

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

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

Defining Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

During the Millennium Summit held in September 2000 in which 189 countries participated, the United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration was adopted, and it set the goals to be achieved by the international community in the 21st century. The Declaration served to clarify the direction and role of the UN on issues of peace and security, development and poverty, the environment, human rights, and protecting the vulnerable. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were then established as a common framework by integrating this Millennium Declaration and the international development goals adopted by major international conferences and summits in the 1990s. The MDGs consist of eight goals to be achieved by 2015.

In September 2005, five years after the Millennium Declaration, the UN hosted a Millennium+5 Summit attended by over 170 Heads of State to undertake a comprehensive review of the progress made on efforts proposed in the Declaration, including

the MDGs. The outcome statement declared the international community's strong commitment to achieve development goals based on country ownership and partnership.

At the UN MDG Summit held in September 2010, it was deemed that the achievement of the MDGs by 2015 is feasible with the further efforts of the international community, while the progress towards the MDGs varies by goal and region and challenges remain, including rising food prices, economic crises, climate change, and conflict. In this context, the Government of Japan unveiled the Kan Commitment, which sets out specific measures in the areas of health, including maternal and child health, and education, beginning with basic education—the areas where progress has been slow.

In order to follow-up on the MDG Summit, JICA co-hosted the MDGs Follow-Up Meeting in Tokyo with the Government of Japan, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). JICA shared with participants as well as the international community the lessons learned and provided knowledge for the achievement of the MDGs in the remaining five years.

The Eight MDGs

- 
Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 
Achieve universal primary education
- 
Promote gender equality and empower women
- 
Reduce child mortality
- 
Improve maternal health
- 
Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- 
Ensure environmental sustainability
- 
Develop a global partnership for development

Logos created by the NPO Hottokenai Sekai no Mazushisa (Don't let it be – World Poverty)

JICA Activities to Achieve the MDGs

JICA has been working toward poverty reduction through a comprehensive approach integrating human resource development and capacity development, improvements in policies and institutions, and development of social and economic infrastructure in developing countries.

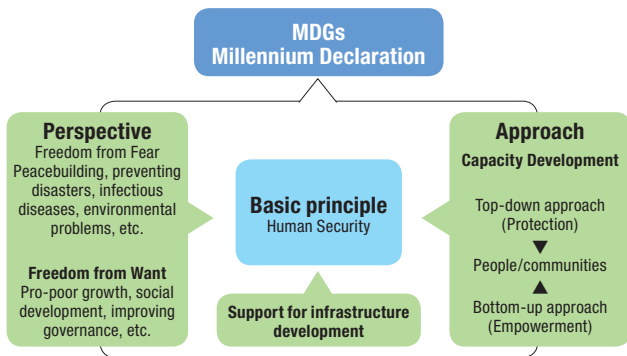
JICA is taking initiatives for the achievement of the MDGs based on the following perspectives.

Human Security and the MDGs —JICA's Philosophy to Achieve the MDGs

JICA recognizes "Human Security" as an important concept for achieving the MDGs, which focuses on people and takes a holistic view of the various threats that they face. As one of the vital approaches to realize "Human Security," JICA supports "Capacity Development" in developing countries, which helps them overcome problems and manage risks. Further, the role of infrastructure in development is critical. JICA expands cooperation in "infrastructure development" as a foundation that underpins people's potential.

JICA is strengthening the following actions toward the achievement of the 2015 targets.

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 support the endogenous process of enhancing the capacities of developing countries for dealing with their own problems (“Capacity Development”)

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

Applying the Experiences of Asia to the World —Poverty Reduction through Sustained and Inclusive Growth

In Asia, integrated efforts for developing economic and social infrastructure, human resources and institutions have promoted the growth of the private sector and led to economic growth and more employment opportunities. Economic growth has contributed to strengthen the financial foundations of governments and expanding public expenditures in social sectors such as education, health and medical fields.

Through its own experiences with modernization, postwar reconstruction and cooperation to Asian countries, Japan has learned that ownership of developing countries is the driving force of development, and that continuous inclusive growth is essential to sustain and scale up outcomes of development, including the

achievement of the MDGs. JICA continues to share the successful lessons learned from Asia with people around the world.

Overcoming Global Risks around the MDGs —Taking Measures to Tackle Global Issues

Problems such as climate change and rising energy and food prices are high risk factors that could be detrimental to the achievement of the MDGs, and it is essential to take appropriate measures against those global risks. Also, the achievement of the MDGs and peacebuilding are closely related to one another, and hence more efforts need to be made for the consolidation of peace through prevention of armed conflicts and their recurrence.

JICA aims to achieve the MDGs and ensure that results remain into the future by boosting efforts directly related to the MDGs such as education, health and water, and by countering potential risks detrimental to achieving the goals.

Catalyzing Development Partnerships

In recent years, emerging countries are actively expanding international cooperation, and actors engaging in development issues have become more diverse, as seen in the expansion of the South-South Cooperation between developing countries. NGOs and private foundations are also increasingly involved in development cooperation, and private enterprises are also expanding corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities. It is important to build and utilize effective networks among those actors to enhance the quality of development cooperation. Further, to strengthen collective efforts to achieve the MDGs through these partnerships, more financial resources are required from such sources as ODA, private investment and innovative mechanisms including International Solidarity Levies.

JICA continues to enhance development effectiveness by facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation, and exploring close partnerships with NGOs and the private sector.



A child holding onto a mother and child health handbook (Philippines)
[Photo by Kenshiro Imamura]



Rice seedlings being removed (Tanzania).

Economic Infrastructure Development

A Holistic Response to Urban and Regional Issues Based on a Macro Perspective



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

The lack of utility infrastructure and frameworks for its operation and management hinders economic progress in many developing countries. Thus, JICA assists in infrastructure establishment and the development of the economy in these respective countries.

Although rapid urbanization can boost efficiency in economic activities and drive economic development, it can also trigger problems, such as the worsening of living environments, traffic congestion, unstable security, as well as increased disparities between urban and rural areas.

The promotion of effective urban and regional development requires not only region-specific approaches, but also planning on a macro scale, keeping in mind the linkages with other regions and cross-border economic zones.

With a view to developing sustainable economic infrastructure, JICA establishes urban and regional development plans which take stock of suitable social systems and institutions. Based on these plans, JICA is extending cooperation for the development of transportation infrastructures and information and communication networks, as well as for strengthening the organizations and human resources which maintain and manage these infrastructures and networks.

Urban and Regional Development

Overview of Issue

The world's population has been estimated to increase to 7 billion people in 2011. Although only 13% of the world's population lived in urban areas in 1900, rapid urbanization prompted the figure to increase by over 50% in 2006. This growth tendency is particularly pronounced in developing countries, and about 80% of the world's urban population is expected to be centered in developing countries by 2030.

The effects of rapid urban development may drive economic expansion but can also give rise to poor living environments, traffic congestion, air and water pollution, increased garbage, lack of public security and the buildup of slums areas. It also widens the gap between urban and rural areas, which leads to several problems such as regional economic deterioration, outdated social infrastructures and deficient public services.

JICA believes that all issues cannot be resolved from an individual perspective and that a holistic approach to development in urban areas or regions is crucial to reduce these negative effects due to rapid urbanization.

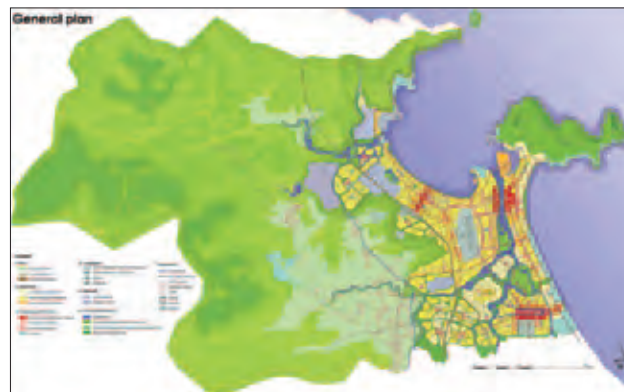
JICA Activities

JICA's efforts to sustain urban and regional development in developing countries include both urban master planning and comprehensive regional planning. Also, it conducts surveys, Technical Assistance and cooperation to facilitate the execution of these plans, which contributes to economic growth and improved standards of living.

Master plans and development plans are formulated based on the following five perspectives:

- 1) Take an integrated and comprehensive approach on the diverse issues in the urban areas or region
- 2) Emphasize capacity development across all administrative agencies, social organizations and communities to advance urban and regional development
- 3) Enhance regional administrative systems in line with the country's state of affairs
- 4) Correct disparities between regions by promoting balanced regional development that recognizes the perspectives of its residents
- 5) Encourage balanced economic development that prevents the negative effects of urbanization

Based on the above, JICA will analyze urban and regional problems, create a mid- to long-term vision, formulate development policies and sector-specific development plans, and propose action plans for their implementation. By implementing



A structural drawing of the future city proposed by The Study on Integrated Development Strategy for Danang City and Its Neighboring Area conducted in Viet Nam. The Study established a holistic development strategy and plan which achieves a balance between industry, tourism, commerce, and residential areas.



Internally displaced children in Northern Uganda attending class outside due to a shortage of classrooms. In the Amuru District in Northern Uganda, a region headed towards reconstruction in the aftermath of the 20-year conflict, JICA is extending cooperation to establish a community development model necessary for promoting the return and settlement of internally displaced persons.

multiple projects based on a master plan in coordination with each other, JICA strives to maximize the development impact.

Comprehensive and Internally-Driven Processes

JICA has conducted numerous urban and regional development cooperation to date. In order for the people in the developing countries to be able to realize the development plans on their own in the future, cooperation for urban and regional development must prioritize comprehensiveness and internally-driven approaches.

In particular, it is necessary to develop the capacities of people who work at the counterpart organization and are responsible for implementing the urban and regional development plans. It is important to review the organization's scheme for developing human resources, as well as the social and institutional mechanisms for the purpose of the organization's function to work effectively and sufficiently. It is incumbent on donors to cooperate on internally-driven processes which will facilitate people in developing countries to identify and address the issues comprehensively with their own efforts, at the individual, organizational, societal and institutional levels. JICA is extending cooperation which consistently prioritizes comprehensiveness and internally-driven processes, through every stage of the formulation and implementation of urban and regional development plans in developing countries.

Regional Development from a Macro Perspective

As regional needs diversify, there are an increasing number of issues that require a holistic approach based on an urban or regional perspective, rather than an approach that resolves issues individually. This approach must adopt a cross-border macro

perspective by looking at the region more broadly from multiple angles, instead of supporting the development of agricultural areas left behind in the economic growth. At the same time, initiatives increasingly need to take account of global issues, including climate change.

Transportation

Overview of Issue

In developing countries, the slow development of transportation infrastructure, including roads, railways, ports and airports, has impeded economic growth and contributed to poverty. Transportation infrastructure is the means for the movement of people and goods, and its development is indispensable to sustainable growth.

The demand for transportation infrastructure development is high worldwide, and the need to maintain, repair and upgrade aging structures is rising rapidly. These projects require significant financing, and securing funds is a big challenge. The limited public funds available are not sufficient to develop all necessary infrastructures. Other funding sources need to be secured, including private capital, in order to sustainably provide transportation services which meet demand while at the same time are not being wasted.

Furthermore, assistance is needed for initiatives which enhance the environment and society of the counterpart country, including initiatives for the elimination of traffic congestion through the introduction of modes of public transportation and



In the capital city of Bangkok, Thailand, the purple line of the mass transit system, connecting Bangkok and the neighboring Nonthaburi Province, is being constructed with the provision of ODA Loans.

changes in transportation methods; CO₂ reductions through more efficient distribution means; and air pollutant control.

JICA Activities

JICA's main goal for cooperation in transportation is the swift, smooth and safe transportation of goods and people in order to vitalize socioeconomic activities and to ultimately improve income levels and enrich people's lives.

It is not merely enough to simply build roads and bridges to establish freight and transportation infrastructure in developing countries. The infrastructure also requires the establishment of a plan to ensure an efficient transportation system, the development of human resources and the strengthening of organizations that will appropriately maintain and manage the infrastructure, and the creation of social and institutional arrangements that support the organizations. JICA actively promotes participatory cooperation with the residents and collaboration with NGOs with a focus on the beneficiaries, including users and residents, in view of who will use the system and for what purpose.

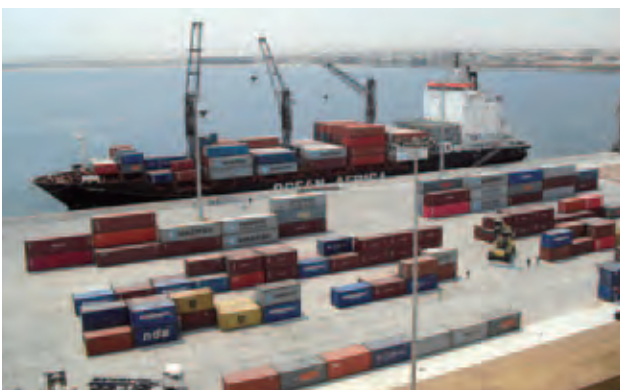
In addition, cooperation for the transportation sector needs

to consider a variety of perspectives, including: "international transportation" for promoting the international flow of goods and people and the development of regional economic zones which transcend borders; "national transportation" which ensures people's fair access to transportation and balanced national development; "urban transportation" which supports sustainable urban development and enhances living standards; and "rural transportation" for improving the living standards of rural areas which tend to be left behind from development. The aim of JICA is indeed to achieve "inclusive and dynamic development."

Cross-border Transportation Infrastructure

Cooperation may be required for the development of transportation infrastructure in multiple countries, across national borders, e.g., those which connect an ocean-side country with a landlocked country.

JICA views cross-border transportation as a way to promote the integration of economic markets over a wide region across national borders. Cross-border transportation infrastructure will require a holistic approach, including the development of domestic infrastructure and border facilities, such as customs



Namibe Port in Angola which was repaired with Grant Aid



Vietnamese airport officials visited Japan for training in Japan. The photo shows the officials receiving an on-site lecture about facility management at Narita Airport.

Holistic Assistance for the Introduction of Viet Nam's First Urban Railway System

JICA is extending assistance for the introduction of urban railway systems in both Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. This is a holistic urban railway development initiative, which integrates ODA Loans, Technical Cooperation, and private partnerships, and covers the stages of planning; construction; operation, maintenance and management; and urban development along railroads.

In Viet Nam's major cities of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, rapid economic growth and urbanization in recent years have caused an increase in traffic volume of motorbikes and vehicles. This has worsened traffic congestion and raised concerns about adverse effects on economic and social activities. Furthermore, vehicle traffic has contributed to the grave problem of air pollution.

Drawing on Japan's Experience and Technologies

In light of these circumstances, JICA supported the formulation of urban development master plans, including urban transportation plans for Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi. Both plans recommended the introduction of a mass rapid transit system as part of a shift toward a system of public transportation.

Based on the recommendation, in Ho Chi Minh City, JICA provided ODA Loans for the construction of Line 1 (approximately 19.7km between Ben Thanh and Suoi Tien), which had the highest priority. In Hanoi, JICA is providing assistance through ODA Loans for the construction of Line 1 (11km between Gia Lam and Giap Bat, 4km around Ngoc Hoi station) and Line 2 (12km between Nam Thang Long and Tran Hung Dao) of the urban railways recommended in the master plan.

Because Japanese companies possess advanced technologies in the area of urban railway, the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) will be applied to the ODA Loan projects. For the traffic signal, communication systems, and the train car parts, Japanese products are expected to be delivered and utilized. Furthermore, Japanese

railway operators not only develop railways but also possess unique business models, including urban development models for real estate development along rail lines. It is expected that Japan's experience with urban development in connection with railways will also be harnessed for the development of urban railway systems in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Construction will begin in 2012 for Line 1 in Ho Chi Minh City, and operations are targeted to start in 2017. Line 1 in Hanoi is expected to open in 2017 and Line 2 in 2016.

Assistance for Maintenance and Development of Neighboring Areas

Viet Nam lacks experience in operating and maintaining urban railway systems. A new company must therefore be launched to carry out the operations and maintenance. Beginning in 2011, JICA has commenced a Technical Cooperation project to support the establishment of an operation and maintenance company for urban railway in Ho Chi Minh City, while a similar cooperation is being considered for Hanoi.

Urban railway systems also require the establishment of technical standards and standard specifications. Thus, JICA supported



An image of an elevated bridge which crosses Saigon River, heading from central Ho Chi Minh City toward the suburbs

the formulation of technical standards for urban railway systems through a Development Study project (2008-2009).

Furthermore, in order to promote the use of urban railway among people used to commuting by motor bikes, the development of the train stations' surrounding area is essential in addition to the development of railways. This includes the development of facilities which enhance rider convenience, including parking lots for cars and bicycles as well as bus terminals for commuting to work and school. JICA is providing assistance for the development of areas across the major stations of Lines 1 and 2 and the development of areas along railway lines in Hanoi. Additionally, for Ho Chi Minh City, JICA is implementing a study with private companies in order to present a holistic proposal for the development of the Ben Thanh station that will include an underground mall. Ben Thanh station will serve as a terminal station connecting to other train lines.

Moving forward, JICA will continue to support urban development in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City through the introduction of the urban railway system, while making full use of Japan's railway technologies and experience.



The significant increase in road traffic has made road congestion a critical issue. In Ho Chi Minh City, the average travelling speed of vehicles is projected to worsen from 23.8km per hour in 2002 to 13.3km per hour in 2020.

and immigration offices; the development of a regional network allowing a region-wide flow of people and goods; simplified border crossing procedures to promote cross-border transportation; and the development of soft infrastructure, such as human resources development.

The aim is to vitalize the economies of the countries and region by promoting cross-border transportation, and its development will also require planning and implementation through multilateral cooperation. Nonetheless, JICA recognizes that the benefits of cross-border transportation may yield disproportionate gains to economically stronger regions, as well as lead to crimes and the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS. JICA takes into account the possibility of these negative impacts in advancing its cooperation while considering measures to address them.



The satellite hub antenna and the Japan-Pacific ICT Center constructed with Grant Aid at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji, in order to serve as the hub facility for ICT in the Oceania region. Technical Cooperation projects currently being implemented include the establishment of new ICT bachelor's degree courses and the enhancement of the satellite communication network.



A class being held at the ICT Center Lab

Information Technology (IT)

Overview of Issue

Information technology (IT) has been advancing remarkably in developed countries. Applicable in the administrative, social and economic fields, IT has been used to computerize central government operations (e-governance), educate via the Internet (e-learning) and facilitate digital trade and commerce (e-commerce). IT also has the potential to support a variety of improvements, including increasing the efficiency of the economic and social systems of countries, raising productivity, and enhancing the quality of life.

In many developing countries, however, the spread of IT has been slow. This has led to a digital divide with developed countries, which in turn has worsened economic disparities.

JICA Activities

JICA believes closing the digital divide is necessary to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of various cooperation programs. By promoting IT use in developing countries, JICA is contributing to the elimination of the digital divide.

At the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit of July 2000, Japan asserted its stance to help bridge the digital divide in developing countries through distance learning and other means. The Japanese government also announced its plan to use ODA funds more effectively and establish IT bases in 30 locations. Through these actions, JICA has also tackled efforts to correct the digital divide in developing countries mainly in Asia [→ See the Case Study on page 72].

IT Policies Linked to Social and Economic Development

JICA offers the following five approaches to address the delayed introduction of IT in developing countries:

- 1) Improve IT policy-planning capabilities: Dispatch advisors to support the formulation of IT policies in such areas as national strategy concerning electronic communication and development of relevant industry.
- 2) Develop communication infrastructure: Formulate a plan to develop central communication networks and rural communication infrastructure, and reinforce their maintenance and management systems.
- 3) Improve aid effectiveness and efficiency through IT use: Increase project effectiveness and efficiency by adopting IT in government administrative departments and using IT for cooperation projects in a variety of sectors, including education, health care, and commerce.
- 4) Train skilled IT personnel: Implement a human resource development 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.
- 5) Broadcasting: Extend cooperation to spread Japanese-style digital terrestrial broadcasting, which can withstand interferences and permits stable reception, etc.

Contributing to the Building of a New State through Port Distribution Promotion

Water transportation by the Nile River is critically important to South Sudan which does not border any ocean. JICA, coupled with the plan to construct a pier, etc. at Juba Port through Grant Aid, has commenced a Technical Cooperation project which will strengthen the port's management capabilities. With South Sudan obtaining independence in July 2011, JICA will promote cooperation for both hard and soft infrastructure with a view to contributing to the building of the new state through the promotion of the distribution system.



Diagram of the Juba River Port Expansion Project (at completion, forecast)

Lifeline Supporting the Reconstruction

After the Comprehensive Peace Agreement was reached in 2005 between the South and North which concluded a 20-year civil war, an Autonomous Government of Southern Sudan was established and southern Sudan has made progress towards reconstruction.

The smooth distribution of goods in and outside of the country is required for advancing post-war reconstruction. However, the arterial road linking South and North Sudan is not complete and transportation capabilities are limited. The inland water route of the Nile River, linking the Red Sea and the Juba Port through a central port in the North, serves as a lifeline supporting the reconstruction of South Sudan, along with the ground route through Kenya and Uganda.

JICA has consistently provided assistance



While at present the port handles bulk (stacked separately) cargo primarily, the use of containers will dramatically improve the efficiency and safety of cargo handling work.

for developing the Juba River Port, which serves as a central point of the inland water route. Immediately after the peace agreement was reached, JICA began repairing the port facilities which were damaged during the civil war, through an emergency development study. JICA has also promptly constructed a 35m pier, as well as in follow-up cooperation, provided cargo handling equipment and training in port management.

Both Hard and Soft Infrastructure

Following a six-year transition period since the peace agreement, the Republic of South Sudan obtained independence in July 2011. In view of the increasing freight transport demand due to economic vitalization accompanying the country's independence, JICA is working on a new cooperation which integrates Grant Aid and Technical Cooperation, in order to further promote freight transportation centered on Juba Port.

The preparatory survey for the Grant Aid has already been completed. By fiscal 2013, JICA plans to develop infrastructures, including an expanded pier (by approximately 200m) and a warehouse, as well as procure equipment, including large-scale cranes. While to date cargo had been handled mainly by humans, the introduction of full-fledged mechanized cargo handling by JICA is anticipated to increase the volume of

cargo that is handled, raise the efficiency and safety of cargo handling, and improve the sanitation conditions of the premises.

Furthermore, the Technical Cooperation project implemented from March 2011 for the next four years (plan) will strengthen Juba Port's port management capabilities through the establishment of the roles and organizational structure of the port management organization at Juba Port and its budget management mechanism. The project will also enhance the facilities' maintenance and management capabilities, promote safe and efficient cargo handling and port management, and create port statistics. In addition, in order to remedy the regional disparities which are of concern, JICA will conduct training for the staff of six other major commercial ports and aim to share the knowledge and experience gained at Juba Port among the other ports.

The development of port facilities in parallel with the port's human resources development will enable the provision of effective cooperation, including the provision of technical courses which take advantage of the facilities and equipment that were installed, as well as the maintenance and management of the facilities by the human resources which were trained.

Infrastructure Linking the South and North

The establishment of a smooth goods distribution system through this cooperation will allow many goods to be delivered to a broad area more cheaply. This is expected to generate economic effects, including lower prices for commercial products and the distribution of diverse products. This cooperation is also expected to not only contribute to the development of South Sudan, but also to the reconciliation between South and North Sudan through the promotion of goods distribution between the two areas.

From Our Counterpart

Eng. Maurice Rehan
Director General – Directorate of River Transport / Ministry of Transport

This Technical Cooperation project will help improve the management capabilities of the river port in South Sudan as well as expand the volume of cargo handled by the port, and is an excellent opportunity for South Sudan. We would like to devote our attention to acquiring the port technologies of Japan. Furthermore, I hope Japan will share with us not only technology but also its culture, including discipline.

Public Policy

Realizing High Quality Public Services Based on Peoples' Needs



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

To achieve stability and sustainable development in developing countries, it is essential that the countries become capable of mobilizing, allocating and managing their resources efficiently and in ways that reflect the will of the people. To this end, “governance,” or the mechanisms to manage a country’s affairs encompassing not only the

government but also the civil society and the private sector, will be key. JICA’s public policy assistance helps to strengthen governance in developing countries through cooperation for developing legal and judicial systems which support the backbone of society, increasing administrative efficiency and transparency, and improving administrative capacity of local government, and by strengthening fiscal and financial systems. This support aims to promote sustainable growth in these countries and realize a fair and democratic society.

Many developing countries suffer from weak institutions and foundations, including legal and judicial systems, administrative organs and fiscal management, as well as lack human resources to operate these processes properly. Weak social infrastructure can be a hindrance to a country’s development and may significantly undermine the efficacy of development assistance.

Recognition of the importance of good governance and a strong sense of ownership of developing countries are indispensable elements in ensuring effective public policy assistance for strengthening the countries’ basic mechanisms and institutions. JICA places emphasis on the notion of capacity development (CD) as a means to support intrinsic developmental processes at individual, organizational and societal levels.

Governance

Capacity Development for Legal and Judicial Sectors

Overview of Issue

Establishing the “rule of law,” namely the assurance of the legitimacy of established rules, the establishment of impartial dispute-resolution systems and the guarantee of access to these systems, is essential to the building of good governance.

People may resort to violence or payoffs to resolve disputes in societies that do not have suitable rules or a fair and transparent procedure for conflict resolution. This could lead to violations of the rights of disadvantaged groups such as the poor and women, and even to social unrest. In addition, methods of resolving conflict may be unreasonable and unpredictable, which could add to the cost of transactions and hinder economic activity.

Capacity development for the legal and judicial sector also helps prevent corruption through improving transparency and accountability of administrative execution and by increasing the clarity of standards for conflict resolution. However, it takes a long time for this process to take hold since it is not sufficient to simply set in place rules and institutions. It is also necessary to

gain the trust of the public in legal and judicial systems.

JICA Activities

Beginning from the Meiji Restoration in the late 19th century, while Japan has incorporated the advanced legal systems of other states, it has customized and adapted those laws to the cultural and societal factors present within the existing system. The Japanese experience has contained useful knowledge that can contribute positively to the “rule of law” promotion processes, which many developing countries are undertaking today. These experiences include those of drafting, promulgating and revising laws and systems in accordance with the conditions and changes particular to the development of the nation, and which has led to the upgrading of legal systems in line with international standards and the realization of social stability and economic growth.

JICA provides support for the process of strengthening legal and judicial systems in developing countries with the aim of improving governance to ensure social stability and sustainable development, mainly in countries shifting to a market economy and those undergoing the reconstruction process. JICA’s support rests



Under the Training and Dialogue Program in Japan, “Trainer’s Training for Mediators,” participants, including participants from the Mongolian Supreme Court, discuss the problems of mediation through role playing (Mongolia, Strengthening Mediation System Project).

on the following core elements: 1) supporting the development of rules and regulations; 2) supporting the improvement of the capacity of public organizations that implement laws; 3) supporting the legal empowerment of people and society; and 4) supporting the development of legal professionals.

JICA believes in the importance of laws and legal systems that are in harmony with existing systems, culture and social and economic norms. Attention also needs to be given to the stage of development in the country and changes in the social landscape. JICA emphasizes dialogue in its approach and respects the ownership of a developing country in supporting the process of drafting rules and strengthening the judicial system. The aim is to provide support that takes root in the society itself.

JICA began its involvement with Technical Cooperation in the legal and judicial sector in 1996 with the launch of the Project in the Legal and Judicial Field in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. Since then, JICA's cooperation in this field has expanded toward developing countries shifting to a market economy or post-conflict countries.

JICA's cooperation in this field includes assistance for drafting basic civil laws (Viet Nam, Uzbekistan, Cambodia, Nepal, China), economic laws, e.g., competition law (Viet Nam, China, Indonesia), administrative laws (Viet Nam, Uzbekistan), improvement of court proceedings (Viet Nam), development of civil dispute resolution mechanism (Mongolia, Indonesia), capacity development of bar association (Viet Nam, Cambodia, Mongolia), development of legislative capacity (Laos, Timor-Leste) and capacity development of legal professionals (Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos).

Since it takes time to promote the establishment of the "rule of law," JICA respects each country's ownership over the process



A national seminar was organized in Cambodia to disseminate knowledge about the Cambodian Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure drafted and enacted with JICA assistance since 1999 (June 2008).

and supports their self-help efforts so that countries, even those that have been assisted in this regard, promote legal and judicial development by themselves in the future.

Strengthening Democratic Systems

In parallel with capacity development for the legal and judicial sector, JICA supports developing countries in establishing and strengthening democratic systems in the process of post-conflict

Case Study Viet Nam Capacity Development for the Office of the National Assembly

Knowledge and Know-How for Functioning Legislative Body

Viet Nam has been undergoing economic reforms under the Doi Moi policy, and with the establishment of a new Constitution in 1992, political reforms associated with the transition to a market economy. With the aim of reforming the Vietnamese National Assembly, JICA has supported the Office of the National Assembly of Viet Nam through study visits in Japan since 2010 for three years. The study visits are designed to impart knowledge and know-how useful for the National Assembly to fulfill its role as a legislative body.

A National Assembly that Reflects National Opinion

In the project's initial year of fiscal 2010, JICA organized a study visit for 15 members of the Office of the National Assembly, which

supports legislators in many functions including lawmaking.

During the study visits, with the cooperation of Japan's House of Representatives, knowledge was disseminated on the role of the House's departments (research bureau, legislative bureau, committees department, general affairs department's personnel division and public information divisions), lawmaking by legislators and the budget deliberation process. Also, active discussions took place on the role of the Office and the human resources sought for the smooth functioning of the National Assembly. In particular, participants expressed interest in Japan's high level of legislative capability, and many questions were asked about the processes leading up to the establishment of laws and specific tasks of the legislative and research bureaus. At the Hiroshima prefectural assembly, participants learned

about the relations between the central and local assemblies and exchanged views with members of the prefectural assembly.

The Deputy Chairman of the Office of the National Assembly who participated in the study visit commented, "This program made me realize once again the weight of the National Assembly's mission. I hope to promote reform one step at a time." Other participants also noted: "I was impressed by Japan's democratic management of the Diet," and "I hope to transform the National Assembly into one that reflects the national opinion."

In 2011 and 2012, JICA plans to organize study visits, in close consultation with the Office of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, for further discussions on the National Assembly reform in the context of Viet Nam's policies and new challenges.

state building as well as to developing countries undergoing political reform. This support is extended as part of the assistance for improving governance, and includes support for election management, strengthening legislative bodies, and enhancing capacity of mass media.

In fiscal 2010, JICA supported Nepal for reviewing media-related policies and regulations and strengthening the functions of Radio Nepal, the only national radio network that broadcasts to the entire country, in order to reinforce the capabilities of the media which plays a vital role in the post-conflict democratization process [→ See the Case Study on page 95]. Additionally, JICA is providing support to reform the National Assembly of Viet Nam, where political reform has become a necessity with over 20 years having passed since the Doi Moi policy was adopted and the country experiences remarkable economic development [→ See the Case Study on page 87].

Public Administration

Overview of Issue

JICA defines the role of public administration as managing society's resources, providing services and developing rules and environments for private-sector activities in order to fulfill the three missions of 1) guaranteeing the people's social rights and their right to exist, 2) enhancing social justice and adjusting disparities, and 3) promoting economic stability and growth. The scope of these functions is not limited to a specific sector, but can be extensively applied to widespread fields.

In many developing countries, the number of administrative officials is limited and the tax revenue structure is often weak, making the efficient provision of various public services difficult. Furthermore, there is often a lack of transparency in public works projects planning and tendering processes, as well as insufficient participation by local citizens and the private sector, which in

some cases lead to fraud, corruption and graft.

In order to tackle the above challenges in developing countries, it is necessary to 1) boost administrative quality and efficiency, 2) ensure optimal allocation of financial and human resources by increasing and strengthening their capacities, and 3) increase transparency by encouraging participation by citizens and the private sector. Therefore, it is necessary to promote administrative reform aimed at improving administrative institutions and systems; to enhance the capacity of administrative agencies; to advance decentralization aimed at formulating development plans close to citizens, the beneficiaries of public services, and providing efficient public services; and to prevent fraud and corruption.

Support for the improvement of public administration can be broadly divided into two areas. The first concerns support for overall administrative functionality and the second concerns support for particular sectors such as health and education. When providing support, it is important to define whether targeted challenges require initiatives of the government as a whole, including local government, or that can be limited to a specific sector. Thereafter, it is necessary to decide on the institutions to support, either presiding ministries in specific sectors (ministries of health and education, for example), or the ministry of general affairs, ministry of local affairs and local government.

JICA Activities

Over the years, JICA has provided assistance in numerous areas for strengthening public administration. This includes strengthening the capacity of civil servants in the formulation and management (e.g., monitoring and evaluation) of development projects aimed at strengthening administrative functions. JICA also supports efforts aimed at decentralization and enhancing the capabilities of local administrative officials so that local governments can provide services that satisfy the needs of local residents. Elsewhere, JICA supports the development of statistics, such as population and economic censuses, which are indispensable to the formulation of a country's development plan, and helps police and fire brigades ensure people's safety [→ See Case Studies on pages 59, 89].

In recent years, there have been growing calls for measures to combat misconduct and corruption due to a lack of good governance.

From the perspective of strengthening administrative functions, JICA provides assistance bearing in mind: the delivery of better public services to community residents and organizations; extending support from a mid- to long-term perspective while strengthening the ownership of the partner country; enhancing the capabilities needed for the institutions developed to function; and urging



Cambodia's first nationally conducted office registry development study (Improving Official Statistics in Cambodia)

Strengthening Local Governance by the Interim Self-Government

Since 2005, JICA has supported institutional reforms of the central government and service improvements of local governments with a view to improving the Palestinian local governance system. Public services are largely administered by an interim self-government. In this context, the pilot project and other activities which had visible effects served as an opportunity for the government, local government entities and residents to together verify the modality of local governance, and became one of the precursory examples that attempted to promote community development with the participation of the residents.

Supporting Expansion of Local Governments

In Palestine, many small-scale local governments were established following the launch of the interim self-government in 1994. However, most lacked financial resources, human resources and capability, and were unable to provide appropriate public services to residents. Therefore, to efficiently implement administrative services, JICA has promoted the clustering of small-scale local governments and delivering services in a collective manner.

In this project, the local governmental units in the Jordan Valley region serves as a model for this initiative and were clustered into four groups. With the assistance of JICA's expert team, resident representatives and local government staff collaborated to plan, implement and manage pilot projects based on resident needs assessments.

By 2010, 15 pilot projects were implemented. For example, a kindergarten was established in response to the community's request. Through active exchanges with neighboring kindergartens, this project increased awareness of the importance of preschool education. In another example, a project enhanced the management skills of a women's center and revived joint activities among participating villages. The pilot projects have strengthened the relations between residents and local governments and have yielded outcomes that are directly linked to peoples' livelihoods.

Development of Financial System and Human Resources

For the central government, JICA has supported the establishment of the local financial policy aimed at fiscal decentralization and the strategy for regional local governments that sets out the modality of a broader-based local government. The lessons learned from the planning and management of pilot projects are outlined in the strategy. It has been agreed that the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government will implement this policy and strategy. To this end, JICA is considering the provision of support for their implementation.

Children full of energy at a kindergarten constructed with the pilot project. Ms. Najad Irmeileih, front row far left, is the kindergarten manager.

In addition to the government's institutional initiatives, training the staff who will be responsible for their implementation is also critical. JICA has supported the establishment of a training center for the local government staff in Jericho, and has provided training on local governance since 2007. Over 2,600 people, far more than the initial target of 1,000 people, received various trainings and are demonstrating the training outcomes at their workplaces.

Hope about Continued Residence

The project's biggest outcome was that stakeholders were able to see that peoples' livelihoods have improved under local governments with limited authority, which has raised the motivation to promote further improvements. In areas where development assistance did not reach before, public facilities were constructed with numerous coordination of government authorities. People residing in areas whose access to public services is restricted were able to experience local services and community involvement through this project. This has great significance.

Many comments were received from stakeholders, including "The project has brought local governments and residents closer together" and "The project has given me hope

about continuing to live here where living is a struggle."

From Our Counterpart

Fawaz Rabaia, Ministry of Local Government Project Counterpart

This is an outstanding project that left clear footprints at both the level of central and local governments. It had significant impact not only on Palestine but also other donors, and we continue to receive inquiries from all dimensions. It was an honor to be a part of this project.



Mr. Rabaia during Ex-post evaluation (center)

From the Grassroots

Najad Irmeileih Manager, Construction of Kindergarten in Al-Foqa Pilot Project

There are many people who must engage in agriculture together as a couple. Therefore, this social service is very helpful for working parents and for people seeking the early education of their children.



the efforts of relevant ministries, agencies and organizations at multiple levels.

Fiscal and Financial Sector

Overview of Issue

Sound fiscal management and financial systems are vital to a country's sustainable economic development. If these systems collapse, the impact on people's assets and livelihood as well as on economic activities in the private sector would be devastating. The breakdown of the system may lead to a decline in the provision of government services and in financial intermediary functions, and inflation.

In addition, all kind of support assistance for developing countries proves to be more effective with sound fiscal and financial systems and economic stability as its underpinning. However, foundations of the economy in many developing countries are fragile and economic management unstable. JICA's assistance in this area aims at strengthening the fiscal and financial structure of these developing countries.

JICA Activities

Preventing economic and financial crises is a key element for developing countries in reinforcing fiscal and financial structures. Many ASEAN countries suffered from the loss of their assets and employment in the Asian financial crisis that hit in 1997, causing enormous economic loss. Vulnerability in ASEAN countries' financial systems was cited as one of the main factors behind the crisis. The global financial and economic crises of 2008 also reconfirmed the need to bolster financial systems.

The other important issue in this area is public financial management for improving the skills for managing the overall national budget. In view of utilizing limited funds effectively and efficiently, the following initiatives are keys: 1) proper management of fiscal balance based on a given budget; 2) allocation of budgets to priority areas of development; and 3) efficient implementation of plans which have budget allocations.

In light of this, JICA has provided such support as the following.

1. Reinforcement of Fiscal Systems

It is important to expand the tax base and increase tax revenues in order to realize policies in developing countries. For that reason, JICA's initiatives strive to strengthen the administrative capacity of collecting agencies of national tax and tariffs. Specifically, JICA supports efforts to enhance the ability to formulate policies of central government and governmental agencies, including Ministry of Finance, in partner countries. JICA also promotes capacity development of tax administration agencies to ensure appropriate tax collection based on laws as well as suitable management and utilization of tax revenues [→ See the Case Study on page 91].

In addition, JICA provides assistance to supreme audit institutions and other inspection agencies to strengthen their functions since improving the ability to identify whether a country's finances are being appropriately managed or not is vital



At the Malaba Border Post between Kenya and Uganda, customs officials of both countries are to the right and provide one-stop service for export and import procedures (The Project on Capacity Building for the Customs Administrations of the Eastern African Region).

to the efficient allocation of capital.

2. Reinforcement of Financial Systems

JICA provides support with regard to boosting capacity in financial supervision, enhancing financial intermediary functions, cultivating capital markets and improving small business finance. Stability in financial systems and efficient management of these systems underpins the foundations for a country's stable economic policies; therefore, JICA supports development of capacity of central banks and development banks.

3. Development of a Macroeconomic Management Infrastructure

JICA provides support for the development of economic laws such as competition law, the formulation of macroeconomic models and the improvement of economic statistics including industry-related tables.

Since there are a number of donors with a proven track record in general budget support* in the fiscal and financial sector, it is important to harmonize with their support and promote collaboration between financial support and technical assistance. Raising the profile of Japanese assistance while taking limited cooperation resources into account is a future challenge in the fiscal and financial sector.

* General budget support: A method of assistance in which funds are injected directly into the general account of the recipient country in accordance with an agreed-upon strategy between the developing country and donor countries/institutions aimed at driving development at the national level.

For the Effective Allocation of the National Budget

The efficient achievement of policy goals requires transparent budget use and strategic allocation of resources, for which enhanced and appropriate fiscal management skills are necessary. Through the introduction of PBB, etc. promoted by the Indonesian government, JICA has supported initiatives for the efficient establishment of development plans and formulation and management of budgets since 2010.



National meeting participated by local governments for establishing the 2012 budget, hosted by BAPPENAS

Enhancing Fiscal and Budget Management Skills

Indonesia has taken a number of initiatives for efficiently establishing development plans and formulating and managing budget plans. They include the establishment of government ordinances, such as the Law on State Finance (2003) and the Law on National Development Planning System (2004), and the introduction of concepts, such as the Medium Term

Expenditure Framework (MTEF), Performance-Based Budgeting (PBB), and budget unification.

The National Medium-term Development Plan 2010-2014 partially established an overall budget framework and performance indicators, while PBB was not conducted. The Japanese government was requested to provide Technical Cooperation for capacity development related to the introduction and implementation of PBB.



At the national meeting group discussions, staff of the Ministry of Finance, the project's counterpart agency, had a coordinating role and demonstrated the knowledge and know-how they acquired through the project.

Through OJT in Budget Formulation

Since 2010, JICA dispatched an expert team to assess: 1) the Indonesian government's budget formulation mechanisms; 2) status of performance evaluations and PBB; and 3) the capacity development needs of relevant staff. It then compiled a set of recommendations as well as implemented seminars in Indonesia and trainings in Japan.

At present, JICA is carrying out activities to organize and improve assessment methods and performance evaluations for introducing effective PBB. Moving forward, JICA plans to pilot PBB in Indonesia's actual budget formulation work through on-the-job training (OJT).

Incidentally, the Development Policy Loan that JICA provides jointly with the World Bank and ADB also identifies as its policy goal for improving fiscal management "the introduction and implementation of PBB." Assistance is strategically provided in coordination with other donors.

From Government Officials of Recipient Country

Syafril Basir

Director of Allocation of Development Funding

National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS)

Indonesia is in the process of introducing PBB and medium-term fiscal frameworks for improving the quality of the budgets. JICA's project has been very helpful for raising the skills of us, the members of the BAPPENAS and Ministry of Finance team engaged in budgeting and planning reform. I hope to draw on Japan's experience and initiatives which I learned at the seminars and trainings for developing Indonesia's implementation plans and performance evaluations.

Gender Mainstreaming

Clarifying Gender-Based Development Issues, Needs and Impacts



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

Gender can be defined within social and cultural contexts, and can refer to the roles of men and women as well as their mutual relationship. On a global basis, females are far more likely to be placed in socially, politically and economically

disadvantaged positions than men. As such, one of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations is “gender equality and the empowerment of women.”

JICA promotes “gender mainstreaming,” a comprehensive approach to incorporate the perspective of gender in all stages of planning, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in all policies, programs and projects to clarify gender-based development issues, needs and the impacts.

Overview of Issue

The ultimate goal of gender mainstreaming is to achieve “gender equality”^{*1} in all fields of society. It is a process of identifying men’s and women’s development issues and needs, as well as the impact on men and women of development policies, programs and projects, at each of the stages of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, on the premise that the formulation processes and impacts of development policies, programs and projects are not neutral but affect men and women differently.

Gender is often unconsciously constructed based on the mentality, culture, traditions and customs of a country and therefore also affects various policies, systems and organizations. Consequently, it is essential to support national machinery (national agencies, mechanisms and organizations striving for joint participation by men and women) such as the Ministry of Women’s Affairs to ensure that the policies and systems in partner countries adopt a gender-based perspective.

In most cases, however, statistics, data and indices are not tabulated according to gender. If a philosophy of gender is introduced without fully comprehending the society in a target region, it may in fact produce negative results such as exacerbating gender disparity. It is critical to collect and comprehensively analyze fundamental data needed for plans and projects by gender, age, ethnicity and religious affiliation, and to develop human resources who have this perspective.

Although it is important to promote women’s empowerment as part of efforts to advance gender mainstreaming, focusing solely on women may not achieve the desired results. This also 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 reform the social structure and systems surrounding women. It is essential to review areas and projects that at first glance may appear not to require a gender perspective and provide support based on the different roles of men and women. For example, one form of support would be developing agricultural equipment that is

easy for women to use since they are responsible for the majority of agricultural work. Another example would be encouraging the participation of women in water quality control organizations.

JICA Activities

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

Actual assistance includes strengthening organizational capacity and creating policies and systems for gender equality in Afghanistan, Cambodia and Nepal by supporting national machinery such as the Ministry of Women’s Affairs. To promote the empowerment of women, JICA provides support in wide-ranging areas. JICA works to invigorate women’s centers in Nigeria, nurture entrepreneurs, particularly women, in poverty-stricken areas of Honduras [→ See the Case Study on page 93], and improve education for women in Yemen [→ See the Case Study on page 55].

Rather than focus solely on women, JICA conducts activities such as advertising on the radio in order to gain the understanding of husbands and other family members toward women’s centers, and getting religious leaders to convey the importance of education for females to their fathers and mothers.

Moreover, efforts are made to ensure that the perspective of gender is reflected in the results and actions in various fields. In the forestry industry in India, in addition to simply employing women, additional support was provided to generate income so that they don’t have to cut young trees to get wood; they can purchase alternative fuel instead. Under the drive for regional development in Paraguay, workshops were held in which both

*1 According to the “DAC Guidelines for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development Co-Operation” issued by the OECD Department of Assistance Committee (DAC), “Gender equality does not mean that men and women need to become the same, but that their opportunities and life chances are equal. The emphasis on gender equality and women’s empowerment is not based on a single model of gender equality for all societies and cultures, but reflects a concern that women and men have equal opportunities to make choices about what gender equality means, and work in partnership to achieve it. Because of current disparities, equal treatment of women and men is insufficient as a strategy to achieve gender equality.” (Extract taken from page 13 of the Guidelines)

male and female citizens could participate, and through which the roles fulfilled by each gender were confirmed. Subsequently, efforts were started to establish development programs that benefit both men and women.

In recent years, there has been increasing recognition of the need to address new issues in gender and development, such as trafficking in persons and other forms of gender-based violence. Trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights that inflicts severe emotional and physical suffering on the victims, who are mainly women and children, but include men as well. It calls for prompt and appropriate response from a humanitarian perspective, as well as from the perspective of putting a stop to international organized crime. The Japanese government formulated Japan's 2009 Action Plan of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which was originally established

in 2004, and is now engaged in implementing these measures through associations composed of concerned ministries and agencies, and other efforts.

Trafficking in persons is a complex and broad-ranging issue, and JICA is providing support focused on "prevention of trafficking in persons" and "protection and reintegration of trafficked persons" in Thailand, Viet Nam and Myanmar. In Thailand in particular, a guideline for protecting and reintegrating victims is starting to take shape. It is critical to create a regional cooperative framework because trafficked persons move across borders. Regional seminars are held in Thailand and video conferences are conducted regularly that connect JICA headquarters with the three countries in order to share information on the situation as well as the measures being taken in each country in the Mekong region.

Case Study

Honduras Promotion of Self-management Enterprises of Women in Rural Areas in Honduras

Women in Farming Villages Start Businesses from Nothing

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Central and South America, with around 60% of the population living in the poverty. Meanwhile, the roots of the male-centered ideology of "machismo" run deep and opportunities for social participation by women are extremely limited.

Since 2003, JICA has provided business development support for poor women in rural areas, who even among the poorer classes, suffer from an acute lack of employment opportunities. JICA established the "The Model for Promotion of Self Management Enterprises of Women in Rural Area" (MeM System) through group organization, training of promoters to encourage systematization, and instruction to teach the necessary knowledge and skills required to start and run businesses.

Empowerment of Rural Women

The first feature of the MeM System is its focus on efforts to start up businesses "from nothing," beginning with the organization of women who had not completed basic education and had never previously left their villages. Rather than expand existing organizations, this project makes it possible for women to form new groups, develop rules, select their industry, learn production and sales techniques through training, and even implement periodic assessment activities.

The system's second feature is its objective of achieving empowerment of participating women. A survey based on 12 indices including "decision-making" and "actions" conducted on these women, who had previously not been allowed adequate opportunities solely on the basis of their gender, and who had low feelings of self-worth, identified a clear manifestation of empowerment. The project did more than simply make the women aware of changes and of their abilities; it also confirmed a positive impact on the awareness and

actions of men with respect to the social participation and abilities of women, thanks to the substantive changes resulting from the women's activities including increased revenue in poorer households.

In addition to the guidelines for implementation

of the MeM System, necessary manuals for organizational operation have been drawn up in seven areas including "training promoters" and "accounting and cost calculation." It is hoped that these will be distributed to and made good use of in other regions.

From the Grassroots

A Woman who Participated in MeM Activities

Right now, I really feel that participation in the activities of the MeM activities has been a wonderful opportunity for us. Previously, we had suffered continued hardship, but now, we are constantly striving to create new products, and we are putting new designs on sale every month. These have been well-received by our customers.



Women in a ceramics group, using molds to create ceramic frying pans, a craft they learned in training.

Project Website: <http://www.jica.go.jp/project/honduras/2391068E0/index.html>

Peacebuilding

Supporting Conflict-Affected Countries and Contributing to the Prevention of Conflict and Promotion of Peace



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

Most conflicts are internal disputes that take place in development countries, in particular in the poorest countries and regions. In such disputes, not only the military, but also ordinary citizens become both victims and perpetrators, and

therefore the impact on people's lives is significant.

In order to contribute to the promotion of peace and prevention of conflict, in support of post-conflict nation-building, JICA is making concerted efforts toward the reconstruction of social capital and economic recovery to solve economic disparities—one cause of conflict—and provide equal opportunities as well as strengthening the state system of governance, thus enhancing security.

Overview of Issue

The majority of conflicts in the world today are internal conflicts in developing countries, most of which arise in the poorest countries and regions in economic terms.

These conflicts are characterized by their huge impact on ordinary citizens, and particularly on the socially vulnerable, such as children and the poor. At the same time, the divide between the military and citizens has faded, and cases of ordinary citizens or children becoming perpetrators have been increasing in recent years.

Armed conflicts do more than just destroy the infrastructure that serves as a foundation for people's livelihoods; they also tear the bonds holding the society together and increase mutual distrust and hatred. They destroy and leave a bitter legacy on the

path to reconstruction. According to some statistics, close to 50% of countries return to a state of war within five years of signing a peace or cease-fire agreement.

There are three frameworks for peacebuilding, military, political and social/economic. Military measures and political methods, such as preventive diplomacy, are important factors in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and the consolidation of peace, as is development aid to correct economic disparities, and improving unequal opportunities and other factors that lead to conflict.

The Japanese government has established peacebuilding as a priority issue within the framework of the ODA Charter and the Medium-term Policy on ODA, and is providing assistance accordingly.

Case Study **Iraq Power Sector Support**

Restoring Confidence in Government through High-Quality Government Services

JICA has provided Iraq with a variety of reconstruction support in a combination of ODA Loans, Grant Aid and Technical Cooperation. JICA is striving to assist in improving the country's power supply capacity, an area in which the Iraqi people still have substantial requirements.



Equipment for distribution of electricity, provided via an ODA Loan (Erbil, northern part of Iraq (Kurdistan region))

Power Outages Longer than Ten Hours a Day

Since 1980, due to three wars and many years of economic sanctions, Iraq has suffered the effects of the destruction and dilapidation of much of its economic and social infrastructure. The electric power sector is no exception. Even now, power outages lasting ten hours or longer in a single day continue in the majority of regions, while the supply capacity, at around 6,000 MW, meets just half of the national demand of approximately 12,000 MW.

In Iraq, where the maximum temperature in summer can reach as high as 50°C, access to electric power can be a matter of life and death. There is a distinct lack of trust with regard to the ongoing power shortages, which the government has failed to rectify even though eight years have passed since the end of the Iraq War, and in

the summer of 2010, large-scale riots broke out in the south of the country. In the administrative services, improving the power supply capacity is similarly considered to be a major challenge.

As a result of this situation, JICA has provided Iraq with ODA Loans specifically for the improvement of power stations, transmission and substation facilities, and is implementing training for Iraqis in collaboration with the electricity authorities of neighboring countries such as Jordan, Egypt and Syria, as well as Japanese electricity companies, to train electrical engineers for roles including power station operation, where there is a shortage of human resources.

A training institute, which was constructed in 1998 in the Jandar Power Plant in Syria with Grant Aid, is being used for training in streamlining the operation, maintenance and management of thermal power stations, as a part of the efforts currently underway to improve electric power services in Iraq.

JICA Activities

JICA is working to contribute to the prevention of both the occurrence and recurrence of armed conflicts, taking into account the perspectives of conflict prevention and peace promotion. JICA has assisted in attempts to alleviate the various difficulties faced by people during and immediately after the conflicts and to subsequently achieve stable development over the medium and long term. Specifically, JICA supports 1) the reconstruction of social capital, 2) economic recovery, 3) rebuilding the state system and functions, and 4) security enhancement.

In a new effort, JICA is supporting the strengthening of government capabilities in order to develop conflict affected communities, while also strengthening the links between central and regional government in post-conflict nation-building processes. For example, in the region of Darfur in Sudan, and

the region under transitional rule close to the north-south border, support is being provided to strengthen administrative functions so that the government can appropriately provide basic services such as water supply, health services and occupational training. In supporting this process, JICA is trying both to improve the capacity of the concerned organizations in terms of implementation and to strengthen the government's coordinating capabilities in order to ensure a suitable budget allocation.

JICA is also engaged in research regarding the best ways to assess projects implemented in conflict-affected countries.

Going forward, JICA will increase the number of projects it supports in conflict-affected countries and regions, and intensify its support in the field of peacebuilding, through efforts such as human resource development to supply experts who can become involved in the process.

Case Study

Nepal Democratization Process Support Program

Creating a Mechanism to Ensure Countries do Not Lapse Back into Conflict

After emerging from a civil war, Nepal took its first steps as a federal democratic republic in 2008. JICA is providing comprehensive support for the development of a democratic system in Nepal, bearing in mind the objective of creating a mechanism to ensure that the country does not lapse back into conflict.

Resolution Based on the Law

The civil war, which had continued in Nepal for approximately ten years, came to an end in 2006. The monarchy was abolished and the country started on the path toward democratization. However, there were many challenges including political turmoil and interracial confrontation, and contrary to the public expectation, the path toward reform has been difficult. By supporting the democratization process, JICA is aiming to create a mechanism that will guarantee rights for the citizens of Nepal, as set out under the

new constitution.

The basis for this support is the establishment of civil law. JICA's objective is for Nepal to create a foundation for the resolution of conflict through legal channels, by drafting a bill for civil law, and making it into law. The current laws were drawn up 150 years ago and incorporate strong ethical considerations. These have been unfeasible not only as a means for settling the actual problems, but also in respect to international transactions. Accordingly, the parties involved in legislation in Nepal and a Japanese advisory group consulted together a number of times over a period of two years.

The new civil law draft was completed in August 2010, and submitted to the Nepalese Constituent Assembly in January 2011.

Support for Media and Community Arbitration

Because the distribution of fair and impartial information to citizens is vital within the democratic political process, JICA is also providing support for media capacity building. The organization is cooperating to help in the revision of media-related bills and to foster a healthy media through efforts that include strengthening the organization of the state-run Radio Nepal.

It will require time to improve the diffusion and application of

support for system creation through efforts such as civil law-related assistance, and in addition, in rural areas, it is not easy to obtain access to judicial administration. On the other hand, considerable opposition and social disorder are being encountered in the course of the democratization process in rural areas. To improve this situation, JICA has been providing support during the transitional phases through the cultivation of "community mediators" to help citizens resolve problems between themselves. Furthermore, from the perspectives of caste, race and gender, JICA hopes to create a foundation for achieving social inclusion. Training has already been implemented for more than 100 people in areas including dispute resolution, careful listening techniques and simulated mediation, as a part of effort to provide these trainees with community mediation know-how.

From the Grassroots

A Nepalese taking the training course to become a community mediator

Previously, when there was a dispute, we had to visit the home of a major figure in the village and rely on them for mediation. We could be made to wait outside for a number of hours, or turned away at the door and told to return the next day. From now on however, I may be able to resolve not only problems within my own community, but also even disputes between influential figures. This has instilled me with confidence.



A media workshop was held for technicians of the national radio station Radio Nepal

Poverty Reduction

Supporting the Development of Essential Capabilities of the Poor



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

The proportion of the poor in developing countries as a whole has declined from 41.7% in 1990 to 25.7% in 2005 due in part to economic development in Asia. Nonetheless, nearly half of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa still suffers from extreme poverty. Moreover, recent increases in food prices

and financial crises have led to fears that an increasing number of people will fall into poverty.

In order to promote JICA's vision of "inclusive and dynamic development," JICA identifies as one of its four strategies, "reducing poverty through equitable growth." JICA extends assistance for human resources development, capacity building, improvement of policies and institutions, and the development of social and economic infrastructure in developing countries.

Overview of Issue

Poverty is an issue that cannot be ignored from the perspective of "human security," as outlined in the Japanese ODA Charter. The number of people living in poverty on less than US\$1.25 per person a day is estimated at over 1.4 billion worldwide.

In addition, natural disasters, environmental destruction and other factors make it difficult to continue traditional means of livelihood. This means some people are extremely vulnerable to poverty. Problems such as disease, unemployment, lack of education and social discrimination each impact the other. Once a person falls into this vicious cycle, the situation becomes even more serious, as the original problems lead to other problems and a person cannot escape from this cycle easily. This is sometimes referred to as the "deprivation trap" and has become an urgent issue when tackling poverty reduction. Neglecting poverty and vulnerability may widen the gap between the rich and poor and intensify competition for resources, causing instability in society.

In recent years, the notion that poverty is the state in which the following five capabilities are lacking has become dominant: Ability to ensure stable and sustainable livelihood (1. economic capability); Ability to be healthy, receive basic education, and live in a sanitary environment (2. human capability); Ability to cope with various "threats" which threaten peoples' lives (3. protective capability); and Ability to participate in a society in which people' dignity as humans and their culture and customs are respected (4. political capability, 5. socio-cultural capability).

JICA Activities

In order to advance equitable growth and sustainable poverty reduction, JICA will strive to enable each and every person in poverty to escape from it by reinforcing the above five capabilities and supporting the development of an environment in which these capabilities may be manifested. Specifically, JICA both: 1) carries out "poverty measures" to directly assist the poor; as well as 2) makes "poverty considerations," by incorporating

creative approaches into projects in order to improve the circumstances of the poor by maximizing the projects' benefits to the poor.

To this end, JICA gathers information on where and what kind of people suffer from poverty (targeting) and adopts methods effective for poverty reduction. For example, regarding methods which are gaining attention in recent years, JICA furthers stakeholders' understanding through trainings and study meetings. These cover topics such as: "Microfinance," which provides savings services or very small loans in order to enable the poor who are living on an unstable income to have stable expenses every month on services such as health care, education, and food; "Conditional cash transfer," in which the government aims to redistribute income by directly providing money or its equivalent to individuals or households on the condition that they fulfill certain obligations; and "Labor-based technology," which can generate short-term employment for the poor.



Residents analyzing the cost of daily life as part of a study carried out in conflict-affected areas (Burundi)

Contributing to Poverty Reduction through the Development of Roads “Owned” by the People

In Timor-Leste, donors including the Asian Development Bank (ADB) are providing assistance for the construction and improvement of arterial roads to promote economic development and poverty reduction. In order to generate further poverty reduction effects through the development of arterial roads, JICA, in coordination with ADB using the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), is providing assistance for a participatory program to develop community roads which are more immediate to the lives of the poor and which connect to arterial roads.



The road is continuously slanted. Coupled with the effects of heavy rain, road conditions are extremely poor.

Creating Employment by Labor-Based Technology

According to a World Bank study, nearly half of the people in Timor-Leste are forced to live in poverty. Due to lack of a road network, the distribution of supplies for production activities is hampered in Timor-Leste. Basic social services, such as health care and education, also do not reach the necessary areas. These circumstances are believed to be a major cause of poverty, particularly in agricultural areas.

In order to mitigate the vulnerabilities of the residents of poor areas and enhance their capabilities, JICA and ADB are coordinating to implement this project which incorporates the

following creative approaches.

First, in contrast with the usual development of roads by construction companies using large-scale equipment, in this project, people in three districts with a large population of the poor will develop roads on their own using labor-based technology.

Labor-based technology is a small-scale infrastructure development approach, which adopts relatively simple techniques, such as the use of sandbags, stonework, and gabions. This approach is cheaper than machinery-based approaches, and for a short-term, is able to provide employment opportunities to community members, i.e., opportunities

to obtain cash income. Furthermore, the involvement of community members in the construction and repair of the roads gives them a sense of ownership, which is also expected to improve and enhance road maintenance.

Training for Community Members and Government Officials

Secondly, this project offers a variety of trainings for community members. They provide knowledge necessary for daily livelihood, such as literacy and information on health care and sanitation, as well as knowledge and skills necessary for agriculture and small businesses. By instilling this knowledge in community members, the aim is to promote broader uses of the developed roads and contribute to improving the lives and livelihood of the community members, including the poor.

Thirdly, Timor-Leste, which gained independence in 2002, is still a young country and its administration capabilities are still inadequate. Therefore, this project conducts trainings and practical exercises not only for community members but also for government officials in order to advance their capabilities regarding technical knowledge on road maintenance and project management. This project will provide assistance to establish a system to enable officials to construct and improve community roads after the project's conclusion.

Although this project just started in 2011, creative efforts will be made to be able to implement the outcomes and lessons learned in other regions, for example, the process and method of selecting communities which will carry out the road development project through labor-based technology, as well as initiatives for enhancing the capabilities of community members and local administration.

From Our Expert

Yoshinori Fukubayashi

Many sections of the community roads in the project area are undeveloped. Due to the steep incline in the mountain area and water flood and load slope disaster in the rainy season, people cannot access the arterial road and are isolated. In order to improve these road conditions, emphasis is placed on improving road sections which serve as bottlenecks. Approaches which make maximum use of local resources are also proposed. This project aims to improve community members' access to various services, including health care and education, through the use of roads which are developed and improved.



Project information session in Bobonaro District

Human Development

Helping People the World Over to Lead Richer Lives



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

The international community is making concerted efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that were established as the goals for the 21st century. Yet there are as many as 69 million out-of-school children around the world,

and 165 out of 1,000 infants in Afghanistan cannot survive their first year. These and other facts indicate that there are still many people who are unable to live decent lives.

With the aim of enabling people to live healthy and creative lives each day and seek their own meaningful goals, JICA has been cooperating in the fields of education, healthcare, and social security, based on the concept of human security.

Education

Overview of Issue

Education is the cornerstone of all development. Acquiring knowledge and skills through education enables people to open up and improve their prospects in life. In addition, people's building of their own capacities promotes poverty reduction, economic growth, and scientific and technological development. Furthermore, the promotion of mutual understanding across all religions and ethnic groups is essential for the stability and peace of the world, and education plays an important role in this regard as well.

Developing countries, however, face many problems both in terms of the quantity and quality of their education. Although the number of children not attending school has decreased by as many as 36 million compared with 1999, 69 million children are still not attending school. In addition, in the least developed countries, one third of the children who enroll in elementary schools drop out before graduation. On the other hand, although the demand for secondary education has been increasing in line with the expansion of primary education, the enrollment rate of secondary education has remained low.

In addition to primary and secondary education, interest in higher education has been increasing rapidly in recent years. There are considerable expectations for higher education institutions to play a central role in responding to the needs of the knowledge-based society in each country by such means as creating knowledge and innovation (research), developing human resources that drive socioeconomic development (education), and resolving development issues that are becoming increasingly complex in keeping with the steady globalization of the economy and society, as well as by returning benefits to industry and society (social contribution), with a focus on post-Education for All (EFA) and post-MDGs period.

The enhancement of partnerships between universities in Japan and those in Asia in particular is important for Japan as well, from the perspective of promoting the internationalization of higher education institutions as well as of boosting economic growth in the region through the fostering of the highly skilled human

resources required by industry. On the other hand, in reality, many institutions of higher education in the developing countries face issues such as shortages of sufficiently qualified academic staff and of facilities and equipment for education and research, making it difficult for them to provide high-quality education and research activities. In addition, as it has been pointed out that inconsistencies between the dissemination of higher education and employment contributed to the pro-democracy movement in the Middle East that has been active since the end of 2010, education that leads to employment that matches the needs of society and industry is becoming increasingly important.

JICA Activities

1. Basic Education

Basic education refers to education that provides basic knowledge and skills such as reading, writing and numeracy, and includes not only primary and secondary education but also early childhood development and non-formal education (including literacy education and community education).

Developing countries are facing diverse issues in the basic education sector. Among them JICA places a particular priority on the three issues of 1) enhancement of access to primary and secondary education, 2) improvement of the quality of primary and secondary education, and 3) improvement of education management (education administration and school management).

Specifically, JICA is promoting cooperation with a focus on i)



Training conducted at the Juba Multi-Service Training Center (South Sudan)

capacity building of teachers through the improvement of teacher training, ii) establishment of participatory school management systems that involve the community, iii) construction of school facilities by local contractors, and iv) capacity development of administrative officers of central and local governments in charge of education, which is essential for sustaining the effects produced by these other efforts [→ See the Case Study on page 55].

In particular, in the Sub-Saharan African countries that are the least-developed in the area of education, JICA is providing focused and comprehensive support in accordance with the Yokohama Action Plan that was announced at the 4th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in May 2008,

for i) expansion of access (provision of educational opportunities to about 400,000 children through construction of 1,000 elementary and secondary schools with 5,500 classrooms), ii) improvement of the quality of education (provision of training for 100,000 science and mathematics teachers), and iii) improvement of school management (expansion of the School for All project, a community-participatory model for improving school management, to 10,000 schools).

It is the responsibility of the international community to provide support to enable as many people as possible in the developing countries to receive quality education. JICA is continuing to provide steady support for basic education toward 2015, the target year of the EFA and MDGs.

2. Higher Education

Higher education is positioned as the final stage of a country's education system. With a view to improving the quality, quantity and equality of higher education, which have been attracting particular attention in recent years, JICA is implementing efficient and effective projects with the cooperation of Japanese universities. With the main targets being the core universities that play a leading role in promoting the higher education sector of each respective country or region, JICA provides support for the improvement of their education and research capabilities through such means as improving the capabilities of academic staff, improving the campus and the education and research equipment, enhancing the university's governing structure, promoting industry-academia-community links, and establishing a network between universities.

In Asia, while focusing support on the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network Project (AUN/SEED-Net), JICA is also extending cooperation to other core universities as necessary, and endeavoring to foster highly-skilled human resources through



Children working in groups in an arithmetic class
(Senegal: Strengthening Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education Project (PREMST))

long-term training in the formal courses at Japanese graduate schools [→ See the Case Study on page 100]. In the Middle East and Africa, JICA extends its cooperation with a focus on support for Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST) that was partially opened in February 2010.

In conjunction with its support for higher education, JICA also provides support to the core technical education institutions in each country in order to enable them to promptly foster and turn out human resources that can respond to the diverse needs for technology and skills that change according to the stage of industrial development.

Health and Medical Services

Overview of Issue

In developing countries, many people lose their lives because they are not able to receive adequate health care or medical services. In the health sector, it is generally recognized that it will be difficult to achieve health-related MDGs by 2015 despite the large contribution made by various partners including donor countries, private funds, and international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO). The Government of Japan has also committed its continuous support to address these issues at TICAD IV, the MDGs meetings and at other fora. JICA is addressing issues such as the improvement of maternal and child health, infectious disease control, and strengthening health systems, in coordination with other actors involved in global health issues.

JICA Activities

1. Improving Maternal and Child Health

Approximately 99% of the 360,000 pregnant women who die during pregnancy or childbirth and the 8.1 million children who

die before reaching their fifth birthday every year live in developing countries. This fact indicates that the health and well-being of pregnant women and young children is one of the most serious issues facing the developing countries.

JICA is supporting developing countries in strengthening health systems to provide “Continuum of Care for MCH”* by improving the quality of health care and medical services and ensuring access to such services. Specifically, JICA is supporting the promotion of antenatal care for pregnant women in the interest of safe delivery, upgrading health and medical facilities, strengthening of communication and collaboration among different levels of health and medical facilities, creating human resources for health and medical services such as midwives, and other measures [→ See the Case Study on page 17].

In fiscal 2010, JICA started the Project for Strengthening Maternal and Child Health Services in Eastern Visayas in



Community activity to confirm the location of the homes of pregnant women on the map, and consider support for maternal and child health (Bangladesh)

* Continuum of Care for MCH is defined as continuous care that considers the chronological flow of stages such as the pre-pregnancy (including adolescence and family planning), pregnancy, childbirth, and puerperium periods, and the neonatal, infant, and childhood periods collectively as a single unit, as well as care provided with families, communities, primary health and medical facilities and secondary and tertiary health and medical facilities all linked and supplementing one another in a continuous manner.

Case Study

ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network Project (Phase 2)

For the Further Enhancement of Core Universities in Each Country, and the Strengthening of the Network Between Universities

Until 2008, JICA provided cooperation to improve the education and research capabilities of top-level engineering universities in the 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Building on the accomplishments of this endeavor, JICA is continuing its efforts to further strengthen the human network between Japan and ASEAN through activities including human resource development to enhance the education and research capabilities of the universities, and collaborative research on issues common to the region.

The Asian financial crisis of 1997 served as an opportunity to raise awareness that the fostering of human resources that can invigorate industry is important for the long-term sustainable development of the ASEAN region. In response to the need for human resources, with the cooperation of 11 universities in Japan, JICA established an engineering education development network among 19 representative ASEAN universities,

and has extended region-wide Technical Cooperation to foster human resources in the field of engineering since 2003.

A total of 444 academic staff of the member universities have taken advantage of the opportunity to study in other countries in the region or in Japan at the master's degree or doctorate degree level, and thereby increase their education and research capabilities. In addition, the quality of the graduate programs of the universities accepting them has also improved through the acceptance of international students and the guidance received from Japanese professors. This has led to an invigoration of academic exchanges, as can be seen by the conclusion of partnership agreements between the member universities as well as with universities in Japan.

Based on these achievements, JICA is continuing to provide support for the improvement in

the qualifications of academic staff mainly in the less developed ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam) where needs still remain high. JICA is also promoting the participation of other universities, industrial circles and the community in academic conferences held in the region. In addition, JICA is working to conduct collaborative research on cross-sectoral issues common to the ASEAN region and the industrial world.



A student dispatched through the project conducting an experiment at De La Salle University in the Philippines

the Philippines to enhance the system for enabling safe deliveries for expectant mothers and providing adequate care for newborn babies. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, JICA equipped a university hospital with medical equipment for emergency obstetric care. In Bangladesh, JICA is promoting and communicating both at the community level and at health facilities the importance of antenatal care and of the referral system in maternal and child care. In addition, JICA is advancing preparations for the commencement of the Safe Motherhood Promotion Project (SMPP) (Phase 2), which is aimed at reducing maternal and infant deaths.

2. Infectious Diseases Control

With three major infectious diseases, namely HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, alone claiming the lives of over 4 million people each year, infectious diseases pose a direct threat to the people in developing countries and they are also a factor in hindering economic and social development. Infectious diseases control is an issue that needs to be addressed not only by specific countries or regions, but also by the entire world, as those diseases spread around the world through economic activities and as a result of the development of transportation.

In the field of infectious diseases control, JICA mainly provides support for the improvement of access to and the quality of testing, the collection and analysis of health information, and strengthening service providers' capacities to provide necessary

treatment and care services. Moreover, JICA supports policy making at the national level, and enhancing service delivery at health facilities at the sub-regional level. In fiscal 2010, JICA launched a project entitled "Health Systems Strengthening for HIV and AIDS Services Project in Tanzania", which provides support to strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems with supervision in order to improve the quality of HIV and AIDS responses implemented at health and medical facilities. In addition, JICA is implementing various projects under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) in Asia and Africa, utilizing Japan's knowledge in the field of research and development on infectious diseases, and is also promoting joint research on tropical diseases.

3. Health Systems Strengthening

"Health systems" refer to the frameworks that form bases for the provision of health care and medical services to people (improving governance, improving medical facilities, managing proper medical products, identifying and effectively utilizing accurate health information, and securing and managing financial resources) as well as to the fostering and managing human resources for health [→ See the Case Study below]. While it is necessary to take a balanced approach to addressing the issues of specific diseases and strengthening of entire health systems a number of partnerships have been established by various organizations that specialize in strengthening key components

Case Study Cambodia Health System Strengthening Program

For the Provision of High-Quality Health Services

Under the Pol Pot administration in the late 1970s, Cambodia's health systems suffered catastrophic damage. Since the early stages of reconstruction, JICA has been providing active support mainly for maternal and child health and for tuberculosis control. Since fiscal 2009, JICA has extended cooperation with a focus on support designed to lead to the strengthening of the entire health systems.

Aiming to Improve Health Services for All Cambodians

Children's health is improving in Cambodia, but the Maternal Mortality Rate remains high and the country still faces numerous challenges such as health status disparities between urban and rural areas. In response, the Royal Government of Cambodia has been implementing the National Health Strategy with a view to improving the health services provided to all Cambodian people, especially to the poor and to women and children, by 2015, and JICA is supporting these efforts jointly with other donors and partners.

In addition to supporting tuberculosis control and the improvement of maternal and child health, JICA provides support through Technical Cooperation projects for the building of capacity to manage medical equipment that serves as the basis to provide health services, and for the establishment of a certification system for nurses. JICA is also working to improve systems that best match the actual situation of the country, including by supporting the renovation of provincial hospitals through Grant Aid.

The Project for Improving Maternal and Newborn Care through Midwifery Capacity Development carries out activities to establish a maternal care system that can bring satisfaction to both the pregnant women and health workers. The Project on Strengthening of Medical Equipment Management in Referral

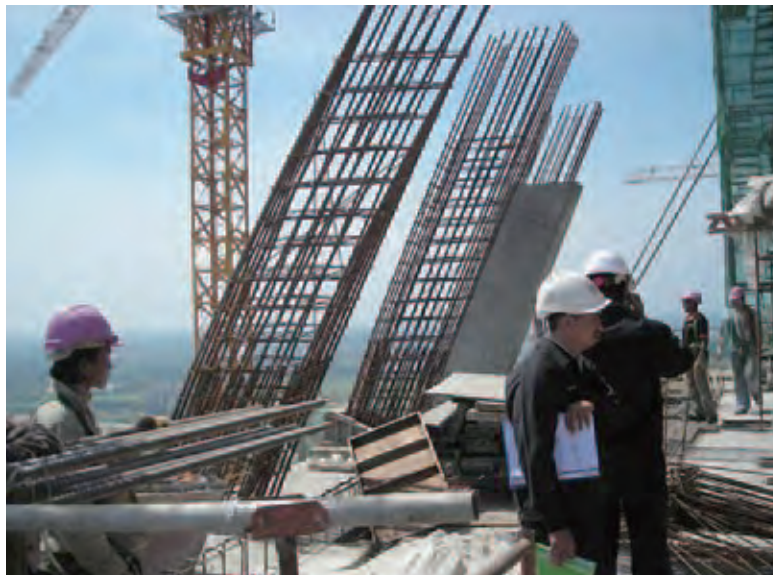
Hospitals works not only on the maintenance, checking and repair of medical equipment, but also on the establishment of a system for maintaining and managing medical equipment in conjunction with hospital management including equipment allocation and budget planning.



Checking the technical level of midwives during a hands-on technique training course (Project for Improving Maternal and Newborn Care through Midwifery Capacity Development)

of health systems. In light of this situation, JICA is expected to play a role in supporting developing countries, in harmony with international initiatives and these existing partnerships.

JICA actively contributes to the formulation of national health plans and budgets, and supports the smooth implementation of these plans. The Project for Strengthening Management for Health in Nyanza Province in Kenya and other JICA-supported projects extend cooperation for improving the functions that constitute the health systems (including strengthening of local administration, reinforcement of local health services, and improvement of health information systems, etc.). On the other hand, in other projects such as the Project for Strengthening Integrated Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Services in Laos, JICA supports implementation of the national health program that includes maternal and child health and infectious diseases control from the perspective of strengthening the health system.



Hands-on training on safety supervision at a construction site (Project for Improving Occupational Safety and Health Administration of Department of Occupational Safety and Health of Malaysia)

Social Security

Overview of Issue

There are countries as well as larger regions such as Asia that have achieved remarkable economic growth in recent years. On the other hand, increases in economic disparities have become pronounced, while many vulnerable people are being left behind in receiving benefits from economic growth.

In order to establish a stable society while maintaining economic growth, it is essential to enhance medical and income security. It is also important not only for individuals but also for society as a whole to make preparations to deal with various risks. Furthermore, providing support for the independence of the socially vulnerable promotes their participation in social and economic activities, which also has the potential to contribute to the expansion of the consumer class as well as to financial stability.

JICA is extending cooperation in the area of social security from the perspective of promoting inclusive cooperation.

JICA Activities

Based on Japan's knowledge and experience in social security systems, JICA is undertaking projects aimed at improving 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.

1. Social Insurance and Social Welfare

JICA supports the development of social insurance systems such as medical security and income security (including pensions), as well as strengthening social welfare policies for the elderly, children and mothers. In recent times, JICA provided support in response to the aging society in Thailand, including the development of human resources involved in healthcare and

medical and welfare services for the elderly [→ See the Case Study on page 37].

2. Support for Persons with Disabilities

Even though support for persons with disabilities is generally considered as a part of social welfare services, JICA views persons with disabilities not simply as recipients of welfare services but also as important actors of development. JICA's ultimate goal is to build a society that is comfortable to live in for all people, regardless of disabilities.

JICA aims at realizing the "full participation and equality" of people with disabilities in developing countries, with emphasis on support that ensures active participation of persons with disabilities in society. JICA is working to empower persons with disabilities through leadership training and strengthening disabled people's organizations, as well as creating barrier-free environments [→ See the Case Study on page 103].

3. Labor and Employment

In addition to support for the development of policies for labor and employment, JICA provides support in such fields as occupational health and safety and work placement services. In developing countries, in contrast to the achievement of economic development, legal frameworks and enforcement of such legislation in the field of occupational health and safety tend to be underdeveloped, resulting in a significant increase in labor accidents.

When workers who have been injured at work cannot receive adequate compensation, they lose their source of income and face the risk of immediately falling into extreme poverty. As labor accidents also pose a great risk not only to laborers and their families, but also to employers and to society, JICA is providing support for the improvement of occupational health and safety in Malaysia and other countries.

For the Empowerment of All Persons with Disabilities

Cooperation is underway in the Asia-Pacific region with persons with disabilities playing central roles so that they will be able to carry out activities for the promotion of a barrier-free society jointly with those without disabilities. JICA is providing support in order to empower all persons with disabilities, regardless of the type of disability, to further drive forward the movements toward promoting a barrier-free society that have been started in each country.



Activities being carried out by Dao Ruang Group, Thailand's first self-help group of persons with intellectual disabilities, which was established through the APCD Project



Interview with a man with a disability who was involved in a subway barrier-free construction project (Bangkok, Thailand)

Persons with Disabilities are Themselves Changing Society

There are estimated to be about 400 million people with disabilities in the Asia-Pacific region, many of whom are unable to obtain opportunities to participate in society such as education and employment or to receive necessary services. With the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD), which was constructed through Grant Aid, in Thailand serving as the project base, JICA, working together with Thailand, has provided Technical Cooperation to 32 countries in Asia and the Pacific since 2002.

Under the basic principle that persons with disabilities are not the recipients of services, but are important actors who participate in the community and advance social development, the Center aims to create an environment in which persons with disabilities are guaranteed certain rights and afforded opportunities to participate in various social activities together with persons without disabilities.

The Center conducts training for persons with disabilities, their families and supporters,

and also supports their networking with people in various positions such as the staff of the relevant administrative bodies of the governments of each country and of NGOs, in addition to following up their activities after training. Experts from Japan have provided guidance on the management of the Center, the collection and dispatch of various kinds of information, and the holding of seminars and events related to disabilities.

Barrier-Free Environments Realized in Various Places

In the course of cooperation extended over a five-year period, more than 900 persons with disabilities and relevant people have received training. The

trainings have resulted in the emergence of leaders with disabilities in each country. They have also begun movements to disseminate their own experience of receiving training to other persons with disabilities in their own countries, including through the establishment of organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) and the holding of workshops. There have been cases where persons with disabilities who had been staying home for years have started to go out, to live independent lives in the local area, or even to gain access to a variety of organizations and institutions. As these cases indicate, persons with disabilities are expanding their activities. Appeals made by the participants in the training sessions have also led to the creation of a barrier-free environment at a subway station in Bangkok and at one of Asia's largest shopping malls in the Philippines.

Building on such outcomes, JICA has been providing cooperation with the second phase of the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD) Project since 2007. The second phase of the project focuses on the empowerment of persons with hearing

impairments and intellectual disabilities, who found it difficult to participate in the first phase, in an effort to give consideration to all types of disabilities. The dispatch of a Japanese person with an intellectual disability as a short-term expert and the invitation of a leader with an intellectual disability from Thailand have had a significant impact, which has led to the establishment of the first self-help group for persons with intellectual disabilities in Thailand.

JICA is aiming to further strengthen the networks it has established up to now in order to further its contribution in each country toward empowering all persons with disabilities and creating an equitable society that is comfortable for everybody.

From Our Partner

Ms Phacharin Sujaritwatanasak,
current leader of Dao Ruang (a group of persons with intellectual disabilities)

Through the training conducted in Japan and the dispatch of a short-term expert with an intellectual disability, we, as people with intellectual disabilities in Thailand, came to understand the concept of "self-advocacy," and established Dao Ruang. We gained the inspiration to develop a dishwasher detergent to generate funds so that the group could continuously engage in activities, and with support from JICA's project, we are steadily increasing our sales.

Furthermore, I visited Myanmar as the resource person of the JICA project to share with those with intellectual disabilities in Myanmar the experience of establishing Dao Ruang. Through this experience, I have gained strong confidence that even I can be the leader of a group.

(Note: At the time of this mission, the first group of persons with intellectual disabilities in Myanmar was also established.)



Filling bottles with dishwasher detergent. Dao Ruang's leader on the left.

Global Environment

For the Termination of the Vicious Cycle of Poverty and Environmental Destruction



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

In developing countries, a vicious circle is occurred as the destruction of the environment, which is a basis for human life, causes the further escalation of poverty. Each passing moment brings the further destruction of the irreplaceable

natural environment on which humanity depends, driving the need for the creation of a sustainable society based on the concept of harmony with the environment. JICA is implementing cooperation widely for the conservation of the global environment. Key initiatives focus on nature conservation, environmental management, water resources, disaster prevention and management, and climate change.

Nature Conservation

Overview of Issue

Over the past decades, large-scale development and excessive resource consumption have led to the rapid destruction of nature worldwide that includes deforestation, desertification and the extinction of species. It is reported that the area of forest land is declining by approximately 13 million hectares, equivalent to one-third of the land area of Japan, every year due to factors such as logging, forest fires, conversion to agricultural land, and excessive slash-and-burn cultivation. Moreover, more than 18,000 wildlife species are considered to be in danger of extinction.

Human life is ultimately dependent on the earth's ecosystem, which provides such essentials as food, water and air. Destroying the balance of the ecosystem has a huge impact on people's lives. In particular, since many of the poor in developing countries are relying on natural resources during their daily lives, the destruction of the natural environment results in the further deterioration of their lives.

We are faced with the need to conserve and sustainably manage the natural environment that forms the basis for the survival of humanity, including forests, wildlife, lakes, wetland and mangroves, etc., which are rapidly vanishing from the earth.

JICA Activities

In addition to conducting activities such as collecting forest data, formulating management plans and improving the lives of local residents, JICA is carrying out afforestation activities for forest restoration in many countries. In order to eliminate the vicious cycle of environmental deterioration and poverty, and to promote the formulation of a society in harmony with the environment,

JICA provides cooperation on nature conservation in the following three areas, with the aim of facilitating harmony between the maintenance of the natural environment and human activities.

1. Sustainable Use of Natural Resources by Local Residents

In developing countries, many people use natural resources in their daily lives. A steep rise in population, however, has meant that the use of those resources exceeds nature's ability to recover, causing the deterioration of the environment that supports human life.

Aiming to both conserve nature and improve living standards, JICA provides assistance based on local requirements, including those for sustainable production, environmental restoration and conservation activities, and works to improve community services through administration.

2. Conservation of Biodiversity

The blessing of biodiversity sustains our daily life in forms such as food, clothing, medicine, and wood products. However,



Counterpart personnel filling out monitoring forms with data (Capacity Enhancement Project for Coral Reef Monitoring in Palau)

because of such factors as the excessive utilization of natural resources due to deforestation, overgrazing, and the harvesting of firewood and charcoal materials, as well as to overhunting of wildlife, introduction of alien species, and the threat of climate change, it is considered that as many as 40,000 wildlife species, including unknown species that remain undiscovered, are becoming extinct every year, and the functions of the ecosystem are deteriorating all over the world.

With the aim of establishing a sustainable society in which human activities co-exist in harmony with the natural environment, JICA is providing various forms of support such as providing Technical Cooperation for improving the capabilities of administrative officers and researchers, raising awareness through environmental education for local residents, introducing eco-tourism, and developing and disseminating agricultural technologies that can help strike a balance between the improved productivity and environmental conservation. In particular, JICA is carrying out activities for the conservation of biodiversity hotspots such as mangrove forests and coral reefs in regions that are rich in biodiversity.

In October 2010, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10) was held in Nagoya, Japan [→ See the Case Study on page 10]. In keeping with the adoption at COP 10 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), or the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, JICA is supporting the efforts of developing countries in protecting their biodiversity-related resources and also in connection with ABS, which plays an important role in the promotion of sustainable utilization.

3. Sustainable Forest Management

Forests are not only valuable natural resources, they also have the function of retaining water resources and conserving soil while absorbing CO₂ to mitigate climate change. Although it is critical to replace forests by planting trees, it is more important to make sure existing forests are not depleted above current levels via adequate maintenance and management.

JICA conducts surveys on the state of forests, develops reforestation technology to regenerate wooded areas, and works to raise awareness of the importance of forests and their maintenance and management. In addition, JICA is extending cooperation on the conservation of forests, with a view to contributing to the establishment of a system to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD-plus), which has been advanced by the international community in recent years as part of the measures against climate change [→ See the Case Study on page 13].

Environmental Management

■ Overview of Issue

Environmental issues such as water and air pollution and untreated solid waste, once considered the problems of developed countries, now extend to developing countries as well. This



A tree-planting activity being conducted by local residents as part of the Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation (Laos)

threatens the health and life of humans and other life, and inhibits the sound development of economic activities. It will be too late to address environmental issues once our ecosystems and human health are tangibly damaged. What is needed is an effort emphasizing prevention, and to this end it is important to strengthen the capacity to respond to environmental issues.

■ JICA Activities

Because many environmental issues involve complex factors in a multilayered manner and are spread over a wide spatial area, it is difficult to find solutions in a short period of time. In order to minimize the scale of environmental damage while continuing development, “environmental management” is important as a means of reducing the overall burden of human activity on the environment and maintaining the environment in a healthy state.

JICA provides various forms of support in accordance with the development status of each developing country or region. In so doing, JICA recognizes that it is essential to enhance the capacity of the organizations and individuals involved in environmental management to respond to these issues. Accordingly, in recent years, JICA has been further strengthening its efforts on capacity development for environmental management.

1. Water Environment

JICA supports measures to prevent pollution in rivers, wetlands and oceans. This includes support for increasing the capability to monitor water quality, for drafting management plans and making policy proposals. JICA also provides support for the drafting of plans and the operation and management of facilities needed to treat waste water from households and industry and improve the hygienic environment, such as support for the improvement of sewage facilities.

2. Atmospheric Environment

JICA supports measures to prevent air pollution, such as increasing the capability to monitor air quality, and improving capacity for drafting management plans and making policy proposals. JICA is also providing support for the development of air pollutant removal facilities, and new methods to measure contaminants.

3. Waste Management

JICA supports measures for improving waste management,

such as increasing the administrative service capabilities for the collection, transportation, intermediate treatment and final disposal of waste, and improving capacity for drafting management plans and making policy proposals. Recently, JICA is increasing its support to create a sound material-cycle society by promoting the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) of waste [→ See the Case Studies on pages 42, 76 and below].

4. Other Areas of Environmental Management

JICA supports the formulation of a basic plan for environmental management.

Water Resources

Overview of Issue

One-third of the world's population faces water shortages, while over a billion people lack access to safe drinking water. Moreover, many children are dying from water-related diseases. In this way, developing countries are facing a multitude of water-related problems, including food shortages caused by floods and inappropriate water allocation.

JICA Activities

In conjunction with the 3rd World Water Forum, held in Japan in 2003, JICA announced its basic policies for cooperation in the water resources sector, centering on the expansion of supply of safe water, and has followed this up steadily. In addition, at

the 4th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) held in 2008, commitments were made to expand support regarding water and sanitation in Africa, and JICA has been promoting efforts to realize these. Through the construction of water supply facilities via Grant Aid, JICA increased the number of people with access to safe drinking water by roughly 22 million worldwide between 2005 and 2009.

It is also essential to identify the state of water resources in a particular country or region in order to provide support that meets local needs.

1. Promotion of Integrated Water Resource Management

In order to adequately manage and sustainably utilize the limited water resources, JICA provides support with an emphasis on integrated water resource management to comprehensively tackle water-related issues concerning flood control, water utilization and the water environment. Specifically, JICA supports the formulation of integrated water resource management plans for entire watersheds, the development of systems for the collection and analysis of water resource related information and the establishment of watershed management systems.

2. Urban Water Supply

In addition to providing support for the formulation of plans for water supply systems and the improvement of water supply facilities, JICA supports the enhancement of the management foundations of water supply utilities, through measures including ensuring adequate operation, maintenance and management of facilities, capacity development related to non-revenue water,

Case Study

Pacific Region Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management

To Reduce the Environmental Impact in Island Countries

The island nations of the Oceania region, where land areas are small and traditional land ownership systems remain intact, share the common issue of how to ensure the adequate treatment of solid waste. In order to disseminate the outcomes of the efforts on solid waste management that JICA has obtained through cooperation with the region's countries, JICA commenced region-wide Technical Cooperation in February 2011 in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), with which JICA had previously established the Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy 2010–2015.

Synergy Effects of Collaboration Expected

This project is characterized by its utilization of the experiences of Japanese local governments and of collaboration among various types of cooperation.

The project plans to promote the dissemination of the semi-aerobic landfill system (Fukuoka method) that can be built with locally available materials and waste materials, and is easy to maintain and manage, based on the experience of introducing the system in Samoa. Through active collaboration utilizing the activities carried out by volunteers dispatched to each country for environmental education and the management of final treatment plants, JICA plans to promote the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) of waste while involving local residents.

In Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan, the Shibushi City Model has made possible the long-term use of final treatment plants by reducing the volume of solid waste as a result of thorough waste separation. JICA plans to provide grassroots Technical Cooperation to disseminate this model in the region while obtaining the cooperation of local governments. It is expected that collaboration between grassroots Technical Cooperation and this

project will generate synergistic effects.

The project also plans to widely utilize the "Manual regarding Occupational Safety and Health in Waste Collection" produced by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and JICA as part of a Technical Cooperation project implemented in Fiji.



An official of Lautoka City, Fiji checks compost, which is being promoted for home use. Transfer of compost technology is also underway as part of the 3Rs.



A Japanese expert provides technical guidance at a laboratory (Water Quality Monitoring Techniques Project (Phase 2) in Panama)

and the establishment of water tariff collection systems.

3. Rural Water Supply

JICA assists hydro-geological studies for borehole construction, the enhancement of operation and maintenance systems in existing water supply facilities, and the improvement of sanitation in rural areas [→ See the Case Studies on page 60 and below].

4. Flood Control

JICA supports the implementation of balanced flood control measures for the entire watershed, from upstream to downstream. This entails a multifaceted approach combining both structural

and non-structural aspects. Projects include formulating plans to develop facilities for flood prevention, strengthening community organizations, and setting up flood-warning systems.

5. Conservation of Water Environment

JICA provides support for strengthening systems to conserve the water environment through a range of activities that include formulating environmental standards, monitoring, controlling sources of pollution and awareness-raising activities.

Disaster Prevention

Overview of Issue

The prevalence and damage of disasters has increased sharply in the past 30 years or so, as storm and flood damage, earthquakes, volcanic activities and other disasters occur across the globe almost daily. People in developing countries are particularly vulnerable due to urbanization, which accelerates the concentration of people in cities and delays the provision of social infrastructure. Natural disasters do more than claim life; they directly impact people's livelihood and aggravate the poverty cycle. Whereas the previous mainstreams of disaster assistance were centered more on structural measures such as construction of dams and levees, there is also a need for compound measures that emphasize non-structural assistance such as installation

Case Study

Burkina Faso Program for Improvement of Water and Sanitation Environment

To Improve People's Lives through Intensive Support

The intensive support provided by JICA in the Central Plateau and South Central regions of Burkina Faso in the field of water and sanitation has led to many new wells and enabled approximately 450,000 people to gain access to safe water. In order to accelerate the efforts being made toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of "to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation," JICA is extending cooperation by achieving collaboration between Technical Cooperation projects, Grant Aid, dispatch of volunteers and Science and Technology Research Partnership.

Life with Access to Safe Water and Basic Sanitation

In order to facilitate the sustainable management of the wells constructed through Grant Aid, JICA aims to promote the "reform" system stipulated by the Burkinabe government, under which local residents and the local government play the central roles in maintaining and managing water supply

facilities. To this end, JICA is supporting capacity development to enable administrative officers and local residents to establish rules on operation and maintenance, to set water tariffs, and so on.

At the same time, JICA is carrying out awareness-raising activities by selecting and fostering motivated people at the village level as promoters, who are tasked with considering and leading discussion about water-related diseases and hygienic behavior together with their fellow villagers and communicating correct knowledge. Furthermore, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), including the Water Action Team*, working in the field of health, medical care and education, is conducting activities to raise awareness of sanitation and hygiene at each activity site.

JICA is also providing cooperation to improve water and sanitation by utilizing science and technology. The International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering of Burkina Faso, in cooperation with Hokkaido University and other research institutions of Japan, is trying to develop and apply to the local society a sustainable low-cost system.



Promoters carrying out activities to raise awareness on sanitation and hygiene to villagers using games and cards.

* The Water Security Action Team is an initiative to dispatch JOCVs, Senior Volunteers and others to African nations to provide technical guidance to enable people to use safe water in a stable manner. Launched at TICAD IV held in Yokohama in 2008, the initiative carries out a wide range of activities that include ensuring safe water, the operation and maintenance of water supply facilities, and improving the sanitation environment related to water use. The initiative plans to dispatch about 200 volunteers and others during the five-year period until 2013 in an effort to deliver safe water supplies in cooperation with local people.

of disaster warning systems, creation of hazard maps, and evacuation drills to improve the emergency response of people and society to disasters.

■ JICA Activities

Based on a disaster management cycle (DMC), which entails emergency response, recovery and reconstruction, and prevention and mitigation activities, JICA leverages its experience to provide assistance in the following areas.

1. Efforts toward a Safe and Secure Society

The risk of natural disasters is increasing in developing countries. JICA makes use of Japan's leading technical capabilities in disaster prevention to evaluate risk in developing countries, propose measures to mitigate existing risk and preventive measures for new risks so that people can live with peace-of-mind [→ See the Case Study on page 65].

2. Supporting the Formulation of Integrated Disaster Management Plans

JICA supports the formulation of integrated Disaster Management plans and action plans that include improving the disaster management systems and capabilities of administrative institutions, establishing the relevant legal framework, identifying disaster-related hazards and risks, enhancing awareness and strengthening response [→ See the Case Study on page 68].

3. Support from the Viewpoint of Human Security through Community-Based Disaster Risk Management

Japan's experience has highlighted the importance of "self-help" and "mutual-help" in addition to "public-help." Community-based measures are key in developing countries where the disaster management capabilities of administrative institutions remain insufficient. JICA therefore directs assistance toward strengthening such capabilities among communities and individuals, as well as linking these groups with public organizations [→ See the Case Studies on page 73, 77,109].

Climate Change Measures

■ Overview of Issue

The issue of climate change has an impact on the entire infrastructure of human life, including the ecosystem, society and the economy. It is a global challenge that poses an enormous threat to equitable economic growth, poverty reduction and human security. Recently, phenomena considered as negative effects of climate change, such as the submersion of coastal lowlands due to rising temperatures and sea levels and increases in extreme weather and natural disasters including droughts, torrential rain, floods, and declines in food production and water resources, have been reported in various places. The impact of climate change is expected to seriously affect our lives more intensively and extensively in the future.

■ JICA Activities

1. Supporting the World's Concerted Efforts for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gases

In recent years, greenhouse gas emissions from developing countries have been increasing and are expected to exceed emissions from developed countries in the near future. In order to minimize the negative effects brought by climate change, it is essential that the ongoing efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases or "mitigation measures," involve developing countries as well as developed countries.

For developing countries faced with a large number of issues including poverty reduction, it is important to take an approach that both reduces greenhouse gas emissions and bears benefits such as improvements in livelihood and economic development. JICA extends cooperation in areas including the introduction of renewable energy, promotion of energy saving, improvement of urban public transportation system, solid waste management, forest management and support for afforestation. JICA also provides extensive support for the formulation of policies and strategies, such as the establishment of energy-saving laws and low-carbon urban development.

2. To Protect People in Developing Countries from the Negative Impact of Climate Change

Developing countries, and the poor in particular, are extremely vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Therefore, it is vital to tackle this issue from the perspective of human security. To alleviate the negative effects of climate change at the most, it is necessary to review the society as a whole and establish a system that enables adaptation to the negative impacts of climate change.

JICA provides support to adaptation measures in accordance with each country's needs. These include developing capacity in shore protection and embankments, the construction of drinking water supply facilities, the appropriate management of water resources, ecosystem protection, introducing and improving the quality of highly drought-tolerant crops, and efforts in the area of infectious diseases control. Furthermore, JICA is formulating and implementing adaptation measures tailored for each region and country based on meteorological observation, climate change prediction and impact evaluation. Such cooperation will become increasingly important in the future.

The climate change issue is closely related to a variety of issues faced by developing countries in such areas as energy, transportation, forests, water resources, disaster prevention, agriculture, and health and sanitation. For the developing countries, the climate change issue is inseparable from development.

By drawing on past experiences and achievements in supporting sustainable development, and on the basis of international discussions, JICA provides support for climate change measures in developing countries from a number of angles, from the policy level to implementation of projects, research, etc., while collaborating with concerned domestic and international organizations [→ See the Case Study on page 14].

One Year After the Earthquake Disaster Sharing the Lessons Learned from Reconstruction

On September 30 and October 1, 2010, a year after a major earthquake struck West Sumatra Province, a memorial ceremony marking the one-year anniversary of the earthquake was held with the attendance of the governor of the province as well as representatives from the governments of Indonesia and Japan. At the ceremony, the disaster prevention efforts and the reconstruction plans made with the cooperation of JICA were introduced, and the concerned parties reconfirmed the importance of disaster prevention. In addition, the Declaration Marking the One-Year Anniversary of the Earthquake—for the Sharing of Lessons Learned from Reconstruction was adopted.



The quality control manual for the reconstruction of safe schools

Seamless Support for Recovery and Reconstruction

At 5:16 p.m. on September 30, 2009 (local time), an earthquake measuring magnitude 7.6 occurred off the coast of Padang, Indonesia. The earthquake precipitated a major catastrophe that claimed the lives of 1,200 people and injured nearly 3,000, resulting in total damage estimated at 229.8 billion yen.

Immediately following the earthquake, Japan dispatched the Japan Disaster Relief team comprising a rescue team and a medical team and provided emergency relief supplies. The needs assessment survey that was subsequently conducted to assess the needs in respect of support for recovery and reconstruction revealed that more than 2,000 school buildings, equivalent to one third of all school buildings in West Sumatra Province, close to the epicenter, were either completely or partially destroyed. In December 2009, JICA

began the provision of Technical Cooperation and Grant Aid to reinforce the quake resistance of schools and reconstruct them as bases to which local residents could evacuate safely at times of disaster.

“Schools Serving as Evacuation Shelters at Times of Disaster” Transferring the Japanese System to Indonesia

In Indonesia, the Guidelines on the Construction of Public Buildings (established in 2002) make it compulsory to ensure that newly constructed public buildings are earthquake-resistant. Although there were already guidelines on the construction of schools issued by the Ministry of National Education, it had previously been difficult to adhere to these guidelines in rural areas due to technical and financial reasons.

Through a Technical Cooperation project, JICA supported the reviewing of the guidelines issued by the Ministry of National Education, and developed standard drawings for the construction of schools that would satisfy the earthquake-resistance standards. In addition, at the model schools to be completed under the project through pilot construction, JICA provided guidance on the essential points in supervising construction to the staff of local governments and schools and to representatives of the local residents, and created the a quality control manual Key Requirements for Making Good Quality School Buildings that included the

results of the project.



A Japanese expert providing guidance on earthquake-resistant design to local workers at the construction site.



Rendering of school, SDN08 Sintuk Toboh Gadang, to be completed through pilot construction.

In this way, JICA advanced the construction of the model schools through Grant Aid, while providing technical support through pilot construction for the process from ensuring earthquake-resistant design to supervising construction. JICA also implemented disaster prevention activities for the community including disaster prevention education, evacuation drills, and a disaster prevention sports festival in the school districts of each of the model schools. In this way, JICA has emphasized and communicated to local teachers and residents the importance of communities that do not succumb to disasters, from the perspectives of “self-help,” “mutual help,” and “public help,” based on the lessons learned from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

In the light of these accomplishments, West Sumatra Province decided to utilize the quality control manual, which was created for use in construction as part of this project, for the rebuilding and repair of public buildings such as hospitals that sustained major damage in a similar way as the schools. In the wake of this project, in order to ensure human safety and security, increased efforts are being made to improve the earthquake resistance of newly constructed public buildings.

From the Grassroots

Community leader in the neighborhood of SDN08 Sintuk Toboh Gadang Elementary School (Padang Pariaman District, a model school)

The building serving as the model school is of the highest quality in Padang Pariaman District and is earthquake resistant. We can also use it as an evacuation shelter for the neighboring communities, so I am happy as a resident as well.

Principal of SDN23/24 Padang Elementary School (Padang City, a model school)

A superb building has been completed, and people are saying that it will attract good teachers as an excellent school in the region. In the 2011/2012 school year, disaster prevention education will also be conducted. I would like to continue to carry out pioneering disaster prevention activities.

Rural Development

Tackling Global Food Insecurity and Poverty



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

In 2008, food prices peaked at their highest levels since 1973 due to poor harvests owing to bad weather and also to the flow of speculative money into cereal crops to meet stronger demand of biofuels. While prices subsequently declined, they continue to remain at a high level. In December 2010, food prices again skyrocketed as a result of export restrictions driven by poor harvests in major agricultural

product exporting countries. There is concern that these price increases will have an impact on developing countries, and in particular on populations suffering from poverty, as many of these countries are dependent on imports for food.

In order to contribute to Goal 1 of the MDGs, to “eradicate extreme poverty and hunger,” JICA implements various kinds of cooperation to address the issues of agricultural and rural development. In addition, JICA provides support for fisheries in farming and fishing villages. These villages are host to large numbers of poorer people and serve as bases for supplying food in developing countries.

Agricultural and Rural Development

Overview of Issue

The environment surrounding agricultural and rural development has been diversifying in recent years driven by such factors as the rapid advance of globalization, export restrictions imposed on agricultural products due to poor harvests, climate change, skyrocketing food and crude oil prices, growing demand for biofuels, global competition for farmland, and post-conflict rehabilitation. In many developing countries farmers account for the majority of the population, and most farmers suffer from poverty, which means that developing countries are likely to be strongly affected by these changes.

Stable Food Supply

According to an estimate by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the proportion of people in developing countries suffering from malnutrition has been rising since 2008, and now stands at 17%, reaching one billion for the first time in 2009.

In 2010, this number declined to 925 million, but the figure is still too high to ignore. It will therefore be difficult to achieve one of the targets of Goal 1 of the MDGs, namely to “Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.”

Stably providing people with the food that they need (food security) is the foundation for economic and social stability and an important policy issue. However, the food security of many developing countries is easily affected by unstable climates and their citizens are exposed to food security threats due to such factors as lack of government planning and implementation capacity, underdeveloped agricultural infrastructure, and low levels of production technology.

This situation not only impacts people’s health; the outflow of valuable foreign currency to pay for food imports combined with intensifying rural poverty also drives an increase in the numbers of people moving from rural to urban areas as well as abandoning farming. This in turn leads to a worsening of poverty in urban areas

and is a contributory factor toward domestic social and economic instability.

Reducing Rural Poverty

According to a report compiled by the World Bank in October 2010, while the 2008 financial crisis did have a negative impact, overall it is expected that the size of poorest segment of the population, which numbered 1.8 billion people in 1990, will shrink significantly to 920 million by 2015. Nevertheless, there is still a major disparity between the rates of poverty reduction in different regions. In Sub-Saharan Africa, in particular, poverty is growing. Three-fourths of the poor in developing countries live in rural areas, so agriculture is not only a source of food but also a means of supporting the livelihood of these poor populations, which gives it an important role as a foundation for securing economic independence. Moreover, in regions such as South America and Southeast Asia, where self sufficiency rates for major grains have reached stable levels and the urban middle class is growing, there are areas in which diversifying food needs are providing opportunities for agricultural and rural development growth.

JICA Activities

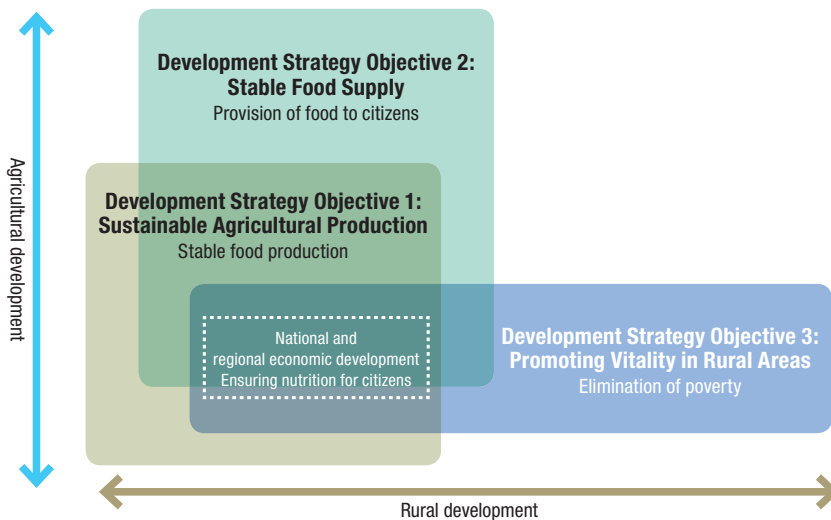
JICA’s assistance in agricultural and rural development aims to ensure a stable food supply to people in both rural and urban areas, reduce poverty in rural communities and thereby drive economic development at national and regional levels. Through these activities JICA strives to contribute to achieving Goal 1 of the MDGs. Sustainable agricultural production is the basis of food security, while sustainable agricultural production and stable food supply are also the cornerstones of reducing poverty via rural development.

For this reason JICA has established the following three specific cooperation objectives: 1) sustainable agricultural production, 2) stable food supply, and 3) promoting vitality in rural areas.

1. Sustainable Agricultural Production

In developing countries, realizing sustainable agricultural

Agricultural and Rural Development Assistance Objectives, Philosophy and Goals



production is indispensable for ensuring a stable food supply for the entire nation as it alleviates food shortages in rural areas while also ensuring food provision to urban centers.

In its approach to enable stable agricultural production, first, JICA seeks to gain an understanding of the country's overall agricultural sector, analyze the various aspects, and draft agricultural policies that meet needs. Based on these policies, JICA extends various support to improve people's livelihoods by expanding agricultural production, enhancing productivity, and diversifying agricultural management through numerous initiatives. These include establishing, maintaining, and managing foundations for agricultural production such as irrigation systems, strengthening lab research and technical development, accelerating agricultural extension, and improving the procurement and consumption of agricultural equipment and materials. In this way JICA is working to secure nutrition and economic development for the peoples of developing countries [→ See the Case Studies on pages 113 and 127].

Africa accounts for the largest portion of people suffering from malnutrition in the world (29% of the total population (2008)), and is in the greatest need of increased food production. The amount of rice consumed in Africa is growing at a rapid rate, while the potential of increasing production of this crop is high. Therefore, rice is believed to be the key to eradicating food insecurity on the continent. Together with other donors, JICA launched an initiative called the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) on May 2008 to double rice production (an increase of 14 million tons) in Africa within 10 years. Toward this target, JICA is supporting the formulation of National Rice Development Strategies in the 23 Africa rice-producing countries along with other

efforts to increase rice production in line with the strategy [→ See the Case Studies on pages 61 and 112].

2. Stable Food Supply

Risks related to food supply have recently surfaced amidst a complex intertwining of short-term factors such as poor harvests owing to bad weather and accompanying speculation, and long-term factors such as population increases in emerging economies, changes in the demand structure, restrictions on production resources such as land and water, vulnerability to climate change, and competition between rising demand for biofuel and food. In dealing with these issues it is therefore necessary to consider responses in accordance with their individual causes and in the light of the differing circumstances of each region. In order to respond to this diversity of problems, JICA is working to 1) provide short-term assistance via the provision of food and agricultural production materials and equipment, 2) provide medium- to long-term assistance through the development and dissemination of irrigation systems and technologies, 3) improve distribution



Efforts are made toward the development of cultivation and processing techniques aimed at improving income levels by allowing agricultural products to be shipped between seasons under Master Plan Study on Development of Agricultural Produce Marketing for Small Scale Farmers in the Upper Egypt. A large number of women participate in and play an important role in cultivation technique training, comprising hands-on training and lectures.

through the development of the value chain*, 4) develop biomass energy that does not compete with food production, and 5) strengthen the systems for stockpiling and agricultural statistics.

In Mozambique's tropical savanna, which has immense potential for expanding agricultural production, JICA is implementing triangular cooperation together with Brazil, which has become one of the world's leading exporters of agricultural products through the development of its cerrado, or savannah grasslands. This cooperation is aimed at alleviating poverty among small-scale farmers and reducing domestic food problems, and efforts are also being made to contribute to international food security by assisting medium- and large-scale farmers in expanding their exports to international markets.

3. Promoting Vitality in Rural Areas

The aims of rural development are to expand agricultural production for food security at the local and national levels as well as strengthen rural communities from the standpoints of economic development and enhancing the livelihood of people. For this reason it is necessary to go beyond simply improving productivity to combine support in a diverse range of fields, such as by improving agricultural management including distribution and marketing as well as by making efforts in diverse fields that transcend the framework of the agricultural sector, from strengthening local administrative functions and enhancing education and health services to developing rural infrastructure such as community roads and ensuring safe drinking water.

To stimulate rural development, JICA helps local administrative institutions to draft development plans with the participation of rural residents, for the establishment of implementation systems that enables the community to raise income and improve people's livelihood, as well as for improving the distribution and sale of agricultural products.

In the Philippines, in order to support farmers who have acquired new farmland in the course of the currently ongoing agricultural reform, for over 10 years JICA has been providing Loan Aid for communities formed of benefitting residents (ARC), which, is aimed at developing infrastructure (access roads to irrigation facilities, postharvest treatment facilities, and markets) in an integrated manner, while also improving agricultural productivity and the income level of farmers by strengthening agricultural cooperatives and irrigation associations. Meanwhile, in Egypt, JICA is providing support aimed at improving the additional value derived from quality assurance and processing after the implementation, shipment and harvest of agricultural products and varieties, based on providing small-scale farmers in Upper Egypt with information on markets and needs. Moreover, JICA is working to design action plans (master plans) in order to promote the development of rural communities through this support.

*Meaning the chain that allows for acquiring maximum value for individuals involved in each stage of the following process: production → processing → distribution → consumption → waste processing. (Kaplinsky, R. (1999). *Journal of Development Studies* 37 (2): 117–146. Kaplinsky, R. and M. Morris (2001). *A Handbook for Value Chain Research*, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex).

Case Study

Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) Initiative

Towards Drafting of National Rice Cultivation Plans and Strengthening Partnerships

Under the CARD initiative, which is aimed at boosting rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa, JICA works together with the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), and other institutions to support the formulation of National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS) for 23 countries in the region and to strengthen partnerships between donors.

Collaborations Take on New Forms

Two JICA experts have been dispatched to the CARD Secretariat located at Nairobi Headquarters for the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). JICA is supporting the CARD Secretariat's activities, which include assessing the rice development situation and drafting systematic development strategies, as well as enhancing participation by all related stakeholders. At the same time, JICA conducts projects in relation to agricultural infrastructure development (irrigation development, farming field development, capacity building for

irrigation engineers, etc.), the dissemination of rice cultivation techniques, capacity building for postharvest management, and marketing. Furthermore, JICA is also promoting new undertakings, such as a partner program with Viet Nam in Mozambique and a training program for African researchers in collaboration with IRRI.

Currently, the CARD initiative functions to create synergy in each country and also provides a forum for discussion on common issues under the following three topics: 1) support for working out agricultural investment plans in each country (the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme*) and NRDS, 2) promotion of private sector investment in rice

development, and 3) enhancing participation from a diverse range of donor countries and organizations including those from Asia.

The Fourth General Meeting of CARD is scheduled to take place in Uganda in November 2011, where discussions are expected to focus on the initiative's achievements over the past three years since its launch.



The Third CARD General Meeting held in Arusha, Tanzania in May 2010

* The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) states that 10% or more of the national budget should be allotted to the agriculture sector.

Boosting Community Milk Production 2.5-Fold Through Improved Technology

In 2000, JICA began providing support for breeding dairy cattle better suited to the climate of Viet Nam through the use of cattle artificial insemination (AI) technology. In order to link the results of these efforts to increased milk production at the individual farmer level, in 2006 JICA launched a technology improvement project for small- and medium-sized dairy farmers in northern Viet Nam. At model farms this project succeeded in boosting the average milk production per cow by from 30% to almost 50%, while overall milk production in the project's target areas increased by nearly 2.5-fold. This project significantly contributed to increasing milk production in these and other areas.

The Key to Improving Rural Life and Diversifying Agricultural Management

Agriculture is an important industry in Viet Nam that accounts for approximately 22% of GDP and occupies 58% of the working population. However, rice cultivation, which lies at the center of this industry, suffers from poor labor productivity and it is difficult for farmers to improve their income through rice cultivation alone.

Meanwhile, while consumption of milk as a source of protein with high nutritional value continues to increase domestically, Viet Nam relies on imports for 80% of its milk. As part of its strategy for boosting domestic milk self-sufficiency while also diversifying and stabilizing agricultural management, the Government of Viet Nam is promoting the introduction of dairies that can provide comparatively high and stable income levels, and JICA is supporting these promotional efforts.

Utilizing Multiple Extension Mechanisms

Under this project, efforts were made to



Cooling fans and anti-moisture devices were installed on the ceilings of cattle barns without walls as a heat management measure.



The use of grass chopping machines that make tough grass easier for cows to eat spread rapidly after they became less expensive by having them manufactured by local blacksmiths.

strengthen the functions of the Station for Training and Extension of Dairy Technologies (STEDs), which was established for the express purpose of spreading dairy technologies in northern Viet Nam, through the development of training materials and the provision of education for trainers (national trainers (NTs)) while also improving the training of local dairy technical trainers (local trainers (LTs)).

During the first half of the project training was mostly provided for NTs and during the second half activities were promoted with an emphasis on local technology transfer while assisting LTs in their local extension activities. The initial flow of technology extension was from Japanese experts to NTs, LTs, and then finally to small- and medium-sized farmers. However, by skillfully utilizing local incentives and flexibly combining seminars for farmers conducted directly by Japanese experts and NTs along with technical demonstrations of appropriate technologies at model farms in the target areas, JICA was able to accelerate the expansion of technology to the surrounding farmers, which generated a ripple effect in terms of technology transfer between neighboring farms.

Up to the time of the project's conclusion in April 2011, a total of 147 training sessions and technical demonstration activities had been conducted and a total of 4,885 recipients had benefitted from these technology transfer efforts.

As a Model for Similar Projects

In order to promote the effective implementation of the disseminated activities regarding technology, periodical evaluation was carried out on farmers in the target areas on a quarterly basis to assess the degree to which they had adopted the new dairy skills related to dairy cattle milking and feeding methods. A "Technical Evaluation Sheet" was then introduced for use in assessing the level of improvement using a point system. After one year of monitoring,

improvements were observed at between 80% and 95% of farms, according to the skill in question, providing tangible confirmation of the effects of the project.

This project has made a substantial contribution to educating central and local government technicians, testing effective dissemination methods, and boosting milk production. Accordingly, it is greatly anticipated that this project will become a model for similar projects in future.

From Our Expert

Satoshi Saito
Chief Advisor

The biggest achievement of this project has been the establishment of a system for dissemination and human resource development. Thanks to the platform created by the preceding project, and also because we had a clearly defined objective in the shape of improving the dissemination of technologies and boosting milk production levels, it was possible for everyone involved to carry out effective activities working towards a unified objective with limited investment, human resources, and time. It was the ability to break the boundaries of the existing framework and search for more flexible means and better methods that led this project to success.

From the Grassroots

A Local Trainer (LT) in the project area

The response of farmers has become better than before and they are actually using the knowledge and skills that we taught them. For instance, we had taught about the fermentation of grass (silage) before but the farmers were not practicing the method. Now, however, most farmers are making silage. This change was engendered by clearly teaching the farmers about the blending methods and merits following the STED training. Moreover, the farmers started to practice this method because those farmers who had participated in agricultural training were able to acquire a personal understanding of the practice.



Pamphlets for farmers, training materials, technical manuals, record logs, etc. were developed. Reproductive calendars, weight measurement tools, milking posters, and other materials were also created and distributed.

Fisheries

Overview of Issue

Fisheries resources from the oceans, rivers and lakes are important sources of food for people in developing countries that can be acquired at a relatively low cost. Nearly 20% of animal protein intake in developing countries is dependent upon fisheries, according to FAO. The fisheries industry is also a valuable means of securing food and livelihood for people without land or steady income. It provides a valuable livelihood for poorer segments of the population and women as well. Developing countries account for 50% of the world's exports of fisheries products in monetary terms and 61% in volume terms (2008), making this industry vital to the economies of these nations.

Global production volume of fisheries products increased almost sevenfold between 1950 (approximately 20 million tons) and 2008. Production volume of marine fisheries hit a peak and has reached its limit after the 1990s. Amid increasing pressure on natural resources, production volume in the fish farm industry has continued to grow since the 1990s, and now accounts for one-third of total fisheries production.

Even in the developing countries the decline in marine resources due to overfishing and the destruction of the environment is a serious problem. In the developing countries, however, the concept of resource management has not yet been sufficiently disseminated to fishermen, and as people who face hard living conditions have a strong tendency to prioritize immediate benefits, it is not easy to adequately manage fishing activities. Managing and preserving fisheries resources and encouraging a sustainable fisheries industry are key challenges.

JICA Activities

While being a key sector for developing countries, the fisheries industry faces the problem of resources diminishing and becoming depleted through poor management and environmental degradation. It is important not only to develop the fishing industry but also to develop the fishing villages in order to improve their livelihood as coastal regions often tend to suffer from chronic poverty.

JICA's cooperation in the fisheries industry has three main objectives: ensure the stable supply of food to local people, eliminate malnutrition by providing valuable nutrition and reduce poverty by providing a livelihood to the poor. Appropriate preservation and management of fisheries resources are prerequisites to achieving these objectives and key to the development of fishing villages based on sustainable utilization of these resources. JICA is working toward the following three goals with these ideas in mind: 1) Vitality in local fishing communities, 2) Stable food supply (effective utilization of fisheries resources), and 3) Appropriate preservation and management of fisheries resources.

1. Vitality in Local Fishing Communities

The key to alleviating chronic poverty and bringing vitality to fishing communities is to provide support focusing on stabilizing household income. This can be accomplished through the correct and sustainable management of fisheries resources and appropriate technology selection. A comprehensive approach is required, including vitalization of agricultural and other industries, and provision of education and health services.

JICA supports efficient management and cost reduction of fishing activities by such measures as the construction of

fish markets and strengthening of fishermen organizations. JICA also works to improve the capacity of fisheries organizations as well as activities by women's groups in small fishing villages, from fish processing to sales.

2. Stable Food Supply (Effective Utilization of Fisheries Resources)

Developing countries face the serious problem of food shortage due to rapidly rising populations, which puts further pressure on capturing fisheries resources.

JICA supports the development of extensive fish farming using traditional low-cost techniques from the perspective of securing animal protein intake in light of the severe conditions of marine



African catfish cultivated in an aquaculture pond maintained by central farmers that oversee training for other farmers on inland aquaculture (Project for the Extension of Inland Aquaculture in Benin)

resources. In inland water aquaculture, JICA supports the combination of agriculture and livestock with fish farming for carp, tilapia and catfish by making use of ponds, paddy fields and irrigation canals. JICA also assists with the relatively simple ocean aquaculture of seaweed and shellfish. Elsewhere, efforts are made to construct facilities to promote and proliferate aquaculture and toward the integrated education of researchers, engineers, promoters and other human resources in this field.

Because marine products cannot be stored at normal temperatures, in developing countries where the distribution infrastructure is underdeveloped, they are often discarded due to deterioration or rotting. JICA is supporting efforts to improve the freshness and quality of marine products and promoting the effective use of marine resources by developing distribution facilities such as fishing platforms and fish markets, and improving the technologies for simple processing of dried-salted products and smoked products, as well as for frozen processing.

3. Appropriate Preservation and Management of Fisheries Resources

Unlike mineral resources, fisheries resources actively propagate and grow within the natural environment as long as catches can be controlled within certain limits. To make the most of this, it is important to restrict usage to an appropriate level in developing countries to maintain volume, which will enable a sustainable fisheries industry. It is important to first raise awareness among

administrative circles and fishermen. Furthermore, in addition to developing scientific data and promoting broad cross-border initiatives, it is also necessary to focus on preservation of the marine environment as well as the management of rivers and forests upstream. These efforts to conserve marine resources must be taken from a long-term perspective with consideration of land and marine ecosystems.

JICA supports the formulation of fishing management systems in administration and enhanced operating capacity from the standpoints of fisheries resource management and fish environment preservation. This entails increasing awareness through a participatory approach that includes fishermen and local residents. With the participation of coastal fishing communities, JICA works to regenerate and preserve seaweed beds, which nurture fisheries resources, and to recover resources through artificial production and discharge of experimental seedlings [→ See the Case Study below].

Case Study

Formulation of a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean

Seeking Sustainable Usage Methods for Fisheries Resources with Local Organizations

JICA is cooperating with the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), an inter-governmental organization, in carrying out Technical Cooperation in conducting regional development plan surveys in the Caribbean region, where there are concerns over declining fisheries resources levels. Intended as a means of promoting the appropriate use of fisheries resources, this cooperation is aimed at drafting a master plan that is intended to serve as a region-wide marine resource management policy. This is the first Technical Cooperation for Development Planning project implemented with a local organization for the purpose of forming a master plan that will serve as a guideline for fisheries resources management for the whole region.

Verifying Alternate Income Sources

The surveys, which started in March 2009, comprise three phases. During Phase I, a baseline survey was used to clarify the needs of the agricultural and fishing community, as well as the development potential of pelagic

fish resources and aquaculture. During Phase II, a pilot project is being carried out to verify effectiveness. During the final phase, the lessons learned in the course of the pilot project will be utilized to draft a highly realistic master plan.

A string of surveys are being carried out jointly by the CRFM and the marine product bureaus of its member countries, and these efforts are expected to improve the ability of administrative officers and individuals related to fishermen's organizations from each country to manage fisheries resources.

A characteristic of these surveys is that, if catch amounts decline due to management measures for fisheries resources (restrictions on the number of fishing boats, fishing gear, or trip numbers), alternative revenue sources for compensating for those losses

have been proposed in accordance with a pilot project. For instance, the pelagic fish industry has been introduced on a trial basis into a pilot community that uses inland water culture and fish aggregating devices (FADs). If this project is confirmed to be effective it will be incorporated into the master plan.



A seminar held for fishermen during the verification project for aquaculture dissemination. The participants in the picture are observing a hatchery.

* Pelagic fish: Fish that mainly live near the surface or in the water column of coastal, ocean and lake waters. Pelagic fish species include bonito, cero, horse mackerel, sardines, and halfbeaks, as distinguished from fish that live on or near the bottom, such as fluke, flounder, etc.

Industrial Development

Supporting Developing Countries in Promoting Industry and Creating an Economically Independent Society



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

In the field of industrial development, JICA supports the development of the private sector, which serves as an engine for economic growth. While focusing on promoting trade and investment, tourism development, small and medium-sized enterprises development, and the vitalization of local industry and economy, JICA provides broad-ranging support for developing industrial infrastructure in developing

countries, including support for the stable supply of electric power, mining, renewable energy, and energy conservation. The objective is to empower developing countries to build industrial bases, advance industry, increase job opportunities and create a society in which local residents can receive the benefits from economic development.

In a globalizing economy, supporting developing countries through Public-Private Partnerships is also an important theme, and JICA is laying emphasis on cooperation in environment-related and other sectors where it can utilize Japan's advanced technologies.

Private Sector Development

Overview of Issue

Efforts to develop the private sector aim to promote economic growth in developing countries by enhancing the capacity of private sector corporations and local industries. The growth and expansion of private sector corporations and local industries are essential to diversifying and strengthening the competitiveness of industries in developing countries. Improving the investment climate for private sector companies will contribute to developing local communities through a form of industrial promotion that exploits local resources and the self-fulfillment of the people. The governments of developing countries are being asked to tap the vibrancy of their private sectors from a dynamic and inclusive perspective in order to expand job opportunities and thus reduce poverty.

JICA Activities

JICA's private-sector development initiatives have so far centered on Southeast Asia and East Asia. Today, both of these regions are experiencing tremendous economic growth. In light of this fact, there is an increase in requests from Africa to learn from the experiences of Asian countries.

The volume of trade and investment in the global economy has risen substantially due to globalization. Asian countries that have grown into emerging economies on the world stage, as well as many developing countries in Africa and other regions, are actively taking part in international frameworks such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA).

Economic globalization has increased the likelihood that one country's economic crisis will spread quickly and widely and significantly damage the economy of vulnerable countries and regions, as witnessed in the global financial and economic crises that struck in autumn 2008 and the unstable situations emerging

in a number of Middle Eastern countries since early 2011. JICA supports developing countries in building their industrial bases, increasing job opportunities and creating societies that can reap the rewards of economic development through their own efforts.

1. Promoting Trade and Investment

By promoting trade and investment, developing countries can create new markets, introduce expert knowledge such as finance and management know-how and technology, create jobs and strengthen international competitiveness. JICA provides assistance in three core areas: development of industrial bases, organizational/institutional reinforcement and capacity development.

The development of industrial bases includes creating legislation and institutions to promote trade and investment and building other infrastructure for industrial advancement. On top of this, JICA supports the organizational/institutional reinforcement of institutions which play key roles in trade and investment promotion, and individual companies in each country, as well as capacity development for policymakers and private sector human resources of private enterprises. By doing so, JICA can provide comprehensive support from industrial policy to the promotion of export and investment.

Recent successful projects include the Study on the Institutional Strengthening of Investment Promotion in Cambodia, the Egyptian Export Promotion Center, Reinforcing the Capabilities of the Zambia Development Agency and Project for Reinforcement of the Human Resource Development Center on Export and Investment in the Dominican Republic.

In Cambodia, JICA has supported the establishment of a special economic zone (SEZ) on around 70ha of land near Sihanoukville Port, the country's only international port. The SEZ is expected to attract foreign direct investment for the development of Cambodia's export-related industries, which can generate employment opportunities particularly for youths. JICA conducted

Strengthening Customer Service Functions in Order to Attract Active Investment

Cambodia is continuing to gather attention as a potential investment market after China and Viet Nam. JICA is providing Cambodia support in strengthening the functions of the customer service institutions that work to attract investment from Japan and other foreign countries. Thanks to these wide-ranging efforts, investment from Japanese corporations in Cambodia increased sharply in 2010.



The Cambodia Investment Seminar held in Tokyo with the participation of numerous private company employees.

Lack of Effective Information and Consultation

For Cambodia, a country that is working hard to promote economic development, attracting direct investment from foreign countries that will facilitate production and management-related technology transfers and generate funds is a major task. Investments from China, Thailand, and other countries have increased as the result of an active national effort to attract foreign investment, including by revising the investment law and strengthening the structures of the institutions that accept investments. Nevertheless, investment from Japanese corporations remains modest for reasons that include high production costs owing to an underdeveloped infrastructure and a lack of information on the investment environment and opportunities.

The investment promotion institutions of neighboring countries such as Thailand and

Viet Nam, in particular, provide investors with comprehensive investment-related information and consultation services, actively working to attract investment. In Cambodia, however, the functions of the institutions that are supposed to oversee such services are extremely limited, thereby hampering the attraction of investment.

For this reason, since 2007 JICA has extended cooperation to promote investment for the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC), an institution that endeavors to attract investment from overseas. Investment promotion advisors have been dispatched as experts, and since 2009 a development survey has been carried out in order to strengthen the functions of customer services that will attract investment to Cambodia. In March 2011, a Technical Cooperation project was launched to provide CDC officials with the knowledge and expertise needed to attract investment, and support has been provided for information consolidation functions as well as activities that promote investment.

Investment Surges with Guidebooks and Seminars

In April 2010, the Cambodia Investment Guidebook (Japanese) was completed as a part of a development survey. Moreover, in May of the same year, a series of Cambodia Investment

Seminars was held in Tokyo and Osaka by the ASEAN-Japan Centre (international organization), the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). These seminars served as an opportunity to attract the interest of many Japanese corporations in investment in Cambodia. In fact the level of investment is beginning to rise. While the total investment amount over the four-year period between 2005 and 2009 was US\$180 million and the figure for 2010 alone was US\$35 million, for 2011, if projects for which approval procedures are ongoing are included, investment by Japanese corporations in Cambodia has already risen to US\$130 million as of the end of May.

Since 2011, JICA has been extending various forms of Technical Cooperation to CDC with the aim of improving the organization's investment-related services required by investors. Specifically, JICA is endeavoring to launch an investor information website and develop library and reception desk services in order to strengthen the capacity of CDC to provide investment-related information. JICA is also planning to enhance the functions of the Japan desk, which is the precursor to the country desk, and to hold more Cambodia investment seminars in Japan.

Simultaneously Promoting Infrastructure Development

JICA has used ODA Loans to support the repair and expansion of Sihanoukville Port, which is expected to develop into Cambodia's main center for trade and industry, as well as for the development of the neighboring Sihanoukville Special Economic Zone (SEZ). Japan is contributing to the economic development of Cambodia by promoting this type of infrastructure development while also supporting the penetration of Japanese corporations.

From Our Partner

Vice Chairman of CDC

Senior Minister Sun Chanthol

There is much that Cambodia must do, such as promoting the provision of various forms of beneficial information, but I feel that the investment seminars in Japan have created a good response as many Japanese corporations participated. I intend to take advantage of this valuable opportunity to promote investment. We will be putting the action plan proposed by JICA into action in the near future. (in a greeting delivered at the Cambodia Investment Seminar)



Development advances in the Sihanoukville Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

a development study from February 2009 aimed at strengthening functions for attracting investment and transferred the required knowledge and know-how to the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC). Throughout this cooperation, CDC's capacity, such as information gathering and investment promotion, can be strengthened [→ See the Case Study on page 117].

2. Promoting Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

In developing countries, growth for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) has been stifled by the delayed development of policies and institutions that support SMEs, coupled with the lack of corporate networks, insufficient technical and managerial know-how, and poor access to finance. Efforts to train industry human resources that can work in these enterprises are also inadequate.

In response to these issues, JICA provides cooperation for strengthening implementation capacity of the government institutions in charge of SME promotion as well as educational institutions, human resource development and improving the quality and productivity of enterprises. Moreover, since it is difficult for SMEs to receive financing, JICA aims to provide effective support with financial aid offered in the form of ODA Loans [→ See the Case Studies on page 43].

Recently, emphasis has been placed on extending cooperation for developing countries where large numbers of Japanese firms have established a presence, such as Thailand, Viet Nam and Mexico. This cooperation is aimed at creating a mutually beneficial relationship between the recipient country and the Japanese firms operating there. In Viet Nam, for example, JICA helped the country promote small and medium-sized enterprises. In addition, JICA also assisted supporting industries in providing comprehensive cooperation for government agencies that are in charge of promoting SMEs, educational institutions, financial institutions, etc., with the aim of empowering local companies to oversee the supporting industries that provide parts and materials to local Japanese companies and to cultivate industry human resources that can work at Japanese companies.

JICA also works to support the strengthening of public institutions that provide companies with services for Japanese business improvement techniques such as "5S" activities and the quality/productivity improvement "KAIZEN" methodologies [→ See the Case Study on page 119]. In Cambodia, for instance, policy



Learning about corporate consulting through OJT from an expert (Productivity and Quality Improvement Center Project in Egypt)

dialogue regarding the roles of corporate support services was carried out in consideration of the results of a model corporation where the 5S and KAIZEN methodologies were applied, and these methods were even reflected in governmental policy.

Furthermore, while JICA is endeavoring to provide cooperation for SMEs, it is also supporting careers at corporations and entrepreneurship for individuals placed in vulnerable positions, such as the families of surrendered soldiers in Colombia.

3. Promoting Local Industry and Vitalizing Local Economies

Regional disparities, as an impact of economic growth, have become an important issue in many developing countries. Developing countries face an increasing need to create local employment opportunities and to promote local industries by vitalizing their local economies. In response to this demand, JICA supports the development of local industry under a program called "One Village, One Product" and encourages the use of local resources in attempt to create employment and promote regional economies.

In Africa, in particular, the "One Village, One Product" project is scheduled for implementation in 12 countries, as stated in the Yokohama Action Plan released at the 4th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV). Surveys and projects are being implemented in countries such as Malawi, Kenya, Uganda, and Nigeria, where efforts are now being carried out to develop governments' structures for assisting small local producer groups, provide support for accounting and other basic business skills as well as production technologies, and strengthening the collaborative structure that ties together markets and producer groups. Similar programs are also being carried out in Asia, Central America, and South America.

4. Tourism Development

Previously the tourism industry in developing countries was led by foreign-capital entities such as tourism developers, travel companies and hotel chains. This is regarded as heteronomous tourism. Although not necessarily adverse, it does not allow local people to fully reap the benefits of this sector.

JICA initiatives aim to promote autonomous tourism development, in which the local people develop the industry under their own steam and sustainably by utilizing their own resources.

JICA provides support in the following areas: (1) promotion of Public-Private Partnerships in which public institutions such as the Ministry of Tourism and local tourist bureaus, private enterprises such as travel companies and guide associations, and local people can work together; (2) nurturing of human resources to convey the necessary know-how to advance tourism; (3) development of tourism products using tourism resources such as places of historical importance or extraordinary scenic beauty in addition to locally produced items such as handicrafts and folk art unique to a region; and (4) strengthening tourism promotion and marketing capacity and the implementation system. Through such support, JICA aims to ensure sustainable tourism that helps realize regional advancement contributing to poverty reduction. This is attainable by increasing the income of local citizens, creating jobs and strengthening the impetus of social harmony.

For instance, in Palestine and El Salvador JICA is providing

support for developing tourism products using local resources and carrying out promotions for those products. In the Dominican Republic, a project called Sustainable Tourism based on Public-Private Participation is being implemented, which aims to create foundations for tourism development that provide benefits to the local community in a sustainable manner. The Laos Pilot Program for Narrowing the Development Gap towards ASEAN Integration (LPP) (tourism promotion component) aims to rectify disparities between member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Under this project, JICA is providing support to promote tourism development for Laos, one of the least developed Southeast Asian countries, by utilizing natural, cultural, and historical tourism resources in an appropriate and sustained manner [→ See the Case Study on page 38].

In this way, JICA assesses the needs of each country and the condition of local communities and supports tourism development that is necessary and suitable for each country or region.

Natural Resources and Energy

Overview of Issue

The energy sector has been host to significant developments in recent years.

According to the World Energy Outlook 2010, released by the International Energy Agency (IEA), energy demand is expected

to increase rapidly in the future mainly in countries that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and consequently energy security issues including the diversification of primary energy are expected to become more relevant challenges. At the same time, summit-level meetings such as the G8 and G20 continue to discuss reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels and to further strengthen its efforts noting the results of the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Copenhagen in 2009 that identified the energy sector as a main source of GHG emissions. Energy technologies have also progressed significantly. In addition to improvements being made to the conventional power generation technologies such as the thermal efficiency of boilers and turbines, efforts have been progressing to develop new energy technologies such as solar thermal power generation and to commercialize advanced power supply systems utilizing IT technologies such as smart grids.

Taking account of these trends, moving forward the international community must pursue an optimum form of energy development, based on both short-term and medium- to long-term perspectives.

In June 2010, the Japanese government issued The New Growth Strategy: Blueprint for Revitalizing Japan, in which it stated that Japan would strive to become an “environment and energy power” and would actively promote Japan’s top-level

Case Study

Industrial Policy Dialogue in Ethiopia

Utilizing the Economic Development Experience of Asia in Africa

Ethiopia is working aggressively to develop its private sector while referring to the experience of economic development in Asia. In support of this endeavor, JICA is hosting a policy dialogue to shed light on Asia’s experience and is supporting the drafting of industrial policy.



After the industrial policy dialogue, a manual created during the Study on Quality and Productivity Improvement (KAIZEN) in Ethiopia, which started at the same time as the dialogues, was presented to Prime Minister Meles by Ms. Kuwashima, the manager of JICA’s Industrial Development and Public Policy Department.

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi Displays Keen Interest

On the occasion of the 4th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in Yokohama in May 2008, JICA hosted an international symposium, East Asian Lessons for African Growth, which was favored by the participation of Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. Also, at the African Task Force Meeting of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) held in July of the same year in Ethiopia, JICA gave a presentation about Asia’s economic development experience together with professors from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS). Prime Minister Meles displayed strong interest in this presentation, and thereafter requested

JICA’s support in the form of advice about creating an industrial development strategy for Ethiopia and for improving the competitiveness of the country’s private corporations. He indicated that he hoped to seek advice by freely exchanging views about ideas based on the economic development experience of Asia in particular.

In October 2009, JICA joined hands with GRIPS in launching a two-year industrial policy dialogue project in the form of a project research initiative. Moreover, JICA provides Technical Cooperation for KAIZEN (improving quality and productivity) as a form of support for boosting corporate competitiveness.

The dialogues, which are attended by the Prime Minister, his advisors, related ministers, and related organizations, are serving as a forum for energetic exchanges of views based on the economic development experience of various Asian countries. In this way, the dialogues contribute to assisting the Ethiopian government in the formation of its policies.

environmental energy technologies overseas. JICA is actively providing support in the energy sector for developing countries in the light of this government policy.

■ JICA Activities

1. Electric Power and Energy

The key aspects of JICA's support in the energy and power sector are, 1) support for sustainable economic growth through the stable supply of electric power, 2) promoting the reduction of GHG emissions by implementing optimal technologies, and 3) promoting rural electrification in view of reducing poverty.

In order to ensure the stable supply of electric power, it is important to develop the systems of power generation, transmission, and distribution facilities in a timely and coordinated manner, as well as to cultivate administrative and technical capacity of human resources. Taking this into account, it is possible to develop electric power facilities in a swift and integrated manner by providing Technical Cooperation for the development and planning of facilities in accordance with each country's unique circumstances and implementing financial cooperation via ODA Loans at the construction stage. Furthermore, implementing managerial and maintenance training allows countries to operate their new facilities in a sustainable manner, and realize further effects from cooperation.

The global community intensifies its efforts to reduce GHG emissions, and so do the developing countries: they are beginning to promote the use of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and geothermal power generation, as well as high-efficiency thermal generation technologies. Japan must utilize its abundant knowledge about the development of renewable energy and the implementation and maintenance of high-efficiency thermal power generation to cut GHG emission levels in the energy sectors of developing countries [→ See the Case Study on page 46].

When promoting rural electrification, which targets on upgrading the living standard of communities, it is important to act from the standpoint of human security. This means that electrification plans must be formulated and implemented based on the actual needs of the local citizens as well as local industry development and other development plans. Also, in view of the lack of technicians working in power generation and distribution in developing countries, it is important to enhance maintenance and management capacity, including the development of management structures for facilities at the same time. Furthermore, in countries with low electrification rates such as those in Africa, efforts are underway to improve rural electrification rates by using off-grid that utilizes solar and other power generation technologies.

JICA also implements cooperation in countries that are undergoing reconstruction, such as Rwanda and Sierra Leone, including human resource development that contributes to the management of electric power facilities.

2. Mining (Natural Resources)

Demand for metallic resources is currently increasing



A diesel generator provided to Sierra Leone, where civil war came to an end in 2002, via Grant Aid as a means of supporting the country's economic reconstruction. JICA has provided cooperation since 2010, when the generator began operating, in order to improve Sierra Leone's capacity to operate and manage electric power facilities.

in accordance with the economic development of newly industrializing economies. Moreover, the rare earths crisis of 2010 has reconfirmed that demand for rare earths is rising not only in the industrialized nations, but in newly industrializing economies as well. Using these limited mineral resources in an effective manner is important for both producers and importers. In developing countries, JICA works to support systems for the promotion of sustainable mining development and investment for mining, as well as for human resource development, the creation of master plans, and the collection of information on mineral resources. JICA also advises on environmental countermeasures for mining, development plans for infrastructure taking into account the environment and related industries, and support plans for communities.

3. Energy Efficiency

JICA provides assistance for the training of energy management technicians in order to support energy conservation efforts using sophisticated Japanese technologies. This program has produced many positive outcomes. For instance, JICA has provided support for the construction of energy manager systems and the education of technicians that can manage thermal and electric power in Thailand, Turkey and Poland. Following a series of programs in Turkey, technicians were soon able to operate systems independently. These sites are now used as third country training grounds.

In ODA Loans, JICA is providing Two-Step Loans* in India and Viet Nam focused on energy efficiency and renewable energies. Two-Step Loans strengthen financing and the ability to establish energy conservation projects, and increase the effectiveness of support by complementing Technical Cooperation. Through this scheme, it is easier to provide financial support for private-sector activities.

* Scheme where ODA Loan funds provided to development finance organizations of the borrowing nation are used to provide loans to small and medium-sized enterprises in the borrowing nation.

Aid for Trade

What is Aid for Trade (AfT)?

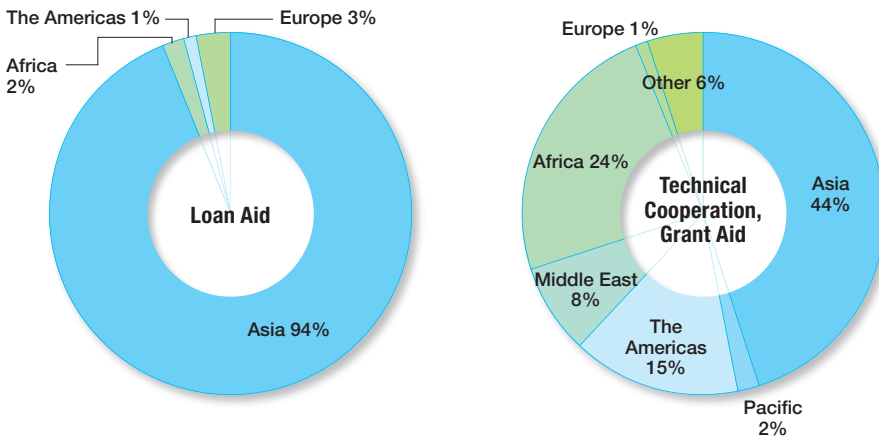
AfT refers to assistance provided to developing countries that helps to build supply-side capacity and trade-related infrastructure, so that these countries can benefit from trade expansion and reduce poverty. It will enable these countries to realize trade profits, and consequently, realize economic growth

through these trade profits.

JICA Activities

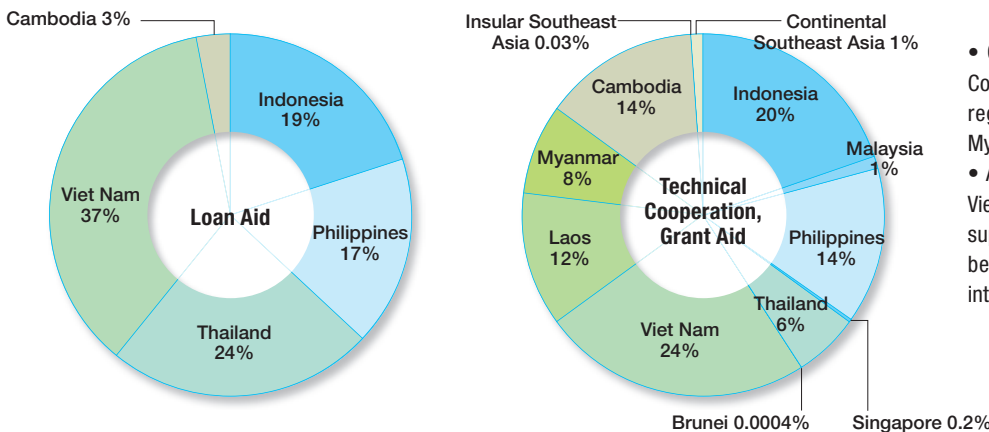
JICA is actively engaged in AfT. Approximately 54% of all ODA Loan projects were devoted to AfT in 2009.

Figure 1 Breakdown of AfT by Region (2009)



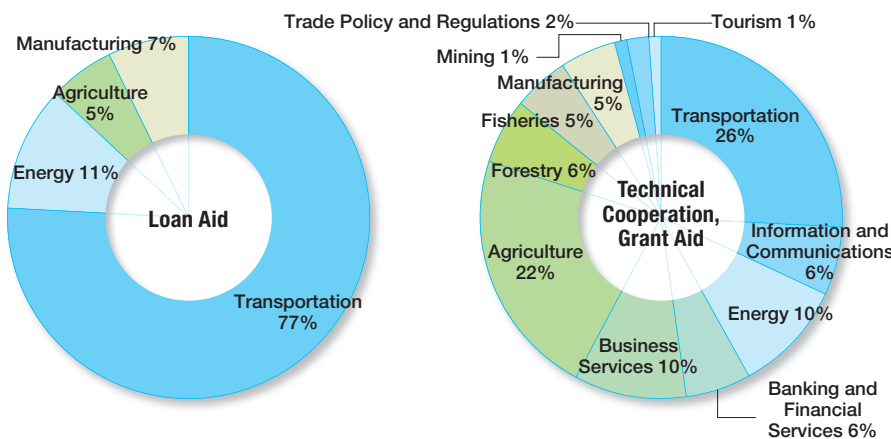
- AfT-related Loan Aid, Technical Cooperation and Grant Aid are concentrated in Asia. In 2009, Asia accounted for 94% of AfT-related Loan Aid and 44% of AfT-related Technical Cooperation and Grant Aid.
- Africa accounted for 24% of AfT-related Technical Cooperation and Grant Aid, second behind Asia.

Figure 2 Breakdown of AfT by ASEAN Country (2009)



- Over half of all AfT-related Technical Cooperation and Grant Aid in the ASEAN region takes place in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam.
- AfT-related Loan Aid is concentrated in Viet Nam, expressing the direction of JICA's support in terms of correcting disparities between ASEAN nations and improving integration by expanding trade.

Figure 3 Breakdown of AfT by Industry in ASEAN Countries (2009)



- JICA focuses on development of economic infrastructure in the ASEAN region with the aim of promoting economic growth that will benefit the lives of every individual.

Note: Figures in the charts are rounded to the nearest whole number. Totals may not add to 100.

Research

The JICA Research Institute Aiming to Provide Feedback on Development Work and Input into the World's Development Agendas



Of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

The JICA Research Institute (JICA-RI) carries out research activities with the main objectives of “conducting analysis of development issues in developing countries and contributing to JICA’s operation strategies” and “strengthening the

transmission of information to Japan and abroad and leading the development assistance agendas,” while utilizing the wealth of experience and know-how it has accumulated as a development assistance organization.

The results obtained from these research activities are published in the form of working papers, policy briefs, books, and other publications, and are released broadly through websites and other means.

The international community has been grappling with the problems facing developing countries—including poverty, armed conflict and environmental degradation—but solutions to many of the most basic problems remain elusive. To promote value-added research aimed at producing policy recommendations, JICA-RI has laid down four basic policies and four key research areas, as listed below.

Basic Policies

1. Incorporating a Comprehensive Perspective

JICA-RI will incorporate a comprehensive perspective in its cross-field research and analysis of development issues, encompassing individuals, society, the state and the market.

2. Integrating Past and Future

JICA-RI will conduct studies based on the past experiences and analytic results of development aid organizations worldwide, including JICA, and make them available for use in future aid activities.

3. Sharing Experiences in Japan and East Asia

JICA-RI will analyze the growth experiences of Japan and its East Asian neighbors and explore the applicability of these experiences to other regions.

4. Sharing Information with the International Development Community

JICA-RI aims to be a research institute that is open to both Japanese and international partners, including researchers, aid-implementing organizations, governmental bodies, private-sector corporations and NGOs.

Key Research Domains

1. Peace and Development

JICA-RI conducts comparative analysis of past experiences to uncover ways to effectively prevent and manage armed conflict, and promote post-conflict peacebuilding. It also analyses past experiences in regional and international efforts to resolve difficult cross-border problems that cannot be handled by individual countries, such as infectious diseases, transnational crime and environmental degradation.

2. Growth and Poverty Reduction

Japan and its East Asian neighbors are considered economic development success stories, having realized growth and reduced poverty. JICA-RI studies these cases from the multifaceted perspectives of individuals, state, market and society, and conducts comparative analysis with economic development in African countries.

3. Environment and Development/Climate Change

Regional and environmental deterioration are major threats to human security in developing countries. JICA-RI promotes the formulation of measures to promote environmental conservation and adapt to environmental change caused by climate change using the latest knowledge in natural sciences, and experience and data gained from JICA’s field operations.

4. Assistance Strategies

While utilizing Japan’s experience and knowledge, JICA-RI makes recommendations on the roles and functions of international cooperation by conducting research on the modalities of assistance based on principles such as the “capacity development” approach aimed at enhancing the capabilities of people, organizations and society across diverse domains, and the concepts of “human security” and “inclusive and dynamic development” (dynamic development that benefits all people).

Within these four research areas, JICA-RI places particular emphasis on the following five priority themes: responding to fragile states including conflict-affected countries, African development and the Asian experience, responding to climate change, analysis and improvement of aid effectiveness, and issues related to the integration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Research Activities in Collaboration with Other Institutions around the World

An overview of these research projects can be found on the JICA-RI website* along with preliminary findings in the form of working papers. Fourteen working papers were released in fiscal 2010.

These working papers are released broadly in the form of

English language papers to those involved in development assistance throughout the world.

Policy briefs are also published in series, which summarize the political and practical implications drawn from the research findings detailed in the working papers in a concise manner. These policy briefs are intended to offer suggestions for the formulation of actual policies and the consideration of the directions of assistance.

JICA-RI actively presents these research findings at international research and academic meetings and other fora. In fiscal 2010, JICA provided a background paper to the World Development Report, which is published each year by the World Bank. At the Workshop on the Evolving Global Aid Architecture held in Seoul, Republic of Korea in November 2010 with a view to the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) High Level Forum to be held in Busan in 2011, JICA-RI made presentations on capacity development and South-South cooperation based on its research findings.

In February 2011, JICA-RI co-hosted a workshop in Thailand that also served as a forum to report the findings of a research project titled "Analysis of Cross-Border Higher Education for

Regional Integration and Labor Market in East Asia," jointly with the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) and the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED). JICA-RI has also presented its research findings at other symposia and seminars.

In conducting these research activities, JICA-RI attaches importance to network-oriented research based on partnerships with not only local but also international research organizations and assistance agencies. JICA-RI carries out joint research with the researchers of overseas institutions, such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Harvard University in the United States, Oxford University in the United Kingdom, and the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN ISIS).

In addition to disseminating such information internationally, JICA-RI has also carried out research for the Project History Series, which analyzes Japan's contribution to the development of developing countries from a long-term perspective, and published the research findings in three volumes in Japanese.

*JICA Research Institute website: <http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp>

Case Study

JICA-World Bank Forum

Discussion on Globalization and a New Direction for Development Assistance

An international forum (co-hosted by JICA and the World Bank, supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan) was held at JICA-RI on April 2, 2010 to explore how the world has been changing through globalization and how the direction and roles of development assistance have shifted accordingly.

In the first part of the forum, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Chinami Nishimura commenced the event with an opening remark. Then, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Han Seung-Soo, ASEAN Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank Justin Lin, entrepreneur Nobuyuki Idei, and JICA President Sadako Ogata, who served as panelists, stated their opinions on the increasing interdependence of nations and the benefits of regional integration (the titles of the panelists are from the time of the forum).

Through the discussion by the panelists, the following recognition was reconfirmed: "The largest issue in development is the insufficient capacity development of the developing

countries themselves. In conjunction with economic development, it is essential for developing countries to enhance the capabilities they need in order to achieve the MDGs. This is where the role of ODA comes in."

In the last part of the forum, with the attendance of Co-Director of the World Development Report (WDR) Sarah Cliffe and others, a workshop was held to contribute to the World Development Report 2011, themed on issues such as state fragility and armed conflicts. The first half of the workshop focused on threats that transcend borders and regional initiatives, and discussion was held on issues such as how regional integration has progressed in the recent global situation.

During the second half of the workshop, opinions were exchanged on issues such as national capacity building, stability, political leadership, and the differences between international standards and norms and regional standards and norms. Based on the discussions held during the workshop, then Director of JICA-RI Keiichi Tsunekawa pointed out that tolerance of antigovernment forces, modalities of economic competition, and secular national identities were among the socio-political characteristics of East Asia that have led the region to its current, relatively stable situation. He concluded that consideration should also be given to how political and economic reforms are carried forward.

From left to right: NHK commentator Aiko Doden serving as the chair, JICA President Sadako Ogata, and former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Han Seung-Soo.

