

From
the People of Japan

White Paper on Development Cooperation 2018

Japan's International Cooperation



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Ministry of Foreign Affairs

[Cover photograph]



Ms. Minami Furukawa, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) acting as a referee in a game of tug of war at the UNDOKAI held at an elementary school in the Kasungu district in central Malawi. Three JOCVs appointed to the district collaborated with the local teachers, and held the UNDOKAI with the participation of three schools. See page 59 “Stories from the Field” for details. (Photo: JICA Malawi Office)

[Back cover photograph]



Mr. Seiichiro Koto, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) interacting with children at a village in western Kenya (Photo: Yosuke Koike)



See page 119 “ODA Topics” for details on “ODA-Man.”

Foreword

As a consequence of the progress of globalization, responding to global issues such as disparities and poverty, terrorism, refugees and displaced persons, climate change, issues related to the oceans including marine plastic litter, and infectious diseases has become an urgent challenge. Since it is difficult for one country alone to solve these challenge that transcend national borders, it is necessary for the entire international community, including Japan, to tackle them.

For many years, Japan has been advocating the principle of “human security,” which focuses on each and every individual, and advancing the building of a country and society through the protection and empowerment of individuals in which people are free from fear and want and are able to live in dignity. Moreover, from the perspective of making a proactive contribution to peace based on the principle of international cooperation, we have been providing assistance which is based on the modernization experience of Japan and adapted to the needs of the partner country.

The “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” unanimously adopted at the United Nations Summit in 2015 set up the goal of realizing societies in which “no one will be left behind” in all countries, which include not only the developing countries but also the developed countries. The concept of “no one will be left behind” reflects the principle of “human security” so I am convinced that no country is better placed than Japan, which has advocated this principle for many years, to exercise leadership for the promotion of the SDGs in the international community.

Furthermore, in order to maintain and strengthen the free and open order based on the rule of law and improve connectivity through the quality infrastructure development in the Indo-Pacific region, Japan is accelerating its efforts to build multilayered cooperative relations and realize the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” through close collaboration with the United States, Australia, India, the ASEAN countries, the United Kingdom, France, the EU, and other related countries.

Meanwhile, 2018 was a year in which Japan was hit by many natural disasters, including heavy rain events and earthquakes, and support for the afflicted areas in Japan was required. Even though Japan is facing a severe fiscal situation, as a member of the international community, it will continue to tackle the global issues that can also have an impact on Japan, and actively contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community, including the developing countries. The Government of Japan intends to work even harder to utilize its limited ODA budget strategically and effectively and produce proper results, while also obtaining the understanding of the people of Japan regarding the fact that providing ODA to developing countries also contributes to the national interest of Japan.

For that purpose, taking into account the recommendation by the Advisory Board for ODA, Japan will move forward from the ODA implementation structure in which the government and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) play the central role, and tackle various development issues in close collaboration with diverse ODA implementing entities including private companies, NGOs, local governments, universities, and others, by utilizing their respective strengths. We have also carried out a revision of the JICA volunteer system.

This White Paper showcases Japan’s efforts related to development cooperation in 2018, along with examples of providing support to developing countries through local industry-government-academia cooperation that also resulted in the revitalization of these local areas. It also presents the achievements of the Japanese staff working at international organizations and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers who embody “Japan’s visible development cooperation.” If these columns serve as an opportunity to further deepen understanding of the people working hard on the front line of development cooperation, and provide encouragement to the people who are aiming to be active on the global stage in the future, then I could have no greater joy.

In 2019 the G20 Osaka Summit and the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) will be held in Japan, and the first SDGs Summit is scheduled at the United Nations in September. Japan will exert further leadership toward the solution of global issues through these kinds of international forums, with the understanding and support of the people of Japan.

March 2019

Minister for Foreign Affairs
KONO Taro



Japan's Development Cooperation Policy

- Development Cooperation Charter -

The foundation of Japan's development cooperation policy is the Development Cooperation Charter (decided by the Cabinet in February 2015). Japan defines its development cooperation policy as being based on: adhering to the course it has taken to date as a peace-loving nation, while contributing even more proactively to securing the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community from the perspective of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation; and securing the national interests of Japan through this approach. The Charter sets forth these basic policies of Japan, and stipulates that Official Development Assistance (ODA) will be utilized ever more strategically and effectively as one of the most important foreign policy tools for realizing those policies. At a time when development issues are becoming more diverse and complex, requiring development cooperation not only by states but also by various actors including private companies and NGOs, ODA must fulfill the role of catalyst for gathering these diverse forces.

1. Basic policies of the development cooperation of Japan

The Charter identifies the following three basic policies of the Japan's development cooperation implemented for the aforementioned objectives.

1) Contributing to peace and prosperity through cooperation for non-military purposes

Cooperation for non-military purposes is one of the most suitable modalities for international contribution for Japan as a peace-loving nation, and is an embodiment of the country's sincere aspirations for the peace and prosperity of the international community. Under this policy, Japan will continue to comply with the principle of avoiding any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts.

(2) Promoting human security

Human security — a concept that pursues the right of individuals to live happily and in dignity, free from fear and want, through their protection and empowerment — is the guiding principle of Japan's development cooperation. Japan will focus its development cooperation on people — especially those liable to be vulnerable, and provide cooperation for their protection and empowerment so as to realize human security and mainstream the concept even further in the international community.

(3) Cooperation aimed at self-reliant development through assistance for self-help efforts as well as dialogue and collaboration based on Japan's experience and expertise

Supporting the self-help efforts of developing countries and aiming for self-reliant development in the future has been the traditional stance in Japan's development cooperation. Japan attaches importance to building the foundations of self-help efforts and self-reliant development such as human resources, socio-economic infrastructure, regulations and institutions in developing countries, and will also go beyond waiting for requests from partner countries by carrying out development cooperation focusing on dialogue and collaboration, such as development cooperation in which Japan proactively presents proposals.

2. Priority issues

In line with the basic policies described above, Japan will promote development cooperation in accordance with the following priority issues while taking note of the interrelationships between them.

(1) "Quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth

Realization of economic growth is essential for reducing poverty, especially eradicating absolute poverty, in the world but it is necessary for that growth to be "quality growth" that has the following three features: (i) "inclusiveness," meaning that the fruits of growth are shared within society as a whole, leaving no one behind, (ii) "sustainability," meaning that the growth is sustainable over generations in terms of harmony with the environment, sustained socio-economic growth, and addressing global warming, among other aspects, and (iii) "resilience," meaning being able to withstand and recover from economic crises, natural disasters and other shocks. In pursuing poverty eradication through the realization of this quality growth, Japan also provides assistance, etc. to secure the foundations and the driving force for economic growth and for people-centered development that supports basic human life.

(2) Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society

Stable development through "quality growth" will not be achieved unless the rights of individuals are guaranteed, people can engage in economic and social activities with a sense of safety, and the society is managed equitably and stably. With a view to solidifying the foundations for such development, Japan provides assistance so as to share universal values as well as to realize a peaceful, stable and secure society. In particular, working towards sharing universal values, Japan works on assistance for the establishment of the rule of law, the realization of good governance, the promotion and consolidation of democratization, and respect for basic human rights including women's rights. Moreover, working towards realizing a peaceful, stable and secure society, Japan extends assistance for peacebuilding, emergency humanitarian assistance, capacity building of law enforcement authorities, combatting terrorism, and capacity building in relation to seas, outer space and cyberspace.

(3) Building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges

Transboundary challenges facing humanity include environmental issues, climate change, water related issues, major natural disasters, infectious diseases, food issues, and energy issues. These challenges significantly affect the international community as a whole, with particularly serious impact on the poor and other vulnerable people. These problems require united efforts by the international community to build a sustainable and resilient society through the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), etc. Japan is truly leading the efforts of the international community towards overcoming these global challenges.

Based on the above priority issues, in addition to development cooperation that caters to the needs and characteristics of each country, Japan is also engaged in greater-area development, strengthening regional connectivity, etc. Furthermore, Japan extends necessary cooperation to countries based on their actual development needs and affordability. These include countries that despite progress in development are laden with a variety of development challenges and countries such as small island countries that are faced with special vulnerabilities despite having attained a certain level of per capita income.

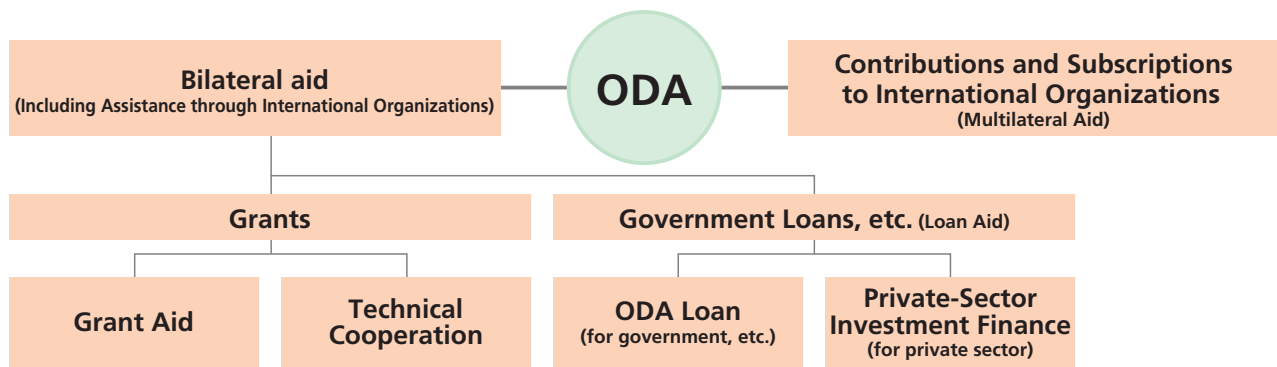
3. Principles and arrangements for the implementation of development cooperation

(1) When promoting development cooperation, Japan (i) constantly establishes policies and sets goals based on its foreign policy, (ii) aims for synergetic effects between ODA and non-ODA financing and activities, and (iii) constantly conducts evaluations at the policy and project level, and reflects the results of the evaluations in the policy decision-making process. Furthermore, the principles for ensuring the appropriateness of the development cooperation are (i) taking into consideration the situation pertaining to the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and the guarantee of basic human rights (in developing countries), and (ii) avoiding use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts (regarding development cooperation for civilian or non-military purposes involving the military or military personnel, Japan will examine it on a case-by-

case basis focusing on its substantial significance), and Japan also advances development cooperation keeping in mind its impact on the environment and climate change, fairness, consideration for the socially vulnerable, the promotion of women's participation, among other factors.

(2) Japan will continue to improve the structure of the governmental and implementing agencies responsible for development cooperation, including efforts to address global issues and strengthen collaboration with various actors, such as private companies, local governments, universities, research institutions, and civil society including NGOs. Japan will also continue to work with international organizations, NGOs, and peacekeeping operations (PKOs) towards emergency humanitarian assistance and international peace cooperation, and promote collaboration with international organizations, regional organizations, and emerging donors.

Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA)



● What is ODA?

Official Development Assistance (ODA) refers to grants, loans, etc. with concessional conditions that are given to developing countries and regions, mainly for the purpose of contributing to the improvement of economic development and welfare.

The eligible developing countries and regions are included on the list created by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Japan currently provides funds (grants, loans, etc.) and technologies that are useful for “development,” including peacebuilding, governance, promotion of basic human rights and humanitarian assistance, in the form of ODA to these eligible countries and regions.

● What types of ODA are there?

ODA includes **bilateral aid** to directly assist developing countries and regions, and **multilateral aid**, which consists of contributions to international organizations.

Bilateral aid can be divided into **grants** and **loans including government loans**. Grants are cooperation that is provided to developing countries and regions without requiring repayment, and include **grant aid** which provides the necessary funds for the development of the society and economy of developing countries and regions without imposing an obligation of repayment, and **technical cooperation** which utilizes the know-how, technology, and experience of Japan to develop the human resources that will be the actors in the development of the society and economy of developing countries and regions. Grants also include contributions to specific projects implemented by international organizations.

Loans such as government loans include **ODA loans** for lending the necessary funds to developing countries and regions under concessional loan terms such as a low interest rate and long repayment period, and **Private-Sector Investment Finance** which offers loans and investment to corporations and other entities. In the private sector responsible for implementing projects in developing countries and regions.

Multilateral aid includes contributions to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), contributions and subscriptions to the World Bank.

☆ An explanation about ODA is also available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/index.html>).

Part I

Japan's Development Cooperation in 2018 1

Part II

Measures for Each Priority Issue 11

1	Cooperation Aimed at Achieving “Quality Growth”	12
	(1) Development of Industrial Infrastructure and Industries, and Economic Policy	12
	(2) Vocational Training, Industrial Human Resources Development, and Employment Creation	18
	(3) Promotion of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Science, Technology, and Innovation, and Research and Development	20
	(4) Efforts on Debt Issues	23
2	Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society	25
	2-1 Assistance for Realizing an Equitable and Inclusive Society	25
	(1) Assistance for the Development of Legal and Judicial Systems, and Socio-economic Systems	25
	(2) Assistance for Governance (Including Anti-Corruption)	27
	(3) Assistance for Democratization	27
	2-2 Assistance for Ensuring Peace, Stability, and Security	28
	(1) Support for Peacebuilding and Refugees/Displaced Persons	28
	(2) Humanitarian Assistance during Natural Disasters	36
	(3) Assistance for Security and Stability	36
3	Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-centered Development	41
	(1) Health and Medical Care	44
	(2) Water and Sanitation	50
	(3) Quality Education for All	52
	(4) Gender and Inclusive Growth	54
	(5) Culture and Sports	57
	(6) Environment and Climate Change Actions	60
	(7) Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction, Measures of Disaster Risk Reduction, and Post-Disaster Recovery and Creating Sustainable Cities	63
	(8) Food Security and Nutrition	65
	(9) Securing Access to Resources and Energy	70

Part III

Assistance for Each Region 71

1	East Asia	73
2	South Asia	79
3	Oceania	84
4	Latin America and the Caribbean	87
5	Europe	92
6	Central Asia and Caucasus	94
7	Middle East and North Africa	96
8	Africa	100

Part IV

Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation ... 103

1	Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships	104
	(1) Public-Private Partnership	104
	(2) Partnerships Inviting Civil Participation from Volunteers, NGOs, and others	108
	(3) Collaboration with local governments	112
	(4) Partnership with universities	114
	(5) Partnership with other countries and international organizations	115
2	Efforts for Spreading Awareness of Development Cooperation	117
	(1) Efforts for Information Disclosure and Promoting Public Understanding and Support	117
	(2) Enhancement of Human Resources and Intellectual Foundations for Development Cooperation	122
3	Efforts to Ensure Appropriate Development Cooperation	124
	(1) Anti-Corruption	124
	(2) Securing the Safety Measures for People Involved in International Cooperation Projects	124
	(3) Conducting evaluation	124
	(4) “Advisory Board for ODA”	126

Reference Statistics 127

1	FY2018 ODA Budget (Initial Budget)	128
	(1) ODA Budget	128
	(2) ODA General Account Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)	128
	(3) ODA Project Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)	129
	(4) Financing Sources for the ODA Project Budget and Expenditure by Type of Assistance	130
	(5) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (General Account)	131
	(6) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (Project Budget)	131
2	Japan's ODA Disbursements in 2017	132
	(1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2017)	132
	(2) Breakdown of Bilateral ODA by Country and Type (2017)	133
	(3) Distribution of Bilateral ODA by Sector (2017)	138

Reference Materials 139

Developments Surrounding Japan's Development Cooperation (January - December 2018)	140
The Development Cooperation Charter (approved by Cabinet decision in February 2015)	144
Abbreviations	154

Charts

Part I Japan's Development Cooperation in 2018

Chart I-1	Japan's ODA by Type, 2017	4
Chart I-2	Trends in Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region	5
Chart I-3	Trends in the ODA of Major DAC Countries	6
Chart I-4	Per Capita ODA in DAC Countries (2017)	7
Chart I-5	Ratio of ODA to GNI in DAC Countries (2017)	7
Chart I-6	Trends in Japan's ODA and as Percentage of GNI	8
Chart I-7	DAC List of ODA Recipients (Countries and Regions)	9

Part III Assistance for Each Region

Chart III-1	Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region (2017)	72
Chart III-2	Japan's Assistance in the East Asia Region	78
Chart III-3	Japan's Assistance in the South Asia Region	82
Chart III-4	Japan's Assistance in the Oceania Region	86
Chart III-5	Japan's Assistance in the Latin America and Caribbean Region	91
Chart III-6	Japan's Assistance in the Europe Region	93
Chart III-7	Japan's Assistance in the Central Asia and Caucasus Region	95
Chart III-8	Japan's Assistance in the Middle East and North Africa Region	99
Chart III-9	Japan's Assistance in the Sub-Saharan Africa Region	102

Stories from the Field

1	Rebuilding the Regional Community through the “One Village One Product” Project	17
	Promoting the Successful Practice in Issyk-Kul Region across the Kyrgyz Republic and Supporting the Economic Independence of the People	
2	“Green Economy” Gives Birth to New Industry!	24
	Promoting the Green Economy with the Palm Oil Industry in Malaysia (Good Example of SATREPS)	
3	Voices of Young Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations Committed to Humanitarian Support in Asia	
	From the Frontlines of Bangladesh and Myanmar	
	Bangladesh	31
	Myanmar	32
4	Voices of Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations	35
	Toward the Eradication of Landmine Victims	
5	For a Positive Change in School Education through Holding Japanese-Style Sports Day (UNDOKAI)!	59
	Efforts by Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in Malawi, Africa	
6	Contributing to Environment and Sanitation Improvement by Reading Japanese Picture Books	62
	Spreading the Spirit of “Mottainai” to Children in India	
7	Toward Mutual Regional Revitalization through Local Agricultural Technical Assistance	68
	Agricultural Support for Zambia by Farmers from Marumori, Miyagi Prefecture	
8	Voices of Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations	123
	Message from the Maldives to Everyone Interested in International Cooperation	



Master Techniques from Japan to the World

1	Enhancing Disaster Prevention Awareness Among People with an Earthquake Simulation Vehicle	64
	Earthquake Simulation Vehicles to Peru where Earthquakes Happen Often	
2	Improving Water-Related Issues in Sri Lanka with Japanese Technology	83
	Introduction of Space Saving, Low-Cost “PC Tanks” and Safe “Air Dome Engineering”	
3	Japanese-Style Maintenance and Management Techniques for Morocco’s Motorway	105
	Introduction of the Unique Japanese “Ninja-Tech”	
4	Introducing Toyama’s System of “Okigusuri (Drugs for Household Delivery Business)” to the World	113
	Efforts Toward Enhancing Health and Hygiene in Myanmar through the Improvement of Traditional Medicines	

ODA Topics

1	Toward the Realization of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific	10
2	Using the Experience of Japan to Develop Legislation in Developing Countries	26
	Assistance for the Development of Legal and Judicial Systems	
3	Efforts by the Government of Japan Aimed at Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	42
4	Looking Back over 40 Years of ODA to China	77
5	Activities of JICA Volunteers and the Reception for JICA Volunteers Hosted by Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono	109
6	Learn more about Japan’s ODA activities that contribute to the world! “Go! ODA-Man”	119
7	Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects	121
	Public Relations Activities by Grassroots Ambassadors “Penalty”	

Projects Introduced in the White Paper on Development Cooperation 2018

Measures for Each Priority Issue

1 Cooperation Aimed at Achieving “Quality Growth”

- Development of Industrial Infrastructure and Industries, and Economy Policy
 - Kenya Mombasa Port Development Project, Mombasa Port Area Road Development Project — 13
 - Mongolia Project for Enhancing Tax Collection Operation and International Tax Issues of Mongolian Tax Administration Phase 2 — 15
- Vocational Training and Industrial Human Resources Development, and Employment Creation
 - Zambia National KAIZEN Project Phase 2 — 19
- Promotion of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Science, Technology, and Innovation, and Research and Development
 - Peru Dispatch of Individual Expert “Advisor for the Implementation of Emergency Warning Broadcast System (EWBS)” — 21

3 Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-centered Development

- Health and Medical Care
 - Lebanon The Project for the Provision of Medical Equipment for Al Rawda Medical Center and Dar Al Wafaa Medical Center — 45
 - Gabon The Project for Establishment of Laboratory Surveillance System for Viral Diseases of Public Health Concern — 47
 - Pakistan Strengthening Routine Immunization Project — 49
- Water and Sanitation
 - Pakistan The Project for Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Master Plan of Faisalabad — 50
 - Burkina Faso Project for Enhancement of Water Supply Facilities Management and Hygiene and Sanitation in Rural Areas Phase 2 — 51
- Quality Education for All
 - Egypt Egypt-Japan Education Partnership (EJEP) “Introduction of Japanese-style Education in Egypt” — 52
- Gender and Inclusive Growth
 - Tanzania Project for Prevention of School Dropouts and Social Isolation due to Unwanted Pregnancy by Increasing Study Motivation and Health Literacy with Mobile Library Education — 55
 - Kenya The Project for Rehabilitation of Street Children through Organic Farming — 57

Assistance for Each Region

1 East Asia

- Vietnam Terminal 2 Construction Project in Noi Bai International Airport — 75

3 Oceania

- 12 Pacific Island Countries Policies and Countermeasures against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing — 85

4 Latin America and the Caribbean

- Bolivia International Course on Diagnosis and Treatment of Gastrointestinal Diseases, Phase 2 — 88
- Brazil Senior Volunteers for Nikkei Communities [Nursing-Care for the Elderly] — 89

6 Central Asia and Caucasus

- Uzbekistan The Project for the Provision of Medical Equipment for the Tashkent Regional Oncology Dispensary — 94

7 Middle East and North Africa

- Tunisia The Quality and Productivity Improvement Project in Tunisia Phase 2 — 96
- Turkey Bosphorus Rail Tube Crossing Project — 98

8 Africa

- Tanzania The Project for Improvement of Tazara Intersection — 101

Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation

1 Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships

- Partnerships Inviting Civil Participation from Volunteers, NGOs, and others
 - Madagascar Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers [Midwives] — 110
- Partnership with universities
 - Tanzania Master’s Degree and Internship Program of African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative), Zanzibar Urban Water Distribution Facilities Improvement Project — 114

Japan's Development Cooperation in 2018



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announcing the "Tokyo Strategy 2018 for Mekong-Japan Cooperation," (details on page 74) which sets out the future direction of Japan-Mekong cooperation, at the 10th Japan-Mekong Summit Meeting held in Tokyo on October 9, 2018 (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)



Part I Japan's Development Cooperation in 2018

In 2018, Japan made many efforts to realize a society in which “no one will be left behind,” the goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), based on the concept of “human security,” which Japan has led in the international community over many years. Not only through providing conventional ODA to developing countries, but Japan has also carried out a number of initiatives on global issues, which need to be resolved urgently for both developed and developing countries, such as inequality and poverty, terrorism, refugees and displaced persons, environmental issues and climate change, and infectious diseases.

Examples of these initiatives include Japan's proactive promotion of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), which seeks to provide all people, including those in developing countries, with affordable access to basic health services when needed. As part of this initiative, Japan has provided support to countries in Africa and across the world which have insufficient healthcare services and sanitation, and has strengthened its efforts to address infectious diseases, which can easily cross national borders and have grave effects on the entire international community as the world continues to globalize.

Also, due to the recent conditions in Syria, Bangladesh and Myanmar, the number of refugees and displaced persons has grown to approximately 70 million in the world, which hits a record high since the end of World War II, and securing the lives, dignity and safety of these

refugees and displaced persons is an issue of growing urgency. Japan is proactively providing humanitarian assistance to refugees and other people in vulnerable positions, such as women, disabled persons, and children in developing countries, as one of the priority issues, among others.



Foreign Minister Taro Kono announcing the provision of Japan's grant aid totaling approximately \$10 million, towards the Syrian citizens and refugees, as emergency and humanitarian aid through the WHO at the EU-hosted High Level Meeting on Syria in New York in September.

Furthermore, Japan has been strengthening its cooperation with a number of countries to realize the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific,” announced by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in August 2016. Japan is carrying out an array of specific initiatives in fields such as freedom of

navigation, the promotion and establishment of the rule of law, enhancing connectivity through quality infrastructure in accordance with international standards, and maritime security capacity building.

While prioritizing the aforementioned areas through development assistance, Japan continued its development cooperation across a wide range of projects in 2018. Based on the “Development Cooperation Charter,” Japan strives to tackle key issues, such as “Cooperation to achieve ‘Quality growth,’” which seeks to achieve economic growth that leads to self-reliant development in developing countries, “Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society” to disseminate the shared values of freedom, democracy, basic human rights and the rule of law in developing countries, and thereby secure peace, stability and safety, and “efforts to address global challenges and the promotion of people-centered development.” Details on the achievements can be found in the subsequent section, Part II - Measures for Each Priority Issue.

In 2018, Japan hosted a number of international conferences related to development issues in developing countries, such as the “Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting” (PALM8) in May, the “Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting,” and the “Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting” in October, and has advanced Japan’s development-related initiatives to address the challenges faced by each region. Japan’s initiatives in regions and countries throughout the world, including the aforementioned conferences, are introduced in Part III – Assistance for Each Region.



Foreign Minister Taro Kono giving a speech at the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting

Until now, the Government of Japan and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) have served as the central drivers of ODA as part of Japan’s development cooperation, but in recent years there is an increasing

need for a variety of actors (as implementing bodies), such as private corporations, NGOs, local governments and universities to each contribute their respective advantages in close cooperation. Japan is closely cooperating with a diverse range of domestic actors in efforts to address a number of development challenges. Recently, Japan has been cooperating with other donor countries to address key issues in development, as well as providing assistance through a wide range of international organizations.

Additionally, with the purpose of utilizing ODA even more efficiently and effectively, in 2018 Japan held a total of four meetings of the Advisory Board for ODA, which resulted in useful recommendations from experts on topics such as, “the division of roles in overall development cooperation, and consolidation of competition and cooperation.” Strengthening cooperation among diverse actors like this is becoming more essential day by day. The outcome of cooperation with a diverse range of actors in 2018, can be seen in Part IV, including columns on specific topics.

Furthermore, Japan is focusing on the development and strengthening of human resources who can succeed on the global stage in the field of development cooperation. Japan conducts the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, which dispatches young Japanese people to international organizations, who wish to become staff of international organizations, and allows them to accumulate experience, with the aim of attaining regular staff positions after their tenure. As such, Japan strives to nurture human resources that can be active in international organizations, including in the area of development cooperation.

● Japan’s Official Development Assistance in Terms of Disbursement

In 2017¹, Japan’s gross ODA disbursements amounted to approximately \$18,461.20 million (¥2,071.0 billion). This represents an approximate 9.8% increase on a dollar basis (13.2% on a yen basis) compared to the previous year (2016). Japan’s net ODA disbursements, which are gross disbursements minus repayments of loan aid², amounted to approximately \$11,462.65 million (¥1,285.9 billion). This represents an approximate 10.0% increase on a dollar basis (13.5% on a yen basis) compared to the previous year. Japan ranked third, higher than the previous year, among the member countries of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), following the United States and Germany in terms of gross disbursements. In net disbursements, Japan ranked

¹ The amount of disbursements for 2018 is planned to be finalized at the end of 2019.

² Gross and net disbursements are differentiated as follows:

Net disbursements = gross disbursements – amount recovered (repayment amounts of government loans from recipient countries to donor countries)
Net disbursements are usually used in international comparisons of aid disbursements.

fourth³, the same as the previous year, following the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

A breakdown of 2017 disbursements shows that in terms of gross disbursements, bilateral ODA accounted for approximately 81.7% of overall disbursements, while ODA towards international organizations accounted for approximately 18.3%, and in terms of net disbursements, bilateral ODA accounted for approximately 70.5% of overall disbursements, while ODA towards international organizations accounted for approximately 29.5%. Bilateral ODA is expected to contribute to the strengthening of Japan's relations with recipient countries. Meanwhile, ODA towards international organizations enables Japan to support international organizations which have expertise and political neutrality and thereby, enables us to support countries and regions where direct assistance from the Government of Japan is difficult to reach. Japan is making flexible use of these types of assistance, as well as

initiating coordination between them, while making every effort to ensure the “visibility of Japan” through properly providing aid.

When examined by aid scheme, the disbursements for bilateral ODA calculated as grant aid totaled approximately \$2,616.53 million (¥293.5 billion), or approximately 14.2% of the total ODA gross disbursements. Among these grants, grant aid through international organizations accounted for approximately \$1,344.94 million (¥150.9 billion), or approximately 7.3% of the total. Technical cooperation accounted for approximately \$2,883.40 million (¥323.5 billion), or approximately 15.6% of the total. With regards to government loan, loan disbursements accounted for approximately \$9,578.89 million (¥1,074.6 billion), or approximately 51.9% of the total gross disbursements of ODA. Net disbursements, which are loan disbursements from which repayment amounts are subtracted, accounted for approximately \$2,580.35 million (¥289.5 billion).

Chart I-1 Japan's ODA by Type, 2017

2017 (Calendar year)		Dollar basis (US\$ million)			Yen basis (¥100 million)		
Type		Current year	Previous year	Change from the previous year (%)	Current year	Previous year	Change from the previous year (%)
Grant aid		2,616.53	2,806.95	-6.8	2,935.31	3,054.04	-3.9
(Debt relief)		(19.10)	(15.32)	(24.70)	(21.43)	(16.67)	(28.57)
(Grants through multilateral institutions)		(1,344.94)	(1,598.82)	(-15.9)	(1,508.79)	(1,739.56)	(-13.3)
Technical cooperation		2,883.40	2,775.70	3.9	3,234.68	3,020.04	7.1
Total grants (A)		5,499.93	5,582.66	-1.5	6,169.99	6,074.08	1.6
Loan aid (D)=(B)-(C)		2,580.35	1,465.81	76.0	2,894.71	1,594.84	81.5
(Amount disbursed) (B)		9,578.89	7,856.80	21.9	10,745.90	8,548.41	25.7
(Amount recovered) (C)		6,998.55	6,390.99	9.5	7,851.19	6,953.56	12.9
Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis) (A)+(B)		15,078.82	13,439.45	12.2	16,915.89	14,622.49	15.7
Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis) (A)+(D)		8,080.27	7,048.47	14.6	9,064.70	7,668.92	18.2
Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions (E)		3,382.38	3,368.34	0.4	3,794.46	3,664.84	3.5
Total ODA (Gross disbursement) (A)+(B)+(E)		18,461.20	16,807.79	9.8	20,710.35	18,287.33	13.2
Total ODA (Net disbursement) (A)+(D)+(E)		11,462.65	10,416.80	10.0	12,859.16	11,333.76	13.5
Preliminary estimate of nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)		5,038.44	5,114.54	-1.5	565,227.80	556,475.60	1.6
% of GNI		0.23	0.20		0.23	0.20	

Notes:

- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries. For more information regarding disbursements that include assistance to graduated countries, see “Statistics and Reference Materials 2(1) Japan's ODA by Aid Type and Currency” (page 132).
- “Grant aid” here includes debt relief and grants provided through international organizations (those that can be classified by country).
- Debt relief refers to exemption from commercial debts, and does not include debt deferral.

- Conversion rate: 2016 US\$1=¥108.8027, 2017 US\$1=¥112.1831 (Exchange rates designated by the OECD-DAC)
- Graduated countries are countries that have been removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients, see Chart I-7/DAC List of ODA Recipients (Countries and Regions) (page 9).
- Japan has a record of disbursements to the following 12 graduated countries and regions that are not DAC members: United Arab Emirates, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, [New Caledonia], Bahamas, Barbados, [French Polynesia], Brunei, [Hong Kong].

³ Excluding disbursements to graduated countries. For more information regarding disbursements that include graduated countries, refer to page 132.

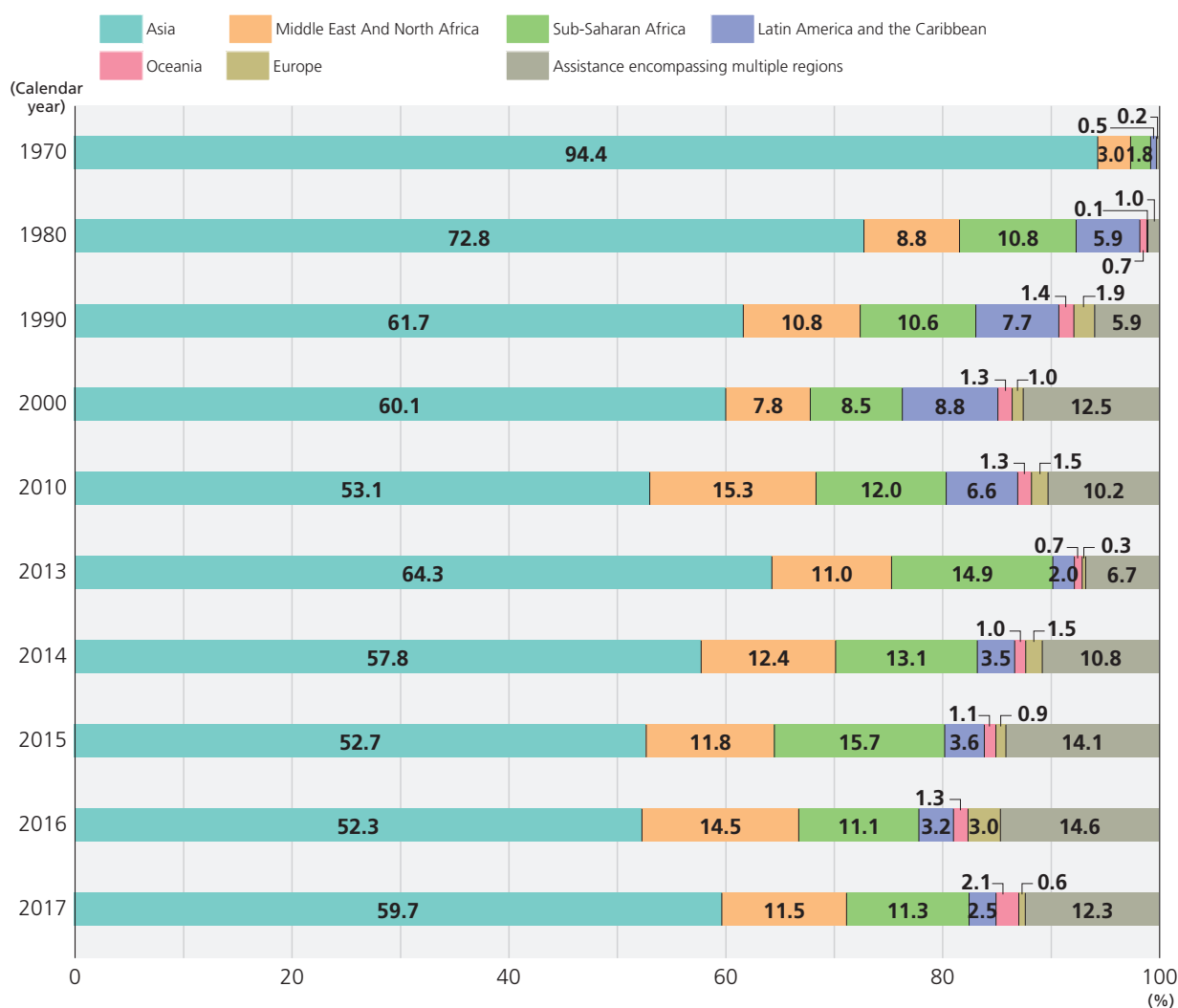
Japan's bilateral ODA by region is as follows in the order of gross disbursement, net disbursements and percentage of total disbursements (The following disbursements include disbursements to graduated countries.)

- ◆ Asia: \$9,009.43 million (\$3,600.48 million) (59.7%)
- ◆ Middle East and North Africa: \$1,735.16 million (\$1,079.33 million) (11.5%)
- ◆ Africa: \$1,7030.29 million (\$1,594.70 million) (11.3%)
- ◆ Latin America and the Caribbean: \$372.45 million (\$343.91 million) (2.5%)
- ◆ Oceania: \$321.74 million (\$230.61 million) (2.1%)
- ◆ Europe: \$192.75 million (\$124.96 million) (0.6%)
- ◆ Assistance covering multiple regions: \$1,849.94 million (\$1,849.94 million) (12.3%)

Chart I-2

Trends in Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region

Gross disbursements



Notes

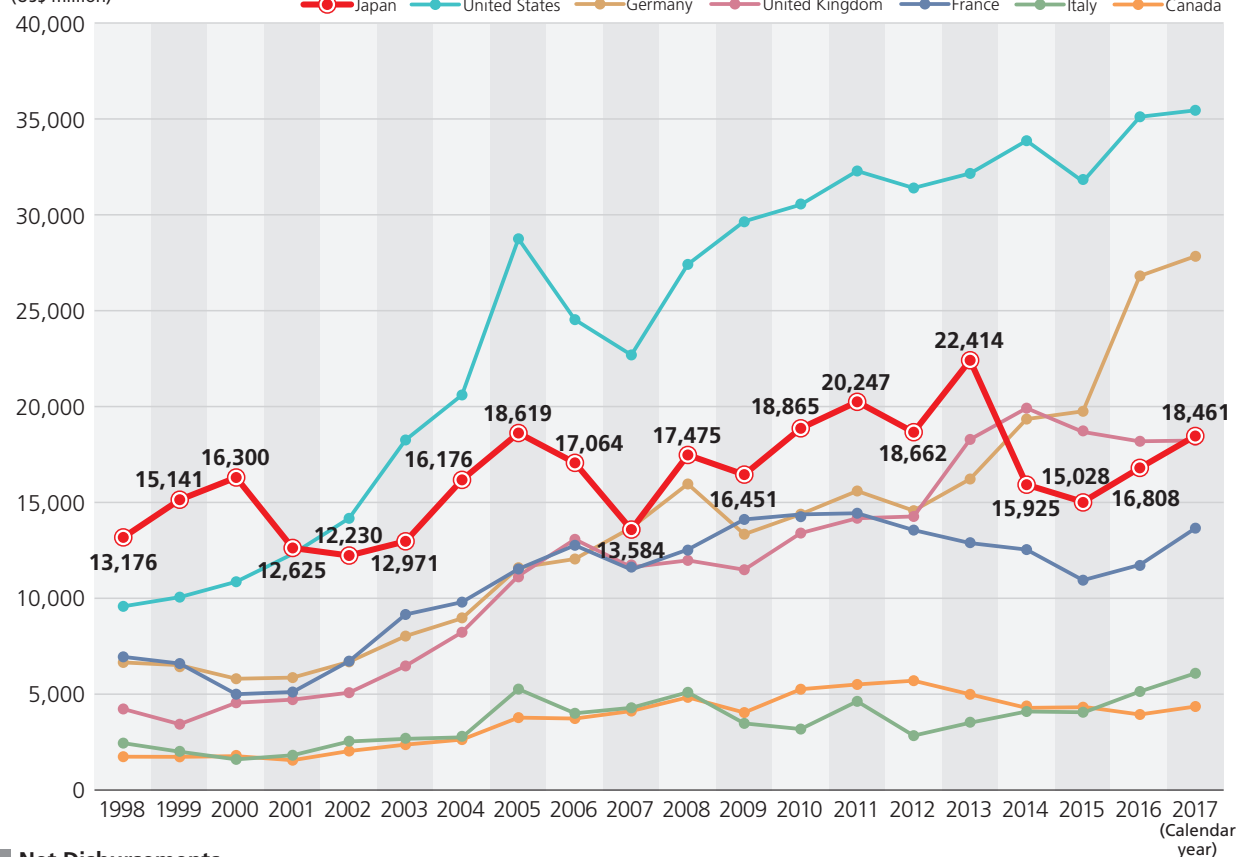
- ODA since 1990 includes aid to graduated countries.
- Assistance encompassing multiple regions includes assistance that cannot be classified by region, such as the dispatch of survey groups to multiple regions.

Chart I-3

Trends in the ODA of Major DAC Countries

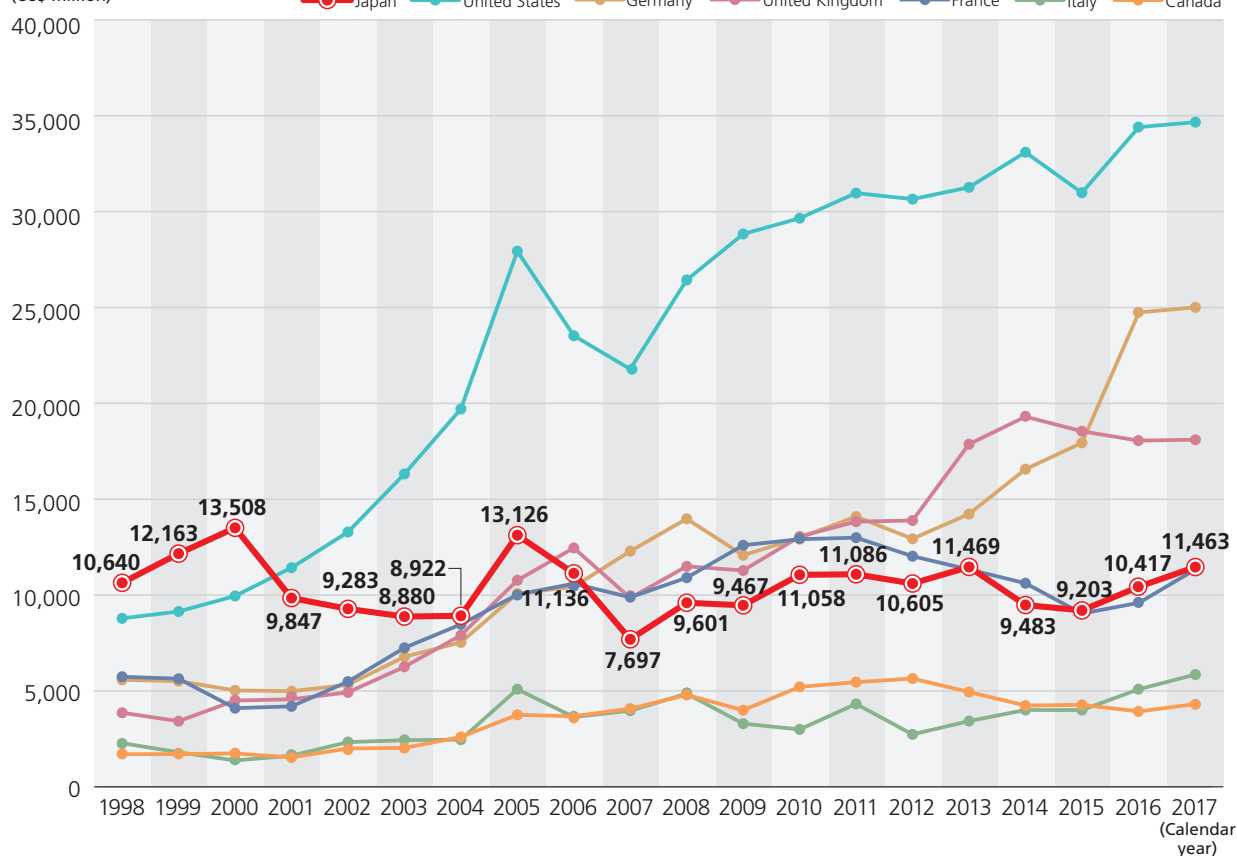
■ Gross Disbursements

(US\$ million)



■ Net Disbursements

(US\$ million)



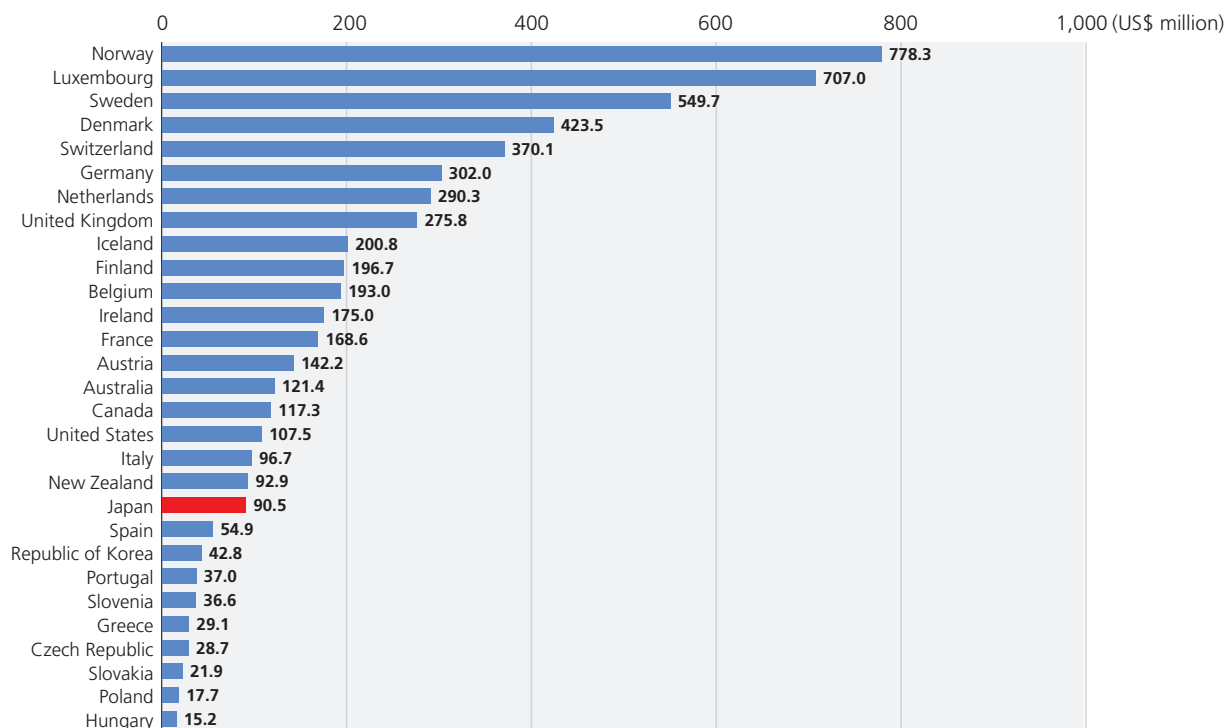
Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.

Chart I-4

Per Capita ODA in DAC Countries (2017)



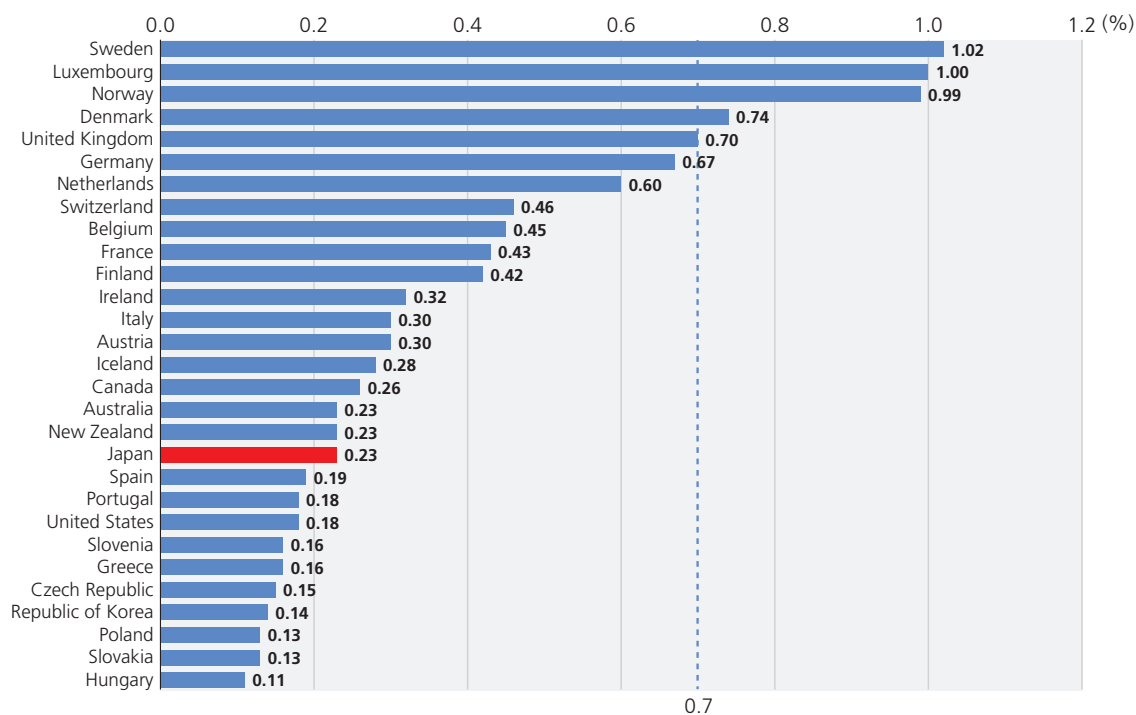
Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Net disbursement basis.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.

Chart I-5

Ratio of ODA to GNI in DAC Countries (2017)



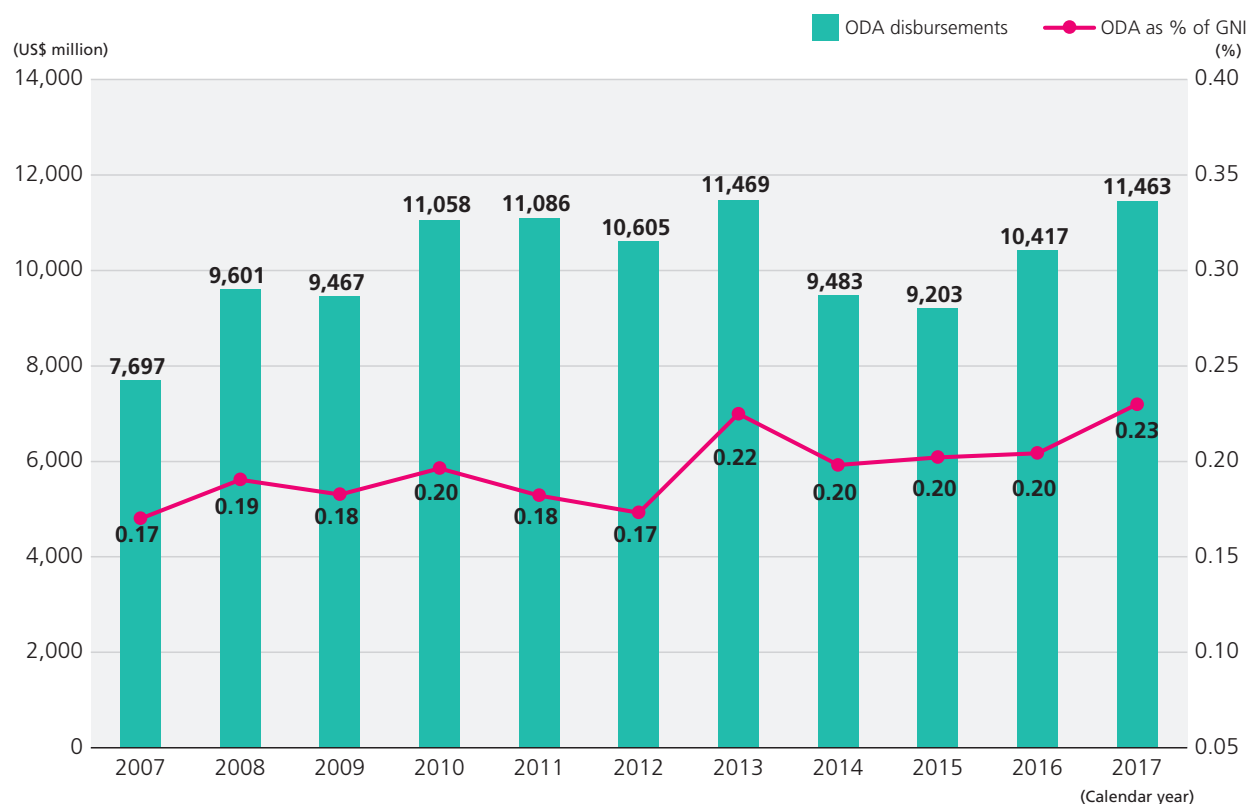
Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Net disbursement basis.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.
- In 1970, the UN General Assembly set a target of 0.7% of GNP (currently of GNI) for ODA.

Chart I-6

Trends in Japan's ODA and as Percentage of GNI



Notes:

- Net disbursement basis.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.

Chart I-7

DAC List of ODA Recipients (Countries and Regions)

(Applied to 2014-2017 disbursements)

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Recipient Countries				
Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (48 countries)	Other Low Income Countries (LICs) (per capita GNI < US\$1,045)	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories (LMICs) (per capita GNI US\$1,046 - 4,125)	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories (UMICs) (per capita GNI US\$4,126 - 12,745)	
Afghanistan Angola Bangladesh Benin Bhutan Burkina Faso Burundi Cambodia Central Africa Chad Comoros Democratic Republic of the Congo Djibouti Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia Guinea Guinea-Bissau Haiti Kiribati Laos Lesotho Liberia Madagascar Malawi Mali Mauritania Mozambique Myanmar Nepal Niger Rwanda	Kenya [North Korea] Tajikistan Zimbabwe	Armenia Bolivia Cabo Verde Cameroon Côte d'Ivoire Egypt El Salvador Eswatini Federated States of Micronesia Georgia Ghana Guatemala Guyana Honduras India Indonesia Kosovo Kyrgyz Republic Moldova Mongolia Morocco Nicaragua Nigeria Pakistan [Palestinian Territories] Papua New Guinea Paraguay Philippines Republic of the Congo Samoa Sri Lanka Syria	Albania Algeria Antigua and Barbuda Argentina Azerbaijan Belarus Belize Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana Brazil Chile China Columbia Cook Costa Rica Cuba Dominica Dominican Republic Ecuador Fiji Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Gabon Grenada Iran Iraq Jamaica Jordan Kazakhstan Lebanon Libya Malaysia Maldives	Marshall Mauritius Mexico Montenegro [Montserrat] Namibia Nauru Niue Palau Panama Peru [Saint Helena] Saint Lucia Saint Vincent Serbia Seychelles South Africa Suriname Thailand Tonga Tunisia Turkey Turkmenistan Uruguay Venezuela [Wallis and Futuna Islands]

Source: DAC documents

Notes:

- GNI values are from 2013.
- [Anguilla] and Saint Christopher and Nevis graduated in 2014.
- Square brackets [] denote region names.

Toward the Realization of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific

The idea of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific,” proposed by Prime Minister Abe in August 2016, has been widely recognized by the international community over the past two and a half years, during which concrete progress has been made toward its advancement. In order to bring stability and prosperity, equally and fairly to each and every country in the vast Indo-Pacific region, which extends from the Asia-Pacific through the Indian Ocean, to the Middle East and Africa, it is necessary to respond to the immense demand for infrastructure development and enhance connectivity in the region through quality infrastructure development as well as strive to eliminate factors such as piracy and terrorism that inhibit prosperity. Japan continues to work hand in hand with various countries to promote a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” by utilizing ODA effectively.

Enhanced regional connectivity through the development of ports and harbors, railroads, roads and other infrastructure contributes to economic development of the entire region, by activating the flow of goods and people and expanding the economic sphere. However, it is possible that infrastructure projects with poor quality, or projects putting pressure on financial conditions would instead prevent the growth of the region. It is therefore important to promote quality infrastructure development. In Southeast Asia, the core of Japan’s cooperation is the development of the East-West Economic Corridor and the Southern Economic Corridor, which link Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Japan has been driving the development of these two corridors connecting the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean for many years, and currently engages in the construction work on numerous projects, including improving National Highway 5 in Cambodia to double its traffic capacity, and repairing bridges in central Myanmar. In Southwest Asia, Japan works to introduce a high-speed railway in India, applying the technology of Japan’s Shinkansen. It is expected that travel times, which initially took approximately seven hours by existing limited express lines, would be reduced to approximately two hours, by using the high-speed rail. At the same time, through the advancement of technology transfer through human resources development, as well as stations area development, it is expected that this project will lead to further economic growth and job creation, which will ultimately result in poverty reduction in India. Moreover, as for the development of Mombasa Port in Kenya, which connects the landlocked countries of Africa to the Indian Ocean, Japan promotes technology transfer by employing as many as 2,000 Kenyans, while driving the development



The new container terminal at Mombasa Port in Kenya, built through an ODA loan (Photo: Toyo Construction)



Technical guidance to personnel of the Philippine Coast Guard (Photo: JICA)

not only of the port itself, but also the surrounding areas including roads, giving utmost consideration to environmentally-conscious technology and reduction in maintenance and management costs.

In order to turn these two oceans into an ocean that brings stability and prosperity to the entire region, countermeasures are necessary to address various factors which prevent economic development such as piracy, terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), natural disasters and illegal fishing, as well as to enhance the connectivity of the region. For example, in order to ensure the safety of maritime transport through capacity development of maritime law enforcement agencies of the coastal countries in the Indo-Pacific region, Japan has provided financing for patrol vessels and coastal monitoring radar equipment to the agencies of the countries in the region. At the same time, Japan invites the personnel of such agencies to training programs in Japan, and also dispatches Japanese experts to those countries. In June 2017, when a joint exercise was undertaken in combating piracy by the Japan Coast Guard and the Philippines, in the vicinity of the Mindanao Islands, the patrol vessels provided by Japan which took part in the exercise yielded an immediate success in a piracy case that occurred the following day.

Japan has implemented a variety of projects and collaboration with its partners toward a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific,” and in 2018, progress was achieved in collaborating with various partner countries. A series of discussions have been held between Japan and the United States on how to collaborate in supporting the key countries in the region, and together, they released a list of Japan-U.S. cooperation at the Summit Meeting in September 2018. Also, Japan and India have agreed to deepen their concrete cooperation, beginning with further strengthening regional connectivity, and released a factsheet on Japan-India cooperation, upon Prime Minister Modi’s visit to Japan in October of the same year. This factsheet incorporated a variety of collaborations in strengthening connectivity through the development of quality infrastructure, and in fields such as energy. Furthermore, at the Japan-Mekong Summit Meeting in November of the same year, many collaborative projects in the Mekong region were identified as cooperation to promote a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.” Japan has already agreed to strengthen cooperation with a variety of partners including Australia, the United Kingdom, France and the EU. Going forward, Japan will collaborate closely, and establish multi-layered cooperative relationships with those partners, and further accelerate efforts aimed at pursuing a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.”

Measures for Each Priority Issue



Ms. Shino Ichikawa, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (science education) at a school in Zambia, checking a student's note book at the end of the class (Photo: JICA)

1 Cooperation Aimed at Achieving “Quality Growth”	12
2 Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society	25
3 Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-centered Development	41



Part II Measures for Each Priority Issue

Hereafter, in relation to Japan's development cooperation ¹ around the world, Japan's recent efforts regarding three key issues will be introduced. These three issues are "1. Cooperation aimed at achieving 'quality growth,'" "2. Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society," and "3. Promoting efforts to address global issues and human-centered development."

1 Cooperation Aimed at Achieving "Quality Growth"

In order to enable developing countries to achieve economic growth aimed at self-reliant development, it is essential to aim for not only quantitative economic growth but also "quality growth." Development would be "quality growth" that is "inclusive" where the fruits of growth are shared with the society as a whole, leaving no one behind. It must also be "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 that Japan tackled in its postwar history. Japan is striving to make use of its own

experience, expertise and technology, as well as lessons learned in order to provide assistance to realize "quality growth" in developing countries.

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

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

¹ Here, the term "development cooperation" refers to "international cooperation activities conducted by the government and related organizations for the main purpose of development in developing regions," including ODA and other cooperation conducted in collaboration with public-private financing and activities.

of trade and investment.

In developing countries beset by numerous challenges, it can sometimes be difficult to develop capacities or set in place an environment for promoting trade and attracting private investment. Thus, 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 contributory to “quality growth” in developing countries, which includes technology transfer and job creation.

The “G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment,” which was agreed at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016, is positioned as the first step towards sharing the recognition on the basic elements of “quality infrastructure investment,” or investment for the development of infrastructure that contributes to “quality growth.” The importance of the specific elements set forth in the Principles ((i) economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost, safety and resilience against natural disaster, (ii) job creation, capacity building, and transfer of expertise and know-how, (iii) social and environmental considerations, (iv) ensuring alignment with economic and development strategies, and (v) enhancing effective

resource mobilization) was shared at subsequent meetings, such as the G20 Hangzhou Summit, the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI), the East Asia Summit, and the APEC Leaders' Meeting.

Moreover, in its own contribution to infrastructure investment in line with the “G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment,” Japan is promoting quality infrastructure investment based on the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure,” under which it would provide a total of approximately \$200 billion in quality infrastructure investment to projects worldwide, over five years from 2017. Additionally, at the TICAD Ministerial Meeting in 2018, Foreign Minister Taro Kono outlined an intention to support enhanced connectivity throughout the entire African continent and beyond, through “quality infrastructure investment.”

Furthermore, Japan is working with organizations such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the EU in order to promote the international standardization of quality infrastructure investment, including the aspects of openness, transparency, economic efficiency and the financial soundness of target countries. In April 2018, Japan co-hosted the “Seminar on Promoting Quality Infrastructure” in Tokyo together with the OECD Development Centre, during which participants engaged in lively discussions about quality infrastructure. During the high-level week of the UN General Assembly in September that same year,



Kenya

Mombasa Port Development Project (Phase 1), Mombasa Port Area Road Development Project (Phase 2) Loan Aid (Phase 1: March 2012 – March 2016), (Phase 2: January 2013 – (ongoing))

As globalization progresses, the role of marine transportation in global trade is becoming extremely large. In Kenya, the amount of cargo handled at Mombasa Port, the largest logistics base in the East Africa region, has grown to approximately 100 times the amount dealt with by air. Thus, it can be said that the marine shipping industry is supporting the economic activity and the livelihoods of people in Kenya.

Also, since the African continent has many inland countries that do not border the sea, Mombasa Port plays an important role, not only for the country where the port is located, but also for the distribution of goods to these inland countries. As approximately 30% of the cargo handled by Mombasa Port is transported to inland countries such as Uganda, South Sudan and Rwanda, the port serves as a gateway to them.

The amount of cargo handled at Mombasa Port has been increasing year on year due to population and economic growth. While the amount of cargo is expected to continue growing steadily, the port was facing issues in dealing with the increase in cargo with its existing facilities alone. Given this situation, Japan has been supporting the expansion work of the port, so that it will be able to handle an increasing amount of container cargo smoothly. This work has substantially increased the amount of container cargo that can be handled at Mombasa Port. As of 2017, the amount had risen to 1.5 times that of 2011.

Also, in order to ensure the smooth distribution of goods over the

entire region, it is important not only to expand the port facilities, but also to improve the roads that support distribution from the port. Therefore, in addition to the Mombasa Port expansion work, Japan is supporting the improvement of roads to serve as major arteries in the Mombasa region.

Through such development cooperation for infrastructure improvements, Japan is contributing to the economic development and increased standards of living not only in Kenya, but in countries across East Africa.



Expanded Mombasa Port, through development cooperation by Japan (Photo: Toyo Construction)

Japan co-hosted the UN General Assembly High-Level Side Event on “Promoting Quality Infrastructure” with the EU and the UN with the attendance of Foreign Minister Kono, leading international discussions on “quality infrastructure.” In the same month, Japan co-hosted the “ASEM Seminar on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure” in Tokyo together with the EU, under the Asia–Europe Meeting (ASEM), and in October, at the 12th ASEM Summit Meeting, Prime Minister Abe stated, based on the results of the seminar, that strengthening connectivity is essential for further development of Asia and Europe, and that in order to achieve this, “quality infrastructure” should become the international standard. Moreover, in September of the same year, Japan co-hosted a seminar on “quality infrastructure investment” in Tokyo together with the OECD and World Bank, at which, there was an in-depth discussion regarding the role that “quality infrastructure investment” should play in shrinking the supply-and-demand gap in infrastructure, as well as its component elements and the anticipated results. Moving forward, Japan aims to continue promoting initiatives toward the international standardization of quality infrastructure.

● Improving the Trade and Investment Environment

Japan utilizes ODA and **Other Official Flows (OOF)*** to support the development 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 environment and economic infrastructures in order to enhance the export capabilities and competitiveness of developing countries.

Approximately two-thirds of the World Trade Organization (WTO) member states are developing countries, and the WTO emphasizes the significance of promoting their development through their participation in the multilateral free trading system. Japan has contributed to the trust fund set up within the WTO with an aim to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to engage in trade negotiations and participate in the global market, and to raise their ability to implement the WTO agreements.

With regard to access to the Japanese market, Japan has implemented the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) for developing countries, which applies lower tariff rates to products from developing countries, and **duty-free quota-free access*** for the **Least Developed Countries (LDCs)***. These schemes are intended to encourage Japan’s import of products from developing countries including the LDCs. Moreover, Japan actively promotes **Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)*** and strives to create an environment for economic growth in developing countries through liberalization of trade and investment.

Discussions regarding “**Aid for Trade (Aft)***” have intensified in various international organizations, including the WTO and the OECD, as a means of further

promoting support from developed countries, such as that of Japan. Japan has provided funds for the development of transportation networks, including ports, roads, and bridges, as well as for projects to construct facilities such as power plants and power grids, all of which are vital for developing countries to engage in trade, and implemented 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 challenges unique to those countries and recommending measures to promote private investment.

The implementation of the “**Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA),***” which entered into force in February 2017, it is expected to improve the challenging situations Japanese companies frequently face at export destinations, such as lack of transparency, and arbitrary application of trade procedures, and to boost trade and other economic activities by Japanese companies, which not only export finished goods, but also develop supply chains on a global scale. In addition, its implementation is also expected to help developing countries to expand trade and investment by reducing the trade transaction costs, prevent illegal exports, and improve the collection of customs duties.

● Support for Mobilization of Domestic Private-Sector Resources

In order to enable developing countries to achieve quality growth by resolving various development issues under their ownership, it is critical that developing countries ensure the necessary development funds in the form of tax revenue collection or others with their own capacities. 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 is also brought up in the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda).”

Japan, together with the international organizations and other entities concerned, has been contributing to discussions regarding domestic resource mobilization, and provided relevant support to developing countries. For example, Japan proactively provides technical cooperation to developing countries for improving their tax administration. In 2018, Japan dispatched National Tax Agency personnel as trainers on topics including tax investigation, international taxation, tax collection, and staff training, to Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, and Viet Nam.

With regard to programs implemented with international organizations, Japan has, for example, assisted the development of the “OECD Global Relations Programme” for more than 20 years. This Programme

dispatches experts in the relevant fields of tax treaties² and investigation of the taxes of multinational enterprises to developing countries to conduct seminars and lectures to deepen the countries’ understanding of taxation systems and tax enforcement. In addition, Japan provides cooperation on the human resources, expertise, and financing for technical assistance provided by the IMF and Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the field of taxation, including domestic resource mobilization, thereby contributing to strengthening capabilities in the field of taxation in developing countries including Asia.

In recent years, public opinion has taken an increasingly critical view towards the involvement of the wealthy class and multinational enterprises in international tax avoidance. In this regard, the World Bank and ADB, for example, have introduced a system for examining projects that use regions recognized as lacking in tax transparency, with issues such as insufficient effective tax information exchange, as intermediate investment regions when formulating private sector investment projects, including the cancellation of the formation of such projects. Investment through MDBs is one of the important tools for the growth of developing countries. Hence the importance of support to enhance the transparency of taxes

in developing 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*** are also important for the sustainable development of developing countries. Cooperation among countries to implement the outcomes of this project will improve the transparency of companies and governments, and appropriate taxation will become possible in places where economic activities 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, and at the same time, 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. At present, more than 120 countries and regions, including developing countries, are participating in the framework that implements measures recommended under the BEPS project.

● Finance

A sound and stable financial system, coupled with smooth financial and capital markets, forms an essential foundation for the sustainable economic development of



Mongolia

Project for Enhancing Tax Collection Operation and International Tax Issues of Mongolian Tax Administration Phase 2 Technical Cooperation Project (January 2017 – (ongoing))

At the start of the 1990s, Mongolia made the transition from a socialist economy to a market economy. However, with the advancement of many foreign-affiliated companies and international capital into the country, Mongolia has faced challenges in improving systems and training human resources relating to international taxation, and establishing an efficient tax collection system. As a part of its support for Mongolia's transition to a market economy system, Japan has provided assistance to strengthen the functions of the Mongolian Tax Administration, such as establishing a collection system and strengthening tax administration, since 1998.

The ongoing “Project for Enhancing Tax Collection Operation and International Tax Issues of Mongolian Tax Administration Phase 2” supports the improvement and development of structures and systems relating to taxation, tax payment and collection, which were previously unclear, in order to maintain the country's taxation rights, while responding to international demands to take countermeasures against tax avoidance by multinational corporations. A reform bill was formulated with support from this project, and is currently under deliberation by the Mongolian parliament. If the bill is approved, it is expected to lead to increased tax revenue under an appropriate tax collection system.

The project has also supported the creation of a database of taxable individuals, the establishment of a notification center* for non-payers of small amounts, and training for tax officials to strengthen their ability to collect tax, in order to make efficient demands on non-payers. From November 2013 to January 2019, training was implemented for a total of 824 tax officials in Mongolia, and thanks to the notification center, it was made possible to collect



Group work at a training course on international taxation (Photo: JICA)

as much as 20.7032 billion tögrög (approximately 887.5 million Japanese yen) from small sums of unpaid taxes, from its founding in March 2016 to November 2018.

Japan will continue to make a contribution to strengthening the Mongolian financial base, so that the people can live secure lives, as well as establishing a fair and impartial tax administration service, to benefit Mongolian tax payers and Japanese companies doing business in the country.

* Demanding the fulfilment of debt obligations to debtors

2 Bilateral treaties for avoiding the double taxation on income, as well as preventing the avoidance or evasion of taxes on income

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.

In February, March, August, and October 2018, the Financial Services Agency (FSA) invited officials in

banking, securities, and insurance regulatory authorities from developing countries in Asia and others, to attend a training program conducted by FSA officials and etc. The training program covered areas such as the initiatives, as well as regulatory and supervision systems in Japan's banking, securities, and insurance sectors respectively.



Glossary

***Other Official Flows (OOF)**

OOF refers to flows of funds to developing countries from governments, which are not considered as ODA, because their 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 compared to other developing countries, based on their income levels. LDCs meet certain criteria, including per capita gross national income (GNI) of \$1,025 or less between 2016 and 2018. As of 2018, there are 47 countries: 7 in Asia, 2 in the Middle East and North Africa, 33 in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1 in Latin America, and 4 in Oceania.

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

Duty-free quota-free access refers to measures implemented by developed countries to make products imported from LDCs tariff free and without any import quotas. Japan has expanded the number of applicable products under these measures, and approximately 98% of products exported from LDCs to Japan can be imported under such conditions.

***Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)**

EPAs are comprehensive economic agreements with specific countries, or regions, which include not only free trade agreements (FTAs) that stipulate the liberalization of trade in goods and/or services such as the reduction/elimination of tariffs, but also a wide range of areas, such as movement of people, investment, government procurement, and bilateral cooperation. 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 achieving economic growth through trade in the recipient countries, within the multilateral trading system under the WTO.

***One Village, One Product Campaign**

→See also "Stories from the Field" on page 17

The One Village, One Product Campaign is an initiative launched in Oita Prefecture, Japan in 1979, aimed at creating jobs and revitalizing the local community by developing unique local products through the utilization of local resources and traditional techniques. Such initiatives are also utilized abroad. In this Campaign, efforts are being made to dig up handicrafts, textiles, toys, and other attractive products that display the unique ethnic characteristics of developing countries in regions such as Asia and Africa, and reach out to a wider range of people, thereby supporting 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 2014. It entered into force upon its acceptance by 110 WTO member states, which corresponds to approximately two-thirds of all of the WTO member states. Japan accepted the Protocol in 2016. The TFA is the first newly-created multilateral agreement that has gained the participation of all WTO member states, since its founding in 1995. According to the WTO, full implementation of the TFA could reduce the trade costs of member states by an average of 14.3%, and increase global export of goods by over \$1 trillion.

***OECD/G20 BEPS Project**

Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) refers to the issue of multinational enterprises' aggressive tax planning measures that exploit gaps and loopholes in international tax systems, including tax treaties, in order to intentionally reduce the tax burden for economic activities that should have been taxed. In order to address this issue, the BEPS Project was launched in June 2012, by the OECD's Committee on Fiscal Affairs (led by a Japanese Chair until the end of 2016), with the aim of ensuring fair competition and making international taxation rules conform with the situation of the global economy and company trends, as well as reviewing international taxation rules across the board in order to raise transparency among all governments and global companies.

Under the BEPS project, the BEPS Action Plan was presented in 2013, and the BEPS Final Reports were released in 2015. In 2016, the "First Meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS" was held in Kyoto to kick-off the BEPS 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. As of February 2019, more than 120 countries and regions are participating in the Inclusive Framework on BEPS.

Japan has also actively participated in negotiations for a "Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS MLI)," and the Convention was opened for signatures at the end of 2016. A signing ceremony for the Convention was held in June 2017, wherein Japan signed the Convention as well. As of February 25, 2019, 85 countries and regions have signed the Convention, and 21 including Japan have concluded agreements.

Stories from the Field

1

Rebuilding the Regional Community through the “One Village One Product” Project

Promoting the Successful Practice in Issyk-Kul Region across the Kyrgyz Republic and Supporting the Economic Independence of the People

In the Kyrgyz Republic, a former member of the Soviet Union, as a consequence of the collapse of the Union, economic activity slowed down and many people moved away to go abroad for work, which made regional communities dysfunctional and has worsened poverty. In order to rebuild these communities and encourage the economic independence of people in the Kyrgyz Republic, the One Village One Product (OVOP) project is being implemented across the country through the assistance by Japan.

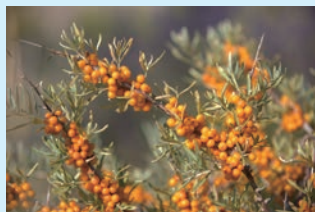
The Issyk-Kul lake area in the northeast of the Kyrgyz Republic was selected as the first model site. This region produces many products which have high potential to be commercialized, such as salt, wool and wild fruits. However, there were many difficulties when the commercialization of products started in 2006.

“Since many people have lived a nomadic life, traveling with a family group, most of them were not used to working in a team with others. They had almost no experience to process agricultural products, so I taught them from the very beginning, such as how to use equipment and how to wash hands before work,” says Mr. Akihisa Haraguchi, a JICA expert who has worked in the field for many years, recalling the early days of the project. At first, it was even difficult to let the local people understand the importance of living an affluent life by making and selling products that are worth buying, not just making them.

Nevertheless, after two or three years, as people started to earn money by selling their products, their minds and behavior changed. They became more conscious of product quality, and capable of producing products based on certain standards.

A notable success story is about a project of felt products (stuffed toys woven from high-quality local wool), which was a joint project with Ryohin Keikaku Co., Ltd. (MUJI). The products were required to be made up to the same quality and design with other products sold around the world by MUJI. The producers’ technical skills and the level of quality control got improved significantly by catering to the requirements. Mr. Haraguchi reports that, “Currently each of around 500 individual producers residing separately in the Issyk-Kul lake area has got to be able to produce products satisfying required standards.”

Furthermore, with its rich nature, the Kyrgyz Republic has numerous potential resources such as various types of plants. Among them, products made from natural sea buckthorn are expected to be developed in the near future. It contains polyphenols and various vitamins together with omega-3, 6, 7, and 9 fatty acids, which are expected to be beneficial for health. Thanks to this, sea



Sea buckthorn growing wild in the Kyrgyz Republic, and being called as “miracle fruit” (Photo: JICA)

buckthorn has recently drawn worldwide attention as a “superfood.” On the other hand, it was difficult to commercialize because it takes time to be harvested due to the thorns on its stalk. However, various products have currently been developed such as jams made with sea



Local producers being instructed by a Japanese expert on food processing training (Photo: JICA)

buckthorn flesh, and cosmetics made with its oil which is effective in preventing aging.

The One Village One Product project in Issyk-Kul Region has grown significantly. Over the ten-years since the start of the project, the number of not only products but also people involved has increased from 500 to 2,300. Currently, projects have been expanded from the model site in Issyk-Kul to the whole region. Those products being produced and processed got to be highly evaluated as the “Issyk-Kul Brand,” and are sold at local shops as well as the OVOP Center in Bishkek. The prices are higher than other local products, yet local citizens also buy the products because of their high quality. Furthermore, foreign buyers also started to purchase the products. As such, the sea buckthorn jam is highly praised for its quality abroad and it won the gold prize at the World Food Expo held in Kazakhstan.

Since January 2017, further progress has been made to roll out the successful model in Issyk-Kul Region to other regions in the Kyrgyz Republic. Ms. Nargiza Erkinbayeva, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the local public service corporation “OVOP+1” says as follows regarding her hopes for the future.

“Just as it was at the start in Issyk-Kul, the people in the Kyrgyz Republic rarely thought about processing agricultural products and resources into commercial products. In this regard, the fact that the project-participants now take the viewpoint of developing, producing and selling a product from the customer perspective is a significant achievement by Japanese experts’ support. In order to develop the project continuously, producers need to be economically independent and we will continue to provide support to this end. Over time, each region will become economically independent and able to develop the project on their own without our help. This is what I imagine for their future.”

Creating a structure to produce products competitive enough for the world market, first, in a single region, then spreading the project nationwide. Japan’s support is steadily advancing here in the Kyrgyz Republic toward this end.

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

To support quality growth in countries, 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, the ineffective use of human resources tends to stifle opportunities for earning sufficient income. A shortage of appropriate human resources, thus poses a major obstacle to industrial promotion and industry development.

“Work” constitutes a fundamental activity of mankind that shapes society. Increasing income by getting a job (employment) is an important means for improving the living standards of people. Nevertheless, the global employment situation is uncertain, and although the unemployment rate is expected to decline slightly in 2018, the number of unemployed is expected to remain flat at over 192 million. Additionally, another 1.3 million are estimated to become unemployed in 2019. In order to create stable employment under these circumstances, each country must urgently prepare for risks by building social safety nets, as well as engage in an international effort to realize “decent work,” established as Goal 8 of the SDGs.

■ 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 related technical 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.

In the field of industrial human resources development, Japan implemented 63 comprehensive cooperation projects in 31 countries between 2000 and 2018. The projects drew on Japan’s insight and know-how for the development and revision of curriculums and teaching materials, capacity enhancement of trainers, and collaboration with the industry sector. As a result, Japan provided support for improving facilities and equipment at 12 schools in six countries, as well as Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions. Japan also contributed to skill development through 14 projects in eight countries, with the aim of improving the livelihoods of women, the disabled, demobilized soldiers, as well as refugees and others whose lives have been impacted by conflict.

Upon highly exceeding the goal of developing 40,000 industrial human resources in three years under the “Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative” announced at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in 2015, with a view towards the 50th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in 2023, Japan announced the “Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0,” at the November 2018 Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting which aims to develop 80,000 industrial human resources in the Asia region over the next five years. The initiative calls for new cooperative fields, which include cooperation in digital fields such as AI, in addition to cooperation in practical technology, design and development capabilities, innovation, management, planning and management capabilities, that have been emphasized. In addition, at TICAD VI in 2016, Prime Minister Abe stated his intention to leverage Japan’s expertise in high-quality, and to go ahead with human resource development for approximately 10 million people within three years, between 2016 and 2018.

Furthermore, under the “Japan Revitalization Strategy 2016” (decided by the Cabinet in 2016), with the aim of contributing to fostering innovation in both Japan and developing countries in Asia, Japan decided to launch a new initiative (“Innovative Asia” Initiative) for circulation of competent human resources between Japan and Asian countries offering study opportunities and internships in Japan for approximately 1,000 talented students from Asia over five years from FY2017. This new initiative was highly welcomed by partner countries on occasions such as summit meetings. Under the initiative, 152 people came to Japan for training in FY2017, and 74 in FY2018.

As for the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), it conducts trainings and etc. in Japan primarily for Southeast Asian countries ³, with which Japan has been expanding and deepening economically interdependent relationships. The trainings are designed to transfer the government and private sector’s accumulated know-how on Japan’s skills evaluation system (Japan’s National Trade Skill Test and Certification), with a view to strive for developing and securing a quality workforce ⁴. In FY2017, a total of 260 people from six countries participated in these training programs. The training is 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 voluntary contributions to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the ILO’s Skills and Employability Programme in Asia and the Pacific (SKILLSAP) conducted surveys, studies, and seminars regarding vocational training policies,

³ Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Laos

⁴ 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.



Zambia

National KAIZEN Project Phase 2 Technical Cooperation Project (July 2017 – July 2020)

Zambia's industrial structure has been a problem, as it is highly reliant on copper resources, which are highly influenced by international market conditions. Therefore, to address this issue, the government has been working on establishing an attractive environment for investors, by providing them with incentives, and planning and enhancing its complex special economic zone, with an aim to promote economic growth by diversifying Zambia's industry through increased foreign investment.

The private sector in Zambia is made up of a small number of large companies and a large number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Large companies are structured to be able to pass high production costs onto their sales prices, but most of the domestic industry, which is primarily made up of MSMEs, is stuck with low productivity.

In response, Japan introduced the KAIZEN approach, a common practice in Japanese workplaces wherein small groups proactively implement quality control activities by themselves. This approach has started to be widely rolled out in Zambia. In Phase 1, which preceded this project, the KAIZEN Institute of Zambia was established to promote the dissemination of KAIZEN activities. Japan also supported the capacity-building of the organization and its personnel. The present cooperation project, Phase 2, is enhancing systems for the continuous spread and expansion of KAIZEN, and contributing

to improved quality and productivity in both the private and public sectors, through efforts to implement a system for the sustainable dissemination and expansion of KAIZEN, particularly by implementing activities to disseminate this approach nationwide and strengthening the KAIZEN instructor training system.



Japanese expert inspecting the status of the implementation of KAIZEN activities (Photo: JICA)

vocational training methods, and vocational training information networks, which were attended by members of governments, employers, and worker organizations across countries in the region.

● Employment

Japan also provides support in the area of employment. The question of how to address issues such as response to serious industrial accidents that occur frequently, and protecting the rights of workers and stabilizing employment amidst the expansion of the global supply chain, is a common issue for each country. In light of this, the improvement of the working environment from a global perspective is becoming an increasingly important issue. To cope with these problems, Japan provides technical cooperation that supports developing countries primarily in Asia, focusing on the enhancement of security and hygienic standards of work, as well as improvement of employment legislations and its implementing systems for the improvement of working environments, through

means such as voluntary contributions to the ILO. Japan is also engaged in realizing “decent work,” such as by providing support in Africa, including support for youth employment in Gambia.



A road maintenance project being carried out using sandbags, in support of sustainable job creation and independence of youth in Kenya (Photo: NPO CORE: Community Road Empowerment)

(3) Promotion of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Science, Technology, and Innovation, and Research and Development

The dissemination of Information and Communications Technology (ICT)⁵ contributes to the upgrading of industry, the improvement of productivity, the achievement of sustainable economic growth, as well as addressing issues related to medical care, education, energy, environment, disaster risk reduction, and other social issues in developing countries. Furthermore, the utilization of ICT improves their democratic foundation by encouraging information disclosure by governments and establishing broadcasting media. In this way, ICT is extremely important for strengthening civil society through enhanced convenience and improved services as well as for quality growth.

Amidst the globalization and growing openness of research and development through the rapid development of ICT, science, technology, and innovation are undergoing fundamental transformations. The importance of international cooperation that harnesses the power of science, technology, and innovation, is also recognized in the implementation of the SDGs, which require comprehensive solutions by 2030 for a wide range of issues covering the economy, society, and environment. In light of this, there is a call for more strategic and proactive efforts in science and technology diplomacy.

■ Japan's Efforts

● Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

In 2017, Japan formulated the Playbook for Investment in “Quality ICT Infrastructure” for ICT policymakers and procurement managers of the respective countries and regions in order to promote quality infrastructure investment in the field of ICT, with the aim of eliminating the ICT disparities that exist between countries and regions, and to help improve the quality of life of all people.

Moreover, Japan actively offers assistance centered on the establishment of communications and broadcasting equipment and facilities in developing countries, and the introduction of the technology and systems they require, and relevant human resources development. Specifically, Japan makes proactive efforts to provide comprehensive support for the overseas promotion of **Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial (ISDB-T)***, which is also an effective means for boosting Japan's economic growth, in the areas of maintenance, personnel and systems. As of December 2018, ISDB-T is being spread in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, and has been adopted in a total of 18 countries⁶. A JICA training program is conducted every year for countries adopting or considering ISDB-T to promote the spread and introduction of ISDB-T overseas. In order to increase

the adoption of ISDB-T in other countries, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) is also promoting assistance that offers ICT solutions to resolve social issues by way of dialogues and joint projects with partner governments.



Training on terrestrial broadcast and high-definition (HD) program production being conducted with equipment provided through grant aid at the Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Capacitación de Telecomunicaciones de la Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (INICTEL-UNI) in Lima, Peru (Photo: JICA)

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 reduction capabilities of developing countries. (see page 63 for more information on disaster risk reduction.)

Japan also actively carry out projects in collaboration with international organizations. Japan works with the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)***, a specialized UN agency that is responsible for telecommunications, to provide a variety of development assistance in the field of telecommunications to developing countries. Particularly, in the fields of disaster risk reduction, health care, and cybersecurity, Japan organized workshops covering these areas in cooperation with ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) Study Groups, aimed at human resources development in developing countries.

In May 2018, Japan also hosted a panel discussion on early warning systems in Switzerland. Also, in October the same year, Japan additionally hosted workshops in Switzerland regarding disaster management training using an emergency communication system, the introduction of

⁵ ICT is short for Information and Communications Technology. ICT is technology that integrates computers and other information technology with digital communication technology, as represented by the Internet and mobile phones.

⁶ The 18 countries are Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Paraguay, the Philippines, Bolivia, Uruguay, Botswana, Guatemala, Honduras, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nicaragua, and El Salvador (as of December 2018).



Peru

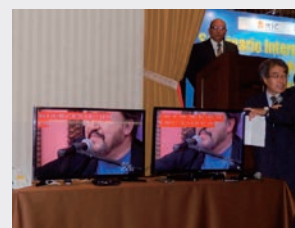
Dispatch of Individual Expert "Advisor for the Implementation of Emergency Warning Broadcast System (EWBS)" (September 23, 2015 – September 22, 2017)

In 2009, Peru became the first Spanish-speaking country to decide to adopt the Japanese system of terrestrial digital broadcasting (ISB-T). Currently, this system is being introduced and spread to the country's major metropolitan areas, including the capital, Lima, and Callao. The Emergency Warning Broadcast System (EWBS), one of the Japanese system's features, is a method for broadcasting urgent information via the television, using a special signal, in order to promptly convey information on disasters such as earthquake and tsunami. Although the EWBS is recognized as an effective warning system for Peru, which is beset by numerous natural disasters like Japan, it has yet to be operated smoothly due to a lack of experts.

Given this situation, Japan dispatched "Advisors for the Implementation of the Emergency Warning Broadcast System (EWBS)" and provided support for the sharing of know-how on the EWBS to government agencies and media in Peru. In cooperation with the ministries and agencies responsible in Peru, Japan also held seminars to introduce the EWBS in Lima and regional cities, resulting not only in the training of engineers, but also in raising disaster-prevention awareness among the people.

Thanks to the support from the Japanese experts, the EWBS, which had previously only been used for test broadcasts to check the operation of the equipment, was actually utilized to transmit a signal and convey tsunami information to the public, when an earthquake struck in a neighboring country. As a result, Peru became the first country in Central and South America to make practical use of the EWBS.

Going forward, Peru is expected to serve as a leader in the spread of digital terrestrial broadcasting and the EWBS in Central and South America, and engage in independent efforts, such as sharing its experience with other countries adopting the Japanese terrestrial digital system in the region.



Mr. Nobuo Okabe, EWBS Implementation Advisor, introducing the EWBS at a terrestrial digital seminar (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Peru)

new digital healthcare technology, and new challenges in cybersecurity. These workshops provided an opportunity for Japan to present its leading ICT technology and systems in the fields of disaster risk management and healthcare, as well as its policies and initiatives regarding cybersecurity. Each workshop was attended by around 50 to 80 participants, and were highly appreciated. Furthermore, in addition to the aforementioned topics, Japan is proactively contributing to the information sharing between countries, including developing countries, by submitting papers on specific examples of Japan's good practices on topics such as accessibility, smart society, and environmental issues, to the relevant ITU Study Groups.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the **Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)**,* an international organization in the field of information and communications, contributes to the balanced development of the telecommunications and information infrastructure in the region. The APT hosts a ministerial-level meeting once in every five years to further strengthen regional cooperation to support the advancement of ICT in the Asia-Pacific region, and issues a joint statement setting the medium-term direction of ICT initiatives. In 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" in the region.

In order to promote the capacity building (human resource development) programs, which have been positioned as one of the priority areas under the joint statement, Japan assists in the large number of training programs conducted by APT every year. In 2016, APT launched a training program for young administrative officials to help them enhance skills in playing an active role in international conferences. The second series of this program was held in 2017, and was attended by 30

participants. As ICT is a field that is not restricted to one country, it is important to coordinate the views of various stakeholders overseas. Hence, by improving their presentation and negotiation skills at international conferences through this training program, young administrative officials from APT member states are expected to build interpersonal networks while further advancing international cooperation and collaboration. The next Ministerial Meeting is planned to be held in June 2019 in Singapore.

Furthermore, in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), ICT was identified as a key driver in ASEAN's economic and social transformation under the blueprints adopted at the ASEAN Summit in November 2015 that provide new indicators leading up to 2025. Also, at the ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers (TELMIN) Meeting held in the same month, the "ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020)" that serves as ASEAN's ICT strategy towards 2020 was formulated. Moreover, 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 strengthen their cooperation in the information security field.

Given this context, the basic assistance policies made by the relevant ministries and agencies to strategically and efficiently provide all-Japan support for capacity building in the cyber security field in developing countries were reported to the cyber security strategy headquarters in 2016. As one initiative within this efforts, the "ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC)" was established in Bangkok, Thailand in September 2018 through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) to support human resources development in the cyber security field for the ASEAN member states.

Japan will actively provide support in line with the basic assistance policies, mainly to the ASEAN countries for the time being.

● Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation, and Research and Development

Based on the necessity raised in the international community to formulate a roadmap to facilitate the greatest use of science, technology and innovation (STI) towards the achievement of the SDGs, Japan presented the “Recommendation on STI to Achieve the SDGs and its Guiding Tool, the STI Roadmap - To Think, Proceed and Create Together with the World -” submitted by the Advisory Board for the Promotion of Science and Technology Diplomacy, chaired by Dr. Teruo Kishi, Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, at the third United Nations (UN) STI Forum held in June 2018. The recommendation states that a roadmap is a vital “communication tool” which allows multiple stakeholders, such as governments, academia, industry, the private sector, financial organizations and NGOs to visualize what actions must be taken by when. It also emphasizes the need for Japan to share perspectives with people around the world and create together, as it leads efforts toward formulating a roadmap, in order to contribute to the international community. The importance of formulating a roadmap was reflected in the STI Forum Co-Chairs’ Summary, and was reported at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) organized by the UN Economic and Social Council in July of the same year.

In addition, as a major program for Japan’s science and technology diplomacy, the **Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program***, which links ODA and the science and technology budget, was launched in 2008, and by 2018, 133 joint research projects in 50 countries around the world has been adopted.

Japan is also strengthening assistance for overseas engineering universities to develop networks among the next-generation based on cooperation for human resources development. In Asia, Japan provides support to the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIIT) by purchasing equipment and supplies for education and research as well as developing curriculums.

Japan also collaborates with 27 universities and two research organizations 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) located in Thailand, one of Asia’s leading graduate schools offering Master’s and Ph.D. programs at the School of Engineering and Technology, the School of Environment, Resources and Development, and other faculties. In particular, Japan is providing scholarships to students studying remote sensing (satellite image analysis) in courses 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 space industry development in the Asian region.

Japan also provides support in regions outside Asia. In Egypt since 2008, Japan has supported the operations of the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST), a public 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. 15 universities in Japan have collaborated to dispatch faculty and staff to Egypt to provide lecture and research guidance, and support curriculum development. Through an all-Japan effort, Japan aims to share its science and technology education practices with Africa and the Middle East.

In Rwanda, which is seeking to become an ICT nation, Japan launched the “ICT Innovation Ecosystem Strengthening Project” in 2017, and is dispatching experts, to provide policy recommendations and nurture entrepreneurs through the project. Japan is also contributing to the development of the ICT field in the public and private sectors of Rwanda through activities such as inviting over 20 ICT-related Japanese firms to Rwanda in 2018 to facilitate matching between Japanese and Rwandan firms in the field of ICT.

Furthermore, Japan 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

*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 provision of diverse services.

*International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

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



Glossary

*Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)

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

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

→See also “Stories from the Field” on page 24

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, and supports research institutes both in developing countries and in Japan, to work together to conduct international joint research with the goal of disseminating research outcomes in society. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and JICA, in collaboration with 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), provide support to research institutes and researchers in Japan and partner countries.

(4) Efforts on Debt Issues

As long as developing countries can effectively use the funds they receive through loans, debt can be useful in achieving economic growth. However, if a country has limited repayment capacity and becomes overburdened with excessive debt, such debt could inhibit sustainable growth, and thus pose a significant challenge to developing countries.

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) held in 2005, the G8 countries agreed on a proposal called the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) 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). As for the debt issue faced by the poorest countries, 39 countries have become eligible for the Enhanced HIPC Initiative ⁷, which further expands existing international debt relief initiatives for HIPCs, and enables complete debt reduction among others. 36 of these countries have received comprehensive debt reduction as a result of having attained a certain level of economic and social reforms as of the end of FY2017.

Furthermore, some low-income and middle-income countries, other than HIPCs, may owe heavy debts, and appropriate measures must be taken to make sure such debts do not prevent their stable medium to long-term

development. In 2003, the Paris Club adopted a new Paris Club ⁸ 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 of the recipient countries. The approach takes comprehensive debt relief measures for a country that faces difficulty concerning their repayment capacity due to their large debt volume, 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 do repay their 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, cancellation and reduction only when they are absolutely necessary. ⁹ As of the end of 2017, Japan has cancelled ODA debts worth a total of approximately ¥1.290 trillion towards 33 countries since FY2003. However, in 2018, as well as in 2016, no debt relief measures have been taken.

⁷ An initiative agreed at the Cologne Summit (Germany) in 1999.

⁸ 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.

⁹ Debt rescheduling is one form of debt relief, wherein payment is postponed for a certain period of time in order to reduce the burden of debt payment on the indebted country.

"Green Economy" Gives Birth to New Industry!

Promoting the Green Economy with the Palm Oil Industry in Malaysia (Good Example of SATREPS)

Palm oil is a vegetable oil obtained from the fruit of the oil palm, and is used widely in products including food and detergents. In Malaysia, the palm oil industry is supporting the economy of the countryside, including states such as Sabah, even now when the country has been industrialized. On the other hand, there are concerns over environmental pollution from the wastewater discharged from palm oil mills. For example, a large volume of methane gas, which has a greenhouse effect 25 times bigger than that of carbon dioxide, is produced from reservoirs used for treating wastewater, which are three times the area of the oil mill. Furthermore, each year, 40,000 tons of residues (bunches of fruit remaining after milling) which can be used as biomass* are discarded in one plant. Thus, it has become an important challenge to change the palm oil industry in Malaysia to a green economy (environment-friendly economy) industry.

Under such situation, Professor Yoshihito Shirai of Kyushu Institute of Technology has researched the effective use of palm oil wastewater in Malaysia for over 20 years, since 1994. In November 2013, working together with Professor Mohamad Ali of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), he launched the "Project on Promotion of Green Economy with Palm Oil Industry for Biodiversity Conservation" using the "Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)." Professor Shirai says the following regarding the objective of the project.

"What is important is not just simply to process the waste so that it has no adverse impact on the environment, but to demonstrate a business model where a new industry can be produced by making use of the waste."

Professor Shirai and other researchers conducted research and experimented repeatedly using a test equipment (pilot plant) adjacent to a palm oil plant in Sabah State, and succeeded in completely processing the palm oil wastewater without using large reservoirs. They also proved that the methane gas has potential for generating an amount of electricity more than the power required by the oil mill. Such biomass power generation has also been researched in Japan for some time, but there were few sites in the country capable of obtaining the large amount of biomass required to generate electricity, which led to high costs associated with generation, and thus, cases of its practical use had been limited. In Malaysia however, in addition to the fact that an adequate amount of wastewater for power generation is discharged even from one



Associate Professor Hidayat of UPM (on the right) who is president of a venture company that sells nanocellulose fiber, project principal researcher Professor Shirai (in the middle) and joint researcher Professor Ali of UPM (Photo: Professor Yoshihito Shirai, Kyushu Institute of Technology)

plant, the associated costs are lower than in Japan. As a result, the potential to stably produce 1 megawatt of electric power, year round, was demonstrated. This is enough to cover the amount of electricity used by a general plant.

Furthermore, a broad range of research was conducted through the SATREPS project, not



Wastewater treatment equipment, for treating palm oil wastewater and producing methane gas to be used as fuel (Photo: Professor Yoshihito Shirai, Kyushu Institute of Technology)

only on energy and the environment, but on the fundamentals, application, and commercialization required to produce high-value-added products from biomass. UPM and Professor Shirai developed "nanocellulose fiber," a plastic-reinforced fiber, which could potentially be applied as a material in car bodies and more, from biomass residues. They are now commercializing this fiber as a university venture. This is one of the results of the sharing of research knowhow, through joint research conducted by numerous Malaysian researchers, such as Professor Ali of UPM, with Professor Shirai.

Based on these achievements, Professor Shirai has come up with further ideas.

"What we are now proposing is to create a new industry by utilizing electric power generated from biomass resources. We are also thinking of a plan to create a vegetable plant that will require a large amount of cheap electric power, on the former site of a reservoir. Originally in Malaysia, great roads where large vehicles can drive have been developed all over the country, for the trucks transporting palm oil. These roads will be useful not only for transporting building materials for the vegetable plant, but also for the distribution of products. In other words, the conditions required for making the plant and facilities for a new business utilizing biomass resources are already established, meaning that there is a ground for producing new industries that consider the environment."

Promoting the development of new businesses, and efforts to produce energy from waste, rather than just processing it, "will prove to be useful for environmental improvement, and surely coincides with the objective of the SDGs, in that they also create employment for the local people," says Professor Shirai. In this sense, this project could be considered as an attempt to bring about a new perspective on the relationship between industry and environmental conservation. It is also a good example of academic research results utilizing Japanese ODA, being accepted and applied in foreign countries.

* Recyclable organic resource produced from plants and animals, such as livestock waste, raw garbage and wood chips.

2 Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society

In order to achieve “Quality Growth,” it is necessary that the rights of individuals are guaranteed, and people can engage in socio-economic activities with a sense of safety, as well as to put in place social infrastructure that is equitably and stably managed. So as to strengthen such foundations, the sharing of universal values such as freedom, democracy, respect for basic human rights, and the rule of law, as well as the ensuring of peace, stability, and security, are of great importance in developing countries.

2-1 Assistance for Realizing an Equitable and Inclusive Society

(1) Assistance for the Development of Legal and Judicial Systems, and Socio-economic Systems

The development of socio-economic infrastructure, coupled with the establishment of the rule of law, realization of good governance, promotion and consolidation of democratization, and respect for basic human rights, are the foundation for the development of developing countries. In this regard, assistance for the promotion of the rule of law is required to develop laws and to train legal and judicial experts, including experts in the correction and rehabilitation of offenders, as well as to assist in the development of economic systems that involve the establishment of tax systems, appropriate collection, management and execution of taxes, strengthening of audit functions of the public sector, and human resources development for improving financial systems.

■ Japan’s Efforts

As part of the assistance for the development of legal and economic systems, Japan provides assistance that addresses legal and judicial system reform, local administration, capacity-building of government officials, enhancement of internal audits, and human resources development for the establishment of civil codes, competition law, tax, internal audit, and public investment systems in countries such as Viet Nam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Timor-Leste, Nepal, and Cote d’Ivoire. Assistance in this field is a typical example of “people-to-people cooperation” between Japan and the recipient countries, and Japan implements such assistance as part of “Japan’s visible development cooperation.”

In addition, the improvement of the legal and economic

systems in developing countries through such measures is an important initiative, in the sense that it leads to improvements in the business environment for Japanese companies to be active in these countries. Japan’s assistance for the improvement of legal and economic systems draws on Japan’s “soft power,” and promotes and underpins growth in the world, including Asia.

Every year, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) holds an international training course (twice a year) and an international seminar for senior officials (once a year) for criminal justice practitioners from developing countries in Asia and Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI). Each course and seminar has focused on key identified issues among the international community including the UN, and has made efforts to adapt to the changing agenda in the global society. The main topic of the spring international training course is crime prevention and anticrime measures, and for the autumn session is the treatment of offenders. The international seminar for senior officials covers a wide range of criminal justice issues.

MOJ also conducts international training courses on the promotion of the rule of law, studies on the legal systems in other countries, and seminars in developing countries by dispatching experts. These activities are aimed at supporting the drafting of basic laws and regulations, as well as economic laws and regulations in developing countries, establishing the basis for the proper operation and execution of legal systems, and strengthening the training of legal professionals. Specifically, MOJ invited legal practitioners and lawmaking professionals, such as justice ministry officials, judges, and prosecutors, from Asian countries including Viet Nam, Myanmar, Laos, and Indonesia, and held trainings on themes such as the drafting of legislation and the development of legal human resources tailored to the needs of each country. Additionally, MOJ dispatched experts from Japan to recipient countries to hold seminars and other activities.

Furthermore, in order to earnestly and proactively promote assistance that is aligned with the needs of developing countries, MOJ works to continuously implement effective assistance by conducting broad and basic studies regarding the legal systems of the countries, and their interpretations and operations.

Using the Experience of Japan to Develop Legislation in Developing Countries

Assistance for the Development of Legal and Judicial Systems

Japan, which took its first step toward becoming a modern nation state in the Meiji Era, has undertaken wide-ranging efforts toward modernization, and built the basic structure of the country. In this process, while learning from the Civil and the Common law, Japan advanced the development of a modern legal and judicial system that fit with its traditional culture and social systems. Based on these experiences, Japan has provided support for the development of legal and judicial systems in developing countries including in Asia, by supporting their lawmaking, system development, and so forth. These assistance provide support for the self-help efforts of developing countries, based on the rule of law, as well as the establishment of the foundations that are essential for developing countries to achieve sustainable growth.

In particular, we put effort in the dispatch of legal experts from Japan, to advance dialogue and coordination with counterpart organizations in developing countries, based on Japan's experiences and knowledge, while respecting the culture, history, society and ownership of those countries, and supporting the development of legal and judicial systems that correspond to their circumstances and needs. Furthermore, in order to enable those countries to operate the legislation themselves, our assistance goes beyond preparing and revising of laws, and provides support in developing the basis for proper operation and execution of legal systems, training legal professionals, assisting legal education, and strengthening practical capabilities relating to operations.

Japan's support for the development of legal and judicial systems in Vietnam began in the 1990s. In Vietnam, although a policy called "Doi Moi (Reform)" that hinged on the introduction of a market economy, was introduced in the 1980s, the country's legislation and legal systems including the civil law, did not correspond to a market economy. Hence, the Government of Japan and JICA cooperated with Japanese legal experts to support the drafting of a new civil law by the Government of Vietnam, and supported the development of legal professionals in the country. As a result, in 2015, a new civil law was finally enacted, which reflected many recommendations by the Japanese experts, and incorporated clauses relating to modern trade. In addition, Japan has provided support for various legislation and legal systems, including the civil procedure law and administrative litigation law. Japan continues to support Vietnam in the development

of legal and judicial systems even today, and in recent years, it has implemented cooperation aimed at developing systems to ensure consistency between legal documentations.

Japan is also supporting the development of legal and judicial systems in various countries other than Vietnam. Recently, on December 6, 2018, Laos' first civil law was approved by the National Assembly and enacted. Since 1998, Japan has been supporting Laos in improving its legislations, and has dispatched active prosecutors, lawyers, and others, to disseminate know-how on legislation, as well as to train legal professionals in the country. Furthermore, since 2012, Japan has worked tirelessly to support the people of Laos in the process of drafting a civil law, which reflects their own society and culture. Consequently, a civil law was enacted, comprising of more than 600 articles. This is Japan's fourth success story in supporting the drafting of a civil law, following Cambodia, Nepal, and Vietnam.

Furthermore, since 2013, Japan has also been cooperating with Myanmar, with an emphasis on improving the business environment for Japanese companies, etc. Specifically, Japan is working to produce textbooks on business dispute settlement for judges, and introduce a civil mediation system, among other efforts.

Recently, the support for developing countries in the development of legal and judicial systems has been expanding beyond civil laws and civil procedure laws, to areas such as intellectual property rights. Going forward, Japan will continue to provide a variety of assistance to developing countries, utilizing the lessons learnt through its own modernization process, including the support for the development of legal and judicial systems.



Review session on drafting the civil law with members of the National Assembly in Laos (Photo: JICA)

(2) Assistance for Governance (Including Anti-Corruption)

The existence of corruption, including the bribery of government officials during the process of economic development, has become a factor impeding sound economic growth in developing countries. Thus, it is necessary for donor countries to provide assistance for good governance, including anti-corruption measures, in order to realize an equitable and stable society in developing countries.

■ Japan's Efforts

Japan, as a state party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the only universal framework in the international community that sets out measures to prevent and combat corruption, has been actively involved in law enforcement relating to corruption and capacity building assistance to countries vulnerable to corruption through cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the secretariat of the Convention. Following its previous contributions in 2016 and 2017, Japan contributed approximately \$100,000 to UNODC in 2018, to identify and solve challenges in the international fight against corruption through support for the operation of the review mechanism, which assesses the status of implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption in each country, such as cooperation for the return of criminal benefits in relation to anti-corruption measures.

Through UNAFEI, MOJ held an international training course on the criminal justice response to corruption, on the theme of “Effective Criminal Justice Practices to Eradicate Corruption and International Cooperation and Collaboration with Civil Society,” for criminal justice practitioners in developing countries in Asia and Africa. The training course selects themes from the key issues of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and contributes to the sound development of the criminal justice system and the strengthening of cooperative relationships in each country.

Additionally, Japan has held an annual seminar titled “Regional Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries” since 2007, with the objectives of supporting initiatives in Southeast Asian countries and contributing to human resources development in the area of criminal justice and anti-corruption. In 2018, a

seminar was held in Da Nang, Viet Nam, on the theme of “Latest Regional Trends in Corruption and Effective Countermeasures by Criminal Justice Authorities.”

(3) Assistance for Democratization

It is a critical component of encouraging medium to long-term stability and development in developing countries to strengthen the foundation for democracy such as by the people's participation in governance and development and by protecting and promoting human rights. In particular, based on the perspective of the principles of the Development Cooperation Charter, it is important for Japan to actively assist developing countries, which are taking proactive steps toward democratization, and support their efforts to shift to democratic systems, including electoral assistance.

■ Japan's Efforts

In February 2018, Japan provided Cambodia with supplies for elections, such as ballot boxes made in Japan, recognizing the significance of holding national elections in which the will of the people is properly reflected. Moreover, along with trainings on the ideals of democracy for officials involved in parliament administration and election management, training on improving judicial access for legal professionals was also conducted. Furthermore, since 2017, Japan has provided technical cooperation assistance to the officials of the Cambodian Ministry of Interior aspiring for decentralization in the country, in support of formulating strategies and implementation plans, and developing human resources.



Instructor training course conducted for the staff of the training office responsible for human resource development in the Cambodian Ministry of Interior (Photo: JICA)

2-2 Assistance for Ensuring Peace, Stability, and Security

(1) Support for Peacebuilding and Refugees/Displaced Persons

Regional and internal conflicts arising from ethnic, religious, and historical differences continue to pose challenges for the international community. Such conflicts generate a great number of refugees and displaced persons, resulting in humanitarian crises and violations of human rights. These conflicts also undermine the progress in development achieved through long-term efforts, and cause massive economic losses. Therefore, it is important for the entire international community to engage in “peacebuilding” for the establishment of foundations for development in order to prevent conflicts, avoid their recurrence, and consolidate sustainable peace.

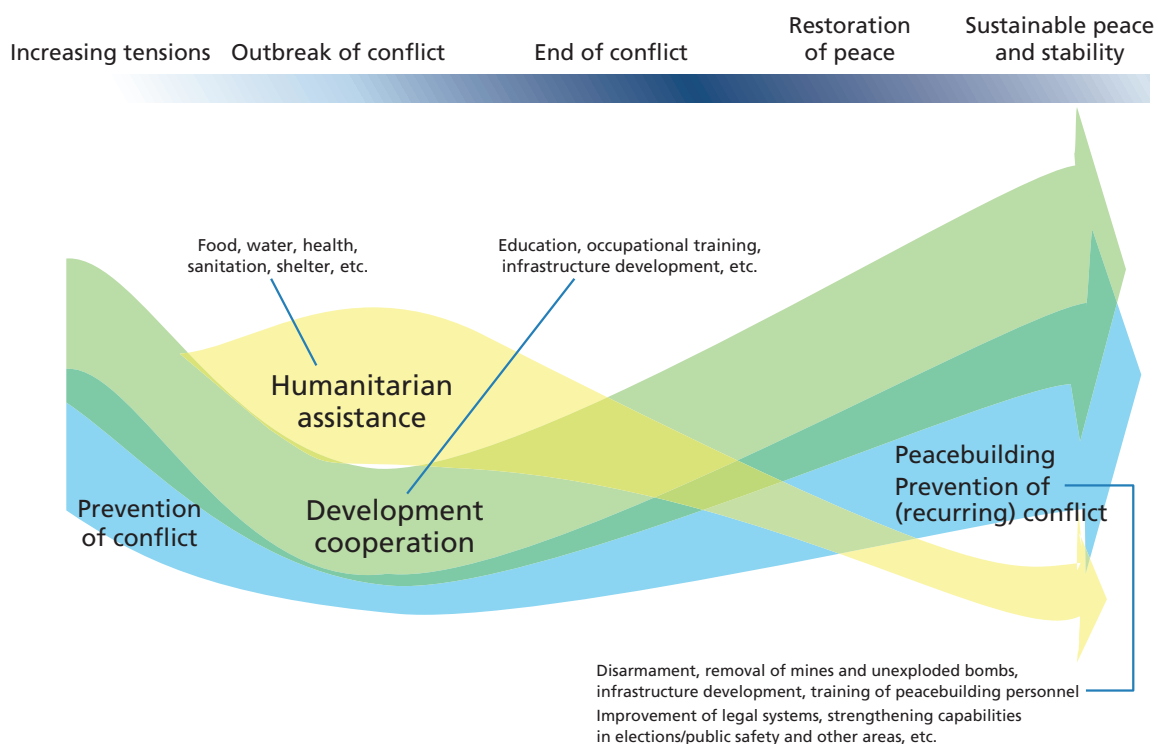
■ Japan’s Efforts

Discussions on integrated support from the resolution of conflicts to recovery, reconstruction and nation-building have been held in fora such as the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), which was established in 2005, and Japan has been pursuing intensive efforts from the standpoint of proactive contribution to peace, based on the principle of international cooperation. In 2016, then Foreign Minister Kishida chaired an Open Debate of the UN Security Council held in New York,

on the theme of “Peacebuilding in Africa.” Moreover, at a Pledging Conference for the UN Peacebuilding Fund, Japan declared that it would contribute around \$10 million in the coming years. Up until now, Japan has contributed \$50.5 million to the Peacebuilding Fund. In 2018, the “Secretary-General Report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace” was published, and a variety of recommendations were made, aiming at strengthening fund procurement for peacebuilding, increasing the consistency of the policies and activities of the UN PBC, strengthening the leadership, accountability and capacity of the UN, and strengthening partnership with international organizations and civil society. In April of the same year, the “High-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace” was held, and Japan pledged to support the initiatives of the Secretary-General in the area of peacebuilding.

Moreover, Japan provides various types of support, for refugees and displaced persons affected by conflict, such as food assistance, and electoral assistance for political peace processes. In addition, after a conflict is resolved, Japan assists in Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) of ex-combatants in order to rebuild the national security sector to ensure domestic stability and security, and promote the consolidation of peace. Japan also extends support for the reconstruction of affected countries in such areas as the repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons, and the rebuilding of basic infrastructure (socio-economic

Peacebuilding efforts through ODA



Countermeasures for the core causes of conflict, through collaboration between humanitarian, development, and peace-building assistance

infrastructure). Further, in order to consolidate sustainable peace and ensure that conflicts do not reoccur, Japan works to strengthen the administrative, judicial, and policing functions of the country in question, while supporting the development of economic infrastructure and institutions, and pursuing efforts in the social sectors of healthcare and education. In such undertakings, maximum consideration is given to the importance of the roles that women can play in peacebuilding. In order to provide these supports in a seamless manner, Japan takes an approach that combines assistance through international organizations, grant aid, technical cooperation, and ODA loans.

Furthermore, the Development Cooperation Charter outlines that Japan will strengthen coordination between development cooperation and international peace cooperation activities such as UN peacekeeping operations (PKOs). In the fields where UN PKOs are deployed, many initiatives are underway which contribute to efforts for protecting refugees, women, and children affected by conflict and developing basic infrastructure. To maximize the effects of such efforts, it remains important for Japan to promote such forms of cooperation.

● Support for Refugees and Displaced Persons

Given the situations in Syria, Bangladesh, Myanmar and other countries, the number of refugees and displaced persons worldwide at the end of 2017 reached its highest level since the end of World War II, and humanitarian situations are becoming increasingly severe. From the viewpoint of human security, Japan is providing humanitarian assistance, including assistance for refugees and displaced persons, in order to ensure the life, dignity, and security of the people in the most vulnerable positions, and to support the realization of self-reliant development, wherein each person is capable of getting back on their own feet.

In particular, Japan works with international organizations, mainly the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to provide refugees and displaced persons around the world with assistance by distributing food, shelter and basic supplies necessary to live. Furthermore, through cooperation with the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and other international organizations, Japan is providing assistance for refugees even in locations with security concerns, by utilizing their expertise and delivering capabilities.

Upon providing this kind of assistance for refugees through international organizations, Japan put importance on collaboration with Japanese entities such as JICA, Japan's development cooperation implementing agency, as well as private companies. For example, in the case of refugee assistance by UNHCR, Japan works in collaboration with JICA to implement a program

combining emergency and reconstruction assistance. In addition, the incorporated non-profit organization, Japan Platform (JPF), an emergency humanitarian aid organization, established in 2000 in cooperation with NGOs, the Government, and the business communities (see page 110, "B. Cooperation with Japanese NGOs"), has been supporting refugees and displaced persons. In 2018, it provided support for the response to the humanitarian crises in Yemen, and in Iraq and Syria, humanitarian support for Palestine and Gaza, assistance for South Sudan, as well as support for the response to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, humanitarian support for displaced persons from Myanmar, and more.

Japan is also promoting "development cooperation" to help countries to stand on their own from the medium to long-term perspective, in parallel with urgently required "humanitarian assistance," from the initial phases after a humanitarian crisis arises (humanitarian-development nexus). This is extremely important for preventing refugees and displaced persons from descending once again into a situation that will require humanitarian support. Furthermore, in addressing prolonged and escalating humanitarian crises, it is necessary to drastically strengthen measures for addressing the root causes of the conflict. In order to realize this, Japan continues to place importance on the idea of "humanitarian, development and peace nexus," and is seamlessly extending "support for peacebuilding and the prevention of the recurrence of conflicts," and "support for poverty reduction and economic development," in countries and regions where humanitarian crises due to the outbreak of conflicts have arisen.

Specific Example: Humanitarian Assistance for Displaced Persons in Rakhine Province, Myanmar

In Northern Rakhine state, Myanmar, the attack on security forces by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) in August 2017, the clearance operations by the Myanmar security forces and the subsequent destabilization resulted in approximately 700,000 displaced people flowing into the southeastern part of Bangladesh. The humanitarian situation among the displaced persons living in camps in the region deteriorated, and severely impacted the living environment in the surrounding host communities (regions that accept refugees).

Given this situation, Japan has been providing support in Bangladesh through Japanese NGOs since October 2017, by distributing essential supplies for living, improving the hygiene environment providing medical treatment and protecting women and children through Japan Platform (JPF). In February 2018, Japan decided to provide support for the improvement of the living environment of the displaced persons from Myanmar and the host communities, including water and sanitation, health and medical care, and education, through international organizations and NGOs, and has been providing support for securing new water sources,



Then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Iwao Horii visiting and observing temporary refugee camps in Balukhali and Kutupalong in the Ukhia district of Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, in March 2018

repairing existing water sources, installing toilet facilities, and more for the displaced persons from Myanmar in Bangladesh, through UNICEF. Furthermore, in January 2019, in collaboration with the WFP, Japan decided to implement a grant aid program to provide food aid for the displaced persons, and to support the improvement of living conditions among small-scale farmers in Bangladesh, in which host communities are included.

In Myanmar, Japan decided to provide support for

creating an environment conducive to the return of displaced persons in January 2018, and began the construction of houses and community centers. In February, Japan additionally decided to provide food, nutrition, health and sanitation support through international organizations.

Going forward, Japan will continue to provide support in both countries, in order to improve the humanitarian situation, and to create an environment conducive to safe, dignified and voluntary return of the displaced persons.



In January 2018, Foreign Minister Taro Kono visited Myanmar, where he met and held a joint press conference with Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Foreign Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Stories from the Field

3

Voices of Young Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations Committed to Humanitarian Support in Asia

From the Frontlines of Bangladesh and Myanmar

Bangladesh

In August 2017, a fierce conflict broke out in the north of Rakhine State in Myanmar, leading to more than 720,000 people fleeing to neighboring Bangladesh. The population in the camp for the displaced persons in Cox's Bazar suddenly leaped from the pre-conflict figures of several hundreds of thousands to more than 1 million, making it the largest and most densely populated camp in the world. When such urgent humanitarian crises arise, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) dispatches many specialist staff members from around the world to cope with the emergency. In July 2018, one year after the crisis, I also went to the frontline in Bangladesh from the Headquarters in Rome, and worked there for two months.

During the period of my appointment, the local situation remained unchanged, where large-scale support was still required for the displaced persons. Thus, in addition to food assistance for approximately 900,000 people, we carried out a project to improve nutrition among pregnant women and children under the age of five, who were in a state of acute malnutrition. At present, WFP is making efforts particularly to provide assistance through the distribution of electronic food cards (hereinafter, cards) to the displaced persons, transferring an appropriate amount of money according to the situation of each household, and enabling them to purchase the food they need from designated shops. The cards are also distributed to the females in families, in order to leave what they buy to their own discretion, so that women are encouraged to live their lives. WFP has also introduced a digital platform system to manage biometric registration such as fingerprints, as well as household information that are vital to provide the assistance. This system also benefits activities of other organizations that provide non-food items.

Moreover, a mechanism for aid coordination and logistics (flow of goods and its management) is indispensable during humanitarian crisis when a number of humanitarian partners are in place to provide assistance. In such places, WFP plays a leading role in the fields of physical distribution, communication, and development of a basic infrastructural environment, and has also been active in the camp for displaced persons in Cox's Bazar.

Furthermore, assistance to promote self-reliance of displaced persons and ensure their human dignity is essential while many of them do not yet have a means to earn a living, in addition to avoiding food shortages and malnutrition through support such as provision of school lunches for children. In order to realize this type of support, I am in charge of the analysis of household surveys related to the food insufficiency, nutritional condition, the degree of poverty, and other diverse needs among the displaced persons. Based on these analyses, WFP is providing the displaced



With the beneficiaries of a disaster-prevention project supported by Japan in the camp for displaced persons in Cox's Bazar (August 2018)

persons with assistance, which can serve as a medium to long-term "prescription."

While assistance to displaced persons has been delivered from the international community including the Government of Japan, WFP is also pursuing efforts to maximize the efficiency of assistance and promote Japan's "visible assistance" in collaboration with the Japanese private sector, such as food assistance to displaced persons through production support for small-scale farmers in the host community.

"How can we reduce the number of people suffering from food shortage while that of refugees and displaced persons increases day by day due to conflicts and natural disasters?" My answer to this question is to connect humanitarian assistance and assistance that can encourage people's self-reliance. I have been involved in projects in the Middle East and Sudan as a UN Volunteer^{*1} and JPO (Junior Professional Officer)^{*2} for five years, since I joined WFP through the "Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development" of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (see page 122 for details). Going forward, I will strive to propose the most suitable assistance, so as to link humanitarian assistance and assistance for self-reliance even more effectively.

**Takahiro Utsumi, Food Security Analysis Officer
United Nations World Food Programme (UN WFP)
Rome Headquarters**

*1 Personnel dispatched under the UN Volunteer Programme (UNV) created by a UN General Assembly resolution in 1970 as an organization under the UN Development Programme (UNDP), active in the field of development such as health and medical care, and agricultural development in developing countries.

*2 Personnel dispatched under a system (the Junior Professional Officer Programme) for young Japanese nationals who aspire to work in international organizations as regular staff, wherein they work as personnel in various international organizations for a fixed period of time (two years in principle), with the expense of their dispatch covered by the Japanese Government.



Participating in emergency food assistance and nutritional support in Maungdaw, located in the north of Rakhine State (October 2018)

Myanmar

For approximately two months immediately after the incident in August 2017, humanitarian assistance organizations including WFP, except for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), were not permitted to implement activities in the north of Rakhine State. Meanwhile, it was an urgent matter for WFP to propose a plan for a swift response to resume its activities. At the time, as a member of the team responsible for emergency assistance, I was carrying out tasks such as gathering field information, which was changing day by day, and sequentially making reports to our Headquarters in Rome. Myanmar was in a tense situation, although it was completely different from that of Bangladesh where large-scale emergency food assistance was required.

In November 2017, WFP became the first international organization to obtain permission for its activities in the north of Rakhine State after the incident, and until the present, has continued to provide emergency food assistance to several tens of thousands of people every month (approximately 100,000 people since July 2018). As of December 2018, WFP is the organization with the largest number of beneficiaries. WFP has been able to continue these activities by the generous support of Japan and other donors. Currently, I am engaged in tasks such as providing support to our regional offices occupied with emergency response, coordinating assistance projects, and reporting the progress of our projects to donors and other actors.

In addition to emergency assistance, WFP has gradually resumed its work to encourage the self-reliance of local communities in the north of Rakhine State with a long term perspective. Since March 2018, we have been implementing a cash for work program to build small-scale infrastructure, and promoting support for the revitalization of the local economy, while ensuring food security by utilizing the infrastructure. Our project in Rakhine State includes places where different ethnic groups are mixed, and it plays a role in restoring those relationships based on trust among these groups which deteriorated after the incident.

In addition, we are working on distributing school lunches to around 20,000 students of approximately 140 schools located in the north of Rakhine State. Provision of school lunches motivates children to go to school and increases their concentration during classes. Children are the future of the country. WFP is making efforts in developing this system of school lunches to improve the educational environment. WFP is also providing nutritional support in Rakhine State for pregnant women and children under the age of five, who are the most prone to being affected by food shortage.

In July, August, and October 2018, I had opportunities to visit the north of Rakhine State to monitor the situation. When I saw the places which had used to prosper and turned out to be a wasteland as far as the eye could see at present, I felt a deep pain in my heart. However, when visiting villages and observing the provision of food, I feel that we are giving people hope, even if only a little. I believe that WFP is providing effective and meaningful food assistance in various countries and under diverse situations, and I have never felt as proud to be a WFP member as I did when engaged in emergency assistance.

A major reason why I first became interested in WFP is that I was struck by its simple mission to eliminate hunger, and its tangible activity of providing food assistance. Approximately five years have passed since I joined WFP, but even now, this is my motivation. Currently, I am learning every day how to implement humanitarian and development assistance effectively, and wish to contribute to the “eradication of hunger” in my own way. Going forward, I hope to accumulate further experience in the field offices, where actual food assistance is being carried out.

Fumitsugu Tosu, Programme Policy Officer
United Nations World Food Programme (UN WFP)
Myanmar Office

● Protection and Participation of the Socially Vulnerable

Although socially vulnerable people including persons with disabilities brought about by conflict or landmines, orphans, widows, ex-combatants including child soldiers, and displaced persons are susceptible to the impact of a conflict, the reality remains that the socially vulnerable often receive delayed assistance in post-conflict recovery, and often find it difficult to access the benefits of peace and reconstruction.

From this perspective, as one program to support displaced persons, the government of Japan worked together with a Japanese NGO, the Japan Chernobyl Foundation (JCF), to improve health services for displaced persons in Erbil of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, by providing medication guidance to local physicians, as well as medical supplies and equipment. Furthermore, for the social reintegration of child soldiers and protection and empowerment of children, who are the most vulnerable in conflict-affected areas, Japan has been providing support through UNICEF. For example, in the Central African Republic, Japan contributes in funding to the project for “Liberation of Children from Armed Groups and Support for their Social Integration” through UNICEF.

● Reconstruction of Social and Human Capital

Japan supports the reconstruction of social capital and restoration of human capital who participate in economic activities in countries affected by conflict. This support is aimed at preventing new conflicts from emerging, and eliminating factors that could cause new conflicts before reconstruction or nation-building.

In regards to the reconstruction of social capital, Japan is putting particular effort in the following five areas: (i) development of social infrastructure, (ii) development of transportation, power grids, and telecommunications networks, (iii) improvement of health and medical system functions, (iv) improvement of education system functions, and (v) food security. As for the reconstruction of human capital, while combining assistance aimed at medium to long-term economic development as much as possible, Japan seeks to help develop an economic environment as well as improve livelihoods and increase job opportunities with a focus on preventing social instability caused by rising unemployment and other factors.

● Countermeasures Against Antipersonnel Landmines, Unexploded Ordnance, and Small Arms and Light Weapons

In countries and regions where there has previously been conflict, antipersonnel landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) remain to this day, and illicit small arms and light weapons are still widely used. These devices not only harm ordinary civilians and others indiscriminately and hinder reconstruction and development activities, but also are a cause of exacerbation of conflict. It is important to cooperate continuously to stabilize communities and

ensure security in these countries, through such efforts as the disposal of antipersonnel landmines and UXOs, appropriate management of small arms, and support and capacity building for landmine victims.

As a state party to the “Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction” and the “Convention on Cluster Munitions,” Japan has steadily implemented international cooperation through preventive efforts such as risk reduction education, from the perspective of the humanitarian, development and peace nexus. For example, Japan has supported the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) not only in terms of equipment provision, but also in the establishment of a curriculum for training in landmine clearance, and building the foundations of landmine clearance education. Employees who have taken the training are engaged in efforts to disseminate the technical expertise on landmine clearance throughout Cambodia and abroad. Furthermore, such support has even achieved South-South cooperation, as CMAC is also functioning as a training center for staff responsible for landmine countermeasures from other countries, such as Colombia.

In Afghanistan, an incorporated non-profit organization, the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan), also a specified non-profit corporation, provides outreach education to raise awareness on the dangers of landmines, UXOs and other remnants of conflict, and on the proper ways of avoiding them. Since FY2009, through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects and JPF, AAR Japan has been conducting Mine Risk Education (MRE) in several parts of Afghanistan through development of teaching materials, and conducting training seminars, etc. The organization also trains local people to conduct MRE by themselves. Through such activities, education and awareness-raising activities for the local people are in progress.

Furthermore, in Laos, which has been particularly affected by UXOs, Japan has mainly carried out the dispatch of UXO experts, provision of equipment, and South-South cooperation. Japan has also supported capacity building for organizations that dispose of UXOs, and it has carried out the mechanization of shrub removal and development of forward outposts in Sekong Province, Salavan Province, and Champasak Province, all of which are poor regions that have endured especially great suffering from UXOs. Japan is also providing assistance for land development after the disposal of UXOs.

In addition to providing bilateral support, Japan is proactively engaged in mine actions through international organizations. In 2018, Japan supported clearance and risk avoidance education, against landmine and UXOs through the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, South Sudan, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Moreover, Japan has supported the strengthening of landmine disposal training for Central and West Africa in the Center for Humanitarian

Demining Training in Benin for the disposal of landmines and UXOs in the country's conflict-affected areas, via the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Likewise, Japan has provided support for risk reduction education in Palestine, Yemen, Central Africa, Chad, South Sudan, Iraq and Ukraine, via UNICEF since 2015. It is also supporting risk reduction education against landmines and the provision of prosthetic legs for people injured by landmines in Afghanistan, Iraq and Jordan, through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Moreover, in terms of countermeasures for small

arms and light weapons, Japan has provided support for the collection, disposal, and appropriate stockpile management, in combination with development assistance. In addition, with a view to improving national security, as well as strengthening the capacity to manage and control the import and export of arms, Japan has supported the development of relevant legal systems, capacity building of customs agencies, police forces and other law enforcement agencies, and supported the implementation of Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration (DDR) projects for ex-combatants and former child soldiers.



Clearance of mines remaining from the 2006 Israel Conflict in Lebanon, using equipment supplied via support from Japan (Photo: Sandrine Hashem / Embassy of Japan in Lebanon)

Stories from the Field 4

Voices of Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations

Toward the Eradication of Landmine Victims

II
2Part II
Measures for Each Priority Issue
2
Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society

When hearing the word “Mine Action,” many people will probably come up with activities to remove antipersonnel landmines. However, in reality, the dangers that affect citizens, refugees, and displaced persons are not limited to landmines, but range widely, including unexploded ordnances (UXOs) of all kinds used in conflicts, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) set in houses and infrastructure facilities. Thus, the activities for dealing with these have become equally wide-ranging. In addition to the clearance of landmines and UXOs, mine risk education is also an important activity. Moreover, victim assistance is essential even after the clearance of landmines and UXOs has been completed. Therefore, long-term assistance is required in regions where there are many victims, particularly youths.

Mine Action is one of the important activities at any stage of conflict, and its outcome will contribute to peacekeeping operations, post-conflict reconstruction, peacebuilding, development and more. Moreover, mine clearance will not only bring humanitarian and preventive outcomes such as saving lives and preventing injuries, but also bring positive socioeconomic impact by freeing land for residential areas, farmland, schools, hospitals, and water filtration plants.

During the approximate 16 years since I was assigned to Afghanistan in 2002, I have been involved in UN mine action projects in more than 20 countries. Through my engagement, I am convinced that my work is connected with people's lives in various ways, a sense of fulfilment that I can support people risking their lives in the field, and the people's hope for the future of their own countries. These are the motivation for my daily work.

In Iraq, among the IEDs set in the houses of a village where ISIL withdrew from, there was a terrible case of a device hidden in a



Conducting mine risk education for children at an Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp in the outskirts of Khartoum, Sudan (author center) (Photo: UNMAS)

stuffed animal that would explode if a child touches it. I greatly admire my colleagues' bravery to work on the clearance of these explosives, and my heart ached when I imagined that my daughter had been in the same situation.

In 2003, when I was working in Afghanistan, there was a minefield in the outskirts of Kabul that was technically difficult and extremely dangerous for clearance. I worked hard to obtain a budget for it, and went to the site frequently to write up reports. Around ten years later, when I visited the site again on a mission, I was deeply moved by the site of many houses built side by side and children running around.

At the end of 2018, I had the opportunity to attend a completion ceremony of clearing existent UXOs in the Kulbus region of West Darfur (Sudan), as a representative of our Headquarters. Kulbus is

one of the regions where the War in Darfur was most severe, and it took one year and a month to clear the large number of UXOs while conducting mine risk education to the local people. As a result of this operation, the safety of approximately 32,000 residents and displaced persons was secured. Seeing the happy faces of the local people at the ceremony, and thinking that post-conflict reconstruction would unfold without any more victims, as long as there is no further conflict in the region, I felt a sense of achievement that I had been able to contribute to the peace-building process.

Currently, I supervise activities in 17 countries as Deputy Chief of Program Management in the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), in the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York. I hope I can make use of my experience, what I saw and felt in the field, in my current daily work.

Takuto Kubo
Deputy Chief of Program Management
United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)



Monitoring visit of landmine clearance activities in Kabul, Afghanistan (author far right) (Photo: UNMAS)

● Human Resources Development for Peacebuilding

Activities required in the field of peace building and qualities needed for those engaged in such activities are undergoing diversification and increasing in complexity. In response to this trend, Japan has implemented the Program for Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding to train civilian experts from Japan and other regions so that they can play an active role in the field (FY2007 to FY2014). The “Primary Course,” the major pillar of the program, targets individuals with a strong interest in developing a further career in the field of peacebuilding and consists of coursework in Japan for acquisition of the practical knowledge and skills required on the frontline in peacebuilding, the overseas assignment, through which participants work at field offices of international organizations engaged in peacebuilding, and support for course graduates to build up their careers. In FY2015, the program was renamed the “Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development” and its content has been expanded subsequently. Besides the existing “Primary Course,” this program includes a “Mid-Career Course,” which supports the career advancement of individuals with a certain degree of practical experience in the fields related to peacebuilding and development, and a “Global Career Course” (started in FY2018) for practitioners aiming to build a new career in international organizations, in addition to which career development support for the acquisition of skills and knowledge necessary to obtain posts and advance in international organizations. Many graduates of these courses are currently playing an active role in the fields of peacebuilding and development in countries such as South Sudan, Jordan, and Israel.

(2) Humanitarian Assistance during Natural Disasters

Japan stands ready for the immediate provision of emergency assistance in response to requests from governments of affected countries or international organizations when large-scale disasters occur overseas. There are five types of Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams that provide humanitarian assistance: (i) Search and Rescue Team, (ii) Medical Team, (iii) Infectious Diseases Response Team to implement measures to combat infectious diseases, (iv) Expert Team to give technical advice or guidance on emergency response measures and recovery operations, and (v) Self-Defense Force Unit to undertake medical activities, transportation of aid supplies and personnel when it is deemed particularly necessary in responding to large-scale disasters. These five types of teams are dispatched either individually or in combination.

Emergency relief goods are provided as an in-kind assistance. Japan stockpiles tents, blankets, and other supplies needed for people affected in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, in four overseas warehouses. In 2018, Japan provided emergency relief goods to Djibouti, Guatemala, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and

Indonesia, etc.

In addition, to relieve the people who have been displaced or affected by natural disasters and/or conflicts overseas, Japan implements Emergency Grant Aid to the governments of affected countries as well as international organizations. In many cases, Japanese NGOs contribute as partners when these international organizations engage in actual emergency assistance.

Additionally, Japanese NGOs provide various forms of assistance to those affected by disasters in regions that government aid does not always reach by utilizing ODA funds to meet their needs. Japan Platform (JPF), an emergency humanitarian aid organization established through the partnership and cooperation of NGOs, business communities and the Government of Japan, dispatches member NGOs to provide assistance to refugees, displaced persons or people affected by conflicts or natural disasters. In 2018, programs were implemented to support earthquake and tsunami victims on Lombok Island and Sulawesi Island in Indonesia and flood victims in Laos and Mongolia.



At the Japan-Laos Summit Meeting in October 2018, Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith of Laos expressed his gratitude for the emergency assistance provided by the Government of Japan in response to the flooding that resulted from the dam collapse in late July. (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)

Disaster response is a shared concern to Japan and the ASEAN, which are beset by numerous natural disasters. In order to strengthen the capacity of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), established in 2011, Japan dispatches personnel and provides support for information and communications technology systems, along with the provision of emergency reserve supplies and support for the development of a management and transport system for goods.

(3) Assistance for Security and Stability

Through globalization, the advancement and spread of high-tech devices, as well as the expanded movement of people, transnational organized crime and acts of terrorism have become a threat to the entire global community. In recent years, transnational organized crime, including illicit trafficking of drugs and firearms, **trafficking in persons***, **cybercrime**, and **money laundering***, has become increasingly diversified and sophisticated in its

methods. Also, through Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) who have been returned or relocated from the battlefields, groups that are affiliated with and influenced by ISIL and other international terrorist organizations are becoming increasingly active not only in the Middle East and Africa, but also in the Asia region. Furthermore, homegrown terrorism (acts of terrorism by those who have grown natively in the country) by individuals influenced by violent extremism also pose a grave threat. In addition, piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden in eastern Africa, the Gulf of Guinea in western Africa, as well as in the waters of Southeast Asia, are still a concern.

There are limitations for any one nation to effectively deal with transnational organized crime, acts of terrorism, and piracy. Therefore, not only must each nation strengthen its countermeasures, the entire international community must also work together to eliminate legal loopholes through assistance to build capacity in the fields of criminal justice and law enforcement in developing countries.

■ Japan's Efforts

A. Enhancing the Capabilities of Security Authorities

In the area of capacity building of police agencies that constitute a cornerstone in maintaining domestic security, Japan provides assistance focused on the transfer of knowledge and technology based on the track records and experiences of the Japanese police in international cooperation, while emphasizing human resources development, including enhancement of administrative capabilities and systems.

The National Police Agency (NPA) of Japan dispatches experts to and accepts trainees mainly from Asian countries such as Indonesia, through which Japan explains how democratically controlled Japanese police work and are trusted by the Japanese people.



A local police officer communicating with citizens in Guatemala, under the guidance of a Brazilian police officer who participated in JICA's "Project for Strengthening of Police Human Resources through the Promotion of Community Police Philosophy" (a triangular cooperation project to promote the spread of Japanese-style community police rooted in Brazil, through technical cooperation from Japan). (Photo: JICA)

B. Counter-Terrorism

In 2018, frequent terror attacks continued to take place around the world. Under the current situation of an expanding threat of terrorism and violent extremism not only in the Middle East and Africa but also in Asia, the steady implementation of "G7 Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism," formulated at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit, is becoming increasingly important. Japan provides capacity building assistance in counter-terrorism to developing countries that are not necessarily equipped with sufficient counter-terrorism capabilities.

Japan has announced that under the notion of the "golden mean," it would provide comprehensive assistance totaling approximately \$6 billion, including human resources development for approximately 20,000 people, over the three-year period from 2016 to 2018, to prevent the expansion of violent extremism and build a "tolerant and stable society" in the Middle East. With regard to Africa, at the Security Council Open Debate of the UN Security Council Meeting chaired by Japan in 2016, then Foreign Minister Kishida emphasized Japan's strong commitment to peace and safety in Africa, and announced that Japan would provide support totaling \$120 million (approximately ¥14 billion), including human resources development for 30,000 people, from 2016 to 2018 for counter-terrorism measures in Africa.

Moreover, in Asia, Japan announced at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting held in 2016, that it will provide approximately ¥45 billion over the next three years as comprehensive counter-terrorism assistance in the following areas: (i) improvement of counter-terrorism capacity, (ii) counter-measures to violent extremism as a root-cause of terrorism, and (iii) social and economic development assistance to create a foundation for a moderate society, and that it would also help train 2,000 personnel for counter-terrorism over the next three years. In the past two years, Japan has already yielded significant results exceeding its targets, with assistance of ¥80 billion and the training of 2,653 personnel in the field of counter-terrorism. In addition, Japan, in cooperation with the government of each country and international organizations, is steadily implementing assistance that utilizes Japanese technology, towards the realization of an "Asia resilient to terrorism." These include the introduction of state-of-the-art equipment for counter-terrorism developed in Japan, such as biometrics authentication systems (face recognition, fingerprint identification, etc.) and detection equipment for explosives and drugs.

C. Measures against Transnational Organized Crime

As globalization advances, the threat of transnational organized crime that is conducted on a large-scale and systematically across different countries is becoming more serious. Transnational organized crime undermines the security of civil society, the rule of law and market economy, which form the foundation of social prosperity and well-being. Thus, transnational organized crime

is an issue that needs to be addressed uniformly by the international community. In order to deal with transnational organized crime, Japan concluded the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), a legal framework for preventing transnational organized crime including terrorism, and is promoting international cooperation through mutual legal assistance and others, based on the Convention. Additionally, Japan mainly makes the following international contributions.

● Measures against Drug Trafficking

Alongside its active participation in international conferences such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs under the United Nations, Japan has also provided financial contribution to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), to support counter-narcotics efforts. Japan is making efforts to prevent illicit drug trafficking through support to strengthen regulatory capacity in Afghanistan and the neighboring regions where the narcotics problem is particularly serious, as well as border-control assistance mainly in the Asia region.

In addition, the NPA of Japan invites senior drug investigators mainly from the Asia-Pacific region to attend discussions about the narcotics situation in their countries, narcotics crime investigation methods and international cooperation in the field. It is aimed at establishing and strengthening international networks on drug enforcement of relevant countries.

● Measures against Trafficking in Persons

Based on the “2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons” drawn up in 2014, Japan provides various forms of assistance to eradicate **trafficking in persons***, which is a serious violation of human rights and an extremely malicious crime. Under this Action Plan, Japan has been publishing annual reports on its efforts to combat trafficking in persons since 2014, while also strengthening cooperation with various ministries, agencies, relevant organizations, and NGOs. Japan is also a party to the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, which is a comprehensive international agreement on trafficking in persons.

With regards to victims of trafficking in persons protected in Japan, Japan assists in the safe repatriation of them, as well as provides support for the social rehabilitation of these individuals in their home country through means such as education and vocational training, in order to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking in persons again after repatriation, through contributions to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Additionally, through its financial contribution to the Law Enforcement Agencies Capacity Strengthening Project of UNODC and JICA’s technical cooperation, Japan also contributes to measures against trafficking in persons and efforts to protect victims mainly in Southeast Asia, such as by making financial contributions to and participating in the Bali Process, which is an Asia-Pacific regional

framework on smuggling and trafficking in persons, and transnational crime.

● Measures against Money Laundering

There is a high risk that the profits of transnational organized crime would be used to fund further organized crime or acts of terrorism, and thus, eliminating these flows of illicit funds is an important task for the international community. Therefore, Japan actively participates in discussions on international measures against **money laundering*** and terrorist financing, through intergovernmental frameworks such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) established based on the Economic Declaration of the Arch Summit in 1989. Through UNODC, Japan is also engaged in efforts to tackle terrorist financing in Iran and Southeast Asia.

D. Capacity Building for Maritime, Outer Space, and Cyberspace Issues

● The Seas

As a maritime nation, Japan depends largely on maritime transport for the import of much of its energy resources and food. Thus, ensuring maritime safety is an issue that directly links to Japan’s existence and prosperity as a nation, and furthermore, is also of crucial importance for the economic development of the region. However, the threat of piracy exists in the sea lanes between Japan and the Middle East, from which Japan imports large amounts of crude oil, and in the internationally important sea lanes such as off the coast of Somalia, in the Gulf of Aden, and in the Sulu and Celebes Sea. Hence, there is an urgent need to strengthen measures against piracy in these regions.

In Asia, for example, to encourage regional cooperation in the fight against piracy and armed robbery against ships in the region, Japan was at the forefront of efforts to formulate the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP). Each of the contracting parties shares information regarding piracy and armed robbery against ships and cooperates via the Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP-ISC) established in Singapore under the Agreement. Japan supports the activities of ReCAAP-ISC



The 2nd Capacity Building Executive Programme on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, held for maritime law enforcement officers and other personnel from all ReCAAP contracting parties (20 countries including Japan), as well as Indonesia and Malaysia, in Tokyo, May 2018.

by sending its Executive Director and an assistant director, in addition to the provision of financial support. Since 2017, as co-organizer with ReCAAP-ISC, Japan has been conducting training in Japan aimed at building capacity in counter-measures for piracy of maritime law enforcement agencies in ASEAN member states. The second training, held in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies, was held in Tokyo from May 19 to 25, 2018.

Moreover, in order to establish and promote the “rule of law” at sea, Japan is utilizing tools such as ODA to seamlessly support the improvement of law enforcement capacity of maritime security agencies in ASEAN countries through provision of patrol vessels, technical cooperation, and human resources development, while promoting international cooperation for the capacity building in Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) among recipient countries. Specifically, Japan is carrying out human resources development through training and the dispatch of experts for maritime countries along the sea including Indonesia and Malaysia, in addition to providing maritime security-related vessels and equipment to Viet Nam, the Philippines, and other countries.

In order to counter the threat of piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden in Eastern Africa, Japan has been conducting anti-piracy operations since 2009. Moreover, Japan has contributed a total of \$15.1 million to the IMO Djibouti Code of Conduct Trust Fund, which was founded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to implement the Djibouti Code of Conduct (a regional framework for Somalia and its neighboring countries). This Trust Fund has been used to establish information-sharing centers for anti-piracy measures and the Djibouti Regional Training Centre, which conducts training programs to improve maritime security capabilities in countries surrounding Somalia. In addition, Japan has contributed a total of \$4.5 million to the International Trust Fund to support Somalia and its neighboring countries to improve their capabilities in arresting and prosecuting alleged pirates, in order to assist the international community in its measures to counter and prevent piracy.¹⁰ Also, in cooperation with the Japan Coast Guard, training programs for the control of maritime crime have been carried out with the participation of maritime security officers from the countries around Somalia. Furthermore, with the perception that the reconstruction and stability of Somalia are essential for a fundamental solution to the piracy issue in the area, since 2007, Japan has disbursed approximately \$468 million for the restoration of basic social services, improvement of security maintenance capability, and revitalization of domestic industries in Somalia.

Incidents that occur on sea lanes, such as oil leakage from ships, not only have an impact on the safety of ships passing through, but can also cause fatal damage

to the fishery and tourism industry of coastal countries by polluting the coast. Hence, it is also important to strengthen the capacity for dealing with such incidents. To that end, Japan has decided to continue to dispatch experts (Advisors for improving oil spill management capabilities) to Sri Lanka, even after FY2018, which is positioned on sea lanes that connect Asia with the Middle East and Africa, to support the strengthening of its capability to manage oil spills at sea.

Furthermore, since 2009, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) has been conducting a training program every year in the United Kingdom with the aim of nurturing nautical chart experts in developing countries. This program is carried out with grant assistance from The Nippon Foundation and the participation of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard in the management of the program. Since its launch, the project has produced 65 graduates from 39 countries. The IHO and UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) are engaged in a joint project to create the General Bathymetric Chart of Oceans (GEBCO), a topographical map of the world’s seafloor. The map has undergone numerous revisions through the cooperation of experts around the world, including the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard. Also, through the grant assistance offered by The Nippon Foundation, a human resource training program aimed at fostering personnel who can contribute to the GEBCO project has been conducted at the University of New Hampshire in the United States every year since 2004. To date, this program has produced 84 graduates from 37 countries.

● Outer Space

Japan contributes to addressing global issues including climate change, disaster risk reduction, marine/fisheries resource management, forest conservation, and resources/energy through the implementation of development cooperation and capacity-building assistance utilizing space technology. Japan has also proactively provided assistance in the field of human resources development to emerging countries and developing countries in their efforts toward the development and use of space. In particular, initiatives by Japan such as the provision of an experiment environment that makes use of the International Space Station Japanese Experiment Module “Kibo” and the release of small satellites have been highly evaluated. Small satellites have also been released from Kenya through “KiboCUBE,” a collaborative program between the United Nations and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), which provides opportunities to release extremely small satellites from “Kibo.”

In addition to these initiatives, in 2016, in order to strategically and effectively offer all-Japan support for

¹⁰ From December 2012, the United Nations Development Programme Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (UNDP-MPTF Office) took over the management of funds from UNODC.

capacity building in developing countries in the field of space, Japan formulated basic policies and reported them to the Strategic Headquarters for National Space Policy. Japan will continue to actively provide support in line with these policies.

● Cyberspace

A free, fair and secure cyberspace is a global shared space that enables communication on a global scale, and is the foundation for peace and security of the international community. However, in recent years, it has become a pressing task to take measures against threats into cyberspace. For this reason, it is necessary for diverse actors in each country to work together to respond to these threats. In this sense, the lack of capacity in some countries including developing countries to respond to the threat pose a significant risk to the entire world including Japan. Furthermore, Japanese people traveling overseas and Japanese companies expanding their business to foreign markets depend on the social infrastructure and cyberspace managed and operated by the host countries. Therefore, strengthening cooperation for ensuring the security of cyberspace in countries around the world and providing capacity-building support to developing countries not only contribute to the recipient countries, but also benefit Japan and the entire world.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) has utilized the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), to which Japan makes financial contributions, to establish the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity

Building Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, as well as provide the Cyber Defense Exercise with Recurrence (CYDER), a practical exercise targeted at cybersecurity personnel of government agencies and critical infrastructure operators in ASEAN countries. Through these efforts, Japan promotes cooperation toward capacity-building in the area of cybersecurity in ASEAN.



Foreign Minister Kono delivering a speech at Cyber Initiative Tokyo 2018, held in December 2018

Moreover, since 2017, the National Policy Agency has been conducting training for staff engaged in combatting cybercrimes at the People's Public Security of Viet Nam, with the aim of helping them to acquire the knowledge and skills for dealing with cybercrimes, as well as strengthening cooperative relations between the security agencies of Japan and Viet Nam.



Glossary

*Trafficking in persons

The act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons for the purpose of exploitation, such as forced labor or prostitution.

*Money laundering

The act of disguising criminal proceeds as legally obtained assets, or the act of hiding such funds. Example: An act where a drug dealer hides money gained through drug trafficking in a bank account opened under a false name.

3 Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-centered Development

As globalization advances, the international community has been confronted with various challenges such as disparity and poverty, terrorism, refugees and displaced persons, climate change, and marine plastic litter. These social, economic, and environmental issues are intertwined with one another, and are linked across national boundaries. In order to resolve such transboundary global issues, it is necessary for the international community to move beyond the conventional concept of developed and developing countries, and to work together to address the issues.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are 17 international targets to be achieved by 2030, which were agreed upon by all UN member states at the UN Summit

held in September 2015 as a successor of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While the MDGs were targets established for developing countries, the SDGs represent a commitment by the entire international community including developed countries, and therefore could be described as a “compass” providing the direction toward the simultaneous and fundamental resolution of global issues that concern all these countries.

This section features Japan’s initiatives aimed at achieving the SDGs through the resolution of global issues, from the perspective of various fields including health, water and sanitation, education, gender, environment, and climate change.

Human Security

The SDGs present a vision of a rich and vibrant society where “no one will be left behind,” and which reflects the concept of “human security” that Japan has been promoting for many years. 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. In the Development Cooperation Charter, it is also positioned as the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan’s development cooperation. In order to promote human security, the Government of Japan undertakes various efforts, both to (i) spread the concept and to (ii) put it into practice.

(i) In order to spread 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, the “Friends of Human Security.” Accordingly in 2012, the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution concerning a common understanding on human security under Japan’s leadership.

(ii) With regard to 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 ¥46 billion in total, and supported 243 UN projects to ensure human security in 95 countries and regions.

Efforts by the Government of Japan Aimed at Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

1. Adoption of the SDGs

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of international goals adopted unanimously at the United Nations Summit in 2015. The SDGs set out 17 goals and 169 targets toward the realization of a sustainable, diverse and inclusive society where “no one will be left behind.”

The SDGs were formulated as the successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs were established via discussion among UN experts in 2001, and set out eight goals as development targets primarily for developing countries, with the deadline of 2015. While the MDGs brought some positive results with significant achievements mainly in such areas as extreme poverty, HIV, and malaria, some targets remained unachieved in such areas as reducing infant and maternal mortality rates. Moreover, while the world was striving to attain the MDGs, mutually-entangled global issues newly emerged, namely the increased severity of environmental issues and climate change, and the widening disparities both domestically and internationally. Furthermore, there were significant changes in the situation surrounding the international community, such as the expanding role of private companies and NGOs as development actors.

Responding to these changes over time, the SDGs are characterized by its participatory feature, wherein all kinds of actors play important roles, which include not only governments and certain specialists, but also private-sector corporations, local governments, NGOs/NPOs, academia and beyond, while having a universality in which not only the developing countries, but the international community as a whole including developed countries take action. These are the points which differ greatly from the MDGs.

2. Efforts by the Government of Japan aimed at achieving the SDGs

After the adoption of the SDGs, Japan began by improving its domestic foundations. Specifically, the “SDGs Promotion Headquarters” was set up, headed by the Prime Minister, and with all Cabinet Ministers as members, in order to put in place a system for the SDGs to be tackled by the Government acting as one. At the same time, the “SDGs Promotion Roundtable Meeting” was established, comprised of a wide range of relevant parties (government, private sector, NGO/NPO, experts, international organizations, and other various bodies), so as to collaborate thoroughly with diverse stakeholders, that are important to achieve the SDGs.

At the Sixth Meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters held in December 2018, the “SDGs Action Plan 2019” was decided with three main pillars, namely: (1) promotion of “Society 5.0” that is tied with the SDGs with commitments of the public and private sectors, (2) regional revitalization driven by the SDGs, and (3) empowerment of the next generation and women as the future leaders to achieve the SDGs. The Action Plan states clearly the key challenges of the SDGs, in which Japan will exhibit leadership in the international community as the Chair of the G20 in 2019, in order to contribute to “nation-building” around the world, and the “human resources development” to achieve the former, based on the concept of human security. The ultimate aim of the Action Plan is to realize a prosperous and vigorous society, where “no one will be left behind.”



17 goals of the SDGs



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speaking at the Sixth Meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)

3. Collaboration with diverse stakeholders

As the SDGs cover a wide range of targets, it is necessary for various kinds of stakeholders, not only the Government, but also private-sector corporations, local governments, NGO/NPO, and other actors, to work in cooperation toward the achievement of the SDGs, in order to realize the concept of “no one will be left behind.”

At the reception hosted by the Government of Japan at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) held in New York in July 2018, Japan impressed attendees with the attractiveness of the forthcoming Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, by means of speeches, videos, and booths, under the partnership between a wide range of agencies and organizations making efforts to promote the SDG in Japan, such as the relevant ministries and agencies, private-sector corporations, and citizen groups. Japan also announced its initiatives aimed at achieving the SDGs.

Moreover, the Government of Japan presents the “Japan SDGs Award” to commend companies and organizations for their excellent initiatives that contributes to the achievement of the SDGs, from the perspective of making SDGs-related initiatives across Japan visible, and promoting actions. At the Second Japan SDGs Award Ceremony held in December 2018, the Japan Food Ecology Center Co., Ltd. which is taking measures to counter food losses by utilizing food waste received the Chair of the SDGs Promotion



Reception hosted by Japan at the HLPF

Headquarters (Prime Minister) Award. In addition, awards were given to a cooperative developing and providing products in accordance with “Ethical Consumption”^{*1}, a local government rolling out its unique recycling system internationally, an incorporated association promoting the employment of disabled people via a chocolate brand working together with the disabled and *Hikikomori*^{*2}

people, a company providing cheap and high-quality toilets to developing countries, an NGO striving to empower HIV-positive single mothers, and a company working to build value chains in automobile recycling industry and create local employment, among others. This has confirmed that a broad range of actors are leading efforts to achieve the SDGs. Such original ideas and initiatives by domestic actors are a driving force toward the achievement of the SDGs in Japan.

The Government of Japan is supporting the efforts of the organizations that are committed to the SDGs, including the award recipients, by presenting them an official logo, disseminating their information on the “Ministry of Foreign Affairs × SDGs” Twitter, and listing their initiatives on the “Japan SDGs Action Platform” on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website.

4. The Japanese “SDGs Model” to the world

Japan is determined not only to promote the SDGs domestically, but to proactively share and expand its efforts outside of the country. For example, at the Japan-Mekong Summit Meeting held in October 2018, the “Mekong-Japan Cooperation Projects for Promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” was adopted to strengthen cooperation for promotion of the SDGs between the Japan and Mekong regions. Japan will continue to further accelerate this flow of efforts into the international community, with a focus on the regions of Southeast Asia and Africa.

2019 could be considered as an important year for the achievement of the SDGs, since Japan hosts the G20 and TICAD7, and the UN's first SDG Summit is held in September. Japan will strive toward the achievement of the SDGs by working in collaboration with various stakeholders and collecting wisdom to the maximum, so as to present the image of “Japan as a strong actor in the SDGs” to the international community and demonstrate its leadership.

*1 Selection and consumption of products and services, in consideration of people, society and the environment.

*2 State of people who secluded themselves in their houses and rooms for many years without going to work or school, and not participating in any social activities.

(1) Health and Medical Care

Many people in developing countries do not have access to basic health services that are available in many developed countries. Even today, more than 5.4 million children under the age of five die annually due to infectious diseases, malnutrition, diarrhea, and other preventable causes. Over 303,000 women die during and following pregnancy and childbirth per year; lack of emergency obstetric care provided by skilled health professionals such as obstetricians, gynecologists, and/or midwives is a leading cause of these deaths. Furthermore, rapid population growth has made poor countries suffer from further poverty, unemployment, hunger, poor access/quality of education, and environmental deterioration. This led to SDGs Goal 3, set as “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.” In addition, we must respond to various health issues which differ across countries and regions, and ensure that all people have access to basic health services at an affordable cost when needed. To that end, it is important to achieve “Universal Health Coverage (UHC).”

■ Japan's Efforts

● Promotion of UHC

Japan has attached importance to measures to improve healthcare that is directly linked to human security. In light of the establishment of the “Development Cooperation Charter” in February 2015, the Government of Japan established the “Basic Design for Peace and Health” as a theme-based guideline for global health policy in September the same year. This policy aims to utilize Japan's expertise, technologies, medical devices, and services in order to achieve the following: (i) establish a system to respond to public health emergencies such as Ebola virus disease, and (ii) provide basic health services for all people throughout their lifetimes. These efforts are also important for tackling challenges in global health identified in the SDGs.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) means everyone has access to basic health services at an affordable cost when needed. The achievement of UHC is important for narrowing disparities in healthcare services, meeting basic health needs of all people, and enabling aid recipient countries to consider and solve their own health challenges. The Government of Japan has actively taken the lead in promoting UHC as a “Japan Brand” in international discussions, such as the G7, TICAD, and UN General Assembly. Thanks to these efforts by Japan, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 included the achievement of UHC as one of its global goals.

At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in 2016, the leaders agreed to strengthen the capabilities of the international community to cope with public health crises such as infectious diseases, as well as promote UHC, which is key toward resolving a wide range of health issues, better preparedness for crises, and strengthen efforts to deal

with antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Reflecting these points, the “G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health” was issued. In December 2017, the “UHC Forum 2017” was held, wherein Japan announced its commitment of a total of \$2.9 billion to boost UHC initiatives to support efforts by various countries and organizations to achieve UHC. Furthermore, Japan has proactively raised the importance of sharing knowhow on promoting UHC with international organizations and donor countries, as well as enhancing cooperation toward strengthening health systems in developing countries at fora such as the UN General Assembly and G7 Ise-Shima Summit. As such, Japan has played a leading role in establishing the “International Health Partnership (IHP) for UHC 2030” (commonly known as UHC2030), which has been developing aid coordination frameworks for healthcare.

With regard to Africa, Japan positioned the promotion of UHC as one of the priorities of TICAD VI held in 2016, and has actively provided assistance to Africa through policy yen loans to Kenya and Senegal, toward the achievement of UHC. Furthermore, at the TICAD Ministerial Meeting held in October 2018, Ministers reaffirmed the necessity of promoting UHC based on the idea that resilient health systems provide a foundation for supporting a healthy and productive population, which in turn brings about comprehensive growth. Japan also announced that it would address new challenges in Africa such as improving financing in the health sector and strengthening the role of the private sector, while working closely with international organizations.



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Kenji Yamada delivering a speech at the TICAD Ministerial Meeting held in Tokyo in October 2018

Moreover, Japan announced together with the World Bank, World Health Organization (WHO), the Global Fund, and other organizations, on the “UHC in Africa,” which sets out guidelines and specific actions that serve as a reference towards the realization of UHC. During the UN General Assembly High-Level Week in September 2017, Japan hosted an event to promote UHC, and generated global interest in the importance of UHC. Following that, at the UHC Forum 2017 held in Tokyo in December 2017, with the participation of Prime Minister Abe,



Lebanon

The Project for the Provision of Medical Equipment for Al Rawda Medical Center and Dar Al Wafaa Medical Center

Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (March 2017 – February 2018)

Approximately 950,000 Syrian refugees, in addition to Palestinian refugees, have been accepted in Lebanon, and the domestic situation in Lebanon has become destabilized. To stabilize the country, which is one of the cornerstones to realize peace in the Middle East, Japan has been providing assistance for these refugees, who comprise a socially vulnerable group in Lebanon.

Bourj el-Barajneh is home to a total of approximately 40,000 Palestinian and Syrian refugees, while Aramoun is home to approximately 15,000 Lebanese and 10,000 Syrian refugees. The local NGO “Union of Relief and Development Association (URDA)” operates medical clinics in these two towns. However, the clinic in Bourj el-Barajneh could not provide accurate diagnoses due to dilapidated ultrasound diagnostic equipment, while the clinic in Aramoun never even had such devices installed in the first place. Thus, impoverished patients were unable to receive diagnoses.

In order to improve this situation, Japan has provided one ultrasound diagnostic device to each of these two clinics in cooperation

with URDA. As a result, advanced and accurate ultrasound testing has become possible at the clinic in Bourj el-Barajneh. Meanwhile, ultrasound diagnostic equipment has been newly installed in the clinic in Aramoun, which has enabled even people from lower income groups to be tested, and led

to a large improvement in access to medical treatment for patients, among both Lebanese people and Syrian refugees. This project has been highly appreciated within Lebanon.



Ambassador of Japan to Lebanon, Matahiro Yamaguchi, checking an ultrasound diagnostic device (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Lebanon)

Deputy Prime Minister Aso, United Nations Secretary-General Guterres, President Sall of Senegal, and other global leaders in the field of global health, the “Tokyo Declaration on Universal Health Coverage” was adopted. This Declaration represents the commitment toward accelerating initiatives for achieving UHC, and advocates the strengthening of global momentum toward achieving UHC, as well as the strengthening of cooperative systems among countries and organizations. In addition, Prime Minister Abe announced that Japan will provide a total amount of \$2.9 billion in support going forward, to boost efforts on UHC by various countries and organizations. Furthermore, in April 2018, the UHC Finance Ministers’ Meeting was held during the IMF/World Bank Spring Meeting. During this event, Japan emphasized the importance of cooperation between finance ministers and health ministers, and of the involvement of finance authorities in building a sustainable health financing framework for achieving UHC.

In particular, under the “Basic Design for Peace and Health” enacted in 2015, Japan provides assistance that utilizes its experience, technology, and expertise, to achieve UHC that will “leave no one behind,” including the poor, children, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, refugees and displaced persons, ethnic minorities and indigenous people. Specifically, support includes tangible assistance such as building hospitals, supplying medicines and medical devices, as well as non-tangible assistance such as human resources development and system building.

Primary healthcare services under UHC comprise all services ranging from nutritional improvement (see page 65, “(8) Food Security and Nutrition”), vaccination, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health,

infectious disease control, non-communicable disease (NCD) control, and comprehensive community care and long-term care for the elderly. Among these, immunization is one of the most cost-effective investments, and it is estimated that 2 to 3 million lives could be saved through immunization each year. Japan has provided a total of approximately \$110.6 million¹¹ to **Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance**,* which was established in 2000 to improve the immunization rate in developing countries, since its first contribution in 2011. Gavi has provided immunization for 700 million children and saved more than 10 million lives since its launch in 2000. In order to promote this initiative, the Government of Japan announced in 2016 that it would provide an additional contribution of \$76 million by 2020. As for bilateral assistance, Japan will contribute to increasing vaccination rates by providing assistance for vaccine production and management, as well as the maintenance and management of cold chains.

With regard to maternal and child health in developing countries, unachieved goals remain a big challenge, despite a significant reduction in the under-five mortality rate and maternal mortality rate, as well as an increase in births attended by skilled health professionals. Japan’s assistance aims to strengthen sustainable health systems by providing comprehensive, continuous maternal and child care and strengthening the ownership and capabilities of developing countries. In pursuit of these aims, Japan has been supporting countries such as Ghana, Senegal, and Bangladesh in an efficient manner. Through these assistances, Japan contributes to making necessary services accessible to all women at every stage of pregnancy (including that of adolescence and family planning), as well as for newborns and infants.

Furthermore, Japan is implementing activities utilizing

¹¹ Until the beginning of FY2018



Pregnant women staying at the Maternity House in Zambia, and a staff of the civil society collaboration group, JOICFP (Photo: Atsushi Yamamoto)

the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook as a means of improving maternal and child health, based on its experience and expertise. The 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 pregnancy, usually about one to two months after birth), the neonatal period, infancy, and to early childhood. It also enables mothers to acquire knowledge about health, which in turn raises awareness, and encourages behavior modification. Indonesia, where the MCH Handbook is already being widely used across the country by cooperation of Japan, shared its experiences and learnt mutually with Thailand, the Philippines, and Kenya where the MCH Handbook has been similarly utilized to provide maternal and child health services. These countries also discussed further possibilities as well as challenges of the MCH Handbook. In order to review the needs for conducting international training on the MCH Handbook after 2018, Indonesia also invited participants from Afghanistan and Tajikistan, which are now implementing the trial use of the MCH Handbook, to engage in an exchange of opinions.

In addition, 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 in aid recipient countries.

● Public Health Emergencies

In a globalized world, as infectious diseases easily spread beyond national borders and have a serious impact on the entire international community, it is important to put in place countermeasures for **emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases***. The Ebola outbreak in the countries of West Africa from 2014 to 2015 took many lives and resulted in the spread of infection to neighboring countries and the secondary infection of medical personnel, and thus became a major humanitarian, economic, and



Mothers visiting a mobile clinic in Zambia. The weight of the children is measured using a scale suspended from a tree. (Photo: Daisuke Kanamori)

political challenge for the international community. Moreover, Ebola has been spreading once again in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since May 2018. In addition to financial assistance, Japan has seamlessly provided a variety of assistance to such affected countries and international organizations, including the dispatch of experts and provision of emergency relief goods. Furthermore, Japan supported the efforts to overcome the Ebola crisis through public-private cooperation such as the provision of medicine, rapid test kits, and thermography cameras utilizing Japanese technologies.

From the point of view that building a sustainable and resilient health system is crucial to controlling infectious diseases, Japan announced at TICAD VI in 2016 that it will strengthen the capacity of prevention, preparedness and response to public health crises, particularly in African countries, and realize an Africa in which all people have access to health services. To that end, Japan is swiftly implementing assistance that contributes to their social and economic recovery, including assistance for the health sector such as capacity building of medical staff and improvement of medical facilities, infrastructure development, and food security enhancement.

Moreover, Japan, as a nation that proactively contributes to the peace and prosperity of the international community, has led discussions in international fora such as the G7 and TICAD, on the establishment of a framework of the international community for responding to these health crises (the Global Health Architecture). In particular, on the occasion of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced a contribution of \$50 million to the WHO Health Emergencies Programme. Japan contributed \$25 million by the end of the same year, and \$3 million in 2018. It also contributed approximately \$10.80 million to the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE) in 2016, and approximately \$3 million to the WHO Health Emergency Programme in 2018. These contributions to the WHO Health Emergency Programme and CFE are being used to respond to the 2018 outbreak of Ebola virus disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In addition, with the support from the Government of Japan, the World Bank took the opportunity of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit to launch the **Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF)***, and Japan announced a contribution of \$50 million for the PEF before any other country. During the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2018, PEF contributed \$12 million to the crisis response efforts. Japan also led the establishment of the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) for WHO to respond to emergencies in cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Furthermore, Japan newly established the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Infectious Diseases Response Team in 2015, which were dispatched to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to provide assistance for the yellow fever outbreak in 2016, and for the Ebola epidemic in 2018. Through these efforts, Japan has been providing swift and effective assistance in infectious disease affected countries.

● Responding to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)¹² is a serious threat to public health, and in recent years more and more countermeasures against AMR have been taken. Japan has 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” which comprises four pillars including a surveillance system and a laboratory network,



Mr. Takahiro Mochinaga, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) (nurse), providing guidance on medical examinations at the Diebouyou Medical Center in Burkina Faso. (Photo: Anne Mimault)

as well as antimicrobial access and regulation. The G7 Ise-Shima Summit also took up AMR as one of the priority agendas of health, and compiled policies for the G7 countries to cooperate with each other. Moreover, at the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance in the United Nations General Assembly held in September the same year, the “Political Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance” was adopted. The declaration 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. Accordingly, the Tokyo AMR One Health Conference was held in November 2017. AMR countermeasures were also discussed at the G20 Buenos Aires Summit in 2018.



Gabon

The Project for Establishment of Laboratory Surveillance System for Viral Diseases of Public Health Concern Technical Cooperation Project (April 2016 – (ongoing))

In Gabon, located in Central Africa, infectious diseases such as malaria, HIV and tuberculosis account for the large majority of deaths among the population. In addition, outbreaks of Ebola hemorrhagic fever have been confirmed in the past. Japan has provided continuous support over many years, mainly in the area of technical cooperation, to contribute to the strengthening of the country's health sector, and this project is one such example.

Lambarene in Gabon is known as the city where Dr. Isao Takahashi, together with Dr. Albert Schweitzer, helped in the examination and treatment of leprosy. Despite being a core research institute in Gabon, the Medical Research Center of Lambarene has produced almost no research relating to emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. Thus, the Institute of Tropical Medicine at Nagasaki University, which conducts research on infectious diseases, such as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, has commenced research in collaboration with the Medical Research Center of Lambarene, using the “Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS).”

Researchers from both laboratories have identified pathogens

to infectious diseases for which the cause is unknown, such as Ebola and other viral hemorrhagic fevers, and are implementing joint research on the theme of establishing systems for on-location diagnosis of infectious diseases and early warning. In the future, it is expected that their research will resolve the problems relating to the prevalence of Ebola hemorrhagic fever and other infectious diseases in African countries like Gabon, as well as contribute to advancing research on infectious diseases, which is one of the challenges of global issues.



Conducting training on Laboratory Surveillance System through dengue virus gene detection (Photo: Ms. Yuri Ushijima, Research Fellow, Nagasaki University Institute of Tropical Medicine)

¹² Micro-organisms such as pathogenic bacteria and viruses having resistance to antimicrobial agents such as antibacterial and antiviral agents, rendering these agents ineffective.

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

SDGs target 3.3 sets out the goal of ending the epidemics of the three major infectious diseases by 2030, and Japan has been providing support toward achievement of this goal through the “Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund),” an organization established at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit held in 2000. From the time of its establishment in 2002 to the end of December 2018, Japan has contributed approximately \$2.119 billion to the Global Fund. Additionally, Japan provides supplemental bilateral aid to the developing countries receiving support from the Global Fund, in order to ensure that measures against these three major infectious diseases are implemented effectively in those countries. Japan also strives to strengthen mutual cooperation on health systems, community empowerment, and policies for maternal and child health in those countries.

As bilateral assistance for HIV/AIDS countermeasures, Japan is providing assistance such as spreading knowledge to prevent new infections, raising awareness, widely providing testing and counseling, and enhancing distribution systems of drugs to treat HIV/AIDS. In particular, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) for Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Control are vigorously engaged in activities such as the spreading of knowledge and understanding of prevention among more people, as well as care and support of people living with HIV/AIDS, mainly in Africa.

With regard to tuberculosis, under the “Stop TB Japan Action Plan,” MOFA and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), in cooperation with JICA, the Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, and the Stop TB Partnership Japan, have contributed to reducing the annual number of deaths from tuberculosis in developing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa. These efforts aim to achieve a 10% reduction of the number worldwide (160,000 people, based on 2006 figures) by making use of Japan’s own experience and technology to take measures against tuberculosis through a public-private partnership. Also, based on the Global Strategy and Targets for Tuberculosis Prevention, Care and Control after 2015, a global strategy to achieve the targets by 2035, adopted by WHO in 2014, MOFA, MHLW, JICA, and other organizations revised the Action Plan once again in 2014, and reaffirmed that Japan will continue to work on measures against tuberculosis on a global level.

In addition to these efforts, with regard to malaria, a major cause of infant mortality, Japan provides assistance for anti-malaria countermeasures such as initiatives through the strengthening of local communities, and assistance in cooperation with WHO.

● Polio

Although polio is on the brink of being eradicated, Japan has been working mainly in cooperation with UNICEF to provide support for its complete eradication

with a focus on three countries where cases of infection are still being identified (countries where wild strains of polio are constantly present)—Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Specifically, in February 2017, Japan contributed ¥4 billion in support for measures to eradicate polio in Nigeria, Chad, Niger, Cameroon, and Central African Republic, in cooperation with UNICEF, and successfully immunized an estimated 72 million children under the age of five. In Nigeria, after a case of infection from the wild polio virus, which had not been discovered since 2014, was reported in 2016, no new cases of infection have been confirmed up until November 2018.

In addition, Japan has contributed a total of ¥13 billion in Afghanistan since 2002, in cooperation with UNICEF. Furthermore, in Pakistan, Japan has provided grant aid amounting to a cumulative total of more than ¥11 billion in coordination with UNICEF since 1996, and provided an ODA loan of approximately ¥6.3 billion in 2016. This assistance has contributed to reducing and eradicating polio. ODA loan conversion was adopted as a new approach for this ODA loan. Under this approach, the Gates Foundation repays the debt owed by the Pakistani government when certain targets are achieved. Most recently in FY2018, Japan also provided grant aid of approximately ¥1.009 billion to Afghanistan, and approximately ¥510 million to Pakistan. Through vaccinating approximately 31 million children under the age of five, these programs are expected to help in reducing the number of new polio cases as well as eradicate polio in both countries.

● Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

“Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)” which include parasitic and bacterial infections such as Chagas disease, Filariasis, and Schistosomiasis, infect more than 1 billion people worldwide, and cause major socio-economic losses to developing countries. Since infectious diseases can have an impact beyond national borders, the international community must work as one to combat them. Thus, Japan also cooperates closely with all the relevant countries and international organizations on countermeasures against NTDs. Since 1991, Japan has engaged in launching a full-scale effort against Chagas disease, which is also known as a “disease of poverty,” in Central American countries, and contributed to reducing the risk of infection by providing assistance to establish a system for dealing with Chagas disease vectors. Also in 1998, Japan launched the “Hashimoto Initiative,” and has since contributed to global parasitic control efforts. With regards to Filariasis, Japan supplies educational materials to provide knowledge and understanding to a large number of people, in addition to antiparasitic agents. Moreover, Japan also conducts preventive education through the dispatch of JOCVs in order to reduce the number of new cases and prevent the spread of diseases.

Furthermore, in 2013, Japan launched the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund), the first public-private partnership in Japan, with the purpose



Pakistan

Strengthening Routine Immunization Project Technical Cooperation Project (November 2014 – June 2018)

In Pakistan, one of the most important challenges is to strengthen health care initiatives, in particular, countermeasures against infectious diseases such as polio. Among these efforts, the system for routine immunization is an issue to be addressed. Specifically, there are several pressing tasks, such as improving the maintenance and management of equipment for storing vaccines, enhancing the abilities of medical staffs who provide routine immunization services, and strengthening activities to raise awareness of routine immunization appropriately among the population.

Given this situation, Japan has implemented technical cooperation, together with the health department of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (KP province) in Pakistan, through the “Strengthening Routine Immunization Project (SRI Project)” from 2014 through 2018. It has strengthened the abilities of nearly 2,000 medical staff members involved in vaccination activities through various training programs.

Experts from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

played a central role in the Japanese support activities. From November 2016 until its conclusion in 2018, this project helped to improve vaccine management in public health care facilities and strengthen vaccination activities in remote areas, in the KP province, and

contributed to strengthening the system for routine vaccination on-the-ground, amid constraints such as public safety concerns and having to correspond with stakeholders from a distance.

In addition to steadily embedding the fruits of this project in the KP province, Japan will continue to support the health sector in Pakistan.



Patients in Pakistan waiting in the reception area for their vaccination appointments (Photo: JICA)

of facilitating the development of new drugs for infectious diseases in developing countries, such as NTDs. The GHIT Fund aims to control infectious diseases in developing countries through the research and development (R&D) of effective therapeutic medicine, vaccines, and diagnostic products, while promoting global cooperation with R&D institutions both inside and outside Japan. Moreover,

in 2016 Japan announced that it would make a total of \$130 million contribution for UNDP in order to promote the R&D of new drugs against NTDs as well as to prepare and support the supply of drugs, and has been fulfilling this commitment steadily. Going forward, these efforts are expected to contribute to the treatment of patients suffering from NTDs in Africa and other parts of the world.



Glossary

*Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

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

*Emerging/reemerging infectious diseases

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

*Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF)

Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility is a framework for mobilizing funds quickly and efficiently when a pandemic occurs. In the case where the conditions agreed in advance are satisfied, at the outbreak of a pandemic, funds are instantly distributed to developing countries, international organizations, NGOs, and others through the PEF, and allocated to the budget for the emergency response.

(2) Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation are vital issues linked to human life. In 2017, approximately 844 million people worldwide had no access to safe water, such as piped water and wells, while approximately 2.3 billion people—about half of the population of developing countries—had no access to improved sanitation facilities, such as toilets and sewage systems. Approximately 360,000 children under the age of five have lost their lives due to diarrhea caused by the lack of safe water and sanitation facilities. Moreover, being unable to access safe water impedes economic growth. For example, in developing countries where piped water is not widely available, in many cases women and children bear the role of fetching water. Sometimes, spending many hours for this work deprives children of opportunities for education, and women of engaging in society. Furthermore, an unstable supply of water has a negative impact on healthcare and agriculture.

From this viewpoint, the Goal 6 of the SDGs sets forth the target “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”

■ Japan's Efforts

Japan's support has the top cumulative track record in the world in the fields of water and sanitation since the 1990s. Japan draws on its extensive experience, knowledge, and technology in these fields to provide continuous support for promoting the provision of safe water in developing countries, through the means of technical cooperation, including the dispatch of experts and accepting trainees from developing countries, as well as ODA loan and grant aid. Japan also provides support

through international organizations such as UNICEF. Specifically, it provides support in both the soft (non-physical) and hard (physical) aspects, including the following: (i) promotion of integrated water resources management, (ii) provision of safe drinking water and basic sanitation through the improvement of sanitation facilities, (iii) support to enable stable water use (e.g. water for agricultural use) for increasing food production and other purposes, (iv) water pollution prevention such as establishing effluent regulations, etc., and ecosystem conservation such as conservation of vegetation and tree planting, and (v) mitigation of damage due to water-related disasters, such as establishment of an early warning system and strengthening the disaster response capacities of communities.

In the Asia and Oceania regions, Japan is currently



A local government official replenishing the water drums of local households with water for everyday use, at Enewetak district located in the northwest of the Marshall Islands, using a water truck provided through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project. (Photo: Mr. Hideyuki Yamazaki, Grass-Roots Project Coordinator)



Pakistan

The Project for Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Master Plan of Faisalabad

Technical Cooperation Project (July 2016 – June 2019)

In Faisalabad, Pakistan's third-largest city, it is an urgent matter to realize the stable and hygienic water supply as well as develop waterworks facilities. Furthermore, having issues such as low water bill collection rates, and a lack of funding required for suitable investment in facilities and their maintenance and management, the city's water and sewerage authority, Water and Sanitation Agency Faisalabad (WASA-F) is facing major challenges in its business situation.

In order to improve such problems in the city's water and sewerage services, Japan is implementing the “Project for Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Master Plan of Faisalabad.” In this project, efforts are being undertaken aimed at establishing a sustainable water supply system through such measures as installation of meters in pilot districts and introduction of a new charge collection system, based on the long-term plan for the water and sewerage business and management system over the 20-year period up to 2038. The project succeeded in increasing the number of water supply contracts in the pilot districts by approximately 20%. Also, with the cooperation of Japanese municipalities such as Yokohama City, the duration of water supply was increased from 6 to 12 hours, while major improvements were also made in the aspect of hygiene, as the quality of supplied water was improved. Going forward, investment increase in facilities,

and further improvement in the maintenance and management of water and sewerage services and the operation of WASA-F is intended, based on the long-term plan.



Measuring the amount of water flow in the pilot district of Salfraz Town (Photo: Mr. Yasushi Matsuoka, Yokohama Water Co., Ltd.)



Burkina Faso

Project for Enhancement of Water Supply Facilities Management and Hygiene and Sanitation in Rural Areas Phase 2 Technical Cooperation Project (September 2015 – March 2020)



Pump repair and improvement training, for pump repair workers in Ganzourgou, Central Plateau State (Photo: JICA)

Burkina Faso is exposed to a severe natural environment, and improving a living environment, and access to water and sanitation facilities is regarded as an urgent issue of importance. Japan has made use of various schemes, such as building water supply facilities through grant aid and dispatching experts through grant aid, to provide continuous support over many years, in the water resources sector of the country, and this is one such project.

Since 2011, Japan has constructed 300 deep well water supply facilities with human-powered pumps in the Plateau-Central Region and South-Central Region of Burkina Faso, and has guided the maintenance and management of the facilities, while providing technical guidance for training and well repair. At present, Japan continuously provides support to disseminate maintenance and management systems for water supply facilities nation-wide.

Mr. Takeshi Ono, an expert dispatched to Burkina Faso, has continued to support the country for over 18 years, and has participated in water supply projects in six other African countries. In this project, he has worked together with local officials responsible from the Ministry of Water, Hydraulic Planning and Sanitation to organize a water user management union and train union personnel, as well as provide technical guidance relating to the construction of a water charge collection system and well repair. In addition to activities on the ground, he provides support for policy planning to Burkina Faso's water and sanitation sector, such as the formulation of national strategies for public water supply service management, to improve the country's water supply facility maintenance and management system, together with local stakeholders. These activities by Mr. Ono have received high recognition both within and outside Burkina Faso, as "highly-visible Japanese assistance."



Mr. Ono receiving a gift expressing thanks from villagers (a handcrafted hat) (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Burkina Faso)

implementing projects for the development and expansion of piped water in Myanmar, Cambodia, and Viet Nam (project completed in Palau). In Cambodia, where improvement of the water supply ratio in rural areas is needed, Japan signed the Exchange of Notes of grant aid for the "Project for Expansion of Water Supply System in Kampong Thom" in March 2017. In India, where the population is increasing and economic development is progressing, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes of ODA loan for the "Project for Construction of Chennai Seawater Desalination Plant (I)" in March 2018, which develops a seawater desalination plant to cope with the severe shortage of water.

Moreover, in Africa, Japan is implementing projects aimed at improving access to safe water and the water supply rate. For example, in Sudan, Japan is engaged in cooperation for a new establishment and development of water purification facilities in Kosti City to improve the water supply environment.

In addition, Japan supports the water and hygiene environment improvement projects by Japanese NGOs through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. For example, Asian People's Exchange (APEX), one of the Japanese NGOs is carrying out a project for the promotion

of widely spreading a community wastewater treatment system, which can produce quality treated water while enabling easy operation and management at low costs, over a three-year period from February 2017. In FY2017, 12 such systems were installed on the Java island, and the system has become highly recommended by Indonesia's Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

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

The Ministry of Environment (MOE) is also carrying out initiatives. For example, in order to eliminate the lack of relevant information and knowledge with regard to the problem of serious water contamination in many Asian countries, MOE implemented the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA). With the cooperation of the 13 participating countries from Asia, WEPA aims to enhance water environment governance in Asia through building human networks, gathering and sharing information, and capacity building.

(3) Quality Education for All

Education plays an important role in the socio-economic development that is needed for poverty reduction. At the same time, it also enables individuals to develop their potential and capability, as well as to live with dignity. Also, by fostering understanding of other people and different cultures, education forms the foundation for peace. Moreover, through education, it is possible to acquire the knowledge needed for economic and social development, which will in turn reduce poverty. However, there are still approximately 64 million children worldwide, who cannot go to elementary school. In particular, in countries and regions affected by conflict, the proportion of out-of-school children that was 29% in 2000 had increased to 35% (approximately 21.5 million children) in 2014, making this a serious issue.

In order to improve this situation, Goal 4 of the SDGs has been set up as “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” The international community formulated the “**Education 2030 Framework for Action**”^{*} in 2015, with the aim of achieving Goal 4 of the SDGs.

■ 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. Coinciding with the UN Summit for the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, Japan announced a new

education cooperation strategy entitled “Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth.” This strategy was formulated to serve as a thematic policy in the field of education under the Development Cooperation Charter (approved by the Cabinet in 2015), and was drawn up based on the exchange of a wide range of views with experts in development education, NGOs that support education, relevant international organizations, and other parties. This 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.

At the UN High-level Political Forum held in July 2017, then Foreign Minister Kishida focused on children and youth and expressed Japan's intention to provide \$1 billion in support until 2018, primarily in the fields such as education, health, disaster risk reduction, and gender. Japan is steadily implementing assistance, which include securing educational opportunities for children placed in vulnerable situations, vocational training, improving the human rights situation for women and children, and countermeasures against infectious diseases and improvement of sanitation for children.

Also, with regard to the **Global Partnership for Education (GPE)**^{*}, which lays out the international framework for achieving universal primary education, Japan has contributed a total of approximately



Egypt

Egypt-Japan Education Partnership (EJEP) “Introduction of Japanese-style Education in Egypt”

Technical Cooperation Project (February 2017 – (ongoing)), / ODA Loan (2018 – (ongoing))

Currently in Egypt, support for the education sector by Japan is receiving substantial attention.

“Education is water and air.” This is a traditional expression in Egypt conveying the importance of education. In any country in the world, a national education is an important issue, which influences the country's development. During Prime Minister Abe's visit to Egypt in 2015, President el-Sisi

expressed his interest in “introducing Japanese-style education,” and as part of the “Egypt-Japan Education Partnership (EJEP)” agreed in 2016, steady progress has been made under the strong leadership of the President.

In Egypt, it used to be difficult to say that the quality of school education was adequately maintained. Under such circumstances, since in February 2017, as an effort to “introduce Japanese-style education,” Japan has been introducing Japanese school activities, such as cleaning activities at school, day duties, and class meetings, into local schools. These activities are called “tokkatsu” (short for “tokubetsu katsudo” or “special activities” in Japanese), which any



Cleaning activity in a newly-opened “Egypt-Japan School”

Japanese people are familiar with. School children are expected to cultivate a sense of teamwork, responsibility and consideration for others through these activities.

Following trial activities in pilot schools which started in 2017, as many as 35 new schools opened in September 2018 as “Egypt-Japan Schools,” wherein the Japanese-style education was introduced. We have heard feedback from children's parents saying that, “My child now proactively helps out,” and teachers have also mentioned that, “My communication approach to school children has changed. Now I listen to their opinions more.”

Going forward, “Tokkatsu”

efforts are expected to be rolled out further, to other schools in Egypt, but the development of human resources is not something that can advance in a brief period of time. Japan will continue to provide long-term support, to establish Japanese-style education, in the appropriate way for educational circumstances in Egypt.



“Hand-washing activity” in a pilot school

\$26.53 million to the GPE Fund from FY2008 to FY2018. In partner countries that received support through GPE, more than 77 million children became capable of receiving primary education in 2016 compared to 2002. In December 2018, Japan, in cooperation with other donors including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank, and UNICEF, signed an Exchange of Notes on the “Fourth Primary Education Development Programme,” a grant aid that provides financial support for implementing primary education policies in Bangladesh, with the aim of improving the quality of primary education in the country.

With regard to initiatives for Africa, at TICAD VI held in 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. Moreover, in Niger and other West African countries, Japan is implementing the “School for All” project, which aims to build relationships of trust between schools, parents and guardians, and local residents, as well as improve the education environment for children.

In addition, in order to contribute to the development

of education and improvement of its quality in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan is providing support for organizing the convention of the Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education 2030 (APMED2030), a forum for discussing progress in the achievement of Goal 4 of the SDGs, as well as for initiatives toward the achievement of Goal 4 in the same region, through the establishment of a trust fund within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Furthermore, Japan supports human resources development in developing countries by engaging in efforts to strengthen networking among higher education institutions between Japan and ASEAN, collaborating with the industrial sector, participating in joint research projects with neighboring countries, accepting international students to Japanese institutions of higher education and other institutions in accordance with the “300,000 International Students Plan,” and a wide range of other measures.

● Promoting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

After the “UNESCO World Conference on **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**”^{*} held in Japan in 2014, activities related to ESD have been carried out worldwide under the “Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD,” adopted as the successor program to the “UN Decade of ESD (UNDESD)” program. As the GAP, a program promoting global action, comes to a close in 2019, UNESCO, at Japan’s proposal, began to work on the draft for a successor framework for GAP, and submitted the draft to the UNESCO Executive Board in the spring of 2019. Japan also supports the implementation of GAP through financial contribution to a trust fund at UNESCO, and is actively promoting ESD by establishing the “UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD,” which has been presented to 12 organizations to date. Currently, international discussions are ongoing about the successor framework for GAP with the aim of further promoting ESD.



Students from Malawi conducting an experiment on photosynthesis and chloroplast under the “Project for Strengthening of Mathematics and Science in Secondary Education in Malawi,” (Photo: Shinichi Kuno/JICA)



Glossary

* Education 2030 Framework for Action

The Education 2030 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. It was adopted at the Education 2030 High-Level Meeting, which was held to coincide with the UNESCO General Conference in 2015.

* Basic education

Basic education is the educational activities designed to enable individuals to acquire the knowledge, values, and skills necessary 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 an international partnership established under the leadership of the World Bank in 2002, which supports the education sector in developing countries. Its members include developing countries, donor countries and organizations, civil society, and private-sector corporations and foundations. It was renamed as GPE from Fast Track Initiative (FTI) in 2011.

* Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

ESD refers to education that fosters leaders responsible for the creation of sustainable societies. “Sustainable development” means development that “meets the needs of the future generations while also meeting the needs of the present generation.” In order to build such society, it is necessary to perceive a variety of challenges in contemporary society such as environment, poverty, human rights, peace, and development as one’s own problems, and to then work to find solutions for them. For that purpose, ESD puts importance on creating new values and actions.

(4) Gender and Inclusive Growth

1. Promotion of Women's Empowerment and Participation

The social norms and systems in developing countries are generally shaped by men's perspectives, which renders women to be put in vulnerable positions in many aspects. Compared to the early 2000s, when the MDGs were established, girls' enrolment rate has improved considerably, women's political participation has increased, and as a result more women hold senior-level posts. However, there are still many countries where women continue to lack the same opportunities as men to participate in decision-making processes, which is not restricted to the public sphere such as high-level government decision-making, but also includes family and other private decision-making that affect the lives of women.

On the other hand, 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 literacy of women who have 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 appropriate family planning practice, and the promotion of women's social advancement and economic empowerment. Moreover, it contributes to the inclusive economic growth of developing countries.

In the "2030 Agenda," it is strongly and clearly expressed that "Realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets." Moreover, Goal 5 of the SDGs seeks to "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." Gender equality and promoting women's empowerment are essential for realizing "quality growth." For this purpose, it is important for men and women to participate equally in all phases of development cooperation and to reap the benefits equally.

■ Japan's Efforts

With a determination that the 21st century should be a world with no human rights violations against women, Japan has been playing a leading role in the international community to promote gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment in order to build "a society where women shine" both domestically and globally, by setting the following three priority fields: (i) promotion of women and girls' rights, (ii) improving an enabling environment for women and girls to reach their full potentials, and (iii) advancing women's leadership in political, economic and other public fields.

The launch of the **Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi)*** was announced in July 2017 at the G20 Hamburg Summit. This is an important initiative that aims to help women in developing countries make their own living and to promote their active involvement

and contribution to society. Japan strongly supports this initiative and has provided \$50 million in assistance. Furthermore, at the G7 Charlevoix Summit held in Canada in June 2018, gender was raised as a cross-sectoral theme, the continuation of initiatives for gender equality was confirmed in the Summit Communique, and the "Charlevoix declaration on quality education for girls, adolescent girls and women in developing countries," "Charlevoix commitment to end sexual and gender-based violence, abuse and harassment in digital contexts," etc. were adopted. Japan took this opportunity to announce its provision of \$200 million for quality education for girls, adolescent girls, and women in developing countries and human resources development.



Peer leaders implementing enlightenment activities under the "Adolescent Reproductive Health Promotion Project in El Paraiso City and Alauca City in El Paraiso Department" in Honduras. It has produced results such as a gradual decline in adolescent pregnancies. (Photo: AMDA Multisectoral & Integrated Development Services)

In addition, Japan is providing assistance through the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and in 2017, Japan provided approximately \$22 million to contribute to initiatives for the political participation and economic empowerment of women, eradication of sexual and gender-based violations against women and girls, a stronger role for women in the peace and security fields, strengthening of gender considerations in policies and budgets, etc. In Lebanon, Japan provided vocational training in make-up, catering, flower arrangement, and etc. in 13 social development centers in Beirut and elsewhere, to Lebanese women and Syrian refugee women. As a result, 3,780 women acquired skills for improving their livelihoods, and 800 of these women actually obtained jobs. It can be said that this project is a good example of this type of assistance, as it helped the women to acquire skills, find jobs, improve their livelihood, enhance their social status, and become independent in their households, as well as contributed to social harmony between the Syrian refugees and the Lebanese people.

Japan considers that sexual violence in conflict cannot be tolerated. Therefore, Japan places importance on collaboration with the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC). In 2017 Japan



Tanzania

Project for Prevention of School Dropouts and Social Isolation due to Unwanted Pregnancy by Increasing Study Motivation and Health Literacy with Mobile Library Education JICA Partnership Program (JPP) (April 2017 – September 2019)

In Tanzania, it is said that 44% of the female population have experienced their first pregnancy or childbirth by the age of 19. Adolescent pregnancy not only carries a high risk of death, but in the case of pupils attending school, it can also force them to drop out. The number of dropouts due to pregnancy is reported to be 8,000 per year within Tanzania alone. Although teenage girls who dropped out of school rely on their parents to live, it is very difficult for them to find job opportunities when returning to society after childbirth. This is due to the delay in their studies and a lack of support, which enables them to readily slip into poverty. Underlying this situation is the fact that puberty education (reproductive health education) is almost entirely nonexistent in schools in Tanzania, and it is not customary for parents to teach this to their children at home.

In order to improve this situation, “Class for Everyone,” a Japanese NPO, launched a puberty education program aimed at elementary and junior-high schools in Tanzania, together with affiliates of Japanese universities and Tanzanian midwives. Currently, they are visiting schools in Korogwe District in Tanga Region, with a mobile library, providing puberty education for the prevention of adolescent pregnancy. The children who have been educated are gradually gaining an awareness of adolescent pregnancy prevention, and the program is popular among the teachers of the target schools, who have responded, “Please come again.” In addition, visits by the mobile library are

expected to increase the desire to learn among pupils and the rate of advancement to secondary school.

On November 25–26, 2017, Tanzania’s first women’s athletics competition, “LADIES FIRST,” was held, as an initiative aimed at achieving a gender-equal society in the country. As a side event of the competition, an adolescent pregnancy prevention awareness program was implemented by “Class for Everyone” and a local counterpart NGO “New Rural Children Foundation,” where educational picture books were distributed to 1,000 female pupils from nearby regions who came to watch the competition. Furthermore, at the “2nd LADIES FIRST” held on November 24–25, 2018, the same awareness program was carried out, not only for female pupils, but for male pupils as well.



Female pupils earnestly reading educational picture books related to awareness of adolescent pregnancy prevention (Photo: JICA)

contributed \$1.1 million to the Office of SRSG-SVC for the implementation of projects in Iraq and the Central African Republic to enhance prevention and response capacity to sexual violence through assistance for the development of legal systems to punish perpetrators. Japan’s ongoing support to this office is being manifested in concrete results. For example, in 2017 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1,726 cases of sexual violence were reported, resulting in 643 judgements and the handing down of 460 sentencing decisions.

Furthermore, in order to realize a peaceful society more effectively, it is vital to integrate a gender perspective and to secure women’s participation in all stages of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building. Therefore, in 2015 Japan formulated and implemented its National Action Plan for the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on Women,

Peace and Security (WPS) and other relevant resolutions, and is currently formulating a revised version for fiscal year 2019. Moreover, in regards to the implementation of the G7 WPS Partnership Initiative agreed at the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in 2018, Japan chose Sri Lanka as its partner country, and from FY2019, assists Sri Lanka with the formulation of its WPS action plan. Japan will further promote assistance for the empowerment of Sri Lankan women, including women who became widows due to the civil war over the past 26 years, in cooperation with the embassies of each G7 country in Sri Lanka.

Japan will continue to cooperate with other countries to address the diversifying development issues through these efforts for achieving empowerment of all women and girls, gender equality, and building a society and system in which men and women support each other.



Glossary

*Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi)

Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) is an initiative launched by the World Bank with 14 participating countries, aiming to support the economic independence of women in developing countries and to promote their social and economic participation, by implementing support to overcome the challenges which women entrepreneurs and women-led SMEs in such countries face including access to finance, legal systems, and others. The types of assistance We-Fi provides include financial access assistance for women entrepreneurs, advisory service to facilitate greater business with women entrepreneurs and technical assistance to improve the legal and regulatory systems of developing countries. The initiative is aiming to make more than \$1 billion funds available, with approximately \$340 million from donor countries and additional resources from the private-sector and international financial institutions.

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

Ongoing efforts are being made to implement initiatives towards the achievement of the SDGs. Meanwhile, a number of issues such as difficulty in identifying where problems lie and addressing them properly from the broader national level are gradually being brought to light. Responding to the “increase of disparities” faces similar problems. Moreover, challenges such as poverty, conflicts, infectious diseases, terrorism, and natural disasters have varying impact depending on the situations that individuals are in, including their country and region, or whether they are women and/or children. In order to deal with this situation, it is effective to adopt an approach that takes the standpoint of individual people, which is indispensable for the realization of a society that fulfills the SDGs principle of “no one will be left behind.”

■ Japan's Efforts

● 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, 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 applied the techniques and experiences it has accumulated in these fields through ODA and NGO activities for persons with disabilities in developing countries. For example, Japan carefully tailors its assistance to suit various local needs, such as promoting barrier-free design in the construction of railroad infrastructure and airports, building vocational training centers and rehabilitation facilities for persons with disabilities, and providing minibuses for their transportation.

Additionally, through JICA, Japan is providing a wide range of technical cooperation to enhance the capacity of organizations and personnel offering assistance to persons with disabilities in developing countries. These efforts include the acceptance of trainees from developing countries and the dispatch of JOCVs and experts from various sectors, including physical and occupational therapists and social workers.

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

● Assistance for children

Generally, children tend to be in vulnerable situations, and today, there are many children in regions around the world that have been placed in cruel situations due to conflicts, natural disasters, etc. Also, the number of child refugees is rapidly increasing. Japan is providing a variety of humanitarian assistance and development assistance to improve the situation of children in developing countries.

For example, through collaboration with UNICEF, Japan implements projects to improve the situation of children in fields such as education, health, nutrition, and water and sanitation. Moreover, through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, Japan provides cooperation which can directly benefit residents at the grass-roots level in particular. Specifically, Japan made a contribution to improving the living conditions of children through construction and refurbishment of elementary and junior high schools, provision of medical equipment to hospitals, development of wells and water supply facilities.



Children using the refurbished toilets in Prolet Kindergarten, located in the municipality of Karpos in Northern Macedonia (Photo: Galina Strachkova, Grass-Roots Project Coordinator/Embassy of Japan in Macedonia)

With regard to Cambodia, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes concerning the grant aid “Project for the Prevention of and Response to Violence against Children in Cambodia (through UNICEF)” in January 2019. Under this project, Japan will conduct training that is recognized worldwide for the eradication of violence for the government officials of Cambodia, in order to further expand the implementation scale of the main initiatives to prevent and respond to violence against children. In addition, Japan will strengthen the communication skills of the social workers and medical professionals, who actually come face-to-face with the children. This is expected to lead to a reduction in physical violence in educational settings, etc. and to the creation of an environment in which children who have suffered physical violence can easily consult with counselors.

In addition, in Pakistan in 2018 Japan provided assistance for the development of facilities for non-formal education ¹³ (400 sites) and the training of 400 teachers

¹³ This is a concept contrasted with “formal education,” which indicates educational activities in the school education system, and is a learning process that is not broadly organized. Examples include courses, etc. for citizens offered at community centers.



Kenya

The Project for Rehabilitation of Street Children through Organic Farming Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (February 7, 2017 – July 11, 2018)



Children who live in the shelter, shelter staff and Ms. Matsushita
(Photo: Embassy of Japan in Kenya)

In Kenya, there are said to be several tens of thousands of street children. Life on the streets comes with various dangers, and there are many street children who rely on cheap drugs to distract themselves from their hard lives and psychological pain.

Moyo Children Centre is an NGO, which began its activities to support street children in 1999, founded by a Japanese woman,

Terumi Matsushita. Originally, Ms. Matsushita took care of the children in her own home. But in 2005, she established a shelter for street children in Thika, a town in the outskirts of Nairobi, and started supporting their lives. Currently, there are 15 children living in the facility and going to school, while more than 30 have graduated from the center, and now have a job or are pursuing further studies.

Under this project, a rehabilitation center was built for street children who have succumbed to drug addiction, as an annex to the shelter. Ms. Matsushita's aim is for the treatment in the rehabilitation center to help the children recover both mentally and physically, adapt to communal living, and eventually return to society, including the pursuit of further education and obtaining a job. There is also a plantation attached to the rehabilitation center, where the children can undertake field work and gain knowledge of farming, which contributes to promoting their future independence.



Children harvesting eggplants at the plantation in the Rehabilitation Center
(Photo: Embassy of Japan in Kenya)

in order to utilize the existing facilities and teachers in the local communities to provide basic learning opportunities to people who do not or did not have educational opportunities in Sindh Province, Balochistan Province, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. This cooperation is expected to enable approximately 14,750 out-of-school children and young people to receive a basic education and approximately 8,000 residents of the local communities that will open non-formal education centers to gain opportunities to acquire knowledge and know-how pertaining to the operation of these centers. Hence, it is also expected that this assistance will encourage the understanding towards non-formal education, as well as improve the access to basic education of out-of-school children and young people in Pakistan.

Furthermore, in Palestine, Japan provided assistance for the improvement of the quality of medical care for newborn babies in public hospitals, improvement of the early detection and early treatment system for children with disabilities and children with developmental disabilities, enhancement of administrative services for children with disabilities and children with developmental disabilities, and activities to spread correct knowledge in order to eliminate discrimination surrounding disabilities in 2018. As a result of this assistance, it is expected that 5,000 newborn babies will be newly able to receive appropriate treatment and 7,000 infants will be able to receive early developmental tests, and that discriminatory attitudes and behavior toward persons with disabilities in general will be improved as people obtain knowledge concerning the development and nurturing of children.

(5) Culture and Sports

In developing countries, there is a growing interest in the preservation and promotion of their own cultures. Cultural heritage that symbolizes a country is a source of pride for people, and, as tourism resources, can be effectively utilized to develop the socio-economic environment of the residents in the surrounding areas. On the other hand, there are also a number of cultural heritage sites that are exposed to an existential crisis due to the lack of funds, equipment, technology, etc. Assistance to protect such 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 heritages that are 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.

In addition, interest in the promotion of sports is also growing in developing countries. Sports can enhance the quality of people's lives, as they cultivate a sense of respect for opponents, a spirit of mutual understanding and awareness of norms, as well as help maintain and improve health. 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 the **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 necessary equipment for these facilities. Such facilities built in developing countries also serve as centers for providing information on Japan and for cultural exchanges with Japan, as well as for deepening understanding of Japan and fostering a sense of affinity towards Japan.

In FY2017, Japan approved 23 projects to provide support in the fields of education, broadcasting and publishing, and sports under the Cultural Grant Assistance. In 2018, Japan continued its proactive efforts to provide sports assistance using ODA and “Projects for Sports Diplomacy Enhancement” to advance “Sport for Tomorrow,” a program launched for the purpose of international contribution through sports, with which Japan shares the value of sports and spreads the Olympic and Paralympic movement as the host country of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. In particular, Japan decided upon providing sports facilities and equipment to four countries through the Cultural Grant Assistance and has dispatched 278 JICA volunteers in the field of sports.

Moreover, Japan provides support for the restoration and preservation of cultural heritage, including equipment provision and preliminary studies and surveys, through the “Japanese Funds-in-Trust for Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage” established in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Placing a particular emphasis on human resources development in developing countries, based on the idea of enabling people in these countries to



The Giants Academy ¹⁴ being held in Tanzania. Japan has hosted the “Tanzania Koshien Baseball Championship” six times in the country, contributing to the popularization of baseball in the country. (Photo: JICA)

protect the cultural heritage of their own country by themselves in the future, Japan also endeavors to dispatch international experts, mainly Japanese experts, as well as hold workshops in order to transfer the technology and expertise to developing countries. In addition to tangible cultural heritage, Japan also supports safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional dances, music, handcraft techniques, and oral lore (oral traditions) by implementing successor training, records conservation, creation of safeguarding mechanisms, and other activities through the above-mentioned Funds-in-Trust.

Furthermore, 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, through 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. This cooperation 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.

¹⁴ The Giants Academy is a dispatch program for baseball instructors based on a business partnership agreement between JICA and the Yomiuri Giants (one of the Japanese professional baseball teams) in which baseball guidance is provided by the Giants Academy coaches.

Stories from the Field

5

For a Positive Change in School Education through Holding Japanese-Style Sports Day (UNDOKAI)!

Efforts by Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in Malawi, Africa

In May 2018, a Japanese-style sports day (UNDOKAI) was held at an elementary school in the Kasungu district in the north of the Malawi capital Lilongwe. This was planned and realized by three Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), including Mr. Yu Kurita, who was appointed to the position in 2017.

In Malawi, the first Japanese-style UNDOKAI was held in 2015 under the SPORT FOR TOMORROW* initiative, and gradually became popular in the country. Previously in Malawi, children enjoyed soccer and other sports, but physical education was nonexistent among the regular curriculum. Amid this situation, why did they organize a Japanese-style UNDOKAI at the elementary school? Mr. Kurita explains the trigger as follows.

"I was sent to the school as an arithmetic teacher, but there were many children who were unable to concentrate on their study, because each class was quite large with as many as 70 to 80 pupils, and there was a lack of discipline in classes due to the noisiness even during lessons. Furthermore, since there were no extracurricular activities in schools in Malawi, students simply attended classes every day and went home, just like attending cram schools in Japan. Therefore, I wanted to give the children an experience where all the classmates could enthusiastically work on something together. So, I consulted with my fellow JOCVs appointed to nearby locations, and planned to organize an UNDOKAI."

Although UNDOKAI are common in Japan, there were a variety of challenges to holding one in Malawi. The first challenge was to get local teachers to understand the concept of this unfamiliar activity called UNDOKAI, and gain their cooperation. Mr. Kurita says that he requested their cooperation by showing them video clips of UNDOKAI in Japan and the children's enthusiasm. As a result, little by little, he was able to obtain the cooperation of the local teachers, and eventually practices for UNDOKAI with the children began.

He recalls, "When we started practicing, it was necessary to start with teaching the children the very basics of physical education, such as lining up and following the rules. At the same time, it was also necessary to teach the local teachers, who had no experience in teaching physical education. However, as the children practiced over and over, an attitude of cooperation started to develop among them, to the extent that they even discussed among themselves what they can do to improve."



Students clenching their teeth while pulling a rope (Photo: Ai Yasutomi)



Malawian children taking part in sumo, with a serious look on their faces (Photo: Ai Yasutomi)

The UNDOKAI was held on Saturday when the schools were closed. Fifty children were selected respectively from three schools, and were put together as a team to compete against each other. Athletic events which are easy to play and have easy-to-understand rules were selected, including "tug of war," "relay," "sumo," and "chicken fights." The children's concentration on the day of the event while competing was incredible. A variety of scenes unfolded, such as children jumping up with great joy when winning as well as full of disappointment when losing, amid big cheers from fellow team members and families who also came to cheer.

Mr. Kurita mentions, "I was happy as it was the first time I saw the children getting together and working on something so seriously. Through this activity, a drastic change also occurred in regular class rooms. Firstly, awareness to follow the rules sprang up among the children, and a sense of discipline took place in the class, which led to their increased concentration. I noticed that they became capable of showing distinctions between playing during play hours and studying hard during study hours in everyday life. I truly felt that their attitudes towards the lessons had clearly changed." He says, after the UNDOKAI, there were many children who asked, "Teacher, when is the next UNDOKAI?"

Mr. Kurita is creating a manual in English for organizing UNDOKAI for the local teachers, so that the teachers can continue to hold UNDOKAI at the school. The UNDOKAI in 2019 is planned to be organized under the leadership of local teachers. With regard to the events, he is thinking of including not only typical Japanese sports, but also traditional Malawian games, to make the UNDOKAI take further root in the local schools.

Mr. Kurita adds, "In my early days in Malawi, due to cultural differences, numerous things bewildered me every day, but through teaching the children, I also learned a lot from them. The success of the UNDOKAI and the fact that the children's aspiration to learn had increased, have become a great part of my confidence as a teacher. I want to make use of this amazing experience in my work as a teacher even after returning to Japan."

* An international contribution program for sports, based on public-private cooperation, to promote sports to over 10 million people in 100 countries, mainly in developing countries, by 2020, the year of the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

(6) Environment and Climate Change Actions

Environment and climate change issues have been repeatedly taken up as one of the main topics at the G7/8 and G20 Summits, and the importance of tackling these issues has been increasingly recognized globally. These topics were also brought up in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted at the UN Summit in 2015. Japan has been vigorously working on addressing these issues, and will continue to actively participate in discussions in the international community.

■ Japan's Efforts

● Conservation of the Marine Environment

Marine plastic litter is a pressing issue that can have an adverse impact on the marine ecosystem, tourism, fisheries, and human health. In recent years, measures to address this issue have become increasingly important. At the G7 Charlevoix Summit held in June 2018, Prime Minister Abe spoke of the need for the world, including developing countries, to address this issue as a whole, and the necessity to promote measures such as “3R” (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) and capacity-building for waste treatment internationally. The Prime Minister further announced Japan's commitment to tackle this problem at the G20 Osaka Summit held in 2019.

Furthermore, at the ASEAN+3 Summit Meeting held in November 2018, Prime Minister Abe proposed the “ASEAN+3 Marine Plastics Debris Cooperative Action Initiative,” which was supported by all the countries. This Initiative sets out the following: (1) Improve management of plastic waste by environmentally sound waste management and “3R” (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle), (2) Promote awareness, research, and education on marine plastic debris, and (3) Strengthen regional and international cooperation. At the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting held during the same month, Prime Minister Abe also announced the expansion of support toward ASEAN's countermeasures on marine plastic litter.

● Climate Change

Climate change is a global issue that requires a cross-border approach, and calls for strengthening concerted



Employees of the Majuro Atoll Waste Company and a JICA Senior Overseas Volunteer sorting empty cans for recycling inside a recycling center built through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, toward the Marshall Islands. (Photo: Hideyuki Yamazaki, Grass-Roots Project Coordinator)

efforts by the international community including both developed and developing countries. Given the fact that the Kyoto Protocol adopted in 1997 imposed the obligations of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions only on developed countries, the Paris Agreement was adopted at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21), held in Paris in 2015, as a new framework under which all countries would work toward GHG emission reductions. The Paris Agreement entered into force in 2016. At COP24 held in 2018, the Talanoa Dialogue (a facilitative dialogue that means “transparency, inclusiveness, and harmony” in the language of Fiji, the presidency) was implemented to review the progress in global efforts toward reducing GHG emissions. The implementation guidelines for the Paris Agreement were also adopted with a view to the full-scale implementation of the Agreement after 2020. Moreover, with regard to finance for climate change related activities (climate finance), as of 2020, the respective countries affirmed that steady progress is being made toward the goal of providing \$100 billion from developed countries to developing countries.

Japan is also steadily working to achieve its “**Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)**”^{*} to reduce GHG emissions by a level of 26% compared to FY2013 (down by 25.4% compared to FY2005) in FY2030, and is proactively engaged in promoting the development of innovative technologies in the fields of environment and energy, as well as actively supporting climate change actions in developing countries.

As part of this initiative, Japan has been promoting the “**Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)**,”^{*} which facilitates the global application of advanced low-carbon technologies. The JCM is a mechanism to evaluate Japan's contributions to GHG emission reductions or removals in a quantitative manner and use them to achieve Japan's emission reduction target through the application of low-carbon technologies and implementation of climate change actions in developing countries. In 2013, Japan signed the first bilateral document pertaining to JCM implementation with Mongolia, and to date, it has established the JCM with 17 countries as of the end of 2018. Since 2016, JCM credits have been issued from energy-saving and renewable energy projects in Indonesia, Mongolia, Palau, Viet Nam, and Thailand. These JCM projects have been contributing to the world-wide emission reductions.

In addition to these efforts, Japan also supports developing countries in the field of tackling climate change through its contributions to the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)**.^{*} A total of 93 projects have been approved by GCF to date. Since JICA and MUFG Bank were accredited as implementing entities in July 2017, it became possible for Japan to be involved in projects from the phase of project formulation.

● Biodiversity

Expansion in the types, scope, and scale of human activities has given rise to serious concerns about further

degradation of habitats and the destruction of the ecosystem in recent years. Japan places importance on biodiversity initiatives, such as hosting the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the **Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10)*** in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture in October 2010. With the aim of providing support for measures such as building the capacity of developing countries towards the achievement of the **Aichi Biodiversity Targets,*** Japan contributes to the “Japan Biodiversity Fund,” through which the Secretariat of the Convention organizes workshops to support the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.

In recent years, illegal trade in wildlife, such as elephants and rhinoceroses, has become an increasingly serious issue. It is also drawing the attention of the international community as one of the sources of funding for international terrorist organizations. In October, State



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Toshiko Abe delivering a speech at the “Fourth International Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade”

Minister for Foreign Affairs Toshiko Abe attended the “Fourth International Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade” held in London, U.K., and with regard to measures for addressing illegal ivory trade, she expressed Japan’s intention to continue with the strict control of the domestic ivory trade, and to promote support for elephant poaching countermeasures in their range of countries.

● Environmental Pollution Control Measures

Japan has accumulated abundant knowledge, experience, and technology related to environmental pollution control measures, and has been utilizing them to solve environmental pollution problems in developing countries. At the “Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury” held in Japan in 2013, Japan took the lead in the adoption of the “Minamata Convention on Mercury” as the President (the Convention entered into force in August 2017). Japan will exercise continuous leadership in promoting the management of global mercury pollution by proactively transferring to the world its technology and know-how on preventing adverse effects caused by mercury, accumulated through its experience with the Minamata disease ¹⁵. At the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in November 2018, Japan contributed to the smooth implementation of the meeting as the member of the COP Bureau (equivalent to the Board of Directors) representing Asia and the Pacific that leads the management and operation of the Convention. Japan, jointly with the EU, is also actively contributing to the international rules-making of mercury regulations, such as proposals on the specific standards for the scope and classification of mercury waste.



Glossary

* Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

NDC refers to the GHG emission reduction target decided by each country itself based on the Paris Agreement Article 4, paragraph 2. The Paris Agreement stipulates that each party shall submit this every five years and take domestic mitigation measures to achieve its objectives.

* Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

JCM refers to a mechanism to appropriately evaluate contributions by Japan for GHG emission reductions or removals in a quantitative manner through the diffusion of low-carbon technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure, as well as implementation of mitigation actions in developing countries and use them to achieve Japan’s emission reduction target.

* Green Climate Fund (GCF)

GCF is a fund established by the decision of the Cancun Agreements adopted at COP 16 in 2010, in order to support low-emission (mitigation) and climate-resilient (adaptation) investments in developing countries.

* Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The CBD was adopted in 1992 due to the need to address biodiversity issues on a global scale as the issues related to living organisms are borderless. The objectives of the CBD are the following: (i) conservation of biological diversity, (ii) sustainable use of the components of biological diversity (utilizing living things, etc. for resources into the future while maintaining diversity at the levels of ecosystems, species, and genes), and (iii) fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources. Through the provision of economic and technical assistance to developing countries from developed countries, the international community as a whole facilitates the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity worldwide.

* Aichi Biodiversity Targets (The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets were set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted at COP10 in 2010. The strategic plan sets a goal to realize “Living in Harmony with Nature” by 2050, and established 20 individual short-term targets called the “Aichi Biodiversity Targets” in order to implement actions to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2020.

¹⁵ Minamata disease is a toxic nervous disorder caused by ingesting fish and shellfish contaminated with methylmercury compounds discharged from chemical plants. The disease was officially acknowledged in May 1956 in and around Minamata Bay area in Kumamoto Prefecture, and in May 1965 in Agano River basin of Niigata Prefecture.

Contributing to Environment and Sanitation Improvement by Reading Japanese Picture Books

Spreading the Spirit of “Mottainai” to Children in India

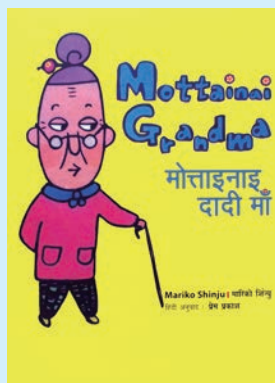
In India, where economic growth is remarkable, the sanitation environment is in a very poor state across the country, such as water pollution due to outdoor defecation, and air pollution due to inappropriate disposal of city garbage. As such, the Modi Administration launched the “Clean India” campaign in 2014 to promote public health, and has been advancing efforts such as infrastructure development, aiming to eradicate outdoor defecation and other problems by October 2019, the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi.

Under such circumstances, Mr. Yoshiaki Koga, Senior Deputy Director of the International Business Development Department of Kodansha Ltd. (a major Japanese publishing company) came up with a bright idea that through reading aloud the best-seller picture book by Ms. Mariko Shinju “Mottainai Grandma” to the children in India, it would help to raise awareness among the people towards the environment and sanitation in India. This picture book explains the act of handling things with care by spreading the Japanese spirit of “Mottainai.” In 2016, this plan was selected for JICA’s “Preparatory Survey (BOP Business Promotion)” (currently: SDGs Business Supporting Survey (see page 106 for details)). With the support from Japan-affiliated companies like Itochu and Maruti Suzuki*, a campervan was built to serve as a kind of mobile library, which was driven around public schools in Delhi and the neighboring state of Haryana to conduct storytelling activities of “Mottainai Grandma.”

“I was moved when the children remembered the Japanese word, ‘Mottainai’” says Mr. Sanjay Panda, Managing Director of IJ Kakehashi Services Pvt. Ltd., that supports businesses between Japan and India. Together with Mr. Koga, he has worked hard on negotiating with local people in the education sector, and engaging himself in the storytelling activities. A survey was conducted to find out what kind of effects the storytelling activity had on a total of 3,000 children, and it turned out that not only did some children no longer put more food than necessary on their own plates, but others were even trying to change their parents’ attitude towards littering, as Mr. Panda explains. Furthermore, when he saw that in the schools where the storytelling was conducted, students who were nominated as “Mottainai Ambassadors” pointed out the behaviors of those who did Mottainai things, or children were making playthings out of the dishes and cans they used, he truly felt that his efforts were producing results. Mr. Panda is confidently

says, “Children’s awareness can be changed through this picture book, which could be linked up with their everyday behavior.”

Mr. Koga and Mr. Panda are also conducting a number of new projects in quick succession, such as reading the book to children while performing the “Mottainai Dance,” created locally in a fully reserved railroad coach of the subway in New Delhi, which Japanese companies took part in the construction process. In another project, they asked the



Indian version of “Mottainai Grandma” (published by National Book Trust)



Children enjoying the picture book read to them in front of the campervan (Photo: Kodansha)

children to draw pictures with the concept of “Mottainai,” and awarded the best work. Furthermore, they have approached four state governments to propose the distribution of the picture books to children and the introduction of the books as a supplementary resource for textbooks.

In January 2018, among the various official languages in India, Hindi and English translations of “Mottainai Grandma” were published by the country’s largest governmental publisher, National Book Trust. Going forward, there are plans to translate the book into 11 state languages other than Hindi, and in the future, Ms. Shinju intends to make a new book on the theme of the connections and importance of life, with a “river” as the setting, inspired by her visit to the Ganges River.

Ms. Mariko Shinju’s earnest feelings flow through the foundations of these picture books. Ms. Wangari Maathai², a proponent of the “Mottainai Campaign” encouraged Ms. Shinju by saying, “In ‘Mottainai,’ there are ‘4Rs’ because the concept of ‘Respect’ is added to the environmental ‘3Rs’³ which will lead to world peace. Keep up the good work!” Ms. Shinju continues to convey the spirit of “Mottainai” to children by drawing picture books.

Ms. Shinju says “I decided to create the picture book, ‘Mottainai Grandma’ when my son asked, ‘What does Mottainai mean?’ At first, because it was difficult to explain ‘Mottainai’ using another word, I hoped that he would get an idea of the meaning by reading the picture book. Now, I explain that, ‘Mottainai involves many feelings like appreciation, consideration and kindness,’ or ‘Mottainai is the feeling of respect.’ I wish to convey to children the message that we should eat everything, without leaving anything on the plate by appreciating the life we eat, the blessings of nature, and the people who produce the food, as well as treat things with care.”

Mr. Koga hopes that through these activities, children in India will come to treat nature and things with cares, and furthermore, the way they think about the environment and sanitation in India will change. Going forward, he will continue to expand the areas of his activities across the whole of India, under Mr. Panda’s philosophy that, “If people have knowledge, their consciousness will change.”

*1 Vehicle manufacturer, subsidiary of Suzuki Motor Corporation.

*2 Former Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources, Republic of Kenya. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (2004) as the first African woman, and for the first time in the field of environment.

*3 A term referring to the initial letter of Reduce (reduce consumption, reduce waste), Reuse and Recycle.

(7) Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction, Measures of Disaster Risk Reduction, and Post-Disaster Recovery and Creating Sustainable Cities

Disasters including earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons, floods, droughts, and debris flows, that occur frequently around the world do not merely take human lives and property. In developing countries that are vulnerable to disasters, the poor are more likely to be affected significantly and displaced by disasters. In addition, protracted secondary damage such as the deterioration of sanitary conditions and food shortages, can increase the severity of the issue, and have a significant impact on the overall social and economic systems in developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary to build a disaster-resilient and flexible society to protect human lives from disasters as well as to promote the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction” aimed at sustainable development, by incorporating disaster risk reduction measures into every phase of every sector of development, based on assumptions of disasters of various scales.

Moreover, in recent years, attention has been focused on the various issues relating to the management of cities, which serve as primary settlement areas of humans and are the focal points of economic, social, and political activities. These issues include the following: measures to handle the disposal of the substantial amount of waste emitted in urban areas and suburbs, prevention of air, water, and other environmental pollution, development of infrastructure facilities including sewage and waste treatment systems, and responses to rapid population increases and the consequent rapid pace of urbanization. Addressing these issues and engaging in efforts to realize sustainable cities have become priorities for development cooperation.

Therefore, among the SDGs, Goal 11 sets forth the following task: “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” Likewise, there is growing international interest in resolving the issues of human settlements, including realizing sustainable cities.

■ Japan's Efforts

● Cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction

Japan utilizes its enriched knowledge and technology acquired through its past experiences with natural disasters, such as earthquakes and typhoons, to provide proactive support for disaster risk reduction and post-disaster recovery measures, alongside emergency assistance. In 2015, as a result of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai City, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was adopted. The Sendai Framework incorporated Japan's stance on the importance of investment in disaster risk reduction, commitments of diverse stakeholders, the concept of “Build Back Better,” the importance of women's leadership, and the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction,” which applies

the concept of disaster risk reduction in all development policies and plans.

Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe announced the Sendai Cooperation Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction as a new support initiative that would become Japan's future basic policy for cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction. Through this initiative, Japan demonstrated its attitude to further contribute to the international community by utilizing its advanced expertise and technology in the field of disaster risk reduction, by announcing the provision of financial cooperation amounting to \$4 billion over four years from 2015 to 2018, and training for 40,000 personnel in the area of disaster risk reduction and post-disaster recovery. Such efforts by Japan enhanced not only the quality of building structures and improvement of disaster monitoring facilities in each country, but also the development of human resources for enactment of laws and plans related to disaster risk reduction, formulation of disaster risk reduction policies, and disaster monitoring. Consequently, the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction is progressing in each country.

At the UN summit that adopted the 2030 Agenda in September 2015, Prime Minister Abe encouraged other countries to set the UN's World Tsunami Awareness Day in order to raise awareness of tsunami. As a result, a resolution adopted at the UN General Assembly in December the same year, established November 5 as World Tsunami Awareness Day. Accordingly, Japan organized the “High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day 2018 in Wakayama” in Wakayama City, Wakayama Prefecture, on October 31 and November 1, 2018.



Opening ceremony of the High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day 2018 in Wakayama

● Realizing Sustainable Cities

Based on the Development Cooperation Charter, Japan implements initiatives 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. In particular, 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, human resources development, etc. based on the concept of “Build Back Better,” striving to build cities that are more resilient to natural disasters after

Enhancing Disaster Prevention Awareness Among People with an Earthquake Simulation Vehicle

Earthquake Simulation Vehicles to Peru where Earthquakes Happen Often

Since Peru is frequently hit by large earthquakes of magnitude 7 to 9 like Japan, we are deeply committed to strengthening disaster-prevention awareness among the population. In principle, the CESATT (el Centro de Sensibilización y Aprendizaje sobre Terremotos y Tsunamis) in UNI (Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería) in Peru carries out activities such as creating teaching materials and developing programs for disaster-prevention education, and providing enlightenment workshops and training. Various Japanese knowhow is being applied in these activities, through the cooperation of JICA including the dispatch of Japanese disaster-prevention experts.

As a part of this cooperation, based on Peru's request for disaster-prevention related machinery and equipment, three Japanese Earthquake Simulation Vehicles were provided to Peru's National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI) in February 2018, under the ODA scheme called "Non-Project Grant Aid for Provision of Japanese SME's Products."* An Earthquake Simulation Vehicle has a vibration device attached to produce a simulated earthquake tremor, which allows people to have an experience of various types of earthquake by registering data of past earthquakes through analyses. These vehicles have actually been introduced in numerous localities in Japan. By experiencing real-life vibrations in the vehicle, residents are able to gain an awareness by themselves on how important preparing for earthquakes is, and measures to minimize damage are being implemented.

The trigger for the introduction of the Earthquake Simulation Vehicles in Peru, was the visit by Mr. Jorge Chávez, Director of INDECI, to Japan, who experienced an earthquake on the Earthquake Simulation Vehicle. This led to his strong desire to raise awareness of disaster prevention among Peruvian children and pupils, by using Earthquake Simulation Vehicles with the latest Japanese technology, during disaster-prevention practice at educational institutes such as elementary and junior-high schools in Peru, and resulted in the provision of the Earthquake Simulation Vehicles. The manufacture of the vehicles sent to Peru was undertaken by Aska Motor Industry. Today, not only have Aska's Earthquake Simulation Vehicles been introduced to every local government in Japan, including the 23 wards in Tokyo, but they have been sent to, and are active in foreign countries such as Algeria and Chile.

"Compared with Earthquake Simulation Vehicles from other countries, the cars that we make are characterized by the fact that they can turn in a small radius, which enables them to quickly get to various



(From the right) Minister of Defense Kishik, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of Japan in Peru, Takagi, and Disaster Management Agency Director Chávez (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Peru)

places, for a larger number of people to experience earthquakes, and furthermore, they are able to adjust to various types of 'shaking,'" explains Mr. Kota Kawana, of the company's Engineering Division. Aska's Earthquake Simulation Vehicles allow us to experience simulated earthquakes up to magnitude 7 for two minutes at a time, and can be customized according to the needs, such as reproducing the shaking of past earthquakes (forward-back, left-right, and up-down directions), and freely setting the shaking. Mr. Kawana also went to Peru to give technical instruction on operation methods and maintenance to INDECI personnel. He says, "Even with the same earthquake, the damage situation in Peru can differ substantially from that in Japan, due to the different building structures between the countries. So, we have improved our Earthquake Simulation Vehicles so as to allow suitable disaster-prevention countermeasures in accordance with the local situation."

The Japan-Peru Center for Earthquake Engineering and Disaster Mitigation (CISMID-UNI) began implementing disaster-prevention trainings of earthquake experiences, using these Earthquake Simulation Vehicles, from June 2018. To date, it has conducted enlightenment activities for 4,500 people at 22 disaster-prevention events. Most of the participants of these events said that the experience in the Earthquake Simulation Vehicle was extremely beneficial, and that it made them realize the importance of earthquake countermeasures.

Although up until now earthquake experiences were provided through simple shaking devices owned by INDECI, the Earthquake Simulation Vehicles which can easily make small turns, are now visiting regions all over Peru so that the local people can experience the shaking of an earthquake. The Earthquake Simulation Vehicles are very useful in the disaster-prevention training of personnel engaged in disaster-prevention and citizens of Peru. Starting with the introduction of these Earthquake Simulation Vehicles, it is hoped that disaster-prevention awareness will further grow among the people of Peru going forward, and that preparations for large-scale disasters will be undertaken in every family.



A person in Peru experiencing an Earthquake Simulation Vehicle (Photo: INDECI)

* One of the former names of "Economic and Social Development Programs." Grant Aid under the procurement agent system implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

rebuilding. Furthermore, Japan implements initiatives through providing assistance to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), which promotes sustainable urban development. One example can be seen in Japan's collaboration with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), based in Fukuoka, to introduce the environmental technology of private-sector companies and local governments in Japan to their overseas counterparts.

Moreover, at the Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) held in Quito, Ecuador in South America in 2016, the New Urban Agenda (NUA) was adopted as a policy for international efforts aimed at the solution of issues pertaining to urban problems and human settlements, based on the results of the efforts that each country has undertaken in the area of human settlement. NUA contributes to the achievement of the SDGs including Goal 11, and Japan also intends to advance efforts aimed at the implementation of NUA.

(8) Food Security and Nutrition

The number of chronically undernourished people in the world is estimated at 821 million (one in nine people in the world) in 2017, according to the “2018 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World” jointly published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the World Health Organization (WHO). Although the number of chronically undernourished people had been on a declining trend for more than 10 years until 2014, the trend was reversed in 2015 and has since continued to rise. In order to achieve Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture,” it is vital to put in greater effort. Furthermore, climate change and extreme weather phenomenon in recent years have given rise to severe food crisis, making it one of the important factors leading to the recent increase in the starving population. Hence, there are calls around the world to accelerate and expand action toward strengthening resilience and adaptability (see page 60 for details on “Issues regarding Climate Change”).

In order to achieve food security (a state where all people, at all times, can access sufficient, safe and nutritious food), there is a need for multifaceted measures based on international coordination. These measures include not only a sustainable increase in the production of food, but also improvement of nutrition, establishment of a social safety net (a mechanism in which people can live safely with peace of mind), provision of necessary food assistance, and implementation of countermeasures against infectious diseases among livestock. Nutrition improvement during the first 1,000 days from pregnancy to second birthday is particularly seen as important as it has a significant impact on the child's growth thereafter.

In establishing food security, measures toward developing the agricultural sector in developing countries is a pressing issue. Since many of the poor in developing countries live in the rural area, and the majority depend on agriculture for their livelihoods, it is important to tackle the development of agriculture and farming communities. Furthermore, many farmers in developing countries are unable to sell their agricultural products at a high price, and this, among other factors, makes it difficult for them to get out of poverty. Thus, one of the proposed solutions for this is to build a food value chain. This is an initiative in which many stakeholders, including the farmers, suppliers of the necessary farming implements such as seeds, fertilizers, and farming machinery, processing companies of agricultural produce, transportation and distribution companies, and retailers, cooperate to create a chain that can enhance the added value of agricultural produce from the stages of production, to manufacturing and processing, distribution, and consumption. The added value of agricultural produce, specifically, includes improving the quality of agricultural produce, developing attractive new products, reducing transportation costs, and increasing sales opportunities by expanding the sales network.

■ Japan's Efforts

Japan proactively addresses global food security issues, giving priority to cooperation that develops agriculture, forestry and fisheries, including the development of food value chains. In the short term, Japan provides food assistance to developing countries to avert food shortages, and in the medium to long-term, it 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 research and technology development, along with capacity-building in disseminating this technology in a way that is suited to the cultivation environment, promote the sustainable use of fishery resources, strengthen organizations of farmers, assist in policymaking, as well as to improve infrastructure such as irrigation facilities, farm roads, and fishing ports.

● Efforts to Provide Food Assistance and Improve Nutrition

Japan is providing food assistance based on requests from developing countries confronting food shortages. In FY2017, Japan contributed a total of ¥5.87 billion as bilateral food assistance in 16 countries, and provided approximately 80,000 tons of grains (rice, wheat flour, etc.) which mainly include Japanese government rice. In 2018, Japan served as the chair of the Food Aid Committee, which comprises of all the Parties of the “Food Assistance Convention.”

Japan, in cooperation with international organizations, is also engaged in efforts to provide food assistance from the perspective of preventing the occurrence and

Japan's Diplomacy Initiatives regarding Food Security

[Background]

Situation in Japan

- ✓ Depends on other countries for 60% of its food supply on a calorie basis, and 30% of its food supply on a production basis.
- ✓ Challenges in increasing production due to factors such as decline in agricultural land, aging farming population, etc.



Situation in the world

- ✓ Growth in global population
- ✓ Changes in dietary habits due to economic development in emerging countries
- ✓ Increase in production of bioenergy
- ✓ Climate change, frequent occurrences of abnormal weather conditions
- ✓ Limited number of countries with excess export capacity
- ✓ Rise in uncertainty of food prices, and financial commoditization of agricultural products

[Japan's diplomacy initiatives]

1. Promote food production worldwide

- **Promote investment**
Promotion of the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems adopted at the 2014 session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), which succeeds the initiative for Responsible International Investment in Agriculture proposed by Japan at the G8 L'Aquila Summit (2009).
- **Promote the development of agriculture and agricultural settlements, as well as research and development, and the spread of technology**
Development of Cerrado in Brazil, Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD), etc.

2. Create stable agricultural product markets and trading systems

- **Initiatives towards maintaining/strengthening free trade systems, monitoring of market functions**
Prohibition of export restrictions in principle under the World Trade Organization (WTO)
Incorporation of regulations on export restrictions in Economic Partnership Agreements (Japan-Australia EPA)
Follow-up on price trends through the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), etc.

3. Provide support/safety-nets for the vulnerable

- **Setting of goals at multilateral fora**
Setting of the realization of zero-hunger as one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Goal 2 of the SDGs)
Setting of the goal of rescuing 500 million people from starvation and malnutrition by 2030, at the G7 Elmau Summit (2015)
- **Bilateral support**
Support for agricultural development through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- **Food assistance in cooperation with international organizations**
Nutritional support, Contributions to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund For Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP), Food Aid Committee (FAC) and others, provision of dietary supplements, providing means of livelihood, Nutrition Japan Public Private Platform (NUPPP), etc.

4. Develop systems in preparation for emergency situations such as climate change and natural disaster

- **International cooperative frameworks**
ASEAN+3 Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR)
Establishment of early planning systems
Rapid Response Forum (RRF) of the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)

recurrence of conflicts, which is a cause of starvation. For example, through WFP, Japan implements measures such as emergency food assistance, school feeding programs to improve access to education, and food assistance encouraging people, through the distribution of food, to participate in the development of agricultural land and social infrastructure in order to support the self-reliance of local communities. In 2017, WFP conducted activities including the distribution of approximately 3.8 million tons of food to 91.4 million people in 83 countries around the world. In 2018, Japan contributed a total of \$132.4 million to WFP projects. Furthermore, Japan has provided assistance in technical cooperation for the agricultural and rural development of developing countries, establishment of international standards and norms in the food and agriculture fields, and the development of statistics, etc. through FAO. In addition, Japan also provides support for research on the variety development conducted by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), which is comprised of 15 agricultural research centers, and facilitates cooperation through exchanges among researchers. Moreover, Japan provides support for developing countries to enhance their own food safety.

In this area, concerning transboundary zoonotic diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease, Japan is reinforcing countermeasures in the Asia-Pacific region, in cooperation with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and FAO, and has created the Global Framework for



Children taking nutritionally-balanced meals in Santa Maria, La Paz, located in the western part of Honduras. Nutritional guidance was provided to residents as a project under the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Japanese Funds-in-Trust (JPF). (Photo: Hidemi Kibe/ Embassy of Japan in Honduras)

Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), among other efforts.

As for initiatives for nutritional improvement, in addition to bilateral assistance for the promotion of breastfeeding and the training of health professionals, Japan also provides assistance through multilateral cooperation by contributing to organizations such as UNICEF and WFP. Japan also participates in the international nutritional improvement initiative, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) as a donor country. In recent years, Japan is also putting effort into promoting nutritional improvement programs in collaboration with private companies, and launched the Nutrition Japan Public Private Platform (NJPPP) in 2016. Through this platform, in cooperation with partners from private companies, civil society, and academic research institutions, Japan contributes to nutrition improvement specifically by creating an environment that can boost initiatives of Japanese food-related enterprises, etc. for nutritional improvement in developing countries. Additionally, Japan-led efforts for nutrition improvement have started in earnest including the launch of the “Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA)” initiated by JICA with the aim of accelerating nutritional improvement in Africa. Japan also positions nutrition as an important fundamental area for the achievement of UHC. In 2020, Japan will host Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020, and through this event, contribute to increasing international momentum for improving nutrition.

● Promotion of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and Development of Food Value Chains

Japan is promoting the establishment of a food value chain for developing countries through public-private partnership, based on the Global Food Value Chain Strategy formulated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) in June 2014. In FY2017, based on this Strategy, Japan organized bilateral policy dialogues with the Philippines, Russia, Brazil, India, Cambodia, Myanmar, Argentina, and Australia. In the dialogue held with Viet Nam in April 2018, the two countries agreed on revising the Medium- to Long-Term Vision for Japan-Viet Nam Agricultural Cooperation, and on cooperating toward the utilization of standards and certifications for agricultural produce and food quality, with the aim of building a food value chain in Viet Nam.

Furthermore, with the aim of realizing food security and eradicating poverty in Africa, Japan places emphasis on agriculture as an industry that plays an important role in Africa’s economic growth, and contributes to its development. For instance, Japan supports the research of **NERICA*** (New Rice for Africa), a cross-breed between Asian rice and African rice, and the spread of its production techniques, as well as support for increasing rice production based on the Comprehensive

Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Moreover, at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) held in 2008, Japan established the **Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)***, and announced the CARD Initiative. Since then, Japan has established the goal of doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa from 14 million tons as of 2008 to 28 million tons by 2018. As a matter of fact, the annual rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa had increased to 26.11 million tons by 2016, meaning that approximately 93% of the targeted increase in production has been achieved.



As a part of the Project for Supporting Rice Industry Development in Tanzania, implemented in the irrigation area in the northern part of Tanzania, experts and members of water utilization associations exchange opinions about the importance of maintaining and managing irrigation channels (Photo: Cuthbert Kimaro)

Moreover, in order to promote the transition from self-sufficiency to profitable agriculture, on the occasion of the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) held in 2016, Japan announced that it would transfer rice cultivation skills to 60,000 farmers and 2,500 extension workers by 2018 under the CARD initiative in order to strengthen food security in Africa, and that it would promote market-oriented agriculture and provide support for developing the food value chain, from the perspective of reducing **post-harvest loss***, promoting the food production industry, and improving incomes in agricultural communities. Since 2016, Japan has provided training for 30,393 people (60,381 people since 2013) through the **Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach***, toward the promotion of market-oriented agriculture, as well as transferred rice cultivation skills through CARD to more than 50,000 people.

In response to requests for greater cooperation in the agricultural field, put forth by the respective countries at TICAD VI, Japan has also launched a platform that connects African countries and the local sites. Based on this platform, Japan dispatched three experts from May 2018 to carry out the transfer of outstanding agricultural technology and advance human resources development. At the same time, they are also engaged in promoting excellent projects in the field of agriculture.

Toward Mutual Regional Revitalization through Local Agricultural Technical Assistance

Agricultural Support for Zambia by Farmers from Marumori, Miyagi Prefecture

In Zambia, located in Southern Africa, approximately 80% of the rural population live in poverty, and the stable production of a wide variety of agricultural products has been a challenge. Meanwhile, in the Koya area of Marumori town in Miyagi Prefecture, in addition to a declining and aging population, the radiation caused by the nuclear plant accident that occurred following the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 and the associated reputational damage, resulted in the local community losing its vitality and growing a sense of stagnation.

In order to overcome this situation, the Koya-Shinkokai Community, an autonomous residents' association of the area, determined to try and develop the area into a region characterized by measures that are unique and not undertaken by other regions. Luckily, an individual who was posted to Zambia as an expert for a technical cooperation project implemented by Japan, and also lived in Marumori before the Earthquake, connected Zambia with Koya area. She suggested that, "Marumori and Zambia share a common environment that is considered unsuitable for agriculture. It might be interesting if the farmers of Marumori shared their traditional techniques with Zambia." Following the suggestion, the Koya-Shinkokai Community consulted with Marumori town hall and asked other areas for support, hoping that, through the transfer of agricultural techniques of the Marumori residents, as well as various ideas and ingenuity, to small-scale farmers in developing countries, they may be able to contribute to poverty reduction. This was the beginning of the relationship between Marumori and the rural areas of Lusaka Province in Zambia.

Marumori made use of the Special Category of Local Government Type of the JICA Partnership Program from 2016, and conducted technical cooperation to transfer its traditional agricultural techniques to rural areas in Lusaka Province, Zambia. Short-term experts were dispatched to Lusaka Province from Marumori, and furthermore, trainees were invited to Marumori from the Ministry of Agriculture of Zambia to participate in the training of agricultural techniques while interacting with local residents.

Four subjects in the technical cooperation in Zambia and training in Marumori include: production of agricultural products for achieving diversification of agriculture, processing and storing techniques for long-term storage of the produced products, marketing to sell the products, and nutrition and cooking for the consumption of the produced agricultural products.

One of the activities undertaken in the training was beekeeping. Previously in Zambia, honey harvesting was only conducted through a method which destroys the beehives during collection, and its efficiency was very poor. Therefore, the method applied in Japan



Conducting training on soil preparation in Marumori (Photo: Koya-Shinkokai Community)

using tiered-box hives was introduced, and support was provided to enable efficient, sustainable, and safe beekeeping. The Zambian trainees also learned the importance of preparing "soil" in Marumori.

Mr. Chipasha, Lusaka Province Agricultural Secretary, who received the training in Marumori, and currently a project counterpart says, "I knew that our outcomes would improve if we used chemical fertilizers, but because of their high cost, farmers were unable to purchase them. In Marumori, however, I learned that bamboo, a local material is used to make compost, with which high-quality soil is prepared. So we made use of post-harvesting corn chaff, a local crop in Zambia, to make compost, and we became able to increase the production yield."

The relationship built between Marumori and Zambia through agricultural technical support discussed above went beyond unilateral technical support toward Zambia; it also brought about various changes in Marumori. Among residents who participated in the agricultural technical training, interactions with the Zambian trainees deepened the understanding of international cooperation, and sparked interest to learn more about Zambia, which led them to hold study sessions on agriculture in Zambia. Some Marumori farmers who actually traveled to Zambia have tried certain agricultural techniques now being utilized in Zambia, in Marumori.

A summit meeting between President Edgar Chagwa Lungu of Zambia, who was visiting Japan, and Prime Minister Abe was held on December 19, 2018, and a dinner party hosted by Prime Minister Abe followed, and Mr. Hoshina, the mayor of Marumori town attended the latter. The Mayor introduced and read out a letter from a high-school student, whose family had hosted a trainee, which read, "I want to go to Zambia someday to interact and experience the culture," which brought a delighted smile to the face of President Lungu's face.

Most of all, the motivation among the people of Marumori has changed. The techniques and ideas that they shared have enriched the lives of farmers in Zambia. This fact has served as an amazing opportunity to recognize the importance of the knowledge, techniques and experience that they have. A resident who runs a farm in Marumori and was one of the host-families of a Zambian trainee says the following:

"The current state of agriculture in Zambia is following the path of Japanese agriculture after World War II. What the Japanese had done by earnestly using ingenuity in a situation without adequate machinery is about to be undertaken in Zambia. Through these efforts, the techniques of Marumori in Japan are being passed on. This exchange with Zambia has become a wonderful opportunity to look back at the path we have taken, and return to the starting point."



Bee keepers in Zambia who are using Japanese beekeeping techniques to collect honey (Photo: Koya-Shinkokai Community)

● Food Security through a Multilateral Cooperation Approach

Japan proposed the “Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)”^{*} initiative at the G8 L’Aquila Summit (Italy) in 2009. With the growing problem of large-scale agricultural investments in developing countries (acquisition of agricultural lands by foreign investors) in response to rising international food prices, this initiative aims to coordinate and maximize profits for the three parties—host country government, local people, and investors—while easing the negative impact of agricultural investment and promoting agricultural development in the country of investment. Based on this concept, the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI), for which discussions had been held at the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), supported by a secretariat comprising the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme (WFP), were adopted at the 41st CFS Session in 2014. In 2018, the ASEAN-RAI Guidelines were adopted by the ASEAN secretariat as the regional version of the CFS-RAI.

With regard to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, which was established at the G8 Camp David Summit (the United States) in 2012, it has been operating

autonomously under the New Alliance secretariat of the African Union Commission (AUC), and now has ten partner countries. 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.

Furthermore, Japan has been involved in initiatives such as providing assistance to the **Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)**^{*} in the G20, which aims to enhance the transparency of the international agricultural market. Through this inter-organizational platform launched in 2011 by the G20 as a measure to counter the wild fluctuations of food prices, the G20 member countries, major importing and exporting countries, corporations, and international organizations participate in a system for sharing information on the agricultural and food market (such as production volumes and prices) in a timely, accurate, and transparent manner. Japan has provided support for efforts in ASEAN countries to improve the accuracy of agricultural statistical information of ASEAN countries that will be utilized as AMIS data. In addition, Japan provides assistance in the agricultural sector through international organizations such as FAO, IFAD, a global research partnership for a food-secure future (CGIAR), and WFP.



Glossary

*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 the hybridization of high-yield Asian rice with African rice, which is resistant to weeds, diseases and insect pests. In order for NERICA to suit the natural conditions of each region in Africa, they are characterized by (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.

*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.

*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.

*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 into account gender issues, in order to help them improve their capacities to manage their market-oriented agricultural businesses. Japan is supporting the adoption of SHEP in Africa.

*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.

(9) Securing Access to Resources and Energy

The number of people without access to electricity in the world is estimated at around 900 million (equivalent to 13% of the world's population), and more than 600 million people of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa, equivalent to 57% of the population. In Sub-Saharan Africa, around 900 million people rely on fuelwood (e.g., charcoal, kindling) for cooking, which produces indoor air pollution that has become one cause of death among youths. The lack of electricity, gas and other energy services leads to many issues, such as the delay in industrial development, a loss of employment opportunities, and a further increase in poverty. Stable energy supply and appropriate consideration to the environment are essential since the global energy demand is expected to increase further, mainly in emerging and developing countries, particularly in Asia.

■ Japan's Efforts

In order to realize sustainable development and secure energy in developing countries, Japan works on the provision of services which enables modern energy supply, and the stable supply of electricity for industrial development. In addition, Japan provides support for the establishment of an environmentally friendly infrastructure (socio-economic infrastructure), such as the construction of energy-saving equipment and power generation facilities that utilize renewable energy (hydropower, solar photovoltaics, solar thermal, wind power, geothermal power, etc.).



Parliamentary Vice-Minister Tsuji Kiyoto giving a speech at the Ninth Session of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Assembly held in the United Arab Emirates in January 2019

In view of the significant changes in the global energy situation, Foreign Minister Kono of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) presented the “Evolving Energy Diplomacy - Energy Transition and Future of Japan” policy speech in July 2018. In this speech, Foreign Minister Kono announced MOFA’s future vision of energy diplomacy, which responds to the world’s energy situation and continuing energy transitions in the context of the increasing momentum of international initiatives towards decarbonization initiated by the ratification of the Paris Agreement, and the major shifts seen in both the supply and demand side of the energy sector.

Moreover, at the Foreign Embassy Strategy Council on Energy and Mineral Resources held in February 2018, members of MOFA gathered together with members from overseas diplomatic missions, other relevant ministries, attendees from various organizations and the private sector, and experts to discuss the challenges and measures related to securing a stable supply of energy and resources in Japan. The meeting contributed to the further strengthening of Japan’s energy and resources diplomacy, addressing topics such as the priority issue of securing a stable supply of energy and resources to Japan, Japan’s commitment to contributing to the overall energy security of the world, the advancement of energy diplomacy to increase the marketplace competitiveness of Japan’s technological strengths, and the importance of strengthening multi-layered collaboration with international organizations, including contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Japan also proactively supports the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which is a multinational cooperative framework to increase the transparency of the money flow in the development of oil, gas, mineral, and other resources. Under this framework, extracting corporations report the amount of payment to the governments of resource-producing countries, and the governments also report the amount of the revenue to the EITI in order to ensure transparency of the money flow. 51 resource-producing countries, many supporting countries including Japan, extracting companies and NGOs are participating in the EITI, and working together to prevent corruption and conflict, as well as to encourage responsible resource development that leads to growth and poverty reduction.

Assistance for Each Region



Mr. Nowaki Hijikata, a JICA expert active in Bobo-Dioulasso in Burkina Faso, sowing sesame seeds with the local people (Photo: Anne Mimault)

1 East Asia	73	5 Europe	92
2 South Asia	79	6 Central Asia and Caucasus	94
3 Oceania	84	7 Middle East and North Africa	96
4 Latin America and the Caribbean	87	8 Africa	100

Part III Assistance for Each Region

Challenges and problems vary according to countries and regions. Hence, it is necessary to implement cooperation that responds to the respective situations of each region. Based on the economic and social backgrounds of the problems faced by each region, Japan strives to solve the problems in developing countries through providing more focused cooperation in a strategic, effective, and flexible manner while coping flexibly and responding to rapidly changing situations.

Chart III-1

Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region (2017)

(Unit: US\$ million)

Region	Type	Bilateral ODA											
		Grants				Loan aid			Net disbursement		Gross disbursement		
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)	Total	Change from the previous year (%)	Total	Percentage of total (%)	Change from the previous year (%)
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions										
Asia		686.22	131.93	781.59	1,467.81	7,541.62	5,408.95	2,132.67	3,600.48	101.4	9,009.43	59.7	28.0
East Asia		402.65	50.52	438.78	841.43	3,047.27	3,930.69	-883.42	-41.99	84.0	3,888.70	25.8	4.5
Northeast Asia		31.51	—	32.57	64.08	462.73	974.74	-512.02	-447.94	42.1	526.81	3.5	140.0
Southeast Asia		369.88	49.26	401.64	771.51	2,584.54	2,955.95	-371.40	400.11	-20.9	3,356.06	22.2	-4.0
South Asia		188.59	27.27	299.35	487.94	3,844.07	1,375.07	2,469.00	2,956.94	68.8	4,332.00	28.7	48.6
Central Asia and the Caucasus		46.95	15.75	34.94	81.89	326.41	103.19	223.22	305.11	36.3	408.30	2.7	24.8
Multiple countries in Asia		48.03	38.37	8.53	56.56	323.87	—	323.87	380.43	407.8	380.43	2.5	407.8
Middle East and North Africa		631.49	508.03	131.27	762.76	972.39	655.83	316.56	1,079.33	-16.2	1,735.16	11.5	-10.8
Sub-Saharan Africa		637.51	265.11	379.92	1,017.43	685.86	108.58	577.28	1,594.70	14.8	1,703.29	11.3	14.3
Latin America and the Caribbean		88.03	3.02	156.17	244.20	128.26	716.37	-588.11	-343.91	-517.4	372.45	2.5	-13.2
Oceania		79.58	0.58	52.42	132.00	189.24	90.63	98.61	230.61	41.5	321.24	2.1	77.7
Europe		10.43	1.96	20.79	31.22	61.53	67.78	-6.26	24.96	-92.6	92.75	0.6	-76.9
Assistance encompassing multiple regions		487.33	435.30	1,362.61	1,849.94	—	—	—	1,849.94	-5.9	1,849.94	12.3	-5.9
Total		2,620.59	1,345.93	2,884.77	5,505.36	9,578.89	7,048.14	2,530.76	8,036.11	14.6	15,084.25	100.0	12.1

Notes:

- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Including assistance to graduated countries.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Assistance encompassing multiple regions includes items that cannot be regionally classified such as survey team dispatches, etc. spanning over multiple regions.
- Figures under "Multiple countries in Asia" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including some areas of the Middle East.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.

1 East Asia

East Asia consists of a variety of nations, which include countries such as the Republic of Korea and Singapore, which have already attained high economic growth and transitioned from the category of aid recipients to that of donors; least developed countries (LDCs) such as Cambodia and Laos; countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines, which still show large income disparities domestically despite dramatic economic growth; and countries such as Viet Nam, which are shifting to a market-driven economy. Japan has close relationships with these countries in all aspects of politics, economy, and culture, hence the stability and development of the region significantly impacts the security and prosperity of Japan as well. From this perspective, Japan is engaging in development cooperation activities that respond to the diverse socio-economic circumstances of East Asian countries and to the changes in the type of development cooperation required.

■ Japan's Efforts

Japan has contributed to the remarkable economic growth of East Asia by implementing development cooperation that combines ODA with trade and investment, including the development of socio-economic foundations through the quality infrastructure development, support for the development of institutions and human resources, promotion of trade, and revitalization of private investment. In recent years, Japan aims to further enhance open regional cooperation and integration while sharing basic values, to promote mutual understanding, and to maintain consistent regional stability. Therefore, Japan strives to proactively provide assistance in areas such as disaster management, environment and climate change, strengthening the rule of law, health and medical care, and maritime safety, in parallel with the assistance for developing infrastructure. Japan is also working to promote mutual understanding through large-scale youth exchanges, cultural exchanges, and projects to spread Japanese language education. In order for Japan and other East Asian countries to achieve further prosperity, it is important to assist Asia to become “a center of growth open to the world.” Accordingly, Japan is providing assistance to strengthen Asia’s growth and to expand domestic demand in each country.

● Support for Southeast Asia

The countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)¹ are located on Japan’s sea lanes and have strong economic ties with Japan as 12,000 Japanese companies (business establishments) have entered the region’s markets as of October 2017. The ASEAN region is of great importance for Japan both on the political and

economic fronts. The ASEAN Community comprised of the “Political-Security Community,” “Economic Community,” and “Socio-Cultural Community” was launched in 2015, and it has made effort to strengthen connectivity and narrow the development gaps within the region. In light of ASEAN’s efforts, Japan has provided assistance through ODA in a range of areas such as infrastructure development, the rule of law, maritime safety, disaster management, health and medical care, and peacebuilding, based on the pillars of strengthening connectivity and narrowing the development gaps. To date, Japan’s ODA for ASEAN countries has further amounted to a total of approximately ¥17.93 trillion. Moreover, Japan announced the provision of ¥2 trillion ODA over a five-year period at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting held in 2013, but has since rendered assistance that has already surpassed that pledge. The ODA assistance has also induced more than ¥8 trillion of investment by Japanese companies over the last five years. At the 21st ASEAN-Japan Summit to Commemorate the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, held in November 2018, as stated by the ASEAN countries, Japan’s efforts have been highly appreciated by ASEAN.



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the commemorative photo session during the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)

With regard to strengthening connectivity, Japan does not only develop physical infrastructure but also aims to realize “vibrant and effective connectivity,” which maximizes infrastructure productivities through the institutional reform and technology transfer to the local people. At the ASEAN Summit Meetings held in 2016, the “**Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025**”^{*} was adopted, succeeding the “Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity,” which aimed to strengthen “physical connectivity,” “institutional connectivity,” and “people-to-people connectivity” in the region. Japan will continue to support ASEAN connectivity based on this new master plan.

In terms of infrastructure development, Japan underscores the importance of “quality infrastructure investment” that is

¹ ASEAN member states: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam (however, Singapore and Brunei are not ODA recipients).

in accordance with international standards, based on its past experience of assisting Southeast Asian countries.

Prior to the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure,” and declared the goal for the next five years, that is to finance approximately \$200 billion in a comprehensive Japanese effort for infrastructure projects across the world, and to advance further institutional reforms.

Also, alongside the support that is tailored to the needs of each country, Japan has been implementing the Project for Strengthening the ASEAN Regional Capacity on Disaster Health Management (ARCH Project) since 2016, targeting the entire ASEAN region. Ongoing efforts are being made to enhance governments’ coordination capacity in the field of disaster health management with the aim of establishing a coordination structure among the ASEAN communities.

Furthermore, at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in 2015, Prime Minister Abe announced the “Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative,” under which Japan would assist the development of 40,000 industrial human resources over the next three years, with the belief that in addition to infrastructure development, the development of the industrial human resources that would establish and upgrade the key industries of each country is essential for sustainable growth in Asia. As of 2018, Japan had developed approximately 80,000 industrial human resources in the Asian region. Moreover, at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in November 2018, Japan announced its new plan to train an additional 80,000 people with a view to the next five years, in areas including the digital field, such as AI, under the “Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0.” Also, in order to contribute to the unity and centrality of ASEAN through technical cooperation, Japan also took the opportunity of the Japan-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting to affirm a substantial agreement on the Japan-ASEAN Technical Cooperation Agreement. Japan will continue to actively support the development of industrial human resources in Asia. In addition, Japan has been implementing the “Innovative Asia” initiative, which supports the circulation of competent human resources in Asian countries including ASEAN with ODA, through studying abroad at Japanese graduate schools or other institutions, and internships at Japanese companies, etc., with the aim of promoting innovation in Asia including Japan. Within the five years from FY2017 to FY2021, Japan aims to accept approximately 1,000 people from all across Asia under this project.

With regard to the Mekong region² which has distinct, great potential for development among the ASEAN countries, the Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting is annually hosted by Japan and is held in Tokyo every three years,

where the leaders adopt an aid policy framework toward the region. In October 2018, the Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting was held in Tokyo, during which the Tokyo Strategy 2018 for Mekong-Japan Cooperation was adopted. This Strategy sets out the direction for future cooperation between the Mekong region and Japan, and establishes the following three pillars for advancing cooperation: (1) Vibrant and effective connectivity, (2) People-centered society, and (3) Realization of a Green Mekong.

Through cooperation in these three areas, this Strategy also sets the following three goals: (1) Realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), (2) Realization of a free and open Indo-Pacific, and (3) Cooperation with the Ayeyarwady - Chao Phraya - Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), which is the economic cooperation framework among the Mekong countries. It then specifies concrete projects that can contribute to the realization of these three goals, as the action plan of the Strategy. Mekong countries expressed their high appraisal of Japan’s cooperation to date, including its commitment toward completing the implementation of ODA of more than 750 billion yen over the past three years.



The 10th Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting held in Tokyo in October 2018 (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)

Taking into account that Myanmar has been making significant progress to advance democratization among the Mekong countries, in 2012, Japan reviewed its economic cooperation policy in order to back up the rapid process of its reform efforts, and has been providing a wide range of assistance to Myanmar, based on the following three pillars: (i) Improving quality of life of the nationals including assistance for ethnic minorities, (ii) Assistance for legal and judicial systems development, and human resources development, and (iii) Infrastructure development. In particular, Japan is offering cooperation at the public and private levels to develop the Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) located in the suburbs of Yangon, Myanmar’s largest city, while the Government of Japan is contributing to the development of the surrounding infrastructure through ODA. As of January 2019, 101 companies from around the world (of which 52 are Japanese companies) have started their business in

² Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam



Vietnam

Terminal 2 Construction Project in Noi Bai International Airport Loan Aid (March 2010 – December 2014)

Driven by increased foreign investment and exports, Vietnam has achieved rapid economic growth since the 1990s. As a result, Vietnam has seen a sharp increase in air passenger traffic in its major cities, especially in Hanoi, the capital, and Ho Chi Minh City. In particular, there has been a surge in air passenger traffic at Noi Bai International Airport, the gateway to Hanoi, and consequently the number of its passenger terminal users (approximately 9.5 million in 2010) has been far exceeding the initial plan (6 million per year).

Under the “Terminal 2 Construction Project in Noi Bai International Airport” which was implemented from 2010, the second passenger terminal was built and the associated facilities were renovated, to accept as many as 10 million passengers per year. Not only the renovation of the airport infrastructure, thanks to the transfer of Japanese-style know-how on airport operation, the project also improved airport services vastly in areas such as fueling, hand luggage control, and commercial facilities development. Noi Bai International Airport was selected as “Number 1” in the “World’s Most Improved Airports” in the 2016 edition of the “World’s Top 100 Airports” published by a UK air service research company.

Although Vietnam continues to grow economically, domestic

infrastructure improvement is still insufficient to accommodate the infrastructural demands in the transportation sector. Japan will continue to support the sustainable growth of Vietnam through both hard and soft infrastructure improvements.



3rd floor departure lobby of the improved terminal 2 (Photo: JICA)

III
1

Part III
Assistance for Each Region
1
East Asia

the SEZ, while 68 companies (of which 40 are Japanese companies) have already commenced operations. This is a successful example which shows how Japan’s “quality infrastructure investment” earned trust from the world.

Furthermore, in order to promote peace with ethnic minorities, Japan is providing support for reconstruction and development in the southeastern part of Myanmar, where a ceasefire has been achieved. This includes the

development of housing and basic infrastructure, and providing guidance on agricultural technology. In the Rakhine State located in the western part of Myanmar, from where more than 700,000 people were displaced in 2017, Japan focuses on providing humanitarian and development assistance to improve local conditions, as well as to promote the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of displaced persons.



Glossary

* Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025

This is the action plan for strengthening ASEAN connectivity that was adopted at the ASEAN Summit Meeting in 2016 as the successor document to the “Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity” which set 2015 as its goal year (adopted in 2010). It is positioned as a part of “ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together,” which was adopted in 2015. The document stipulates the five strategic objectives of “Sustainable infrastructure,” “Digital innovation,” “Seamless logistics,” “Regulatory excellence,” and “People mobility,” and presents priority initiatives under each of the strategies.

● Relations with China

Even in recent years, ODA to China has played a significant role in strengthening Japan and China relations. During Prime Minister Abe’s visit to China in October 2018, the Government of Japan announced the termination of Japan’s provision of new ODA to China, and the promotion of a new stage of bilateral cooperation, such as holding dialogues and personnel exchanges in the area of development. This has been announced under the recognition that it is time for Japan and China to work shoulder to shoulder for contributing to the region and international community’s prosperity as equal partners.

With this announcement, the adoption of new ODA to China has ended in FY2018, and all ongoing projects that have already been adopted and which last several years will be concluded with effect from the end of FY2021.

In recent years, ODA to China has been implemented to a very limited extent only in areas with genuine needs for cooperation, such as cross-border pollution, infectious diseases, and food safety, which directly affect the lives of the Japanese people. The assistance was carried out as technical cooperation (disbursements of ¥404 million in FY2017)³ and Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (disbursements of

³ Track records of technical cooperation in recent years

¥3.296 billion (FY2011), ¥2.527 billion (FY2012), ¥2.018 billion (FY2013), ¥1.436 billion (FY2014), ¥806 million (FY2015), ¥500 million (FY2016), ¥404 million (FY2017)

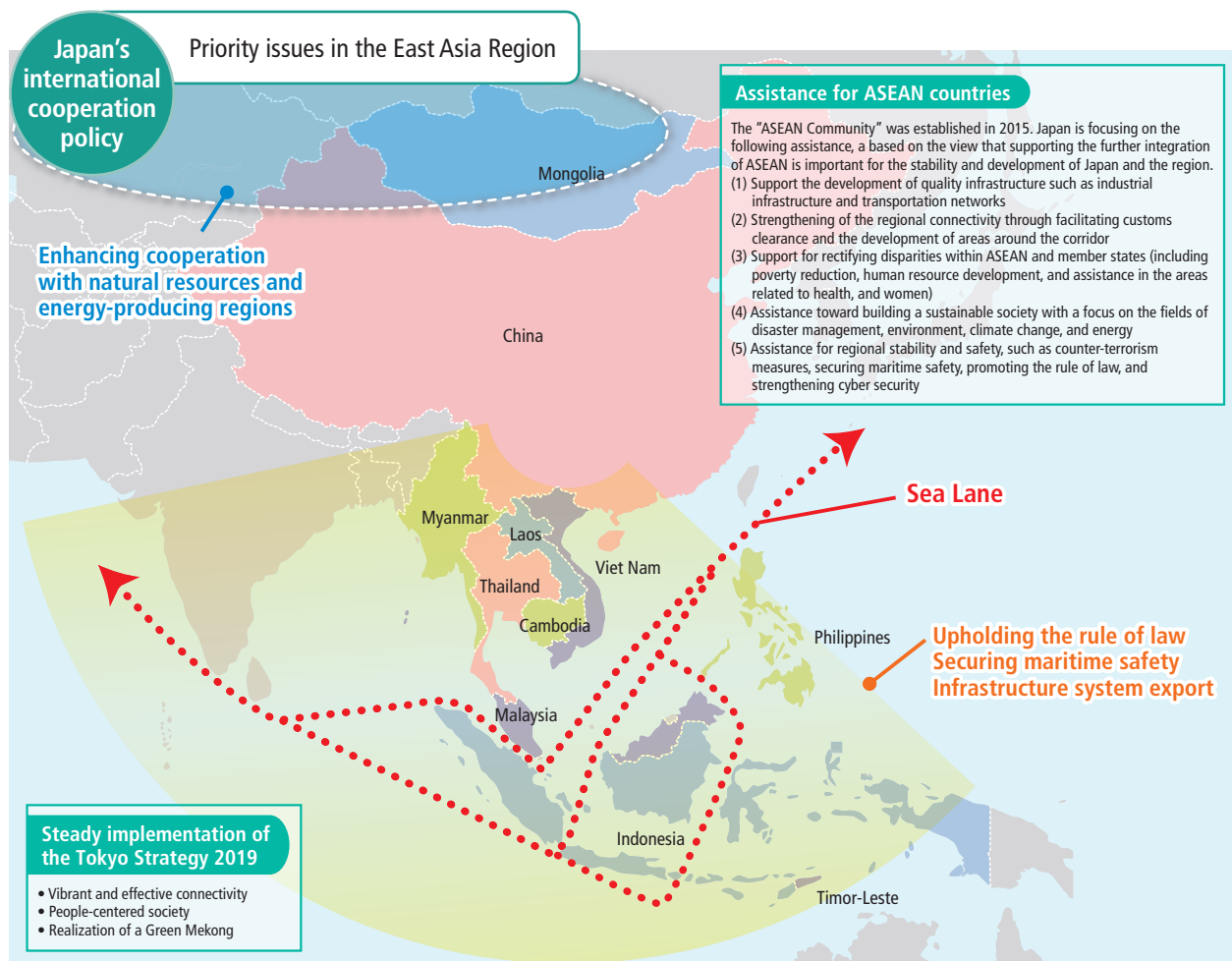
¥9.95 million in FY2017)⁴.

With regard to technical cooperation, for example, Japan is implementing projects to tackle environmental problems focused on air pollution including PM2.5, which has raised concerns about its impact on Japan, and projects to support the drafting of civil laws, patent laws, etc. in China that contribute to facilitating the business activities of Japanese companies operating in China.

Furthermore, as a new form of cooperation that takes into account the economic development of China, Japan has recently been providing cooperation in which its costs are borne by China. For example, China bears the costs related to support such as technical cooperation for capacity-

building in the area of the diagnosis of asbestos-related cancers, which began in 2018, and the assistance for the promotion of disaster risk reduction education as well as the provision of instruction on quake-resistant and seismic isolation technologies in the areas afflicted by the Lushan earthquake that occurred in Sichuan Province in 2013.

With regard to Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, Japan has provided support in supplying equipment needed for conducting eye examinations for children and middle-aged and senior citizens in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in FY2017, as a part of its support that benefits ethnic minority regions at the grassroots level.



⁴ Track records of Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects in recent years
¥843 million (FY2011), ¥288 million (FY2012), ¥284 million (FY2013), ¥85 million (FY2014), ¥107 million (FY2015), ¥29 million (FY2016), ¥9.95 million (FY2017)

ODA Topics 4

Looking Back over 40 Years of ODA to China

Since 1979 when Japan began providing ODA to China, it has created a robust foundation as one of the key pillars of Japan-China relations, as well as been used mainly for resolving the infrastructural bottlenecks in Chinese coastal areas, environmental measures, improvements in the field of fundamental needs in life such as health and medical care, and human resources development, and contributed to the maintenance and promotion of China's reform and opening-up policies. Thanks to the stable development of the Chinese economy through the development of economic infrastructure via ODA from Japan, the investment environment in China has been improved, and thereby boosted the advancement of Japanese companies into China. This resulted in progress in private-sector economic relations between the two countries. Furthermore, efforts such as technical cooperation by Japan have enabled countermeasures against problems including cross-border pollution and infectious diseases, which also have negative impacts on Japan. In this way, ODA to China has been implemented in a form that benefits Japan as well.

In the area of infrastructure, large-scale projects have been steadily implemented, including the Beijing-Qinhuangdao Railway Construction Project (ODA loan) and Qinhuangdao Port Expansion Project (ODA loan), which contributed to coal exports to Japan by facilitating the smooth transport of coal from the coal-producing region of Shanxi Province to coastal areas, the Beijing Subway Line 1 Construction Project (ODA loan), which crosses approximately 13km in the center of Beijing including Tiananmen East and West Stations, the Shanghai Pudong International Airport Construction Project (technical cooperation and ODA loan), which broke the 70 million passenger mark in 2017, and the Beijing Sewage Treatment Plant Construction Project (ODA loan), which accounts for 40 percent of the total amount of sewage treatment in the city of Beijing.

In the area of environmental measures, the Sino-Japan Friendship Center for Environmental Protection (grant aid and technical cooperation) has become the base for countermeasures against the cross-border pollution problems of acid rain, yellow sand and PM 2.5, while the Afforestation and Forest Conservation Project (ODA loan, technical cooperation and grant aid) focused on 13 provinces and autonomous regions contributed to the improvement of forest coverage in China (from 16.7% in 1990 to 22.2% in 2015).

In the area of health and medical care, the China-Japan Friendship Hospital (grant aid and technical cooperation), which is supplied with as many as 1,300 beds and was selected as one of the "Top 100 Hospitals in China" is exhibiting its presence by being chosen as the designated hospital of the Beijing Olympics, and being appointed as the hospital for receiving the most serious cases during the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) epidemic. Other projects in this field include infection countermeasures (technical cooperation, grant aid and ODA loan), which contributed to the elimination of polio and addressing pandemics, and the China-Japan Strategic Cooperation Project on Measures for the Aging Society (technical cooperation) under which Japan shared its experience with China, which has been rapidly becoming an aging society since the year 2000.

In terms of human resources development, youth training (technical cooperation) was implemented, under which a total of approximately 5,100 young Chinese were accepted with the objective



Activities by the Japan Disaster Relief Team after the Sichuan Earthquake (Photo: JICA)

of developing personnel, who will be responsible for nation-building in the future, as well as more than a total of 430 exchange students (grant aid) were accepted with the purpose of strengthening the ability of Chinese young government officials to formulate and implement social and economic development policies.

In addition, with regard to the field of disaster prevention, the dispatch of disaster relief team and the provision of emergency relief goods and reconstruction support (technical cooperation) was implemented in response to the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake. In terms of the area of justice, support was provided in areas such as enacting antitrust law, a companies act, reform of the civil procedure law, and enactment of general civil law, with the objective of supporting the smooth business activities of Japanese companies while maintaining economic order in China. In this way, ODA to China was targeted at a wide range of areas, and amounted to a total of approximately 3 trillion 600 billion yen to date.

On the other hand, as China has developed, the scale of ODA to China has gradually reduced, with General Grant Aid being terminated in 2006, and new provision of ODA loans ending in 2007. Accordingly, during Prime Minister Abe's visit to China in October 2018, the termination of ODA to China was announced, based on the idea that a new dimension of Japan-China cooperation should be promoted with China as an equal partner, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up policies. With the ongoing technical cooperation projects all set to conclude by the end of FY2021, ODA to China is going to finish playing its role.

In response, China stated that Japan's ODA to China played an active role in the country's reform and opening up, and in the building of its economy. During Prime Minister Abe's visit to China, a photograph exhibition was also held, which reflected upon the economic cooperation between the two countries, including the ODA to China to date, and was attended by Prime Minister Abe and Premier Li Keqiang. Going forward, consideration of new cooperation projects between Japan and China will be pursued, including dialogue and personnel exchanges in the area of development, as well as cooperation on global issues like SDGs, climate change and marine plastic litter.

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Country or region	Grants			Total	Loan aid		(A)-(B)	Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation		Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)			
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions							
1	Viet Nam	19.60	—	76.17	95.76	1,293.84	461.64	832.20	927.96	1,389.60
2	Indonesia	11.50	3.87	69.30	80.80	439.79	1,568.72	-1,128.94	-1,048.13	520.59
3	Mongolia	31.25	—	27.10	58.35	458.38	15.65	442.73	501.08	516.73
4	Thailand	9.89	7.75	28.38	38.27	350.34	296.94	53.40	91.67	388.61
5	Myanmar	135.96	18.99	91.15	227.11	151.96	—	151.96	379.07	379.07
6	Philippines	63.17	10.20	52.01	115.18	237.12	494.00	-256.89	-141.71	352.30
7	Cambodia	83.15	4.34	41.58	124.73	64.19	5.64	58.55	183.28	188.92
8	Laos	25.52	3.12	21.70	47.23	30.17	4.97	25.19	72.42	77.39
9	Malaysia	6.36	—	13.32	19.68	14.71	124.03	-109.31	-89.63	34.39
10	Timor-Leste	13.74	—	7.96	21.70	2.43	—	2.43	24.13	24.13
11	China	0.26	—	5.44	5.70	4.35	959.09	-954.74	-949.04	10.05
	Multiple countries in East Asia	1.26	1.26	4.58	5.84	—	—	—	5.84	5.84
East Asia region total		402.65	50.52	438.78	841.43	3,047.27	3,930.69	-883.42	-41.99	3,888.70
(ASEAN total)		356.14	49.26	393.68	749.82	2,582.11	2,955.95	-373.83	375.98	3,331.93

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.
- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.
- Figures under "Multiple countries in East Asia" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore do not incorporate disbursements for multiple countries, including Myanmar.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.

2 South Asia

The South Asian region includes countries with enormous economic potential including India, and the region has been increasing its presence in the international community. South Asia is strategically important to Japan because of its location on a land route and sea lane that connect East Asia with the Middle East, and is also crucial for addressing global environmental issues. In addition, the region is of great interest to Japan and the rest of the international community in regard to the role it plays in international efforts against terrorism and violent extremism.

At the same time, the South Asian region still faces many issues that must be addressed. These issues include a lack of basic infrastructure such as roads, railroads, and ports, as well as growing population, low school enrollment rate in primary education, underdeveloped water and sanitation facilities, inadequate healthcare and medical systems, insufficient maternal and pediatric healthcare, infectious diseases, and unconsolidated rule of law. Poverty reduction is a particularly challenging problem. Approximately 250 million people among the total population of approximately 1.7 billion in South Asia are said to be living in poverty, making it one of the world's poorest regions.⁵ South Asia is also a key region, along with Africa, in achieving the SDGs.

Japan provides assistance with a focus on improving socio-economic infrastructure in order to harness the economic potential of South Asia as well as to alleviate the growing gap between the rich and the poor.

■ Japan's Efforts

With India, a key player in South Asia, the leaders of Japan and India make annual mutual visits to each other's country, and Japan promotes cooperation in a wide range of fields based on the "Special Strategic and Global Partnership." These include economic cooperation as well as cooperation in the fields of politics and security, economy, and academic exchanges. In recent years, India has been the largest recipient of Japan's ODA loans, and Japan has provided assistance to India for the development of economic infrastructure, mainly in the fields of electric power and transport.

During the visit by Prime Minister Modi to Japan in October 2018, the two countries exchanged notes on the provision of ODA loans for a total of seven projects, including the construction of the Mumbai – Ahmedabad High Speed Railway (MAHSR), for which Japan's Shinkansen (bullet train) system will be introduced, as well as the construction of bridges, etc. in the northeastern part of India to contribute to regional connectivity. At the Japan-India Summit Meeting, Prime Minister Modi

expressed his appreciation for Japan's ODA. Also, in the Japan-India Vision Statement, Prime Minister Abe expressed Japan's intention to continue to provide support for initiatives to boost the development of India's social industry through a variety of activities including key quality infrastructure and capacity-building projects. For example, the high-speed railway development plan is expected to enable travel between Mumbai and Ahmedabad in two hours—which currently takes at least seven hours on existing express trains and approximately one and a half hours by plane—while reducing the train fee to roughly half of the airfare. Thus, Japan's ODA plays a significant role in the growth of India, through infrastructure development, measures to combat poverty, development of the investment environment, human resources development, etc.

With Bangladesh, where there has been remarkable growth and where an increasing number of Japanese companies have been conducting business in recent years, Japan is strengthening policy dialogue and promoting economic cooperation under the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B) initiative, in order to strengthen bilateral relations. The three pillars of the initiative include the following: (i) Development of economic infrastructure in Bangladesh, (ii) Improvement of the investment environment, and (iii) Enhancing connectivity. In 2016, when Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina visited Japan to attend the Outreach Meeting of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit, Prime Minister Abe stated that "Japan will continue to support Bangladesh in realizing its vision of becoming a middle-income country by 2021," and as a part of that, expressed his expectations for the advancement of the BIG-B initiative, as well as for the expansion of the exchanges of people and the further promotion of trade and investment between the two countries. Under these agreements between the two leaders, in June 2018, Japan and Bangladesh signed an Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loans for a total of six projects, including the "Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project (III)," the "Matarbari Port Development Project (engineering services)," and the "Jamuna Railway Bridge Construction Project I," which will contribute to enhanced connectivity in Bangladesh and the development of economic infrastructure.

Sri Lanka, which is positioned in a strategic position along sea lanes connecting Asia with the Middle East and Africa, has traditionally been a country that is friendly toward Japan. Following Prime Minister Wickremesinghe's visit to Japan in April 2017, President Sirisena visited Japan in March 2018, and the two countries agreed on strengthening cooperation particularly in the fields of enhancing connectivity and maritime matters, toward the

⁵ Source: World Bank website Population: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=85>
Poverty rate: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.DDAY?locations=85>

realization of a free and open Indo-Pacific. Furthermore, during President Sirisena's visit to Japan, Japan announced that it will provide support rooted in the lives of the Sri Lankan citizens. This included an Exchange of Notes on the provision of ODA loans amounting to approximately 10.6 billion yen, to provide advanced medical equipment to contribute to improving health and medical services in Sri Lanka.

Japan will continue to provide support in the field of infrastructure development, including transportation networks such as roads and ports as well as electric power infrastructure. This support contributes to quality economic development in Sri Lanka as well as to improvements in the business environment for Japanese companies operating in the country. Moreover, considering Sri Lanka's history of internal conflict and the current situation of increased disparity, Japan will also continue to carry out cooperation useful for national reconciliation and provide assistance to cope with natural disasters, including livelihood improvement and industrial development with a focus on the agricultural sector for regions that are lagging behind in development.

The Maldives, like Sri Lanka, is in a strategic position along the sea lanes of the Indian Ocean, and holds geopolitical importance for Japan. Foreign Minister Kono visited the Maldives in January 2018, while the Foreign Minister of the Maldives visited Japan in June and December of the same year, soon after the inauguration of the new administration of the government. The two ministers held a Foreign Ministers Meeting and agreed on cooperating toward the realization of a free and open Indo-Pacific. Under this policy, in 2018, they exchanged notes on the grant aid of 300 million yen respectively for the provision of medical equipment to improve the quality of health and medical services as well as access to such services, and for the provision of equipment to tackle oil pollution in order to build capacity for dealing with oil spills at sea.

Pakistan plays a vital role in the international community's



Students attending a hairdressing course at the job training center that was constructed in Karachi, in Sindh province located in the southern part of Pakistan, through Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (Photo: Teruyo Mokubi, Grass-Roots Project Coordinator/Consulate General of Japan in Karachi)

initiatives to eradicate terrorism. Japan has thus far provided support for improving the security capabilities of airports and ports, as well as support for the displaced persons due to military operations to eliminate terrorists. Japan is also implementing support to strengthen border control capacity with respect to illegal drug trafficking and international organized crime, and support to provide equipment and products in the fields of peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance, and counter-terrorism. Furthermore, Japan also provides support in the field of healthcare, such as the procurement of vaccines needed to prevent the spread of polio (see page 49, "Project Introduction" for details).

With regard to Nepal, which has traditionally been a friendly country with Japan, the relationship between Japan and Nepal was further strengthened and advanced through the visit to Japan by Foreign Minister Gyawali in 2018, and visit to Nepal by Foreign Minister Kono in January 2019. In the aftermath of the major earthquake that struck Nepal in 2015, Japan dispatched Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Teams, and provided emergency relief goods, along with the implementation of Emergency Grant Aid amounting to \$14 million (¥1.68 billion) through eight international organizations including the International Organization for Migration (IOM), which improved the living conditions of 13,592 evacuated households through the provision of shelter and commodities. Moreover, applying the "Build Back Better" concept formulated at the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai to Nepal's medium to long-term reconstruction process, Japan is implementing an assistance package at a scale totaling \$260 million (over approximately ¥32 billion) toward rebuilding a resilient Nepal, focusing on rebuilding houses (approximately 40,000 homes), schools (approximately 280 schools), and public infrastructure. Japan is also providing a range of technical support to reduce the damage from earthquake disasters.

In addition, in view that Nepal is putting effort into consolidating and developing its democracy through the new Constitution, Japan is providing support to improve the governance capacity of the central and local governments, as well as to reflect the needs of residents including the socially vulnerable in government policies. Japan has provided funds in support of the "School Sector Development Plan," which is an education development plan established by the Government of Nepal to narrow gaps in children's academic abilities and access to education among regions and ethnic groups. Japan has also provided support for the "Human Resource Development Scholarship Project" by covering the tuition and other costs required for young government officials from Nepal to obtain degrees in Japanese graduate schools.

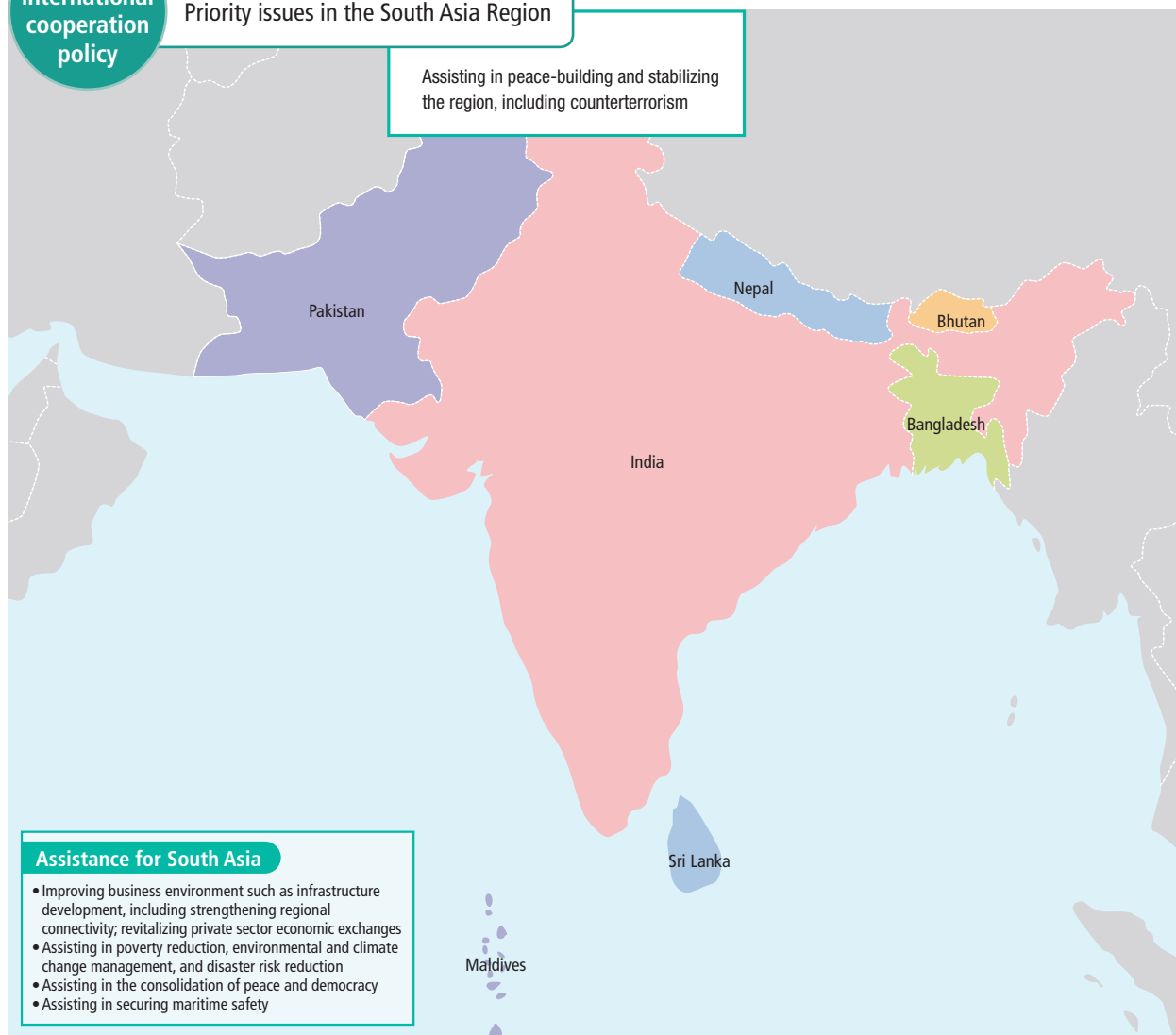
Furthermore, Japan has been building good relations with Bhutan since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1986, and celebrated the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 2016. The relationship between the two countries has been deepening in recent

years, with the convention of the Summit Meeting in April 2018 and the Foreign Ministers Meeting in June 2018. Japan's economic cooperation toward Bhutan serves as the foundation for friendly relations between the two countries. As such, Japan has been providing support mainly through technical cooperation and grant aid, while respecting Bhutan's national development plan that focuses on the country's fundamental philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH). Japan's support has been steadily bearing fruit in fields including the improvement of agricultural productivity, the development of economic

infrastructure such as road networks and bridges, as well as human resources development. In June 2018, Japan and Bhutan signed an Exchange of Notes on the "Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship," which is a grant aid project that covers the tuition and other costs required for young government officials from Bhutan to obtain masters or doctoral degrees. This assistance not only contributes to the development of Bhutan, but also to the nurturing of human resources for strengthening good relations between Japan and Bhutan.

Priority issues in the South Asia Region

Assisting in peace-building and stabilizing the region, including counterterrorism



Assistance for South Asia

- Improving business environment such as infrastructure development, including strengthening regional connectivity; revitalizing private sector economic exchanges
- Assisting in poverty reduction, environmental and climate change management, and disaster risk reduction
- Assisting in the consolidation of peace and democracy
- Assisting in securing maritime safety

Chart III-3

Japan's Assistance in the South Asia Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Calendar year: 2017										(Unit: US\$ million)
Rank	Country or region	Grants			Total	Loan aid			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation		Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions							
1	India	1.35	—	162.76	164.11	2,212.00	821.48	1,390.52	1,554.63	2,376.10
2	Bangladesh	40.32	6.45	44.67	84.99	1,336.66	108.99	1,227.67	1,312.66	1,421.65
3	Sri Lanka	26.28	1.20	25.93	52.21	171.80	192.44	-20.64	31.58	224.02
4	Pakistan	71.47	17.82	21.01	92.49	75.79	241.63	-165.84	-73.36	168.28
5	Nepal	28.25	—	29.96	58.21	47.70	8.51	39.20	97.41	105.91
6	Bhutan	16.43	—	11.95	28.37	0.11	0.95	-0.83	27.54	28.49
7	Maldives	3.14	0.46	2.41	5.55	—	1.07	-1.07	4.47	5.55
	Multiple countries in South Asia	1.34	1.34	0.67	2.01	—	—	—	2.01	2.01
South Asia region total		188.59	27.27	299.35	487.94	3,844.07	1,375.07	2,469.00	2,956.94	4,332.00

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.

- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.
- Figures under "Multiple countries in South Asia" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Afghanistan, as well as for multiple countries including Myanmar.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.

Improving Water-Related Issues in Sri Lanka with Japanese Technology

Introduction of Space Saving, Low-Cost “PC Tanks” and Safe “Air Dome Engineering”

In Sri Lanka, one of the major challenges is the stable supply of good-quality water to many citizens as the water supply coverage ratio is stuck at less than 50%. However, even in regions where the water supply is available, people's daily lives remain inconvenient since a lack of water tanks makes it difficult to provide an adequate amount of water stably, and causes frequent “time-restricted water supply,” where water is only supplied at certain times of the day. Thus, there has been a great demand for the construction of additional water tank facilities, in order to ensure stable water supply. Given this situation, as the staff of Sri Lanka's National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) were trying to find a solution to this problem, they became interested in the water supply tank technology called “PC Tanks” made by ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd., the headquarters of which is in Gifu Prefecture.

PC is an abbreviation of “Pre-stressed Concrete (concrete that is compressed in advance).” This concrete has the combined qualities of thinness, strength and durability. PC Tanks not only can prevent cracks in the tanks, but also can be built with large capacities even on limited land. Like Japan, Sri Lanka's land area is so tight that the country must construct large-capacity tanks on restricted areas. Since PC Tanks can be constructed with high water level even on narrow spaces of land, they are perfectly suited to the country. As such, it was decided that ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd. would carry out an investigation, starting in September 2013, to determine the usefulness of PC Tanks in Sri Lanka, as a feasibility study funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd. is also constantly improving its PC Tanks, and has other unique technologies, such as “Air Dome Engineering.” With this technology, tanks can be built safely in a short construction period using a certain method where a vinyl chloride film is used to cover the entire upper part of the cylindrical tank, and air pressure is applied from the inside in order to form a dome-shaped temporary roof.

When ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd. explained the superiority of this technology to NWSDB executives, they strongly expressed their hopes to construct the PC Tanks in Sri Lanka. Hence, in December 2014, it was decided that the company would construct a PC Tank via Air Dome Engineering, with a storage capacity of 2,000m³ and water level of 10m, two times higher than the level of a regular water supply tank, in the town of Beruwala in the southwest of Sri Lanka, as a pilot project, under JICA's Verification Survey with Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technologies.

However, despite many advantages, most of the Sri Lankan people in charge of design and planning at the time believed that it was not necessary to make efforts to introduce new technology from Japan since there had been no problem with the British technology that the country had been using until then. As such, ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd. faced difficulties in getting the Sri Lankan side to understand their technology.



Japanese and Sri Lankan engineers checking the mounting of the Air Dome over the top of a PC Tank (Photo: ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd.)



PC Tank constructed by ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd. in Beruwala, in the southwest of Sri Lanka (Photo: ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd.)

“For this reason, we invited NWSDB engineers from Sri Lanka to Japan and explained the designing method while letting them see the PC Tanks with their own eyes, and by doing so, we succeeded in making them recognize the excellence of the technology. Moreover, after the NWSDB engineers returned to their country, they promoted the brilliance of ABE NIKKO KOGYO's PC Tanks clearly and precisely to the people who were thinking it was unnecessary to construct water tanks using new technology. I believe such actions taken by the NWSDB engineers also played a big part in the introduction of the product.” says Mr. Shigemasa Katada, Manager of the Container Engineering Department that promoted the project, recalling the situation at that time.

ABE NIKKO KOGYO Co., Ltd. commenced the construction of the PC Tank in 2015. While the company's engineers demonstrated the improvements from the conventional technology, one by one, to the NWSDB engineers, and accurately explained the advantages of the Japanese construction method, thereby they deepened mutual understandings and made progress on the construction.

“Nevertheless, most of the NWSDB engineers still could not understand the brilliance of PC Tanks without actually seeing the completed product. However, after viewing the finished PC Tank in 2016, they finally adequately understood our technology and its advantages.” tells Mr. Hirokazu Degawa, Manager of the Overseas Operations Department.

After that, the pipework was completed by NWSDB in March 2018. Finally, the entire water station was completed, and it started operation in May of the same year, which allowed water to be stably delivered to 14,650 new households. If we set the average number of people in a household as five based on the current situation in Sri Lanka, it means that over 70,000 people have benefitted from the constructed PC Tanks. This achievement has been highly praised by the Sri Lankan side, and the plans are now underway for the construction of further six PC Tanks.

Mr. Hiroshi Nishio, vice-president of the company mentions, “Experience is very important when conducting projects overseas. Our company has gained a lot of truly valuable experience here in Sri Lanka, which has given us a great deal of confidence. Thanks to this experience, in June 2018, we were able to receive an order for construction of the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) system in Dhaka, Bangladesh, together with another Japanese company and a local company.”

Mr. Nishio hopes that in the future, they can proactively expand their business into other regions that have numerous demands for infrastructure that can be built using PC tanks, mainly in developing countries, by utilizing the experience accumulated in Sri Lanka.

3 Oceania

The Pacific islands countries are not only Japan's "neighbors" that are bound by the Pacific Ocean, but also have deep historical ties with Japan. Having an enormous Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), these countries are the cornerstone of Japan's maritime transport, and provide important pelagic fishing grounds. Therefore, the stability and prosperity of the Pacific island countries are important to Japan.

Meanwhile, many of the Pacific island countries are relatively new independent states that face the urgent task of becoming economically independent. In addition, they have common problems that are specific to small island countries, such as small economies dependent on primary industries, territories being geographically stretched across the sea, difficulty in access to the international market, and vulnerability to natural hazards. Based on this situation, Japan provides assistance for supporting their self-reliant and sustainable development, as a good partner with the Pacific island countries.

■ Japan's Efforts

In order to achieve political stability and self-reliant economic development in the Pacific island countries, it is crucial to overcome socio-economic vulnerabilities and to provide assistance for the entire region. In addition to promoting cooperation with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)⁶, a framework for regional cooperation composed of the Pacific island countries, Japan has been hosting the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM), a summit meeting between Japan and the Pacific island countries every three years since 1997. Furthermore, the Ministerial Interim Meeting has been held every three years since 2010 midway between the PALMs.

In May 2018, the Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM8) was held in Iwaki City, Fukushima



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Norikazu Suzuki meeting with President Remengesau in Palau in December 2018



A compact excavator, procured through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project, being used to excavate soil for the installation of water pipes by the roadside in Majuro, the capital of the Marshall Islands (Photo: Chizuru Seki)

Prefecture. At the Meeting, based on the three pillars of I. Sustainable Ocean Based on the Rule of Law, II. Strengthening the Basis for Resilient and Sustainable Development, and III. Connecting Pacific Citizens, and taking into account the achievements to date, Japan announced the steady implementation of development assistance as before, as well as cooperation and support policies with a focus on further strengthening human resource development and people-to-people exchanges (5,000 people in three years), which serve as the foundation for growth and prosperity.

Based on this assistance package announced at PALM8, Japan is implementing bilateral cooperation, including the development of basic infrastructure such as ports and airports, along with technical cooperation spread across several countries. For the first pillar of PALM8, "Sustainable Ocean Based on the Rule of Law," Japan conducted training on the deterrence of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing for officials in charge from the Pacific Islands (See page 85, "Project Introduction" for details). As for the second pillar of "Strengthening the Basis for Resilient and Sustainable Development," Japan is promoting the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction by providing comprehensive assistance to build disaster-resilient societies in the Pacific island countries. Such assistance includes the training of meteorological agency personnel of each country and developing appropriate evacuation systems for the residents, drawing on Japan's expertise and experience. Japan is also engaged in efforts to strengthen human resources and systems related to the waste management of Pacific island countries.

Furthermore, to support the Pacific island countries in addressing issues related to climate change, Japan collaborates with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), a regional

⁶ PIF member countries and regions: Australia, Kiribati, Cook, Samoa, Solomon, Tuvalu, Tonga, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Fiji, Marshall, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, and New Caledonia



12 Pacific Island Countries*¹

Policies and Countermeasures against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Country-focused Training (November– December 2018)



Trainees listening to the explanation of IUU fishing countermeasures by an official of the Japan Coast Guard (Photo: JICA)

In Oceania, which has an extensive exclusive economic zone (EEZ), abundant marine resources support the livelihoods of local people. In recent years, however, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing has caused severe problems, including threats to the sustainability of limited marine resources, and economic losses. For example, some reports that IUU fishing of tuna reaches the scale of approximately 70 billion yen annually in Oceania.*²

From November to December 2018, Japan held a country-focused training titled “Policies and Countermeasures against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing,” for the 12 Pacific Island Countries (Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Samoa, Solomon, Marshall, Micronesia, Palau, Kiribati, Tuvalu and Nauru), as a supporting measure regarding IUU fishing in Oceania. Twelve individuals responsible for IUU fishing countermeasures from those 12 countries participated in the training. They gained a deeper understanding of the importance of cooperation between the relevant

ministries and agencies, and IUU fishing countermeasures in Japan, such as the treatment of cases of fishing-related law violation, through lectures by the Fisheries Agency and the Japan Coast Guard, as well as on-site observation. This also facilitated closer cooperation between the ministries and agencies of Japan and the Oceanian countries.

In addition, experts in IUU countermeasures from the U.S., which promote the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific,” together with Japan, came to Japan to give lectures. After their training, the trainees stated that they hope to apply what they learned in Japan, to strengthen IUU countermeasures back home.

Japan will continue to provide support in strengthening IUU fishing countermeasures in Oceania.



Trainees listening to the explanation about a Japan Coast Guard patrol vessel (Photo: JICA)

*1 Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Samoa, Solomon, Marshall, Micronesia, Palau, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Nauru

*2 According to a report by the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA).

international organization based in Samoa, to develop human resources in the area of countermeasures against climate change in each country. With regard to the third pillar of “Connecting Pacific Citizens,” Japan provides support for master’s education programs in Japanese

graduate schools, as well as internship programs in Japanese ministries and agencies, for young government officials who will shoulder the future of the Pacific island countries.

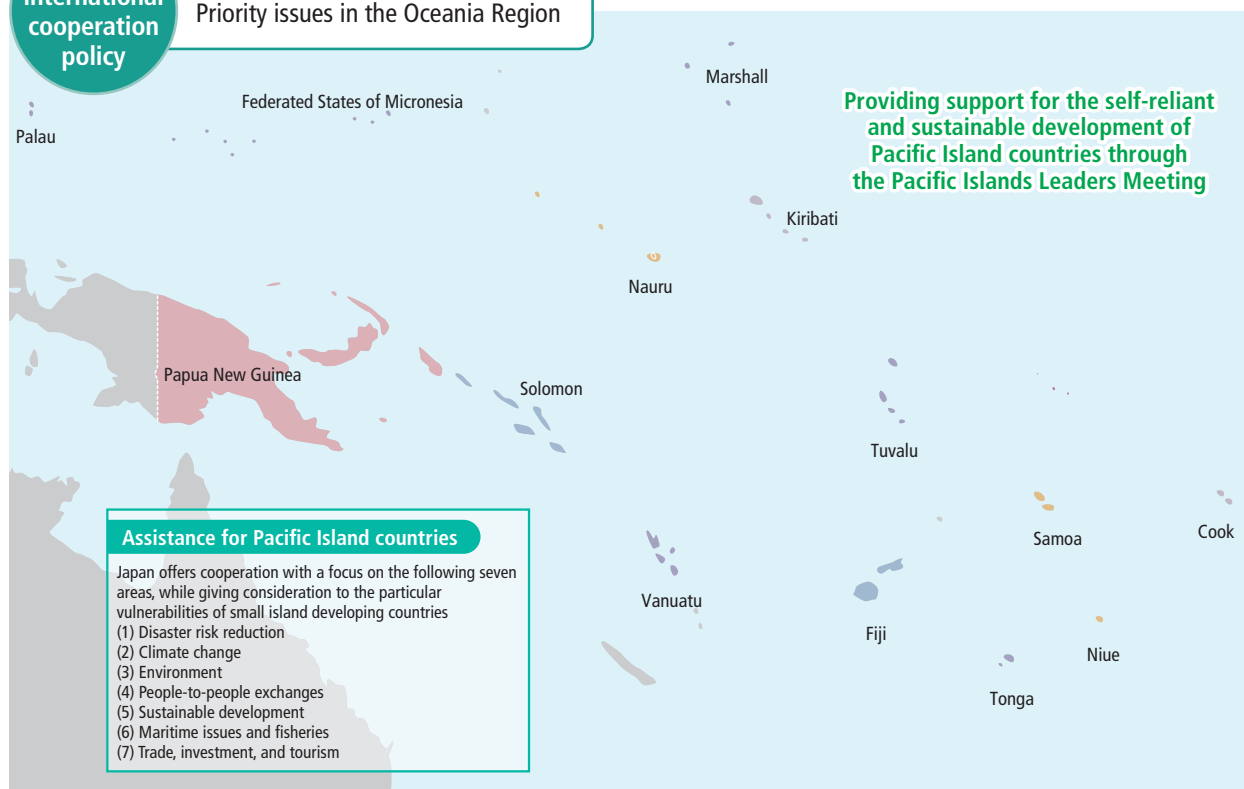


Chart III-4

Japan's Assistance in the Oceania Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Calendar year 2017										
Rank	Country or region	Grants				Loan aid			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions							
1	Papua New Guinea	2.16	—	12.04	14.20	23.17	16.18	6.99	21.19	37.37
2	Vanuatu	0.77	—	3.99	4.76	25.20	—	25.20	29.97	29.97
3	Samoa	17.01	—	5.31	22.32	7.16	0.89	6.27	28.59	29.48
4	Tonga	19.44	—	3.48	22.92	—	—	—	22.92	22.92
5	Fiji	12.86	0.01	6.70	19.56	—	1.08	-1.08	18.48	19.56
6	Palau	8.32	—	4.66	12.97	—	—	—	12.97	12.97
7	Solomon	7.88	—	4.81	12.69	—	—	—	12.69	12.69
8	Kiribati	5.73	—	1.14	6.87	—	—	—	6.87	6.87
9	Federated States of Micronesia	2.77	—	2.38	5.15	—	—	—	5.15	5.15
10	Marshall	0.78	—	3.92	4.69	—	—	—	4.69	4.69
11	Tuvalu	0.34	—	1.16	1.50	—	—	—	1.50	1.50
12	Cook	0.42	—	0.09	0.51	—	—	—	0.51	0.51
13	Nauru	0.31	—	0.13	0.44	—	—	—	0.44	0.44
14	Niue	—	—	0.10	0.10	—	—	—	0.10	0.10
15	[Tokelau]	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00
	Multiple countries in Oceania	0.80	0.57	2.51	3.31	133.71	72.48	61.23	64.54	137.02
	Oceania region total	79.58	0.58	52.42	132.00	189.24	90.63	98.61	230.61	321.24

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.

- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.
- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.
- Square brackets [] denote region names.

4 Latin America and the Caribbean

The Latin American and Caribbean region boasts an enormous market with a population of 640 million and a regional GDP of approximately \$6 trillion as of 2017 and is also a region of strategic importance for trade. This region has also consistently enhanced its presence in the international community through rooted democracy and as a supplier of iron ore, copper, silver, rare metals, crude oil, natural gas, biofuels, and other minerals and energy resources, as well as food resources. Besides, this region has a traditionally strong personal and historical bond with Japan thanks to the community of Japanese immigrants and descendants (the Nikkei community) numbering more than 2 million and thus Japan has maintained stable and friendly relations with this region for a long period.

Although the average income level in the region is relatively high among ODA recipient countries, the region is characterized by significant income disparities between the rich and the poor, as well as a large number of people who suffer from poverty. In addition, while it is a region with a rich natural environment such as the tropical rainforests of the Amazon, it is also vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquakes and hurricanes. Therefore, it is also important to make efforts to address environmental issues, climate change and disaster risk reduction.

■ Japan's Efforts

● Efforts Toward Disaster Risk Reduction and Environmental Issues

The Latin American and Caribbean region is prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, and volcanic eruptions. Therefore, Japan's assistance for this region, utilizing Japan's knowledge and experience in the field of disaster risk reduction, is of great importance. Japan has provided a cumulative total of more than \$310 million for reconstruction support to Haiti, which suffered catastrophic damage from the huge earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 that occurred in 2010, as well as assistance that utilizes Japan's expertise in the disaster risk reduction field to Caribbean countries, and countries facing the Pacific Ocean including Mexico, Peru, and Chile, where earthquakes frequently strike. Japan has also provided emergency relief goods to Caribbean countries including Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, and Cuba, which had suffered damage from repeated hurricanes.

As for Brazil, after the largest and most severe landslide disaster in the history of the country occurred in 2011, Japan implemented a comprehensive disaster risk reduction cooperation project from 2013 to 2017 with the aim of mitigating landslide risk. In the project, it offered cooperation on strengthening comprehensive disaster response capability, including identifying disaster risks,

city expansion planning based on these risks, monitoring, and transmission of information. These project activities raised Brazil's interest in Japan's advanced disaster risk reduction technology, and as a result, the relevant personnel visited Japan in 2018 to learn the technology of erosion control dam banks. Rainfall radars were also introduced in the State of Paraná in Brazil. In the Latin America and Caribbean region, where population concentration in urban areas is growing at an accelerated pace, the disaster risk reduction technology of Japanese corporations is expected to become wide-spread (For details on the provision of earthquake simulation vehicles from Japan in Peru, refer to "Master Techniques from Japan to the World" on page 64).



Event marking the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Mitch, held in November 2018 as a part of the BOSAI project (Photo: JICA)

Furthermore, the Project on Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Management in Central America named "BOSAI," which aims to share knowledge on disaster risk reduction and reduce disaster risks at the local community level, has achieved significant results in the region.

As for the Caribbean countries, Japan provides support from perspectives other than those based on per capita income, as the aim is to overcome the unique vulnerabilities of small, developing island countries against climate change and natural disasters. At the same time, in addition to developing disaster-resilient bridges and emergency communications systems, and supplying equipment that contributes to strengthening the ability to cope with disasters, Japan also provides technical cooperation and support for climate change measures in a wide area of eight Caribbean countries.

Moreover, Japan has been providing cooperation on a wide range of environmental issues in the region, including assistance for scientific and technological research on climate phenomena, conservation of biodiversity, broad-range evaluation of carbon dynamics⁷ in the Amazonian

⁷ Changes in the amount of carbon in a given period

forests, and construction of waste disposal facilities. In the area of renewable energy, which has been receiving wider attention in recent years, Japan provides support for introducing solar power generation in many countries, as well as for constructing geothermal power plants in Costa Rica, Bolivia, and elsewhere. Japan has also decided to provide an ODA loan to Jamaica to promote the introduction of energy-saving measures. Also, for the Caribbean countries, Japan contributes to promoting the sustainable use of limited marine resources by developing facilities and dispatching experts in the fisheries field.

● Infrastructure Development

Latin America and the Caribbean have also been drawing attention in recent years as a production base and market for industries, attracting many Japanese corporations into the region. From the perspective of developing a foundation for the economic development of Latin American and Caribbean countries, Japan is also actively engaged in developing infrastructure in the capital region and the countryside. In 2018, Japan made the decision to provide grant aid to Bolivia for the improvement of logistics and



Yamaranguila in Intibucá Department, located in the western part of Honduras, where electrification has been completed through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project. By building utility poles, residents are now able to use electricity. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Honduras)

development of its domestic economy.

In addition, Japan has also worked on spreading Japan's terrestrial digital broadcasting system (ISDB-T format) through public-private collaboration, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean. As of December 2018, 14 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Japanese system. Toward these countries, Japan provides support for technology transfer to enable the smooth introduction of the system, as well as carries out human resources development.

● Initiatives in the Areas of Medical Care and Sanitation, Education, and Others

Japan also provides various kinds of cooperation for Latin American and Caribbean countries in the fields of medical care and sanitation. In the Central American region, Japan provides cooperation for the improvement of pre-hospital medical consultation systems and the dissemination of medical technology, as well as technical support to tackle challenges in maternal and child health, including the reduction of the maternal and infant mortality rate. For example, Japan implemented initiatives in Mexico to introduce artificial respirators to save lives and treat infants with low birth weight, that have weak lungs and airways that can be easily-damaged. Japan also delivered 31 units of medical equipment to Mexico. These efforts are expected to contribute to improving breathing disorders in newborn babies, as well as reducing the fatality rate of newborn babies in Mexico. In the area of sanitation, Japan has conducted numerous projects to assist in the development of water and sewer systems in order to ensure the supply of safe drinking water and the recycling of domestic water. With regard to Paraguay, an Exchange of Notes was signed in 2018 for the provision of grant aid to enhance health and medical services through the supply of medical equipment.

Furthermore, “Nikkei” societies have developed in



Bolivia

International Course on Diagnosis and Treatment of Gastrointestinal Diseases, Phase 2

Technical Cooperation (Third Country Training) (October 2015 – October 2018)

Among the countries of Central and South America, the modernization of diet has resulted in increasing numbers of patients with stomach and large bowel cancer, and other gastrointestinal diseases, and Bolivia is no exception.

Japan has supported Bolivia for over 40 years in the improvement of medical services, such as the diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal diseases. The “Bolivian-Japanese Institute of Gastroenterology,” which was constructed in the capital, La Paz, through a Grant Aid in 1979 is one out of several centers for support and cooperation in the health and medical sector by Japan. It was selected in 2001 as the best hospital in the country, and was recognized in 2005 as the first World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) training center in Central and South America. Since 2005, more than 500 medical professionals from 18 countries in the region have attended the training.

At the 14th International Training Course in 2018 (April 11–18), 16 foreign lecturers from countries including the U.S., Spain and Japan participated, and doctors from Teikyo University and Kyushu University served as lecturers from Japan. Japanese companies, namely Olympus Corporation, FUJIFILM Corporation, PENTAX and EIKEN CHEMICAL CO., LTD. also collaborated, enabling the realization of training with cooperation

between universities and private-sector enterprises.

WGO La Paz Training Center Director, Dr. Guido Villa-Gomez, who once worked as IGBJ Director, told of how, “instruction in practical skills by Japanese experts, and training in Japan, have had a great influence on how we approach our work, such as a patient-focused attitude, and strict observance of time. Our Center has inherited the Japanese philosophy.”



Practical skills instruction by Dr. Shinya Odajima of Teikyo University (Photo: JICA)



Primary school students learning in a school building constructed through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project in Callao, located in central Peru. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Peru)

various countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and Japan has continued its efforts such as providing support for the welfare facilities of the “Nikkei” communities, accepting trainees, and dispatching “Nikkei” volunteers.

Moreover, assistance in the field of education is extremely important for Latin American and Caribbean countries, due to the existence of poverty and the insufficient educational budget. Japan has provided support for building basic educational facilities including the Project for Construction of Basic Schools in Centre and Artibonite Departments in Haiti, as well as implemented technical cooperation projects and dispatched volunteers to improve the capacity of teachers. Such efforts are highly appreciated by the local communities.

In addition, with regard to Colombia, where a domestic

conflict has been ongoing for more than half a century, Japan has provided support for peacebuilding, including removing landmines and assisting victims. While taking into account the progress of the peace process, Japan decided in June 2017 to provide a grant aid to supply equipment for the disposal of landmines.

● South-South Cooperation and Cooperation with Regional Organizations

Thanks to Japan's continuous efforts at development cooperation over many years toward Brazil, Mexico, Chile, and Argentina, these four countries have come to obtain the capacity to assist other countries, and achieved results in **South-South cooperation**.^{*} Furthermore, Japan has signed partnership programs with these countries, and for example, Japan is collaborating with Argentina to provide assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Latin America, as well as in Africa. In Chile, Japan is conducting human resources development programs through triangular cooperation, in the field of disaster risk reduction, and has achieved the target number of 4,000 people.

Furthermore, Japan has also cooperating with the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and other regional organizations to formulate projects that cover a wide region, in order to achieve a more effective and efficient development cooperation related to development issues that are shared throughout the Latin American and Caribbean region.



Glossary

*South-South cooperation (Triangular cooperation)

South-South cooperation refers to cooperation provided by relatively advanced developing countries to other developing countries, utilizing their experiences in development and their own human resources. In many cases, the cooperation, primarily technical cooperation, is conducted in countries that have similar natural environments and cultural and economic circumstances, and/or facing similar development processes. Support by donors or international organizations for such cooperation between developing countries is referred to as “triangular cooperation.”



Brazil

Senior Volunteers for Nikkei Communities [Nursing-Care for the Elderly] (June 30, 2015 – June 29, 2018)

Ms. Junko Yonaha, born in Okinawa prefecture, traveled to Brazil due to family circumstances in 1980, after working in a financial institution and other jobs. She was deeply moved by the amount of trust of the local people toward Japan, stating, “behind this trust lies the accumulation of sweat and toil that pioneers of Japanese-Brazilians, who are said to number 1.9 million across Brazil, expended for their local communities.”

After returning to Japan, Ms. Yonaha studied various techniques as a care worker. She then went back to Brazil and started to work as a Senior Volunteer for Nikkei Communities, in Santos Care Home, a nursing-care facility for the elderly, primarily those of Japanese descent, in the city of Santos, located 60 kilometers southeast of São Paulo. The majority of the residents are people over 90 years of age, who built the foundations of the Japanese community, and she supports them in leading tranquil lifestyles.

Ms. Yonaha focuses on care prevention in particular, believing that “although our physical strength declines as we age, and assistance becomes necessary, I feel that people should at least be able to eat meals by themselves. To that end, it is important to enjoy tasks that make use of our fingers, and to chat in the intervals between work.”

Ms. Yonaha carries out enjoyable activities, which can be done

while chatting, with the residents, such as creating traditional Brazilian patchwork “fuxiko” cushions, using 20 meters of “bingata” patterned cloth, a traditional dyed textile of Okinawa that she has brought with her.



Santos Care Home residents creating cushions (Ms. Yonaha is at the back) (Photo: JICA)

Priority issues in the Latin American and Caribbean Region

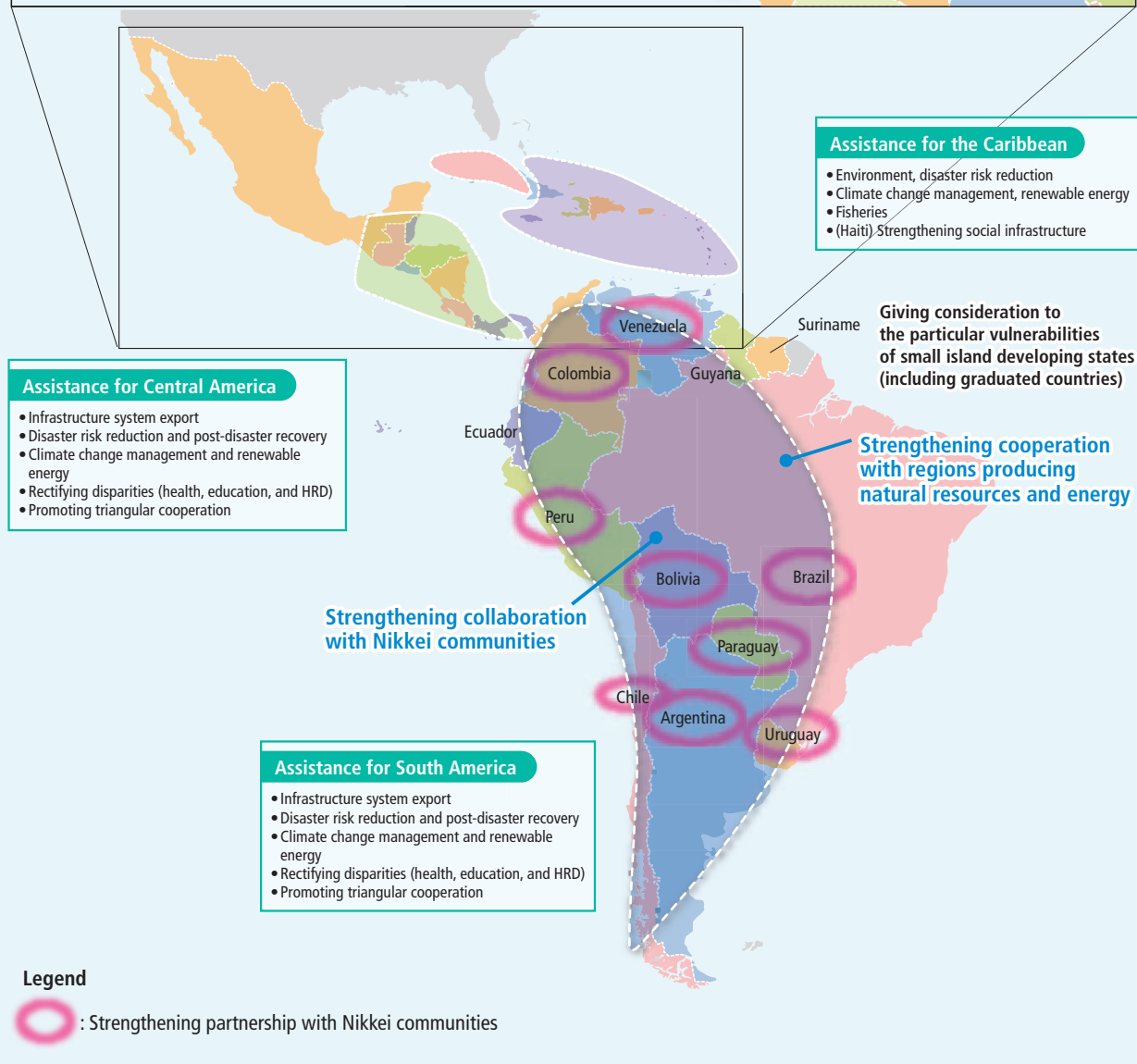
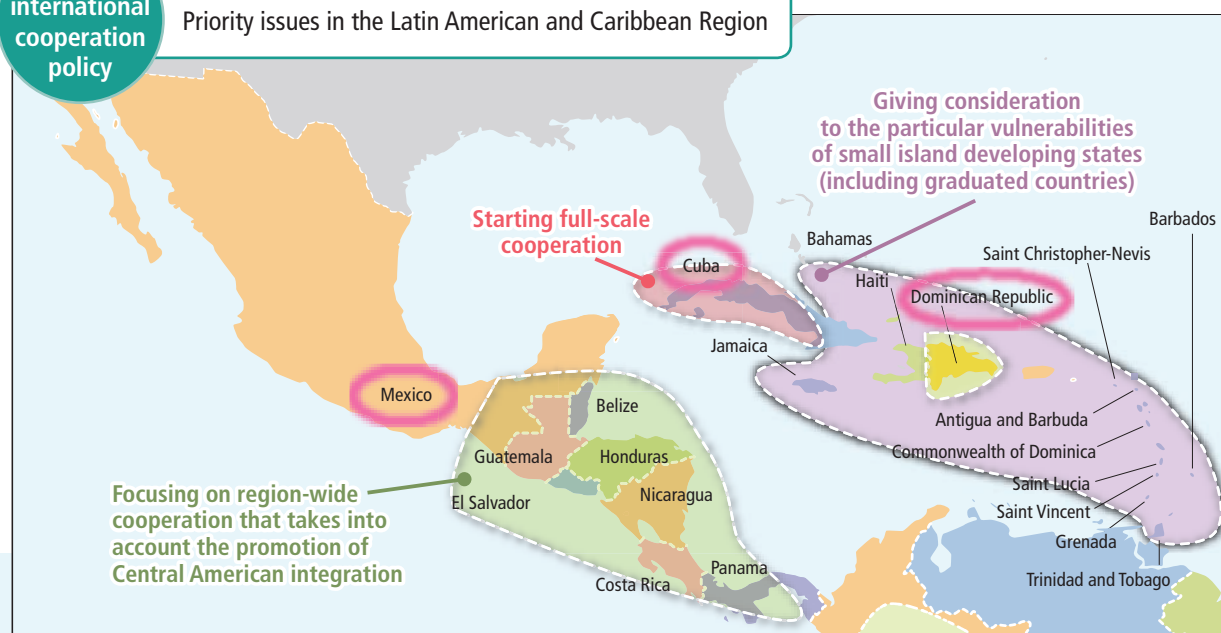


Chart III-5

Japan's Assistance in the Latin America and Caribbean Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Country or region	Grants				Loan aid			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions							
1	Costa Rica	0.35	—	4.37	4.72	51.02	16.77	34.25	38.97	55.74
2	Brazil	1.15	—	19.35	20.50	27.62	86.30	-58.68	-38.19	48.12
3	Peru	1.60	—	8.55	10.14	27.09	500.66	-473.57	-463.43	37.23
4	Cuba	32.34 (13.24)	0.13 (0.13)	3.37 (3.37)	35.72 (16.62)	—	—	—	35.72 (16.62)	35.72 (16.62)
5	Paraguay	4.06	—	9.29	13.35	9.93	34.65	-24.71	-11.36	23.29
6	Colombia	11.20	—	6.88	18.07	—	—	—	18.07	18.07
7	Haiti	11.70	2.63	3.68	15.38	—	—	—	15.38	15.38
8	Nicaragua	0.96	—	11.00	11.96	3.36	—	3.36	15.31	15.31
9	Mexico	0.17	—	11.90	12.07	—	3.25	-3.25	8.82	12.07
10	Ecuador	6.81	—	4.96	11.78	—	8.86	-8.86	2.91	11.78
11	Bolivia	1.61	0.17	8.92	10.53	0.22	—	0.22	10.75	10.75
12	Honduras	1.81	—	6.90	8.71	0.77	—	0.77	9.48	9.48
13	El Salvador	0.45	—	6.40	6.86	2.33	16.16	-13.83	-6.97	9.18
14	Guatemala	0.52	0.09	6.45	6.97	0.95	10.19	-9.23	-2.27	7.92
15	Argentina	0.82	—	6.24	7.05	—	10.26	-10.26	-3.21	7.05
16	Dominican Republic	0.60	—	6.22	6.82	—	5.98	-5.98	0.84	6.82
17	Panama	0.52	—	5.93	6.45	—	12.45	-12.45	-6.00	6.45
18	Jamaica	1.28	—	4.50	5.78	—	9.94	-9.94	-4.16	5.78
19	Saint Lucia	1.96	—	2.24	4.19	—	—	—	4.19	4.19
20	Chile	0.43	—	3.26	3.69	—	0.90	-0.90	2.79	3.69
21	Saint Vincent	1.78	—	0.45	2.23	—	—	—	2.23	2.23
22	Antigua and Barbuda	1.78	—	0.43	2.22	—	—	—	2.22	2.22
23	Uruguay	0.58	—	1.29	1.87	—	—	—	1.87	1.87
24	Belize	0.28	—	1.25	1.53	—	—	—	1.53	1.53
25	Guyana	—	—	1.13	1.13	—	—	—	1.13	1.13
26	Venezuela	0.10	—	0.82	0.92	—	—	—	0.92	0.92
27	Grenada	0.09	—	0.12	0.21	—	—	—	0.21	0.21
28	Dominica	—	—	0.16	0.16	—	—	—	0.16	0.16
29	Suriname	—	—	0.11	0.11	—	—	—	0.11	0.11
	Multiple countries in Latin America and the Caribbean			9.82	9.82	4.97		4.97	14.79	14.79
	Latin America and the Caribbean region total	88.03 (68.93)	3.02 (3.02)	156.17 (156.17)	244.20 (225.10)	128.26 (128.26)	716.37 (716.37)	-588.11 (-588.11)	-343.91 (-363.01)	372.45 (353.35)

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.

- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.
- Figures in brackets () indicate amounts excluding debt relief.

III

4

Part III

Assistance for Each Region

4

Latin America and the Caribbean

5 Europe

Many countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the European regions of the former Soviet Union that had previously been under communist regimes have subsequently achieved democratization and liberalization. They are currently pursuing economic development based on market economies under democratic regimes. Japan provides assistance for these regions toward efforts such as the transition to market economies, reconstruction of economic infrastructure, and addressing environmental issues, with the aim to further promote stability and development in these regions and in Europe as a whole, as well as to further strengthen relationships based on shared fundamental values (such as human rights, democracy, market economy, and the rule of law).

■ Japan's Efforts

The reforms of the Western Balkan countries ⁸ had once slowed due to the outbreak of conflicts in the 1990s. However, as a result of assistance from donor countries and international organizations, as well as reform efforts by the countries themselves, the Western Balkan countries have graduated from the stage of needing aid for reconstruction, and are currently at the stage in which they require assistance for sustainable economic development. Japan has provided development cooperation based on the three main pillars of “consolidation of peace,” “economic development,” and “regional cooperation” as its priority areas, which were confirmed at the Ministerial Conference on Peace Consolidation and Economic Development of the Western Balkans jointly held by Japan and the EU in 2004. In 2018, Prime Minister Abe announced the “Western Balkans Cooperation Initiative” aimed at promoting cooperation with the Western Balkan countries and realizing their socio-economic reforms. Japan continues to provide assistance especially for the “promotion of sustainable economic growth” as its priority policy in the Western Balkan countries.

Ukraine and Moldova, part of the former Soviet Union, are geopolitically important since they are located between Russia and the EU. The stability and sustainable development of these countries are indispensable for the stability of Europe as a whole. It is necessary to continue

assistance for their efforts to consolidate democracy and establish market economies. In response to the worsened situation in Ukraine since 2014, Japan announced the provision of assistance amounting to approximately \$1.86 billion, which is one of the largest scales on an individual country basis, and has been providing support for the Ukrainian domestic reforms in a wide range of areas such as health and medical care, recovery of democracy, finance, and basic economic infrastructure. At the same time, for Eastern Ukraine where the situation has worsened, Japan is steadily implementing assistance such as improving water and hygiene conditions for refugees and others, providing shelters, repairing social care institutions for the most vulnerable groups such as children, women, the disabled, and the elderly, removing landmines, and repairing housing. Japan is also providing support for democratization including assistance for administrative and financial reforms, anti-corruption measures, and the media through technical cooperation, in addition to the financial cooperation.



Local medical staff using an ambulance supplied to Ohrid General Hospital by Japan to improve the medical care environment in the Ohrid municipality, in the southwestern part of North Macedonia. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in North Macedonia)

In light of disparities in economic development in Europe, Japan will gradually reduce assistance to EU member countries, deeming them as having graduated from ODA beneficiaries, and encourage them to become donors in order to more actively provide development cooperation for developing countries in Europe.

⁸ The Western Balkan countries: Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro

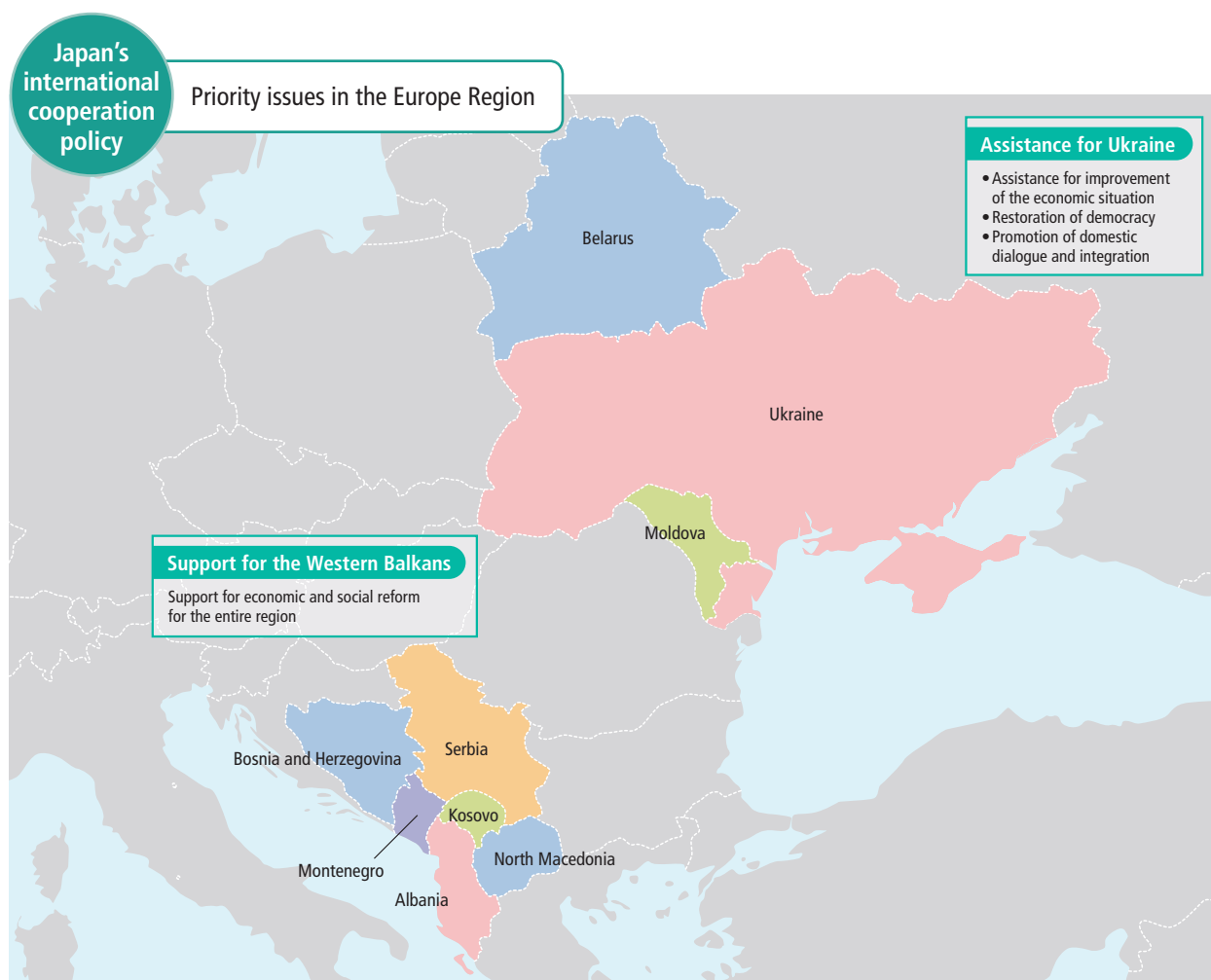


Chart III-6

Japan's Assistance in the Europe Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Calendar year: 2017										
Rank	Country or region	Grants				Loan aid			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions							
1	Serbia	0.62	—	3.45	4.07	30.86	1.00	29.87	33.94	34.93
2	Albania	—	—	3.75	3.75	15.32	3.03	12.30	16.04	19.07
3	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.31	0.44	0.95	2.26	15.34	1.20	14.14	16.40	17.60
4	Ukraine	2.43	1.52	8.31	10.75	—	8.30	-8.30	2.44	10.75
5	Moldova	4.93	—	0.59	5.53	—	—	—	5.53	5.53
6	Kosovo	0.39	—	2.69	3.08	—	—	—	3.08	3.08
7	North Macedonia	0.45	—	0.36	0.81	—	4.67	-4.67	-3.85	0.81
8	Belarus	0.17	—	0.07	0.23	—	—	—	0.23	0.23
9	Montenegro	0.13	—	0.02	0.16	—	—	—	0.16	0.16
	Multiple countries in Europe	—	—	0.26	0.26	—	—	—	0.26	0.26
Europe region total		10.43	1.96	20.79	31.22	61.53	67.78	-6.26	24.96	92.75

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.

- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.
- Figures under "Multiple countries in Europe" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Turkey.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.

6 Central Asia and Caucasus

The Central Asia and Caucasus region is surrounded by Russia, China, South Asia, the Middle East and Europe, and thus, the stability and development of this region significantly affects those of the Eurasian region. Also, since this region includes countries abundant of energy and mineral resources such as oil, natural gas, uranium, and rare metals, this region is also of strategical importance for Japan, which is carrying out its resource and energy diplomacy with the aim of diversifying resource supplying countries. From this viewpoint, Japan has been supporting nation-building efforts for long-term stability and sustainable development in this region, and the spread of fundamental values in the countries of the region, such as human rights, democracy, market economy, and the rule of law, while taking into consideration a broader regional perspective which covers Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other neighboring regions surrounding Central Asia.

■ Japan's Efforts

Since the Central Asia and Caucasus countries' independence in 1991 following the collapse of the former Soviet Union, Japan has been providing assistance in diverse areas such as infrastructure development for economic development, human resources development for the transition to a market economy, and the rebuilding of social systems such as health and medical care, in order to support the efforts of each country towards the transition to market economies and economic development.

With regard to its relationship with Central Asia, based on the idea that it is important for the region to stabilize and develop as an open region, and for regional countries to work together to resolve common issues, Japan launched

the "Central Asia plus Japan" dialogue framework in 2004, and has continued to strive to fulfill its role as a "catalyst" for regional cooperation. In recent years, Japan aims to promote more practical cooperation in addition to a variety of dialogues.

At the Twelfth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the "Central Asia plus Japan" Dialogue held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in January 2018, the participants shared the view to put effort into the tourism sector as a new priority area of practical cooperation. At the fourth experts' meeting held in February and second business dialogue held in March, based on this view, practical experts in tourism from the countries of Central Asia were invited to engage in an exchange of opinions with those involved in the tourism industry in Japan. At this business dialogue, business matching was also carried out between the participants from each country and the relevant parties from Japanese corporations and economic organizations.

At the "Tokyo Dialogue" symposium held in July, an active discussion on the theme of "Regional Cooperation and Strategic Perspective on Regional Security in Central Asia" was held among experts from Central Asia and Japan. The scope of the discussion was not limited to regional cooperation in Central Asia, but also extended to the possible impact of the situations of Afghanistan and the Middle East to the Central Asia region, making the symposium an opportunity to reaffirm the importance of the region. Also, at the Thirteenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) held in Tokyo in November, with the participation of relevant officials from each ministry, opinions were exchanged on topics such as practical cooperation with a focus on tourism, regional security, regional cooperation,



Uzbekistan

The Project for the Provision of Medical Equipment for the Tashkent Regional Oncology Dispensary

Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (March 2017 – January 2018)

The Tashkent Regional Oncology Dispensary in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, is a large-scale medical institution comprising a nose and ears oncology department, a children's oncology department, a women's oncology department, and more. It is a regional hub hospital where approximately 72,000 outpatients are examined annually.

Although the Government of Uzbekistan aims to enhance its health and medical services based on its national plan, there is a limited budget to be allocated to each hospital. Since the majority of the budget had to be allotted to purchasing medical supplies and personnel costs for staff at the hospital, there was a shortage of funds to buy high-quality medical equipment to replace the current ones, at each hospital.

Likewise, although the Tashkent Regional Oncology Dispensary was implementing approximately 8,000 endoscopic examinations annually, its existing equipment always needed repairs. Accurate diagnoses of diseases such as stomach cancer and esophageal cancer were difficult, due to lens deterioration and breakdowns of the color analysis device in cameras, and installation of high-quality equipment

was an urgent need.

Under this situation, Japan provided a set of high-quality and high-resolution endoscopic equipment made in Japan to the dispensary through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project. With this support, the endoscope is being used effectively, and it has become possible to conduct appropriate diagnoses of 15–20 patients per day and over 100 patients per week, which is extremely helpful for the early detection and treatment of cancer among the local people.

Mr. Nobuaki Ito, Ambassador of Japan to Uzbekistan, giving a speech at the ceremony for the provision of endoscopic equipment (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Uzbekistan)



trade and investment, and development.

As for Japan's relationship with the Caucasus countries, Foreign Minister Kono visited Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan in September 2018. During his visit, he announced the "Caucasus Initiative," with the two pillars of support for human resources development aimed at nation-building, and support for the creation of an attractive Caucasus region through infrastructure development and improvement of the business environment, based on the idea to promote cooperation for self-sustained development of the Caucasus region, which plays an

important role as a gateway linking Asia and Europe.

In addition, Japan has accepted 10,647 trainees from Central Asia and Caucasus countries, and dispatched 3,463 experts to the region by 2017. Japan has also been providing support in the development of human resources necessary for new nation-building efforts, including the implementation of the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship, which is a study-in-Japan program for young government officials, and the development of human resources for business through the Japan Center for Human Resources Development.

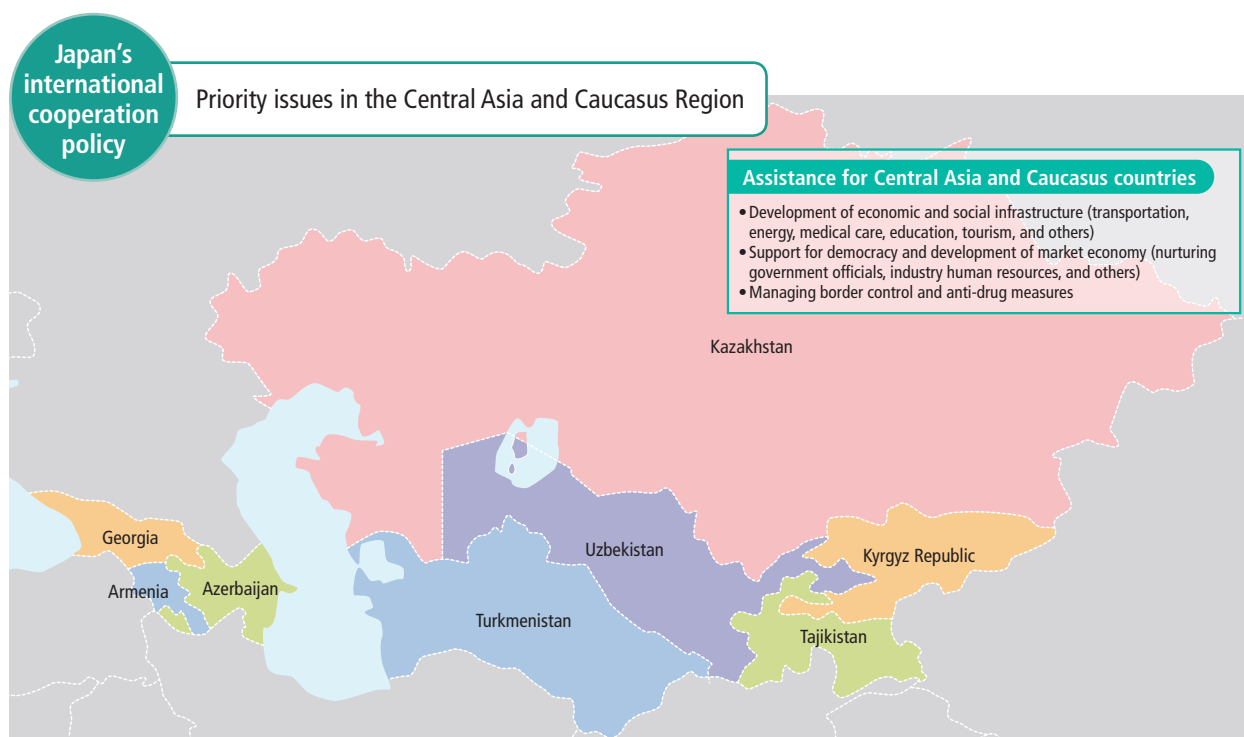
III
6Part III
Assistance for Each Region
6
Central Asia and Caucasus

Chart III-7

Japan's Assistance in the Central Asia and Caucasus Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Country or region	Grants			Total	Loan aid			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation		Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
1	Uzbekistan	3.65	—	5.86	9.51	263.24	27.73	235.51	245.01	272.74
2	Azerbaijan	1.15	—	0.43	1.58	48.39	19.83	28.56	30.14	49.97
3	Kyrgyz Republic	17.31	7.13	11.64	28.95	—	0.51	-0.51	28.44	28.95
4	Tajikistan	16.86	1.78	7.23	24.09	—	—	—	24.09	24.09
5	Georgia	0.88	0.37	0.96	1.85	14.78	2.55	12.23	14.08	16.63
6	Armenia	0.33	—	3.87	4.21	—	10.01	-10.01	-5.80	4.21
7	Turkmenistan	—	—	1.93	1.93	—	1.95	-1.95	-0.02	1.93
8	Kazakhstan	0.28	—	1.35	1.63	—	40.62	-40.62	-38.98	1.63
	Multiple countries in Central Asia and Caucasus	6.48	6.48	1.66	8.13	—	—	—	8.13	8.13
	Central Asia and Caucasus region total	46.95	15.75	34.94	81.89	326.41	103.19	223.22	305.11	408.30

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.

- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.
- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.

7 Middle East and North Africa

The Middle East and North Africa region is a major supplier of energy resources, and accounts for approximately 50% of the world's oil and natural gas reserves. In addition, Japan depends on this region for more than 80% of its crude oil imports, and the core maritime route for commerce between Japan and Europe pass through the region. Thus, this region is critical for Japan's economy and energy security. Moreover, the Middle East and North Africa region has experienced major political upheaval since 2011, and the democratization process is proceeding in the countries where longstanding regimes have collapsed. Encouraging reform efforts in such countries through economic assistance and human resources development, etc. leads to peace and stability, not only in these neighboring countries, but also in the entire world.

On the other hand, this region is facing various challenges that destabilize the region, such as violent extremism including "Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)," a large number of refugees, the Syrian crisis, continued tension among the Gulf countries, tensions in the northern part of Iraq, issues on the Middle East Peace Process, and the domestic situations in Afghanistan, Yemen, and Libya. In 2014, ISIL unilaterally declared the establishment of a self-proclaimed "state" which extends across the national borders of Iraq and Syria. However, with the support from the Global Coalition to Counter

ISIL led mainly by the United States, the Government of Iraq declared the liberation of the whole of Iraq from ISIL in December 2017, and the area controlled by ISIL has shrunk remarkably. Yet, it is still a significant challenge for the international community as a whole to continuously tackle the root causes behind the growth of violent extremism including ISIL.

Moreover, it is the feature of this region that there are many countries with large youth populations, and it is important to provide support to these countries so that they can continue to achieve stable growth. Realizing peace and stability in this region, which faces such issues, is extremely important for the international community as a whole including Japan, as it has significant impact on the stability and prosperity of the entire region as well as the international community. Therefore, there is a need for a united effort of the international community towards the realization of sustainable peace and stability, nation-building, and the reconstruction of these countries.

■ Japan's Efforts

● Support for Syria, Iraq, and the neighboring countries

With regard to the Syria issue, which is a pressing concern for the international community, Japan announced the provision of assistance totaling approximately \$260 million, at the Conference on Supporting the Future



Tunisia

The Quality and Productivity Improvement Project in Tunisia Phase 2 Technical Cooperation Project (January 2016 – December 2019)

Due to its conclusion of a partnership agreement with the EU, and subsequent progress in abolition of tariff barriers, Tunisia is striving to establish and strengthen its industrial competitiveness in the international market. Above all, the Tunisian government is focusing on improving its domestic industry, which can potentially contribute to job creation, as an important agenda, particularly through enhancing the quality and productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises.

"The Quality and Productivity Improvement Project in Tunisia Phase 2" implemented by Japan since 2016 has been supporting efforts such as the continuous training of human resources as consultants for the dissemination of quality and productivity improvement activities ("Kaizen").

The Japanese-style Kaizen methods are characterized by efforts to try to resolve challenges through enhanced teamwork centered around the personnel working on site, while increasing the quality of work through measures including the so-called "5S" (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain) and visualization, and reviewing safety and work efficiency. The results of Kaizen go beyond raising quality and productivity, and thereby increasing company profit, but can also help build win-win relationships between managers and employees, for example, by increasing motivation among personnel working on site through having them propose Kaizen themselves.

First of all, in this project, Japanese experts trained 23 Tunisians as Kaizen Master Trainers. Those 23 Master Trainers then served as

consultants for the various technology centers in the fields of machinery, electrics and electronics, chemistry, and textiles under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Industry, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. To date, they have guided 56 companies in on-site Kaizen, targeting approximately six model companies in each field. Furthermore, the Master Trainers are training new consultants together with the experts from Japan. One small and medium-sized enterprise in the electronic components sector which actually introduced Kaizen saw its productivity rise from 30% to 60%, which led to the establishment of new production lines and business expansion.

Through this project, Japan will continuously support the training of human resources who will be responsible for sustainable industrial development and promotion of domestic industry, and contribute to strengthening the industrial competitiveness and economic growth of Tunisia.



A small and medium-sized enterprise in Tunisia that increased productivity by introducing Kaizen (Photo: Ikeda Expert of Kaizen Project)

of Syria and the Region (Brussels Conference) held in Brussels in April 2017, and swiftly carried out the assistance. In addition, from the perspective of responding to the humanitarian crisis, counter-terrorism measures, and social stabilization to prevent the emergence of new extremism ideology, Foreign Minister Kono announced an additional support of approximately \$220 million, including support for Syria and the neighboring countries, at the Brussels II Conference in April 2018. In view of the urgency of the situation, the assistance was implemented swiftly. This assistance includes support for displaced persons and the recovery of power supplies, as well as the human resources development of youths and the empowerment of women. Furthermore, Japan decided in April 2018 to provide approximately \$14 million in assistance toward Syria, including the East Ghouta district on the outskirts of the capital Damascus, where the situation has worsened rapidly, as well as for assistance toward refugees of Jordan and Lebanon in the areas of healthcare and food. In 2018, Japan also provided support for the procurement of equipment and other supplies, in the area of waste treatment to Jordan, where the burden on administrative services increased as a result of the influx of Syrian refugees. Since the outbreak of the Syrian crisis in 2011, Japan's assistance to Syria, Iraq, and the neighboring countries has reached approximately \$2.5 billion. In these ways, Japan provides timely and effective assistance to the region despite the ever-changing humanitarian landscape (See also p. 28 (1) Support for Peacebuilding and Refugees/Displaced Persons).

Japan also provides support for human resources development and self-reliance of refugees. At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in 2016, Japan announced that it would provide comprehensive assistance totaling approximately \$6 billion for the Middle East in the three years between 2016 and 2018, including human resources development programs for approximately 20,000 people, in order to build a “tolerant and stable society” in the region. This assistance is being steadily



In July 2018, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sato made a visit to Jordan, and exchanged opinions with Lt. Gen. Freihat, Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff of Jordan, mainly on the situation in Syria, and explained that Japan intends to continue providing assistance, including assistance for refugees.

implemented. As a part of this support, Japan decided to accept up to 150 Syrian students over five years to provide opportunities of education and foster human resources to contribute to Syria's recovery in the future. In 2018, Japan accepted 29 Syrian students. Furthermore, as a provision of humanitarian and self-reliance assistance to refugees (including education and vocational training), and assistance to host countries, Japan also provided an assistance package of approximately \$2.8 billion over three years, as announced by Prime Minister Abe at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants held at the United Nations General Assembly in 2016.

● Assistance to Afghanistan

Japan has consistently provided assistance to Afghanistan, and since 2001, Japan's assistance to Afghanistan totals approximately \$6.6 billion (as of December 2018). Japan, as one of the major donor countries for Afghanistan, has also been endeavoring to coordinate its assistance with the government of Afghanistan and other donors such as the G7, UN organizations, and the World Bank. In order to support Afghanistan's efforts towards self-reliance and stability, Japan's current priorities in assistance are in the security field of capacity building of the police force and in the development fields of agricultural development, human resources development, and infrastructure development.

In 2012, Japan and Afghanistan jointly held the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan. The conference, attended by representatives of around 80 countries and international organizations, issued an outcome document titled the “Tokyo Declaration.” At the conference, the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF) was established to clarify the mutual commitment between Afghanistan and the international community for the sustainable development of Afghanistan, and to regularly monitor and review the commitment. This framework of mutual accountability has been succeeded by the Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework (GMAF), adopted in November 2018 at the Ministerial meeting of the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan.

● Middle East Peace (Assistance to Palestine)

Japan has positioned its assistance to Palestine as one of the important pillars of its measures to contribute to the Middle East Peace Process, and has provided more than approximately \$1.9 billion in assistance to Palestine since the 1993 Oslo Accords. Specifically, Japan provides various types of humanitarian assistance through international organizations and NGOs to improve the severe living conditions of the socially vulnerable people in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), people affected by conflicts in the Gaza Strip, and others. Japan is also engaged in efforts aimed at preparing for the Palestinian nation-building in the future and for a self-sustained Palestinian economy, in order to stabilize and improve the people's lives, strengthen the financial

foundation, enhance the administrative and financial capacity, and promote economic self-reliance.

Since 2006, Japan has launched the initiative of the “Corridor for Peace and Prosperity” as its unique medium to long-term initiative that aims to promote socio-economic development in the Jordan Valley area through regional cooperation among Japan, Israel, Palestine, and Jordan, and is implementing the development of the Jericho Agro Industrial Park (JAIP) as the flagship project of the initiative. In May 2018, Prime Minister Abe visited JAIP on his visit to Palestine, and received a briefing on the current conditions from Prime Minister Hammad of Palestine. At the same time, he also toured the exhibition booths set up by tenants operating in JAIP (of the 37 companies that have concluded tenancy contracts, 12 are in operation) and listened to their explanations, as well as sampled juice, nuts, and other products produced at JAIP.

Furthermore, in 2013, Japan launched a new initiative called the “Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD)” to help Palestine achieve economic independence by drawing on Asia’s experience on human resources development and corporate economic development. To date, meetings have been held on triangular cooperation for human resources development (See p. 89 “South-South cooperation” under glossary) and on trade and investment expansion. Moreover,



Foreign Minister Taro Kono, who met with H.E. Dr. Riad Malki, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriate of Palestine in November 2018

through these meetings, Japan plays an important role, such as by encouraging more countries to provide support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which is responsible for assisting Palestinian refugees.

Furthermore, in November 2018, Foreign Minister Kono conveyed Japan’s intention to continue supporting Palestine through JAIP and CEAPAD in his meeting with Dr. Riad Malki, Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates. He also proposed holding CEAPAD-related meetings in Palestine. In response, Dr. Malki



Turkey

Bosphorus Rail Tube Crossing Project Loan Aid (August 1999 – December 2019)

Istanbul is the largest city in Turkey with a population that currently exceeds 15 million, and is continuously growing. The Bosphorus Strait divides the city into an Asian side and a European side, but the two bridges at the time that link the mainly residential Asian side and the commercial European side were suffering chronic traffic congestion and growing problems related to air pollution due to exhaust gases at times of congestion, and energy wastage. Therefore, a plan was established to build a subway system across the Bosphorus Strait, to serve as a means of transportation with low environmental impact, in response to the growing transport demand in the city, and this plan has been implemented since 1999 with the support from Japan.

This project required advanced technology to lay an immersed tube^{*1} 60 meters in the seabed, the world’s deepest, due to the strict conditions imposed by the numerous ships in the Bosphorus Strait, as well as its fast and complex tides. A careful approach was also demanded, due to the necessity to consider buried cultural property, specific to this historical city, when constructing the underground stations. In fact, almost a year was needed to gather data on the flow of the strait and its speed, and various difficulties were encountered, such as the excavation of many historical ruins, which led to the suspension of construction works each time. However, thanks to the advanced technology of Japanese companies, the Bosphorus Rail Tube Crossing (commonly known as “Marmaray”^{*2}) was opened in October 2013. As a result, the time to cross the strait was shortened to 4 minutes from 30 minutes.

The opening ceremony of Marmaray was held on October 29, 2013, the 90th anniversary of the founding of Turkey. The opening of Marmaray was celebrated greatly as a bridge of the new friendship between the two countries, as attendees included Prime

Minister Abe from the Japanese side and then Prime Minister Erdogan from the Turkish side. Moreover, since the concept of constructing a tunnel beneath the Bosphorus Strait is said to be proposed by Sultan Abdülmecid I in 1860 for the first time, a commemorative stamp was issued in the country on the same day of the opening ceremony, with a design showing Marmaray and a conceptual design worked out in 1860, as a symbol of the realization of this 150-year dream of the Turkish people, through this project.

Under this project, Japan continues to support part of the improvements being made to the existing rail network as well, other than Marmaray, even after October 2013. When the work is completed, there will be a very long railway connecting Europe and Central Asia. Since Marmaray was also created under the assumption that it would serve as a freight railway for the transportation of oil and gas, it is expected to play an important role in the future, as a major artery not only for transporting people, but also for the distribution of goods, as part of the international railway network.



Passengers waiting for Marmaray

*1 A construction method where a box-shaped structure called a section is built, carried by ship and sunken to the ocean floor. Eleven sections were constructed and put into place under this project.

*2 Marmaray is a hybrid word that combines Marmara, a sea to the south of the construction zone of this project, and ray, which means railway in Turkish.

expressed his gratitude for Japan's unique initiatives to assist Palestine, such as the Corridor for Peace and Prosperity and CEAPAD, and welcomed the proposal to hold the said meetings in Palestine. Japan has steadily implemented such assistance, and in cooperation with the international community, will continue to

provide support for social stabilization and inclusive growth, not only from the perspective of humanitarian assistance, but also a medium to long-term view. This includes assistance in human resources development that leverages on Japan's strengths.

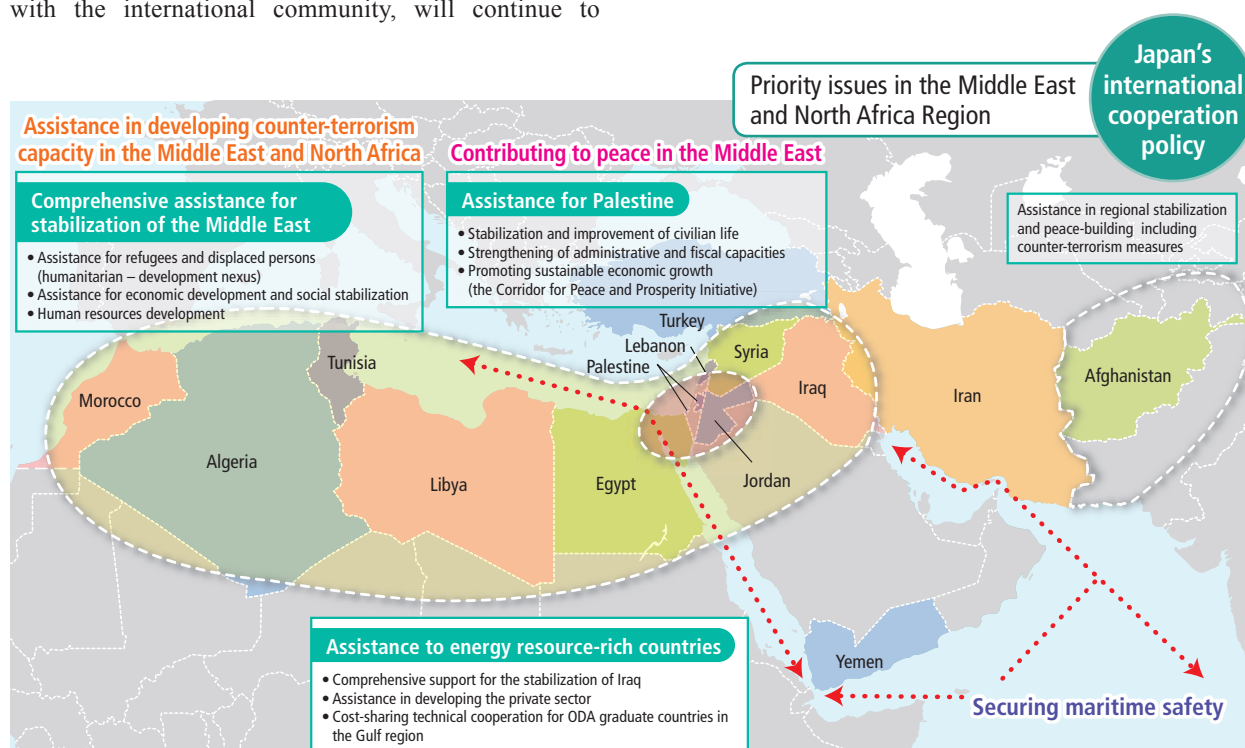


Chart III-8

Japan's Assistance in the Middle East and North Africa Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Country or region	Grants			Total	Loan aid		(A)-(B)	Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation		Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)			
1	Iraq	53.25	50.41	13.14	66.40	303.61	16.88	286.73	353.13	370.00
2	Jordan	84.20	54.14	10.25	94.45	178.01	83.17	94.84	189.29	272.46
3	Afghanistan	208.58	179.80	25.11	233.69	—	—	—	233.69	233.69
4	Turkey	14.31	13.89	3.20	17.51	146.25	191.68	-45.42	-27.91	163.76
5	Morocco	7.47	—	10.32	17.80	140.64	81.26	59.38	77.18	158.44
6	Egypt	7.62	1.98	32.24	39.86	100.11	183.21	-83.10	-43.24	139.97
7	Tunisia	2.71	0.19	4.67	7.39	102.79	67.40	35.39	42.78	110.18
8	Syria	52.43	52.43	2.51	54.95	—	—	—	54.95	54.95
9	Yemen	50.58	50.58	0.06	50.64	—	0.07	-0.07	50.57	50.64
10	[Palestine]	34.72	31.59	12.22	46.94	—	—	—	46.94	46.94
11	Iran	16.66	5.42	12.84	29.51	—	23.08	-23.08	6.43	29.51
12	Lebanon	18.18	17.38	1.40	19.59	—	6.21	-6.21	13.38	19.59
13	Libya	2.64	2.64	—	2.64	—	—	—	2.64	2.64
14	Algeria	0.24	0.19	0.61	0.85	—	0.72	-0.72	0.14	0.85
	Multiple countries in the Middle East and North Africa	77.88	47.39	1.91	79.78	0.98	2.16	-1.18	78.61	80.77
	Middle East and North Africa region total	631.49	508.03	131.27	762.76	972.39	655.83	316.56	1,079.33	1,735.16

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.
- Country or region shows DAC recipients but including graduated countries in total.

- Figures under "Multiple countries in the Middle East and North Africa" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore do not incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Afghanistan, Turkey, and countries that cut across North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.
- Square brackets [] denote region names.

8 Africa

The region of Sub-Saharan Africa, which is located in the south of the Sahara Desert, has immense potential owing to its rich natural resources and a population of 1.2 billion people. In recent years, however, it faces new challenges including the decline in global commodity prices, fragile health systems, and the emergence of terrorism and violent extremism. In response to these issues, the African Union (AU) Summit held in 2015 adopted the “Agenda 2063,” a new development agenda for Africa itself. In addition, during the same year, the UN newly adopted the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” As such, the international community has started to tackle these challenges by closely supporting Africa’s own efforts.

■ Japan’s Efforts

In cooperation with the international community, Japan co-organizes the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) with the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and the African Union Commission (AUC), as a framework for supporting the above-mentioned efforts by Africa itself. At TICAD VI, held in Nairobi, Kenya in 2016, discussions were held on the following themes: (i) Promoting structural economic transformation through economic diversification and industrialization, (ii) Promoting resilient health systems for quality of life, and (iii) Promoting social stability for shared prosperity. As the outcome of these discussions, the Nairobi Declaration, which sets out the direction of African development, was issued.



Ms. Mari Okazaki, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV), engaged in an activity at her post at the Sapone Health Bureau in Burkina Faso. (Photo: Anne Mimault)

In response, and as a part of the TICAD VI initiatives, the Government of Japan announced that Japan would invest a total of approximately \$30 billion from the public and private sectors in total for the future of Africa, including human resources development for approximately 10 million people, utilizing the strength of Japan (“Quality”), as well as the development of quality

infrastructure, promotion of resilient health systems, and laying the foundations for peace and stability, etc. for a period of three years from 2016 to 2018. These initiatives also include efforts to nurture approximately 30,000 industrial human resources, increase the number of people with access to basic health services by approximately 2 million people across Africa, as well as save approximately 300,000 lives through assistance of more than \$500 million. The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 7) is scheduled to be held in Yokohama, Japan, in 2019.

One of the key issues in Japan’s African diplomacy is peacebuilding. Through the TICAD process, with the aim of realizing peace and stability in Africa, Japan has provided support of approximately \$100 million since 2008 for projects that have benefitted PKO training centers in 15 African countries, and dispatched a total of 56 Japanese lecturers to provide assistance for training and planning in relation to peacebuilding. In South Sudan, significant progress has been made toward the restoration of peace and stability, as represented by the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan in September 2018 by the relevant parties. It is important for the international community to cooperate in providing support for the consolidation of peace in South Sudan in order to enable the citizens of the country to gain a real sense of peace being established and avoid the recurrence of conflicts.

Since the independence of South Sudan, Japan has supported its nation-building through JICA and international organizations, in areas such as infrastructure development, development of alternative industries, improvements in the fields related to basic human needs, and enhancement of governance. Despite the nation-building efforts after the security situation worsened in South Sudan in 2013, Japan has been cooperating with the international community to provide support for the consolidation of peace in the country through the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a regional organization of East Africa. In March 2018, Japan provided assistance of around \$36 million to IGAD, which was applied to hold discussions on the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan and to implement the provisions of the Agreement. Furthermore, Japan has also provided support for the citizens’ dialogue process, alongside support for human resources development in the areas of public finance management, strengthening the police force capacity development, and capacity-building for customs personnel, as well as humanitarian assistance including food assistance, which plays an important role in the restoration of peace and stability in South Sudan.



Tanzania

The Project for Improvement of Tazara Intersection Grant Aid (February 2016 – October 2018)

Tanzania's largest city, Dar es Salaam, plays an important role, not only as an important traffic hub, but as a starting point for the distribution of goods to inland countries across the African continent. However, increased population, and increased traffic due to intensified economic activity, have led to higher rates of congestion every year, which has impacted economic activity in Tanzania and neighboring countries.

Therefore, Japan supported the grade separation of the Tazara Intersection where two major trunk roads intersect and congestion is most intense within Dar es Salaam, through the Grant Aid project, the "Project for Improvement of Tazara Intersection." Tanzania's first flyover was completed in approximately three years, without incident, thanks to the introduction of Japanese-style safety management in the construction process.

On September 27, 2018, an opening ceremony was held, attended by many stakeholders, including President Magufuli and the Ambassador of Japan to Tanzania, Shinichi Goto. The President stated at the ceremony that he wishes to consider further construction of flyovers, given the amazing results of the Tazara Intersection.

The completion of this flyover is expected to greatly alleviate the traffic congestion, expand the distribution of goods, and increase the value of Dar es Salaam as a commercial city. In addition, this flyover will contribute significantly to the Tanzanian economy, and serve as a symbol of the many years of good relationship between Japan and Tanzania. Thus, it is highly praised not only in Dar es Salaam, but nationwide.



The completed Tazara Intersection (Photo: Oriental Consultants Global)

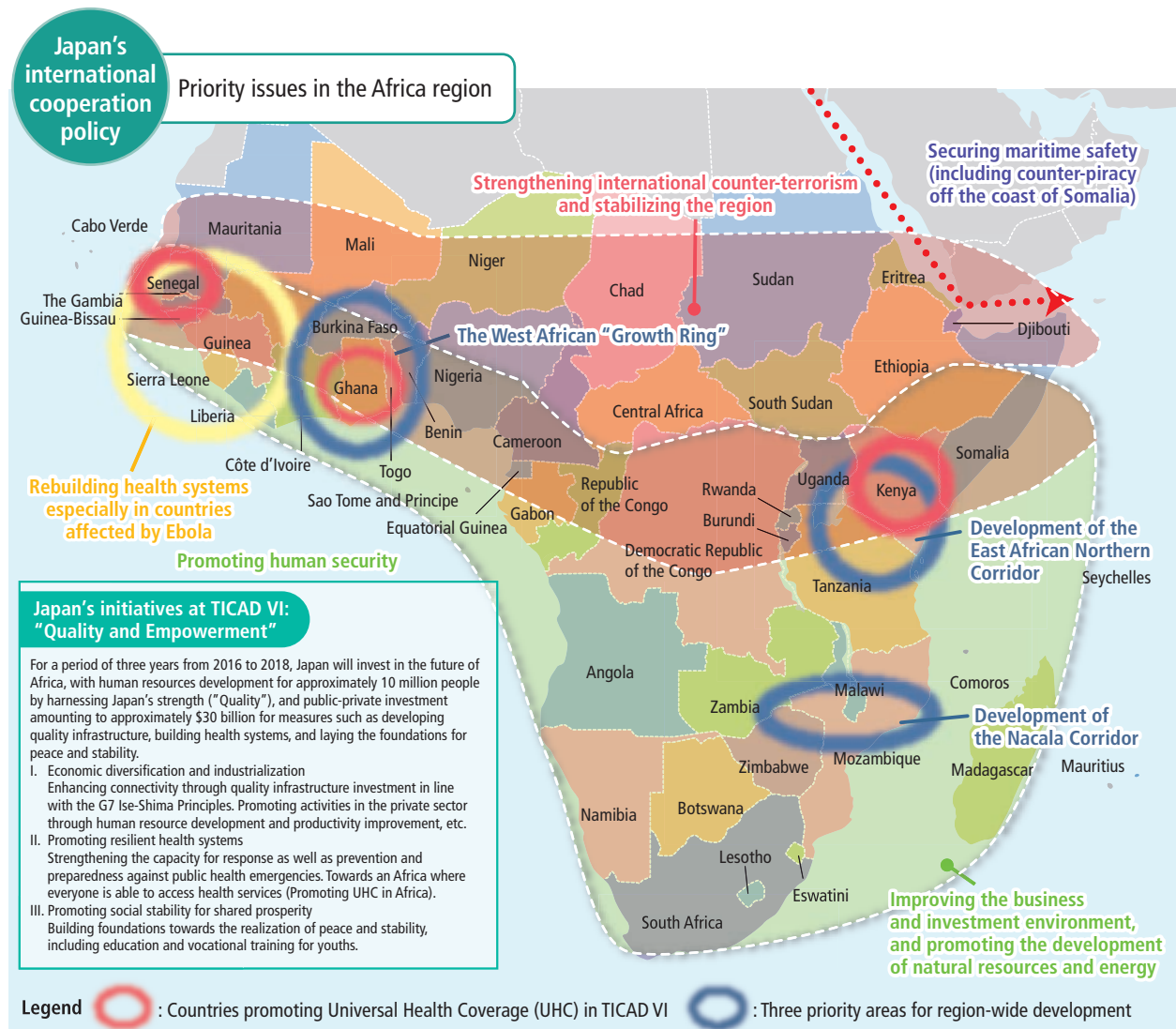


Chart III-9

Japan's Assistance in the Sub-Saharan Africa Region

Calendar year: 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Country or region	Grants			Total	Loan aid			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation		Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
1	Kenya	17.39	6.28	36.75	54.14	108.55	81.95	26.60	80.73	162.69
2	Mozambique	22.52	—	25.23	47.75	101.77	0.91	100.86	148.61	149.52
3	Senegal	7.43	0.09	22.47	29.90	75.16	0.27	74.89	104.79	105.06
4	Tanzania	20.68	—	21.83	42.51	34.58	2.88	31.70	74.21	77.09
5	Uganda	21.70	15.41	18.44	40.15	24.44	0.36	24.07	64.22	64.58
6	Ghana	34.57	—	16.63	51.20	—	—	—	51.20	51.20
7	Rwanda	20.34	1.47	15.18	35.53	7.80	—	7.80	43.32	43.32
8	South Sudan	35.74	20.34	6.48	42.22	—	—	—	42.22	42.22
9	Malawi	29.44	2.79	11.67	41.10	—	—	—	41.10	41.10
10	Democratic Republic of the Congo	28.74	9.20	11.90	40.63	—	—	—	40.63	40.63
11	Ethiopia	11.25	5.39	27.66	38.90	—	—	—	38.90	38.90
12	Côte d'Ivoire	22.44	1.05	15.98	38.43	—	—	—	38.43	38.43
13	Guinea	26.65	7.78	3.42	30.08	—	—	—	30.08	30.08
14	Cameroon	7.80	7.69	8.64	16.43	12.76	—	12.76	29.19	29.19
15	Liberia	22.95	3.66	2.52	25.47	—	—	—	25.47	25.47
16	Zambia	5.77	1.29	18.36	24.13	1.22	—	1.22	25.35	25.35
17	Sudan	11.34	4.59	12.34	23.68	—	—	—	23.68	23.68
18	Nigeria	13.38	4.84	9.67	23.06	—	0.11	-0.11	22.94	23.06
19	Somalia	21.17	21.08	0.32	21.49	—	—	—	21.49	21.49
20	Benin	15.86	—	4.49	20.35	—	—	—	20.35	20.35
21	Mali	16.17	4.58	3.83	19.99	—	—	—	19.99	19.99
22	Burkina Faso	8.87	4.20	10.50	19.37	—	—	—	19.37	19.37
23	Djibouti	13.24	1.10	3.68	16.92	—	—	—	16.92	16.92
24	Togo	16.27	—	0.39	16.66	—	—	—	16.66	16.66
25	Zimbabwe	9.83	2.46	5.00	14.84	—	—	—	14.84	14.84
26	Niger	12.63	9.61	1.92	14.55	—	—	—	14.55	14.55
27	Madagascar	5.43	4.46	8.45	13.88	—	—	—	13.88	13.88
28	Mauritania	10.95	6.04	1.78	12.73	—	—	—	12.73	12.73
29	South Africa	0.92	—	11.02	11.94	—	0.84	-0.84	11.10	11.94
30	Botswana	0.31	—	4.20	4.51	7.24	4.02	3.22	7.74	11.76
31	Chad	10.99	5.19	0.23	11.21	—	—	—	11.21	11.21
32	Central Africa	10.86	10.86	0.03	10.90	—	—	—	10.90	10.90
33	Sierra Leone	5.07	4.90	5.58	10.65	—	—	—	10.65	10.65
34	Cabo Verde	1.94	—	0.54	2.48	5.64	—	5.64	8.12	8.12
35	Seychelles	5.35	—	0.13	5.49	—	—	—	5.49	5.49
36	Namibia	0.68	—	3.09	3.77	—	8.37	-8.37	-4.60	3.77
37	Eswatini	2.94	2.94	0.80	3.74	—	1.80	-1.80	1.94	3.74
38	Angola	0.79	—	2.92	3.71	—	—	—	3.71	3.71
39	Gabon	0.42	—	3.16	3.58	—	0.88	-0.88	2.69	3.58
40	Eritrea	2.67	—	0.83	3.50	—	—	—	3.50	3.50
41	Republic of the Congo	2.72	0.93	0.46	3.17	—	—	—	3.17	3.17
42	Guinea-Bissau	2.41	2.41	0.41	2.82	—	—	—	2.82	2.82
43	Burundi	1.73	1.47	0.86	2.58	—	—	—	2.58	2.58
44	Mauritius	1.92	—	0.59	2.50	0.06	2.82	-2.75	-0.25	2.57
45	Sao Tome and Principe	2.31	—	0.23	2.54	—	—	—	2.54	2.54
46	Comoros	1.78	—	0.33	2.12	—	—	—	2.12	2.12
47	Lesotho	1.32	1.17	0.32	1.64	—	—	—	1.64	1.64
48	Gambia	—	—	0.41	0.41	—	—	—	0.41	0.41
49	Equatorial Guinea	—	—	0.15	0.15	—	—	—	0.15	0.15
	Multiple countries in Sub-Saharan Africa	89.82	89.82	18.10	107.92	306.64	3.36	303.28	411.20	414.56
	Sub-Saharan Africa region total	637.51	265.11	379.92	1,017.43	685.86	108.58	577.28	1,594.70	1,703.29

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Grant aid includes aid provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.

- Country or region shows DAC recipients but include graduated countries in total.
- Figures under "Multiple countries in Sub-Saharan Africa" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries that cut across North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans exceeds the disbursed amount.

Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation



Mr. Seichi Tanaka, a Senior Volunteer (SV) teaching a student at a vocational training school in Zambia on how to use a computer
(Photo: Ikuko Niizeki/JICA)

1 Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships	104
2 Efforts for Spreading Awareness of Development Cooperation	117
3 Efforts to Ensure Appropriate Development Cooperation	124

Part IV Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation

In addition to the assistance that Japan has extended to date centered on ODA, Japan's development cooperation must further contribute to solving global issues based on the philosophy of human security. In order to implement such programs, not only the Government and JICA, but also diverse actors such as large companies, small and medium-sized enterprises, local governments, universities and civil society, including NGOs, need to work together, leveraging their respective strengths. In doing so, the Government of Japan will utilize ODA for small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as large companies, so that they can contribute globally. Furthermore, Japan must assist diverse actors in performing their roles in the field of development cooperation world-wide, as well as maximize the power of NGOs and civil society.

Moreover, it is essential to commit to outcomes when implementing ODA, as it is financed by tax revenues from the public. To that end, it is necessary to establish a sound governance system at JICA, which is the main implementing body of ODA, as well as to exert efforts to make sure that the development cooperation is appropriate, such as by ensuring healthy competition in its implementation. Furthermore, Japan will continue to make efforts to strengthen public relations and information dissemination in order to promote a deeper understanding of Japan's development cooperation domestically and internationally.

1 Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships

Japan's development cooperation is carried out in partnership with diverse actors. For development cooperation implemented by the Government and its associated agencies, it is important to strengthen collaboration between JICA and other agencies responsible for handling official funds such as Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), the Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development (JOIN), and the Fund Corporation for the Overseas Development of Japan's ICT and Postal Services (Japan ICT Fund) as well as to enhance mutually beneficial partnerships with various actors so as to serve as a catalyst for mobilizing and assembling a wide range of resources, including the private sector.

(1) Public-Private Partnership

With the globalization of the economy, the inflow of private finance into developing countries currently exceeds the total amount of ODA. Therefore, it is increasingly important to promote the contribution of private finance to development in order to address the financial needs for the development of developing countries.

Various projects conducted by Japanese private companies in developing countries can yield a range

of benefits to these countries such as creating local employment opportunities, augmenting tax revenue, expanding trade and investment, contributing to the acquisition of foreign currency, and transferring Japan's high-standard technology. The Government of Japan carries out various assistance aiming at generating efficient and effective development outcome through such collaboration with private companies.

For example, the Government of Japan carries out Public-Private Partnership (PPP) utilizing ODA, which aims to implement projects of a highly public nature more efficiently and effectively through public-private cooperation. Japan also provides assistance from the planning stage to the implementation of a project, such as institutional development and human resources development through technical cooperation, as well as utilizing Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) and ODA loans. In addition, the Government of Japan assists Japanese companies to collect information and conduct pilot activities to strategize business models for the resolution of various development challenges.

In addition, international organizations, such as UNDP and UNICEF, promote **inclusive businesses*** by Japanese companies, utilizing the organizations' extensive experience and expertise in developing countries.

Japanese-Style Maintenance and Management Techniques for Morocco's Motorway

Introduction of the Unique Japanese "Ninja-Tech"

25 years have passed since the opening of the motorways between the major cities in Morocco, and those motorways are relied upon by the people in Morocco as a key transport network due to their high quality. Since those motorways have such high quality, the Government of Morocco also adequately recognized the importance of not only building new motorways, but maintaining and managing existing ones. For this reason, it has been a big challenge for Morocco to introduce economical but highly reliable techniques of maintenance and management of the motorways such as road inspection.

The Autoroutes du Maroc (ADM), which is a Morocco's national authority for the management of motorways, established a cooperative relationship with Hanshin Expressway Company Limited in 2014. In the course of their cooperation, ADM expressed an interest in "Ninja-Tech," the infrastructure maintenance and management technique of Tokusyu Kousyo Gijutsu Inc. (TKG) that has been successively introduced to motorways across Japan, including the Hanshin Expressway. In July 2015, ADM concluded a memorandum with Hanshin Expressway for technology exchange, and the project to transfer the technique of Ninja-Tech to Morocco started.

Ninja-Tech is a technique produced by TKG for the purpose of maintaining, managing, inspecting, and repairing infrastructure, such as high bridges and dams, or power generation facilities, which are difficult to access with traditional methods since scaffolds cannot be constructed. This method enables workers to conduct inspections and maintenance, by hanging themselves down with ropes. It is also characterized by its low cost because large scaffolding is not required and the work can be done in a shorter time.

Mr. Motohiko Nishibayashi, Manager of the International Business and Cooperation Office, Engineering Department of Hanshin Expressway, who played a central role in the project, looks back on the early days of the project as follows:

"This project to convey the technique of Ninja-Tech to Morocco progressed well. I feel that above all, this was because the people from Morocco's ADM deeply understood that the maintenance and management of their country's motorways would be an important step forward. The ceremony to introduce the Ninja-Tech to Morocco was attended by numerous government personnel including the



Japanese and Moroccan engineers who participated in the training in Japan (Photo: Tokusyu Kousyo Gijutsu Inc.)

Vice Minister of the country's Ministry of Equipment, Transport and Logistics, and it was widely reported by the local mass media."

The first thing Hanshin Expressway and TKG did for the technique transfer was to invite Moroccan engineers from ADM to Japan to undertake training, and to convey the technique to them. In 2016, as an initial trial, three engineers selected by ADM came to Japan. Mr. Takaharu Yamaguchi, Director of the Engineering Department at TKG, who was greatly involved in the training of the three engineers, recalls those days.

"The three trainees went through the same rigorous training as Japanese engineers do for 60 days after arriving in Japan. Under the Ninja-Tech, engineers are required to not only move up and down using rope, but to also move by walking on the rope. To learn this technique from scratch, I believe, must have been as troublesome as a person who had never swam before, learning to swim for the first time. However, the three of them tolerated it well, and returned to their country fully equipped with the technique. They were amazingly disciplined." Currently, the three are active as Ninja-Tech engineers, having returned to Morocco.

In this project, emphasis was placed on the establishment of the technique in Morocco in a sustainable way, as well as nurturing Moroccan engineers, going forward. Considering the success of the trainings completed in Japan, ADM will continue the training program which dispatches engineers to Japan under their own budget.

In fact, in many developing countries that hope to enhance their infrastructure in the future, such as motorways, there tends to be a focus only on "building" and a lack of interest on the importance of "maintenance and management" which inevitably come after. Mr. Nishibayashi says, "We expect that in the future, Morocco will spread this technology to the similarly-French-speaking countries of Western and Northern Africa. I also hope that expanding this project will contribute not only to the maintenance and management of infrastructure in the African region, but also to the spread of their importance."



A local engineer using Ninja-Tech to carry out an inspection on a bridge of a Moroccan motorway (Photo: Tokusyu Kousyo Gijutsu Inc.)

A. Public-Private Partnership (PPP) utilizing ODA

PPP is a form of public-private cooperation in which governmental ODA projects are conducted in collaboration with private investment projects. Opinions from private companies are incorporated from the stage of ODA project formation. Roles of ODA are divided between the public and private sectors. For example, basic infrastructure is covered by ODA, while investment, operation, maintenance and management are conducted by the private sector. This aims to utilize the technologies, knowledge, experience, and funds of the private sector in an effort to implement more efficient and effective projects as well as to improve development efficiency. Typical cases for PPP projects include fields of water supply and sewerage systems, airports, highways and railways, among others.

B. Preparatory surveys for PPP infrastructure projects

In recent years, there has been a growing global trend to improve infrastructure through public-private partnership (PPP) aiming at further enhancing effectiveness and efficiency not only in the construction phase, but also in post-construction operation and maintenance in emerging and developing countries. For such PPP infrastructure projects, it is important for public and private sectors to collaborate and engage in PPP from the initial stages of project formulation in order to appropriately divide roles between the public and private sectors. As such, JICA supports **feasibility surveys (F/S)*** for the formulation of business plans by calling for proposals widely from private companies that are planning to participate in infrastructure projects aiming at utilizing PSIF or ODA loans.

C. SDGs Business Supporting Surveys

Developing countries struggle with various global issues (development challenges) including poverty, infectious diseases, conflicts, natural disasters and climate change, which have become increasingly difficult and complex in recent years. Thus, it is necessary to incorporate ideas coming from the out-of-the-box thinking of private-sector companies, and to solve problems in the field through business and collaboration with a wide range of partners.

The program is intended to assist in matching the needs of developing countries with the advanced products and technologies, etc., possessed by private-sector companies, and to support the development of businesses that contribute to solving problems in these countries (SDGs business). The program provides opportunities for commissioned surveys for information collection (Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Partnership promotion survey and SDGs Business Model Formulation Survey with the Private Sector) and for the development of business plans based on the verification activities of proposed products or technologies (SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector). The program has two categories: “SME support type” and “SDGs business support type”. The former is also expected to invigorate the Japanese economy and regions, through

supporting the expansion of SMEs’ businesses abroad, within the aforementioned objectives.

Furthermore, MOFA provides grant aid (including provision of equipment using SMEs’ products) to support the overseas expansion of SMEs and other entities. By providing Japanese SMEs’ products based on the requests and development needs of developing country governments, MOFA supports not only the socio-economic development of developing countries, but also the overseas business expansion of Japanese SMEs by raising the profile of the SMEs’ products and creating sustained demand for them.

In addition, in order to assist in developing global human resources required by SMEs and other entities, the Government of Japan established the “**Private-Sector Partnership Volunteer****” program in 2012, in which employees from companies are dispatched to developing countries as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) or Senior Volunteers (SV) while keeping their affiliation with their companies. Through this program, Japan proactively supports companies to train their human resources to gain experience of working globally. Since Autumn 2018, the name of the system has been changed to “JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (Private Partnership)”, due to a systematic review of the JICA volunteer program.



Ms. Mariko Nagae, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) carrying out various child support activities at “Comedor”, a support facility for families in poverty run by an NGO, in the northern suburb of Santiago, Dominican Republic. (Photo: Maximo Navas)

D. Grant aid for business/management rights

Since FY2014, the Government of Japan introduced grant aid for business/management rights. As such, this grant aid aims to facilitate the acquisition of business and management rights by Japanese companies and utilize Japan’s advanced technologies and know-how for the development of developing countries, by providing grant aid to public work projects that comprehensively carry out a continuum of activities from facility construction to operation, maintenance and management, with the participation of private companies. Since FY 2016, this grant aid has been provided for five projects; a project to address water leakages in Myanmar, a project to address medical waste in Kenya, a project to expand water supply systems in Cambodia, a project to address waste management in the Philippines, and a project to build water supply systems in Myanmar.

E. Improving Japan's ODA loans

In recent years, it is expected that Japan provide advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries, and thereby improve people's living standards. At the same time, Japan seeks to tap into the growth in emerging economies including **BOP businesses*** in Asia, which have particularly close relationships with Japan, and to contribute to the vitalization of the Japanese economy. In this regard, it is necessary for Japan to carry out further improvement of Japan's ODA loans to make them even more attractive to both developing countries and Japanese companies.

Up until now, the Government of Japan has introduced the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) ¹ scheme to promote "Visible Japanese Development Cooperation" through promoting the transfer of Japan's advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries, and improved the scheme by expanding the scope of application and lowering interest rates. Also, Japan has taken additional measures, such as the establishment of the Stand-by Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery (SECURE) ². Furthermore, it has introduced the Equity Back Finance (EBF) ³ loan and the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan ⁴. These instruments are designed to support the improvement and application of various measures of recipient governments as needed, to promote the steady formulation and implementation of PPP infrastructure projects.

In addition, as follow-up measures for "Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure" ⁵, the Government of Japan has been making efforts to improve its ODA loan and Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) by accelerating Japan's ODA loan procedures and creating new ODA loan options. Specifically, the following measures are included: reducing the period necessary for Government-related procedures for Japan's ODA loans that normally require three years to approximately one and a half years for especially important projects, introducing ODA loans with currency conversion option to middle-income countries or higher on the condition that JICA's financial grounds are ensured, and the establishment of dollar-denominated forms of Japan's ODA loans, Preferential Terms for High Specification and Japan's ODA loans for business/management rights. Furthermore,

in the "Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure," ⁶ Japan is committed to the further acceleration of ODA loan procedures, and decided to streamline the period between the initiation of the feasibility study (F/S) and commencement of the construction work to one and a half years at the fastest, and aim for increased "visibility" of the project period, as well as other efforts necessary to accelerate the procedures for project development, and will continue to strive to do so.

F. Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF)

Private financial institutions are often reluctant to finance projects by private companies in developing countries for reasons including the high risk involved. In such situations, Japan uses JICA's PSIF to directly invest in and provide loans for, and thereby assist the implementation of development projects by private companies in developing countries.

PSIF refers to a type of ODA financing scheme implemented by JICA, and is provided to private companies carrying out projects in developing countries as investments and loans for its necessary funds. Although such projects create jobs and revitalize the economy of hosting countries, it entails various risks, and high return cannot often be expected. Thus, existing financial institutions are often reluctant to provide these companies with sufficient loans. PSIF provides loans and investment for projects that are considered highly effective from a development perspective, but may be difficult to be sufficiently funded by existing financial institutions only. PSIF assists in the following fields for funding: i. infrastructure development and accelerating growth, ii. SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and poverty reduction and iii. measures against climate change. JICA has signed 22 loan and investment contracts in total by the end of FY2017.

Also, in order to reduce the exchange rate risk of Japanese companies participating in infrastructure projects overseas, the Government of Japan announced in succession the introduction of local currency-denominated PSIF (2014) and U.S. dollar-denominated PSIF (2015) to supplement the existing yen-denominated PSIF. In 2015, Japan announced the acceleration of PSIF, expansion of the targets of PSIF, and strengthening collaboration between

¹ STEP: Special Terms for Economic Partnership

² The system allows developing countries that have a high chance of encountering natural disasters, to quickly accommodate funds for post-disaster recovery activities, by having the ODA loan signed in advance.

³ EBF (Equity Back Finance) loan provides a loan to the developing country's part of the investment of the Special Purpose Company (SPC), which takes the lead in public projects in the developing country. It is restricted to PPP infrastructure projects, wherein the recipient country governments or their nationally-owned companies and others make the investment, and the Japanese companies participate as a business operating body.

⁴ Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan is the loan against VGF which the developing country provides to the SPC in order to secure profitability expected by SPC in case that in principle Japanese companies invest in the PPP infrastructure projects by the developing country.

⁵ "Partnership for Quality Infrastructure" has the following pillars: 1 Expansion and acceleration of assistance through the full mobilization of Japan's economic cooperation tools, 2 Collaboration between Japan and ADB, 3 Expansion of the supply of funding for projects with relatively high risk profiles by such means as enhancement of the function of JBIC, 4 Promoting "Quality Infrastructure Investment" as an international standard.

⁶ "Expanded Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure" was introduced by Prime Minister Abe at G7 Ise-Shima Summit, held in May 2016. It includes Japan's commitment to provide approximately USD 200 billion funds in the next 5 years for infrastructure projects in the world including Asia. At the same time, it includes further system reforms, strengthening the structure of related institutions including JICA, as well as securing financial foundation.

JICA and other organizations as follow-up measures for the “Partnership for Quality Infrastructure.” Specifically, measures were set out that JICA would start its appraisal process, in principle, within one month after an application is filed by private companies or others, while the standard period for JBIC to respond to inquiries on projects was set at two weeks. Other measures include enabling JICA to co-finance with private financial institutions, reviewing the requirement of the “no-precedent policy” and allowing loans to be provided in cases where non-concessional

loans by existing Japanese private financial institutions are impossible.

In 2016, the Government of Japan decided to examine the possibility of flexible operation of JICA’s PSIF by relaxing the upper limit of investment ratio from 25% to 50% (but less than the percentage that would make JICA the largest shareholder) and to introduce PSIF in Euro in the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure” and determined that these are operable and can be introduced.



Glossary

*Inclusive business

Inclusive business is a generic term for a business model advocated by the UN and the World Bank Group as an effective way to achieve inclusive market growth and development. It includes sustainable BOP businesses that resolve social challenges.

*Feasibility survey (Feasibility study)

Feasibility survey verifies whether a proposed project is viable for execution (realization), and plans and formulates a project that is most appropriate for implementation. The survey investigates a project’s potential, its appropriateness, and its investment effects.

*Private-Sector Partnership Volunteer

The Private-Sector Partnership Volunteer is a program in which employees of private companies and other entities are dispatched to developing countries as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) or Senior Volunteers (SV), and contributes to the development of global human resources and overseas business expansion of the companies. The country of dispatch, occupation type, and duration of dispatch are determined through consultation based on the requests from companies and other entities. Volunteers are dispatched to countries in which their companies are considering business expansion. Not only are volunteers expected to gain an understanding of the culture, commercial practices, technical level of their respective destination countries, and language skills, but are also expected to acquire skills of communication, problem solving and negotiation, which will be brought back into corporate activities upon their return.

*Base of the Economic Pyramid (BOP) business

BOP refers to businesses that are expected to be useful in resolving social issues of low-income groups ⁷ in developing countries. Accounting for approximately 70% of the world’s population, or approximately 5 billion people, low-income groups are attracting attention as a market with potential for growth. Incorporating low-income groups into consumption, production, sales, and other value chains is expected to be useful in providing sustainable solutions to a variety of local societal problems. Some examples include a model which aims to improve nutrition through sales of nutrient-enhanced food for infants of poor families, and another that aims to increase incomes by improving crop yields and quality through technical support related to high-quality mung bean cultivation for poor farmers.

(2) Partnerships Inviting Civil Participation from Volunteers, NGOs, and others

A. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer / Senior Volunteer (JICA Volunteer) Program

The JICA Volunteer Program, which includes Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), was founded in 1965 and marked its 50th anniversary in 2015. The Program has dispatched over 50,000 volunteers to 91 countries in total, contributing to the development of developing countries as a good example of Japan’s “Visible Development Cooperation.” The JOCV program dispatches Japanese citizens between the ages of 20 and 39 with skills, knowledge, experience, etc. to developing countries, while the Senior Volunteer (SV) program dispatches people between the ages of 40 and 69 with a wide range of skills and abundant experience. This

Program is a public participatory program, under which volunteers stay in developing countries in principle for a two-year-term to assist economic and social development in the countries, while living and working with the local communities.

The JICA Volunteer Program not only contributes to the economic and social development of the recipient countries, but also to deepening local people’s affinity for Japan, thereby promoting mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and these countries. Additionally, the program is drawing attention in the respect that the volunteers return their experiences to the society. For example, some returned volunteers contribute to the business expansion of Japanese private companies in developing countries.

In order to promote these initiatives, the Government

⁷ The income bracket with an annual income per capita of \$3,000 or less in purchasing power parity (PPP). PPP is determined by removing differences between price levels to make purchasing power between different currencies equivalent.

ODA Topics 5

Activities of JICA Volunteers and the Reception for JICA Volunteers Hosted by Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono



A JOCV giving instruction on how to improve living standards, based on the theme of household budget, as a community development volunteer in Paraguay (Photo: JICA)



A Senior Volunteer giving instruction on processing agricultural products in Bhutan (Photo: JICA)

Since its inauguration in 1965, JICA volunteer programs have dispatched more than 50,000 people in total, as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), Senior Volunteers and others, to developing countries in order to provide support across a wide range of fields such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, health and sanitation, education and culture, sports, and planning and administration. The cooperation activities of the volunteers blended into the local communities, have played a huge role in the development of developing countries around the world, as well as strengthening mutual trust between Japan and other countries, which have contributed to Japanese diplomacy. Even this white paper refers to the activities of JOCV in the column “Stories from the field” on page 59, including those of Mr. Kurita, a JOCV, who alongside his role as a teacher dispatched to Malawi, hosted a Japanese-style “UNDOKAI” for local schools in the region.

A reception was hosted by Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono on July 3, 2018, with the purpose of both praising these activities of JICA volunteers to date, and to further inform the general public about the JICA volunteer programs. The reception was attended by approximately 200 people, including around 140 JICA Volunteers who had returned to Japan following the completion of their activities and those who are going to be dispatched, as well as members of JICA Parliamentary League (Japanese parliamentary league aimed at supporting the activities of Japan's International Cooperation, especially Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs)) and those from private companies and organizations supporting JICA Volunteers, as guests.

At the reception, Minister Kono, touching upon the activities of the returned volunteers present, expressed his gratitude to all of the JICA volunteers that have already returned, currently dispatched, or will be dispatched, for their contribution to Japan's diplomacy by having played

a pivotal role in the development of their assigned countries, and strengthening mutual trust between Japan and those countries. He also encouraged the returned JICA Volunteers to keep contributing to Japan and the world.

On behalf of the JICA Volunteers, Mr. Wakao, a returned JOCV, who engaged in a village development project in Guatemala gave an address, and stated that he gained a valuable experience by participating in JOCV, and such experience has been greatly useful in his current job. Mr. Wakao also expressed his hope that the JOCV will continue to nurture diverse human resources in the future, to be active in both Japan and the world.

Going forward, the Government of Japan will continue to support the activities of the JICA volunteers, so that they can be active in their role as key actors behind “Japan's Visible Development Cooperation.”



JICA volunteers and Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono talking



Madagascar

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers [Midwives] (October 2015 – October 2017)

Mahajanga district, located in the north-eastern part of Madagascar in Africa, has a particular scarcity of crops. The majority of its total population of approximately 70,000 is constrained to a life of poverty, and since there is a lack of knowledge regarding food and nutrition, many children suffer malnutrition and poor weight gain. Malnutrition affects not only people's health, but also causes reduced labor productivity and learning achievement, due to decreased physical and cognitive ability, which in turn, results in slowed economic and social development. As such, this has become a serious problem in Madagascar.

Ms. Hiromi Suganuma, a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer carried out activities as a midwife such as prenatal check-ups, infant vaccination support and health education between October 2015 and October 2017, based at a basic health clinic in Mahajanga district.

Since malnourished children were not adequately identified by the Mahajanga District Health Department, Ms. Suganuma strived to identify cases of malnutrition by measuring the weight of children when their mothers visited the clinic for prenatal checkups and infant vaccinations. She also proactively visited mothers and children in rural areas who could not attend the clinic. In addition, she worked to raise awareness among mothers of their child's development and instruct them regarding nutrition, by explaining how to read the growth development charts in the maternal and child health handbooks.

Ms. Suganuma
and a new-born
baby (Photo:
JICA)



In her nutrition instruction, Ms. Suganuma passed on practical methods in a way that is easy for mothers to understand, by explaining balanced diet using a textbook, "Nutrition Improvement Kit," produced in cooperation with the other members of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, and giving demonstrations of cooking using ingredients that are locally-produced, cheap and of high nutritional value.

Furthermore, she worked to create a system wherein health volunteers can easily carry out their activities at the basic health clinic, with a view towards creating a system for sustainably promoting improved nutrition.

of Japan has been striving to make it easier for people to participate in the Volunteer Program through supporting returned volunteers in developing their careers, as well as disseminating information on how to participate in the Program through taking career breaks.

Regarding the JICA Volunteer Program including the JOCV and the SV, a new system has been introduced since the autumn recruitment in 2018, as a result of reviewing the Program. The collective name of "JICA volunteers" has been renamed to "Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers." In the new system, volunteers are classified not by the age category (youth/senior), but by whether or not the contents of the work requires a certain level of experience and skills.

B. Cooperation with Japanese NGOs

Japanese NGOs implement high-quality development cooperation activities in various fields in developing countries and regions. Even in sites affected by conflict or natural disasters, such as earthquakes and typhoons, they have been providing prompt and effective emergency humanitarian assistance. Japanese NGOs are attuned to different local situations in developing countries and are capable of carefully tailoring responses to the needs of the local people. Accordingly, Japanese NGOs can provide assistance to even the hard-to-reach grassroots level through the support of the government and international organizations. MOFA regards Japanese NGOs that carry out "Visible Japanese Development Cooperation" as indispensable partners in development cooperation. It also

promotes collaboration with them through: **(i) funding assistance for Japanese NGOs (p.110), (ii) support for the creation of an enabling environment for NGOs (p.111), and (iii) dialogues with NGOs (p.112).**

Furthermore, under the Development Cooperation Charter, MOFA and NGOs have jointly developed a plan outlining the direction of their collaboration over the next five years, and announced the plan in 2015. Subsequently, MOFA has been following up on this plan, releasing an annual progress report on the joint plan together with NGOs.

● Funding assistance for Japanese NGOs

The Government of Japan is cooperating in various ways to enable Japanese NGOs to smoothly and effectively implement development cooperation and emergency humanitarian assistance projects in developing countries and regions.

■ Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

MOFA provides financial support for the socio-economic development projects that Japanese NGOs implement in developing countries through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. There is a wide range of fields in which the projects are implemented, such as medical care and health, education and human resources development, vocational training, rural development, water resource development, and human resources development for landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance. In FY2017, 62 Japanese NGOs utilized this framework

to implement 113 projects in 35 countries and 1 region, amounting to approximately ¥5.07 billion.

■ Japan Platform (JPF)

Japan Platform (JPF), an emergency humanitarian aid organization, was established in 2000 through partnership among NGOs, the government, and the business community, and 42 NGOs are its members as of January 2019. JPF utilizes ODA funds provided by MOFA, as well as donations from companies and citizens to carry out emergency humanitarian assistance, such as the distribution of living supplies and livelihood recovery, when a major natural disaster occurs or a vast number of refugees flee from conflicts. In FY2017, JPF implemented 83 projects under 10 programs, including humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan, assistance for the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Iraq and Syria, humanitarian assistance in Gaza Strip in Palestine, assistance in South Sudan, humanitarian assistance for displaced persons in Bangladesh, assistance for flood damage in Sierra Leone and South Asia, and assistance for Sri Lanka affected by flooding.

■ NGO Project Subsidies

MOFA provides subsidies to Japanese NGOs that conduct project formulation studies, post-project evaluations, and seminars and workshops in Japan and overseas for socio-economic development projects. The subsidies are provided at a maximum of ¥2 million up to half of the total project cost. In 2018, eight organizations utilized these subsidies to implement activities such as project formulation studies, post-project evaluations, and seminars and workshops both in and outside of Japan.

■ JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

JICA's technical cooperation projects are occasionally outsourced to the private sector including NGOs, so as to make use of the expertise and experience of various organizations including NGOs, universities, and local governments. Furthermore, JICA conducts the "JICA Partnership Program (JPP)" in which JICA entrusts international cooperation activities proposed by Japanese NGOs, universities, local governments, and public interest corporations, etc. with an interest in international cooperation. In FY2017, a total of 222 projects were implemented in 51 countries across the world. The Program offers three categories of assistance depending on the size and type of organizations: (i) Partner Type (scale of project: less than a total of ¥100 million, duration of project: less than 5 years), (ii) Support Type (scale: less than a total of ¥10 million, duration: less than 3 years), and (iii) Local Government Type (scale: less than a total of ¥30 million, duration: less than 3 years. Less than a total of ¥60 million for projects under the Special Category of Local Government Type.)



Giving instructions on vegetable farming to Zambian trainees as part of the "Project for enhancing the stable use of food by small-scale farmers through Marumori's traditional technology," which was selected under the Special Category of Local Government Type of JPP. See "Stories from the Field" (p.68) for more details. (Photo: Koya-Shinkokai Community)

● Support for the creation of an enabling environment for NGOs

Further measures to support Japanese NGO activities other than financial assistance include programs for establishing a better environment for NGO activities. The objective of these programs is to further strengthen the organizational arrangements and project implementation capabilities of Japanese NGOs, as well as develop their human resources. Specifically, MOFA carries out the following four programs.

■ NGO Consultant Scheme

Under this scheme, MOFA commissions highly experienced NGOs in all of Japan (15 organizations were commissioned in FY2017) to address inquiries and respond to requests for consultation from citizens and NGOs, regarding international cooperation activities, NGO organizational management methods, approaches for providing development education, etc. NGO consultants also provide free lectures and seminars on international cooperation at international cooperation events and other educational occasions, as well as create opportunities for many people to enrich their understanding of NGOs and international cooperation activities.

■ NGO Intern Program

The NGO Intern Program aims to open doors for young people seeking employment in Japanese international cooperation NGOs, and to train them to contribute to Japan's ODA in the future. Through this Program, MOFA seeks to expand the international cooperation efforts of Japanese NGOs and further strengthen the collaborative relations between ODA and NGOs. To this end, MOFA commissions international cooperation NGOs in Japan to accept and train interns, and disburse a certain amount of the training costs.

The NGOs that accept interns may apply to extend the internship duration for "new interns" hired for 10 months, for another 12 months as "continuing interns" which amounts to a maximum of 22 months of intern training. In FY2017, 10 interns were newly accepted into NGOs through this program.

■ NGO Overseas Study Program

The NGO Overseas Study Program covers the costs for the overseas training of mid-career personnel from Japanese international cooperation NGOs for up to six months, aiming at strengthening their organizations through human resources development. The training is divided into two types: “Practical Training,” through which the participants improve their practical skills and gain working experience at overseas NGOs or international organizations that have an excellent track record of international development projects and relevant policy recommendations, and “Training Enrollment,” through which participants enroll in fee-based programs offered by overseas training institutions, aiming at improving their expertise. Trainees can establish training themes themselves, based on the issues that their organizations are facing. Upon returning to Japan, trainees are expected to utilize the fruits of their training for their organizations’ activities, and contribute to enhance the capabilities of Japanese NGOs as a whole by sharing information with other Japanese NGOs. In FY2017, seven people received the training through this program.

■ NGO Study Group

MOFA supports Japanese NGOs in organizing study group meetings to build up the capabilities and expertise of NGOs. In particular, NGOs that are commissioned to implement the program conduct studies, seminars, workshops (participatory lectures), and symposiums in cooperation with other NGOs. This program is designed for NGOs to strengthen their organizations and capacities by accumulating experience through the above activities, and reporting or suggesting specific measures for improvement. In FY2017, study group meetings were held on the following three themes: (i) “Research on the Methods for Japanese NGOs to Assist the Development of Dialogue Process between the Government and Local NGOs in Asian and African Countries,” (ii) “Research on Challenges for Japanese NGOs in Safety and Security Management with Policy Recommendations,” and (iii) “Global Health and NGOs.” Activity reports and outcomes are available on the ODA website of MOFA.

■ NGO Activities Support Project by JICA

Apart from the support provided by MOFA, JICA also conducts NGO activities support programs in various forms such as training for NGOs and NPOs, public interest corporations, educational institutions, and local governments that carry out international cooperation activities. It is designed for them to conduct and promote more effective and constructive projects. As part of JICA’s own initiatives or through proposals by NGOs, JICA organizes training concerning the implementation of projects in developing countries, necessary to carry out the JICA Partnership Program (JPP), as well as training tailored to the situation of each region and field to strengthen the functions of NGOs.

■ NGO-JICA Japan Desk

In addition to supporting NGO’s on-site activities, JICA has also established “NGO-JICA Japan Desks” in 20 countries outside of Japan in order to strengthen projects jointly conducted by NGOs and JICA. The NGO-JICA Japan Desks provide support primarily in three areas: (i) Operations essential for the smooth implementation of JICA projects conducted in collaboration with Japanese NGOs, etc., (ii) Operations to assist on-site activities of Japanese NGOs, etc., and (iii) Operations necessary for enhancing cooperation between Japanese NGOs and JICA.

● Dialogue with NGO

■ NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings

In order to promote a stronger partnership and dialogue between NGOs and MOFA, the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting was launched in FY1996 for sharing information on ODA and regularly exchanging opinions on measures for improving partnerships with NGOs. In addition to the General Meeting held once a year, there are currently two subcommittees, the “ODA Policy Council” and the “Partnership Promotion Committee.” Both subcommittees are convened three times a year as a general rule. At the “ODA Policy Council,” opinions are exchanged on general ODA policies, while at the “Partnership Promotion Committee,” the agenda focuses on support for NGOs and partnership policies.

■ NGO-Embassies ODA Consultation Meeting

Since 2002, the Japanese Government has been organizing “NGO-Embassies ODA Consultation Meetings” in developing countries where many Japanese NGOs operate, providing actors from embassies, JICA, and NGOs a platform to exchange their views on the efficient and effective implementation of ODA.

■ NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting

Based on equal partnership with NGOs, JICA held the NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting four times in FY2017 to promote the realization of more effective international cooperation, as well as public understanding and participation in international cooperation.

(3) Collaboration with local governments

The various kinds of know-how possessed by the local governments of Japan are needed for the development of the economies and societies of developing countries around the world. For example, against the remarkable growth and urbanization of developing countries in recent years, responses to environmental issues and infrastructure issues have not been keeping up with the pace of growth. Therefore, the cooperation of the local governments of Japan, which have accumulated rich expertise in the fields of water, energy, waste disposal, disaster risk reduction,

Introducing Toyama's System of "Okigusuri (Drugs for Household Delivery Business)" to the World

Efforts Toward Enhancing Health and Hygiene in Myanmar through the Improvement of Traditional Medicines*

In Toyama Prefecture, there is a culture of "okigusuri." It is a system wherein each household is asked to set a medicine box in their home which houses a variety of medicines, and a salesperson called a *Baiyaku-san* visits each household periodically, collects the fees for drugs that have been used, and replenishes those that are running low. The fact that Toyama gained prominence nationwide as the prefecture that is home to the production of pharmaceutical products is said to originate with an old story. Long ago, when Lord Miharū of Fukushima Prefecture suffered a severe stomach ache at Edo Castle, Lord Toyama presented him with a medicine he happened to be carrying, and the stomach ache got better. Consequently, the lords from all around the country who saw this requested that Toyama should sell medicines of Toyama widely within their own domains. Today, there are approximately 80 drugs manufacturing companies within Toyama Prefecture.

On the other hand, in developing countries, there are many regions where medicines do not adequately reach the rural areas. Based on the idea that, although support is of course needed for the manufacture of good-quality pharmaceutical products in developing countries, an okigusuri system where a *Baiyaku-san* travels around to rural areas periodically would also be appropriate support for developing countries which have underdeveloped distribution methods. The Toyama Prefectural Government, the University of Toyama, and local companies have been jointly considering the possibility of providing support for developing countries which have problems in manufacturing, sales, and distribution of pharmaceutical products. Meanwhile, from 2006 through 2011, Toyama Prefecture provided assistance for activities to spread the okigusuri system in Mongolia, implemented by the Nippon Foundation. The system for traditional medicines has spread to Myanmar referring to the system in Mongolia. At the same time, guidance has been received since 2011 in response to the demand for technical support relating to quality analyses of traditional medicines at the University of Toyama, Institute of Natural Medicines, to try and maintain the quality of those traditional medicines.

In 2014, with support from the JICA Partnership Program (Special Category of Local Government Type), a project was started, with Research staff Mr. Katsuhiro Konno of the University of Toyama Institute of Natural Medicine taking the central role, to transfer the technology for the manufacturing management and quality management of pharmaceutical products to employees of pharmaceutical plants and the Ministry of Health and Sports, Department of Traditional Medicine, which are in charge of traditional medicines, with the objective of enhancing the quality of traditional medicines in Myanmar.

"Alongside malaria and others, diarrhea is regarded as one of the six major diseases in Myanmar, suffered by many people who contract it due to the poor hygienic environment, which can be hazardous if the condition deteriorates. At the time, manufacturing methods for anti-diarrhea medicines were not established yet, so we began with support for drug manufacturing," reflects Research staff Mr. Konno of the early days. By continuing steady activities like this over the three years to 2016, the quality of pharmaceutical products in Myanmar gradually improved, to the point where they are now highly regarded by the local people including healthcare professionals.

Since 2017, as the second stage of the project in Myanmar, they have been constructing a new drug manufacturing plant to produce traditional medicines, and implementing technical support relating to the management of facilities and products, and others. The plants currently in use are extremely old and not well equipped, which made it very difficult to raise

the quality of pharmaceutical products. With regard to the construction of the new plant, drugs manufacturing companies from Toyama Prefecture have been involved, and are also giving advice on drug manufacturing, based on global standards for the manufacturing management and quality management of pharmaceutical products. Once the plant is complete, this project is expected to realize the manufacture of drugs with global-level quality.

Relevant parties from Toyama Prefecture also feel that there is adequate potential for the development of household medicines in Myanmar. As many local people reside in rural areas with poor medical circumstances, and far from towns that have a hospital, a household medicines system can be expected to play a good role. However, some challenges have become clear.

At the beginning of the household medicines activities in Myanmar, one medicine box was delivered to each village, and to date, it has been possible to set medicine boxes in approximately 30,000 villages, accounting for half of the villages in the entire country. However, according to a subsequent investigation of the situation, in most cases, the *Baiyaku-san* could not go around timely enough as expected, and the boxes were left without being replenished. Having reflected on points like this, a project wherein one medicine box is given to each household, and the *Baiyaku-san* visits every three months as in Japan, was implemented as a trial in approximately 500 homes. As a result, it was confirmed that the *Baiyaku-san* was able to refill the drugs of each household precisely. Thus, in Myanmar, it is now considered to deploy the same okigusuri system as in Japan.

Through these assistance for drugs manufacturing and household medicines, positive effects have started to appear not only in Myanmar, but even in Toyama Prefecture. In May 2018, the Toyama Pharmaceutical Association, a group made up of drugs manufacturing companies and others within the prefecture, and the Myanmar Pharmaceuticals & Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs' Association (MPMEEA) concluded a memorandum, which stipulates the collaboration for developing trade in pharmaceuticals among other matters. Japanese drugs are highly priced in Myanmar, but since they are of high quality and very reliable, they can be anticipated to sell well, if the target for sales is focused on the wealthy population.

Mr. Kobayashi, the officer in charge of the Toyama Prefectural Health & Welfare Department Pharmaceutical Policy Division, which is involved in the project in Toyama, said the following. "The pharmaceuticals industry in Toyama Prefecture is one of the pillars that will support the growth of the prefecture going forward. Helping developing countries in raising the quality of pharmaceutical product, will also bring a positive impact on the industry in Toyama Prefecture. We would like to continue our support over the long term, while building this win-win relationship."

* In Myanmar, the jurisdiction of the Government for the manufacture and sale of so-called western-style medicines differs from that for traditional medicines; traditional medicines are manufactured in state-run factories under the jurisdiction of the country's Ministry of Health and Sports, Department of Traditional Medicine.



Official of the Department of Traditional Medicine, Myanmar (equivalent to a *Baiyaku-san*), explaining the okigusuri to local residents (Photo: University of Toyama)



Toyama prefecture's expert in pharmaceutical products manufacture and quality management giving advice on manufacturing equipment in the new plant (Photo: University of Toyama)

etc., is becoming increasingly necessary. For this reason, Japan has promoted the participation of local governments in ODA. Moreover, from the viewpoint of the needs of the local governments, Japan is actively promoting the overseas expansion of local governments including their industries in order to stimulate the revitalization and globalization of the local regions of Japan.

Furthermore, JICA established the “Special Category of Local Government Type.” under the JPP in FY2013. Aiming at striking a balance between local governments’ overseas expansions initiated by themselves, leveraging their expertise, experience, and skills and solving developmental issues in developing countries, this new measure is expected to create a win-win relationship, which contributes not only to the developing countries but also to the revitalization of local economies in Japan.

(4) Partnership with universities

Some of the roles of universities are: to contribute to the development of developing countries, to develop human resources that will be responsible for international cooperation, and to organize and disseminate the philosophy and theories of Japan’s assistance. Taking these roles of universities into account, Japan is striving to cooperate with various universities in terms of broad intellectual cooperation, regarding all aspects of the cycle of assistance, from organizing the theories of assistance to putting it into practice and giving back to the Japanese people through education. As a matter of fact, Japan is promoting various projects in collaboration with many universities, including technical cooperation, ODA loan projects, and the JICA Partnership Program (JPP).

As one example, with the objective of developing advanced human resources who will become the core

of socioeconomic development in developing countries, Japan utilizes the JICA Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) to accept young officials from developing countries as international students in a cumulative total of 36 universities. In FY2018, 321 students were newly accepted.

Moreover, under the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative), through industry-academia-government cooperation, 129 departments in 72 universities throughout Japan are accepting trainees. Furthermore, Japan has implemented the **ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net) Project***, as a JICA technical cooperation project, in which Japan is working to strengthen the network among Japanese and ASEAN universities, collaborating with the industrial sector, and engaging in joint research with neighboring countries.



Ms. Yuri Ushijima from the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University providing technical guidance in research at Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (CERMEL) in Lambaréné city, Moyen-Ogooué state in Gabon, under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development Program (SATREPS). See p.47 “Project Introduction” for details. (Photo: Jun Aoki, JICA operational liaison specialist)



Tanzania

Master’s Degree and Internship Program of African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)

Technical Cooperation (Training) / Loan Aid (August 2015 – September 2017)

Zanzibar Urban Water Distribution Facilities Improvement Project

Preparatory Survey (February 2016 – December 2017)

In Unguja, the largest island in the Zanzibar Archipelago in Tanzania, time restrictions in water availability and water outages were a part of everyday life. This lack of water supply was caused by the deteriorated water distribution facility, which was kept unrepaired due to financial difficulties. In response, Japan supported the transfer of technology relating to the installation of customer management systems and collection of fees, and established a water fee collection system for the Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA), in its technical cooperation project, “Project for Enhancement of Water Supply Management of Zanzibar Water Supply,” from 2008 to 2010. The current Director of ZAWA, Mr. Mussa Ramadhan Haji, has worked tirelessly as the ZAWA Customer Manager during Phase 2 of the Project (2011 – 2015). The implementation of this project contributed to an improvement of the managerial capabilities of ZAWA, which led to the provision of a stable water supply service.

Mr. Haji participated in the ABE Initiative in 2015, after the

conclusion of Phase 2. During the Program, he carried out a research in Toyo University on the relationship between the installation of water meters and water usage in ZAWA, and obtained a master’s degree in 2017. After returning to his country, he worked at the President’s Office – Public Service Management, and was appointed to Director of ZAWA by the President of Zanzibar in March 2018.

Director Haji strives to improve the water supply services of ZAWA under his strong leadership, and is also contributing to the development of the ODA Loan project, “Zanzibar Urban Water Distribution Facilities Improvement Project.”



Working to repair a well by the Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) (Photo: JICA)

In addition, a rapid surge in threats stemming from global issues such as global warming and infectious diseases in recent years calls for further advancement in science and technology for solutions. There is an increasing expectation for Japan's advanced science and technology especially in developing countries, since they are vulnerable to the impacts of these threats, and thus require research and development based on their regional needs. At the same time, it is also imperative for universities and research institutions in developing countries to improve their self-sustainable capabilities in research and development, and build a framework which promotes continuous activities. With this awareness of the issues in mind, JICA has been implementing the "Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development

(SATREPS)" ⁸ since 2008, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED). International joint studies between universities and research institutions of Japan and developing countries are being conducted through SATREPS (see p.24 "Stories from the Field" for specific examples).

Such partnerships with universities contributes to academic advancement in solving problems in developing countries, as well as the globalization of Japanese universities by welcoming trainees from overseas to train and conduct research in Japan.



Glossary

*ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net)

AUN/SEED-Net was launched in 2001 as a university network comprising 26 top-ranking engineering universities in 10 ASEAN member countries, and 14 partner universities from Japan. It implements various research and education activities to produce advanced human resources in the engineering sector, with the aim of realizing sustainable development in Southeast Asia and Japan. This initiative is implemented with mainly the support from the Government of Japan through JICA, in cooperation with the governments and universities of Southeast Asia and Japan.

(5) Partnership with other countries and international organizations

A. Partnership with other countries

Japan promotes coordination with other donors in each region and field. Japan also conducts high level dialogues on a wide range of development issues. In 2018, one such dialogue with the EU was held. It is becoming increasingly important to cooperate and collaborate with other donors to effectively utilize the ODA budget and address development issues by the international community as a whole.

Members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the so-called traditional donor countries, have been taking a leading role in carrying out development cooperation thus far. Nonetheless, emerging donor countries such as China, India, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, and Turkey have also started to provide assistance for developing countries, and to gain significant influence in recent years on the development issues. Japan, having experienced the transition from an aid recipient to a leading donor, has been striving to promote the effectiveness of development cooperation implemented by emerging donors to developing countries (South-South cooperation), by providing assistance to emerging countries, in collaboration with other countries including emerging countries, particularly by means of Triangular Cooperation.

B. Partnership for the G7 development issues

From May 31, 2018 to June 2, 2018, the G7 Development Ministers Meeting was held in Whistler, Canada for the first time in eight years. Representing Japan, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakane attended the meeting. At the meeting, discussions were held on a range of development topics with a focus on gender, and in addition to the Meeting Chair's Summary, (1) the Whistler Declaration on Unlocking the Power of Adolescent Girls for Sustainable Development, (2) the Whistler Declaration on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action, (3) the Whistler Declaration



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakane (at the time) shaking hands with the Minister for International Development Marie-Claude Bibeau of Canada (Chairman) at the G7 Development Ministers Meeting held in Whistler, Canada

⁸ Refer to "Glossary" (p.23) for information on SATREPS.

on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in International Assistance, and (4) the Whistler Principles to Accelerate Innovation for Development Impact were also issued.

C. Partnership with International Organizations

Amidst the growing need in recent years for the international community to make unified efforts to address global issues, such as poverty, climate change, disaster risk reduction, and health issues, Japan is cooperating with international organizations.

The OECD-DAC is working for development cooperation aligned to the current era, including the “2030 Agenda,” through strengthening cooperation with various actors such as emerging countries and the private sector. Specifically, discussions are underway on the revision of measurement methods for the proper assessment of each country’s ODA disbursements, approaches to utilize ODA for mobilization of development funds from the private sector, and approaches to statistically capture a wide range of non-ODA development finance, including private sector investment and financing from emerging donor countries.

In 2016, Japan returned to the OECD Development Centre, which is a think tank of the OECD that conducts surveys and research regarding the development issues of developing countries. Not only OECD member states, but also emerging countries and developing countries that are not members of the OECD participate in the Centre. It plays an important role as a forum for policy dialogue on development in a variety of regions. In April 2018, Japan jointly organized the “Seminar on Promoting Quality Infrastructure” with the Centre, and will continue to cooperate closely and fulfill its role in strengthening the Centre’s relationship with Asia. This Seminar presented Japan’s voluntary contributions to the Centre to promote the concept of “Quality Infrastructure,” and also introduced each activity for Quality Infrastructure to relevant countries and organizations. As a result, the importance of building infrastructure with a focus not only on quantity, but also on quality, was recognized among the participants.

Japan contributes to discussions related to improving effectiveness of development cooperation through multi-stakeholder partnerships in the international arena, particularly within the context of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC), an international forum established at the 2011 Busan High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness. At the Second High-Level Meeting of GPEDC in 2016, Japan also contributed to discussions by leveraging examples from its own achievements in development cooperation to widely present the effectiveness of triangular cooperation as one effective and inclusive collaborating tool to achieve the SDGs.

2 Efforts for Spreading Awareness of Development Cooperation

(1) Efforts for Information Disclosure and Promoting Public Understanding and Support

In order to deepen the public understanding and support for the sustainable implementation of development cooperation based on the Development Cooperation Charter, MOFA and JICA are proactively engaged in encouraging discussion and dialogue on development cooperation, promoting development education, and disclosing and conveying information regarding the current status of development cooperation. In addition, MOFA and JICA provide opportunities for a wide range of Japanese nationals to directly participate in development assistance in developing countries and to experience ODA field work, through disseminating information to various regions and a broad range of people. At the same time, MOFA and JICA recognize the importance of strengthening human resources development and the foundations of knowledge, in order to respond appropriately to the increasing diversity and complexity of development issues. Japanese diplomatic missions and overseas JICA offices are making coordinated efforts on public relations activities in developing countries, aiming to enhance understanding in the international community towards the concept of Japan's development cooperation.

A. Strengthening public relations, information disclosure, and information dissemination

MOFA and JICA are striving to release and disseminate accurate information by linking to each other's ODA-related websites.⁹ MOFA also publishes an ODA email magazine, which introduces actual onsite experiences and episodes of development cooperation, provided by the staff of Japan's overseas diplomatic missions, members of JICA, employees of NGOs, staff of international organizations, and more stationed in the field.

In addition, MOFA is engaged in PR efforts using various media, to promote public interest and understanding toward international cooperation. In 2018, an animated video content, "Go! ODA-Man," was produced by MOFA featuring the popular anime, "Eagle Talon." In this video content, MOFA introduced development cooperation projects that are currently carried out around the world, such as the ASEAN Maritime Security Project, and Education Support Projects in Kenya, in an easy-to-understand manner. It was broadcasted in the Tokyo Metro's Train Channel, as well as via carriers such as BS Television, as part of the public relations activities aiming to reach out to a wide range of people.

Likewise, in May 2018, then State Minister for

Foreign Affairs Kazuyuki Nakane appointed the Japanese comedy duo "Penalty" as Goodwill Ambassadors for KUSANONE (Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects), and entrusted them with duties relating to the public relations activities on KUSANONE.

One of Japan's largest international cooperation events called "Global Festa JAPAN" is held every year around the International Cooperation Day (October 6), jointly hosted by MOFA, JICA, and the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC). In 2018, the event was held at Symbol Promenade in Odaiba, Tokyo on Saturday September 29. A total of 268 entities, including NGOs, international organizations, embassies in Tokyo, enterprises, and relevant ministries and agencies took part in the event, which welcomed 43,888 visitors.

Moreover, Japanese diplomatic missions conduct public relations activities abroad to promote a deeper understanding of Japan's proactive international contribution through ODA. Specifically, they disseminate information through local news media by providing press releases on the occasion of signings and handover ceremonies related to development cooperation. The diplomatic missions also organize site-visit tours of Japan's development cooperation projects for the local media to provide opportunities for them to report on Japan's cooperation initiatives. In addition, the diplomatic missions distribute the English version of the White Paper on Development Cooperation to leading figures in their stationed countries to introduce Japan's development cooperation, host various lectures, as well as publish websites, PR pamphlets, and other sources of information both in English and local languages.

B. Information disclosure on implementation and evaluation of ODA

In 2010, the "ODA Mieru-ka Site" (a website for visualization of ODA) was launched in the JICA website to provide a concise explanation of the overview and outcome of ODA projects, and to further enhance public understanding and support for ODA. JICA publishes photographs, ex-ante/ex-post evaluations, and other related information on the website about ODA loan, grant aid, and technical cooperation projects out of all the ODA projects in the world, and continues its efforts to increase dissemination of ODA-related information.

Likewise, the MOFA website publishes a list of summaries of the specific achievements and lessons from the past projects funded by Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects and Cultural Grant

⁹ MOFA's ODA website: <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/index.html>
JICA's website: <http://www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html>

Assistance projects, including projects which proved to be effective or deficient, in order to promote more effective implementation of ODA.

C. Promotion of development education

MOFA organizes the “ODA Delivery Lecture,” which provides information and explanation about Japan’s international cooperation and ODA by sending Ministry officials as lecturers to junior high and high schools, universities, NGOs, and other places. Similarly, in order to support development education, JICA also provides the “International Cooperation Delivery Lecture,” which sends former JICA volunteers and others as lecturers, and promotes cross-cultural and international understanding by giving a talk on their experience and life in developing countries, upon requests from schools and other organizations. JICA also organizes “Visit JICA,” which welcomes visits by schools to domestic offices and the showcase facilities “JICA Global Plazas” located in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Sapporo. In addition, JICA conducts the “JICA Essay Contest on International Cooperation for Junior and Senior High School Students.” For teachers, JICA also provides training programs, such as the “Training Program for Development Education Leaders” and the “Study Tour Program for Teachers” in which teachers are dispatched to developing countries with the aim of utilizing their overseas experiences for teaching.

D. On-site ODA experience

Providing opportunities to experience development cooperation sites and the actual situation of ODA for as many people as possible, is one of the most effective ways to foster public understanding of ODA. In this respect, JICA is striving to support the dispatch of teachers and local government officials to ODA project sites.

E. Promotion of discussion and dialogue

The Government of Japan is holding information sessions across Japan regarding ODA-related initiatives including assistance for small and medium-sized enterprises through ODA projects. Likewise, lectures and symposiums are held to introduce trends in international cooperation and Japan’s efforts, offering opportunities to engage in dialogue with members of the public who have an interest in how Japan’s foreign policy and ODA should be implemented.

Furthermore, JICA organizes roundtables and lectures with representatives from local industries, government officials, experts, and local university and school staff, by utilizing its domestic regional offices. Through these efforts, JICA aims to encourage the sharing of the experience of international cooperation from different regions of Japan, as well as to promote regional revitalization.



A lecturer and students in an International Cooperation Delivery Lecture (Photo: JICA)

ODA Topics 6

Learn more about Japan's ODA activities that contribute to the world!
"Go! ODA-Man"



Learning about ODA via Anime Movie

You, reading this column, surely are interested in support for developing countries, or are studying about development cooperation, right? Either that, or you might already be engaged in an ODA-related job, or participating in international cooperation activities. So, you must have thought about the following at some point, "I want to get more people to learn about the world, about developing countries, and about development cooperation!"

We also feel the same way. The development of developing countries is crucial for the entire world to become more peaceful and prosperous. The peace and prosperity of Japan can be achieved only when peace and prosperity are secured in the world. That is to say, that stability in the international community is important even to Japan.

ODA plays an important role in achieving this, but since it is mostly carried out overseas, opportunities to learn about it in Japan are limited. It seems many people think, "I have heard of 'ODA', but do not quite know what it means..."

Thus, in order to further spread the notion of ODA to the general public, Minister for Foreign Affairs Kono appointed "Yoshida-kun," the main character in the anime "Eagle Talon," as "ODA-Man" of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in September 2018, and created the "Go! ODA-Man" series, a joke-heavy movie to introduce Japan's ODA, which helps people around the world.

It is a short anime, in which "ODA-Man" energetically introduces the Japanese ODA in the world including Kenya, Turkey, Peru, and the Asian coastal countries, beginning with the history of Japan, which once was the recipient country of assistance, before it started to support developing countries around the world via ODA. It was broadcast from September through October 2018 on Tokyo Metro's Train Channel and BS Broadcasting, in addition to the distribution of the Manga version on LINE application and its broadcast on the official YouTube channel of MOFA.





Go! ODA-Man Movie [Episode: Turkey] (see page 98 for an introduction of this project)



Manga version "Go! ODA-Man"

Appearance of the "ODA-Man" at Global Festa

On September 29, at one of the largest international cooperation events in Japan, "Global Festa Japan" held in Odaiba, Tokyo, the one-day only "ODA-Man" made an appearance in full costume! The dream joint performance of a live voice recording by "ODA-Man" who could be met here only, and voice actor FROGMAN, also the creator of "Eagle Talon," caused a massive stir of excitement to the venue, despite the pouring rain.



ODA-Man and FROGMAN at "Global Festa Japan 2018" (September 29, Tokyo)



"Global Festa Japan," an international cooperation event jointly held every year by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JICA, and Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC). As many as 268 participants exhibited in booths, including NGOs, companies, international organizations and foreign embassies in Tokyo, with 43,888 attendees in one day. (September 29, Tokyo)



High five with ODA-Man! (September 29, Tokyo)



Can you read it properly? In big letters, O. D. A.! (September 29, Tokyo)

In order to ensure that the meaning, objective and significance of ODA, which is carried out with valuable tax money, is explained responsibly and thereby understood, "ODA-Man" will continue to strive to deepen the interest and understanding of the general public toward ODA, so please continue to support him!

ODA Topics 7

Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects

Public Relations Activities by Grassroots Ambassadors “Penalty”

Going to school, receiving medical treatment at a hospital, drinking clean water, living in a safe area without land mines... There are many countries and regions where such decent livelihoods cannot be taken for granted. In order to directly approach regions like this, and deliver what they truly need, the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (KUSANONE) was established. Having started in 1989, it reached the 30th anniversary of its commencement in 2018, and has implemented an accumulated total of approximately 30,000 projects to date.

The targets for support are mainly the construction of small-scale facilities and the provision of equipment and machinery, such as classrooms for primary and secondary schools, basic medical equipment for hospitals, and the digging of wells. Assistance has also been provided for the transportation costs incurred in granting used Japanese fire engines and ambulances, antipersonnel mine clearance and victim-support activities, provided from a humanitarian perspective, and for public-private partnerships, wherein Japanese companies work together with organizations such as NGOs.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of



Grassroots Ambassadors: Penalty



Interaction in Thailand (visit to a local school)



Left: “KUSANONE” image character “KUSANONEKO.” The cute character, which is holding a blade of grass, brings smiles to the faces of people around the world.
Right: “KUSANONE” logo. The tree in the middle depicts “people.” It is an image conveying the connection between people and their warmth.

KUSANONE, a letter of appointment as “Grassroots Ambassadors” was sent by the (then) State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakane to Hide (Mr. Hideki Nakagawa) and Wakky (Mr. Yasuhito Wakita) of “Penalty,” who are comedians, affiliated with Yoshimoto Kogyo Co., on May 30, 2018, in order to further promote and appeal the activities of KUSANONE, to people in and outside of Japan.

Among their specific activities as Grassroots Ambassadors, “Penalty” visited the local schools and support facilities for migrant workers and disabled people, where grassroots projects are actually taking place, in August 2018 in Thailand. They interacted with the local people, using their skills in soccer and the Thai language, and paid a courtesy call to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Furthermore, in addition to appearing in interviews in the November 2018 edition of the “International Development Journal” and the December edition of the JICA PR magazine “MUNDI,” in February 2019, they performed in the One World Festival, one of the largest international cooperation events in West Japan, where they promoted and appealed the activities of KUSANONE in an easy-to-understand and entertaining style.



A scene at the One World Festival

(2) Enhancement of Human Resources and Intellectual Foundations for Development Cooperation

The Government of Japan has set a target of 1,000 Japanese staff working in UN-related organizations by the year 2025. To achieve this, MOFA is cooperating with universities, Japanese offices of international organizations, and relevant government ministries and agencies, while proactively seeking out, training, and supporting human resources with the capacity to be active and to contribute on the world stage. As part of this mission, MOFA is engaged in PR to assist in finding human resources, with efforts such as providing guidance to explain the employment systems of international organizations, both in Japan and abroad, as well as holding career information sessions where explanations are given by executives and HR managers from international organizations visiting Japan.

MOFA conducts the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, which dispatches young Japanese people who wish to become the regular staff of international organizations, for two years in principle as staff in international organizations, and allows them to accumulate necessary knowledge and experience, with the aim of attaining a regular staff position after their tenure. As such, MOFA strives to nurture human resources to be active in international organizations, including in the area of development cooperation. Since the participation in this system in 1974, a cumulative total of approximately 1,700 people have already been dispatched, 59 of whom were in FY2017.

Additionally, in FY2015, MOFA reformed its existing human resources development program and launched the “Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development” with the purpose of finding and fostering human resources in peacebuilding and development cooperation, and developing their careers in a comprehensive manner. This program consists of: the “Primary Course,” which provides domestic and overseas training for individuals willing to pursue careers in the fields of peacebuilding and development, the “Mid-Career Course,” which supports the career advancement of individuals who already have a certain amount of practical experience in those fields, and the “Global Career Course” (started from FY2018) for professionals who hope to build

a new career in international organizations. Furthermore, the government of Japan provides “Career Development Support,” which imparts skills and knowledge necessary to obtain positions and advance careers, for those who seek employment in international organizations and NGOs in the fields of peacebuilding and development.

Moreover, since 1997, JICA has offered internships to graduate students and other individuals who conduct research closely related to development cooperation, and are willing to play an active role in this field in the future. In FY2017, 119 individuals were offered internships at various workplaces including the worksites of development consultants. In addition, the “Human Resources Information Center for International Cooperation” within JICA provides recruitment information related to international cooperation, human resources registration service, information on various training and seminars, career counseling, and other services on its PARTNER (Participatory Network for Expert Recruitment) website. This initiative is based on the recommendations of the Second Consultative Committee on ODA Reform in 2002, and aims to provide more opportunities to people who have specialized knowledge and diverse experiences at ministries and agencies, JICA, NGOs, and international organizations. In addition, JICA offers the Associate Expert Program and the Capacity Enhancement Training among other types of training to foster and secure international cooperation professionals.

Furthermore, the Government of Japan secures human resources with a high degree of professional abilities and abundant work experience in developing countries through the Senior Advisor System. The JICA Research Institute conducts policy research based on actual experience in development cooperation using internationally recognized methodologies, while providing its research outcome and recommendation to the governments of developing countries and the donor communities in international development.

The Government of Japan will work with universities and research institutions, and strive to reinforce the intellectual foundations to plan and disseminate development cooperation activities by promoting joint policy research and intellectual networking among researchers from Japan and developing countries, while utilizing Japan’s strengths.

Stories from the Field

8

Voices of Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations

Message from the Maldives to Everyone Interested in International Cooperation

22 years have passed since I responded to a question during my JPO* interview about my future career, saying "I want to become a United Nations Resident Coordinator of a country." Currently, I am in my 5th year of my appointment as the UN Resident Coordinator and Country Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Maldives. A UN Resident Coordinator is a general coordinator of UN Agencies that are active inside and outside the country of appointment. The scope of the work is widely varied, and involves directing the five-year development plan of the entire UN, advocacy activities relating to human rights, and preventive diplomacy based on analysis of the political situation. To date, I have worked in nine countries, and the pleasure of working as a UN Resident Coordinator here in the Maldives is beyond compare.

I became interested in a career in development when I went on a diving trip to the Philippines during my fourth year in university. In contrast with what should have been an enjoyable holiday, I witnessed the heartbreaking plight of the street children. This experience raised my awareness of the issues related to inequality, and made me think of what I can do to improve the international community. In my JPO interview, although I spoke of my big dream, I never thought that I would really become a UN representative. In addition to effort, willpower, and physical strength, I feel that I was able to open up my future path by picturing my life goals clearly.

Later, after getting a master's degree and working at a think tank in Tokyo for a little less than two years, I was dispatched in 1998 as a JPO to post-conflict Tajikistan. Afterwards, I was assigned to the offices in Kosovo, former Yugoslavia, and Administrator's office of the UNDP headquarters in New York, followed by appointments to the Congo suffering from continued disorder, Pakistan after a big earthquake, Mongolia where mine development was gaining attention, and post-civil-war Nepal. I was able to be present on the frontline during important transitional phases in the development of each country, and gained valuable experiences.

Each and every one of these countries faces individual developmental challenges, and the strategies and solutions that should be pursued varies respectively. It is important to share the problem awareness with the governments and communities, and make them take ownership in tackling their own challenges, as well as to ensure sustainability, and to respond flexibly to the situations.

I have been involved in numerous projects to date. The work that has remained most strongly in my memory is the election support I engaged in as a



Women waiting to vote in a long line for the Constituent Assembly elections in Nepal in 2013 (Photo: Representative Shoko Noda)



Representative Shoko Noda enjoying a friendly chat with women in a community in the Maldives (Photo: Munshid Mohamed/UNDP Maldives)

country representative of UNDP Nepal. Since the conclusion of the peace agreement in November 2006, the UNDP has been engaged in capacity-building of the Secretariat of the Election Commission in Nepal, and in particular, provided focused support on the Constituent Assembly elections in 2013. Almost every day, I kept in close touch with the Election Commissioner, responded to the demands for even politically sensitive support, and somehow made it to the election day, despite the severely limited time.

On the day of the election, I visited polling stations in several places in Kathmandu and its surroundings, to check the voting situation with my own eyes. Many voters, including neatly-dressed women, walked for hours on mountain roads, and cast their votes after waiting for a further two to three hours at the polling station. In such an environment, the voting turnout would probably be in single digits in Japan, and yet the 2013 Constituent Assembly elections marked a turnout of approximately 80%, the highest result in Nepal's history. Having seen the Nepalese people exercising their democratic rights despite the fact that democracy had only a short history in Nepal, I was immersed in a sense of fulfillment that our hardships prior to the elections paid off.

The work of development cooperation is extremely satisfying. In fact, there are various work places that come to mind, such as the UN and other international organizations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NGOs, and universities. The job types are also diverse, ranging from managerial positions like my own, to specialists and volunteers. I feel that you can work with a greater sense of satisfaction, if you clarify what you want to do, know your strengths, and thereby, determine in which organization and field, the work will be suited to yourself.

Shoko Noda
UN Resident Coordinator and
UNDP Resident Representative to the Maldives

* Personnel dispatched under a system (the Junior Professional Officer Programme) for young Japanese nationals who aspire to work in international organizations as regular staff, wherein they work as personnel in various international organizations for a fixed period of time (two years in principle), with the expense of their dispatch covered by the Japanese Government.

3 Efforts to Ensure Appropriate Development Cooperation

Japan's ODA has, over many years, not only contributed to the development and growth of developing countries in various ways but also established firm bonds of friendship and trust between Japan and developing countries, as well as enhance Japan's standing in the international community, and eventually, further ensuring the peace and prosperity of Japan. However, it was not without challenges and struggles. There were cases of frauds committed in implementing ODA projects, failures in delivering expected outcomes, and delays due to unforeseen circumstances. ODA projects have also caused unanticipated impacts on the environment or local communities, or resulted in accumulated debt. Furthermore, the development cooperation by the Government of Japan occasionally receives negative feedback that Japan's presence is barely visible, or objectives of the assistance have not been achieved.

The Government of Japan has made efforts in order to consider these experiences as worthwhile, and strives to turn them into lessons for the future. To this end, Japan has continued efforts to improve evaluation systems, enhance its transparency, and hold dialogues with a wide range of stakeholders, including civil society. Through these initiatives, Japan implements ODA with consideration for impacts on the environment and climate change, and the socially vulnerable including the poor, women, ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities. It is carried out under the policy of "contributing to peace and prosperity through cooperation for non-military purposes," which promotes the development cooperation that is suitable for Japan as a peace-loving nation, so as to realize true prosperity among the people in developing countries. Japan has also established the mechanisms to prevent fraudulent practices, held dialogues and coordination with recipient countries, and arranged detailed project management and follow-up processes. The Government of Japan will continue to make ceaseless efforts to implement more effective and appropriate development cooperation.

(1) Anti-Corruption

Since Japan's ODA is funded by taxpayers' money, fraudulent practices associated with ODA projects are absolutely unacceptable, as such practices not only disturb the appropriate and effective implementation of development cooperation, but also undermine public trust in ODA projects.

However, fraudulent practices relating to ODA have been recurring even today, and serious actions need to be taken. In order to prevent such practices, it is necessary, for example, to ensure that organizations are aware that those practices will always be found if taken, and severe penalties will be imposed. Therefore, based on its experiences of fraudulent practices in the past, MOFA

and JICA have taken measures to enhance its monitoring systems, such as "strengthening the function of the Consultation Desk on Anti-Corruption" and "expanding third-party checks", as well as measures to reinforce penalties, such as "increasing the maximum period for suspension measures," "raising the amount of penalty charges for breaching contracts," and "introduction of a point-deduction system on corporations that repeatedly engage in serious fraudulent practices." Furthermore, in 2018, MOFA and JICA revised the criteria regarding suspension measures, and took actions such as "expanding the scope of targets for suspension," which made them possible to take measures against the corporate groups of suspended individuals, and measures against successors of business transfer during the term of imposed measures.

The Government of Japan will make continuous efforts to prevent fraudulent practices in cooperation with JICA, under the strong determination that such practices in association with ODA projects are entirely unacceptable.

(2) Securing the Safety Measures for People Involved in International Cooperation Projects

The security situations are complex in developing countries, where not only the JICA staff, experts, and volunteers, but also a variety of people involved in international cooperation projects such as consultants, contractors and NGOs are working. These situations differ in each country, and are constantly changing.

In response to the terrorist attack in Dhaka in July 2016, MOFA and JICA, together with the relevant ministries and experts, reviewed safety measures for people involved in international cooperation projects, and released the "Final Report" in August the same year. The Report recognizes that "safety is no longer free of cost" and the need to take safety measures led by the leaders of organizations. In order to secure the safety of a wider range of people involved in international cooperation projects and NGOs, the Report put together a list of actions to be taken relating to the following:

- (i) Strengthening the collection, analysis, and sharing of threat information
- (ii) Code of conduct of project partners and NGOs
- (iii) Physical and non-physical protective measures, and strengthening training and drills
- (iv) Post-crisis response
- (v) Raising crisis management and improving the organizational structure of MOFA and JICA

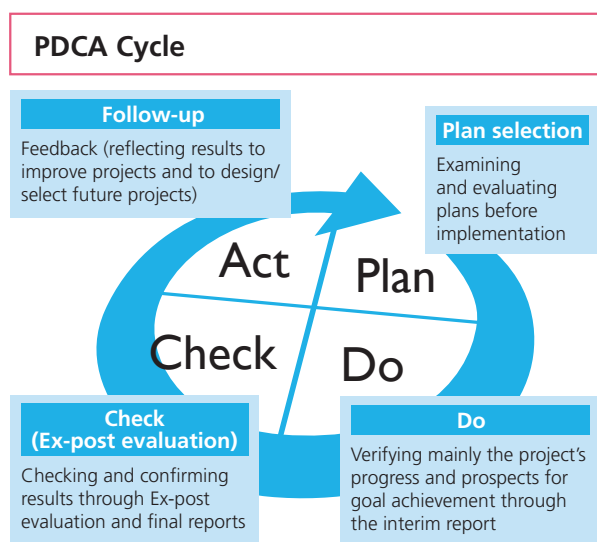
Since then, MOFA and JICA have been steadily implementing these new safety measures.

(3) Conducting evaluation

In order to enhance the transparency of ODA projects and to improve its accountability, Japan has been working

on the thorough implementation of the following measures: (i) enhancing the PDCA cycle (project formation (Plan), implementation (Do), evaluation (Check), follow-up activities (Act)), (ii) strengthening the Program Approach, and (iii) reinforcing “visualization.”

With regard to enhancing the PDCA cycle, the ongoing efforts include: (i) formulating Country Development Cooperation Policies for all recipient countries of Japan’s ODA, (ii) convening the Development Project Accountability Committee, (iii) setting indicators for individual projects, and (iv) strengthening the evaluation mechanism.



In order to implement ODA projects more effectively and efficiently, strengthening of the PDCA cycle not only at the project level but also at the policy level is required. To this end, MOFA conducts policy evaluations of economic cooperation policies based on the “Government Policy Evaluations Act (GPEA)”¹⁰, as well as ODA evaluations by third parties who approach the evaluation from a neutral position.

Third-party evaluations are mainly carried out at the policy-level (e.g., country assistance evaluations and Thematic/Aid-Modality evaluations). They evaluate from

development viewpoints based on three evaluation criteria, namely, whether the policies and programs are consistent with Japan’s high-level ODA policies and the needs of the aid recipient countries (relevance of the policies), whether the initial goals have been achieved (effectiveness of the results), and whether an appropriate process was taken until the implementation of the policies (appropriateness of the process). In addition to evaluations from development viewpoints, evaluation is also conducted based on diplomatic viewpoints, considering the importance of verifying the diplomatic impact of implemented policies and programs. Since FY2015, basically all of MOFA’s third-party evaluations have been conducted using the diplomatic viewpoints, and efforts are now underway to improve evaluations from those viewpoints in order to clarify the diplomatic importance and diplomatic impact of ODA (how Japan’s ODA has contributed to realizing its national interests). As an example of how Japan’s ODA is perceived overseas, in the Opinion Poll on Japan in Ten ASEAN Countries¹¹, close to 90% of the respondents indicated that Japan’s ODA has been helpful in the development of their countries.

Furthermore, the widespread publication of the evaluation results through the MOFA website and other means plays a role in fulfilling accountability to the public, in the aspects of how ODA is being used and what effects it has had.¹²

JICA also conducts evaluations on respective projects of grant aid, ODA loan and technical cooperation, as well as thematic evaluations on each project. JICA conducts consistent monitoring and evaluation from the pre-implementation stage to the implementation, and post-implementation stages for each project, and has established a coherent evaluation mechanism for these three schemes of assistance. These evaluations are conducted in accordance with the DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance, and for projects that exceed a certain cost, post-project evaluations by third party evaluators (external evaluations) are carried out. JICA also strives to enhance impact evaluations¹³, recognizing the importance of quantitatively assessing the effects of their projects.

¹⁰ Ex-ante evaluations are conducted on loan aid projects, in which the maximum amount of loan offered through an Exchange of Notes (E/N) is 15 billion yen or more, and on grant aid projects, in which the maximum amount of aid offered through an E/N is 1 billion yen or more. Ex-post evaluations are conducted on “pending projects” and “incomplete projects.” (“Pending projects” are projects for which the loan agreement has not been signed or loan disbursement has not begun after five years have elapsed following the decision to implement the project. “Incomplete projects” are projects for which loan disbursements have not been completed after ten years have elapsed following the decision to implement the project.)

¹¹ Results of an opinion poll on Japan commissioned by MOFA and conducted by a public opinion research agency, on 10 ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam) in March 2017. The poll targeted 300 respondents aged 18 to 59 in each country, and was conducted through a combination of online surveys and partially through face-to-face interviews. URL: https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001780.html

¹² ODA evaluation: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/index.html>

¹³ Impact evaluation refers to a method for verifying the effects of development projects by using methods from statistics and econometrics.

Issues regarding Budget Execution Management at JICA

Each year, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Operation Expenses Grant is disbursed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) budget to JICA as funds for the project expenses for technical cooperation and its administrative expenses. During FY2017, it was confirmed that out of this JICA Operation Expenses Grant, the estimated amount of necessary payments within the fiscal year for technical cooperation will greatly exceed the budgeted amount. In light of this situation, JICA urgently reduced expenditures within FY2017 by such means as slowing down the budget executions by rescheduling planned projects to subsequent fiscal years and suspending preparations for the implementation of new projects, in order to keep the expenditures within the budget of FY2017. This process perplexed the parties concerned, including the government officials in the countries where the projects had been scheduled, consultants and technical cooperation experts.

In response to the occurrence of this issue regarding budget execution management, MOFA and JICA immediately implemented steps to strengthen budget execution management for the projects implemented under the JICA Operation Expenses Grant in June 2018. They established the Budget Execution Management Office in JICA as the department with the clear authority and responsibility for the cross-sectoral management and control of the JICA budget in July 2018, and took measures such as strengthening governance through the board of directors and improving systems to bolster budget execution management. Moreover, they convened the “Advisory Committee to Strengthen Budget Execution Management” under the President of JICA to clarify the causes that created the situation, and provide recommendations for further measures to prevent recurrence. The Committee, comprised of external experts in the areas of organization and management, accounting management and incorporated administrative agency auditing, and IT systems, held deliberations over a total of eight sessions and compiled its final report in December.

As the background of the issue, the report lists the fact that new projects were formulated enthusiastically and swiftly during the last Medium-term Objectives Period in response to the rising demands for funds, to cover the strong development needs in developing countries, accompanied by the intention to execute the entire budget for the period which ends in FY2016. It also mentions that the expected amount of expenditures in future fiscal years was not managed appropriately, and that JICA executed the budget assuming a down side in execution and additional budget allocations. Based on these considerations, the report provides specific recommendations such as the correction of the relaxation of prior control on the JICA budget, timely and appropriate budget execution management at the individual project level, appropriate estimation and management of future-fiscal-year expenditures, visualization of the state of budget execution, and clarification of the role of the board of directors and its members.

MOFA and JICA accept the fact that this budget execution management issue undermined the trust and expectations of the Japanese public, recipient countries and other related parties, and are going forward with the rectification of internal control through such means as the appropriate implementation of the recommendations of this report. MOFA and JICA will strive to recover trust, so that such an issue will never arise again.

(4) “Advisory Board for ODA”

From the perspective of utilizing ODA even more efficiently and effectively within the limited budget, the Advisory Board for ODA was held under Minister for Foreign Affairs Taro Kono over four sessions since July 2018. In this Advisory Board, experts held discussions on how to strengthen implementing organizations (international cooperation NGOs, private-sector organizations, etc.) and have them play roles according to their respective strengths. Their recommendations were submitted in November, at the fourth session, which indicated the following five points:

1. Consider the division of roles within the overall picture of development cooperation, as well as strengthen competition and collaboration
2. Enhance the understanding and recognition of ODA among the Japanese public and citizens
3. Expand general administrative expenses to strengthen the financial foundations of NGOs.
4. Establish a public-private matching fund to bolster funding for international cooperation.
5. Nurture human resources to conduct development cooperation.

MOFA will firmly accept the content of these recommendations, hold intensive discussions with a wide range of people concerned and implement ODA more efficiently and effectively.

Reference Statistics

1	FY2018 ODA Budget (Initial Budget)	128
	(1) ODA Budget	128
	(2) ODA General Account Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)	128
	(3) ODA Project Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)	129
	(4) Financing Sources for the ODA Project Budget and Expenditure by Type of Assistance	130
	(5) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (General Account)	131
	(6) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (Project Budget)	131
2	Japan's ODA Disbursements in 2017	132
	(1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2017)	132
	(2) Breakdown of Bilateral ODA by Country and Type (2017)	133
	(3) Distribution of Bilateral ODA by Sector (2017)	138

Statistics other than the above information published until the White Paper on Development Cooperation 2017 are available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website on the White Paper on Development Cooperation (https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page_000017.html)

1 FY2018 ODA Budget (Initial Budget)

(1) ODA Budget

(Units: ¥100 million, %)

Category	FY2017			FY2018		
	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
General account budget	5,527	8	0.1	5,538	11	0.2
Project budget (net)	13,704	2,031	17.4	14,440	735	5.4
Scale of projects (gross)	21,000	2,448	13.2	21,650	650	3.1
JP¥ exchange rate against US\$	¥110			¥112		

Note:

- In this chart, the "Amount change from previous year" and "Percentage change from previous year" are calculated in units of less than ¥100 million. Therefore, they may not correspond to the calculation results using the figures in the table.

(2) ODA General Account Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)

(Units: ¥100 million, %)

Category	FY2017			FY2018		
	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
I Grants	5,076	0	0.0	5,078	3	0.1
1. Bilateral Grants	4,155	2	0.1	4,161	6	0.1
(1) Economic development assistance, etc.	1,631	2	0.1	1,605	-26	-1.6
(2) Technical cooperation	2,508	1	0.0	2,540	32	1.3
(3) Others	16	0	0.0	16	0	0.0
2. Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	921	-2	-0.3	917	-3	-0.4
(1) UN and other international organizations	607	8	1.4	610	2	0.4
(2) MDBs	313	-11	-3.3	307	-6	-1.9
II Loans	452	8	1.8	460	8	1.8
JICA (Finance and Investment Account)	452	8	1.8	460	8	1.8
III Total	5,527	8	0.1	5,538	11	0.2

Notes:

- In this chart, the "Amount change from previous year" and "Percentage change from previous year" are calculated in units of less than ¥100 million. Therefore, they may not correspond to the calculation results using the figures in the table.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.

(3) ODA Project Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)

(Units: ¥100 million, %)

Category	FY2017			FY2018		
	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
I Grants	8,090	149	1.9	7,945	-146	-1.8
1. Bilateral Grants	4,851	8	0.2	4,858	6	0.1
(1) Economic development assistance, etc.	1,631	2	0.1	1,605	-26	-1.6
(2) Technical cooperation	3,205	7	0.2	3,237	32	1.0
(3) Others	16	0	0.0	16	0	0.0
2. Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	3,239	140	4.5	3,087	-152	-4.7
(1) UN and other international organizations	999	-22	-2.1	1,033	34	3.4
(2) MDBs	2,240	162	7.8	2,054	-186	-8.3
II Loans	12,910	2,299	21.7	13,705	795	6.2
(1) JICA (Finance and Investment Account)	12,720	2,195	20.9	13,630	910	7.2
(2) Others	190	104	121.3	75	-115	-60.4
III Total (project scale)	21,000	2,448	13.2	21,650	650	3.1
(Reference) Amount received	-7,296	—	—	-7,210	—	—
Net	13,704	2,031	17.4	14,440	735	5.4

Notes:

- In this chart, the “Amount change from previous year” and “Percentage change from previous year” are calculated in units of less than ¥100 million. Therefore, they may not correspond to the calculation results using the figures in the table.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.

(4) Financing Sources for the ODA Project Budget and Expenditure by Type of Assistance

FY2017 project budget				FY2018 project budget			
Gross ¥2.1000 trillion (13.2% increase)				Gross ¥2.1650 trillion (3.1% increase)			
Expenditure by type of assistance		Budgetary sources		Budgetary sources		Expenditure by type of assistance	
Grant aid 163.1 billion (0.1% increase)		General account 552.7 billion (0.1% increase)	MOFA 434.3 billion (0.0% increase)	General account 553.8 billion (0.2% increase)	MOFA 434.4 billion (0.0% increase)	Grant aid 160.5 billion (1.6% decrease)	
Technical cooperation 320.5 billion (0.2% increase)						Technical cooperation 323.7 billion (1.0% increase)	
Others 1.6 billion (same as previous year)						Others 1.6 billion (same as previous year)	
UN and other international organizations (Contributions) 99.9 billion (2.1% decrease)		Total for 11 ODA-related ministries and agencies 118.4 billion (0.6% increase)	Total for 11 ODA-related ministries and agencies 119.4 billion (0.8% increase)	UN and other international organizations (Contributions) 103.3 billion (3.4% increase)			
MDBs (Contributions/issuance of government bonds for contributions) 224.0 billion (7.8% increase)		Special account 1.4 billion (36.8% decrease)	Special account 1.0 billion (27.5% decrease)	MDBs (Contributions/issuance of government bonds for contributions) 205.4 billion (8.3% decrease)			
		Subscriptions/issuance of government bonds for contributions 231.2 billion (6.6% increase)		Subscriptions/issuance of government bonds for contributions 216.4 billion (6.4% decrease)			
		Fiscal investment and Loan program, etc. 1.3147 trillion (21.3% increase)		Fiscal investment and Loan program, etc. 1.3938 trillion (6.0% increase)			
ODA loan, etc. 1.2910 trillion (21.7% increase)						ODA loan, etc. 1.3705 trillion (6.2% increase)	
Net ¥1.3704 trillion (17.4% increase) Amounts received ¥729.6 billion				Net ¥1.4440 trillion (5.4% increase) Amounts received ¥721.0 billion			

(5) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (General Account)

(Units: ¥ million, %)

Category	FY2017	FY2018		
	Budget amount	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
National Police Agency	14	14	-0.2	-1.1
Financial Services Agency	131	137	6	4.3
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	795	814	19	2.4
Ministry of Justice	362	384	22	6.2
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	434,329	434,450	120	0.0
Ministry of Finance	77,842	77,630	-213	-0.3
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	15,019	15,750	731	4.9
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	6,402	6,452	50	0.8
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	2,642	2,745	103	3.9
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	14,077	14,344	266	1.9
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	513	475	-38	-7.4
Ministry of the Environment	607	643	36	6.0
Total	552,734	553,837	1,103	0.2

Notes:

- In this chart, the "Amount change from previous year" and "Percentage change from previous year" are calculated in units of less than ¥1 million. Therefore, they may not correspond to the calculation results using the figures in the table.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.

(6) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (Project Budget)

(Units: ¥ million, %)

Category	FY2017	FY2018		
	Budget amount	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
National Police Agency	14	14	-0.2	-1.1
Financial Services Agency	131	137	6	4.3
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	795	814	19	2.4
Ministry of Justice	362	384	22	6.2
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	472,836	476,146	3,309	0.7
Ministry of Finance	1,566,294	1,638,562	72,268	4.6
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	15,019	15,750	731	4.9
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	6,979	6,813	-166	-2.4
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	21,651	10,264	-11,387	-52.6
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	14,713	14,985	272	1.8
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	513	475	-38	-7.4
Ministry of the Environment	725	643	-82	-11.2
Total (project scale)	2,100,033	2,164,987	64,955	3.1
(Reference) Amount received	-729,605	-721,013	—	—
Net	1,370,428	1,443,974	73,546	5.4

Notes:

- In this chart, the "Amount change from previous year" and "Percentage change from previous year" are calculated in units of less than ¥1 million. Therefore, they may not correspond to the calculation results using the figures in the table.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.

Reference
Statistics

1

Reference Statistics

1

FY2018 ODA Budget (Initial Budget)

2 Japan's ODA Disbursements in 2017

(1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2017)

● Including disbursements for graduated countries

2017 (calendar year)				Dollar basis (US\$ million)			Yen basis (¥100 million)				
Type				Current year	Previous year	Change from the previous year (%)	Current year	Previous year	Change from the previous year (%)		
		Grant aid		2,620.59	2,812.31	-6.8	2,939.86	3,059.87	-3.9		
		Debt relief		19.10	15.32	24.7	21.43	16.67	28.6		
		Grants provided through multilateral institutions		1,345.93	1,600.30	-15.9	1,509.90	1,741.17	-13.3		
		Grant aid excluding the above		1,255.56	1,196.70	4.9	1,408.53	1,302.04	8.2		
		Technical cooperation		2,884.77	2,777.57	3.9	3,236.22	3,022.07	7.1		
	Total grants				5,505.36	5,589.88	-1.5	6,176.08	6,081.94	1.5	
		Loan aid		2,530.76	1,422.13	78.0	2,839.08	1,547.31	83.5		
		(Loan aid, excluding debt relief)		2,530.76	1,422.13	78.0	2,839.08	1,547.31	83.5		
		(Amount disbursed)		9,578.89	7,860.87	21.9	10,745.90	8,552.83	25.6		
		(Amount recovered)		7,048.14	6,438.74	9.5	7,906.82	7,005.52	12.9		
		(Amount recovered excluding debt relief)		7,048.14	6,438.74	9.5	7,906.82	7,005.52	12.9		
		Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis)				15,084.25	13,450.75	12.1	16,921.98	14,634.78	15.6
		Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis)				8,036.11	7,012.01	14.6	9,015.16	7,629.26	18.2
		Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions				3,382.38	3,368.34	0.4	3,794.46	3,664.84	3.5
	Total ODA (Gross disbursement)				18,466.63	16,819.09	9.8	20,716.44	18,299.62	13.2	
	Total ODA (Net disbursement)				11,418.49	10,380.35	10.0	12,809.62	11,294.10	13.4	
Preliminary estimate of nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)				5,038.44	5,114.54	-1.5	565,227.80	556,475.60	1.6		
% of GNI				0.23	0.20		0.23	0.20			

● Excluding disbursements for graduated countries

2017 (calendar year)				Dollar basis (US\$ million)			Yen basis (¥100 million)		
Type				Current year	Previous year	Change from the previous year (%)	Current year	Previous year	Change from the previous year (%)
			Grant aid	2,616.53	2,806.95	-6.8	2,935.31	3,054.04	-3.9
			Debt relief	19.10	15.32	24.7	21.43	16.67	28.6
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions	1,344.94	1,598.82	-15.9	1,508.79	1,739.56	-13.3
			Grant aid excluding the above	1,252.49	1,192.81	5.0	1,405.08	1,297.81	8.3
			Technical cooperation	2,883.40	2,775.70	3.9	3,234.68	3,020.04	7.1
			Total grants	5,499.93	5,582.66	-1.5	6,169.99	6,074.08	1.6
			Loan aid	2,580.35	1,465.81	76.0	2,894.71	1,594.84	81.5
			(Loan aid, excluding debt relief)	2,580.35	1,465.81	76.0	2,894.71	1,594.84	81.5
			(Amount disbursed)	9,578.89	7,856.80	21.9	10,745.90	8,548.41	25.7
			(Amount recovered)	6,998.55	6,390.99	9.5	7,851.19	6,953.56	12.9
			(Amount recovered excluding debt relief)	6,998.55	6,390.99	9.5	7,851.19	6,953.56	12.9
			Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis)	15,078.82	13,439.45	12.2	16,915.89	14,622.49	15.7
			Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis)	8,080.27	7,048.47	14.6	9,064.70	7,668.92	18.2
			Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	3,382.38	3,368.34	0.4	3,794.46	3,664.84	3.5
			Total ODA (Gross disbursement)	18,461.20	16,807.79	9.8	20,710.35	18,287.33	13.2
			Total ODA (Net disbursement)	11,462.65	10,416.80	10.0	12,859.16	11,333.76	13.5
Preliminary estimate of nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)				5,038.44	5,114.54	-1.5	565,227.80	556,475.60	1.6
% of GNI				0.23	0.20		0.23	0.20	

Notes:

- "Grant aid" here includes debt relief and grants provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Debt relief here refers to cancellation of commercial debts, and does not include debt rescheduling.
- Conversion rate: 2017 US\$1=¥112.1831, 2016 US\$1=¥108.8027 (The exchange rate designated by the OECD-DAC.)
- Graduated countries are countries that have been removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients (see Chart I-7, page 9).
- Japan has a record of disbursements to the following 12 graduated countries and regions that are currently not DAC members: Bahamas, Barbados, Brunei, [French Polynesia], [Hong Kong], [New Caledonia], Oman, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates.

(2) Breakdown of Bilateral ODA by Country and Type (2017)

(Unit: US\$ million)

Country or region \ Type		Japan's ODA (2017)						Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grants			Loan aid				
		Grant aid	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	Total (A)-(B)		
Asia	686.22	131.93	781.59	1,467.81	7,541.62	5,408.95	2,132.67	3,600.48	9,009.43
East Asia	402.65	50.52	438.78	841.43	3,047.27	3,930.69	-883.42	-41.99	3,888.70
Northeast Asia	31.51		32.57	64.08	462.73	974.74	-512.02	-447.94	526.81
China	0.26		5.44	5.70	4.35	959.09	-954.74	-949.04	10.05
*[Hong Kong]			0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00
Mongolia	31.25		27.10	58.35	458.38	15.65	442.73	501.08	516.73
Southeast Asia	369.88	49.26	401.64	771.51	2,584.54	2,955.95	-371.40	400.11	3,356.06
*Brunei			0.01	0.01				0.01	0.01
Cambodia	83.15	4.34	41.58	124.73	64.19	5.64	58.55	183.28	188.92
Indonesia	11.50	3.87	69.30	80.80	439.79	1,568.72	-1,128.94	-1,048.13	520.59
Laos	25.52	3.12	21.70	47.23	30.17	4.97	25.19	72.42	77.39
Malaysia	6.36		13.32	19.68	14.71	124.03	-109.31	-89.63	34.39
Myanmar	135.96	18.99	91.15	227.11	151.96		151.96	379.07	379.07
Philippines	63.17	10.20	52.01	115.18	237.12	494.00	-256.89	-141.71	352.30
*Singapore	0.99	0.99	0.05	1.04				1.04	1.04
Thailand	9.89	7.75	28.38	38.27	350.34	296.94	53.40	91.67	388.61
Viet Nam	19.60		76.17	95.76	1,293.84	461.64	832.20	927.96	1,389.60
(ASEAN)* ¹	356.14	49.26	393.68	749.82	2,582.11	2,955.95	-373.83	375.98	3,331.93
Timor-Leste	13.74		7.96	21.70	2.43		2.43	24.13	24.13
Multiple countries in East Asia* ²	1.26	1.26	4.58	5.84				5.84	5.84
South Asia	188.59	27.27	299.35	487.94	3,844.07	1,375.07	2,469.00	2,956.94	4,332.00
Bangladesh	40.32	6.45	44.67	84.99	1,336.66	108.99	1,227.67	1,312.66	1,421.65
Bhutan	16.43		11.95	28.37	0.11	0.95	-0.83	27.54	28.49
India	1.35		162.76	164.11	2,212.00	821.48	1,390.52	1,554.63	2,376.10
Maldives	3.14	0.46	2.41	5.55		1.07	-1.07	4.47	5.55
Multiple countries in South Asia* ³	1.34	1.34	0.67	2.01				2.01	2.01
Nepal	28.25		29.96	58.21	47.70	8.51	39.20	97.41	105.91
Pakistan	71.47	17.82	21.01	92.49	75.79	241.63	-165.84	-73.36	168.28
Sri Lanka	26.28	1.20	25.93	52.21	171.80	192.44	-20.64	31.58	224.02
Central Asia and the Caucasus	46.95	15.75	34.94	81.89	326.41	103.19	223.22	305.11	408.30
Armenia	0.33		3.87	4.21		10.01	-10.01	-5.80	4.21
Azerbaijan	1.15		0.43	1.58	48.39	19.83	28.56	30.14	49.97
Georgia	0.88	0.37	0.96	1.85	14.78	2.55	12.23	14.08	16.63
Kazakhstan	0.28		1.35	1.63		40.62	-40.62	-38.98	1.63
Kyrgyz Republic	17.31	7.13	11.64	28.95		0.51	-0.51	28.44	28.95
Tajikistan	16.86	1.78	7.23	24.09				24.09	24.09
Turkmenistan			1.93	1.93		1.95	-1.95	-0.02	1.93
Uzbekistan	3.65		5.86	9.51	263.24	27.73	235.51	245.01	272.74
Multiple countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus	6.48	6.48	1.66	8.13				8.13	8.13
Multiple countries in Asia* ⁴	48.03	38.37	8.53	56.56	323.87		323.87	380.43	380.43

Reference
Statistics
2

Reference Statistics

2

Japan's ODA Disbursements in 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

(Unit: US\$ million)

Country or region	Type	Japan's ODA (2017)						Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)	
		Grants			Loan aid					
		Grant aid	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	Total (A)-(B)			
										Grants provided through multilateral institutions
Middle East and North Africa		631.49	508.03	131.27	762.76	972.39	655.83	316.56	1,079.33	1,735.16
Afghanistan		208.58	179.80	25.11	233.69				233.69	233.69
Algeria		0.24	0.19	0.61	0.85		0.72	-0.72	0.14	0.85
Egypt		7.62	1.98	32.24	39.86	100.11	183.21	-83.10	-43.24	139.97
Iran		16.66	5.42	12.84	29.51		23.08	-23.08	6.43	29.51
Iraq		53.25	50.41	13.14	66.40	303.61	16.88	286.73	353.13	370.00
Jordan		84.20	54.14	10.25	94.45	178.01	83.17	94.84	189.29	272.46
Lebanon		18.18	17.38	1.40	19.59		6.21	-6.21	13.38	19.59
Libya		2.64	2.64		2.64				2.64	2.64
Morocco		7.47		10.32	17.80	140.64	81.26	59.38	77.18	158.44
*Oman				0.03	0.03				0.03	0.03
[Palestine]		34.72	31.59	12.22	46.94				46.94	46.94
*Saudi Arabia				0.70	0.70				0.70	0.70
Syria		52.43	52.43	2.51	54.95				54.95	54.95
Tunisia		2.71	0.19	4.67	7.39	102.79	67.40	35.39	42.78	110.18
Turkey		14.31	13.89	3.20	17.51	146.25	191.68	-45.42	-27.91	163.76
*United Arab Emirates				0.03	0.03				0.03	0.03
Yemen		50.58	50.58	0.06	50.64		0.07	-0.07	50.57	50.64
Multiple countries in Middle East and North Africa* ⁵		77.88	47.39	1.91	79.78	0.98	2.16	-1.18	78.61	80.77
Sub-Saharan Africa		637.51	265.11	379.92	1,017.43	685.86	108.58	577.28	1,594.70	1,703.29
Angola		0.79		2.92	3.71				3.71	3.71
Benin		15.86		4.49	20.35				20.35	20.35
Botswana		0.31		4.20	4.51	7.24	4.02	3.22	7.74	11.76
Burkina Faso		8.87	4.20	10.50	19.37				19.37	19.37
Burundi		1.73	1.47	0.86	2.58				2.58	2.58
Cabo Verde		1.94		0.54	2.48	5.64		5.64	8.12	8.12
Cameroon		7.80	7.69	8.64	16.43	12.76		12.76	29.19	29.19
Central Africa		10.86	10.86	0.03	10.90				10.90	10.90
Chad		10.99	5.19	0.23	11.21				11.21	11.21
Comoros		1.78		0.33	2.12				2.12	2.12
Côte d'Ivoire		22.44	1.05	15.98	38.43				38.43	38.43
Democratic Republic of the Congo		28.74	9.20	11.90	40.63				40.63	40.63
Djibouti		13.24	1.10	3.68	16.92				16.92	16.92
Equatorial Guinea				0.15	0.15				0.15	0.15
Eritrea		2.67		0.83	3.50				3.50	3.50
Eswatini		2.94	2.94	0.80	3.74		1.80	-1.80	1.94	3.74
Ethiopia		11.25	5.39	27.66	38.90				38.90	38.90
Gabon		0.42		3.16	3.58		0.88	-0.88	2.69	3.58
Gambia				0.41	0.41				0.41	0.41
Ghana		34.57		16.63	51.20				51.20	51.20
Guinea		26.65	7.78	3.42	30.08				30.08	30.08
Guinea-Bissau		2.41	2.41	0.41	2.82				2.82	2.82
Kenya		17.39	6.28	36.75	54.14	108.55	81.95	26.60	80.73	162.69

(Unit: US\$ million)

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Reference
Statistics

2

Reference Statistics

2

Japan's ODA Disbursements in 2017

(Unit: US\$ million)

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(Unit: US\$ million)

(Unit: US\$ million)

Country or region	Type	Japan's ODA (2017)						Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)	
		Grants				Loan aid				
		Grant aid		Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)			Total (A)-(B)
			Grants provided through multilateral institutions							
Europe		10.43	1.96	20.79	31.22	61.53	67.78	-6.26	24.96	92.75
Albania				3.75	3.75	15.32	3.03	12.30	16.04	19.07
Belarus		0.17		0.07	0.23				0.23	0.23
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1.31	0.44	0.95	2.26	15.34	1.20	14.14	16.40	17.60
*Bulgaria							14.20	-14.20	-14.20	
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		0.45		0.36	0.81		4.67	-4.67	-3.85	0.81
Kosovo		0.39		2.69	3.08				3.08	3.08
Moldova		4.93		0.59	5.53				5.53	5.53
Montenegro		0.13		0.02	0.16				0.16	0.16
*Romania							30.12	-30.12	-30.12	
Serbia		0.62		3.45	4.07	30.86	1.00	29.87	33.94	34.93
Ukraine		2.43	1.52	8.31	10.75		8.30	-8.30	2.44	10.75
Multiple countries in Europe*7				0.26	0.26				0.26	0.26
Assistance encompassing multiple regions		487.33	435.30	1,362.61	1,849.94				1,849.94	1,849.94
Bilateral ODA total		2,620.59	1,345.93	2,884.77	5,505.36	9,578.89	7,048.14	2,530.76	8,036.11	15,084.25
		(2,601.49)	(1,345.93)	(2,884.77)	(5,486.26)	(9,578.89)	(7,048.14)	(2,530.76)	(8,017.01)	(15,065.15)

Notes:

- Asterisks (*) denote graduated countries and regions; square brackets [] denote region names.
- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- Figures for Grant aid include those provided through multilateral institutions that can be classified by country.
- Aid for multiple countries is aid in the form of seminars or survey team dispatches, etc. that spans over multiple countries within a region.
- Negative numbers appear when the recovered amount of loans, etc. exceeds the disbursed amount.
- Values in brackets () do not include debt relief.
- Assistance encompassing multiple regions includes items that cannot be regionally classified such as survey team dispatches, etc. spanning over multiple regions.
- Contributions to the OECD-DAC member countries are not respectively shown in the table, but are included in the total amounts.

*1 Each number in the row of (ASEAN) is the total amount of Japan's bilateral ODA disbursements for Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

*2 Figures under "ODA for multiple countries in East Asia" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore do not incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Myanmar.

*3 Figures under "ODA for multiple countries in South Asia" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Afghanistan, as well as for multiple countries including Myanmar.

*4 Figures under "ODA for multiple countries in Asia" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including some areas of the Middle East.

*5 Figures under "ODA for multiple countries in Middle East and North Africa" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore do not incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Afghanistan, for multiple countries including Turkey, and for multiple countries that cut across North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

*6 Figures under "ODA for multiple countries in Sub-Saharan Africa" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries that cut across some areas of North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

*7 Figures under "ODA for multiple countries in Europe" utilize data based on the OECD-DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Turkey.

(3) Distribution of Bilateral ODA by Sector (2017)

2017 (calendar year)

(Commitments basis, Unit: US\$ million)

Sector	Type	Grant Aid	Technical Cooperation	Total Grants	Loan Aid	Bilateral ODA	
						(Share, %)	
I. Social infrastructure & services		1,112.25	782.79	1,895.03	1,363.36	3,258.40	16.15
1. Education		307.35	373.67	681.01	164.92	845.93	4.19
2. Health		214.42	80.03	294.44	—	294.44	1.46
3. Population policies and reproductive health		22.59	18.17	40.76	—	40.76	0.20
4. Water and sanitation (water and sewerage)		175.17	108.32	283.50	1,198.45	1,481.94	7.34
5. Government and civil society		308.10	82.75	390.85	—	390.85	1.94
6. Other social infrastructure & services		84.62	119.85	204.48	—	204.48	1.01
II. Economic infrastructure & services		442.20	397.86	840.06	9,038.07	9,878.13	48.95
1. Transport and storage		292.29	279.63	571.92	7,179.10	7,751.03	38.41
2. Communications		24.04	18.79	42.84	—	42.84	0.21
3. Energy		122.84	64.65	187.49	1,858.96	2,046.45	10.14
4. Banking and financial services		2.28	20.42	22.70	—	22.70	0.11
5. Business support		0.74	14.37	15.12	—	15.12	0.07
III. Production sectors		168.81	349.85	518.66	2,116.78	2,635.43	13.06
1. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries		150.47	204.84	355.30	1,751.02	2,106.33	10.44
1) Agriculture		103.92	154.01	257.92	1,384.59	1,642.52	8.14
2) Forestry		1.24	28.39	29.62	184.84	214.46	1.06
3) Fisheries		45.31	22.44	67.76	181.59	249.34	1.24
2. Manufacturing, mining and construction		10.50	98.96	109.46	365.76	475.22	2.36
1) Manufacturing		10.50	89.21	99.71	365.76	465.47	2.31
2) Mining		—	6.96	6.96	—	6.96	0.03
3) Construction		—	2.79	2.79	—	2.79	0.01
3. Trade and tourism		7.84	46.05	53.89	—	53.89	0.27
1) Trade		7.84	33.91	41.75	—	41.75	0.21
2) Tourism		—	12.14	12.14	—	12.14	0.06
IV. Multi-sector aid		341.07	616.54	957.61	675.05	1,632.66	8.09
1. General environmental protection (biodiversity, flood prevention, etc.)		38.39	35.32	73.71	231.12	304.83	1.51
2. Other multi-sector (urban/rural development, etc.)		302.68	581.22	883.90	443.93	1,327.82	6.58
V. Commodity aid and general program assistance		156.05	—	156.05	998.10	1,154.15	5.72
1. General budget support		—	—	—	998.10	998.10	4.95
2. Food aid		73.15	—	73.15	—	73.15	0.36
3. Import support		82.90	—	82.90	—	82.90	0.41
VI. Debt relief* ¹		19.10	—	19.10	—	19.10	0.09
VII. Humanitarian aid (emergency food aid, reconstruction, disaster risk reduction, etc.)		709.06	49.14	758.20	87.85	846.04	4.19
VIII. Administrative costs and others		61.74	692.54	754.28	—	754.28	3.74
Total		3,010.28	2,888.71	5,898.99	14,279.20	20,178.19	100.00
BHN (I.+III.1+V.2+VII.)		2,044.92	1,036.76	3,081.68	3,202.23	6,283.91	31.14

Notes:

- Due to rounding, the total may not match the sum of each number.
- Including assistance for graduated countries.
- BHN (basic human needs) consist of: I. Social infrastructure; III- 1. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries, V- 2. Food aid and VII. Humanitarian aid. BHN mean the minimum living requirements for human beings such as food, clothing and shelter as well as education.
- These data are based on DAC_CRS Statistics categories.

*1 "VI. Debt relief" means not granting new funds but modifying repayment and other conditions of the loans already provided by the government. The debt relief in 2017 was only a cancellation of commercial debts, and no debt rescheduling was provided.

Reference Materials

Developments Surrounding Japan's Development Cooperation (January - December 2018)	140
The Development Cooperation Charter (approved by Cabinet decision in February 2015).....	144
Abbreviations	154

Developments Surrounding Japan's Development Cooperation (January - December 2018)

Year/ Month	Major Developments in Japan's Development Cooperation	Year/ Month	International Conferences and Other Events Related to Japan's Development Cooperation
2018.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Grant Aid for the displaced persons returning to Myanmar • During Prime Minister Abe's visit to Bulgaria, Serbia and Romania, he announced the Western Balkans Cooperation Initiative, which aims to support the economic and social development of the Western Balkan countries 	2018.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Japan-FAO Strategic Consultation Meeting (in Tokyo) • An Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLIC) on the coordination of assistance for Palestine (in Brussels)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispatch of the Expert Team for the damage caused by the earthquake in the Eastern Coast of Taiwan • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid for one project in Laos (¥1.94 billion), in the presence of Special Adviser to the Prime Minister Sonoura (in Vientiane) • Emergency Assistance to Mozambique in response to the torrential rainfall disaster • Emergency Assistance to Tonga in response to the damage caused by the cyclone • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Afghanistan for a project to promote the electoral process in Afghanistan (total grant amount of up to ¥1.473 billion) (in Kabul) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan (total loan amount of up to ¥292.38773 billion) to the International Development Association (IDA) (in Washington DC) • Emergency Grant Aid for two countries in Africa affected by conflict and drought (Somalia and Central Africa) 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth Meeting of the Japan-Philippines Joint Committee on Infrastructure Development and Economic Cooperation (in Cebu) • Kuwait International Conference for the Reconstruction in Iraq (in Kuwait) • 2nd session of Japanese-Tunisian Dialogue on Security and Counter-terrorism (in Tokyo)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Assistance to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea in response to the damage caused by the earthquake • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to Sri Lanka (total loan amount of up to ¥10.639 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loans to Myanmar for four projects (total loan amount of up to ¥117.04 billion) (in Naypyidaw) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loans to India for four projects (total loan amount of up to ¥149.218 billion), in the presence of Foreign Minister Kono and Foreign Minister Swaraj of India (in Tokyo) 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial Meeting in support of Lebanon's Armed Forces and Internal Security Forces (Rome II Conference) (in Rome) • 8th World Water Forum (in Brasilia) • Kick-off Ceremony in Relation to the Provision of Emergency Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) (in Vienna)
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loans to Iraq for the Basrah Water Supply Improvement Project (second term) and Irrigation Sector Loan (Phase 2) (total loan amount of up to ¥34.88 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister al-Abadi (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to Cambodia (total loan amount of up to ¥9.216 billion) (in Phnom Penh) • Seminar on Promoting Quality Infrastructure co-hosted by MOFA and the OECD Development Centre (in Tokyo) • Emergency Grant Aid for three countries in the Middle East affected by the Syrian crisis • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loans for Uganda including the Kampala Metropolitan Transmission System Improvement Project and one other project (total loan amount of up to ¥18.577 billion), and the Grant Aid for the Project for the Improvement of Regional Referral Hospitals in Northern Uganda (total grant amount of up to ¥2.86 billion) (in Kampala) 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Officials Meeting on Supporting Job Creation and Vocational Training to Facilitate Weapons Reduction for Iraqi Society (in Tokyo) • G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (in Toronto) • Second Public-Private Sector Roundtable Discussion on U.S.-Japan Cooperation on Third Country Infrastructure (in Washington D.C.) • Supporting the future of Syria and the region Brussels II Conference, 2018 (in Brussels) • Fourth Japan-Morocco Joint Committee (in Tokyo)

Year/ Month	Major Developments in Japan's Development Cooperation	Year/ Month	International Conferences and Other Events Related to Japan's Development Cooperation
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Jordan for the Project for the Improvement of Waste Management Equipment in Northern Region Hosting Syrian Refugees (total grant amount of up to ¥1.631 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Amman) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Solomon (total grant amount of up to ¥4.364 billion) (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Tonga (total grant amount of up to ¥2.837 billion) (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Palau (total grant amount of up to ¥1.311 billion) (in Tokyo) • Emergency Assistance to Djibouti in response to the flooding disaster • On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the launch of Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project, the comedian duo "Penalty" (belonging to Yoshimoto Kogyo) was appointed as the Grass-Roots Ambassador (in Tokyo) • SDGs Promotion Roundtable Meeting (fifth Meeting) (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Viet Nam for two projects (total grant amount of up to ¥2.627 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe and President Quang (in Tokyo) 	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert Group Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation Roadmaps for the SDGs (in Tokyo) • 8th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM8) (in Iwaki, Fukushima Prefecture) • G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (in Buenos Aires) • 71st World Health Assembly (WHA) (in Geneva) • OECD Ministerial Council Meeting (in Paris) • G7 Development Ministers' Meeting (in Whistler, Canada)
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Assistance to the Republic of Guatemala in response to the eruption of a volcano • Provision of emergency relief goods in response to the Ebola virus disease outbreak in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief Infectious Diseases Response Team • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Myanmar (total grant amount of up to ¥5.549 billion) (in Naypyidaw) • Emergency Grant Aid in response to the Ebola virus disease outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo • The Expanded SDGs Action Plan 2018 was approved at the fifth meeting of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Indonesia (grant amount of ¥2.5 billion), in the presence of Foreign Minister Kono (in Jakarta) 	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G7 Charlevoix Summit (in Charlevoix, Canada) • 33rd Japan-ASEAN Forum (in Tokyo) • Fifth Meeting of the Japan-Philippines Joint Committee on Infrastructure Development and Economic Cooperation (in Tokyo) • Ukraine Reform Conference (in Copenhagen) • Third Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD) (in Bangkok)
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixth Japan-EU high-level policy dialogue on development cooperation (in Brussels) • Emergency Assistance to the Laos People's Democratic Republic in response to the flood disaster • First meeting of the Advisory Board for ODA (in Tokyo) 	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN High-Level Political Forum, 2018 (in New York)
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement in principle on the Japan-ASEAN Technical Cooperation Agreement (in Singapore) • Emergency Assistance to Myanmar in response to the flood disaster • Provision of emergency relief goods in response to the Ebola virus disease outbreak in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (in Singapore) • International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Asia Pacific Regional Group Meeting (in Tokyo)

Year/ Month	Major Developments in Japan's Development Cooperation	Year/ Month	International Conferences and Other Events Related to Japan's Development Cooperation
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During Foreign Minister Kono's visit to Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, he announced the Caucasus Initiative, through which Japan aims to support the self-sustained development of the Caucasus region • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Loan Aid to Ecuador (total loan amount of up to US\$70 million (Approx. ¥7.73 billion*)), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to Iraq for the Water Supply Improvement Project in Kurdistan Region (II) (total loan amount of up to ¥2.463 billion) (in Baghdad) • Second meeting of the Advisory Board for ODA (in Tokyo) • Start of broadcast of the ODA PR video "Go! ODA Man" • At the EU-hosted High Level Meeting on Syria, Foreign Minister Kono announced a new assistance from Japan to Syria amounting to approximately \$10 million (Approx. ¥1.1 billion*) (in New York) • Foreign Minister Kono co-hosts the UN General Assembly High-Level Side Event: "Promoting Quality Infrastructure" with the EU and UN (in New York) • Global Festa JAPAN 2018 (in Tokyo) 	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Economic Forum on ASEAN (in Hanoi, Viet Nam) • G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting (in Mar del Plata, Argentina) • 62nd IAEA General Conference (in Vienna) • G7 Energy Ministers' Meeting (in Halifax, Canada) • Foreign Minister Kono attended the Women Foreign Ministers' Meeting Co-hosted by Canada and the EU (in Montreal) • General Debate of the 73rd UN General Assembly (in New York) • Sixth Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Conference (in New York) • Inaugural Meeting of the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (in New York) • SDGs-related conference co-hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, European Commission, and OECD Development Centre (in New York) • High-level meeting "A Call to Invest: Investing in Youth Jobs in Africa" (in New York) • EU-hosted High-level Meeting on the Syria and Japan's new humanitarian assistance to support the Syrians (in New York) • UN High-level Meeting on Tuberculosis (in New York) • Ministerial Meeting on United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) (in New York) • Ministerial meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) on the coordination of assistance for Palestine (in New York)
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Assistance to the Earthquake and Tsunami disaster in the Republic of Indonesia • Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Team (Japan Self-Defense Forces Units) for the Earthquake and Tsunami disaster in the Republic of Indonesia • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Myanmar (total grant amount of up to ¥4.176 billion) (in Naypyidaw) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Viet Nam (total grant amount of up to ¥1.204 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Phuc (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Laos (total grant amount of up to ¥900 million), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Thongloun (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to the Philippines (total loan amount of up to ¥4.376 billion) (in Manila) • State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abe announced the promotion of support for measures against poaching of elephants in their habitat countries, at the fourth International Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade (in London) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship to Timor Leste, in the presence of Foreign Minister Kono (in Timor Leste) • During Prime Minister Abe's visit to China, he announced the termination of adoption of all new ODA projects to China as of this fiscal year, in view that this year marks the 40th anniversary of China's "reform and opening-up" policy (in Beijing) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to Indonesia (total loan amount of up to ¥70.21 billion) (in Jakarta) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loans to India for seven projects (total loan amount of up to ¥316.458 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Modi of India (in Tokyo) 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting (in Tokyo) • 10th Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting (in Tokyo) • Fourth International Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade (in London) • 12th Asia-Europe Meeting Summit Meeting (ASEM 12) (in Brussels) • P4G Copenhagen Summit 2018 (in Copenhagen) • 17th EU-Japan High-Level Administrative Meeting on the Environment (in Tokyo) • At the 14th IISS Manama Dialogue, Foreign Minister Kono announced Japan's support for Middle East reforms (in Manama, Bahrain)

*For the conversion of US dollar to Japanese yen, the rate for 2018 results published by OECD/DAC is applied.

Year/ Month	Major Developments in Japan's Development Cooperation	Year/ Month	International Conferences and Other Events Related to Japan's Development Cooperation
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to the Philippines (total loan amount of up to ¥38.101 billion) (in Manila) • Third meeting of the Advisory Board for ODA (in Tokyo) • Emergency Grant Aid in response to the damage caused by drought in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan • Signing of the technical cooperation agreement between Japan and Guinea "Agreement on Technical Cooperation and the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Program between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Guinea" (in the Republic of Guinea) • At the Japan-ASEAN Summit, Prime Minister Abe announced a new initiative to provide support in the area of human resources development, through which approximately 80,000 human resources will be trained under the Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0 over the next five years (in Singapore) • At the ASEAN+3 Summit, Prime Minister Abe proposed the ASEAN+3 Marine Plastics Debris Cooperative Action Initiative, and announced the expansion of support for ASEAN's initiatives to address the issue of marine plastic litter (in Singapore) • Foreign Minister Kono's signing of the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Papua New Guinea (total grant amount of ¥1.2 billion) (in Port Moresby) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the Japan-Burkina Faso technical cooperation agreement "Japan-Burkina Faso Technical Cooperation Agreement," and provision of Grant Aid for food assistance (total grant amount of up to ¥500 million), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of ODA loan to the Philippines for two projects (total loan amount of up to ¥215.104 billion) (in Manila) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the US dollar-denominated ODA loan to Jordan, "Business Environment, Employment and Fiscal Sustainability Reform Development Policy Loan" (total loan amount of up to \$300 million (Approx. ¥33.1 billion*)), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Tokyo) • Fourth meeting of the Advisory Board for ODA (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Djibouti for the Economic and Social Development Programme for repair of major arterial roads (total grant amount of up to ¥3.9 billion) (in Djibouti) 	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting (in Singapore) • 2018 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Papua New Guinea (in Port Moresby) • Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP14), ninth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (MOP9), and third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (MOP3) (in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt) • Second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP2) (in Geneva) • Sixth Meeting of the Japan-Philippines Joint Committee on Infrastructure Development and Economic Cooperation (in Manila) • Geneva Ministerial Conference on Afghanistan (in Geneva) • International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology (in Vienna) • G20 Buenos Aires Summit (in Buenos Aires)
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Paraguay for the Economic and Social Development Programme (total grant amount of up to ¥500 million), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Asunción) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Afghanistan for the Project for Infectious Diseases Prevention for Children (total grant amount of up to ¥1.009 billion) (in Kabul) • Signing the revised Memorandum of Discussion for the Japan-Singapore Partnership Programme for the 21st Century (JSPP21) (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Ghana for the Second Project for Rehabilitation of National Trunk Road N8 (total grant amount of up to ¥6.486 billion), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Tokyo) • Signing the Exchange of Notes concerning the provision of Grant Aid to Zambia for the Economic and Social Development Programme (total grant amount of up to ¥500 million), in the presence of Prime Minister Abe (in Tokyo) • The SDGs Action Plan 2019 was approved at the sixth meeting of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters (in Tokyo) 	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24) (in Katowice, Poland) • 18th Doha Forum (in Doha) • 3rd Japan-Cuba Joint Public-Private Committee Meeting (in Havana)

*For the conversion of US dollar to Japanese yen, the rate for 2018 results published by OECD/DAC is applied.

Development Cooperation Charter

February 10, 2015

Japan's Official Development Assistance Charter, decided by the Cabinet in 1992 and revised in 2003, has been the foundation of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) policy.

Currently, as it commemorates the 60th anniversary of its ODA, Japan and the international community are at a major crossroads. In this new era, Japan must strongly lead the international community, as a nation that contributes even more proactively to securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community from the perspective of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation, while continuing to adhere to the course that it has taken to date as a peace-loving nation. This is also a juncture at which Japan's ODA activities should further evolve so as to strengthen further its role as an equal partner of developing countries in the joint efforts to address challenges facing the international community.

In the international community today, a huge amount of private funding flows to the developing countries, and various actors including the private sector, local governments, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are involved in global activities. These actors play important roles in dealing with development challenges and promoting sustainable growth in developing countries. Under these circumstances, Japan needs to address such development challenges not only through ODA but also by mobilizing various other resources.

Based on this recognition, the Government of Japan revises the ODA Charter and hereby establishes the Development Cooperation Charter, also bearing in mind the National Security Strategy decided by the Cabinet on December 17, 2013.

For the purpose of this Charter, the term "development cooperation" refers to "international cooperation activities that are conducted by the government and its affiliated agencies for the main purpose of development in developing regions." In this connection, "development" in this Charter is used in a broader sense rather than in the narrow sense; it also encompasses such activities as peacebuilding and governance, promotion of basic human rights and humanitarian assistance.

Such development cooperation needs to enhance synergetic effects for development through strengthened collaboration with other funding and activities of the Government of Japan and its affiliated agencies such as Other Official Flows (OOFs) and United Nations Peacekeeping operations (PKOs) as well as with private funding and activities whose objective is development or which contribute to development (i.e., funding and activities of various entities such as the private sector, local governments and NGOs).

Development Cooperation Charter

-For peace, prosperity and a better future for everyone-

At present the international community is in the midst of a transformation. It is experiencing changes in the global power balance on an unprecedented scale, an expansion of international economic activity due to rapid progress in globalization and technological innovation, deepening interdependency, and the growing influence of various non-state actors. Against this background, all kinds of risks in every part of the world can have a direct negative impact on the peace, stability and prosperity of the world including Japan. These risks range from transboundary challenges such as environmental issues and climate change, water-related issues, natural disasters, food crises and hunger, energy issues, and infectious disease, threats to the peace and stability of the international community such as international terrorism, transnational organized crimes, and piracy, to humanitarian issues in fragile states, regional conflicts, and political instability. In addition, as emerging and developing countries are taking on more economic importance, economic growth in these countries will affect the course of the growth of the global economy. Inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth in these countries is thus essential for the stable growth of the global economy as a whole. Furthermore, in light of Japan's current economic and social situation, deepening its cooperative relations with the international community including the emerging and developing countries and tapping into their vigor are the keys to its own sustainable prosperity. Amid all these changes, a peaceful, stable and prosperous international community is increasingly intertwined with the national interests of Japan. To secure its national interests, it is essential for Japan, as a "Proactive Contributor to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation, to work together with the international community including developing countries to address global challenges.

The development challenges confronting the world have also changed significantly. While many countries, notably emerging

countries, achieved progress in development, even such countries are experiencing problems such as political and economic instability owing to poor governance and other factors, internal disparities, sustainability issues, and the “middle income trap.” Furthermore, countries such as small island countries have particular vulnerability and other issues that have emerged which cannot be assessed by income levels alone. In addition, countries are being left behind in terms of growth due to various vulnerabilities resulting from internal conflicts and political instability as well as their geological and climate conditions. To overcome such vulnerabilities, these countries are urgently in need not only of humanitarian assistance but also securing the stable foundations of development such as peace, stability, rule of law, governance and democratization, as well as setting in motion the process of development. In addition, in context of inclusive development that leaves no one behind, it is important to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders in society including women participate in every phase of development. As such, the world is facing more diverse and complex challenges. These challenges are increasingly widespread, transcending national borders as the world is increasingly globalized. In the world faced with such difficult challenges, individual countries are required more than ever to exercise ingenuity and take action.

I. Philosophy

Bearing in mind the recognition described above, Japan will implement development cooperation, that is, “international cooperation activities conducted by the government and its affiliated agencies for the main purpose of development in developing regions,” based on the philosophy described below.

(1) Objectives of development cooperation

Japan recognizes that all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want. Since 1954, when it joined the Colombo Plan, Japan has consistently sought peace and prosperity of the international community, supported the development efforts of developing countries through development cooperation that centers on its official development assistance (ODA), and made efforts to solve global issues. This embodies the basic stance of Japan to earnestly tackle challenges facing the international community as a responsible major player. Many years of Japan’s steady down-to-earth efforts to this end has won the respect and confidence of the international community, which expects Japan to play a more proactive role for the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community in a way commensurate with its national capabilities.

Japan overcame a range of problems and realized a period of high economic growth and a peaceful stable society with a small economic disparity to become the first developed country in Asia. At the same time, Japan has taken advantage of its philosophy in development cooperation, experience and expertise to deliver distinctive cooperation to Asian and other countries to support their economic growth. In these processes, it has experienced many successes and failures, and has accumulated a wealth of experience, expertise and lessons learned. The experience, expertise and lessons thus learned are not limited to those from the postwar high-growth period but also those from addressing present challenges such as declining and aging population, and reconstruction after the earthquake. Such experience, expertise and lessons learned contribute to addressing development challenges facing the world today, and the international community also has high expectations in this regard.

Bearing in mind the expectations of the international community, Japan, as a responsible major player in the world, will contribute more actively and exert strong leadership in addressing challenges facing the international community - especially development challenges and humanitarian concerns. Doing so is of great significance from the perspective of solidifying the confidence that the international community has in Japan.

In today’s international community, it is no longer possible for any nation to secure peace and prosperity by itself. Under such circumstances, the path Japan should take to continue developing a prosperous and peaceful society lies in a serious effort to tackle various global challenges in cooperation with the international community, including developing countries, for a peaceful, stable and prosperous international community, and, in this process, to build solid and constructive relationships with various actors in the international community. Development cooperation provides one of the most important means for Japan in its agile implementation of such diplomacy; it carries significance as an “investment for the future.”

Based on this recognition, Japan will promote development cooperation in order to contribute more proactively to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community. Such cooperation will also lead to ensuring Japan’s national interests such as maintaining its peace and security, achieving further prosperity, realizing an international environment that provides stability, transparency and predictability, and maintaining and protecting an international order based on universal values.

In the present international community, various actors including private companies, local governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play an increasingly important role in addressing development challenges and supporting sustained growth of developing countries. It is therefore important to mobilize a wider range of resources that are not limited to ODA. In this context, ODA, as the core of various activities that contribute to development, will serve as a catalyst for mobilizing a wide range of resources in cooperation with various funds and actors and, by extension, as an engine for various activities aimed at securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.

(2) Basic policies

Japan's development cooperation for the objectives described above should be based on the philosophy that has been formed over its long history and should be further developed. In this context, the directions for development cooperation are defined as basic policies below:

A. Contributing to peace and prosperity through cooperation for non-military purposes

Japan's development cooperation has contributed to peace and prosperity of the world through cooperation for non-military purposes, which is one of the most suitable modalities for international contribution. Japan has consistently followed the path of a peace-loving nation since the end of World War II. Japan's development cooperation has been highly regarded by the international community as an embodiment of the country's sincere aspirations for peace and prosperity of the international community. Japan will continue to uphold this policy and comply with the principle of avoiding any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts, in proactively contributing to securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.

B. Promoting human security

Human security - a concept that pursues the right of individuals to live happily and in dignity, free from fear and want, through their protection and empowerment - is the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation. Japan will thus focus its development cooperation on individuals - especially those liable to be vulnerable such as children, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, refugees and internally-displaced persons, ethnic minorities, and indigenous peoples - and provide cooperation for their protection and empowerment so as to realize human security. At the same time, Japan will make efforts so that this basic policy will be understood and accepted widely among its partner countries, thereby mainstreaming the concept even further in the international community. Likewise, from the standpoint of its people-centered approach, Japan will also proactively contribute to promoting basic human rights, including women's rights.

C. Cooperation aimed at self-reliant development through assistance for self-help efforts as well as dialogue and collaboration based on Japan's experience and expertise

In its development cooperation, Japan has maintained the spirit of jointly creating things that suit partner countries while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned based on a field-oriented approach through dialogue and collaboration. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other and grow and develop together. These are some of the good traditions of Japan's cooperation which have supported self-help efforts of developing countries and aimed at future self-reliant development. On the basis of these traditions, Japan will continue to provide cooperation aimed at developing countries' self-reliant development by emphasizing their own initiatives and self-help efforts as well as further deepening dialogue and collaboration with them while taking advantage of Japan's experience and expertise. In these processes, Japan will attach importance to building the foundations of self-help efforts and self-reliant development such as human resources, socio-economic infrastructure, regulations and institutions. It will also go beyond waiting for requests from partner countries by focusing on dialogue and collaboration with diverse actors not limited to governments and regional agencies of these countries, including proactively presenting proposals while giving full consideration to policies, programs and institutions related to development in the country concerned.

II. Priority policies

(1) Priority issues

In line with the philosophy described above, Japan sets out the following priority issues for development cooperation, while taking note of the inter-relationships between them, in order to deal with development challenges that are becoming more diverse, complex and broadly based, and also to achieve peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.

A. "Quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth

The world's poor population is still large in number, and reducing poverty, especially eradicating absolute poverty, is the most fundamental development challenge. Especially as regards fragile states that have not been able to grasp the opportunities for development for different reasons and as regards people in vulnerable situations, it is important to provide both assistance from a humanitarian point of view 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 human resources development, infrastructure development and establishment of regulations and institutions as well as the growth of the private sector enabled by the aforementioned actions, which are aimed at self-reliant development of developing countries. However, such growth should not be merely quantitative in nature, given that some of the countries that

have achieved a measure of economic growth face challenges such as widening disparities, sustainability issues, inadequate social development, and political and economic instability. Rather, it should be “quality growth”. Such growth is inclusive in that the fruits of growth are shared within society as a whole, leaving no one behind. It is sustainable over generations in terms of consideration to, among other aspects, harmony with the environment, sustained socio-economic growth, and addressing global warming. And it is resilient, able to withstand and recover from economic crises, natural disasters and other shocks. These are some of the challenges Japan has tackled in its postwar history. Japan will take 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.

From this perspective, Japan will provide assistance necessary to secure the foundations and the driving force for economic growth. Its scope includes: the development of industrial infrastructure and industries through improvements in such areas as infrastructure, finance and trade and investment climate; sustainable cities; introduction of information and communications technology (ICT) and high technology; promotion of science, technology and innovation; research and development; economic policy; vocational training and industrial human resources development; employment creation; and the promotion of agriculture, forestry and fisheries that includes the development of food value chains. At the same time, Japan will provide assistance necessary to promote people-centered development that supports basic human life, taking full account of the importance of human and social development. It encompasses health care, safe water and sanitation, food and nutrition, quality education for all, disparity reduction, empowerment of women, culture and sports that brings about spiritual affluence.

B. Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society

Stable development through “quality growth” will not be achieved unless the rights of individuals are guaranteed, people can engage in economic and social activities with a sense of safety, and the society is managed equitably and stably. With a view to solidifying the foundations for such development, Japan will provide assistance so as to share universal values such as freedom, democracy, respect for basic human rights and the rule of law as well as to realize a peaceful, stable and secure society.

The establishment of the rule of law, the realization of good governance, the promotion and consolidation of democratization, and respect for basic human rights including women’s rights constitute the basis for effective, efficient and stable economic and social activities, and thereby support social and economic development. They also hold the key to realizing an equitable and inclusive society including reducing disparities. Japan will thus provide the necessary assistance in such areas as: development of legal and judicial systems that involves the development of positive law and the training of legal and judicial experts including experts in the correction and rehabilitation of offenders; development of economic and social systems; improvements in governance which include the training of civil servants and institutional capacity building for anti-corruption and other purposes; development of a democratic political structure including an electoral system; and democratization process with a focus on the media and education for democracy.

Peace, stability and security are prerequisites for nation-building and development. Accordingly, Japan will comprehensively address a wide range of factors causing conflict and instability, including poverty. It will also provide seamless assistance for peacebuilding from conflict prevention, emergency humanitarian assistance in the conflict situation, and promotion of conflict termination to emergency humanitarian assistance and assistance for recovery, reconstruction, and development in the post-conflict stage. Such assistance will address a range of needs such as: humanitarian assistance for refugees and internally-displaced persons; protection and participation of women and the socially vulnerable; reconstruction of social and human capital; the restoration of governance functions based on a trusting relationship between the government and the public; the removal of landmines and unexploded ordnance and the collection of small arms; and the restoration of public order. In natural disasters and other emergencies, Japan will provide prompt assistance taking into account longer-term recovery and reconstruction. In view of the fact that threats to stability and security can hamper socio-economic development, Japan will also provide assistance to enhance capacities in developing countries such as: the capacity of law enforcement authorities including capabilities to ensure maritime safety; the capacity of security authorities including capabilities to combat terrorism and transnational organized crime including drug trafficking and trafficking in persons; and the capacity of developing countries in relation to global commons such as seas, outer space, and cyberspace.

C. Building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges

Transboundary challenges facing humanity include environmental issues and climate change, water related issues, major natural disasters, infectious diseases, food issues, and energy issues. These challenges significantly affect not only developing countries but also the international community as a whole, causing damage to many people with particularly serious impact likely on the poor and other vulnerable people.

These global challenges cannot be dealt with by a single country and require united efforts at the regional level or by the international community as a whole. Taking full account of the international development goals such as the Millennium

Development Goals (MDGs), the post-2015 development agenda and the discussions regarding these goals, Japan will take the lead in addressing these challenges including through participation in the formulation of international goals and guidelines and active efforts to achieve these goals. Through these efforts, Japan will seek to contribute to building a sustainable and resilient international community.

In this context, Japan will address challenges such as: actions against climate change including the creation of a low carbon society and adaptation to adverse effects of climate change; infectious diseases control; promotion of universal health coverage; mainstreaming disaster risk reduction; disaster risk reduction and post-disaster recovery measures; conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of resources from forests, farmlands and oceans; promotion of a sound water cycle; environmental management and other environmental-related initiatives; responses to demographic challenges including an aging population; food security and nutrition; sustainable access to resources and energy; closing the digital divide.

(2) Priority policy issues by region

In view of the increasingly diverse, complex, and broader-based development challenges and the progress in globalization in the international community today, it is necessary to implement cooperation that cater to the needs and characteristics of each region while maintaining a global perspective. Bearing in mind the priority policy issues for each region mentioned below, Japan will provide more focused cooperation in a strategic, effective and agile manner while coping flexibly with ever changing situations. In this process, attention will be paid to the increasing relevance of recent developments such as: moves towards regional integration such as establishment of regional communities; efforts to address trans-boundary issues at the regional level; efforts towards greater-area development; efforts to strengthen inter-regional connectivity; and increasing connectivity among regions. In addition, Japan will extend necessary cooperation to countries based on their actual development needs and affordability. These include countries that despite progress in development, are laden with challenges that hamper sustained economic growth, notably the so-called “middle income trap,” as well as with development challenges including global challenges such as exposure to natural disasters, infectious diseases, and environmental issues and climate change; small island countries and others that are faced with special vulnerabilities despite having attained a certain level of per capita income.

Asia is a region that has a close relationship with Japan and high relevance to its security and prosperity. With this recognition, Japan will extend development cooperation to the region.

Particularly with respect to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region, Japan will support the establishment of the ASEAN Community as well as the comprehensive and sustained development of ASEAN as a whole. This will include a focus on the development of both physical and non-physical infrastructure including that which is needed for strengthening connectivity and the reduction of disparities both within the region and within individual countries. Japan will specifically strengthen assistance to the Mekong region as well as continue its assistance to countries that have already achieved a certain level of economic growth to keep them from being caught in the “middle income trap” through assistance to promote increased productivity and technical innovations such as human resources development. At the same time, priority will be attached to assistance that raises disaster risk reduction and disaster relief capabilities and promotes the rule of law, which constitutes the basis for stable economic and social activities. Japan will also promote cooperation with ASEAN as a regional organization to support united efforts to tackle its challenges.

With respect to South Asia, Japan will support regional stability and the fulfillment of a variety of level of regional potential. This will involve cooperation for building the foundations for economic development through growth, including cooperation on improving trade and investment climate especially by developing infrastructure and strengthening connectivity in the Asian region. Japan will also extend cooperation on basic human needs such as health care, sanitation and education, and on socio-economic infrastructure development for narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor.

With respect to Central Asia and the Caucasus, Japan will support nation-building and regional cooperation for the long-term stability and sustainable development of the region and its neighboring regions, while taking into consideration the disparities within the region.

With respect to Africa, Japan will provide assistance through joint efforts of the public and the private sector through the process of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) so that Africa’s remarkable growth in recent years based on expanding trade, investment and consumption will lead to further development for both Japan and Africa. Japan will take particular note of Africa’s initiatives towards regional development and integration at the sub-regional level. Meanwhile, Africa still has countries that are prone to conflict or are burdened with an accumulation of serious development challenges. Bearing this in mind, Japan will continue to actively engage in assistance for peacebuilding and assistance to fragile states from the perspective of human security, providing necessary assistance with a view towards establishing and consolidating peace and stability, and solving serious development challenges in the region.

The Middle East is an important region not only for Japan but also for the international community as a whole in terms of peace, stability and stable energy supply. With a view to proactively contributing to the peace and stability of the region and to

the coexistence and mutual prosperity of Japan and the Middle East, necessary assistance will be provided to address challenges such as peacebuilding, reducing disparity and human resources development.

With respect to Central and Eastern Europe, Japan will support the moves towards the integration of Europe, which shares universal values such as freedom, democracy, respect for basic human rights and the rule of law, by providing assistance necessary to this end.

With respect to Latin America, Japan will provide assistance to foster an environment more conducive to economic development through trade and investment among others, and to extend necessary cooperation against a backdrop of internal disparities which exist even in countries that have achieved considerable progress in development. Consideration will be given to the presence of ethnic Japanese (“Nikkei”) communities in the region, which serves as a strong bond between Japan and the region.

With respect to small island countries in Oceania, the Caribbean and other regions also have vulnerabilities that are peculiar to small island countries. They are also faced with the challenge of coping with the effects of global environmental problems including: water scarcity, damage due to sea level rise and natural disasters associated with climate change. Japan will provide assistance based on individual development needs while bearing in mind the peculiarities of small island countries.

III. Implementation

(1) Implementation principles

Efforts will be made to implement development cooperation effectively and efficiently, while taking into account international discussion including on development effectiveness, so as to obtain maximum effect towards realizing the philosophy and implementing the priority policies described above. It is also necessary to give full consideration to the impacts of cooperation to the recipient countries and societies, and to the appropriateness of cooperation. Based on such considerations, Japan will implement development cooperation in accordance with the following principles.

A. Principles for effective and efficient development cooperation

(a) A more strategic approach

A more strategic approach should be taken to maximize the impact of Japan’s development cooperation. In other words, it is important for the government and implementing agencies to work as one – in cooperation with diverse stakeholders – and to mobilize various resources available to Japan. It is also important to engage in the development cooperation cycle of policymaking, implementation and evaluation in an integrated manner.

On policymaking, it is necessary to fully recognize that development cooperation is one of the most important tools of Japan’s foreign policy, which calls for strategic and agile responses to ever-changing international affairs. With this recognition, Japan will formulate strategic and effective policies and goals concerning development cooperation, prioritizing as appropriate, based on its foreign policy. In the process, Japan will thoroughly assess diverse factors such as: the state of affairs in the international community including developing countries; the development policies and programs of developing countries; and the strategic importance of the recipient country and the development challenges being addressed in relation to Japan. In addition, for the purpose of clarifying its development cooperation policies, thematic policies, regional policies, and country policies will be structured under this Charter.

In implementing development cooperation, Japan will enhance synergies between ODA and non-ODA finance/cooperation so as to make the most of resources of the government and its affiliated agencies. Furthermore, from the standpoint of its foreign policy and more effective and efficient development cooperation, Japan will organically combine technical cooperation, loan assistance and grant aid. It will also strive to increase the speed of implementation, improve related systems and operate them flexibly.

In the light of the importance of evaluation not only for improving effectiveness and efficiency but for accountability to the public, Japan will conduct evaluations at the policy and program/project levels and feed the results back to the decision-making and program/project implementation processes. Such evaluations, while focusing on outcomes, will take into account the peculiarities and conditions of the recipients. Efforts will be made to undertake evaluation from a diplomatic point of view as well.

(b) Cooperation that takes advantage of Japan’s strengths

Japan’s human resources, expertise, advanced technology and systems today were developed in the process of overcoming various challenges as it underwent high economic growth and rapid demographic changes. These assets can be beneficial for developing countries in addressing similar challenges, both present and future; in fact, expectations for Japan are high in this regard. In implementing development cooperation, Japan will proactively adopt proposals from various actors in the private and other sectors. It will also work with universities and research institutions to make good use of their expertise and seek out their untapped capabilities. Japan’s assistance in infrastructure development will not be limited to constructing physical

infrastructure. It will also address the non-physical aspects that encompass developing systems for operating and maintaining such infrastructure as well as human resources development and institution building. Such an integrated approach will enable active utilization of Japan's experience and expertise. In addition, given that Japan's distinctive characteristics such as Japanese values and occupational culture are highly regarded by the international community, it will take into account the possibility of utilizing its soft power including the Japanese language.

(c) Proactive contribution to international discussions

Japan will strive to make its development cooperation policies better understood by the international community, and for this purpose, categorize the experiences and expertise gained in its development cooperation. To ensure that Japan's policies are adequately reflected in the process of shaping the philosophy and trends in international development cooperation, Japan will proactively participate in and contribute to relevant discussions at the United Nations, international financial institutions, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), especially its Development Assistance Committee (DAC), and other international frameworks.

B. Principles for securing the appropriateness of development cooperation

So as to secure the appropriateness of its development cooperation policies and individual programs/projects and to give consideration to the various impacts of such cooperation on the recipient countries and societies, Japan's development cooperation will be provided in accordance with the principles described below, and by comprehensively taking into account developing countries' development needs and socio-economic conditions, as well as Japan's bilateral relations with each recipient country.

(a) Situation regarding consolidation of democratization, the rule of law and the protection of basic human rights

Japan will pay adequate attention to the situation in the recipient countries regarding the process of democratization, the rule of law and the protection of basic human rights, with a view to promoting the consolidation of democratization, the rule of law and the respect for basic human rights.

(b) Avoidance of any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts

Japan will avoid any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts. In case the armed forces or members of the armed forces in recipient countries are involved in development cooperation for non-military purposes such as public welfare or disaster-relief purposes, such cases will be considered on a case-by-case basis in light of their substantive relevance.

(c) Situation regarding military expenditures, development and production of weapons of mass destruction and missiles, export and import of arms, etc.

Japan will pay close attention to the situation in recipient countries regarding military expenditures, development and production of weapons of mass destruction and missiles, and export and import of arms, etc. This is done with a view to maintaining international peace and stability including the prevention of terrorism and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and based on the position that developing countries should allocate their resources appropriately and preferentially for their own socio-economic development.

(d) Impact of development on the environment and climate change

In order to make development compatible with the environment and to achieve sustainable development, Japan will give thorough consideration to the impact of development on the environment and climate change, and implement development cooperation which takes full account of the environment.

(e) Ensuring equity and consideration to the socially vulnerable

In implementing development cooperation, Japan will pay full attention to the social impact and give full consideration to ensuring equity, while making efforts for participation of wide-ranging stakeholders in every phase of development cooperation, with a view to reducing disparities and in consideration of the socially vulnerable such as children, persons with disabilities, the elderly, ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples.

(f) Promoting women's participation

In the context of gender equality and greater role of women in development, 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, while giving consideration to the possible vulnerabilities of women and their special needs.

(g) Preventing fraud and corruption

It is necessary to prevent fraud and corruption in implementing development cooperation. While taking measures to encourage establishment of a compliance system by bid winners, Japan will work with recipient countries to create an environment conducive to preventing fraud and corruption, including the strengthening of governance in these countries. In this context, Japan will ensure adherence to appropriate procedures and strive to ensure transparency in the implementation process.

(h) Security and safety of development cooperation personnel

In order to ensure security and safety of development cooperation personnel, Japan will pay adequate attention to strengthening security and safety management capacity, gathering security information, taking security measures, and ensuring safety of workers in construction sites. Particularly in relation to assistance in politically unstable or unsafe areas such as assistance for peacebuilding, special security measures and arrangements will be implemented.

(2) Implementation arrangements

In view of the increasingly diverse, complex, and wider-based development challenges as well as the increasingly diverse development actors and development-related funds, Japan will strive to improve the implementation architecture of the government and the implementing agencies, strengthen collaboration at different levels, and reinforce the foundations for sustained implementation of development cooperation.

A. Improvement of the implementation architecture of the government and the implementing agencies

In implementing its development cooperation, the government will improve collaboration among the relevant ministries and agencies, with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs serving as a hub in charge of coordinating the planning of development cooperation policies. It will also ensure close collaboration between the government, which is responsible for planning policies, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which is responsible for implementation. At the same time, the government and JICA will further strive to develop the capacities of these organizations as well as to improve relevant systems and institutions, while clarifying the division of their roles and responsibilities. Especially to improve the competitiveness of its development cooperation, the government and JICA will address issues such as agility, expertise, knowledge accumulation, research capacity, reinforcement of the functions of offices abroad, human resources development and arrangements for emergency humanitarian relief. Consideration will be given to the role of JICA domestic offices as a node for various actors, including companies, NGOs, local governments, universities and research institutions, and the public at large.

B. Strengthening partnerships

In the international community today, various non-governmental actors play an increasingly important role in the development of developing countries. With this recognition, collaboration between JICA and other agencies responsible for other official funds such as the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), and the Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development (JOIN) will be strengthened. The government will also enhance mutually beneficial partnerships with various actors so as to serve as a catalyst for mobilizing a wide range of resources, including the private sector.

(a) Public-private partnerships and partnerships with local governments

Official funds including ODA will continue to play an important role in the development of developing countries. However, given that private flows currently far exceed official flows into developing countries, adequate consideration should be given to the fact that activities of the private sector now serve as a powerful engine for economic growth of developing countries. In Asia, hard (physical) and soft (non-physical) basic infrastructure built with development cooperation has contributed to improving the investment climate. Development cooperation's role as a catalyst promoted private investment, which in turn has led to economic growth and poverty reduction in the recipient countries. It is important to recognize that, through these processes, Asia has developed into an important market and investment destination for Japanese private companies, and therefore, an extremely important region for the Japanese economy. In addition, experience and expertise of Japanese local governments play an increasingly significant role in addressing many of the challenges facing developing countries.

In light of the above, the government will promote development cooperation through public-private partnerships and partnerships with local governments utilizing the resources of the private sector and local governments and promoting private-led growth, in order to support economic development of developing countries more vigorously and effectively and to enable such development to lead to robust growth of the Japanese economy. Specifically, partnerships with Japanese companies including small and medium-sized enterprises, local governments, universities and research institutions, and other actors will

be strengthened in order to implement cooperation aimed at creating an environment conducive to the promotion of trade and investment among others in such areas as human resources development, development of legislation and institutions, and development of infrastructure and relevant systems from planning to implementation phases in a consistent manner.

In promoting public-private partnerships, Japan's development cooperation will seek to serve as a catalyst for expanding economic activities, while utilizing excellent technology and expertise, and ample funds of the private sector for addressing the challenges faced by developing countries. In addition, taking full account of the priority policies of development cooperation described earlier, Japan will give consideration to ensuring inclusiveness, sustainability and resilience of growth as well as promoting capacity building so that private investment that is made along with development cooperation will contribute to "quality growth" in developing countries.

(b) Coordination in emergency humanitarian assistance and international peace cooperation

In the context of increasingly severe and frequent disasters, there is plenty of scope for contribution by Japan, a country known for its disaster risk reduction. For effective implementation of disaster relief and other emergency humanitarian assistance, coordination with international organizations, NGOs and other actors that have relevant expertise will be strengthened.

In addition, Japan will continue to promote coordination with international peace cooperation activities such as UN peacekeeping operations (PKOs) to maximize their effective implementation.

(c) Partnerships with international, regional and sub-regional organizations

With their expertise, impartiality and wide networks, international organizations can implement effective and efficient cooperation in sectors or regions that are less accessible in bilateral cooperation and by taking advantage of their distinctive characteristics. Such multilateral cooperation can bring about synergies if combined with bilateral cooperation. Japan will therefore continue its proactive collaboration with international organizations in such areas as humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding, governance and global issues. In addition, in view of the role played by international organizations in shaping philosophy and trends in international development cooperation, Japan, as a responsible member of the international community, will strive to increase its influence and presence in international organizations and, by extension, the international community so that it can play a leading role in creating international norms. Furthermore, Japan will hold regular consultations with individual international organizations for policy coordination to create synergies with bilateral cooperation. Special attention will be paid to ensuring accountability to the public as regards the impacts and evaluation of development cooperation through international organizations.

Japan will also reinforce its partnerships with regional and sub-regional organizations in view of the trend towards regional integration and the importance of a transboundary approach at the regional level.

(d) Partnerships with donors, emerging countries and other actors

Like Japan, other donors have accumulated experience and expertise over many years of their development cooperation. Donor partnerships are required for greater development effectiveness. From this perspective, Japan will continue to promote partnerships with other donors in development cooperation to maximize its effectiveness, bearing in mind the perspective of its foreign policy.

In implementing development cooperation, it is also important to take advantage of expertise, human resources and their networks, and other assets that have been accumulated in the recipient countries during the many years of Japan's development cooperation. Japan's triangular cooperation involving emerging and other countries capitalizes on such assets. In view of the high regard held by the international community, Japan will continue to promote triangular cooperation.

(e) Partnerships with the civil society

Partnerships with the civil society in and outside of Japan, including NGOs, civil society organizations (CSOs) and private foundations, are important both for greater cooperation effectiveness and for the equitable and stable development of the recipient countries as they can accurately assess varying views and needs on the ground and take timely flexible actions. With this recognition, the government will strategically strengthen partnerships with NGOs/CSOs, including reinforcing their participation and collaboration in development cooperation. From this standpoint, the government will support excellent development cooperation projects of Japanese NGOs/CSOs and their capacity development. In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA will focus on developing human resources and systems in the social development sector.

The government will also encourage the participation of its people from all walks of life in development cooperation and promote utilization of their expertise in society, with a view to expanding those involved in development cooperation, including the recruitment of JICA Volunteers. In this regard, the government will provide adequate information to the public and listen to the voice of the people at all levels including suggestions regarding development cooperation.

C. Strengthening the foundations for implementation

In order for Japan's development cooperation to fulfil the required role of realizing its philosophy and implementing its priority policies, the foundations for its sustained implementation including financial and human resources must be strengthened. Necessary efforts will be made to this end while being mindful of the internationally-agreed target of increasing ODA to 0.7% of gross national income (GNI) and fully recognizing its extremely severe fiscal situation.

(a) Information disclosure and promoting understanding of the public and the international community

Development cooperation is financed by tax revenues from the public. The public's understanding and support are therefore essential to secure necessary funds for the sustained implementation of development cooperation. For this purpose, the government will strive for effective public relations on development cooperation in Japan, timely and adequate disclosure of information on implementation, evaluation and other aspects of development cooperation to the wider public in a transparent manner. The government will also provide easy-to-understand explanations on the policies, significance, outcomes and evaluation of Japan's development cooperation by the international community among other aspects. The government will also actively engage in public information abroad as it is important to make Japan's development cooperation and its achievements better known and understood by the international community including developing countries.

(b) Promoting development education

The government will promote development education at school and various other places. The objective is for the public to develop the capacity to assess various aspects of development challenges facing the world, understand how these challenges relate to Japan, regard the challenges as their own for independent analysis, and participate in actions to address these challenges.

(c) Developing human resources and solidifying the intellectual foundations for development cooperation

Fostering human resources for development cooperation remains an important issue in the face of diversifying development challenges. In particular, promoting development cooperation in such areas as the rule of law, governance, finance and ICT calls for strengthening the institutional structure such as by training and securing the necessary human resources. The government, industry and the academia will therefore work as one to promote the training and development of globally competent human resources with specialized expertise among consultants, researchers, students, and employees at universities, private sector and NGOs/CSOs in addition to the personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA. Efforts will also be made to increase opportunities for such persons to fulfill their capacity within and outside Japan and to make institutional and structural improvements.

In order to play a leading role in shaping the philosophy and trends in international development cooperation by making use of its strength, the government will also work with universities and research institutions among others to reinforce the intellectual foundations, including research capabilities to plan and disseminate development cooperation. This may take the form of joint policy research by researchers from Japan and developing countries or intellectual networking of such researchers.

(3) Reporting on the status of the implementation of the Development Cooperation Charter

The government will report the status of the implementation of the Development Cooperation Charter in the "White Paper on Development Cooperation," which is reported annually to the Cabinet.

February 10, 2015
Cabinet Decision

Abbreviations

A

ABE Initiative	African Business Education Initiative for Youth
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADF	Asian Development Fund
AfDB	African Development Bank
AfDF	African Development Fund
AfT	Aid for Trade
AHA Centre	ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management
AIM2020	ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020
AMIS	Agricultural Market Information System
AMR	antimicrobial resistance
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APT	Asia-Pacific Telecommunity
APTERR	ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AUN/SEED-Net	ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network

B

BEPS	Base Erosion and Profit Shifting
BHN	Basic Human Needs
BIG-B	Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt
BOP	Base of the Economic Pyramid

C

CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CARD	Coalition for African Rice Development
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CEAPAD	Conference on the Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development
CFE	Contingency Fund for Emergency
CFS	Committee on World Food Security

CGIAR Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

CONNEX Strengthening Assistance for Complex Contract Negotiations

COP Conference of Parties

CSO Civil Society Organization

CSR Corporate Social Responsibility

D

DAC Development Assistance Committee

DDR Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

E

E/N Exchange of Notes

EAS East Asia Summit

EBRD European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone

EFA Education for All

EITI Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

EPA Economic Partnership Agreement

ERIA Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia

ESD Education for Sustainable Development

EU European Union

F

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization

FATF Financial Action Task Force

F/S Feasibility Study

FTA Free Trade Agreement

G

GCF Green Climate Fund

GDP Gross Domestic Product

GEBCO General Bathymetric Chart of Oceans

GF-TADs Global Framework for Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases

GHIT Fund Global Health Innovative Technology Fund

GNI Gross National Income

GPE Global Partnership for Education

GPEDC Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation

GSP Generalized System of Preferences

H

HICs High Income Countries

HIPCs Heavily Indebted Poor Countries

HLPF High Level Political Forum

I

IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

IBRD International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross

ICT Information and Communication Technology

IDA International Development Association

IDB Inter-American Development Bank

IEA International Energy Agency

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development

IFC International Finance Corporation

IFNA Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa

IGAD Inter-Governmental Authority on Development

IHO International Hydrographic Organization

IHP International Health Partnership

ILO International Labour Organization

IMF International Monetary Fund

IMO International Maritime Organization

IOM International Organization for Migration

IPPF International Planned Parenthood Federation

ISC Information Sharing Centre

ISDB-T Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial

ITU International Telecommunication Union

IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

IUU Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated

J

JAIP Jericho Agro-Industrial Park

JANIC Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation

JBIC Japan Bank for International Cooperation

JCM Joint Crediting Mechanism

JDS Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship

JETRO Japan External Trade Organization

JICA Japan International Cooperation Agency

JICT Fund Corporation for the Overseas Development of Japan's ICT and Postal Services

JOCV Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers

JOGMEC Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation

JOIN Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport & Urban Development

JPF Japan Platform

JPO Junior Professional Officer

L

LDCs Least Developed Countries

LICs Low Income Countries

LMICs Lower Middle Income Countries

M

MDBs Multilateral Development Banks

MDGs Millennium Development Goals

MDRI Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative

N

NDC Nationally Determined Contribution

NERICA New Rice for Africa

NEXI Nippon Export and Investment Insurance

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

NJPPP Nutrition Japan Public-Private Platform

NTDs Neglected Tropical Diseases

O

OCHA United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

ODA Official Development Assistance

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OIE World Organisation for Animal Health

OOF Other Official Flows

OVOP One Village One Product

P

PALM Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting

PEF Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility

PIF Pacific Islands Forum

PKO United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

PPAP Public Private Action for Partnership

PPP Public-Private Partnership

R

ReCAAP Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia

S

SATREPS Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

SEZ Special Economic Zone

SHEP Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project

SIDS Small Island Developing States

SPC Special Purpose Company

SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

SRSg-SVC Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence Conflict

STEP Special Terms for Economic Partnership

STI Science, Technology and Innovation

T

TICAD Tokyo International Conference on African Development

TFA Trade Facilitation Agreement

TMAF Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework

U

UHC Universal Health Coverage

UMICs Upper Middle Income Countries

UN United Nations

UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNAFEI United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

UNCRD United Nations Centre for Regional Development

UNDESD United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP-IETC UNEP/International Environmental Technology Centre

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

UN-Habitat United Nations Human Settlements Programme

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNMAS United Nations Mine Action Service

UNMISS United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

UNTOC United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime

UNRWA United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

W

WAW! World Assembly for Women

WCO World Customs Organization

We-Fi Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative

WEPA Water Environment Partnership in Asia

WFP World Food Programme

WHO World Health Organization

WI Wetlands International

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization

WTO World Trade Organization

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