of Cerrados – Prodecer –started.

After twenty years, twenty one projects were implemented by the program, including pilot-projects executed by JICA plus the expansion programs executed by the former OECF. With these projects as development pilots, agriculture expanded in the south and central regions of Cerrados, and now is expanding towards the north region. Through the simultaneous execution of Prodecer and technical cooperation projects as well as joint research, the Cerrados Region is being transformed into a very important agricultural region for Brazil and for the whole world.

With the objective of evaluating and confirming the results of the agricultural development of the Cerrados and Prodecer, JICA and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil installed, in 2000, the Joint Japanese-Brazilian Consultative Committee and the Joint Work Group that, with the participation of Brazilian and Japanese representatives, conducted the present Impact Study.

This report analyzes and summarizes the results and the role that the Cerrados agricultural development played in Brazilian agriculture and of Brazilian inland development, mainly focusing on Prodecer which was the biggest and longest agricultural cooperation program ever carried out between Brazil and Japan.

I am sure that this report will be used for consultation by those who work with agriculture when executing and evaluating future cooperation programs for agricultural development not only in Brazil and Japan, but in the world.

As the President of the Japanese Consultative Committee, I want to acknowledge the cooperation and efforts of all the Brazilian and Japanese individuals, directly and indirectly involved with the survey and design work of this Impact Study.

2002, January



*Hajime Mizuno*

President of the Japanese Consultative Committee

## PREFACE II

Among the technical and financial cooperation programs, Prodecer is the longest in the history of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply. In 1974, the first program document was signed, and its implementation started in 1979. In 2001, the implementation of the third phase of the Program was concluded. The integration mechanisms between the two countries were innovative since both invested large resources in implementation. Thus, it is necessary to analyze the results, strategy and the context of implementation, as well as record this experience so it can be used as support to other similar enterprises. For these reasons, among others, the efforts and resources invested in the impact study are fully justified.

During implementation, large areas of Cerrados were occupied to develop the inland territory and station men for the creation of development pilots where the Prodecer projects were implemented.

The expansion of cultivated areas and the increase of productivity significantly expanded production, creating a multiplier effect responsible for the stimulation of several sectors of agribusiness, such as production and distribution of inputs, processing, industrial, commercial, channeling of products, research and financing.

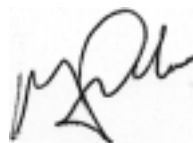
Economic and social infrastructure that benefited the whole region was implemented: roads, communication, electric power, in addition to healthcare and educational services to the population with the construction of schools and health centers.

A significant number of jobs were generated, considerably increasing the collection of taxes.

Environmental sustainability was always a present concern which was assured through evaluations carried out before, during and after the project implementations. The results of water quality and flow analysis were favorable, as well as the maintenance of insects and floral biodiversity, not to mention the efficiency of the erosion control of worked soils.

Finally, it is worthy to acknowledge all those who participated directly or indirectly in the Program implementation and development. In particular to the settlers who, facing all sorts of difficulties for being pioneers, consolidated and expanded their production (thanks to the increase of area and productivity), and were always receptive to new technologies and to the associative spirit. Our acknowledgement also to those who, watching this experience, established themselves in the Cerrados region, contributing further to its development.

2002, January



Marcio Fortes de Almeida  
President of the Brazilian Consultative Committee



• • • THE CERRADOS REGION

Location of Japan-Brazil Agricultural Development Cooperation Programs in the Cerrado Region of Brazil



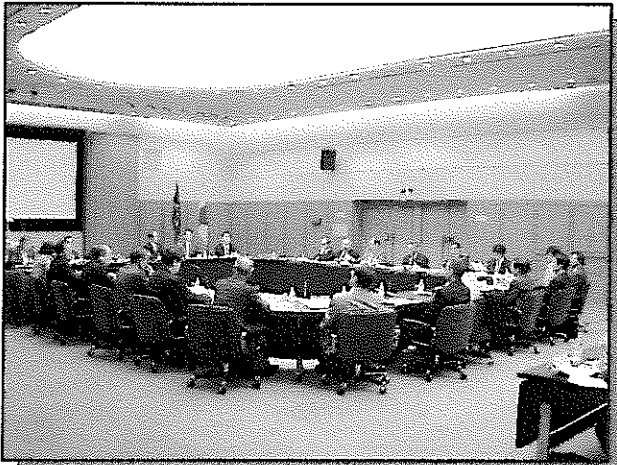
Agreement and signature of the scope  
of works  
(Brasilia, Oct/2000)



1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Japanese-Braslian  
Advisory Committee  
(Brasilia, Mar/2001)



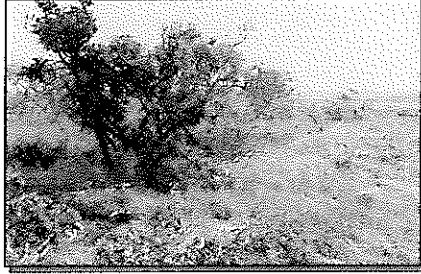
2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Japanese-Braslian  
Advisory Committee  
(Brasilia, Aug/2001)



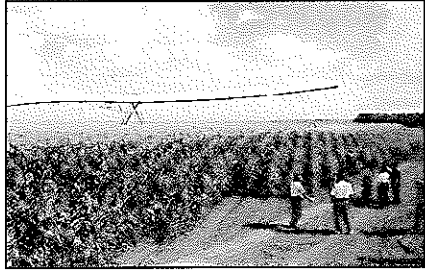
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Japanese-Braslian  
Advisory Committee  
(Tokyo, Dec/2001)



Scenery of Cerrado region before and after agricultural development



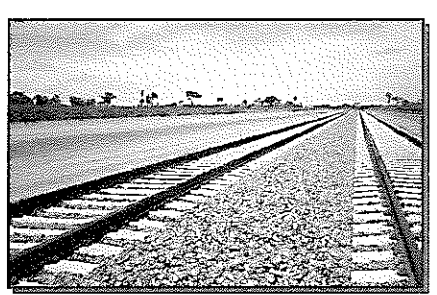
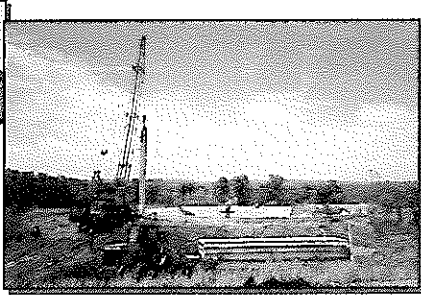
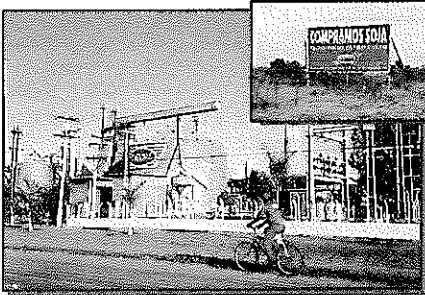
Existing agricultural cultivation conditions in Cerrado region



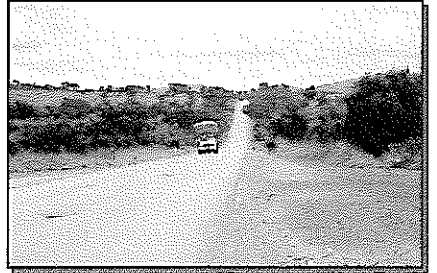
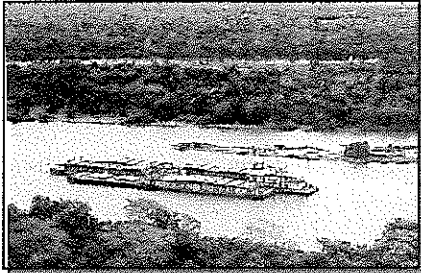
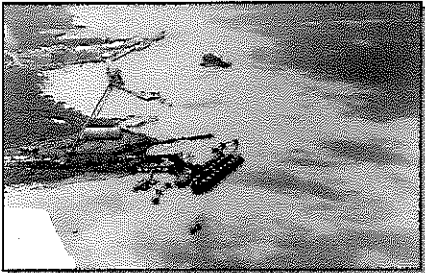
Interaction between the farmers and the children of Cerrado region



Advancement of multinational grain enterprises



Advanced marketing route for export of soybean



Environmental preservation in Cerrado region

