

Part III

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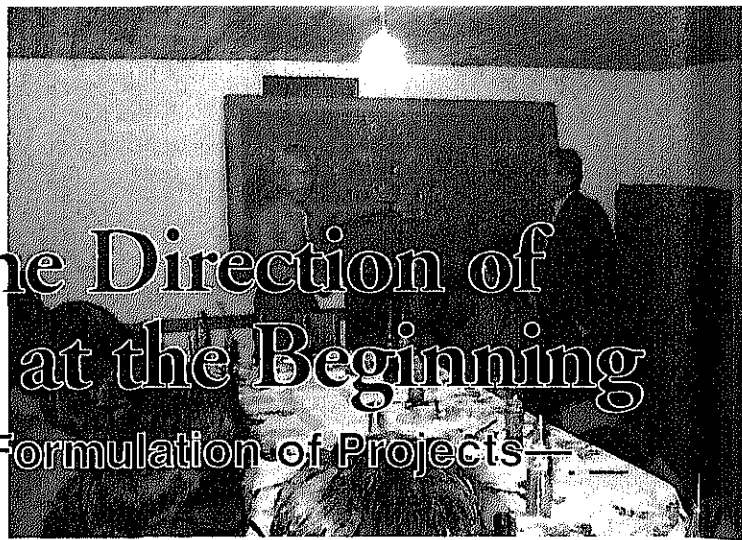
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Chapter 1

1 Determine the Direction of Cooperation at the Beginning

—Identification and Formulation of Projects—



Project formulation study on a personnel training course for Bolivia

Project Cycle and Activities

JICA's activities are carried out within an integrated process known as the "project cycle," which consists of a series of stages: planning, implementation, evaluation, and feedback into the planning stage of the next project. To improve the content of these activities and to enhance the effect of cooperation, each stage in the project cycle requires appropriate monitoring and consistent management. Listed below are brief explanations of what is done at each stage.

1) Planning

Study and analysis of the needs and requests of developing countries; definition of target groups; specification of the purpose, targets, and resources to be input (number of experts and staff to be dispatched, costs required for the projects as a whole, etc.), and details of activities.

2) Implementation

Execution of projects according to plan; review of the plan through monitoring; and development of results.

3) Evaluation

Assessment as to whether or not the results of a project accord with the original targets; measurement of the effects of the project; investigation into why a project was given a poor evaluation; and feedback of the findings into future projects.

In Part III of this report, we shall be looking at JICA programs in accordance with the following four items (i.e., the three stages of the project cycle and efforts to strengthen the foundations of program implementation).

- a. Identification, formulation and planning (Chapter 1)
- b. Program implementation (Chapter 2)
- c. Evaluation and follow-up (Chapter 3)
- d. Strengthening the foundations of program implementation (Chapter 4)

Understanding Current Conditions and Needs

■ Importance of a Starting Point for Cooperation

In order to make JICA cooperation projects more effective, we first need to gain an accurate idea of the needs of developing countries. In addition, we need to plan and implement projects in line with individual countries' specific features. This approach requires knowledge of social and economic conditions in developing countries as well as of their organizational and institutional structures. This is what we mean by the country-specific approach.

In recent years, there has been an increase in concern for certain fields, such as education, agricultural development, urban development, pollution, and poverty, which are shared by developing countries. There is also concern for global warming countermeasures that need to be addressed on a global scale and which involve not only developing countries but also developed countries. In order to address these issues efficiently and effectively, it is important to accumulate knowledge about development assistance and the results of past development projects and at the same time to establish a system that enables us to obtain prompt and accurate information at all times. This is called an issue-specific approach.

JICA projects are carried out based upon requests for aid that are submitted by the government of the recipient country through diplomatic channels. However, some developing countries have not yet gained the ability to determine the kinds of projects that would most likely contribute to their development and to formulate national policies.

Furthermore, although a particular country may be aware of its needs and is able to formulate projects on its own, it may still be inadequately equipped to administer aid from other countries. JICA adopts country-specific and issue-specific approaches in its relations with such countries. We first

analyze the conditions and issues facing the developing country and take a close look at its course of development. We then assist them with formulating practical cooperation projects.

Determining the future direction of cooperation at the beginning is necessary if the project is to succeed, and is as important as the evaluation at the final stage.

JICA includes funds in its budget to cover the costs involved in making aid more efficient, with a view to strengthening both the initial and final stages of cooperation. Among these activities, we will explain (1) those related to the identification and formulation of projects, and (2) those related to the collection and collation of country-specific and issue-specific information.

Identification and Formulation of Projects

■ Project Formulation Studies

Sometimes requests from developing countries are not embodied as a specific project partly due to the requesting country's lack of understanding of Japan's cooperation schemes, even though those requests concern JICA's development priority sectors for the country. When a request for a project is made, if the analysis of components of the project is insufficient, it makes it difficult to determine whether to adopt it or not.

In such cases, we need to assess and analyze the conditions in the priority sectors, the appropriateness of the proposed assistance, the country's capacity and means of project implementation, and the impact of our cooperation on the country's economic and social development. At the same time, through discussions with the country's government and other relevant organizations (including NGOs), the most suitable cooperation plan will then be formulated.

JICA formulates such cooperation plans by sending study teams from Japan or hiring local consultants to conduct "project formulation studies*." In fiscal 2002, 85 studies were carried out in 49 developing countries.

The number of studies by region is as follows.

1) Asia:	34	(40%)
2) Middle East:	12	(14%)
3) Africa:	14	(16%)
4) Latin America:	23	(27%)
5) Oceania:	2	(2%)
6) Europe:	0	(0%)

■ Intra-regional Cooperation Workshops on Specific Fields

Some issues that confront developing countries are specific to a particular country. Others are shared by surrounding countries and are difficult to solve by one country alone, or can be solved more efficiently through joint action.

In order to identify and formulate projects that address common issues in the region, JICA holds local workshops with the countries concerned, other aid agencies, and international organizations to discuss how cooperation might best be provided.

In fiscal 2002, workshops were held on nine issues such as education (in Central America) and HIV/AIDS (in the Caribbean).

■ Placement of Project Formulation Advisors

Project formulation advisors* are placed at overseas offices as experts in priority development fields in developing countries if necessary. Through thorough consultation and coordination with related organizations in the recipient country, project formulation advisors analyze recipient country's needs, formulate high-quality projects, and process requested projects to look into the relative priority of requested projects and cooperation plans.

As indicated below, in recent years there has been an increase in new aid recipient countries and issues, and a variety of devices in aid methods has been called for. This means that project formulation advisors are playing an increasingly important role in identifying and formulating high-quality projects likely to prove effective in the development process. This process involves the following.

- 1) Countries where Japan has had little experience in aid provision and new aid-recipient countries
- 2) New assistance issues such as peacebuilding
- 3) New aid methods such as South-South cooperation*, and coordination and collaboration with other aid agencies.

In fiscal 2002, 100 project formulation advisors were sent to 61 countries.

■ Project Confirmation Studies

Promotion of effective and efficient aid is dependent not only on consultation on specific cooperation projects but also on dialogue at the working level, such as explanations of JICA's project implementation plans based on the results of project formulation studies and country-specific information-



Seminar on Millennium Development Goals* in Honduras

gathering activities. Promotion of dialogue at the policy level regarding the Japanese government's aid policy and the recipient's development plan is also important. In order to meet such needs, the following consultations and discussions were carried out in the project confirmation study.

- 1) Consultation on implementation policies for JICA projects
- 2) Discussion of policies and measures to address development issues
- 3) Arranging requested projects in terms of their order of priority and specific details, examining the progress and problems of projects currently under way, offering an explanation of our aid schemes, and discussing other topics that bear on the implementation of aid

Project confirmation studies are intended to determine the future direction of cooperation and to help us implement projects effectively and efficiently. In fiscal 2002, 34 study teams were sent to 34 countries to confirm and discuss the direction of cooperation for requested projects. The results by region are as follows.

1) Asia:	21	(62%)
2) Middle East:	0	(0%)
3) Africa:	4	(12%)
4) Latin America:	7	(20%)
5) Oceania:	0	(0%)
6) Europe:	2	(6%)

Collecting and Collating Country-specific and Issue-specific Information

■ Creating a Country-specific Information Database

Acquisition and analysis of basic information on developing countries plays an indispensable role in strengthening the country-specific approach. JICA gathers and analyzes basic socioeconomic information on developing countries as well as information on technology and aid trends at other aid agencies. In 1998, we launched a county-specific information system that consolidates and integrates experience and information acquired during past Japanese aid activities.

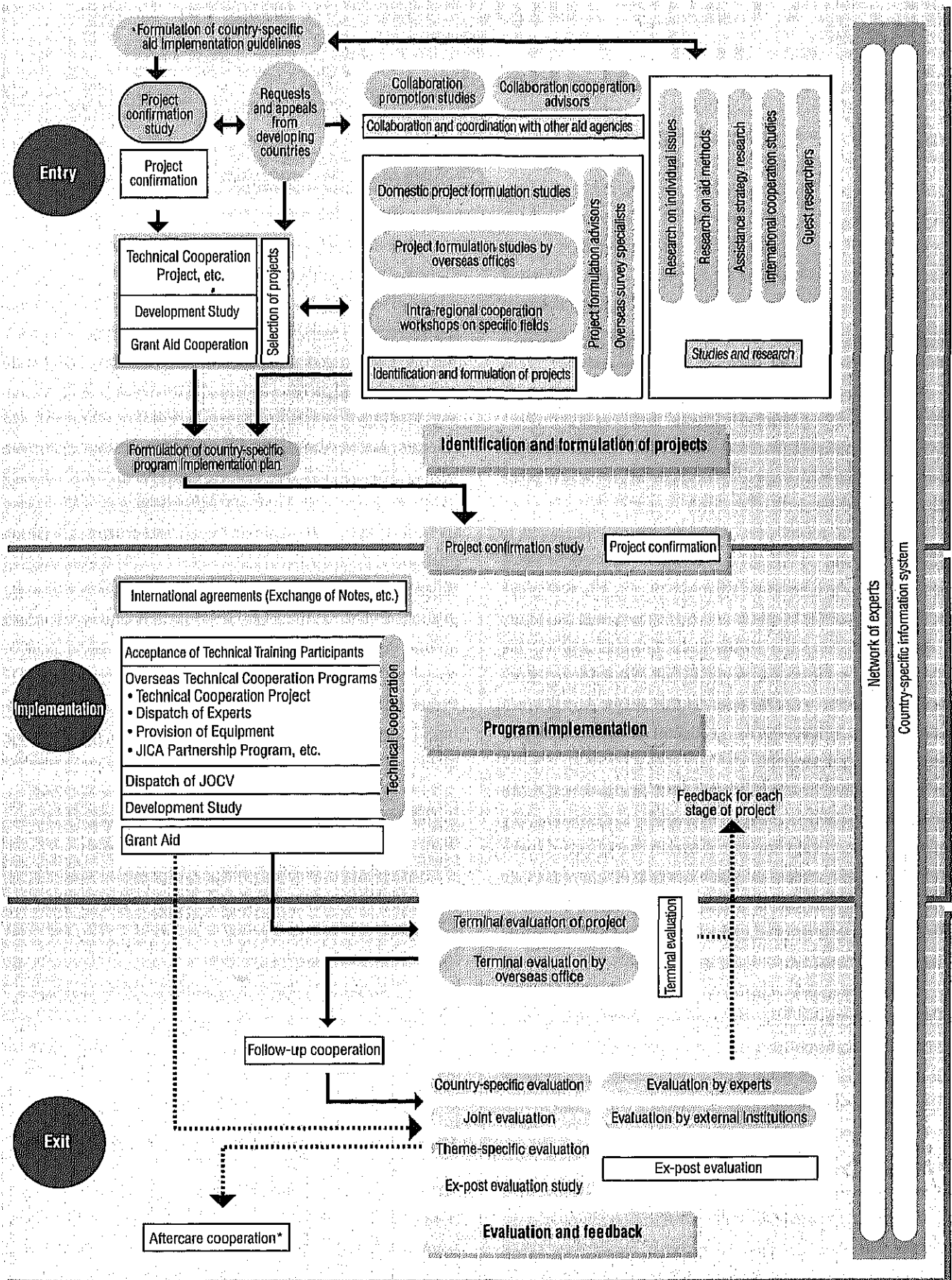
Data of projects implemented by JICA, which are managed in this system, have been made public on the JICA homepage since fiscal 1999.

■ Network of Experts

In order to strengthen the issue-specific approach, it is necessary to constantly collect appropriate information such as knowledge of development assistance and past projects. For that purpose, JICA has started building a network among JICA staff and experts on each development issue and establishing a system for storing information and know-how.

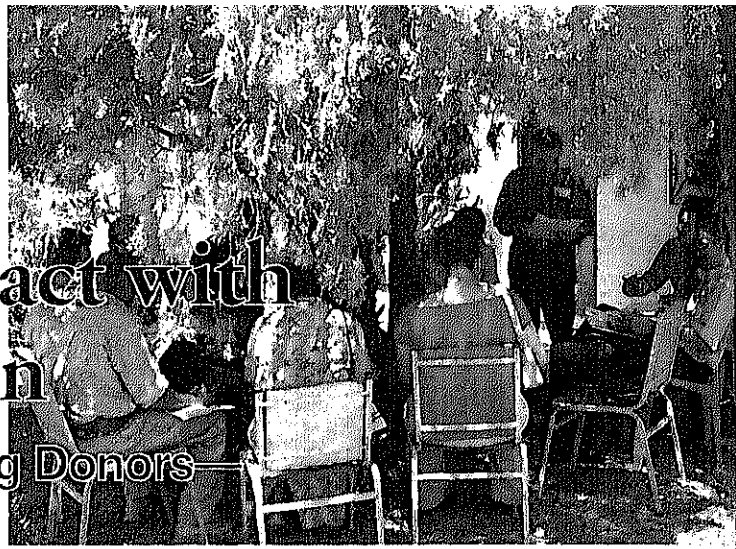
In the meantime, JICA is building a computer system in which accumulated information about past projects and know-how will be made accessible both internally and externally.

Figure 3-1 Flow of Projects



2 A Large Impact with Collaboration

—Coordination among Donors



Group discussion at the MDGs Workshop in Honduras

Aid Coordination—Shifting Implications

Aid coordination refers to donors* (donor countries and agencies) facilitating more efficient aid for a maximum effect. Traditionally, aid coordination generally involved joint project implementation with a specific donor, or efforts to strengthen bilateral friendship with other donor countries.

However, in recent years we have seen major changes in aid methods and coordination. Behind these changes lies a critical view as to whether or not structural adjustments* under the leadership of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) since the 1980s have brought any visible improvement in the economic conditions of developing countries, and whether or not the considerable aid for Africa which has continued for decades has produced an outcome proportional to the input amount.

Based on this view, movements have emerged to improve the efficiency of aid focusing on the socially and economically vulnerable by utilizing limited aid resources more effectively, and to develop a system in which developing countries take the initiatives to carry out development (ensuring ownership*). Those movements resulted in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)* and Sector Programs (SP)*.

In response to these changes in aid methods, the modality of aid coordination is also changing from the traditional way of project-specific collaboration to the cooperation of donors for the purpose of implementing sector-specific development plans made under initiatives of developing countries.

Toward Common Goals

In response to the Millennium Declaration adopted at the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)* were issued by

the Secretary-General in September 2001. Eight goals, including one that would halve poverty in the world by 2015, were shared by all the parties concerned with development, including developing countries themselves, donor countries, and international organizations. A wide consensus to promote results-oriented aid was also formed. At the International Conference on Financing for Development held in Monterrey in March 2002, the United States and European Union announced the increase in aid in order to solve the shortage of funds to achieve MDGs; the shortage of funds was estimated at about 50 billion dollars a year. That announcement turned around the trend of globally declining aid disbursement, or so-called "aid fatigue*," which had continued from the 1990s. Presently, not only UN agencies, but also many donors including JICA have set achieving MDGs as their own activity goals.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender* equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) was proposed by the World Bank at the Annual Meeting of the World Bank and IMF in September 1999. PRSP is a three-year socioeconomic development plan that describes comprehen-

sively priority development issues and measures focused on poverty eradication.

Developing countries are obligated to prepare a PRSP to receive debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)* Initiative agreed upon by the developed countries at the 1999 Cologne Summit. Furthermore, the World Bank and IMF made the PRSP mandatory for the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA)* loans and concessional lending through IMF's Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGF). Thus, 72 countries were to formulate PRSPs, and 28 countries submitted official PRSPs and 22 countries completed interim PRSPs as of July 2003 (Based on the number submitted to the Board of Directors of the World Bank).

A PRSP is considered a plan drawn up by a developing country for the purpose of using limited development funds efficiently and effectively in the implementation of a development program. For that purpose, it is necessary to coordinate the aid activities that each donor used to implement without coordination with other donors based on developing country ownership, while it is also necessary to have dialogue with other donors and the civil society (i.e., "partnership"). As for the relationship between PRSP and MDGs, PRSP is considered a tool for achieving MDGs.

Sector Program (SP) and Sector-wide Approaches (SW Aps)

In specific sectors, developing countries and donors formulate programs by sector or sub-sector through coordination for more efficient aid implementation based on the developing country ownership. This aid coordination method has come to be known as the "sector program" or the "sector-wide approach." Starting with the investment project for road development in Tanzania in the mid-1990s, this method has developed mainly in Africa, including Ethiopia, Zambia, and Ghana, particularly in the social development sectors of health and education.

This kind of sector-level aid coordination represents efforts by developing country governments and respective donors to unify their development goals and efficiently use limited aid resources to enhance the impact of cooperation. In relation to sector policies, initiatives taken by related parties of the developing countries (government, local society, NGOs) prompt their ownership and partnership. Currently, sector programs are spreading beyond Africa to Cambodia, Nepal, Bangladesh,

and other Asian countries, and are attracting attention as a mechanism of aid coordination.

Aid Coordination with Increasing Importance

It is said that aid coordination requires more efforts than doing projects independently. This is because it requires donors whose project implementation mechanisms and aid strategies differ to keep step with each other. JICA believes, however, that even though more efforts are required, aid coordination should be promoted since it has the advantages of avoiding duplication, making the most of their own strengths to provide effective and efficient aid, reducing burden on developing countries, and sharing knowledge.

Currently, many donors including JICA implement results-oriented aid, and they make more aid coordination in providing cooperation with similar goals in mind to achieve measurable results.

Implementation Case 1 Individual Partnership with Donors

JICA strengthens collaboration with other donors. With the United States, after the completion of the Japan-US Common Agenda*, "USAID-JAPAN Partnership for Global Health" was signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in June 2002. With the aim of including perspectives of partnership between JICA and USAID at an early stage of project formulation, promotion of field-driven cooperation was clarified.

JICA coordinates with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to realize a smooth transition from humanitarian aid to long-term development assistance. In 2001, JICA started staff exchange programs with UNHCR for promoting the partnership, which involves their participation in study teams and information sharing. Through intensive communication among field offices, we aim to expand development assistance that addresses the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons.

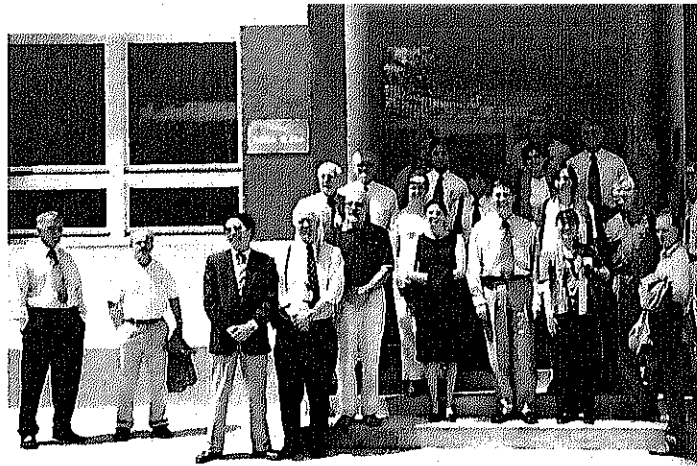
Since 1992, JICA has been carrying out personnel exchanges with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). At present, a total of five JICA staff members have been dispatched to CIDA and four CIDA staff members to JICA. This type of staff exchange is also carried out between JICA and other aid agencies, including the

Collaboration with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

—Rehabilitation for persons with disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina—

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a great number of people were injured by landmines laid throughout the country during the civil war, and even after the war the number of victims increased because of unrecovered landmines. Japan and CIDA work together to add Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) functions to 17 clinical centers in Republic of Srpska and provide continual rehabilitation to persons with disabilities, including war victims where they live.

Japan's assistance includes: facility renovation and provision of equipment for physical restoration through grant aid titled the Project for Improvement of Community Based Rehabilitation Centers; and establishment of a medical database and training for the use of equipment through dispatch of short-term experts. CIDA dispatches its experts for human resources development and policy support. In this effort, two countries divide their responsibilities by utilizing the best of both countries. A joint committee of three countries including the local government has been established in order to facilitate field coordination.



Joint Coordinating Committee for the CBR Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina

PRSP, it is important to act from the standpoint of country-specific development applying JICA's cooperation schemes.

We believe that MDGs are useful in focusing on JICA's country-specific program implementation plans and will also serve as an important indicator of the implementation of programs. It has been pointed out that the key factor for achieving MDGs is capacity development, and that has much in common with human resources development in the area of health care, education, and the environment, areas in which JICA has made long-term efforts through technical cooperation. JICA has established a Study Group for MDGs and has already included MDGs perspectives in the process of identification of new projects. JICA also has started activities at the field level, such as an MDGs Workshop intended for local residents that was held in Honduras jointly with UNDP.

USAID and the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and UNHCR, as mentioned above. Furthermore, JICA personnel are dispatched to the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). JICA personnel who are dispatched in these exchange programs become familiar with the organizational structure and work of the receiving agencies; they also serve to introduce JICA activities to the agencies. In so doing, they help deepen their understanding of JICA and our understanding of the receiving agency.

Implementation Case 2

Aid Coordination at Country and Sector Levels

JICA actively deals with PRSPs at all stages, including formulation, implementation and monitoring. For example, JICA supports PRSP formulation through the use of local consultants. JICA office staff, experts, and project formulation advisors* attend various donor meetings and actively participate in the PRSP process.

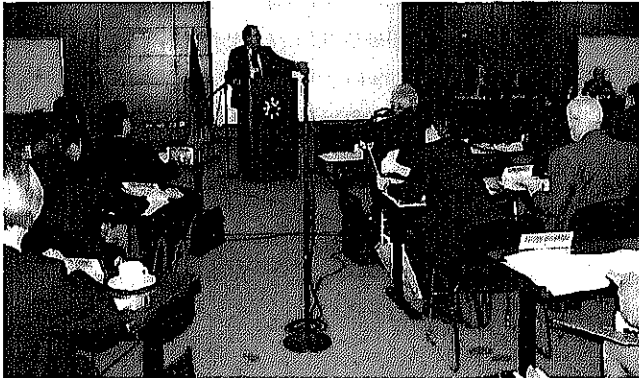
Since planning, implementation, and monitoring are carried out by sectors, involvement in specific sector programs is important. As countries start poverty alleviation based on

Harmonization: Enhancing Aid Effectiveness

As a result of donor countries' imposition of individual complex procedures on developing countries or insufficient adjustments of aid priority or plan with developing countries' systems, aid overlaps and developing countries are often too busy with operational procedures to have more ownership on aid activities. These problems have been recognized, and discussions were made to reduce unproductive transaction costs through harmonization of procedures from 2001 at Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In February 2003, a High-level Forum on Harmonization was co-hosted by the World Bank and OECD/DAC in Rome, and it was concluded as the Rome Declaration on Harmonization that country-led efforts on harmonization be encouraged, and that donor countries should support the efforts and report on its progress to DAC or the Forum. Since the forum, the discussion on harmonization that originated with the transaction costs has shifted toward importance in aligning policies and systems of donors to those of developing countries such as PRSP.

When it comes to aid modality, the Japanese government realizes it is necessary to secure diversity utilizing the comparative advantage of each donor while attaching importance to the consistency between aid and the recipient country's national plans. JICA will steadily implement action plans issued by the Japanese government to provide more effective and efficient aid.

As a part of ODA reforms by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it was decided that Local ODA Task Forces would be formed by embassies, JICA offices, and JBIC* offices for the purpose of reinforcing their role and system in the policy making process of ODA. JICA intends to play an active role in this task force to be able to respond flexibly to the movement of aid coordination that progresses in the field as a member of the All-Japan team.



International Symposium held in Manila entitled Capacity Development and Effective Aid

From Technical Transfer to Capacity Development

The concept of aid is being reviewed in the donor community. An increasing number of people contend that aid does not simply end when technology is transferred. It should be reconsidered as support for Capacity Development, which enables the self-help and self-sustaining potential of the developing countries. Thus, the modality of future technical cooperation is being discussed. JICA, as the implementing agency of technical cooperation, is required to systematize experiences under the concept of capacity development, advocate it both domestically and internationally, actively contribute to the establishment of the framework of aid, and reform it further to make aid more effective.

Under these circumstances, JICA addressed the UNDP, the World Bank, and CIDA, and co-hosted the international symposium, Capacity Development and Effective Aid, in Manila, Philippines, in January 2003. JICA advocated that technical cooperation could contribute not only to technology transfer* but also to capacity development, and it would also complement the new aid modality, such as program-based approach and budget support. This view was supported by many participants, including co-hosting agencies and developing countries.

Chapter 2

1 Respond to Diversifying Needs for Assistance

—Technical Cooperation Projects—



Education project in China

Tailor-made Cooperation Plans

■ What is a Technical Cooperation Project?

The needs of developing countries exist in various areas as follows: assistance in developing human resources in the agricultural, educational, and medical care fields; establishing a legal system; operation and maintenance of social infrastructure; and post-conflict reconstruction, represented by Afghanistan. Those needs have become more diverse and multi-phased. Developing countries call for prompt response to their requests in order to reconstruct their nations and escape from poverty as fast as possible. Therefore, it is important to plan and implement highly effective cooperation based on the situations and development issues of each country, as well as response to requests from each country more accurately and promptly.

After receiving a request from a developing country, JICA adopts various cooperation approaches (cooperation tools) such as dispatching experts to provide technical cooperation, inviting people from developing countries to Japan for training, and providing necessary equipment. In order to achieve objectives set up to solve the problems of developing countries, JICA determines how to combine these cooperation tools, how long they will be implemented, and how to time them for the most effective and efficient results. The technical cooperation project stands for cooperation implemented according to the plan made through consultations with the recipient country from the aforementioned viewpoint. In technical cooperation projects, cooperation plans are tailor-made to address each problem so that a broad range of needs of developing countries can be met effectively and efficiently.

■ Cooperation with Respect to Ownership

Japan's cooperation is provided based on the concept of

supporting self-help efforts of developing countries. Technical cooperation projects are implemented jointly by personnel from the recipient country and Japan. "Ownership*" of the project lies strictly with the recipient country, and Japan's status is that of a cooperating partner. Personnel from the recipient country need to exercise ownership in the project. Most technical cooperation projects thus incorporate participatory development* methods which involve residents of project's target region and community in connection with planning, administration, and evaluation.

If the recipient country is unable to obtain sufficient funds to implement the project, Japan may share local costs* such as construction costs on research and study facilities and agricultural fields and research expenses. In order to support the self-help efforts of the recipient country, however Japan must request to bear the costs in principle. Once the cooperation period is over, the recipient country is expected to continue the project alone. Scale and implementation plans of a project are drawn up based on forecasts of the capacity of the organization responsible for implementing the project in the recipient country to defray the costs after the cooperation period has concluded.

More effective technical cooperation requires not merely transferring Japan's technology and experiences as they are, but refining them into technology and institutions that are in line with local situations while deepening understanding of each country's culture and society. In promoting cooperation activities, Japan's technology, know-how, and experiences must be the catalyst of a basic approach for technical cooperation by stimulating, enhancing and root-taking potentials of human resources, organizational structure, and potentials of society that are already in existence in developing countries.

■ Cooperation with Private Organizations and NGOs in Japan

More projects, such as those in the IT field, benefit from technical know-how and experience accumulated in the private sector. In fiscal 2001, JICA introduced a method of consigning the entire management of a project to a private organization by utilizing human resources and know-how in the private sector. The introduction of this method is expected to bring about a wider range of result-oriented projects.

Furthermore, in fiscal 2002, JICA introduced proposal-type technical cooperation projects, which are formulated based on ideas solicited from NGOs who put their experience to good use.

■ Planning and Evaluation of Technical Cooperation Projects

In planning a project, the significance and validity of the project is examined as an ex-ante evaluation.

The ex-ante evaluation is performed in terms of five criteria: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. This evaluation is designed to estimate the outcome of the project as quantitatively and objectively as possible in order to set a clear target. The relationship between the results and the target are illustrated using input and activities in a logical matrix, which is called the project design matrix* (PDM). All the information that has been prepared and analyzed in the process of the ex-ante evaluation is compiled in a project document (report). Creation of this project document with the government of the recipient country helps boost the ownership of the recipient country and project participation of the personnel as well as improve their planning capabilities.

Technical cooperation projects that will be implemented continuously for more than three years incorporate mid-term evaluations in the middle of the term of cooperation. This evaluation is designed to look at progress and achievements at a middle point of the project, and if the progress does not comply to analysis at the ex-ante evaluation phase or the initial planning phase, the cause will be examined and the plan reviewed in order to ensure the success of the project. A final evaluation is performed before a project ends. The purpose of mid-term and terminal evaluations is to study and analyze the project on the basis of five items—relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability—and to determine whether or not the projection before starting the project is correct. As a result of the final evaluation, cooperation projects may be extended for a couple of years if necessary.

Project Results and Activities

■ Social Development Cooperation

Social development cooperation covers a wide range of technical activities in the following fields: construction, operation and maintenance of social infrastructure (e.g., urban planning, road transport, ports, marine transportation, telecommunication, water supply and drainage); vocational training; school and university education; research; disaster prevention (e.g., earthquakes and floods); labor safety and health (education in prevention of accidents at work); and global issues* (e.g., the environment, poverty alleviation measures, and welfare of persons with disabilities).

Looking at trends in different areas, projects in education, especially at the elementary and intermediate levels, are being carried out. Behind this trend lies international recognition of the significance of basic education centering on primary education in the World Conference on Education for All held in Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990. As a result, education has become a priority area in Japan's ODA. Especially in the basic educational field, JICA is examining the possibility of extending its cooperation scope to literacy education and non-formal education (out-of-school education), without confining it to education in natural sciences and arithmetic, which has been implemented since earlier times. In order to provide more people with opportunities for education, distance education is also promoted. Human resources development, including vocational training in addition to these educational projects, account for 60% of all our activities.

Another priority area is poverty alleviation. The DAC New Development Strategy* adopted in 1996 declared a goal of reducing extreme poverty to half of the 1990 level by 2015. This goal was confirmed in the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000 as a development goal. In addition, a comprehensive development plan with a focus on alleviating poverty (PRSP: Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers*) that the World Bank has requested becomes the mainstream plan of international solutions to poverty. Poverty issues have gained more worldwide attention recently.

In 2001, JICA, which had conventionally addressed poverty alleviation as a priority area, set up the Poverty Reduction Task Force to formulate projects with a sustainable mechanism that assures poverty alleviation. Moreover, even in the basic educational field, an issue-specific team was set up to enhance operations to address each field.

In March 2003, the International Year of Freshwater, the Third World Water Forum was held in Kyoto. Interest in water has risen more and more recently worldwide. Cooperation regarding water has been provided in the field of social development. Examples of various types of cooperation from a broad range of viewpoints are: training of technicians in the water and drainage field from a viewpoint of establishing the urban infrastructure; construction, maintenance, and management training of flood control facilities from a viewpoint of effective use of water resources, such as river water; construction and maintenance of flood and soil erosion control facilities, and establishment of a regional disaster prevention system from the viewpoint of preventing disasters such as floods.

In the field of social development, 62 technical cooperation projects were implemented in 30 countries in fiscal 2002, 35 projects in Asia, eight in the Middle East, 10 in Africa, seven in Latin America, one in Oceania, and one in Europe.

■ Cooperation in the Field of Health and Medical Care

The health and lives of many people living in developing countries are compromised by poor hygiene conditions, malnutrition, and endemic diseases. The high frequency of infant deaths and stillbirths puts pressure on individuals and family life and also prevents social and economic development. HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other infectious diseases are not just health issues that threaten the lives of people in developing countries. They also have a great impact on families, communities, and countries, resulting in the loss of workers in the prime of their lives and an increase in the number of orphans. Recent advanced globalization prompted frequent international transportation of people and goods across borders, leading to the expansion of newly emerging infectious diseases such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and HIV/AIDS on a global level, thus posing a threat to the whole international society.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)* adopted at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2000 specify reductions in child mortality, improvement of maternal health, and infectious disease control as some of the development goals of international society in the 21st century. The Japanese government has announced aggressive measures against infectious diseases including global parasitic disease control and the Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative. JICA also has been actively providing cooperation in infectious disease control and the health of mothers and children.



Endoscopy performed in the project for Improving Setatirat Hospital in Laos

A wide range of cooperation has been provided in the field of infectious disease control, including vaccination and education to spread necessary knowledge in the prevention of infectious diseases raging in developing countries such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, parasitic and vector-borne diseases, Malaria, and polio. Advanced technology such as virus examination and research is also applied.

As for cooperation regarding the health of mothers and children, JICA is carrying out the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as providing cooperation in promoting the use of maternal and child health hand books and disseminating necessary knowledge regarding family planning and safe childbirth.

Steady efforts are required to raise the standard of health and medical care in developing countries. For example, the health and medical care system represented by hospitals and health centers needs to be improved and medical professionals such as doctors and nurses need to be trained.

In the health and medical care field in fiscal 2002, 49 technical cooperation projects were implemented in 32 countries: 25 projects in Asia, four in the Middle East, 11 in Africa, and nine in Latin America.

■ Agricultural Development Cooperation

The drastic increase of population in the last half of the last century created a chronic shortage of food for several hundred million people on earth, mainly in developing countries. In these countries, the increase in population has continued in this century, while food production has not caught up with the increase. Thus, conditions surrounding the supply and demand of food are expected to deteriorate further in the future.

The problems regarding population increase and food shortage have led to over-cultivation, over-grazing, and deforestation, all of which cause serious destruction to the environment, including the exhaustion of water resources and soil. Moreover, income disparities between urban and rural areas caused by delayed rural development led to the concentration of population in urban areas, triggering other environmental problems. In order to realize more affluent living conditions, it is necessary to tackle the difficult challenge of promoting poverty alleviation through comprehensive rural development, including food productivity improvement, while keeping sustainable utilization of the limited resources in mind.

In March 2003, the Third World Water Forum was held in Kyoto. Water is one of the most important resources for all living forms including humans. However, the tightness of water demand is serious, and an effective use of water resources has to be realized immediately in terms of food security and environmental conservation. Japan has accumulated various techniques in the effective use of water such as economization of water consumption and modern agriculture. At the Water Forum, JICA introduced project activities in the field of agriculture under the theme "agriculture and water" and at the same time invited training participants to deliver a message of how important water is to agriculture.

Other efforts in the field of agriculture include development of agricultural and livestock techniques suitable for developing areas (research at universities and laboratories, etc.), training for agricultural disseminators for the purpose of dissemination of techniques, promoting conservation and proper use of agricultural resources. In this way, JICA contributes to food security by increasing food production, correction of regional disparities by improving the income and living standard of farmers, effective use of resources and environmental conservation.

In the agricultural development cooperation field in fiscal 2002, 56 technical cooperation projects were implemented in 29 countries: 29 projects in Asia, three in the Middle East, five in Africa, 18 in Latin America, and one in Europe.

Cooperation in the Field of Natural Environment Conservation

Human beings depend on the many natural resources, which are also fundamental for sustainable development*. However, the natural environment is being threatened daily on a global scale and conservation of the natural environment



Rice Exhibition for small-scale farmers in Bolivia (Project for the Dissemination of High-Quality Rice Seeds)

and recovery of lost ecosystems are urgent issues to be tackled. JICA regards conservation of the natural environment to be one of the priority issues that need immediate action and works earnestly for the cooperation.

In order to strengthen cooperation directed at natural environment conservation, JICA established the Forestry and Natural Environment Department in January 2000, and expanded its field to wetland conservation, coral reef conservation, and wildlife protection area management, in addition to conventional fields such as extension of afforestation technology, social forestry, aquaculture, and fishery training.

For the conservation of the natural environment, understanding and cooperation of local communities are crucial as well as assistance for the developing country's government. Consequently, JICA strives to establish a system in which local communities take the initiative to work on environmental conservation by encouraging their participation at the stages of identification, formulation and implementation of a project.

Moreover, the information and experience gained up to now in the cooperation of conserving natural environment have been systematically compiled to contribute to formulating future programs, specifically, in examining cooperation policies and strategies and building a database.

Recognizing that cooperation with many other organizations and individuals working in the same field in Japan is important in providing more effective and efficient cooperation for natural environment conservation, JICA holds symposiums and seminars to actively promote opinion exchange and public relations.

In fiscal 2002, cooperation in the field of the natural environment conservation resulted in 39 technical cooperation

projects in 28 countries: 18 projects in Asia, three in the Middle East, five in Africa, 11 in Latin America, and two in Oceania.

Cooperation in Economic, Trade, Industry Development

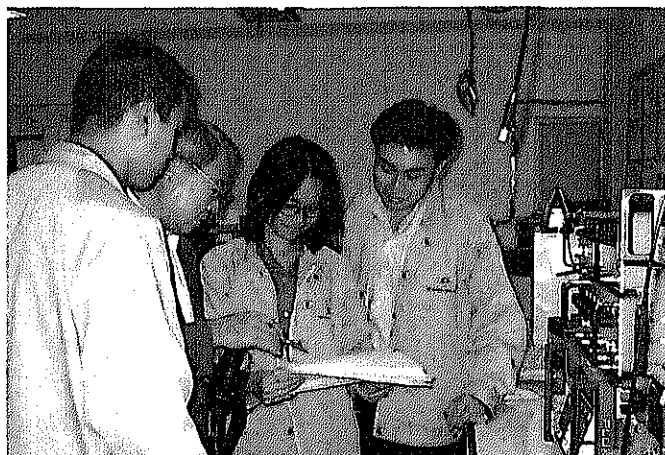
In the field of economic, trade, and industry development, JICA has provided cooperation concerning industry promotion for the small and medium-scale enterprises that will lead the future economic development, as well as cooperation concerning the development of mineral resources. In the last decade, more projects have been implemented to assist in establishing industrial infrastructure required to promote industrialization, management techniques across industries to improve productivity, environmental conservation along with progress of industrialization, and global issues such as securing energy. In the field of industry promotion cooperation, advanced technology such as Information Technology (IT) has been added to conventional technologies including metal forging and casting. In this trend, JICA has recently been implementing cooperation focused on the following three points.

First, cooperation is directed at industrial promotion with a focus on policy and institution building and the promotion of trade and investment.

With the founding of the World Trade Organization (WTO), international activities represented by Asia-Pacific Economic Conference (APEC) require improvements in institutions and standards based on international rules to promote trade and investment. JICA helps developing countries engaged in industrial promotion make industrial standards, property, and human resources development, and implements projects to strengthen the technical and administrative capacities of organizations in charge of building and implementing these institutions and standards. In fiscal 2002, JICA held workshops in the field of investment targeting African countries jointly with the WTO.

The second type of cooperation is directed at promotion of IT. In line with a comprehensive cooperation package that addresses the international information gap announced at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in July 2000, JICA bridges the digital divide* in its cooperation activities while expanding ongoing cooperation towards the cultivation of IT related human resources and promotion of IT applications.

Finally, JICA takes an active approach to environmental and energy problems. Rapid industrialization promoted by



Measuring instruction for building measurement standards in Thailand

developing countries expands the demand for energy, resulting in global issues related to natural resources and the environment across all developing and developed countries.

In order to secure stable supplies of electricity in developing countries, JICA supports the establishment of an electric technology standard and power supply technology as well as implementing energy conservation cooperation utilizing Japanese techniques in the effective use of energy, which Japanese industries have accumulated. The fact that JICA takes notice of measures against global warming that have been increasingly adopted by the international community is apparent in the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Recognizing that the advance of global warming will influence developing countries in various aspects, thus obstructing their sustainable developments, JICA has been actively adopting measures against global warming.

In the field of economic trade industry cooperation, using know-how we acquired by the implementation of energy conservation projects, JICA is examining cooperation concerning Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). CDM helps developing countries bring in technical transfer and investment and serves as a mean to reduce greenhouse gas for Japan.

In fiscal 2002, JICA conducted basic studies for identification and formulation of a specific cooperation project, and started dialogs for the capacity building* which will be the foundation of the sustainable development that suits the mechanism of developing countries, based on our past cooperation results for the developing countries.

In the field of economy, trade and industry for fiscal 2002, 35 technical cooperation projects were implemented in 19 countries: 20 projects in Asia, seven in Middle East and eight in Latin America.

Figure 3-2 Flowchart of Technical Cooperation Project

