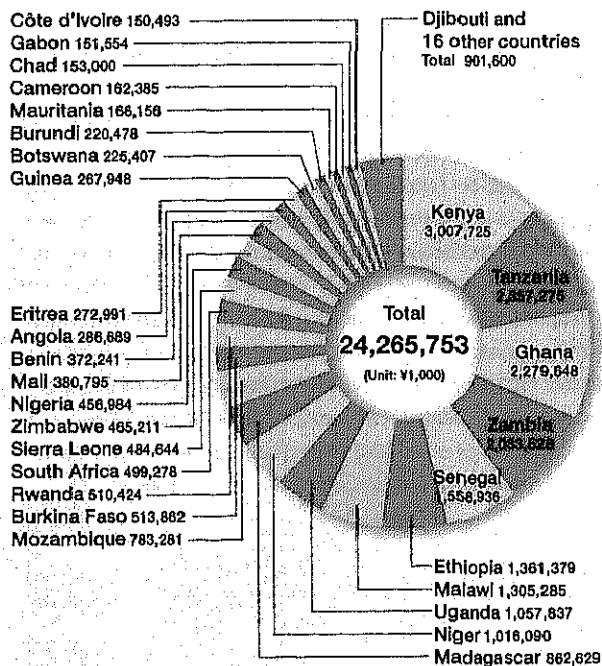


# Africa



## Pillars of Aid Aim for Accelerated Growth

■ Cooperation results by country in Africa (FY2006)



\* This is the total amount of bilateral cooperation. The amount of cooperation provided to Africa including cooperation that covers a group of countries is 24,513,100 thousands of yen.

Lately, African economies have been exhibiting good progress in a situation of increasing investment and escalating prices for oil and mineral resources, and some African countries have recorded economic growth of over 5%. On the other hand, conventional problems, including conflicts, famine, infectious diseases (such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis), low school enrollment rates, and accumulated debts, are still threatening the livelihoods of the people.

Incorporating the perspective of human security, Japan focuses on social development centered on education, safe water supply, and health in implementing assistance for the socially vulnerable and communities. Since 1993 Japan has co-hosted the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD every five years with the UN and other organizations, which has been stimulating world interest in African development. At TICAD III in 2003, Japan announced that it would contribute to African development with the international community and African countries based on the three pillars of human-centered development, poverty reduction through economic development, and consolidation of peace.

In TICAD IV, which is scheduled for 2008, based on the recognition that economic growth is indispensable for the sustainable development of a society, accelerated growth will be the major theme. JICA will prioritize the following activities in support of accelerated growth: (1) promotion of economic efficiency by upgrading international highways and ports, (2) improvement of agricultural productivity represented by extension of NERICA rice, New Rice for Africa, (3) promotion of regional economic development by the One Village One Product movement (see p.19-21).

## Current State of Development

### Difficult Living Conditions Persist

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) evaluates degrees of human development in the countries in various areas of the world and compiles a report as Human Development Index. According to the report of fiscal 2006, among the 31 countries with indices representing low development, 29 countries are in Africa. In those countries, access to safe water and basic education and adequate medical care is limited and development lags behind the rest of the world. In addition, per capita income remains lower than it was in the 1960s and approximately 40% of the total population of Africa lives under the poverty line of US\$1 per day. Thus, the lives of the people who live in Africa are still difficult.

### Better Economies

On the other hand, it is said that recent African economies are good. Several factors explain this development: South Africa, which has dominated the regional economy, is now accelerating

its entry into the economies of neighboring countries; the prices of oil and mineral resources are rising; the countries are politically stable and foreign capital investment has increased; and a market economy has taken root. Another factor is that increasing investment from China and India is activating the regional economy.

It took a long time for African economies to show growth. In the 1960s, when most African countries gained their independence, these countries benefited from an international economic environment characterized by stability in the international prices of primary products for export and were able to achieve steady growth. However, they could not move away from monoculture economies that have continued since the colonial era, and their economic growths were sluggish in the 1970s owing to a long-term fall in the prices of primary products, unstable political foundations, and drought and flooding caused by climate changes. In the 1980s many African countries faced a serious economic crisis called the Lost Decade and suffered from a constant shortage of funds not only for development but also for recurrent costs to

provide basic administrative services.

In response to such situations in Africa, donor countries continued assistance in the social development sector centered on education, health, and hygiene; however the necessity for development accompanied by economic growth to sustain the effects of assistance was indicated. Japan paid attention to its importance from an early stage, and has been providing development assis-

tance accompanied by economic growth, in parallel with support in the social development sector. Lately, in East Africa, JICA has implemented a program that promotes economic efficiency by improving the traffic and transportation system in collaboration with the African Development Bank and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

## Approaches for Growth

### In Preparation for TICAD IV in 2008.....

The direction of African development for the new era will be discussed at TICAD IV, which is scheduled to take place in 2008.

At TICAD III in 2003, support for NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development. Programme by the African Union to realize African development based on the responsibility of Africa and partnership of international community) through the TICAD process was set as the basic policy, and poverty reduction through economic growth was emphasized based on the recognition that economic growth is indispensable to secure the sustainability of development. On the basis of such governmental policy at the international conference, with the awareness that the ultimate goal

of African development is poverty reduction, JICA will continue support for Africa using various approaches.

#### a. Support for promotion of private investment

Lately, private investment has again drawn attention mainly in African countries with abundant oil and mineral resources.

At TICAD III in 2003, the issue of poverty reduction through economic growth was raised, and Japan responded. To promote trade and investment in Africa, an Asia-Africa Trade and Investment Conference was held in Tokyo in 2004, and an Asia-Africa Business Forum has been set up annually as part of it. In December 2005, then Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi

## Front Line Madagascar

### Asia-Africa Cooperation: Dispatch of Third-country Expert

#### Aiming for Domestic Rice Self-sufficiency

It is said that Madagascar consumes more rice than any other country in the world (120-145 kg per person annually), and 77% of the people are involved in agriculture, mainly rice-growing. However, the average harvest yield per hectare of rice in Madagascar is only about two tons whereas in Asian countries it is over six tons, and domestic self-sufficiency in rice has not been achieved yet.

#### Dispatch Indonesian experts

In 2000, JICA started to dispatch Indonesian experts who possess many years of cooperation experience in Japanese rice production in Indonesia, as well as 12 experts (in soil improvement, rice cultivation technique, adequate agricultural machines, livestock breeding) who worked in Madagascar until 2007.

The expert in rice cultivation technique provided instruction in seven-day compost, organic fertilizers, and organic agrochemicals to the farmers and received a positive response. Seven-day compost is a technique for making compost by mixing local legume plants and cow's gastric juices for only seven days. Traditionally, three months are required to make compost. The farmers

who actually introduced this technique into their agricultural activities report that they reduced their costs by half and the harvest yield more than tripled. The expert in adequate agricultural machines creatively developed an easy-to-use and inexpensive agricultural tool made exclusively with locally available materials. Since imported machinery is very expensive, he received numerous inquiries from farmers. A craftsman made equivalent equipment based on the manual written by this expert.

Eighty-five percent of the farmers in Madagascar are in the poverty group, and it is hard for them to buy imported chemical fertilizers. Also, the introduction of agricultural machinery is slow, and most farmers currently work totally by hand, use only simple harrows or spades, or depend on cattle. The Indonesian experts who took over Japan's cooperation and its outcome so far in their home country accurately understand the current situation of the poor farmers and pursue techniques that they can adopt easily at low cost from a farmer's point of view.

#### Extend the techniques to other areas

One of the reasons why this series

of Asia-Africa cooperation has been progressing smoothly may be the many years of exchange between Madagascar and Indonesia (it is said that the Merina of the central highlands immigrated from Indonesia), so that Indonesian experts and the local farmers talk with one voice.

The success of the farmers who received technical instruction from Indonesian experts is known in the surrounding areas, and numbers of farmers who are willing to teach the techniques they learned to other areas are growing. JICA will continue to utilize its experience in Asia to develop and extend those techniques most in need from a poor farmer's viewpoint.

(JICA Madagascar Office)



Instruction in paddy field by an expert in rice cultivation technique

announced the Development Initiative, which advocated measures such as duty-free and quota-free in principle to articles produced in developing countries. JBIC established a new program, Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa, and started support for African development through joint financing with the African Development Bank.

Amidst such activities, JICA is also actively working for the promotion of private investment, so that environmental improvement to promote private investment and trade by the public sector will actually accelerate trade and investment, thus making the Asian Miracle happen in Africa, too.

#### b. Support for One Village One Product Movement

The One Village One Product (OVOP) movement, which was created to vitalize villages in Oita Prefecture in Japan in the 1970s, is now spreading across Asia and Africa. Japan pays attention to this movement in terms of improving the market access for trade promotion of African products. JICA also supports the OVOP movement in Africa as an effective tool to change the awareness of community members in Africa, promote empowerment, and reduce poverty through the improvement of income and economic growth in rural areas.

Since 2005, JICA has implemented a project to support the OVOP Secretariat established by the government of Malawi. In the project, an expert and JOCVs work together with the OVOP Secretariat to (1) establish a system to promote OVOP movement, (2) hold workshops to extend and gain community understanding of the concept, and (3) provide technical instruction for product groups.

The government of Malawi, which is aiming for sustainable economic growth among the poverty group, took note of the OVOP movement that promotes local industry utilizing local resources and improves the incomes of farmers by raising the added value of agricultural products, has repeated exchange programs with Oita Prefecture since 1997, leading to the introduction of a Malawi version of the OVOP movement in 2003. This movement, in which the local resources turn into products in a market thanks to local people's creativity and ingenuity and leads to regional revitalization, brings pride to the local people and leads to a change in awareness that they themselves are the key players in regional development (see p.134).

Many of the African countries identify poverty reduction as the central issue of development. Under the circumstance, income improvement of the poverty group and the concept of the OVOP movement are expected to lead to empowerment of the people in Africa. Using the experience in Malawi as a lesson, approaches to extend the OVOP movement suitable for the needs and characteristics of each country throughout Africa are gradually starting.

#### c. Cross-border Infrastructure assistance

Japan places importance on regionwide infrastructure assistance centering on the activities carried out by NEPAD as part of poverty reduction through economic growth.

In 2005, the NEPAD Domestic Support Committee was set



Demonstration of agricultural products and processed goods by residents (Institutional and Human Resource Development Project for One Village One Product Programme in Malawi)

up by implementation bodies, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JICA, JBIC, and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), as well as academic experts to start deliberations on policies of regionwide infrastructure assistance in Africa. The committee carefully examines the list of projects for short-term infrastructure action plans made by the NEPAD Secretariat to screen out prospective projects and facilitates implementation.

JICA dispatches an expert and a donor coordination officer to the NEPAD Secretariat and African Development Bank, respectively, in order to promote infrastructure assistance. The JICA USA Office collects information on infrastructure projects while keeping in close contact with the World Bank. The information obtained from these three organizations will soon be utilized for smooth project formulation. Additionally, JICA dispatches a project formulation adviser to the East African Community (EAC) to formulate regionwide projects at the regional level and to strengthen the coordinating capability of the regional economic community.

One good example of cross-border infrastructure assistance is a road improvement project between Kenya and Tanzania that was implemented by JBIC through joint financing with the African Development Bank. In this project, a one-stop border post is constructed to unify various procedures for crossing the border, which used to take a long time. JICA is implementing technical cooperation for capacity development of the staff of the customs bureau stationed at this post, providing comprehensive support for roadway infrastructure construction in terms of both hardware and software.



Lines of trucks waiting to cross the border in Namanga, a border town (border between Kenya and Tanzania)

# Actions for Priority Issues

## Strengthening Support for Africa

JICA is promoting support for Africa through quantitative expansion and qualitative improvement. As a result, the volume of technical cooperation for Africa increased to ¥24.5 billion from ¥22.7 billion in fiscal 2005. In implementing projects, JICA has been promoting organic coordination to bring out synergy effects from technical cooperation, grant aid, and yen loans, and improve quality in cooperation.

## Support Based on Human Security

The concept of human security is defined as protecting the integral part for human life and realizing every person's freedom and possibilities. In order to secure survival, livelihood, and dignity, a strategy to protect people and enhance capacities is crucial. JICA places importance on this concept of human security in achieving the MDGs, and implements support mainly for self-reliance and development of rural areas for the purpose of improving the basic livelihood that directly benefits the poverty group (improvement of education, health and access to safe water).

### a. Education

JICA's assistance in the education sector is not only limited to provision of study opportunities, but also addresses the areas of (1) study on school conditions, (2) improvement of planning capacity in local education administration, (3) administrative management improvement centered on training for school principles, and (4) the promotion of the participation of parents and the community in school management. In Niger, the Participatory School Management Model, which was supported in a JICA project, was adopted as a national extension model in the national ten-year plan of education, and the World Bank has decided to provide financial assistance for this plan. It is expected that JICA's model project will be extended throughout the country in collaboration with financial assistance from the World Bank.

### b. Health

To embody the Health and Development Initiative announced by Japan in 2005 in Africa, an Action Plan in Combating Infectious Diseases in Africa was presented when then Prime Minister Koizumi visited Africa in May 2006. To promote this action plan, JICA will promote measures against HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, and parasites, and will strengthen human resources development and the network among relevant organizations by utilizing the organizations related to infectious disease control, such as the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research in Ghana and the Kenya Medical Research Institute.

### c. Water Supply

JICA will further expand regional water supply projects including deep well construction, which have been provided actively so far, and will preferentially implement cooperation projects with consideration given to the poor, women, and the socially vulnerable. Furthermore, in order to raise the maintenance and



Periodical examination of infants (Lusaka District Primary Health Care Project Phase 2 in Zambia)

management capacity of water supply facilities and to expand hygiene education, JICA is continuously implementing technical cooperation aimed not only at technicians but also at community organizations of water management unions, in Ethiopia and Senegal.

## Consolidation of Peace

Consolidation of peace is extremely important in promoting all kinds of development. Taking into account the historical and cultural backgrounds of African countries, it is important to plant the basic principles of constitutionalism, democracy, and basic human rights, and to raise transparency and efficiency of government, especially in Africa. In addition, to prevent a recurrence of conflict, steady rebuilding of the society and economy that stands on democracy and good governance is required.

From the perspective of implementing seamless assistance starting right after conflict and up to the reconstruction development stages, JICA prioritizes assistance for building reconstruction basis centered on community reconstruction based on the concept of human security. JICA implements assistance necessary to promote democratization and consolidate peace as well.

In Sudan, JICA provides assistance for reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees and the establishment of basic infrastructure such as a port facility. Also, in order to support the establishment of the new Sudanese system, human resources development has been promoted through the dispatch of experts to the International Cooperation Department that is the point for receiving aid, training for administrative officers from both the south and the north Sudan, and technical training in third countries like Egypt and Kenya.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the first national election following independence was held peacefully in July 2006, and the country is moving toward democratization. JICA has conducted training for the police force, in which 10,000 police officers had been trained as of March 2007, as well as training in support for the election targeted for key members of the independent election committee. In the future, JICA will provide reconstruction and development assistance in the west (Kinshasa, Bas-Congo) to spread peace so that this country is never involved in a conflict again.

In Sierra Leone, development assistance in education and

agriculture with the aim of achieving community self-reliance has been implemented in the Kambia district that produced many refugees in the civil war since the UN and other emergency relief organizations left.

In addition, as a part of Asia-Africa cooperation, a workshop to share the experience in Cambodia was held on eliminating landmines and collecting the small arms that still plague many African countries.

## Poverty Alleviation through Economic Development

In Asia, economic growth was promoted by gaining investment from the private sector through the establishment of an investment environment, including infrastructure, and vitalizing economic activities such as trade. This experience indicates that economic growth supported by the inflow of funds from the private sector in addition to ODA contributes to poverty reduction in the end. However, in order to gain capital from the private sector, development of basic infrastructure, building institutional and policy environments, and capacity building of government, good governance, and healthy macro economy policy management are essential. Vitalization of local industry, including identifying products worth of investment and value-added products, is also important for economic growth. Based on recognition of the importance of these factors, JICA promotes poverty reduction through economic growth.

Regionwide infrastructure development focusing on roads and ports, in particular, is expected to vitalize regional distribution and induce investment from the private sector. Infrastructure development requires effective coordination of yen loans, grant aid and technical cooperation. JICA actively addresses infrastructure development as a member of All Japan and promotes support for infrastructure development while closely exchanging information with other donors including the World Bank.

## South-South Cooperation

Though Africa is a conglomerate of various countries and communities, there are issues that can be solved by the concerted efforts of several countries in the region and a similar experience in one country can be a good model to solve a problem in another. In this regard, JICA has provided cooperation incorporating the perspectives of South-South cooperation while underlining the policies announced at TICAD.

As for Asia-Africa cooperation, the Asia-Africa Knowledge Co-creation Program is still going on. This program aims to explore solutions to African development issues while sharing mutual experience and knowledge among working-level officials in both regions. In 2006, a pilot scheme started in the health sector based on the experience in Sri Lanka where operational management of hospitals was improved through the 5S movement: Seiri (organization), Seiton (order), Seiketsu (hygiene), Seiso (cleaning), Shitsuke (discipline).

## Front Line Malawi

### Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Science and Mathematics Teacher)

#### Deepen People's Understanding in Science by Means of a TV Program

##### JOCV becomes "Scienceman"

There is a 15-minute TV program that children in Malawi look forward to on Sunday afternoons. The name of the program is "Scienceman." It is aired three times a week, including one rerun. On this program, simple science questions asked by children are answered, and easy, interesting experiments using familiar objects are demonstrated. You can say this is a new type of educational program in Malawi (the number of TV viewers in the country is estimated at 3 million according to a 2003 survey by Television Malawi).

The person who plays Scienceman is a Senior JOCV who is a science and mathematics teacher. Understanding that knowledge-oriented education without practical training will not cultivate children's talent in science, he planned and implemented a Science Competition in October 2005 in which children can enjoy competing in terms of scientific creativity and ingenuity while collaborating with other JOCVs. When Television Malawi broadcasted the competition, calls from around the

country flooded to the station requesting a rerun of the program. Thereafter, a producer at the TV station proposed that the JOCV co-produce a new educational program. This is how "Scienceman" was born. It is the first science educational program produced by the station since it opened in 1999.

##### Bringing new perspective to science education in Malawi

"Let's learn about dynamics with water rockets," "Making a rainfall detector," "Parasite introduction," and "How to make electric bread." These are examples of "Scienceman" programs, all of which are closely related to everyday life. "Education that cultivates creativity without ignoring simple questions from children leads to national development, and I want to show such a new sense of social value." This is the wish of Scienceman, which is reflected in the program.

Since the program's start in January 2006, more than

50 episodes have been broadcasted, and it has become one of the most beloved programs in Malawi. In a letter sent to the station, a 15-year-old girl said that she not only gained knowledge from the program but also had a lot of fun and appreciated the greatness of science. She herself wants to become a Sciencelady some day and produce the program. There are also many letters from local teachers who say that it provides them with ideas for lessons. Thus the Scienceman is bringing a new perspective to science education in Malawi.

(JICA Malawi Office)



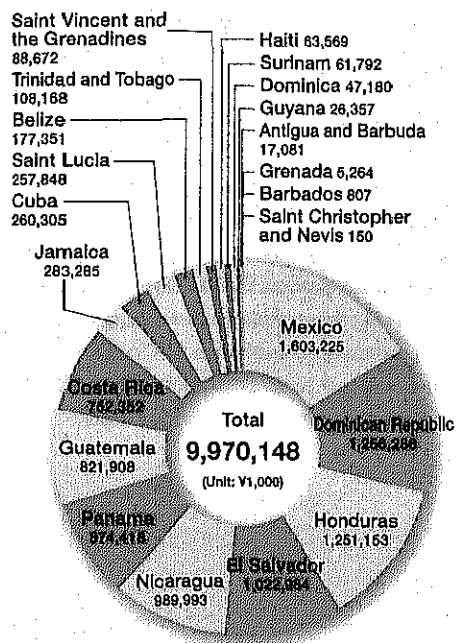
Scienceman is loved by people of all ages.

# Central America and the Caribbean



## Pillars of Aid Poverty Reduction/Sustainable Economic Growth/Regionwide Cooperation

### Cooperation results by country in Central America and the Caribbean (FY2006)



\* This is the total amount of bilateral cooperation. The amount of cooperation provided to North and Latin America including cooperation that covers a group of countries is 20,455,245 thousands of yen.

Poverty reduction is the utmost priority issue common to most countries in Central America and the Caribbean in their development policies. Poverty reduction plays an important role in removing destabilizing factors, represented by the internal conflicts that Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador have experienced, and promoting peace-building in the region.

Additionally, in order to solve poverty issues from a medium- and long-term perspective, sustainable economic growth to increase employment and improve the quality of people's lives is essential both in individual countries and the region. Considering the characteristics of the region, which consists of adjoining small countries, it is necessary to address issues, including environmental problems and infectious diseases control, on a regional scale across national borders.

In addition to a national- and regional-level perspective, JICA considers it essential to provide cooperation to Central America and the Caribbean from the perspective of human security with a focus on individuals. To that end, JICA actively supports self-help efforts of individual countries from the viewpoint of capacity development, and also pays due consideration to the socially vulnerable, such as women, children and

poverty-stricken indigenous peoples.

In order to address priority issues in the development policies, JICA prioritizes cooperation in the following areas and contributes to human resources development and nation-building in aid recipient countries.

- 1) Education
- 2) Health
- 3) Agricultural and rural development
- 4) Industrial development and development of socioeconomic infrastructures
- 5) Environmental conservation
- 6) Disaster prevention
- 7) Citizen security

As a method of cooperation, given that the region consists of adjoining small countries with common characteristics, regionwide cooperation targeting a set of countries is promoted to address similar development issues. JICA also supports South-South cooperation, in which countries in the same region provide cooperation for one another, and collaborates with organizations related to regional integration such as the System of Central American Integration (SICA) and Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and gives consideration to coordination with international organizations such as Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and other donor countries.

## Current State of Development

Central America and the Caribbean region consists of 23 countries, of which eight countries are in Central America and 15 are in the Caribbean region, including Guyana and Surinam, which are located in the South American continent, and members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The region has many small countries with land areas of less than 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> and populations of less than one million people. Many countries in the region are dependent on the production and export of primary products. Though tourism is good in some countries, the manufacturing sector has yet to be developed except for Mexico and Costa Rica.

When looking at the situation of the whole region, peace-making proceeded in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala in the 1990s, and individual countries have worked on democrati-

zation and economic reforms, resulting in political and economic stability throughout the region, except for a few countries. Relatively small countries adjoining this region except for Mexico often share not only histories, cultures, and languages, but also development issues. Thus, based on the common recognition that regional development requires collaboration and unity among countries, the movement has gained momentum towards regional integration and cooperation, represented by the System of Central American Integration (SICA) and CARICOM.

However, despite these self-help efforts, disparities within and among countries are still very prominent as stated in Japan's ODA Charter. As a result, poverty, security, and environmental issues have become critical in more countries. Since the region consists of a number of small adjoining countries, these issues have

crossed national borders and influenced neighboring countries; therefore, the region needs proactive support from the international community to solve the problems.

Mexico, the country with the largest land area and population in the region, is a so-called more developed country, which has relatively advanced economic development. It is also one of the Latin American countries with close ties to Japan, as represented by the Economic Partnership Agreement that became effective in April 2005. Mexico has already implemented South-South cooperation for other Latin American countries and JICA actively supports this effort. However, poverty and environmental issues have to be overcome in the country.

All other countries in the region except Costa Rica, which enjoys relatively advanced socioeconomic development, are facing serious poverty issues. Aiming at peacebuilding and achieving democracy after a peace agreement, Japan has actively supported nation-building and human resource development in the region since the 1990s. In 1995, the Japan-Central America Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation was established to promote mutual understanding between Japan and SICA member countries and strengthen ties in areas such as diplomatic policies, economic and technical cooperation, and cultural exchange. A total of 10 deputy foreign minister meetings were held until 2006.

Year 2005 marked the 70th anniversary since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and five Central American countries (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras,

Nicaragua, and Costa Rica). At Expo 2005 held in Aichi Prefecture, those five countries sponsored the Central America Joint Pavilion as SICA members jointly with neighboring countries Panama and Belize. This led Japan and eight SICA member countries including the Dominican Republic (associate member) to designate year 2005 as the Japan-Central America Year. In conjunction with the Exchange Year, the Japan-Central America Summit took place in August. The Tokyo Declaration and Action Plan adopted at this meeting call for strengthening ties between Japan and Central American countries and clarify the priority areas and direction of future economic and technical cooperation. JICA proactively implements cooperation in fields such as education, health, and disaster prevention, and makes efforts to realize what the declaration and action plan stated.

Though many Caribbean countries are small in size and population, and have gained independence only in recent years, their per capita income is relatively high and their economy scale is small. Accordingly, Japan does not have a strong record of cooperation in these countries. In the Caribbean, which consists of similar small island countries, it is effective to provide support by region in addressing development issues common to the region using regional organizations such as CARICOM. Based on the results of annual working level diplomatic meetings, namely Japan-Caribbean Community Consultation, JICA carries out regionwide cooperation in such areas as disaster prevention, conservation of marine resources, and tourism development.

## Priority Areas for Cooperation

JICA provides cooperation in Central America and the Caribbean in the following priority areas and future direction.

### Education

The utmost priority is given to cooperation in basic education, particularly quality improvement in primary education, through technical cooperation projects, dispatch of volunteers, and training courses. The Project for the Improvement of Teaching Method in Mathematics implemented in Honduras is a typical example of cooperation, resulting in the development of teachers' manuals, children's workbooks, etc. This outcome is expected to extend to other countries in Central America such as El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala.

### Health

In the area of health and medical care, priorities are given to the reduction of infant mortality, maternal and child health and reproductive health for improvement of the health of pregnant women, infectious disease control targeting the poverty group, improvement of regional health including training for nurses, support for persons with disabilities, and supply of safe drinking water. In this area, as in the area of education, many experts and volunteers play active roles. The Project for the Vector Control of Chagas Disease implemented in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador is a typical example. Chagas disease, which is common among the poor in rural areas, is a serious disease. Once it enters its chronic stage, there is no effective cure. JICA is bringing results, from supporting persistent activities to eradicating the dis-



Training participants discussing Kaizen in the field of medical care (Quality Management in Health in Latin America, JICA Tohoku)

ease. These activities include extermination of the vector of the disease (assassin bugs), improvements in housing environment to prevent entry of assassin bugs, and educational campaign activities run by school and health volunteers.

### Agricultural and Rural Development

The economies of many countries depend on the production and export of primary commodities mainly from agriculture. Many in the rural and fishing population are poor. In response to the aim of poverty reduction, JICA provides cooperation under themes such as development and dissemination of production techniques for better livelihood and promotion of rural development with citizen participation. JICA also conducts training courses targeting the region of Central America.

Many experts and volunteers are working actively in this area as well.

## Development of Socioeconomic Infrastructures and Industrial Development .....

Medium- and long-term regional development requires cooperation to build socioeconomic infrastructures such as roads, ports, schools, and hospitals. JICA proactively provides technical cooperation while organically collaborating with on-going grant aid and loan assistance.

Recently the countries in the region concluded in succession a free trade agreement with the US. Amid advancing economic globalization, Japan is urged to assist with the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises, promote trade and investment, and support tourism development. JICA dispatches experts and senior volunteers and conducts training courses targeting the region.

## Environmental Conservation .....

As the economy grows, population and industries gather in urban areas, thus requiring an immediate response to waste disposal treatment and water contamination issues. From the viewpoint of foreign currency revenue, a rich natural environment is a valuable tourism resource, and its destruction is a serious problem. In addition to bilateral cooperation, JICA has been providing various types of cooperation for environmental conservation across national borders with a regional-level perspective.

## Disaster Prevention .....

Hurricane Mitch, which struck Central America in 1998,

caused serious damage to the region. Countermeasures against natural disasters, such as floods caused by torrential rain and earthquakes, are important issues for all the countries in the region.

JICA provides cooperation to promote disaster prevention on an administrative and community level in the region by utilizing Japan's experiences related to natural disaster control. JICA's cooperation is showing outcomes in organizations such as the Center of Coordination for the Prevention of National Disaster in Central America (in Guatemala), which is affiliated with SICA, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (in Barbados), which is affiliated with CARICOM, and the National Disaster Prevention Center (in Mexico). In the future, these organizations are expected to become the bases for regionwide disaster prevention activities.

## Citizen Security .....

The improvement of public safety, which realizes the regional development of stable and healthy economy and society, is an issue shared by the countries in the region. JICA has cooperated with the Central American Institute of Advanced Police Studies (in El Salvador), which is affiliated with SICA, and the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (in Costa Rica). In addition, JICA has conducted in Japan a training course intended for police-related personnel from countries in the region to introduce the Japanese police system.

## Front Line Dominican Republic

### The Study on Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management Plan in Santo Domingo de Guzman, National District Comprehensive Measures to Realize a Clean City

#### Worsening urban environment

Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic, is the first city Columbus built in the New World facing the beautiful Caribbean Sea. However, due to the living disparity between rural and urban areas, a population influx from rural areas has continued, causing serious urban environmental issues such as solid waste and waste water. In response, the Santo Domingo city office devised a slogan, "Ciudad Limpia (Clean City)," that strives to solve these environmental problems.

In 2002, when JICA first dispatched a group of senior volunteers to the city office of Santo Domingo, JICA started cooperation for reinforcement of environmental administrative capabilities, including waste control. In addition to daily on-site instruction by volunteers, more than 10 personnel from the city office received training in Japan utilizing various group training courses. Since July 2005, the Study on Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management Plan in Santo Domingo de Guzman, National District, has been implemented, and a comprehensive waste management

master plan has been made.

Through this development study, in addition to the creation of the master plan, the first cleaning code was established in the Dominican Republic. Furthermore, there were landmark movements. The minister of health and the minister of the environment signed on the declaration of activities to address problems related to medical waste and infectious disease medical waste.

#### Donating small secondhand garbage trucks

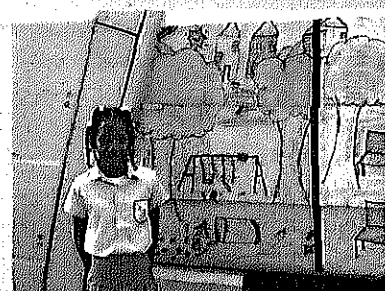
When senior volunteers returned to Japan temporarily, they approached the local governments of their hometowns, which decided to donate six small secondhand garbage trucks. Grassroots grant aid was utilized to transport the trucks, and a drawing (prizewinning picture in picture competition on the theme of the environment) by a local primary school pupil was printed on the body of the garbage trucks. These small, cute garbage trucks totally changed the old image of garbage trucks, and work well in small alley-

ways. The city immediately decided to introduce an additional 24 trucks.

With such comprehensive support from JICA, Santo Domingo became a pioneer in solid waste management, and JICA receives requests for support from many local governments in the country.

Nonetheless, solid waste management in Santo Domingo is still in its infancy. Aiming to implement the master plan, JICA will provide cooperation for the improvement of administrative capabilities of solid waste management in the city.

(JICA Dominican Republic Office)



A garbage truck and the primary school pupil who drew the picture that adorns it

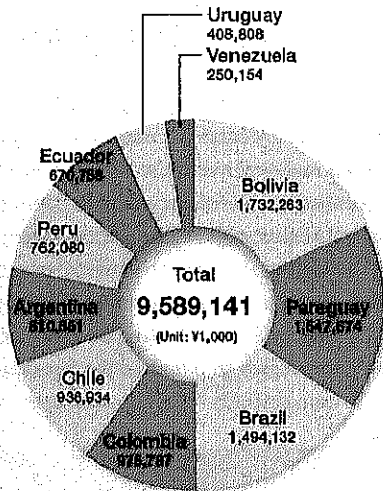


# South America



## Pillars of Aid Aiming for Sustainable Development by Correcting Disparities within and among Countries

■ Cooperation results by country in South America (FY2006)



\* This is the total amount of bilateral cooperation. The amount of cooperation provided to North and Latin America including cooperation that covers a group of countries is 20,455,245 thousands of yen.

In South America, privatization of public projects and trade liberalization are progressing, while nationalization of resources and an anti-globalization trend is emerging. Due to similarities in history, culture, and language, movements toward regional cooperation and economic integration as well as free trade agreement and economic partnership agreement beyond the region are becoming prominent. On the other hand, individual countries manifest different actions under the influence of their respective social backgrounds. The region contains countries of a relatively high economic standard (medium-developed countries) and ones of a low standard (impoverished countries). Aside from impoverished countries, even medium-developed countries have localized poverty issues and the poverty group is expanding in spite of steady economic growth, widening the gap between rich and poor. Such poverty issues have recently led to the birth of left-wing national governments. In addition, poverty issues contribute to political and economic instability, social disorder involving drugs and

public security, and environmental issues.

The magnitude of natural resources, food supply capacity, and economic scale in South America imply the possibility that political and economic disorder and worsening environmental destruction in the region may affect the international economy and the environment on a global scale. In order to correct disparities within and among countries and realize sustainable development in the region, JICA focuses on the perspective of human security and addresses the following priority issues.

1. Poverty reduction and disparity correction
2. Cooperation for sustainable economic growth using Japan's experience and knowledge
3. Addressing global issues
4. Peacebuilding and support for the socially vulnerable
5. Promotion of partnership, regionwide cooperation, and South-South cooperation
6. Active collaboration with Nikkei (Japanese descendant) communities

## Current State of Development

In South America social disparities are historically prominent, triggered by colonial rule. In the 1980s, economic reform based on the policy of Neo-liberalism was promoted at the initiative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. As a result, while economic growth was achieved, in many countries problems such as widening disparities, an expanding poverty group, and increasing social instability became more serious.

The economies of countries in South America except for Brazil greatly depend on primary products, and they are significantly affected by trends in the world economy. In order to achieve continuously stable economic growth, development of an investment environment, including promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises, trade promotion measures, improvement in governance, and capacity development of communities need to be supported.

One of the problems caused by poverty and economic growth is environmental degradation. Response to not only regional issues including solid waste generated from gutters around the urban areas and water resources contamination, but also global

issues such as rapid deforestation in the Amazon, are urgently required.

The South American economic zone, which is endowed with abundant resources and high food production and supply capacity, is crucial to Japan, which relies on overseas resources and food. On the other end, the countries of South America that are trying to grow out of economies dependent on exports of primary products need Japan's technology. Even in economically developed countries, it is possible to provide cooperation in fields where Japan's experience and knowledge can be utilized. It is not too much to say that Japan and South America are in an economically complementary relationship.

### The Presence of Japanese Emigrants and Their Descendants

Cooperation in South America cannot be considered without the presence of communities of Japanese descendants (Nikkei). The emigration of Japanese people to South America started more than 100 years ago and immigrants from Japan and their descen-

dants have established a solid position as reliable members of the local regional society. Nikkei succeed in a wide area such as agriculture, health, and education, contributing to the feeling of a

strong affinity toward Japan and enhancing friendly relationships between Japan and the countries to which Japanese people have emigrated.

## Addressing Priority Issues in JICA Programs

### Poverty Reduction and Disparity Correction

JICA supports efforts to reduce poverty and correct disparities that are shared by most countries in South America across sectors with a focus on not only the capacity development of central and local governments and community empowerment, but also collaboration with civil organizations and other donors.

In Bolivia, mainly in villages where wells were built using the equipment provided through grant aid, the upgrading of the water supply system is promoted in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank and other donors. Also, in cooperation with activities of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, a project called "Water is Health and Vital" is being implemented to promote rural development activity aimed at increasing cash income. The purposes of the project are to transfer the maintenance and management skills of the water supply system, disseminate clean water, and sustain the effects.



With water pipes connected to every household, safe water supply improved hygienic conditions and reduced women's and children's labor for drawing water. (The project "Water is Health and Vital" in Bolivia)

In Paraguay, JICA is implementing the Project for Diversification of Beekeeping (Extension and Upgrade of Propolis, Pollen) to increase the honey production of small-scale apiary farmers in rural areas. As part of this project, a guidebook entitled "Illustrated Apiary Technology," which can be understood even by beginners or illiterate apiary workers, has been published. Through these activities, JICA is working to support the entire apiary business with a view to transfer process technology such as propolis production and market sales in the capital city, not only honey production.

### Cooperation Utilizing Japan's Experiences As Well

In order to address poverty reduction and disparity correction, the quality of life of the people needs to be improved by upgrading governance as well as generating employment through national economic growth.

In Ecuador, appropriate projects are being implemented to promote small and medium-sized enterprises and development by launching cultivation of small and medium-sized enterprises that lead to the creation of employment.

In Peru, through in-country training and training in Japan, Local Activation through the Experiences Shared among the Municipalities is being implemented to improve the capabilities

of the workers in municipal offices in designing and formulating a project and drawing up a plan. This project is ongoing in collaboration with JICA volunteers and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

In Venezuela, as cooperation utilizing Japan's experience and knowledge, experts in Japan's railway operation techniques are dispatched to Venezuela's first on-the-ground railroad, Caracas Railway, contributing to safe and efficient railway operation.

### Addressing Global Issues

In South America, which has abundant natural resources and food supply capacity, cooperation to address cross-border issues such as environmental issues is important.

In Uruguay, Chile, Argentina, and Peru, CDM (clean development mechanism) afforestation projects and cooperation for enhancing planning capacity for those projects are being implemented (see p.11-13).

In Brazil, improvement of the satellite surveillance system of Amazon tropical rainforests is considered to be effective for restraining and controlling illegal deforestation. Therefore, JICA dispatched an expert to build a geographical information database for environmental crimes.

In Argentina, JICA is implementing the Project to Intensify Ozone Layer Studies in South America to transfer technologies necessary for observing the ozone layer and analyzing data and install equipment necessary for such activities. JICA is preparing to develop it for regionwide cooperation, including the neighboring country, Chile. The project aims to enhance ozone layer observation and sophisticate the data supply system necessary to understand the conditions of ozone layer in the mid- and high-altitude areas of South America.

### Peacebuilding and Support for the Socially Vulnerable

To support the socially vulnerable, such as internally displaced persons and street children, efforts aimed at reconstructing basic living infrastructure are required. In Columbia, volunteers are dispatched to facilities where internally displaced persons and the socially vulnerable are housed. They give instructions on recreational activities and small plays that foster imagination as well as on the production of crafts using available materials so that the children in those facilities can have opportunities for the future.



Introducing successful cases and PCM methods to improve project design and formulation capabilities of municipal staff (Local Activation through the Experiences Shared among the Municipalities in Peru)

In Chile, where the population is aging, the Project for Social Welfare Policies for the Elderly is being implemented for the purpose of promoting social welfare for the elderly in line with local needs.

### Promotion of Partnership, Regionwide Cooperation and South-South Cooperation

Since countries in South America share similarities in terms of history, culture, and language, assistance through regional mutual cooperation is important to address development issues common to the region.

Japan has concluded partnership programs with medium-developed countries (including Chile, Argentina, and Brazil) in the region. Positioning these countries as partners, JICA provides cooperation for countries inside and outside the region. Together with Brazil, in particular, JICA has conducted many third-country training courses targeting Portuguese-speaking African countries, etc. The coordination in preparation for a joint program between Brazil and JICA is ongoing.

JICA is also implementing the Project of the Capacity Development for Improvement of Livestock Hygiene in the Southern Part of South America through Regional Technical Cooperation in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay, in order to establish human resources development systems in rela-

tion to livestock disease diagnosis and build a network necessary for person-to-person collaboration and sharing information on diagnosis and epidemiology. In the project, a seminar on avian influenza has also been held as a regionwide issue.

Furthermore, as assistance for the integration of Mercado Comun del Cone Sur (MERCOSUR), JICA is implementing the Study on Improvement of Packaging Technology for Merchandise Distribution in MERCOSUR and the MERCOSUR Tourism Promotion Project.

### Collaboration with Nikkei Communities

Many Nikkei play active roles in various areas in South America, contributing to regional development and fostering friendship and trusting relationships with Japan. They are key players with high potential in international cooperation and collaboration with them is quite effective. Therefore, positioning Nikkei communities as development partners, JICA pushes forward further collaboration. In particular, Brazil has long dispatched Brazilian experts of Japanese ancestry to neighboring countries in collaboration with Nikkei communities. Recently, there are also cases in which Brazilian experts of Japanese ancestry are dispatched for technical cooperation to Angola and Mozambique in Africa where the official language is Portuguese as in Brazil.

## Front Line Japan-Chile Partnership Programme

### The Project for Shellfish Aquaculture Development in Peru

#### Japan and Chile Work Together to Implement South-South Cooperation

##### Disseminate aquaculture techniques to artisan fishermen

The Japan-Chile Partnership Programme (JCPP) was established in 1999 for the purpose of contributing to socioeconomic development in developing countries by combining human resources, techniques, and financial resources in Japan and Chile. Since then, Japan and Chile have jointly implemented various technical cooperation projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. One of them is the Project for Shellfish Aquaculture Development in Peru.

Peru has long boasted a fishing industry and the government is strengthening the aquaculture sector as an important source of foreign currency. In particular, dissemination of aquaculture techniques and business instruction for artisan fishermen is positioned as an important measure for expanding employment and improving fishermen's lives.

Since 2001, JICA and the International Cooperation Agency of Chile (AGCI) have dispatched Chilean experts to Peru to jointly support the promotion of shellfish aquaculture in Peru. However, although development

of technical personnel in aquaculture was successful, it did not result in dissemination of the technique to artisan fishermen.

In response, a field study was carried out once again targeting artisan fishermen in Casma, Peru, and a trilateral project was launched by Japan, Chile, and Peru in 2004.

##### Aim for self-reliance and enterprise

This project focused on support for fishery technicians engaged in disseminating aquaculture for Peruvian scallops (small scallops) in Peru and strengthening the organization of artisan fishermen. Peruvian fishermen underwent training in Chile and they were highly inspired by directly seeing and listening to the experiences of the Chilean artisan fishermen, development of business, and the start-up process of a fishermen's organization business. As a result, over the course of two experimental cultivations related to the project, 590,000 shellfish were successfully caught. In addition, the fishermen's organization grew and got to spend the revenues from the first catch on an environmental impact assessment required for acquisition of marine

farming rights. They then officially acquired the marine farming rights for 56ha through formal procedures.

Now that three years have passed since the start of the project, the fishermen are looking to establish a company that handles everything from production to sales of shellfish. A group of women also emerged and have started preparations to open a restaurant, showing a willingness to improve their lives in the area. It is expected that the project will develop with the aim of promoting the fishermen's self-reliance in aquaculture business and improving lives in the fishing village.

(JICA Peru Office)



Training in the aquaculture field. Chilean women's participation in aquaculture led to Peruvian women's active participation in the project.

# Oceania



Feature

Part 1

Part 2

Part 3

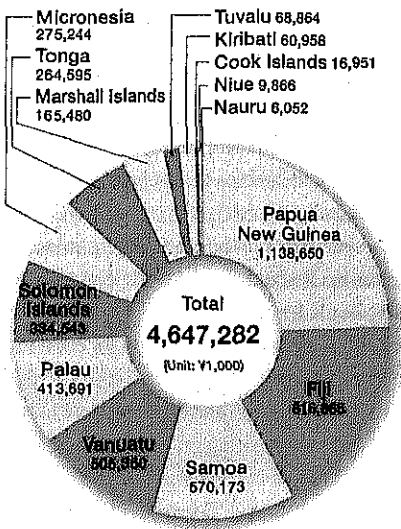
Part 4

Reference Section

Chapter 5 Oceania

## Pillars of Aid Human Resources Development for Economic Self-reliance and Sustainable Development of Small Island Countries

■ Cooperation results by country in Oceania (FY2006)



\* This is the total amount of bilateral cooperation. The amount of cooperation provided to Oceania including cooperation that covers a group of countries is 4,916,140 thousands of yen.

The primary issue in Oceania is to develop societies capable of sustainable development. This region faces many factors that prevent development, including a vulnerable economic structure that depends on primary industries, impacts from environmental problems such as climate change, and limiting factors specific to island countries, such as isolation and small size. While providing cooperation with an emphasis on economic self-reliance and sustainable development in Oceania, JICA works to identify and formulate projects that have a large impact throughout the region. Collaboration with other aid agencies and regional international organizations with knowledge of island countries is also promoted.

With regard to economic self-reliance, in order to assist with the efforts of individual countries for achieving economic growth, dispatch of volunteers and receiving training participants are the core of the assistance for promoting tourism and agriculture and fishery.

With regard to sustainable development, cooperation to maintain the environment is implemented in addition to the expansion of

basic social services, including education and health.

In the education sector, basic education and vocational training are being enhanced with an emphasis on the areas of mathematics and science education, information and communication technology (ICT) education, and education for children with disabilities (special needs education). In order to expand education to rural remote areas, distance learning is provided utilizing ICT and various media. In the health sector, in addition to efforts for improving basic health services in individual countries, development of human resources in health is being promoted in cooperation with international organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), regarding infectious disease control as an issue common to the region. In the environment sector, in addition to cooperation that directly leads to environmental conservation such as social consideration for the environment and waste disposal, cooperation for the management of coastal resources that is necessary for proper resource management and

## Current State of Development

### Vulnerable Economic Structure

Developing countries in Oceania have small national territories, populations, and economies on the whole. The total population of the 14 countries and regions JICA provides cooperation for Oceania is approximately eight million, and most of those countries and regions are small island countries with populations of less than 200,000. Due to strong dependency on primary industries, these countries have fragile economic structures easily upset by weather conditions and fluctuations in international prices. Many problems remain to be tackled if these countries are to achieve economic self-reliance. These problems are related to the fact that the countries often consist of large numbers of islands, their domestic markets are small, they are far from international markets, and transportation and communication links to compensate for these disadvantages are inadequate.

Relations between these countries and their former suzerain states are generally close. In addition to Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the US, etc., have become the major aid donors to devel-

oping countries in Oceania. Cooperation from new donor countries such as China has recently been on the increase. Following achievement of independence from the US, Palau, Micronesia, and Marshall Islands have been receiving financial aid in the form of "compact money" based on the Compact of Free Association with the US. However, affected by the outflux of human resources overseas and conflicts in some areas, assistance from those countries has not fully led to economic growth regionwide, and reliance on aid and financial assistance from overseas continues.

### Issues Common to the Region

Establishing societies and economies that are no longer reliant on aid is an urgent issue for the small island countries in this region. There are many issues that affect Oceania as a whole: solid waste control; environmental problems, including climate change and rising sea levels; human resources development; and the development of inter-island transportation and communication. It is therefore essential to adopt a comprehensive approach

to the region.

Each country is taking steps to reduce its public sector, encourage private investment to promote primary industries, namely agriculture, fishery, and tourism, and promote regionwide cooperation to collectively deal with issues common to the region. The Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), a framework for regional cooperation among the island countries, adopted a regional development plan called the Pacific Plan in October 2005, which actively addressed identified priority issues common to the region. Self-help efforts of the respective countries in the region and support from many aid agencies are expected for the concrete implementation of this plan.



JOCV's educational activity for local residents in a campaign to prevent diabetes (Micronesia)

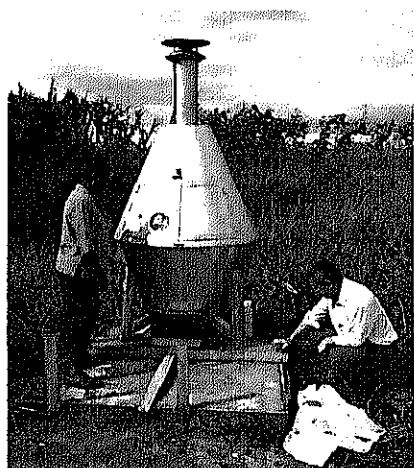
## Addressing Priority Issues in JICA Programs

### Regional Cooperation Policy of the Japan-PIF Summit Meeting

The Japan-PIF Summit Meeting (PALM) has been held among Japan and Pacific Island countries once every three years starting in 1997. In May 2006, the fourth PALM was held in Okinawa with the participation of national leaders and ministers from 16 PIF member countries and regions. The Okinawa Initiative: Regional Development Strategy for a More Prosperous and Safer Pacific, the declaration adopted at the summit, sets five priority policy targets in economic growth, sustainable development, good governance, security, and human interaction, based on common regional issues specified in the Pacific Plan. It also clarifies specific joint action plans per issue for Japan and PIF members. These issues should be addressed on medium and long-term bases in the framework of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. JICA has implemented cooperation in line with the priority policy targets adopted at the summit.

### Directions of Cooperation

Every country in Oceania differs in respect of its national and economic size, ethnic composition, population, availability of natural resources, traditional social foundations, way of life, and the capacity of government to formulate and administer development plans. Therefore, finely tailored aid in line with development levels and specific development needs of each country is therefore



Incinerators for medical waste need to be installed at a distance in order to prevent infection through medical waste (the Project for Strengthening EPI in the Pacific Region in Solomon Islands)

required. However, since all these countries gained independence relatively recently and are dependent on primary industries, it is important to provide support that enables these countries to overcome the limiting factors that distinguish island countries (i.e., isolation, small size, and vulnerability) while keeping in mind the idea that developing human resources who will lead national development is urgently needed.

Based on the above, JICA works on cooperation for economic self-reliance and sustainable development and strives to identify and formulate cooperation projects that can have positive effects throughout the region while implementing grass-root cooperation activities that directly benefit local communities, mainly by dispatching volunteers such as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV). Coordination and collaboration with other donors and regional international organizations that possess knowledge of island countries is also promoted.

### Economic Self-reliance

In order to assist each country's efforts for achieving economic growth, cooperation for the promotion of tourism, agriculture, and fishery is primarily being provided through the dispatch of volunteers and the acceptance of training participants. One example is human development training targeting the core human resources in Oceania for diversification of fishery and sustainable tourism development in Micronesia. Also, in order to develop infrastructure for industrial development, infrastructure in response to the needs of island countries, including communication and broadcasting, transportation, and power, are being built with grant aid in combination with technical cooperation for improving maintenance and operation capacity.

### Sustainable Development

In addition to cooperation in the education and health sectors leading to the enrichment of basic social services, JICA implements cooperation for sustainable environmental conservation. In the sector of education, basic education and vocational training are enhanced with an emphasis on areas such as mathematics and science education, IT education, and education for children with disabilities (special needs education). In order to widely expand education to rural remote areas, distance learning is provided utilizing ICT and various media (such as TV and radio). The Project for Enhancing Quality in Teaching through TV Program in Papua

New Guinea is one example of ongoing support to expand basic education utilizing various media. In the health sector, in addition to the improvement of basic health services in each country, development of human resources in health is promoted in cooperation with international organizations including WHO and UNICEF, regarding infectious disease control as an issue common to the region. In the sector of environment, cooperation for coastal resources management is implemented in addition to cooperation for coral reef conservation, an environmental impact study, and waste disposal. One example of such cooperation is the Project for Promotion of the Grace of the Sea in Coastal Villages in Vanuatu, a project that aims for improved livelihood of coastal fishermen through community participatory coastal resources management.

### Promotion of Regional Cooperation Program

Regional cooperation targeting a set of countries in the region is promoted in collaboration with other aid agencies and international organizations in Oceania. One example is Infectious Diseases Control Program (Regionwide) targeting 14 Oceania countries. At the heart of this regional program is the Project for Strengthening EPI in the Pacific Region targeting 13 countries in the region, which aims to improve policies and planning related

to the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) in each country and nurture EPI field workers. In parallel with this enhancement project, JICA provides medicine and examination kits based on WHO's Pacific Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (PacELF) and dispatches volunteers to support HIV/AIDS control. These cooperation projects are collaborations and coordination with Australia and New Zealand as well as WHO and UNICEF.

In the Regional Program for Proper Management of Solid Waste, which aims to formulate and plan national policies for waste management, construction of disposal sites and waste reduction cooperation activities are ongoing in collaboration with a regional international organization called the Secretariat of Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). In addition to Samoa, where a waste disposal site is present as a cooperation model, similar projects are being implemented in Vanuatu and Palau, making this program an example of regional cooperation benefiting the region on the whole.

Oceania is vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunami, cyclones, and floods. Regional cooperation in disaster prevention is also a priority issue that should be addressed in the future.

## Front Line Fiji

### Dispatch of Individual Expert (Management of Marine Life Resources)

#### Economic Utilization of Coastal Fishery Resources Using Fish Beds

##### Aiming for efficient catches of coastal fishery resources

Fiji is a country of many small islands surrounded by coral reefs, and is more developed, attracting many tourists from overseas, including Japan, every year. However, because remote areas and islands have yet to catch up with other areas in terms of construction of basic infrastructure and limited employment opportunities and cash income sources, coastal fishing is an important source of income, especially for people living on islands with limited agricultural land.

Fish bed is a technique widely used for attracting fish, and is especially popular in Southeast Asia and Okinawa. Although the reason fish beds attract fish is not fully understood, all fishermen have to do is go to a fish bed. They don't need to sail around searching in vain for schools of fish. Therefore, the utilization of fish beds is gaining attention from the standpoint of energy conservation and efficiency of labor.

##### Installing fish beds in coral reef areas

Gau Island is one of the places in Fiji where JICA experts and the School of Marine Studies, the University of the

South Pacific, work together to carry out activities related to marine life resources management. Gau is a typical remote island located approximately 50km east of Viti Levu, which accommodates the capital city of Suva. Local people earn their living by fishery and agriculture. Water off the west coast of Gau is very deep and accommodates a wide area of coral reef. JICA installed five fish beds in this location in 2006 upon a request from local people. All the fish beds were hand made by the local people. Partly because these fish beds were installed in coral reefs with low waves at depths of less than 50m, the cost of making and installing one fish bed was less than one tenth of one made by the Fiji Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests.

Installation of fish beds not only contributes to energy conservation and labor efficiency in fishery but also enables fishermen to catch migratory and cannibalistic fish, which feed around resident fish that stick to the coral reefs, thus leading to economic and sustainable utilization and management of valuable coastal resources. Around the fish beds, many cannibalistic Spanish mackerel and petos are caught, and an 80kg yellow fin tuna was

once caught as well. Big resident fish such as emperor and cabrilla are also caught, thrilling the local people. JICA has requested that the local people keep records of their catches as preventive actions against indiscriminate exploitation of resources. The next challenge is to establish a system to achieve sustainable utilization of resources based on these records and to connect those resources to the improvement of earnings of fishery villages obtained by selling the caught fish.

(JICA Fiji Office)



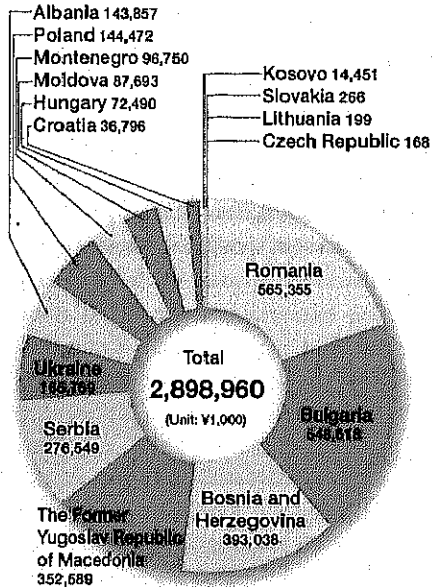
Local people making fish beds

# Europe



## Pillars of Aid Support Democratization, Transition to Market Economy, Peace Consolidation, Environmental Conservation

■ Cooperation results by country in Europe (FY2006)



\* This is the total amount of bilateral cooperation. The amount of cooperation provided to Europe including cooperation that covers a group of countries is 2,923,491 thousands of yen.

Cooperation in Europe started with Poland and Hungary in 1989 after the demise of the communist regime of Central and Eastern European countries. Support for transition to a market economy and democratization in collaboration with the international community was at the heart of the cooperation. Since then, many countries in Eastern Europe have achieved socioeconomic structure reforms despite many difficulties. As a result, the four Visegrad countries (Czech, Slovakia, Hungary, and Poland), the three Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), and Slovenia acceded to the EU in May 2004, with Romania and Bulgaria following in January 2007, thus graduating from the status of ODA recipient countries when the DAC list was revised in January 2006. Among these countries, JICA now maintains staff in Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Bulgaria for dispatching experts and volunteers and accepting training participants; however, aid will terminate in two years in these countries as well. At the moment, consideration is being made with regard to the sustainability of ongoing projects after termination of aid, and efforts are being made to ensure transition into the hands of private cooperation, etc. At the same time, JICA also supports these countries in their ambitions to become donors in the future.

On the other hand, Western Balkan coun-

tries have achieved economic growth to a certain level by receiving reconstruction assistance from the international community after the Yugoslavia separatist conflict and the Kosovo conflict in the 1990s. However, they still have many problems, such as high unemployment rate, latent ethnic confrontation, and lingering problems in Kosovo. To realize economic reconstruction and the national goal of EU accession, substantial administrative and judicial reforms are required, and these countries have great expectations for Japan, which took a neutral stance during the conflicts.

Based on the discussion in the Ministerial Conference on Peace Consolidation and Economic Development of the Western Balkans held in Japan in 2004, JICA will provide cooperation for issues that can benefit from Japan's experience and knowledge, setting the consolidation of peace and the development of the private sector as priority fields, while meeting the needs of each country. Also, in view of aid termination in the near future, JICA will implement projects that are effective and highly sustainable utilizing local human resources. In order to implement detailed assistance from the local standpoint, the local operation system was reorganized by closing the JICA Austria Office and opening the JICA Balkan Office in Serbia in 2006.

## Current State of Cooperation and Development

### Reconstruction and Development Progress in the Western Balkans

In the 1990s when Central and Eastern European countries began social reforms for a transition to a market economy, the Western Balkans (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Albania) experienced conflicts in Bosnia and Kosovo. This was known as the tragedy of Yugoslavia. These conflicts caused tremendous damage and the countries' development was significantly delayed compared to those in Central and Eastern Europe.

International community supported reconstruction and nation-building in these countries in concert following the end of conflicts in Bosnia the birth of democratic administration in Serbia. As a result, these countries in the Western Balkans now enjoy a certain degree of social stability and economic recovery. Today,

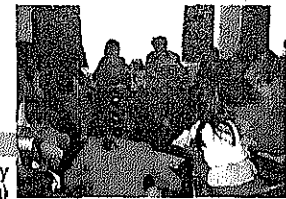
they have moved from the stage of reconstruction to the stage of development, and each country is working on reform with the aim of EU accession. Some of them, such as Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, became accession candidate countries.

However, this area is not free from unstable social factors such as the Kosovo problems and complicated ethnic compositions within a country. Although the economies recovered to pre-conflict levels, the high unemployment rate is an issue common to the area and it is a concern that it may cause instability to surface.



Growing strawberries in a community development project (see p.67) (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

# Addressing Priority Issues in JICA Programs



## The Western Balkans

As confirmed in the discussion in the Ministerial Conference on Peace Consolidation and Economic Development of the Western Balkans held in Tokyo in May 2004, both economic development and peace consolidation are vital for development of the Western Balkans. JICA's cooperation focuses on these two areas and environmental conservation, in which JICA has provided cooperation in Eastern Europe.

Job creation is the utmost priority for economic development. Therefore, projects leading to employment promotion such as promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises and tourism promotion are being implemented, and at the same time in the investment and trade area, utilization of local resources is being examined so that it will lead to the vitalization of private business.

In terms of peace consolidation, emphasis is placed on Bosnia and Herzegovina, whose ethnic composition is complicated and whose administration system is fragile. One example is an activity in the Srebrenica area, one of the fiercest battlefields in the Bosnian conflict. In this area, through a community development project in which many ethnic groups jointly participate, interethnic exchanges have been deepened and repatriation of displaced persons and refugees has been supported independently. In this country where different ethnic groups adopt different educational curricula, the government has set a goal of introducing a unified curriculum with support from the international community; however, it has not been realized yet. JICA has developed a common curriculum (in the area of information) for two ethnic

Workshop on peace held at an elementary school in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

groups, Croats and Muslims (Bosniaks), in a trial manner at a high school in Mostar, which was another fierce battlefield, and the curriculum was adopted (see p.15-16).

In terms of the environment, since a cross-border approach is necessary and many countries share common problems, effective cooperation through region-specific training is provided. In the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, comprehensive cooperation including financial cooperation has been implemented by improving the administrative capability of the government and developing facilities focused on improving water and soil management.

## Ukraine and Moldova

As Ukraine shares borders with EU member countries such as Poland and Romania and the potential for economic development was originally high, cooperation is limited to areas related to transition to private cooperation such as cultivating business-related human resources (cultivation of entrepreneurs).

Moldova is the poorest country in Europe and the utmost priority issue is the improvement of agricultural productivity, which is the country's primary industry. Since JICA's implementation system is weak, with no office or diplomatic missions in place, efforts have been made to operate efficient and effective projects in collaboration with grant aid cooperation (especially for poor farmers assistance) and through participation in region-specific training, with a focus on agriculture.

## Front Line Bulgaria

### The Project on Development of Business Management Skills Training Center for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Managers

#### Expand Effects of Cooperation by Strengthening Collaboration with Neighboring Countries

##### Turning from a recipient into a donor

Bulgaria is located on the Balkan Peninsula and used to be a socialist country. It took its first step toward democratization in 1989, and after going through a transition period into a market economy that took about 18 years it became a member of the EU in January 2007. Now that Bulgaria has graduated from aid and became a developed country, it has embarked on the huge task of turning from a recipient into a donor country as an EU member. For JICA, which will terminate projects in Bulgaria in two years, this can also be seen as a new challenge of assisting in a country's graduation from aid and becoming a donor.

As the first step in JICA's efforts of helping the country become a donor, the International Workshop on Managerial Skills Development was held in Sofia, the capital city of Bulgaria, in February 2007 for the purpose of

strengthening collaboration with neighboring countries. This workshop was attended by 26 people including JICA experts and counterparts of projects involved in cultivating business-related human resources in seven countries (the host country Bulgaria, three Balkan countries, and three Caucasus countries).

##### Contributing to aid policy formulation of Bulgaria as well

The participants experienced a 3-day, short-term intensive course developed by the Institute for Postgraduate Studies Division at the University of National and World Economy Sofia, which is the project implementation agency of Bulgaria, and each person made presentations about what he or she is working on and shared information with others. At the same time, they proactively exchanged opinions about concrete issues and solutions related to

the operation of a business course.

As a result, lofty goals were shared on the cultivation of human resources involved in business, and a network was established with JICA positioned as the core component. Additionally, human resources development and education were identified as the priority fields for assistance in Bulgaria, and at the same time, Western Balkan and Black Sea and Caucasus countries were designated as prioritized target areas of aid, thus contributing to the aid policy formulation of Bulgaria.

(JICA/JOCV Bulgaria Office)

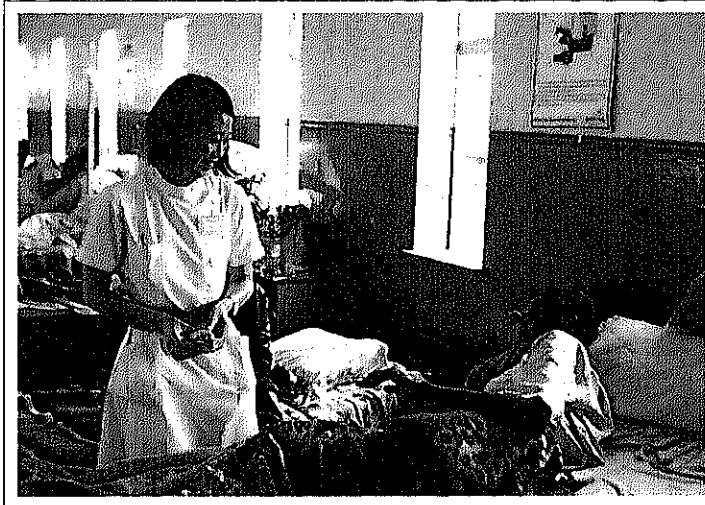


Bulgarian business people and project counterparts from various countries attending the short-term intensive course



# Winners of the 27th International Cooperation Photo Contest

JICA holds an international cooperation photo contest every year to deepen public interest in and understanding of developing countries and international cooperation. Awards were given to 17 photos in the 27th Photo Contest for fiscal 2006.



## JICA President's Award

### Healing of Heart

Yosuke Sehata

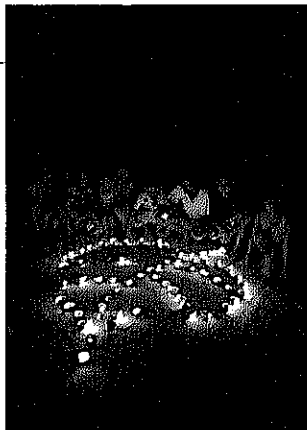
Photo taken in Uganda (A patient and Ms. Anai, a JOCV working at a hospital)

Comment from the winner:  
I believe I won this award not because of my skills, but rather because of Ms. Anai's excellent work. This photo would not have been taken if it were not for her activities. I would like to thank her for this award.

## Mourning, and Then to Revival

Kenji Niwa

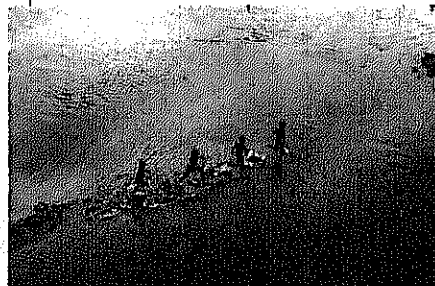
Photo taken in Sri Lanka



## Happiness Children

Maung Maung Win

Photo taken in Myanmar



## Day of Injecting Vaccination

Kazuhiro Otsuki

Photo taken in Fiji



## General Award



## Even After Losing House and a Part of Body...

Shogo Nakashima

Photo taken in Palestine



## Grandpa

Masanori Kosugi

Photo taken in Nicaragua

## International Cooperation Award



## Well-matched

Yoshio Okubo

Photo taken in Japan

International Cooperation Award: Photos submitted for this award should feature Japanese people and people from developing countries engaging in technical cooperation and on-site exchange.

General Award: Photos submitted for this award should feature people living in a natural environment or culture in developing countries.

Other award winning photos can be viewed at <http://jica.go.jp/english/resources/photo/2006/index.html>