

Europe



Japan's Aid Framework Promotes the Consolidation of Peace and Ethnic Reconciliation While Supporting Countries' Efforts to Achieve Accession to the European Union (EU)

Europe is comprised of many countries that have a long history of economic and social development. Among the central and eastern European countries to have made the transition to a market-based economy since 1989, some have achieved accession to the EU. However, there are also countries that have suffered outbreaks of ethnic conflict during independence struggles. Several countries still bear the scars of these conflicts and have lagged in achieving sustainable economic development. In such regions, consolidation of peace and promotion of ethnic reconciliation are essential for countries to achieve stability and economic growth.

Pillars of Aid Supporting Post-Conflict Peacebuilding and Providing Assistance to Promote EU Accession

JICA's operations in Europe began by providing assistance to former Eastern Bloc countries and newly independent former members of the Soviet Union in their transition to democracy and market economy, after the "Summit of the Arch," the Group of Seven (G7) summit held in France in 1989.

Since the EU formally came into existence in 1993, many former Eastern Bloc countries have gained accession to the EU and made a successful transition to market-based economy. In 2004, the EU saw its biggest enlargement to date when the four Visegrád Group countries of Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia; the three Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania; Slovenia, Malta and Cyprus joined the EU. In 2007, Romania and Bulgaria became the EU's newest members. These countries were removed from the DAC list of aid recipient countries in 2006, becoming so-called "ODA graduate" countries. Although there are some remaining Japanese ODA loan projects still in operation in these countries, Technical Cooperation was concluded in fiscal 2008.

In the western Balkan region, the breakup of the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s involved several severe ethnic conflicts. Although reconstruction and recovery

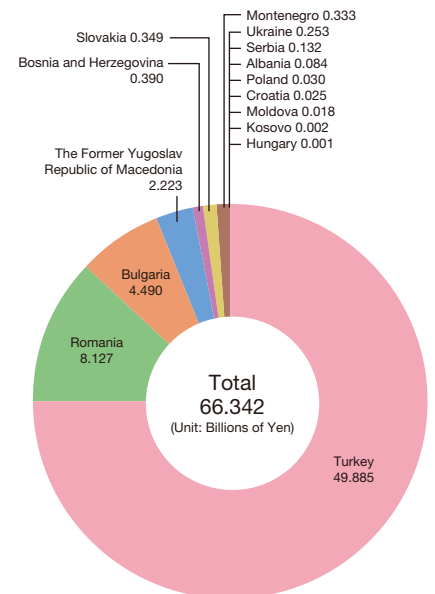
have progressed to a certain extent, unemployment in the region is still extremely high, at between 10% and 40%. Furthermore, many problems remain unsolved, including latent ethnic rivalry and the independence of Kosovo. Hence, continuing assistance still plays a vital role toward economic reconstruction and EU accession.

Ukraine and Moldova lie between the EU and Russia, occupying an important geopolitical position. These two countries are striving for economic independence and development. In particular, Moldova's GNI per capita, at US\$1,500 (World Bank, 2008), makes it Europe's least developed country, heightening the need for assistance. Recently, Ukraine has suffered badly from the effects of the global financial crisis that began in the latter half of 2008. The importance of aid to help prevent financial crises occurring in such newly emerging economies has been brought into stark relief.

In the new JICA, Turkey is reclassified within JICA's European operations in recognition of its status as an official candidate country for EU accession. Consequently, JICA's Europe operations now encompass eastern Europe, the western Balkans region, certain parts of the former Soviet Union, and Turkey.

Scale of JICA Projects by Country in Europe (Fiscal 2008)

Composition of JICA projects for each country based on total Technical Cooperation project expenses, ODA loans (disbursed), and Grant Aid (concluded grant agreement (G/A) including activities expedited).



* Excluding Technical Cooperation with multiple countries and international organizations.

Priority Issues and Efforts

Striving for Maximum Aid Effectiveness Aiming at the Future Graduation from an ODA Recipient Status

JICA currently undertakes cooperation with 12 partner countries in the Europe region, including Kosovo. Since the

income level of many of these is comparatively high, excluding cultural Grant Aid programs, most Grant Aid programs have been concluded and programs now center on Technical Cooperation and ODA loans.

JICA conducts Technical Cooperation in 10 countries, while ODA loans have been carried out or are planned for a total of eight countries. The six eastern European countries (Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia,

Romania and Bulgaria), three Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) and Slovenia, which have all become EU member states, are ODA graduate countries. However, there is a planned continuation of some ODA loans to Romania and Bulgaria.

Each of the countries has stated EU accession as a national goal, and economic development is proceeding comparatively smoothly. Therefore,

JICA plans to undertake cooperation projects that utilize its expertise and are likely to achieve the greatest development impact, keeping in mind the countries' relationship with the EU and their prospects for attaining ODA graduate status.

Technical Cooperation will be targeted based on priority issues identified by JICA and the partner country. JICA will aim to realize projects that can be

handled by local initiatives and which achieve region-wide effectiveness. Such projects will often include training and follow-up cooperation elements. In addition JICA will strengthen synergetic programming of its Technical Cooperation and ODA loans as well as collaboration with partner institutions. In doing so, we will strive to maximize the effectiveness of our current ODA programs.

Example

Bulgaria New Container Terminals Development Project at the Ports of Varna and Bourgas

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Seeks to Create Synergies between Land and Sea Transport Networks

The ports of Varna and Bourgas are Bulgaria's two major international port facilities, which handle a majority of the country's freight. The project is expected to enable the Port of Varna to serve as a gateway for freight transport via inland waterways, including to such central European countries as Hungary and Slovakia. The Port of Bourgas is the closest major port to the Bosphorus Straits and will be a gateway port on the Black Sea coast capable of receiving large container ships. Consequently, the project will play a key role in develop-

ing a geographically important location within the context of overall development of marine transport on the Black Sea.

The volume of container freight handled in eastern European countries, including Bulgaria, is growing at the fastest rate of any region worldwide. The combined annual volume of container freight handled by Varna and Bourgas was 58,000 TEU* in 2001, and that had doubled to approximately 120,000 TEU by 2006. In 2015, the combined demand at these ports is expected to increase by 3.5 times to reach approximately 700,000 TEU. Hence, there is an urgent need to develop new container terminals in Bulgaria to avoid a future capacity bottleneck that could hinder regional growth. Given this situation, in August 2008, Japan contracted to commence an ODA loan project with Bulgaria totaling ¥36,932 million to finance the New Container Terminals Development Project at the Ports of Varna and Bourgas.

The ports of Varna and Bourgas are separated on land by the Balkan Mountains, making freight transport by truck very inefficient. Roads spanning the country include two major routes connecting the capital city of Sophia with the two ports—one between Sophia and Bourgas and the other between Sophia and Varna. Hence, with the development of these container terminals, the country's future land and sea transport networks will be significantly enhanced. While the ODA loan from Japan will be used to finance the development of the ports, Bulgaria will use its own funds and financing from the EU to further develop its land transport infrastructure. Bulgaria anticipates a high level of synergy between its land and sea transport networks.

One of the particular features of the port development projects is its use of PPP. Specifically, the public sector will retain ownership of the facilities while operation of the ports will be contracted to the private sector. By utilizing private-sector expertise to operate and maintain the facilities over a long period of 15–30 years, the project aims to realize efficient port operations. Through this arrangement, the private-sector operators will generate profits while the public sector will receive fees for the use of the facilities.

At both ports, container terminals, port security facilities and cranes will be implemented under the ODA loan, which will also be used for access roads to the ports and consulting services to support an increase in Bulgarian sea freight business.

* TEU is the abbreviation for "twenty-foot equivalent unit," a standard unit for measuring container cargo volumes by converting them into 20-foot-length container units.



The container terminal

Country Overviews and Priority Issues

■ Bulgaria

Bolstering Economic Infrastructure and Creating International Logistics Gateways

Bulgaria lies on the eastern side of the Balkan Peninsula, sharing borders with EU countries and Turkey, among others. Although the country has faced long-term economic difficulties in the past, financial stabilization policies have tamed inflation and policies to maintain

low interest rates have ushered in a period of steady economic growth since 2000. However, industrial transformation has not progressed as smoothly. Part of the reason for this lagging performance has been insufficient transport and logistics capacity to meet demand. Previously, a Japanese ODA loan project was used for the Port of Bourgas Expansion Project, but rapidly rising demand for freight capacity led to

a new ODA loan project in fiscal 2008, which will see the development of a container terminal and the installation of related facilities and equipment (see page 73). The new project will provide a large boost to international freight capacity and aims to significantly strengthen Bulgaria's competitiveness within the global economy.

Example

Bosnia and Herzegovina Modernization of IT Education at Mostar High School

IT-Driven Educational Integration Promotes Ethnic Reconciliation

Gymnasium Mostar (Mostar High School) was widely known throughout the former Yugoslavia as one of the country's top comprehensive secondary schools. The school is situated in the city of Mostar, which witnessed some of the fiercest fighting between ethnic Croats and Bosnian Muslims during the Bosnian War in the early 1990s. Even now, there are bullet marks on the walls of the school's building.

After the end of the conflict, a policy for educational integration has meant that both of the

main ethnic groups attend the school. Unfortunately, classes remain segregated as does the curriculum. The international community consensus has called for the introduction of integrated education based on a common curriculum. It is hoped that mixed classrooms will become the foundations for the revival of a harmonious, multi-ethnic nation. However, in reality, subjects over which there is marked disagreement between ethnic groups, such as history and geography, have made integration almost impossible. For this reason JICA decided to focus its assistance efforts on the use of an IT laboratory. JICA thus set about formulating and introducing a modern IT curriculum.

Specifically, the IT advisors from each ethnic group collaborated on producing a new textbook based on a high school textbook used for IT education in Japanese high schools. This common curriculum would become the basis for teaching

mixed classes. The school's 193 first-year students were to receive lessons based on the new curriculum. Unfortunately, the school's existing stock of IT lab computer equipment was so old that even Internet access and email were not possible. Students were given the choice between segregated classes using the old computers and outdated curriculum or integrated classes using completely new equipment and the newly designed IT curriculum. With all the students agreeing that they wanted to learn together, mixed classes were launched. The IT classes have proven very popular, with students now producing and maintaining their own website.

This program commenced as an extra-curricular class in 2006, and was later incorporated into the main curriculum. As the program has received broad publicity, the Bosnia and Herzegovina government requested that it be expanded to cover three ethnic groups. Teachers from Republika Srpska too have requested the formal introduction of the new curriculum, meaning the textbook produced with assistance from JICA will be used over the entire territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Based on these initial successes, JICA upgraded the program to a full Technical Cooperation project from fiscal 2008, and a curriculum for second-year students is now being formulated. Until now, with a common curriculum only available for first-year classes, the students had to go back to segregated curricula from the second year onward. Such a situation meant that a truly integrated learning environment was unlikely to take root. When the integrated curriculum is introduced at all levels, it is hoped that it will become a model for other future initiatives. In this way, JICA sees the IT classes as a stepping stone to wider ethnic reconciliation.



Integrated classes bring together all ethnic groups to learn under a common curriculum.

■ Bosnia and Herzegovina

Working toward Reconciliation between Three Ethnic Groups

Bosnia and Herzegovina was previously one of the six constituent republics that made up the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The inhabitants come from three main ethnic groups, which all share a common Slavic origin and whose languages are very similar. When the former Yugoslavia broke up, fierce inter-ethnic conflicts occurred among the Bosnian Muslims, Serbs and Croats. Even after armed conflict

ceased, there emerged a system of two parallel entities, or quasi-state administrative units, within one territory, leading to a situation of “countries within a country.” Specifically, the two administrative entities are the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska; the former is mainly composed of Bosnian Muslims and Bosnian Croats while the latter, Republika Srpska, mainly comprises Bosnian Serbs. These two communities continue to operate under completely separate administrative and educational systems.

JICA is working in Bosnia and Herzegovina to help consolidate the peace, rebuild local economies and promote ethnic reconciliation as it assists with the country’s reconstruction.

Success stories so far in bringing the three ethnic groups together have included education curriculum integration in high schools (see page 74) and a Technical Cooperation project promoting agricultural and rural community development.

Example

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Confidence Building in the Srebrenica Region Based on Agricultural and Rural Community Development

Surmounting Ethnic Rivalry to Make a Living on Their Own

At first glance, the town of Srebrenica in Republika Srpska on the eastern side of Bosnia and Herzegovina seems to be an idyllic rural setting. However, the region was once the scene of heavy fighting among Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Muslims, resulting in the destruction of many villages and culminating in a notorious massacre of over 8,000 Muslim men and boys in July 1995. Consequently, many residents of the area were forced to flee and become displaced for an extended period.

In 2002, many of the displaced started to return home but a large number of families had lost husbands and fathers during the war, leaving widowed mothers to fend for themselves and their children. Although both ethnic groups live in the same area, the animosity and lack of trust has

led to almost total separation between the two communities. With agricultural land suffering a long period of neglect, the livelihood of local residents has remained vulnerable. Hence, the highest-priority issue has been to revive the area’s economic base and help local people rebuild their livelihoods.

In these circumstances, JICA dispatched a rural development expert to the Srebrenica area who worked with the local people to help revive organic agricultural production, which had previously been a mainstay of the local economy, and to rebuild local residents’ economic self-reliance. By conducting technical training and agricultural work jointly with the two ethnic groups participating side by side, it was hoped that a dialog could be developed and interaction among the separated communities deepened.

Initially, selection of program participants focused on maintaining a balance between the Serb and Muslim beneficiaries. The crops to be produced were chosen after discussions with local residents about what would be feasible and marketable and provide good long-term returns. Pasture, vegetables, strawberries and herbs were

among the nine categories of agricultural production the project would focus on. Five local NGOs collaborated in this project to restore the farming economy, and local farmers provided technical advice.

Before long, both ethnic groups started working together on agricultural operations and training. Trust has gradually been built up among the two communities—friendships have slowly sprouted over coffee shared at the end of training sessions. A sense of self-reliance has also begun to take root, with participants suggesting new crops they wished to grow, such as mushrooms.

Agricultural produce from the project has been given the brand “Gifts from Drina,” inspired by the Drina River, and both ethnic groups suggested that produce be sold in Serbia and Sarajevo. New initiatives are now being undertaken, including greenhouse-based production and new employment opportunities in local processing facilities. The local government authorities have also requested that the program’s area be expanded. JICA’s initiatives are steadily contributing to the emergence of reintegrated communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Local produce for sale: herbs, rakija (fruit brandy) and honey



Lettuces grown in a greenhouse



A bumper strawberry harvest

Helping to Make the World a Better Place for Everyone

When we think about volunteer work, we usually assume that it is for the benefit of the people we are helping. Yet, through the experience of helping others, we come to realize that volunteering is not a one-way process at all—we too are receiving something valuable in return.

Tsuyoshi Kitazawa Experiences the Enthusiasm of the People of Bangladesh

Former Japan soccer representative Tsuyoshi Kitazawa is an Official JICA Supporter. In this capacity, he visited Bangladesh in March 2009, where he toured several of JICA's cooperation projects and held a soccer clinic for schoolchildren. This was Mr. Kitazawa's sixth overseas visit as a goodwill ambassador for JICA. Previously he has visited Syria, Paraguay, Ecuador, the Palestinian Authority and, in 2008, Indonesia. This article provides a brief overview of current conditions in Bangladesh as well as an outline of JICA's activities and the soccer clinic held there.



Children listen intently as a JOVC member reads aloud the storybook presented by Tsuyoshi Kitazawa, translated into Bengali. © KTP

The Bangladesh capital city of Dhaka has experienced rapid economic development and a surge in its population in recent years. Consequently, one of the city's most pressing issues is how best to facilitate waste disposal. To help deal with this problem, JICA is implementing the Solid Waste Management Project in partnership with Dhaka City Corporation. This project involves the participation of local residents in an effort to improve waste collection. Mr. Kitazawa visited the city's central commercial district of Old Dhaka to observe first hand improvements in the city's waste management.

Mr. Kitazawa also visited a rural village where many women have received microcredit loans from Grameen Bank.* After observing the women's weekly loan repayment ceremony, Mr. Kitazawa visited the home of one of the group's members. "I wouldn't have the life I do now if it weren't for Grameen Bank," she told Mr. Kitazawa. Despite her continued use of dried livestock dung as cooking fuel, her living room boasted such modern appliances as a television and electric fan. One of the women had received an educational loan from Grameen Bank to pay for her son's education through to university. Despite living in a

small outlying village, these stories of success, based on individual efforts, deeply impressed Mr. Kitazawa.

Mr. Kitazawa visited the Bangladesh Institute of Sports (BKSP) to observe the work of three JOCV sports coaches helping train future top Bangladeshi tennis players and swimmers, offering his encouragement for their efforts.

After his tour of JICA projects, Mr. Kitazawa commented, "What impresses me about Bangladesh is the diversity of the people and their irrepressible energy. From a long-term perspective, I think training and educational opportunities are the key to a brighter future for Bangladesh. I am happy to see my home country, Japan, contribute to a part of this growth. It would be even better if we could also build up the facilities."

The much-anticipated soccer clinic was held for a total of around 50 children. Students attending Dhaka's Japanese School, pupils from a local elementary school and children who live at a nearby NGO-run facility for former street children took part. As the soccer ball was passed among the children, some with shoes and others barefoot, the atmosphere created

was quite different to the numerous soccer clinics held previously in other developing countries. However, when the game got underway, differences in nationality and footwear became irrelevant. Every child became intently focused on giving it their all.

At the clinic's closing ceremony, Mr. Kitazawa presented each of the children with a storybook he has written, titled *Luna and the Magic Soccer Boots*. One of the JOVC members then read the story aloud, translating it into Bengali. When it came time for a final group photo, the children seemed to take the story's message of teamwork to heart. Without prompting, they linked arms shoulder-to-shoulder as the scene turned into a sea of smiles.

Mr. Kitazawa observed, "Anything you teach the Bangladeshi children, they'll immediately try and apply it to the next thing they do. If the people of Bangladesh have the determination to capitalize on every chance they get, I think the country will have a great future."

* Grameen Bank provides microcredit loans to the poorest segment of the population in mainly rural areas of Bangladesh. These loans do not require collateral and have a low interest rate. In the 1990s, Japan extended an ODA loan to Grameen Bank. According to an ex-post facto evaluation of the loan, microcredit from the bank has helped improve the lives of many residents.

MISIA Meets the Hardy Orphans of Malawi

In 2007, popular Japanese singer MISIA visited Kibera Slum in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi. There she witnessed some of the harsh realities of life in one of Africa's largest urban slums but also experienced the warmth of the brave smiles of the many children she met. This visit inspired her to establish Child AFRICA, a voluntary organization that supports African children. More recently, MISIA visited facilities for orphans in Malawi, where she came into contact with some of that country's many orphans. The story below outlines her encounter with the youth there.



MISIA meets a young girl at a Consol Homes Orphan Care facility near the Malawian capital of Lilongwe

Malawi is a landlocked country situated on the eastern side of southern Africa. Although Malawi has not experienced the severe level of conflict that has affected many parts of the region, it is still one of the world's poorest countries ravaged by such problems as famine and an HIV/AIDS epidemic. Despite such harsh conditions, the ubiquitous smiling faces of Malawi's people leave a lasting impression of true human strength. JICA shares MISIA's vision of working toward a better future for the children of Africa. She has described her activities as "getting as many people involved as we can, to learn and think together—about schools, about education and about the living environment of children. Then we need to act together. If we can build connections I think our actions can make a difference." From this common ground, JICA worked with MISIA to plan her visit to meet the children of Malawi.

On November 3, 2008, MISIA visited Consol Homes Orphan Care in Namitete, near the Malawian capital of

Lilongwe. Consol Homes was founded in 2000 by a former priest and his wife. Their first facility cared for 63 children in Kalolo, central Malawi. The organization has since grown rapidly to comprise 101 orphan centers supporting a total of 19,681 children and their families. JICA began dispatching JOVC members to Consol Homes facilities in 2004. There are currently four volunteers from Japan, harnessing their skills in such fields as early childhood education, youth activities, rural community activities and horticulture.

Consol Homes does not focus on material aid but rather on providing children with psychological care. MISIA showed particular interest in the way each child received individual attention and the involvement of many local residents in the facility's activities. In observing obstacle races among children from various facilities, MISIA not only saw the children's abundant energy but also gained a sense of the importance of recreation and physical activity to help heal the psychological scars the children carried.

The following day, MISIA visited the home of Elina, who had lost both her parents and lived with her disabled grandmother. "I used to feel very lonely, thinking about my parents every day. Since I started going to Consol Homes I have made many friends and I enjoy my time there. Now I don't think about my parents so often," explained Elina. Talking to Elina, MISIA realized how vital the support of the local community is for these orphans.

At the end of her visit, MISIA said, "In just two days I have learned so much from everyone here. Thank you all so much." The next stop on her trip would be in Kenya. Inspired by her visit to Malawi, in July 2009 Child AFRICA launched a campaign to support the children cared for by Consol Homes, particularly focusing on the importance of malaria prevention. Please visit the Child AFRICA website for further information at <http://child-africa.org/en/campaign/>.

MISIA presents children with soccer balls.



MISIA listens to an explanation of the activities undertaken by Consol Homes Orphan Care.



Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The Attention and Cooperation of the International Community Are Essential in the Resolution of Issues of Poverty and Human Development



The effects of poverty on children are especially grave and undermine the healthy growth of a nation (Ethiopia)

Defining Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

On September 8, 2000, an unprecedented gathering of world leaders took place in New York. The Millennium Summit, as it was called, was attended by 189 leaders who adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration as a set of 21st century goals to be achieved in a united effort by the international community. The declaration served to clarify the direction and role of the UN in the 21st century toward issues of peace and security, development and poverty, the environment, human rights, and health and medical services. A fusion of the United Nations Millennium Declaration together with international development targets set in the 1990s at other major

international conferences and summits brought about the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Comprising eight key targets, the MDGs must be met by 2015.

In September 2005, five years after the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, over 170 heads of state gathered for the Millennium +5 Summit, a special UN follow-up meeting, to evaluate the progress of the original MDGs and Millennium Declaration. Resulting reports strongly expressed the importance of each nation taking ownership of its efforts as well as its international partnerships as the basis for realizing development targets.

Leaders also emphasized the need to be proactive in striving toward MDG achievement. Furthermore, top national officials gathered with top representatives from private foundations and community-based organizations to attend the High-Level Event on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in September 2008, with the aim of mutual recognition for the MDG cause. The meeting successfully demonstrated to the international community the political resolve being put forward by each and every nation to ensure that the MDGs come to fruition, and a political decision to achieve the MDGs by 2015 was strongly proclaimed.

The Eight MDGs

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

JICA's MDGs Achievement Efforts

JICA Helps Developing Countries Cultivate Ownership Based on Principles in "Human Security" While Contributing to the Progress of the MDGs

JICA emphasizes principles in human security, focusing on the individual element of every human being, in its efforts to aid developing countries in their fulfillment of the MDGs. Based on these principles and with a basic mindset toward capacity development—in other words, to strengthen a developing nation's ability to independently cope with development issues—JICA aims to help

countries sustain rewards gained through their efforts to meet the MDGs by truly taking ownership of their own development. JICA also pinpoints the necessity of a solid infrastructure for the reduction of poverty and offers infrastructural maintenance support to developing nations as part of its contribution toward meeting the MDGs.

"Human Security" and the MDGs

Although the focus of the United Nations Millennium Declaration pertains mainly to development and poverty reduction, other themes include "peace, human security and arms control," "human rights, democracy and good governance," and "protection of the underprivileged." The intimate association of these topics, however, demands



A woman who suffers from tuberculosis with her child in the Alelu Gasera Village, Ethiopia

that these issues be addressed in a comprehensive manner in order to ensure that the fruits of our labor be sustained.

JICA believes the concept of human security to be essential in realizing the principles of the Millennium Declaration and applies this concept to its perspective on people in developing nations and the various threats they face. As such, it employs the concept of human security in all of its activities as a way to raise the level of support it provides. Hence, comprehensive peacebuilding efforts such as disaster reduction, conflict prevention and reconstruction development assistance in support of developing countries' efforts to achieve the MDGs are carried out from the perspective of human security.

Capacity Development and the MDGs

Through its own era of modernization, Japan borrowed on the knowledge and systems of developed nations to build its own society and supportive structures. Based on this experience, JICA stresses the process of capacity development that reinforces a developing country's ability to independently resolve its own problems. At the same time, JICA supports these countries' efforts in human resource expansion, organizational enhancement and system building.

The notion of capacity development is defined as the capacity of a developing nation to independently resolve issues without having to depend

on the problem-solving capacity of outside parties in order to realize independent growth and progress for itself. Furthermore, those that provide support for capacity development, such as through donations of technology, supplies and funding, must also serve as a catalyst in support of the intrinsic process of raising a country's ability to be self-sufficient.

Based on this idea, JICA deems capacity development to be a defining element in the MDG fulfillment process (Survey research "Capacity Development (CD)" 2006), the realization of these goals and the ongoing benefit achieved as a result, and offers support accordingly.

An Infrastructure to Support MDG Fulfillment

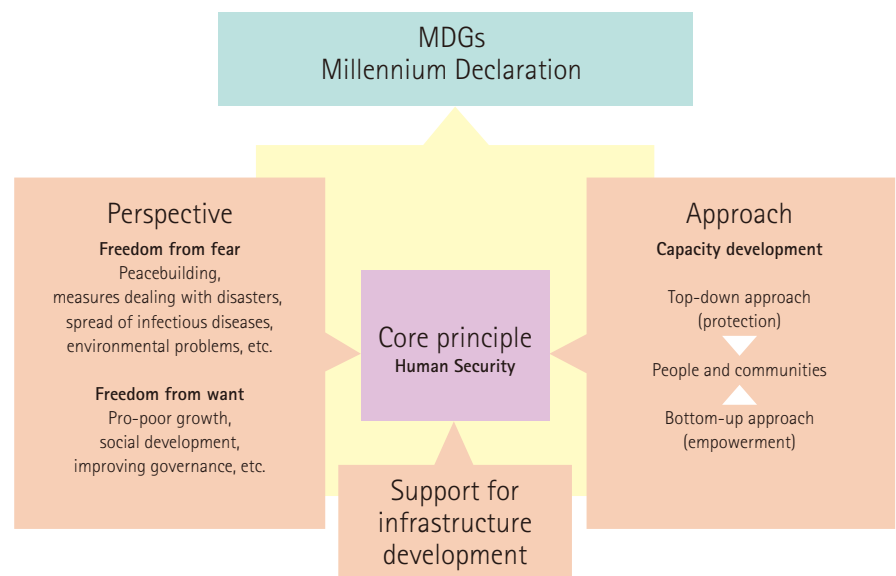
The economic development of post-war Japan was realized through infrastructural and industrial development, which led to industrialization. Owing to this experience, Japan has provided concentrated support for the development of socioeconomic infrastructures

in Asia, contributing significantly to Asia's current development. On the other hand, infrastructural development has been pointed out as being the source of worsening environmental and societal problems as well as failing to benefit all people, especially those that need it most.

In light of this, JICA has redefined infrastructure to encompass the achievement of development targets such as poverty reduction, the MDGs and economic growth, ultimately the demonstration of latent potential, and the means to establishing a foundation necessary for the realization of a nation's true capacity.

JICA is offering its support for the fulfillment of the UN's MDGs based on the concept of human security by turning its attention more than ever before to the people of developing nations and their foundations of living. Through support for the development of infrastructure it aims to assist in reducing poverty and facilitating economic growth across countries and regions.

JICA's MDGs Achievement Efforts



The MDGs are the specific objectives of the development agenda outlined in the Millennium Declaration. JICA is working toward achieving the MDGs and sustaining the outcomes of this achievement by providing cooperation based on the principle of "human security." This principle has two aspects:

- (1) Perspective: addressing the need for not only "freedom from want" but also "freedom from fear."
- (2) Approach: applying both top-down and bottom-up approaches to help developing countries enhance their capacities for dealing with their own problems ("capacity development").

Underpinning these efforts is our cooperation in the area of infrastructure development.

Economic Infrastructure Development

Regional Development That Contributes to Healthy Economic and Social Progress and the Construction of a Transit and Communication Infrastructure Incorporating Both “Structural” and “Non-Structural” Solutions



Baoji-Zhongwei Railway (China)

The fact that many developing countries lack the basic mechanisms that support the maintenance and operation of fundamental economic and social infrastructures proves to be a primary hindrance to progress. In addition to helping improve economic infrastructures, JICA programs take part in establishing economic foundations in developing countries using capacity development (CD) as a means to boosting social capacity.

While rapid urbanization can drive economic development and bring about efficiency in economic activity, it can just as likely cause misfortune. Stress and strain on worsening living environments, transportation and public security can accumulate, while disparities between urban areas and local areas where development is not as rapid are likely to surface. Furthermore, it's not enough to think of development in terms of each region specifically. The promotion of effective regional development needs to be looked at from a cross-border perspective inclusive of interregional relations and requires macro planning. While working to ensure proper governance, JICA is also striving to boost social capacity in developing nations. In doing so, it emphasizes the importance of forming information and communication networks, formulates appropriate area development plans and improves transport and transit infrastructures based on such plans, as well as makes certain that social and other systems are implemented appropriately.

Urban and Regional Development

—In the Light and Shadows of Rapid Urbanization—

The Promotion of Comprehensive Development Will Open Up the Future

Topic Overview

In 2009, the earth's population was estimated at 6.8 billion people. While only 13% of the world's total population was found to dwell in cities in 1900, that rate exceeded 50% by around 2006, demonstrating the rapid progress of urbanization. This tendency is particularly pronounced in developing countries, where by 2030 a large portion of the estimated 80% of world city dwellers are expected to reside.

The effects of development as rapid as this are dichotomous. While creating greater economic efficiency and corresponding economic expansion, poor living environments, traffic congestion and weak public security often become worse, giving rise to slum environments. A variety of issues related to increasing gaps among developing cities and more rural areas that have been left behind are being exposed. Both areas peripheral to urban centers as well as further distanced rural neighborhoods face problems such as regional economic erosion, outdated social infrastructures and deficient public services.

Trying to resolve these issues individually has its limitations since various events are able to cause both complex and reciprocal effects. This is why JICA believes in taking a medium- to long-term view and comprehensive approach to development in any city or region.

JICA's Initiatives

JICA's efforts to bolster urban development in developing countries include urban master planning and comprehensive regional planning in addition to offering Technical Assistance and cooperation to facilitate the execution of these plans. Through these efforts JICA hopes to contribute to economic growth and improving the standards of living in these countries.

JICA has set five specific strategies that it plans to implement as a matter of priority. In doing so, it will analyze regional issues, create a medium- to long-term vision, formulate development policies, draft specific agendas by sector and propose concrete plans of action to ensure the implementation of these support efforts. By taking these steps,

mutual consistency can be gained through multiple projects, the relationship and priority level of each project will become apparent and plans will be efficiently and effectively carried out.

1. Take an integrated and comprehensive approach to the diverse set of issues of any city or region
2. Emphasize CD across all administrative agencies, communities and social organizations to advance urban and regional development
3. Enhance regional administrative systems in accordance with its country's state of affairs
4. Correct disparities between regions by promoting balanced regional development that recognizes the perspectives of its residents
5. Encourage well-balanced development that curbs any negative effects incurred through urbanization

Cooperative Efforts to Expand Human Resources

Until now JICA's collaborative efforts in urban and regional development had

primarily focused on plan formulation. However, recent efforts include concrete measures that give form to such plans through the development of human resources in target regions. In Viet Nam, JICA formulated master plans in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City by 2008 and is currently preparing plans in Da Nang. Although efforts are still in their infancy, from March 2009, JICA launched further project initiatives to develop human resources in rural cities, following the lead of more developed urban regions.

Furthermore, while development plans had until now been administrative-based, the formulation of master plans in Viet Nam included an inquiry survey of 10–20 thousand people, a technique being used more frequently

to ensure people's opinions are adequately reflected in development plans.

In addition, JICA also provides cooperative support for the improvement of impoverished living environments by strengthening the capabilities of organizations involved in new technological research and development related to housing projects. It also provides accurate geographical information such as maps that are indispensable to development planning.

Regional Development from a Macro Perspective

As regional needs become increasingly diversified, problems are less likely to be resolved when addressed individually. Problem resolution is more likely to

be effective today when taking in a larger scope of view to include an entire region or city. For example, specific efforts to support the development of a rural farming village are no longer sufficient. Efforts need to be implemented on a larger scale—one that takes into account not only the village, but the entire region in which it is located—and depending on the country, sometimes across borders. JICA is thus beginning regional development efforts that are based on macro perspectives.

Example

Urban/Regional Development Cambodia "Improvement of Sihanouville City Environment Plan (in Cambodia)"

Continuous and Extensive Support to Achieve Both Economic Development and Environ- mental Preservation

Sihanouville City possesses Cambodia's only deepwater harbor and is a mid-sized maritime industrial city that has experienced significant growth in recent years. With the progress of offshore oil and natural gas mining, Sihanouville is expected to serve as a center of resource develop-

ment and as a vital supply base. Sihanouville likewise anticipates a steep increase in its population in coming years.

Beginning with development studies in 1996, Japan has provided a total of four ODA loans to the city of Sihanouville for the development of harbor facilities including a container terminal in addition to ongoing support via Grant Aid and diverse Technical Cooperation. Japan has therefore been a major contributor to the development of Sihanouville's harbor as an international port, which provides backing for economic prosperity.

In recent years, however, since urbanization has progressed at such an accelerated pace, the building of basic infrastructure and land utilization planning have not been in the position to

catch up. This in turn has created city zoning issues manifested by an integration of industrial and residential neighborhoods. Furthermore, blessed with an abundant natural environment, cities maintain the inherent potential to serve as centers of tourism. Accordingly, the promotion of development harmonized with the natural environment is also an issue of significance.

Against this background, the Cambodian government has asked for Japan's support in creating an implementation structure and land utilization plan that makes both environmental conservation and economic development possible in Sihanouville City. In addition, it has requested assistance in the formulation of a basic development framework for the entire oceanfront region.

In February 2009, the "Oceanfront development scheme for sustainable growth and Sihanouville development plan formulation survey" was initiated. The two pillars of the survey have been designated as 1) land utilization and transit (urban transportation and logistics), and 2) legal systems, organizations and structures. With JICA's firm support, cooperative efforts ranging from economic growth via harbor facility improvement to comprehensive development that contributes to environmental harmony are being put into effect.



View of Sihanouville Harbor's two primary container cranes (left) and container dock (right) equipped with cooperation by JICA

Transportation —Realizing People’s Potentials—

Enhancing Cross-Border Transportation Infrastructures to Bolster Regional Development

Topic Overview

Many developing countries lack a solid foundation to support their main means of transportation, which impedes economic growth and contributes to reduce poverty. Transportation infrastructure maintenance is indispensable to the

movement of goods and people and therefore the ongoing development and growth of a nation. Proper transport management, however, has the potential to help prevent future climate change with reductions in CO₂ as a result of less congested traffic conditions and greater

distribution efficiency.

The demand for the maintenance of transportation infrastructures, including roads, railways, ports and airports, remains high in both developing and developed countries around the world. Furthermore, the need for maintenance

Example

Transportation Sub-Saharan Africa "Cross Border Transportation Infrastructure"

The Current Need for Cross-Border Support

Sub-Saharan Africa comprises 48 countries, excluding the five located in North Africa. Its size accounts for 18% of the world's total land area and it holds 12% of the world's population. Yet, its total GDP still falls short of 2%. Excluding South Africa, 50% of its population, totaling 400 million people, in the remaining 47 nations live well below poverty standards on less than US\$1.25 a day.

Africa became the collection of nations that it is today through the establishment of borders based on colonial policies. During this colonial era, railways served as the backbone of its transportation infrastructure, which connected harbors to the hinterland. Today, however, lack of investment in this area is causing increasing deterioration of its infrastructure. Moreover, with the global shift toward the use of containers, the cost of maintaining roads and harbors has increased, underscoring the lack of large-scale infrastructural facilities, and causing issues of economic

disparity. Accordingly, the need for cross-border transportation infrastructure maintenance from both a structural and non-structural standpoint to cater to the specific characteristics of Africa's border-laden landscape is dire. JICA is thus responding to this call.

One country with great potential for logistical demand is Uganda in East Africa. From Kenya, which runs along its eastern border, there is a major highway artery that runs through Uganda's capital city Kampala to Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo. At about 80km east of Kampala this road crosses the Nile River. The existing bridge, however, is not only deteriorating with age, but is a narrow two-lane, two-way road. From a comprehensive cross-border perspective that takes into account several regions, JICA is participating in the construction of a new bridge.

Further research has indicated that the Sub-Saharan cross-

border transportation infrastructure in Africa suffers from harbor and railway bottleneck issues. While continuing to support the "One Stop Border Post Project" for cross-border transit maintenance, JICA is also providing Technical Assistance, ODA loans and Grant Aid to back both structural and non-structural efforts in the improvement of harbors, railways and Africa's overall transportation infrastructure.



Near the international Rusumo border between Tanzania and Rwanda



Trucks in transit across the Malaba international border



The yard at the international Malaba border separating Kenya and Uganda

management, repair and renewal of aging structures and facilities is expected to rise.

However, transportation infrastructure maintenance requires considerable funding, which makes securing the finances for such purposes a tremendous challenge. Because of the difficulty in sufficiently maintaining necessary and all infrastructures on public funds alone, a number of finance securitization policies such as those that allow for the injection of private funds are being reviewed. The provision of efficient and continuous transportation services that truly meet the needs of its users are in more demand now than ever before.

Furthermore, the effects of transportation infrastructure maintenance on the environment and society need to be

carefully considered and requires the support of partner countries in taking on efforts to do so.

JICA's Initiatives

JICA's main goal for cooperation in the area of transportation is the swift, smooth and safe transport of goods and people in order to invigorate socio-economic activity and to ultimately improve income levels and enrich people's lives.

Transportation infrastructure development and maintenance in developing countries is much more complicated than simply building roads and bridges. It also requires complete infrastructure planning to be able to deal with how to organize an efficient system as well as the construction of a scheme for properly managing and

operating the systems and facilities to be put into place for sustainable service deliveries. In sum, infrastructure maintenance is just the tip of the iceberg. Cultivation and management of related human resources, systems and mechanisms and support for the continuous functioning of transportation facilities is also necessary. For this reason, JICA sees infrastructure maintenance as just one aspect of its support. It also bears in mind the people, places and things transportation systems are meant to serve by paying close attention to its users and residents in surrounding areas, actively participating in community activities and collaborating with NGOs.

In addition to support efforts that until now predominately focused on structural solutions such as road construction, JICA is offering assistance in

Example

Transportation Bolivia

"The Project for Capacity Development of Road Disaster Prevention and Bridge Management and Maintenance"

Technical Support for Disaster Prevention for Roads and Better Operational Management for Bridges

Bolivia is three times the geographical size of Japan, with a total population of approximately 9.6 million. Residing in 314 communities spread throughout the country, Bolivians are 70–80% re-

liant on ground distribution of essential everyday goods and agricultural products. Accordingly, while possessing 60,000 kilometers of road, much of which is old and deteriorating, its paved road ratio stands at a low of 30% for national highways and less than 1% for other roads. A mountainous country that is susceptible to inclement weather patterns and rough terrain, Bolivia also suffers from damages caused by washed out bridges, falling rocks and major landslides during its rainy season from November to March. Such havoc not only renders local roads useless, but also causes much detriment to impoverished communities.

With the aim of carrying out drastic road reforms in Bolivia, JICA began a series of development studies in 2005. Utilizing these studies, JICA

formulated a variety of measures and policies essential to helping Bolivia prevent future disaster while proposing a capacity development (CD) plan to establish an organizational structure to handle such measures. Bolivia has since established a Disaster Prevention Unit within its road management organization and is taking steps to implement the CD plan. Yet, with no experience in disaster prevention, Bolivia has called on Japan to provide Technical Assistance. JICA therefore launched a project to help road disaster reduction management organizations and improve its bridge maintenance and management capabilities. Furthermore, JICA has dispatched Japanese specialists and experts, offered training, in both Japan and Bolivia, and provided necessary equipment.



Surveying fallen boulders (size, configuration of the fall, damages)



Meeting regarding a bridge diagnostics survey

the following ways: 1) support for the development of fundamental capabilities to boost administrative capacity (capacity development for transportation); 2) support for regionalization and internationalization to accelerate the development of regional economic zones and internationalization of the transport of people and goods (international transit systems); 3) support for harmonious national development and the preservation of people's rights to travel freely and equally (national transit systems); 4) wide-ranging cooperation to improve urban living standards and sustainable development (urban transit systems); and 5) support for development and maintenance of a basic transportation infrastructure to enhance rural living standards (remote and local transit systems).

Cross-Border Transportation Infrastructure

JICA recognizes that bilateral aid is not enough to support the transportation infrastructures of certain countries. If we look at the distribution of goods for example, there are times when products are shipped from a coastal country to an inland country, involving more than a single country during the course of travel. For cases such as this cross-border cooperation is essential. In JICA's terminology, cross-border transportation means the progress of regionalization and development in regions where such infrastructures are to be established. As such, cross-border transportation infrastructure not only relates to physical borders but has come to be regarded as something bringing about other development as well. It serves as a network for the

promotion of regional development by expanding transportation systems to individual regions. Furthermore, it contributes to the creation of streamlined cross-border administrative operations, which in turn lead to the establishment of cross-border transportation. This allows for easier user access. As yet another non-structural benefit, the expansion of human resources is possible while attempting to put cross-border transportation infrastructure in place at the same time.

Furthermore, the maintenance of cross-border transportation infrastructures requires review from the perspective of interregional cooperation. The "Study of the National Logistics Network Project in Laos," begun in March 2008, is a project that exactly exemplifies this. This project called for interregional cooperation, and its challenge is to

Example

Transportation India "Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project"

Realizing an Ideal Combination of Support with ODA Loans and Technical Assistance

At one time, only long-distance railway travel and transport was possible in India. There were no trains that traveled short distances to connect its suburbs with its cities. Short distances were

mainly traveled by bus and automobiles. However, chronic traffic congestion and air pollution soon became problematic. The need for a punctual and efficient commuter system eventually led to the construction of the Delhi Metro, the city's first large-volume, high-speed transportation system.

Japan's support to India with the provision of ODA loans has been continuous since 1997 and helped fund this massive transportation project. When JICA newly integrated in October 2008, it decided to continue its support for this project by additionally offering Technical Cooperation in safety operations of Delhi Metro and maintenance

and management of passenger cars by sending experts. Safety management support included timetable management and the creation of emergency plans taking into consideration India's social climate.

More specifically, JICA helped carry out emergency rescue training under a terrorist attack scenario in which the challenge was to rescue injured passengers and recover passenger cars that had derailed. JICA is pleased to see its provision of ODA loans be further supported by Technical Assistance to realize an altogether enriched foundation of support.



Maintenance inspection and passenger flow control to ensure safety and punctuality

successfully place, mainly, Laos, but also Cambodia, which have seen comparatively less economic growth than Thailand and Viet Nam, within the Asian cross-border transportation infrastructure maintenance scheme.

The fostering of cross-border transportation is expected to invigorate economies in countries that have gotten a late start, accelerate the correction of disparities between nations, and help reduce poverty. On the contrary,

full consideration must also be given to the possibility of negative impacts such as benefits being gained primarily by larger countries with more robust economies, an increase in crime and the spread of disease such as HIV/AIDS.

Information Technology (IT)

—Late Start of IT as a New Inhibitor to Economic Development—

The Importance of Closing the Digital Divide between Countries and Regions

Topic Overview

Information technology in recent years has provided developed nations with tremendous development strength, not to mention economic growth largely attributable to a booming IT industry. Applicable in the administrative, social and economic fields, IT has successfully computerized central government operations (e-governance), is being used to educate via the Internet (e-learning), and facilitates digital trade and commerce (e-commerce). IT also has the potential to provide the basic support for a variety of activities, allows for efficient economic and social organization in developed nations, and raises productivity, enhancing life-style quality and improving citizen services.

Developing countries, however, have not yet had the chance to use, learn about or reap the benefits that IT has to offer. The disparity of IT resources between countries has given birth to what is called the digital divide. This gap is also contributing to a widening of the economic disparities and ultimately an unbalanced world structure.

JICA's Initiatives

JICA believes in the importance of boosting the efficacy of standard

Technical Assistance by using a face-to-face support method while providing assistance in a more efficient manner in order to close the digital divide. Moreover, it hopes to help eliminate digital disparity issues in developing countries by fostering and promoting the use of IT.

At the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit held in July 2000, Japan asserted its stance on helping close the digital divide in developing countries, particularly in Asia, by adopting distance learning and cultivating IT usage under the auspices of development aid. The government also announced plans to create ways to use ODA funds more effectively and to establish 30 IT bases going forward.

IT Policies Linked to Social and Economic Development

In addressing the late development of IT resources in developing countries, JICA is currently undertaking the following activities established as a five-point IT support plan.

1) Improve IT policy planning capabilities: Dispatch advisors on IT policy planning for national strategization, electric communications, industry cultivation and other purposes.

2) Train and cultivate IT human resources: Implement a human resource expansion project to enhance the capabilities of technicians and policy planners in order to further spread IT usage. This step comprises a large proportion of JICA's IT support efforts.

3) Develop a communications foundation: Formulate a future communications network plan for the development of a foundation for central and peripheral communications networks. Provide support for the reinforcement of maintenance and management systems.

4) Improve the efficiency and efficacy of IT usage in all fields: Channel improved operational efficacy and efficiency through collaborative IT applications in education, medicine and commerce and adopt IT usage in governmental administrative fields.

5) Improve the efficiency and efficacy of aid through the use of IT: Expand JICA-Net operations to better address all of these IT issues and topics.

Public Policy

Foundation of Effective Development Assistance: Improving Inadequate Social Infrastructure



Community policing (Indonesia)

Partner countries often face challenges in terms not only of insufficient economic and physical infrastructure, but also of insufficient legal and administrative infrastructure, such as legal and judicial systems as well as administrative and fiscal systems. Bottlenecks in legal and administrative systems would hinder efforts of partner countries toward sustainable development and reduce efficiency/effectiveness of development assistance. Support for building a social infrastructure as part of assistance in the area of public policy is a key to achieving capacity development (CD) of partner countries in an effective and efficient manner. Hence, “governance” and “fiscal and monetary systems” are introduced as approaches tackling challenges in the field of public policy, in addition to “gender mainstreaming,” “peacebuilding” and “poverty reduction” as cross-cutting issues.

Governance —Enhancing Capacity of Institutions in Partner Countries—

Working in Partnership through Dialogue

Topic Overview

Developing countries often face such problems as an ineffective legal and judicial system, lack of competencies and resources in public administration and service delivery, or limited participation of citizens in the decision-making process in public affairs.

The notion of governance is not limited to something related to government or public administration, but includes both process and mechanisms that guide and regulate state-society relations, taking a historic view on the entire system or the outcome of the institutional setting that runs society. Since the 1990s, governance is considered to be an important factor that greatly influences the development process and its outcomes.

Since dealing with issues of governance may be associated with making changes both in existing systems and practices and in state-society relations at various levels, international cooperation needs to be carefully pursued, building upon a long-term perspective and a deep understanding of history, culture and customs of partner countries.

JICA's Approach

The goal of JICA's governance assistance is to enable partner countries to become capable of investing, allocating and managing their resources efficiently and in ways that reflect the needs and

the will of the people for their social stability and economic development.

As noted above, since governance issues deal with institutions and systems of a state, external assistance should be consolidated in overall efforts for the development process of the partner country, in a way that encourages its policy ownership and leadership. Therefore, JICA places importance on working together with partner countries through dialogues and cooperation. In this partnership, JICA thinks together and suggests viable solutions to problems they face, rather than enforcing a specific policy or system, and strives to foster their leading roles in realizing what they wish to achieve. Its assistance includes, for instance, strengthening national institutions, improving mechanisms and systems that provide public goods and services, and capacity building for better functioning of such mechanism and systems. The primary areas of JICA's support in governance focus on 1) the legal and judiciary sector, 2) the public administration sector, and 3) democratic institutions.

Legal and Judiciary Sector

A major focus of JICA's assistance in the legal and judicial sector is on development of legal and judicial systems and enhancement of public safety.

JICA's legal and judicial support rests on the following core elements: 1) supporting the development of rules and regulations including the drafting of specific bills and their promulgation; 2) supporting the improvement of the capacity of public organizations (the improvement of the capacity of the organizations that implement laws or apply laws to dispute resolution); and 3) supporting the legal empowerment of people and society (the improvement of people's access to legal and judicial systems). As a foundation for these three elements, JICA's approach also stresses 4) supporting the development of legal professionals, including legal and judicial affairs officers, in order for them to independently promote legal and judicial development in the long term.

In the area of public safety, JICA supports the efforts of partner countries to strengthen functions of civilian police and refine expertise of forensic science for effective investigation.

JICA believes it is essential to design and implement laws and systems in a way that they are built on and work together with the existing systems, culture and social and economic norms. Furthermore, close attention needs to be given to the partner country's current stage of development and its political, economic and social surroundings. Again, JICA seeks to develop partner-

ship through dialogues so that joint efforts can lead to desirable outcomes for the partner country.

Support for the Improvement of Administrative Capabilities

As JICA offers support for the appropriate allocation and management of resources, it also primarily aims to strengthen the administrative capabilities of partner countries in order to facilitate the effective provision of public services that meet citizens' needs. In doing so it provides concrete support for the improvement of supervision over formulation and implementation of development plans, keeping of government statistics, enhancement of civil service employee competence, strengthening of autonomous adminis-

trative capacities in local regions, boosting administrative transparency, bolstering community organizations and promoting participation in enforcing public policy. In fiscal 2008, JICA participated in a project to enhance local government capacity in Thailand (see page 89) and in Cambodia's first full-scale national survey (see page 88).

In the end, this kind of support enters a realm that can be considered the core of a country. While carefully taking into consideration the conditions of a region, JICA hopes that this realm may also include dynamic transformation.

Democratic System Development

As a key element of holding the government accountable, JICA works on supporting democratic institutions,

which enables citizens to address their needs through participating in decision making. Its assistance is to strengthen such institutional settings, rather than to enforce specific policy or system. In fiscal 2008, JICA supported a seminar in Nepal on elections and political party management so as to contribute to its democratic state building after a decade of conflict. JICA will continue to support the efforts of Nepal in reinforcing election committees, revising civil codes, promoting citizens' participation in the political process, and facilitating roles of mass media, all of which contributes to democratic development of the country.

Example

Governance Nepal "Support for the Building of Democratic Institutions"

Providing Essential Support for Democratization

Conflict in Nepal that lasted more than 10 years finally came to an end in 2006. Later in April of 2008, its monarchy was abolished and constitutional assembly elections were held. The country, however, is still exploring how it will build and manage a new democratic system. The foundation of its coalition government remains unstable while adversity affects the livelihoods of its people. Under these circumstances, dissatisfaction and mistrust of the government add to the challenges facing Nepal.

As the country is in the midst of searching for a new national framework, JICA is actively supporting Nepal's efforts to build itself anew.

In October 2008, Japan supported a seminar on election and political management, calling on the attendance of Nepal's constitutional congressional deputy, constitutional secretariat high officer and election management committee chairperson. The seminar provided the officials with the chance to observe Japan's own congressional and election systems and to exchange ideas with academics, providing valuable knowledge applicable to Nepal's national framework and nation building efforts. It became a valuable experience for the participants to actively interact and discuss the new national system, regardless of their political affiliation.

Again in February 2009, in Nepal, Japan supported a forum on democratization and

peacebuilding. In addition to themes such as the role of the federal government in the creation of a new constitution, discussions took place over stronger democratic media independent of political influence and revision of civil codes and their possible effect on people's livelihoods.

JICA is continuing the dialogue with the various stakeholders in Nepal to ascertain how to go about formulating its constitution, holding both general and local elections and coping with efforts for democratization.



Visit to Okayama City Council



The Fiscal and Financial Sector

—Development Results Are Greater under the Stability of a Fiscal and Financial System—

JICA Continues to Offer Its Support for the Strengthening of the Fiscal and Financial Sectors of Recipient Countries

Topic Overview

It is no overstatement to say that sound fiscal and financial systems are vital to sustainable economic development. If the government and central bank fail to implement and manage appropriate economic policies, the living standard of people could decline due to inflation and the funds needed for local small and medium-sized enterprises may not be provided. Should fiscal and financial systems collapse, the impact on the economy would be severe.

It is the sound fiscal and financial stability as well as economic stability when the effectiveness of assistance toward developing countries increases. However, because the fundamental administrative capacities of these areas in developing countries are generally inadequate, their economic infrastructure is weak and economic management is usually unstable. JICA's assistance in this area aims at strengthening the fiscal and financial structure in the developing countries.

JICA's Initiatives

"The prevention of economic and financial crisis" is a critical issue for developing countries in reinforcing their fiscal and financial structure. Many people in ASEAN countries lost their assets and jobs due to the 1997 financial crisis in Asia, which resulted in enormous economic losses. The vulnerability of ASEAN countries' financial systems was one cause for that financial crisis. Moreover, the increased global financial crisis triggered last year by the sub-prime loan

Example

Governance and Administration Cambodia The Project on Improving Official Statistics

Statistics Are the Foundation for Nation Building—Supporting Countries' Efforts for Implementing Self-Reliant Official Statistics

Statistical data is essential in determining the policies that support a nation's foundation. Cambodia lagged behind in developing official statistics due to the long-running civil war. After a long pause, Cambodia resumed implementing official statistics in the 1990s with the support of the United Nations. In 1998, the first population census in 36 years was implemented, but it did not include every household.

After that, the government of Cambodia decided to implement a population census in 2008, and consequently, the first phase of the Project on Improving Official Statistics was launched in April 2006. The first phase focused on training to enhance the capacity of staff in the National Institute of Statistics in the field of official statistics. In April 2007, the second phase of the project was initiated to support the 2008 population census. The second phase will last until September 2010 providing Technical Assistance to facilitate the planning, tallying, analyzing, and advocating the importance of the use of the census to form and monitor national/local policies.

JICA assisted the population census that was conducted in March 2008. The census was Cambodia's first to cover all households.

In order to cover the entire nation, a massive number of enumerators were mobilized for the census. Nearly 28,000 enumerators took part in the census to cover every household. Training of enumerators was conducted step-by-step starting

from the national level working through to the local level based on administrative district levels. Difficulties arose in securing the cooperation of citizens in the census. In an effort to gain support, enumerators had to explain the purpose of the census by answering the question "What is a population census?" Enumerators also had to consider local conditions and pay careful attention to interviewees on how to ask questions while taking the census.

Census analysis results will be utilized as basic data for determining national policies. At

the same time, it is valuable for the country to obtain reliable data through the census as a tool in monitoring Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The tallying of census figures is complete and we have now entered the results analysis phase. While analysis requires time and is a technically difficult area, it is tremendously important work. Each subject undergoes wide-ranging analysis and the results are expected to be used for determining policies pertaining to various policy domains including health, education and social welfare.



Japanese experts verifying entries on population census forms

repayment impasse reminded us of the need to strengthen the financial system. The second issue is “public financial management.” While seeking an increase in tax revenue, the establishment of a system to efficiently allocate budgets to priority areas of development and then to effectively use those budgets is vital for conducting economic policies. Against the backdrop of a global financial crisis that is affecting the real economies of developing countries, it is necessary to support developing countries through efficient public financial management.

Meanwhile, past support for economic policies and the financial sector was focused on providing know-how such as the introduction of Japanese fiscal and financial systems. However,

from the end of the 1980s to the beginning of the 1990s, when former socialist countries shifted to market economies, the direction of JICA's cooperation in these areas changed. “The support for the transition to a market economy” which included drastic reviews of the economic policies, systems and organization of former socialist countries, became one of the priority issues for Japan's ODA.

In light of this, JICA has been providing development support in line with the following.

1. Reinforcement of Fiscal Systems

JICA strives to improve the administrative capacity of national taxes and customs which comprise a major portion of tax revenues of developing

countries, as well as to enhance the capacity of fiscal and debt management. Specifically, JICA supports capacity development of finance ministries and other central governments and policy organizations to assist them in formulating economic policies properly collecting taxes based on relevant laws, as well as managing and using the budget. Moreover, JICA focuses on providing assistance to inspection agencies in order to improve the capacity for conducting internal and external audits. This is because if there is no capability for inspecting whether a country's finances are being properly administered or not, economic development and projects for that country cannot be properly implemented.

Example

Governance and Administration Thailand Program on Capacity Building of Thai Local Authorities

The Results of JICA's Cooperation Are Reflected in the Constitution in spite of Administration Changes

Thailand continues its steady economic growth in the 21st century. However, there still remains a substantial gap between Bangkok and local areas, and calls for regional development have been strong. The government has prioritized a decentralization policy by establishing the 1997 Constitution and the Decentralization Act of 1999, which called for capacity building of local authorities.

JICA began examining specific cooperation proposals by enhancing its understanding and

analyzing the issue of decentralization in Thailand. Between 2000 and 2002, Japanese and Thai scholars in the field of local administration implemented joint research on the following four issues: 1) reviewing the criteria for classifying local authorities; 2) interlocal cooperation; 3) merger and consolidation of local authorities; and 4) coordination among the development plans of local authorities, and recommendations as the result of the study were provided from the Thai side. The most vital issue among these four was the theme of promoting interlocal cooperation. There are approximately 8,000 local authorities in Thailand. Taking the problem of waste disposal as an example, since each local authority does not have enough capacity to manage its own dumpsites, attempts have been made to solve the problem through interlocal cooperation.

The Project on Local Management Cooperation Phase 1 and Phase 2 executed since 2003 has

supported the implementation of interlocal cooperation programs and the transfer of results to guidelines of the Department of Local Administration (DLA). During Phase 1, training on interlocal cooperation in Nagano Prefecture became a major milestone for DLA's policy development.

During Phase 2, there was a major change in political power and a new constitution established. It had a major impact that the university professors who had cooperated previously with JICA drafted interlocal cooperation in the constitution. More details on interlocal cooperation will be reflected in the Local Autonomy Code, which is to be enacted soon.

Along with institution building, the project supported organization building that enables effective management of interlocal cooperation at local areas, which built a mechanism of cooperation among local administrative officials.



Recycling bank activities by a group of Sento housewives; small item recycling through waste



Sento housewives: cooperation between local governments energizes governments and regions.

2. Reinforcement of Financial Systems

The stabilization and efficient management of financial systems underpins the foundation for nations' balanced and sound economic policies. JICA provides assistance to central banks, development banks and other finance corporations for small and medium-sized enterprises in improving the capacity of financial supervision, enhancing financial intermediary functions, developing capital markets, and improving the financial system for small and medium-sized enterprises, etc.

3. Development of a Macroeconomic Management Infrastructure

JICA provides support for the development of economic laws such as competition laws, the creation of macroeconomic models and the improvement of economic statistics including inter-industry relations tables. JICA sends Japanese experts into the field, sponsors joint research and seminars and invites counterparts to Japan for training.

Since, in the fiscal and financial sector, other donors provide a lot of support for revenue management, debt manage-

ment, internal audits, general budget support,^{*} donor harmonization and coordination with such financial assistance is inevitable. Meanwhile, JICA is expected to construct its own assistance framework to show its presence among other donors in spite of the limited human resources in these sectors. Providing multiple policy options for economic development while raising the profile of Japanese assistance is a future challenge in the fiscal and financial sector.

^{*} General budget support: A method of assistance that directly releases funds into the general account of the recipient country based on a strategy agreed to by a developing country together with donor countries and organizations with the aim of achieving development results at the national level.

Example

The Fiscal and Financial Sector East Africa The Project on Capacity Building for the Customs Administrations of the Eastern African Region

This Project Seeks to Promote the Intra-regional Distribution of Products by Building a Customs Clearance System Suitable for the Conditions of East Africa

One Stop Border Post (OSBP) is one of the customs clearance management systems that has attracted attention in the drive to standardize and streamline the customs clearance process. OSBP promotes the distribution of goods by reducing the time it takes to cross borders. This is achieved by conducting import and export clearance simultaneously at one point instead of the method of conducting them twice that is normally required by both countries, thus reducing freight congestion at the borders. Although the OSBP system is already being introduced at land borders all over

the world, the configuration of the system varies, even in countries with adjoining borders, because of the differences between each country's economic, political and social conditions. This project is designed to contribute to improving the customs clearance capacities of the Revenue Authorities in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda—members of the East African Community (EAC)—as well as promoting the transportation and distribution of commodities so that the OSBP system, which is tailored to the conditions of East Africa, functions properly.

East African countries give priority to national strategies aimed at continuous poverty reduction through macroeconomic stability and economic growth, and have hammered out policies that promote trade, diversification and stable supply of goods, strengthen domestic markets and promote distribution of goods. "Transport of more goods safely, faster and at lower cost" is an important issue for revitalizing international trade.



Border facility between Kenya and Tanzania

Gender Mainstreaming

—The Vulnerable Might Be Negatively Impacted by Development Assistance—

JICA's Challenge to Gender Diversity—Beyond Focusing on Women

Topic Overview

The tsunami caused by the Indian Ocean earthquake in 2004 reportedly killed three times more women than men.

Women are generally in a socially, politically and economically disadvantaged position as compared to men. If various development projects are implemented without recognizing different needs of both men and women, they might benefit only men. In this way, numerous gender issues can always be identified in the whole process of development assistance. As a result, “gender mainstreaming” is much emphasized in international society.

JICA's Initiatives

Building a Framework to Promote Gender Mainstreaming

For many years, JICA has considered the importance of gender issues and developed a basic strategy for implementing gender-responsive projects. JICA also established an organizational framework for gender mainstreaming to promote gender-equality efforts in its network.

Gender mainstreaming is a comprehensive approach to incorporate the perspective of gender equality in all development policies and practices including all the process of projects such

as formulation, planning and decision-making. It is also an approach in which both men and women may become beneficiaries of development through their equal participation.

In April 2008, JICA established the Gender Equality Division, in the Gender Equality and Peace Building Group, Public Policy Department. The division has conducted projects for gender mainstreaming and gender equality, while it has accumulated and shared knowledge and lessons learned within the organization. On the other hand, the Planning Department has the role of coordinating JICA's activities for mainstreaming gender in JICA. In this organizational framework, JICA is continuing efforts to promote gender mainstreaming.

Initiatives to Promote Gender Mainstreaming

Gender is unconsciously constructed by cultures, traditions and customs of a country. It also affects various policies, systems and organizations, while people are not even aware of its influences. Consequently, JICA works to improve the policy-making capacity of developing countries and develop an awareness of gender by assisting them in building various gender-responsive systems. Efforts are needed for the innovation of

policies and systems that will contribute to gender equality.

One problem is that many of the existing statistics, data and various indices collected are not gender-disaggregated because of little recognition of gender issues. If the concept of gender is adopted with the insufficient understanding of the targeted local community, it could widen the gender gap and create a negative impact. It is critical to collect and comprehensively analyze basic data needed for a variety of programs and projects by gender, age, ethnicity and religious affiliation, and to develop human resources with the perspective.

Moreover, women's empowerment requires changing the consciousness of men, decision makers and socially influential people such as administrative officials, educators, politicians and religious leaders. In other words, it is necessary to make efforts to reform the social structure and systems surrounding women.

Approach to Disseminate the Concept of Gender

In many cases, the benefits of development assistance were unable to reach the vulnerable and the marginalized groups such as women of low status.

Example

Fiscal and Monetary Systems **Tanzania** Internal Audit Capacity Building Project in Tanzania

Achieving Independent and Reliable Implementation of Internal Audit Practices

Beginning in 1998, the government of Tanzania launched a reform movement through its Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, targeting the government's management of public finances. Although efforts have largely been successful to date, Tanzania still faces a number of challenges, including how best to strengthen monitoring functions and appropriate adequate budgetary resources. Among these challenges, one other key issue that must be addressed encompasses efforts

to improve the nation's internal audit framework.

Accordingly, enhanced governance, government accountability and management capacity of public finances represents a core area of Japan's aid strategy toward Tanzania. Japan recently resumed its ODA loan program in Tanzania in 2006, and because financial assistance provided to the country has largely been expanded, JICA's policy has focused on contributing to this reform movement by strengthening policy dialogue in key areas including public finance management.

The primary aim of the Internal Audit Capacity Building Project is to assist with the correct implementation of internal audit practices in all Tanzania government ministries, departments and agencies (MDA), including the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, and as a result, achieve self-directed policy initiatives through the proper MDA implementation of budgets, monitoring as well as

necessary improvements found in internal audits.

In order to achieve this goal, JICA is currently providing training programs to employees of the Accountant General's Department within the Central Internal Audit Unit (CIAU) to enhance monitoring functions and internal audit practices and procedures. JICA specialists, CIAU, and local third-party training agencies have been responsible for the development of training program content and reference materials tailored to the current conditions and challenges facing the country. In utilizing local resources to the fullest to move the program forward, the ultimate objective is to have CIAU staff directly provide training to MDA employees. Once this three-year project has been completed, JICA is also looking to see the CIAU emerge as a provider of completely independent internal audit training programs.

The Gender Equality Division makes suggestions and advises on the gender perspective, which often tends to be overlooked, in all of the project process. For example, in a project constructing wells and taps, it is important to consider whether these are located in accessible places for women and whether women can go to wash themselves with privacy. In this way, JICA examines in advance whether the gender perspective is incorporated in all the projects of Technical Cooperation, ODA Loan and Grant Aid.

While the word “gender” tends to be misunderstood as a women-oriented perspective, there is a question of whether the vulnerable are exclusively women. Men could be socially oppressed if they are in a low caste, an ethnic minority or have disabilities. While 80% of human trafficking victims are women, many children are not even aware of themselves as victims. There are diversified people who are in need of support.

Through the projects such as the Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Project in Nepal (see page 94) and the Project on Strengthening of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for Protection of Trafficked Persons in Thailand (see the example below), JICA tackles the challenge to promote gender mainstreaming that goes beyond the stereotyped concept of gender.

Example

Gender Equality Afghanistan Project on Poverty Reduction for Chronically Poor Women (CPW)

Working to Promote Gender Mainstreaming While Attempting to Understand the Social and Cultural Context

In Afghanistan, after 23 years of conflict, and then under the Taliban regime, women have been forced into living lives that are heavily restricted politically and socially. Having also been deprived of learning and work opportunities, women's entry into the labor force has not progressed. To recover women's rights and raise their status, the Afghanistan Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) was established based on the Bonn Agreement of December 2001. The Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) is advancing the goal of achieving gender equality. Within this goal is the urgent task of MoWA to attain by 2010 the target of a 20% reduction of people living in extreme poverty in households headed by women through higher employment.

From fiscal 2003, JICA dispatched experts to MoWA and assisted in strengthening MoWA's organizational capacity through the implementation of pilot projects in the “Project on Enhancing Women's Economic Empowerment in Afghanistan,” a Technical Cooperation project that began in fiscal 2005.

In 2009, this new project began aiming to strengthen MoWA's organizational capacity to improve the economic situation of chronically poor women (CPW) by cooperating with other

ministries' activities for CPW. In this project, MoWA provides information on the situation of CPW as well as advice and training to other ministries/agencies. MoWA is enhancing its own capacity by means of such cooperation.

Social participation by women is more difficult in some regions than in others. Accordingly, JICA implements its activities with a deep understanding of the social and cultural background in those particular regions. Through the implementation of this project we hope to contribute to poverty reduction among women and that women will understand their potential and gain dignity as human beings and social recognition.



Women of Afghanistan selling goods on the street

Peacebuilding

—Even When a Conflict Ends, Most Countries Return to a State of Conflict!—

In JICA's View, Support for Peacebuilding Should at the Same Time Support Efforts to Prevent the Recurrence of Conflict

Topic Overview

Virtually all conflict in the world today is civil war, and though most of these civil wars take place in developing countries, they break out in the poorest countries and regions. Moreover, the number of civilians who become victims is increasing while the clear dividing line between combatant and civilian is fading. Not only are ordinary citizens and children victims, but in an increasing number of cases, perpetrators are becoming party to the conflict.

In order to prevent and resolve conflicts and consolidate peace in these situations, there are limits to dealing through only political means such as preventive diplomacy, arms control, and mediation. To resolve the gap between the rich and

poor, unequal opportunity and other such factors that cause conflict, the role played by development aid in support of peacebuilding is emphasized.

JICA's Initiatives

Peacebuilding Support in Four Areas

In 2003, peacebuilding was identified as a priority issue in Japan's ODA Charter announced by the Japanese government, and in response to this, in the medium-term policy on ODA instituted in 2005. In line with these policies, and in putting particular importance on the following four points, JICA conducts peacebuilding assistance, focusing mainly on development assistance following peace accords.

- 1) Support for the reconstruction of social capital
- 2) Support for the restoration of economic activities
- 3) Support for the recovery of the governing function of the government
- 4) Support for contributions to increased public security.

In addition, as a cross-sectoral perspective, consideration is given to 1) promoting reconciliation and coexistence, and 2) the socially vulnerable.

Furthermore, in implementing the above-mentioned assistance, we keep in mind the following seven points especially, in order to reflect the perspective of human security.

Example

Gender Equality Thailand

Project on the Strengthening of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for the Protection of Trafficked Persons

Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking

In Thailand, cases of human trafficking have multiplied since the 1980s due to rapid economic development. Thailand is a source, transit and destination country for human trafficking. As a country of origin, Thai victims are trafficked to Japan, the United States, Europe and other affluent countries. Moreover, Thailand is a destination for victims who are trafficked from the Mekong region such as Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia, while some are trafficked through Thailand to third countries. As a result, measures to combat trafficking in persons have become a major issue in Thailand. Even from the viewpoint of human security, a basic principle of Japan's ODA policy, capacity development of organizations and human resources in regard to anti-trafficking is an important subject.

In 2003, Thailand instituted the National Policy and Plan on Prevention and Resolution of Domestic and Cross-border Trafficking in Children and Women (2003–2011). In January 2008, The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, B.E. 2551 (2008) was established and enacted in June 2008. This new law lays out a legal framework that comprehensively addresses measures to combat trafficking in persons through broadening protection for

adult male victims in addition to women and children and ensuring stricter punishment of perpetrators.

Measures to combat trafficking in persons need to be carried out comprehensively to target policy and legal development, international network, prevention of trafficking, protection of trafficked persons (including return and reintegration), and prosecution of traffickers. The project focuses on the aspect of "protection and reintegration of trafficked persons" and is aimed at strengthening functions of the Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs), which consist of various responsible agencies and experts, coordinated by the Ministry of Social Development Human Security of the Royal Thai Government.



Above: Job training
Below: Interview

- 1) Provide rapid and seamless support
- 2) Provide support to governments along with support to communities and people
- 3) Ensure that assistance is not biased toward specific communities and residents
- 4) Provide support that takes into consideration neighboring countries
- 5) Adopt a comprehensive approach to effectively and strategically deal with the extensive needs in countries and regions affected by conflict
- 6) Execute thorough security measures and crisis management in circumstances where public security is constantly changing
- 7) Promptly establish an appropriate implementation structure

Various Efforts to Prevent Conflict Recurrence

Even if conflicts end, more than 40% of post-conflict countries face the risk of relapsing into conflict within 10 years after a peace accord. It is important to support countries in which conflicts have ended and countries with factors leading to conflict so that these countries can avoid conflict by themselves and work toward sustainable development over the long term. Therefore, JICA implements a Peacebuilding Needs and Impact Assessment (PNA) as an approach and process in its support, and works to give full consideration to avoiding fostering conflict and preventing the generation and recurrence of conflict.

Moreover, JICA has worked to accumulate experience and lessons learned from its support for peacebuilding. The information accumulated is

then fed back to relevant divisions and overseas offices where it helps to raise the expertise of staff and concerned persons and their ability to respond.

What is important, together with the sharing of experience and lessons learned, is the development of human resources. In addition to conducting training six times in fiscal 2008 for experts prior to their dispatch, JICA implemented Capacity Enhancement Training on the theme of peacebuilding in July 2008 and January 2009 for consultants and NGO staff, which focused on the view of conflict prevention. At the same time, by participating as a panelist in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), DAC, international conferences, and peacebuilding forum seminars, JICA actively exchanges and disseminates information.

Example

Gender Equality Nepal Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion (GM/SI) Project

Disseminating the Concept of Gender and Delivering the Voices of the Socially Vulnerable to the Government

Nepal is a multilingual and multiethnic nation with a diverse geography, almost 60 ethnic groups, different castes, and a variety of cultures and customs, where opportunities for education, employment and social participation for women and low-caste individuals remain limited.

The November 2006 peace agreement ended the domestic conflict, the provisional three-

year national development plan was initiated. Taking a lesson from the past history, the plan emphasizes Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion (GM/SI). In the process of building a new nation, the participation of people in socially vulnerable positions such as women, people of low caste, and ethnic minorities is encouraged. Ensuring a budget that takes into account support for the socially vulnerable at the central and regional level, and constructing a system for implementing administrative services so that these people can receive proper administrative services, are major challenges. However, the results have been recognized as insufficient and the Government of Nepal has requested from the Government of Japan a Technical Cooperation project aimed at enhancing administrative capacity.

JICA reached an agreement with the Government of Nepal to implement policies and measures from the standpoint of GM/SI in the central government and in two districts (Syanja and Morang) based on a detailed planning survey conducted in September 2008. In February 2009, the first year of this project, a team of experts was dispatched and a detailed exchange of opinions about the project activity plan was conducted with the Government of Nepal.

JICA believes that the concept of gender extends beyond just men and women. This project starts from the belief that we must understand the circumstances of Nepal, support socially vulnerable people and reflect their voice in administrative services.



Participatory workshop held as a part of project activities

Poverty Reduction —People Can Get Out of Poverty If Given the Chance—

JICA Supports the Strengthening of the Five Human Capabilities and Conducive Environments

Topic Overview

Today, the population living in absolute poverty on less than US\$1.25 a day in all developing countries has declined from 41.7% in 1990 to 25.7% in 2005. However, the difference in improvement between regions is substantial, with 50.9% of the people in Sub-Saharan Africa still suffering extreme poverty. Even in Asia, where poverty reduction has been progressing in a relatively smooth fashion, the recent impact of food and financial crises has been considerable and the increase in population falling into poverty is a concern.

Problems such as disease, unemployment, low education and social discrimination influence each other. Once you fall into a trap, another unfavorable situation arises, and the rapid deterioration of life ensues, which makes it more difficult to escape from poverty.

JICA's Initiatives

Mainstreaming Poverty Reduction

Reducing poverty through equitable growth is one of JICA's four missions. The 1) strengthening of the five essential capabilities that poor people have,

namely, economic, human, political, socio-cultural, and protective capabilities, and 2) the creation of conducive environments where these capabilities can be demonstrated have been made pillars of cooperation for reducing poverty. At JICA, the Peacebuilding and Poverty Reduction Division of the Public Policy Department is a secretariat and the Poverty Reduction Task Force has been established, comprising internal resource persons, in order to promote the mainstreaming of poverty reduction in JICA's cooperation. In addition, a variety of research and seminars are sponsored for staff and concerned parties to deepen their understanding of poverty reduction.

Poverty Measures and Consideration

In JICA's cooperation for poverty reduction, there are two types of assistance depending on who are the beneficiaries of the project: 1) "poverty measures" that directly help poor people to maintain a sustainable livelihood; and 2) "poverty consideration, which maximizes their advantages by putting

additional inputs and considerations through project implementation, although poor people are not always the primary target. JICA addresses both types of assistance.

For instance, with regard to Technical Cooperation, in the Project for the Eradication of Opium Poppy Cultivation and Poverty Reduction in Kokang Special Region in Myanmar, which forms a part of measures implemented against drugs, JICA supports the Kokang Tribe, an ethnic minority that has historically relied on poppies as their limited income source, to maintain their sustainable livelihoods by switching to the cultivation of alternative crops. Moreover, in the Project for Capacity Strengthening of LBT (Labour-Based Technology) Training in Tanzania, local government workers and community leaders study applied technology as it relates to road maintenance that a wide range of people in the community including poor people are able to participate in. Consideration is given to poverty with the aim of building and maintaining rural roads in a participatory manner to meet those people's needs.

Human Development

People in Developing Countries Need Cooperation in Education, Assistance for Healthcare and Social Security



There is only one classroom in the school, but the children study very hard (Myanmar)

Human development is the broadening of options so that people can live full, creative and stable lives with freedom and dignity. Above all, receiving an education, living a long and healthy life, and enjoying a humane living standard are the basis of human life. Seeking to achieve freedom and potential for all people, JICA has focused on contributing to achieving the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs; see page 78) declared as key objectives for the future prosperity of the human race based on the principle of human security. JICA has introduced wide-ranging cooperation in the fields of education, health and medical services, and social security to many developing countries.

Basic Education

—Wishing to Convey the Joy of Learning to the Children of the World—

JICA Helps to Strengthen the Capacity of People in Various Positions around Children such as Teachers, the Community and Administrators

Topic Overview

There are approximately 75 million children in the world who are unable to attend primary school and the majority of them live in developing countries. Furthermore, it is estimated that there are 776 million people, or 16% of the world's adult population, who lack basic literacy (reading, writing and numeracy) (EFA

Global Monitoring Report, 2009). The primary reason that children do not attend school is poverty. If they cannot gain basic abilities in reading, writing and numeracy, they can only get work in unstable, low-paying jobs, even after become adults. As long as they are locked in this vicious cycle, they are in a situation where it is difficult to escape

from poverty.

To realize Education for All (EFA), which aims to have all children attending school by 2015, the international community has undertaken a number of efforts. However, it is predicted that several tens of millions of children will still not be attending school when the target date of 2015 comes.

Example

Basic Education Afghanistan Strengthening of Teacher Education Program

Developing High-Quality Teachers Who Can Properly Teach

Afghanistan is now facing serious education problems. The education system has been devastated by many years of internal conflict. Furthermore, since the inauguration of a new administration, children's school attendance has increased dramatically due to the expanding reconstruction process. As a result, in reality there is not only a shortage of schools, but there is an absolute shortage of teachers who can properly teach.

With a number of countries and international organizations providing support to the Afghanistan government to address these educational problems, JICA is collaborating with those

countries and international organizations and in June 2005 initiated the Strengthening of Teacher Education Program. In Phase 1, instruction manuals for teachers and training manuals for instruction manual use for up to the third grade of elementary school are to be prepared. In Phase 2, in addition to instruction and training manuals for teachers of grades four through six of elementary school, JICA is also providing support for improving teaching methods for teacher training schools.

Until now, Afghanistan's educational methods have emphasized "memorization" over "comprehension." As a result, even teachers who have received higher education are used to one-way instruction with almost no experimental or practical experience. In the above-mentioned instruction manual for teachers, experiments and practice

in mathematics and science are introduced, and in workshops at local teacher training schools JICA has adopted models and experiments and conducts hands-on trial lessons that have been well received.



Observing each teacher's instructions and children's learning in an actual class

JICA's Initiatives

Basic education means educational activities for acquiring the minimum required knowledge and skills that people need for living and refers to preschool education, primary and secondary education, as well as non-formal education represented by adult literacy education and community education. Receiving basic education is not only a basic right for all people; it is also the foundation for building world peace and stability.

Based on Education for All and the Dakar Framework for Action, JICA is supporting basic education based on three pillars, namely, 1) improvements in primary and secondary education enrolment, 2) improvements in the quality of primary and lower secondary education; and 3) improvements in education administration and school management.

Improvements in Primary and Secondary Education Enrolment

JICA assists in upgrading and expanding school education services through the construction of schools using Grant Aid. Meanwhile, to communicate the necessity of school education requires educating parents and the community. JICA seeks to raise school attendance rates by eradicating child labor, which

interferes with education, improving the health conditions of children and improving the overall educational environment that surrounds them.

Improvements in the Quality of Primary and Secondary Education

In order to equip children with reading, writing and a range of problem solving skills, it is important that they attend school and receive a quality education. The appeal and clarity of classes offered in primary and secondary education greatly affect the motivation of children to attend school and are key factors in preventing school dropouts and repetition of the same grade. When observing lessons in primary and secondary school classes in developing countries, one often finds teachers explaining their subjects merely by writing on the blackboard with students simply listening to lectures. To improve this situation, JICA is promoting student-centered lessons that stimulate the student's interest and comprehension and is improving teacher training curriculum and developing and disseminating textbooks and teaching materials.

In addition, JICA is particularly committed to strengthening valuable mathematics and science education.

Improvements in Education Management

As a basis for continually raising the attendance rates of primary and secondary education, it is essential to have the management capability for education administration and school management. This would include understanding non-attending children and encouraging their attendance, teacher deployment, distribution of teaching materials, planning and implementation of educational activities and properly allocating budgets. JICA provides assistance for schools and administrations to assess issues faced by schools, develop school action plans in line with community needs and help strengthen management capabilities so these can be implemented.

JICA also corrects educational gender disparities in education through educational activities that promote women's education, creating systems and literacy education for adult women. We also work to upgrade and expand non-formal education while collaborating with volunteer programs and NGOs so that children who do not attend school and people unable to read and write can acquire the knowledge and techniques needed for social life.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

—Nurturing Technical Personnel Who Will Lead Nation Building—

JICA Seeks to Provide More Options for People Who Have Completed Their Basic Education and for People Who Had Few Opportunities to Receive Education and Training

Topic Overview

In many developing countries, people have few opportunities to receive quality education and training. Consequently, human resources are not effectively utilized, and opportunities to gain sufficient earnings are thus limited. The fact that human resources that can take the lead in industries are not being developed has become a major bottleneck to industrial promotion and development.

JICA's Initiatives

As cooperation approaches in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), JICA has established "Industrial Human Resource Development" and "Expansion of Opportunities for Improving Livelihoods." In Industrial Human Resource Development, people learn tech-

niques, skills, demeanor and the mental attitude necessary for getting a job. In this manner, steps are taken to nurture human resources that contribute to the country's economic development. In Expansion of Opportunities for Improving Livelihoods, we develop cooperation to improve income and reduce poverty through work and entrepreneurship.

In nations with relatively smooth economic development, such as in the Middle East and South Asia, demand is high for the education of technicians who contribute to the needs of industry. JICA is presently undertaking trainer training both in vocational training institutions and technical colleges, the revision of curricula with the involvement of relevant agencies and the creation of training and education systems in collaboration with

industry and governments. Elsewhere, in post-conflict countries and poverty-stricken countries such as those in Sub-Saharan Africa, JICA carries out training aimed at the practical acquisition of basic technology and skills, with the goal of fostering those human resources who are capable of building and running informal-sector small businesses that serve as the real backbone of the economy.

Putting the knowledge and experience accumulated from past cooperation in such countries and regions as ASEAN, Central and South America and Senegal and Uganda in Africa, into use toward cooperation with other nations (South-South cooperation) is a feature of JICA in this field.

Higher Education —Educating Creative Human Resources to Lead Nation-Building—

JICA Aims to Strengthen Education and Research Capabilities at Key Universities in Developing Countries and to Promote Cooperation among Industry, Universities and Regions

Topic Overview

In regions such as the ASEAN nations and South Asia, where primary and secondary education is developed to a high degree and economic growth is sound, demand is increasing for skilled personnel, especially in industry. Expectations continue to grow for higher education support, with the aim of building universities that will contribute to regional development, to industry and to the education of skilled researchers.

JICA's Initiatives

In the knowledge-based society of today, higher educational institutions bear strong demands to play a role in research and development, education and social contribution—a role, that is, as “intellec-

tual hubs” of knowledge and information. In developing countries as well, there is an increasingly vital role for higher educational institutions to play in meeting society's expectations in fostering human resources to lead nation-building, raising the intellectual level of society and contributing to regional development.

JICA's roster of programs for higher education is diversifying as the environment surrounding higher educational institutions changes. In the past, JICA's cooperation has focused on establishing and expanding those faculties and departments in technical, engineering and science fields, which are seen as directly contributing to industrial development and technological advancement. More recently, the target areas of cooperation

have been extended to higher education administration and university management. JICA is also making efforts in areas such as the improvement of research and development capabilities of graduate schools; the strengthening of collaboration between industry and local government bodies; programs utilizing intraregional networks among universities; educational cooperation for remote and vast regions; and expanded support for foreign students. Drawing fully on the features of higher education in Japan, JICA is making effective use of the three schemes of Technical Assistance, ODA Loan and Grant Aid to advance cooperation programs that flexibly meet partner countries' situations and needs from a more global and long-term perspective.

Example

Higher Education Indonesia Technical Cooperation Project for the Development of the Engineering Faculty of the Hasanuddin University (UNHAS), South Sulawesi

Building a University to Contribute to the Northeastern Region of Indonesia through Integrated Implementation of Technical Assistance and ODA Loan

With an economic structure heavily dependent upon primary products such as crops and mineral resources, and 17% of its population (3.1 million people) living in poverty, the northeastern region of Indonesia (six provinces in Sulawesi Province and

two provinces in Maluku Province) faces a worsening gap with other regions. Against this backdrop, expectations are high for Hasanuddin University, the largest university in eastern Indonesia and a regional intellectual resource, as well as for programs to carry out research and development activities aimed at the needs of the region and the fostering of skilled personnel to lead industrial development on the back of cooperation with JICA.

With the aid of Japanese universities, JICA has begun a cooperative project that aims to strengthen the foundations of the Hasanuddin University Engineering Faculty's education and research system by introducing the laboratory system features of Japan's engineering education. Since its start, many members of the Hasanuddin University's faculty have taken doctorate and

master's degrees at Japanese universities, building relationships of trust and human resource networks with Japanese university faculties, including Kyushu University, Hiroshima University, Toyohashi University of Technology and Kumamoto University.

In addition, the Hasanuddin University Engineering Faculty Development Project was launched as an ODA loan project. This project involves the construction of a new engineering campus, deployment of education and research equipment and study abroad programs. Transfer to the new Engineering Faculty is scheduled for 2012. This integrated implementation of Technical Cooperation projects and ODA loans is expected to maximize beneficial effects.



Seminar



Departmental conference

Health and Medical Services

—Toward the Securing of Life and Health for People in Developing Countries—

JICA Supports Efforts toward Strengthening Health Care Systems, Improving Maternal and Child Health Care and Combating Infectious Disease in Developing Countries

Topic Overview

Even now, many precious lives are lost due to diseases or childbirth complications that could be easily prevented or treated if basic health and medical services were in place. Although health is a basic human right, in developing countries many people still face these risks to life.

JICA's Initiatives

In 2008, two large international conferences took place in Japan: TICAD IV in May and the Toyako Summit in July. The Toyako Framework for Action on Global Health—Report of the G8 Health Experts Group, formulated at the Toyako Summit, clearly indicated the strengthening of health systems, maternal and

child health care, and infectious disease control as future directions for achieving MDGs in the health care field.

The strength of JICA programs is their ability to offer cooperation that meets local needs and conditions, as a direct counterpart to levels from policy to the community.

Yet another great strength is the ability to undertake multi-sectoral efforts: implementing programs—Grant Aid for facility and equipment investment, Technical Assistance for expanding human resources and strengthening organizations, ODA loans for scaling up projects, etc.—in an integrated fashion, as well as preparing infrastructure for safe water supply, and so on.

There are many aid organizations working in the health sector. Accordingly, aid coordination is necessary. Considering this situation while also respecting partner country ownership, JICA coordinates and cooperates with international organizations such as WHO and other donors in order to enhance health and medical services in developing countries, including efforts toward the strengthening of health systems, improvement of maternal and child health care, and infectious disease control.

Strengthening Health Systems

The establishment and strengthening of health systems is vital for sustainable and effective action toward improving

Example

Health and Medical Services: Health Systems Strengthening the Asia Africa Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Total Quality Management (TQM) for Better Hospital Services

Realizing "Better Quality and Safety Services": Improvement of Hospital Management through Japanese-Style Methods

Health institutes in developing countries face a lack of resources on many fronts, including shortages of doctors, nurses and other medical staff; medical equipment and drugs; budgets for staff and operational expenses; and information about patients and treatment records. Under these circumstances, Sri Lanka has introduced Total Quality Management (TQM) techniques for quality control developed in Japanese industry, improving hospital management without incurring substantial costs. Through the Asia-Africa Knowledge Co-Creation Program, under which Asia and Africa share knowledge and experience, JICA has shared Sri Lanka's hospital improvement experience with 15 African nations (Group 1: Uganda, Eritrea, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Nigeria, Malawi, Madagascar; Group 2: Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Benin, Mali, Morocco).

Through training in Japan and in Sri Lanka, health administrative officials and hospital managers from African countries studied the 5S-KALZEN-TQM theory, focusing particularly on how to



The 5S concept implemented in a hospital in Tanzania. Compared with previous levels (left), document shelves show a marked improvement in work efficiency (right).

improve workplace environments by using the 5S (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain) principle as an entry point for TQM. After returning to their home countries, training participants implement workplace environment improvements using the 5S principle in pilot hospitals. What distinguishes these efforts is the effective use of available resources without large-scale investments; the accumulation of creative ideas and daily endeavors by both medical administrators and staff; and visible results in the form of hospital cleanliness. Also noteworthy is a clear improvement in staff satisfaction and motivation, as the program begins with improvement of the work environment (i.e., creation of a clean and work-friendly environment) even as it aims for improvements in the quality and safety of health services. JICA will

support pilot hospitals in their efforts to step up to KAIZEN (CQI: Continuous Quality Improvement) and also promote the 5S policy as well as national dissemination.

maternal and child health and combating infectious diseases. “Health systems” refer to the entire framework for administrative system preparation, medical facility improvement, medicine supply management, effective use of accurate health information, management of financial resources as well as the fostering and management of human resources to advance these processes while directly providing health and medical services to people.

As programs supporting the establishment of health systems in developing countries, JICA undertakes activities to strengthen the functions of health care administration at the state or prefectural level in nations undergoing decentralization to local regions, such as Tanzania. JICA also helps improve the health information systems necessary for health policy making and project management in Pakistan. In nations undergoing reconstruction, such as Afghanistan where health systems collapsed during protracted civil war, JICA undertakes the strengthening of overall health systems, including administration for expanding human re-

sources, maternal and child health care and infectious disease control including tuberculosis, offering comprehensive support from a consistent perspective extending from central and provincial governments to actual medical organizations in the field.

Regarding the strengthening of the personnel component within health systems, the Japanese government declared at TICAD IV in 2008 that it would undertake to train 100,000 health care personnel within five years. Toward the realization of that plan, JICA is undertaking many health care training programs in Japan, in third countries and in the field, pairing these with health worker training support that incorporates 5S-KAIZEN-TQM methods in hospital management deployed throughout Japanese industry. JICA's support also includes aid for the establishment and reformation of educational organizations for health workers.

Maternal and Child Health Care: Reproductive Health

Every year over 500,000 women worldwide die from causes related to pregnancy or childbirth, and nearly 10 million children die before reaching five years of age. Over 99% of these cases take place in developing countries. The health of children and women, including pregnant women, is a serious issue in developing countries, and improvement will require going beyond conventional approaches to maternal and child health care, aiming for progress in life-long health related to gender and procreation (i.e., reproductive health).

JICA is providing aid that comprehensively addresses reproductive health at all stages—adolescence, pregnancy, childbirth, child rearing, and family planning. To further the spread of safe and humane childbirth in West Africa, JICA is advancing aid for the creation of systems to support continuum of care, such as the promotion of prenatal checkups, education of skilled birth attendants such as midwives, and the establishment of a referral system for pregnant women, while supporting

Example

Health and Medical Services: Maternal and Child Health Care Syria Strengthening Reproductive Health in Syria

Cooperation with Local People Active as Health Care Volunteers

In recent years Syria, like neighboring countries in the Middle East, has built a relatively favorable health care environment. However, large disparities exist within the nation, and the level of reproductive health (RH) remains low in farming communities.

The Project for Strengthening of Reproductive Health dispatched Japanese consultant teams experienced in rural development in developing countries to the Manbij District in Aleppo Governorate, with the goal of increasing the usage of high-quality maternal and child health care and RH services. Coordinating with dispatched Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOVCs) and gaining the involvement of local persons working as health care volunteers, JICA undertook activities aimed at community health care education and the strengthening of capabilities in health centers providing reproductive health services.

JICA's health care education activities conveyed to expectant mothers and their families the

importance of regular prenatal checkups for safe childbirth. As married women in the nation often must have their husband's permission to leave the village, it was vital for husbands, their mothers, and other family members to understand the need for checkups. In addition, the project disseminated information on the importance of, and techniques for, family planning, including outlets for obtaining birth control, in order that couples could make decisions on family planning measures together.

With the cooperation of health center staff, local health care volunteers played a central role in the activities, which also drew in local groups and religious leaders.

At the end of the project, improvements in health center services resulted in an increase in satisfaction among prenatal checkup recipients (from 41% at the start of the project to 86%) and an increase in the use of family planning (from 26% to 42%).



Outreach health care activities in Talhozan Village

partnerships among countries in these regions. JICA also believes that the Maternal and Child Health Handbook that JICA helped to develop and promote within Indonesia and the Palestinian Authority is an effective method for consolidating continuous care, and plans to introduce these books as a part of maternal and child health care programs in other nations as well.

Infectious Disease Countermeasures

Infectious diseases are a worldwide problem common to all humanity, threatening lives and livelihoods in every corner of the globe. By providing assistance for health care system strengthening, personnel training and research, JICA assists developing countries in creating an institutional mecha-

nism for the prevention, laboratory testing, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, polio (poliomyelitis), malaria, Chagas disease and influenza.

In addition, JICA strives to enhance its assistance by aligning with international actors such as the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the Roll Back Malaria¹ initiative; and the Stop TB Partnership.² In ODA loan-based infrastructure projects such as road and port construction, JICA promotes preventative education activities for construction workers in order to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Furthermore, as a component of the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development,³ JICA commenced cooperation for dengue fever research in Thailand,

making use of Japan's advanced knowledge in the field of infectious disease research.

*1 A WHO-led malaria initiative

*2 An international partnership established in 1998, consisting of a network of international organizations, national governments, donors from the public and private sectors, governmental and nongovernmental organizations and individuals to fight tuberculosis.

*3 A joint program with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) that aims to gain new knowledge that leads to solutions for global issues such as environmental and climate change, infectious diseases, water and disasters, for the purpose of contributing to society from the results of the research.

Example

Health and Medical Services: Infectious Disease Control Regional Project Aid for Combating Chagas Disease in Central America

Achieving a Central American First in Guatemala: Interrupting New Transmission by Vector Insects

Chagas disease is a parasitic disease endemic to Central and South America. Infection is transmitted through an insect vector, the kissing bugs *Pentatomioidea* of the family *Reduviidae*. Infection

can result in untreatable damage to the liver, spleen, and heart, leading in some cases to death. It is known as a disease of people living in poverty, as the insect thrives in the mud walls and thatched roofs typical of underprivileged homes. JICA quickly turned its attention to the disease, and from the 1990s undertook a survey of the vector insect's habitat within Guatemala. From 2000, while beginning full-scale aid to combat the insect within the country, JICA expanded the target of its aid to include El Salvador, Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua, and undertook a leading role in combating Chagas disease through eradication of the insect, monitoring reappearance of the insect through education of local people and strengthen-

ing relevant local administration functions.

In November 2008, the interruption of new transmission via the vector in Guatemala was recognized by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). "Interruption" is an interim goal signifying a state of essentially zero new cases of infection, a noteworthy achievement and a first in Central America.

JICA aims to raise people's consciousness and build a system to maintain an environment preventing outbreak of the vector insect, with the end goal of controlling Chagas disease.



Experts and health care volunteers carry out a habitat survey of the disease-causing assassin bug *Reduviidae* in Honduras village



The disease-causing insects of the *Reduviidae* family thrive in mud walls and thatched roofs

Social Security

—The Dilemma of Developing Countries: Those Most in Need of Social Security Are the Least Equipped— Establishing Social Security Systems and Providing Relief for the Socially Vulnerable

Topic Overview

Social security is the provision of income or services by a country, official institution, or community, in response to injury, disease, aging, disability, unemployment and other livelihood issues that cannot be borne by individuals. Especially in developing countries where many socially vulnerable persons struggle with issues such as poverty, social security systems should play a significant role. It is in these very developing countries; however, where systems are yet to be established. An extremely vexing dilemma is that social security systems are least available in the developing countries where they are needed the most. The international community is increasingly realizing the need for a system that aids the socially vulnerable and prevents downside risk.

JICA's Initiatives

Based on Japan's knowledge and experience in social security systems, JICA is undertaking projects to enrich the social security systems of developing countries, focusing on the three areas of social insurance and social welfare; assistance for persons with disabilities; and labor and employment. In addition, JICA is making efforts toward its own internal reform, promoting projects such as disability awareness training for JICA-related personnel.

Social Insurance and Social Welfare

In this sector, JICA is supporting the development of social insurance systems such as medical insurance and pensions, in addition to the strengthening of social welfare policies for

the elderly, children and mothers. More specifically, JICA is providing assistance for the reform of pension systems in Chinese rural villages as well as for the development of community based integrated health care and social welfare service models for the elderly in Thailand. This includes the education of staff in medical care and welfare services.

Assistance for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

Although assistance for PWDs is enshrined in social welfare, JICA sees the disabled not simply as recipients (or beneficiaries) of social welfare but also as participants with a role in the advancement of developing countries. JICA's ultimate goal is to build nations where all people, whether disabled or not, live in peace. With this in mind, JICA aims to support full participation and equality for PWDs in developing countries, with emphasis on assistance that allows PWDs to become more involved in society. In this context, JICA is putting effort into the establishment of barrier-free environments as well as initiatives that empower PWDs through the training of PWD groups and leaders. The Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD) is a good example of such a project.

With regard to the disabled, APCD places importance on not only treatment and medical care, but also on each person living as a member of the community (with dignity and rights as a human being); JICA supplied cooperative activities to promote empowerment for the disabled and barrier-free societies. APCD was also the first in the world to dispatch experts on mental disability.

In addition, APCD has twice carried out Barrier Free Rural Community training for architects, administrative officials, and parties concerned with the disabled, resulting in the formation of a network among the three groups and the realization of barrier-free subways and shopping malls through the inclusion of disability-related parties in the planning stage of facilities.

Labor and Employment

In addition to policy-level assistance in such areas as labor and employment policy, JICA provides support toward specific systems and areas including work placement services, labor standards, occupational safety and health, labor relations and occupational insurance (employment insurance, workers' accident compensation). Legal frameworks and enforcement systems in the field of labor, especially occupational safety and health, are generally lagging in developing countries, and workers lack adequate social protection. In many developing countries, workers who have been injured in occupational accidents do not receive adequate medical care or compensation, subsequently losing their means of income, and facing the risk of falling into extreme poverty. The current global economic crisis also has a negative impact on the labor sector.

JICA is providing assistance for the improvement of occupational safety and health in Malaysia and China, plus support for the improvement of the National Employment Service Center Project in Indonesia, a work placement service based on Japan's "Hello Work" work placement system.

Example

Assistance for the Disabled Rwanda Skills Training Project for the Reintegration of Demobilized Soldiers with Disabilities

Aiming to Empower Demobilized Soldiers with Disabilities in an Effort to Help Their Return to Society

Following a protracted civil war and the massacres in 1994, a new government took hold in the land-locked Rwanda in east-central Africa. In 1997 the government initiated the Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Program, which succeeded in demobilizing 34,000 soldiers by the end of 2004.

However, most of the demobilized soldiers with disabilities had no means of livelihood, resulting in a loss of hope due to social and economic limitations.

In response to the Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Program, a program whose funds were also provided by the World Bank, JICA initiated the Skills Training Project for the Reintegration of Demobilised Soldiers with Disabilities. Reexamining the framework of assistance by the Rwandan government for soldiers with disabilities, which had been limited to the provision of

rehabilitation equipment, this program offers vocational training support to enable the soldiers to return to society.

Main activities under the project include the creation of barrier-free facilities, training for instructors at vocational training centers and training aimed at curriculum development and

improving awareness among PWDs themselves. The project facilitated mutual understanding of the core values of JICA's assistance toward PWD: Empowerment and Promotion of a Barrier-Free Society. Additional support to follow up on the results of this cooperation is planned for 2009.



After undergoing training, demobilized soldiers have formed a cooperative union for building furniture.

Global Environment

Destroying the Environment to Overcome Poverty The End Result: A Deepening of Poverty

Tropical rain forest in Gunung Halimun Salak National Park, NCIC (Indonesia)

A vicious cycle operates in developing countries: poverty causes people to destroy the very environment that supports their livelihoods, which subjects them to yet deeper poverty. Piece by piece we are losing our irreplaceable natural environment, driving us to the need to realize a sustainable society and development in harmony with the environment. To do its best toward preserving the global environment that surrounds all human life, JICA is carrying out widespread cooperation on environmental issues, with efforts centered on nature conservation, environmental management, water resource and disaster reduction.

Nature Conservation —Efforts to Reduce Deforestation and Expand Forests—

Realizing Coexistence between Humans and Nature, Utilizing a Community-Based Approach

As a result of the large-scale development and massive consumption of natural resources, environmental degradation including the loss of forests, desertification and the extinction of various species is advancing rapidly throughout the world. Rain forests in tropical areas offer a typical example. Forests equivalent to one-third the area of Japan (about 129,000 square kilometers) is said to be lost annually.

Nature maintains balance through close mutual interaction. When a forest is lost, so is the biodiversity there, and any balance in the ecosystem is destroyed. Loss of forests can also lead to erosion and the expansion of degraded lands. Forest destruction does not end with the loss of forests; it extends to wider destruction of the natural environment.

Furthermore, it is believed that about 20% of the world's total green-

house gas emissions originate from deforestation and forest degradation. Reduction of the emissions from forest is a vital issue in the mitigation of climate change.

JICA understands the importance of eliminating the vicious cycle of environmental deterioration and poverty, and achieving the development of a society in harmony with nature. As such, JICA is making efforts to achieve the goal of harmonizing human activities with the natural environment, in an effort to achieve the following three development objectives:

In developing countries many persons live through the effective use of local natural resources (water, soil, trees and fruit, medicinal herbs, plants and animals, aquatic life, and so on). But together with steep population increases comes consumption that exceeds

the recovery capabilities of nature, causing deterioration in the environment that sustains our lives. To preserve nature and protect the livelihoods of local communities, people themselves must take responsibility for maintaining and restoring resources by emphasizing the concept of sustainability. Aiming at both nature conservation and the improvement of living standards, JICA is providing assistance for local resident-driven sustainable production activities, environmental restoration and conservation activities and improvement in local administration services for residents. Further, JICA offers aid for measuring forest resource levels and formulating forest management plans to support the sustainable and planned use of natural resources in developing countries' woodlands.



Climate change impact: JICA's activities in Indonesia

Example

Forest and Environmental Conservation

Brazil

The Project for Utilization of ALOS Images to Support the Protection of the Brazilian Amazon and Combat Against Illegal Deforestation

Efforts to protect the environment by not reducing forests constitute a trend in the world today. Whereas attempts to increase forests through afforestation and reforestation had been the conventional approach, the speed of forest shrinkage has proven overwhelmingly greater, prompting the realization that planting trees cannot be the final solution for global warming.

Monitoring activities of the Brazilian Amazon Forest have been conducted in an attempt to halt the loss of tropical rain forests caused by rampant illegal logging. However, in the Amazon where heavy clouds cover the land for half of the year during the wet season, existing monitoring systems have difficulty observing land surfaces. JICA is therefore trying to introduce a more effective observation system using Japan's Advanced Land Observation Satellite (ALOS), or "Daichi," which can monitor activities despite cloud cover. This is an excellent example of Japan's advanced

satellite technology proving a useful tool in environmental conservation. By continuing appropriate management with the help of "Daichi," the project hopes to conserve forests for generations to come.



Satellite monitoring system

Environmental Management (Antipollution Measures)

—Cooperation toward Developing Countries' Pollution Problems, Drawing on Japan's Experiences—

Developing Countries Gain Power to Prevent Worsening of their own Pollution Problems

Topic Overview

Environmental issues such as water and air pollution, once the problems of developed nations, now extend to developing countries as well, forming an obstacle to the healthy development of economic activities while threatening the health and livelihood of human beings and other life. Addressing environmental issues after damage has occurred to the health of ecosystems or humans is too late. What is needed now is an international approach that emphasizes prevention.

JICA's Initiatives

Environmental management aims to reduce the burden that all human activities place upon the environment, as well as maintain the natural state of the globe and hand down a healthy global environment to future generations. Environmental problems involve many multi-layered yet spatially-scattered factors that disallow quick solutions.

Along with cooperative projects aimed at capacity development (CD) in developing countries, JICA carries out aid that emphasizes creation of practi-

cal environmental management capacity based on environmental science and technology, on participation by diverse development parties, and on stepped cooperation matched to partner countries' development status. Specific efforts are shown below:

1) Atmospheric Environment

JICA's aid in this sector carries the goal of capacity development in developing countries, including capacity for air pollution monitoring and capacity for drafting pollution countermeasure plans. JICA also cooperates on the creation of air pollutant standards.

2) Water Environment

JICA provides aid for policies to prevent pollution of river, wetland, and marine water, such as water environment monitoring capacity, drafting of management plans, and improvement of policy proposal capacity. JICA also carries out support for capacity strengthening and the drafting of plans for treating wastewater from human activity, in projects such as sewer construction.

3) Waste Management

JICA supports the formulation of public investment plans for the collection, transportation, intermediate processing, and final disposal of general and industrial waste, along with transfer of technology to administrative officials. Recently, JICA is also active in support for areas such as promoting waste reduction and recycling, environmental education, and consciousness raising, to help form a recycling-based society through the "3Rs."

4) Other Environmental Management

In addition to the three areas above, JICA enacts support for mine pollution measures, soil pollution measures, acid deposition monitoring, and environmental management planning.

Example

Environmental Management

China

Project to Promote a Cycle-Based Economy

Contributing to Environmental Conservation in China, a Country with a Large Environmental Impact

China has displayed rapid economic growth since the end of the 1970s. But unrestrained economic development brought environmental problems to the fore, and absolute shortages of resources, the fragility of natural habitats, and limits to environmental carrying capacity have become major issues facing growth in China. Despite efforts by the Chinese government toward environmental issues, many problems remain at present.

Against this background, JICA initiated aid for a new, large-scale project in China, the Project

to Promote a Cycle-Based Economy. Through personnel education and creation of systems that draw upon Japan's experiences, the project supports the realization of an environmentally-conscious, cycle-based economy which cuts resource consumption and pollution discharge throughout the processes of production, distribution, consumption, disposal, and reuse. Specifically, the project undertakes activities for five years through the Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection, in areas including 1) promotion of green procurement, corporate environmental auditor systems, and environmental reporting, to raise companies' environmental consciousness; 2) promotion of environmental education to raise citizens' environmental consciousness; 3) promotion of industrial complexes for recycling; and 4) proper waste management.

The world has turned its attention to environmental problems, in apprehension of the possibility that the economic development pushed by

humankind now threatens our very roots. Environmental issues within the vast Chinese landscape have a proportionately large global impact. To contribute to environmental conservation in China, JICA is implementing action driven by long-term, diversified efforts.



A signing ceremony

Water Resources

—With Over One Billion People Lacking Clean Drinking Water, Unsanitary Water Accounts for 80% of Disease in Developing Countries—

JICA's Integrated Water Resource Management Leads to the Supply of Safe Water

Topic Overview

Today a third of the world's population faces water shortages, while over a billion people lack access to safe drinking water. More tragically, every eight seconds a child dies due to waterborne illness. Of the diseases found in developing countries, 80% are said to stem from unsanitary water. Food shortages caused by flooding damage and by unfair water distribution further add to the list of problems related to water resources.

JICA's Initiatives

JICA announced its basic policies for cooperation in the water resource sector at the 3rd World Water Forum held in Japan in 2003, and further reported on results of its international water-related activities at the 4th World Water Forum (2006, Mexico), First Asia-Pacific Water Summit (2007, Japan), and 5th World Water Forum (2009, Turkey).

Addressing water resources requires understanding countries' and regions' specific situations, tailoring aid appropriately. JICA has set the following goals for its concrete activities in this sector:

1) Promotion of Integrated Water Resource Management

JICA actively offers aid with emphasis on integrated water resource management, comprehensively taking in water-related issues including flood control, irrigation, and the water environment. Specifically, JICA supports the development of systems for collection and analysis of water resource information; integrated water resource management planning in watershed areas; and the establishment of watershed management systems.

2) Urban Water Supply

In urban areas, JICA supports the planning of water facility development; the operation, maintenance and management of water supply facilities in order to ensure efficient operation of water projects; and capacity development for addressing non-revenue water and for establishing water tariff collection systems.

3) Rural Water Supply

In rural areas, JICA assists hydro-geological studies for well construction; creation of development plans for wells and other facilities; enhancement of maintenance and manage-

ment systems in existing water supply facilities; and sensitization of hygiene and sanitation activities.

4) Flood Control

JICA supports implementation of balanced flood control measures for the entire watershed from upstream to downstream, considering and combining both structural and non-structural aspects. Projects include facility development planning and strengthening of community organizations with regard to flood prevention, as well as the development of warning systems.

5) Conservation of the Water Environment

From a standpoint of integrated water resource management that makes effective use of limited water resources and promotes sustainable development, JICA provides support for strengthening water environment conservation systems through a range of activities that include establishment of environmental standards; monitoring; control measures for contaminated sources; and IEC (Information, Education and Communication).

Example

Water Resources

Thailand

Integrated Study Project on Hydro-Meteorological Prediction and Adaptation to Climate Change in Thailand (IMPAC-T) (Science and Technology Research Partnership)

Employing Japan's Premier Science and Technology in the Water Resource Sector

Thailand has undergone marked social and economic growth in recent years with development

of the industrial sector and changes in lifestyle causing an increase in water demand. Against this background, water shortages in the dry season, floods in the wet season, unseasonable weather and other problems brought about by climate change create an impact that is forecast to further grow, calling for a strengthening of the capacity to prepare countermeasures against those risks. Toward that goal, the project aims at establishing an integrated system prototype to help decision-making on the adaptation of water-related risks due to the impact of climate change, by means of hydro-meteorological monitoring, hydrological modeling and prediction in-

corporating anthropogenic activities as well as impact and risk assessment.

The world has increasingly high expectations for the role of Japan's science and technology in international cooperation on global environmental issues; even within Japan, attention is paid to the strengthening of science and technology diplomacy and the importance of ODA use. Under these circumstances, JICA is carrying out this project with Kasetsart University in Thailand and the University of Tokyo, in cooperation with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

Disaster Management

—Disaster Spurs Poverty and Impacts the Livelihood of People in Developing Countries— Improving Disaster Response Capability through Compound Measures Emphasizing Non-Structural Aid

Topic Overview

Wind damage, earthquakes, volcanic activity and floods – disasters like these occur across the globe daily. Particularly in developing countries where social infrastructure is inadequate, disasters have a huge impact on people's livelihoods, aggravating poverty. Whereas conventional disaster-mitigation aid was centered on measures such as construction of dams and levees, there is also a need for compound measures that emphasize “soft” non-structural aid to systematically improve disaster response capacity, including the establishment of disaster warning systems and disaster-resistant communities.

JICA's Initiatives

Based on the disaster management cycle (DMC) of prevention which entails: an immediate emergency response; recovery and reconstruction; and the promotion of further prevention activities, JICA has set the following four comprehensive goals:

1) Efforts toward Socioeconomic Development from a Disaster Readiness Stance

Recognizing that the disaster risk in developing countries hinders anti-poverty measures and socioeconomic development, JICA supports efforts toward sustainable development incorporating measures to both mitigate existing disaster risks and prevent new risks.

2) Support for Understanding Disaster Risk

Employing Japan's leading prowess in disaster mitigation technology, JICA aids activities for understanding disaster risk in developing countries (such as creation of hazard maps) and for the sharing of disaster risk information at all levels of the nation, region, and community.

3) Support for Integrated Disaster Mitigation Planning

JICA supports the creation of integrated disaster mitigation master plans and action plans that incor-

porate factors including the understanding of disaster risk, improvement of administrative bodies' disaster prevention systems and capacity, establishment of relevant legal frameworks, enhancement of disaster mitigation awareness, and strengthening of response capabilities in the event of disaster.

4) Support from the Viewpoint of Securing Human Safety through Community Education

In developing countries where the capability of administrative disaster mitigation systems is inadequate, communities' own disaster measures are vital. Toward that, JICA is aiding direct efforts to strengthen the disaster mitigation capabilities of communities and individuals, as well as aiding disaster mitigation efforts that link administrations to communities and individuals.

Example

Disaster Mitigation Sri Lanka Survey of Plans for Strengthening Disaster Mitigation Capability (Survey-style Technical Cooperation on Development Plans)

Employing Experience and Knowledge from Japan in Disaster Mitigation Systems

The tsunami generated by the December 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake struck over 70% of the Sri Lankan coastline, causing unprecedented damage that included 35,000 dead and 516,000 homeless refugees.

In the aftermath of the tsunami, the government of Sri Lanka undertook disaster mitigation measures, including establishment of a disaster agency that effectively started from zero. For its part, JICA placed focus on the flood and landslide disasters common in Sri Lanka, and provided aid for flood measure planning, construction of warning and evacuation systems, and the enhancement of disaster-related capabilities in rel-

evant agencies. In addition, JICA is working toward the enhancement of everyday disaster awareness, preparing evacuation systems and enacting evacuation training so residents can take appropriate action upon receiving disaster information, all while applying the lessons of the tsunami toward the provision of information to residents via schools, media, relevant agencies, and the prompt issuance of disaster alerts and evacuation orders.

Experience and knowledge to protect life and property from disaster, built up over Japan's long history, is now aiding the preparation of disaster mitigation systems in Sri Lanka.



Hazard mapping to analyze areas at risk of disaster within residential areas

Climate Change Measures —Leaving a Stable Climate for Future Generations—

Promoting Developing Countries' Climate Change Measures through Development Cooperation

Responding to the Uncertainties of Climate Change

Climate change is a phenomenon with a high degree of uncertainty that thwarts accurate predictions of its impact. To address such an uncertain phenomenon, it is vital to control the occurrence and scope of climate change (i.e., mitigation), and in the event of occurrence, to take measures that minimize the extent of damage (i.e., acclimation).

About half of the world's emission of greenhouse gases comes from developing countries, which means that controlling the occurrence and scope of climate change will be difficult unless those countries join developed nations in controlling gas emissions. Further, as the brunt of impact from climate change would be felt by developing countries, and most keenly by their impoverished sectors, actively addressing climate change becomes vital from the standpoint of securing human safety.

Promoting Developing Countries' Climate Change Measures through Development Cooperation

JICA supports climate change measures in developing countries, making full use of Japan's experiences and technology in civilian and other sectors, and drawing upon JICA's own past achievements and results in aiding developing countries. Among mitigation measures, JICA supports aid for greenhouse gas reduction paired with sustainable development in developing countries, such as promotion of reusable energy and projects for forest conservation and reforestation. In addition, to promote the spread of Clean Development Mechanisms (CDMs), JICA carries out group training and CDM registration support for cooperative projects. Instances of JICA-supported energy reuse/reduction and reforestation projects have been registered as CDMs.

As the effects of climate change vary by country, JICA enacts support for

acclimation measures that are matched on scientific grounds to countries' specific situations. JICA supplies aid in both structural and non-structural areas for example, measures for stable supply of clean drinking and agricultural water in regions with worsening water shortages, and measures for mitigation of disaster from floods and high water in regions with frequent floods or a growing risk from rising sea levels.

Measures like these to address climate change are tightly intertwined with many development issues, requiring action based on a long-term vision for sustainable development in developing countries. JICA is supporting creation and enactment of policies for the coexistence of climate change measures and sustainable development in developing countries.

(For details on JICA's climate change measures, see page 16 of the Feature section).

Example

Climate Change Egypt Zafarana Wind Power Plant Project

Making Use of Egypt's Abundant Wind Energy

Demand for electricity is booming in Egypt, with continued demand growth estimated at 5–7% annually. Although thermal power plant construction is proceeding under current power development plans, the country is facing a sudden need to plan for added generation capacity. Yet even as it takes action to secure that needed capacity, Egypt is also making efforts at environmental conservation. To promote the use of new and reusable energy sources, the country has stated a policy of supplying 880 MW of power from those sources by 2010, including 815 MW from wind power.

Situated 220 kilometers southeast of the capital city of Cairo, the project is constructing a new 120 MW wind power plant in the Zafarana district along the Red Sea, which offers stable wind speed and direction. The use of wind power supports both the securing of needed power supply



The Zafarana wind power plant, expected to combine electrical power supply with environmental conservation

capacity and environmental conservation, contributing to lowered air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the use of fossil fuels.

In June 2007, the project marked the world's first registration of a large-scale ODA project as a CDM. Its contribution toward the reduction of CO₂ gas emissions is about 250,000 tons annually, roughly equivalent to the amount absorbed by a forest the size of the 23 wards of Tokyo.