

Review on Japan's ODA to China

Since 1979, ODA to China has contributed to maintaining and promoting the Reform and Opening Up Policy of China, and at the same time, it has formed a strong foundation to support Japan-China relations. The Chinese economy has seen stable development through assistance for the development of economic infrastructure. This has contributed to the stabilization of the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the improvement of China's investment environment for Japanese companies and the development of economic relations between Japanese and Chinese private sectors. On a variety of occasions, the Chinese side has expressed high appreciation and gratitude towards Japan's ODA.

On the other hand, China has developed economically, and has seen an increase in its technological level. China's own fund-raising capacity and the flow of private capital have also increased significantly. Thus, assistance for China through ODA has already fulfilled its role to a certain degree. As for the ODA loans that accounted for the majority of ODA to China, Japan and China commonly recognized that new disbursement of ODA loans to China would come to an amicable conclusion by the time of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, which symbolized the economic and social development of China. Following this, such new disbursement ended with the signing of Exchanges of Notes for the projects in December 2007.

Based on the fact that ODA to China has already fulfilled its role to a certain degree, at present, ODA to China is limited to address common challenges faced by both countries that may directly affect the lives and safety of Japanese nationals (for example, measures against cross-border pollution to Japan, yellow sand, infectious diseases, and safety of food), that are beneficial to Japan.