

## **The 60th Anniversary of Japan's ODA: Its Achievements and Future Directions**

(Overview of Japan's ODA White Paper 2014)

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### **1. Trajectory of Japan's ODA**

- From the 1950s, when Japan was still an aid recipient in the postwar years, Japan started providing ODA mainly to Asian countries. ODA played an important role in Japan's development together with Asian countries while improving relations with them.
- As Japan achieved economic growth and increased its national capabilities, the beneficiaries of Japan's cooperation are expanded beyond Asia to all over the world.
- Japan became a major donor, providing the biggest amount of ODA in the world throughout the 1990s.
- Japan has been proactively leading the international efforts for addressing to various development challenges, the world faces as globalization advances, including health issues, climate change, disaster risk reduction, and post-conflict peacebuilding.

### **2. What Japan's ODA Achieved in 60 Years**

- Japan's ODA consistently pursued self-help efforts by developing countries, sustainable economic growth, and "human security" for protecting individuals from various threats such as poverty, and conflict, and thus made concrete achievements.
- Japan has committed itself to improving its ODA programs by learning lessons from challenges and difficulties encountered at times.
- The achievements of Japan's ODA are appreciated by people and countries around the world, including developing countries and international organizations. They are essential assets in ensuring Japan's own peace and prosperity.

### **3. Future of Japan's Development Cooperation**

- Today, we see wider ranges of risks posed by poverty, conflict, infectious diseases, and other challenges and at the same time, more flows of private funds and the rising presence of emerging donors in developing countries.
- The new Development Cooperation Charter presents the directions of development

cooperation for securing Japan's national interests, namely, the peace and prosperity of the international community and Japan amid the changing international situation. For that purpose, the Charter continues to set forth the basic policies to provide cooperation for non-military purposes, promote human security, and extend assistance for self-help efforts including human resources development.

- More specifically, Japan will aim to: realize "quality growth" and poverty reduction through such growth; share universal values through assistance for the rule of law, governance, and security, and realize a peaceful and secure society; and build a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address environmental issues, health issues, disaster risk reduction, among other challenges. In addition, Japan will further strengthen its partnerships with developing countries including emerging donors, private companies, local governments, and NGOs, etc.