As Japan’s important partner in the Caucasus region, Armenia shares with Japan universal values such as freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law and market economy. Most importantly, after the Velvet revolution in April 2018, the Armenian people embarked on the path of political and economic reform of the country.

Basic Policy of Assistance

Achieving Balanced and Sustainable Economic Growth

In order to contribute to attain such ambitious and future-oriented transformation through growth of employment, development of human capital, improvement of social protection system as well as institutional modernization of the public administration and governance, Japan intends to focus on - among many other aspects - further improvement of institutions and infrastructure, development of human resources as well as continued upgrading of disaster prevention measures both in the capital city and regions.

Priority Area

- Improving institutions, infrastructure and developing human resources for economic growth and regional development

Many rural communities in Armenia are located in the mountainous areas with difficulty of access and lack of transportation infrastructure. Agriculture, those regions’ principal industry, has still rather low productivity, and the development of other industries are not adequate yet. With the aim of facilitating the regions’ economic take-off and reducing the regional disparities, Japan will provide assistance in further improvement of the basic infrastructure such as power grids, medical and healthcare as well as educational institutions. Japan will also offer assistance in the field of human resources development for the promotion of small- and medium-sized enterprises including the high-tech industry such as IT sector and for the reduction of regional disparities.

-Strengthening of resilience to natural disasters

Armenia, just like Japan, has been historically enduring frequent onslaughts of various natural disasters, most notably devastating earthquakes. Japan finds it as her own duty to share whatever experience and technology in the sphere of disaster prevention and mitigation with this country in the Caucasus, further developing human resources and enhancing the country’s innate resilience to such disasters in the fullest possible manner.
Ongoing Forms of Official Development Assistance (ODA) from Japan to Armenia

ODA LOANS

provide low-interest, long-term and concessional funds to finance large-scale development efforts in such areas as economic and social infrastructure.

TOTAL* JPY 31,808,000,000 USD 284,000,000

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

is implemented for the transfer of necessary technology in various concrete fields of economic and social development.

TOTAL* JPY 4,567,000,000 USD 40,776,785

GRANT AID

is the form of donation requiring no obligation for repayment by the recipient country.

- Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP)
- Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots projects (GCGP)
- General Grant Aid
- Cultural Grant Assistance
- Non-Project Grant Aid

TOTAL* JPY 9,124,000,000 USD 81,464,285

* Total amount as of 2018 fiscal year
* Exchange rate as of 2018 official rate
USD 1 = JPY 112
The Project for Improvement of Fire Fighting Equipment in Yerevan City
JPY 881,000,000 (USD 8,810,000), 2009

The Project for Renovation of the School in Ditak Village
JPY 9,776,000 (USD 104,000), 2010
JPY 9,692,430 (USD 88,113), 2015

The Project for Supporting Mine Risk Education in the Republic of Armenia
JPY 10,184,900 (USD 92,590), 2016

The Project for Heating System Improvement of School No.8 in Spitak City
JPY 9,129,120 (USD 82,992), 2018

The Project for Constructing a Multifunctional Community Centre in Ijevan
JPY 7,665,056 (USD 68,438), 2018

The Project for Providing Mobile Care Service for Elderly in Amasia Community
JPY 3,176,910 (USD 28,881), 2018

The Project for Supply of Equipment for Preservation of Historical Documents to the Matenadaran Institute of Ancient Manuscripts, 2001
JPY 49,300,000

JPY 10,491,000,000, 2005
JPY 15,918,000,000, 2008
EXAMPLES OF OUR PROJECTS

- **The Project for Development of Local Production and Promotion of Local Brands**
  JPY 236,000,000, 2013-2016
  JPY 262,000,000, 2016-2019
  in all regions

- **The Project for Improvement of Environment for Learning Japanese Language in the Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University**
  JPY 3,743,640 (USD 31,197), 2017

- **The Project for Improvement of Maternal and Child Health Care Services in Tchambarak, Armenia**
  JPY 9,401,218 (USD 114,649), 2013

- **The Project for Creation of Employment and Supporting Syrian-Armenian Refugees by Establishing a Cuisine Center in Yerevan**
  JPY 4,469,850 (USD 40,635), 2018

- **The Project for Provision of a School Bus to Stepanavan Secondary School No. 6**
  JPY 2,352,000 (USD 21,000), 2018

- **The Project for Improving Maternal and Child Health Care Services**
  JPY 2,352,000 (USD 21,000), 2018

- **The Project for Improving Maternal and Child Health Care Services**
  JPY 4,924,480 (USD 44,768), 2018

- **The Project for Development of Local Production and Promotion of Local Brands**
  JPY 236,000,000, 2013-2016
  JPY 262,000,000, 2016-2019
  in all regions
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

• Project for the Improvement of Crisis Communication and Public Awareness for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2019-2022
• Landslide Disaster Management Project, 2014-2017
• Project for Development of Local Production and Promotion of Local Brands, 2013-2019
• Seismic Risk Assessment and Risk Management Planning Project, 2010-2012
• Human Resources Development Project for SME’s, 2005-2008
• Development of Communities affected by Landslides, 2004-2006

GRANT AID

• Project for Improvement of Fire Fighting Equipment, 2017
• Non-Project Grant Aid “Economic and Social Development Program”, 2016
• Project for Improvement of Fire Fighting Equipment in Yerevan, 2009
• Project for Improvement of Obstetrical Service in the Republic of Armenia, 2005
• Project for Improvement of Medical Equipment, 2001
• Project for Improvement of Medical Equipment of “Armenia” Medical Center, 2000
• Non-Project Grant Aid “Support for purchase of agricultural fence, printing paper, vehicles, etc.”, 1997
• Support for purchase of agricultural equipment and fertilizers, 1997 – 2009

CULTURAL GRANT ASSISTANCE

• Project for the Improvement of Equipment for Restoration and Conservation of Archaeological Artifacts for the Scientific-Research Center of the Historical and Cultural Heritage, 2018
• Project for the Improvement of Equipment for Digitizing Archival Records of Armenian Public Television, 2017
• Project for the Improvement of Equipment for Restoration of Collections of the National Gallery of Armenia, 2009
• Project for the Improvement of Musical Instruments of Yerevan Komitas State Conservatory, 2008
• Supply of Sound Equipment to Karen Demirchyan Sports and Concerts Complex, 2004
• Supply of Sound Equipment to the Armenian National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet, 2003
• Project for Supply of Equipment for Preservation of Historical Documents to the Matenadaran - the Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts, 2001
• (Followed up by Grant Assistance For Cultural Grassroots Projects (GCGP), “The Project for the Follow-up of the supply of Equipment for Preservation of Historical Documents to the Matenadaran Institute of Ancient Manuscripts” , 2008)
• Musical Instruments and Sound Equipment to Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra, 1999
Grant Assistance For Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP)

Reflecting the Japanese Government’s strong commitment to uphold the concept of “Human Security”, GGP are intended to contribute to improvements in various fields such as education, health, infrastructure, etc. The overall goal of GGP is to enhance the well-being of people at the grassroots level, based on the concept of human security. As of March 2019, the Embassy of Japan has supported a total of 64 GGP projects in Armenia.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS: Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs), Local Municipalities, Educational Institutions, Research Institutions and Medical Institutions based in Armenia, can apply for GGP. Recipients shall have minimum 3 years of activities with stable financial status. The project areas include Education, Health, Infrastructure and others.

The grant amount per project is generally up to JPY 10,000,000 (approximately US$ 90,900 in FY 2019) and the duration must be within 12 months. All the required documents shall be presented in English. Prior to sending the application to the e-mail: embjp@yv.mofa.go.jp, the applicants are advised to read carefully the Guideline and Presentation presented on the Embassy’s website: https://www.am.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/b_000195.html.

Trainings

JICA Trainings
From 1993 to 2017 Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) received 678 trainees from the Republic of Armenia in the areas of administration, public service, agriculture, mining, energy, commerce, tourism, human resources, medical services and healthcare, social services, etc.

Cultural Trainings/Workshops
- Training Program on Museums and Community Development, 2015-2016
- Training Program on Conservation and Risk Management of Historic Towns for Cultural Tourism, 2014
- Training Program on Comprehensive Museology, 2013
- Workshops on Conservation and Restoration of Fabric-Dyeing of Cultural Assets such as Archaeological Relics and Ethnic Materials (lectures and practical training) at the request of the History Museum of Armenia, 2011-2014
Commemorative ceremony dedicated to the victims of Armenian Earthquake and Great East Japan Earthquake

Every year in Spitak City, located in northern Armenia, a ceremony is being held in commemoration of the victims of the Armenian Earthquake in 1988 and the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011.

On December 7, 2018, the Commemoration Ceremony was held on the day of 30th anniversary of the fateful Spitak Earthquake, 1988. Ambassador Yamada, as well as other representatives of the diplomatic missions in Armenia, Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations Mr. Ara Nazaryan, Mayor of Spitak City Mr. Sahakyan, Head of Fire-Rescue Station of Spitak, Deputy Colonel Gabrielyan, residents and Rescue staff employees attended the Memorial Ceremony. During the Ceremony, an Armenian Church Mass was served and hundreds of citizens participated and paid tribute by laying flowers at the Memorial khachkars.

The ceremony was followed by the commemorative concert which took place at the music hall of the Cultural House of Spitak City. During the Ceremony, Ambassador Yamada expressed his condolences to the family and relatives of the Spitak Earthquake victims, and his belief that Japan will continue to develop and strengthen the bilateral relations with the Government of Armenia, as both countries faced the same challenges of various natural disasters. In addition, Ambassador expressed his gratitude for erecting the khachkar in Spitak City in the memory of the Great East Japan Earthquake victims, as well as for the valuable assistance of Armenian people to the Japanese people who suffered from the earthquake.

On March 11, 2019, the Commemoration Ceremony dedicated to the victims of Great East Japan Earthquake was held in Spitak City. The Ceremony was attended by Ambassador Yamada, Minister of Emergency Situations, Mr. Feliks Tsolakyan, Governor of Lori Region, Mr. Andrey Ghukasyan, Mayor of Spitak City, Mr. Gagik Sahakyan, Head of Fire-Rescue Station of Spitak, Deputy Colonel Serob Gabrielyan (the above-mentioned khachkar was established by his initiative), residents and Rescue staff employees. The participants paid tribute to the victims of the Earthquake by laying flowers at the Memorial khachkars.
Japan Fund through International Organizations

via World Bank (WB)
Armenia National Disaster Risk Management Program, 2015-2017
Strengthening the Livelihoods and Voice of Poor and Vulnerable Persons Project in Armenia, funded by Japan Social Development Fund, 2013-2016

via Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Strengthening Government and Civil Society Cooperation in Open Government Partnership to Improve Public Services, funded by Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, 2016 - 2018
Solid Waste Management Solutions for Remote and Small Communities Project, funded by Japan fund for Poverty Reduction, 2015 - 2017

via United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Solar Energy for Low-Carbon Sustainable Lifestyles in Solak, Aygavan and Malishka Rural Communities of Armenia Project, funded through the 10YFP Trust Fund, 2017-2018

via United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Project for Electoral Assistance in Armenia, 2019-2020
I always think that there are many qualities which are common between Armenian and Japanese people, but the attitude to “create” new values from nothing other than human perseverance and will-power, without relying on the externally given resources, embodies the most essential aspect which has universal relevance beyond our two nations.

For Armenia, the year 2018 was extraordinary even in the context of its very long and ancient history. The peaceful transition which took place in spring attracted the attention of the whole world. Yerevan, which celebrated its 2800th anniversary in that year, provided the stage for that change. In my view this confirms once again quintessential nature of Armenian nation which is at the same time “ancient” and “ultra-modern”.

Today our world is rapidly shrinking due to the quantum advance of technology in which the Armenian people exhibit the best aspect of their talent. Ultimately all the countries and people on this planet will become “immediate neighbors” to each other. Preempting the arrival of such era, we wish to endeavor day by day so that Japan and Armenia become the most cordial neighbors in it!

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