

Section 1 Measures for Each Priority Issue

This section introduces Japan's recent efforts related to the three priority issues: "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."

1. "Quality Growth" and Poverty Eradication through Such Growth

Across the world, there is still a large number of people suffering from poverty. Eradicating poverty in the world is the most fundamental development challenge. In particular, it is important to provide both assistance from a humanitarian point of view for fragile states that have not been able to grasp the opportunities for development for different reasons, and assistance designed to set the development process in motion and overcome vulnerability. At the same time, in order to resolve the poverty issue in a sustainable manner, it is essential to achieve economic growth through self-reliant development of developing countries.

Such growth is not simply quantitative economic

growth. It must be "quality growth" that is: "inclusive" in that the fruits of growth are shared within society as a whole, leaving no one behind; "sustainable" in that growth can be sustained in harmony with society and the environment; and "resilient" against economic crises, natural disasters and other shocks.

These are some of the challenges Japan tackled in its postwar history. Japan takes advantage of its own experience, expertise and technology as well as lessons learned in order to provide assistance to realize "quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth.

1-1 Assistance Necessary to Secure the Foundations and the Driving Force for Economic Growth

(1) Development of Industrial Infrastructure and Industries, and Economic Policy

To achieve "quality growth," it is important to improve the socio-economic infrastructure that serves as the foundation for the development of developing countries. In addition, it is key that the private sector plays a central role. In particular, it is essential to boost private sector activities, such as the development of industries and the expansion of

trade and investment.

In developing countries beset by a variety of challenges, it can sometimes be difficult to develop capacities or set in place an environment for promoting trade and attracting private investment. Therefore, support from the international community is required.

<Japan's Efforts>

● Quality infrastructure

Japan develops quality infrastructure that leads to quality growth in developing countries and regions, in line with their economic and development strategies, and trains human resources to manage and operate this infrastructure. Japan's strength lies in developing infrastructure that is truly useful for "quality growth" in developing countries, which includes technology transfers and job creation in partner countries. Specific infrastructure development is carried out on roads, ports, airports, and information and communications technology (ICT). Such infrastructure contributes to the expansion of exchanges between urban and rural areas, ensures security in case of disasters, and promotes trade with and investment from overseas countries. Other important Japanese efforts that lead to "quality growth" in developing countries include the development of social infrastructure, which contributes to ensuring education, health, safe water, hygienic

environment, and housing, as well as better access to hospitals and schools, together with the development of agricultural and fishery markets, and fishing ports to revitalize local economies. Additionally, Japanese public and private sectors collaborate to assist with the development of infrastructure systems that include engineering, construction, maintenance, and operation of infrastructure, along with the development of facilities and equipment. These initiatives also contribute to promoting infrastructure system exports.*

The international community's awareness of the importance of this kind of investment in infrastructure development that is useful for quality growth, known as "quality infrastructure investment," has been growing in recent years but the basic elements of this kind of investment have not been shared sufficiently. Taking into account this situation, at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in

May 2016 the G7 agreed to the G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment. It confirmed that going forward they would effectively communicate the content of the principles to each country and international organization, and would encourage them to take actions in line with the principles when implementing infrastructure investment and support. The importance of the basic elements of the principles — (i) economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost as well as safety and resilience against natural disaster, (ii) job creation, capacity building and transfer of expertise and know-how, (iii) addressing social and environmental impacts, and (iv) ensuring alignment with economic and development strategies — was subsequently shared at the G20 Hangzhou Summit, TICAD VI, the East Asia Summit, and the APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting.

Furthermore, as Japan’s contribution to infrastructure investment in line with the G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe explained to the G7 leaders the Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure, under which Japan would implement quality infrastructure investment totaling approximately \$200 billion over the next five years from 2017 across the world. Moreover, in TICAD VI held in Kenya in August 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced that Japan would implement quality



Mombasa Port, the largest commercial port in East Africa. It is the sole international trade port in Kenya, and also serves as a critical gateway port for inland countries of Africa such as Uganda and Rwanda. (Photo: Toyo Construction Co., Ltd.)

infrastructure investment of approximately \$10 billion in Africa for period of three years from 2016 to 2018.

Demand for development in emerging countries, namely those in Asia, is still expected to be large, especially with regard to infrastructure development. In this regard, promoting “quality infrastructure investment” that utilizes Japan’s accumulated technology and experience contributes to ensure that Japan continues its growth together with developing countries. Furthermore, this will lead to expanding markets through development of partner countries, to forging international friendships, and to strengthening partnerships.



The Terminal 2 Passenger Building for international flights at Noi Bai International Airport, Viet Nam, which has large capacity for 10 million passengers (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

● Improving the Trade and Investment Climate

Japan utilizes ODA and Other Official Flows (OOF)* to support the advancement of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), transfer of Japan's industrial technology, and formulation of economic policies in developing countries. In addition, Japan supports the development of the trade and investment climate and economic infrastructures in order to enhance the export capabilities and competitiveness of developing countries.

More than two-thirds of the members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are developing countries so the WTO also emphasizes the promotion of development through participation in the multilateral free trading system by developing countries. Japan has contributed to the trust fund set up within the WTO with an aim to improve the capacity of developing countries to engage in trade negotiations and participate in the global market, thereby gaining the ability to implement the WTO agreements.

Regarding access to the Japanese market, Japan has implemented the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP),¹ which applies lower tariff rates, in order to encourage imports of products from developing countries. Specifically, Japan provides duty-free quota-free access* for Least Developed Countries (LDCs)*. In addition, Japan also actively promotes Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs),* and tries to create an environment for economic growth in developing countries through liberalization of trade and investment.

In recent years, active discussions regarding Aid for Trade (Aft)* have taken place at various international organizations, including the WTO and the OECD as a means of further promoting support by developed countries including Japan. Japan provides funds for the development of transportation networks vital to trade, including ports, roads, and bridges, as well as for projects to construct power plants and power grids, etc. Japan has also provided technical cooperation in trade-related areas including training of customs' officials and intellectual property rights experts.

Furthermore Japan provides assistance to small-scale

production groups and small companies in developing countries for the One Village, One Product Campaign.* In addition, Japan supports developing countries in attracting private sector investment by identifying issues unique to those countries, and recommending measures to promote private investment.

The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)* agreed at the Ninth WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2013 entered into force in February 2017 upon its acceptance by 110 members, equivalent to two-thirds of all WTO members. The implementation of the TFA is expected to improve the issues Japanese companies frequently face at export destinations, such as lack of transparency in trade procedures and arbitrary operations, and to support trade and other economic activities by Japanese companies, which not only export finished goods, but also develop supply chains on a global scale, as well as to help developing countries to promote trade and investment by reducing the trade transaction costs, to prevent illegal imports and to improve the collection of customs duties.

Japan has heretofore assisted developing countries with trade facilitation, and continues to extend proactive support utilizing its expertise and experience.

The theme of the Fifth Global Review of Aid for Trade co-hosted by the WTO and the OECD in July 2015 was "Reducing Trade Costs for Inclusive, Sustainable Growth." Japan introduced examples of its development cooperation that encouraged trade facilitation, helped build international production and distribution networks, and contributed to the economic growth of developing countries and regions. These examples were appreciated by member states. In 2017 the Sixth Review is planned to be held under the theme of "Promoting connectivity." Furthermore, as a case of technical cooperation of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan is working on improving technology levels through support for legal systems and the establishment of market rules and human resources development in developing countries.



A JICA expert, Mr. Masaki Okamoto (left), serves as a customs advisor in Vientiane, Laos, with a local official. (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

Note 1: This system applies tariff rates lower than the MFN (most favored nation) rates (preferential tariff rates) to designated agricultural and fishery products and industrial products imported from developing countries, in order to increase export income and promote industrialization and economic development in developing countries.

● Assistance for Domestic Resource Mobilization

For developing countries to take ownership of their quality growth by resolving various development issues, it is critical that developing countries ensure the necessary development funds in the form of tax revenue collection or others through their own efforts. This is known as “domestic resource mobilization.” Its importance has been noted at the discussion fora of the UN, OECD, G7, G20, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). This issue was also taken up in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), which was adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015 and represents the new international development goals from 2016 through 2030.

Japan, together with the international organizations and other entities concerned, contributes to discussions regarding domestic resource mobilization and provides relevant support to developing countries. For example, Japan proactively provides technical cooperation to developing countries for improving their tax administration. In 2016, Japan dispatched National Tax Agency personnel as trainers on topics including international taxation, tax collection, and tax litigation to Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Viet Nam, among other countries. In addition, Japan hosts many officials from developing countries for training in Japan that includes lectures regarding Japan’s overall taxation system and tax administration.

As regards programs implemented with international organizations, Japan, for example, has provided assistance for the OECD Global Relations Programme for more than 20 years. This programme dispatches OECD experts in the relevant fields to developing countries to conduct seminars and lectures to deepen the countries’ understanding of taxation systems and tax enforcement, including tax treaties² and investigation of the taxes of multinational enterprises. In addition, Japan provides cooperation on the human resources, expertise, and financing fronts for IMF’s technical assistance in the field of taxation. Moreover, Japan is strengthening cooperative systems related to tax in the Asia region, and is advancing the development of

● Finance

A sound and stable financial system, coupled with smooth financial and capital markets, forms an essential foundation for the sustained economic development of developing countries. As financial globalization advances, it is pivotal that financial systems in emerging countries are properly established and that assistance is provided for the development of sound financial markets.

an environment in which developing countries in Asia can strengthen their capacities in the tax field more effectively. For example, Japan co-hosted with ADB a seminar aimed at improving the legal and administrative frameworks and practices related to international information exchanges for taxation purposes. Many practitioners from developing countries attended the seminar.

Furthermore, capacity building in the tax field is important from the perspective of the development of the investment environment in developing countries. In recent years, the view of international society has become stricter regarding the involvement of investors and multinational enterprises in tax avoidance. Regarding this point, for example the World Bank and ADB have introduced systems for examining projects that use regions recognized as lacking tax transparency (lacking effective tax information exchanges, etc.) as intermediate investment regions when composing private sector investment projects, including stopping the composition of such projects. Investment through MDBs is one important tool for the development of developing countries, but the importance of support to improve the transparency of taxes in development countries is increasing from the perspective of the provision of development funds as well.

Finally, it should be pointed out that the outcomes of the OECD/G20 BEPS project* compiled in October 2015 are also important for the sustained development of developing countries. Cooperation among countries to implement the outcomes of this project will improve the transparency of companies and appropriate taxation in places where economic activities actually take place. Developing countries will be able to respond to the tax avoidance of multinational enterprises appropriately, and impose and collect tax properly in their own countries, their tax systems and tax administration will be in line with international standards, and a stable, highly predictable, and attractive investment environment will be created for companies and investors.

In March, August and November 2016, the Financial Services Agency (FSA) invited officials in banking, securities, and insurance regulatory authorities from developing countries in Asia. FSA officials and others conducted training regarding Japan’s regulatory and supervision systems, as well as programs for banking, securities, and insurance, respectively.

Note 2: Tax treaties: Bilateral treaties for avoiding the double taxation of and preventing the evasion of taxes on income.

Ukraine

Economic Reform Development Policy Loan (II) ODA loan (December 2015 – March 2016)

In Ukraine the domestic situation deteriorated in November 2013 when large-scale anti-government demonstrations broke out criticizing then President Victor Yanukovich. Subsequently, following the illegal annexation of Crimea by Russia, military clashes between government troops and separatist armed groups started to flare up in the eastern region of Ukraine.

As a result, the economic situation in Ukraine drastically weakened and foreign currency reserves declined to a critical level. In response to this, Japan extended a budget support-type ODA loan of ¥10 billion to Ukraine in July 2014. However, the situation in Ukraine continued to worsen, and its economy was imperiled.

The Government of Ukraine requested assistance to the international community including Japan and, with the G7 taking the lead, a response was discussed. In January 2015 Japan announced its intention to provide additional support of

approximately \$300 million for the economic stabilization of Ukraine and in December 2015 the two governments signed an Exchange of Notes to provide an ODA loan up to ¥36.969 billion (the loan was disbursed in March 2016).

The loan aims to support rebuilding the state finances and carrying out a range of institutional reforms. It will support initiatives by the Government of Ukraine including; (i) encouraging good governance and improving transparency and accountability in the public sector, (ii) strengthening the legal framework and cost reductions in business, (iii) reforms of subsidies in inefficient and unfair public areas and economic policy reforms in Ukraine, including measures for the poverty.

Japan's assistance, such as through budget-support type ODA loans, is valuable in encouraging Ukraine in its endeavor to undertake domestic reforms.

Honduras

Project on Life Improvement and Livelihood Enhancement of Conditional Cash Transfer Beneficiaries through Financial Inclusion Technical cooperation project (February 2015 –)

The poverty rate¹ in Honduras has fallen slightly from 65.1% in 2003 to 62.8% in 2014² but it still remains at a high figure. In this situation, the Government of Honduras has been focusing on implementing a Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme called "Bono Vida Mejor" as support for the poor.

This programme provides cash to poor households that have achieved certain conditions such as a school attendance rate of 80% or above. It is expected to raise the school attendance rate, medical service utilization and other indicators of socio-economic well-being. Meanwhile, there exists a problem that many of the households given money cannot utilize the cash effectively to escape from poverty. Therefore the Government of Honduras made a request to Japan for technical assistance which would enable CCT programs to reduce poverty by strengthening the capabilities of CCT beneficiaries and improving the environment surrounding them.

Under such circumstances, JICA and the Family Allowance Programme of the Under Secretary of Social Integration of Honduras have commenced the Project on Life Improvement and Livelihood Enhancement of Conditional Cash Transfer Beneficiaries through Financial Inclusion (2015-2020). This project develops and implements the techniques and details of the support necessary for CCT beneficiary households in five target cities to improve their quality of life and enhance their livelihood, with assistance from stakeholders including local governments and private financial institutions that support the poor. Outcomes to date include an improvement in the financial knowledge and capabilities of the CCT beneficiaries through training on household accounts and the services of financial institutions. Also, utilization of bank deposit accounts has been increasing.



Preparation for a participatory audit for households to receive conditional cash transfer
(Photo: Kaihatsu Management Consulting, Inc.)

The project will work on improving the financial and livelihood conditions surrounding the poor by combining a variety of supports including developing financial services which the poor can utilize, and training to strengthen the skills necessary for the activities of production, sales and finding jobs, which will lead to increasing income. Moreover, the project aims to improve the quality of life of CCT beneficiary households and enhance their livelihoods by presenting an approach to the support for the poor, which was developed through the project, as a sustainable and extensive "model" that can be applied across Honduras. (As of August 2016)

*1 This is the data that the World Bank uses to estimate poverty conditions considering the socio-economic environment in each country. When the income per one household member is lower than the combined total of expenditures necessary to purchase food equivalent to the caloric requirement (food poverty line) and minimum non-food expenditures to have basic needs met (non-food poverty line), the household is categorized as being poor.

*2 World Bank, Country Poverty Rate (Honduras population ratio).

*** Infrastructure system exports**

Infrastructure system exports refer to the concept of not only exporting equipment for development of infrastructure such as electricity, railways, water, and roads overseas, but also exporting "systems," which include engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of infrastructure.

At the Ministerial Meeting on Strategy relating to Infrastructure Export and Economic Cooperation, development cooperation efforts are coordinated among the relevant ministries and agencies; relevant organizations such as JICA, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI); companies; and local governments.

*** Other Official Flows (OOF)**

OOF refers to flows of funds to developing countries from the governments which are not considered to be ODA because the main purpose is not development. Examples include export credit, direct investment by governmental financial institutions, and financing to international organizations.

*** Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**

LDCs are countries classified by the United Nations to be particularly lagging in development even when compared to other developing countries, based on their income levels. LDCs meet certain criteria, including per capita gross national income (GNI) of \$1,035 or less between 2011 and 2013. As of July 2015, there are 48 countries that have been so designated: 7 in Asia; 2 in the Middle East and North Africa; 34 in Sub-Saharan Africa; 1 in Latin America; and 4 in Oceania (see page 262).

*** Duty-free quota-free access**

Duty-free quota-free access generally means measures implemented to make products imported from LDCs tax free in principle and not impose quotas either. Japan has expanded the number of applicable products under these measures, and approximately 98% of products exported by LDCs to Japan can be imported without payment of duties and without quotas (as of October 2016).

*** Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)**

EPAs are comprehensive economic agreements with specific countries (or regions) that include such areas as movement of people, investment, government procurement, and bilateral cooperation intended to enhance broad economic ties in addition to free trade agreements (FTAs) that stipulate the liberalization of trade in goods and services such as the reduction/elimination of tariffs. These agreements are expected to further vitalize trade and investment between countries and contribute to economic growth.

*** Aid for Trade (Aft)**

Aft is assistance provided to developing countries to improve trade-related capabilities and to develop infrastructure, for the purpose of assisting developing countries in achieving economic growth through the multilateral trading system under the WTO.

*** One Village, One Product Campaign**

One Village, One Product Campaign is an approach that began in Oita Prefecture, Japan, in 1979 and is also utilized abroad. The aim is to create jobs and revitalize the local community by developing unique local products through the utilization of local resources and traditional techniques. Efforts are made to focus on handicrafts, textiles, toys, and other attractive products that display the unique ethnic characteristics of developing countries in Asia and Africa, etc., and reach out to a wider range of people, thereby aiding in the expansion of exports of products from developing countries.

*** Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)**

The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) provides for the simplification and enhanced transparency of customs procedures aimed at trade promotion. The protocol to make the TFA a part of the WTO Agreement in February 2017 was adopted at a special meeting of the WTO General Council in November 2014. It entered into force upon its acceptance by 110 WTO members, which corresponds to two-thirds of WTO members. Japan accepted it in June 2016. The TFA is the first multilateral agreement newly created with the participation of all members of the WTO since its founding in 1995. According to the WTO, full implementation of the TFA could decrease the trade costs of members by an average of 14.3%, and increase global export of goods by over \$1 trillion annually.

*** OECD/G20 BEPS Project**

Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) refers to the issue of multinational enterprises' excessive tax reduction measures that exploit gaps and loopholes in international tax systems, including tax treaties, in order to intentionally lessen the tax burden for economic activities that should have been taxed. To address this issue, the OECD's Committee on Fiscal Affairs, led by a Japanese Chair launched the BEPS project in June 2012. The BEPS Action Plan was presented in July 2013, and following two years of discussions, the BEPS Final Reports were released in October 2015. From June 30 to July 1, 2016 the "First Meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS" was held in Kyoto as the kickoff of the implementation phase ("post-BEPS"), and Japan led the discussions in cooperation with the OECD, developing countries, and relevant international organizations to ensure that the outcomes of the BEPS project are shared widely in the international community. Furthermore, Japan has actively participated in negotiations for a Multilateral Convention to efficiently realize measures to oppose BEPS.

(2) Vocational Training and Industrial Human Resources Development, and Employment Creation

To achieve quality growth in countries and thereby solve the poverty and other problems that these countries face, it is essential for their populations to acquire the necessary vocational skills. In developing countries, however, opportunities to receive quality education and training are limited. Moreover, ineffective use of human resources is stifling opportunities for earning sufficient incomes. A shortage of appropriate human resources thus poses a major obstacle to industrial promotion and industry development.

Especially in countries and regions affected by conflict, improving the livelihood of the socially vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, women, and demobilized soldiers, is a critical issue for the

reconstruction phase. In this regard, vocational training as a component of the social safety net (a system in which the entire society secures the lives of each and every person) plays a pivotal role.

"Work" constitutes a fundamental activity of mankind that shapes society. Increasing income by finding a job is an important means for elevating the standard of living of the poor. Nevertheless, severe employment situation is expected to persist, with the number of unemployed in the world reaching approximately 200 million people currently.³ To create stable employment under these circumstances that will lead to poverty reduction, it is an urgent task to prepare for risks by developing social safety

Note 3: Source: International Labour Organization (ILO), "World Employment and Social Outlook 2016"

According to the above report, it is thought that there were more than 197.1 million unemployed people in the world in 2015. Furthermore, it forecasts that this number will reach 199.4 million people in 2016 and 200.5 million people in 2017.

nets, as well as to engage in an international effort across countries to realize “decent work.”

Against this backdrop, the 2030 Agenda, which succeeds the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), was adopted at the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly

<Japan's Efforts>

● Vocational Training and Industrial Human Resources Development

Based on requests from developing countries to develop human resources who can respond to diverse needs in technology and skills, Japan provides support to leading polytechnic and public vocational training schools which will serve as core centers in each country. In implementing this assistance, Japan, in cooperation with the private sector, supports the capacity building of teachers and trainers, the reinforcement of the operational capacity of training schools, and curriculum improvement, in order to further strengthen the linkages between education and employment. Through 12 projects in eight countries, Japan has contributed to the skills development of persons including women, persons with disabilities, and demobilized soldiers, as well as refugees and persons affected by conflict.

In the area of industrial human resources development, Japan, in collaboration with the industry sector, implemented 55 comprehensive cooperation projects in 27 countries between 2000 and 2016. The projects drew on Japan's insight and know-how for the development and revision of curriculums and teaching materials, along with the capacity enhancement of trainers. Additionally, Japan supported Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions by improving facilities and equipment at 11 schools in six countries.

In the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in November 2015, Japan announced the “Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative” for boosting the industrial human resources development that would be useful for the sustained growth of Asia. Under the initiative, Japan ascertains human resources development needs

in September 2015. Among the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Agenda, Goal 8 was established as follows: “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.”

through dialogue with each country, strengthens industry-academia-government cooperation, and supports industrial human resources development in the Asia region under the all-Japan approach. For example, in Thailand in March and June 2016 Japan invited people from industry, government, and academia in Japan and Thailand to hold a round-table conference to discuss human resources development needs in Thailand and how to meet them. In addition to this, it had achieved the development of more than 16,000 industrial human resources in ASEAN through technical cooperation, etc. for each country by summer of 2016. Thus, Japan is steadily advancing its efforts. Furthermore, in TICAD VI in August 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced that for a period of three years from 2016 to 2018 Japan would provide assistance in human resources development to approximately 10 million people by making use of the strength of Japan (“Quality”).

Japan is also implementing projects aimed at promoting the economic empowerment of women. For example, in Kyrgyz, with the aim of building a small-scale business promotion model based on the One Village One Product approach, Japan supports the strengthening of organizations and improvement of quality for the production and processing of seasonal locally-produced materials. These materials, such as felt handicrafts, jams, and soaps are made by local women; thereby the support by Japan has contributed in spreading community businesses by women. In the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in September 2016, Japan announced the launch of the Japan ASEAN Women Empowerment Fund to enhance the social advancement of women, poverty reduction, acceleration of growth, and



Chief Advisor, Dr. Hidehiko Kazama, provides instructions on the use of equipment to teachers of the Faculty of Engineering, Science and Technology, at the laboratory wing of the National University of Timor-Leste near Dili, the capital of Timor-Leste. (Photo: Kenichiro Komatsu)



Training at the electrical engineering department at the Vocational Training Center in Kosti, Sudan (Photo: Sachio Yamamoto / System Science Consultants Inc.)

the creation of jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities. This fund was established with the investments from institutional investors of Japan, JICA, and JBIC, to supply funds to small businesses run by women through investment and/or loan to microfinance institutions in Asia, focusing particularly on the members of ASEAN.

Moreover, in order to contribute to creating innovation in both Asia and Japan, Japan will launch a new initiative of ODA (“Innovative Asia” Initiative) to offer opportunities for training (graduate study and internship in Japan), etc. for approximately 1,000 competent students from developing/emerging countries in Asia over five years from FY2017. Aiming to enhance circulation of human resources between Japan and Asian countries, this initiative was endorsed by “Japan Revitalization Strategy 2016” (decided by the Cabinet on June 2, 2016) and also highly appreciated by the ASEAN side at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in September 2016.

As for the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), it conducts trainings in Japan and primarily Southeast Asian countries⁴ with which Japan has been expanding and deepening economically interdependent

● Employment Resources Development

Japan considers job creation to be one approach for reducing poverty, which is one of the priorities of Japan's development cooperation. Based on this consideration, Japan extends assistance to increase job seekers' abilities to make a living through for instance the aforementioned vocational training. Japan also provides assistance utilizing the ILO for expanding social protection, such as support for building social insurance systems and support for realizing occupational safety and health, with a view to achieving “decent work.”

Moreover, Japan is actively involved in activities

relationships. The trainings are designed to transfer the government's and the private sector's accumulated know-how regarding Japan's skills evaluation system (Japan's National Trade Skills Test), with a view to developing and securing a quality workforce.⁵ In FY2015, a total of 136 people from the seven countries received these trainings, bringing the cumulative total to approximately 2,000 people including trainings conducted in FY2014 and earlier. The trainings are expected to develop and improve skills evaluation systems in these countries, which in turn will promote the development of their skilled workers and elevate their social standing through increased employment opportunities.

In addition, through Japan's contributions to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the ILO's Skills and Employability Programme in Asia and the Pacific (SKILLSAP) conducted surveys, studies, seminars, and trainings on vocational training policies, vocational training methods, and vocational training information networks, which were attended by members of governments, employers, and worker organizations in the regional countries.

through international organizations, for example it provides voluntary funding to the ILO to implement measures to conduct humanitarian assistance in conflict regions in Africa, and plays a large role in the resolution of labor issues in the world.

For example, in Baidoa and Kismayo (Somalia), Japan has created employment through projects to repair roads, markets, and other infrastructure for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees who have repatriated from neighboring countries to facilitate their settlement in Somalia.

Note 4: Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Myanmar, India, Cambodia, and Laos.

Note 5: There are two types of training in this project: “training for people in charge of the creation of test standards and test problems” and “training for people in charge of tests and marking.” The number of participants above is the total value for both of these types of training.

(3) Promotion of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and Development of Food Value Chains

The population of undernourished people in the world still remains large, and the world's population growth is anticipated to further increase food demand. Under these circumstances, the SDGs in the 2030 Agenda sets Goal 1 as “End poverty in all its forms everywhere” and Goal 2 as “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture,” etc. To achieve these

<Japan's Efforts>

Based on the Development Cooperation Charter, Japan proactively addresses global food security, giving priority to cooperation that develops agriculture, forestry and fisheries, including the development of food value chains, in order to achieve “quality growth” in developing countries and poverty eradication through such growth. In the short term, Japan provides food assistance to developing countries to avert food shortages and in the medium- to long-term, Japan aims to help increase and improve agricultural production and productivity in developing countries in order to prevent and eliminate the causes of food-related problems including hunger.

Specifically, Japan uses its knowledge and experience to strengthen agricultural research and technology development, along with capacity-building to disseminate this technology in a way that is suited to the cultivation environment, to promote the sustainable use of fishery resources, to strengthen organizations of farmers, to assist policymaking, as well as to improve infrastructures such as irrigation facilities, farm roads, and fishing ports. Through these efforts, Japan extends various supports, from production, processing, distribution, to sales phases.

In Africa, Japan also supports the research of NERICA* (New Rice for Africa) and the spread of its production techniques, and provides support for increasing rice production based on the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and for the introduction of the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP) approach,* among others. In addition, in order to assist reducing post-harvest loss,* revitalizing the food industry, and increasing rural incomes, Japan also places priority on assistance for developing “food value chains.” This refers to creating a chain of added values around food by enhancing the added value of agricultural, forestry and fishery products at each phase of the process from production to manufacturing, processing, distribution, and consumption, and linking these added values.

goals and realize quality growth in developing countries, efforts to develop agriculture are an urgent challenge. In addition, three out of four poor people in developing countries live in rural areas. Because the majority of these individuals rely on farming for a living, efforts to develop agriculture and rural communities are important.

In June 2014, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) formulated the Global Food Value Chain Strategy, after conducting reviews in collaboration with academia, private companies, relevant ministries and agencies, and others. The Strategy lays out a basic strategy and region-specific strategies for developing food value chains in developing countries and elsewhere. In accordance with this Strategy, bilateral dialogues were held through public-private cooperation in countries, such as Viet Nam, Myanmar, Brazil, and India to promote the development of food value chains by linking development cooperation and Japanese private sector investment. In August 2015, at the Second High-Level Meeting of the Japan-Viet Nam Agricultural Cooperation Dialogue, the two sides approved a medium- to long-term vision that outlines detailed action plans for developing food value chains in Viet Nam through partnerships between the public and private sectors of Japan and Viet Nam.

With respect to food security through a multilateral cooperation approach, at the outreach session on food security at the G8 L'Aquila Summit (Italy) in July 2009, Japan pledged at least \$3 billion over three years in 2010-2012 for agricultural development including infrastructure, and provided approximately \$4.2 billion (commitment basis) by the end of 2012. Additionally, the rapid increase of agricultural investment in developing



Cultivation guidance is carried out as part of the Project for Better Livelihoods and Self-Reliance for Farmers in Mzimba District, in the northern region of Malawi. (Photo: Redson Nyondo / Japan Overseas Cooperative Association)



Rice planting training is provided as one part of the training for farmers in the Ayeyarwady region of Myanmar. (Photo: Hideo Okada / JICA Expert)

Development Approach was unveiled, which aimed to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030.

In order to achieve this goal, at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held under the Japanese presidency in May 2016, the G7 Vision for Action on Food Security and Nutrition was established, summarizing the concrete actions the G7 should take in three prioritized areas (empowering women, improving nutrition through a people-centered approach, ensuring sustainability and resilience within agriculture and food systems). Based on this, an international symposium was held in Tokyo in October 2016, where discussions regarding food security and nutrition were held with the participation of diverse stakeholders.

countries had become an international issue since some of the investments were reported as “land grabbing” by some media outlets. For this reason, Japan proposed the concept of “Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)”^{*} at the L’Aquila Summit, which has since gained support at international fora such as the G7/8, G20, and APEC. In addition, based on the RAI concept, the “Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,”^{*} having been discussed at the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) supported by a secretariat comprising the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme (WFP), were adopted at the CFS 41st Session in October 2014.

As to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition,^{*} which was established at the G8 Camp David Summit (the United States) in May 2012, its progress report was released and additional African partner countries were announced at an event held in conjunction with the G8 Lough Erne Summit (the United Kingdom) in June 2013. Subsequently progress reports have been released every year, and there are now ten partner countries. Furthermore, from 2014 onwards the Alliance has launched its own working groups, which are independent from the G7 process, and is operating autonomously under the New Alliance secretariat of the African Union Commission (AUC). In addition, under the framework of the New Alliance, the relevant international organizations are implementing the “Forward-looking research and analysis programme for responsible agricultural investment” with financial support from Japan.

At the G7 Schloss Elmau Summit (Germany) in June 2015, the Broader Food Security and Nutrition

Furthermore, Japan has provided assistance to the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)^{*} in the G20 aiming to enhance international agricultural market transparency. Further, Japan provides assistance in the agricultural sector through the international organizations, such as FAO, IFAD, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and WFP.

Japan underlines the importance of agriculture as an industry that plays a pivotal role in ensuring food security, reducing poverty, and stimulating economic growth throughout Africa, and contributes to the development of agriculture in Africa.

The Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)^{*} was established on the occasion of TICAD IV in 2008, and set the goal of an increase of rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa from 14 million tons as of 2008 to twice that amount (28 million tons) by 2018. The annual rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa had increased to 25.16 million tons by 2014, meaning that approximately 74% of the goal has been achieved.

Furthermore, in order to promote a shift from subsistence to profitable agriculture, on the occasion of TICAD V in 2013 Japan announced it would promote the SHEP approach to be applied widely in African countries and develop 1,000 skilled agricultural trainers and organize a smallholders cooperative consisting of 50,000 people through the SHEP approach. By the end of FY2015 the SHEP approach had been rolled out in 20 countries and 1,324 skilled agricultural trainers and approximately 30,000 people in the smallholders cooperative had been trained.

On the occasion of TICAD VI held in August 2016, Japan announced that in order to strengthen food security in Africa, it would transfer rice cultivation skills to 60,000

farmers and 2,500 instructors by 2018 under the CARD initiative, and that it would enhance productivity and

profitability of agriculture by promoting market-oriented agriculture and developing the food value chain.

Ethiopia

The Project for Strengthening of Agricultural Pesticide Residue Analysis System Technical cooperation project (November 2011 –)

One of Ethiopia's major export products is coffee beans, which are exported mainly to Japan. In 2008, pesticides exceeding the maximum residue limits were detected in coffee beans exported to Japan through the monitoring analysis conducted by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare of Japan, which led to Japan's move to conduct a severe check on pesticide residue. Consequently, Japan's import of coffee beans from Ethiopia significantly declined, which had a negative impact on the economy of Ethiopia where the agricultural sector accounts for approximately 40% of GDP and more than 90% of its total export value.

For that reason, Ethiopia re-recognized the importance of safety management of food products and established a pesticide residue testing laboratory within the Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Directorate of the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). However, difficulties surfaced: shortage of the number of experienced pesticide analysts; lack of reagents and solvents for testing; and inability to determine the pesticide contamination route. Under such circumstances, the Government of Ethiopia made a request to Japan to develop human resources to analyze the level of pesticide residue at the testing laboratory.

JICA immediately provided instruments for analyzing pesticide residue and dispatched its staff members capable of both operating the testing laboratory and giving advice regarding human resources development. They began providing technical assistance for the Ethiopians in strengthening their ability to detect the level of pesticide residue at the testing laboratory by increasing the varieties of pesticide to detect and agricultural produce to examine at the laboratory. In particular, when they need to set up policies such as a testing policy, JICA staff aim to create a situation where all the Ethiopian engineers at the laboratory get together to share the techniques and knowledge necessary to analyze reports on agricultural pesticide residue on their own, conduct the monitoring of the level of pesticide residue as necessary and determine whether



Analysis by the Ethiopian staff members (Photo: JICA)

the export of the product is allowed or not.

Furthermore, the Food and Agricultural Materials Inspection Center (FAMIC) has invited the employees of the testing laboratory to Japan for training, and dispatched its staff members to Ethiopia. It has also provided technical assistance including application skills that are important to cope with trouble that may occur when pesticide residue is being analyzed.

As a result of this support from Japan, basic data for testing has been accumulated in Ethiopia's pesticide residue testing laboratory, and the Ethiopian staff members involved in testing have mastered the methods for analyzing pesticide residue. Currently voluntary examinations are carried out on all of the coffee beans exported to Japan by the pesticide residue testing laboratory.

Due to Japan's technology for agricultural pesticide residue analysis and support for human resources development, the safety of the agricultural products of Ethiopia has been strengthened, and it is expected that the experience of Ethiopia will be shared throughout the entire African region.

(As of August 2016)

In Morocco about 13% of GDP is generated by the agriculture sector (2015), which accounts for approximately 11% of the country's exports and approximately 25% of its working population. However, the greater part of the arable region is arid or semi-arid areas that depends on rainwater and it has been often affected by droughts. Therefore the amount of rainfall has determined agricultural crop yields in the region. As increasing demand for water for industrial use and tap water is expected in the future, it has become an urgent issue for Morocco to improve irrigation facilities for effective and efficient use of limited water resources.

In the Casablanca-Settat region where the Abda Doukkala plain (100-200 kilometers southwest of Casablanca City) lies, about 6,860,000 people live and of those, approximately 1.8 million people (about 26 %) live in rural areas. The total area of farmland in the Casablanca-Settat region accounts for about 66 % of the total land area of the region and about 10% of the rural population is engaged in the agricultural sector.

In 1988 Morocco planned the development of irrigation facilities in this region. In Phase 1 it developed 16,000 hectares of irrigation facilities with financial assistance from the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, and in Phase 2 it developed 18,901 hectares of irrigation facilities through an ODA loan project of Japan called the Abda-Doukkala Irrigation Project (completed in 2001).

After the completion of the facilities built with the financial assistance of an ODA loan, Morocco asked Japan for further technical cooperation to transfer the technology on operation and the management of irrigation systems from the Irrigation Association, to improve farm management and access to markets, and to reduce loss resulting from leakage from water resources. These forms of cooperation aim to stabilize agricultural yields through effective use of water resources and



The irrigation system installed in the irrigated farmland of Abda-Doukkala. (Photo: JICA)

improve the livelihood of farmers by increasing their income.

In response to this request, Japan implemented a technical cooperation project, "the Project for Improvement of Irrigation System at the Abda Doukkala Irrigated Area" (2011/7-2016/7). This project supports the establishment of a model at the pilot site in order to encourage the introduction of drip irrigation and high-earning crops on the developed irrigated farmland, and provides support for ascertaining the current situation and future streamlining which are necessary for the improvement of water management systems in the Abda Doukkala irrigated area overall.

This project is also in line with the Green Morocco Plan, a development strategy for the agriculture sector which Morocco is implementing with 2020 as the goal year, and has been positioned as one of the projects promoting the plan.

Currently, the irrigation facilities developed by the ODA loan are being used effectively by approximately 5,700 households engaged in agriculture on the Abda Doukkala plain.

* New Rice for Africa (NERICA)

NERICA is a general term for rice developed in 1994 by the Africa Rice Center (formerly West Africa Rice Development Association [WARDA]) through hybridization of high-yield Asian rice with African rice, which is resistant to weeds, diseases and insect pests. Japan has also contributed to developing a variety of new types that are suited to the natural conditions of each region in Africa. The characteristics of the rice include (i) a higher yield, (ii) a shorter growth period, (iii) higher resistance to dryness (drought), and (iv) higher resistance to diseases and insect pests than conventional rice. Since 1997, Japan has partnered with international organizations and NGOs to provide support for research and development related to new types of NERICA, test cultivation, and increased production and popularization of seeds. In addition, Japan has dispatched agricultural experts and JOCVs to offer cultivation training, and has also accepted trainees from Africa for training in Japan.

* Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP) approach

The SHEP approach refers to an effort to assist smallholder farmers to enhance their agricultural organizations through training and research on local markets, and to provide guidance on cultivation techniques and development of agricultural roads while taking account of gender, in order to help them improve their capacities to manage their market-oriented agricultural businesses.

* Post-harvest loss

Post-harvest loss refers to harvested food that is discarded, because it is unable to fulfill its originally intended purpose (for use as food, etc.). This can be caused by improper harvest timing, and overexposure to rain or dryness, extremely high or low temperatures, germ contamination, or any other physical damage that reduces the value of the products due primarily to a lack of adequate storage facilities.

* Responsible Agricultural Investment

Responsible Agricultural Investment refers to an initiative proposed by Japan at the G8 L'Aquila Summit in response to unintentional negative impacts resulting from large-scale agricultural investment (acquisition of farmland with foreign capital) in developing countries in the face of spikes in international food prices. In addition to mitigating the negative impacts of agricultural investment, it aims to promote agricultural development in the host country of the investment as well as harmonize and maximize the benefits for the host country government, local people, and investors.

*** Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)**

AMIS was launched as a countermeasure against food price volatility by the G20 in 2011. It allows each of the G20 members, the main exporting and importing countries, companies, and international organizations to share agricultural and food market information (production output, price, etc.) in a timely, precise, and transparent manner. Japan has supported the efforts of ASEAN countries aimed at improving the accuracy of ASEAN statistical information on agriculture used as AMIS data.

*** Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)**

CARD is a consultative group composed of donor countries, African regional organizations, and international organizations partnered with rice-producing countries in Africa that are interested in rice production and development. The CARD Initiative was announced at TICAD IV in 2008. It has set the goal of doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa (from 14 million tons to 28 million tons) over the ten years until 2018.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, Ms. Ryoko Sahashi (Community Development), works to add value to and commercialize the Loroco flower which is a special product in San Lorenzo Municipality, El Salvador as a part of the One Village One Product Campaign. She visits the Loroco farms for observing its growth. (Photo: Ernesto Manzano / JICA El Salvador)

Tanzania

Project for Supporting Rice Industry Development in Tanzania Technical cooperation project (November 2012 –)

In Tanzania, rice is an important crop that boasts the second largest production volume of all cereal crops after corn. The consumption of rice is increasing every year, and domestic production is not keeping up with the growth in domestic consumption so the country is depending on imports from overseas. Given this situation, an increased yield of rice has become an urgent issue. Against this background, the Government of Tanzania established a National Rice Development Strategy in 2009 aimed to increase production of rice, centering on irrigated rice cultivation, and set a goal for 2018 to produce approximately 1,960,000 tons of rice per annum, which is approximately twice the production volume in 2008.

Japan has been contributing to the development of irrigated rice cultivation in the Moshi District in the Kilimanjaro Region since the 1970s and as a result the productivity of rice in the irrigated areas of that district has successfully reached six tons per hectare, much higher than the nationwide average in Tanzania. Since the 1990s, in order to further spread these outcomes nationwide, Japan has implemented training for the improvement of rice productivity based at the Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Center, and has helped many Tanzanian farmers to achieve increased yields of their rice.

Based on the outcomes to date, this project aims to increase the number of agriculture training centers as footholds and spread irrigated rice cultivation technologies nationwide through the training. Furthermore, from the perspective of poverty reduction the promotion of not only irrigated rice cultivation but also rainfed rice cultivation in paddy fields and in wet lowland is necessary, so the project will develop training techniques for the dissemination of rainfed rice cultivation technologies (including in paddy fields and in wet lowland). Also, taking into consideration the fact that it is necessary to strengthen not only production but also the rice industry value chain including post-harvest processing and marketing, the project will strengthen training pertaining to the rice industry



A woman harvests rice in a rice field in Tanzania. (Photo: JICA)

value chain.

Since the commencement of this project, Japan has implemented irrigation technology training in 40 irrigated areas, and implemented training in rice cultivation skills for a total of more than 5,000 farmers. The training has introduced 44 types of rice cultivation skills to the farmers, and of those the major skills such as creating ridges between paddy fields, leveling the paddy fields, and straight-row planting of rice seedlings have been adopted by approximately half of the farmers. In addition, Japan has initiated training in the cultivars of NERICA which can be grown also in rainfed paddy fields, and to date nearly 300 farmers have received this training. Furthermore, whenever a training session is held, consideration is given to the gender ratio to ensure that the same number of male and female farmers participate in the training.

As this project will end in 2018, Japan's activities are under way to ensure that many farmers employ appropriate rice cultivation skills so that annual rice production in Tanzania can reach more than 2.5 million tons in three years after the completion of the project. (As of August 2016)

(4) Sustainable Cities

Cities are the primary settlement areas of humans, and are the focal points of economic, social, and political activities. In recent years, attention has been focused on the issues relating to the administration of cities. The issues include: the handling of the disposal of the substantial waste emitted in urban areas and suburbs; the prevention of air, water, and other environmental pollution; the development of infrastructure facilities including sewage and waste treatment systems; and responses to rapid population increases and the

<Japan's Efforts>

Based on the Development Cooperation Charter, Japan aims to achieve “quality growth” and poverty eradication through such growth in developing countries. To this end, Japan implements cooperation for realizing sustainable cities, along with efforts to resolve global issues directly related to human settlements, including efforts for promoting disaster risk reduction, recovery from natural disasters, and a sound water cycle.

More specifically, drawing on its know-how and experience, Japan develops infrastructure, including water and sewage, waste, and energy facilities. In addition, Japan carries out disaster risk reduction programs based on the concept of “Build Back Better,” striving to build cities that are more resilient to natural disasters than prior to the disaster. Japan also conducts human resources development.

Furthermore, Japan implements initiatives through assistance to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), an international organization

consequent fast pace of urbanization. Addressing these issues and engaging in efforts to realize sustainable cities are priorities for development cooperation.

Among the SDGs in the 2030 Agenda adopted at the UN General Assembly in September 2015, Goal 11 sets forth the following task: “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” There is thus a growing international commitment to resolving the issues of human settlements, including realizing sustainable cities.

that mainly conducts activities to resolve human settlement issues. Notably, Japan also implements programs in collaboration with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), in part because it is headquartered in Fukuoka Prefecture, and with Japanese private companies.

A UN conference (Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development) is held once every 20 years on resolving human settlement issues, including issues arising from urbanization. In October 2016 at the Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) held in Quito, Ecuador in South America, the New Urban Agenda was adopted. This is a policy for international efforts aimed at the solution of a wide range of issues pertaining to human settlements, based on the results of the efforts of each country undertaken over the 20 years since the previous conference. Japan also intends to advance efforts aimed at contribution to this conference.



Japan supported the Project on Integrated Urban Development Master Plan for the City of Nairobi in Kenya. A view of Nairobi City. (Photo: JICA Project Team)



The disorderly sprawl of the Ger district in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. Japan has been cooperating in the formulation of an urban development master plan for Ulaanbaatar since 2007. (Photo: JICA)

(5) Introduction of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and High Technology

The dissemination of Information and Communications Technology (ICT)* contributes to the achievement of sustainable economic growth by upgrading industries and improving productivity. It also contributes to addressing issues related to medical care, education, energy, environment, disaster risk reduction, and other social issues

<Japan's Efforts>

Japan actively offers assistance mainly for the development of communications and broadcasting equipment and facilities in developing countries, the introduction of the technology and systems they require, and relevant human resources development, in order to eliminate the ICT disparities that exist between countries and regions and to help improve the quality of life of all people.

More specifically, Japan makes proactive efforts to provide comprehensive support for the overseas promotion of Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial (ISDB-T)* in the areas of maintenance, personnel and systems, which is also an effective means for contributing to Japan's economic growth. As of November 2016, ISDB-T has been introduced in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, and has been adopted in a total of 17 countries.⁶ Japan has dispatched experts to eight countries, including the Philippines, Ecuador and Costa Rica, and has been transferring technologies since FY2009 as part of the support to countries adopting ISDB-T. A JICA training program is conducted every year for countries adopting ISDB-T and those considering to adopt it to promote the overseas spread and introduction of ISDB-T. To increase the adoption of ISDB-T in other countries, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) extends assistance that offers ICT solutions resolving social issues by way of dialogues and joint projects with partner governments.

Furthermore, MIC contributes in the field of overseas deployment of ICT for disaster risk reduction. Japan's ICT for disaster risk reduction makes it possible to collect, analyze and distribute disaster information in an integrated manner, allowing detailed information to be communicated swiftly and infallibly at the community level, including to the public. MIC continues to cooperate in the field of overseas deployment of ICT for disaster risk reduction, and thereby contribute to increasing the disaster risk reduction capabilities of developing countries. (See page 113 for more information on disaster risk reduction.)

Japan also actively collaborates with international organizations to carry out these efforts. Japan works with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU),* a specialized agency of the UN responsible for telecommunications, to provide a variety of development

assistance in the field of telecommunications to developing countries. Utilization of ICT improves their democratic foundation through encouraging information disclosure by governments, and developing broadcasting media. In this way, ICT is extremely important for strengthening civil society through increased convenience and improved services, and for quality growth.

assistance in the field of telecommunications to developing countries. Firstly, from December 2014 to March 2016, Japan collaborated with ITU and the Government of the Philippines to implement a joint project in Cebu Island, the Philippines, where a typhoon caused catastrophic damages in 2013. The project conducts feasibility tests using the Movable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU),* a system capable of quickly restoring information and communications as an emergency measure in the wake of natural disasters. This system also played an important role in the earthquake in Kumamoto Prefecture on April 16, 2016. In the Kumamoto earthquake there were areas which could not use landline phones or cell phones due to the impact of power cuts, the severing of transmission lines, etc. resulting from the maximum seismic intensity of 7; therefore NTT delivered the MDRU to the afflicted region at the request of MIC in order to secure means of emergency communication in said region, and support was provided to the local governments. Japan will transmit the outcomes of these kinds of efforts domestically and overseas while promoting activities aimed at the introduction and dissemination of the ICT unit, and will collaborate with international organizations such as ITU to advance efforts that lead to a contribution to the Philippines and other foreign countries facing the issue of natural disasters.

Next, an international symposium jointly organized by



A vocational training school for children with disabilities in Otse village in South East District, southeastern Botswana. Students are receiving IT education in the computer room constructed with the support of Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project. (Photo: Yukari Johnston / Embassy of Japan in Botswana)

Note 6: The 17 countries are Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Paraguay, the Philippines, Bolivia, Uruguay, Maldives, Botswana, Guatemala, Honduras, Sri Lanka and Nicaragua (as of November 2016).

the Government of Japan and ITU to consider development indicators for information and communications was held in Hiroshima City from November to December 2015. Many cabinet ministers participated in this symposium and the role played by ICT regarding the SDGs in the 2030 Agenda adopted in the UN General Assembly in September 2015 was discussed, and ICT development indicators that comprehensively evaluate the access to and use of ICT and the degree of development of skills in each country were announced. The results of the symposium were reported to the G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa (April 2016), and priorities including the digital divide, healthcare, education, and disaster risk reduction were reflected in the outcome document.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT),* an international organization in the information and communications field, contributes to the balanced development of the telecommunications and information infrastructure in this region. In September 2014 the APT Ministerial Meeting was held in Brunei Darussalam and adopted a joint statement for the 38 member states and APT to cooperate on efforts to build a "Smart Digital Economy through ICT" in this region.

Japan is supporting the capacity building programmes for training and pilot projects implemented by APT in order to promote the important areas in this joint statement (policies useful for the sustainable growth of ICT and the Smart Digital Economy, construction of a secure and safe society through ICT, etc.). In 2016 Japan provided fiscal support to eight training courses, four international collaborative research projects and two ICT pilot projects for rural areas.

One of the training courses, the training on "Utilization of ICT Services Supporting the Smart Society, Medical ICT, Sensor Networks and Agriculture/Fisheries ICT,"

was attended by officials from government ministries and agencies related to information and communications in 12 countries, including Thailand and the Maldives. In this training, we passed on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake and shared know-how on disaster risk reduction. It is expected that Japan's advanced efforts will contribute richly to disaster countermeasures in each country.

As regards ASEAN, the ASEAN Community was established on December 31, 2015, which aims to create a symbiotic society and a single market covering 600 million people. At the ASEAN Summit in November 2015, ASEAN adopted new blueprints that provide new indicators to 2025. This blueprint identifies ICT as a key driver in ASEAN's economic and social transformation. In light of the importance of ICT's role, the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020) that serves as ASEAN's ICT strategy towards 2020 was formulated at the ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers (TELMIN) Meeting held in the same month. Based on these developments, at the Japan-ASEAN TELMIN Meeting held in conjunction with the above meeting, Japan introduced the ASEAN Smart ICT Connectivity (ASIC) that outlines Japan's cooperation vision for ASEAN. Japan continues to support the development of ICT in ASEAN and efforts to offer ICT solutions to regional issues. In order to put this vision into practice, Japan supports the development of ICT infrastructure in Myanmar using ODA, and in such ways, extends cooperation in the field of ICT. With regard to the issues of cyber-attacks that have become key concerns of countries in recent years, Japan and ASEAN have agreed to further deepen their cooperation in the information security field, which has included the holding of the ninth ASEAN-Japan Information Security Policy Meeting in October 2016 in Tokyo.

Given this context, the basic policies of support established by the related ministries and agencies to strategically and efficiently provide all-Japan support for capacity building for developing countries in the cyber security field were reported to the cyber security strategy headquarters in October 2016. Going forward Japan will actively provide support, mainly to the ASEAN countries for the time being, in line with these policies.



Technical guidance is provided to women on a stereo three-dimensional measurement system as part of the "Digital topographic mapping project for the Bamako metropolitan area" in Mali. (Photo: Shunsuke Tomimura / Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.)

*** Information and Communications Technology (ICT)**

ICT is technology that integrates computers and other information technology with digital communication technology, as characterized by the Internet and mobile phones.

*** Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting – Terrestrial (ISDB-T)**

ISDB-T is a terrestrial digital broadcasting system that was developed in Japan. Its functions, such as emergency alert broadcast, TV reception on mobile terminals, and data broadcasting, give the system advantages in disaster response and the realization of diverse services.

*** International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**

ITU is a UN specialized agency, which is responsible for the fields of telecommunications and broadcasting (HQ: Geneva, Switzerland; 193 member countries). To ensure that people around the world are able to make use of telecommunications technologies, ITU implements: (i) the international allocation of radio frequencies used in mobile phones, satellite broadcasting, and other technologies; (ii) the international standardization of telecommunications technologies; and (iii) support for development in the field of telecommunications in developing countries.

*** Movable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU)**

MDRU is a telecommunications facility that was researched and developed by MIC based on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake. The unit is deployed to affected areas in the wake of a natural disaster to quickly restore communications as an emergency measure. The unit can be made smaller, such as the vehicle-based type and the attaché case type. MDRU allows for phone services and data communications to take place when communications equipment have been damaged and cannot be utilized.

*** Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)**

APT is an international telecommunication organization established in the Asia Pacific region in 1979, made up of 38 member countries. Aiming for a balanced development of telecommunication services and information infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region, it develops human resources through training courses and seminars and coordinates regional policies on standardization, wireless communications, and other telecommunication issues.

Botswana**Implementation of the Digital Migration Project
Technical cooperation project (August 2014 – August 2016)**

Approximately 80% of its land of Botswana, with a population of about 2,000,000, is covered by the Kalahari Desert. The Department of Broadcasting Services (DBS) is established under the Ministry of State President, and the DBS operates and broadcasts Radio Botswana and Botswana Television. Terrestrial television broadcasting by Botswana Television commenced in 2000 and it covers approximately 85% of the population. However, the Southern African Development Community had announced the year of 2013 as the deadline for the ending of analog broadcasting, so advancing the migration to digital terrestrial broadcasting in the country was an urgent issue.

Given this situation, in February 2012 the Government of Botswana decided on the adoption of the Japanese standard for digital terrestrial broadcasting (ISDB-T) by appreciating its technical advantages including the capability to broadcast both digital terrestrial television broadcasting and one-segment broadcasting on mobile terminals from the same transmitter and it became the first country that adopted digital terrestrial broadcasting of the Japanese standard (ISDB-T) in Africa. Although trial introduction of the system was commenced, a lack of technical capability, instruments and equipment necessary for full-scale introduction became a problem.

In order to improve this situation and strengthen information and communication that will be the foundation for economic growth in Botswana, Japan has supported the DBS which is in charge of digital terrestrial broadcasting in Botswana for the development of the environment to implement digital terrestrial broadcasting, by making plans for full-scale introduction of ISDB-T, improving the implementation structure, providing public information to the public, offering technical guidance on program production that can make good use of the characteristics of digital terrestrial broadcasting and providing instruments.

As a result, a working group on program production and data broadcasting has been organized within the DBS. The



Mr. Katsuya Terabayashi introduces the advantages of digital terrestrial broadcasting to people at a shopping mall in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. (Photo: Chiaki Matsumoto / Yachiyo Engineering Co., Ltd.)

formulation of basic technical standards and revision of the standards which are required for the migration to the digital terrestrial broadcasting were implemented. Regarding program production, four programs have been produced through training in Japan and Botswana and also Japan has improved manuals so that local people can continue producing programs on their own.

Digital terrestrial broadcasting was little known to the people before commencement of the project but due to proactive public relations activities, people's awareness of it has risen to 86%, 90% of whom replied that they would like to use digital terrestrial broadcasting.

In this way, the foundation for the full-scale introduction of the Japanese standard for digital terrestrial broadcasting has been developed. Carrying out further public relations activities for the citizens is expected to disseminate digital terrestrial broadcasting widely within the country and realize information transmission in a variety of areas including education, medical care, and disaster risk reduction.

(6) Promotion of Science, Technology and Innovation, and Research and Development

Data science (a method of conducting scientific research by analyzing massive amounts of data) and cyber security are gaining importance with the increasingly widespread use of ICT, along with the advances in the globalization of R&D and openness of research outcomes. In this connection, science, technology, and innovation are undergoing fundamental transformations. Science and technology is a fundamental element that underlies national security, economic growth through innovation, and improvements in the lives and welfare of mankind.

<Japan's Efforts>

In order to utilize Japan's superior science and technology in diplomacy, Dr. Teruo Kishi, Professor Emeritus of the University of Tokyo, was appointed as the first Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in September 2015. The role of the Science and Technology Advisor includes providing advice and recommendations to utilize the science and technology of Japan for international cooperation and contributing to tackling global issues as an advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

As part of recent efforts in this area, the Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs submitted recommendations towards TICAD VI, including specific measures, regarding the best approach to support for Africa from the viewpoint of science and technology, and submitted them to Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida in August 2016. These recommendations presented specific efforts in line with the two pillars: "Improve Africa's science and technology level by human resources development" and "Apply R&D results to overall society." The Nairobi Declaration called for the utilization and promotion of science, technology and innovation and the content of "Japan's measures for Africa at TICAD VI" reflected the above-mentioned recommendations.

Science, technology and innovation in which Japan's strengths are utilized has attracted more attention recently and is also given priority in the implementation of SDGs. Diverse stakeholders including governments, companies, researchers, citizen groups, etc. discussed this topic at the First Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation which was held at the United Nations headquarters in New York in June 2016. In Japan, discussions have taken place in the Advisory Board for the Promotion of Science and Technology Diplomacy established under the Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

In addition to this, as a major program for Japan's science and technology diplomacy, the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) programme* linking ODA and the science and technology budget was launched in 2008

The international community attaches importance to international cooperation that utilizes science and technology to solve issues, such as sustainable development of the economy and industry, global environmental issues, natural resource and energy issues, and health and sanitation issues. In today's international community, which is witnessing fundamental changes in the science, technology, and innovation processes, there is a call for more strategic and proactive efforts in science and technology diplomacy.

and by 2016 had adopted 115 joint research projects in 46 countries around the world.

Regarding SATREPS, the "Project for the Development of Crop Genotypes for the Midlands and Mountain Areas of North Viet Nam" was implemented with the objective of strengthening the research infrastructure for developing new rice varieties with short growth duration, high yielding, and disease and insect resistance suitable to the natural and social environment of the midlands and mountain areas of the northern part of Viet Nam. This project contributed to the building of an efficient system for developing new rice varieties by converging a cutting-edge marker-assisted selection technique and a rapid method for accelerating the turnover of generations of rice.

Furthermore, in May 2016 the G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting in Tsukuba, Ibaraki was held, and the Tsukuba Communiqué was adopted. The Communiqué included themes related to development such as global health, including Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), and inclusive innovation, etc. which were compiled from the perspective of science and technology.

Another effort of Japan involves strengthening assistance for overseas engineering universities to develop next-generation networks that are based on cooperation for human resources development. In Malaysia, an institution of higher education offering Japanese-style engineering education, the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIIT), was founded as a culmination of the Look East Policy⁷ initiated in 1982. Japan provides support to MJIIT by purchasing equipment and supplies for education and research, and developing curriculums. Japan also collaborates with 26 universities in Japan to extend cooperation for establishing curriculums, dispatching Japanese faculty, and other objectives.

In addition, Japan provides contributions to the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), an international organization located in Thailand and one of Asia's leading graduate schools offering Master's and PhD programs at the School of Engineering and Technology, the School of Environment, Resources and Development, and other schools. Japan's

Note 7: The Look East Policy is Malaysia's human resources development policy advocated in 1981 by then Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia, with the objective of studying Japan's development experience, work ethic, management philosophy, among other dimensions.

contributions are used to provide scholarships to students studying remote sensing (satellite image analysis) taught by Japanese instructors, and contributes to human resources development in the field of remote sensing that utilizes artificial satellites constituting the crux of the ASEAN-Japan Disaster Management Cooperation.

In Egypt, since 2008 Japan has supported the establishment of Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST), a national university based on the concept of “graduate school, research-centered, pragmatic, and international-standard education for a small number of students,” drawing on the features of Japanese-style

engineering education. Universities from all over Japan have collaborated to dispatch faculty and staff to Egypt to provide lecture and research guidance, and support the development of curriculums. Through an “All-Japan” effort, Japan aims to share its science and technology education practices with Africa and the Middle East.

Japan also conducts a program to increase the adoption of Japanese companies’ technologies that are useful for the socio-economic development of developing countries. This program is expected to help promote the adoption of Japanese private companies’ advanced technological capabilities and diverse know-how in partner countries.

Glossary

*** Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) programme**

SATREPS makes use of both Japan’s outstanding science and technologies and ODA to conduct research to solve global issues relating to the environment and energy, bio-resources, disaster risk reduction, and infectious diseases. Research institutes in developing countries and in Japan work together to implement international joint research with the goal of utilizing the research outcomes (diffusing research outcomes in society). The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), in collaboration with MOFA and JICA, provide support to research institutes and researchers in Japan and partner countries.

Malaysia

Project for Development of Low Carbon Society Scenarios for Asian Regions
Technical cooperation project (June 2011 – June 2016)

Malaysia, which has achieved rapid economic growth and is aiming to become a developed country in recent years, faces big challenges in conserving the natural environment, and in the sustainable use and management of resources. Particularly, the increase in carbon dioxide emissions is becoming serious due to rising energy consumption in line with advancement of citizens’ living standard, as well as the aggravation of urban environment problems such as air pollution. Furthermore, heavy rain, flooding, landslides and forest fires, which are drawing attention to their relation with the climate change, are occurring.

Working towards solutions to these problems, Malaysia has started taking steps for building a “low carbon society” in order to greatly reduce its emissions of carbon dioxide. With infrastructure development in the Iskandar developing region under development as a special economic zone in Johor state at the southernmost tip of the Malay Peninsula, the plan to build a “low carbon society” by 2025 is required. However, for reasons such as the insufficient technology and human resources, it was difficult for Malaysia alone to achieve this plan.

Therefore, Malaysia requested cooperation from Japan which has knowledge and successful track records for the reduction of air pollution and curbing of the amount of carbon dioxide emissions. In response to this, a Japanese team comprised of experts from Kyoto University, Okayama University, and the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) and a Malaysian team comprised of researchers mainly from University of Technology, Malaysia (UTM), jointly prepared an implementation plan setting the road map towards realization of a “low carbon society”. They received the approval of the Government of Malaysia for the plan, and commenced their activities.

The team of researchers from Japan has experience in having supported policymaking in India, Thailand, and other



A meeting for the project (Photo: JICA)

countries in the past. They kept in mind giving guidance so that the Malaysian staff can continue the project by themselves eventually so they focused on the development of human resources and organizations. Specifically, in addition to the preparation of manuals, setting-up for fora for dialogue and data gathering about the present situation towards the realization of a “low carbon society,” Japan also offered training programs for the Malaysian staff who engage in making low carbon society scenarios, and established a network of those involved. Such training is required to be implemented continuously both in Japan and in Malaysia henceforth.

The initiatives to build the “low carbon society” encourage not only infrastructure development but also tree planting and the children’s ecological activities at local elementary schools without a heavy burden. It is expected that the project outcomes will spread beyond Malaysia to other Asian regions.

(7) Efforts for Debt Issues

As long as developing countries can maintain their repayment capacity by using the received funds effectively and thus ensuring future economic growth, debt is useful in achieving development. However, if a country has little repayment capacity and becomes overburdened with excess debt, it could inhibit sustainable development and thus pose a significant challenge.

Such debt issues must be resolved by the indebted countries themselves by putting forward reforms and other efforts. However, their excessive debt must not stand in the way of their development path. At the G8 Gleneagles Summit (the United Kingdom) in 2005, the G8 countries agreed on the proposal to reduce 100% of the debts that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs) owe to the IMF, the International Development Association (IDA), and the African Development Fund (AfDF).⁸ As for the debt issue faced by the poorest countries, 39 HIPCs have become eligible for the Enhanced HIPC Initiative⁹ so far, and 36 of

them had received comprehensive debt cancellation as a result of their achievement that they had reached a certain level of economic and social reforms as of the end of FY2016.

Furthermore, some low-income and middle-income countries, other than HIPCs, may owe heavy debts, so that appropriate measures must be taken to make sure such debts do not prevent their stable medium- to long-term development. In 2003, the Paris Club¹⁰ adopted a new Paris Club approach to debt restructuring (the Evian Approach), which examines measures that correspond to the respective situations of low-income and middle-income indebted countries other than HIPCs, while focusing more on debt sustainability. The approach takes comprehensive debt relief measures for a country that is considered insolvent, from the perspective of debt sustainability, as long as the country meets certain criteria.

<Japan's Efforts>

In providing ODA loans, Japan makes its decisions based on the careful consideration of the cooperation structure, debt repayment ability, operational capacity, and credit protection measures etc. of the recipient countries. In most cases, the recipient countries make their repayments of the loans, but there are also exceptional cases in which they face serious difficulties in their repayment due to events that could not be foreseen when they received ODA loans. In such cases, based on international agreements

such as the aforementioned Enhanced HIPC Initiative and Paris Club agreements, Japan takes debt relief measures such as debt rescheduling,¹¹ cancellation and reduction only when they are absolutely necessary. Since FY2003, Japan has cancelled ODA debts worth a total of approximately ¥1.129 trillion with respect to 33 countries. However, following on from 2014, no debt relief measures were taken in 2015.

Note 8: MDRI: Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative

Note 9: This is an initiative that was agreed at the Cologne Summit (Germany) in 1999. It further expanded the existing initiative for international debt relief for HIPCs and decided to reduce the debt by 100%, etc.

Note 10: The Paris Club is an informal group of creditor countries to discuss the rescheduling of public debts. The name of the Paris Club derives from the fact that France has chaired meetings and invited creditor countries to Paris upon requests from indebted countries.

Note 11: Debt rescheduling is one form of debt relief. Payment is postponed for certain period of time in order to lessen the burden of debt payment on the indebted country.

1-2 Assistance Necessary to Promote People-centered Development that Supports Basic Human Life

Japan has proactively advocated the concept of “human security” to the international community, a notion that seeks to protect people from widespread and serious threats to the survival, livelihood, and dignity of humans and help them fulfill their abundant potential. There can be no

quality growth without “human security.” The following introduces the dimensions that support basic human life, including health, water, education, culture, etc. through a people-centered approach.

(1) Health and Population

Many of the people living in developing countries cannot easily access the basic health services that are available day-to-day in developed countries. With regard to MDGs, the international community worked together to achieve the health-related goals (Goal 4: Reduce child mortality, Goal 5: Improve maternal health, Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases), but still more than 5.9 million children under the age of five die annually due to infectious diseases, nutritional deficiency, diarrhea, and other ailments.¹² Over 280,000 pregnant women also lose their lives every year, unable to receive emergency obstetric care from skilled birth attendants, including obstetrician, gynecologist, and midwife.¹³ Furthermore, due to high rates of population growth, poor countries suffer from further

poverty, unemployment, famine, poor access to and quality of education, and environmental deterioration.

In recent years there is a need for addressing new issues, for example, malnutrition, non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and cancer, and aging population and in SDGs adopted in the United Nations as the successors of the MDGs, Goal 3 is set as “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.”

In order to respond to the increasingly diversified health issues internationally and locally, it is important to achieve “universal health coverage (UHC)” to ensure that all people can access and receive the basic health services when they need them at an affordable cost.

<Japan's Efforts>

● Health

Japan has been placing importance on efforts in the healthcare field that directly links to human security. In response to the establishment of the Development Cooperation Charter in February 2015, the Government of Japan established the Basic Design for Peace and Health as a guideline for global health policy in September. This policy aims to make full use of Japan's expertise, technologies, medical devices, and services to: (i) establish a system to respond to public health emergencies such as the Ebola virus disease; and (ii) provide basic health services for all people throughout their lifetimes. These efforts are important also for the pursuit of the health goals identified in the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, in September 2015 the Government of Japan stipulated the Basic Guideline for Strengthening Measures on Emerging Infectious Diseases. The guideline presents the direction and priority actions for the next five years, in order to strengthen the measures against infectious diseases that could become global threats.

Furthermore, Japan has led discussions

in the international community regarding the strengthening of health systems and the promotion of UHC. For example, infectious diseases were raised as a major topic of discussion at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000 for the first time in the history of the summit. At the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit in July 2008, an appeal was



Mothers and nurses smile after childbirth at an obstetrics ward renovated with the assistance from Japan in Bomet County, Kenya. (Photo: Kumiko Shibaoka / Embassy of Japan in Kenya)

Note 12: Source: WHO “World Health Statistics 2016”

Note 13: Source: WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and the World Bank “Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010”

made on the importance of strengthening health systems. Moreover, at the G8 Muskoka Summit (Canada) in 2010, the Muskoka Initiative was launched to strengthen support for maternal and child health and Japan announced that it would additionally provide up to ¥50 billion, or approximately \$500 million, over the five years from 2011.

At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016, the leaders agreed on the importance of reinforcing the capacity of the international community to respond to public health emergencies such as the infectious diseases, and promoting UHC, which is the key to responding to a wide range of health issues and offers better preparedness for emergencies, and reinforcing responses to antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and announced the “G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health.”

Moreover, at a side event on UHC on the occasion of TICAD VI in August 2016, Prime Minister Abe stated his determination to contribute to strengthening responses as well as prevention of and preparedness against public health emergencies and to promoting UHC in Africa, while placing importance on the ownership and leadership of African countries, particularly through human resources development, in order to steadily implement the “G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health,” an outcome document of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in Africa.

More specifically, towards realization of “strengthening the capacity for response as well as prevention of and preparedness against public health emergencies” and “promotion of UHC in Africa,” Japan announced the implementation of assistance amounting to more than \$500 million in Africa through the Global Fund, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and other organizations, to save the lives of more than 300,000 people, in connection with Japan’s pledge to contribute approximately \$1.1 billion at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit through providing training to approximately 20,000 experts, policymakers, and managers against infectious diseases in local areas, including communities, through a variety of efforts including global



A three-year-old child receives an infant medical check-up at a traveling clinic in Dili, the capital of Timor-Leste. The child’s arm girth is only 10cm. (Photo: Soichiro Osakabe)

joint research, and contributing to increasing the number of people who can access basic health services in Africa overall by approximately 2 million people through efforts such as giving priority support to countries that promote UHC that are a model for other African countries.

Furthermore, through the “UHC in Africa” (a policy framework), the “International Health Partnership for UHC 2030” (global platform) and others, Japan is strengthening collaboration with international organizations and civil society. In addition, Japan announced the improvement of nutritional status as a basis for health through such means as the launching an Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA), and Nutrition Japan Public-Private Platform (NJPPP).

For more than 50 years, Japan has been providing a national health insurance system and has become a society in which people enjoy the longest healthy life in the world. Under the new guidelines, Japan continues to pursue the effective implementation of bilateral assistance, strategic collaborations with global initiatives of international organizations, the enhancement of domestic systems and the fostering of human resources.



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe delivers a speech at the high level event on “UHC in Africa” during TICAD VI held in Nairobi, Kenya. (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

● Public Health Emergencies (Ebola Virus Disease)

In a globalized world, infectious diseases spread beyond national borders easily and give serious impacts to the entire international community. The epidemic of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) in 2014 took many lives and resulted in the spread of infection to neighboring countries and the secondary infection of medical personnel. Thus the EVD outbreak turned out to be a major humanitarian, economic, and political challenge for the international community, leading WHO to declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and the UN Security Council to adopt a resolution (Resolution 2177), which was the third resolution in the Security Council's history concerning infectious diseases.

Japan has seamlessly provided a variety of assistance to affected countries and international organizations, including the dispatch of experts and provision of emergency relief goods in addition to financial assistance. Moreover, Japan supported the efforts to overcome the Ebola crisis through public-private cooperation such as the development of medicine, rapid test kits, and thermography cameras utilizing Japanese technologies.

The weak health systems in the region are considered to be one of the factors behind the EVD epidemic. Building a sustainable and resilient health system is crucial to control infectious diseases. Based on this view, prior to the EVD outbreak, Japan has prioritized development cooperation for health, an issue that is directly linked to human security, and has continuously striven to enhance health systems in West Africa under the banner of promoting UHC.

Japan is aiming to “strengthen the capacity to prevent, prepare for, and respond to public health crises,” of the African countries and realize an Africa in which all people have access to health services, and is swiftly implementing assistance that contributes to their social and economic recovery, including capacity building of medical staff,

assistance for health fields such as improvement of medical facilities, infrastructure development, agricultural productivity improvement, and food security enhancement.

Furthermore, Japan, as a nation that proactively contributes to the peace and prosperity of the international community, closely collaborates with the discussions in the international community regarding establishment of the framework of the international community for responding to this kind of health crisis (the Global Health Architecture), including the High-level Panel on the Global Response to Health Crises established by the Secretary General of the United Nations, and has led discussions in fora such as the G7 Ise-Shima Summit and TICAD VI, while making a variety of contributions, including the participation of Japanese experts. In particular, on the occasion of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in May 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced a contribution of \$50 million to the WHO Health Emergencies Programme, and Japan has contributed \$25 million of that amount before the end of the year. In addition Japan has contributed approximately \$10.80 million to the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE), and Japan had become its largest donor country as of December 2016. Moreover, in response to the support from the Government of Japan the World Bank took the opportunity of the summit to launch the Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF)* and Japan announced a contribution of \$50 million for the PEF before any other country. Japan also led the establishment of the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) by WHO to respond to emergencies in cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In October 2015, Japan newly established the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Infectious Diseases Response Team, which aims to provide swift and effective assistance in countries where outbreaks are occurring.



Personal protective equipment against the Ebola virus disease provided to Mali.



JDR Infectious Diseases Response Team members support yellow fever vaccination campaign. (Assistance in responding to the yellow fever outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo)

● Promotion of UHC

UHC refers to all people being able to access and receive basic health services when they need them at an affordable cost. The achievement of UHC is important for narrowing disparities in healthcare services, meeting the basic health needs of all people, and enabling aid recipient countries to review and respond to their own health challenges, so the Government of Japan is working on the promotion of UHC. Furthermore, the Government of Japan has asserted the promotion of UHC as the “Japan Brand” in fora for international discussions. For example, Prime Minister Abe has expressed in addresses at the United Nations General Assembly and in related events that Japan would promote UHC. Moreover, because of these kinds of assertions by Japan, the 2030 Agenda adopted in September 2015 included the achievement of UHC as one of its global goals.

Prime Minister Abe took the opportunity of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 to state the necessity of international organizations, donor countries, and others sharing their expertise and strengthening their collaboration towards the strengthening of health systems in developing countries in order to promote UHC. In response to that kind of prompting, the establishment of the IHP3 for UHC 2030 (commonly known as UHC 2030), which further develops the previous aid cooperation framework in the health field, was supported by the G7 leaders in the G7 Ise-Shima Summit. Thus Japan has

played a leading role in its establishment.

Furthermore, in TICAD VI Prime Minister Abe expressed priority support for countries capable of being a model for promotion of UHC, so that the pioneering efforts of UHC in Africa will become a model for other countries and spread to the entire African continent. In addition, the UHC in Africa jointly announced by the World Bank, WHO, the Global Fund and others indicates the useful approaches and specific actions that help with UHC achievement, and meetings to encourage its progress will be organized.

The Basic Design for Peace and Health stipulated by the Government of Japan in September 2015 states that Japan will continue to provide the support necessary to mainstream UHC in the international community. It outlines that Japan will promote cooperation that capitalizes on its experience, technology, and expertise, including through physical assistance, such as building hospitals, supplying medicines and medical devices, and through non-physical assistance, such as human resources development and system building. The Basic Design aims to achieve UHC that will “leave no one behind,” including poor people, children, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), ethnic minorities and indigenous people.

Basic health services under UHC comprise all services ranging from nutritional improvement, vaccination, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, infectious disease control, NCDs control, and comprehensive community care and nursing care for the elderly.

For nutritional improvement, Japan has provided bilateral assistance through the frameworks of the promotion of breastfeeding and the training of healthcare professionals. Japan also extends multilateral assistance by way of cooperation through contributions to UNICEF and WFP. In other initiatives, Japan has participated in the international nutritional improvement initiative, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) as a donor country. In recent years, Japan has put efforts into implementing nutritional improvement programs in collaboration with private companies and in September it launched the Nutrition Japan Public-Private Platform (NJPPP). Through this platform, in cooperation with partners such as private companies, civil society, and academia, Japan contributes to nutrition improvement specifically by arranging an environment that can boost efforts made by Japanese food-related enterprises, etc. for nutrition improvement in developing countries. In addition, efforts for nutrition improvement led by Japan have begun to move into high gear. For example JICA took the lead in the launch of the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA) which aims to accelerate nutrition improvement in Africa.

Immunization is a proven means for controlling and eliminating infectious diseases with effectiveness and low cost, and it is estimated that 2 to 3 million lives could



A mother and a child visit the Kamil Nomak Health Center in Gezira State, Sudan. The “Primary Health Care Expansion Project” is being implemented in Sudan. (Photo: Kei Yoshidome / Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning)

be saved each year.¹⁴ However, as many as 21 million children are unable to receive the necessary immunization. Since its first contribution in 2011 to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance,* which was established in 2000 to improve the immunization coverage rate in developing countries, Japan has provided a total of approximately \$53.8 million to this Vaccine Alliance. Gavi estimates that, in 15 years since its launch in 2000, 440 million children have been immunized with Gavi-supported vaccines and 6 million deaths have been averted. It aims to immunize a further 300 million children from 2016 to 2020 to save over 5 million lives. Moreover, in May 2016 the Government of Japan announced its further contribution of \$76 million by 2020 to Gavi in order to promote these efforts. As for bilateral assistance, Japan will contribute to increasing the vaccination rates by providing assistance such as for vaccine production and management of vaccines, as well as for cold chain maintenance and management of cold chains.

Maternal and child health, which was included in the MDGs (Goal 4: reduce the under-five mortality rate; Goal 5: improve maternal health), has made significant gains, including the reduction of the under-five mortality rate and the maternal mortality rate, and increase in the percentage of births assisted by skilled midwives. Nevertheless, those Goals were regrettably not achieved and significant challenges also remain in maternal and child health in the SDGs. Japan aims to provide assistance focused on strengthening sustainable health systems* based on the principles of strengthening the schemes for providing comprehensive and continuous maternal and child care and ensuring the ownership of developing countries and increasing their capabilities. In pursuit of these aims, Japan implements efficient assistance in such countries as Ghana, Senegal, and Bangladesh. Through such assistance, Japan contributes to making the necessary services more



Expecting mothers smiling after their health check-ups with their Maternal and Child Health Handbooks at a hospital on the outskirts of Vientiane, Laos (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

accessible for women during pre-pregnancy (including adolescence and family planning), pregnancy, and delivery and for infants and children.

Furthermore, Japan is implementing activities utilizing Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook as a means of improving maternal and child health, taking advantage of the experience and expertise of Japan. MCH Handbook can contribute to the Continuum of Care (CoC), from pregnancy, childbirth, the post-partum period (the period after the birth until the woman recovers to a similar condition before the pregnancy, usually about one to two months after birth), the neonatal period, infancy, and to early childhood. MCH handbook also provides health information to mothers, which can encourage the raising of awareness and behavior modification. With the cooperation of Japan, Indonesia, a country in which MCH Handbook has already been introduced nationwide, invited maternal and child health professionals from Kenya, Uganda, Cameroon, Palestine, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Laos, Viet Nam, and Timor-Leste and implemented training for the dissemination and promotion of MCH Handbook. Japan has contributed to holding international conferences on MCH Handbook by supporting the organizers and exchanging good practices and expertise among experts aimed at further dissemination of MCH Handbook.

In aid recipient countries, Japan works with other development partners, such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), to promote maternal and child health that includes sexual and reproductive health services, and thereby improving the health of a greater number of women and children.

Furthermore, in order to strengthen its international contribution to measures against aging, in 2016 Japan as the chair country took up aging as a topic of discussion within the framework of the G7 for



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, Ms. Yumiko Takehara (midwife), provides training on newborn care and sexual education to young expecting mothers at the La Palma City Health Center in Chalatenango, El Salvador. (Photo: Ernesto Manzano / JICA)

Note 14: Source: WHO "Health topics, Immunization" <http://www.who.int/topics/immunization/en>

the first time, and the outcome document stated initiatives for the promotion of Healthy and Active Ageing through cross-sectoral measures against aging and for sharing the expertise and experience of each country. In addition, at the WHO General Assembly in May 2016 Japan led the adoption of the Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health 2016–2020 by WHO and the resolution to support its implementation, and the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Kobe in September once again made clear that the G7 would support its implementation.

In addition to this, in November 2016 the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) invited officials in charge of social welfare, health and hygiene and employment policies in ten ASEAN countries, officials in charge of employment policies in World Association of Public Employment Services (WAPES) member states, etc. to hold a Joint Meeting of the 14th ASEAN and Japan

● Responding to the antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

The antimicrobial resistance (AMR)* is a serious threat for public health, and in recent years the momentum of countermeasures has been growing. In response to the adoption of a world action plan for AMR at the WHO General Assembly in 2015, Japan formulated the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance in April 2016 in order to promote its own countermeasures. In the same month Japan hosted the Tokyo Meeting of Health Ministers on Antimicrobial Resistance in Asia and adopted the Asia-Pacific One Health Initiative on AMR comprising the four pillars of surveillance system and laboratory network, antimicrobial access and regulation, etc. The G7 Ise-Shima

● Other related matters

Strengthening measures against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases,* as well as ramping up for the final stage of initiatives to eradicate polio, continue to require international efforts. Furthermore, “Neglected Tropical Diseases”* such as Chagas disease, Filariasis, and Schistosomiasis affect approximately 1 billion people

■ The Three Major Infectious Diseases (HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria)

Japan attaches great importance to supporting activities to fight the three major infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria) through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund). The Global Fund was established as an organization to fight these three major infectious diseases and to build resilient and sustainable systems for health following the discussions on measures against infectious diseases at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000 under Japan's presidency. As a founding father, Japan has provided financial assistance to the Global Fund since its establishment in 2002, and contributed approximately \$2.53 billion to the Global Fund by the end of March 2016. Furthermore, in December 2015, Japan hosted the Global Fund's Fifth Replenishment Preparatory Meeting in Tokyo, and helped facilitate fruitful discussions on necessary

High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies and the WAPES Workshop for the Asian-Pacific Region. This meeting had the theme of “Facilitating the participation and improvement of the accessibility of those who need social support,” and held discussions about efforts by governments, companies and regions to support independence, including encouraging employment, and for barrier-free measures and the improvement of the ease of access, etc., in order to encourage the social participation of senior citizens and persons with disabilities, etc. Furthermore, in 2014 and 2015 Japan held the ASEAN-Japan Regional Conference on Active Aging, where Japan shared with the ASEAN countries the expertise it has acquired by becoming a super-aging society ahead of the rest of the world and its efforts with respect to that situation, etc. and Japan has encouraged regional cooperation in this field.

Summit also took up AMR as one of the pillars of its health agenda, and compiled policies for the G7 countries to work on in cooperation with each other. Moreover, at the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance in the United Nations General Assembly in September the same year the “Political Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance” was adopted, which required each country and the related United Nations institutions to promote countermeasures and the Secretary General of the United Nations to establish cross-sectoral working groups.

worldwide, and cause major socio-economic loss in developing countries. Since infectious diseases have impact beyond national borders, the international community must work as one to combat them. Japan is engaged in the implementation of countermeasures in close cooperation with the relevant countries and international organizations.

actions and resources towards the 5th replenishment period between 2017 and 2019. In May 2016, ahead of the G7 Ise-Shima summit, Japan pledged a total contribution of \$800 million over the coming year for the Fifth Replenishment. The Global Fund has saved more than 20 million lives. Additionally, Japan provides supplemental bilateral aid to the Global Fund's implementing countries, in order to ensure that measures against these three major infectious diseases are implemented effectively in those countries. Japan also strives to strengthen the health systems, community empowerment, and the policies for maternal and child health in those countries.

As bilateral assistance for HIV/AIDS countermeasures, Japan is providing assistance to spread knowledge to prevent new infections, raise awareness, widely provide testing and counseling, and enhance the distribution

system of drugs to treat HIV/AIDS. In particular, JOCVs on Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Control are vigorously engaged in activities such as the spreading of knowledge and understanding of prevention, as well as the care and support of people living with HIV/AIDS, mainly in Africa.

The United Nations HIV/AIDS High-Level Meeting was held in June 2016 and the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast-Track to Accelerate the Fight against HIV and to End the AIDS Epidemic by 2030 was adopted.

With regard to tuberculosis, Japan's assistance has been focusing on those priority countries needing action, as well as those countries where the spread of the disease is deemed to be serious, as designated and recognized by WHO in accordance with the Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015. In these countries, Japan has been promoting a series of measures to fight tuberculosis, including the aspects of prevention, early detection, diagnosis and continuing treatment, as well as those measures to address co-infection of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. In July 2008, MOFA and MHLW announced the Stop TB Japan Action Plan, which was developed jointly with JICA, the Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, and the Stop TB Partnership Japan. Making use of the experience and technology fostered through its domestic tuberculosis countermeasures, and with the public and private sectors working closely together, Japan has strived to contribute to the reduction of the annual number of deaths from tuberculosis in developing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa, setting the target at 10%

■ Polio

Polio is in the final stage of eradication. Japan works mainly in cooperation with UNICEF to eradicate polio with a focus on three polio-endemic countries (countries where wild polio has never been eradicated and is still spreading)—Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan. In Nigeria, no cases of infection from the wild polio virus were discovered from 2014 onwards, but in August 2016 a case of an infection from the wild polio virus was reported. In response to this WHO carried out an emergency vaccination campaign in Nigeria and the neighboring countries (Cameroon, Central Africa, Chad, and Niger) in order to prevent the propagation of the polio virus.

In addition, Japan has provided support worth a cumulative total of more than ¥10.3 billion in Afghanistan since 2002 in cooperation with UNICEF. Furthermore, in



A JICA expert, Mr. Moritoshi Iwagami and project local staff carry out development and dissemination of highly accurate diagnosis for diseases such as malaria and schistosomiasis mekongi at the Institut Pasteur du Laos (IPL). (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

reduction of the number worldwide (160,000 people, based on 2006 figures). Based on the Global Plan to Stop TB 2011-2015 revised in 2010, Japan revised its own Stop TB Japan Action Plan in 2011. In addition, based on the new global strategy that WHO adopted in 2014 with the target years for achievement set between 2015 and 2035 (Global strategy and targets for tuberculosis prevention, care and control after 2015), Japan re-revised the Action Plan in July 2014 and confirmed that it would continue to work on measures against tuberculosis on a global level.

With regard to malaria, a major cause of infant mortality, Japan provides assistance for initiatives for anti-malaria measures involving the strengthening of local communities and assistance in cooperation with WHO.

Pakistan, Japan has provided assistance a cumulative total of more than ¥11 billion in coordination with UNICEF since 1996. In addition, Japan partnered with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation from the private sector to provide an approximately ¥5 billion ODA loan in August 2011 and ¥6.3 billion ODA loan in May 2016. Loan Conversion was adopted as a new approach for these ODA loans. Under this approach, the Gates Foundation repays the debt owed by the Pakistani government when targets are achieved. With the same approach, in 2014-2015, Japan provided an approximately ¥8.3 billion ODA loan to Nigeria. Furthermore, in FY2015, Japan provided support of approximately ¥1.75 billion and ¥360 million respectively to Afghanistan and Pakistan.

■ Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

In 1991, Japan took the lead by launching a full-scale effort against Chagas disease, which is also known as a “disease of poverty,” in Central American countries. Japan provided assistance to establish a system for dealing with Chagas disease vectors and contributed to reducing the risk of infection. Regarding Filariasis, Japan supplies antiparasitic agents as well as educational materials to provide knowledge and understanding to a large number of people. Meanwhile, Japan also conducts preventive education through JOCV activities in order to reduce the number of new cases and maintain the non-epidemic status.

Furthermore, in April 2013, Japan launched the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund), the first public-private partnership in Japan with the purpose to facilitate the development of new drugs for treatment of infectious diseases in developing countries including NTDs. The GHIT Fund aims to control infectious diseases in developing countries through the research and development (R&D) of low-cost and effective therapeutic



The Tokushima International Cooperation (TICO) carries out the project for strengthening of the local health system in order to improve the maternal and child health in the rural areas of the Chisamba District, Zambia. (Photo/Atsushi Shibuya / JICA)

medicine, vaccines, and diagnostic products, while promoting global cooperation with R&D institutions both inside and outside Japan.

Moreover, in May 2016 the Government of Japan decided to make a \$130 million contribution for the purpose of promoting R&D of new drugs against NTDs and supply preparation and support of drugs.

Glossary

* Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

This is the ability of all people to access to and receive basic health services when they need them at an affordable cost.

* Health system

Health system includes establishing mechanisms for governance, the improvement of healthcare facilities, the optimization of the supply of pharmaceuticals, the accurate measurement and effective utilization of healthcare information, financial administration and securing resources, resource mobilization as well as the development and management of personnel to operate these processes and provide services.

* Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF)

This is a framework for utilizing insurance mechanisms to mobilize private sector funds and carrying out quick and efficient funds mobilization when a pandemic occurs. Donor countries, etc. pay the insurance premiums to the insurance companies. In the case that the conditions agreed in advance are satisfied due to the occurrence of a pandemic, the insurance payout is instantly distributed to the developing countries, international organizations, NGOs, etc. from the insurance companies through the PEF, and allocated to the budget for the emergency response.

* Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is a public-private partnership, which was established with the aim to save children's lives and protect people's health by increasing access to immunization in developing countries. Governments of donor countries, developing countries, relevant international organizations, the pharmaceutical industry, private foundations and civil society participate in this partnership.

* Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) or antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) happens when microorganisms such as pathogenic bacteria and viruses, etc. obtain resistance to antimicrobial drugs, such as antibacterial and antiviral drugs, and the drugs become ineffective.

* Emerging/reemerging infectious diseases

“Emerging diseases” are infectious diseases which were not previously known and have been newly recognized in recent years, such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), avian influenza, the Ebola virus disease, and others.

“Reemerging diseases” are infectious diseases that had spread throughout the world in the past and subsequently saw a decrease in the number of cases, but have been on an increasing trend again in recent years such as cholera and tuberculosis.

* Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)

“Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)” include 18 types of tropical disease, such as Chagas disease, dengue fever, Filariasis, and other diseases that are transmitted from parasites, bacteria, etc. The number of infected individuals has reached approximately one billion worldwide. Many of these diseases could either have been prevented or eradicated. As many of the cases are found among the poorest segment of the population, and for other reasons, social awareness of this issue is relatively low. Therefore, the development of diagnostic methods, treatment methods and new drugs, and the process of making them available to those in need are lagging. At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016 the G7 countries presented policies for encouraging R&D, and innovation in measures to combat NTDs (the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health).

* The three major infectious diseases

The three major infectious diseases refer to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. Worldwide deaths from these diseases total approximately 3.6 million. The spread of these infectious diseases significantly impacts society and the economy, and is a factor that hampers national development. Accordingly, it is a serious threat to human security, and a global issue that must be addressed by the unified efforts of the international community.

Tanzania

The Project for Strengthening Hospital Management of Regional Referral Hospitals

Technical cooperation project (May 2015 –)

As Tanzania faces chronic shortages of healthcare human resources, pharmaceuticals, etc., the efficient operation of medical healthcare facilities and provision of quality healthcare services have become the issues. Many of the 27 regional referral hospitals (RRHs)¹ existing in the country have been operated without even a basic knowledge of hospital management and are unable to make good use of existing resources and formulate strategic hospital operation plans. Furthermore, there are problems such as lack of appropriate assessment systems on hospital functions and lack of management capability by the Hospital Advisory Board (HAB) comprised of citizens.

In this context, Tanzania has requested Japan to implement a technical cooperation project to strengthen the management capability of the RRHs, which face more issues than other public medical institutions do. The request was meant to further develop the initiatives supported by JICA that had intended to strengthen health administration capabilities at the regional level and to improve the quality of healthcare and medical services by adopting the KAIZEN method.² The project aims to improve management systems by strengthening the planning and management capabilities of hospital administrators, strengthening the function assessment system, and to provide quality healthcare services through streamlining by the KAIZEN method.

Since the commencement of the project, educational materials on management for hospital administrators and a training guide for instructors have been developed and 17 instructors have been fostered. In addition, training for the hospital administrators of all the 27 RRHs on subjects such as the formulation of annual hospital operation plans and financial management have been conducted. Furthermore, internal assessment tools for hospitals and guidelines stipulating the roles and functions of the Hospital Advisory Board were established, and 12 HAB instructors were also

fostered. Regarding KAIZEN, fostering of 10 KAIZEN instructors and training for a total of 81 RRH employees at all 27 locations were implemented. The KAIZEN initiative has been implemented at a prefectural level.

As a result of such activities, a total of 22 officials from health ministries and hospital directors — 20 from eight African countries and two from Bangladesh — visited Tanzania for a study tour.³ This is an example of Japan's contribution to strengthening the capacities of many countries. The KAIZEN initiative of Tanzania has been appreciated internationally. In 2015, the KAIZEN application in the health sector was honored as a finalist for the DAC prize.⁴ In 2016, it was introduced as an initiative that contributes to the SDGs in a publication on cases of South-South cooperation, compiled by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). (As of August 2016)



The chief advisor instructs the state referral hospital management team. (Photo: JICA)

- *1 "Referral hospitals" means hospitals that have departments and staffs specialized in planning and implementing clinical trials and research that require highly professional knowledge and experience involving difficulties in implementation. Referral hospitals are hospitals with well-established infrastructure.
- *2 KAIZEN is an initiative that was cultivated and spread on the front line of Japan's manufacturing industry. This method is now being gradually recognized internationally.
- *3 Study tours include tours to observe and learn from the activities of organizations, companies, NGOs, and to survey and observe the new businesses of companies, and visits to trade shows. They consist mainly of tours to learn about social problems in developing countries, provide support and interact with local people.
- *4 The DAC Prize was established by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in 2014 to honor innovative initiatives that can be applied widely in developing countries.

Tunisia

The Project for Renovation and Equipment Maintenance of Utique Nouvelle Dispensary Grant assistance for grassroots human security projects (March 2015 – January 2016)

In Tunisia, against the background of the citizens' enormous dissatisfaction with disparities and the high rate of youth unemployment, a citizens' movement calling for political, economic, and social reforms began in December 2010, which led to a change of government. During this series of disturbances, the worsening of economic conditions spread throughout the entire country and problems such as even national medical institutions are unable to secure an adequate budget have been occurring.

Utique Nouvelle village is a farming village with a population of approximately 3,300 located approximately 50 kilometers northwest of the capital Tunis, and the Utique Nouvelle Dispensary, the only medical dispensary in the village, had provided medical care free of charge with the support of the Government of Tunisia.

However, as forty five years had passed since the construction of the dispensary, the building was in a state of disrepair and malfunctions including in electric wiring occurred, so it became difficult to maintain use of the medical equipment. Furthermore, basic instruments such as examination tables and weight scales became extremely obsolete, so there was an urgent need to reconstruct the dispensary and renovate the equipment.

For this reason, a Tunisian local NGO requested Japan's



Outer view of a clinic (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Tunisia)

assistance in the areas of reconstruction of dispensaries and provision of equipment where Japan has a successful track record.

Now, due to Japan's support, the reconstruction of the dispensary and renovation of the equipment have been completed, and the total of approximately 3,750 residents who utilize the dispensary in a year have become able to receive appropriate medical care services.

Kenya

Project for the Renovation of a Maternity Ward at Kiptulwa Dispensary Grant assistance for grassroots human security projects (March 2015 – March 2016)

In Kenya, there are many women who have no choice but to deliver babies at home for reasons including medical equipment shortages in hospitals and dispensaries, shortages of human resources such as doctors and midwives and the high costs of medical care in private hospitals. The neighborhood residents living in the vicinity of Kiptulwa Dispensary, which is located in Bomet County in the southeast of Kenya, were no exception.

Construction of a maternity ward at Kiptulwa Dispensary began in 2011 with the support of the government, but the construction was suspended due to a fund shortage. For that reason, it had limited facilities and equipment and it could only accept a small number of expectant and nursing mothers, and was unable to provide adequate medical care services to the neighborhood residents.

Furthermore, the nearest hospital which has a maternity ward from the community of Kiptulwa is more than ten kilometers away and it is also a private hospital, so the consultation fees are high.

For that reason, approximately 90% of the local residents had no choice but to deliver babies at home. The delivery of babies at home in an unhygienic environment caused high mortality rates of mothers and newborn babies. The environment of the residents concerning the delivery of babies was tough with the problems such as hemorrhage during labor, blood poisoning, infectious diseases caused by the umbilical cord, disabilities such as infantile paralysis, and the risk of HIV transmission from mother to child.

Under such circumstances, Japan provided grant assistance for grassroots human security projects consisting of completion



Clinic staff and mothers holding their children gather in front of the maternity ward of Kiptulwa dispensary. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Kenya)

of the maternity ward, the construction of which had been suspended, and installation of medical equipment. As a result, medical care services for the local residents have greatly improved. The average number of babies born at Kiptulwa Dispensary in the past five years was 6.5 per year but after completion of this maternity ward, the number of babies delivered has risen dramatically with 33 babies born in just one and a half months.

The deliveries of babies at the highly hygienic clinic has contributed to reducing the risk to the bodies of mothers and babies during deliveries. It is expected that Japan's project will contribute to improving the environment where mothers can deliver their babies free of anxieties.

(2) Safe Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation are vital issues linked to human life. In 2015, approximately 663 million people worldwide had no access to safe water, such as piped water and wells, and approximately 2.4 billion people—about a half of the population of developing countries—had no access to improved sanitation facilities, such as toilets and sewage systems.¹⁵ Diarrhea due to lack of safe water and sanitation facilities accounts for 9% of the causes of under-five deaths.¹⁶ Moreover, being unable to access safe water hobbles the economy. For example, in developing countries

<Japan's Efforts>

Japan's assistance for the fields of water and sanitation is the largest in the world. Japan provides comprehensive support that is both soft (non-physical) and hard (physical) by drawing on Japan's extensive knowledge, experience, and technology in these fields, including: (i) promotion of integrated water resources management; (ii) provision of safe drinking water and basic sanitation (improvement of sanitation facilities); (iii) support to enable water use for increasing food production and other purposes (e.g., water for agricultural use); (iv) water pollution prevention (establishing effluent regulations) and ecosystem conservation (conservation of vegetation and sustainable forest management); and (v) mitigation of damage from water-related disasters (establishment of an early warning system and strengthening the disaster response capacities of communities).

Through its development cooperation, Japan supports wider expansion of safe water in developing countries with technical cooperation such as the dispatch of experts and acceptance of trainees from developing countries, ODA loans and grant aid. In addition, Japan is providing support through international organizations.



A Japanese expert works to improve the technology for safe and stable urban water supply in Vientiane, Laos. A JICA expert, Mr. Yusuke Kinoshita (left), and the plant director who holds a bottle of mineral water produced with purified water from the Chinaimo Water Treatment Plant which was constructed in 1996 by grant aid from Japan. (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

where piped water is not widely available, in many cases women and children bear the role of fetching water. Sometimes they spend many hours going to draw the water, so opportunities for the education of the children and the empowerment of the women are being lost. Furthermore, an unstable supply of water has a negative impact on healthcare and agriculture as well.

From this viewpoint, in the 2030 Agenda, “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” is set under Goal 6.

For example, in the Asia and Oceania region, Japan is



Children drink water from the first water supply facility constructed by aid from Japan in Kolofe village in the northern area of the Malaita Province in Solomon. (Photo: Koji Yamaguchi / Embassy of Japan in Solomon)

currently implementing projects for the development and expansion of piped water in Myanmar, Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Palau. In Laos, a new ODA loan for the Vientiane Capital Water Supply Expansion Project was signed in March 2016. In India, where the population is increasing and economic development is progressing, a new ODA loan for the Odisha Integrated Sanitation Improvement Project was signed in March, 2016.

In Africa, Japan is currently implementing projects aimed at improving access to safe water and the water supply ratio in Ethiopia, Senegal, Rwanda, etc. Regarding Sudan, new grant aid for the Project for Improvement of Water Treatment Plant in Kosti City was signed in October 2016.

In addition, Japan supports the water and hygiene environment improvement projects by Japanese NGOs through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects.

For example, for one year from FY2015 the HOPE International Development Agency in Japan, a specified non-profit corporation, installed water supply systems and public toilets in schools and clinics in five villages

Note 15: Source WHO/UNICEF “Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water: 2015 Update and MDG Assessment”

Note 16: Source UNICEF “Committing to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed” (Progress Report 2015)

in the Tsayte District of Ethiopia, established operation and management systems, and provided human resources development in health and hygiene education so that the residents could secure access to safe water in the long term.

In parallel with these efforts, cooperation using Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security, etc. and efforts for the improvement of the water environment of developing countries in cooperation with domestic and local private sector organizations are also being carried out in regions around the world.

The Ministry of the Environment is also carrying out initiatives. For example, there are serious water contamination problems in many Asian countries. In order to eliminate the lack of relevant information and knowledge the Ministry started the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA). With the cooperation of the 13 participating countries¹⁷ in Asia, it is aiming to enhance water environment governance in Asia through the building of human networks, the gathering and sharing of information, and capacity building, etc.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Project to Install the Water Treatment Unit / N'djili Kilambu de la Commune de Mont Ngafula

Grant assistance for grassroots human security projects (February 2015 – July 2016)

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, society and economy have become impoverished due to long-term foreign and domestic conflicts, so the urgent issues are the efforts for improved access to social services and economic development.

The water supply ratio in the Democratic Republic of the Congo before implementation of this project was no more than about 46%, and even in the capital Kinshasa the scope of supply by the public water supply authority was limited to the central parts of the city. In regions with underdeveloped water supply facilities, infectious diseases such as cholera and others caused by the use of unsanitary water have become a problem because residents had no choice but to drink water from rivers or go to draw water from a spring located several kilometers away.

In order to alleviate these serious water problems in the region, the NGO "Coup de Pouce" obtained the assistance of Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd. and asked Japan to support implementation of a water treatment unit development project using the grant assistance for grassroots human security projects.

When general rapid filtration equipment is used, replacement of filters and expert knowledge of maintenance are required. Accordingly, its management by the villagers is thought to be difficult. Meanwhile, the water treatment units made by Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd., installed in this project can be operated, managed and maintained by the recipient organization and local residents because special chemicals or



Project participants gather in front of an installed water treatment unit. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in the Democratic Republic of the Congo)

replacement of filters are not required.

In July 2016, the handover ceremony of the water treatment units was held after completion of the installation work. The new water treatment units have enabled the supply of approximately 8,000 liters of drinking water per day and have allowed approximately 13,000 residents in the region to get access to safe drinking water.

Note 17: Japan, Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, Malaysia, China, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Viet Nam, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Nepal

(3) Quality Education for All

Education plays an important role in the socio-economic development that is needed for poverty reduction. It also enables individuals to develop their potential and capability, as well as to live with dignity. Education fosters understanding of other people and different cultures, and forms the foundation for peace. However, approximately 57 million children worldwide are still out of school, despite the fact that achieving universal primary education was one of the MDGs with the target date of 2015. Furthermore, new problems have been indicated. For example, in countries and regions affected by conflict, the proportion of out-of-school children that was 30% in 1999 increased to 36% in 2012.¹⁸

To improve this situation, the Incheon Declaration that compiles recommendations for education beyond

<Japan's Efforts>

Valuing “nation-building” and “human resources development,” Japan has been providing developing countries with a broad range of support for education, including the enhancement of basic education,* higher education, and vocational training.

At the timing of the UN Summit for the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in September 2015, Japan announced a new education cooperation strategy entitled, Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth. The new strategy was formulated to serve as a thematic policy in the field of education under the Development Cooperation Charter approved by the Cabinet in February 2015. In formulating the strategy, a wide range of views was exchanged with experts, NGOs, international organizations, and other parties. The new strategy aims to achieve quality education through mutual learning under the following basic principles: (i) Education cooperation to achieve inclusive and equitable quality learning; (ii) Education cooperation for industrial, science and technology human resources development and building the foundation of socio-economic development; and (iii) Establishment and expansion of global and regional networks for education cooperation. In the years ahead, Japan will further contribute to education assistance in accordance with the new strategy.

In March 2015, Japan and the United States unveiled the United States and Japan – Collaborating to Advance Girls Education Around the World, which contributes to promote assistance for the education

2015 was unveiled at the World Education Forum 2015* held in Incheon, the Republic of Korea in May 2015. The Declaration urges the international community to make efforts to expand access to education.

In the 2030 Agenda was adopted at the UN to succeed the MDGs. Goal 4 of the SDGs is identified as “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,” in order to address the education goal from the MDGs, which remains unachieved.

The international community has been committed to realizing Education for All (EFA).* Following EFA, in order to achieve the more comprehensive Goal 4, the Education 2030 Framework for Action* was adopted at the Education 2030 High-Level Meeting held in November 2015.

of girls. Additionally, Japan contributes proactively to the discussions for formulating the framework for action that will succeed the EFA Framework for Action adopted in November 2015.

Also, with regard to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE),* which lays out the international framework for achieving universal primary education, Japan has actively participated in the discussions for formulating a new GPE strategic plan beyond 2016 and in the reform efforts. Furthermore, Japan's contributions to GPE funds from FY2007 to FY2015 totaled approximately \$22.8 million.

Regarding initiatives for Africa, at TICAD V held in



A mathematics class for second grade elementary school children in Vanuatu. Children pay close attention to the first lesson given by a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, Ms. Tamami Shimomura. (Photo: Tamami Shimomura)

Note 18: Source UN “The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015”

June 2013, Japan announced that it would provide quality educational environments for 20 million children over the course of five years starting in 2013, through the expansion of support for math and science education improvement and school management improvement projects. Japan is steadily implementing these initiatives.

In addition, at TICAD VI held in August 2016 Japan announced that it would train approximately 20,000 science and mathematics teachers over the course of three years starting in 2016, contributing to strengthening basic academic skills in science and technology.

Furthermore, in order to contribute to the development of education and the improvement of its quality in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan established Funds-in-Trust within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to implement projects for improving the operational capacity of community learning centers for literacy education, among other purposes.

In Afghanistan, an estimated 11 million people (about 30% of the population over the age of 15) are illiterate¹⁹ due to the impact of nearly three decades of civil war. Therefore, the Government of Afghanistan advances literacy education for the people. Japan has contributed to the promotion of literacy education in Afghanistan by extending a total of approximately ¥5.3 billion in grant aid through UNESCO since 2008, which provided literacy education to 1 million people in 100 districts of 18 provinces in Afghanistan.



Children take their end-of-term test at Duwaw Primary School, which primarily accepts orphans in Awash Sabat Kilo Town located in the Afar Region in the eastern part of Ethiopia. (Photo: Ayumi Hama / Embassy of Japan in Ethiopia)



The Dionisio de Herrera Education Center in San Pedro Sula, Cortez, located in the northwestern part of Honduras in Central America. Children are studying at the school building rebuilt with the assistance of Japan. (Photo: Hiromi Sakai / Embassy of Japan in Honduras)

In recent years, Japan has been promoting transnational networking of higher education institutions and joint research projects among neighboring countries. Japan also supports human resources development in developing countries by accepting international students to Japanese institutions of higher education and other institutions in accordance with the 300,000 International Students Plan and through other such measures.

In Kenya, the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University established the Kenya Research Station in 2005 which is developing research activities pertaining to tropical infectious diseases, global health, etc. Through these activities, the research station accepts Kenyan and Japanese undergraduate, masters and doctoral students to develop researchers and other core human resources to lead healthcare in Africa in the future. Furthermore, health education for children is provided and regional health activities are put into practice through the school health activities of JICA Partnership Program.

In addition, Japan strives to make it easier for Japanese in-service teachers to go overseas as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) or Youth Volunteers for Nikkei Communities through the Special Program for School Teachers.* In-service teachers dispatched to developing countries contribute to educational promotion and development in their countries of destination, and make use of their experiences as volunteers in the Japanese educational context upon their return to Japan.

Note 19: Source UNESCO, 2015

*** World Education Forum 2015**

World Education Forum 2015 is an international education conference held in Incheon, the Republic of Korea in May 2015. Attended by the UN Secretary-General, education ministers, and high-level officials, the conference discussed education beyond 2015 and adopted the Incheon Declaration on the final day. During the conference, the Japanese government delegation called upon members to promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), among other actions.

*** Education for All (EFA)**

EFA is an international movement aimed at ensuring everyone in the world has the opportunity to receive at least basic education. The five main organizations involved in EFA are UNESCO, the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with UNESCO serving as the overall coordinator.

*** Education 2030 Framework for Action**

This framework for action succeeds the EFA Dakar Framework for Action aimed at achieving education for all, adopted at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal in 2000 with a target date of 2015. The Education 2030 Framework for Action was adopted at the Education 2030 High-Level Meeting, which was held to coincide with the UNESCO General Conference in November 2015.

*** Basic education**

Basic education is educational activities designed to enable individuals to acquire the knowledge, values, and skills needed to live. It mainly refers to primary education, lower secondary education (equivalent to Japanese junior high school), pre-school education, and adult literacy education.

*** Global Partnership for Education (GPE)**

GPE refers to a framework for international cooperation established under the leadership of the World Bank in 2002, in order to achieve universal primary education by 2015 that was included in the MDGs and the EFA Dakar goals (formerly known as Fast Track Initiative [FTI]).

*** Special Program for School Teachers**

The program enables teachers of Japanese public or private schools to participate in the JOCV program or the Youth Volunteers for Nikkei Communities program while remaining affiliated with their schools. It is designed to facilitate in-service teachers' participation in international cooperation. Teachers who are recommended by MEXT to JICA are exempt from the preliminary technical test. The period between the pre-dispatch training and the termination of dispatch is two years (compared to the usual two years and three months), beginning in April and ending in March to match the Japanese school year.

Cambodia

The Project for Educational Resource Development in Science and Mathematics at the Lower Secondary Level

Technical cooperation project (May 2013-May 2016)

Cambodia lost all of its competent personnel such as teachers and intellectuals, due to the mass genocide from 1975 to 1979 by the Pol Pot regime and saw the collapse of its human resource development system. Thereafter, Cambodia tried to revitalize the nation. Although the expansion of the education has progressed in quantity, problems with quality have remained.

Under such circumstances, in 2000 Japan implemented the Secondary School Teacher Training Project in Science and Mathematics (STEPSAM1, 2000-2005), as the first technical cooperation project related to science and mathematics education in Cambodia. STEPSAM1 strengthened the capabilities of science and mathematics teachers of the National Institute of Education (NIE) which is the training institution of high school teachers, and provided training for incumbent teachers of science and mathematics in high schools. Furthermore, NIE teachers were dispatched to Japan to study for college degrees and diplomas, and Japan provided support for the improvement of the functions and capabilities in the science and mathematics fields of NIE. Furthermore, following STEPSAM1, the Science Teacher Education Project (STEPSAM2, 2008-2012) was implemented to strengthen the capabilities of teachers in charge of the science curriculum from teachers' training colleges (a total of 24 colleges) for elementary and secondary school education.

The Project for Educational Resource Development in Science and Mathematics at the Lower Secondary Level (STEPSAM3, 2013-2016), following STEPSAM2, provided instructions on how to improve teaching at lower secondary schools in six target provinces using guidance books developed for teachers of lower secondary schools. A total of 17,000 teachers participated in the series of training sessions and approximately 50,000 copies of the guidance books were distributed. These guidance books were highly evaluated by the Ministry of



Training on experimentation methods in a chemistry class for teachers. The teachers perform the experiments with deep interest. (Photo: JICA)

Education, Youth and Sport, and it was decided to implement training sessions and distribute guidance books in 19 other provinces on the budget of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

The cooperation in the science and mathematics education fields that initially began with the support for only 20 NIE teachers has grown over the past 16 years to such an extent that the outcomes are delivered directly to science and mathematics teachers in lower secondary schools nationwide. During that time, NIE teachers began to give instruction to the instructors in teachers' training colleges and the instructors of teachers' training colleges are actively working as instructors for the training of incumbent teachers. Now, people who were involved in STEPSAM have taken up responsible positions within the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, and are advancing the reform of science and mathematics education on their own initiative.

The Follow-up Cooperation on the Projects for Construction of Primary Schools in Support of Education for All (Phase I & II) and School Sector Reform Program in Nepal

Grant aid (August 2015 – September 2016)

Due to the earthquake in Nepal that occurred on April 25, 2015 and the aftershock on May 12, many schools suffered damage. In response to this, Japan commenced support for restoring the school buildings in early July. However, it was likely that it would take some time to implement full-scale support. Therefore, in order to avoid delay for the support and meet local needs quickly, Japan commenced the restoration work one by one for 230 classrooms of schools in Dhading District, Gorkha District and Nuwakot District among those for which Japan has implemented assistance in building schools with grant aid in the past nearly 20 years.

Schools resumed their class after the earthquake disaster but repair and reconstruction of the classrooms was delayed, which made many schools hold classes in makeshift places such as temporary classrooms or tents. What was worse, the local rainy season after the earthquake running between June and September made it difficult to completely prevent rain leaking through the roof of the temporary classrooms built with bamboos and tents and use of such classrooms was impossible in the medium- to long-term. The principal of Indrayani primary school, one of the schools to be restored, said "I am grateful to all the relevant people who came from Japan to ascertain the status of the damaged school buildings after the earthquake and promptly achieved cooperation for the restoration" with reference to the fact that Japan implemented restoration work even during the rainy season.

Together with this restoration project, through the



A lesson in a temporary classroom. School restoration work is underway in the background. (Photo: JICA)

Emergency School Reconstruction Project, a loan assistance project, Japan is also working, through joint-financing with the Asian Development Bank (ADB),¹ on the reconstruction and enhancement of quake-resistance of school buildings in the 14 districts that were particularly damaged in the earthquake. Through the classroom restoration project, Japan has been delivering a safe learning environment to children by offering seamless support for the full-scale reconstruction of schools.

*1 ADB was established under the initiative of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) with the objective of contributing to the economic development of developing countries by supporting their economic growth and economic cooperation in the Asia and Pacific region.

(4) Disparity Reduction (Assistance for People who Tend to be in Vulnerable Situations)

Ongoing efforts are being made to implement the 2030 Agenda. Meanwhile, a number of issues such as difficulty in identifying where problems lie and addressing them properly from the broader national level are brought to light. "Increase of disparities" is one of them. Moreover, challenges such as poverty, conflict, infectious diseases,

terrorism, and natural disasters have varying impacts depending on the situations that individuals are in, including their country and region, or whether they are women and/or children. To deal with this situation, it is effective and essential to adopt an approach in a form that takes the standpoint of individual people.

<Japan's Efforts>

● Human Security

Japan places priority on the principle of "human security." This concept focuses on each individual, and seeks to build states and communities by protecting and empowering individuals so that they can live in dignity, free from fear and want.

To advance human security, the Government of Japan undertakes a variety of efforts, both to (i) promote the concept and to (ii) put it into practice.

(i) For promoting the concept, Japan has played a leading role in establishing the Commission on Human Security, which is an international commission of experts, and its successor the Advisory Board on Human Security as well as convening the informal,

open-ended forum Friends of Human Security. Furthermore, Japan led the adoption of two UN resolutions and made efforts to work out the definition of the concept. The UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution concerning a common understanding on human security in September 2012 under Japan's leadership.

(ii) For putting the concept into practice, Japan spearheaded the launch of the UN Trust Fund for Human Security in 1999. Japan has thus far contributed approximately ¥45.17 billion in total, and supported 238 projects in 88 countries and regions contributing to ensuring human security, implemented by UN agencies

Concept of "human security"



(all figures as of the end of December 2016). In the new Development Cooperation Charter approved by the Cabinet in February 2015, human security

is defined as the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation.

● Assistance for Persons with Disabilities

It is important that capacity building and community development are promoted to ensure the social participation and inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in society, such as young people and women, especially persons with disabilities.

It is Japan's policy to pay due attention to the socially vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, when planning and implementing ODA policies for development cooperation. Policies for persons with disabilities cover a number of different fields, including welfare, health and medical care, education, and employment. Japan has utilized the techniques and experiences Japan has accumulated in these fields through ODA and NGO activities to promote measures for persons with disabilities in developing countries. For example, Japan carefully tailors its assistance to various local needs, such as promoting barrier-free railroad infrastructure and airports, building vocational training center and rehabilitation facilities for persons with disabilities, and providing minibuses for their transportation.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, Ms. Asuka Sawada teaches children with disabilities at the 1st school of Dornod province in Eastern Mongolia. In arts and crafts class, she teaches creative activities which make full use of the children's imagination. (Photo: Takako Tsukagoshi)



Improvement of a barrier-free environment is important for supporting the employment of people with disabilities in Amman, the capital of Jordan. The conditions on the angles of slopes, materials and handrails on the way to the Ministry of Labor in Jordan were improved by support from Japan. (Photo: Yahoko Asai / JICA Expert)

Additionally, through JICA, Japan provides a range of technical cooperation to enhance the capacity of organizations and personnel offering assistance to persons with disabilities in developing countries. Included among these efforts are the acceptance of trainees from developing countries and the dispatch of JOCVs and a variety of experts, including physical and occupational therapists and social workers.

In January 2014, Japan ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Convention established independent clauses setting out that states parties would undertake measures for international cooperation and its promotion (Article 32). Japan continues to contribute to increasing the rights of persons with disabilities in developing countries through ODA and other means.

Mongolia

The Project for Strengthening Teachers' Ability and Reasonable Treatments for Children with Disability Technical cooperation project (August 2015 –)

In Mongolia, with respect to the education for children with mental or physical disability, there are some issues such as difficulties of being unable to receive enough support from the late detection of disability, of being stuck with poverty due to their parents' unstable job status or of the scarcity of the number of schools that can extend education to those children. Moreover, professional training on how to treat and teach handicapped children has not been extended for a long time at the teacher training course in Mongolia. As a result, there are quite a few handicapped children who have been unable to receive appropriate education according to the degree of their disability and go to school.

In response to these issues, Mongolia has endeavored to develop legal systems to ensure that people with or without disability can have all opportunities equally. Moreover, in order to achieve developmental support and education improvement for children with disability, Mongolia asked Japan for assistance, and in 2015 the Project for Strengthening Teachers' Ability and Reasonable Treatments for Children with Disability was commenced.

In order to develop the system of early detection of disabilities and developmental support in pilot areas which are selected from Ulaanbaatar City and regional cities, this project aims to establish a model for the early detection of disabilities, developmental support and education for the handicapped through extending improvements in capacity of teachers for quality education to the pilot schools, four special schools for the mentally handicapped and eight regular schools.

Regarding the development of the system for the early detection of disabilities and developmental support, Japan held consultations with the institution in charge, the Commission of Health, Education and Social Protection for Children with Disability, and is compiling the steps from the detection of disabilities to developmental support and the roles of the related institutions into manuals. Furthermore, Japan has reviewed the tools for screening and assessment that Mongolia has been using to date and studied the tools that will be necessary. Currently, the localization into Mongolian use of two



A Mongolian language class at Special School No.25 in Ulaanbaatar City (Photo: Kiyoshi Otomo)

tools that are being used in Japan is under way.

With respect to strengthening the capabilities of the teachers, study sessions have been held for the teachers (approximately 200) at the four pilot special schools at the frequency of twice a month in the first year and once a month in the second year. Through the study sessions, the Mongolian formats of individual educational plans were prepared and the teachers' understanding of the value of establishing plans has deepened. Japan makes efforts to establish the system that allows the handicapped children to study at local regular schools by encouraging collaboration between the eight pilot regular schools and the special schools.

Japan will continue activities that enable children to acquire appropriate developmental support and education tailored to their individual needs.

In May 2016 the Project for Promoting Social Participation of Persons with Disabilities in Ulaanbaatar City was also commenced separately from this project. It is boosting the realization of an inclusive society in Mongolia by working on consistent cooperation from the entry point (early detection) to the exit point (social participation) of support for persons with disabilities. (As of August 2016)

(5) Promotion of Women's Empowerment and Participation

Generally, conventional wisdom and social systems in developing countries are often shaped based on men's perceptions, making women prone to vulnerable situations in various ways. Compared to the early 2000s when the MDGs were established, girls' enrolment rate has improved considerably, women's political participation has increased, and more women hold senior government official and ministerial posts.²⁰ However, there are still many countries and regions where women continue to lack the same opportunities as men to participate in decision-making processes, which are not restricted to high-level government decision-making but also include family and other private decision-making that affects the lives of women.

Women are critical actors of development, and their participation will lead to not only the improvement of their

own lives but also to more effective development. For example, improving the ability to read and write of women who had little or no educational opportunities increases their access to correct information about public health and prevention of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS. This leads to voluntary family planning, and to the promotion of women's social advancement and economic empowerment.

Goal 5 of the SDGs in the 2030 Agenda seeks to "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." Gender (socially and culturally constructed roles) equality, promoting women's empowerment, and mainstreaming women's empowerment in development (gender mainstreaming) are essential for realizing "quality growth." For this purpose, it is important for men and women to participate equally in development and to equally reap the benefits.

<Japan's Efforts>

With the understanding that women being able to reach their full potential gives vitality to the entire society and is essential for growth, Japan is advancing its cooperation with the international community towards realizing "a society where women shine." The Development Cooperation Charter (decided by the Cabinet in February 2015) stipulates giving priority to efforts for "quality growth" and poverty eradication, etc. through such growth based on the human security approach. Furthermore, the Charter clearly states that Japan will encourage the participation of women at every phase of development cooperation and be more proactive in ensuring that women share equitably in the fruits of development.

In September 2013, Prime Minister Abe revealed his plan to strengthen support for realizing "a society where women shine" in his address at the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly. Specifically, the Prime Minister announced that based on the three pillars of "facilitating women's active role/participation in society and women's empowerment," "enhancing Japan's efforts in the area of women's healthcare as a part of its strategy on global health diplomacy," and "supporting women's participation and protecting their rights in the area of peace and security," Japan would implement ODA in excess of \$3 billion over the three years from 2013 to 2015 and has fully implemented its commitment.

In September 2014, Japan hosted the first World Assembly for Women (WAW!) as part of the efforts to realize "a society where women shine," one of the Abe Administration's top priorities. Japan hosted WAW! 2015, for the second time, in August 2015, in which 145 Japanese and overseas leaders active in women-related fields participated. At WAW!2015, following the example of WAW!2014, the ideas and proposals from the participants

were compiled and published as "WAW! To Do 2015" (UN document: A/C.3/70/3).

In December 2016 Japan held WAW! 2016, for the third time, and the participants discussed a wide range of issues such as "work-style reforms," the active role of women in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields, women's well-being, etc. and shared the view that they would steadily move to action. Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe, in his speech at WAW! 2016, expressed that Japan would steadily implement over \$3 billion in total assistance until 2018, focusing on respect for women's human rights, improving an enabling environment for women to realize their full potential, and advancing women's leadership.

Japan has been extending its assistance through the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) founded in 2011



Women attend a leather production training session to gain employable skills near the capital of Ethiopia. (Photo: Ayako Okawa / Embassy of Japan in Ethiopia)

Note 20: Source: "The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015"



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe delivers his keynote speech at the open forum of WAW! 2016 held in Tokyo in December 2016.

by merging four parts of the UN system. In 2016, Japan provided approximately \$30 million and contributed to its efforts for women's political participation, economic empowerment, eliminating violence against women and girls, strengthening women's roles in the fields of peace and security, and seeking to ensure gender consideration in policy and budgets.

In September 2016 Prime Minister Abe attended the meeting for the HeForShe Campaign²¹ by UN Women and emphasized the accomplishments in women's issues at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit and the value of the World Assembly for Women (WAW!). He also expressed his determination to further accelerate promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment, and called on each participant to make efforts towards realizing "a society where women shine."

Japan considers sexual violence in conflict as an issue that cannot be overlooked. In this regard, Japan attaches importance to collaborating with the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG) and contributed \$2.7 million to the office in FY2015.

When then U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama visited Japan in March 2015, First Lady Akie Abe and Mrs. Obama announced that over ¥42 billion of ODA would be implemented over the three years from 2015 for the empowerment of

girls and women and gender sensitive education.

In September 2015, in his address to the UN General Assembly, Prime Minister Abe announced the completion of Japan's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security regarding UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The Prime Minister also mentioned WAW!2015 in 2015, and expressed Japan's commitment to lead the empowerment of women and expanding their active roles.

Promotion of active roles of women was also largely discussed at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in May 2016. Under the recognition that bringing out the potential of women and promoting the participation of women in the field of natural science are important, the G7 leaders agreed to the "G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls" and the "Women's Initiative in Developing STEM Career (WINDS)." Furthermore, Japan took this opportunity to announce the "Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment," a new strategy for promoting women's empowerment in international cooperation taking into account the SDGs and the priority areas in the Development Cooperation Charter, and announced that it would implement human resources development of approximately 5,000 women officials and improvement of learning environment for approximately 50,000 girls over the next three years from 2016 to 2018.

Based on the recognition of the power of women as the source of growth, the Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment stipulates the fields of priority such as promoting respect for women and girls' rights, improving an enabling environment for women to reach their full potential, and advancing women's leadership. Specifically, through development of gender-sensitive infrastructure, support for girls' education (including Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: STEM), advancing women's participation and leadership, particularly in disaster risk reduction, etc. Japan aims to support the development of environments and establish institutions that enable women to expand their own options in their lives and independently and freely pursue their possibilities.

Note 21: This is a campaign by UN Women calling on men and boys to promote gender equality.

Tajikistan

The Project for Construction of Women's Center in Panjakent City Grant assistance for grassroots human security projects (February 2015 – August 2016)

Panjakent City and the surrounding areas with a population of approximately 220,000 people are located in northwestern Tajikistan, 260 kilometers away, approximately four hours by car, from the capital Dushanbe City. They play a central role in the administration and culture of this region, but they are situated on the edge of the Fann Mountains, with elevations of 2,000 to 5,000 meters, so access from other cities is not easy.

In such a city that is prone to be isolated, the NGO Zaroni Sharq¹ has been engaged in community-focused activities to support women based in Panjakent City for the past 21 years. The activities of Zaroni Sharq encompass many: microcredit² loans to economically deprived women, legal advice to law-illiterate women, legal lectures on women's rights, educational seminars on HIV/AIDS, seminars to advance further study for schoolgirls, lessons in computers, sewing, cooking, Russian and English, etc.

Furthermore, it has provided people who are going to work in Russia, Kazakhstan and other countries as immigrant workers with seminars to keep them from falling victims to human trafficking and lectures of Internet courses to ensure that they have means of communication after reaching their destination.

Zaroni Sharq carries out diverse activities to support women. But it has rented a space at one corner of a tenant building in the center of the city to carry out its activities in the past and its activity space was extremely limited. Also, it did not have a room to protect women from violence including domestic violence, so its employees used their own home to

shelter women who had met suffering. Under such circumstances, the organization had for many years hoped to secure a place where it could freely carry out its activities.

Recently a Women's Center, designed to serve as a new base for the activities of Zaroni Sharq, was constructed on land leased free of charge to the organization from Panjakent City, using grant assistance for grassroots human security projects provided by the Embassy of Japan in Tajikistan. The three-story facilities, boasting sufficient space, have special rooms for holding occupational training and seminars, and are also equipped with shelter rooms for women. Consequently, an average of more than 500 users every month at the women's center are now able to receive the necessary support in a safe and comfortable environment.

*1 "Zaroni Sharq" means "women of the east" in the Tajik language.
*2 "Microcredit" is a financial service for the poor that provides small loans without any security to poor people.



Many women receive vocational training in a sewing classroom. (Photo: Yuko Morikawa)

Kenya

Project on Enhancing Gender Responsive Extension Services in Kenya Technical cooperation project (September 2014 –)

In Kenya, people engaged in agriculture account for approximately 60% of the workforce. Moreover, women account for 70% of agricultural production workers, so women play an important role in agriculture. However, women have limited access to such things as land, agricultural materials, agricultural technology and markets. Thus the productivity of the women engaged in agriculture is estimated to be 20% to 30% lower compared to that of men.

Recognizing the necessity of "gender mainstreaming" which aims for equal opportunities by taking into consideration the social roles, challenges and needs of both men and women in the agriculture area, the Government of Kenya has incorporated gender perspective into the agricultural policy and agricultural development plans.

In the "Smallholder Horticultural Empowerment Project" (2006 – 2009), Japan has contributed to encouraging gender equality in farm management and improving the income and livelihood of farmers by promoting market-oriented farming management and gender mainstreaming in the project.

In this cooperation, Japan capitalizes on these past outcomes and is creating the "Gender Mainstreaming Package"

in order to firmly establish gender mainstreaming in the Government of Kenya. The Package includes manuals and guidelines that summarize a variety of activities necessary for gender mainstreaming in

the dissemination of agriculture for smallholders categorizing specified activities at each stage from preparation to completion of the project. It is expected that utilization of the Package by those who disseminate agriculture in Kenya will drive women's participation in farm management and improve the livelihood of both men and women of smallholders. (As of August 2016)



A workshop on expanding agriculture from a gender perspective (Photo: JICA)

(6) Culture and Sports

In developing countries, there is a growing interest in the preservation and promotion of their own cultures. Cultural heritage that symbolizes countries are sources of pride for their people, and at the same time are also resources that can be effectively utilized for tourism to develop the socio-economic environment of the people in surrounding areas. On the other hand, there is also cultural heritage which is exposed to survival crises due to a lack of funds, equipment, technologies, etc. Assistance to protect cultural heritage is a form of cooperation that directly reaches the hearts of the people in those countries, and has long-term effects. In addition, the preservation and promotion of culture, such as invaluable cultural heritage that is shared

by all humankind, is an issue that should be addressed not only by the countries with cultural heritage in danger, but also by the entire international community.

Everyone is familiar with sports, and can easily take part in them regardless of their gender or age. Sports can enhance people's quality of life as they help maintain and improve health. Furthermore, sports foster a sense of respect for opponents and cultivate a spirit of mutual understanding and awareness of norms, through competition based on fair rules and sharing of the same experience. The influence and positive power of sports play the role of "catalyzer" for the development and growth of developing countries.

<Japan's Efforts>

Japan has contributed to the promotion of culture and higher education as well as preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries through Cultural Grant Assistance* since 1975. Specifically, Japan has constructed facilities necessary for preserving and utilizing cultural heritage and cultural properties, sports and cultural facilities, and facilities of higher education and research institutions in developing countries. Japan has also provided the necessary equipment for these facilities. Those facilities built in developing countries serve as centers for providing information about Japan and for cultural exchanges with Japan, as well as for deepening understanding of Japan and fostering a sense of affinity towards Japan. In recent years, from the viewpoint of "Japan Promotion," Japan has also emphasized support for Japanese language education and support that contributes to disseminating Japanese contents.



JICA short-term volunteer members from the baseball club of Nippon Sport Science University provide guidance at a baseball club in Indaiatuba in Sao Paulo State of Brazil. (Photo: Yuko Watayama / JICA Brazil Sao Paulo Office)



Mr. Takashi Hagino teaches judo in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. (Photo: Hiromi Ito / JICA Botswana Office)

In FY2015, Japan proactively provided sports assistance using ODA and "Projects for Sports Diplomacy Enhancement" to advance "Sport for Tomorrow," a programme launched for the purpose of international contribution through sports through which Japan shares sporting values and the Olympic and Paralympic movement as the host country of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. Specifically, Japan utilized Cultural Grant

Assistance to provide sports facilities and equipment to 15 countries, and dispatched 219 JICA volunteers in the field of sports. Japan has also decided to utilize the Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects to assist with the preservation of cultural heritage, such as the project for the improvement of equipment for the restoration and preservation of historical structures in Nepal that were damaged by the earthquake. In addition to the above, Japan provides TV programs in three countries.

Japan supports the restoration and preservation of cultural heritage, including equipment provision and preliminary studies and surveys, through the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage established in UNESCO. Placing a particular emphasis on human resources development in developing countries based on the idea of enabling the people in those countries to protect the cultural heritage of their own country themselves in the future, Japan also endeavors to dispatch international experts, which mainly include Japanese experts, and hold workshops in order to transfer techniques and expertise to developing countries. Japan furthermore supports the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional dances, music, handcraft techniques, and oral lore (oral traditions) by implementing



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, Ms. Junko Watanabe consults with local staff in the National Museum of Laos in Vientiane while looking over an exhibition layout diagram of the exhibits. (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

successor training, records conservation, creation of safeguarding mechanisms, and other activities through the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage established in UNESCO.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) implements the Cooperation Promotion Program for the Protection of World Heritage and Other Cultural Properties in the Asia-Pacific Region, in which it invites young experts on cultural heritage protection from the Asia-Pacific region to Japan for training.

Glossary

*** Cultural Grant Assistance**

Cultural Grant Assistance provides funding to procure equipment and supplies, and improve facilities for the promotion of culture and higher education in developing countries. It is intended to encourage cultural and educational advancements in these countries as well as cultural exchanges between Japan and the countries, with a view to deepening friendships and mutual understanding. Cultural Grant Assistance includes General Cultural Grant Assistance, which provides assistance to governmental organizations, and Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, which provides assistance to NGOs and local public entities for small-scale projects.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Project for Rehabilitation of Sports Center in Mostar for Community Reconciliation through Sports Activities
Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (January 2015 – October 2016)

The City of Mostar was once a major battlefield during the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Even more than 20 years after the end of the conflict, the city is still divided into different ethnic communities including those of Croats and Muslims. Schools also have different curriculums for different ethnic groups.

Under such circumstances, Japan helped renovate a football field and clubhouse in the sports center at the City of Mostar. This project aimed to provide children of different ethnic groups with an environment where they could interact with each other by playing sports together.

Furthermore, Mr. Tsuneyasu Miyamoto, a former captain of the Japan National Team for the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup, opened a football academy “Mali Most” (which means “Little Bridge” in the local language) where children from different ethnic backgrounds in the City of Mostar could practice football together. 53 children were participating in the academy as of October 2016 and they are playing football in the field rehabilitated with the support of Japan. JICA also plans to launch a technical cooperation project for confidence building through sports education and eventually work closely with the above-mentioned projects.

On October 9, 2016, the handover ceremony of the renovated football field and the opening ceremony of the football academy were successfully held with many guests, including Mr. Nobuo Kishi, State Minister for Foreign Affairs



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nobuo Kishi (second from right) attends the handover ceremony of the Project for Rehabilitation of Sports Center in Mostar for Community Reconciliation through Sports Activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Bosnia and Herzegovina)

of Japan, and Mr. Josip Brkic, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ljubo Beslic, Mayor of the City of Mostar, and Mr. Ivica Osim, a former head coach of the Japan National Team. The sports center is expected to offer a place for children to foster friendship and common values through sports and thus contribute to community reconciliation.