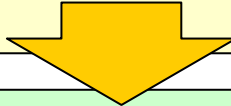


# Japan's Actions towards Construction of Peace in the Western Balkans

July 2004  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

## Principles on Construction of Peace in the Western Balkans

Promote stabilization in the post-conflict Western Balkan region<sup>1</sup>  
by realizing human security and supporting nation building toward ethnic reconciliation  
Prevent reoccurrence of conflicts,  
by aiming at the establishment of sustainable construction of society and consolidation of peace



## Japan's Efforts to Date

Japanese ODA for Western Balkans has totaled around 150.9 billion yen (approx 1.4 billion USD) .

- 22.4 billion yen in support in response to Kosovo Crisis;
- 7 billion yen in support of neighboring countries of Kosovo (for Albania and FYRO Macedonia);
- Food assistance (6.475 billion yen), election/democratization assistance (487 million yen), assistance for relief of the conflict affected population (4.012 billion yen), relief assistance for refugees and IDPs (17.034 billion yen), reconstruction and development assistance (4.234 billion yen) as humanitarian and reconstruction assistance (multi-lateral) to post-conflict former Yugoslavia;
- 11.0 billion yen to healthcare sector, 21 billion yen for infrastructure construction, 2.8 billion yen to education sector and 10.9 billion yen as non-project grant aid as humanitarian and reconstruction assistance (bi-lateral) after the conflict in former Yugoslavia; and
- 910 million yen in support of mine-clearing.

## Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance

### Mine-Clearing

Assistance totaling 910 million yen has been implemented to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and FYRO Macedonia through international organizations and NGOs. Removal of landmines and unexploded bombs and supports for rehabilitation, pain therapy and skill training for social reintegration of mine affected victims are conducted.



Support of equipments for the Croatia Mine Action Centre

### BHN (Basic Human Needs)

Assistance totaling around 24.579 billion yen (on bilateral basis) has been implemented to improve the basic human needs sector within the Western Balkan region. As in Healthcare sector, emphasis is on the equipment of medical facilities and many projects of grant aid have been implemented in Bosnia and Herzegovina and FYRO Macedonia. Trainees on hospital management are accepted in Japan and experts on maintenance of medical equipment and facility management are being sent to the region.

<sup>1</sup> Albania, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYRO Macedonia

## Social and Economic Infrastructure

Reconstruction assistance has been made for the development of social and economic infrastructure destroyed by the conflict. The assistance of 21 billion yen has been provided for public transportation, road construction and electricity provision.

### Bosnia and Herzegovina “Sarajevo City Public Transportation Reconstruction Project” (1.399 billion yen, 1996-1997)

Sarajevo has been exposed to the continuous gunfire in 4 years of conflict resulting in the devastating destruction of public facilities, affecting people’s life seriously. Public transportation system in Sarajevo has also suffered a major damage and above all, the number of public bus, a daily transportation means among the citizens, has declined to one fifth of the pre-conflict time. Under such circumstances, a total of 80 buses have been granted for the reconstruction of bus routes in order to ensure stable civil life, to activate economic activities and to secure transportation means of conflict affected people to visit hospitals. As a symbol of peace achieved by overcoming the conflict damage, a “yellow bus” is circulating the town of Sarajevo today.



A “Yellow Bus” provided through Japan’s grant-aid in Sarajevo.

## Kosovo

Japan has assisted the total of 186.75 million US dollars to Kosovo. Through international organizations and NGOs this humanitarian and reconstruction assistance has been devoted into reconstruction of destroyed housing and educational facilities, media improvement, DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration) support and Moreover, to support the neighboring countries; Albania and FYRO Macedonia, which accepted the refugees escaping from the Kosovo Crisis, 62.63 million yen has been granted in two years in order to implement food assistance and medical equipment provision.



A poster of UNDP “Small Arms Recovery Plan”  
“Don’t kill my freedom”



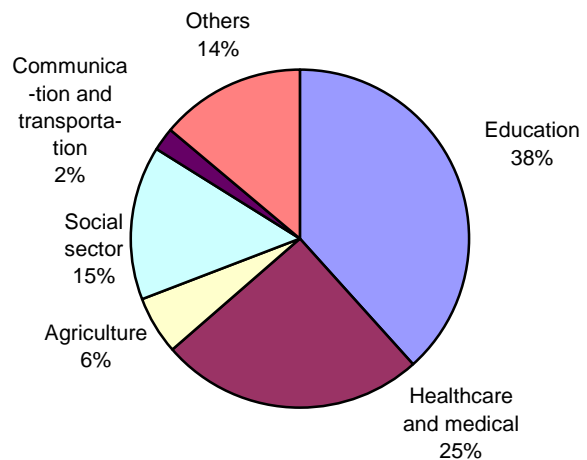
### “Kosovo Small Arms Recovery Plan”(Implemented by UNDP, 1.03 million US dollar, 2003)

Japan places importance on the concept of “human security” which aims at rebuilding nations through empowering communities and individuals. This concept should be achieved by protecting and empowering people whose lives, livelihoods and dignity are seriously threatened. Japan established “Human Security Fund” within the United Nations in March 1999.

In Kosovo, there still exist serious issues such as ethnic conflict and organized crimes, which is believed to be aggravated by the prevalence of illegal small arms. Today, most of the arms used in the crimes and terrorism worldwide are small arms. This is why eradication of small arms is indispensable to peaceful society and stability in the region as well as sustainable development. In Kosovo, however, more than 100,000 illegal small arms are said to be uncollected, threatening the public order and civil life. Japan extended assistance of a total of 1.03 million US dollars to “Illicit Small Arms Control Programme” implemented by the UNDP through the Trust Fund for the Human Security in order to contribute to stabilizing the situation of Kosovo.

## Grassroots/Human Security Grant Assistance

Japan is conducting Grassroots/Human Security Grant Assistance to directly benefit residents aiming to improve the living standard of them and to enhance capability of communities in developing countries. To the Western Balkan region, Japan has extended the total of 1.636 billion yen comprising 626 million yen to education sector (restoring elementary schools, providing heaters), 412 million yen to healthcare and medical sector (reconstructing hospitals, providing medical equipments), 93 million yen to agriculture sector (promoting agriculture), 239 million yen to social sector (supply of safe water, supporting social integration of returned soldiers), 39 million yen to infrastructure for communication and transportation and 225 million yen to other activities including mine clearing.



Grassroots/Human Security Grant Aid  
(Distribution to each sectors)

### Serbia and Montenegro “Ribnica Village Sveti Sava Elementary School” School Restoration Project (6.44 million yen, 2002)

Since the national economy of Serbia and Montenegro has been devastated by the prolonged conflicts and following economic sanction, the government is currently unable to provide enough support in repairing destroyed or degraded educational facilities. Located within the industrial city, Ribnica Village is experiencing rapid population growth. Sveti Sava Elementary School is facing a sharp rise in its number of students as a consequence, accelerated by accepting numerous Kosovo IDP pupils. Students are forced to endure their classes under harsh conditions with their school building degraded and heating instruments not functioning during severe winter. Japan has supported the restoration of the school building to improve educational environment and through this kind of contributions in the education sector, it has helped to promote ethnic reconciliation. Furthermore, Japan has assisted school restoration and provided educational equipments to 29 other elementary schools in Serbia and Montenegro with same kind of problems in order to improve the quality of basic education.



An Elementary School in Mitrovica, restored through Grassroots/Human Security Grant Aid

## Support for Democratization : Election Assistance

Japan has made personnel contributions by sending monitors to the OSCE mission for the verification of the elections to the elections held in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and FYRO Macedonia. In addition, Japan implemented an emergency aid of 1.041 million US dollar to OSCE for the Kosovo municipal election in 2002.