

Specific Initiatives of Japan's Development Cooperation



Professor Emeritus Hiroji Nakagawa of Kyoto University talks with the students at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya. (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

The international community is currently facing various issues and risks associated with globalization, more complex development issues as developing countries diversify and multi-polarize, and the rise of emerging countries in the area of development cooperation. Based on this recognition, the Development Cooperation Charter (decided by the Cabinet in February 2015) clarifies Japan's policy to promote development cooperation in order to contribute more proactively to the peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community. The Charter states that such cooperation will contribute to Japan's medium- to long-term national interests such as maintaining its peace and security, achieving further prosperity, realizing an international environment that provides stability, transparency and predictability, and maintaining and protecting an international order based on universal values.

This chapter presents specific development cooperation measures that Japan is implementing around the world. The term "development cooperation" refers to "international cooperation activities that are conducted by the government and its affiliated agencies for the main purpose of development in developing regions," including ODA and other cooperation conducted in collaboration with public-private financing and activities.

Section 1 "Measures for Each Priority Issue" introduces thematically the efforts Japan is undertaking around the world, focusing on the following three development cooperation themes: "1. 'Quality growth' and poverty eradication through such growth"; "2. Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society"; and "3. Building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges."

Section 2 "Assistance for Each Region" presents specific examples by region as to how Japan is addressing the range

of issues facing regions and countries in the world.

Finally, Section 3 "Efforts for Effective and Appropriate Implementation" introduces the measures for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the government's development cooperation structure, which is divided into the following four themes: "1. Implementation of effective and efficient development cooperation"; "2. Efforts for securing the appropriateness of development cooperation"; "3. Efforts for strengthening partnerships"; and "4. Efforts for strengthening the foundation of development cooperation implementation."