

## **Introduction**

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects is a system used to provide financial assistance for social and economic development and emergency humanitarian assistance projects being undertaken by Japanese NGOs in developing countries and regions. This system was established to integrate the assistance implemented by Japanese NGOs through previous Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects and the Grant for Supporting NGO Emergency Activities.

Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (renamed Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects in FY2003) was introduced in FY1989, and was widely praised as financial cooperation for NGOs and other groups active in developing countries that are implementing economic and social development projects that have a direct beneficial effect at the grassroots level. In addition, Grant for Supporting NGO Emergency Activities was introduced in FY1999, given the increasing role of NGOs, which have much flexibility in international emergency assistance operations, in order to save many victims and refugees caused by natural disasters and civil war, etc.

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects integrate all of the above-mentioned types

of assistance to Japanese NGOs and its objective is to make assistance to Japanese NGOs more effective and efficient. The basic format of this financial assistance consists of: (i) support for economic and social development cooperation activities that have a direct effect at the grassroots level (assistance for development cooperation projects); (ii) assistance in NGOs Partnership Projects (iii) Grant Aid for NGO Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Projects (including assistance to the Japan Platform; (iv) assistance in transportation costs for recycled goods; (v) micro-credit capital assistance; and (vi) assistance for anti-personnel landmine-related activities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expects that Japanese NGOs will effectively utilize such grand aid, to further develop their activities as well as to enhance the partnership between the government and NGOs in implementing ODA.

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