

Take Advantage of Young People

—Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers—



A volunteer helps a local worker with replanting as he conducts a follow-up afforestation survey.

Fields of Cooperation and their History

■ More Female Volunteers

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.

JOCVs 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, including Cambodia.

In fiscal 2001, the dispatch of volunteers to Madagascar began, and in fiscal 2002, dispatch of volunteers to South Africa and Venezuela is planned. Furthermore, in fiscal 2000, Dominica and Saint Vincent concluded JOCV dispatch agreements with Japan. These additions mean that, as of the end of March 2002, 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 2001, 1,134 volunteers were newly dispatched to various destinations. As of the end of April 2002, 2,386 volunteers were stationed in 65 countries, making a total of 22,939 since the program's inception.

The number of female volunteers has increased in recent years: at the end of April 2002, 54% of active JOCVs were

women. The portion of JOCVs that is made up of women has risen to 37% since the program began.

■ Ordinary Short-term Volunteers and United Nations Volunteers

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 JOCVs 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 to send "ordinary short-term volunteers" was therefore instituted in fiscal 1997.

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 April 2002, there were 27 active United Nations volunteers from Japan, making a total of 199 to date.

Steps Leading to Dispatch

■ Recruitment and Selection of Volunteers

Volunteers are recruited twice a year, in spring and fall, with the cooperation of local government bodies and private organizations throughout Japan. In the spring 2001 recruitment campaign, explanatory sessions at 247 venues nationwide were attended by 10,329 people, of whom 3,759 applied. In the fall campaign, sessions at 245 venues were attended by 8,114 people, of whom 4,256 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 history, and the latter comprising technical and personal interviews and a medical check-up.

There were 558 successful candidates in the spring and 625 in the fall of fiscal 2001.

80-day 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; and
- 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.

Supplementary Technical Training to Answer Needs

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 developing countries. Altogether 483 people took part in fiscal 2001, receiving training lasting between several days and nine months as necessary.

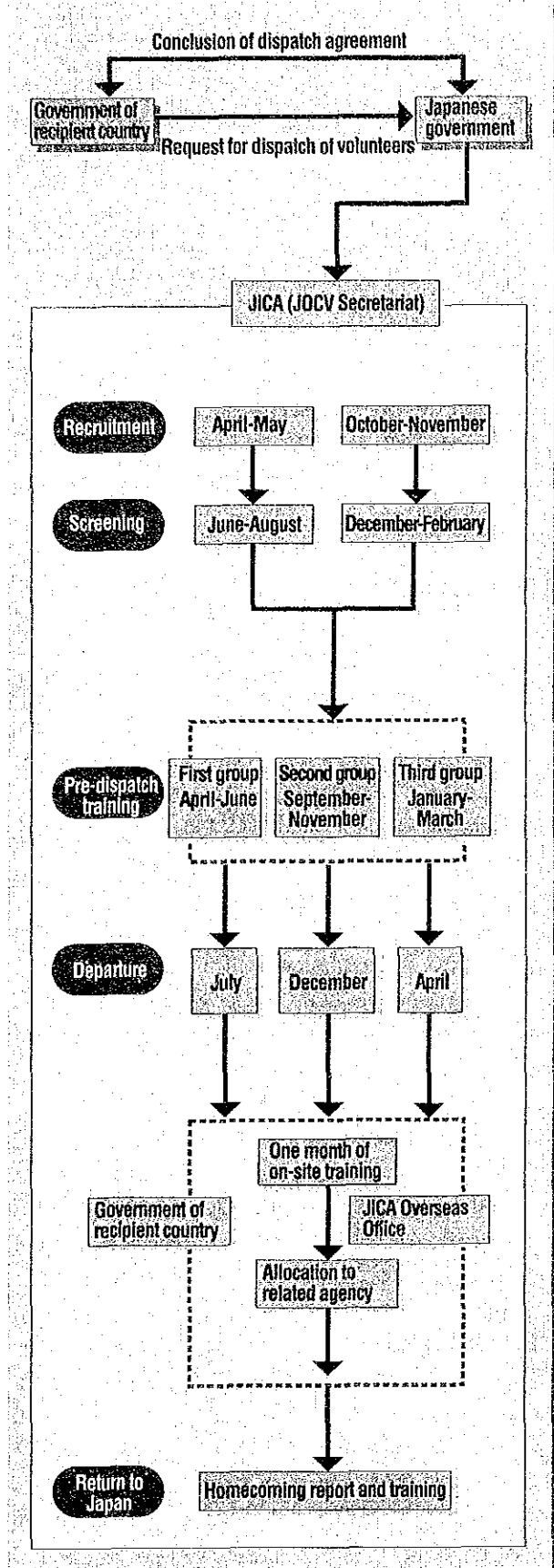
1) Training in request-specific skills

Training is provided for volunteers who passed the screening process with adequate technical skills but require further instructions in line with specific requests. This training is also given to JOCVs 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 but who possess insufficient practical skills.

Figure 3-10 The JOCV Dispatch System





A Volunteer keeps the beat for students playing music in Vanuatu.

Backup Support for Volunteer Activities

■ 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.

■ Managing Volunteers' Health

The following unified health care is provided at the JICA Medical Support Center with the help of advisory doctors that include a supervising physician, doctors with expertise in infectious diseases, psychologists, and gynecologists.

- 1) Physical examinations, evaluations, and immunizations are carried out from pre-dispatch training to repatriation.
- 2) Advice and guidance are provided to dispatched volunteers who suffer accidents or illness.
- 3) Advice and guidance are provided to the office in the event that a dispatched volunteer becomes seriously ill.

In addition, health care consultations, medical institution referrals, and emergency response for volunteers are carried out by entrusting them to local advisory medical doctors and posting health administrators when necessary.

■ 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.

■ Career 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 agencies in Japan are on hand to give advice, provide employment information, and explore future career possibilities.

Related Promotional 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.

■ Increasing Understanding and Exchanging Information

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 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, 60 students have been sent since 1998. In 2001, Junior JOCV were sent from Kagawa to Malaysia.

- 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.

In fiscal 2001, a midwife with experience as a technical cooperation expert and a volunteer were dispatched to Paraguay to instruct a midwife volunteer on how to conduct childbirth seminars.

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 actively 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 is designed to attract incumbent teachers to respond to increasing demand for competent human resources in the educational field. In this system, boards of education run by the local governments that employ teachers who wish to join JOCV recommend these teachers to the JOCV Secretariat through Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).

These teachers are not subject to primary screenings by JICA. Local governments will make special arrangements to allow successful individual applicants to undergo pre-dispatch training from April to June. They are then dispatched in July for a period that ends in March two years later. They are rein-

Front Line Beginning Teachers' Training

Komagane A Unique Training Course at the Komagane Centre Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers

◆ Komagane as a second hometown

The Komagane Training Centre runs volunteer pre-dispatch training courses three times a year. Each course lasts about 80 days, during which trainees make full-day visits to Komagane welfare institutions, nursery schools, farms, and the homes of elderly people who live alone. The purpose of these visits is to interact with and assist local people outside the training centre. These activities have been a constituent part of the course since the training centre opened. Probationary volunteers gain valuable experience interacting intimately with local people as they carry out their difficult training activities. Some continue to correspond with the people they meet during these visits even after they are dispatched overseas, and revisit Komagane following repatriation to rekindle old friendships. The warm encouragement they receive from local people through these activities provides spiritual solace for the volunteers. Moreover, Komagane becomes a second hometown, a place they will always cherish.

◆ International exchange program designed for beginning teachers

There is one activity that, of all JICA's domestic agencies, only the Komagane Training Centre conducts. Since it opened in 1995, the centre conducts beginning teachers' training courses every year. They are intended for teachers who are recruited and assigned to municipalities (two cities, four towns and four villages) around Komagane City. A one-day training course at the centre is part of the training course for beginning teachers.

The training courses provide the new teachers with an opportunity to understand and consider at the local level society on a cross-cultural basis as well as Japan's international cooperation as international contribution in light of the rapid advance of internationalization. This one-day training course includes many programs such as an explanation of Japan's international cooperation and volunteer activities, interaction with probationary volunteers under training conditions, stories by active teachers who joined the JOCV as incumbent teacher and returned to



On-hands agriculture training for beginning teachers

their jobs after repatriation, reports of school teachers who participated in junior high school teachers' overseas study tours, experience in foreign language training courses conducted at the center, development education, and games for cross-cultural understanding.

Every training course ends with participants saying things like, "There were many things that I didn't know," "It's been a while since I was taught something; it's been a refreshing and significant day," and "I would like to make a contribution as a JOCV."

We will continue to promote this unique exchange program using the features of the training centre and with the help of the local citizens.

(JICA Komagane Training Centre)

stated to their jobs after April.

In fiscal 2001, the first year the system was implemented, 63 serving teachers are slated for dispatch. In fiscal 2002, about 100 individuals are expected to become successful recruits.

■ 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 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 JOCVs in connection with the technical train-

ing 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 2001, 60 overseas participants from 27 countries completed technical training in various specialized fields for about 10 months under the auspices of 24 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 in the development of ethnic Japanese communities.

The Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteer Program began in fiscal 1985 as the Overseas Development Youth Dispatch Program, which supports Japanese young people who want to migrate to South America. Over time and based on the changing needs of overseas Japanese communities, the activities and name of the program was changed in 1996. It became a volunteer program under the auspices of the JOCV Secretariat. As of the end of April 2002, 116 volunteers were at work in seven countries, primarily in the educational and cultural sectors. A total of 714 volunteers have been sent overseas since the inception of the program.

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 April 2002, 598 Senior Volunteers and 41 Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities were active in 40 and seven countries respectively. The total numbers of volunteers dispatched since these programs began have reached 1,014 and 206, respectively.

Expanding the Program

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 was 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

Front Line Fight against Polio and Guinea Worm

Niger

Number of Patients with Infectious Diseases Have Sharply Decreased

Grant Aid, JOCV and Others

◆ Infectious diseases still spreading

Niger, in West Africa, is one of the poorest countries in the world. Although there are many factors that contribute to the country's poverty, the uncontrolled spread of infectious diseases is one of the more significant. Through Grant Aid Programs, the provision of equipment, and the dispatch of JOCV, JICA is actively cooperating to eradicate infectious diseases such as polio.

◆ Commendation from the government

National immunization is an effective means of eradicating polio. JICA provides vaccines and cold chain equipment to transport the vaccines under low temperatures to villages. It is not easy to administer national immunization to citizens scattered throughout a vast desert area and to nomadic people who are constantly on the move and who at times cross borders into neighboring countries. Parents in some regions refuse to have their children vaccinated. Unless the administration of vaccines is carried out thoroughly,

these measures will not be effective.

JOCVs have made various attempts to break through these obstacles. For instance, volunteers hold seminars for health care personnel in many regions for the purpose of combating polio and developing polio monitoring activities. This activity was commended by the Niger government, which decided to implement it not only in regions where volunteers were dispatched, but throughout the whole nation as well. In addition, in order to increase the efficiency of vaccine administration to nomadic peoples during national immunization programs, these nomadic people's customs and activity patterns are currently being studied.

◆ Eradicating infectious diseases

Guinea worm parasites can still be found in regions where Zinder, the former capital, and Burkina Faso come into contact with the border. The guinea worm larva lives in the marshes and ponds of villages. Water fleas act as hosts. People who drink this water can be infected with these parasites. An



A volunteer enlightens local people about polio with the help of picture cards.

effective means of eradicating this infectious disease is to guarantee safe drinking water.

In 1997 and 1998, JICA implemented grant aid intended for Zinder Province and dug or improved more than 150 wells. In addition, JOCVs promoted activities that would help prevent infection through intensive patrols of villages and evening slide shows and during periods when infections reach epidemic proportions. These activities proved effective, since the number of infected people in the region decreased from 1,167 in 1997 to 148 in 2001.

(JICA/JOCV Niger Office)

Making Use of Skills and Experience

—Senior Volunteers—



A senior volunteer offers advice for making woodcraft souvenirs in Honduras.

Emerging Needs for the Middle-aged

■ 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 older people with a strong interest in technical cooperation 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 with extensive skills and plentiful professional experience between the ages of 40 and 69 were recruited. The recruits were then dispatched to developing countries in accordance with requests received from the governments of those countries. The program might 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 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 crude oil leaking from a grounded tanker occurred in the Sea of Japan. On both these occasions the activities of rescue volunteers were covered by the media, stimulating increased interest in and understanding of volunteer activities. Within this social context, the Non-Profit Organization (NPO) Law was enacted in 1998. There has also been an increase in the number of companies that allow 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, the public has come to realize 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 developed.

As the economic strength of Japan and other advanced countries grew, and the economic gap between advanced and developing nations increased, a 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

JICA has been attempting to expand the Senior Volunteer Program. Whereas 87 people were dispatched overseas under the program in fiscal 1999, the figure for fiscal 2000 quadrupled to 323, and increased to 352 in fiscal 2001. Senior volunteers are active in as many as 51 countries, a number that is likely to increase substantially in the future.

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

From Recruitment to Dispatch

■ Dispatch Record

As of the end of April 2002, 598 senior volunteers are active in 40 countries, which means that a total of 1,014 participants have been involved in the program since its inception.

■ Recruitment and Selection

The rapid growth in the Senior Volunteer Program has meant that revisions had to be made in terms of the way the program is implemented. The method of recruitment was changed from preliminary registration to open recruitment. Recruitment explanatory sessions are held twice a year, in the spring and fall, in various parts of the country. During the spring 2001 recruitment campaign, explanatory sessions were held at 85 venues nationwide and were attended by 3,380 people, of whom 865 subsequently applied as volunteers. During the fall 2001 recruitment campaign, explanatory sessions were held at 92 venues nationwide and were attended by 2,683 people, of whom 768 applied to become volunteers.

The selection process involves primary and secondary screenings. In the primary screening, examination of written submissions and medical documents are examined. In the secondary screening, a detailed medical checkup is performed in addition to a personal interview and a language test.

■ Pre-dispatch Training

Successful applicants undergo approximately 30 days of training prior to dispatch. The first 10 days 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 that are taught include English, Spanish, Indonesian, Thai and other regional languages. Participation by accompanying family members is permitted, and twenty percent of the people who take part in the training do so with family members.

■ Health Control

As volunteers will be living and working in environments that are completely different from Japan, health control is carefully considered.

Advisory doctors are on hand at the JICA Medical Support Center. In addition to lectures on health-related matters pro-

vided as a part of the orientation prior to dispatch, medical checkups are administered and health and treatment advice are given after dispatch.

Effective Use of Human Resources

■ Program to Enhance Effectiveness

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 program that include the "qualified applicants program," in which applicants who fulfill certain criteria are registered as being qualified and then offered for service to developing countries. There is also the "group dispatch program" in which a number of volunteers from the registering body in Japan are dispatched to the same destination, thus increasing the effectiveness of the cooperation.

In addition, for the purpose of promoting international cooperation by local governments and building friendship with overseas cities, the "Sister City Senior Volunteer Program" was introduced in fiscal 2001, further enhancing the use of domestic human resources.

Cyclical Form of Volunteer Activities

■ Significance of Community Participation

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.

■ By-product of Volunteer Program

Volunteers who return to Japan after completing their terms discuss their experiences with the people around them, and this encourages yet more people to volunteer. They also maintain the relationships they have established with friends in the countries where they worked and retain emotional links with these countries. This cyclical form of development is

precisely the by-product that JICA's volunteer programs hope to create.

We have been hearing 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.

Front Line New Occupational Fields for Physically Disabled People

Dominican Republic

Making Banana Paper in a Country of Bananas

Senior Volunteers

◆ Enhancing job training for physically disabled people

The Dominican Rehabilitation Association is the biggest NGO in the field related to treatment, rehabilitation and job training for physically disabled people in the Dominican Republic. 14 JOCVs have been dispatched to the association. A senior volunteer was first dispatched in November 2001 to begin cooperation in job training.

At the vocational school owned by the association, 80 students are now being trained in woodworking, confectioneries, sewing, etc. However, in recent years, many physically disabled people cannot take the training course and there has been greater demand for the development of new occupational fields. Thus, the senior volunteer is now involved in 'banana papers'.

◆ Transfer of manufacturing technology

The Dominican Republic is the largest exporter of bananas in the Caribbean region, and the world's top exporter of organic bananas to Europe. Naturally, the amount of banana by-products is enormous. Although Costa Rica and neighboring Haiti make banana paper using the by-products, for some reason no one had thought of making banana paper in the Dominican Republic.

It is the senior volunteer who noticed this anomaly. Prior to dispatch, he was watching a television program about banana paper production in Haiti



Paper-making using bananas

by chance and came up with the idea that banana paper production can be incorporated into job training programs for the physically disabled. Upon arrival, he obtained information from a JICA expert in Haiti and then began making paper experimentally in his kitchen.

Three months later, the senior volunteer successfully made various kinds of banana paper, creating a new kind of paper in that country. The paper-making technology once transferred to Haiti by a Japanese paper craftsman was passed to the neighboring Dominican Republic through the activities of a senior volunteer.

◆ Expanding dreams and ideas

When physically disabled people were allowed to participate in banana paper-making, the response was very positive. Moreover, the staff around the

senior volunteer became more interested and began making concrete plans with him.

Bananas are in abundant supply, so the materials for making paper are almost free. And since only natural materials are used, the process is environmentally friendly. Physically disabled people can make paper and cloth and at the same time receive rehabilitation. Selling banana cakes wrapped in banana paper is a good idea. In a country that wants to be recognized as a tourist destination, special souvenirs can also be made from banana paper. Once these ideas are realized, banana paper production will become an income source for physically disabled people and greatly increases their chances for social integration. There's always another goal to accomplish.

(JICA Dominican Republic Office)

Supporting Private Development Projects

—Development Cooperation—



On-site training at the Pilot Project on Production of Chrysanthemum Seedlings in Myanmar

What is the Development Cooperation Program?

The Development Cooperation Program contributes to self-sustaining economic and social development in developing countries by providing financial and technical support in part for 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 available for implementation, provides technical support, and performs studies to facilitate implementation of the project.

Contents of Program

■ Investment and Financing

For the following projects, 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.

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 Japan National Oil Corporation, the Metal Mining Agency of Japan, the Central Bank for Agriculture and Forestry, and the Shoko Chukin Bank or JICA (experimental projects), 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.

The improvement of loan-related infrastructure has to be deemed useful for developing the project site and contributing to the social welfare of the people it serves. Specifically, 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 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

Guarantees of obligations, financing, or investments, are also provided for experimental projects, which are projects considered impossible to realize unless they are combined with technical improvement or development and lie outside the scope of JBIC financing.

Experimental projects include cultivation of crops, livestock breeding, 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. Three such loans, worth a total of 700 million yen, were approved in fiscal 2001.

■ Studies and Technical Support

JICA provides various types of technical support 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 JICA.

Technical support assumes three forms: (1) studies and the collection of data prior to providing a loan; (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.

2) Demonstration studies

Study teams are sent for extended periods to look into the feasibility of agricultural and forestry projects involving regional development that, owing to insufficient data, cannot be embarked on for some time. The data gathered in these studies is then submitted for reference purposes to companies wishing to execute the projects on a full scale.

The following four ongoing studies involve collection and analysis of growth data, compilation of technical manuals and preparation of management models:

- a. Demonstration Study on Small-scale Forest Plantation using Fast-Growing Tree Species in Malaysia.
- b. Demonstration Study on Rape Seed Quality Improvement in Hubei Province, China
- c. Demonstration Study on Alkaline Soil Improvement in Shanxi Province, China
- d. Demonstration Study on Carbon Fixing Forest Management in Indonesia

3) Other studies

Other studies include the following:

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.

d. Joint Evaluation Study on Japan-Brazil Agricultural Development Cooperation Programs in the Cerrado Region of Brazil

The Program of Japanese-Brazilian Cooperation for the Agricultural Development of Cerrados which began more than 20 years ago, is the largest and longest agricultural cooperation project implemented both by Japan and Brazil. In fiscal 2001, the two countries jointly implemented an evaluation study that mainly addressed its outcome and produced a comprehensive report.

2. Technical Support

1) Dispatch of experts

When a company is unable to deal on its own with technical problems that arise during project implementation, JICA will send experts to provide appropriate technical support, at the request of the company, thus resulting in smoother operation of the development project.

2) Training

At the request of a company, JICA may provide technical training in Japan to the company's local employees in order to improve their technical know-how and help facilitate sound operation of the development project.

3) Studies and technical support in fiscal 2001

24 study teams and 45 experts (new and continuing) were dispatched overseas, and 27 people came to Japan for training.

New Decision

The Reorganization and Rationalization Plan for Special Public Corporations enacted by Cabinet decision in December 2001 stipulates that JICA's investment and financing program be terminated and approval for new financing be made by the end of fiscal 2002.

Recovery in Affected Areas

—Disaster Relief—



INSARAG (International Search Rescue Advisory Group) Training in Singapore (March 2002)

Enhancing Emergency Relief Systems

Operations in Response to Requests

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

Japan's disaster relief activities date back to the late 1970s, when medical teams were dispatched to assist Cambodian refugees. Also, a team of experts to support reconstruction was sent in response to the extensive earthquake that struck Mexico in 1985.

In September 1987, the Japan Disaster Relief Team Law (the JDR Law) was enacted to provide search and rescue activities in forms of the dispatch of rescue teams. As a result of this JDR law, Japan's comprehensive emergency disaster relief system was established.

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 self-sufficient activities are required in the disaster area.

JDR Activities

After receiving a request from the government of the affected country or from an international agency, JDR dispatches rescue teams, medical teams, expert teams, or Self-Defense Forces troops and provides emergency supplies.

1. Rescue Team

The main tasks of a rescue team are to search for missing people, rescue victims, provide first aid, and move victims to safety. The team is made up of rescue personnel of the National Police Agency, the Japan Coast Guard, and the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, and they are prepared to leave Japan within 24 hours of a request for assistance from an affected country.

2. Medical Team

The tasks of medical team are to diagnose or to assist in the diagnosis of victims, and when necessary they work to prevent

Figure 3-11 Mechanism for Implementation of Disaster Relief (Excluding Financial Assistance)

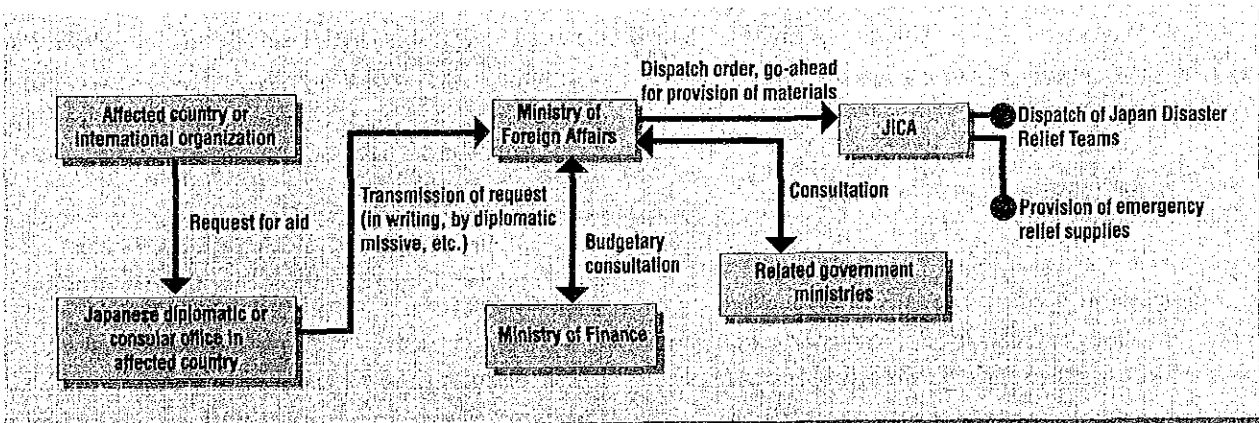
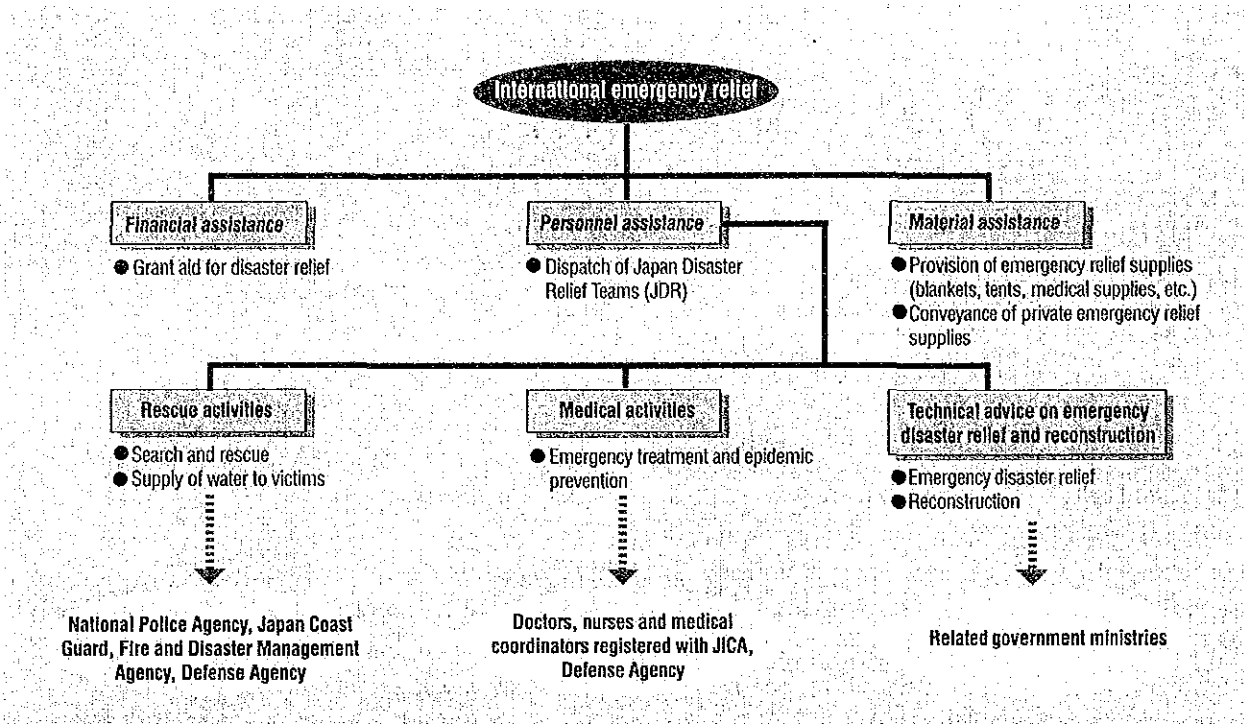


Figure 3-12 Japan's International Emergency Relief System



infection and the spread of diseases. Medical team consists of doctors, nurses, and medical coordinators registered with the JDR Secretariat of JICA.

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. As of April 2002, 606 members (197 doctors, 260 nurses, 21 pharmacists, 29 medical coordinators, and 99 logistic experts) were registered under this scheme.

3. Expert Team

An expert team takes stopgap measures in the wake of disasters and provide guidance and advice on how best to achieve recovery. Teams consist of technicians and researchers recommended by related government ministries and agencies, and are sent according to the type of disaster.

4. Self-Defense Forces

When a large-scale disaster occurs and self-sufficient activities are required, Self-Defense Forces can be dispatched.

Self-Defense Forces carry out emergency relief activities (rescue activities, medical activities, reconstruction), transport activities using ships, aircrafts, and helicopters, and water supply activities using water purifiers.

5. Provision of Materials

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

To ensure that relief supplies are provided promptly and in sufficient quantities, it is necessary for the supplies to be procured and stored in large numbers. Warehouses are located in five places worldwide: Narita in Japan, Singapore, Mexico, the UK, and the USA, and the supplies are properly managed.

Large scale disasters sometimes requires additional relief supplies. In such cases, at the request of the affected country, 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. These supplies are given to the recipient government through the Japanese embassy in the country.

Efforts for Improvement

■ Study/Training and System Improvement

Overseas aid activities take place in countries that have customs, language, and communications capabilities different from those in Japan. To ensure that relief activities in disaster

areas are as efficient and effective as possible, JICA provides training for rescue teams and medical teams with emphasis on enhancing teamwork and in assumption of various disaster scenarios.

In order to carry out improvements for the rapid and appropriate implementation of emergency relief activities, a task force is sent out with the support of the medical team. This task force holds periodic reviews for improving quality of training courses; selecting portable equipment, effective procurement, and managing equipment; improving medical care policies; and evaluating and promoting JDR activities.

Enhanced Alliance with International Agencies and NGOs

Usually, major countries' aid agencies and international

organizations provide relief support at the site of a large-scale disaster. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) takes the initiative to build a system for coordinating these disaster relief activities. In response, JICA is actively developing alliances with related organizations in order to contribute to the swift implementation of relief services at the disaster site.

There are cases where Japanese NGOs are already carrying out rescue activities before the JDR arrives at the affected sites. Using information provided by these NGOs, JDR attempts to form the necessary collaborations and thus carries out its activities rapidly and effectively.

Front Line Afghan Earthquake Disaster Assessment Team

Afghanistan Overcoming Obstacles through Cooperation with NGOs

Disaster Relief

◆ A Large earthquake strikes

On March 25, 2002, an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale occurred in the northern part of Afghanistan. The Afghan Interim Authority requested immediate emergency relief from the international community. In response, the Japanese government decided on March 27 to provide emergency grant aid of 400,000 dollars (about 50 million yen), and on March 28 decided to dispatch an assessment team to identify needs consisting of members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA. In addition, on March 29 it decided to provide 1,000 sleeping mats and 300 rolls of plastic sheets as emergency relief supplies.

The assessment team entered Kabul on March 29 and coordinated with the Interim Authority, United Nations and NGOs. At the same time, the team looked for a way to enter Nahrin, a disaster-hit area, in order to assess the disaster with the help of the victims.

◆ Obstacles

To get to Nahrin, it is necessary to travel over the 3,363 meter-long snow-covered Salang Pass in the Hindu Kush Mountains and then proceed on unpaved roads from Baghlan. The Salang Pass tunnel was built during the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, but in 1996 the Taliban destroyed it to prevent incursions by the Northern Alliance. In January 2002, it was reopened with support from Russia and France, but the tunnel was frequently closed due to vehicle accidents and breakdowns.

The road surface was frozen in the tunnel and all bridges on the roads leading to the tunnel had been destroyed. A simple bridge was built by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and was used as a one-way route leading in or out on a daily basis. According to some information, landmines remained buried in the unpaved roads leading from Baghlan.

On its second attempt to pass this road, the assessment team safely reached the disaster area of Nahrin and



On-site disaster relief headquarters

began collecting information and coordinating the distribution of relief supplies. With the cooperation of Peace Winds Japan and JEN, two Japanese NGOs that were already active in Afghanistan, the study team safely transported relief supplies from Kabul, the capital, to the disaster relief headquarters in the affected area. Although faced with many difficulties, NGOs and the Japanese government were able to take advantage of their know-how and implement effective relief support for the earthquake victims.

(JDR Coordinator)

Strengthen Connections with Ethnic Japanese Living Overseas

—Support for Japanese Emigrants and Ethnic Japanese—



Technical training for ethnic Japanese in Japan before returning to their home countries (computer)

Postwar Japanese Emigrants and their Descendants

■ Second to Fourth Generations are Core Group

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.

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.

Support for Japanese Emigrants

■ Reform and Review of the Program

JICA has been reviewing the content of its Emigration Service Program since fiscal 1994 as follows.

1) Termination of services

Training and departure services to new emigrants were

terminated in fiscal 1994.

2) Emphasis on international cooperation

Emphasis is placed 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 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.

3) Acceptance of Japanese community training participants (formerly "acceptance of emigrant training participants");

4) Dispatch of experts to overseas Japanese communities (formerly "dispatch of emigration experts");

5) Dispatch of Senior Cooperation Experts for Overseas Japanese Communities (formerly "senior emigration experts");

6) Dispatch of Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers (formerly known as "overseas development youth dispatch").

■ Various Activities

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

1. Publicity to Deepen Understanding

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

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

- 2) Invitation to Japan of prominent individuals of Japanese descent;
- 3) Subsidies to assist in the organization of the convention of Nikkei and Japanese abroad.

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. 43 pupils took part in fiscal 2001.

2) Technical training for ethnic Japanese working in Japan before returning to their home countries

Began 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. Quality and productivity enhancement, as well as computer courses, attended by 12 students, were held in fiscal 2001.

3) Japanese language courses for ethnic Japanese working in Japan

To give overseas ethnic Japanese working in Japan the chance to become familiar with life in Japan as quickly as possible, 30-day training courses on basic Japanese language and culture are provided twice a year.

4) Central training for overseas ethnic Japanese students

Twice a year, the Association of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad holds study courses aimed primarily at overseas ethnic Japanese studying in Japan with the help of 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, 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 assists in the operation of five clinics in Bolivia and Paraguay, and has channeled medical aid to emigrants in Bolivia and Paraguay on the basis of agreements with local

physicians. Scholarships are made available to students of medicine and nursing in these countries.

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 2001, 37 Japanese language teachers took part in a course held in Buenos Aires in Argentina.

JICA also lends support in the form of reward payments to Japanese-language teachers and the purchase of teaching materials.

4) Support for improvements in social welfare and everyday infrastructure

In fiscal 2001, grants were provided for the construction of a residential home for elderly people with special needs in Sao 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 2001, six settlement zones in Paraguay 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 2001, loans totaling 161.47 million yen were provided to emigrants in Bolivia and Paraguay.

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 2001, a survey of farm household economies in five Latin American countries was conducted, and studies on materials relating to migration and the taping of oral histories of emigrants were carried out for an exhibition at the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum of the JICA Yokohama International Centre, which is open in fiscal 2002.

Since fiscal 1993, JICA has performed consultations on matters of everyday concern as part of assistance given to overseas ethnic Japanese working in Japan.

Chapter 3

Achieving Better Results

—Evaluation—



An evaluation seminar on "JICA's Cooperation and Peacebuilding" was held on March 13, 2002.

Significance and Purpose of Evaluation

■ Importance of Evaluation Recognized

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 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 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 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.

■ Feedback to Project Sites

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 3-13)

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 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.

■ Project Level Evaluation

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 appro-

priateness of cooperation, and the results to be expected. We have compiled the results of ex-ante evaluations into Ex-ante Project Evaluation, which we began 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.

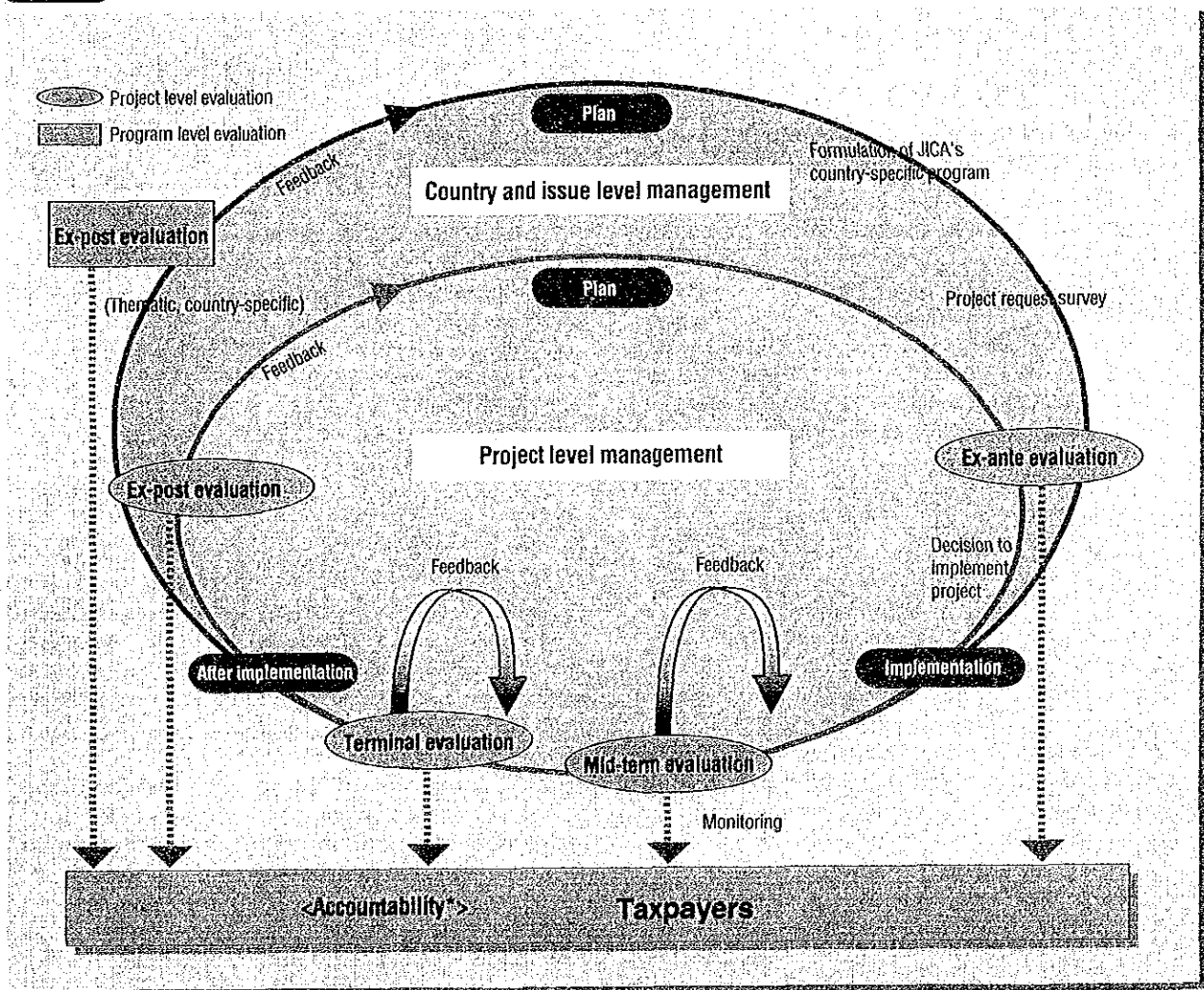
3. Terminal Evaluation

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. The evaluation is performed about six months prior to the termination of cooperation and is mainly carried out for technical cooperation projects. In fiscal 2001, evaluations of this type were performed for 105 projects in 39 countries.

Figure 3-13 Position of Evaluation Within JICA's Project Cycle



4. Ex-post Evaluation

An ex-post evaluation by project is performed several years after completion of the project for two programs: the former project-type technical cooperation and grant aid cooperation. It is carried out mainly to verify impact and sustainability, with the results being reflected in the planning stages of new projects.

This type of evaluation is a recomposition of the former post-project monitoring and begins in fiscal 2002. As a result, a consistent project evaluation system that covers the entire evaluation from ex-ante to ex-post will soon be ready.

Program Level Evaluation

1. 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

Close Up

Thematic Evaluation on NGO-JICA Collaboration Programs

Implementation of Attentive Evaluation in Collaboration with NGOs

◆ Empowerment of the poor in South Sulawesi to support poverty alleviation

JICA aims at implementing detailed cooperation corresponding to the diversifying needs such as social development which supports improvement of people's lives, and improved administrative services in the fields of education and health. To that end, the Community Empowerment Program is conducted by entrusting project implementation to local NGOs in developing countries.

In fiscal 2001, for the purpose of examining evaluation methods for collaborative projects with NGOs, the Office of Evaluation and Post-project Monitoring planned and implemented joint evaluation by Japanese NGOs and JICA on the Empowerment of the Poor in South Sulawesi to Support Poverty Alleviation, which was conducted in Indonesia.

◆ Findings of the survey

The project involved cooperation for 655 households that belonged to 33 residents' self-help groups in 22 villages over five prefectures in the South Sulawesi State of Indonesia. The aim was to boost income and empowerment through economic activities such as poultry farming and retail operations.

In the field survey, self-help group members participated in workshops and were asked questions individually in order to sufficiently reflect the opinions of the local residents.

The findings of the survey were:

- 1) In most self-help groups, increases in income through economic activities were seen.
- 2) Through the enhancement of the organization, the spirit of



Focus group discussion

helping one another was cultivated among the residents.

However, the following issues were also raised.

- 1) The community's poorest group was not always targeted.
- 2) Although an improvement in economic capacity, or increase in income, was seen, the project did not result in empowerment on the social and political levels.
- 3) There was insufficient communication between the local NGO, which is an implementing agency, and the community.

The above-mentioned issues need to be addressed in the future.

◆ Striving for ideal evaluations

Generally, evaluation of JICA projects are based on five criteria: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. But in this instance, utilizing the expertise of three NGO individuals, the viewpoints for concern were examined in performing evaluations on a project implemented by a local NGO.

As NGO projects are different from regular technical cooperation projects in terms of administration management system and cooperation content, three criteria should be added to the five standard criteria: (1) degree of empowerment of local people; (2) improvement of administrative management ability of the implementing agency (local NGO); (3) type of ideal support form of JICA. These were also included in the report.

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

In fiscal 2001, 14 ex-post evaluations were held in 25 countries and evaluation seminars were held in three countries.

The Office of Evaluation and Post-Project Monitoring and JICA's overseas offices perform the following types of ex-post evaluations according to evaluation objects and subjects.

1) Classification by evaluation object

a. 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.

b. Thematic evaluation

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

2) Classification by evaluation subject

a. 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.

b. Joint evaluations

These evaluations are performed jointly with related agencies in developing countries or with other donors* (donor countries and agencies). Joint evaluations conducted together with developing countries make it possible for JICA and the developing country to share perceptions of the effects and problems of cooperation, and they are also effective in enabling a developing

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.

c. Evaluations by external organizations

To increase quality and improve neutrality, evaluations are entrusted to external development aid research organizations and consultants who: (1) have the capacity to formulate plans and to gather and analyze information; and (2) understand the structures of development aid and technical cooperation.

d. 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 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 as the Annual Evaluation Report. These reports are being used to increase the transparency of JICA programs and to enhance people's appreciation of programs. 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 developing country and for other donors.

Programs Following Completion of Cooperation Projects

—Follow-up—



Follow-up on equipment at the Laos National Television Station.

Follow-up and Aftercare

■ Understanding Current Conditions Following Completion of Projects is Required

JICA provides additional support as follow-up and aftercare cooperation* for programs such as acceptance of technical training participants, technical cooperation projects, development studies, and dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), depending on the situations of training participants in home countries and conditions regarding the completed cooperation project.

For instance, supplied equipment for a technical cooperation project and facilities and equipment built with grant aid may cause unexpected problems under certain circumstances, interfering with the self-operation process after completion of the cooperation projects. In this case, we need to encourage self-reliance on the part of the recipient country and, if the country cannot deal with the problem alone and timely, provide additional support in the form of supply of parts and dispatch of engineers so that Japan's cooperation will continue in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

For that purpose, JICA attempts to understand the current conditions mainly in overseas offices even after the completion of the projects.

Activities by Program

■ Aftercare for the Acceptance of Training Participants

JICA's aftercare for the acceptance of training participants 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 2001, 84 alumni associations had been formed in 78 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 carried out by the Pakistan alumni association that offers 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 publication for a given period after their return home. Moreover, JICA sometimes provides follow-up equipment that is necessary for the on-site utilization of expertise acquired through training in Japan, 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 strengthen 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 2001 to the Philippines, Malaysia, and Viet Nam, 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 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 the 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 grant aid, while natural disasters may result in damage to equipment. As a result, technology transferred at considerable effort may not be used effectively, or all of the effectiveness of the facilities and the machines supplied may not be fully displayed. 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 Chinese-Japanese Youth Center which opened in 1991 to promote cultural and educational exchange among young people not limited to Japan and China. Ten years after its opening, the center showed visible aging. China itself renovated the swimming pool, training building, and lodgings, but with respect to the Century Grand Theater, which is a symbol of friendship between Japan and China, due to technical difficulties, they requested follow-up cooperation from Japan. In response, the stage, lighting, and sound systems were renovated from the viewpoint of safety and maintenance and the Grand Theater was reopened. Various ceremonies are scheduled at the theater in 2002, the 30th anniversary year of rapprochement between the two countries.

Follow-up cooperation was also provided to hospitals in India, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Kenya, El Salvador, and Fiji in the form of maintenance of medical facilities.

In Mongolia, several of the 100 buses supplied by Japan have already driven more than 500,000 km. For safety, engine parts and rims were provided, as well as technical instruction for maintenance and repair. The repaired buses will transport people in Ulan Bator, the coldest capital in the world.

■ Follow-up on the Development Study

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

In fiscal 2001, follow-up studies were carried out on 1,809 development studies that began after August 1974 and ended before the end of fiscal 2000. 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.

Completed development studies, as in the preceding year, included seven evaluation studies in the water field (water supply and ground water) in fiscal 2001. Target projects are formed with grant aid and directly benefit impoverished groups in urban and rural areas, thus making the results comparatively visible.

After the study of the Groundwater Development Plan in Champassak and Sawaran Prefecture in Laos was completed, the counterpart agency undertook groundwater development through the public sector and other agencies and now can cover operational expenses through the project. This is very significant as on-site guidance (technology transfer*) carried out in the processes of development studies such as geophysical exploration, hydrogeological studies, and drilling.

On the other hand, the evaluation study report points out that in terms of social analysis, organization analysis, and participation, there was more work to be done.

Follow-up evaluations were performed on the results, and the sustainability of such studies and lessons obtained from the evaluations will be used in the implementation 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 continuous cooperation for group dispatch projects whose prescribed period of cooperation has ended. In such cases, succeeding volunteers are sent

on the basis of a request from the recipient country to enhance the effects of cooperation.

Examples are the Bal Prefecture Integrated Regional Development Implementation Support Project in the South Sulawesi Province of Indonesia, the Karcy-Gorou Green Promotion Cooperation Project in Niger, and the Arithmetic Education Improvement Project in Honduras.

The Bal Prefecture Integrated Regional Development Implementation Support Project in South Sulawesi was implemented for five years starting in January 1995, in the form of group dispatch of JOCVs. This project provides support for the integrated regional development plan in Indonesia, focusing on increases in agricultural income in Bal Prefecture. The wide range of specific activities are as follows.

- 1) Repair, maintenance and management of irrigation facilities
- 2) Improvement and dissemination of crop cultivation methods
- 3) Proposals to improve market management methods
- 4) Intensive livestock care

- 5) Improvements in living environments in terms of water, health, and sanitation

In December 1999, right before the expiration of the scheduled term, a terminal evaluation study was implemented to examine the outcome of the five-year cooperative activities. The results suggest to both governments that the following three points did not produce satisfactory effects and need continued cooperation as follow-up.

- 1) Promotion of livestock activities
- 2) Utilization of the seedling center
- 3) Distribution of vegetable seedlings

In response to these suggestions and the request of the Indonesian government, JICA decided to extend the five-year project of group dispatch of JOCVs for another two years with specific objectives as follow-up cooperation and a dispatch total of six volunteers for this project.

In December 2001, the follow-up cooperation finished on schedule. The evaluation study on this follow-up cooperation implemented in April 2002 shows that the initial activity objectives were accomplished.



Follow-up through dispatch of a JOCV in the Arithmetic Education Improvement Project in Honduras

Chapter 4

Contribute to Guideline Formulation

—Research—



Some of the research reports published in FY2001

Purposes of the Program

With the end of the Cold War and the progress of globalization, global issues* such as poverty reduction, peacebuilding, water-related problems, and HIV/AIDS prevention have been focused on. 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, as an aid implementing agency, we have to accurately assess the needs of developing countries and respond flexibly to trends in the international community.

JICA's 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.

These research activities are carried out by research committees that are built around external specialists affiliated with universities or research institutes, with senior advisors* and staff members of JICA also participating.

These activities 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.

Results for FY2001

In fiscal 2001, a total of 28 research activities were carried out as follows.

- 1) Research on assistance strategies aimed at priority countries/regions and sector/issues (see Figure 3-15 for the flow of country studies) (13 research activities)
- 2) Research on aid methods relating to aid skills and methods (seven research activities)
- 3) Research on important individual issues in the provision of aid (eight research activities)

Table 3-14 Results of Research Conducted in FY 2001

Assistance Strategy Research	
	Cambodia (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Nepal (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Brazil (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Population and Development (sectoral aid research)
	Environment II (sectoral aid research)
	Peacebuilding
	Poverty Reduction Strategy
	Cuba (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Africa (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Ghana (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Bolivia (country study for Japan's ODA)
	Water (sectoral aid research)
	Cooperation with NGO for the promotion of participatory cooperation
Research on Aid Methods	
	Basic Study on Information Revolution in Development Assistance
	Basic Study on Effective Approaches to Development Issues
	Study on gender mainstreaming and systemization of WID cooperation projects
	Financial management in developing countries and aid
	Sectoral evaluation method in health and medical care cooperation projects
	Regional activities applicable to developing countries
Research on Individual Issues	
	Disaster Prevention and Development
	Basic Study on Participatory Evaluation
	Study on micronutrient deficiency for improvement of Maternal and child health
	Basic study on democratization support
	Formation and assessment of social capital
	Examination of aid framework for effective support of reconstruction and development
	Study on JICA volunteer activities
International Conference on Technology Transfer	
	Development cooperation of the 21st century: support for South-South cooperation
	The 8th Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction Network (CPR) seminar
	JICA and UNDP Joint Gender Seminar
Guest Researchers	
	16 guest researchers

■ Research Category □ Area of Research

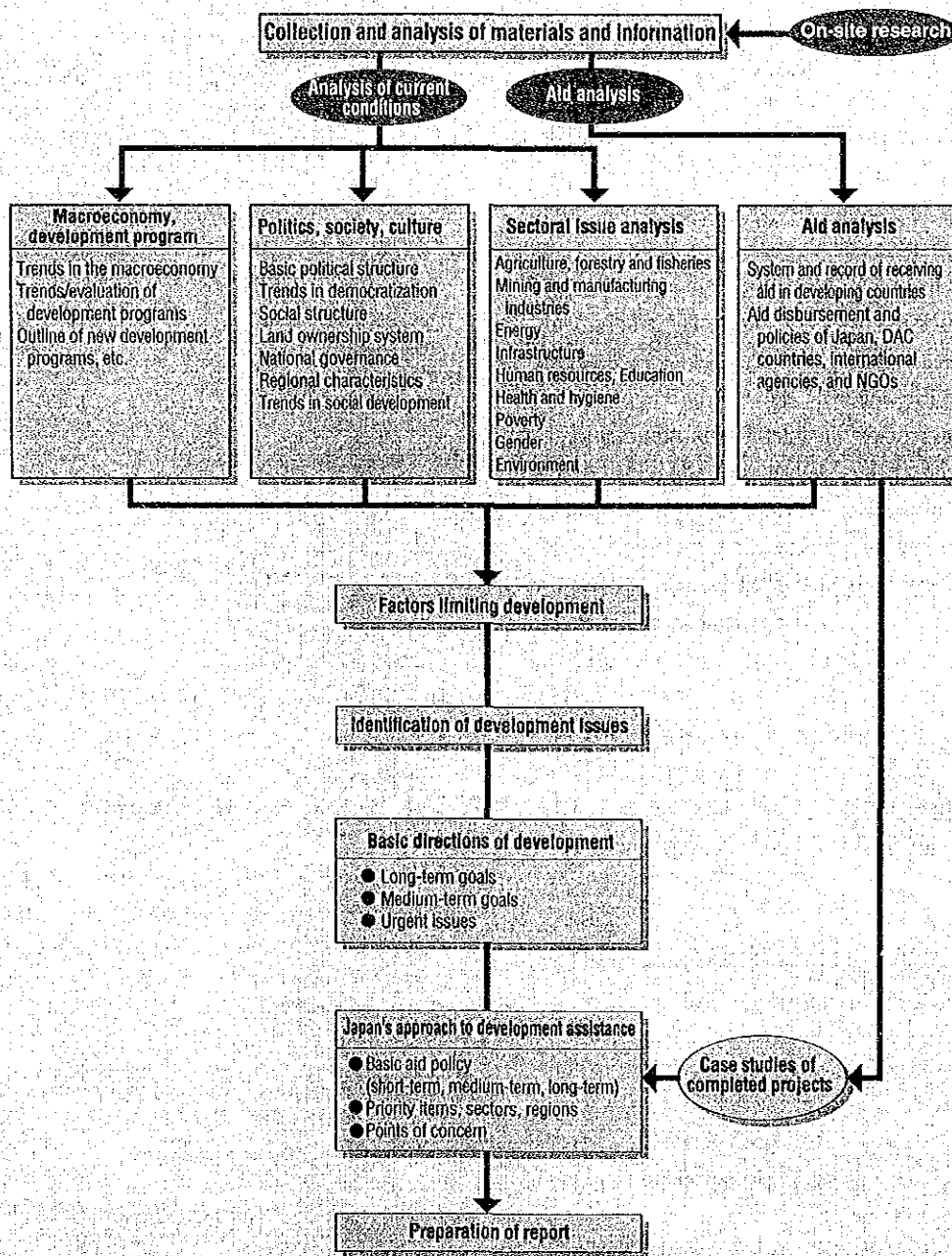
In addition, research on 16 topics was commissioned externally under the guest researcher system, which aims to commission specialists to perform research in specific areas and to build a network with universities and research institutions.

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 gender* and south-south cooperation*.

The results of research in fiscal 2001 are as shown in Table 3-14.

Figure 3-15 Flow of Country Studies for Japan's ODA



Currently we are strengthening 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. In addition, we are making new attempts to obtain

comments about report drafts from various people and to present outcome using IT, such as the JICA homepage and e-mail.

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

Committee on Country Study for Japan's Official Development Assistance to Cambodia

Institute for International Cooperation

Cambodia Needs "Foundation-building for Development"

Research

◆ From recovery and reconstruction to nation-building

The political disorder and conflicts that had been plaguing Cambodia since the 1970s ended with the conclusion of the Paris Peace Agreements in October 1991. Presently, Cambodia has progressed in its efforts for restoration and reconstruction with assistance from various countries and international agencies. However, damage and loss caused by long periods of turmoil in the country's economic and social foundation, as well as in terms of human resources, were so tremendous and profound that serious obstacles still remain for various aspects of Cambodia's development process.

Based on the recognition that Cambodia's sustainable stability is essential for peace, security, and development in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan has taken a central role in providing support for Cambodia, including active cooperation for the peace process.

Under these circumstances, the Committee on Country Study for Japan's Official Development Assistance to Cambodia was organized to provide even more effective support for Cambodia, which is experiencing a transition from recovery and reconstruction to full-scale nation-building in search of

economic development. The committee also aims to recommend medium-term prospects and directions for Japan's aid to Cambodia.

◆ Exchanging opinions with Prime Minister Hun Sen

Having gained the participation of 24 Japanese experts who are knowledgeable of Cambodia's situation, the study committee exchanged opinions with Japanese NGOs and Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen, and thus prepared a report in October 2001.

This report, based on the basic recognition that "foundation-building" for medium- to long-term development is essential following recovery and reconstruction from Cambodia's civil war, makes the following recommendations in terms of Japan's primary goals and direction in its cooperation for Cambodia.

The primary goals of Japan's assistance are to help Cambodia construct a state apparatus that will achieve post-conflict reconstruction and the formation of a new civil society, as well as to help build a foundation for mid-term sustainable development* while alleviating Cambodia's extreme poverty.



Survey being conducted in a commune

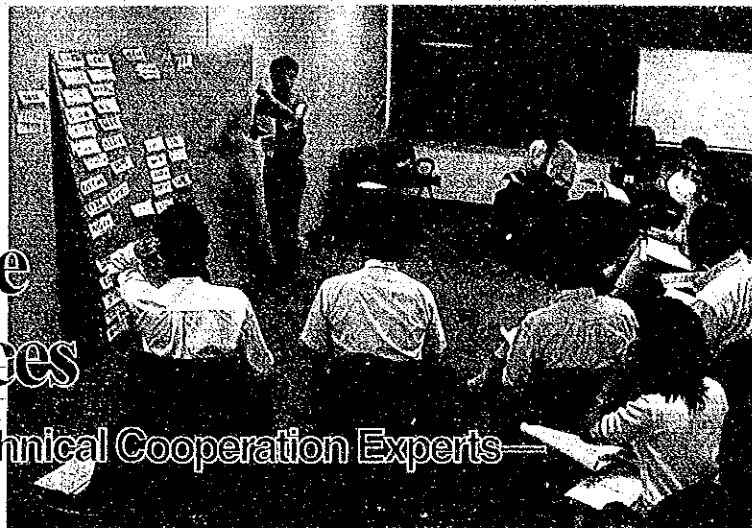
Specifically, construction of a state apparatus will need to be focused on establishing good governance* and infrastructure*. The consolidation of the foundation for mid-term sustainable development requires a focus on enhancing the human infrastructure. Moreover, in order to alleviate extreme poverty in Cambodia, it is necessary to focus on poverty alleviation in rural villages where 80% of the citizens live and where population increases rapidly. For this purpose, agriculture and rural development, expanding job opportunities, and conserving natural resources and the environment are emphasized in the assistance.

This entire report can be viewed on JICA website.

(Institute for International Cooperation, JICA)

Secure and Nurture Human Resources

Recruitment and Training of Technical Cooperation Experts



Pre-dispatch training workshop for experts

Training and Recruitment of Human Resources

■ Diversification of Human Resources is required

The foundation of technical cooperation is the promotion of development through the transfer of technology on a person-to-person basis. Technical cooperation experts must possess skills that are backed up by experience, communication skills, and an understanding of technology transfer* methodology, as well as 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 donors* (donor countries and agencies) 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 more than 3,000 experts each year; however, it is not easy to find people who meet these requirements, and this makes substantial training necessary when dispatching personnel.

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

■ Response to New Issues

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 2001, for the purpose of strengthening training of aid personnel who can

respond to new development issues, JICA began a new training system, Associate Specialists Phase 2, which provides another practical training course with associate specialists who completed the first training course, as well as the NGO Capacity Building Program to strengthen support for human development in NGOs.

Securing 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 technical cooperation projects, and in Japan as an advisory committee for development studies, training course leaders, and leaders of research activities. 93 senior advisors* were recruited in fiscal 2001.

2. Temporary Employed Specialists

Temporary employed specialists are secured primarily from among experts who have returned to Japan and are scheduled for re-dispatch. 21 specialists were recruited in fiscal 2001.

3. Specialized Technical Advisors

Personnel with advanced specialized skills and knowledge as well as plentiful experience 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 so that they can be promptly dispatched if and when their services are required. As of the end of fiscal 2001, 4,068 individuals were registered under this system.

5. Open Recruitment of Experts

There is an increasing need for intellectual cooperation such as policy support and global issues* like the alleviation of poverty in developing countries and regions. However, it is no easy task to secure 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 2001, open recruitment was conducted four times, and 31 experts were recruited.

6. Regional International Cooperation Liaison Associations for Returning Experts

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

As of the end of fiscal 2001, liaison associations with around 3,400 members were active at 41 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.

Training Experts

Training as described below is provided to foster 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 JOCVs, Junior Professional Officers* [JPOs] and personnel of non-governmental organizations [NGOs]), this training is intended to enable such people to play a part as experts, etc., in international cooperation through practical in-country training and overseas dispatch. In fiscal 2001, 45 young people were recruited, and 110 people took part in training both in Japan and overseas.

In fiscal 2001, JICA launched the Associate Specialists Phase 2, in which participants who completed the associate specialists program receive additional training mainly at JICA headquarters and, when necessary, agencies other than JICA.

2. Long-term Overseas Training

This training is aimed at personnel from the private sector and government agencies, former JOCVs, 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 2001, 29 people were sent to educational and research institutions and international organizations in both developed and developing countries for a maximum of two years. The subjects studied included health and medical care, education, regional development, environmental conservation, agricultural and rural development, etc., 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, etc. Upon completion of their courses, the partic-

Table 3-16 Training Courses for Future JICA Experts Held in FY 2001

First Course June 18 to August 10	Second Course October 1 to November 22	Third Course January 15 to March 8
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 environment 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	Rural infrastructure readjustment Forestry Infrastructure Education Urban environments and pollution control Environmental health

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

3. Long-term Domestic Training

This training is designed for the same people eligible for long-term overseas training, but is conducted at graduate schools and research institutes in Japan. In fiscal 2001, we commenced training for 14 people at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies. The training covered areas such as development assistance policies and development economics.

4. Skill-enhancing Training for Experts

This is for young people such as those who have returned from JOCV assignments with a relatively high level of technical skill. Through personalized programs lasting up to one year, participants receive practical and technical training both in Japan and overseas to become technical cooperation experts. In fiscal 2001, training was conducted for seven people.

5. Training for Future 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 2001, we held 17 courses attended by 139 people, each course lasting eight weeks. The content of the courses is shown in Table 3-16.

6. Training for Experts

This is provided in principle for experts serving overseas for more than a year.

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 2001, these courses were held seven times and attended by a total of 817 people (645 experts and 172 spouses).

2) Supplementary Language and Technical Training

Personalized language training is provided to experts who need linguistic proficiency other than English for their services. 35 people participated in fiscal 2001. To further improve communication skills, JICA also has a system that involves training in local languages in the experts' countries of

posting. A total of 113 people received this training in 35 countries in fiscal 2001. Personalized technical training is also provided at institutions in Japan in order to supplement and improve specialized skills. 39 people took part in this kind of training in fiscal 2001.

3) Training for Project Coordinators

This training is aimed at coordinators* who are scheduled to be dispatched to technical cooperation projects and is designed to improve their project administration abilities, which are necessary for proper project implementation. The training course consists of lectures on coordinators' roles and practices, accounting, public relations, and other subjects. Training was held five times in fiscal 2001, and attended by 60 people.

4) Training for Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation

This training is aimed at leaders and coordinators who are scheduled to be dispatched to technical cooperation projects and is designed to acquire management skills for effective and efficient implementation of a project. The training course consists of a project planning course and a monitoring and evaluation course. Each course runs for four days simultaneously. Training was held six times in fiscal 2001, and attended by 175 people.

7. 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 2001, training was held three times at the Institute for International Cooperation in Tokyo and once at the Osaka International Centre; a total of 74 people attended.

8. NGO Capacity Building Program

For the purposes of the capacity-building* of NGOs, who are partners in the implementation of international cooperation, and promoting partnership between JICA and NGOs, JICA launched the following new training programs, which combined former NGO related programs in fiscal 2001.

1) NGO Staff Training

This training allows middle-level personnel in NGOs to learn techniques and skills required for international cooperation and to deepen their understanding of ODA and JICA programs. In March 2001, 12 participants attended a training course that was held for about two weeks (the course included a one-week overseas training course in Bangladesh).

2) NGO-JICA Partnership Training

This training is intended for younger personnel in NGOs and JICA and is held jointly with the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) for the purpose of strengthening the partnership through mutually understanding of each other's basic concepts and methods of international cooperation activities. A three-day overnight course was held in October 2001 and was attended by 16 personnel from NGOs and 15 personnel from JICA.

3) Long-term Domestic Training for NGO Staff

This training is implemented at Japanese graduate schools for full-time NGO staff who will play a key role in the course of their future activities. In fiscal 2001, JICA selected two participants.

4) Dispatch of Technical Experts to NGOs

Under this scheme, JICA dispatches technical experts to Japanese NGO's activity sites overseas for up to three months. In fiscal 2001, five experts were dispatched. Their technical fields were sewing, maternal and child health, waste disposal, man-

agement of sports event, and fishery resources management.

5) NGO Experience Program

Graduate students in international cooperation are dispatched as interns to overseas activity sites where JICA and NGOs jointly provide cooperation to deepen their understanding of these activities.

9. Internship Program

This program aims to provide graduate students, who majored in development assistance and wish to engage in it in the future, with an opportunity to work as interns at JICA's headquarters, domestic offices, and overseas offices, in order to deepen their understanding of development assistance and JICA. In combination with the NGO Experience Program, the program was provided in fiscal 2001 for a total of 59 interns: 30 students at overseas offices in 18 developing countries, including Viet Nam and Bolivia, and 29 students in Tokyo, Hiroshima, and elsewhere in Japan.

Front Line Training for International Cooperation NGO Staff

Institute for
International
Cooperation

Strengthening Links with NGOs

Recruitment and Training of Technical Cooperation Experts

◆ Field study in Bangladesh

The role of NGOs in Japan's international cooperation activities is increasing annually. In recent years, JICA has been strengthening its links with international cooperation NGOs in various overseas and domestic activities as a partner who has the same goal of improving the lives of people in developing countries. On the human resources development front, JICA launched a new training program for NGO staff in 2001 in view of future cooperation with NGOs.

The first training course, which was held for about two weeks in March 2001, included the following sessions.

- 1) Lectures and workshops taught by leading figures who practiced international cooperation in NGOs, JICA, and other international organizations
- 2) On-site field study in Bangladesh
- 3) Debriefings on training achievements after coming back to Japan

Twelve NGO members took part in

this course from all over Japan. They learned about ideal international cooperation activities that are rooted in residents' needs and lifestyles, as well as about ideal cooperation and linkage between NGO and JICA, and enjoyed a valuable opportunity to exchange opinions.

◆ Training to strengthen ties with NGOs

In Bangladesh, the participants carry out a field study of a local NGO's activity as an advanced model, in which an agricultural practice using local breeds spread in the form of a citizens movement as a consequence of their ongoing activities. In addition, JICA's projects and the projects implemented in cooperation between Japanese NGOs and JICA were observed by the participants. One participant commented, "It provided an opportunity to think about ideal future development cooperation."



Field study in a rural village in Bangladesh

Other training programs intended for NGO staff include: NGO-JICA Partnership Training, a camp-in style course in which they learn about a specific theme with JICA staff to promote mutual understanding; Long-term Domestic Training for NGO that supports studies in graduate school; and NGO Language Training, where they learn languages with JICA experts prior to dispatch.

(Institute for International
Cooperation, JICA)

Backup

—Support for Activities of Experts



Health check at JICA Medical Support Centre

Outline of Support System

JICA provides several kinds of remuneration and welfare systems for experts assigned to developing countries to support their activities. These considerations are essential for the recruitment of highly qualified experts and contribute to the high motivation of experts. They form the foundation for high quality technical cooperation.

JICA established the Human Resources Assignment Department in 2000 in order to strengthen the support systems for experts. It provides an integrated support system in the expert dispatch cycle.

The present JICA support systems are stated below.

Note: These systems do not apply to experts assigned by contract between JICA and an organization. In this case, the affiliations provide support.

■ Main Support Provisions

1. Travel Expenses and Allowances

JICA provides the following allowances and domestic payment based on those received by foreign service public servants.

1) Overseas allowances

Long-term experts assigned for more than one year are paid allowances for basics, housing, family, children's education, language learning, remote area living, and special skills. Short-term experts assigned for less than one year are paid per diem accommodation allowance, language learning allowance, and special skill allowances.

2) Domestic payment

JICA compensates salary paid by an organization to which experts belong or provides domestic allowance for experts who do not belong to an organization.

2. Overseas Travel Systems

Paid leave days for JICA experts should be based on the days of the recipient organization's staff. JICA continues to pay overseas allowances if the JICA expert travels outside the recipient country within these leave days and the maximum days in accordance with the assignment terms stipulated by JICA regulations. In addition, JICA will bear travel expenses as follows.

1) Home leave funded by JICA

Long-term experts assigned for more than two years to the regions designated by JICA as "unhealthy areas" with particularly severe living conditions are eligible to take a home leave once every two years 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 is eligible to take bereavement leave to Japan. However, the expert should bear some part of the airfare.

2) Health care leave

Health care leave used for health check and/or regaining physical strength is available for long-term experts assigned to the regions designated by JICA as "specified unhealthy areas," where the living conditions are much severer than the "unhealthy areas" described above.

JICA has also set up a system in which long-term experts working in high altitudes are eligible for periodic trips to lower altitudes.

3. Temporary Visit of Spouse and Children

JICA provides the following scheme for long-term experts who live apart from their spouses and children.

1) Temporary visit of children

JICA subsidizes airfare for children who remain in Japan for education reasons to reunite with their parents during the school holidays.

2) Temporary visit of spouse to malarial areas

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

4. Health Care

In January 2001, JICA established a Medical Support Centre to provide centralized management of health care for JICA-related personnel. 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 JICA experts and their accompanying families during overseas service, health guidance teams made up principally of doctors and nurses are sent to each region.

In addition, for the purpose of strengthening the health care system available to experts and their accompanying families overseas, health administrators are currently assigned to nine overseas offices. This system will be expanded in the future.

5. Accident Compensation

JICA makes special arrangements for state workers' accident compensation insurance, which covers accidents in the course of the experts' work or while commuting to work during their overseas service.

Furthermore, an emergency system is available for experts and their families to transfer to medical institutions with a full range of facilities when injury or illness requires hospitalization.

6. 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 JICA experts and their accompanying families. It provides medical costs if a JICA expert or his/her family falls ill or is injured, and condolence payments in the event of death during overseas service.

It is supported by premiums 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, and welfare activities such as the distribution of sympathy payments when disaster strikes.

Table 3-17 Expert Compensation and Welfare Schemes

Allowances, etc.	Overseas allowances	Basic allowance	
		Housing allowance	
		Family allowance	
		Children's educational allowance	
		Language learning allowance	
		Remote area living allowances	
		Special skills allowance	
Issued in Japan	Compensation of personal expenses at expert's original post		
	Domestic remuneration		
Welfare systems	Holidays, etc.	Home leave	
		Bereavement leave	
		Leave for attending academic conferences	
		Health care leave	
		High altitude health care leave	
		Temporary visit by children	
		Temporary visit of spouse in malarial regions	
		Compensation in the event of accident while en route to/from country of assignment, during work, or while traveling to work	
		Welfare, etc.	Mutual aid payments
			Costs for improvements in living environment
Unemployment compensation			
Health check fees			

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

Overseas Safety Management

—Security Measures and Crisis Management—



A Security Officer gives on-site instructions about dangerous areas and traffic accident control.

JICA's Security Menu

JICA activities are carried out in developing countries. All personnel dispatched by JICA, such as experts, consultants, and volunteers like Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), reside in developing countries and perform their respective assignments. In general, developing countries have problems with poverty, which in some countries leads to high incidents of general crimes. Also, countries in which democratization has not taken place tend to be subject to coup d'état, and some suffer from prolonged civil wars that last for many years. Furthermore, there are some personnel who live and work in countries where police and national militaries do not function adequately after the civil wars end.

In order to secure safe living and working environments for those involved in international cooperation who continue to carry out their activities under such conditions, JICA has implemented the following security measures and crisis management policies.



Giving instructions on how to recognize and take safe taxis in Dakar

■ Implementation of Training and Seminars before Departure

JICA provides training in security measures for study team members, experts, volunteers, and accompanying families before departure. The training contains explanations regarding regional characteristics of crime and public safety; how to choose dwellings; how to deal with local residents; how to safe-keep valuables; holdups and car-jackings from the viewpoint of crime prevention; and emergency actions.

Upon arrival at the assignment location, overseas offices offer individual orientations in updated local security situations and anti-crime measures. In addition, the overseas offices hold Public Safety Control Report Councils twice a year for everyone related to JICA. This council provides local safety information furnished by overseas offices, as well as experiences and information that is shared by everyone involved, including experts, volunteers, and accompanying families. Specific know-how of these safety measures, which are devised day-to-day, are presented by those who live and work in the same environment for the same cause in this council. For instance, through this council, strategies for keeping a low profile to prevent crime, such as how to take out money while shopping; what types of bag are appropriate and how to carry them; how to dress and wear jewelry appropriate to local situations; and where to safe-keep valuables, are conveyed to residents who have just been dispatched by those who have stayed in developing countries for a long time, or by actual victims.

■ Posting Security Officers/Advisors

In order to strengthen on-site security measures, JICA utilizes human resources that are familiar with the country's public security measures. The security officers devote themselves, almost around the clock, to a wide range of work,

including the collection and transmission of safety information on a daily basis, crime prevention in residential areas, and traffic control. The security officers are knowledgeable both about local crime trends and behavior patterns of Japanese people, and based on both aspects, conduct appropriate safety guidance.

■ Building of an Emergency Communication Network

JICA builds an emergency contact system covering all staff at each overseas office. Communications by means of telephone, mobile telephone, wireless radio, pager, International Maritime Satellite Organization (INMARSAT), and satellite mobile telephone are taken into account for regular occasions and at the same time are secured in emergencies for safety confirmation. This double communication system is positioned as a key to all security measures.

■ Dispatch of Study Team for Security Measures

JICA dispatches study teams to countries where safety is a concern to check local safety situations. Based on the outcome of such local research, country-specific security measures are enacted in detail. For instance, in one country, the security situation is analyzed according to province/state to determine the range of activities for JICA personnel and to

make adjustments in response to aid needs.

In addition, teams of experts with experience in security measures are dispatched from Japan to countries with high incidents of general crime. They conduct direct safety guidance regarding residential crime prevention, anti-firearm crime measures, and anti-car-jacking measures for those who live there and work for JICA.

■ Financial Assistance for Security Installation and Security Guards

JICA assists experts and volunteers with the cost of installation of security equipment, the hiring of security guards, and installing alarm security systems in their dwellings. Construction work is implemented to raise fence heights, reinforce doors and windows, and install iron bars on windows if necessary. In countries where security companies exist, an alarm system to call security guards will be utilized.

■ Implementation of a 24-hour Crisis-management System

JICA headquarters has a 24-hour, 365-day emergency contact system that can receive and respond to emergency reports from overseas at any time, even outside of regular working hours such as nighttimes on weekdays and holidays.



Providing instruction on the best type of locks and how to install them for offices in Bolivia

the JICA website and promotion for downloading various tender related application forms started in fiscal 2001.

The JICA organizational information reference corner allows reading and photocopying of legally mandated data such as financial statements, business reports, annual reports, project evaluation reports, and various program plans and results. This corner also displays information data on developing countries and materials for development education. After the Freedom of Information Act for Independent Administrative Institutions went into effect, this corner was reborn as an information service corner, offering information on organization structure, operations, and finance, in addition to legally mandated information.

The ad hoc corner is used for events such as photo exhibits and tour guidance for students who visit JICA headquarters. During the recruitment season for human resources, application guides are distributed and applications are received at this corner.

The Headquarters JICA Plaza has a toll free number (TEL: 0120-32-5931) in order to respond to comments and inquiries by telephone.

■ 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 130,000 items, including a wide range of reports prepared by JICA and data collected by JICA study teams dispatched to developing countries, in addition to maps and aid materials issued by international agencies, and many other items on developing countries. A PC catalogue search system has also been installed in the library. In fiscal 2001, the library received 20,000 visitors.

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 evaluations 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 staff recruitment.

JICA has also taken several steps to enhance the visual attractiveness of the site. These include the addition of the "Bokura Chikyu Chosatai (Introducing JICA to Children)" section, which explains conditions in developing countries to children, and "JICA Internet Television," which broadcasts the satellite TV program "Chikyu Kazoku (The JICA Report)" on the website. These are part of JICA's support for development education.

In May 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 2002, information on the main topics listed in Figure 3-18 can be accessed through JICA's English language website.

In addition, almost all offices in Japan and overseas offices have set up their own websites to strengthen the flow of information from the front line in August 2002. JICA has also undertaken the task of advancing the establishment of homepages for JICA's various programs, such as technical cooperation projects, development studies, and the JICA Partnership Program* with links to the main JICA homepage.

As a result of this expansion in the content of the JICA website, every month the Japanese homepage receives 180,000 hits, and the English homepage receives 10,000 hits. In addition, since February 2001, JICA has been publishing *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 May 2002, 16,000 addresses have been registered to receive this service.

JICA intends to improve the structure and content of the homepage with user-oriented information.

Dynamic Public Relations Activities

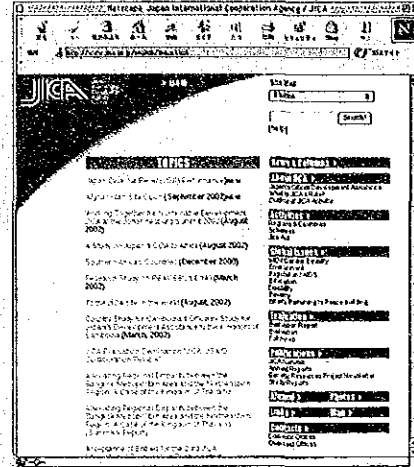
JICA intends to play an important role in the public relations activities of ODA programs. Many publicity activities are aimed at spreading awareness of aid projects at home and abroad and at ensuring that projects are accurately understood and well supported. In particular, JICA is publicizing ODA through 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. Production of Publications and Audiovisual Materials

Public relations activities aimed at the Japanese public and the nation's schools include the monthly magazines

Figure 3.18 JICA Information Available on the Website

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



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

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 scope of support for JICA's operations. In addition, *JICA Network*, available seasonally in English, is aimed at overseas readers; its purpose is to provide information to partner country governments and people as well as other donors* (donor countries and agencies), including international organizations.

Television programs, videos, photographic panels, and pamphlets introducing JICA operations are constantly being produced to provide easily accessible information. Through the weekly television broadcast of *Chikyū Kazoku* (The JICA Report) since fiscal 1999, we have been presenting the activities of JICA experts and JOCVs from around the world.

In addition to public relations activities, in order to promote information disclosure actively, JICA Plaza was set up at JICA headquarters in April 2002. JICA plans to open more plazas at agencies nationwide to offer one-stop service to the public as well as information on JICA operations and organization.

2. Organization of Events

The main event intended to enhance general awareness of international cooperation is conducted at the International Cooperation Festival, which takes place on October 6. Other

events include international cooperation campaigns (lectures, seminars, video showings, panel displays, etc.) presented throughout Japan by JICA branches and domestic offices 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 between JICA and local governments and further international awareness.

In fiscal 2001, JICA held ODA town meetings with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sendai and Fukuoka.

3. Approaches to the Mass Media

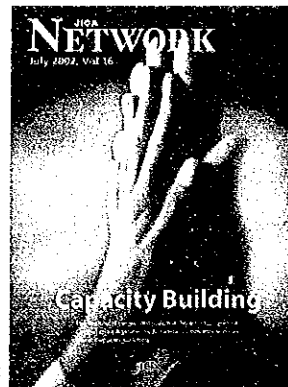
JICA Press Release is distributed to representatives of the mass media and other specialists. JICA Press Release presents a full range of up-to-date information on JICA programs. Several times a year, scholars and staff writers of national and local newspapers take the opportunity offered by JICA to visit project sites in developing countries to acquire a better understanding of international cooperation. In 2001, articles on topics relating to JICA appeared on average twice a day in the national press and 10 times a day in the local press in Japan.

4. Overseas Public Relations

JICA's overseas offices play a key role in promoting public relations activities overseas. In fiscal 2001, as many as 63



JICA's publicity magazines



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 few opportunities to visit JICA projects overseas, 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 started in

April 2002 includes a period for integrated study, which 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 JOCVs and experts 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 assistance with development education, JICA's domestic branches located throughout Japan, and coordinators* for international cooperation (JICA Desk) placed in local authorities for international relations play the core role in coordinating closely with local organizations. JICA cooperates with local organizations such as boards of education, international cooperation associations, international exchange organizations, and NGOs to conduct effective assistance with the local community.

Support for Development Education

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, Thesis Competitions for University Students

Essay and thesis competitions are held under the topic "Developing Countries and International Cooperation" to create an opportunity for students to engage in such topics. In fis-



ODA town meeting in Sendai

cal 2001, JICA received a total of 22,459 entries. The winning contestants are awarded invitations to study tours to developing countries, where they are offered a chance to visit experts and JOCVs who are working on the front lines 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 2001, 73 teachers participated.

3. Training for Development Education Teachers

In fiscal 2001, JICA launched 15 training courses for elementary, junior high, and high school teachers to examine implementation cases in development education and methods for teaching material development. The training program was developed with NGOs to reflect their experiences in development education.

4. Visits by Lecturers (Salmon Campaign)

JICA dispatches employees, former experts and JOCVs, and foreign training program participants to educational institutions through JICA's branches placed throughout Japan. By dispatching lecturers, JICA supports education that promotes understanding towards developing countries. In fiscal 2001, 1,439 lectures about international cooperation and developing countries reached 170,000 people.

5. Students' ODA Experience Program at International Centers

This program is conducted for school students at JICA's international centers located all over Japan. Through communication with training program participants from developing countries and lectures by former JOCVs and experts who have worked in developing countries, the participating students gain a deeper understanding of international cooperation. In fiscal 2001, 400 students participated in this program.

6. Student Visits to JOCV Training Centres

The JOCV Training Centres in Nihonmatsu and Komagane and the JOCV Hiroo Training and Study Centre accept local junior high school students to participate in the



Lecture on Salmon Campaign

training program of JOCVs to promote understanding of the Dispatch of JOCV Program. In 2001, 162 students participated.

7. Students' JOCV Experience Program

In this program, high school students visit and participate in the actual field where JOCVs are volunteering. 10 high school students participated in fiscal 2001.

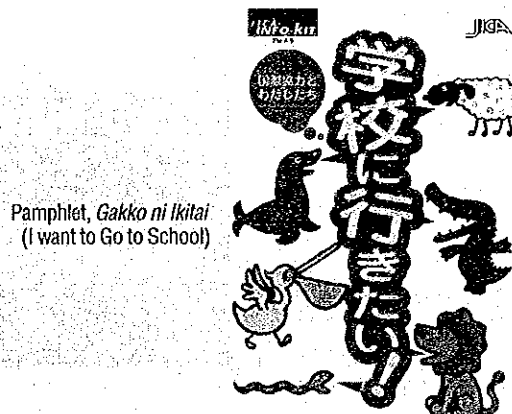
8 Provision of Useful Materials for Development Education

1) Issue of the poster newspaper *Bokura Chikyū Chosatai*

For elementary and junior high schools, we send a poster newspaper called *Bokura Chikyū Chosatai*, which simply introduces the reality and everyday situation in developing countries to children.

2) JICA's development education website

As with the poster newspaper, the JICA website has a page called *Bokura Chikyū Chosatai* that explains desertifi-



cation, deforestation, food situations, and health and medical care issues to elementary and junior high school students in a way that makes it easy to understand the situation.

3) Photo materials for development education: Photo Language

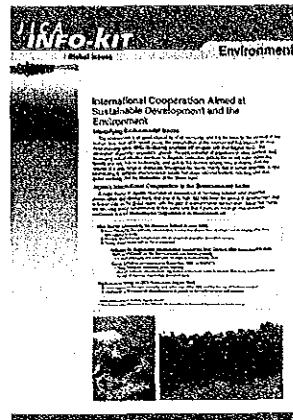
With the cooperation of teachers and NGOs involved in development education, JICA has published a set of educational photographs to be used as teaching materials. These photographs introduce ways of life in developing countries and are placed in JICA's domestic branches and JICA Plaza for loan service to teachers and NGOs.

4) Videos and pamphlets for elementary and junior high school students

JICA has made videos that easily explain JICA's programs and the Acceptance of Technical Training Participants Program to an elementary and junior high school audience. A pamphlet titled *Gakko ni Ikitai* (I Want to Go to School), which was produced and distributed to all the elementary schools in fiscal 2000, is distributed to elementary and junior high school students during their visits to JICA headquarters and domestic offices, or is used at the various events and lectures carried out by domestic offices.

For Further Understanding

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



A pamphlet called INFO-KIT presents details of JICA.



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 2001, 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) went to 10 countries in Asia.



A new publicity tool called the JICA INTRO-KIT consists of pamphlets, videos, and CD-ROMs that explain JICA.

