

Rural Development

Poverty Reduction/Agricultural, Rural Development/Fisheries



In order to promote agroforestry and improve the livelihood of farmers, cultivation and management methods for crops and trees that function well in environmental conservation are transferred to subsistent farmers in the Intensified Social Forestry Project in Semi-arid Areas (Kenya).

Overview of the Rural Development Field

The world's population rapidly increased in the latter half of the 20th century, and it exceeds six billion today. According to one forecast, it will reach nine billion by 2050. A major concern is that various problems, such as food shortages and environmental deterioration due to heavy consumption of resources on a global scale, will become more serious.

Since the population increase is especially notable in developing countries, appropriate development in these countries is essential in order to stabilize people's living situations worldwide.

Most people in developing countries live in rural areas, and their living situations are deteriorating due to problems such as overcultivation, overgrazing, deforestation, subsequent depletion of water resources, a drop in agricultural productivity caused by many reasons including such as soil erosion, and insufficient social services such as health and basic education. Additionally, the disparities in the living standards between the urban area and the rural area generate new problems such as a population influx into the urban area and slum formation.

To bring about better living situations, it is necessary to promote comprehensive agricultural and rural development focusing on the lives of residents in rural areas. This should be associated with proper attention to harmony with the environment and the relationship with the urban areas so that limited resources in rural

areas can be continuously utilized. It is also necessary to tackle certain issues regionwide, involving all neighboring countries concerned. These issues include avian influenza, which causes economic and health damage not only for farmers in the affected area, but also to other people within the country as well as in surrounding countries.

Actively addressing these issues is in line with coordinated actions to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (see p.70). The MDGs clearly specify strengthening support for the poverty groups from the perspectives of human security and more stable development of the international community.

Agricultural and rural development also gains attention as a priority field in post-conflict rural reconstruction. Specifically, there are activities such as stable food supply, and the promotion of settlement of refugees and ex-combatants. To respond to the recent focus on poverty reduction, peacebuilding, and human security, the roles expected of agricultural and rural development are getting larger.

To address these issues, JICA has identified three sectors (poverty reduction, agricultural and rural development, and fisheries), and is implementing relevant projects for each sector.

Poverty Reduction

Overview

There are 1.3 billion people in the world considered to be living in poverty. That is one-fifth of the world's population, and one-third of the total population of the developing countries.

Poverty reduction is a primary global common objective and advocated in the MDGs. The term "poverty reduction" means not simply increasing income levels but rather creating conditions in which all humans lead healthy and creative lives with sufficient food, shelter, and clothing. It also means that being free from unfair treatment by the government and the community, they can participate in society with freedom, dignity, and self-esteem.

Poverty has many dimensions. It can cause environmental degradation, and a poor environment in turn can aggravate poverty, thus giving rise to a vicious cycle. "DAC Guidelines on Poverty Reduction" published in 2001 defines poverty as an insufficiency in economic, human, political, socio-cultural, and protective capabilities. It is internationally agreed that poverty reduc-

tion requires a comprehensive approach that will develop capabilities in these five areas.

It is also important to note the fact that a lack of capabilities among the poor is not the primary cause of poverty; environments disadvantageous to the poor and social structures, in which vested interests, discrimination, etc., create socially vulnerable people, interactively cause and fix poverty. To reduce poverty, it is important to create opportunities for the poor to demonstrate their potential capabilities by changing the environments that surround them and by breaking the vicious cycle of poverty.

JICA's Efforts

Definition of Poverty and Goals in Support for Poverty Reduction

JICA defines poverty as a condition in which people are deprived of their opportunities to demonstrate potential capabilities required to lead a basic human life and are being left out of

society and the development processes. JICA has two overall goals in its support for poverty reduction: enhancement of the potential capabilities of the poor; and reform of the social structures and institutions involving the poor. JICA has also identified the following four strategic development goals aimed at reinforcing people's economic, human, political, socio-cultural, and protective capabilities (since the measures to reinforce political and socio-cultural capabilities have many aspects in common, they are addressed as a single strategy).

- 1) Reinforcing the planning, institutional, and implementation framework for poverty reduction (political and socio-cultural capabilities)
- 2) Maintaining and generating the incomes of the poor (economic capability)
- 3) Securing minimum living standards for the poor (human capability)
- 4) Reducing external threats to the poor and strengthening their capability to withstand shock (protective capability)

The structures and other factors leading to poverty and the actual conditions in which the poor live are varied and complex, differing from country to country and from region to region.

Accordingly, after understanding poverty factors and situations on a country-by-country and region-by-region basis, JICA addresses the issue by taking full advantage of the unique features of each aid scheme and by combining various individual projects in ways that give rise to synergy.

Target Levels of Poverty Reduction Assistance and Multi-layer Cooperation Approach

JICA provides poverty reduction support at three levels: (1) policy and system support at a national level (macro level), (2) support through local communities (mezzo level), and (3) direct aid to the poor (micro level). Through these channels, JICA effectively carries out assistance for capability enhancement of the poor, as well as for improving social structures, policies and systems involving the poor. And at the same time, JICA intends to strengthen capability of the poor by embracing the three levels: macro, mezzo, and micro.

Figure 3-9 summarizes these three levels of assistance targets. As shown in Figure 3-10, a more effective approach (multi-layer cooperation approach) is being planned by linking multiple levels of assistance targets.

Figure 3-9 Three Target Levels of Poverty Reduction Assistance

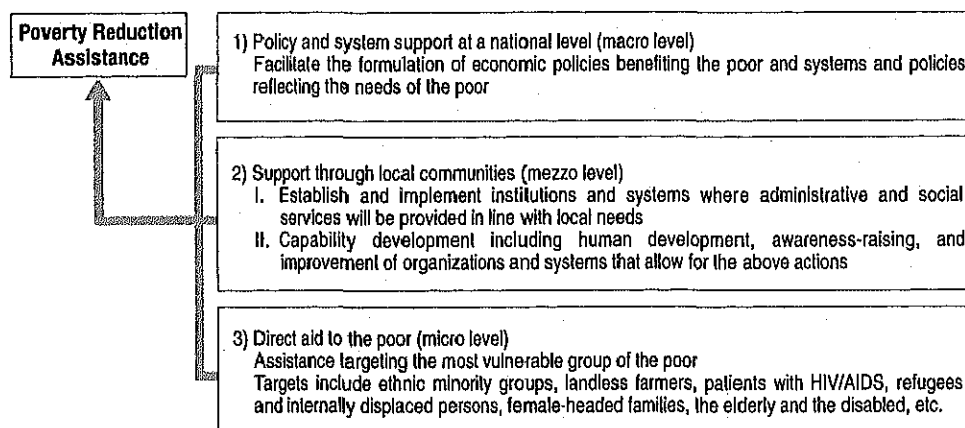
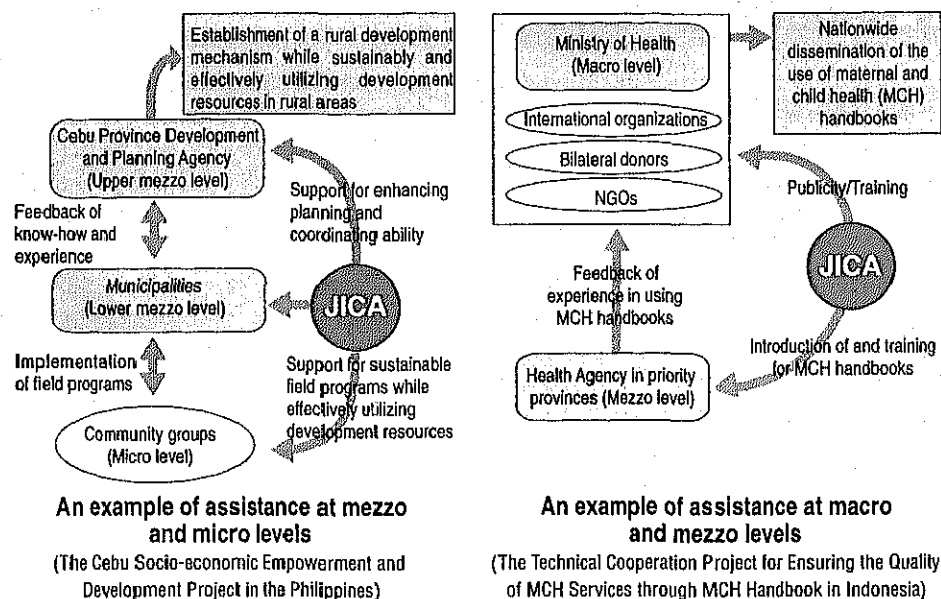


Figure 3-10 Examples of Cooperation Projects with Consideration Given to the Linkage of Levels



The Project on Rural Livelihood Improvement in Hambantota District (South CAP) in Sri Lanka

In this project, cooperation for livelihood improvement is implemented in the Hambantota district in the southern part of Sri Lanka, where annual precipitation is low and the living environment is extremely severe. Since residents in this area have limited sources of income other than agriculture and few job opportunities, they have to live on rain-fed agriculture dependent on low-rainfall. In this project, survival techniques utilizing scarce resources are introduced to the people and, at the same time, the acquisition and diffusion of such techniques are promoted.

Actual activities will be determined based on the Community Action Plan (CAP) created by the people themselves; however, the introduction of farming methods with effective use of limited water and a method to raise added value on agricultural products, improvement of living conditions by upgrading wells, prevention of surrounding natural environment deterioration through diffusion of

CASE STUDY

improved cooking stoves, and saving firewood are most likely to be included. As an implementation method, use of the community contract system in which communities receive a contract from the government to make small irrigation facilities, wells, and farm roads is emphasized. This system is expected to allow the residents to maintain these necessary facilities by themselves and to contribute to their income improvement by undertaking contract work.



District administrative officer becomes a facilitator whose duty starts with letting residents talk about the problems of the village.

Agricultural and Rural Development

Overview

In many developing countries, over half of the population is engaged in the agricultural sector, and a large share of the rural population lives in poverty. Because agriculture represents the core of the national economy in many of these countries, assistance for agricultural and rural development plays an important role in addressing such concerns as food security, poverty reduction, and economic development.

The stable provision of needed food (food security) is a fundamental condition of economic and political stability. In many developing countries, food shortages are impairing health and creating hunger. In some cases refugees in hunger flood into neighboring countries, disturbing the order of the international community and potentially leading to regional conflicts. In food-importing countries, the stable production and supply of food are

economic issues of extreme importance, because they can reduce the outflow of foreign currency. Furthermore, stable food supply in developing countries is important from the standpoint of Japan's own food security.

JICA's Efforts

JICA perceives its two main tasks in agricultural and rural development to be: support for stable food production and supply (food security), and alleviation of poverty (rural development). Since these two tasks are intimately related, in order to implement effective cooperation, it is essential to understand their relationship and coordinate them. Specifically, there are measures designed to achieve food security from the macro (national) to micro (rural) levels on the one hand; and measures addressing various rural development issues at micro levels on the other.

The Project for Establishment of Mechanism for Agricultural Technology Diffusion and Application to Improve Living Condition of Indigenous and Non-indigenous Small-scale Farmers of Occidental Altiplano in Guatemala

CASE STUDY

The per capita GDP of Guatemala, which is located in Central America, is US\$2,532 (2005). On the national scale, it is a lower medium income country; however the population that lives under the national poverty line is 56.2% and domestic disparity is a major problem. Since many in the poverty group are indigenous people, such as the Maya, Guatemala is working to reduce poverty, focusing particularly on areas where indigenous people live.

In October 2006, JICA launched a project for livelihood improvement for small-scale farmers living in the indigenous area across the Totonicapan, Solola, and Quetzaltenango departments in Guatemala.

The majority of the farmers in this area are small-scale, and they depend on traditional farming methods because information on new agricultural techniques or improved approaches has not come to their area, which is one of the reasons they cannot escape from poverty. Thus, JICA is aiming to establish an agricultural technique diffusion service system for poor small-scale farmers and spread appropriate agricultural techniques with the Ministry of Agriculture,

Livestock and Food, the Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology, and the Center of Investigation of the Plateau Areas as counterparts.

In the project an action plan has been formulated with the participation of counterparts in a workshop where the project purpose and future activity plans were shared. It is expected that all the related people share the same purpose and work together to build a support system for poor farmers in Guatemala.



A Japanese expert and Guatemalan counterparts interviewing indigenous people for a survey: It is important to talk at eye-level.

Thus the objectives of assistance for agricultural and rural development are stable food supply for both the rural and urban populations, poverty reduction in rural areas, and national and regional economic development. In abstract terms, the ultimate goal is the eradication of hunger and poverty. Sustainable agricultural production is the basis for a stable food supply and poverty reduction in rural areas.

On the basis of these perspectives, JICA has identified the following three development strategies.

1) Sustainable agricultural production

It is extremely important to realize sustainable agricultural production for eradicating hunger and enhancing the means of economic activities in rural areas as well as economic development in developing countries. It is also a precondition for providing a stable food supply to all regions including urban areas, and for building rural communities with vitality.

As an approach for sustainable agricultural development, it is important to precisely understand the situation of the agricultural sector of the country at the macro level, and formulate and implement agricultural policies appropriate for the situation. It is also important to expand agricultural production and increase productivity. In seeking acquisition of foreign currency and economic development by means of export promotion, it is necessary to strengthen activities related to export promotion such as improvement of the export system and enhancement of competitiveness. Consideration for the environment is essential for long-term agricultural production. Additionally, in order to secure sustainable development of the overall agricultural sector for the future, human development is necessary through expanding education in agriculture and agricultural science at the high school, university, and graduate school levels.

2) Stable food supply

To supply a sufficient amount of food to all citizens stably is one of the important objectives of agricultural and rural development. A large part of the population in rural areas is engaged in agriculture and is a supplier of domestic food especially for the urban areas with the greater concentration of population. At the same time, they are consumers of domestically distributed agricultural products.

Stable food supply is possible only when a sufficient supply

is secured at the macro level and fair distribution is in place at the micro level. In attempting to secure the food supply at the macro level, it is necessary for a government to evaluate the situation of the people and agricultural production potentials first, and then to formulate a strategy on how to secure food for its citizens. In the case that the required food cannot be secured within the country, it is necessary to develop a system to supplement the shortage with imports from other countries. On the other hand, to achieve fair distribution at the micro level, development of an efficient domestic distribution system is essential, which involves distribution over different regions.

3) Building rural communities with vitality

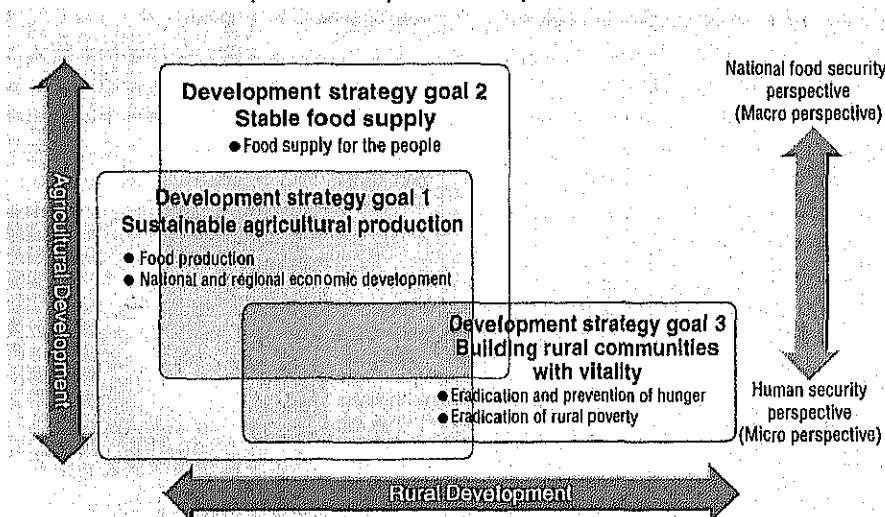
Since the adoption of the MDGs, activities for poverty reduction in developing countries have gathered more attention than ever. Rural areas as targets of development and the significance of its roles are in the public limelight again. This comes from the recognition that the lives of the people in rural areas are destabilized by many factors including weak prices for agricultural products caused by political factors, deterioration of living and production environments due to progressing desertification, and increased dependence on urban areas as seen in labor migration.

To eradicate rural hunger and poverty and build rural communities with vitality, various measures are necessary, such as improving agricultural productivity, promoting the use and sale of agricultural products, promoting diversified economic activities including handicraft production and small business, and developing rural infrastructure represented by community roads and secured drinking water. It is also important to empower rural residents through organizing groups and improving health and education.

The relation of the above three development strategies is summarized as shown in Figure 3-11. In other words, agricultural development is aimed mainly at development strategy goal 2 with the basis of development strategy goal 1, and rural development is aimed at development strategy goal 3 while including development strategy goal 1.

Furthermore, agricultural and rural development, which requires consideration of various factors such as history, culture, natural environment, and ethnicity in the area, must be addressed in line with the situation of the target area.

Figure 3-11 Development Strategy Goals in Agricultural and Rural Development and Perspectives/Purpose of Cooperation



Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Centre Project Phase 2

Spread Rice Farming Experience in Kilimanjaro Nationwide

Since the 1970s Japan has worked to develop irrigation facilities and construct an agricultural development center in Kilimanjaro Province, Tanzania, with loan assistance and grant aid, and has contributed to improvement of rice yields by organically combining technical cooperation.

To spread the outcomes in Kilimanjaro Province throughout Tanzania, JICA implemented the Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Centre Project for seven years starting in 1994 and trained rice farming extension workers throughout the country. In phase 2 of the project, implemented from 2001 to 2006, six irrigation model sites were set up in the country to provide training for farmers.

Three characteristics of phase 2

There are three characteristics of phase 2. First, the training given was limited to simple but important rice farming technology without using expensive fertilizer or machines.

Second, the "farmer to farmer extension" methodology was adopted, in which technology was transferred to key farmers selected by farmers, and from the key farmers to intermediate farmers, and from intermediate farmers to other farmers. Third, with an emphasis on the perspective of gender, half of the training participants were mandated to be women, and efforts were made for improvement of understanding of the roles of men and women. As a result of such efforts, the average yield of the participating farmers successfully increased by a factor of 1.4.

Spread the model nationwide

In response to a request from the government of Tanzania, who praised the outcomes of phase 2, JICA is starting new cooperation in 2007. In this cooperation, the technology that was demonstrated at the model sites is to be spread over 40 irrigation sites throughout the country, and the supporting system of extending agricultur-

al technology that responds to decentralization of authority is to be enhanced as a contribution to the governmental agricultural development plan, Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP). The ASDP is operated by means of joint contributions from donors, including Japan and the government of Tanzania, and part of the fund will be utilized for extension of rice farming technology. JICA will provide support so that outcomes of the ASDP will appear at the field level.

(JICA Tanzania Office)



Training in weeding machine operation

Fisheries

Overview

Fishery resources are an important source of animal protein for human beings. According to statistics published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), on average developing countries depend on fishery products for nearly 20% of the intake of necessary animal protein of their populations. However, although the world population keeps increasing, marine resources have been exploited up to or beyond the limit of sustainable use in the real picture.

In the meantime, coastal fishery, which can be launched relatively easily from a technical point of view at low cost, is an important means for people who do not own land or have stable income resources to survive and live stable lives. Nevertheless, in many countries an increase in newcomers to coastal areas leads to excessive competition in fishing and decreased resources, thus rapidly aggravating the conditions of coastal resources. In addition, due to decreased coastal resources, fishing activities tend to move farther away; however, fishing boats owned by coastal fishermen are small and do not carry sufficient equipment, and the fishermen's sailing skills are underdeveloped, which leads to many accidents at sea.

From the perspective of earning foreign currency, this industry is important for developing countries. According to an official announcement made by the FAO, export from developing countries in world marine products trade accounts for 48% in terms of value and 57% in terms of volume among total exports for 2004.

In summary, the industry is important for developing countries in terms of food supply, creation of employment opportunities, and cash income; however, it embraces problems such as inadequate resource management, and decrease or depletion of resources owing to environmental deterioration. Especially in coastal areas, the chronic poverty of fishing villages is at the root. Consequently, instead of the conventional fishery development approach, expanding the target of assistance from fishermen to the whole population living in a fishing village and incorporating the perspective of fishing village development aimed at livelihood improvement of the people living in the fishing village are required. Conserving and managing resources and promoting new fishing village development based on sustainable use of resources are urgent matters.

JICA's Efforts

Under such situations, JICA conducts cooperation activities in accordance with the following three development strategy goals while keeping in mind the following four key points.

Three Development Strategy Goals

1) Fishing village development

To solve poverty problems of fishing villages, stable household income and livelihood improvement of residents are required. In this regard, JICA provides steady assistance for prop-

er understanding of sustainable fishery and proper technology selection, as well as comprehensive assistance incorporating other industries, such as agriculture, and social development, such as education and health. In order to revitalize a fishing village, not only fishermen targeted in the conventional type of support for fishery development, but also the whole population of the fishing village is in the scope of cooperation. Furthermore, sustainable fishery is predicated on restraint of fish catches. To that end, household income that can maintain a living with limited fish catches must be secured, and consideration is given to the broader picture, including residents other than fishermen.

2) Stable food supply (effective utilization of fisheries)

It is necessary to create a fisheries infrastructure and improve fishing gear and methods so as to avoid catching fry (which would become a resource only later) with the aim of effectively utilizing fishery resources on a sustainable scale.

It should also be noted that only two-thirds of actual fish catches are utilized as food due to post-catch reduction from disposal, losing freshness, and putridity. Accordingly, processing and quality-assurance technology must be improved to enhance the safety of fishery products as food and at the same time the effective use of underutilized resources by raising the utilization ratio after catching or creating new values must be promoted. In this way, production expansion and improvement of utilizing method are promoted to increase food production.

3) Fisheries resource management

Fish are a renewable resource that can be autonomously recovered if they are caught within a certain limit, unlike minerals. Making the best use of such a characteristic, efforts are made to keep the resource utilization at the appropriate level, maintain the resource amount, and stabilize living through fishery. As developed countries have spent long hours and proportionate budgets and manpower to address management of fishery resources, developing countries need long-term approaches appropriate for the community, starting with awareness improvement of the administration and fishermen. In order to conserve fishery resources, a regionwide long-term approach is provided that considers the ecosystem of the land area and the water area, such as management of the upstream forests and rivers, etc. Furthermore, a regionwide approach crossing borders is undertaken for migratory fish and rare species.

Four Key Points

1) Capacity development

In order to achieve the three goals mentioned above, strengthening administration, such as upgrading laws and regulations, improvement of activities at the community level, and awareness of individuals are important, not to mention strengthening technical aspects such as fishery development, fish processing, aquaculture, resources, and environmental survey. JICA will develop human resources and improve problem-solving capacity so that society, organization, and individuals can play their own roles independently or jointly.

2) Approach for aid coordination

Aid coordination is common when responding to comprehensive issues in many developing countries including sub-Saharan Africa. In the fishery sector, the necessity of regionwide coordination is rising in relation to resource management. In the course of aid coordination, JICA proactively fulfills the adjusting function and transmits information while confirming the position of Japan's cooperation in the recipient countries. JICA will exchange opinions with other donors and related organizations from the formulation stage of a new project.

3) Promotion of program approach

In order to raise and expand the cooperation outcomes of individual projects, JICA will promote program approach by utilizing various aid tools that Japan has while collaborating with other donors. In particular, JICA will promote collaboration centered on fishing village development projects with grant aid cooperation and volunteer projects more than ever, and strive to expand development areas and secure sustainability of cooperation.

4) Gender consideration

In the fishery industry, operation of a fishing boat is heavy and dangerous labor, and is primarily the job of men of working age. Therefore, women and elderly people tend to be considered socially vulnerable. However, they are actually important actors in the fishery industry in fishing villages. They collect shellfish on the coastline and repair nets, as well as process and sell marine products.

In fishery development and fishing village development, social environment is improved and gender consideration is promoted. Additionally, through individual projects, more opportunities are provided to poor women and women in disadvantaged position for empowerment.

The Study on the Promotion of Inland Aquaculture for Rural Development in Benin — CASE STUDY

The Study on the Promotion of Inland Aquaculture for Rural Development in Benin, which is being implemented in 2007 for two years, aims to make inland aquaculture in rural areas a stepping stone for development of the village.

The land area of Benin is about one third that of Japan, and the shape of the land is long and thin, stretching 670km north to south and 80km east to west. The southern portion faces the sea, but the coastline is as short as 125km (200km for Tokyo 23 wards). The inland area makes up most of the country.

The people love fish and the country boasts a fishery industry. However, fish catches from the sea are small and fish catches from the (inland) rivers and lakes constitutes the majority of domestic production. Since consumption cannot be satisfied only with domestic

production, they depend on imports at present. The fish catches from the sea amounts to about 10,000 tons compared to 35,000 tons from the inland, whereas imports reached 46,000 tons in 2006.

Naturally, to increase domestic production is an important issue in Benin, and promotion of aquaculture in rural areas is expected to have a positive effect. As an approach to this issue, this development study aims to extend the technology of inland aquaculture to promote production, and develop aquaculture that leads to improvements in household income and livelihood. In Benin, in most cases aquaculture is operated with side jobs in agriculture or livestock farming. JICA strives to make a plan for the comprehensive development of the rural community by addressing fields other than aquaculture.

Economic Development

Economic Policy and Finance/Private Sector
Development/Resources and Energy



Bread made of cassava developed in the Institutional and Human Resource Development Project for One Village One Product Programme (Malawi)

Overview of the Economic Development Field

JICA's cooperation in the field of economic development comprises three areas: economic policy and finance, private sector development, and resources and energy. From the perspective of reducing poverty through economic growth, assistance for these issues has been enhanced. From the perspective of human security as well, in addition to accommodating basic human needs (such as health and education sectors), it is necessary to provide assistance that helps people gain sufficient and stable incomes and leads to their economic self-reliance through capacity development of governments, community, and people, as well as expansion

of job opportunities in the economic development field.

In the economic development field, priority has thus far been placed mostly on Asia, especially East Asia and Southeast Asia. However, recently, in order to support poverty reduction in Africa, measures effective for facilitating sustainable economic growth and leading to improved households and lives among the poverty group have been called for. To this end, support that leads to the development of the private sector using markets, trading, and investment, as well as assistance for the enhancement of the private sector, are becoming more essential.

Economic Policy and Finance

Overview

The development of a fiscal and monetary infrastructure and the appropriate management of economic policies are vital to sustainable economic growth. If economic policies are not implemented and managed properly, fiscal and monetary collapse will bring about hyperinflation or deflation, causing a serious deterioration in people's assets and living standards. Strengthening and stabilizing fiscal and monetary systems and achieving macroeconomic stability and growth through the formulation and implementation of appropriate economic policies are required for successfully overcoming a wide range of development challenges.

The following two areas have become especially important in recent years in this context.

1) Preventing a recurrence of the Asian financial crisis

Until the Asian financial and economic crisis of 1997, the performance of the economies of ASEAN had been described as the "Asian miracle." The crisis robbed large numbers of people in these economies of both assets and jobs. The fragility of financial systems in ASEAN countries has been identified as one of the causes of the Asian financial and economic crisis. Financial systems need to be strengthened in order to prevent a recurrence of such a financial crisis in the future.

2) Fiscal management

In recent years, international organizations and donor countries have highlighted support for developing the fiscal management capacity of developing countries' governments. The fiscal management capacity of the government is extremely important for increasing revenues, strategically allocating resources to priority areas such as poverty reduction while maintaining fiscal order, and for spending fiscal funds effectively and efficiently.

JICA's Efforts

Technical cooperation in the area of economic policy and finance up to the 1980s tended to place more emphasis on the provision of know-how, such as the introduction of Japanese fiscal and monetary systems. However, two events in the 1990s changed the direction of JICA's cooperation in this area and prompted it to become full-scale.

The first of these was the transition of former socialist countries to market economies in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The shift to market economies required radical changes in economic policies, systems, and organizations. Support for this process became a key priority for Japan's ODA. The second factor was the Asian financial and economic crisis of 1997. Since the crisis, JICA has upgraded support for the reinforcement of financial systems through the improvement of institutions and the development of human resources.

In concrete terms, JICA provides the following cooperation.

- 1) Reinforcement and stabilization of fiscal systems (capacity improvements in the areas of fiscal management and debt management, and capacity building in the areas of taxation and customs)
- 2) Reinforcement and stabilization of financial systems (capacity building in the area of financial administration and supervision, the reinforcement of financial intermediation functions, capital market development, and improved financial systems for small and medium-sized enterprises [SMEs])
- 3) Development of a macroeconomic management infrastructure (the development of economic laws, assistance in the creation of macroeconomic models, and improvements in economic statistics)

Among the above, the number of projects in the area of fis-

cal systems, primarily taxation and customs, is the largest, accounting for approximately 50% of total projects, followed by projects in the area of financial systems at 30%.

Countries in East Asia and Southeast Asia account for 80%

Private Sector Development

Overview

Private sector development is an approach to cooperation that contributes to the economic advancement of developing countries through the vitality of the private sector. Supporting the private sector of developing countries has the potential to stimulate economic growth, accelerate poverty reduction, and improve living standards in developing countries. Unless economic activities in the private sector advance, employment opportunities and incomes will remain limited, as a result, poverty will persist.

Private sector development is also extremely important in terms of tax revenue. Unless tax revenues are secured, the government will not be able to sufficiently provide administrative services such as education, health, medical care, and welfare, due to budget constraints.

When private businesses are established and grow, employment opportunities for local people will expand, resulting in growth in household incomes. The development of various industries and growth in exports, imports, and investment will lead to the expansion of national economic activity. In order to respond to international competitive environment which becomes more severe in today's economic globalization, the competitiveness of local industry in developing countries needs to be improved, too.

JICA's private sector development provides support for economic capacity development of central and local governments in a developing country and assistance that brings about private vitality, aiming for economic growth that benefits not only the poverty group but also the entire society of a developing country.

JICA's Efforts

JICA's cooperation in private sector development is centered on East Asia and Southeast Asia, which has achieved outstanding economic development. In these regions, shift from the conventional economic structure led by the public sector to one centered on economic activities of the private sector has progressed as well as a horizontal relationship of economic dependency, such as World Trade Organization (WTO) and Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), calling for a response to economic globalization.

This movement has been expanding from East Asia and Southeast Asia to Latin America, Middle East and Africa, and JICA's support has been extended accordingly. In relation to Africa, the importance of poverty reduction through economic growth was declared in the third Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD III) in 2003, and the forth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) is scheduled for 2008, as an effort to enhance assistance for the region (see p.53-54).

In some developing countries there are riots and ethnic conflicts, and it has been pointed out that they stem primarily from social unrest such as loss of employment for young people. Many developing countries have problems in the sectors of health and

of the target regions of cooperation in the area of economic policy and finance. However, JICA will work to reinforce efforts in the African region, primarily in the area of fiscal management.

basic education; however, social and economic infrastructure won't be stabilized unless employment opportunities are created through the promotion of SMEs and support for entrepreneurship, inter-regional income disparities are corrected, and gender balance in employment are secured. In order to solve these socioeconomic issues and employment issues, which are attributed to social unrest, efforts for private sector development are becoming more important.

Trade and Investment

In order for a developing country to respond to economic globalization, it is necessary to activate trade and investment and consolidate economic partnerships with the world. JICA's cooperation in this area focuses on the following activities: building institutional framework such as development of a relevant legal framework, establishment of an institutional foundation as the basis of trade and investment promotion; organizational enhancement such as trade and investment promotion agencies; and capacity development of policy makers and staff members of the agencies.

In fiscal 2006, JICA implemented technical cooperation projects and studies targeting trade training centers and trade promotion agencies in Indonesia and Egypt. JICA also cooperated in the capacity enhancement of investment promotion agencies such as the Ministry of Investment Promotion in Central and Eastern Europe and ASEAN countries, by dispatching technical experts. Furthermore, in order to carry out trade and investment activities smoothly, building an environment for trade and investment is critical. As part of such environment-building, in terms of protecting intellectual properties, JICA supports enhancing systems and the capacity of agencies and personnel in charge of intellectual properties in China and ASEAN countries. JICA also cooperates in the capacity enhancement of agencies and personnel as well as institution-building in the course of creating standards and conformity assessment, which is a prerequisite for trade promotion (such as harmonization of standards and enhancement of inspection capability).

Thus, the cooperation in the trade and investment sector has been implemented mainly in Asian countries. However, JICA has currently started to promote South-South cooperation between Asia and Africa by utilizing experience in Asia for Africa.

Tourism

Tourism is an industry that a number of developing countries turn to as a means of acquiring foreign currency, increasing employment opportunities and incomes, and promoting regional development. Lately, it has been emphasized especially as a means to achieve the development goal of poverty reduction. Since it plays an important role in terms of not only economic impacts, but also the promotion of country-to-country and person-to-person mutual understanding, world-scale cultural develop-

ment and peace, harmony between development and environmental conservation, sustainable use of natural resources, movements toward working for more sustainable tourism development are accelerating.

Under such circumstances, needs for tourism cooperation are increasing in developing countries, and JICA is implementing assistance to strengthen various institutional frameworks to support tourism. First, it aims to bring about economic effects by developing tourism as an industry, including assistance related to the formulation and implementation of tourism policies. Second, it utilizes efforts for tourism development and its outcomes as a means to achieve the goal of other development issues, represented by ecotourism in an environmental conservation project. Third, it implements a project to utilize tourism as a means of regional and community development and regional promotion.

SME Development and Promotion of Industrial Technology

The governments of many developing countries have not developed policies and systems to foster the private sector, especially SMEs. The lack of technical skills in the production field and management know-how on a business-level has impeded the birth and growth of businesses. To overcome these obstacles, formulation of SME development policies and capacity development of persons in the public sector who implement the policies appropriately are essential. In a region like sub-Saharan Africa, where there is no industry, regional community development targeting micro enterprises and small producers' groups, represented by the "Isson Ippin Undo" (the One Village One Product Movement) or the "Michino Eki" (Road Station) is implemented. These supports for entrepreneurship create local jobs, promote support for women

entrepreneurs, and contribute to the correction of regional income disparities (see p.20-21).

At the same time, promotion of industrial technology through expanding business opportunities and improving competition through technological innovation is an important task for developing countries. Many developing countries work on the promotion of various industrial technologies and have established official test facilities and laboratories for basic technologies. JICA supports development of human resources who work at those institutions. In the more developed countries, cooperation for relatively high level technical research targeting national research institutes is increasing. Through such cooperation, JICA supports building systems that can respond to local technical needs.

Fostering Supporting Industries

In the areas where comprehensive industries such as automobile and electric appliance manufacturing have started operations with a certain basic industry foundation and the introduction of foreign capital, it is vital to foster SMEs, or supporting industries, which supply components and parts to these businesses. Support for the increased technical power of SMEs is very important as cooperation for more developed countries.

JICA actively supports development of such supporting industries. Such support expands overseas direct investment to developing countries and stimulates their business activities. At the same time, procurement in developing countries will increase, indirectly promoting overseas business opportunities. If this positive cycle continues, it is expected that supporting industries will further expand and employment opportunities will increase in developing countries.

Tourism Development Project through Strengthening Public-Private Partnership in Ghana — CASE STUDY

Ghana's official language is English. It acts as a trigger for an increase in foreign tourists and tourism revenues, which in turn greatly contributes to economic growth. Accordingly, employment in the tourism-related sector is rapidly increasing and it is also expected to become a means of vitalizing local communities. However, with regards to the goal set by the government of Ghana of receiving one million tourists a year by 2007, the number of tourists in fiscal 2005 was 0.5 million, which means the achievement rate remained 50%. Possible reasons for this include: (1) tourism resources are not considered products; (2) two World Heritage Sites are not fully utilized; and (3) the same kinds of souvenirs are sold everywhere you go, which is less appealing. Tourism promotion from the standpoint of tourists is required.

To provide tourism services that appeal to tourists, public-private partnership is essential; while the private sector offers ideas, the government, including the Ministry of Tourism, builds a system so that the ideas can be put into action easily, or supports them with promotional campaigns. However, the scale of the private sector in Ghana is still small and weak, and the government's policies in support of the private sector are insufficient to produce products that appeal to tourists.

In 2006, JICA thus started the Tourism Development Project through Strengthening Public-Private Partnership with an enhanced partnership between the public and private sectors, which used to be at a distance, utilizing Japan's experience in public-private partnership for tourism development. It is a new effort of JICA to support tourism development in a developing country by highlighting public-private partnership. The people involved have great expectations for the project, believing that when the public and the private sectors work together to successfully implement advertising and marketing, it is highly possible to achieve the goal set by the government.



Public-Private Partnership Forum aiming for tourism industry promotion

Front Line Thailand

Automotive Human Resource Development Project for Supporting Industries

Human Development That Will Lead the Future of the Automotive Industry

The automotive industry in Thailand is one of the country's key industries in much the same manner as it is in Japan, and it is leading the ASEAN countries. Automobile production is soaring partly owing to contributions from Japanese companies, and annual production exceeded one million units at the end of 2005 for the first time in ASEAN countries. However, with regard to the local parts industry that supports this automotive industry, the environment for cultivation of engineers has not been sufficiently established yet, and in order for Thailand to continue economic development, human resources development has become



Thai engineers taking part in a processing test

an important issue.

Support with public-private partnership

This project forms part of Japan's cooperation fields in the Japan-Thailand Economic Partnership Agreement (JTEPA). In December 2005, Thailand's Ministry of Industry, the Industry Association, the Japan External Trade Organization, and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok signed a memorandum for cooperation. The project started in early 2006 and JICA has also participated in the project for the purpose of establishing a human resources development system in the automotive industry in Thailand.

The automotive industry is a comprehensive manufacturing industry in which Japan has expertise. Now, cooperation is ongoing, utilizing the good relationship that the governmental agencies of both countries have built through technical cooperation in the past, as well as the technology developed in Japan. The project is supporting the Thai government and private companies under

the public-private partnership in which the Japanese government, implementation agencies (JICA, JETRO, the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship), and Japanese companies all work together.

Contributing to development of Japan-Thailand relationship as well

For small and medium parts manufacturers to respond to the high technical level required by the automotive industry, the capacity enhancement of engineers is vital. In this project, utilizing the know-how and experiences long accumulated by Japanese manufacturers, mechanism-building to realize a sustainable and high-level training system for Thai people is underway, and improving the skills of human resources in the industry is comprehensively supported; for example, by establishing a technical certification and qualification system to evaluate the technical levels of the developed human resources.

The project is expected to grow and empower the supporting industries in Thailand and further promote bilateral economic relations.

(JICA Thailand Office)

Resources and Energy

Overview

The world's energy demand keeps increasing. Energy demand in developing countries, primarily in Asia, is also on the rise due to population growth and progress in industrialization. Lately, against the backdrop of skyrocketing energy prices centered on crude oil and global-scale environmental issues such as climate change accompanied by global warming, energy problems have become important in the international community, and thus need to be examined from a more comprehensive perspective such as energy security.

Electric power, in particular, which is a modern form of energy, is vital for improving people's livelihoods, including economic growth and medical and educational services in developing countries, and plays a role in supporting sustainable socioeconomic development and promoting poverty reduction.

These days, as electric power deregulation has been progressing on a worldwide scale, many developing countries have pushed forward power sector reforms such as (1) the breakup and privatization of government-owned electric power companies, (2) the opening of electrical power pool markets, and (3) the promotion of private investment to make up for a shortage of public funds such as independent power producers (IPP). Now that the

role of the government in the electric power sector has changed, in order to realize a reliable supply of low-cost power service, introduction of public-private partnership (PPP) has become an important issue.

Under these circumstances, priority issues in the power field can be summarized into four areas: (1) development of laws, regulations, and systems for steady implementation of power sector reform, (2) formulation of appropriate power development plans, (3) development of technical standards and improvement in facility operation, and (4) cultivation of human resources who will lead the power sector.

As far as rural electrification is concerned, the development of isolated mini-grids utilizing renewable energy, such as small hydropower and solar power, is often more economical in areas of developing countries that lack electric power services than is the extension of power transmission lines and distribution networks. In recent years, interest in renewable energy resources that contribute to the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions is growing and increased use of these resources is desired from the viewpoint of global environment issues or diversification and retention of energy resources.

Energy resources such as petroleum and coal and mineral

resources are important sources of foreign currency acquisition and a resource for economic development in developing countries, and the sustainable development and management of those resources is thus gaining importance.

JICA's Efforts

Electric Power and Energy

There are two priority issues to be addressed in the electric power and energy sector: (1) securing a stable power supply to achieve sustainable economic development and (2) promotion of rural electrification from the perspective of human security.

Technical cooperation in the sector of electric power and energy until the 1990s was primarily feasibility studies for the construction of electricity infrastructure in developing countries and support for training of personnel to maintain and manage electric power facilities. Keeping in mind partnerships with development financial institutions such as Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), and African Development Bank (ADB), JICA will implement assistance related to the development of and electricity infrastructure.

Amid the global trend of power sector reform, the role of governments of developing countries is being shifted from direct implementation of electric power projects to policy formulation to secure stable power supply led by the private sector. Accordingly, since the 1990s, JICA has actively addressed capacity development in the electric power and energy sector. Specifically, such efforts include: (1) support for policy making such as power development planning that enables long-term stable power supply (Philippines, Indonesia, Viet Nam); (2) support for institutional arrangement on establishing power technical standards (Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam); (3) support for improving business management of power suppliers (Bangladesh); and (4) support for training power engineers in the field (Cambodia, Viet Nam, Jordan).

When providing cooperation for rural electrification, it is important to introduce the perspective of human security and keep in mind local residents in the unelectrified area, who are the ben-



On-site training for maintenance and management of photovoltaic devices (The Project for Sustainability Improvement of Renewable Energy Development in Village Electrification, the Philippines)

eficiaries. The perspective of capacity development that enhances the capacity of government organizations of developing countries is also important. In countries such as Malawi, Zambia, and Ghana, through electrification of rural growth centers, health and education services are being improved and the revitalization of local industries is being promoted, thus contributing to poverty reduction. Rural electrification plays an extremely important role in terms of promoting reduction of disparities between urban and rural areas. The need for cooperation is high.

Corresponding to various energy problems such as energy security and global environmental problems, which have attracted attention recently, JICA has begun assistance to formulate a comprehensive energy plan as a foundation of policy, in Viet Nam and the Philippines.

According to the JICA Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations, JICA will continue to appropriately formulate and implement projects, and at the same time strengthen region- and country-specific approaches as well as program approaches in implementing cooperation in collaboration with other donors.

Resources and Energy Conservation

Cooperation in the areas of resources and energy conservation, which comprises mining development, renewable energy

The Study on National Energy Master Plan in Viet Nam

CASE STUDY

Viet Nam has pushed forward a transition to a market economy based on the Doi Moi Policy (reform path for economic liberalization while keeping the socialism system). As a result, the economy is riding a wave of rapid growth, and energy consumption tends to increase by about 7% annually. Energy demand has so far been met by domestically generated energy such as coal, oil, natural gas, and hydropower; however, it is necessary to optimize the energy supply-demand structure from a comprehensive standpoint in order to meet the increasing energy demand and promote well-balanced development for the future.



First workshop in the study

Under these situations, Viet Nam is preparing to formulate the nation's first National Energy Plan, which includes (1) efficient development of domestically generated energy, (2) high quality and low cost

energy supply, (3) ensuring energy security, (4) creation of an energy market, (5) promotion of private sector investment in energy development, (6) utilization of renewable energies, (7) strategic considerations for ecosocialism, etc.

The purpose of this study is to support the formulation of the National Energy Master Plan of Viet Nam by 2025. This Master Plan aims for optimum utilization of domestically generated primary energy and stable supply of energy in Viet Nam, such as stable supply of energy, energy security, diversification of energy supply, export and import of energy, energy saving, and environmental considerations.

JICA is establishing tools that will form the base of the plan, such as database, demand prediction model, demand and supply optimization model, analyzing future pictures and policy options from various aspects, support for drawing up a road map and action plan to solve major issues, and strengthening the planning and formulation capacity of counterparts in the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Institute of Energy.

(including new energies such as solar and geothermal energies), and energy conservation, is centered on the following activities.

1) Mining and Resources Recycling

In order to support sustainable development of mineral and energy resources in developing countries, support for institution building, human resources development, and technical improvement is being provided. For example, a study for the development of information and improvement in legal systems for the promotion of investment in the mining sector has been conducted in Laos, Zambia, and Serbia. In the area of energy resources, a development study of pollution control in the petroleum industry in the Caspian Sea is implemented in Kazakhstan. In Asian countries that continue economic development, the amount of resource consumption is rapidly increasing. In response, JICA has started cooperation to promote the establishment of a resource-saving recycling-oriented society by promoting 3R (reduce, reuse and recycle).

2) Renewable Energy

In this area, various types of cooperation have been implemented in view of promoting the use of renewable energy for the conservation of the global environment, as an independent electricity source for the electrification of isolated rural areas. Recently implemented projects include development studies to formulate local electrification master plans using solar energy and small hydropower generation systems in Peru, as well as a development study for geothermal development in Indonesia.

3) Energy Conservation

In the area of energy conservation, JICA has so far implemented cooperation making full use of Japan's knowledge and experience in a great number of countries through development studies, technical cooperation projects, and training programs. JICA is currently providing projects to disseminate and promote energy conservation in Poland.

Front Line Serbia

The Study on Master Plan for Promotion of Mining Industry

Aim for Sustainable Economic Development and Environmental Conservation

Serbia, a country located in the center of the Balkan Peninsula, is rich in various metal deposits. During the socialist era in Yugoslavia, mining production was so active that the country was a principal base metal-producing (non-ferrous metals that are used in high volumes, like copper and zinc) country in Europe. However, mining production dropped substantially owing to the civil war that broke out in the 1990s in the former Yugoslavia and the effects of economic restrictions that it brought about.

Nevertheless, even with today's severe economic situations, the export value of mining (especially non-ferrous metals) commands 17% of the export value of all industries in Serbia (2004) and mining is still the main industry in the country. Therefore, the government looks at reconstruction and promotion of the mining industry as an effective means of acquisition of foreign currency, and positions it as an important foundation for economic reconstruction.

First development study in Serbia

Based on such a situation, JICA is implementing the Study on Master Plan for Promotion of Mining Industry for the purpose of recommending a road map

for sustainable promotion of the mining industry.

Priority areas of cooperation for Serbia are economic development and environmental conservation. This development study is a highly significant cooperation in that it covers these two fields.

The Master Plan will include four major items: reconstruction policy for the mining sector, strategy of modernization and management of mining facilities, strategy of investment in mining sector, and environmental protection and countermeasures for pollution caused by mining activities. The first three items lead to economic development and the last one leads to environmental conservation. The knowledge and experiences of Japan, which used to have many mines, can be fully utilized in this cooperation.

Leading to actual attraction of investment

Many people in the government of Serbia involved in this study have experiences in participating in JICA's training programs in Japan. They not only have knowledge about mining in Japan but also fully under-

stand how the Japanese people work and think, thus contributing to smooth implementation of the study based on a deep and trusting relationship from the beginning of the study.

In parallel with the study, information is provided internationally using brochures and booklets. At the final stage, activities leading to actual investment are being planned such as holding international seminars in London and Canada, and presenting the outcomes at an investment promotion seminar in Japan.

After the end of the study, Serbia is expected to promote exploration and development on its own based on the formulated Master Plan.

(JICA Balkan Office)

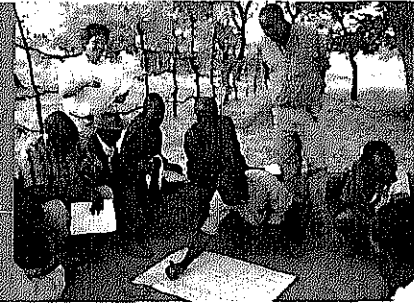


Study activities at the government-owned copper mine, RTB Bor mine, in Serbia

Chapter 2 Cooperation Modality

Technical Cooperation Projects

Tailor-made cooperation responding to individual needs



Villagers and an agricultural extension worker working together to formulate an improvement plan (the Project for Participatory Village Development in Isolated Areas in Zambia)

Outline of Technical Cooperation Projects

Issues that developing countries have to address for self-sustainable development include developing human resources, establishing a legal system for economic growth, poverty reduction, environmental conservation, and post-conflict reconstruction. These issues have become more diverse and multi-phased. In addition to accurate and quick responses to these development issues, JICA's technical cooperation requires planning and implementing the most highly effective cooperation based on the situations and development issues in each country. Accordingly, JICA extends technical cooperation to developing countries using two schemes. Technical cooperation projects are implemented to help developing countries achieve their development objectives. Development studies are conducted to make plans for development.

Technical cooperation projects are implemented for a fixed period of time to achieve specific objectives for addressing issues in developing countries in combination with cooperation approaches (cooperation tools) such as dispatching experts, inviting people from developing countries to Japan for training, and providing necessary equipment. In order to meet a broad range of

needs in developing countries effectively and efficiently, cooperation plans are tailor-made for each issue jointly with the partner country and implemented.

Development studies support the formulation of blueprint plans for mid- and long-term public development projects that are beneficial to social and economic development in developing countries. They also support the formulation of prioritized development program plans. During the course of the studies, planning methods and survey and analytical skills are transferred to counterparts in the partner countries.

The reports made in studies provide partner governments with data for assessing their social and economic development policies. They also offer international organizations and donor countries resources for considering financial aid and technical cooperation. In many cases, plans proposed in these reports have been realized with financial assistance such as Japanese yen loans and grant aid cooperation. Skills transferred through the studies are also utilized when partner countries implement projects with their own funds and carry out other studies.

Implementing Effective Projects

JICA responds to diversifying aid needs by grasping those needs specific to a region or country in implementing cooperation. Specifically, JICA's technical cooperation includes support for policy formulation, support for good governance, such as the establishment of legal systems, global environmental protection, infrastructure development, and community development. In addition, technical cooperation is actively implemented in combination with financial assistance, such as grant aid and yen loans, to create a synergistic effect.

Technical cooperation is implemented jointly by the partner country and Japan. Ownership of the project lies strictly with the partner country. Therefore, the partner country (the government, local governments, NGOs, citizens, etc.) needs to exercise ownership in the project.

In project management, it is important to make plans that maximize the effect of the project. JICA works to enhance preliminary studies for making better technical cooperation plans.

Once the cooperation period is over, the partner country is expected to continue the project alone. A project's scale and implementation plans are formulated after considering the financial capacity of the organization responsible for implementing the project in the partner country as well as the chances for adopting technology and institutions locally. Special attention is paid to the viewpoint of capacity development (CD) in developing countries. In order for a project to continue after JICA terminates assistance, the capacities of individual counterparts and agencies, even of the whole society if necessary, in developing countries that are key-players in the project need to be improved and enhanced.

In addition, project management in the form of corporate contracts is practiced to promote the active use of private sector human resources, aiming at the implementation of high quality, result-based projects that make use of experience and know-how of the private sector in wider areas.

Training Program in Japan

Utilize Japan's experience and knowledge for the development of developing countries



Training participants visiting the nursery in the department of obstetrics and gynecology (Development and Promotion of MCH Handbook in Palestine, JICA Tokyo)
(Photo by Kenshiro Imamura)

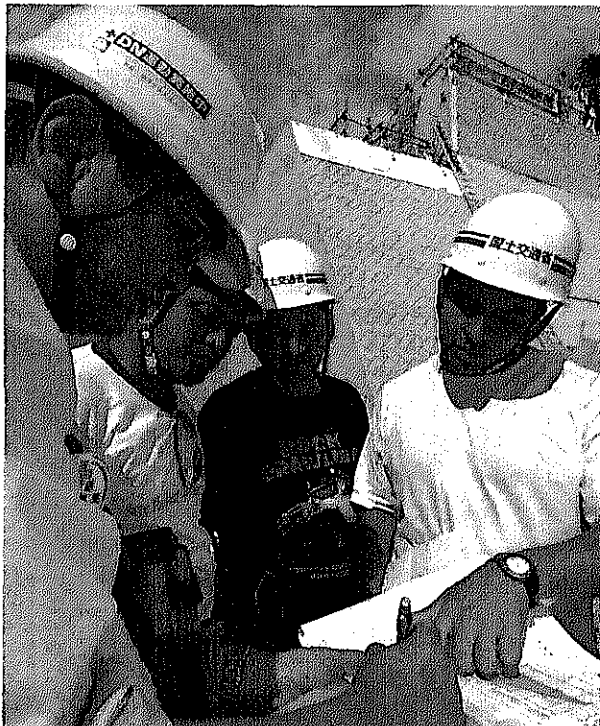
Outline of Training Program in Japan

Training Participants Contributing to Nation-building

The Acceptance of Technical Training Participants Program is intended for administrators, technicians, and researchers who are key players in development fields in developing countries and regions. It transfers knowledge and technology required by respective countries in collaboration with central and local governments, universities, the private sector, etc., in Japan for the purpose of contributing to the solution of their own problems. This is the most fundamental program in JICA's technical cooperation.

Since its launch in 1954, the scale of the program has continued to grow. In terms of the content, JICA provides training courses related to global issues such as the environment and HIV/AIDS and newly-emerging issues such as support for democratization and transitions to a market economy, in addition to basic development fields such as administration, public works, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, education, health, mining, and industry.

Since its launch, JICA has accepted approximately 200,000



Training participants touring a mudslide-control dam under construction in Kobe City (Volcanology and Comprehensive Sediment-related Prevention Measures, JICA Tokyo)
(Photo by Kenshiro Imamura)

participants in this training program in Japan. In fiscal 2006, 8,239 people took part in the program. Former participants of these training courses are now contributing to their own nation-building in various ways, for example, as national leaders, top-ranking researchers, administrators, and the leaders of farming community remote from the capital.

Transition to Issue-specific Training

About half of the training courses in Japan are carried out in groups. This type of training presents programs utilizing Japan's experience and knowledge to a set of developing countries. However, in order to not only introduce Japan's technology and experience but also directly provide solutions to the issues they face in their country, JICA makes efforts to improve the quality of training from various aspects and add higher value.

As part of such efforts, JICA has been promoting a framework in which the training participants are required, before they leave Japan, to work out a plan of action that they intend to implement back home, and of these plans, important and feasible ones can be the subject of follow-up support provided by JICA.

Acceptance of Foreign Students

In addition to the conventional training program, in fiscal 1999 JICA started a long-term training program that accepts foreign students who wish to receive Master's and Ph.D degrees in Japanese universities with the aim of acquiring more advanced expertise and skills. Young administrative officers, researchers, and businesspersons who are prospective leaders of developing countries can participate with the recommendations from their government. In fiscal 2006, about 87 people participated in the program.

The scholarship for Japanese immigrants and their descendants in Latin America started in fiscal 2000 for the purpose of developing human resources who will contribute to future Japanese immigrant communities and the development of the countries where they reside and will be bridges between those countries and Japan.

In addition, Japanese grant aid for human resources development scholarships commenced in fiscal 2000, and its implementation (by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) is facilitated by JICA. This scheme was conducted for 10 countries, and 273 eligible young administrative officers and businesspersons came to Japan to study in fiscal 2006.

Grant Aid

Fund aid for building social and living infrastructure



A deep well supplying safe water to about 1,200 people living in a village (The Water Supply Project in Kayes, Segou and Mopti, Mali)

Grant Aid Program and JICA's Work

Grant aid is a program where the Japanese government provides funds to the governments of developing countries without the obligation of repayment in the form of ODA. The aim is to support the self-help efforts of the recipient country through the implementation of a project.

JICA's work can be classified into (1) a preliminary study that checks the content, scale, and the approximate costs of a grant aid project; (2) facilitating activities that examine a grant aid project, which begins after the signing and exchange of an intergovernmental agreement (Exchanges of Notes [E/N]), and carry out other necessary activities to ensure that it is being executed appropriately; and (3) follow-up that aims to maintain or enhance the effects of an implemented project.

Recently, an increasing number of more effective cooperation activities has been provided in a combination of hardware assistance, such as construction of facilities and provision of equipment, and software assistance, such as technical guidance and human resources development. For instance, in order to help local people acquire maintenance and management know-how to operate equipment provided by grant aid, human resources development is carried out through the dispatch of experts from Japan and inviting them to Japan for training. In some cases, on the other hand, training and research facilities necessary for technical cooperation are built with grant aid.

The Japanese government (Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MOFA]) directly provides the funds for grant aid projects.

Target and Procedures of the Program

JICA carries out the following procedures to implement a project.

1. Request

When a developing country wishes for grant aid from Japan, it must submit a formal request in writing to a local Japanese diplomatic mission.

The request for the grant aid has to satisfy the following criteria:

- a. High priority is secured in the social and economic development plans of the recipient country.
- b. It should contribute mainly to the stability of a democratic regime and the improvement of welfare.
- c. It should have high public demand despite low profitability.
- d. The recipient country has difficulties carrying out the project on its own and a loan is not suitable.
- e. Management system and budget are secured to implement the project effectively.
- f. There is no risk of assistance being channeled for military ends.

2. Study

In response to the approval notification for a prior study from the MOFA, JICA has a study team that includes private consultants to carry out a study in terms of the level of public interest, management and operation systems, and coordination with technical cooperation. Checkpoints of the study are basic conditions such as the purpose, content, effects, and optimal scale and environment of implementation of the grant aid. Project cost is estimated based on the study.

3. Examination

Based on the related documents, including the basic design

study report compiled during the study, the MOFA examines the content of the cooperation. Subsequent consultation between the MOFA and the Ministry of Finance takes place to secure the necessary budget. After certain formalities, the Cabinet decides whether the cooperation should be implemented or not.

4. Implementation

Following the Cabinet decision, the grant aid project commences with the signing of an E/N (Exchange of Notes), which stipulates the purpose and content of the cooperation, by the governments of Japan and the recipient country.

At the implementation stage of the grant aid project, JICA ensures that the construction of facilities and procurement of materials and equipment are carried out smoothly and properly. In a series of processes from conclusion of contracts to completion of construction and hand-over of materials and equipment, JICA gives advice to, has communication with, and provides on-site instruction to the recipient country's government and Japanese consultants.

5. Follow-up

After the completion of cooperation, the government of the recipient country takes charge of maintenance and management. However, sometimes, unexpected problems such as the breakdown of equipment and insufficient budget undermine the operation of the project. In response, JICA provides follow-up cooperation as necessary; for example, the procurement of equipment and materials, dispatch of a repair team, emergency work, etc., to support the sustainability of the effect of cooperation provided to the developing country.

Citizen Participatory Cooperation

Promoting citizen participation based on domestic offices



Students on a school trip visiting Exhibition Space at JICA Global Plaza
(Photo by Hideo Hanamura)

Various Citizen Participatory Cooperation Programs

JICA implements various programs to increase citizens' interest in international cooperation to help them understand its necessity and participate.

Collaboration with Various Regional Resources

Specifically, JICA holds open seminars, deploys programs to support development education, and implements JICA Partnership Program as part of ODA, etc.

Through open seminars, JICA provides many opportunities to hear stories from people experienced in international cooperation. The purposes of programs to support development education are to share knowledge about situations in developing countries and the relationship between the developing countries and Japan, and to provide opportunities to help citizens realize what they can do voluntarily. They also carry out activities such as international cooperation lectures, essay contests for junior high and high school students, and development education study tours for teachers. In the JICA Partnership Program, cooperation activities proposed by citizens that directly benefit local communities are carried out as a joint project with JICA.

These programs are implemented based on domestic offices of JICA in collaboration with various regional groups and individuals such as NGOs, local governments, educational organizations, JICA volunteers, and experts. For such collaboration, JICA coordinators for international cooperation who are mainly dispatched to prefectural international exchange associations undertake coordination with local actors who are interested in international cooperation.

JICA Global Plaza Utilized by Citizens

JICA Global Plaza opened in Hiroo, Tokyo in April 2006 as a hub for citizen participatory cooperation. JICA Global Plaza is intended to serve as a place where citizens involved in international cooperation can interact.

In the Exhibition Space, where visitors can learn about the situations and life in developing countries through motion pictures, games, and experience, exhibitions on various themes such as human security, environment, Africa, prevention of desertification, and education are presented jointly with NGOs, mass media, educational organizations, etc. The Interchange Zone is utilized by groups involved in international cooperation, such as NGOs,

as a place to distribute information to citizens. In fiscal 2006, the number of visitors reached 43,000, thus demonstrating that the facility is certainly utilized by citizens. Debriefing sessions are also held here by NGOs based outside the Kanto area, and its use for distributing information from local NGOs to the nation has steadily progressed.

JICA Partnership Program

The JICA Partnership Program is implemented based on proposals made by NGOs, universities, local governments or public-interest corporations in Japan (hereinafter called the 'Partners') that are willing to contribute to international cooperation. As joint projects with Partners, the program aims to conduct cooperation activities proposed by citizens that directly benefit local communities in developing countries.

Though the program can be divided into three types, grassroots-level and meticulous projects that directly contribute to improvements in the living situations and incomes of people in developing countries are carried out. JICA domestic offices serve as contact points, widely recruiting ideas for international cooperation activities in developing countries. In order to realize these ideas, JICA and Partners work together to formulate and implement projects jointly.

Youth Invitation Program

In the Youth Invitation Program, young people from developing countries are invited to Japan to receive training in their fields of specialization and interact with Japanese people. In fiscal 2006, 1,666 young people from 103 countries were received by 47 prefectures. Local people in the regions that accept young people experience international cooperation and exchange, and their school visits contribute to the promotion of education for global understanding. For example, the students in the visited schools learn about the country of the visiting participants beforehand, and when the participants actually visit the schools, they exchange songs of both countries and so on.

The Youth Invitation Program is being reformed as Training Programme for Young Leaders in fiscal 2007. This program will be implemented as a program specializing in training, with an emphasis on acquisition of knowledge in specialized fields.

Volunteer Program

Public participation in international cooperation highly regarded by recipient countries



JOCV explaining how to make a musical instrument to students (Tonga)

Outline of Volunteer Program

JICA's volunteer programs are highly regarded by recipient countries as programs that more closely approach and directly benefit communities. At the same time, while a severe environment for ODA budgets continues, public expectation for and evaluation of the volunteer programs are rising as a core scheme of public participatory international cooperation.

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)

In response to requests from developing countries, the Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) Program promotes the activities of young people who wish to cooperate in the economic and social development of those countries. JOCVs generally stay in developing countries for two years, living and working with the local people while taking part in cooperative activities. Cooperation is provided in eight fields: agriculture, forestry and fishery, manufacturing, maintenance and operation, civil engineering and architecture, health and welfare, education and information services, sports, and planning and administration. Around 195 occupations are involved in all. Since the program's inception in 1965, a total of 29,889 volunteers have been dispatched (1,529 volunteers in fiscal 2006).

Senior Volunteers

The Senior Volunteer Program is aimed specifically at middle-aged people who have a strong interest in cooperation activities in developing countries. Under this program, volunteers with extensive skills and plentiful professional experience between the

ages of 40 and 69 are recruited. The recruits are then dispatched to developing countries in accordance with requests received from the governments of those countries. The program can be described as a senior version of the JOCV Program.

Cooperation is provided in various sectors as in the JOCV Program. The number of dispatched volunteers has increased, from 87 in fiscal 1999 to 345 in fiscal 2006, and a total of 3,030 volunteers have been dispatched to 57 countries since the program's inception.

Many baby boomers will reach retirement age in 2007. In response to the Comprehensive "Challenge Again" Support Plan of the Japanese government, which focuses on the utilization of corporate retired human resources, JICA explored dispatch requests and recruited senior volunteers to provide baby boomers with the chance to utilize the skills and experience they gained while they were employed.

Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers and Senior Volunteers for Overseas Japanese Communities

Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers and Senior Volunteers for Overseas Japanese Communities Programs are dispatched in response to requests from Japanese immigrant communities in Latin America, in order to contribute to the development of those communities. Since the inception of the programs in 1985, 909 Youth Volunteers and 319 Senior Volunteers for Overseas Japanese Communities have been dispatched to 10 countries in total.

From Recruitment to Dispatch

Recruitment and Selection

Volunteers are recruited twice a year, in spring and fall (volunteers for overseas Japanese communities are recruited once a year in the fall). JICA discloses the information about requests on its website and holds explanatory sessions throughout the country more than 500 times every year. The selection process consists of document screenings and interviews with regard to skills, health, and language proficiency. In fiscal 2006, 12,348 people attended the explanatory sessions of the JOCV Program and 1,325 out of 5,857 applicants were accepted. With respect to Senior Volunteers, 6,541 attended the explanatory sessions and 326 out of 1,204 applicants were accepted.

Pre-dispatch Training

Successful applicants undergo training prior to dispatch. The

training lasts for approximately 70 days for JOCVs and about 30 days for senior volunteers, and the training for volunteers for overseas Japanese communities follows each of them. Starting in fiscal 2007, training for JOCVs and senior volunteers will be integrated into a 65-day joint training for greater effectiveness and efficiency. In fiscal 2006, prior to the implementation of the joint training, training for Japan Overseas Development Youth Volunteers and Senior Volunteers for Overseas Japanese Communities were jointly conducted in part.

Language training is at the heart of the training programs, and other components of the programs include the conceptual basis of international cooperation, cross-cultural understanding, history and culture of the recipient country, health and hygiene, and safety management.

Developing and Securing Human Resources

Nurture professionals who will support Japan's aid



Training participants exchanging ideas with Malawi people in the Capacity Enhancement Training for Prospective JICA Experts (HIV/AIDS control)

Overview of Developing and Securing Human Resources Program

Fields of international cooperation require professionals in international cooperation who can properly respond to advancing and diversifying needs for assistance. In response to those needs, JICA works to broaden its human resources base in international cooperation through a program for developing and securing human resources.

Against such a background, JICA runs 'PARTNER,' a website providing comprehensive information on careers in international cooperation, which connects people who wish to participate in international cooperation to international cooperation organizations and groups that are in need of human resources. As well as acting as a point of contact providing information, PARTNER registers people who want to participate in international cooperation. JICA holds seminars on "International Cooperation Human Resources," so called "JICA Professionals," throughout Japan. In addition, the systems for senior advisors and Special Advisors are established to secure professionals in international cooperation.

On the other hand, in order to respond to advancing and diversifying assistance needs, capacity enhancement training for prospective JICA experts and pre-dispatch group training are con-

ducted to develop human resources who can work as a well-prepared workforce in specific development issues. In order to cultivate human resources for the future, JICA has introduced programs such as "Associate Experts," "Long-term Overseas and Domestic training," and "fellowship programs" for prospective JICA experts. An internship program designed for graduate school students is also being implemented.

Those who have been involved with JICA activities through the above programs for developing and securing human resources in international cooperation are not only dispatched to developing countries as JICA experts but are also actively working in a wide range of international organizations, development assistance organizations, and NGOs. In fiscal 2006, approximately 3,900 people were dispatched to developing countries as experts. More than 60% of those people were from the private sector, recruited through public announcements and open recruitment, a drastic increase compared to the actual result in fiscal 2003 (more than 10%) prior to JICA's re-launch as an independent administrative institution.

Major Activities

Securing Human Resources..... Various Efforts

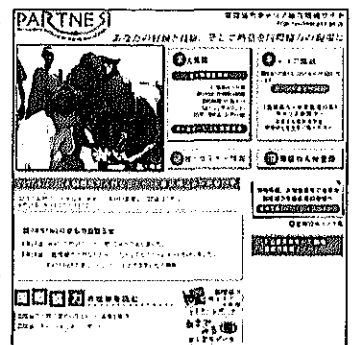
a. PARTNER, a website offering comprehensive information on careers in international cooperation

In fiscal 2006, 288 groups were registered and 1,934 classified ads and 592 pieces of training and seminar information were provided at PARTNER targeting people who wish to work in international cooperation. Among the 8,492 registrants in international cooperation careers, approximately 40% disclosed their profiles, releasing various useful information, such as career information and experience. With the JICA Open Recruitment Information Site added, an information release system for securing competent human resources has been established.

Career consultation is also provided via e-mail for people wishing to participate in international cooperation. In addition, a Career Consultation Day started in August 2006, which provides interviews for registrants of PARTNER once a month. In fiscal 2006, 208 consultations were conducted through e-mails and interviews.

b. Seminars on JICA Professionals

In fiscal 2006, seminars were held in Tokyo, Kobe, and Kyushu targeting people who wish to participate in JICA programs. Through these seminars, information on trends in JICA programs, directions of recruitment and utilization of human resources from the private sector, and desired human resources are provided.



Home (top) page of PARTNER website

Senior Advisors and Temporarily Employed Specialists

a. Senior Advisors

Senior advisors, which was launched in 1983, play a key role in international cooperation as excellent professionals deeply involved in overall JICA programs. Senior advisors are recruited

from the public for the purpose of promoting effective and efficient implementation of international cooperation programs and improving the quality of those programs. In fiscal 2006, 104 senior advisors were secured (20 newly and 84 continuously registered).

Senior advisors participate in projects in various sectors and issues primarily as JICA experts overseas. In Japan, they act as advisors for specific issues, participating in various study groups, committees, and training courses for the purpose of developing human resources in international cooperation, or give lectures in training courses for participants from overseas. As such, at various sites and in every scene of international cooperation worldwide, senior advisors back up the quality of JICA cooperation programs.



Senior advisor talking cheerfully with women in a village in the Development Study on Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development for Poverty Reduction Programme in the Central Dry Zone (Myanmar)

b. Special Advisors

A system for temporarily employed specialists was introduced in order to secure human resources in sectors and issues where securing experts is difficult. In this system, JICA's domestic operations are commissioned for a maximum of one year to human resources wishing to be dispatched as experts after the completion of a commission period as temporarily employed specialists. In fiscal 2006, 18 people (10 newly and eight continuously registered) were commissioned.

Training Human Resources Efforts for the Future

a. Associate Expert Program

Targeting young people with specialties who have field experiences in developing countries such as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) and associate experts in international organizations, and who aspire to careers in the area of international cooperation, this training provides opportunities to work for JICA in Japan and overseas with the aim of improving practical skills. The training period is a maximum three years with domestic and overseas experience combined. In fiscal 2006, 136 people were trained (of which 30 were new trainees).

b. Long-term Overseas and Domestic Training

Targeting people who aspire to become experts in the future, this training is conducted at graduate schools in Japan and overseas to improve knowledge and skills in their respective specialties (up to two years). There are two courses for long-term domestic training: joint program implemented by the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) and the Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development (FASID), and a program of other domestic graduate schools. In fiscal 2006, 22 people joined this training overseas and 16 people in Japan.

c. Fellowship Program for Prospective JICA Experts

This training targets a well-prepared workforce with over five years of field experience in developing countries and a relatively high level of technical skills. In order to respond to more demanding development issues, a personalized program lasting up to one

year is provided at aid agencies and educational institutions in Japan and overseas. In fiscal 2006, 15 people joined this training.

d. Internship Program

The program targets graduate students who major in international cooperation and wish to work in the field. Practical training of up to six months is conducted at JICA's offices in Japan and overseas. In fiscal 2006, 49 students participated in the program.

Capacity Upgrading Readily Available Human Resources

a. Pre-dispatch Group Training

Skill-up training and orientation are provided with experts right before overseas long-term dispatch. The training consists of instruction on updated aid trends and effective means of technology transfer and language courses. In fiscal 2006, pre-dispatch group training was conducted 12 times and attended by 339 people (of which 45 were spouses). Personalized technical training which supplements specific skills before dispatch was attended by 18 experts and local language training during dispatch by 122 experts.

b. Capacity Enhancement Training for Prospective JICA Experts

This training is an intensive course intended for those who have skills and knowledge in their respective specialties and language proficiency, and who are expected to be assigned overseas as experts in the near future. They intensively learn expertise and aid trends in each area for a short period, from several days to five weeks including overseas practical training. In fiscal 2006, 11 courses were conducted and attended by 104 people.

c. UNHCR eCentre Joint Training

Training in safety management is conducted jointly with UNHCR (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) eCentre for people engaged in operations requiring special considerations for safety, such as support for peacebuilding. Training consists of two elements: self-defense, and risk management for managers and people in charge. Training periods are typically from a half day to one week. In fiscal 2006, six courses were conducted with the participation of 75 people.

d. Training for Staff at Overseas Offices

In compliance with the policy of enhancing overseas fields that JICA promotes as a method for its program and organization reforms, training is provided to staff or resident members assigned to JICA overseas offices before or during assignment so that they can deal with cooperation fields and issues more effectively. In fiscal 2006, 140 members participated in pre-dispatch training and 41 participated in training during assignment (three fields: education, peacebuilding and reconstruction assistance, and agricultural and rural development).

e. Invitation of Overseas Development Experts

To understand and learn aid trends, world-class experts in development assistance are invited from overseas to give lectures at open seminars and various training programs. This program aims to develop human resources from a global perspective and expand the lower end of human resources for aid by sharing knowledge and experiences which cannot be accommodated from domestic human resources alone. In fiscal 2006, 15 experts were invited to speak on eight themes.

Support for Japanese Emigrants and Their Descendants

Supporting Japanese emigrants to ensure a stable life



Junior high school students from Sendai visiting the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum

Current Support for Japanese Emigrants and Their Descendants

Japanese emigration after the end of World War II was restarted with emigration to the Amazon in Brazil in 1952. There are now thought to be more than 2.6 million Japanese emigrants and their descendants (Nikkei) living abroad and they are now play-

ing key roles in their countries' development in various fields. Their presence has helped build closer bilateral relationships, and now that Nikkei communities have entered their maturity, they are important partners in international cooperation.

Major Activities

Introducing the activities of Japanese emigrants and their descendants, JICA disseminates knowledge to deepen the Japanese public's understanding of Japanese emigration and Nikkei communities.

JICA also supports Japanese emigrants and their descendants by offering follow-up assistance for their settlement and stable life, prioritizing development of children of emigrants, including Japanese language education, welfare for the aged, etc.

JICA dispatches volunteers to Nikkei communities and receives Nikkei training participants as well.

Public Relations

- 1) **Backing up the Convention of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad**
- 2) **Management of the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum:** The Japanese Overseas Migration Museum and a library with materials related to emigration opened at JICA Yokohama in October 2002. The museum presents a history of Japanese emigration and the development of Nikkei communities, etc., under the basic theme of "We have taken part in molding new civilizations in the Americas." The purpose is to promote greater understanding for Japanese emigrants and Nikkei among the public, especially the young generation who will lead the future.

Support for Emigrants Abroad

- 1) **Extension of farming systems:** To improve farm management skills, JICA implements training in the region of advanced agricultural technology, provides subsidies to foster agricultural study groups, etc.
- 2) **Medical care and hygiene:** JICA assists in the management of five clinics for emigrants in Paraguay and Bolivia, and circuit medical treatment in remote areas of Brazil.
- 3) **Education and culture:** In order to develop and secure Japanese-language teachers, JICA assists in joint training for teachers in each country, rewards Japanese-language teachers and purchases teaching materials, co-hosts joint training for Pan-American Japanese-language teachers, supports research

activities in Japanese language, develops Japanese textbooks for Spanish-speaking youth, etc. The joint training for Pan-American Japanese-language teachers has been held every year in São Paulo, Brazil since fiscal 2004 and 30 teachers participated in fiscal 2006.

- 4) **Upgrading facilities and equipment:** To support improvements in social welfare and living infrastructure, JICA subsidized the purchase of medical equipment for two clinics in Paraguay and one clinic in Bolivia in fiscal 2006.

Additionally, in fiscal 2006, special assistance projects for emigrants in the Dominican Republic were implemented. The projects included (1) voluntary disposition of a student dormitory to the Nikkei community, (2) subsidies for the renovation project of the student dormitory for multi-purpose use, the elderly medical and hygiene care program, and the university scholarship program, and (3) short-term domestic training in Japan for young Nikkei leaders.

Human Development of Children of Emigrants

- 1) **Scholarship for Japanese Immigrants and Their Descendants in Latin America:** To develop human resources who will lead the future Nikkei communities, JICA provides scholarships for living expenses, school expenses, etc., for the Nikkei students who study at Japanese graduate schools. Fourteen students were approved for scholarships in fiscal 2006.
- 2) **Training for students of Japanese language schools:** To develop human resources who will forge the next generation of Nikkei communities, outstanding students of Japanese language schools managed by Nikkei organizations are invited to Japan to attend junior high schools and carry out homestays where they gain firsthand experience in Japanese culture and society. Forty-nine students took part in fiscal 2006.

Business Loans

JICA's loans to emigrants and Nikkei organizations for the purpose of settlement and stability were terminated in fiscal 2005.

Disaster Relief

Quick response to needs of affected countries



Interacting with victims of the earthquake disaster in Central Java through magic. Mental care is very important. (June 2006, Indonesia)

Outline of Disaster Relief Program

When major disasters occur in developing areas, JICA carries out emergency relief activities in response to requests received from the governments of affected countries or international agencies. Rescue teams, medical teams, expert teams, or Self-Defense Forces are dispatched in the name of Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams as personnel assistance* and emergency relief supplies are provided as material assistance.

Rescue Team

The main tasks of a rescue team are to search for missing people, rescue victims, provide first aid, and move victims to safe areas. The team is made up of rescue personnel of the National Police Agency, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, and the Japan Coast Guard. They leave Japan within 24 hours of a decision of dispatch in order to conduct search and rescue activities in an affected country.

Medical Team

The tasks of a medical team are to provide or assist in medical treatment for victims in the affected areas, and when necessary they work to prevent infection and the spread of diseases. The medical team consists of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and medical coordinators registered with JICA. As of January 31, 2007, 800 members (216 doctors, 363 nurses, 40 pharmacists, and 181 medical coordinators) were registered under this scheme.

Expert Team

An expert team takes emergency response measures in the

wake of disasters and provides guidance and advice on how best to achieve recovery. The team consists of technicians and researchers recommended by related government ministries and agencies according to the type of disaster.

Self-Defense Forces

When a large-scale disaster occurs and the dispatch is deemed necessary, Self-Defense Forces can be dispatched. Self-Defense Forces carry out rescue activities, medical activities (including disease prevention activities), emergency response measures, reconstruction, transport activities using ships, aircraft, and helicopters, and water supply activities.

Provision of Materials

Relief supplies such as blankets, tents, water purifiers, generators, and medicine are provided to the affected areas to assist with relief activities for victims and the recovery process in the affected areas. To ensure that relief supplies are provided promptly and in large numbers, warehouses have been set up in four locations worldwide—Singapore, Frankfurt in Germany, Johannesburg in South Africa, and Miami, US. Medicine is difficult to store due to expiration dates and temperature control and require notation in English, French, or Spanish. Therefore, it is provided after being procured from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) or other organizations if necessary.

Earthquake Disaster in Central Java, Indonesia

Seamless Transition from Emergency Relief to Reconstruction Assistance

On May 27, 2006, a huge earthquake of magnitude 6.3 hit Yogyakarta, an ancient city of Indonesia. Approximately 5,800 people died and 138,000 people were injured. The devastating news was aired worldwide. Upon receiving a request from the Indonesian government, Japan immediately dispatched a JDR medical team, who provided dedicated assistance for 10 days.

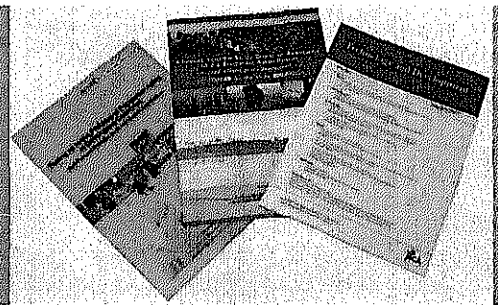
Many innovative efforts were tried during this dispatch of the medical team, including the dispatch of an advance team comprised of seven members for investigation and implementation of full-scale circuit treatment. Among these, what was especially

notable was the participation in the medical team of two researchers who conducted studies for reconstruction assistance. Those researchers, who were in charge of studies for reconstruction assistance in the medical team, were tasked with assessing the needs of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance following the emergency relief activities, which led to prompt and smooth reconstruction operation. Ahead of the world, Japan expressed its commitment to rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance that focused on primary and secondary education, health, and water supply, all of which in addition to the team's contribution was highly appreciated by the Indonesian government.

* Based on the Law Concerning the Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Team of 1987

Research

Systematize and share field experiences



JICA's study reports concerning measures to address aging societies in developing countries and study on Southeast Asian Region, and its journal, *Technology and Development*

Outline of Research Projects

JICA conducts research activities on development issues and development assistance in order to realize efficient and high quality assistance. The Institute for International Cooperation (IFIC) plays a central role in JICA's research activities. In the stream of JICA reforms, one of the pillars of which is field based management, IFIC identifies itself as JICA's practical think tank.

Clues to effective aid activities can be derived from practical experiences, knowledge, and awareness of the issues obtained from field experiences. In order to combine knowledge with how to address development issues, IFIC absorbs and systematizes knowledge, skills, and awareness of the issues, all of which have been gained through field experiences. Then, IFIC disseminates and shares the outcome both within and outside of JICA through workshops and various forms of training so that more related personnel can utilize the study results. In fiscal 2006, in particular, the effectiveness of JICA's technical cooperation program was assessed and the result was disseminated outside of the organization in an effort to enhance outgoing information.

In addition, IFIC analyzes and gives recommendations to address new development issues, systematizes information on aid trends and the deployment of development theories, and proactively disseminates the results outside of JICA. It also works on the development of cross-cutting program methods for social surveys and aid management.

Results for Fiscal 2006

JICA's research activities in fiscal 2006 rested on three pillars: systematization of project experience, analysis of and recommendation for new development issues, and development of cross-cutting program methods.

- 1) Systematization of project experience:** For the purpose of assessing and disseminating the effectiveness of JICA's technical cooperation, individual cases of Strengthening of Science and Mathematics Education Projects, which are widely implemented, were studied, and discussions on the roles of technical cooperation in financial assistance were sorted out. In addition, in order to obtain collective knowledge for more effective and efficient technical cooperation projects, six cases (three continuing and three new) in capacity development (CD) were studied. The results of CD case studies have been utilized for outgoing information about JICA's technical cooperation.
- 2) Analysis of and recommendation for new program strategic issues:** Low birthrate and the aging society was analyzed as a new development issue in developing countries

and a report was compiled. At the same time, the issue was discussed at a public seminar to draw attention from domestic researchers. In addition, study and research on measures against and JICA's support policy for global warming were conducted.

- 3) Development of cross-cutting program methods:** Training material for JICA staff and experts, "Shakai Chosa no Kokoroe to Tsukaikata" (clues to and application of social survey) was compiled covering the clues and points to remember when conducting social surveys in JICA projects.

In fiscal 2006, a total of 24 studies and research projects were conducted and those results were utilized for outgoing information and feedback to the field.

Expansion of the Network within and outside of JICA

Research activities involve study committees, which consist of senior advisors and staff members of JICA, with occasional participation of external academics affiliated with universities and research institutes. In addition, a guest researcher program that entrust research on specific issues to knowledgeable experts has been established. These activities contribute significantly to the formation of networks between JICA and related institutions while also fulfilling their primary objective of assisting in the preparation of country, regional, and thematic guidelines. The implementation of research on assistance in Southeast Asia in fiscal 2006 led to enhanced collaboration with the ASEAN Strategic Research Center Group.

IFIC annually publishes a journal entitled "Technology and Development," whose articles are selected and translated from the Japanese edition "Kokusai Kyoryoku Kenkyu," and which solicits articles widely from field workers and researchers engaged in international cooperation. In addition to regular research papers, the journal contains a section called "Field Note" that actively incorporates field experiences, thus providing opportunities to share information thoroughly within and outside of JICA.

In fiscal 2006, Professor Barnett R. Rubin, PhD., Director of Studies and Senior Fellow at the Center on International Cooperation of New York University, was invited to conduct a seminar on peacebuilding in Afghanistan, as part of JICA's efforts to expand the network with external academics. This effort will be enhanced in fiscal 2007 by inviting more prominent researchers from overseas to teach seminars.