1. Strengthening the ability to respond to COVID-19 crisis (strengthening medical systems)

Development and strengthening of medical systems for infectious disease control (including provision of equipment). Development and ensuring equitable access to vaccines, diagnostic and therapeutic agents.

【Ex.1】Vaccine supply including through the COVAX Facility
Japan has pledged to contribute a total of 1 billion USD to the COVAX Facility. Japan has provided over 23 million doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan.

【Ex.2】“Last One Mile Support” (grant aid) to deliver vaccine to each and every person in developing countries
In order to ensure the delivery of vaccines to vaccination sites in each country and region, Japan has decided to support the establishment of cold chains mechanism in Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, Pacific Island countries, Central and South America, Africa and other locations by providing equipment such as cold storage facilities and transportation vehicles.

【Ex.3】Expanding the coverage of diagnostics and therapeutics through the Global Fund
Japan supports the expansion of diagnosis and treatment by providing personal protective equipment, PCR test kits, rapid diagnostic equipment, and therapeutic agents; strengthening the capacity of health workers; and strengthening disease surveillance systems, including contact tracing.

【Ex.4】Capacity building support for immigration control through JICA
Japan has provided necessary equipment for immigration control such as masks, gloves, thermometers and antiseptics for 5 countries in Central Asia and other locations.
2. Strengthening resilient and comprehensive health systems – preparing for future health crises –

Reinforcing core medical facilities and networks. Strengthening regional health systems. Improving disease surveillance and developing human resources and legal frameworks.

【Ex.1】Ensuring regional health systems through reinforcing core hospitals in Viet Nam

Japan (JICA) cooperated with Viet Nam to reinforce core regional hospitals in three cities, and to establish hospital networks in those regions. This contributes to expanding health services from core hospitals to rural health centers. Japan also provides medical tools such as ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation). Japan has contributed to strengthening region wide health systems preparing for health emergency through developing human resources.

【Ex.2】Strengthening infectious disease research and testing through human resources development at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research in Ghana and with neighboring countries

Japan (JICA) established an institute as a core research center in Ghana, and has provided technical cooperation and grant aid for the past 50 years. The institute is promoting joint research with other institutes inside and outside of the country. The institute conducts approximately 20,000 PCR tests per week for COVID-19, comprising 80 percent of all testing in Ghana. It also forms a network in 9 countries including Ghana to provide technical support to testing systems, as well as enhancing the research and early-warning systems.

3. Generating an enabling environment for health security across broader sectors

Water and sanitation, food and nutrition, education, gender, etc. Emergency humanitarian aid and economic stimulus are also utilized.

【Ex.1】Prevention of infectious diseases through supply of safe water and promotion of adequate hand-washing

Japan provided various equipment such as water-purifying reagents, fuel for water tankers, water pipes, and PPE to water utility workers in more than 15 countries. In addition, Japan has conducted training and awareness raising campaigns on hand-washing at field sites, which have contributed to promoting health and preventing disease.

【Ex.2】Improving nutrition for disease prevention and treatment

In response to the deteriorating situation of malnutrition and growth-stunting caused by interruptions in the food supply, Japan (JICA) is implementing cross-sectoral measures to improve nutrition under the “Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA)” in 12 African countries. Japan will host the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit on December 7-8, 2021 for global commitment and actions.