

From
the People of Japan

White Paper on
Development Cooperation 2021

Japan's International Cooperation



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

White Paper on Development Cooperation 2021

Japan's International Cooperation

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Foreword

Minister for Foreign Affairs

HAYASHI Yoshimasa



In 2021, our assistance to fight against COVID-19 remained one of the major pillars of Japan's international cooperation following the previous year. Japan has implemented comprehensive vaccine-related assistance, not only by providing vaccines but also by supporting the development, manufacturing, transportation, and vaccination toward the containment of COVID-19 worldwide. Japan announced a total of \$1 billion in financial contribution for the COVAX Facility to support equitable access to vaccines including in developing countries. Japan also provided vaccines, starting from Asia and expanded to Africa and the Latin America. Japan is ready to provide a total of 60 million vaccine doses of which approximately 42 million doses were already delivered by the end of February 2022. Japan's "Last One Mile Support" to improve cold chains for delivery of vaccines to vaccination facilities has been highly valued and appreciated by countries around the world. These efforts are featured in Part I of this year's White Paper.

In addition, as the international community is confronted with an era-defining change, challenges to universal values such as the rule of law and the rules-based international order, have become increasingly severe. In light of this, efforts to realize a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" is

increasingly important. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, people in vulnerable situations worldwide have suffered a major blow and human security is threatened. In Part II of this White Paper, we introduce our efforts toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an important compass to lead the world to a better future. In addition, we, with the realization of FOIP in mind, also feature Japan's efforts including on quality infrastructure, that are being implemented in coordination with the United States, Australia, India, ASEAN, Europe, and others. In regard to climate change, Part II also covers our commitments to realizing a decarbonized society, and support including for the introduction of renewable energy, in cooperation and collaboration with related countries, based on the outcomes of the negotiations at COP26.

In 2021, major changes occurred in the environment surrounding Japan's international cooperation, including the coup d'état in Myanmar in February and the sudden changes of the situation in Afghanistan since August. In Part III, we introduce Japan's efforts for each region, including emergency assistance to meet the humanitarian needs arising from such shifts in international situation.

In recent years, development issues have become more diverse and complex, and the state of global financial flows is changing. In this context, the role of non-ODA finance and its activities has been increasing, and cooperation with various stakeholders has become vital. Part IV introduces how Japan's development cooperation has been implemented under multifaceted collaboration and what roles it has been playing worldwide, through the voices and actual cases on the field, such as Japanese companies, NGOs, local public entities, and universities, as well as JICA overseas cooperation volunteers and Japanese personnel at international organizations.

Japanese people's understanding, cooperation, and collaboration are essential for the implementation of Japan's development cooperation. We have made efforts for the White Paper on Development Cooperation 2021 to be reader-friendly, using many columns and photographs. It is my sincere hope that this White Paper will help deepen your understanding.

Introduction: Significance of Japan's International Cooperation

The total amount of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) gross disbursements in 2020 was approximately \$20,304.03 million (¥2,167.7 billion). There are various domestic issues to address, such as the response to COVID-19, the low fertility and population aging, and disaster recovery and disaster risk reduction, which have had a significant impact on Japan's public finances and the economic lives of its citizens. Under such circumstances, why does Japan support developing countries through ODA?

After World War II, Japan came back from the ruins and rebuilt itself. In the course of reconstruction and economic growth to join the ranks of developed countries, Japan received support from the United States and other developed countries as well as international organizations such as the World Bank. Basic infrastructures, which were essential for the reconstruction and development of Japan including the Tokaido Shinkansen, the Tomei Expressway, the Kurobe Dam, and the Aichi Canal Project, were built using such support. Japan has been supporting the economic development of developing countries by utilizing ODA as a nation that gained an honorable position in the international community. There are high expectations for Japan from various countries around the world in this regard.

As we turn our eyes to the world, global issues such as climate change, natural disasters, environmental problems, infectious diseases, and refugees among others are piled up and getting more serious. Their impacts do not stay in a country but spread across the world. In 2015, the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the international community has been promoting initiatives to build a society where "no one will be left behind" by 2030. With deeper interdependence of the international community, our contribution to the growth of developing countries through ODA serves for the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community, which, in return, also leads to the advancement of interests for Japanese citizens. For example, our contribution toward ending the global spread of COVID-19 through vaccine donations to developing countries and the development of cold chain systems, etc., under the "Last One Mile Support" not only helps achieve universal health coverage (UHC) and the recovery of the world economy, but also leads to reducing infection risks within Japan and to the recovery of the Japanese economy. In addition, our support to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or marine plastic litter in developing countries greatly contributes to improving the environment surrounding Japan. Furthermore, Japan's efforts to foster industries in developing countries support the overseas expansion of Japanese business. In addition, these efforts, for example, enable exports of a variety of marine products from developing countries to Japan, providing a rich array of food to our dinner tables.

Over 65 years have passed since Japan started to provide ODA. Our assistance and human resources development in various fields through ODA have now gained the trust to Japan as we receive many words of appreciation and gratitude from developing countries. Japan has also received many condolences and support from abroad, including developing countries, for example, following the Great East Japan Earthquake or disasters in recent years. Since ODA is implemented using precious tax revenues, it should be appropriately utilized and put to use for developing countries. On this principle, Japan will continue to provide development cooperation while collaborating with various stakeholders around the world to address global issues so that such effort will enhance Japan's peace, security, and prosperity.

Japan cannot end the COVID-19 pandemic and prevent global warming on its own, so we are cooperating with countries around the world!



The Development Cooperation Charter and Development Cooperation of Japan

The foundation of Japan's development cooperation policy is the Development Cooperation Charter (decided by the Cabinet in February 2015). The Development Cooperation Charter defines Japan's basic policies as 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 these efforts. The ever more strategic and effective use of Official Development Assistance (ODA) is required as one of the most important foreign policy tools (the Development Cooperation Charter is published on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website ¹).

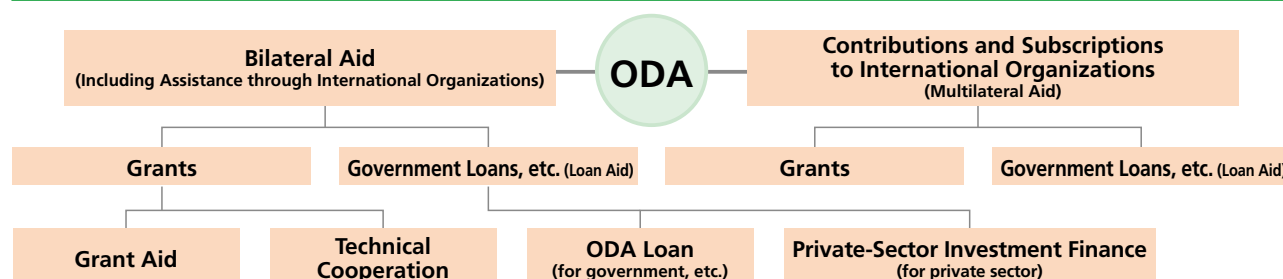
1. Japan's basic policies of the Development Cooperation Charter

The Development Cooperation Charter identifies the following three basic policies for Japan's development cooperation for the aforementioned objectives: contributing to peace and prosperity through cooperation for non-military purposes, promoting human security, and 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.

2. Priority issues of the Development Cooperation Charter

In line with the basic policies described above, Japan will promote cooperation in accordance with the following three priority issues: "quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth, sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society, and building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges.

Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA)



● What is ODA?

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 (the Development Cooperation Charter), and ODA is the public funding for those activities. The government or its implementing agencies provide financial and technical assistance to developing regions, international organizations, or the private sector through ODA for "development," including peacebuilding, governance, promotion of basic human rights, and humanitarian assistance.

The ODA recipients are designated in the list (see Chart I-10 on page 23) developed by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

● What types of ODA are there?

ODA can be divided into **grants** and **government loans**. There is also **bilateral aid**, which directly assists developing regions, and **multilateral aid**, which is contributions and subscriptions to international organizations, etc.

Grants in **bilateral aid** are cooperation provided without repayment obligation to developing regions. The assistance scheme implemented by Japan is comprised of **grant aid**, which provides necessary funds for the socio-economic development of developing regions without an obligation of repayment, and **technical cooperation**, which develops human resources that will be the actors in the socio-economic development of developing regions by utilizing the know-how, technology, and experience of Japan. Among contributions and subscriptions to international organizations, contributions for specific countries and projects are counted as bilateral aid for statistical purposes (see Chart I-1 on page 15).

Additionally, Japan's **government loans, etc. (loan aid)** in bilateral aid include **ODA loans** for lending the necessary funds to developing regions under concessional terms such as low interest rates and long repayment periods, 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 regions.

Multilateral aid includes contributions and subscriptions to the UN organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), international organizations as well as international financial institutions including the World Bank. Most of the contributions are provided as grants, but in recent years, **government loans, etc. (loan aid)** have also been used for international financial institutions.

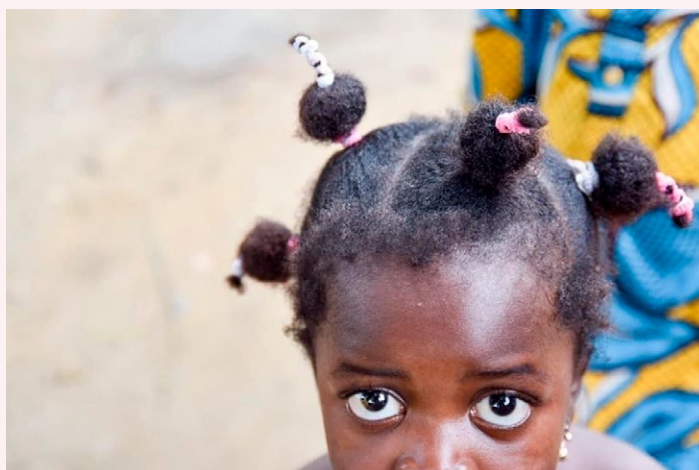
(Various information about ODA is available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website ².)

¹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page_000138.html It can also be accessed via the QR code on page xiii.

² <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/index.html> It can also be accessed via the QR code on page xiii.



Cambodia "The Road leading to the Future"
(Photo: NPO Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS))



Benin "Kawaii Has No Borders! Your Hair Is Lovely Too!"
(Photo: DENO Sayaka)

Special Photograph Collection

- Stories from the Field -

This collection of photographs is from "EARTH CAMP: Let's Talk in a Circle. The Future of the Earth." and the "Global Festa JAPAN 2021" photo contest.
(See pages 138 and 139 for details.)



Nepal "Water for My Village"
(Photo: NGO AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS))



Ethiopia "What We Can Do for Now"
(Photo: KONDO Shimon)



Eritrea

"Children Enjoying a Taiko Drum Performance"
(Photo: Foundation for Global Children (FGC))



Cambodia

"Thinking About a Sustainable Cambodia"
(Photo: YAMAGISHI Makiko)



Philippines

"A School Bag from Japan"
(Photo: UCHIYAMA Junko, NPO DAREDEMO HERO)



Uganda

"Fly the Way You Want to"
(Photo: YAMASHITA Miku)



Viet Nam

"Let's Increase the Greenery in the School Biotope!"
(Photo: MIYAKAWA Hiroko, NPO Nature Center Risen)

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The Development Cooperation Charter is available here:

https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page_000138.html



The White Paper on Development Cooperation 2021 and past White Papers can also be read on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page_000017.html



Information on Official Development Assistance (ODA) is available here:

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/index.html>



ODA-related statistics and an overview of economic cooperation in other countries (development cooperation reference materials) are available here (in Japanese only):

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shiryō/hakusyo.html#section4>



Information by ODA recipient country (Japan's ODA Data by Country) is available here:

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/data/index.html>



Details on the ODA email newsletter are available here (in Japanese only):

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/mail/index.html>



[Cover Photograph]



Children and a JICA expert who held a workshop at a primary school in Bhutan (Photo: JICA)

[Back Cover Photograph]



A JICA expert and children in a pilot school in South Africa where mathematics curriculum revision and the development and introduction of teacher's manuals are being conducted. (Photo: JICA)



See page 138 for details on ODA-Man.

In principle, this White Paper describes Japan's development cooperation implemented from January 1 through December 31, 2021. However, some matters that occurred through February 2022 are also included. Please note that all titles of individuals in the text are current as of the time of writing.

Part I

Japan's Support in Response to COVID-19



Prime Minister Kishida introducing Japan's support in response to COVID-19 for the ASEAN region at the 24th ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting (October 27, 2021) (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

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Part I Japan's Support in Response to COVID-19

1 Japan's Support in Response to COVID-19

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a major impact on the entire world. The COVID-19 crisis is a common challenge for the international community and directly connected to human security, which requires the international community as a whole to work together. Through December 2021, Japan extended assistance totaling approximately ¥430 billion (approximately \$3.9 billion) both bilaterally and through international organizations. In addition, Japan established the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan, which has provided loans up to ¥700 billion (approximately \$6.4 billion) over two years since 2020.

In order to achieve the World Health Organization (WHO) goal of vaccinating 70% of the population in all countries by mid-2022, it is essential to not only supply vaccines, but also to provide comprehensive support for its development, manufacturing, delivery, vaccination, etc., and to increase confidence in vaccines.

Japan has provided support through the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX Facility)* and donated vaccines, to protect as many people's lives as possible under the concept of "leaving no one's health behind." Japan has also advanced "Last One Mile ¹ Support," which improves cold chain ² systems and provides related assistance to ensure the delivery of



At the Japan-Paraguay Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Foreign Minister Hayashi stated that Japan has supplied equipment necessary for strengthening medical systems during the COVID-19 pandemic and that Japan intends to continue providing cooperation for the economic and social development of Paraguay, including infrastructure development. (November 22, 2021)

vaccines to vaccination sites. In addition, based on the belief that strengthening health and medical systems in developing countries is important for enhancing resilience against infectious diseases, Japan has provided health and medical equipment such as oxygen concentrators and ventilators. Furthermore, Japan has extended economic and financial support through Emergency Support Loans to developing countries whose financial conditions have become severe.

(1) Lifesaving Vaccine-related Support

In order to overcome the crisis of the pandemic, it is essential to improve and strengthen medical systems and ensure access to appropriate medical services in developing countries. In particular, it is necessary to ensure equitable access to safe, effective, and quality-assured vaccines in all countries and regions of the world. Japan has provided a variety of assistance bilaterally and through cooperation with UN agencies, international organizations, major donors, and others.

A. International Conferences on Vaccines and Japan's Efforts for Vaccine Donations

Various international meetings discussed countermeasures to the COVID-19 crisis, including support for vaccine provision, in 2021 as well.

In June, Japan and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance,* co-hosted (virtual format) the COVAX AMC Summit. As co-chair, Japan urged various national governments



Prime Minister Kishida meeting with Prime Minister Chinh of Viet Nam. Prime Minister Chinh expressed his gratitude for the vaccines provided by Japan to Viet Nam and stated that he would like to strengthen cooperation with Japan in combating COVID-19. (November 24, 2021) (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

¹ In fields such as logistics and communication services, this means the last segment of delivery of goods or services between the final provision site and the users or consumers.

² A mechanism to deliver products to their destination while maintaining low temperatures. This allows the quality of medical goods such as vaccines to be preserved.



The Gavi COVAX AMC Summit (June 2021)
(Photo: Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance)

and the private sectors to provide funding. As a result, the Summit succeeded in securing \$9.6 billion, which was well beyond the target of \$8.3 billion, to provide 1.8 billion vaccine doses to protect nearly 30% of the population in COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC)* eligible economies by the end of 2021. Japan also announced that it would contribute an additional \$800 million to the COVAX AMC for developing countries. This brought Japan's total financial support for COVAX to \$1 billion including the \$200 million already contributed. Furthermore, Japan also announced that it would provide around 30 million doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan to other countries and regions.

At the G7 Cornwall Summit in June, then Prime Minister Suga led the discussion as the lead speaker for the session on health. The G7 reaffirmed its support for the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator,³ and committed to share at least 870 million vaccine doses over 2022, and to support through finance and vaccine donations equivalent to 1 billion doses. The G7 welcomed the successful COVAX AMC Summit.

Subsequently, at the Global COVID-19 Summit organized by the United States in September and at the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly in the same month, Japan delivered remarks to the world regarding its support for COVID-19 countermeasures, including vaccine donations. At the G20 Rome Summit in October, Prime Minister Kishida expressed support for the goal of vaccinating 70% of the population in all countries against COVID-19 by mid-2022.

Furthermore, at the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit 2021 hosted by Japan in December, Prime Minister Kishida stated that Japan would donate approximately 10 million doses of vaccines to Africa given that there are particularly urgent needs for vaccines, upon coordination with international organizations and



COVID-19 vaccine hand-over ceremony in Bangladesh (August 2021)

relevant partners (see page 56, "ODA Topics," regarding The Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021).

From June 2021 to the end of February 2022, Japan has provided approximately 42 million doses of vaccines to 26 countries and regions (bilateral donation: approximately 25 million doses to Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, and Viet Nam; donation through the COVAX Facility: approximately 17 million doses to 19 countries in Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, Central Asia, Pacific Island countries, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Africa). In addition, via the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Japan has provided partial support for transportation and other expenses necessary for the provision of vaccines through the COVAX Facility. In each country and region where vaccines from Japan arrived, major media such as TV and newspapers widely reported the story, and gratitude was expressed for vaccine donations.



Minister for Line and Phoenix Islands Development Temari welcoming the arrival of vaccines in Kiribati (Photo: UNICEF)

³ An international framework to accelerate the development, production, and equitable access to vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnoses for COVID-19. It was proposed by the WHO and others, and launched at the Coronavirus Global Response Summit (held in May 2020 and hosted by the EU) with Japan, the EU, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Spain, and the United Kingdom as co-proposing countries.



Hand-over ceremony in the Philippines for the provision of refrigerators under the “Last One Mile Support” (November 2021)



COVID-19 vaccine hand-over ceremony in Laos (August 5, 2021) (Photo: UNICEF Laos/2021/AKarki)

B. “Last One Mile Support” to Deliver Vaccine to Each and Every Person

In developing countries, it has been a major challenge to transport donated vaccines to vaccination sites in each region in an appropriate manner. In order to deliver vaccines to vaccination sites swiftly and infallibly, it is essential to develop logistics networks such as cold chains. ⁴

Japan, in collaboration with JICA and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), provided rapid support for ensuring the delivery of vaccines to each and every person in developing countries. JICA has contributed to the strengthening of vaccination systems in developing countries through providing Japanese-made cold storage facilities, transport vehicles, inspection equipment, and others, by utilizing its many years of experience and achievements in supporting the development of medical supply chains. As part of this “Last One Mile Support,” a total of ¥13.7 billion in grant aid was provided to 59 countries and regions in Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, Pacific Island countries, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and others by the end of December 2021 (see page 13 regarding the activities of Japanese personnel at UNICEF).

C. Japan-Australia-India-the United States Cooperation for Vaccine Support

The first Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Leaders’ Video Conference was held in March 2021, and the four leaders launched the Quad Vaccine Partnership.

At the Second Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Summit Meeting held in Washington, D.C. in September 2021, the four leaders reaffirmed that the four countries play a major role to ensure equitable access to safe, effective, and quality-assured vaccines through vaccine donations and financing, and also concurred that they will continue

to work together in response to COVID-19, including expansion of vaccine production and its supply to the Indo-Pacific region.

(2) Economic and Financial Support, and Assistance for Building a Resilient Society and Improving its Environment

In light of the worsening global economic and social conditions and humanitarian situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan has provided careful assistance tailored to the needs of each country in a wide range of fields, including water and sanitation, nutrition and food, education, and gender.

Among them, in the field of communications, which has become indispensable infrastructure amid the COVID-19 crisis, Japan works to support the spread of online education in developing countries, and actively utilizes Information and Communication Technology (ICT) ⁵ in ODA projects and promotes digital transformation (DX). ⁶ Furthermore, Japan supports sustainable development focused on environmental conservation by supporting the shift to renewable energy among other efforts, and actively utilizes private finance using ODA as a catalyst in the fields of climate change and the environment. Japan will continue to implement development cooperation toward the post-COVID-19 era in cooperation with various actors (see pages 10 and 11 regarding Japan’s Efforts toward the Post-COVID-19 Era).

A. Economic and Financial Support to Respond to the Crisis

In order to underpin economic and social activities in developing countries that have been severely affected by the global economic slowdown, as well as to address their financial needs including in the health and medical

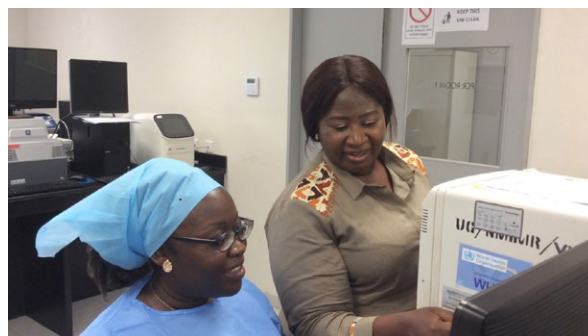
⁴ See ² on page 2.

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

⁶ Making people’s lives more convenient and enriching them through the introduction of new information technologies, and generating new value by recreating existing business structures with the introduction of new digital technologies, etc.



A Zambian comedian teaching handwashing to children in a Lusaka compound (Chawama District) using PPAP2020 (Photo: Mr. HAYASHI Shunichiro, former JICA personnel)



Japan has provided support to the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research in Ghana through JICA for approximately 50 years. The photo shows an ex-JICA training participant (left) working at the Advanced Research Center for Infectious Diseases at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research. (Photo: JICA)

sectors, since the establishment of the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan, Japan has provided ODA loans totaling ¥349.5 billion to 14 countries from July 2020 to the end of December 2021. In addition, in July 2021, Japan provided a financial assistance loan of up to \$200 million through co-financing with the Inter-American Development Bank to support policy promotion for the Dominican Republic's recovery from crises in health and hygiene, and the economy.

In regard to the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI)* agreed by the G20 and the Paris Club in 2020, Japan agreed on suspension of payments for 11 countries as of December 2021 and signed the Exchange of Notes. Regarding the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the DSSI,* three countries, namely Chad, Ethiopia, and Zambia, have requested debt restructuring. Japan will work to ensure the debt sustainability of developing countries through participation in discussions towards concrete debt relief.

B. Support for Building Health and Medical Systems

Japan has supported building health and medical systems in developing countries for many years from perspectives such as developing capacity of healthcare workers, networking regional hospitals, and strengthening regional health systems. During the recent COVID-19 crisis as well, the medical facilities that Japan has supported are playing central roles for infection control measures (see pages 10 and 11 for support to Cho Ray Hospital in Viet Nam as well as infectious diseases measures at the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases and in Gabon; "Stories from the Field" on page 130 for the establishment of a hospital in Bangladesh; "Master Techniques from Japan to the World" on page 60 for medical education support in Ecuador; and the "Project Introduction Columns" on pages 93, 101, and 57 for Japan's support in medical and health care sectors in

Thailand, the Solomon Islands, and Zambia).

In July 2021, the Project for Strengthening Surveillance and Diagnostic Capacities for COVID-19 and Other Emerging Diseases in Panama was launched. The project aims to improve the capacity of inspection and analysis as well as to strengthen the Infectious Disease Surveillance ⁷ network of the Gorgas Memorial Institute for Health Studies in Panama as a research center that plays an important role in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.

C. Developing Environments Resilient to Infectious Diseases

As the global starving population is increasing due to the COVID-19 crisis, Japan also works on preventing infectious diseases through nutrition improvement. In 2021, Japan has provided food aid to 25 countries and regions facing critical situations due to the impact of COVID-19 as well as historic natural disasters such as droughts, floods, and heat waves.

In December 2021, Japan hosted the Tokyo N4G Summit 2021 to promote international efforts to improve nutrition in the world. The discussions at the Summit focused on health, food, resilience,



A handwashing water tank provided to a health center in Gabon (Photo: JICA)

⁷ Collecting and analyzing information on outbreaks of infectious disease patients on a sustained basis using a unified method, and feeding back the obtained information for prevention and countermeasures.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) providing instruction on the importance of habitual handwashing by dance and song at a school in Madagascar (Photo: JICA)



Equipment for the "Last One Mile Support" delivered to Viet Nam (Photo: UNICEF)

accountability, and financing. Over 390 commitments to improve nutrition were submitted by 181 stakeholders including 66 governments, 26 private sectors, international organizations, civil societies, and academia. Nutrition-related financing totaling over \$27 billion was announced. In addition, the Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth was issued as an outcome document that indicated concrete direction for the international society to improve nutrition endorsed by 215 stakeholders (see "ODA Topics" on page 56. See also Part II (8) for initiatives related to food security and nutrition).

In addition, Japan contributes to the prevention of infectious diseases in over 15 countries by providing water purification chemicals, fuel for water trucks, personal protective equipment for water utility personnel, and plumbing materials, as well as encouraging handwashing and conducting awareness-raising activities. In addition to providing support for the supply of safe and secure water, handwashing facilities, soap, and other environmental improvements, JICA also implements initiatives such as the "Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign" to promote proper handwashing in developing countries.

(3) Emergency Assistance to Address the Rapid Spread of COVID-19 in Asia

Since April 2021, there has been a rapid spread of COVID-19 in Asian countries such as India, Indonesia, Thailand, and Laos, causing a medical crisis and economic and social disruption. In light of the strategic importance of these countries and in response to requests for support from each country, Japan implemented Emergency Grant Aid totaling approximately ¥4.5 billion and provided oxygen concentrators, ventilators, and other equipment through UNOPS, in addition to providing oxygen concentrators to India as emergency

relief goods (see page 12 for the activities of Japanese personnel at UNOPS).

In addition, it was decided to provide approximately 620,000 items of seven different types of good, such as isolation gowns, safety goggles, and examination gloves to Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam from the stockpile of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) ⁸ with contributions from Japan, and the items have been delivered since May 2021.

Japanese NGOs also provided assistance through ODA. For example, in May 2021, the Japan Platform (JPF) ⁹ launched "Emergency Response to Delta Variant of COVID-19" to assist India and Nepal, where outbreaks of COVID-19 have been spreading rapidly since April 2021. Through this program, JPF provided emergency humanitarian assistance totaling ¥78 million for four projects in two countries. It distributed hygiene supplies such as masks, gloves, and disinfectants, and provided medical equipment such as oxygen concentrators and



During his visit to Palestine, then Foreign Minister Motegi attended the signing ceremony for the grant aid to implement the Food Aid Programme to Palestinian refugees (in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)) along with Dr. Riad Malki, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine (far right) (August 2021)

⁸ ASEF was founded in Singapore in 1997 as a sole permanent body of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), aimed at conducting activities in the socio-cultural area, one of the pillars of ASEM. It conducts activities to promote broad mutual understanding and strengthen connectivity between Asia and Europe.

⁹ See the glossary on page 134.

Special Contribution

Japan's Development Cooperation in the Future

Japan's future development cooperation must respond to a number of long-term challenges. Looking at the international community as a whole, Japan's development cooperation must contribute to the direction set by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 and the Paris Agreement on climate change formulated in the same year. It must also respond to the challenges thrust upon us by COVID-19 from which the world has been suffering since 2020. From the viewpoint of Japanese diplomacy, our development cooperation is expected to play a major role for the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" vision.

Whether the SDGs, climate change countermeasures, COVID-19 response and the FOIP while they are different initiatives, all of them are in fact very deeply interconnected. Unfortunately, COVID-19 is making it more difficult to achieve many of the SDGs globally. It has increased the world's population living in extreme poverty, which had been declining for decades. In the future, once the world has overcome COVID-19 we must reinforce initiatives to eradicate the extreme poverty in most of developing countries. Japan's development cooperation, which places importance on "human security," should lead such initiatives in the international community.

With regard to the issue of climate change, in 2021, the 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26) reaffirmed the goal of limiting the increase in the global average temperature to below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Given that implementing climate change countermeasures is a new economic paradigm, Japan should promote creative climate change countermeasures in development cooperation that generate synergies with private investment. Disaster risk reduction is not only a major challenge for Japan itself, but also a major field in which Japan can contribute to the world.

Even in the post-COVID-19 world, the Indo-Pacific region will have the most dynamic potential for development. The great surge of growth that began in East Asia in the second half of the 20th century reaches beyond two oceans to sub-Saharan Africa. However, in the Indo-Pacific region, there are countries with extreme poverty, as well as vulnerable and unstable political societies. Japan needs to make efforts to address the challenges faced by the least developed countries and to support them to achieve the SDGs, while opening up future prospects by promoting human resources and infrastructure development. The great mission of Japanese diplomacy and development cooperation should be to "build back better" the post-COVID-19 Indo-Pacific region while maintaining a free and open order.

Japan has pursued "visible development cooperation" whereby it has dispatched Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) and JICA experts in various fields throughout the world and contributed to human resources development through training programs in both Japan and abroad. In the post-COVID-19 world, I hope to see once again that many Japanese play an active role and shine across various parts of the world.

TANAKA Akihiko,
President, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)



(Photo: KAWAMOTO Seiya)



Oxygen concentrators as emergency relief goods from Japan arriving at an airport in India (May 2021) (Photo: JICA)



An oxygen concentrator delivered from Japan being used in a hospital in India (May 2021) (Photo: The Government of India)

blood pressure monitors to medical institutions and residents in the target areas. In addition, JPF implemented awareness-raising activities for residents on infection prevention.



Explaining the medical equipment provided to a health center in Nepal (Photo: ADRA Japan)



Glossary

COVAX Facility (COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility)

The COVAX Facility is a comprehensive mechanism for resource mobilization and supply coordination led by Gavi to secure equitable access to vaccines. COVAX enables supply of COVID-19 vaccines swiftly at an affordable price, leveraging economies of scale through guaranteeing purchase and market demand for vaccines. The COVAX Facility has provided vaccines to 144 countries and regions as of December 2021.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is a public-private partnership that was established in 2000 with the aim of saving children's lives and protecting people's health by improving immunization coverage in developing countries. Governments of donor countries and developing countries, relevant international organizations, the pharmaceutical industry, private foundations, and civil society participate in this partnership. Since its establishment, it is said to have vaccinated 888 million children and saved over 15 million lives. Japan has provided a cumulative total of approximately \$390 million in aid by 2021 since the initial contribution in 2011.

Advance Market Commitment (AMC) of the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX Facility)

A framework at the COVAX Facility to promote the supply of COVID-19 vaccines in developing countries and regions. It is an international framework where donors contribute their funds, whereby COVAX/AMC controls the cost burden of developing countries and regions by partially covering vaccine purchase costs. Under this framework, Gavi provides an advance guarantee of the purchase of a certain amount of vaccines to vaccine manufacturers so that the market for the developed and manufactured vaccines is assured. This encourages the expansion of manufacturing capacities in order to put in place a vaccine manufacturing system at scale that meets the demand.

Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI)

A framework for temporarily suspending debt payments for low-income countries facing a liquidity crisis due to COVID-19's impact. The Paris Club, a meeting of major creditor countries and the G20, agreed in April 2020 to temporarily suspend payment of debts that would be due in the period from May 2020 to the end of December 2020, and subsequently extended the suspension period twice (agreed in October 2020 on an extension to June 2021, and in April 2021 on an extension to the end of December 2021). As of December 21, 2021, 45 developing countries had signed a memorandum of understanding with the Paris Club.

Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the DSSI

A framework for providing debt relief to low-income countries on a case-by-case basis agreed to by the G20 and Paris Club in November 2020. This is the first agreement to jointly determine the terms of debt measures in a manner that involves non-Paris Club countries such as China.

ODA
Topics

1

Assistance for Low-Income Countries
through the World Bank Group

—International Development Association (IDA) 20 Replenishment—

In December 2021, Japan hosted the final meeting of IDA20 Replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA), which is a part of the World Bank Group. The meeting resulted in an agreement on the largest financing package ever mobilized in IDA's history.

IDA is an organization that is dedicated to supporting particularly low-income developing countries within the World Bank Group and it is the world's largest source of donor funds providing very long-term and low-interest loans, grants and other assistance. Moreover, IDA significantly contributes to global poverty reduction by responding in an integrated manner to diverse development issues in low-income countries in each region, regardless of particular regions or sectors, as the most important development finance institution in supporting low-income countries, which determines the direction of development agendas to be addressed by the international community. For example, IDA provides assistance in sectors such as economic growth promotion towards poverty reduction, infrastructure to improve living standards, global health, education, climate change, and disaster risk management.

In order to meet growing demands for the IDA's resources from low-income countries in their response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Government of Japan led discussions by calling to begin discussions on IDA replenishment ahead of other countries, and for the first time in its history, IDA has agreed to advance IDA20 replenishment by one year departing, from its ordinary three-year replenishment cycle.

At the final meeting hosted by Japan in December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida stated that, in parallel with Japan's provision of vaccine-related support for developing countries, IDA has also actively supported low-income countries in their response to COVID-19, including vaccine support, and IDA's

role has proven to be even more important during the crisis. Finance Minister Suzuki spoke of the importance of delivering vaccines and medicines, including to developing countries, to stop new variants from emerging, as well as the importance of further strengthening prevention, preparedness, and response for future health crises, including through promoting universal health coverage (UHC). Minister Suzuki also announced Japan's contribution of ¥376.7 billion (equivalent to approximately \$3.4 billion) to IDA. Including Japan's contributions such as this, a financing package of \$93 billion, the largest ever mobilized in IDA's history was agreed on, for IDA20 (covering the period from July 2022 to June 2025).

Under IDA20, 74 low-income countries across the world will be able to receive assistance from IDA. In this replenishment, it is planned to support countries with such development agendas as the following positioned as priority areas: responding to COVID-19 and strengthening health systems including through promotion of UHC, enhancing resilience to natural disasters, facilitating quality infrastructure investment, and ensuring debt transparency and sustainability.



IDA20 Final Meeting (December 2021) (Photo: World Bank Group)



As part of the "Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign," JICA has produced and distributed free of charge a "Correct Handwashing Cartoon" (created by INOUE Kimidori) in Japanese and English. As of the end of December 2021, it has been translated into 34 languages. (Provision of reference: JICA)

Japan's Efforts toward the Post-COVID-19 Era

Environment and Energy, SDGs Business

Niger and Senegal

ABE Initiative Participants Become a "Bridge" for Business with West Africa

In Niger, an ABE Initiative participant started his own business after returning to his home country. As a local partner of Tsujiplastics Co., Ltd. (Shiga Prefecture), where he had undertaken his internship, he started an electricity charging service using solar chargers developed by the company. In Senegal, another ex-participant started a business as a local partner of the company after returning home as well. He conducts a survey on an irrigation system that utilizes a solar power system.



(Photo: Tsujiplastics Co., Ltd./JICA)



(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

Health and Medical Care

ASEAN

ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF))



Japan provides continuous support to develop the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases into an institution that protects people from the threat of infectious diseases as a regional hub for public health emergencies and emerging diseases. The ASEAN member states have expressed great appreciation and expectations for the Centre and Japan's support.

Digital Transformation (DX), Health and Medical Care

Bhutan

Improvement of Maternal and Child Health through the Introduction of Mobile Cardiotocography Equipment Made in Japan



In collaboration with JICA and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 55 Mobile Cardiotocography devices from Melody International Ltd., Japan (Kagawa Prefecture) were supplied to medical institutions throughout Bhutan. This support has improved access to medical services for pregnant women in rural areas and is highly valued as telemedicine equipment in Bhutan.



Health and Medical Care

Gabon

Project for Establishment of Laboratory Surveillance System for Viral Diseases of Public Health Concern



Collaborative research was conducted by Gabon and Japan for the control of known and unidentified infectious diseases. The research center of Gabon has greatly contributed on the frontlines of COVID-19 measures, including administering approximately 5,000 PCR tests per month and identifying variants at an early stage.



Digital Transformation (DX), Food Security, and Support for Smallholders

Zambia

Market-Oriented Rice Development Project (SHEP approach)*1



Under the leadership of young JICA experts and young officials from the Ministry of Agriculture of Zambia, this project promotes "rice production as a business" by spreading the Market-Oriented Rice Farming Model in order to increase smallholders' incomes. During the COVID-19 pandemic, technical guidance was provided online from Japan, reaching a total of approximately 2,000 farmers.



Japan provides a variety of support around the world including in Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa toward the post-COVID-19 era. This section introduces some of Japan's efforts.

Health and Medical Care

Viet Nam

The Project for Improvement of Hospital Management Competency

As a result of Japan's cooperation over many years, Cho Ray Hospital has played a central role, including accepting the first patient infected with COVID-19 in Viet Nam. Japan continues to support Viet Nam to improve its medical system in the medium to long-term.



(Photo: JICA)

Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP), ICT

Palau

Fiber Optic Submarine Cable Project (Co-finance of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC))

Under the Trilateral Partnership for Infrastructure Investment in the Indo-Pacific^{*2} among Japan, the United States, and Australia, the project strengthens Palau's telecommunication infrastructure through financing for the purchase of a fiber optic cable and improves the investment environment. Japan provides co-financing through a public-private partnership as an all-Japan initiative.



Environment and Energy

Mexico

Co-finance to Photovoltaic Power Generation Projects (Private Sector Investment Finance)

As JICA's first loan project under the Green Loan Principles,^{*3} this project supports photovoltaic power generation projects in Mexico, contributing to decarbonization and mitigation of climate change impacts.



(Photo: Infraestructura Energética Nova, S.A.B. de C.V.)

Digital Transformation (DX), Quality Education, and STEM

Cambodia

Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector for Improving STEM^{*4} Ability in Primary Education by Utilizing "Think!Think!" App



While schools were closed due to COVID-19, free online classes using an app by WonderLab Inc. (Tokyo) were streamed on the Facebook and YouTube accounts of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Cambodia as well as its state-run channel. This received a great response from children, and has become popular educational material that everyone knows in the country.



(Photo: WonderLab Inc./JICA)

Human Resources Development, Triangular Cooperation

Angola and Brazil

Toyota de Angola Academy



Brazilian experts from Brazil's National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI), where JICA has provided technical cooperation for more than half a century, were dispatched to Angola as part of triangular cooperation in Portuguese-speaking countries. This is a new form of cooperation conducted in collaboration with the Toyota de Angola Academy, which was established by Toyota de Angola for the purpose of training instructors in automobile maintenance.



(Photo: JICA)

*1 See the glossary on page 84.

*2 A memorandum of understanding signed in 2018 between JBIC, the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC; currently the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)), the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and Australia's Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (currently Export Finance Australia (EFA)).

*3 Green Loans are loans that are limited for use in environmentally conscious projects. Against the backdrop of the expansion of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) investments, the Asia Pacific Loan Market Association formulated the Green Loan Principles as standard guidelines for green loans. The latest version was released in February 2021.

*4 An acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Japanese Personnel at International Organizations*1

Playing Active Roles on the Front Lines across the World amid the COVID-19 Pandemic

Mr. NAKAI Kojiro

Deputy Emergency Coordinator, Cox's Bazar Office, United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) Bangladesh

Ms. MOTOKAWA Namiko

Programme Policy Officer, Cox's Bazar Office, WFP Bangladesh

Since August 2017, WFP provides food assistance, nutrition services and life-skills support for approximately 900,000 displaced persons from Myanmar as well as approximately 600,000 residents of host communities, in the Cox's Bazar District, the southeastern part of Bangladesh. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP took COVID-19 prevention measures in E-voucher*2 outlets in the camps. Together with the Government of Bangladesh, WFP also managed access of humanitarian aid organizations to the camps for displaced persons using QR codes and provided assistance to host communities. Although we were flying blind every day as there was no precedent for providing support amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we all did our best to perform our duties under the motto "No regrets."

With the support from the Government of Japan, we provided fresh vegetables and fruit, rice, cooking oil, and others through E-voucher shops. We also served cooked meals for more than 60,000 people when a massive fire broke out in the Kutupalong refugee camp in March 2021. In addition, in cooperation with Euglena Co., Ltd., a Japanese company, we provided technical support in mung bean cultivation for local farmers, and the harvested mung beans are sold at the E-voucher shops. Purchasing ingredients produced by local smallholders contributes not only to food security and nutrition improvement for the displaced persons, but also improves the sustainable livelihoods of the host communities. The cooperation between a Japanese company and WFP Japanese staff has secured employment for the host communities and has been highly appreciated by the Government and the people of Bangladesh.



Public nomination

Ms. HIROTA Miwako

United Nations Volunteer,
Coordination and Reporting Officer,
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Mozambique



I am in charge of monitoring and evaluation, partnership building, public relations, and coordination for humanitarian assistance in the northern part of the country at the UNFPA Mozambique Office.

In Mozambique, successive attacks by insurgents and violent clashes with government forces in the northern province of Cabo Delgado have resulted in a humanitarian crisis, with an estimated 1.3 million people in need of emergency humanitarian aid.

The number of internally displaced persons in the province has more than quadrupled in approximately one year, and now approximately one out of every three people in the province has been internally displaced.

Moreover, child marriages and gender-based violence cases have increased due to the humanitarian crisis with already existing damage caused by cyclones and the COVID-19 pandemic. This has made the conditions of women and girls even more difficult.

With the support of the Government of Japan, UNFPA implements projects to protect the safety and sexual and reproductive health*3 of women and girls among internally displaced persons and host communities. UNFPA plans to provide medical services to a total of more than 38,000 women and girls per year through mobile health clinics, including areas where access to healthcare has been very restricted.

I would like to continue my work supporting women and girls and contribute to their safety and health.

Public nomination

Ms. ITO Yuri

Project Support Officer, Ukraine Office, United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

I joined the UNOPS Ukraine Office in September 2018 as a Project Support Officer and was responsible for project management and procurement. (From May 2021, I work at the UNOPS Turkmenistan Office as a Project Management Support Senior Analyst.)

Since 2014, conflicts have continued in eastern Ukraine and 3.4 million people still need assistance. There is also a need to improve access to healthcare services for those wounded in the conflicts and to modernize obsolete medical equipment.

With the support of the Government of Japan, UNOPS has provided medical equipment to local hospitals every year since 2016. In 2020, despite logistical disruptions and production delays caused by COVID-19, we delivered X-ray machines, a surgical microscope, and laparoscope systems. Such equipment not only enables advanced diagnosis and treatment but also leads to improved work efficiency and reduced workloads among healthcare workers, contributing to the early recovery of injured patients and improvement of the medical system.



Public
nomination**Ms. UCHINO Megumi**

Humanitarian Programme Analyst (Junior Professional Officer (JPO)), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Indonesia



Soon after my arrival in Indonesia in November 2019, the first COVID-19 case was reported in the country. Without getting familiarized with the country context, I had to start working from home then. In the beginning of the pandemic, I saw many survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) unable to receive support due to the prolonged curfews and other restrictions. Pregnant women and nursing mothers could not receive prenatal and post-partum checkups, and felt anxious about childbirth and the post-partum period. Older persons and people with disabilities were also isolated and lost their sense of purpose in life. Seeing the growing number of COVID-19 cases every day and the widening disparities among people, I remember feeling frustration and helplessness – I felt like the time was just passing

by without me being able to contribute to any of these problems in the beginning of the pandemic.

However, now, I am working in the development and implementation of a COVID-19 response project entitled “Leave No One Behind” funded by the Government of Japan, and contribute to improving the situation. Through this project, we are delivering life-saving assistance to vulnerable populations, including survivors of GBV, people living with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, older persons, and people with disabilities.

Public
nomination**Ms. UEMURA Kanami**

Programme Officer (Child Survival and Development), Uganda Office, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

In Uganda, the first positive COVID-19 case was confirmed in March 2020, followed by the second wave around June 2021, which far exceeded the response capacity of the medical frontlines. Lockdown measures and health system strains have affected children in various ways, including dwindling immunization rates, deteriorating nutritional conditions, a loss of learning opportunities, and an increase in child marriages and early pregnancies.

I am involved in supporting Uganda's COVID-19 countermeasures through activities that monitor vaccination progress and strengthen health and medical systems across the country.

The Government of Japan is an important partner for UNICEF to implement programs in Uganda. With Japan's cooperation, UNICEF works to ensure access to critical services such as health care, water, sanitation and hygiene, and to improve nutrition. UNICEF also aims to realize Universal Health Coverage (UHC) together with the Government of Uganda, while expanding cold chain^{*4} facilities to store vaccines for COVID-19 at low temperatures as well as routine immunization vaccines.

The UNICEF Uganda office also lost some of its staff during the COVID-19 pandemic, and many personnel lost his/her loved ones. Even amid such circumstances, we continue to work every day for children who suffer from the impact of COVID-19.

**Ms. ODASHIRO Keiko**

Community Protection Officer, Sub-Office Pemba in Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



Attacks and violence by insurgents that began in 2017 in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado Province have forced more than 700,000 people to flee their homes. Many people were separated from their families along the way. There was nothing to eat, and many people hid in the bushes to escape danger. Many children lost their parents.

UNHCR is working to guarantee human rights by providing shelter, non-food items, advice to the government on the provision of basic services, and monitoring. With the cooperation of the Government of Japan, UNHCR has also greatly contributed to rebuilding people's lives by developing evacuation shelters for internally displaced persons, and giving them blankets, mattresses, mosquito nets, kitchen equipment, and other items.

I have always respected the strength and resilience of the people to survive and the way they face up to an uncertain future, even in difficult circumstances. I always feel honored to help them build their future.

*1 Contributed by personnel at international organizations. Titles of individuals are all correct as of the time of writing.

*2 A system in which food items can be purchased from e-voucher outlets (similar to grocery stores) using an electronic distribution card.

*3 A state in which people have a safe and satisfying sex life, have the freedom to decide when, how many, with whom, and where to experience pregnancy and childbirth, and are physically, mentally, and socially satisfied with their sexual and reproductive health, regardless of their gender or age.

*4 See 2 on page 2.

2 Japan's Official Development Assistance and Trends in Aid of Major Donors in Terms of Disbursement

(1) Japan's Official Development Assistance in Terms of Disbursement

Japan's total ODA in 2020 ¹⁰ was approximately \$16,260.25 million (approximately ¥1,736 billion) according to the Grant Equivalent System (GE system) ¹¹ introduced from 2018. As a result, among the members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Japan ranked fourth ¹² following the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

The breakdown is as follows. Bilateral ODA accounted for approximately 81.1% of overall disbursements, while ODA to international organizations accounted for approximately 18.9%. Bilateral ODA is expected to contribute to the strengthening of Japan's relations with recipient countries. Meanwhile, ODA to international organizations that have expertise and political neutrality enables Japan to support countries and regions where its direct bilateral assistance is difficult to reach. Japan will actively provide aid that ensures the "visibility of Japan," while making flexible use of the above types of assistance and coordinating between them.

As regards bilateral ODA by aid scheme, the funding provided as grant aid through the GE system totaled

approximately \$3,067.36 million (¥327.5 billion), or approximately 18.9% of total ODA. Among these grants, grant through international organizations accounted for approximately \$1,792.46 million (¥191.4 billion), or approximately 11.0% of total ODA. Technical cooperation accounted for approximately \$2,401.35 million (¥256.4 billion), or approximately 14.8% of total ODA. With regard to government loans, loan disbursements accounted for approximately \$11,417.36 million (¥1,218.9 billion), while the grant equivalent of government loans totaled approximately \$7,711.63 million (¥823.3 billion), or approximately 47.4% of total ODA.

Japan's bilateral ODA disbursements (including support for graduated countries) by region, in descending order by percentage of total disbursements (gross disbursements), are as follows. ¹³ (See Chart I-2 on page 16 and Chart III on page 121 for details.)

- ◆ Asia: 60.4% (\$102,06.45 million)
- ◆ Middle East and North Africa: 11.4% (\$1,935.81 million)
- ◆ Sub-Saharan Africa: 7.9% (\$1,338.39 million)
- ◆ Latin America and the Caribbean: 3.8% (\$644.28 million)
- ◆ Oceania: 1.9% (\$329.11 million)
- ◆ Europe: 0.5% (\$90 million)
- ◆ Assistance covering multiple regions: 14.0% (\$2,364.76 million)

¹⁰ DAC Statistics final figures for disbursements in 2021 are to be published at or after the end of 2022.

¹¹ The GE system records the amount of a loan aid equivalent to a grant as an actual ODA disbursement. The grant equivalent is calculated by applying the terms of the loan, such as the amount of loan provided, interest rate, and repayment period, to a formula. The more concessional the terms of the loan are, the larger the grant equivalent is. This system measures Japan's actual loan aid more accurately compared to the net flow system, which was the standard used by the DAC until 2017. (The full amount of the loan is recorded; on the other hand, repaid amounts are counted as negative.)

¹² DAC Statistics 2020 figures preliminary data is used for the countries other than Japan.

¹³ Gross disbursements basis.

Chart I-1

Japan's ODA by Type (2020)

2020 (Calendar year)		Dollar basis (US\$ million)			Yen basis (¥100 million)		
Type		Current year	Previous year	Rate of increase/decrease (%)	Current year	Previous year	Rate of increase/decrease (%)
Grant aid		1,274.90	1,395.65	-8.7	1,361.12	1,521.90	-10.6
Debt relief		—	—	—	—	—	—
Grants through multilateral institutions		1,792.46	1,160.34	54.5	1,913.67	1,265.30	51.2
Technical cooperation		2,401.35	2,722.11	-11.8	2,563.74	2,968.35	-13.6
Total grants (A)		5,468.71	5,278.10	3.6	5,838.53	5,755.55	1.4
Government loans etc. (Amount disbursed: Gross disbursement) (B)		11,417.36	9,401.75	21.4	12,189.44	10,252.22	18.9
(Amount recovered) (C)		6,643.84	7,202.41	-7.8	7,093.12	7,853.93	-9.7
(Net disbursement) (D)=(B)-(C)		4,773.52	2,199.34	117.0	5,096.32	2,398.29	112.5
(Grant equivalent) (E)		7,711.63	6,515.55	18.4	8,233.12	7,104.94	15.9
Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis) (A)+(B)		16,886.07	14,679.85	15.0	18,027.97	16,007.77	12.6
Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis) (A)+(D)		10,242.23	7,477.44	37.0	10,934.85	8,153.84	34.1
Total bilateral ODA (Grant equivalent basis) (A)+(E)		13,180.34	11,793.64	11.8	14,071.65	12,860.49	9.4
Grants to multilateral institutions (F)		2,504.71	3,123.03	-19.8	2,674.09	3,405.54	-21.5
Government loans etc. to multilateral institutions (Amount disbursed) (G)		913.24	1,119.72	-18.4	975.00	1,221.01	-20.1
Government loans etc. to multilateral institutions (Grant equivalent) (H)		575.19	671.00	-14.3	614.09	731.70	-16.1
Total of contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions (Gross and net disbursement basis) (I)=(F)+(G)		3,417.96	4,242.75	-19.4	3,649.09	4,626.55	-21.1
Total of contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions (Grant equivalent basis) (J)=(F)+(H)		3,079.91	3,794.03	-18.8	3,288.18	4,137.24	-20.5
Total ODA (Gross disbursement) (A)+(B)+(I)		20,304.03	18,922.60	7.3	21,677.07	20,634.32	5.1
Total ODA (Net disbursement) (A)+(D)+(I)		13,660.18	11,720.19	16.6	14,583.94	12,780.38	14.1
Total ODA (Grant equivalent) (A)+(E)+(H)		16,260.25	15,587.68	4.3	17,359.83	16,997.72	2.1
Nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)		5,249.24	5,346.04	-1.8	560,421.50	582,963.20	-3.9
% of GNI (Net disbursement basis)		0.26	0.22		0.26	0.22	
% of GNI (Grant equivalent basis)		0.31	0.29		0.31	0.29	

Notes:

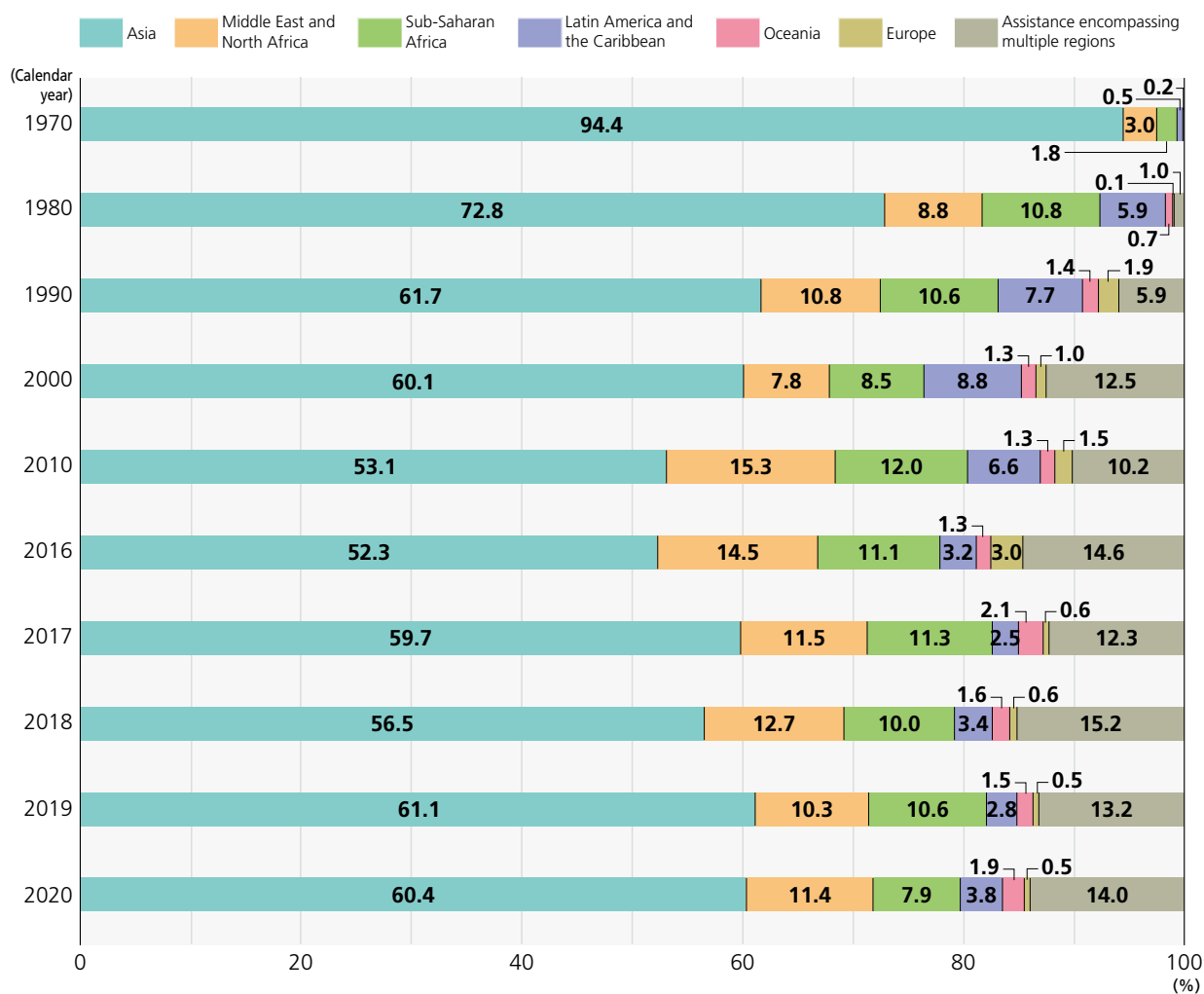
- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries. For more information regarding disbursements that include assistance to graduated countries, see Reference Statistics: 2(1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2020) (page 152).
- The grant equivalent system has been applied since 2018.
- "Grant aid" here means grant aid provided by Japan as a scheme of assistance, excluding debt relief and grant aid provided through international organizations.

- Conversion rate: 2019 US\$1=¥109.0459, 2020 US\$1=¥106.7624 (exchange rates are specified by the OECD-DAC).
- Graduated countries are countries that have been removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients, see Chart I-10: DAC List of ODA Recipients (Countries and Regions) (page 23).
- Japan has a record of disbursements to the following 17 graduated countries and regions: Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Brunei, Chile, Cook, [French Polynesia], [New Caledonia], Oman, Romania, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay (square brackets [] denote region names).

Chart I-2

Trends in Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region

Gross disbursements



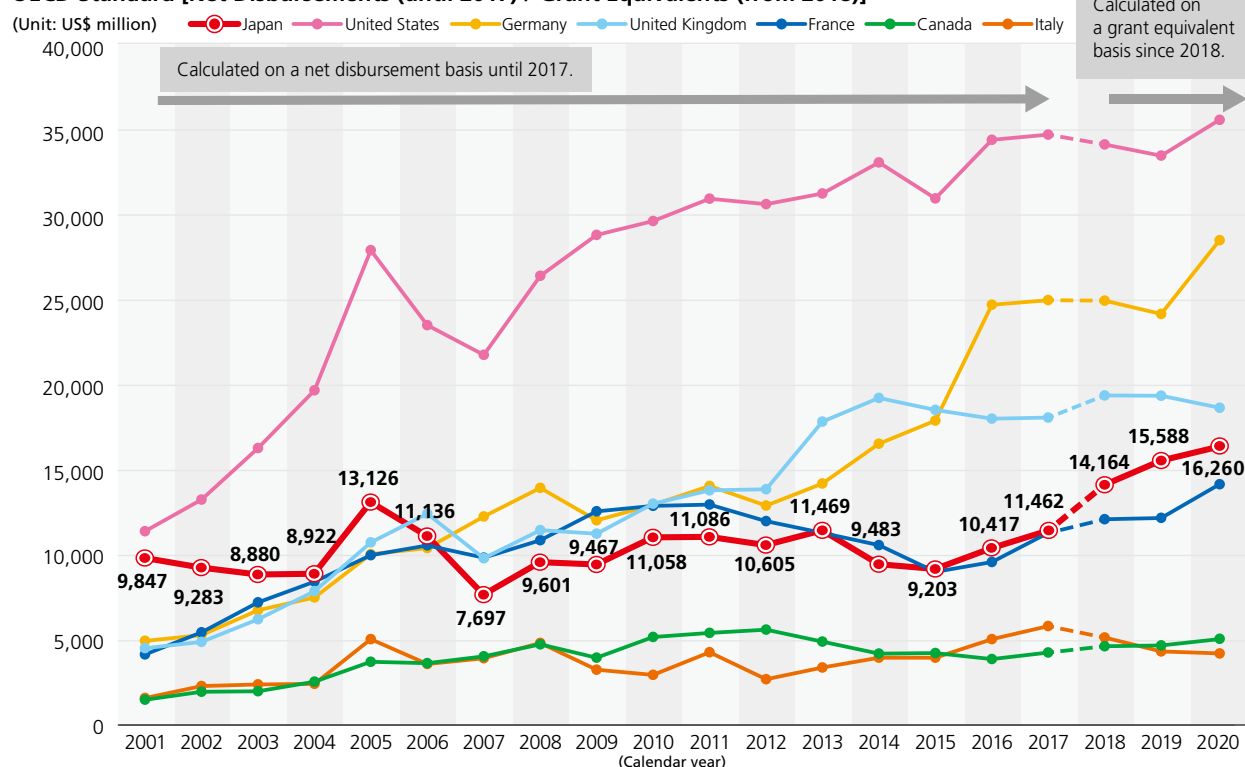
Notes:

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

Chart I-3

Trends in the ODA of Major DAC Countries

OECD Standard [Net Disbursements (until 2017) / Grant Equivalents (from 2018)]

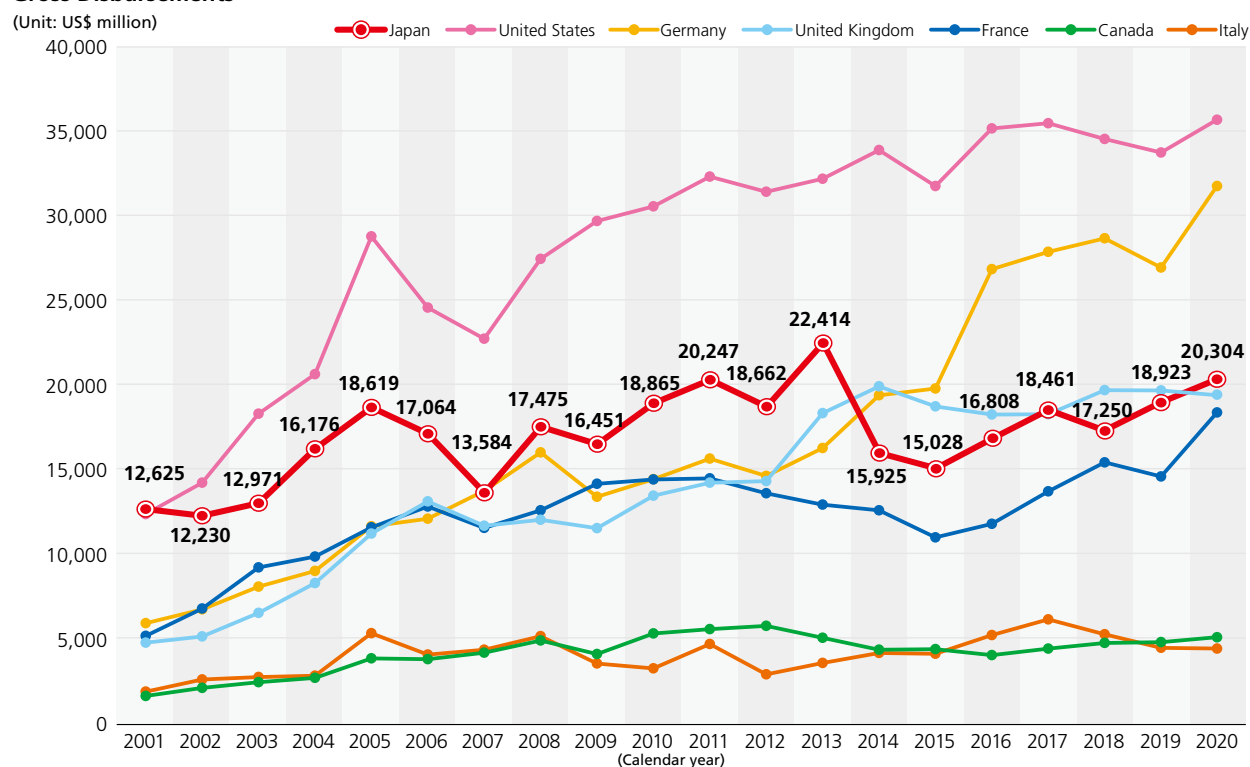


Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.
- Preliminary figures are used for 2020 for countries other than Japan.

Gross Disbursements



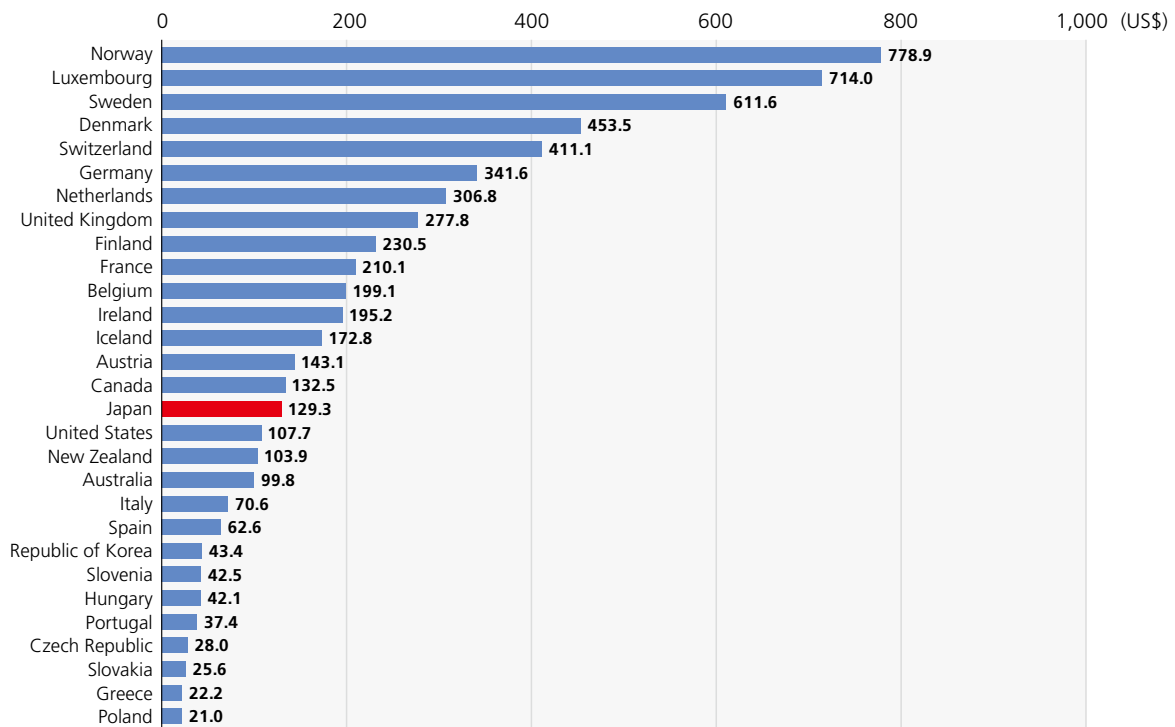
Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.
- Preliminary figures are used for 2020 for countries other than Japan.

Chart I-4

Per Capita ODA in DAC Countries (2020)



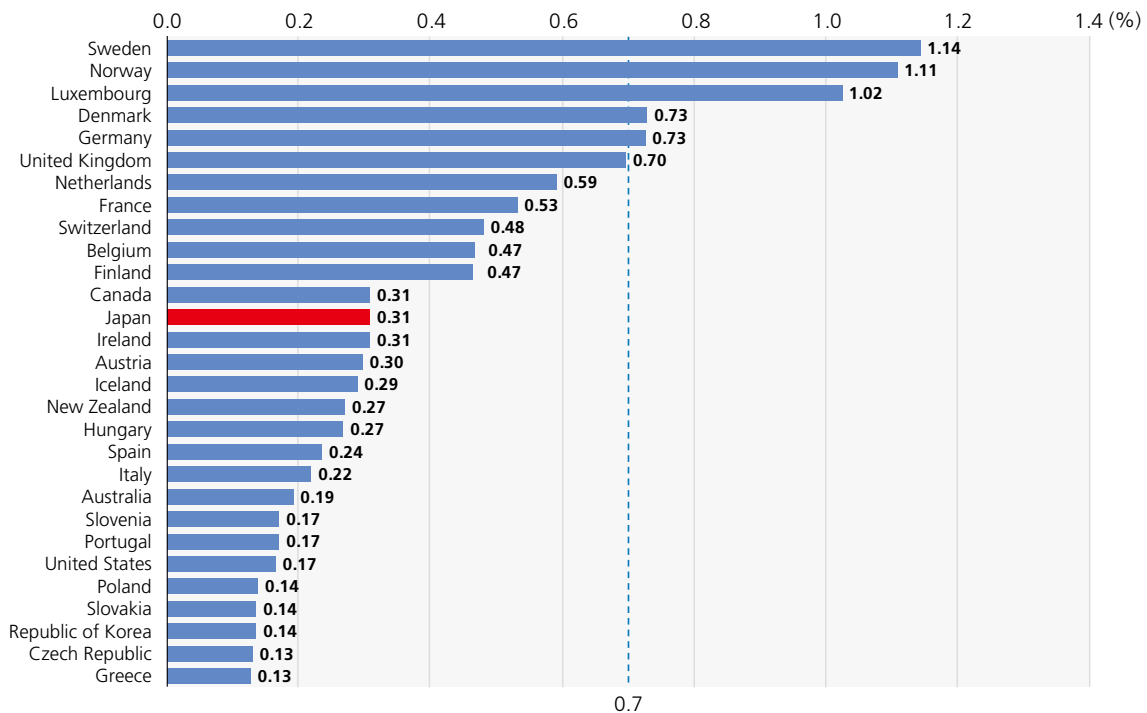
Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Grant equivalent basis.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.
- Preliminary figures are used for 2020 for countries other than Japan.

Chart I-5

Ratio of ODA to GNI in DAC Countries (2020)



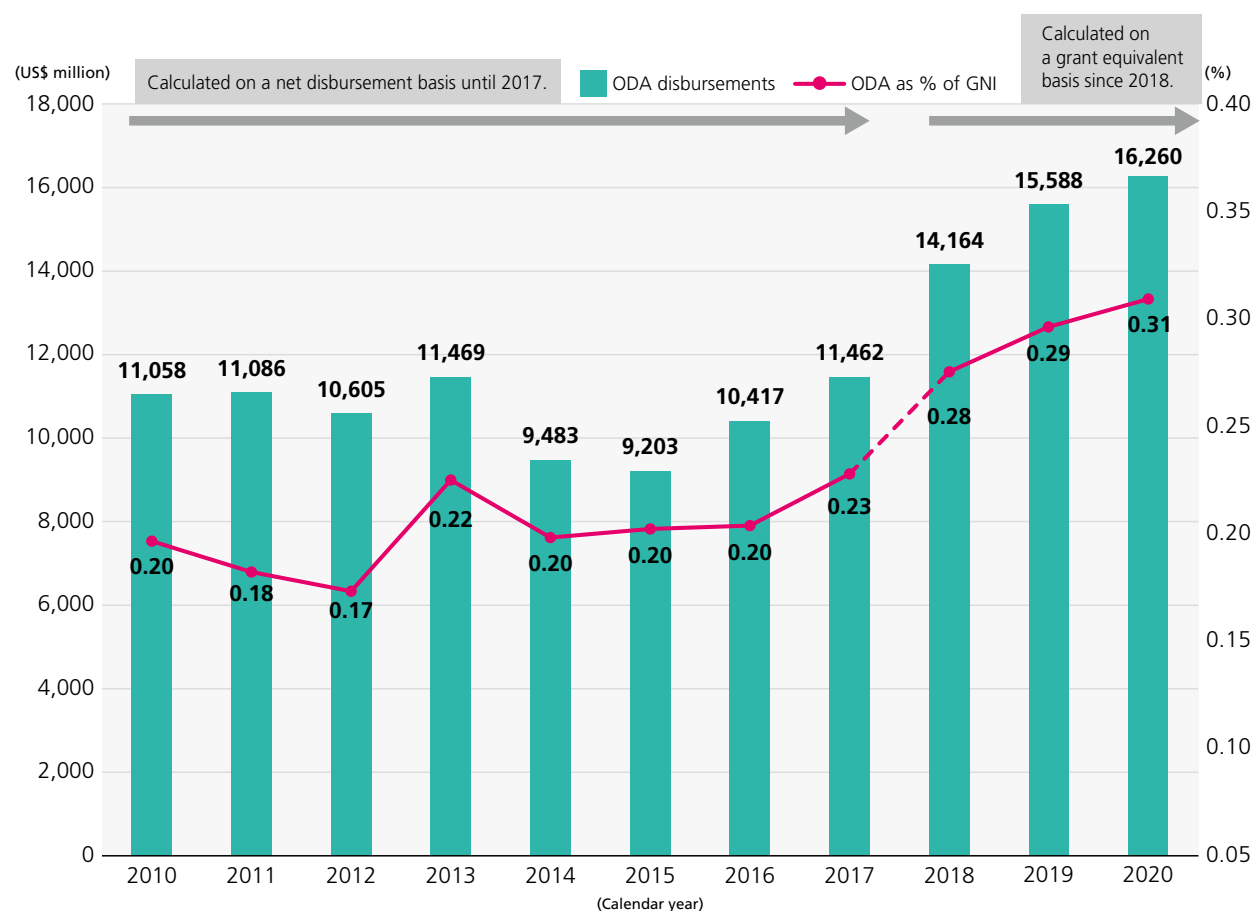
Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Grant equivalent 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.
- Preliminary figures are used for 2020 for countries other than Japan.

Chart I-6

Trends in Japan's ODA and as Percentage of GNI



Notes:

- Disbursements were calculated on a net disbursement basis until 2017, and on a grant equivalent basis since 2018.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.

(2) Overview of Development Cooperation from Major Donors in Terms of Disbursement

The OECD-DAC has established international rules on what cooperation constitutes ODA and how it should be reported. Under the rules set by the DAC, ODA must meet the following three requirements: (i) it is provided by official agencies or their executive agencies; (ii) its main objective is to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries; and (iii) it is concessional in character (in the case of loan aid, the terms of the loan [e.g., interest rate and repayment period] are set in favor of the recipient countries).

DAC countries provide development cooperation under the rules set by the DAC. However, the content of ODA implemented by major donors varies by country. This section outlines the aid provided by DAC donors, focusing on the G7 countries, based on their disbursements in 2019. ¹⁴

■ Aid Disbursements by Major Donors

ODA provided by DAC countries in 2019 (calculated by GE system) amounted to approximately \$151,722 million. By country (GE system, percentage out of total ODA of DAC countries), the United States ranked first (approximately \$33,492 million, 22.1%), Germany second (approximately \$24,198 million, 15.9%), the United Kingdom third (approximately \$19,393 million, 12.8%), Japan fourth (approximately \$15,588 million, 10.3%), France fifth (approximately \$12,211 million, 8.0%), the Netherlands sixth (approximately \$5,292 million, 3.5%), Sweden seventh (approximately \$5,205 million, 3.4%), Canada eighth (approximately \$4,725 million, 3.1%), and Italy ninth (approximately \$4,373 million, 2.9%), with the G7 countries occupying the top spots. ¹⁵

¹⁴ DAC Statistics final figures for disbursements in 2020 are to be published in or after March 2022.

¹⁵ See Chart "ODA by DAC Countries (2019)" of Development Cooperation Reference Materials 2020 (in Japanese only) for details.

Chart I-7

Bilateral ODA Distribution of Major DAC Countries by Sector (2019)

(Commitments basis, Unit: %)

Sector \ Country	Japan	United States	United Kingdom	France	Germany	Italy	Canada	DAC Average
Social infrastructure (education, health, water and sewerage, etc.)	13.7	41.5	39.7	38.2	35.8	33.0	45.7	36.5
Economic infrastructure (transport, communications, electric power, etc.)	52.1	4.9	5.2	22.8	18.8	9.1	3.1	16.9
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	4.4	3.1	4.0	3.9	5.8	4.2	6.1	4.5
Manufacturing and other production sectors (mining, environmental protection, etc.)	19.2	3.4	14.8	15.6	12.4	12.1	10.0	11.6
Emergency response (humanitarian aid, etc.) and food aid	3.6	31.3	24.7	1.6	9.1	7.3	17.3	14.9
Program and other assistance (debt relief, administrative costs, etc.)	6.9	15.8	11.6	17.8	18.1	34.4	17.8	15.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Due to rounding, the totals for each sector may not add up to 100%.
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.

■ Sectors Aided by Major Donors

Disbursements in 2019 from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, France, and Germany were concentrated in the social infrastructure sectors, including education, health, and water supply and sewerage. The United States allocated more than 30% of its total ODA to emergency relief such as humanitarian assistance and food aid. On the other hand, in the economic infrastructure sectors, such as roads, bridges, railroads, communications, and electricity, Japan has the highest allocation with 52.1% of its total ODA, followed by France with 22.8%. Economic infrastructure assistance makes up a large share of Japan's cooperation because Japan, with its postwar recovery experience, considers that, in order to achieve poverty reduction and other goals through sustainable economic growth in developing countries, it is essential first and foremost to establish economic infrastructure and support the self-help efforts of developing countries (Chart I-7).

■ Regions Aided by Major Donors

Whereas Japan's ODA is primarily directed at the Asian region (approximately 61.1% of gross disbursements in 2019 [hereinafter the same]), Sub-Saharan Africa was the top recipient of aid from the United States, France, the United Kingdom, and Italy (32.1%, 30.8%, 28.1%, and 22.8%, respectively). The Middle East and North Africa was the top recipient of aid from Germany (22.2%).¹⁶ In terms of percentage out of total aid disbursements from major DAC countries by region, the United States was the largest donor to Sub-Saharan Africa (32.7%), the Middle East and North Africa (28.6%), and Latin America

and the Caribbean (29.0%). Australia provided 48.2% of total ODA to Oceania, while Germany accounted for 27.7% of total ODA to Europe, including the former Yugoslavia and Ukraine. As these figures indicate, the regional priority of each donor is also influenced by factors such as geographic proximity and historical background (Chart I-8).

■ Disbursements by Type of Assistance (2019)

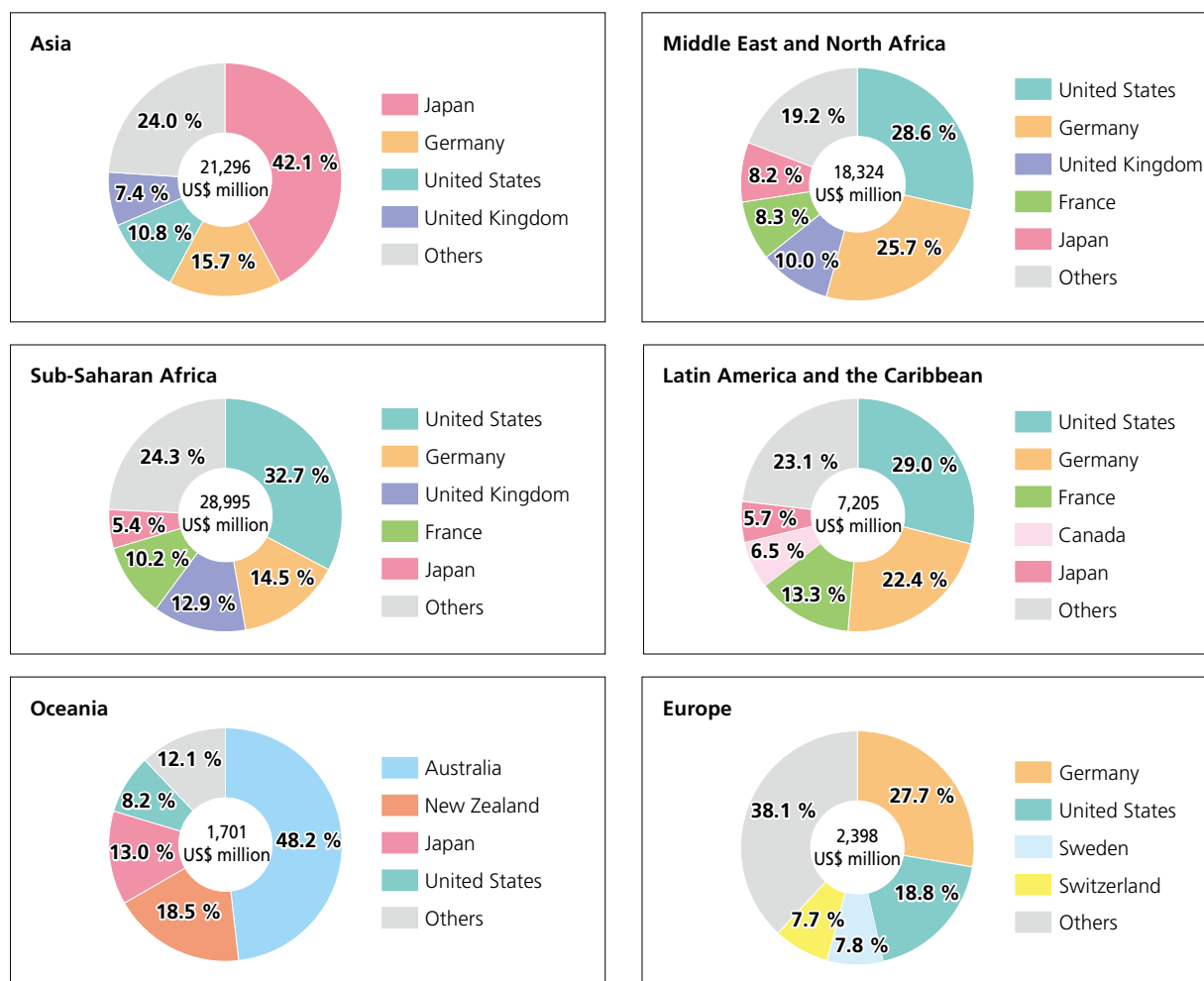
By type of assistance, approximately 87% of ODA provided by all DAC countries in 2019 were grants (bilateral grant aid: approximately 50%; bilateral technical cooperation: approximately 10%; grants to international organizations: approximately 26%), and 13% were loan aid (bilateral: approximately 12%; loans to international organizations: approximately 1%). With the exception of Japan and France, major DAC countries implemented most of their ODA as grants (grant aid and technical cooperation) (Chart I-9).

Loan aid (e.g., ODA loan) accounts for a large share of Japan's ODA because Japanese assistance aims to support developing countries' self-reliant efforts to achieve economic growth. This is based on the idea that effective development cooperation requires awareness raising that development is not granted; rather, it is something developing countries take ownership of. From the viewpoint of developing countries, they carry out projects aimed at their social and economic development with the funds they have borrowed. This in turn encourages the countries to work hard on their projects. Japan's cooperation strives to enable the people of developing countries to sustain and evolve the projects

¹⁶ See Chapter 3 Economic Cooperation of Other Countries, Section 3 "Overview of Economic Cooperation of Major Donors and Regional Organizations" of Development Cooperation Reference Materials 2020 (in Japanese only) for details.

Chart I-8

Major DAC Donor Countries in ODA by Region (2019)



Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Gross disbursements basis.
- Regional classifications are the same as the Chart III (page 121).
- Excluding assistance to graduated countries.
- The figures in the graphs are the total ODA of DAC countries.

on their own even after Japan's ODA loan projects are completed. This approach is unique to Japan, which places importance on self-help efforts.

(3) Increasing Development Cooperation to Developing Countries by Emerging Donors and the Private-Sector

In addition to the DAC countries, recent years have seen an increase in aid for developing countries provided by non-DAC emerging donors, such as China, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Argentine, Mexico, Turkey, South Africa and private foundations. According to DAC Statistics alone, the total amount of aid provided in 2019 was more than \$16 billion by non-DAC countries (only those countries that have reported to the DAC) and more than \$45 billion by NGOs.

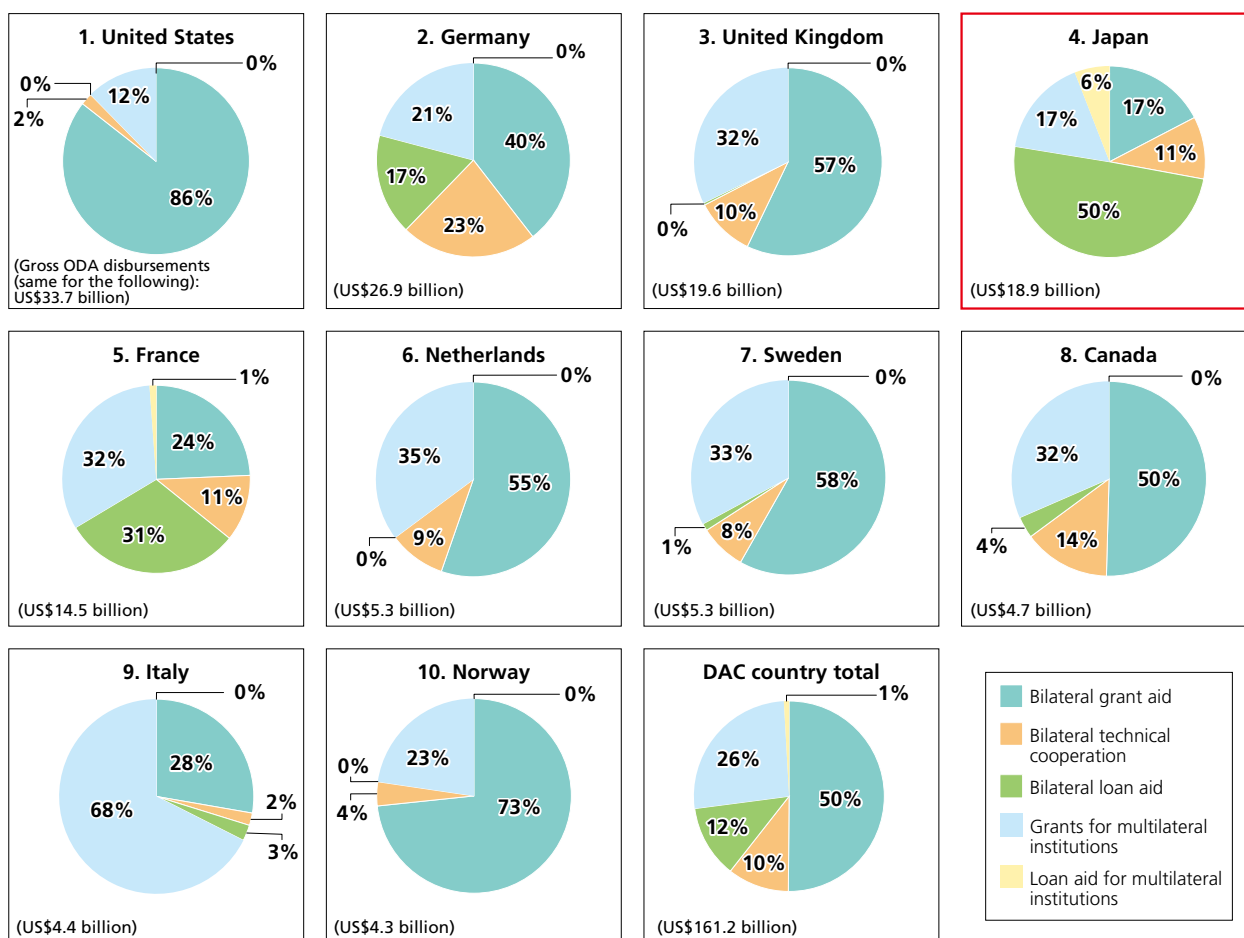
It is essential to accurately grasp the flow of funds to developing countries and to effectively utilize limited development financing in order for the international

community to promote development cooperation in a coordinated manner. However, the statistics prepared and published by the DAC do not reveal the full details of aid for developing countries provided by non-DAC countries and other donors. It has also been pointed out that there are non-transparent and unfair lending practices that do not conform to international rules and standards.

Under these circumstances, discussions were held on the transparency of development finance and other such matters at various international forums in 2021, including the G7, G20, and OECD. For example, at the G20 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting held at the end of June, then Foreign Minister Motegi emphasized that the G20 members should take the lead in complying with international rules regarding development finance, and raised the need to initiate discussions so that as many countries as possible can achieve early participation in the Total Official Support for Sustainable Development

Chart I-9

ODA of DAC Countries by Aid Scheme (2019)



Source: DAC statistics on OECD.STAT

Notes:

- Top 10 DAC countries by ODA for 2019 based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not add up to 100%.

(TOSSD), ¹⁷ a groundbreaking initiative to visualize the full array of resource flows in support of developing countries, including public funds other than ODA.

In addition, the OECD's 60th Anniversary Vision Statement, a document adopted in October that sets out the OECD's basic policies for the next 10 years, stated that the OECD would promote adherence to OECD standards and practices to improve transparency and accountability for "all stakeholders." The communiqué adopted at the Seventh High-Level Meeting of the Governing Board of the OECD Development Centre ¹⁸ in December also

states that the members of the Centre "stress the importance of enhancing debt transparency through stronger public-debt management and integrated debt recording and management systems."

Japan will continue to work with the international community to ensure that aid for developing countries of emerging donors including China is transparent and consistent with international standards and initiatives. (See page 34 regarding efforts on debt issues, and page 134 regarding partnership with other countries and international organizations).

¹⁷ A new statistical system that has been under consideration centered on the DAC since 2017. It aims to track a wide range of official financial flows that contribute to sustainable development. This includes "aid" from emerging donors not reported to the DAC, financial resources that do not necessarily have development as their main objective, and even private finance mobilized by the involvement of official funds, as long as they contribute to sustainable development. Data reporting has begun in 2020.

¹⁸ An organization within the OECD that conducts studies and research on various development issues and economic policies. Its members include not only OECD member countries but also emerging donors and developing countries that are not members of the OECD, such as China.

Chart I-10

DAC List of ODA Recipients (Countries and Regions)

(Applied to 2020 disbursements)

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Recipient Countries				
Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (47 countries)	Other Low Income Countries (LICs) (per capita GNI ≤ US\$1,005)	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories (LMICs) (per capita GNI US\$1,006 - 3,955)	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories (UMICs) (per capita GNI US\$3,956–12,235)	
Afghanistan Angola Bangladesh Benin Bhutan Burkina Faso Burundi Cambodia Central Africa Chad Comoros Democratic Republic of the Congo Djibouti Eritrea Ethiopia Gambia Guinea Guinea-Bissau Haiti Kiribati Laos Lesotho Liberia Madagascar Malawi Mali Mauritania Mozambique Myanmar Nepal Niger	Rwanda Sao Tome and Principe Senegal Sierra Leone Solomon Islands Somalia South Sudan Sudan Tanzania Timor-Leste Togo Tuvalu Uganda Vanuatu Yemen Zambia	Armenia Bolivia Cabo Verde Cameroon Côte d'Ivoire Egypt El Salvador Eswatini Federated States of Micronesia Georgia Ghana Guatemala Honduras India Indonesia Jordan Kenya Kosovo Kyrgyz Republic Moldova Mongolia Morocco Nicaragua Nigeria Pakistan [Palestine] Papua New Guinea Philippines Republic of the Congo Sri Lanka Syria	Tajikistan [Tokelau] Tunisia Ukraine Uzbekistan Viet Nam	Albania Algeria Antigua and Barbuda Argentina Azerbaijan Belarus Belize Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana Brazil China Columbia Costa Rica Cuba Dominica Dominican Republic Ecuador Equatorial Guinea Fiji Gabon Grenada Guyana Iran Iraq Jamaica Kazakhstan Lebanon Libya Malaysia Maldives Marshall Mauritius Mexico Montenegro [Montserrat] Namibia Nauru Niue North Macedonia Palau Panama Paraguay Peru [Saint Helena] Saint Lucia Saint Vincent Samoa Serbia South Africa Suriname Thailand Tonga Turkey Turkmenistan Venezuela [Wallis and Futuna]

Source: DAC statistics on OECD/STAT

- Notes:
- GNI of each country is from 2016.
 - A country graduated in 2020 was Cook.
 - Square brackets [] denote regional names.

Part II

Measures for Each Priority Issue



A JICA expert conducting market research on rice under the technical cooperation "Project for Rice Productivity Improvement and Management of Watershed and Irrigated Area (Phase 2)" in Madagascar (Photo: KUNO Shinichi/JICA)

- | | | |
|---|--|----|
| 1 | Cooperation Aimed at Achieving "Quality Growth" | 26 |
| 2 | Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society | 41 |
| 3 | Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and Human Security | 53 |

Part II Measures for Each Priority Issue

1 Cooperation Aimed at Achieving “Quality Growth”

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

In order to achieve “quality growth,” ¹ it is important to improve the socio-economic infrastructure that serves as the foundation for development. Moreover, it is crucial that the private sector plays a key role, and it is indispensable to boost private sector activities, such as the development of industries and the expansion of trade and investment. In developing countries, however, 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

Developing countries continue to have an enormous demand for infrastructure. It is forecasted that the infrastructure supply and demand gap by 2040 is approximately \$15 trillion. ² However, in order to achieve “quality growth” in developing countries, it is necessary not only to develop a large amount of infrastructure, but also to develop “quality infrastructure”^{*} that takes into account transparency, openness, economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost, and debt sustainability, etc.

Japan develops “quality infrastructure” in line with

the economic and development strategies of developing countries and trains human resources to maintain and operate the infrastructure. Japan’s strength lies in helping develop infrastructure that is truly contributory to “quality growth” in developing countries, which also includes technology transfer and job creation.

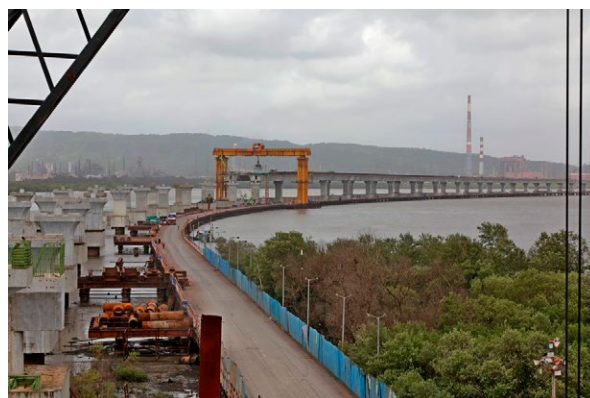
Japan cooperates with various countries and international organizations to promote and implement the “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment,” ³ which were endorsed at the 2019 Osaka Summit. The importance of “quality infrastructure investment” has been confirmed at various bilateral and multilateral meetings.

At the G20 Rome Summit in October 2021, Prime Minister Kishida stressed that it is necessary to implement “quality infrastructure investment” in accordance with the G20 Principles for the recovery of the global economy. The Leaders’ Declaration recognized the critical role of quality infrastructure investments in the recovery phase and affirmed that the G20 would continue to advance the work related to the G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment.

At the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in November 2020, Japan launched the “Japan-ASEAN Connectivity Initiative” with a focus on quality infrastructure projects worth ¥2 trillion and announced that it would help strengthen land, sea, and air corridor connectivity through infrastructure development together with human resources development of 1,000 individuals in three years. In August 2021, the Thai State Railway of Thailand (SRT) Red Line was opened using Japan-made rolling stocks.



Toamasina Autonomous Port staff and Japanese experts discussing truck traffic routes at Toamasina Port in Madagascar, which is being expanded with a Japanese ODA loan (Photo: KUNO Shinichi/JICA)



Construction site of the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link, the longest bridge in India (Photo: Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority)

¹ Growth that is “inclusive” in that the fruits of growth are shared within society as a whole, leaving no one behind, “sustainable” in that it can be sustained while being in harmony with society and the environment, and “resilient” in that it is able to withstand and recover from economic crises, natural disasters, and other shocks (Development Cooperation Charter).

² Forecasts by the G20 Global Infrastructure Hub (GIH).

³ See the Glossary “Quality Infrastructure” on page 31.

Promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The international community has been confronted with various challenges that cross national borders such as poverty and disparity, terrorism, refugees and displaced persons, infectious diseases, natural disasters, climate change, and environmental issues. The spread of COVID-19 has dealt a severe blow to people in vulnerable situations and threatens human security. Japan has positioned the SDGs* as an important compass for overcoming these unprecedented crises and guiding the world toward a better future, and advances initiatives to achieve them.

Achieving the SDGs requires cooperation within the international community beyond the conventional concept of developed and developing countries. It also requires action not only by governments and development agencies, but also by all stakeholders, including private companies, local public entities, research institutions, civil society, and individuals. The Government of Japan provides multifaceted support by linking various initiatives using ODA as a catalyst and taking a deep approach so that the entire international community, including developing countries, can achieve the SDGs.

Voluntary National Review 2021: Report on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

The Government of Japan established the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, with the Prime Minister as its head and all the Cabinet Ministers as its members, and has actively worked on achieving the SDGs both in Japan and abroad through the formulation of the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles,

which sets the direction for the promotion of the SDGs, and the implementation of the SDGs Action Plan, which compiles specific policies.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encourages UN member states to conduct regular, country-led, and country-driven voluntary national reviews (VNRs) to confirm progress on the SDGs. In July 2021, Japan presented its second VNR since 2017 to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) held under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. In order to achieve the SDGs, every country must develop new strategies that are not limited by past precedent, and work together to accelerate their efforts. Japan's VNR was compiled taking into account the valuable opinions of various organizations, associations, and civil society.

Then Prime Minister Suga, who was then the Chair of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, participated in the “SDG Moment 2021” held at the United Nations Headquarters in September. He stated that, based on its VNR, Japan would promote international cooperation and raise awareness in Japan, and do its utmost towards achieving the SDGs by 2030 and creating a hopeful future.

In addition, other international conferences and events deeply related to the SDGs were held in 2021, including the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto Congress), the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26), and the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021. The message sent from Japan toward achieving the SDGs attracted worldwide attention. Based on the vision, initiatives, and current status summarized in its VNR, Japan will promote efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030 in cooperation with all stakeholders, including young people and women.



■ 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.

With regard to access to the Japanese market, Japan has implemented the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), which applies tariff rates that are lower than the general tariff to products originating from developing countries. Furthermore, for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs),* Japan applies duty-free quota-free access* by introducing a special preferential treatment. Through these schemes, Japan intends to encourage the import of products from developing countries. Moreover, Japan actively promotes Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)* and investment agreements. It is expected that these agreements will promote

the facilitation of business environments through liberalization and protection of trade and investment, which will encourage Japanese companies to enter the markets in developing countries, and consequently, contribute to economic growth in developing countries.

Discussions regarding Aid for Trade (Aft)* have intensified in various international organizations such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the OECD, as a means of further promoting support from developed countries, including Japan. Japan has contributed to organizations such as the International Trade Centre (ITC), which implements Aft, with the 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. In 2021, through the ITC, Japan provided assistance to women entrepreneurs in Africa for the utilization of e-commerce, and support for self-reliance through IT training for displaced persons in the Gaza Strip and Somalia.

Japan provides infrastructure supports such as funding for the development of transportation

Timor-Leste

(1) The Project for Urgent Relocation of Ferry Terminal in Dili Port, (2) Advisor for Port Planning and Facility

(1) Grant Aid (September 2016 - January 2020), (2) Technical Cooperation (Expert) (March 2017 - March 2020)



Timor-Leste, an island country, depends heavily on imports for many of its daily necessities and port development is an important issue. The Port of Dili, the capital of Timor-Leste, is one of the country's most important infrastructure facilities, serving as a hub for marine logistics and a port of call for ferries that transport people and daily necessities to exclave and remote islands. However, in addition to the growing volumes of cargo being handled as a result of increasing economic activity, there were no separate routes for containers and ferry passengers, which created considerable danger for passengers when boarding and disembarking from vessels.

In response to those issues, Japan has supported the relocation and maintenance of the ferry terminal through grant aid. The completion of the new passenger ferry terminal through Japanese assistance has provided separate routes for cargo and passengers, which ensures safe docking and mooring of vessels and safety of passengers when boarding and disembarking. It is expected to promote economic activity by improving access to exclave and remote islands and marine transportation capacity.



The new ferry terminal constructed through Japanese grant aid has enabled safe berthing of two ships at the same time, as well as 24-hour operation. (Photo: Tobishima Corporation)



Mr. Sasa (center) (currently a JICA senior advisor) giving technical instruction to his counterparts in Timor-Leste (Photo: JICA)

It will also strengthen connectivity across the Indian Ocean and Pacific, contributing to the realization of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)."

In addition, Japan has been addressing development of human resources in port maintenance. Mr. Jose Madeira Marques, vice president of the Autoridade Portuária Timor-Leste (APORTIL), the port authority that supervises and manages port operations in Timor-Leste, is one of the participants who studied under Japan's human resources development program. He came to Japan as a JICA trainee in 2007 and learned the basics of ship safety for about four months. After returning to his home country, he continued to study at JICA seminars and other events. "It was Mr. Marques who asked me questions very enthusiastically from the beginning of the session. Thinking more questions would be asked in-depth during the following session, I set up time to explain in detail just for him," said JICA senior advisor Mr. SAsA Kenji,*1 who served as a lecturer at the seminars after having been dispatched as a JICA expert to the country. Following this, Mr. Marques and Mr. Sasa have cooperated on work on the port maintenance projects in Timor-Leste and played their part in leading the country's port sector.

*1 Title at the time of writing. His then title was JICA expert.



(Left photo) Ceremony featuring the handover of operation of the car terminal and the first export shipments held at Patimban Port in Indonesia, which is under construction with a Japanese ODA loan. (Right photo: Oriental Consultants Global) The current construction site of the port, including the car terminal, of which full-scale operation has begun.

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. Japan also implements technical cooperation in trade-related areas, including the training of customs officials and intellectual property rights experts. For example, in Indonesia, construction work has been underway since 2018 at Patimban Port in West Java Province under the cooperation of Japanese companies with ODA loans and technical cooperation. Public and private sector cooperation has advanced towards improving logistics and other matters, including a local company, which has been invested in by Japanese companies, that started full-scale operation of a car terminal in December 2021 (see “Stories from the Field” on pages 32 and 120 for Japan’s infrastructure assistance in Laos and Rwanda (including technical cooperation for customs staff in Rwanda), and “Project Introduction Column” on page 34 for cooperation for tax officers in Kyrgyz Republic).

Regarding support for customs in developing countries, mainly ASEAN member states, among such

technical cooperation, Japan has actively provided support aimed at improving the capacity of customs in developing countries through sharing of Japan’s expertise and skills in customs. Through contributions to the World Customs Organization (WCO), Japan supports capacity building activities implemented by the WCO and helps to facilitate international trade while securing safety through promoting the introduction and wider adoption of WCO tools and best practices. In addition, Japan dispatches its customs officials as JICA long-term experts to six ASEAN countries⁴ to provide support tailored to the needs of individual fields. In Africa, under a JICA/WCO joint project, Japan provides support for strengthening border control capacity through region-wide technical cooperation projects and implements a program (the Master Trainer Programme) to train instructors who will play leading roles in customs administrations in various countries (see “Stories from the Field” on page 120 for Japan’s support for facilitating smoother border procedures in international corridors in East Africa). The program was expanded to Pacific Island countries in 2021.

Furthermore, Japan provides assistance to small-scale production groups and small companies in developing countries over the “One Village, One Product Campaign”^{*} (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 40). In addition, to attract private sector investment in developing countries, Japan advances support by identifying unique challenges in those countries and by offering recommendations or advice to local governments.

■ Support for Mobilization of Domestic 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,” and its importance has been pointed



Paraguay’s then Minister of Industry and Commerce and Vice-Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce visiting the “One Village, One Product” shop opened in Paraguay’s capital city Asunción by the JICA Alumni Association (Photo: JICA)

⁴ The six countries are: Cambodia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand.

out in light of insufficient development funding for achieving the SDGs.

Japan, together with the international organizations and other entities concerned, contributes to discussions regarding domestic resource mobilization and provides relevant support to developing countries. For example, Japan proactively provides technical cooperation to developing countries for improving their tax administration. In 2021, National Tax Agency (NTA) personnel served as JICA long-term experts in Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Viet Nam, and elsewhere in fields including international taxation, tax audits, and taxpayer awareness raising. In addition, the NTA conducts the International Seminar on Taxation (ISTAX) and training on international taxation for Asian countries for tax officials and others from developing countries. Japan also provides cooperation on the human resources, expertise, and financing for technical assistance provided by the IMF and 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.

Furthermore, the outcomes of the OECD/G20 BEPS Project,^{*} which was launched to prevent aggressive tax planning measures by multinational enterprises, are also important for the sustainable development of developing countries. Through the cooperation among countries to implement the outcomes of this project, 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. 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 140 countries and regions, including developing countries, are participating in the framework that implements measures recommended under the BEPS Project. Under this framework, a two-pillar solution ⁵ was agreed upon in October 2021 to address the tax challenges arising from economic globalization and digitalization. Work is underway to formulate a multilateral convention and change domestic laws to implement the agreement in 2023.

■ Finance

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

Based on this concept, the Financial Services Agency conducted the “Seminar on Improvement of Banking/Securities/Insurance Supervision” for emerging countries on the regulatory and supervisory systems and initiatives of Japan’s financial and capital markets. Specifically, a seminar on insurance supervision was held in February 2021, a seminar on securities supervision was held from February to March, and a seminar on banking supervision was held in September. Each seminar was held in an online format, with a total of 43 participants from 13 countries. Another seminar on securities supervision was also implemented in an on-demand format ⁶ from October to December.

⁵ Pillar One is a revision of international taxation principles to allow the taxation of global corporations with large scale and high profit levels in market countries regardless of whether they have a physical presence there. Pillar Two is the introduction of a global minimum tax rate from the perspective of curbing the competition to lower corporate income taxes.

⁶ A streaming format in which video training materials that have been filmed and edited in advance are uploaded to a streaming server or other forms of distribution, and participants can take the seminar at anytime they wish.



Glossary

Quality Infrastructure

Infrastructure that genuinely contributes to “quality growth” and is “resilient” against natural disasters and other risks, “inclusive” so that no one is left behind, and “sustainable” taking into account its impact on society and the environment. The “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment,” which incorporate key elements for investing in “quality infrastructure” such as (i) openness, (ii) transparency, (iii) economic efficiency in terms of life-cycle costs, and (iv) debt sustainability, were endorsed at the Osaka Summit in June 2019.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

International goals aimed at a sustainable and better world by 2030, as described in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by all UN member states at the UN Summit in September 2015 as the successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs, 2001). The SDGs consist of 17 goals and 169 targets.

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, the leniency of their conditions does not reach the standards, and/or other reasons. Examples include export credit, direct investment by governmental financial institutions, and financing to international organizations.

Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

According to the classification by the UN, LDCs are countries particularly behind in development compared to other developing countries based on their income levels. LDCs meet certain criteria, including gross national income (GNI) per capita of \$1,018 or less on average between 2017 and 2019. As of 2020, there are 46 eligible countries: 7 in Asia, 2 in the Middle East, 33 in Africa, 1 in Latin America, and 3 in Oceania.

Duty-free quota-free access

A measure to make products imported from LDCs tariff free and without any import quotas. Japan has been expanding the number of applicable products under this measure, and approximately 98% of all products can be imported under such conditions.

Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

EPAs are agreements for strengthening a wide range of economic relations, incorporating not only elements of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) that are aimed at reducing and eliminating tariffs on goods and barriers to trade in services between specific countries and regions, but also elements of cooperation in various sectors such as investment, movement of persons, protection of intellectual property, and rulemaking on competition policy. These agreements are expected to further vitalize trade and investment between countries and accelerate economic growth.

Aid for Trade (Aft)

Aft is an assistance provided to developing countries to improve trade-related capabilities and to develop infrastructure for the purpose of achieving economic growth and poverty reduction through trade in developing countries under the WTO's multilateral trading system. The WTO emphasizes the significance of promoting the development of developing countries through their participation in the multilateral free trading system.

One Village, One Product Campaign

The One Village, One Product Campaign is an initiative, which was launched in Oita Prefecture, Japan in 1979 and prevails globally, that aims to create jobs and to revitalize local communities through promoting unique products that take advantage of local resources and traditional techniques. In Asia and Africa, this Campaign facilitates expanding exports of developing countries' products by discovering attractive goods, such as handcrafts, textiles, and toys that represent the unique ethnic characteristics of those countries and by reaching out to a wider range of people.

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, 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.

Stories from the Field

Utilizing Japan's experience in extending the lifetime of the infrastructure in Laos and promoting quality infrastructure!

—Nagasaki University promotes maintenance and management of the road infrastructure in Laos as well as human resources development in this field through industry-government-academia collaboration—



Public nomination

1

Laos is a landlocked country and the movement of people and goods heavily depends on its road network. Laos is as large as Japan's main island Honshu and about 80% of its territory is in a mountainous area. Therefore, the country needs to operate the road network soundly through the appropriate maintenance and management of over 3,600 bridges scattered across the country in order for the well-balanced socio-economic development of the country. In Laos, more than 15% of the bridges on the national roads have been in service for over 40 years, and 10% of them require early and urgent repairs. The technology for systematically maintaining and managing these bridges had been required in Laos.

In Japan, many bridges were intensively constructed during and after the period of high economic growth and these bridges are aging at the same time as those in Laos. Around half of the bridges in Japan are expected to exceed 50 years of service within a few years. In order to improve the situation, industrial, governmental and academic sectors are working together and research institutes and the industrial sector are leading the development of technological innovations for extending the lifetime of the infrastructure, while central and local governments are promoting the practical application of these technologies.

In line with these trends, Nagasaki University established the "Infrastructures Lifetime-Extending Maintenance Research Center" in 2007, and has been managing its "Michimori" (Road Guardian)" training course for local governments, private companies, NPOs and local residents, which aims to develop human resources for maintenance and management of the road infrastructure. The course has engaged more than 900 people qualified for maintenance and management of the road infrastructure. Nagasaki University takes an initiative and expands its activities covering development of international human resources.

As one of these initiatives, Nagasaki University has accepted government officials and engineers from developing countries and enrolled them in "Bridge Maintenance," a Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) of JICA that aims to develop human resources responsible for the maintenance and management of infrastructure. 102 participants from 42 countries enrolled between FY2015 and FY2019 are playing active roles in their own countries while utilizing Japanese technology. In addition, Nagasaki University Graduate School has also accepted government officials, engineers, and researchers from developing countries for JICA's KCCP Long Term Training, "Core Human Resource Development for Road



An on-site exploratory survey at a bridge during the "Bridge Maintenance" training course (second from the left: Dr. Nishikawa) (Photo: International Development Center of Japan)

Asset Management." Two bridge engineers from the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) of Laos were enrolled in the university's doctoral course through said program and completed it in 2021 with a doctorate degree.

Dr. Thavone, one of the participants, has carried out research on "Load Bearing Behaviors and Maintenance Methodology of Bailey Bridge."^{*1} He has returned to the MPWT of Laos and has achieved some results for on-site technical guidance on bridge maintenance and management as well as in nurturing junior staffs. He has also been contributing as a key person to the "Project for Capacity Development on Bridge Maintenance and Management," a technical cooperation project conducted through a public-private-academia collaboration involving Nagasaki University, the International Development Center of Japan, and other stakeholders.

Nagasaki University has been contributing to infrastructure longevity in Laos through practical and academic approach, by dispatching experts to Laos, supporting systematic maintenance and management of 860 bridges on national roads, and trying to ensure that the outcomes of Dr. Thavone and others' researches are utilized in actual infrastructure maintenance and management on-site. Dr. NISHIKAWA Takafumi, Associate Professor of Nagasaki University and deputy chief advisor of the project, said as follows: "Bridges and other infrastructure play a key role as social apparatus for a very long period of time, from planning to construction and after completion, serving for decades or more than a century. It will not happen overnight to develop organizations, human resources, and technologies for appropriate development, operation, maintenance and management of infrastructure. I really hope that these initiatives in Laos will contribute to the formation of a safe and secure road network and bring about further development of the country."

In this way, Japan is working to extend the lifetime of the infrastructure in developing countries through industrial-government-academia collaboration involving governments, universities and private companies. Such efforts contribute to the realization of economic viability considering life cycle costs, an element of the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment."^{*2}



Dr. Thavone confirming the strength of the components of a collapsed Bailey bridge, as part of his research activities in Laos (Photo: Nagasaki University)

^{*1} A temporary bridge used in many developing countries. Originally developed for military purposes, this kind of bridge can be easily set up but is not designed for long-term use. As these are being used as regular bridges in developing countries, bridge collapses happen frequently due to overloaded vehicles being driven across them and other similar situations.

^{*2} See the glossary "Quality Infrastructure" on page 31.

ODA
Topics

2

Promoting Initiatives for the Realization
of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific”

The Indo-Pacific region, which extends from the Asia-Pacific region through the Indian Ocean to the Middle East and Africa, is the core of vitality for the world that is home to half of the world's population. To establish a free and open order based on the rule of law in this region, Japan advocated the concept of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” in 2016 and promotes efforts to realize it. The vision is widely shared not only by the United States but also by Australia, India, ASEAN, and major European countries and is becoming increasingly important towards the post-COVID-19 era.

Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) is one of the most important instruments for such efforts to realize FOIP.

For example, under FOIP, it is aimed to promote economic prosperity by enhancing connectivity across this region. It intends to achieve the growth of the entire region by developing ports, airports, roads, railways, and other infrastructure within the area in line with international standards and connecting cities and hubs with one another. The Mass Transit System Project in Bangkok (Red Line) in Thailand, which was developed through Japan's ODA loans and opened in August 2021, is one example of assistance for enhancing connectivity. This railway line, which connects the center of Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, with Don Mueang Airport and the surrounding areas, will contribute to alleviating and improving the issues of traffic congestion and air pollution in the metropolitan region. The new Bang Sue Grand Station, constructed as a part of this project, becomes Thailand's new symbolic terminal station for long-distance lines, and will be used for high-speed railway and conventional national railway lines in the future.

Japan's assistance towards Djibouti in East Africa is also introduced here as an example of efforts for securing peace and stability. The areas off the coast of Somalia and in the



A patrol vessel provided to the Djibouti Coast Guard in October 2021

Gulf of Aden, which Djibouti faces, are critically important sea lanes for Japan, with approximately 1,600 vessels related to Japan passing through these areas each year. However, piracy, armed robbery, illegal passage, illegal fishing, smuggling, and accidents occur frequently in the area. To address these issues, Japan has deployed anti-piracy operations by the Self-Defense Forces, as well as supported the Djibouti Coast Guard through ODA, including the provision of patrol vessels for maritime surveillance, capacity building in the operation and maintenance of vessels, and the establishment of Djibouti Coast Guard training frameworks.

With regard to the efforts to promote and consolidate the rule of law, to date, Japan has also provided assistance with the drafting of civil laws in China, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Nepal, and Laos through JICA technical cooperation. For Laos, Japan has consistently worked to support the development of the legal system over the course of approximately 20 years, and the country's first civil code was enacted in 2020 as the culmination of assistance. Japan had invested considerable amounts of time in human resources development, which played a central role in the drafting of the civil code and continues to provide assistance in the country aimed at the utilization and dissemination of the civil code following its enactment.

The stability and prosperity of Japan and this region cannot be realized without a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” where various people, goods, and wisdom are actively exchanged, supported by highly transparent rules. Japan will make efforts to realize FOIP by utilizing various forms of assistance, including ODA.



Thailand's Mass Transit System Red Line, which opened in August 2021
(Photo: JICA)

(2) Efforts on Debt Issues

Development assistance through public financing is utilized to promote economic growth in developing countries. However, if it becomes difficult for those countries to repay the funds received due to the deterioration of their macroeconomic environment or other reasons, they may become overburdened with excessive debt, which can inhibit their sustainable growth. Such issues must essentially be resolved by the indebted countries themselves by putting forward reforms and other efforts. However, should their excessive debt stand in the way of their development path, the international community needs to respond.

In regard to international efforts to address debt issues, debt relief measures have been implemented through efforts such as the Enhanced HIPC Initiative⁷ for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs)* and the Paris Club's⁸ Evian Approach.⁹ However, in recent

years, there are some cases among low-income countries in which they accumulate official debt again, despite having received debt relief. Thus, there are concerns in regards to their debt sustainability. The reason behind this situation on the countries' side is pointed out as being that indebted countries lack the capabilities to gather and disclose their own debt data and appropriately manage their debt. The reasons on the creditors' side are pointed out as being that the funding providers are diversified and loans from emerging donor countries and private creditors, including the provision of untraditional and non-concessional loans such as secured loans, have increased, while the proportion of Paris Club loans is decreasing.

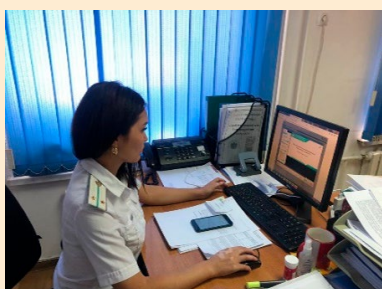
In April 2020, in order to respond to the impact of the spread of COVID-19 on low-income countries, the G20 and Paris Club agreed on the "Debt Service Suspension

Kyrgyz Republic

Project on Improvement of Human Resources Development System of the State Tax Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic Technical Cooperation Project (July 2017 – November 2020)



Since the Kyrgyz Republic joined the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015, the country's domestic tax system has considerably changed. Developing the capacity of staff members involved in taxation has become essential for improving their understanding of the tax system. There are around 2,200 staff members of the State Tax Service Head Office and 62 branch offices around the Kyrgyz Republic*¹ and its land of which 98% is mountainous, divided from north to south and from east to west by 4,000 meter-class mountain ranges. Therefore, there have been cases in which some regional staff have had difficulty participating in training in the capital city Bishkek. Moreover, the training systems in the capital were themselves not adequately developed.



A tax officer in Bishkek participating in taxation training for new staff, using the distance learning system

Japan has therefore supported human resources development utilizing a distance learning (e-learning) system with the aim of improving the capacity of the regional staff.

Japanese experts worked with the State Tax Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (STS) to formulate a human resources development plan and develop digital teaching materials



Members of STS Working Group and JICA experts working together to develop training materials
(Photo: Kinzai Institute for Financial Affairs, Inc.)

that were adapted for the Kyrgyz language for three courses for new staff, middle staff, and staff in charge of educating taxpayers. They developed a system taking into account local realities, such as the introduction of smartphone applications for staff unable to learn via computer, and continued project activities after the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, 585 staff members participated in training, greatly above the original target of 300 participants, with over 90% of course participants expressing satisfaction.

Furthermore, during the project period, STS itself proactively strengthened their organizational capacity to roll out training, including the development of two training courses with its own initiatives and the addition of two more staff members in charge of training. Based on the outcomes of this project, it is expected that STS will implement continuous human resources development going forward whereby tax administration in the Kyrgyz Republic is improved.

*1 As of October 2020 (Project Completion Report).

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

⁸ An informal group of creditor countries to discuss 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 A new Paris Club approach to debt restructuring (the Evian Approach). Debt relief measures which focus more on the debt sustainability of recipient countries, especially low-income and middle-income indebted countries other than HIPCs, and take case-by-case measures corresponding with the circumstances of each indebted country.

Initiative (DSSI),” which temporarily allowed these countries to suspend official debt service payments. Furthermore, in November 2020, the G20 and Paris Club agreed on the “Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the DSSI (Common Framework).” ¹⁰ In the G20 Rome Leaders’ Declaration issued at the G20 Rome Summit in October 2021, it was stated that preliminary estimates point out at least \$12.7 billion of total debt service was deferred, under the DSSI, between May 2020 and December 2021, benefiting 50 countries. Since the DSSI expired at the end of December 2021, debt measures under the “Common Framework” need to be quickly implemented going forward (see also page 5 for Japan’s response in relation to this).

One of the factors that can significantly affect debt sustainability of countries, including low-income countries, is infrastructure investment. Infrastructure projects such as ports and railroads come at a large cost, and debt repayments can become a significant burden for the borrowing countries. When financing infrastructure projects, it is necessary for both the borrowers and lenders to fully consider debt sustainability, and loans without consideration of debt sustainability are criticized as a “debt trap” by the international community.

The “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment” ¹¹ incorporated the importance of considering macro (country)-level debt sustainability as well as project-level financial sustainability. They also include the principles of openness, transparency, and economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost. Each G20 country is required to implement these principles as an international standard in their infrastructure investments and to work to ensure that these principles are implemented in the countries receiving loans.

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, 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, ¹² cancellation, and reduction only when they are absolutely necessary. As of the end of 2020, Japan has cancelled ODA debts worth a total of approximately ¥1.129 trillion toward 33 countries since FY2003. However, in 2021, as well as in 2020, no debt cancellation measures have been taken.

From the perspective of ensuring debt sustainability, an important element of the “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment,” Japan is engaged in improving the capabilities related to public debt and risk management among management personnel at the finance ministries of developing countries through contributions to international organizations, as well as through training and the dispatch of experts by JICA. For example, Japan has provided a training program on contingent liability risk management in cooperation with the World Bank for 41 government officials from 21 countries, including Ghana and Zambia, and made new contributions to the trust funds of the IMF and World Bank, supporting the capacity building of indebted countries.



Glossary

Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)

Developing countries, mainly from the Africa region, that are poor and have heavy debt burdens, and that are applicable for the Enhanced HIPC Initiative, a framework to provide comprehensive debt relief. At the end of June 2021, Sudan reached the HIPC Decision Point and became the 38th country to which the Initiative applies.

¹⁰ The “Common Framework” is the first agreement to jointly determine the terms of debt measures in a manner that involves emerging donor countries and other non-Paris Club countries. See also the glossary on page 8.

¹¹ See the Glossary “Quality Infrastructure” on page 31.

¹² 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.

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

The dissemination of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) ¹³ contributes to the upgrading of industry and improvement of productivity. It also contributes to solving social issues of medical care, education, energy, environment, disaster risk reduction, and other areas, and helps promote democratization by encouraging information disclosure and establishing broadcasting media. Moreover, the importance of Digital Transformation (DX) ¹⁴ is increasing under the spread of COVID-19.



The JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics (JJ-FAST) uses JAXA's DAICHI-2 (Advanced Land Observing Satellite-2) to monitor tropical forests in 77 countries every 1.5 months (See also page 51 for the Outer Space)

year for countries adopting or considering ISDB-T. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) also promotes assistance that offers ICT solutions to resolve social issues by way of dialogues and joint projects with partner governments.

Japan works with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) ¹⁸ to provide a variety of development assistance in the fields of telecommunications and ICT to developing countries. In October 2020, under the spread of COVID-19, Japan cooperated with the ITU to launch Connect2Recover (C2R), which supports developing countries and regions mainly in Africa to draft national strategies for strengthening digital infrastructure and improving their usage environments. In 2021, Japan provided support for the first phase of internet connection in Rwandan schools (10 out of 63 pilot schools) under the "Giga" initiative jointly implemented by ITU and UNICEF.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) ¹⁹ contributes to the balanced development of the telecommunication services and information infrastructure in the region. In order to promote human resources development related to telecommunications, Japan finances a number of training programs conducted by APT every year. In FY2020, seven training programs regarding issues such as broadband networks

Japan's Efforts

■ Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Japan promotes "quality infrastructure investment" in the ICT field in developing countries. ¹⁵ It actively supports the establishment of telecommunications and broadcasting equipment and facilities, the introduction of the technology and systems they require, and relevant human resources development. Specifically, Japan actively works to support the overseas spread and introduction of the Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial (ISDB-T), ¹⁶ which has been adopted in a total of 20 countries ¹⁷ in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and other regions as of December 2021. In addition, JICA training programs are conducted every



Training through the "Project on Capacity Building for Cyber Security in Viet Nam" (Photo: JICA)

¹³ See ⁵ on page 4.

¹⁴ See ⁶ on page 4.

¹⁵ In 2017, Japan formulated the Playbook for Investment in "Quality ICT Infrastructure" for ICT policymakers and procurement managers of the respective countries and regions.

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ The 20 countries are Japan, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Paraguay, the Philippines, Bolivia, Uruguay, Botswana, Guatemala, Honduras, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Angola (as of December 2021).

¹⁸ A UN specialized agency, which covers the fields of telecommunications and broadcasting. 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.

¹⁹ An international telecommunication organization established in the Asia-Pacific 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. In 2020, Mr. KONDO Masanori was elected as the Secretary General.

and cybersecurity were implemented and attended by approximately 120 people from the APT member states. The trainees utilize Japanese technology for the development of their own countries’ ICT, and Japanese companies’ expansion into the Asia-Pacific region is also expected through introducing Japanese technology systems.

In the Asia-Pacific region, over two billion people do not have internet access due to factors including fragile infrastructure and the inability to afford it. In the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region and Pacific Island countries, Japan provides support to develop low-cost, high-speed internet connectivity to remote islands and areas.

On December 12, 2021, Japan, the United States, Australia, the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, and Nauru issued a joint media statement titled “Improving East Micronesia Telecommunications Connectivity.” For the purpose of strengthening telecommunications infrastructure and supporting increased economic growth in the region, in response to the requests from the three Pacific island countries, Japan, the United States, and Australia, in cooperation with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), will support a project to build a new undersea cable. Japan will continue to support the development of quality infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific region in order to realize a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” in cooperation with the United States, Australia, and other like-minded countries.

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.²⁰ As a specific initiative, the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) was established through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) and conducted cybersecurity exercises and other efforts (see page 52 for details).

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

The Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program,²¹ which links ODA and the science and technology budget, was launched in 2008 to support joint research between research institutions and researchers in science and technology fields in Japan and developing countries. 168 research projects in 53 countries around the world have been adopted by FY2021 (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 73 and 135).



Visit to the Thai coastline for the project under the SATREPS “Formation of a Center of Excellence for Marine Plastic Pollution Studies in the Southeast Asian Seas” (Photo: JICA) (See also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 73.)

Based on cooperation for human resources development, Japan develops networks among the next generation by strengthening assistance for overseas engineering universities.

In Asia, Japan provides support to the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT) by procuring equipment and supplies for education and research as well as developing curriculum designs. As of 2021, Japan also collaborates with 28 universities and two research organizations in Japan to extend cooperation for establishing educational curriculums, dispatching Japanese faculty, and other objectives (see also “ODA Topics” on page 95 for Malaysia’s Look East Policy). Since 2012, Japan provides scholarships to students studying remote sensing (satellite image analysis) in courses taught by Japanese instructors at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)²² located in Thailand, contributing to the development of the human resources who will constitute the crux of the space industry development in the Asian region.

In Egypt, Japan has continued to support the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST)²³ since 2008. With the cooperation from universities in Japan, in addition to providing support for the operation of graduate schools and departments, such as the provision of practical and international-standard engineering education and promotion of joint research with the industrial sector, Japan also supports the acceptance of exchange students from the Middle East and Africa regions, contributing to industrial and science and technology human resources development in the regions.

²⁰ In 2015, the Cybersecurity Strategic Headquarters was established in the Cabinet Secretariat, and in 2016 the “Basic Policy to Support Cybersecurity Capacity Building in Developing Countries” was reported to the Headquarters.

²¹ See also Part IV 1(5).

²² One of the 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.

²³ A public university based on the concept of providing graduate school, research-centered, pragmatic, and international-standard education for a small number of students, drawing on the features of Japanese-style engineering graduate school education.

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

For quality growth, it is essential to acquire vocational skills, obtain stable employment, and increase income. In developing countries, however, opportunities to receive education and training are limited, which poses a major obstacle to industrial development in those countries.

Moreover, in order to create stable employment under the uncertain global employment situation, each country must urgently prepare for risks by building social safety nets, ²⁴ as well as engage in an international effort to realize decent work, stipulated in SDG 8.

Japan's Efforts

■ Vocational Training and Industrial Human Resources Development

With the aim of assisting developing countries in fostering human resources who can respond to diverse needs in technology and technical skills, Japan provides support to leading polytechnic and 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 10 comprehensive cooperation projects in nine countries between 2016 and 2021. The projects drew on Japan's insight and know-how for the development and revision of curriculums and



Pakistani women receiving e-commerce technology training through the project of the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) (Photo: World Bank)

teaching materials, capacity development of trainers, and collaboration with the industrial sector. As a result, Japan provided support for improving facilities and equipment at 15 schools, as well as Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions. In 2021, Japan also contributed to skill development through 21 projects in 59 countries and regions, with the aim of improving the livelihoods of women, persons with disabilities, and demobilized soldiers, as well as refugees and others whose lives have been impacted by conflicts.

In Asia, with a view towards the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in 2023, Japan has implemented the "Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0," ²⁵ which aims to support industrial human resources development of approximately 80,000 people in Asia over five years from 2018. In this initiative, Japan has steadily implemented human resources development in cooperative fields for industrial advancement capabilities, including in AI and other digital fields, in addition to cooperation in practical technology, design and development capabilities, innovation, business administration, planning, and management capabilities, which have been emphasized thus far.

The "Innovative Asia" Initiative, which has been implemented since FY2017, also provides excellent science and technology students from developing countries in Asia with opportunities to study abroad and intern at companies in Japan to promote the circulation of highly-skilled human resources between Japan and other Asian countries.

In addition, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) conducts training both in Japan and in targeted countries primarily from Southeast Asia. ²⁶ The training ²⁷ is 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) to those in targeted countries, with a view to developing and securing a quality workforce. In FY2020, a total of 95 people from four 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 relation to Africa, Japan highlighted the assistance in developing industrial human resources as part of Japan's contributions for Africa announced at TICAD7 held in 2019. Japan has been implementing its

²⁴ Mechanisms in which people can live in safety and without difficulties.

²⁵ The "Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative," which was announced at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in 2015, was achieved and far exceeded the original goal of assisting industrial human resources development of 40,000 people over three years. Following this, Japan announced the "Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0" at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in 2018.

²⁶ The target countries are Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Viet Nam.

²⁷ There are three types of training in this project: "training for people in charge of the creation of test standards and test problems," "training for people in charge of tests and marking," and "training for people in charge of trial certification evaluation." The number of participants above is the total value for all types of training.

commitment, aiming to train 140,000 people in order to diversify industries and create jobs in such areas as innovation, agriculture and blue economy ²⁸ through the KAIZEN Initiative, vocational training centers, and technical assistance by AfDB’s trust fund. Japan’s efforts also go on in training 3,000 people as industrial human resources to promote business between Japan and Africa in six years through the African Business Education



KAIZEN Consultant candidates and trainees from Cameroon provide instruction to wood processors through the technical cooperation “Project on Integrated SME Promotion with the Enhancement of KAIZEN” in Cameroon (Photo: JICA)

Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative 3.0)*. Through the ABE Initiative, which is driven by industry-academia-government cooperation, Japan has already provided training opportunities to approximately 1,600 trainees with the cooperation of 77 universities throughout Japan by the end of December 2021.

■ Employment, Including Job Creation

Japan also provides support in the area of employment. The spread of COVID-19 has had major socio-economic impacts on various countries, with particularly great effects on socially vulnerable people including youth and women. In light of this, there is a strong international need for support and measures to realize decent work for all workers. Japan provides technical cooperation primarily in the Asian region for the enhancement of security and hygienic standards of work as well as the improvement of social insurance systems, through means such as voluntary contributions to the ILO. In addition, Japan is also providing employment support for youth and others in Ethiopia, Gambia, Mauritania, Mozambique, and Sudan, so that Japan contributes to the realization of “decent work” in Africa.



Glossary

African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)

A program launched at TICAD V in 2013 with the aim of promoting human resources development for business and industry in Africa and fostering “navigators” who will support the business activities of Japanese companies in Africa. It was announced at TICAD VI (2016) and TICAD7 (2019) that the program would continue. Under the program, Japan invites youth in Africa to Japan and provides them with opportunities to gain master’s degrees at Japanese universities, as well as business programs such as internships at Japanese companies, Japanese language training, and entrepreneurship training.

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

→ See also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 73 and 135

Through the collaboration of Japan’s advanced science and technology and ODA, SATREPS is an initiative to conduct research to solve global issues relating to the environment and energy, bio-resources, disaster prevention and mitigation, and infectious diseases. Under this program, research institutes both in developing countries and Japan work together to conduct international joint research with the following objectives: (i) strengthening international science and technology cooperation, (ii) acquiring new expertise and technologies that will lead to resolving global issues, and using these to create innovation, and (iii) capacity development. 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 the developing countries.

²⁸ The blue economy aims to balance the conservation of ocean resources and economic development through the sustainable use of resources from the oceans, rivers, lakes, and more.

In Argentina, poverty and income disparities in rural areas have become a problem and it is required to make policies to promote self-sustaining regional development through support for production activities and human resources development. However, there was not enough development of value-added products that meet market needs and continuous human resources development.

This project started in June 2019 targeting five provinces^{*1} of Argentina upon a request by the Government of Argentina, which had become interested in regional development utilizing Japan's One Village One Product (OVOP) Campaign.^{*2} The project has implemented capacity building of the Ministry of Health and Social Development and the development, improvement, and sales-promotion of products reflecting the market needs of each region. The project has also supported the establishment of value chains from production to sale that embody as one added value social inclusiveness including NGOs that support local residents and communities such as women and young people.

Immediately after the start of this project, it became impossible to travel to Argentina due to the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, activities were carried out online from June 2020 onwards, and a total of 19 seminars were held over FY2020 including the



Implementing exhibition and promotional activities featuring processed agricultural products and traditional crafts, etc., at Shiraoi Town, Hokkaido Prefecture (Photo: JICA)

introduction of examples of the OVOP in Japan and overseas, and lectures on value chains, among other topics. With regard to promoting indigenous culture, in which Argentina is highly interested, exhibitions and promotional activities featuring processed agricultural products and traditional artifacts from the Argentinian provinces were held at Shiraoi Town, Hokkaido Prefecture, which practices the creation of the local attractions by maintaining and passing on traditional Ainu crafts and indigenous culture. Questionnaires were also circulated among visitors to the exhibition.

Such creative and deeply thought out efforts, as well as the enthusiasm shown by the people involved, earned high appreciation from the Government of Argentina, and there are high expectations for future development of this project. Japan will continue to advance assistance for regional development tailored to Argentina.



Instruction being given on a visit to handicraft producers in Salta Province (Photo: JICA)

^{*1} The five provinces of Salta, Chaco, Misiones, Catamarca and Buenos Aires in North East and North West area of Argentina.

^{*2} See the glossary on page 31.

2 Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society

2-1 Assistance for Realizing an Equitable and Inclusive Society

(1) Assistance for the Development of Legal and Judicial Systems, and Economic Systems

In order to achieve “quality growth” in developing countries, it is necessary that the rights of individuals are guaranteed, that people can be engaged in socio-economic activities with a sense of safety, and that social infrastructure 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, realizing good governance, and ensuring peace, stability, and security are of great importance in developing countries.

In this regard, assistance for the development of legal and judicial systems is required to develop laws and to train legal and judicial personnel (including legal professionals and staff engaged in the correction and rehabilitation of offenders). It is also necessary to assist in the development of economic systems including human resources development, which involves the establishment of tax systems, appropriate collection, management, and execution of taxes, enhancement of audit functions of the public sector, and improvement of financial systems.

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides assistance for the development of legal and judicial systems, and economic systems to countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam. It includes legal and judicial system reform, assistance in drafting laws and regulations, capacity development of national and local government officials for the operation and execution of legal systems, enhancement of internal audits, and the establishment of civil codes, competition law, intellectual property law, tax, internal audit, and public investment systems. In particular, in Laos, as a result of Japan's continuous support for the development of legal and judicial systems for over 20 years, the country's first civil code entered into force in May 2020, and currently operational support for this is being provided. In this way, the development of legal and judicial systems and economic systems in developing countries leads to improvements in the business environment for Japanese companies to be active in these countries. Japan's assistance for the development of legal and judicial systems and economic systems draws on Japan's “soft power” and promotes and underpins growth in the world, including Asia.

In March 2021, the 14th United Nations Congress on

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto Congress) was held in Kyoto, with Japan as the host country, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as the Secretariat. Under the overall theme of “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,” there were discussions on international cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address all forms of crime, including terrorism and new and emerging forms of crime. The Kyoto Declaration, which will serve as a medium to long-term guideline for the United Nations and its member states in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, was adopted unanimously as the outcome document.

Japan also conducts international training courses, studies, and seminars aimed at strengthening the training of human resources development and other purposes. As in 2020, it was also difficult in 2021 to conduct them in person due to restrictions on overseas travel caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of this situation, Japan provided online training on topics such as drafting legislation and legal training in accordance with the needs of each country with the participation of legal practitioners and lawmaking professionals including justice ministry officials, judges, and prosecutors, from countries including Indonesia, Laos, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan. Additionally, Japan participated in local meetings, workshops, and other activities.

Furthermore, in order to proactively promote assistance aligned with the needs of developing countries, Japan works to implement effective assistance by conducting broad and basic studies regarding the legal systems of the countries, and their interpretations and operations. In March 2021, Japan held the 10th Symposium on International Civil and Commercial Law “Law and Practices of Joint Venture in Four Southeast Asian Countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam” online as a forum to present the research results.

(2) Assistance for Governance Including Anti-Corruption

The occurrence of corruption, cases involving government officials, such as bribery and embezzlement,



A video message from then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Uto shown at a special event of the Kyoto Congress (March 2021)



Japanese experts dispatched to Indonesia holding discussions on strengthening the system for protection of intellectual property rights (Photo: JICA)

becomes a factor that impedes the level of playing field for fair competition and healthy economic growth of developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary for donor countries to support good governance, including anti-corruption measures in developing countries to realize fair and stable societies.

Japan's Efforts

As a State Party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), and by providing financial contributions to UNODC, the secretariat of the Convention, Japan has been actively engaged in developing legal systems concerning the prevention of corruption and law enforcement operations, as well as providing capacity building assistance to justice and law enforcement agencies in developing countries.

In addition, through the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), ²⁹ Japan conducts annual training and seminars for criminal justice practitioners in developing countries, such as in Asia and Africa, as part of its assistance for the development of legal and judicial systems and support for governance, including anti-corruption measures.

As an example of a specific initiative, Japan has annually held an international training course on the criminal justice response to corruption since 1998. The training course is held with themes selected from the key issues of the UNCAC, and contributes to the sound development of the criminal justice system and the strengthening of cooperative relationships for preventing corruption in each country. In 2021, the 23rd UNCAC training programme on the theme of “Tackling Emerging Threats of Corruption in the Borderless and Digitalized World” was conducted online from September to October.

Furthermore, Japan has held a seminar titled “Regional

Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries (GG Seminar)” every fiscal year since 2007, with the objectives of supporting governance initiatives in Southeast Asian countries and contributing to human resources development in the area of criminal justice and anti-corruption. In December 2021, the 15th GG Seminar on the theme of “Effective International Cooperation for Combating Corruption” was held online, with participation by 18 criminal justice practitioners from 10 countries, namely nine ASEAN member states (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam) and Timor-Leste.

In addition, UNAFEI's activities are not limited to anti-corruption efforts, but also address important issues related to crime prevention and criminal justice in the international community, and UNAFEI has responded to the changing global society by holding training and seminars on these topics to criminal justice practitioners widely in developing countries around the world. For example, in 2021, the 175th international training course on the theme of “Treatment of Women Offenders” and the 176th international training course on “Achieving Inclusive Societies through Effective Criminal Justice Policies and Practices” were held online between October and December.

(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, it is important to support developing countries, which are taking proactive steps toward democratization, in their efforts to shift to democratic systems through electoral assistance and other means.

Japan's Efforts

In Iraq, the Council of Representatives elections were held in October 2021. Japan conducted election monitoring activities at polling places in the capital city of Baghdad and, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), provided Iraq's Independent High Electoral Commission with equipment such as servers for biometric registration, as well as masks, non-contact thermometers, and other items for COVID-19 measures. Japan contributed to strengthening governance in Iraq by supporting the implementation of transparent and credible elections while preventing the spread of infections during the pandemic.

In addition, Japan also provides electoral assistance in Libya in cooperation with the UNDP. Military clashes in

²⁹ Established in 1962 based on an agreement between the UN and the Government of Japan. It is operated by the UN Training Cooperation Department of the Research and Training Institute within the Ministry of Justice. It has produced over 6,100 graduates from 140 countries and regions since its establishment.



Group photo at the seminar of the technical cooperation “Project for capacity development of the Office of the National Assembly of Viet Nam - Phase 2” (Photo: JICA)

Libya have continued since “the Arab Spring,” however, a ceasefire was agreed upon in 2020. Presidential and parliamentary elections were scheduled to be held in December 2021 to choose an administration to replace the interim Government of National Unity that was established after the ceasefire, but these elections have been postponed until after January 2022. Japan contributes to the implementation of smooth, free, and fair elections by providing the High National Elections Commission with ballot boxes and other election-related equipment.

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

(1) Support for Peacebuilding and Refugees/Displaced Persons

Regional and internal conflicts arising from various factors, including ethnic, religious, and historical differences, as well as from the effects of poverty, disparities and other such issues, still continue to arise in the international community. In particular, the prolongation of such conflicts has become a challenge in recent years. Such conflicts generate a great number of refugees and displaced persons, resulting in humanitarian crises. 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

In response to humanitarian crises such as conflicts, Japan has been promoting the “Humanitarian-Development Nexus” in which urgently needed humanitarian assistance and medium to long-term development cooperation are provided in parallel from the initial phases. In addition to this, as conflicts become more prolonged and humanitarian crises become more

diverse, Japan also places importance on the idea of “Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus,” in which it provides support for sustained peace through resilient nation-building and social stabilization from peacetime with a medium to long-term view. In various countries and regions, Japan seamlessly extends humanitarian assistance, support for poverty reduction and economic development, and peacebuilding and conflict recurrence prevention assistance in order to bolster self-reliant development and address the root causes of crises.

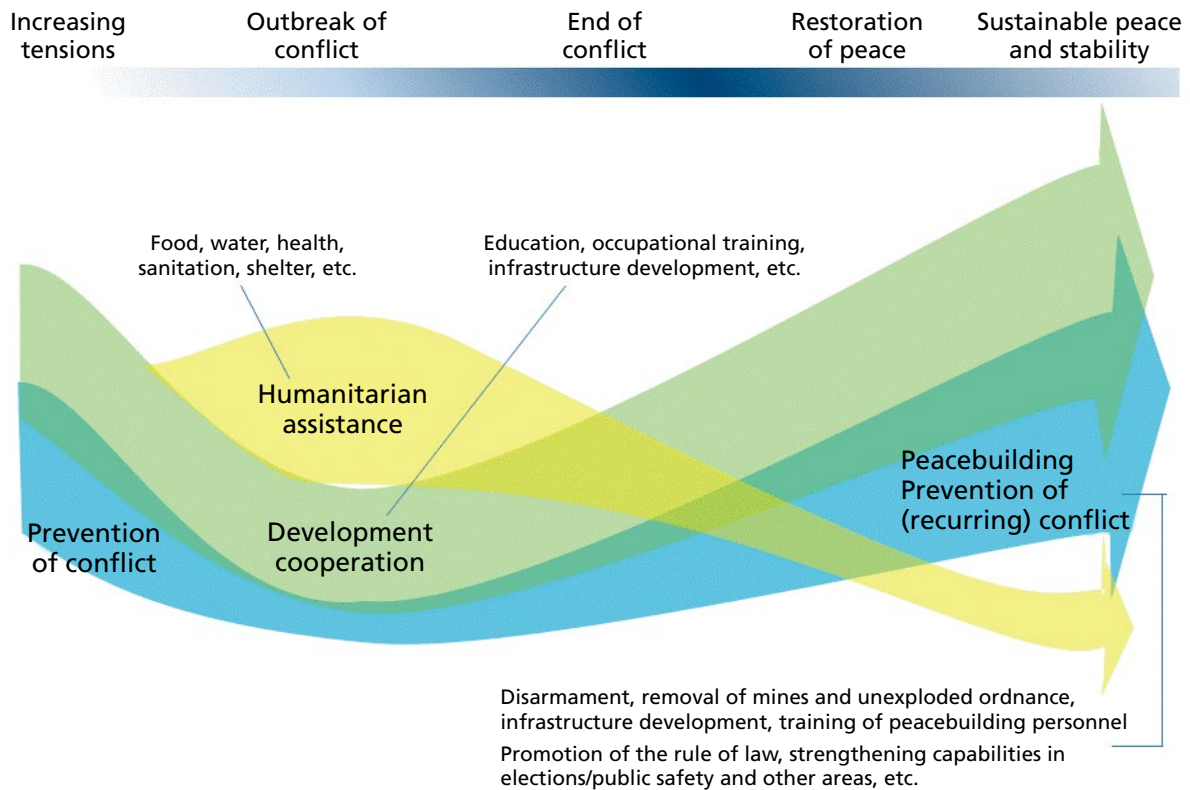
Within the international community, consistent support from the resolution of conflicts to recovery, reconstruction, and nation-building have been discussed in fora such as the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC).^{*} Japan has served as a member of the PBC Organizational Committee since its establishment, and has been actively contributing to it by communicating the importance of working to build institutions and capacity and the need to address the root causes of conflicts, and by calling for strengthened relationships between the PBC and key UN agencies and institutions such as the World Bank and IMF. As of December 2021, Japan has contributed a total of \$57.7 million to the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF),^{*} and supports the prevention of conflict and its recurrence and sustaining peace in countries in Africa, Asia, and other areas as a major donor. In addition, in his speech at the General Debate of the UN General Assembly in 2021, then Prime Minister Suga stated that Japan will remain committed to peacebuilding.

Specifically, Japan provides emergency humanitarian assistance for refugees and displaced persons affected by conflict and electoral assistance for post-conflict political peace processes. In addition, to promote the consolidation of peace and prevent the recurrence of conflict, Japan provides assistance in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of ex-combatants, security sector reform, and strengthening of administrative, judicial, and police functions. Furthermore, Japan supports the development of economic infrastructure and institutions, as well as social sectors such as health and education. Japan also extends support for reconstruction in areas such as the repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons, and the rebuilding of basic infrastructure (socio-economic infrastructure) (see page 44 for Support for Refugees and Displaced Persons). In order to provide such support in a seamless manner, Japan takes an approach that combines assistance through international organizations, grant aid, loan aid, and technical cooperation.

In addition, Japan makes active efforts to promote women's participation in conflict prevention and peacebuilding in line with UN Security Council resolutions, including UNSC Resolution 1325, which recognizes the importance of the role of women in peacebuilding.

Furthermore, the Development Cooperation Charter outlines that Japan will strengthen coordination

Peacebuilding efforts through ODA



Countermeasures for the root causes of conflict, through humanitarian, development, and peace nexus

between development cooperation and international peace cooperation activities such as UN peacekeeping operations (PKOs). In the countries and regions where UN PKOs are deployed, many initiatives are underway that contribute to efforts for protecting refugees/displaced persons, 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 coordination. For example, in 2021, Japan provided support for capacity building of 200 women in South Sudan for women's participation in peacebuilding, as well as assistance to victims of gender-based violence to promote efforts toward peace and

stability in the country.

Japan has proactively contributed to the framework of the UN Triangular Partnership Project, where three parties, namely the UN, Supporting Member States, and Troop Contributing Countries, cooperate to enhance the capacity of uniformed personnel to be dispatched to PKO missions through the provision of training and equipment. Under this framework, for example, Japan Self Defense Force (JSDF) personnel have been dispatched to Africa and Asia to train engineering personnel on the operation of heavy engineering equipment. In the medical care field, Japan has dispatched JSDF personnel to conduct life-saving training and contributed to the development of telemedicine systems for PKO missions.

■ Support for Refugees and Displaced Persons

Given the situations in Syria, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and other countries, the number of forcibly displaced people including refugees and displaced persons worldwide reached its highest level since the end of World War II in 2019 and again in 2020, and humanitarian situations are becoming increasingly severe. From the viewpoint of human security, Japan has been providing humanitarian assistance, including assistance for refugees, displaced persons, and others, in order to ensure the life, dignity, and security of the people in the most vulnerable positions and to support



A UNHCR staff member interviewing internally displaced persons in northeastern Nigeria

the realization of self-reliant development, wherein each person will be able to get back on their own feet (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 47).

In particular, Japan works with international organizations, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to provide refugees, displaced persons, and others around the world with assistance by distributing basic supplies necessary to live such as shelter (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 141 regarding Japanese personnel who work at IOM). Furthermore, Japan has been providing assistance for refugees, displaced persons, and others, even in areas with security concerns by utilizing their expertise and delivering capabilities through cooperation with the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and other international organizations. For example, in 2021, Japan extended emergency grant aid to Ethiopia through the WFP, IOM, and other organizations in order to provide medical supplies, food and the like, in support of internally displaced persons affected by the military engagement in the country (see Part III-8. Africa for details).

Upon providing this kind of assistance for refugees, displaced persons, and others through international organizations, Japan promotes cooperation with JICA, NGOs, and private companies. For example, in the case of refugee assistance by UNHCR, UNHCR works in collaboration with JICA to implement a program combining emergency and reconstruction assistance. In addition, Japan has also been providing assistance for refugees, displaced persons and others in collaboration with Japan Platform (JPF) ³⁰ (see also page 131, “(3) Cooperation with Japanese NGOs”).



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki attending the International Ministerial Conference of UNRWA held via videoconference (November 2021)

■ Protection and Participation of the Socially Vulnerable

Although socially vulnerable people including persons with disabilities caused 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 assistance for them is delayed in post-conflict recovery and they have difficulty accessing the benefits of peace and reconstruction.

From this perspective, Japan has been providing support for the social reintegration of child soldiers, and protection and empowerment of children who are the most vulnerable in conflict-affected areas, through UNICEF. For example, in the Central African Republic, Japan provides support for the social reintegration of former child soldiers and comprehensive humanitarian assistance to children who were victims of sexual violence and internally displaced persons. Additionally, in cooperation with UN Women, Japan supports infrastructure development and provides vocational training to ensure sustainable means of livelihood for women and girls living under conflict and natural disaster in South Sudan, Nigeria, and other countries (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 47).

■ Actions Against Anti-personnel Landmines, Unexploded Ordnance, and Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons

In post-conflict countries and regions, anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) remain, and illicit small arms and light weapons are still widely in circulation. These weapons not only harm civilians indiscriminately and hinder reconstruction and development activities, but may also exacerbate conflict. Therefore, it is important to continue cooperation to ensure security and stabilize these countries and regions through assistance for the disposal of anti-personnel landmines and UXOs, appropriate management of small arms and light weapons, 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 is steadily implementing international cooperation activities through preventive efforts such as risk reduction education, in addition to mine clearance and victim assistance, from the perspective of the humanitarian, development, and peace nexus. For example, Japan supports upgrading the overall capacity of the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) not only through equipment provision but also through strengthening of its training capacity at home and abroad, capacity building of administrative staff and building of information systems so that the Centre can make further international contributions. Through such comprehensive support, CMAC has become functional as a training site for mine-action staff from other countries such as Colombia and Laos, and contributes to the realization of South-South cooperation. Japan

³⁰ An emergency humanitarian aid organization established in 2000 in cooperation with NGOs, the Government, and the business communities.



Ambassador of Japan to Angola Maruhashi notifying the traditional village chief of the completion of mine removal in his village

also contributes to the improvement of connectivity in the Western Balkans by supporting mine clearance activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina conducted by ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF), an international NGO based in Slovenia, in cooperation with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Center.

In Afghanistan, the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan), a Japanese NGO, has been implementing an education project that supports the development of educational materials, conducting seminars and the like, with the aim of raising awareness on the risks of landmines, UXOs, and other remnants of conflict, and on the appropriate ways of avoiding them, through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (since FY2009) and JPF (since 2001). The reach of these awareness activities among residents has steadily expanded.

Furthermore, in Laos, which has been particularly affected by UXOs, Japan has dispatched UXO disposal experts and provided equipment. Specifically, Japan has supported the capacity building of organizations that dispose of UXOs, through introducing mechanical bush-cutters and other related materials and equipment needed for UXO disposal and supporting human resources development mainly in the Provinces of Sekong, Salavan, and Champasak, all of which are

regions in the country that have endured especially great suffering from UXOs and have high poverty rates.

In addition to providing bilateral support, Japan is proactively engaged in measures against mines and UXOs through international organizations. In 2021, Japan conducted clearance, risk education, and victim assistance against landmines and UXOs through the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in Afghanistan, Nigeria, Palestine, South Sudan, Sudan, and Syria. For example, in Syria, Japan provided assistance to victims of bombings and worked to formulate a framework for the implementation of assistance to victims through UNMAS. In 2021, Japan also provided support for mine risk education in Chad, Iraq, Palestine, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, Ukraine, and Yemen via UNICEF. It also provides support including risk reduction education in countries and regions such as Iraq, Palestine, Syria, and Ukraine through ICRC.

Japan also contributes to action to tackle small arms and light weapons as the largest donor country to the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT), a UN fund established to embody the commitment made by Secretary General Guterres in “An Agenda for Disarmament” (2018). Small arms and light weapons are still used in actual conflicts and are also called “the de-facto weapons of mass destruction” because they claim many lives. Japan actively supports international efforts to prevent violence and misuse of such small arms and light weapons.

■ Human Resources Development for Peacebuilding

Qualities required for those engaged in the field of peace building have become increasingly diversified and complex. Through the Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development,³¹ Japan cultivates civilian specialists who can make a significant contribution on the ground both in Japan and abroad, and a total of over 800 people have participated in training programs in Japan. Many graduates of these trainings are playing an active role in the fields of peacebuilding and development in regions such as Asia and Africa.



Glossary

UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)

A UN organization established in March 2005. The PBC aims to provide advice regarding consistent support from conflict resolution to recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction, based on the recognition that it is extremely important to provide appropriate post-conflict support due to the frequent recurrence of regional conflicts and civil wars after they end.

UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

A fund established in October 2006. The fund is used to respond to urgent threats to peace processes, support peace agreements and political dialogue, and strengthen national organizations and national capacity, as well as revitalize economies and establish administrative services, among other purposes.

³¹ In FY2007 Japan began the Program for Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding, and in FY2015, the program was renewed with expanded content as the Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development (https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/peace_bj/_ikusei_shokai.html (in Japanese only)). The renewed program includes the “Mid-Career Course,” which supports the career advancement of those with a certain degree of practical experience in fields related to peacebuilding and development, in addition to the existing “Primary Course,” which offers training in Japan to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary on the ground and on-the-job training at field offices of international organizations.

Stories from the Field

Japanese Cooperation Boosting Initiatives in Uganda, Africa's Largest Refugee-Hosting Country

—UNHCR activities—



Public nomination

2

Uganda is located in the eastern part of Africa, also known as “the Pearl of Africa” for the beauty of its nature. Over the years, Uganda has been welcoming many refugees and has seen many influxes of refugees fleeing from neighboring countries such as South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where instability persists.

With the cumulative number of refugees in Uganda reaching approximately 1.4 million at the end of 2020, Uganda is currently Africa's largest refugee-hosting country. The refugee status recognition rate in Uganda was 95% prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (2019), and there are 13 refugee settlements across the country by the initiative of the Government of Uganda. Efforts to meet the needs of refugees, such as land allocation, freedom of movement, and providing livelihood opportunities, have also been strengthened, and the program is recognized worldwide as a successful example of refugee integration.

Coordination with a variety of partners is essential for the refugee assistance in Uganda. In response to the growing environmental risks surrounding refugees under the COVID-19 pandemic, the UNHCR cooperates with a number of Japanese actors, including the Government of Japan, JICA, and NGOs across a wide range of fields to realize the “whole-of-society approach,” a concept set out in the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR).^{*1}

One example is the “Promotion of Rice Development (PRiDe) Project,” implemented in cooperation with JICA. Previous efforts from JICA, developed as rice-farming promotion, have been expanded to support refugees in cooperation with UNHCR since 2014. The project not only helped promote NERICA (New Rice for Africa),^{*2} which is resilient against drought and thus suitable for the African climate, but also provided training on rice-farming to both refugees and host communities, benefitting around 1,111 households (approximately 5,000 people) in 2021. The economic independence gained through the cultivation of NERICA has boosted the self-confidence of the refugees, and many of them say it has changed their lives.



A South Sudanese female refugee working hard on rice-farming, taking care of 19 children separated from their parents in conflicts (Photo: UNHCR)



Ms. TAKASHIMA Yumiko, who says “sustainable initiatives truly are the key,” visiting a field of NERICA cultivated by refugees (Fourth from the left) (Photo: UNHCR)

Such collaboration between JICA and international organizations has contributed to strengthening the Humanitarian-Development Nexus that aims to build a seamless coordination between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation (see Part II-2, 2-2 (1) for details). Moreover, to meet the diverse needs of refugees such as medical care, education, water supply, and livelihood improvement, UNHCR works to deliver support to each and every refugee for their better futures while strengthening its coordination with Japanese companies, NGOs, and others.

Many Japanese staff members also work actively in the field of UNHCR refugee assistance. Assistant Protection Officer Ms. KOBAYASHI Akiko at the Yumbe Office in Uganda, who has worked in Uganda for more than three years, said, “I often find myself inspired by the refugees who never lose their hope and do their best to thrive even though they have been forced to flee their homes and live in difficult circumstances.”

Ms. TAKASHIMA Yumiko, Principal Risk Management and Compliance Advisor at the UNHCR Country Office in Uganda, said, “I would like more people to know about not only the challenges refugees in Uganda face but the various forms of assistance being delivered from the people of Japan. And I hope you will join us in thinking about what more Japan can do to help.” It is expected that cooperation with Japan's expertise will continue to expand to support refugees in the future.

^{*1} Adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2018.

^{*2} See the glossary on page 84.

(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 have occurred overseas. There are five types of Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams that provide humanitarian assistance: (i) Urban Search and Rescue Team, (ii) Medical Team, (iii) Infectious Diseases Response Team, (iv) Expert Team (to provide technical advice or guidance on emergency disaster mitigation activities and recovery operations), and (v) Self-Defense Force Unit (to undertake medical activities and transportation of aid supplies and personnel when it is deemed particularly necessary). These teams are dispatched either individually or in combination.



Disaster affected people holding emergency relief blankets delivered by JICA after flooding in Timor-Leste in April 2021. Japanese NGOs also cooperated in the distribution. (Photo: Peace Winds Japan)

Emergency relief goods are provided as in-kind assistance. Japan stockpiles, in three overseas warehouses, tents, blankets, and other supplies needed for affected people in the wake of a disaster. In 2021, Japan provided emergency relief goods to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Palau, the Philippines, Saint Vincent, and Timor-Leste.

In addition, Japan provides Emergency Grant Aid to governments of countries affected by natural disasters and/or conflict and international organizations providing emergency assistance in affected areas, for the purpose of relieving refugees, displaced persons, those who have been affected by natural disaster or conflict overseas, and others. In many cases, Japanese NGOs contribute as implementing partners when these international organizations engage in actual emergency assistance (see Part III for achievements in 2021).

Moreover, Japanese NGOs also provide various forms of assistance to those affected by disasters utilizing ODA. Japan Platform (JPF) ³² provides humanitarian assistance to refugees, displaced persons, people affected by conflicts and/or natural disasters, and others. The NGOs affiliated with JPF provide various forms

of support to meet the local needs in regions that are often hard for local government aid to reach (see page 131, “(3) Cooperation with Japanese NGOs” for the achievements).



Residents receiving emergency food assistance provided through Japan's emergency grant aid for hurricane damage in Guatemala (Photo: WFP)

Disaster response is a common concern of Japan and ASEAN, which are beset by numerous natural disasters. Japan continuously supports strengthening of the capacity of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) established in 2011. In 2021, Japan provided support for the establishment of an Integrated Information and Communication Technology System, capacity development, as well as the establishment and utilization of the Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA) to rapidly transport emergency relief items to affected countries.

(3) Assistance for Stability and Security

Transnational organized crime and acts of terrorism continue to pose a threat to the entire global community. Effective response to these threats cannot be achieved by the efforts of a single nation alone. Therefore, in addition to strengthening countermeasures by individual nations, the entire international community must work together through assistance to build capacity in the fields of justice and law enforcement in developing countries.

Japan's Efforts

A. Enhancing the Capabilities of Security Authorities

Based on the track records and experiences of the Japanese police in international cooperation, they provide support for the creation of systems, improvement of administrative capabilities, and human resources development while transferring knowledge and skills to police agencies in developing countries, who play a key role in maintaining security.

As one of the examples, the National Police Agency

³² See the glossary on page 134.



Japanese experts providing instruction to Indonesian officials on how to collect fingerprints onsite under the technical cooperation “Project on Nationwide Capacity Development of Police Officers for POLMAS-Indonesian Civilian Police Activities” in Indonesia (Photo: JICA)

(NPA) of Japan dispatched experts to Indonesia, and also provided online training for the officials of Asian, African and Oceanian countries, showing how police are trusted by the people in Japan.

B. Counter-Terrorism

The environment surrounding terrorism has changed greatly due to the spread of COVID-19. Although the restrictions on movement due to the pandemic have reduced terrorism in urban areas, in some areas where the governing capacity of the nation is vulnerable, the pandemic has further degraded governance and helped expand terrorist organizations’ activities.

In 2021, Japan implemented various projects through international organizations in order to promptly respond to changes in the environment surrounding terrorism. For example, in the Maldives, Japan assisted in the response capacity program and educational support against violent extremism for youth and women in partnership with the UNDP. In addition, with UN Women, Japan supported a program to strengthen social integration, including the empowerment of women leaders in the Philippines and other countries. Moreover, Japan provided assistance through the Council of Europe, and strengthened the prosecution capacity of judicial officials to address crimes committed in cyberspace, which have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the above, in FY2021, Japan provided \$570,000 for a program of UN Women in Thailand and Bangladesh to prevent violent extremism and hate speech and to promote women’s participation in peace and security through dialogue. Japan also contributed \$700,000 to UNODC’s project addressing overcrowding in prisons by promoting rehabilitation, social reintegration, and social treatment in seven countries in Southeast and South Asia.

C. Measures against Transnational Organized Crime

Japan, as a state party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), a legal framework for preventing transnational organized crime including terrorism, is promoting international cooperation that includes mutual legal assistance based on the Convention. Additionally, Japan mainly provides the following international cooperation.

■ Countermeasures against Drug Trafficking

While actively participating in the relevant international conferences and fora such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), Japan has been working on the world drug problem through financial contributions to the UNODC in 2021 for technical cooperation to strengthen drug control capabilities at national borders and to promote alternative crops development for the people involved in or affected by illicit drug production.

In addition, the NPA of Japan holds discussions on the regional drug situation and relevant investigational measures as well as on the way of international cooperation with countries mainly in the Asia-Pacific region in order to build mutually beneficial cooperative structures for collectively working on the world drug problem.

■ Measures against Trafficking in Persons

Based on the “Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children,” a comprehensive international agreement concerning trafficking in persons, ³³ and Japan’s “2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons,” Japan is engaged in various efforts to eradicate trafficking in persons. Under this Action Plan, the Government of Japan has released annual reports on its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, while also strengthening cooperation with various ministries, agencies, relevant organizations, and NGOs.

In 2021, Japan provided support to victims of trafficking in persons identified in Japan through contribution to IOM, towards their safe repatriation to their respective home countries, and provided education and vocational training for their independence and social rehabilitation (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 141). Additionally, through bilateral technical cooperation and financial contributions to UN projects delivered by UNODC and UN Women, Japan also supported measures against trafficking in persons and made efforts to protect victims mainly in Southeast Asia. Japan also made financial contributions and participated in the Bali Process, an Asia-Pacific regional framework against people smuggling, trafficking in persons, and related transnational crime.

³³ The act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons for the purpose of exploitation, such as forced labor or prostitution (Article 3 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children).

■ Measures against Money Laundering

There is a high risk for the profits of transnational organized crime to be used to fund further organized crime or acts of terrorism, and thus, eliminating such flows of illicit funds is an important task for the international community. Therefore, Japan actively participates in discussions on international measures against money laundering ³⁴ and terrorist financing through intergovernmental frameworks such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). ³⁵

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, therefore ensuring marine traffic safety, such as by addressing maritime threats, is an issue that directly links to Japan's existence and prosperity as a nation. Moreover, an open and free international order of the seas based on the rule of law is extremely important not only for realization of the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" promoted by Japan but also for the economic development of the entire region including Japan (see "ODA Topics" on page 33 regarding initiatives for the realization of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)").

In order to establish and promote the rule of law at sea, Japan seamlessly supports the improvement of law enforcement capacity of maritime security agencies in the Indo-Pacific region through the provision of patrol vessels and technical cooperation, while promoting cooperation for 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 sea lanes including Indonesia and Malaysia, in addition to providing vessels and maritime security-related equipment to Viet Nam, the Philippines, and other countries. Moreover, at the 12th Mekong-Japan Summit held in November 2020, then Prime Minister Suga announced that Japan would provide an information-gathering web portal as well as human resources development for MDA capacity building in the Mekong countries as one of the "Five Points of Cooperation," and Japan steadily implements these supports.

As an effort to promote regional cooperation in countering piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Asia region, Japan has led the formulation of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), and

supports the activities of ReCAAP-ISC, an information sharing center established based on the ReCAAP. Japan has played a leading role in organizing comprehensive training together with ReCAAP-ISC since 2017, aiming for capacity building of the maritime law enforcement agencies of contracting parties, among others. 23 countries participated in the training in 2021 that was held online due to COVID-19.

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 \$15.53 million to the Djibouti Code of Conduct Trust Fund, which was founded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to implement the Djibouti Code of Conduct. ³⁶ 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.

Also, in cooperation with the Japan Coast Guard, maritime law enforcement training courses have been carried out with the participation of maritime security officers from the countries surrounding Somalia. In 2021, 33 officers from 26 countries participated in the courses. Furthermore, with the understanding 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 \$500 million for the restoration of basic social services, improvement of policing capability, and revitalization of domestic industries in Somalia.



Japan Coast Guard officials in charge of maritime security capacity building in Japan providing a lecture regarding on-board inspections to Vietnam Coast Guard officials (Photo: Japan Coast Guard)

Oil spillage from ships that occur on sea lanes not only have an impact on the safe navigation of ships passing through, but can also cause fatal damage to the fishery and tourism industries of coastal countries

³⁴ The act of disguising criminal proceeds as legally obtained assets, or the act of hiding such funds. One example is the act in which a drug dealer hides money gained through drug trafficking in a bank account opened under a false name.

³⁵ Established based on the Economic Declaration of the Arch Summit (G7 Summit) in 1989.

³⁶ A regional cooperation framework for Somalia and its neighboring countries.

by polluting the coast. Hence, it is important to strengthen the capacity for dealing with such oil spill incidents. In response to the oil spill from a bulk carrier off the coast of Mauritius that occurred in 2020, Japan dispatched Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams three times consecutively, and the teams conducted surveys on the spillage situation, worked on removing the oil, and also supported activities related to the fields of environment. In February and August 2021, Japan signed exchanges of notes for grant aid to provide equipment to strengthen maritime safety capabilities. In August, Japan also decided to provide technical cooperation to restore and conserve coastal ecosystems as well as to restore and improve the livelihoods of local fish workers and residents. Japan will continue to support the medium and long-term economic development of the country through the steady implementation of these assistances.

Furthermore, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) has been conducting a training program in the United Kingdom every year since 2009 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. The project has produced 72 graduates from 41 countries by December 2021. The IHO and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-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 been under revision through the cooperation of experts around the world, including the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard.

■ 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 for emerging countries and developing countries in their efforts toward the development and utilization of outer space. In particular, initiatives by Japan, such as providing opportunities for space experiments and the development of small satellites that make use of the International Space Station (ISS)/Japanese Experiment Module "Kibo," have been highly acclaimed in the international community. In June 2021, Mauritius' first CubeSat was deployed through the "KiboCUBE" program.³⁷ Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and



Mauritius' CubeSat being released from "Kibo" on June 22, 2021 (Photo: JAXA/NASA)

other officials in the country watched the deployment via live broadcast, which showed the high expectations for Japan's space cooperation in the country.

In 2016, Japan formulated basic policies to strategically and effectively offer all-Japan support for capacity building in the field of outer space in developing countries. Since then, Japan has been providing active support. For example, in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, Japan is conducting forest monitoring utilizing a tropical forest monitoring system (JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics: JJ-FAST) that uses satellite data from "Daichi-2." In February and October 2021, JICA held the subject-specific training program titled "Tropical Forest Management Using JJ-FAST in the Tropics, an ALOS-2 based Forest Monitoring System and Other Satellite Technologies," in which participants from around the world learned how to utilize JJ-FAST.

In addition, to contribute to the realization of the rule of law in outer space, Japan provides capacity building assistance to developing countries in the development and operation of domestic space-related laws. In May 2021, Japan announced its cooperation with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)'s "Space Law for New Space Actors" project, and provides assistance to emerging countries in the field of space in the Asia-Pacific region for the development and operation of domestic space-related laws. Japan also contributes to building the legal capacity needed to properly manage and supervise their space activities, including private-sector activities.

■ Cyberspace

In recent years, it has become a pressing task to take measures against threats to a free, fair, and secure cyberspace. It is thus necessary for diverse actors in each country to work together in order to respond to this issue. The lack of security-related awareness and response

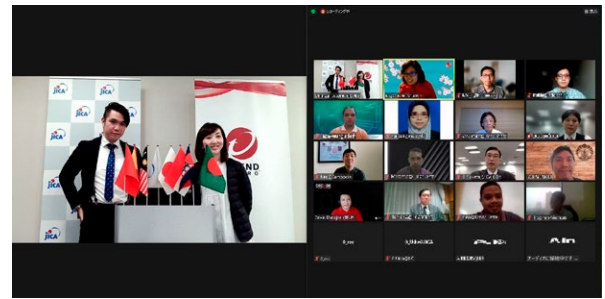
³⁷ A cooperative framework between the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) that provides developing countries with the opportunity to deploy CubeSats from "Kibo."

capacity in some countries, including developing countries, poses a significant risk to the entire world, including Japan. Therefore, strengthening cooperation for ensuring the security in cyberspace of countries around the world and providing capacity building support to developing countries not only contribute to the recipient countries, but also benefit the entire world including Japan.

Japan has strengthened cooperation with ASEAN through the ASEAN-Japan Cybercrime Dialogue and the Japan-ASEAN Information Security Policy Meeting. Japan continuously conducted cyber exercises and tabletop exercises with ASEAN member states in 2021.

Furthermore, the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) was launched in Bangkok, Thailand, utilizing the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) ³⁸ that was established with contributions by Japan among other stakeholders. At the Centre, Japan provides the Cyber Defense Exercise with Recurrence (CYDER), a practical exercise targeted at cybersecurity personnel of government agencies and critical infrastructure operators in ASEAN countries, and promotes cooperation in capacity building in the area of cybersecurity in ASEAN. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, from the perspective of sustainable training implementation, Japan made all of its independent study materials and on-site exercise programs available online, and conducted the training online in September 2019.

Japan also contributed to the World Bank's Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund in 2021 and



Defense Practice against Cyber Attacks, an online knowledge co-creation program conducted with the participation of Asian countries (Photo: JICA)

works on capacity building assistance in the field of cybersecurity for lower middle income countries.

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

Furthermore, since FY2018, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry has cooperated with experts from the Governments of Japan and the United States as well as private companies to implement exercises every fiscal year concerning cybersecurity for industrial control systems in important infrastructure fields such as electricity and gas, targeting the Indo-Pacific region. Starting in FY2021, the EU has also participated in the exercises as an organizer.

³⁸ See 4 on page 91.

3 Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and Human Security

(1) Health and Medical Care

It is said that roughly at least half of the world's population has no access to basic medical care and more than 5.2 million children ³⁹ under the age of five die annually due to preventable diseases. Over 295,000 women ⁴⁰ die during and following pregnancy and childbirth per year, primarily due to the lack of emergency obstetric care provided by obstetricians, gynecologists, and/or midwives.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 aims to “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.” In addition, in order to respond to various health issues, which differ across countries and regions, achieving

“universal health coverage (UHC)” ⁴¹ is positioned as an important international goal.

Japan's Efforts

■ Promotion of UHC (Japan's Initiatives at International Conferences)

Japan has attached importance to initiatives to improve healthcare that are directly linked to human security for a long time. Japan has been actively leading the promotion of UHC and strengthening of health systems under the “Japan brand” at international forums including the G7, G20, TICAD, the UN General Assembly, and more (see Part I for Japan's Support in Response to COVID-19 including the COVAX AMC Summit, see “ODA Topics” on page 56 for details on the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021).

Human Security

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) present a vision of a prosperous and vibrant society where “no one is left behind.” This is in concurrence with the concept of “human security” that Japan has been promoting for many years, which 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, human security is also positioned as the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation, and 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 on the ground.

(i) Spreading the concept

After the unanimous adoption by the UN General Assembly of the resolution concerning common understanding of human security led by Japan in 2012, Japan continues its efforts to promote the concept. In his address to the General Debate of the UN General Assembly in September 2020, then Prime Minister Suga proposed deepening discussions on a new concept of human security in light of COVID-19, and a High-Level Advisory Panel was established under the UN. Based on the panel's discussions, the Special Report on Human Security - New Threats to Human Security in the Anthropocene was released in February 2022.^{*1} At the same time, the Group of Friends of Human Security^{*2} was relaunched at the UN Headquarters in New York. The first meeting of the Group of Friends of Human Security was held in June 2021 in the presence of UN Secretary-General Guterres, and the second meeting was held in December of the same year.

(ii) Putting the concept into practice on the ground

Japan spearheaded the launch of the “UN Trust Fund for Human Security” in 1999 and has contributed approximately ¥48.4 billion in total by the end of FY2020. The trust fund has supported 267 UN projects to ensure human security in over 100 countries and regions by the end of 2020.

*1 Overview of the special report: <https://hdr.undp.org/content/2022-special-report-human-security>

*2 The Group was created in 2006 and held a total of seven meetings until 2009, which led to a UN General Assembly Resolution on human security adopted in 2012. Recognizing that discussions on the concept of human security should be reinvigorated to aim for recovery from COVID-19, the Group of Friends of Human Security was re-launched with the UN Permanent Representatives of Japan, Costa Rica, and Senegal as co-chairs.

³⁹ According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), and others (as of 2019). The previous total was over 5.3 million children.

⁴⁰ According to UNICEF, WHO, and others (as of 2018). The previous total was over 295,000 women.

⁴¹ UHC aims at ensuring that all people can receive the quality health services they need at an affordable cost without financial hardship.



A JICA expert providing technical instruction on the planning of teaching guidelines based on the new curriculum for the training of medical technicians to her main counterparts, the principal of the National School of Health in La Paz and the principal of the Bolivian-Japanese Technical School of Health in Bolivia (Photo: JICA)

On September 24, 2021, then Prime Minister Suga gave an address in the form of a video message to the General Debate of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly. In his address, he mentioned contributions to the discussions on WHO review and reform, the importance of UHC, the formulation of the “Global Health Strategy” and Japan’s contribution to building a new architecture for global health security, and support for discussions on “human security” of the new generation, held under the UN toward building resilient global health systems. He also stated that Japan would hold the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021 in December 2021.

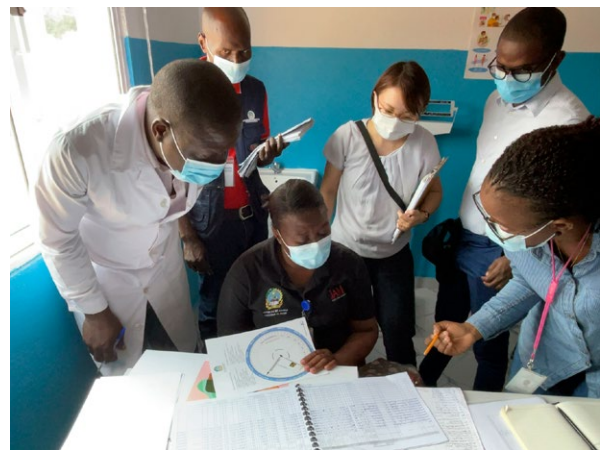
In addition, on September 30, 2021, then Foreign Minister Motegi co-hosted the High-Level Side Event on UHC on the margins of the UN General Assembly ⁴² in virtual form. In his video message, he reiterated Japan’s determination to exercise leadership toward achieving UHC based on the lessons learned from COVID-19.

At the G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers’ Meeting held in Rome in October 2021, G20 members reaffirmed their commitment to the G20 Shared Understanding on the Importance of UHC Financing in Developing Countries, which was compiled in 2019 under Japan’s G20 Presidency. At the G20 Rome Summit in the same month, Prime Minister Kishida introduced Japan’s hosting of the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021 in December and stated that Japan would contribute to addressing global malnutrition from a comprehensive perspective, including health and food. The G20 Rome Leaders’ Declaration confirmed the commitment to achieve the health-related SDGs, in particular UHC.

■ Promotion of UHC (Japan’s Concrete Contributions)

Under the “Basic Design for Peace and Health (2015),” the Government of Japan provides assistance to achieve UHC that aims to “leave no one behind” (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 60, and “Project Introduction Columns” on page 57 and 101). In addition, in light of COVID-19 and various other changes in the global situation, the “Global Health Strategy,” which aims to realize renewed UHC for the post-COVID-19 era and strengthen response capacity, prevention, and preparedness for public health crises, is planned to be formulated as early as possible by June 2022.

Primary healthcare services under UHC comprise all services ranging from nutritional improvement, 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 (see “(8) Food Security and Nutrition” on page 82 regarding nutritional improvement).



A Japanese expert visiting health centers that began distribution of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbooks and providing assistance such as in-facility training in Angola (Photo: JICA)

Especially with regard to maternal and child health in developing countries, there are still significant challenges, and in 2021, Japan supported many countries including Kenya, Madagascar, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Cambodia, and Laos to improve maternal and child health.

Furthermore, Japan implements activities utilizing 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, ⁴³ 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. To give an example of the

⁴² A side event aimed at discussing cooperation and collaboration in order to achieve UHC around the world with the prospect of the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on UHC in 2023, in which year Japan will take on the G7 presidency.

⁴³ The period after childbirth in which the woman recovers to a similar condition before pregnancy, usually around one to two months after birth.

concrete assistance, the MCH Handbook is widely used throughout the country in Indonesia as a result of Japan's cooperation. Moreover, among the countries promoting the use of the MCH Handbook, including Indonesia, Kenya, Tajikistan, Cambodia, Madagascar, Timor-Leste, Laos, and Papua New Guinea, there have been sessions to share their experiences and learn from each other.

Japanese NGOs have also worked in the area of health and medical care using the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects scheme. In 2021, for example, AMDA Multisectoral & Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS), a Japanese NGO, has built healthcare facilities, provided medical equipment and supplies, provided training for medical personnel to develop capacity, and conducted activities to raise awareness of health-related knowledge among the local residents in Dang District, Nepal in order to reduce maternal and child health disparities.

Japan works with development partners, such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), and the World Bank, 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. Japan also contributes to increasing vaccination rates in developing countries through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, ⁴⁴ and bilateral assistance (see also Part I for the activities of Japanese UNFPA personnel and COVID-19 vaccine support through the COVAX Facility).

In addition, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) raises the following three pillars of cooperation between the ADB and Japan to achieve UHC in the Asia-Pacific region, positioning "health" as one of the key priority sectors in its Strategy 2030: (i) building an institutional framework, (ii) accelerating human resources development, and (iii) investing in infrastructure. In April 2021, Japan began contributing to the ADB's Japan Trust Fund for the purpose of providing technical assistance and small grants to support efforts based on these three pillars.

■ Strengthening Response Capacity, Prevention Measures, and Preparation for Public Health Emergencies

Japan has provided support for the health and medical systems in countries in Southeast Asia and Africa based on the view that building a sustainable and resilient health system is crucial to controlling infectious diseases. This support includes strengthening the capacity of prevention, preparedness, and response to public health crises through the development and creation of networks of core medical facilities and support for human resources development of medical workers. Japan also

provides assistance in a wider range of areas, including development of water and sanitation infrastructure such as water supply and sewage systems and food security enhancement, to create a society that is more resilient to infectious diseases (see Part I for bilateral assistance on COVID-19 countermeasures).

Japan also provides assistance through the UN and international organizations, including contributions to the WHO Health Emergencies Programme* and the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE)* during the response to the spread of the Ebola virus disease that has continued in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 2018, and the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Furthermore, in 2021, Japan provides assistance for strengthening capacities in preparedness and responses against infectious diseases in developing countries, including through the additional contribution of ¥5.4 billion to funds such as the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Multi-Donor Trust Fund (HEPRTF) launched in cooperation between Japan and the World Bank Group in 2020.



A discussion on the quality improvement of nursing education at a nursing college in Bangladesh

■ Responding to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) ⁴⁵ is a serious threat to public health, and in recent years, more and more countermeasures against AMR have been taken. In order to advance measures against AMR, Japan promotes the "One Health Approach" for those who are engaged in the field of health concerning humans, animals, and the environment to work together on efforts. Based on the agreement at the G20 Osaka Summit to promote the "One Health Approach," in 2019, Japan announced that it would contribute approximately ¥1 billion to the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP), which promotes research and development for new antibiotics and diagnosis development. Japan exerts leadership for AMR measures including through

⁴⁴ See the glossary on page 8.

⁴⁵ Pathogenic microorganisms, including bacteria and viruses, gaining resistance to antimicrobials such as antibiotics and antiviral drugs, which causes the drugs to lose sufficient efficacy.

Japan's Efforts for Achieving UHC

—Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021—

● The COVID-19 Pandemic and UHC

In response to the global spread of COVID-19, it is important to achieve universal health coverage (UHC), which is based on the concept of “human security,” to “leave no one’s health behind.” This ensures that all people can receive effective and quality health services at an affordable cost.

Based on this approach, Japan has been providing approximately ¥340 billion (approximately \$3.1 billion) since immediately after the COVID-19 outbreak, both through bilateral assistance and international organizations. With an additional pledge made in June 2021 to provide \$800 million to the COVAX Facility, Japan will extend a total of ¥430 billion (approximately \$3.9 billion) of assistance (See Part I regarding Japan’s assistance against COVID-19).

Japan is also working on generating an enabling environment for health security across broader sectors, in addition to enhancing the ability to respond to COVID-19, centered around development and equitable access to vaccines, etc., as well as strengthening health systems to prepare for future health crises.

● Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021

Nutrition is fundamental for supporting UHC. Nutrition improvement is part of Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and is deeply linked to other 12 goals. It is connected not only to the health sector but also to numerous other sectors, including agriculture, distribution, water and sanitation, and gender, therefore, it is essential to promote nutrition improvement in collaboration with each of these sectors for achieving the SDGs. A swift response is required as malnutrition becomes all the more serious, especially among socially vulnerable people such as children of poor families who cannot receive school meals due to school closures, while COVID-19 has led to a downturn in global socio-economic circumstances.

On December 7 and 8, the Government of Japan hosted the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit*1 2021. At the Summit, participants discussed focusing on five thematic areas: (i) Health, (ii) Food, (iii) Resilience, (iv) Accountability, and (v) Financing, considering the worsened state of nutrition globally due to COVID-19, as well as the issue of the double burden of malnutrition, namely the co-existence of undernutrition that hinders growth and overnutrition that causes lifestyle-related diseases, which are being experienced across both high-income or resource-limited countries.

The Summit was attended by leaders and ministers from approximately 30 countries, heads of international organizations such as UN Secretary-General Guterres, the World Bank President Malpass, and WHO Director-General Tedros, and representatives from civil society organizations,



Prime Minister Kishida giving a speech (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

the private sectors, and academia. (The Summit was held in a hybrid format that combines on-site participation of domestic guests and online participation from overseas.) Participants engaged in a broad range of discussions concerning nutrition improvement for people around the world, and deepened their common understanding of the direction of future actions. Over 390 commitments (expressions of political and financial intent) from numerous stakeholders were submitted, and the Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth was issued as an outcome document, indicating the direction for the international society to improve nutrition.

From Japan, Prime Minister Kishida delivered an opening speech, and Foreign Minister Hayashi made a welcoming speech. In his speech, Prime Minister Kishida announced that Japan will provide nutrition-related assistance to the world, which will amount to over ¥300 billion, over the next three years. Foreign Minister Hayashi pointed out all stakeholders, including governments of both high-income and resource-limited nations, private sector entities, civil society, and academia, need to be united in addressing this important issue, and that each of us needs to steadily fulfill the commitments we have made.

Japan will make continuous efforts to provide such support to achieve UHC.

*1 The London Olympic and Paralympic Games took place in 2012. Taking the opportunity presented by this international sports festival, the Nutrition for Growth Summit was held for the first time in London in 2013 with the aim of considering the issue of nutrition on a global scale. Japan held the Nutrition for Growth Summit as the host country of the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Zambia

(1) Project for Upgrading of Lusaka Health Centres to District Hospitals (Phase 1, Phase 2),
 (2) Project for Strengthening Management Capacity of the First Level Hospitals in Lusaka District
 (1) Grant Aid (Phase 1: 2013 – 2016, Phase 2: 2017 – 2021), (2) Technical Cooperation Project (May 2021 – May 2026)



Mr. NORIZUKI, a Japanese expert, working with local infection control officials to give a demonstration of putting on and removing personal protective equipment (PPE) at the obstetrics ward of Chilenje Hospital, which has become a hospital dedicated for COVID-19 treatment (Photo: JICA)

In Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, there is a lack of Level 1 hospitals^{*1} capable of performing basic surgical operations and exams despite the rapidly growing need for medical care due to rapid population growth and urbanization. This means that the university hospital and other high-level medical institutions are obliged to carry out basic surgical operations, causing them to become chronically congested and unable to deliver adequate medical care. Moreover, the quality of operational management and services at Level 1 hospitals has also become a challenge.

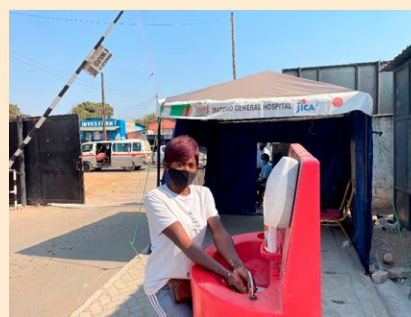
Therefore, from 2013 to 2021, Japan carried out infrastructure developments through grant aid by constructing hospital wards and providing medical equipment to upgrade five health centers^{*2} located in the center of high-density residential areas in Lusaka, aimed at upgrading these centers into Level 1 hospitals with inpatient facilities that are capable of performing basic surgical operations and cesarean sections.

As a result, two Level 1 hospitals were opened in 2016, enabling residents to receive medical care services at their local hospitals. The number of cesarean sections performed and the number of inpatients admitted to the adult wards of the hospitals have increased from 0 (in 2012) to 1,396 operations and 1,757 patients (in 2019) respectively. Furthermore, these hospitals are now able to manage basic surgical operations and exams, the percentage of patients referred to the university hospital has decreased from 24.7% (in 2012) to 15.9% (in 2019), which has helped to alleviate

congestion at the university hospital. Similar effects are expected at the other three hospitals, where construction of the buildings was completed in 2021.

In May 2021, Japan also launched a technical cooperation project that is providing technical assistance such as the improvement of service quality and capacity building in hospital operational management. The project is also providing support for human resources development to ensure that the Level 1 hospitals in the district provide high quality medical care and will be chosen by local residents.

Japan has increased the number of hospitals providing quality medical care through its 13 years of assistance in both infrastructure development and human resources development. Going forward, Japan will continue to cooperate with the people in Zambia to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) across Africa as expressed at the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD).



Instruction has also been provided to hospitals on enforcing temperature checks and handwashing for all visitors before entering hospitals, with the aim of making hospitals resilient against COVID-19 (Photo: JICA)

^{*1} Healthcare services in Zambia are categorized by facility level into six grades namely, health posts, health centers and hospitals from Level 1~Level 4.

^{*2} The Project for Upgrading of Lusaka Health Centres to District Hospitals developed facilities and medical equipment at two health centers (Matero and Chilenje) in Phase 1, and at three health centers (Chipata, Kanyama and Chawama) in Phase 2.

participation in the AMR leadership group. In 2021, Japan contributed approximately ¥200 million to GARDP.

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

SDGs target 3.3 sets out to end epidemics of the three major infectious diseases by 2030. Japan makes strong efforts to support measures against the three major infectious diseases and strengthen health systems through the “Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund).”⁴⁶ Since its establishment at the end of December 2021, Japan has contributed approximately \$3.46 billion to the Global Fund. Furthermore, Japan makes it possible to supplement the efforts of the Global Fund through bilateral aid in order to ensure that measures against

these three major infectious diseases are implemented effectively. Japan also strives to strengthen mutual cooperation on enhancing health systems, community empowerment, and policies for maternal and child health in those countries.

Japan provides assistance such as spreading knowledge to prevent new infections and promoting testing and counseling as bilateral assistance for HIV/AIDS countermeasures. In 2021, JOCVs continued to engage vigorously in the activities related to the disease, especially in Africa. These activities include spreading knowledge on prevention of HIV/AIDS and promoting understanding of the disease among as many people as possible and providing care and support for people infected by HIV/AIDS.

With regard to tuberculosis, based on the “Stop TB

⁴⁶ Established in 2002 based on the agreement at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit held in 2000.



An equipped mobile medical vehicle, which was provided through Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, visiting parks in Biblían City, Cañar Province, Ecuador to administer vaccines to the citizens

Japan Action Plan,” which was revised in 2021, Japan engages in reducing the annual number of deaths from tuberculosis in developing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa. These efforts aim to achieve a 75% reduction of the number of deaths from tuberculosis (compared to 2015) and a 50% reduction in tuberculosis incidence (compared to 2015, fewer than 55 cases per 100,000

people) by making use of Japan’s own experience and technology to take measures against tuberculosis through a public-private partnership (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 58).

In addition to these efforts, with regard to malaria, one of the major causes of infant mortality, Japan provides assistance for anti-malaria countermeasures such as initiatives through the strengthening of local communities in Myanmar and Solomon Islands. Through contributions to the Global Fund, Japan also takes measures against malaria worldwide, including in the Greater Mekong Subregion. ⁴⁷

■ Polio

Although polio is on the brink of being eradicated, Japan has worked mainly in cooperation with UNICEF to provide support for its complete eradication with a focus on countries where cases of infection are still being identified (polio-endemic countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan). In August 2020, Nigeria, the last polio-endemic country in Africa, was certificated to have had no cases of wild polio for the past three years, and Africa was

Public nomination

30 African Countries*¹

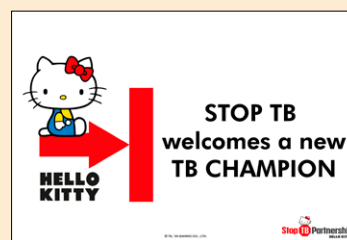
Pediatric Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (DR-TB) Initiative
Stop TB Partnership’s Global Drug Facility (April 2019 – September 2020)



Across the world, each year, approximately 25,000 children under the age of 15 develop drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB), which is difficult to treat with existing antibiotics. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a total of 12,219 children*² have undergone treatment for DR-TB since 2018. However, this is merely 11% of the five-year target of “treating 115,000 children by 2022” set out by the 2018 UN High-Level Meeting (UNHLM) on the fight against tuberculosis (TB). This means that most of these children’s lives are still at risk.

In support of the Government of Japan, the Stop TB Partnership’s Global Drug Facility (STBP/GDF) launched in April 2019, a project aiming to introduce and ensure the general adoption of new child-friendly drugs (including the new Japanese drug delamanid). STBP/GDF has successfully brought down the price of pediatric drugs by increasing the number of suppliers to ensure more children in need are secured access to these drugs. As a result of this project, more

than 800 children in 30 African countries have gained access to DR-TB drugs in just over a year (by September 2020). Advocacy activities have also been rolled out to increase global awareness about the necessity to treat DR-TB in children, including mass media campaigns in which Hello Kitty has starred as the “TB Champion.”



Educational video featuring Hello Kitty as the TB Champion (<https://www.stoptb.org/advocate-to-endtb/hello-kitty>) (Photo: Stop TB Partnership)



A child taking treatment drugs at University College Hospital (UCH), University of Ibadan, Nigeria (Photo: Stop TB Partnership)

Detecting and diagnosing more children affected by DR-TB and providing appropriate treatment remain essential in the fight against DR-TB. At the same time, the global COVID-19 pandemic has shown that increased multi-sectoral collaboration is critical in saving lives. Therefore, the Stop TB Partnership is committed to continuing its efforts and supporting the treatment of more and more children with DR-TB through cooperation and partnerships with various governments, multilateral organizations, and others.

*1 The 30 countries are Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

*2 Estimate from the Global Tuberculosis Report 2021.

⁴⁷ Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, and parts of China in the Mekong River Basin.

declared to be wild polio-free. Japan continues to provide a wide range of assistance to Nigeria, including support for vaccine procurement, development of cold chains ⁴⁸ including solar-powered refrigerators for transport and storage, and human resources development for polio researchers through JICA training programs.

■ Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

Parasitic and bacterial infections, such as Chagas disease, Filariasis, and Schistosomiasis, are known as “neglected tropical diseases (NTDs),” and have infected more than 1 billion people worldwide, causing 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 2000, Japan has provided support against Filariasis for Pacific Island countries through technical cooperation. The Project for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in the Pacific Region supports mass drug administration in the target countries with public-private partnership through the dispatch of Japanese experts to provide technical instruction, and utilization of drugs

provided free of charge by the Japanese pharmaceutical company Eisai. This long-term support has proved successful, with eight of 14 Oceanian countries (Cook, Marshall, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu) having eliminated Filariasis. Continuing from this, in October 2019, the WHO declared Kiribati to have eliminated lymphatic Filariasis. Through the dispatch of experts and other means, Japan will continue to support plans for the elimination of Filariasis in Pacific Island countries.



A New Ireland Provincial Health Authority staff member in Papua New Guinea checking a child for filarial infection (Photo: JICA)



Glossary

WHO Health Emergencies Programme

The WHO Health Emergency Programme is a part of the WHO that responds to health emergencies. It evaluates the health emergency response capacity of countries, supports drafting of plans, and monitors new and ongoing health emergency situations. It also provides health services to save lives in countries where health emergencies are occurring.

Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE)

An emergency fund for responding to outbreaks and states of emergency established by the WHO in 2015 based on its reflection concerning the Ebola virus outbreak in West Africa in 2014. Decision-making regarding contributions is entrusted to the WHO Director-General, and it is possible to provide funding within 24 hours of the decision being made.

⁴⁸ See 2 on page 2.

Aiming to Improve Medical Skills with Japan's Quality, Easy-to-Use Teaching Materials!

—Contributing to the spread of simulation-based medical education in Ecuador—



Simulation-based education*¹ for learning the basics of medical practice through practical training has become a new global trend in the medical education sector, and its importance is recognized in Ecuador as well. The Faculty of Medical Sciences of the Central University of Ecuador (UCE) had prepared dedicated classrooms and equipment for this. However, as computer-controlled high-performance equipment had been introduced, it had become difficult for the University to do maintenance work on its own and update the dedicated software. Furthermore, they had problems such as a limited number of students who could participate in simulation practice at one time. UCE therefore asked Japan for support.

Around the same time, Mr. TAKAYAMA Toshiyuki, President of Kyoto Kagaku Co., Ltd. (Kyoto Prefecture), a manufacturer of medical simulators, visited Ecuador for a market survey of Latin America and visited UCE. "This encounter was truly miraculous. We visited UCE by pure chance, but it was at exactly the right time when our products were needed," said Mr. Takayama.

Mr. Takayama and employees of Kyoto Kagaku travelled back and forth between Ecuador and Japan several times in a period of just one month after receiving the request for support from UCE and developed a plan for a project while consulting with the JICA Ecuador Office as well. Subsequently, the company made an application to JICA's SDGs Business Supporting Surveys, and the proposal was adopted. Then the Project for Strengthening Human Resources for Universal Health Coverage through Simulation-Based Medical Education was initiated from December 2019 (completion planned for January 2023).

Under this project, Kyoto Kagaku works with UCE as the counterpart institution to carry out simulation-based education verifications tailored to the local circumstances, using 48 types of medical and nursing education simulators

containing 104 items made by Kyoto Kagaku (including physical examinations, medical procedures and care, perinatal and pediatric medical care, and disaster first aid and medical care). Immediately after the start of the project, COVID-19

countermeasures such as curfew restrictions were taken, and face-to-face classes were cancelled at UCE. Nevertheless, the demonstration event upon arrival of the equipment was broadly covered by the media, and expectations on the Ecuadorian side are growing.

Simulators of Kyoto Kagaku are unique in that they recreate the feeling of human skin by special materials and they are anatomically accurate. "When the UCE professors first touched the simulators, they noticed its high quality and expressed their excitement. It is also easy to maintain, as it is possible to replace deteriorating parts, for example injection pads where the needles for injections are inserted. They are suited to local conditions because UCE can purchase a variety of simulators as each one is not too expensive, and many students can practice at once," said JICA Ecuador Office staff member Andrés Mencías.

Furthermore, as a unified curriculum for simulation-based education has not been developed in Ecuador, this project also supports the preparation of such curriculum. The preparation of a unified curriculum using Kyoto Kagaku's simulators is expected to improve skills and provide a high level of practical training at 22 university medical schools in Ecuador, including UCE.

Concerning the future prospects, Mr. Takayama said, "We would like to improve the level of medical education in Ecuador as a whole with this project as a starting point. Furthermore, for Kyoto Kagaku as well, the project offers an opportunity to expand our business in Latin America, where we had no previous track record."

The dream of Mr. Takayama and Kyoto Kagaku grows, hoping that the success of simulation-based education in Ecuador will lead to the improvement of medical education levels throughout Latin America.



Practical study on tracheal intubation by medical students of the Faculty of Medical Science of UCE (Photo: Kyoto Kagaku Co., Ltd.)



The Rector of UCE and the Director of the Medical and Robotics Simulation Clinic testing a heart disease examination simulator at the press conference venue when the equipment arrived (Photo: Kyoto Kagaku Co., Ltd.)

*1 This refers to using expertly-developed medical simulators to learn techniques such as injection, suturing, and medical examinations in a form close to actual practice in order to train doctors, nurses, and other medical workers. It has drawn interest as a way to provide safe and secure medical services and also for the fact that, after the spread of COVID-19, direct contact with patients has become difficult.

(2) Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation are vital issues linked to human life. Throughout the world, approximately 2.2 billion people are not provided with safely-managed drinking water, and 4.2 billion people cannot use safely-managed sanitary facilities such as toilets. Moreover, in developing countries where piped water is not widely available, women and children sometimes spend many hours fetching water, which 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. SDG 6 sets forth the target “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”



The “Achhi Aadat (Good Habit in Hindu)” Campaign, a hygiene awareness campaign that includes hand washing, was implemented in Uttar Pradesh State, India. Children washing their hands with products that can be used to effectively prevent infections even in households without water supply or other hand-washing facilities. (Photo: JICA)

Japan's Efforts

Japan has the top cumulative track record in the world in the fields of water and sanitation support since the 1990s.

In 2021, Japan implemented projects for the development and expansion of piped water in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Viet Nam, and other countries. For example, Japan provides Grant Aid to internally displaced persons and surrounding communities in conflict-affected ethnic minority areas in Rakhine, Kachin, and the northern Shan states of Myanmar in cooperation with UNICEF. It aims to improve health environments, ensure access to safe water, improve hygiene and sanitation, and improve learning environments. In addition, in Malawi, Japan implements a technical cooperation project to strengthen the capacity of the Lilongwe Water Board to improve water use efficiency. The Yokohama Waterworks Bureau provides cooperation, and Yokohama's expertise in water supply operations are utilized to solve Malawi's water problems (see “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 62 for details).

Efforts for the improvement of the water environments

in developing countries in cooperation with Japanese and local private companies and organizations are also being made around the world. For example, in Indonesia in Southeast Asia, a verification survey with the private sector for disseminating Japanese technologies for automatic regenerating activated carbon wastewater purification systems was implemented with a view to promoting the use of regenerated water and industrial wastewater treatment, utilizing JICA's SDGs Business Supporting Surveys. The project is expected to solve environmental problems such as river pollution caused by insufficient treatment of dye effluent and ground subsidence following excessive ground water intake in the country, where the textile industry thrives. The project has produced positive results, including the sale of two large-scale purification systems in the country.

In order to overcome the lack of local information and knowledge with regard to the problem of serious water contamination in many Asian countries, the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) implements the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA). With the cooperation of the 13 participating countries ⁴⁹ from Asia, WEPA aims to enhance water environment governance in Asia through building human networks, gathering and sharing information, and capacity building. In March 2021, the 16th WEPA Annual Meeting was held online. It focused on the “Current Status and Challenges of Domestic Wastewater Treatment,” and the participants shared information on progress made on water environment governance in each country and engaged in an active exchange of views. Moreover, to contribute to achieving “halving the proportion of untreated wastewater” that is raised in Target 6.3 of the SDGs, Japan introduces its advanced septic tank technology, legislative systems, etc., mainly for Asian regions. The 8th and 9th workshops were respectively held online in January and November 2021. During the workshops, presentations and active discussions were



Refugees from South Sudan drawing water at a water supply facility in a refugee settlement in northern Uganda. They also take the initiative to improve water supply services in the settlements (Photo: UNHCR) (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 47).

⁴⁹ The 13 countries are Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Japan.

Team Yokohama's Techniques Help Upgrade Malawi's Human Resources in the Tap Water Sector

—Solution of the Non-Revenue Water problem and improvement of water supply services—



In Lilongwe City, the capital of Malawi, the water demand is increasing due to population growth, but the amount of tap water supplied within the city is not keeping pace with that demand. Furthermore, the proportion of Non-Revenue Water (NRW)*¹ is extremely high, which has become a large problem.

For that reason, Japan commenced the “Project for Strengthening the Capacity of Non-Revenue Water Reduction for Lilongwe Water Board” from 2019, in response to a request from the Government of Malawi, and an employee of the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau has been dispatched as one of the JICA experts. Since its first participation in a JICA survey mission in 1977, the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau has offered technical guidance through its employees dispatched to Africa and training in Japan over many years. Its support implemented to date to improve water supply administration in African countries has been highly appreciated both domestically and internationally.

This project implements fact-finding surveys and analyses of NRW, develops effective data-based NRW reduction plans, and provides on-site work guidance for NRW survey methods and reduction, among other efforts, for the Lilongwe Water Board (LWB). In 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19, the experts had to return to Japan temporarily, however, they conducted a residual chlorine concentration distribution survey*² as a COVID-19 countermeasure and provided technical guidance remotely based on the survey results. The Government and people of Malawi have high expectations for the project, and in interviews with the residents of the district where this project was implemented, they expressed a desire to reduce water leakages and to use the tap water from LWB rather than well water.

“According to the analysis implemented together with the LWB engineers, NRW accounted for as much as 40% of the total water supplied in Lilongwe, and water leakages accounted for 25%. LWB’s conventional measures only repaired leaks that appeared above ground and it did not have the techniques or equipment to detect water leakages underground. In this project, we are providing guidance on



Mr. Sekimoto providing guidance on technology for detecting underground water leakages (Photo: JICA)

skills for detecting and repairing underground water losses,” said JICA expert Mr. ITAYA Hidefumi from the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau, talking about the situation at the time and the current initiative.

Conducting the work from surveying to repairing together with JICA experts, and sharing the experience on “how to reduce NRW” has served as a valuable guide to the future for LWB. JICA expert Mr. SEKIMOTO Shinichi, who is providing guidance in Lilongwe City said, “The City has hard ground, so laying water pipes underground is difficult, and they are sometimes exposed above the ground, which is the cause of water leakages and water theft. Moreover, there were many issues such as a lack of techniques and equipment for water leakage repairs. During the provision of technical guidance, we have accumulated successful experiences together. As a result, the LWB employees are now getting a new mindset that they can reduce NRW by themselves with their ingenuity.”

“There is no end to initiatives for NRW measures, just as in Japan. For example, even if a water pipe with a water leakage is repaired once, still the pipe will get older, and the number of water leakages will increase again. That is why it is truly important that LWB is able to continue the activities on its own after we return to Japan, and we are currently carrying out the technical transfers while being very conscious of sustainability,” said Mr. Itaya.

The experience and skills of local public entities and other organizations in Japan gained through the accumulation of steady daily efforts are greatly contributing to the improvement of water services and people’s water and hygiene environment in Malawi.



Mr. Itaya giving guidance on the development of an NRW reduction plan (Photo: JICA)

*1 Unbilled water that is caused by water leakage due to aging water supply and distribution pipes, illegal water theft, and faulty water meters.

*2 The survey was implemented because chlorination of the water supply is an effective measure against COVID-19. “Residual chlorine” refers to how the chlorine agent infused for sterilization in the process of making tap water at water purification plants and elsewhere remains in the tap water as chlorine ions. The chlorine ions kill viruses and disease-causing bacteria, so management to ensure that they exist in the tap water at all times is important.

held on themes related to the decentralized wastewater treatment system “Johkasou” against water-borne disease and natural disasters, as well as common issues of decentralized wastewater treatment systems such as cleaning up, transportation, treatment and disposal of sludge. Japan co-hosted webinars in Laos in February 2021, and in Sri Lanka and Cambodia in March, with the respective local governments to implement proposal activities for both physical and non-physical aspects of septic tanks and to promote the spread of septic tanks in developing countries.

(3) Quality Education for All

There are as many as approximately 58 million children who cannot go to elementary school worldwide. When including secondary school, it is estimated that there are approximately 256 million out-of-school children (16.8% of the total).⁵⁰ In particular, the percentage of children who cannot go to school has been increasing since 2000 in Sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, many children have been impacted by school closures due to the spread of COVID-19. Above all, children with disabilities, children of minority ethnic groups or those in disadvantaged communities, refugee and displaced children, and those living in remote areas are at the greatest risk of being left behind, and there are further concerns surrounding the impact of school closures on malnutrition, early marriage, and gender inequality.

SDG 4 has been set up to “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,” and the international community works on achieving the goal of “Education 2030 Framework for Action.”⁵¹

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides developing countries with a broad range of support, including the enhancement of basic education,⁵¹ higher education, and vocational training.

Based on the “G20 Initiative on Human Capital Investment for Sustainable Development: Quality Education to Create an Inclusive, Resilient, and Innovative Society” (G20 Osaka Summit 2019), Japan promoted its “Education x Innovation” initiative to support at least approximately nine million children and youths during the three-year period between 2019 and 2021. In order to allow all children to complete quality elementary and secondary education by 2030, it is essential to

encourage innovation to accelerate assistance. Through this initiative, Japan will further strengthen support for education that fosters basic knowledge, STEM education,⁵² development of e-learning, and more.

Also, Japan contributed a total of approximately \$37.71 million from 2008 to 2021 to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).⁵³ In partner countries of the GPE, the number of children supported by the fund since 2015 has amounted to approximately 32.7 million, and three out of four have finished elementary education. At the Global Education Summit held in July 2021, Japan pledged to contribute more than \$1.5 billion over five years from 2021 to 2025 to support the fields of education, including continued support for the GPE, as well as for the education and human resources development of 7.5 million girls in developing countries.



Children learning to read and write through fun and play during the technical cooperation “School for All” project in Madagascar (Photo: JICA)

At TICAD7 held in 2019, as initiatives for education and human resources development in Africa, Japan announced its intention to provide quality education to three million children through measures such as science and mathematics education and improvement of the learning environment, as well as develop 5,000 highly-skilled people for STI through assistance for the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST)⁵³ and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya. It was also announced that E-JUST would receive 150 African students, and 31 African students were newly admitted in 2020.

Moreover, with a focus on Niger and other West African countries, Japan has implemented the “School for All” project since 2004, which aims to build relationships of trust between schools, parents and guardians, and local residents, as well as improve the education environment

⁵⁰ Pages 209, 413, and 427 of the “Global Education Monitoring Report 2021.” <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379875>

⁵¹ The educational activities designed to enable individuals to acquire the knowledge, values, and skills necessary to live. It mainly refers to elementary education, lower secondary education (equivalent to Japanese junior high schools), pre-school education, and adult literacy education.

⁵² STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and refers to these four educational fields.

⁵³ Established based on an agreement (bilateral agreement) between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt to establish the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (2009). Based on the agreement, Japan supported the establishment of E-JUST and its operation as a university that provides graduate school, research-centered, pragmatic, and international-standard education for a small number of students, which is characteristic of Japanese-style engineering education. Japan is currently implementing technical support aimed at establishing E-JUST's foundation as a top-level research university in Egypt in order for E-JUST to develop human resources in the field of industry and science and technology in the Middle East and Africa.

for children. In cooperation with the World Bank, the GPE, and others, Japan spreads the project throughout the targeted African countries. 70,646 elementary schools in eight countries have introduced the program as of December 2021.

In addition, in Egypt, the introduction of Japanese-style education at local schools has been promoted since February 2017 under the Egypt-Japan Education Partnership (EJEP). 48 “Egypt-Japan Schools” were opened by October 2021. Furthermore, “Tokkatsu-plus” a model for Japanese-style education has been introduced, and primary and junior high students at above-mentioned schools are engaged in special activities, such as cleaning, chore duties, and class meetings, as the core for holistic education that aims to build harmonious character, including sensitivity and morality. Japan provides support for management needed to conduct such special activities as well as support to introduce learning through playing at kindergartens.

In the Asia-Pacific region, Japan provides support for organizing the Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education 2030 (APMED2030) annually through the contribution to a funds-in-trust within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Japan also supports initiatives toward the achievement of SDG 4 including through the quality improvement of education, enrichment of early childhood education, spread of non-formal education, and increasing the teaching capacity of teachers. Moreover, 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, and a wide range of other measures.

■ Promoting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

“Education for Sustainable Development^{*}: Towards achieving the SDGs (ESD for 2030)” began in January 2020 with UNESCO as the leading organization. ESD is education to contribute to the realization of all SDGs by fostering the builders of a sustainable society, and as a proposing country of ESD, Japan continues to engage in the promotion of ESD as well as play a significant role in its global advocacy and enhancement through the funds-in-trust to UNESCO. In addition, through the funds-in-trust, Japan actively promotes ESD by implementing the “UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development” together with UNESCO, which awards organizations and groups that conduct excellent initiatives toward putting ESD into practice, and has been awarded to 18 organizations to date.



Children learning in an expanded classroom built through Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects at a kindergarten in Dak Lak Province, Viet Nam

Viet Nam

Building System of Training Course of Inclusive Education for Primary School in Binh Thuan Province and An Giang Province (Phase 3) Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (March 2019 – March 2020)



In Viet Nam, since there is only one special-needs school in each province,^{*1} and its capacity is limited, children with disabilities are unable to attend school in many cases. Some of those children attend public primary schools, and this is encouraged by the Government of Viet Nam. However, it turned out that teachers at these schools have a limited understanding of disabilities, resulting in confusion in the field of education. Therefore, through the scheme “Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects,” NPO Asia Rainbow established a training system on inclusive education^{*2} for teachers at public primary schools in the two provinces of Binh Thuan and An Giang, located in southern Viet Nam, to enable children with disabilities to receive appropriate education.



An inclusive class at a primary school in Binh Thuan (Photo: NPO Asia Rainbow)

In this project, Japanese experts carried out training for 60 key teachers^{*3} in Binh Thuan and An Giang provinces on inclusive education, including methods of creating individual education plans (IEPs)^{*4} and other areas. After that, the key teachers returned to their respective provinces to provide training for other teachers in each district, which enabled a framework for all teachers across the two provinces to receive training on inclusive education. The project also provided counselling to a total of 600 children with disabilities, their parents, and teachers and strived to understand the current situation accurately while undertaking these activities.

As a result, the primary school enrolment rate for children

with disabilities rose from 38% to 87% in An Giang, and from 68% to 95% in Binh Thuan respectively after the implementation of the project. Responses have also been heard from the field of education such as “The instruction given by the teachers who received training has helped children

with disabilities to learn in a more relaxed way than before. Previously, there were cases of repeating a grade, but now they have all managed to move up to the next grades.”

In this way, Japan contributes to providing educational opportunities to children with disabilities so that they can expand their future opportunities.



A lesson by a teacher who has received training on inclusive education at a primary school in Binh Thuan Province (Photo: NPO Asia Rainbow)

*1 An administrative unit of Viet Nam, one level above a “district.”

*2 A system that respects human diversity and allows persons with and without disabilities to learn together.

*3 Instructors representing each province, selected by the Department of Education and Training (DOET) of each province of Viet Nam from among its primary school principals, vice principals, and DOET personnel.

*4 Education plans whose objective is to carefully grasp the needs of each child with a disability and respond appropriately from an educational perspective.



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.

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 builders of sustainable societies. ESD was affirmed as being the key for achieving all the SDGs in the resolutions of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly in 2017. This was also reaffirmed in the “ESD for 2030,” which was adopted by a resolution of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly in 2019. “ESD for 2030” is the program succeeding the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD) (2005-2014) and the Global Action Program (GAP) on ESD (2015-2019), and is a new international implementation framework from 2020 to 2030.

(4) Gender and Inclusive Growth

A. Promotion of Women's Empowerment and Participation

The “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda)” (see page 27 for details) strongly and clearly express 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, SDG 5 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.

For example, improving the literacy of women who have had few or no educational opportunities so far, increases their access to correct information on public health and prevention of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS. This leads to appropriate family planning and promotes women's social advancement and economic empowerment. Moreover, it contributes to the sustainable and inclusive economic growth of developing countries.

Japan's Efforts

In order to make the world with no human rights violations against women, Japan advances its efforts in the international community to promote gender mainstreaming ⁵⁴ and women's empowerment by setting the following three priority fields: (i) promoting women's and girls' rights, (ii) building the capacity of women and girls to reach their full potentials, and (iii) advancing women's leadership in political, economic, and other public fields.



A JOCV providing nutritional education to villagers by showing them how to make soy milk and tofu in Himachal Pradesh State, India (Photo: JICA)

In 2018, Japan contributed \$50 million to the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi). ⁵⁵ As of June 2021, Japan has supported 11,181 women-owned/led small and medium enterprises (WSMEs) in 52 countries. Specifically, 7,069 WSMEs received financial assistance and 6,722 received training to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for management. In addition, according to the World Bank, 70% of WSMEs in developing countries are unable to receive financial services from financial institutions or are subject to poor borrowing terms. Through We-Fi, Japan supports the promotion of the development of legal systems that are free from gender discrimination and that let women business owners have equal access to financing and markets.



Supporting the empowerment of women running small businesses in Bolivia by strengthening their digital marketing capabilities through social media and other means (Photo: JICA)

Japan also provides assistance through UN Women. Japan provided approximately \$22 million in 2020 and approximately \$21 million in 2021 to contribute to initiatives for the political participation and economic empowerment of women, the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, a stronger role for women in the peace and security fields, and the strengthening of gender responsive policies and budgets, among others. For example, in Turkey, Japan provided psychosocial support to 823 women in Syrian refugee camps in Istanbul and Izmir. As both the refugees and the Turkish communities that accept them are in a difficult economic situation and in light of the need for support for their economic independence, Japan provided training on career development, improved knowledge of finance and how to communicate information on social media, as well as training to acquire skills in toy production through handicrafts. Furthermore, women

⁵⁴ Integrating gender perspective into all policies, measures, and projects in order to achieve gender equality in all fields. In the field of development, it refers to the process to clarify development challenges, needs, and impacts on both men and women, at all stages of planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, of all policies, measures, and projects, based on the premise that they have different impacts on men and women.

⁵⁵ The launch of We-Fi was announced at the G20 Hamburg Summit in 2018. By assisting women entrepreneurs and WSMEs in developing countries to overcome various obstacles they face such as access to finance and legal systems and regulations, this initiative aims to promote the prompt economic independence of women in developing countries and their social and economic participation, and to realize regional stability, reconstruction, and peacebuilding.

Public nomination

Ghana

(1) Assistance for Eliminating and Preventing Child Labour, (2) Data Collection Survey on Child Labour and Support for Child Labour Free Zone Pilot Activities with a Focus on the Cocoa Region
 (1) ACE Funds (2009 –), (2) JICA Data Collection Survey (October 2020 – June 2022)



Around 70% of all cocoa beans imported into Japan are produced in Ghana. In Sub-Saharan Africa, where the country is located, the issue of child labor has been addressed. It is estimated that there are 160 million child laborers in the world, and around 70% of them work in the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors.^{*1} It is necessary to take measures to protect and ensure the rights of children and their educational opportunities.

In response to such a situation, ACE, a Japanese NGO has implemented its area-based project in partnership with a local NGO. The project includes activities such as education and income-generation support to particularly vulnerable households, and supporting improvements of the learning environment at schools, which led to creating a model for the fundamental solution of child labor at the community level. ACE also works with Japanese chocolate companies and consumers by utilizing their donations in promoting its activities to protect children from child labor, ultimately aiming to make all stakeholders of chocolate happy.

Furthermore, as an effort to leverage the knowledge of the child labor prevention and eradication model established at the community level and extend its impact to the national level, ACE has been working with the Government of Ghana since 2018 to establish a Child Labour Free Zone (CLFZ) system.



A district-level consultation meeting to develop the CLFZ guidelines (Photo: ACE)

The development of the CLFZ system was a part of the national action plan of the Government of Ghana, aiming to make the country free from child labor.

To support the government's initiative, ACE and Deloitte Tohmatsu Consulting LLC provided comprehensive assistance to Ghana's Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations, including technical and financial support to develop "Protocols and Guidelines for Establishing Child Labour Free Zones in Ghana (Guidelines)"^{*2} in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and other NGOs. The Guidelines went into force in March 2020. With these Guidelines, standards were established to monitor and prevent child labor on a routine basis at both the community and local government levels. It is recommended that child labor-related activities are carried out in line with these Guidelines, and it is anticipated that initiatives for eliminating child labor will spread across the whole of Ghana.

Following the introduction of the system, ACE has formed a consortium with IC Net Limited, a Japanese consultancy company, and commissioned by JICA to carry out a survey to identify problems and assistance needs in eliminating child labor with a focus on cocoa regions. Activities toward the elimination of child labor are promoted by disseminating the CLFZ guidelines, in partnership with various actors, including international organizations, industries, NGOs, and others, and with JICA's Platform for Sustainable Cocoa in Developing Countries.^{*3}

^{*1} "Child Labour: Global estimates 2020", trends and the road forward (2017–2020) (ILO/UNICEF, June 2021).

^{*2} These Guidelines define CLFZs as areas in which the prevention and resolution of child labor are making progress. The Government of Ghana approves local public entities (districts) that declare themselves as CLFZs if they fulfill requirements and are able to maintain their child labor-free status, including a child labor incidence rate of less than 10%, the existence of a child labor monitoring system at the community level, and the functioning of government services to support vulnerable households and children.

^{*3} Established by JICA in January 2020 as a platform for a wide range of stakeholders, including companies and NGOs, to share insights and collaborate, to resolve a number of challenges associated with cocoa production.

from different coexisting ethnic groups participated in workshops, short excursions, and other activities, and their awareness about the importance of peaceful coexistence and peacekeeping was raised through repeated opportunities for dialogue.

Japan considers that sexual violence in conflict cannot be tolerated. Therefore, Japan places importance on collaboration with the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC).⁵⁶ In 2021, Japan provided approximately \$900,000 in assistance to the OSRSG-SVC to help protect women who have experienced sexual violence in the Middle East, including Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon, where COVID-19 was spreading, by expanding online support for female

survivors, distributing personal protective equipment for COVID-19, and other means.

Japan has also contributed €2 million in both 2020 and 2021 to the Global Survivors Fund (GSF),^{*} and as a board member, actively contributes to supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in conflict-affected areas, including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, and Iraq.

Japan formulated its National Action Plan in 2015 for the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and other relevant resolutions. Japan implements the Plan to support women in conflict-affected and fragile countries through international organizations and bilateral assistance. In terms of the framework of the

⁵⁶ Japan's efforts regarding the prevention of sexual violence in conflict can also be found on MOFA's website (https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page23e_000466.html).

G7, under the G7 WPS ⁵⁷ Partnership Initiative (2018), and since 2019, Japan has assisted its partner country of Sri Lanka with the formulation of its WPS Action Plan and has provided assistance for women's financial empowerment, including for the households of widows who have survived the 26-year internal conflict, as a project for the implementation of the Action Plan. The livelihood support provided by this partnership has been welcomed by the Government of Sri Lanka as a catalyst for economic recovery as well as a contribution to peace building and reconstruction in the region.



A woman who has successfully established her own sewing store and become financially independent as a result of the GSF's project to support survivors of conflict-related sexual violence (Photo: GSF)



Glossary

Global Survivors Fund (GSF)

The GSF was launched by Dr. Denis Mukwege and Ms. Nadia Murad, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2018. It aims to facilitate access to reparations and support for survivors against the backdrop that many survivors of conflict-related sexual violence have not received public reparations. The GSF conducts awareness-raising activities regarding the development of the judicial system to support and give relief to survivors. In September 2021, Japan co-hosted an online event with the GSF and other board members (including France, the Republic of Korea, and the United Kingdom) to present the activities.

B. Reducing Disparities (Assistance for People Who Tend to be in Vulnerable Situations)

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 addition, the spread of COVID-19 has had a major impact particularly on the survival and livelihoods of all people placed in socially vulnerable positions. The concept of human security, which focuses on the protection and empowerment of each individual, is indispensable for the realization of a society that fulfills the principle of the SDGs, "no one will be left behind."



Japan's Efforts

Assistance for Persons with Disabilities

In order to ensure the social participation and inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in society, especially persons with disabilities, Japan's ODA pays due attention to the socially vulnerable, including persons with disabilities. Article 32 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ⁵⁸ stipulates that States Parties would undertake measures for international cooperation and its promotion.

Policies for persons with disabilities cover a number of different fields, including welfare, health and medical care, education, and employment. Japan has applied the accumulated techniques and experiences in these fields to measures and policies for persons with disabilities in developing countries through ODA and NGO activities

(see also "Project Introduction Column" on page 65).

For example, Japan carefully conducts its assistance to suit various local needs through incorporating barrier-free design in the planning of railroad and airport construction, developing vocational training centers and rehabilitation facilities, providing minibuses for their transportation, and other measures (see also "Stories from the Field" on page 81). Additionally, Japan provides a wide range of technical cooperation through JICA to enhance the capacity of organizations and personnel providing assistance to persons with disabilities. These efforts include the acceptance of trainees from developing countries and the dispatch of JOCVs and experts such as physical and occupational therapists as well as social workers.



A group discussion in the framework of the "Project for the Promotion of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Disability Mainstreaming" - Technical Cooperation in South Africa (Photo: JICA)

⁵⁷ G7 WPS is an abbreviation for G7 Women, Peace and Security.

⁵⁸ Japan ratified the Convention in 2014.

■ Assistance for Children

Generally, children tend to be in vulnerable situations, and today, there are many children around the world that have been placed in harsh environments due to the impact of COVID-19 in addition to conflicts, natural disasters, etc. Also, the number of child refugees and internally displaced children is rapidly increasing, and Japan is providing a variety of humanitarian and development assistance bilaterally and through international organizations (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 67). In 2021, through the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Japan assisted by providing supplies to prevent COVID-19 infections and technical cooperation for health workers, implementing awareness activities on infection risks, and through other support for 86 countries in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and other regions.



A meeting to announce the entry into force of the Protocols and Guidelines for the Establishment of Child Labour Free Zones (CLFZs) in Ghana (Photo: NGO ACE) (See “Project Introduction Column” on page 67 for details on the project)

Additionally, through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects,⁵⁹ Japan provides cooperation that directly benefits residents at the grassroots level. Under this scheme, Japan is implementing projects which contribute to improving the living conditions of children, such as the construction and refurbishment of elementary and junior high schools, provision of medical equipment to hospitals, and development of wells and water supply facilities.

For example, in Thailand, Japan currently provides cooperation for the construction of a school building for early childhood education at Nikhom 3 (Kromprachasongkhrao) School, located in Khukhan District, Sisaket Province. It is expected that this assistance will improve the learning environment for children who could not take classes in appropriate environments due to classroom shortages. In addition, in Armenia, Japan provided cooperation for the construction of a playground and exercise area at a village school for children of compulsory school age in the village of Margahovit in Lori Province. This is expected to contribute



Children eating school meals provided through Emergency Grant Aid in hurricane-affected areas in Nicaragua

to the healthy growth and development of the body and mind of the children attending the school and other children in the vicinity, as well as to the strengthening of their athletic abilities and health maintenance.

In addition, through the grant aid “Project for the Prevention of and Response to Violence against Children in Cambodia (through UNICEF),” approximately 2,600 government officials, social workers, and medical professionals received training. This training is expected to lead to a reduction in physical violence in educational settings, etc. and to improvement of the environment in which children who have suffered physical violence can easily consult with counselors.

(5) Culture and Sports

Cultural heritage that symbolizes a country can be effectively utilized as tourism resources to improve the livelihoods of the residents in the surrounding areas. On the other hand, a large number of cultural heritage sites are in danger due to the lack of funds, equipment, and technology among others, and assistance to protect such cultural heritages is required. In addition, the preservation and promotion of culture, such as invaluable cultural heritages in developing countries, should be addressed



A JOCV teaching judo in Madagascar (Photo: KUNO Shinichi/JICA)

⁵⁹ Details of the program and past achievements can be found on MOFA’s website (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/files/000071826.pdf>).

not only by the countries with cultural heritage in danger, but also by the entire international community.

Moreover, sports can not only help maintain and improve health, but also contribute to cultivating a sense of respect for others, a spirit of mutual understanding, and awareness of norms. 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 provided assistance for the promotion of culture (including sports) and higher education as well as the preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries through the Cultural Grant Assistance* since 1975. Facilities constructed with such assistance also serve as hubs for spreading information about Japan and holding cultural exchanges with Japan, and these efforts could be effective in developing a deeper understanding of Japan and fostering a sense of affinity toward Japan. In 2021, Japan implemented 14 projects to provide support in the fields of education, including Japanese language education, cultural heritage preservation, and sports under the Cultural Grant Assistance.

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” established in UNESCO. Japan contributed approximately ¥700 million in FY2021 and has implemented multiple projects in the field of cultural heritage through the fund. Placing a particular emphasis on human resources development in developing countries, so as to enable people to preserve the cultural heritage of their own countries 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 techniques and expertise to developing countries. In addition to tangible cultural heritage, Japan also supports the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional dances, music, handcraft techniques, and oral lore (oral traditions) by implementing successor training, records conservation, the creation of safeguard mechanisms, and other activities through the Japanese Funds-in-Trust.

Japan is also conducting training programs with the aim of improving capabilities for the protection of cultural heritage by inviting young experts involved in

Malawi

The 50th Anniversary of JOCV Program in Malawi – Kendo Suburi (practice swings) Made the Japan-Malawi Bond JICA Volunteer Program (1971 – ongoing)



50 years have passed in August 2021 since Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs)*¹ were dispatched to Malawi in southeast Africa for the first time. The total number of JOCVs dispatched to Malawi is 1,897 (as of the end of October 2021). The country is the world's largest recipient of JOCVs. They have worked with local people to address issues they face and have contributed to the development of Malawi across a range of fields. They have not only carried out activities relating to their work roles at their assigned locations, but also have engaged in a wide variety of cooperative activities and exchanges while living with local people, speaking their language, and becoming part of their local communities.



A photo exhibition in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the JOCV Program in Malawi, organized at a shopping mall in the capital city of Malawi (Photo: JICA)

A JOCV nutritionist dispatched to a hospital in Blantyre, a business city in southern Malawi, was practicing kendo swings in the hospital garden during break time in 1992. This attracted some children nearby and they ended up joining in the practice. After the JOCV returned to Japan, other dispatched volunteers also continued to practice kendo with those children and they ended up becoming kendo instructors.



JOCVs teaching kendo to children in around 1993 (Photo: JICA)

JOCV kendo instructors have not been to Malawi, and a sufficient number of protective gear and adequate facilities have not been arranged. Nevertheless, kendo became widespread in the country as JOCVs dispatched to work in various fields continued practicing kendo with the people of Malawi as part of their daily lives in the community. As a result, the KENDO Association of Malawi was established in 1999, and kendo- and culture-related exchanges through JOCVs have continued ever since. It will be 30 years in 2022 since kendo (practice swings in the hospital garden) was introduced in Malawi.

JOCV's activities in the local communities have led to the enhancement of friendship and mutual understanding between Malawi and Japan and are highly appreciated as Japan's “Visible Development Cooperation.”

*1 In Japanese, *JICA kaigai kyoryoku tai*; at the time, the Japanese term used was *seinen kaigai kyoryoku tai*.

cultural heritage protection from the Asia-Pacific region to Japan as part of the “Project for the Promotion of Cooperation for the Protection of World Heritage and Other Cultural Properties in the Asia-Pacific Region.” In addition to conducting biennial training on maintenance and repair methods for wooden buildings and survey records of archeological remains, training on photographic documentation of heritage buildings for experts in Indonesia and other activities were conducted virtually in 2021.

Furthermore, as the host country of the Olympic and

Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020, held in 2021, Japan, in order to promote “Sport for Tomorrow,” ⁶⁰ an international contribution through sports to spread the value of sports and the Olympic and Paralympic Movement, provided sports assistance using ODA and “Projects for Sports Diplomacy Enhancement.” ⁶¹ In addition, 23 JOCVs have been dispatched in the field of sports (see page 118 and 119 regarding Japan’s initiatives in South Sudan, and page 70 for “Project Introduction Column” regarding JOCV’s activities).



Glossary

Cultural Grant Assistance

Cultural Grant Assistance is a grant aid to procure equipment and supplies and to construct and rehabilitate facilities for the promotion of culture (including sports) and higher education as well as preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries. It is intended to encourage cultural and educational advancements in developing countries as well as cultural exchanges between Japan and these countries with an aim of promoting friendly relationships and mutual understanding. It includes Cultural Grant Assistance, which provides assistance to governmental organizations of developing countries, and Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, which provides assistance to NGOs and local public entities for small-scale projects.

(6) Actions on the Environment and Climate Change

As the environment and climate change are also mentioned in the SDGs, and with the occurrence of extreme weather events and devastating natural disasters in recent years, these are critical time-sensitive issues that the international community must work together on. Japan has been vigorously working on addressing these issues and provides assistance to developing countries through the Global Environment Facility (GEF),* a financing mechanism for major international environmental treaties such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as the world’s top donor.



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. As of December 2021, 87 countries and regions have shared the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision,” which aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050, and was led by Japan at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019. In order to realize the Vision, Japan launched the “MARINE Initiative” that focuses on (i) Management of wastes, (ii) Recovery of marine litter, (iii) Innovation, and (iv) Empowerment. Under the Initiative, Japan supports

capacity building and infrastructure development for waste management in developing countries in order to encourage effective measures against marine plastic litter worldwide (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 73 for efforts on the formation of a Center of Excellence for Marine Plastic Pollution Studies in Thailand).

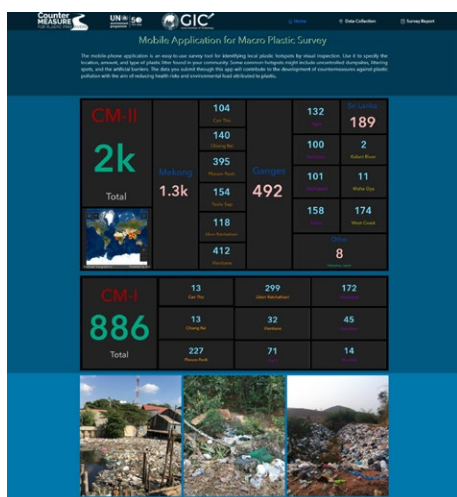
In 2021, Japan provided support through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for the projects for marine plastic countermeasures implemented by UNEP’s Asia and Pacific Office, which conducted awareness-raising activities for local people and developed a method for monitoring the flow of plastics into the ocean in the lower Mekong River basin of the Indochinese Peninsula as well as the Southwest Asia region. In addition, in order to enable policy making informed by scientific evidence, sampling surveys of plastic litter and scientific analysis of pathways of plastic pollution have been conducted to formulate policy recommendations and guidelines based on the results. Furthermore, in collaboration with a Japanese IT company, a plastic leakage hotspot map was created, identifying approximately 3,000 leakage points, and released on a dedicated website ⁶² available to the general public.

Moreover, as part of expanded assistance for ASEAN to address marine plastic litter issues that was announced at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in 2018, Japan has provided capacity building support and conducted awareness-raising and public relations activities for environmental conservation primarily on reducing marine

⁶⁰ Sport for Tomorrow Consortium (<https://www.sport4tomorrow.jpnsport.go.jp/>)

⁶¹ MOFA’s efforts regarding the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games (https://www.mofa.go.jp/p_pd/ep/page23e_000467.html)

⁶² “Mobile Application for Macro Plastic Survey” (<https://arcg.is/1DOOWW>)



The status of plastic leakage made available on a dedicated website by UNEP's countermeasure projects against marine plastic (Photo: UNEP)

plastic litter in ASEAN countries since 2019.

For example, since 2021, with the contributions of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), ⁶³ Japan has supported capacity building for marine litter reduction by producing television programs on marine plastic litter issues, assisting in the promotion of a plastic circular society, and providing assistance for the formulation of national action plans for ASEAN countries. Concerning ODA projects, a total of eight participants (two from Thailand and one each from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Viet Nam) participated in online training held in January and November 2021. In the first training session, participants learned about survey methods and analysis techniques. In the second session, they learned about the efforts of companies, local governments, and communities to promote the recycling of marine plastic litter in Japan.

■ Conservation of Marine Resources

Japan has conducted training and workshops on countermeasures against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing through JICA with the cooperation of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). Curbing the impact on fish ecosystems affected by IUU fishing that exceeds regulatory thresholds will lead to supporting the sustainability of the fishing industry, one of the core industries for ASEAN countries, and the sustainable development of fishing communities.

■ Climate Change

Climate change is a global issue that requires a cross-border approach, which calls on the international community including both developed and developing countries to strengthen its concerted efforts. The

Paris Agreement was adopted at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) (2015), as a framework under which all countries would work toward greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions. The Paris Agreement entered into force in 2016.

In October 2020, as attention focused on sustainable and resilient recovery following the spread of COVID-19, Japan announced its goal of achieving net-zero GHG emissions by 2050. In April 2021, Japan also announced its aim to reduce its GHG emissions by 46% in FY2030 from its FY2013 levels, and to continue strenuous efforts in its challenge to meet the lofty goal of cutting its emissions by 50%. In October 2021, Japan submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) ⁶⁴ reflecting these goals and “The Long-term Strategy under the Paris Agreement” to the United Nations (see “ODA Topics” on page 74 for Japan’s efforts in aiming to achieve a carbon-neutral society).

COP26 was held in Glasgow in the United Kingdom from October 31 to November 13, 2021, after being postponed due to COVID-19. At COP26, the rules for Article 6 (market mechanisms) of the Paris Agreement were adopted, for which there had been ongoing negotiations, based on Japan’s proposal, as well as on the reporting format for GHG emissions and NDC progress by each country and common time frames for NDC implementation. With the completion of “the Paris Rulebook,” important progress has been made in steadily implementing the Paris Agreement and promoting climate change countermeasures throughout the world.

Japan is actively supporting climate change actions in developing countries. At the G7 Cornwall Summit held in June 2021, Japan announced its support related to climate change, both public and private, totaling ¥6.5 trillion over the five-year period from 2021 to



Prime Minister Kishida giving a speech at the COP26 World Leaders Summit in November 2021 (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

⁶³ See 4 on page 91.

⁶⁴ Parties set their GHG emission reduction targets and formulate measures to achieve them, which are submitted as their NDC to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat.

MASTER
TECHNIQUES

from Japan to the World

3

Academia in Japan and Thailand Taking on
the Challenge of Clarifying the Actual State of
the Marine Plastic Wastes Problem

—Intellectual contribution to science-based policy making—



In recent years, global interest in marine pollution caused by plastic wastes has been rising.*1 Plastic has now become essential for our lives and supports the lives of many people in developing countries, including the vulnerable. For example, it enables us to transport drinking water to the regions without a water supply. However, plastic can have a serious impact on ecosystems if it is not processed appropriately after use and is released out into the natural world, so measures to deal with marine plastic wastes have become an urgent issue. Researchers on marine plastic pollution have been rapidly increasing globally since approximately 10 years ago, but large aspects of the problem remain unexplained scientifically, including its outflow routes and the impact on the marine environment.

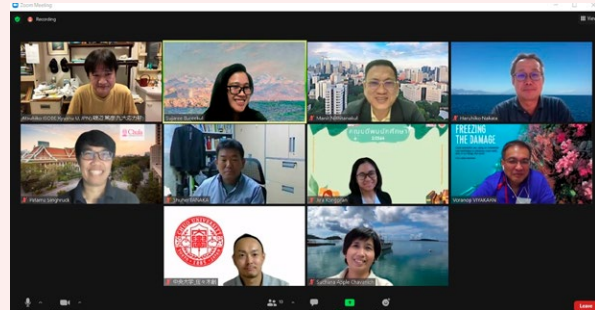
In response to this situation, a research team led by Dr. ISOBE Atsuhiko, Professor of Kyushu University, and Dr. Voranop Viyakarn, Professor of Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, commenced the “Project for Formation of a Center of Excellence for Marine Plastic Pollution Studies in the Southeast Asian Seas” under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)*2 program. From its base at the Center of Excellence in Thailand, the team is conducting scientific surveys and analysis on the path of generation and amounts of plastic wastes, among other matters, in the Southeast Asian seas, a marine plastic pollution hotspot.*3



Collecting microplastics (Photo: Kyushu University)

“In order to solve this problem, firstly we need to accurately ascertain the volume and the routes of the marine plastic wastes generated. Due to the impact of COVID-19, Japan’s researchers currently cannot travel overseas, so Thailand’s researchers are using new technologies such as drones to monitor the land, rivers, and oceans, and researchers in both countries are holding a series of discussions while checking the survey results online,” said Dr. Isobe.

Dr. Viyakarn, the representative of the Thai side, studied at a high school in Japan as a Royal Thai Government scholarship student and devoted himself to his studies in Japan for



A meeting between researchers from Japan and Thailand held online due to COVID-19 (Dr. Isobe is leftmost in the top row, and Dr. Viyakarn is rightmost in the middle row) (Photo: Kyushu University)

13-and-a-half years until he earned his doctorate. “I would like the research technologies of Japan to be utilized, and the young researchers of Thailand and Japan to be trained through this project. One of the important objectives of this project is enhancing the capacity and developing human resources of research institutions,” said Dr. Viyakarn. In Thailand, the Center for Ocean Plastic Studies (COPS), a satellite research center of Kyushu University, was opened in Chulalongkorn University in April 2022.

“We have received support from the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and already our partnerships with overseas research institutions in the surrounding countries are expanding. The problem of plastic wastes measures is not a simple matter of eliminating all plastics at once. In particular, it is necessary to advance its reduction initiatives with the consent of all people, while taking into consideration the impact on the lives of people in vulnerable positions. For that reason, consensus building based on scientific evidence is essential. We hope that this project will establish a center of excellence that reaches a global audience, and that Thailand will become a role model for plastic wastes reduction among developing countries,” said Dr. Isobe.

It is expected that the collaboration between the scientists of Japan and Thailand will spread across Southeast Asia and then to the entire world, including Japan, with the aim of solving the plastic wastes problem.

*1 See Part II 3 “(6) Actions on the Environment and Climate Change.”

*2 See the glossary on page 39.

*3 An area or region with a high concentration of pollutants.

Japan's Efforts and Support for Developing Countries to Achieve Net-Zero by 2050

Climate change is an issue that requires immediate actions on a global scale. In October 2020, Japan declared its aim to realize a decarbonized-society by reducing greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050, and is promoting initiatives for this.

In the meeting of the Global Warming Prevention Headquarters in April 2021, Japan announced that it aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 46% in FY2030 from FY2013 levels, setting an ambitious target that is aligned with the long-term goal of achieving net-zero by 2050, and that it will continue strenuous efforts in its challenge to meet the lofty goal of cutting emissions by 50%. This goal means to raise the previous target by over 70%. Japan also announced this goal to the world at the Leaders Summit on Climate hosted by the United States in April 2021 and the announcement was welcomed by other nations, including the United States.

Japan advanced its efforts to substantiate measures to achieve net-zero by 2050 and the FY2030 target. In October 2021, Japan formulated the new Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures and the Strategic Energy Plan. It also submitted Japan's National Determined Contribution (NDC)*¹ which reflects the new reduction goals, and Japan's Long-Term Strategy under the Paris Agreement, which sets out initiatives to realize net-zero by 2050, to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Japan has also accelerated collaboration and cooperation with other countries. At the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting on April 16, 2021, the Japan-U.S. Climate Partnership was launched, with which both countries confirmed to promote initiatives under the following three pillars: (i) Cooperation and dialogue on climate ambition and implementation of the Paris Agreement, (ii) Climate and clean energy technology and innovation, and (iii) Cooperation on accelerating the transition to a decarbonized society in third countries, particularly in the Indo-Pacific. In addition, at the Japan-EU Summit on May 27, Japan and the EU launched the Japan-EU Green Alliance, a cooperative framework for the climate and environmental fields that includes the promotion of cooperation to support developing countries to transition to climate-neutral and climate-resilient societies.

At the G7 Cornwall Summit in June, Japan announced that it would provide assistance that amounts to ¥6.5 trillion

over the next five years from 2021 to 2025, both in public and private, and that it would enhance assistance in adaptation*² for countries that are vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

In addition, in the Summit Communique, the G7 committed to an end to new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On top of this, at the 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26), held from October to November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida stated his determination that Japan would be working in full force to take on climate change, a common challenge of humankind. In addition, in order to lead the initiative in fulfilling the goal of climate finance*³ that developed countries are collectively committed to the \$100 billion per year to assist developing countries' efforts, he announced the four new commitments below.

- (i) Developing leading projects worth \$100 million to transform fossil-fuel-fired thermal power into zero-emission thermal power that uses ammonia, hydrogen and other fuels, mainly in Asia, through the Asia Energy Transition Initiative, maximizing the introduction of renewable energy.
- (ii) Providing up to \$10 billion in the coming five years, which would include the contribution to the launch of Innovative Financial Facility for Climate as Japan partners with the Asian Development Bank and others to support the decarbonization of Asia and beyond, in addition to the contribution announced at the G7 Cornwall Summit in June 2021, in order to lead the initiative in fulfilling the financial goal of climate finance that developed countries are collectively committed to the \$100 billion per year.
- (iii) Doubling Japan's assistance for adaptation to climate change to approximately \$14.8 billion, both in public and private finance, in the five years to 2025.
- (iv) Providing financial assistance worth approximately \$240 million, in both public and private finance, for the forest sector in the five years to 2025.

Japan will steadfastly implement its commitments in the international community and continue to contribute proactively to climate change measures both through its own initiatives and the support for the efforts of developing countries.



"The COP26 Globe at the Hydro," at the COP26 venue (Photo: Karwai Tang/UK Government)



Prime Minister Kishida delivering a speech at the COP26 World Leaders Summit (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

*1 See 64 on page 72.

*2 See 65 on page 75.

*3 At COP15 in 2009, developed countries agreed to collectively provide support worth \$100 billion per year, both in public and private finance, to developing countries up to 2020. Then, at COP21 held in 2015, developed countries agreed to keep this commitment through to 2025.

2025, and its further enhancement of assistance for adaptation ⁶⁵ for countries vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Furthermore, on November 2, Prime Minister Kishida attended the World Leaders Summit, the summit-level meeting of COP26, and announced Japan's efforts to promote future climate change actions. In regard to support for developing countries, in addition to the support announced at the G7 Cornwall Summit in June, he announced that Japan would provide up to \$10 billion in both public and private finance over a five-year period. Prime Minister Kishida also announced the doubling of Japan's amount of assistance for adaptation to climate change from the previous commitment (ACE 2.0) to ¥1.6 trillion over five years.

Regarding multilateral support, Japan has supported developing countries through its contribution to the Green Climate Fund (GCF),* the world's largest multilateral climate fund. Japan has pledged up to \$3 billion to the fund, putting effort into supporting countries vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as the fund's second largest donor country. At the GCF, a total of 190 projects have been approved by December 2021, with a large number of them entering the implementation phase, which in total are expected to avoid GHG emissions by 2 billion tons and increase the resilience of 610 million people through support for adaptation. Additionally, from Japan, JICA, MUFG Bank, and SMBC have been approved as "Accredited Entities" that are entitled to propose GCF projects, and to date, two projects by MUFG Bank (construction of solar power and pumped-storage hydroelectricity facilities in Chile (July 2019) and sustainable forestry project in seven countries in Sub-Saharan and South American region (March 2020)) and two projects by JICA (Community-based Landscape Management for Enhanced Climate Resilience and Reduction of



Training participants in "The Project for Introduction of Hybrid Power Generation System in the Pacific Island Countries" visiting the Okinawa Electric Power Company's training facility in Japan and receiving a lecture (Photo: Okinawa Enetech)

Deforestation in Critical Watersheds (March 2021) and Building Climate Resilient and Safer Islands in the Maldives (July 2021)) have been approved.

Furthermore, in order to achieve net-zero GHG emissions for the international community as a whole, at the annual meetings of the World Bank and IMF in October 2021, Japan released "Japan's Proposal on MDBs' Support in the Energy Sector." The proposal requests multilateral development banks (MDBs) to support developing countries in formulating and implementing ambitious energy plans, as well as the best projects from the perspective of reducing GHG emissions.

In line with this proposal, Japan cooperates with MDBs to support efforts to bolster energy transition in developing countries. This includes contribution to the establishment of the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Energy Transition Mechanism (ETM), which supports the energy transition from coal-fired power generation in developing countries, and the Capital Market Mechanism of the Climate Investment Fund instituted at the World Bank, at COP26.

As a specific example of bilateral assistance, Japan has supported the establishment of the Pacific Climate Change Centre in Samoa to which Japan dispatches experts on climate change countermeasures. Through the Centre, Japan strives to develop human resources in the Pacific Island countries vulnerable to climate change (see also "Stories from the Field" on page 86).

In addition, as part of its assistance for climate change actions in developing countries and others, Japan promotes the "Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM),"* which facilitates the global diffusion of advanced decarbonizing technologies to the world including to developing countries. This will contribute to GHG emission reductions in developing countries and Japan, and partner countries can share the result as credits. In 2013, Japan signed the first bilateral document pertaining to the JCM implementation with Mongolia, and to date, it has established the JCM with 17 countries. As of the end of 2021, the JCM credits have been issued from 38 energy-saving and renewable energy projects in Cambodia, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, the Maldives, Mongolia, Palau, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and Viet Nam. These JCM projects are contributing to GHG emission reductions worldwide.

As countries, particularly those in Asia, declared net-zero GHG emissions at COP26, it is important for Japan to support decarbonization transitions throughout the world. Japan implements comprehensive cooperation for decarbonization transitions in the ASEAN region based on the ASEAN-Japan Climate Change Action Agenda 2.0 announced by Prime Minister Kishida at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting held on October 27, 2021.

⁶⁵ There are two strategies to tackle climate change. The first is "mitigation," which refers to reducing GHG emissions through energy conservation, the use of low-carbon energy such as renewable energy, and carbon dioxide absorption by plants. The second is "adaptation," which refers to the prevention and alleviation of negative impacts being brought about by climate change such as sea level rise and drought.

Japan will continue to lead the international community toward the realization of a decarbonized society, which is the goal of the Paris Agreement.

■ 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 values biodiversity initiatives, as seen in the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity* (COP10) (2010) in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture. With the aim of providing support such as the capacity building of developing countries toward the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, ⁶⁶ Japan has made contributions to the Japan Biodiversity Fund, ⁶⁷ through which the Secretariat of the Convention organizes webinars on the conservation of biodiversity. The first part of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15), which had been postponed due to COVID-19, was held in October 2021, and its second part is scheduled to be held in 2022. During the first part, Minister of the Environment Yamaguchi announced Japan's international support as the second phase of the "Japan Biodiversity Fund" with \$17 million in total. During the second part of COP15, the formulation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is expected, including the next global goals and targets that will replace the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Japan participates in and contributes to the discussions.

In recent years, illegal trade of wildlife has increasingly become a serious issue. The international community has been paying attention to this issue as it has been one of the funding sources of international terrorist organizations. Along with actively participating in the discussions at the Convention on International



Extraction of essential oils at an agricultural cooperative in Tunisia. Through ODA loans, Japan supports forest restoration, sustainable forest management, and improvement of the natural environment (Photo: JICA)

Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Japan works on resolving these issues in cooperation with the international community through the contribution to projects implemented by the CITES Secretariat. Specifically, Japan has supported the construction of facilities for implementing elephant poaching countermeasures among other initiatives.

■ Conservation of Tropical Forests

Tropical forests account for approximately half of the world's forests and play an important role in tackling climate change and conserving biodiversity. Japan invited the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to establish its headquarters in Yokohama, and has supported sustainable management of tropical forests as well as legal and sustainable tropical timber trade through the organization for more than 30 years. In recent years, through voluntary contributions from Japan, ITTO has been engaged in projects to deal with forest fires in the tropics, which have become more frequent and serious recently, projects to build capacity for sustainable forest management in tropical timber producing countries, and the development of a timber-tracking system to combat illegal logging (see also "Project Introduction Column" on page 77).

■ Environmental Pollution Control Measures

In developing countries, regulatory controls on hazardous chemical materials are often not in place, and sometimes lead to environmental pollution and health damage. Japan has accumulated abundant knowledge, experience, and technology related to environmental pollution control measures and utilizes them to solve environmental pollution problems in developing countries (see "Stories from the Field" on page 109 regarding efforts for environmental conservation and ecotourism by former JICA training participants in Bolivia). Japan also conducts technical cooperation in the chemical industry, such as dispatching experts to developing countries and accepting trainees from them, including in the areas of environmental management techniques, analysis techniques and risk evaluation for environmentally hazardous substances, and chemical trace analysis techniques.

The "Minamata Convention on Mercury" was adopted at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury (2013) and entered into force in August 2017. Japan exercises 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

⁶⁶ Set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 of the CBD adopted at COP10 in 2010.

⁶⁷ Established in the Secretariat of the CBD by Japan during its COP10 Presidency with the aim of cultivating capacities in developing countries for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

the Minamata disease.⁶⁸ In December 2021, Japan, among other things, held online training regarding the monitoring of mercury with the participation of 33 countries and regions, partnering with UNEP-ROAP as the implementing institution in order to provide support for developing countries.

In the field of waste management, based on the “MARINE Initiative,” Japan announced to provide training for 10,000 officials engaging in waste management around the world by 2025, and approximately 6,000 officials have been trained by the end of 2021.

Moreover, as a model project for waste management support in Africa under the African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP),* Japan has provided support for the Hulene



A JOCV working to help improve recycling rates in the Dominican Republic (Photo: JICA)

Indonesia, Peru

Prevention and Management of Fires in Tropical Timber Production Forests

ITTO Contributions (February 2021 – January 2022)



The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is an international organization promoting the sustainable forest management of tropical forests and the expansion and diversification of trade in legally harvested tropical timber. Under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and with the strong support of the Government of Japan and Yokohama City, it was established in 1986 and headquartered in Yokohama. The importance of ITTO's work has risen amid progressive rises in global temperatures and growing expectations on the role of forests in mitigating climate change through the absorption of greenhouse gases. The ITTO staff, nearly half of which are Japanese, are involved in a variety of assignments from project management to finance and general affairs.

The ITTO has a track record of policy formulation and capacity building related to integrated forest fire management*¹ in tropical regions. As a part of these initiatives, with the support of the Government of Japan, ITTO assisted Indonesia*² and Peru*³ in 2021 in conducting projects that take an integrated and participatory approach to forest fire management.

Prolonged droughts and heat waves aggravate forest fires, and these are major causes of deforestation and forest degradation in Kalimantan and the Amazon region. The two projects targeted both regions, which are particularly vulnerable to forest fires, and carried out promotional campaigns and training for indigenous people (particularly those who engage in practices such as slash-and-burn agriculture), community residents (including farmers), and other relevant forestry stakeholders. This training promoted awareness of the importance of the sustainable use of forest resources and the prevention and management of fires in agriculture and forestry practices. Furthermore, the project strengthened the capacity of firefighting-relevant



Members of the Forest and Land Fire Brigade going to the scene of a fire in West Kalimantan Province, Indonesia (Photo: Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia)



Fighting a forest fire in the Department of Junín, Peru (Photo: National Forest and Wildlife Service of Peru)

authorities, introduced early-warning alert and fire monitoring systems leveraging information and communications technology (ICT), and enhanced cooperation networks to facilitate information exchange and dialogue among all relevant local stakeholders (including local residents, forestry workers, NGOs and local and central institutions) for forest fire prevention. As of December 2021, four training courses have been conducted for community residents tasked with fire management and a guidebook about appropriate forms of agricultural waste processing is in the final stages of completion. These activities, combined, provide local communities with the means to sustain livelihoods through more sustainable methods.

These projects are expected to help manage forest fires appropriately and conserve tropical forest resources in Kalimantan and the Amazon region, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation.

*1 Integrated forest fire management (IFFM) is a systematic approach to manage forest fires. In addition to the traditional efforts of fire prevention and fire extinction, it includes the implementation of planned burns as one of the means, resident participation, and forest law enforcement.

*2 South Sumatra Province, Central Kalimantan Province, and South Kalimantan Province.

*3 Department of Cajamarca, Department of Huánuco, Department of Junín, Department of Pasco, and Department of Ucayali.

⁶⁸ 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 the Agano River basin of Niigata Prefecture.

final waste dumping site in Mozambique. Following an accident in which a waste pile collapsed due to heavy rains, Japan has supported the prevention of further collapse and future safety measures by applying the “Fukuoka method” at the dumping site through pilot construction utilizing counterpart funds and on-site

guidance by experts. This “Fukuoka” method was developed by Japan and is being introduced in waste dumping sites around the world, such as Asia and Africa. The first construction for safety measures, which began in 2019, was completed in October 2020.



Glossary

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

A multilateral funding mechanism providing primarily grant-based financing for projects that contribute to global environmental conservation in developing countries. Established in 1991, 184 countries including Japan participate (as of December 2021). The World Bank manages the contributions from participating countries. Through 18 implementing organizations including MDBs (World Bank, ADB, etc.) and UN organizations (UNDP, UNEP, etc.), it assists in the five areas of biodiversity conservation, measures against climate change, pollution prevention in international waters, measures against land degradation, and measures against chemicals and waste. It is designated as the financing mechanism to five international conventions: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Convention to Combat Desertification, Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Green Climate Fund (GCF)

A multilateral climate fund established by the decision of COP16 (Cancun Agreement) in 2010, in order to support developing countries in reducing/absorbing their GHGs (mitigation) and enhancing their ability to respond to climate change (adaptation).

Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

A mechanism to evaluate contributions from Japan to GHG emission reductions or removals in a quantitative manner achieved through the diffusion of advanced decarbonizing technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure to developing countries and others and through the implementation of GHG reduction projects, and to use the achieved reductions as “credit” to achieve Japan’s emission reduction target.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

A convention adopted in 1992 to advance efforts to address biodiversity issues on a global scale. The objectives of 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.

African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP)

Established in 2017 by the Ministry of the Environment together with JICA, the City of Yokohama, UNEP, and the UN Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) aiming to share knowledge on waste management and promote the achievement of the SDGs in Africa. 89 cities in 42 countries in Africa have joined, holding plenary sessions, creating various guidelines and educational materials, planning study tours, and more.

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

In developing countries that are vulnerable to disasters, disasters have a significant impact on the entire society and economy. Therefore, it is necessary to build a disaster-resilient and flexible society to protect human lives from disasters. At the same time, efforts toward sustainable development are needed. Among them, it is important to promote the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction” that introduces the perspective of disaster risk reduction in all the development policies and plans.

Moreover, in recent years, various issues related to the management of cities are receiving increased attention. For example, such issues as handling the disposal of the substantial amount of waste emitted in urban areas and suburbs, air, water, and other pollution, development of infrastructure facilities including sewage and waste treatment systems, and 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.

Thus, among the SDGs, Goal 11 sets forth the following task: “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” Likewise, there are growing international interests in resolving the issues of human settlements that include 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 (see “Stories from the Field” on page 81, and the “Project Introduction Columns” on page 80, 97, and 107). The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework), which was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (2015), incorporated many ideas proposed by Japan, such as the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction,” the importance of prior investment in disaster risk reduction, the commitments of diverse stakeholders, the concept of “Build Back Better” striving to build cities that are more resilient to natural disasters after disasters, and the importance of women’s leadership.

Currently, based on the Sendai Cooperation Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction Phase 2 announced in 2019, which is Japan’s basic policy for cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction, Japan contributes to the development of a disaster-resilient international

community where everyone can live in safety by utilizing its advanced expertise and technology in the field of disaster risk reduction. Specifically, Japan has promoted human resources development for a total of 48,000 officials and local leaders and disaster risk reduction education for a total of 37,000 children who are responsible for the next generation, in addition to the support provided for at least five million people over the four-year period from 2019 to 2022 through flood countermeasures and other measures. Such efforts contribute to promoting not only the maintenance of disaster-resilient building structures and upgrading disaster monitoring facilities in each country, but also the development of human resources in fields such as laws and plans enactment related to disaster risk reduction, formulation of disaster risk reduction policies, and disaster monitoring. Consequently, the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction is progressing in developing countries.



A Japanese expert providing instruction during a workshop for the socialization of the manual for the preparation of the tsunami evacuation Plan in Ecuador (Photo: JICA)

In addition, a resolution was adopted to designate November 5 as World Tsunami Awareness Day responding to Japan’s encouragement at the UN General Assembly in 2015. Accordingly, the “High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day” has been held throughout Japan since 2016, and on November 5, 2021, Japan co-organized an event to raise awareness of the necessity to reduce the risk of tsunamis at the UN Headquarters with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

Moreover, in close cooperation with UNDP, Japan has implemented projects to support the formulation of tsunami evacuation plans and tsunami evacuation drills for countries at high tsunami risk in the Asia-Pacific region. Under these projects, ⁶⁹ during the period from December 2018 to February 2021, in Palau, a Presidential Proclamation was implemented declaring September of every year as National Preparedness Month, and the institutionalization of disaster risk reduction has been

⁶⁹ Phase II of the projects targeted 18 countries in the Asia-Pacific region (five of which are newly added).

promoted. Also, during the same period, teacher and other staff training were conducted, and the formulation and revision of tsunami disaster management plans as well as programs for tsunami education were implemented at 265 schools across 15 countries, with 100,119 students, teachers, and other school personnel participating in tsunami evacuation drills. In addition, in 2021, Japan implemented technical assistance through UNDRR to Arab countries (Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon) to formulate disaster risk reduction strategies for “Build Back Better,” taking into account measures to address infectious diseases such as COVID-19.

Additionally, every year since 2016, Japan and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office have worked together to provide support for human resources development related to women’s roles and leadership, particularly in the event of tsunamis, targeting female government officials and others in developing countries vulnerable to natural disasters. Under this project, 287 people from 26 Pacific and Indian Ocean island countries have participated by the end of 2021.

Japan also 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. This contributes to the improvement of disaster risk reduction capabilities in developing countries.

■ Realizing Sustainable Cities

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 conducts disaster risk reduction programs, human resources development, etc. based on the concept of “Build Back Better” (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 81 and 109). Japan works together with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Guatemala

Project on Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Management in Central America “BOSAI” Phase 2 Technical Cooperation Project (July 2015 – June 2020)



As with Japan, the Central America region faces risks from a variety of natural disasters, including earthquakes, volcanic disasters, and storm and flood damage. Japan has been providing a variety of assistance for disaster risk reduction to this region, utilizing its own knowledge and experience. The Project on Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Management in Central America (BOSAI) started in 2007, targeting six Central American countries,*1 and has steadily advanced initiatives that were implementable at the community level, such as building dikes utilizing used tires. In 2015, Phase 2 of the project commenced with the aim of expanding such outcomes in each country and across the Central America region.



A Japanese expert team explaining to the residents about volcanic disaster risk reduction maps (Photo: JICA)

In Guatemala, one of the target countries of Phase 2, actions were taken to strengthen the volcanic disaster prevention capacity of the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction. Through the project, a volcanic disaster risk prevention council was established for each volcano, enabling members of institutions involved in disaster risk reduction and volcano observation as well as officials of the departmental and city governments to come together to advance countermeasures. Volcanic disaster risk reduction maps were also updated with a system that enables all necessary information to be obtained at once during a disaster. Initiatives have been implemented, including development of a system for

the residents in the vicinity of a volcano to utilize radio and social media to report to officials in charge of disaster risk reduction about a volcano’s condition, and utilization of the record of the experiences from past disasters, learned from interviews with residents, as teaching materials. As a result, awareness of disaster risk reduction of the residents has gradually improved.

When the volcano Fuego erupted in 2018, concrete results of these efforts were seen. For example, the residents who had received the training recognized the danger, encouraged the evacuation of their neighbors and practiced the emergency first-aid that they had learned in the training. Subsequently, the project itself was also modified based on the lessons learned from the problems of equipment and infrastructure used for observation and evacuation warning, which were revealed in the incident of eruption.

Even after the completion of the project, the residents of Guatemala themselves have continued disaster risk reduction initiatives that utilize the knowledge and experience of Japan, such as training for efficient management of evacuation centers.



Staff of the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction preparing the timeline in consultation with municipal officers and Japanese experts (Photo: JICA)

*1 Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Panama, and Nicaragua (Nicaragua was included from December 2008).

Stories from the Field

Leave No One Behind in Times of Disaster!

—Striving day by day to promote “Disability-Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction” in the Asia-Pacific region—



3

15% of the total population in any given country are estimated to live with a disability.*¹ Based on this estimate, it can be calculated that there are currently approximately 690 million persons with disabilities in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2002, when I took up my position at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), whose headquarters are located in Bangkok, Thailand, that figure was 650 million. Although the number seemed too huge to grasp, it gave me a renewed determination to work hard in my position to improve the rights of persons with disabilities, which I look back on now with a feeling of nostalgia.

ESCAP provides programs in a variety of ways to the member states and regions*² to support legal and judicial systems development for social and economic development as a whole in the Asia-Pacific region. With regard to persons with disabilities, since 1993, ESCAP has worked under the leadership of the Government of Japan to launch initiatives for ensuring their human rights and their participation in social and economic development at the policy level, under the “Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities”*³ framework. Today, ESCAP continues to implement various efforts that are not found in other regions, such as Africa and Latin America.

Under such circumstances, with the support of the Government of Japan, I have been working on a technical assistance project for disaster risk reduction, an urgent challenge threatening the lives of persons with disabilities in the Asia-Pacific region, since 2014. Specifically, the project aims to realize “Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR; disaster risk reduction that reflects the perspectives of persons with disabilities).”

The death rate among persons with disabilities in the event of natural disasters is believed to be higher than that of disaster-affected people in general. This is due to a lack of evacuation drills and preparedness, barrier-free facilities such as evacuation centers and temporary toilets, provision of information through sign language interpretation and subtitles on television and the internet after a disaster strikes, and considerations for persons with a variety of disabilities, including those with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, and autism. There has also been insufficient focus on “disability-inclusion,” which reflects the perspectives of persons with disabilities, in the general policies adopted by most countries.

As a first step towards improving such circumstances, a conference was held in Sendai in 2014 with the participation of government officials involved in disaster risk reduction and various organizations representing persons with disabilities from Indonesia, Bangladesh, and the Philippines, where disasters occur frequently. The results of the discussions among the participants created momentum that led to the incorporation of the “DiDRR” perspective into the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*⁴ that



The author attending a conference in Bangladesh on “disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction” (Photo: Centre for Disability in Development Bangladesh)

was adopted the following year. This result marked a major step forward, including ensuring that the Sendai Framework recognizes persons with disabilities as an important social group that is greatly impacted by disasters, and proclaiming the importance of the universal design principles that ensure the creation of materials and systems that can be used easily by everyone including persons with disabilities, as well as the importance of ensuring that all stakeholders, including persons with disabilities, are involved in policy formulation from the initial design phase.

An ongoing project provides assistance for incorporating the perspectives of persons with disabilities into the day-to-day workings of the disaster risk reduction policies of various countries. The project selected four countries where disasters frequently occur but the “disability-inclusion” perspective does not seem to have penetrated in the mode of action and thinking of officials in charge of the frontlines of disaster risk reduction, and it is creating online education programs in languages of each country and aligned with their respective cultures and customs.

Post-disaster response has become more difficult in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under such circumstances, I intend to keep making my best effort to realize DiDRR, believing that this is the place to realize the “leave no one behind” principle, a core philosophy of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

AKIYAMA Aiko

Social Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

*1 World Report on Disability 2011 (WHO) <https://www.who.int/teams/noncommunicable-diseases/sensory-functions-disability-and-rehabilitation/world-report-on-disability>

*2 A total of 58 countries and regions, including 49 members and nine associate members.

*3 This was then extended in 2003 and 2013 for a further 10 years respectively.

*4 Adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in 2015. (See Part II (7) Disaster Risk Reduction for details.)

to further promote sustainable urban development. One example can be seen in collaboration with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) in Fukuoka, which supports the introduction of the disaster prevention technology of Fukuoka prefecture to developing countries.

(8) Food Security and Nutrition

According to the report of “The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021,”⁷⁰ in 2020, due to the impact of COVID-19 and other factors, the number of chronically undernourished people increased by more than 100 million compared to 2019, and between 720 million and 811 million people worldwide were chronically undernourished. This means that approximately one in ten people were chronically undernourished around the world. The report noted that exceptional efforts are required to achieve the SDGs by 2030. It also indicated that transforming food systems is essential to ensure food security.⁷¹

Japan's Efforts

Japan proactively addresses food-related problems as a global issue, giving priority to cooperation for the promotion of 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 (see also “Project Introduction Columns” on page 111 and 133 regarding efforts to assist smallholder farmers).



A Japanese staff member of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (dispatched under the JPO Programme) observing agricultural employment training for young people implemented in Nigeria (Photo: IFAD)

■ UN Food Systems Summit

In September 2021, the UN Food Systems Summit was held for the first time with the purpose of realizing a recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, through the transformation of “food systems” which consist of food production, distribution and consumption, as well as of achieving the SDGs by 2030. Japan announced that it would work towards establishing better global “food systems,” focusing on the following three points: (i) to achieve both productivity improvement and sustainability by driving innovation, digitalization, and the utilization of science and technology; (ii) to maintain and strengthen free and fair trade, including the restraint of import and export restrictions based on arbitrary measures without scientific evidence; and (iii) to take an approach considering each country and region’s climate and nature, as well as their food culture.

■ Efforts to Provide Food Assistance and Improve Nutrition

Japan has provided the Food Aid Programme based on requests from developing countries confronting food shortages. In 2021, Japan contributed a total of ¥7.4 billion in 25 countries and regions by mainly providing the Japanese government’s stockpile rice.

In addition to bilateral support, Japan is also engaged in efforts to provide food assistance in cooperation with international organizations. For example, through WFP, Japan implements measures such as school meals programmes to improve access to education, as well as initiatives of food-for-work programmes to encourage people to participate in the development of agricultural land and social infrastructure through the distribution of food. In 2021, Japan also supported the flood-damaged south-central region of Laos by providing supplies and equipment for agricultural infrastructure development and by conducting training to improve disaster risk reduction capabilities. In 2020, WFP conducted activities including the distribution of approximately 4.2 million tons of food to approximately 111.5 million people in 84 countries around the world. In 2020, Japan contributed a total of approximately \$196.13 million to the WFP projects.

Furthermore, Japan supports the improvement of nutrition in developing countries through contributions to the multilateral development banks (MDBs). Japan announced additional contributions totaling \$70 million to the World Bank’s Global Financing Facility (GFF)* and the Japan Trust Fund for Scaling Up Nutrition in 2021.* In addition, from the perspective of mainstreaming nutrition in development policy, Japan hosted the 20th replenishment meeting of the

⁷⁰ A report jointly prepared and published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), WFP, UNICEF, and WHO.

⁷¹ A state where all people, at all times, can access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.

International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group in December 2021 where an agenda of strengthening human capital, including improving nutrition status, is included as a priority area (see “ODA Topics” on page 9 for the IDA20 Replenishment).

■ Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021

The Government of Japan hosted the “Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021” on December 7 and 8, 2021. The Summit addressed the global challenge of the “double burden of malnutrition,” where one in ten people in the world suffers from hunger and undernutrition, while one in three people is overweight or obese. It also discussed five thematic areas to address the worsening global nutrition situation due to COVID-19: (i) health, (ii) food, (iii) resilience, (iv) accountability, and (v) financing (see “ODA Topics” on page 56 on the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021).

The outcome document of the Summit, “the Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth,” was endorsed by 215 stakeholders including 65 governments and 60 private companies, and the direction for future efforts by the international community to improve nutrition was set. Furthermore, 181 stakeholders, including 66 governments, 26 private companies, and 51 civil societies, submitted 396 commitments (statements of their policy and financial intentions). More than \$27 billion in nutrition-related financial contributions was announced by governments and other stakeholders, including Japan’s contribution of more than ¥300 billion in nutrition-related assistance announced by Prime Minister Kishida. By promoting concrete actions by a wide range of stakeholders in this way, Japan led efforts to improve nutrition around the world.

In addition, on the occasion of the Summit, Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs MATSUMOTO Yoichiro and Science and Technology Co-Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs KANO Mitsunobu, together with like-minded international science and technology advisors,⁷² issued a joint statement titled “Promoting Global Utilization of Science, Technology and Innovation for Food Systems Transformation to Ensure the Health of People and the Planet (STEPP).”

■ Establishment of Food Value Chains and Promotion of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

In developing countries, low purchase prices for agricultural products are one of the factors that prevent many farmers from escaping poverty. Japan is promoting the establishment of food value chains for developing countries in cooperation with private



A JICA Timor-Leste office staff and an official from the country's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries conducting a survey to improve rice farming techniques (Photo: JICA)

companies. In FY2021, based on the “Plan to Promote the Establishment of Global Food Value Chain,” Japan organized bilateral policy dialogues with Palau and workshops with Thailand and Viet Nam.

Moreover, Japan places emphasis on agriculture as an essential industry that plays an important role in Africa’s economic growth, and actively contributes to its development (see “Project Introduction Columns” on page 67 for efforts on agriculture that take into account children’s rights in Ghana, and on page 133 for the digital transformation (DX) of agriculture in Africa). Specifically, under the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)* 2nd phase, efforts are underway to improve the quantity and quality of rice production applying the RICE approach.* The approach includes support for the development of irrigation facilities, research on superior rice varieties including New Rice for Africa (NERICA),* a hybrid of Asian and African rice varieties, and dissemination of production technology.

Moreover, in order to transform agriculture from self-sufficient to income generating activities, Japan has trained 18,013 technical instructors and 183,042 smallholders from 29 countries, including non-African countries, to promote market-oriented agriculture through the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach* by the end of 2021.

■ Food Security through a Multilateral Cooperation Approach

Furthermore, Japan has been involved in the development of the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)⁷³ in order to contribute to the improvement of food security through enhancement of transparency in international agricultural markets. Japan has provided project costs to AMIS, while sharing information on Japan’s experiences.

Japan also provides assistance in the agricultural

⁷² Science and technology advisors to foreign ministries, diplomatic missions, and government agencies in the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, India, the European External Action Service, the Netherlands, and Canada (Government of Quebec).

⁷³ A system launched in 2011 by the G20 as a measure to counter the wild fluctuations of food prices. Various countries, corporations, and international organizations utilize the system to share information on the agricultural and food market (such as production volumes and prices) in a timely, accurate, and transparent manner.

sector through international organizations such as FAO, IFAD, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and WFP in order to strengthen developing countries' own foundations for food production. For example, Japan, in partnership with FAO, has provided assistance in technical cooperation for the agricultural and rural development of developing countries, the establishment of international standards and norms in the food and agriculture fields, and the development of statistics, etc. In addition, Japan has provided support for research on the variety development conducted by CGIAR, which is comprised of 15 international agricultural research institutions.

Furthermore, in addition to these assistance in the agricultural sector, Japan makes contributions to the enhancement of animal hygiene through the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and FAO. For example, Japan participates in the Global Framework for Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), which was established by OIE and FAO in response to transboundary zoonotic diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease and African Swine Fever (ASF), and supports the initiatives of international organizations in the field of animal hygiene mainly for the Asia-Pacific region.



Glossary

Global Financing Facility (GFF)

This initiative was launched in 2015 by the World Bank, the United Nations, and others to expand financial resources for the maternal and child health field. The GFF provides technical assistance for the formulation of maternal and child health policies, including those to improve the nutritional status of women and children, and for the enhancement of implementation capacity. The GFF aims to effectively mobilize funds by providing support to formulate plans with the pre-condition that low-interest loans from the World Bank and other sources are used to implement said plans.

Japan Trust Fund for Scaling Up Nutrition

The Trust Fund was established in 2009 to scale up nutrition investments in high undernutrition-burden countries and to strengthen in-country capacity to implement nutrition programs. It provides technical assistance to high undernutrition-burden countries to formulate policies for improving nutrition and to improve their implementation capabilities, thereby boosting nutrition investments by the countries concerned and the World Bank.

Food Value Chain

This is an activity in which many stakeholders, including the farmers, suppliers of 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. For example, it includes improving the quality of products, developing attractive new products, reducing transportation costs, increasing sales opportunities by expanding the sales network, and other activities.

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. It was proposed and launched by Japan at the TICAD IV in 2008 to support self-help efforts toward the expansion of rice production in Africa. Japan also launched the CARD Phase 2 at TICAD7 in 2019.

Resilience, Industrialization, Competitiveness, Empowerment (RICE) approach

An initiative adopted under CARD Phase 2 to realize the goal of doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa. Specific efforts include stabilizing production through adaption to climate change and population growth, industrial formation in local areas in cooperation with the private sector, enhancing the quality of home-grown rice so that it can compete with imported rice, and the establishment of agricultural management systems for improving the household incomes and livelihoods of farmers.

New Rice for Africa (NERICA)

NERICA is a general term for rice developed in 1994 by the CGIAR Africa Rice Center 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 and provides support for research and development related to new types of NERICA, test cultivation, and increased production and popularization of seeds. In addition, Japan has dispatched agricultural experts and JOCVs to offer cultivation training and has also accepted trainees from Africa for training in Japan.

Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach

The SHEP approach refers to an effort to assist smallholder farmers producing fruits, vegetables, and other produce and was started by Japan in Kenya in 2006, aimed at increasing their income by causing a mindset shift from "selling after growing" to "growing to sell" and through improvements to farm management and cultivation skills. Japan is promoting the activities integrating the SHEP approach around the world with a focus on Africa.

Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)

RAI is an initiative that aims to reduce the poverty of local residents including farmers and to maximize the interest of investors, as well as to minimize the risks to both local residents and investors, by balancing between the responses to the agricultural investment by domestic and foreign investors and the responses to the unintentional negative impact of agricultural investment, such as a threat to food security and rights of the local people including land ownership in rural areas of developing countries. The initiative was proposed by Japan at the G8 L'Aquila Summit (2009), and Principles for Responsible Agriculture Investment (PRAI) were formulated by four international organizations: FAO, IFAD, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the World Bank. In 2014, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) adopted the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI).

India

Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project (Phase 2)
Technical Cooperation Project (March 2017 – February 2022)

Himachal Pradesh State in India, located in the foothills of the Himalayas, had not sufficiently developed irrigation facilities, therefore agriculture was centered on cereal crop cultivation dependent on rainwater, which limited production to only self-sufficient volumes. Furthermore, increasing farmers' income has been a challenge since 80% of them are smallholders.

As the state has large elevation differences, from 300 meters to 7,000 meters above sea level, and the climate is cool, the harvesting seasons for vegetables, fruit, etc., differ from neighboring major cities, such as Delhi. This means the state can make shipment of its produce in the off-season. Beginning with the development survey started in 2007, Japan has been providing continuous support so that those farmers can cultivate not only the conventional cereal crops but also crops with a high commodity value including vegetables and other produce. Japan has combined a variety of its schemes to support them, such as loan aid to develop irrigation facilities and farm roads, and technical cooperation, dispatching Japanese experts for human resources development. Phase 2 of the technical cooperation project began in 2017, which aims at strengthening post-harvest activities such as treatment,



Ms. Nagata and the Indian agricultural extension workers giving guidance to farmers on okra cultivation techniques (Photo: JICA)



Ms. Nagata and the Indian agricultural extension workers giving guidance to a group of women on how to make the grafted vegetable seedlings (Photo: JICA)

processing, and marketing, which contribute to selling agricultural products at higher prices.

Japanese expert Ms. NAGATA Yoko has been supporting the activities of the state's Department of Agriculture through technical guidance under this project on vegetable cultivation and post-harvest processing. She utilizes Japan's agricultural techniques, in particular the Nagata Farming Method*¹ devised by Mr. NAGATA Terukichi, her father, and provides support for the selection, introduction, and application of appropriate techniques suited to local conditions, while earning the support of the agricultural extension workers and farmers.

A variety of changes have been brought by Japan's support to date, such as the increase of income of approximately 14,000 smallholders and the introduction of a nutrition improvement project using the harvested vegetables. Through phase 2 of this project, Japan will continue to encourage the diversification of crops and growing of crops with higher added value, which is expected to further improve the income of these farmers.

*1 An agricultural method of growing produce with a minimum amount of water and fertilizer.

(9) Securing Access to Resources and Energy

The number of people without access to electricity is estimated at approximately 760 million in the world and more than 46% of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa as of 2019. The lack of electricity, gas, and other energy supplies also leads to many issues, such as delay in industrial development, loss of employment opportunities, and a further increase in the poverty rate.



A site visit to a power plant in Laos supported by Japan's technical cooperation that aims to strengthen power system planning and operation for stable supply and power export (Photo: JICA)

Stable energy supply and appropriate consideration of the environment are essential since the global energy demand is expected to be expanded further in Asia and other parts of emerging and developing countries.

Japan's Efforts

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

For example, in 2021, in the Pacific Island countries located across expansive ocean areas with vulnerability to the influence of climate change, Japan assists grid-connected type renewable energy in becoming mainstream from the perspective of energy security and the realization of low-carbon or decarbonized societies. In the Dominican Republic, which highly relies on

Stories from the Field

Realizing Hybrid Power Generation in the Pacific Island Countries Using Experience and Technology of Okinawa

—Stable, clean, and low-cost power generation technology for the island countries with power vulnerability—



4

Diesel-power generation is mainstream in most Pacific Island countries. As these countries rely on imports for almost 100% of their fuel, they are vulnerable to the impacts of transportation costs and price rises, which is an energy security issue. There is also a need to shift to renewable energy sources such as solar and wind as a countermeasure against global warming.

In response to this situation, the “Project for Introduction of Hybrid Power Generation System”^{*1} in the Pacific Island Countries” was launched in 2017, with its base in Fiji. It targets public power companies in the five countries of Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall, Kiribati, and Tuvalu.

“Although diesel power generation enables a stable power supply, fuel costs and power generation facility maintenance costs are high, creating a considerable burden for power companies. On the other hand, renewable energy such as solar power is low-cost and clean, however it does not provide a stable power supply without appropriate planning because power output fluctuates according to weather conditions. A hybrid power generation system combines the respective advantages of these two power generation systems, namely stable and low-cost power supply. The governments of the target countries are highly conscious of the issues of global warming and energy security, and I feel their high expectations for this project,” said JICA Senior Advisor Mr. OGAWA Tadayuki, who works as Chief Advisor of the project.

In order to promote the introduction of hybrid power generation systems and to ensure that the equipment can be properly maintained and managed by the engineers of power companies in each country after the project is completed, the project has focused on instructing key engineers from each country who are appointed as “core trainers.” Furthermore, experts from Okinawa are passing on the expertise and technology that they have acquired from their experiences in the islands of Japan, in order to turn the training center of Energy Fiji Limited (EFL) into a center for South-South cooperation.



Providing guidance to Kiribati engineers on measuring engine parts (Photo: Okinawa Enetech)



Online training with engineers from each countries (Photo: Okinawa Enetech)

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project utilizes video conferencing systems to provide training on improving the operational efficiency of diesel power generation, and on introducing, operating, and maintaining hybrid power generation systems. “I think that even though the training has been conducted remotely, we have definitely improved the training impact by exercising our ingenuity, such as enhancing the study materials and conducting examinations to check trainees’ level of understanding. Another advantage is that when trainees have any questions on-site, we can contact them online and provide advice directly,” said Mr. KAKEFUKU Luis of Okinawa Enetech Co., Inc., who is playing a central role in technical consultation. This detailed consultation has produced concrete results in the various countries, including more efficient solar power generation and improved fuel consumption rates in diesel power generators.

In the training process, efforts were made to transform the mindsets of each country’s power company officials related to power generation, including safety management, and organization. “As a result of continuous consultation, the inside of power generation facilities are more organized and engineers who took part in the training have become more safety-conscious. I heard about engineers buying safety shoes, suggesting that they were taking a proactive approach,” said Mr. Kakefuku.

There have been high levels of interest in this project across the Pacific region. Some engineers from EFL became instructors in March 2021 and have carried out local training for seven countries^{*2} that were not originally covered by the project. The knowhow based on experiences in Okinawa has been accumulated in Fiji, and with EFL as a center, initiatives to introduce hybrid power generation systems are continuing to spread across the Pacific region.

^{*1} A form of power generation that combines two or more systems from among diesel power generation and various renewable energy sources (solar, wind, etc.).

^{*2} Cook, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tonga.

imported fossil fuels for its electricity supply, Japan supports LED lights use for streetlights on public roads across the country through ODA loans in order to help improve the energy efficiency of the country. With such efforts, Japan contributes to promoting energy conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the public sector (see “Stories from the Field” on page 86).

Japan also supports the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which is a multinational cooperative framework to enhance the transparency of the flow of funds in the development of oil, gas, mineral, and other resources. Under this framework, extracting companies report the amount of payment to the governments of resource-producing countries, and these governments also report the amount of the revenue received from extracting companies to the EITI. In addition to 47 resource-producing countries and many supporting countries including Japan, extracting companies and NGOs are participating in the EITI. They are working together to ensure transparency of the flow of funds in order to prevent corruption and conflict, as well as to encourage responsible development that leads to growth and poverty reduction.

(10) Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for SDGs

In the world today, social changes occur in diverse industries, including not only the manufacturing industry and the service industry but also agriculture and construction, by utilizing information and communication technology (ICT), ⁷⁴ artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics.

Based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Paragraph 70), the UN has established the United Nations Inter-agency Task Team on STI for the SDGs (UN-IATT) and is promoting STI for the SDGs on a global scale, in cooperation with each country. In 2021, the United Nations Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) was held again and international expectations for STI are increasing as a key to realize the SDGs while optimizing limited resources.

Japan's Efforts

In the process of Japan's economic development, Japan has overcome its own challenges in fields such as health and medical care, environment, and disaster risk reduction, fully utilizing STI. Based on these experiences, Japan is engaged in science and technology cooperation through the Science and Technology Research



Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs Matsumoto presenting the recommendation “Planetary health: STI for food systems transformation” and the STI showcase (collection of case studies) to then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Washio

Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program ⁷⁵ and others in order to resolve challenges that developing countries are facing. The Project for Strengthening of the Environmental Radiation Control and Legislative Basis for the Environmental Remediation of Radioactively Contaminated Sites in Ukraine, which was implemented in 2021, is a good example of problem-solving through the SATREPS program (see “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 73 and 135 for details on specific initiatives of the SATREPS program).

Furthermore, Japan is advancing research and analysis towards the establishment of an “STI for SDGs Platform,” which is to promote the use of Japan's advanced science and technology that could help developing countries to achieve the SDGs.

The UN-IATT is conducting the Global Pilot Programme in the five pilot countries – Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, India and Serbia, in order to encourage countries to formulate STI for SDGs Roadmaps across the world. Under this programme, Japan has provided assistance to Kenya in the agricultural sector since FY2020 through its contributions to the World Bank.

In 2021, the Advisory Board for Promoting Science and Technology Diplomacy ⁷⁶ presented the recommendation “Planetary health: STI for food systems transformation” prepared for the UN Food Systems Summit and the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021. Based on this recommendation, the Advisory Board compiled an STI showcase of STI cases that presents Japan's strengths, to improve hunger and malnutrition and contribute to food systems transformation, taking the global environment into consideration.

⁷⁴ See ⁵ on page 4.

⁷⁵ See the glossary on page 39.

⁷⁶ At MOFA, Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs Matsumoto and the Advisory Board for Promoting Science and Technology Diplomacy, a group of academic experts in fields related to science and technology diplomacy, support the activities of the Minister of Foreign Affairs on related matters. Their aim is to strengthen the collaboration and networks with the advisors and related parties in Japan and abroad. They advise the Minister for Foreign Affairs and related departments on matters such as how to incorporate science and technology in the planning and drafting process of various foreign policy strategies.

Part III

Assistance for Each Region



A JOCV for Nikkei Communities giving a class on the history of immigration at a Nikkei Japanese language school in the Dominican Republic (Photo: JICA)

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2	Southwest Asia	96
3	Oceania	100
4	Latin America and the Caribbean	104
5	Europe	110
6	Central Asia and Caucasus	112
7	Middle East and North Africa	114
8	Africa	117

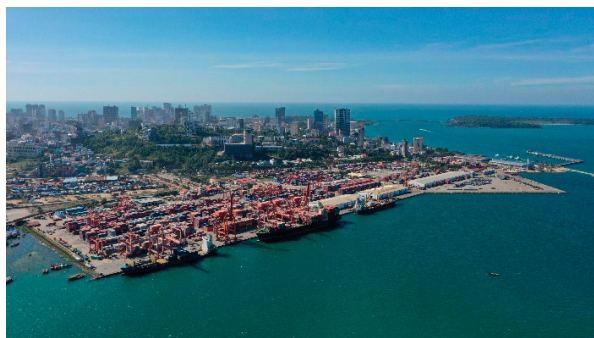
Part III Assistance for Each Region

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 significant economic growth; and countries, such as Viet Nam, which are shifting to a market-driven economy.

Japan's Efforts

While providing more prioritized support, Japan engages in cooperation that responds to the diverse socio-economic circumstances of East Asian countries and to the changes in the development issues. 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 quality infrastructure investment, 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 through youth exchanges, cultural exchanges, and projects to spread the Japanese language, and to maintain consistent regional stability. In order to make Asia “a center of growth open to the world,” Japan provides support to strengthen the region’s growth and expand domestic demand in each country.



Sihanoukville Port, which is Cambodia’s only deep sea port and accounts for approximately 70% of Cambodia’s container cargo imports and exports (Photo: JICA)

Many countries in East Asia were dealt great societal and economic blows by the worldwide spread of COVID-19. Since its outbreak, Japan has provided a total of approximately ¥38 billion in grant aid for health and medical equipment and technical cooperation to 11 countries in East Asia. Japan has also extended the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan totaling ¥220 billion to five countries, taking into account the economic impacts. In addition, as of December 2021, over 18 million doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan have been provided to Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, and other countries and regions on a bilateral basis and through the COVAX Facility. ¹

■ Support for Southeast Asia

ASEAN countries ² are located on Japan’s sea lanes and have strong economic ties with Japan, as approximately 14,500 Japanese companies (business establishments) have been operating in the region as of October 2020. The ASEAN region is of great importance for Japan both on the political and economic fronts. ASEAN declared the establishment of the ASEAN Community (2015) and makes efforts to strengthen connectivity and narrow the development gaps within the region. Moreover, the “ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)”^{*} (2019) advocates the rule of law, openness, freedom, transparency, and inclusivity as ASEAN’s principles of action, sharing many fundamental principles with the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” promoted by Japan. At the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in November 2020, the Joint Statement of the 23rd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Cooperation on ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific was adopted. The leaders reaffirmed the shared principles and agreed to further reinforce the ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership through enhanced practical cooperation and synergy in the four areas outlined in the AOIP (maritime cooperation, connectivity, the SDGs, and economic and other possible areas of cooperation). Furthermore, at the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in November 2021, a Progress Report that outlines concrete AOIP cooperation progress on the implementation of the Joint Statement was issued (see also “ODA Topics” on page 33).

Japan enhances cooperation in light of ASEAN’s initiatives in this way and has provided assistance through ODA in a range of areas such as infrastructure development, the rule of law, maritime safety, disaster risk reduction, health and medical care, and peacebuilding, focusing on strengthening connectivity and narrowing

¹ See the glossary on page 8.

² The 10 ASEAN member states are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam (however, Singapore and Brunei are not ODA recipients).

the development gaps as its pillars of cooperation. To date, Japan's ODA for ASEAN countries has amounted to a total of approximately ¥19 trillion. Additionally, in light of the increasing importance of leveraging the financial resources of the private sector and Multilateral Development Banks in the area of development, Japan launched the "Initiative on Overseas Loan and Investment for ASEAN" (2019 Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting). Under this initiative, Japan contributes to the economic revitalization of ASEAN countries by expanding loans and investment to the private sector in support of SMEs and others in the fields of quality infrastructure investment, improvement of financial access and support for women, and green investment. Moreover, Japan aims to mobilize funding of \$3 billion from the public and private sectors centered on funding for ASEAN over three years from 2019 to 2022, and works on providing loans and investment totaling \$1.2 billion through JICA. As of December 2021, 11 projects have been adopted for ASEAN countries, with loans and investment totaling approximately ¥44.9 billion.



Foreign Minister Hayashi holding a meeting with Foreign Minister Son of Viet Nam during his visit to Japan (November 2021)

With regard to strengthening connectivity, Japan supports the enhancement of ASEAN connectivity based on the "Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025"³ (2016 ASEAN Summit Meetings), which aims to strengthen "physical connectivity," "institutional connectivity," and "people-to-people connectivity" in the region. Japan signed the Japan-ASEAN Technical Cooperation Agreement (2019) to encourage ASEAN to consolidate its unity and centrality. In accordance with the Agreement, Japan implemented training on cyber security (see page 52 for details), port management, and marine plastic waste management by FY2020, as well as training on public international law, logistics, and

treatment of criminal offenders in FY2021. Moreover, based on the "Japan-ASEAN Connectivity Initiative" (2020 Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting), Japan provides physical support for the strengthening of ASEAN connectivity in terms of infrastructure, mainly through a total amount of approximately ¥2 trillion for land, air, and sea corridor connectivity infrastructure projects, as well as non-physical support in the form of human resources development for 1,000 individuals contributing to strengthened connectivity for three years from 2020.

In terms of infrastructure development, Japan works to promote "quality infrastructure investment" based on its past experiences of assisting Southeast Asian countries and in accordance with the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment."³ One such example is Japan's support for Sihanoukville Port in Cambodia. Sihanoukville Port is Cambodia's only deep sea port and handles approximately 70% of Cambodia's container cargo imports and exports. The port's container cargo handling capacity is becoming strained due to an increase of cargo handling volume as a consequence of Cambodia's strong economic growth. Japan, at the request of the Government of Cambodia, implements the construction of a new container terminal with a ODA loan and also provides support to improve the efficiency of the port operations through the dispatch of JICA experts and the implementation of technical cooperation projects. By implementing both infrastructure development and technical cooperation together in this way, Japan improves the port's cargo handling capacity and contributes to the improvement of Cambodia's logistics functions.

Moreover, in regard to the field of disaster risk reduction and disaster health management, since 2009, Japan has continued to contribute to strengthening disaster management and disaster response capacity in ASEAN with support for the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF),⁴ including the establishment of an integrated ICT System to strengthen the operation of the AHA Centre, the establishment of a Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA), capacity building of the regional ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) and the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme. Japan has implemented the Project for Strengthening the ASEAN Regional Capacity on Disaster Health Management (ARCH)⁵ since 2016 and made many achievements, including holding regional coordination drills for disaster health management

³ See the Glossary "Quality Infrastructure" on page 31.

⁴ A fund established in 2006 to support ASEAN's endeavors to advance integration by correcting regional disparities and aiming at the establishment of an ASEAN Community. Japan announced that it would contribute a total of ¥7.5 billion (approximately \$70.1 million) at the 2005 Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting, and later contributed a total of \$100 million to the JAIF 2.0 in 2013. Japan provided additional contributions in 2019 as well as 2020.

⁵ A project to create a framework to implement the policy of the ASEAN Declaration on "One ASEAN, One Response: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One" (2014 ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management). In 2017, the ASEAN Leader's Declaration (ALD) on Disaster Health Management (2017) clearly incorporated the need for the activities engaged in through ARCH.

teams from ASEAN countries and developing standard operation procedures relating to disaster health management. Through cohosted trainings with the World Health Organization (WHO), Japan also works together to strengthen coordination capacities in the field of disaster health management in the ASEAN region in accordance with global standards for disaster health management teams.

In addition, Japan fully supports the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases, including by contributing approximately ¥5.5 billion (\$50 million) to JAIF in 2020 and by dispatching experts and providing training through technical cooperation. Japan contributes to strengthening ASEAN's capabilities to respond to public health emergencies and prepare, detect, and respond to emerging infectious diseases. In October 2021, Japan held online training for public health officials from ASEAN countries responsible for the Centre's operations. Additionally, Japan has contributed a further \$1 million to the "COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund," which aims to develop vaccines and procure medical supplies, on top of its contribution through the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Cooperation Fund.

Furthermore, with regard to the area of human resources development, Japan works on human resources development of approximately 80,000 people over five years from 2019, including in the digital sector such as AI, under the "Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0" (2018 Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting). Japan has also provided support to Thailand to establish Kosen schools (Colleges of Technology) unique to the Japanese education system in Thailand and implement cooperation to provide Kosen education that meets the same standards as those of Japan in order to develop industrial human resources in the ASEAN region. In addition, Japan implements



JICA experts visiting rice fields under the "Project for Increasing Farmers Households' Income through Strengthening Domestic Rice Production in Timor-Leste" (Photo: JICA)

the "Innovative Asia" initiative, which supports the circulation of competent human resources in Asian countries including ASEAN through studying abroad at Japanese graduate schools or other institutions, internships at Japanese companies, etc., with the aim of promoting innovation in Asia including Japan. Over the five years from FY2017 to FY2021, Japan has accepted people from all across Asia under this project.

In addition, Japan has been engaged in economic cooperation, held investment seminars, invitation programs and "BIMP-EAGA+Japan" dialogue for the East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).⁶ In 2021, a fishing port facilities and market were completed on Biak Island in Papua Province, Indonesia.

With regard to the Mekong region,⁷ which has great potential for development among the ASEAN countries, the Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting has been held since 2009. Around once every three years, it is held in Japan, where the leaders adopt an aid policy framework toward the region.

Japan's efforts focus on the strengthened connectivity critical for economic growth in the region and it steadily implements projects under the Tokyo Strategy 2018,⁸ such as the development of the Sihanoukville Port in Cambodia, functional improvements for the Vientiane International Airport in Laos, construction of the Ho Chi Minh City urban railway in Viet Nam, and construction of the Bangkok MRT (Red Line) in Thailand.

Based on the "Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030" (11th Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting in 2019), Japan makes use of quality infrastructure investment in line with international standards so as to draw out the Mekong region's potential in an optimal manner, while focusing its efforts on the three priority areas of (i) environmental and urban issues, (ii) sustainable natural resource management and utilization, and (iii) inclusive growth. As a concrete effort for this, Japan provides support for community-based socio-economic development and the realization of the SDGs in the Mekong countries through the "KUSANONE Mekong SDGs Initiative" (13th Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting in 2020). The 1st Mekong-Japan SDGs Forum was held in December 2021, in which participants shared issues and initiatives of each country and exchanged views. Japan will continue to promote the SDGs in the Mekong region based on the "Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030" in order to make the region more sustainable, diverse, and inclusive.

Furthermore, as Mekong region countries were dealt economic blows by COVID-19, which caused a lack of development financing, Japan promotes the "Five Points of Cooperation," including the "Mekong SDGs

⁶ A regional framework established in 1994 by Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines to promote economic growth in the developing regions of these four countries.

⁷ A region including the five countries of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

⁸ Adopted at the 10th Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting in Tokyo in 2018. It outlines the direction of Japan's cooperation with Mekong.



Students at a school building of an elementary school in Long An Province, Viet Nam constructed through Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects

Investment Partnership” (12th Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting in 2020), in order to support the implementation of development projects by private companies and others: (i) promotion of loans and investment for the private sector, (ii) Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects that pervades through small communities, (iii) cooperation concerning the rule of law, (iv) cooperation concerning the ocean, and (v) cooperation

concerning strengthening supply chains.

The humanitarian situation in Myanmar has deteriorated rapidly due to the impact of COVID-19 and the coup d'état in February 2021, and humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar is an urgent issue. Japan actively provides assistance through international organizations and other partners to improve the situation. During 2021, Japan implemented support in the areas of food, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, as well as provided ambulances and oxygen concentrators to respond to COVID-19 (approximately \$21 million). In February 2022, Japan announced its decision to provide additional assistance, and decided to deliver food, daily necessities such as shelters and mattresses, medical supplies, and other items to the people of Myanmar through international organizations and the ASEAN Secretariat (approximately \$18.5 million). The Government of Japan will continue to proactively provide humanitarian assistance that reaches the people of Myanmar in need, in cooperation with international organizations and the ASEAN Secretariat, taking into account the local situation and humanitarian needs and urgency. Japan will pay close attention to the needs of the people of Myanmar who are facing difficult circumstances.

Thailand

Project for Providing Medical Equipment in Sangklaburi, Kanchanaburi Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (September 2016 – May 2017)



Many immigrants and displaced persons from Myanmar live in Sangklaburi District in Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand, which is on the border with Myanmar, with ethnic minorities living along the border area due to its location and historical background. In addition to the current vulnerable medical situation in this region, these people had difficulties accessing appropriate medical care due to their stateless status or economic reasons. Therefore, Ms. JINNO Yoriko, a Japanese nurse, together with her Thai husband, opened the Saan Jai Dee clinic, where they have accepted all patients regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, economic situation, and so on.



The handover ceremony



Examining a patient using the provided equipment

Most of the people in this area work in agriculture and factories, etc., and therefore there are many patients who need surgical treatment. However, the clinic did not have sufficient medical instruments, and so could only provide a limited range of medical care and could not carry out even simple surgeries.

In order to improve this situation, Japan provided medical equipment and developed an operating room in the clinic through Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects. As a result, better medical care can be provided to socially vulnerable people, e.g. approximately 500 people were able to receive surgical operations in 2019.

In order to realize human security focused on each and every human being, Japan will continue to implement health and medical care support that aims at “leaving no one’s health behind” and is based in each community.

■ Termination of ODA to China

ODA to China has played a significant role in strengthening bilateral relations in recent years as well as in the past. In 2018, then Prime Minister Abe announced that Japan would terminate the provision of

new ODA to China by the end of FY2018 and promote bilateral dialogues and personnel exchanges in the area of development. All ongoing projects that have already been adopted will be completed by the end of March 2022. ⁹



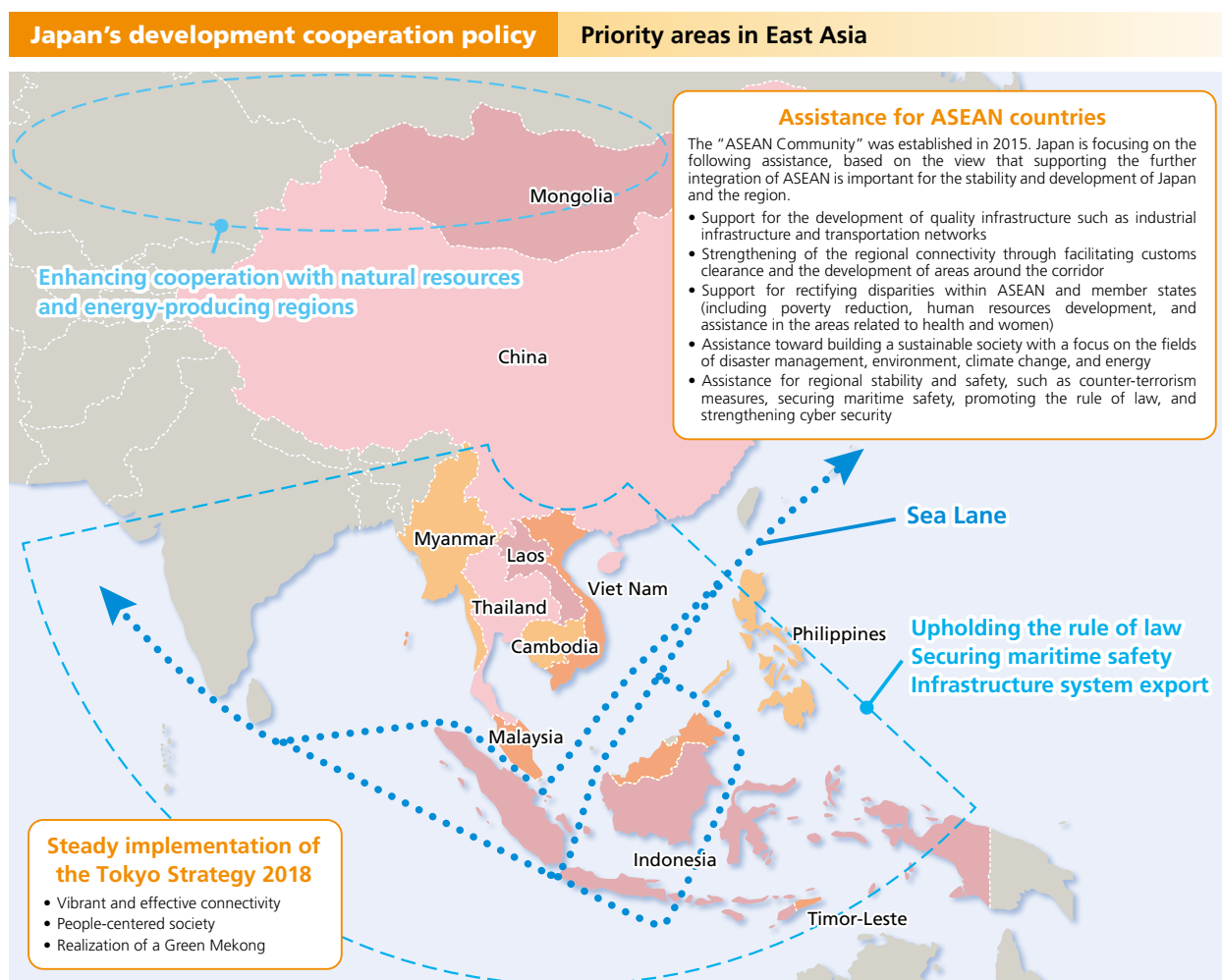
Glossary

ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)

An initiative to create a vision of even closer cooperation in the Indo-Pacific and strengthen ASEAN-centered regional architecture. It is not aimed at creating new mechanisms or replacing existing ones; rather, it is intended to enhance ASEAN's community building process and to better face challenges arising from the current and future regional and global environments. It shares many fundamental commonalities with the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" promoted by Japan.

Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 (MPAC 2025)

This is the action plan for strengthening ASEAN connectivity that was adopted at the ASEAN Summit in 2016 as the successor document to the "Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity" (adopted in 2010). It is positioned as a part of "ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together" (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.



⁹ The projects under implementation as of January 2022 and scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2022 include three technical cooperation projects, the dispatch of two JICA JOCVs, and one JICA Partnership Program.

ODA
Topics

5

Look East Policy and Japan's ODA
as Key Drivers of Malaysia's
Socio-Economic Development

—Building on 40 years of accomplishments we have made together—

The year 2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the launch of the Look East Policy in Malaysia. The Look East Policy aims to promote economic and social development and the establishment of an industrial base by sending students and government officials to Japan for study and training so that Malaysians can learn about Japanese work ethic, enthusiasm for working, morals, management skills, etc. The Government of Japan has consistently cooperated with the Look East Policy over the 40 years since its introduction.

For example, regarding study abroad programs, Japan supports international students so that they can adjust smoothly to classes in Japan by dispatching instructors to provide preparatory Japanese language education for them. With regard to training for government officials, Japan provides the Industrial and Technical Training Program, in which young government officials receive practical training at Japanese companies, and a training program targeting government high-level officials in managerial positions, in which they participate in training at local governments and private-sector companies in Japan. In addition, since 2015, Japan has provided training in areas such as cutting-edge industrial technology under the Look East Policy 2.0, which was established as the second phase of this Policy.

To date, the Government of Malaysia has sent approximately 26,000 students and government officials to Japan. As of the end of December 2021, over 60% of the Under-Secretary level officials of Malaysian government ministries and agencies have experienced studying or training in Japan.

In addition to the support for the Look East Policy, the Government of Japan has assisted with long-term planning and development of basic infrastructure such as roads, electric power, and water works through ODA, as well as improvements of industrial technology, for the socio-economic development of Malaysia. Japan has also supported industrial human resources development in Malaysia, including at the Centre for Instructor and Advanced Skills Training (CIAST)*¹ in the 1980s and most recently, at the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT), which was founded as a university that carries out Japanese-style engineering higher education, including through sending



Providing guidance at MJIT

experts from Japan (See also page 37 for MJIT). The focus of Japanese assistance has shifted from vocational training to higher education, in line with Malaysia's economy and society.

These efforts that combine the Look East Policy with Japan's ODA represent the characteristics of Japan's development assistance, which respects the ownership of partner countries based on Japan's experience and knowledge, in order to provide support that is suitable for the actual situation and needs of partner countries. Malaysia's economy and society have developed smoothly through these efforts.

Furthermore, those who had been dispatched to Japan for study or training under the Look East Policy and returned to Malaysia make full use of what they learned in Japan by working in Japanese companies or by making policy as government officials, contributing not only to the Malaysian economy but also to mutual understanding and promotion of friendship between the two countries. The multi-layered human resource exchange fostered by the Policy has also supported Japanese companies in their investment and expansion into Malaysia. There are approximately 1,500 active Japanese companies in Malaysia, as of December 2021.

In this way, it can be said that the Look East Policy, while being a policy unique to Malaysia, is a project that Malaysia and Japan have created and implemented together. The Government of Japan will continue to collaborate with the Look East Policy and provide support for socio-economic development in Malaysia, which aims to become a high-income country by 2025. Japan, working together with the Government of Malaysia, will utilize the achievements of the Look East Policy over the last 40 years and ODA in order to promote cooperation with other countries, through efforts such as South-South cooperation.*²



Kuala Lumpur's cityscape, as seen from KL Tower

*1 Japan provided support from August 1982 to March 1991, with the aim of developing specialist workers. 10,826 people received training up to the end of 1993.

*2 See the glossary on page 106.

2 Southwest Asia

The Southwest Asian region holds huge markets, including that of India, and has enormous economic potential. It is also a strategically important region for realizing a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” because of its location on land routes and sea lanes that connect East Asia with the Middle East.

At the same time, the Southwest Asian region still faces many issues that must be addressed, including infrastructure development, development of primary education as well as healthcare and medical systems, establishment of the legal system, and response to natural disasters. In particular, poverty reduction is a major challenge, with approximately one-third of the world’s poor said to be living in this region. ¹⁰

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides a wide range of assistance in order to harness the economic potential of Southwest Asia as well as to reduce disparities between the rich and the poor.

In 2021, in regard to the response to COVID-19, as of December 2021, Japan has provided approximately 7.73 million doses of domestically produced vaccines to Bangladesh, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka through the COVAX Facility. ¹¹ In addition, Japan provided emergency grant aid to Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka for the development of cold chains as “Last One Mile Support” to establish a vaccination system, and provided medical equipment such as ventilators to India where infections have spread rapidly since April 2021.

Furthermore, Japan provided COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loans of ¥30 billion and ¥40 billion respectively (see Part I for emergency assistance to address the rapid spread of COVID-19 in India) in order to provide financial support for the crisis responses in India and Bangladesh affected by the spread of COVID-19. In addition, Japan has taken debt relief measures for the Maldives, Nepal, and Pakistan in accordance with the Paris Club ¹² agreement on the response to COVID-19.

In recent years, India has been one of the largest recipients of Japan’s ODA loans, and Japan has provided assistance to India for the development of economic and social infrastructure, including in the fields of electric power and transport, which would contribute to enhancing connectivity and strengthening industrial competitiveness, improvement of the investment

environment and human resources development. In addition, in support of its sustainable and inclusive growth, Japan has played a significant role in India’s growth through support to various fields, such as support to the forestry sector with an aim to improve livelihoods, development of health and medical systems, and poverty reduction measures.



The Varanasi International Cooperation and Convention Centre in India, which was built with Japan’s support (Photo: JICA)

In March 2021, Japan provided a total of seven ODA loans totaling approximately ¥276 billion, including projects for the construction of metro rails in Delhi, Bengaluru, and Kolkata, road construction to improve connectivity, and development of agricultural production infrastructures to increase farmers’ incomes.

In addition, the opening ceremony of the Varanasi International Cooperation and Convention Centre, which had been constructed with Japan’s support, was held in July 2021. Then Prime Minister Suga delivered his congratulatory message through video on the completion of the Centre and expressed his hope that it would become a new symbol of friendship between Japan and India. Furthermore, during a summit meeting in September 2021, Japan and India confirmed they would cooperate toward the steady progress of the development plan for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR). After the plan is completed, it is expected to shorten the travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, which is currently at least seven hours by express train, to two hours, and the train fare is expected to be roughly half of that of the corresponding airfare.

With regard to Bangladesh, where there has been remarkable growth and an increase in the number of Japanese companies operating business in recent years, Japan seeks to further advance the Japan-Bangladesh Comprehensive Partnership and promote development

¹⁰ Source: World Bank website (note that Afghanistan is included in South Asia).
<https://www.worldbank.org/ja/country/japan/brief/south-asia> (in Japanese only)
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/09/19/decline-of-global-extreme-poverty-continues-but-has-slowed-world-bank>

¹¹ See the glossary on page 8.

¹² See ⁸ on page 34.

cooperation under the “Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B)” initiative. The three pillars of the initiative are: (i) development of economic infrastructure, (ii) improvement of the investment environment, and (iii) enhancing connectivity. In November 2021, in addition to the above-mentioned COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan, Japan provided three ODA loans totaling approximately ¥292 billion to Bangladesh, including for the “Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project (Line 1) (Phase 2)” to support the improvement of connectivity and economic infrastructure development. In December of the same year, Japan also provided grant aid totaling approximately ¥2.9 billion for two projects for the human resources development of young government officials who will shoulder the future of the country.

Regarding displaced persons from Rakhine State, Myanmar, Japan has expressed its appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh for accepting the displaced persons for a prolonged period of time, and stated that Japan will continue its support, including reducing the burden of host communities, at foreign ministers’ meetings and other occasions. Japan also provides various forms of support to benefit the host communities



Dhaka City’s mass rapid transit (MRT) that is under development with support from Japan. The train cars, with the national flag of Bangladesh in its design, run through the city and support people’s daily lives. (Photo: JICA)

and displaced persons. Assistance newly approved in 2021 by Japan includes grant aid through international organizations to improve water supply and distribution systems and strengthen health and medical systems. Additionally, Japan provides support through the Japan Platform (JPF) for Japanese NGOs to deliver life-saving

Public nomination

Bangladesh

(1) Capacity Building for Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Urban Areas of Bangladesh, (2) School-based Capacity Building for Enhanced Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Dhaka North City Corporation (Phase 1)
(1) JICA Partnership Program (April 2016 – April 2019), (2) Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (March 2020 – ongoing)



Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, is experiencing rapid urbanization and population growth, and the risk of urban disasters such as earthquakes, fires, and flooding due to heavy rain has increased. However, not many citizens of Dhaka are aware of the importance of disaster risk reduction (DRR). For example, initial firefighting, calling the fire service and evacuation often do not take place promptly, and firefighters sometimes are blocked by curious crowds of people at the scene. These are actions that exacerbate disaster impacts that otherwise could have been minimized.

This urged SEEDS Asia, a Japanese NGO, to work on the enhancement of the disaster preparedness capacity of Dhaka’s community residents since 2016 together with Dhaka North City Corporation and through the JICA Partnership Program, as well as Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects, towards the goal to build disaster-resilient people and communities.

Specifically, SEEDS Asia provided training to the leaders of resident groups that were willing to take responsibility for DRR in their respective locality (e.g. condominium associations and youth groups, etc.). In addition, the preparation of each areas’ DRR plan was facilitated, through which a sense of ownership among the



A Dhaka DRR community preparing a DRR Town Watching map (Photo: SEEDS Asia)

community residents was fostered, self-help and mutual help initiatives were developed, and DRR activities were incorporated into their daily lives. SEEDS Asia referred to the “Disaster Reduction Well-being Communities,” established in different areas of Kobe after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, to design its activities. Through this project, 12 DRR communities were established in Dhaka.

Dhaka’s DRR communities continue to develop their activities to date. Their initiatives include not only DRR Town Watching for hazard map making and firefighting training, but also strengthening their network, sharing challenges faced and initiatives of each community, and concluding pre-disaster agreements for mutual aid. Furthermore, after the spread of COVID-19, the communities responded by swiftly installing simple hand-washing stations and rolling out food support, mask distribution, and awareness-raising activities.

Following the community-based engagement in DRR, SEEDS Asia initiated a new project for school-based capacity building for enhanced DRR in FY2020. The circle of DRR in Dhaka is expanding through the sharing of expertise of DRR communities with schools as experts of the localities, and all such efforts started from the lessons of Kobe.



Firefighting training by a DRR community (Photo: SEEDS Asia)

humanitarian assistance including distributing food and non-food items to survive, improving hygiene and sanitation, providing medical treatment, and protecting women and children (see page 12 regarding the activities of Japanese staff at WFP, and pages 6 and 8 regarding assistance for India and Nepal through JPF).

Sri Lanka, which is located 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. Japan works on strengthening cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the fields of enhancing connectivity through the development of infrastructure and maritime matters, toward the realization of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP).” Japan also continues to carry out assistance to cope with natural disasters and provides cooperation including for livelihood improvement as well as industrial and human resources development with a focus on the agricultural sector for regions that are lagging behind in development due to the impact of past conflicts. In 2021, Japan provided grant aid to support the socio-economic reintegration of Sri Lankan migrant workers repatriated due to the COVID-19 outbreak in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The Maldives, same as Sri Lanka, is located in a strategic position along the sea lanes of the Indian Ocean. Japan works on strengthening cooperation between the two countries toward the realization of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP).” In 2021, Japan decided to provide grant aid for the construction of the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre to strengthen maritime rescue and maritime crime response capabilities, the provision of a sea ambulance to strengthen health and medical systems, and agricultural promotion support to diversify the economy of the Maldives, the main industry of which, tourism, has been damaged by COVID-19.

With the world’s fifth largest population, and located at a geopolitically important point between Asia and the Middle East, Pakistan plays a vital role in the international community’s efforts to eradicate terrorism. The stable development of Pakistan is also important from the perspective of peace and stability in the surrounding

region as well as the international community as a whole. In 2021, in addition to the grant aid to expand maternal and child health care facilities in Sindh Province for enhancement of the country’s health and medical systems, Japan provided grant aid to support vaccination for polio eradication in Pakistan, where, like in Afghanistan, wild strains of polio are constantly present. Furthermore, Japan supported the installation of a weather surveillance radar as well as the improvement of a water treatment plant and rehabilitation of the water transmission and distribution facilities through grant aid.



The Deputy Director of Health Centers in Nepalgunj City and a project manager discussing COVID-19 countermeasures as part of the COVID-19 Response in Emergency Project, “COVID-19 Response in Emergency (CORE) project in South-Western Nepal Providing Medical Equipment and Commodities” by the Japan Platform (Photo: ADRA Japan)

As a country that has traditionally friendly relations with Japan, Nepal’s firm establishment of democracy, as well as its stability and prosperity, are important for Japan to ensure the stability of the entire Southwest Asia region, which is also politically and economically important to Japan. After the major earthquake in Nepal in 2015, Japan has promoted “Build Back Better” in the country. In December 2021, the International Conference on Nepal’s Reconstruction 2021 was held in Kathmandu, where Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Honda provided a video message introducing how Japan has contributed to Nepal’s reconstruction based on its experience and lessons learned from natural disasters. Through Japan’s assistance, bridges, hospitals, and other public infrastructure facilities have been completed, as well as housing (approximately 85,000 in total) and schools (approximately 210 in total) by October 2021. Additionally, Japan also provides a range of technical support related to strengthening the government’s disaster risk reduction capabilities and the widespread adoption of buildings in line with construction standards. Moreover, in 2021, Japan provided grant aid for three projects, including the improvement of medical equipment in advanced public hospitals in the country.

Japan’s development cooperation toward Bhutan has achieved steady results, especially in the improvement of agricultural productivity, development of economic



Students interacting in sign language at a special needs school for people with hearing impairments in Pakistan, where equipment was provided through Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects

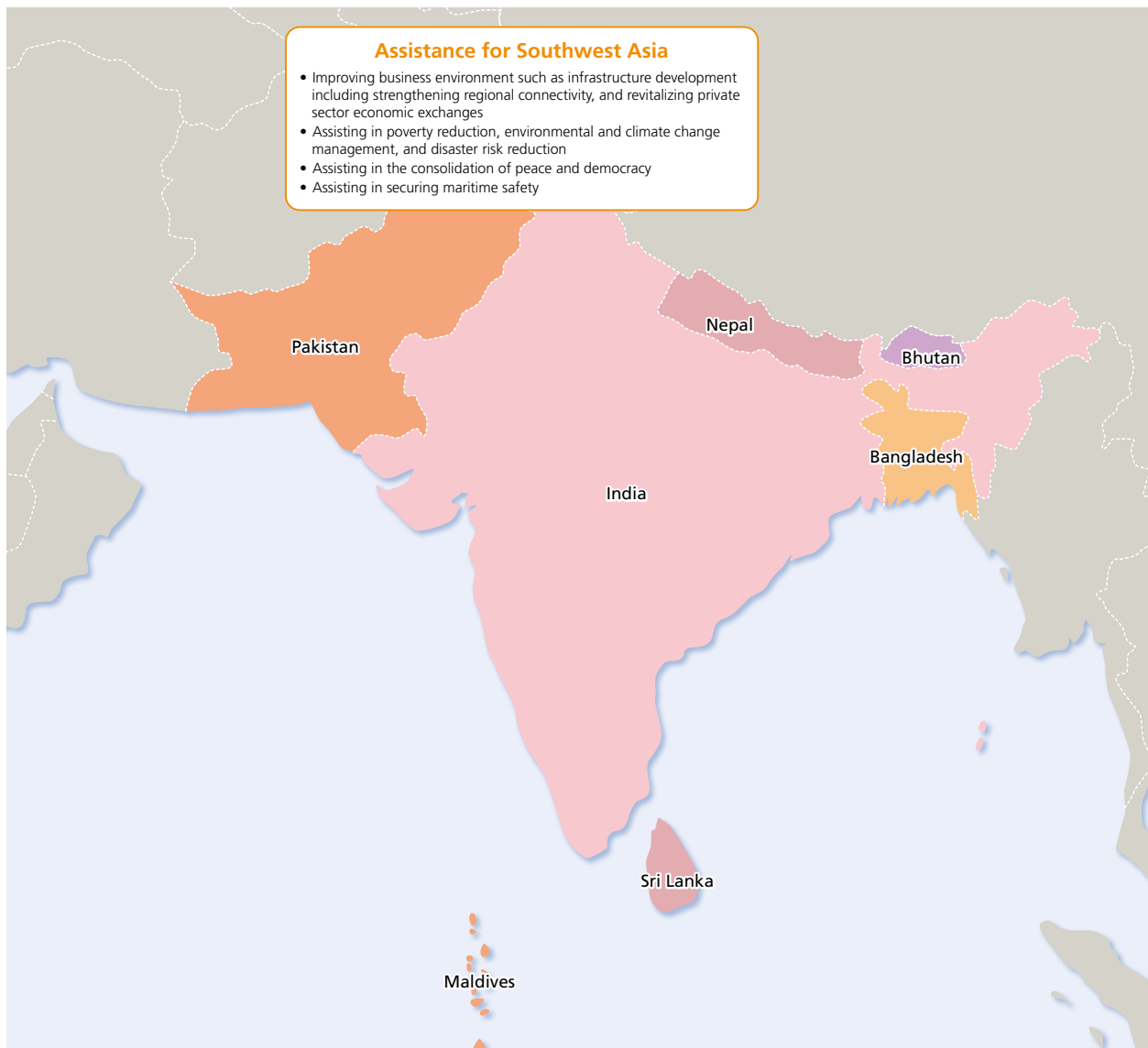
infrastructure such as road networks and bridges, and human resources development and other fields. In 2021, Japan provided grant aid for the development of geospatial information necessary for disaster prevention measures and water source management.



A JICA expert providing guidance on fruit tree fruiting management during training for the Integrated Horticulture Promotion Project in the West Central Region in Bhutan (Photo: JICA)

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Southwest Asia



3 Oceania

The Pacific Island countries are Japan's "neighbors" bound by the Pacific Ocean and also share deep historical ties with Japan. Also, in possessing vast Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ),¹³ these countries are key to maritime transport activities and provide essential fishing grounds for bonito and tuna fisheries.

Meanwhile, many Pacific Island countries are relatively new independent states with the urgent task of becoming economically independent. In addition, they face common challenges particular to small island countries, such as small-scale economies dependent on primary industry, territories geographically extended over the vast area of the sea, difficulty in accessing international markets, and vulnerability to natural hazards.

Japan's Efforts

In order for Pacific Island countries to achieve political stability and self-reliant economic development, it is crucial not only to support each country in overcoming their socio-economic vulnerabilities, but also to provide comprehensive assistance for the region. In addition to promoting cooperation with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF),¹⁴ a framework for regional cooperation composed of Pacific Island countries, Japan has hosted the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM), a summit meeting between Japan and Pacific Island countries every three years since 1997.¹⁵

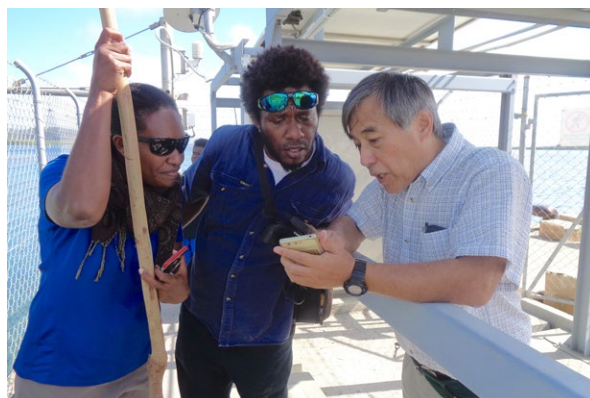
In July 2021, PALM9 was held via video conference and the leaders discussed the five priority areas for the next three years: (i) COVID-19 Response and Recovery, (ii) Sustainable Oceans based on the Rule



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Miyake attends the third Japan-PIC Economic Forum held as a PALM9-related event (November 2021)

of Law, (iii) Climate Change and Disaster Resilience, (iv) Strengthening Foundation for Sustainable and Resilient Economic Development, and (v) People-to-People Exchanges and Human Resource Development. The Leaders Declaration and annexed documents "Joint Action Plan for Strengthening Pacific Bonds and for Mutual Prosperity," etc., were adopted as an outcome of the discussions (see also "ODA Topics" on page 103).

In June 2021, the Interagency Committee for the Promotion of Cooperation with Pacific Island Countries determined the basic policy of reinforcing and concentrating resources for Pacific Island countries and strengthening initiatives with all-Japan efforts.



Checking images of Tsunami Watch Cameras after their installation as part of the "Project for Enhancing the Capacity of Issuing Earthquake, Tsunami and Storm Surge Information," a technical cooperation project currently underway in Vanuatu (Photo: JICA)

In response to the spread of COVID-19, Japan provided approximately 320,000 doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan to Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga through the COVAX Facility¹⁶ by the end of 2021. Throughout the Oceania region, Japan also contributes to the strengthening of health and medical systems by providing health and medical equipment, developing cold chains¹⁷ to deliver vaccines to vaccination sites, and securing medical personnel to administer the vaccinations. Furthermore, to support economic recovery, Japan has provided COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loans totaling ¥42.5 billion to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands.

Moreover, in view of the humanitarian perspective and friendly relations with Tonga, which was affected by the volcanic eruption and tsunami that occurred on January 15, 2022, Japan provided emergency relief goods through JICA and dispatched the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Self-Defense Force (SDF) Unit to transport the goods. Furthermore, Japan decided to provide emergency grant

¹³ Maritime zones where a sovereign country has certain economic rights that can be established outside its territorial waters.

¹⁴ The 16 PIF member countries and two member regions are Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Nauru, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall, Palau, Cook, Niue, French Polynesia, and New Caledonia.

¹⁵ The PALM Ministerial Interim Meeting has been held approximately 18 months after each PALM with foreign ministers serving as co-chairs since 2010.

¹⁶ See the glossary on page 8.

¹⁷ See 2 on page 2.



Prime Minister Hu'akavameiliku (center) welcoming the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) plane arriving at the airport in Tonga to transport emergency relief goods (January 2022)

aid of approximately \$2.44 million to Tonga.

Japan will continue to support Pacific Island countries in strengthening health and medical systems, recovering the economies impacted by COVID-19, and providing assistance for emergencies, including for disasters, in collaboration with the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and other partners. Through such efforts, Japan will work hand in hand with the region in building a resilient, stable, and prosperous Oceania region toward the post-COVID-19 era (see “ODA Topics” on page 33 for information on efforts to realize a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)”); see “Project Introduction Column” below for Health Promoting Village Project for Solomon Islands).

Solomon Islands

Health Promoting Village Project Technical Cooperation Project (June 2016 – June 2021)



In the Solomon Islands, people traditionally lived self-sufficiently, but in recent years, imported products have been brought in, which has changed their dietary habits greatly. For this reason, lifestyle-related diseases have rapidly increased and currently account for more than 60% of deaths.

In response to this situation, Japan has focused on the prevention of under-nutrition and lifestyle-related diseases, along with long time challenges, including malaria countermeasures, the water problems, and the improvement of hygiene and sanitation conditions, and has worked on strengthening health services, formulating policies, and developing health volunteers in villages, among other efforts, in Guadalcanal and Makira-Ulawa Provinces. Moreover, Japan has provided support for turning the mechanism under which residents tackle their own health improvement (the health promoting village model) into a national system.

Steady activities were carried out, such as raising the health awareness of the residents by conducting their physical measurements and indicating their BMI,^{*1} and having health volunteers explain lifestyle-related diseases and the three major nutrients while showing the residents actual food ingredients. As a result, knowledge about lifestyle-related diseases among the residents in the targeted villages improved, resulting in a decrease



Measuring a child's height (Photo: JICA)

in the proportion of infants with stunted growth^{*2} (from 25.5% to 22.8%) and a fall in the mean blood glucose level among the residents (from 6.55 mmol/L to 6.22 mmol/L) compared to the values before the project was implemented.

Moreover, the problem of garbage arising from increasing consumption of processed food products was worsening in the villages, and village cleaning activities were regularly carried out led by the health volunteers. As a result, the hygiene and sanitation conditions in the villages improved, and secondary effects were also seen such as with the reduced numbers of mosquitos contributing to malaria control, and the health awareness of the residents themselves improved. Prime Minister Sogavare mentioned and highly praised the specific outcomes of this project in a policy speech.

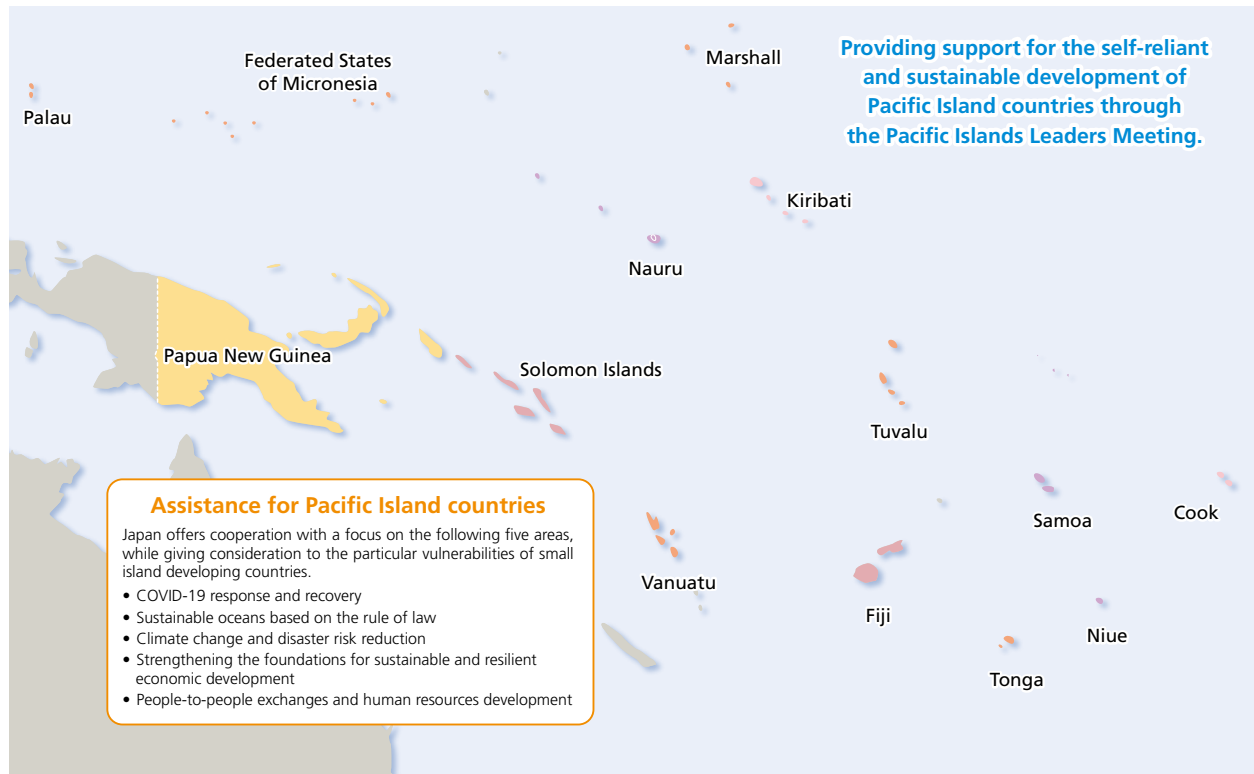
Currently, the National Healthy Settings Coordinating Committee established through this project is leading the rollout of the health promoting village model to other provinces. In this way, Japan's efforts have taken root in communities, and it is hoped that activities for a better environment and health conditions will continue.



New home vegetable gardens to increase the intake of fruit and vegetables (Photo: JICA)

^{*1} An index that indicates the degree of obesity.

^{*2} A state when a child falls into chronic malnutrition and does not grow to the height appropriate for his/her age because he/she is not able to get enough daily food or nutrition.



Holding PALM9 and Japan's Development Cooperation toward the Pacific Region

On July 2, 2021, the Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9) was held via video conference. PALM is a summit meeting that has been held every three years since 1997. It involves candid exchanges of views at the summit level on various issues faced by the Pacific Island countries (PICs), with the aims of contributing to the stability and prosperity of the region and strengthening the partnership between Japan and the PICs. PALM9 was co-chaired by Japan and Tuvalu, and was attended by 14 island countries across the Pacific Ocean plus Australia, New Zealand, and others, totaling 17 countries and two regions.*1

At PALM9, then Prime Minister Suga announced “Japan’s Pacific Bond (KIZUNA) Policy,” which would further strengthen cooperation between Japan and the PICs. Japan works toward realizing a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” and, in its relations with the PICs, Japan has been taking an “All-Japan” approach to strengthen its initiatives, such as establishing the Interagency Committee for Promoting Cooperation with Pacific Island Countries in 2019 as a working-level meeting among the relevant ministries. Japan named these efforts “Japan’s Pacific Bond (KIZUNA) Policy.”

Under this policy, the PALM Leaders set out the following five priority areas for the next three years: (i) COVID-19 Response and Recovery, (ii) Sustainable Oceans based on the Rule of Law, (iii) Climate Change and Disaster Resilience, (iv) Strengthening Foundation for Sustainable and Resilient Economic Development, and (v) People-to-People Exchanges and Human Resource Development. They also announced commitments such as people-to-people exchanges and human resource development for over 5,500 people. Moreover, the concrete initiatives that Japan would work on together with the PICs were compiled as the Joint Action Plan, an annexed document of the PALM9 Leaders Declaration. The PICs recognized the significant role that PALM has played so far and expressed their appreciation for the accomplishment of Japan’s commitment to the PALM8 and the new commitments regarding the five priority areas.



Then Prime Minister Suga attending PALM9 (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)



The Pacific Climate Change Centre in Samoa, a hub for human resources development for climate change measures (Photo: JICA)

Over the next three years, Japan will provide assistance according to the needs of each country, with a focus on the five priority areas. For example, with regard to (i) COVID-19 Response and Recovery, Japan will continue to support distributing, managing, and administering inoculation of COVID-19 vaccinations in cooperation with relevant countries and institutions*2 to improve fragile medical systems with few doctors and hospital beds, as well as to provide various support such as developing medical facilities, providing quality medical equipment, and building capacity for health and medical workers. Japan provides COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX Facility while coordinating with other donor countries. In the area of (iii) Climate Change and Disaster Resilience, the PICs are prone to suffering natural disasters such as cyclones and are susceptible to the impact of climate change. Therefore, Japan will continue to provide training at the Pacific Climate Change Centre established as a hub for the development of human resources associated with climate change in 2019 in Samoa with Japanese assistance. Japan will also work on developing disaster-resilient infrastructure, providing assorted equipment for disaster risk reduction, and other initiatives. Also, regarding (v) People-to-People Exchanges and Human Resource Development, Japan will carry out support for human resource development, including technical cooperation and training programs, which are one of Japan’s strengths, such as accepting young government officials from the PICs who will be potential leaders in the future as interns at Japanese government institutions.

As a good partner of the PICs, Japan will support their self-reliant and sustainable development through such assistance.

*1 Participating countries and regions were Japan, 14 island countries (Tuvalu, Cook, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu), Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, and French Polynesia.

*2 Australia, New Zealand, the United States, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Health Organization (WHO), the COVAX Facility, etc.

4 Latin America and the Caribbean

Latin America and the Caribbean is an enormous market and a region of strategic importance in terms of trade. With democracy taking root in the region, it is also a supplier of mineral, energy, and food resources, and has been steadily increasing its presence in the international community. On the other hand, it is also characterized by wide disparities in wealth with a large number of people still suffering from poverty. Furthermore, this region has a traditionally strong personal and historical bond with Japan due to the Nikkei community (community of Japanese immigrants and their descendants), numbering more than two million. Japan has thus maintained stable and friendly relations with this region for a long period.



Then Foreign Minister Motegi exchanging notes with Foreign Minister Brolo on grant aid for reconstruction after a hurricane disaster in Guatemala (July 2021)

Japan's Efforts

Through two rounds of trips in 2021 (January and July), then Foreign Minister Motegi visited a total of eight Latin American and the Caribbean countries, the largest number among all previous foreign ministers, and announced that Japan would continue cooperation in areas such as COVID-19 countermeasures and disaster risk reduction. In addition, at the Foreign Ministers' meetings with the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), he stated that, besides the aforementioned areas, Japan would promote cooperation in the field of environment and climate change, and particularly with SICA in supporting migrants in Central American countries. Following the inauguration of Prime Minister Kishida as well, Japan has worked to further strengthen its relationship with the Latin America and the Caribbean region. In November, the Vice President and Foreign Minister of Colombia and the Foreign Minister of Paraguay visited Japan and made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Kishida and held a foreign ministers' meeting, respectively. Also the Japan-Brazil Foreign Ministers' telephone talk and Japan-Argentina Foreign Ministers' video conference were held in December.

■ Efforts toward Disaster Risk Reduction and Environmental Issues

While the Latin American and the Caribbean region is blessed with abundant nature, the region is prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, and volcanic eruptions. Therefore, it is of great importance that Japan supports this region with its knowledge and experience in the field of disaster risk reduction.

Japan has provided emergency relief goods and \$3.25 million in Emergency Grant Aid to deliver humanitarian assistance including food, water and sanitation measures to Haiti, which was devastated by the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in 2021. In 2021, Japan also provided equipment for reconstruction to Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, which suffered damage from hurricanes. In addition, for Saint Vincent, which was affected by a volcanic eruption, Japan provided emergency relief goods as well as \$1.58 million in Emergency Grant Aid for shelter renovation and food. Furthermore, Japan has provided assistance that utilizes Japan's expertise in the disaster risk reduction field to the Caribbean countries and the countries bordering the Pacific Ocean including Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru, where earthquakes frequently strike.

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 (see also "Project Introduction Column" on page 80). Moreover, Japan has been assisting the Caribbean countries from perspectives other than those based on per capita income, to overcome the unique vulnerabilities of small island developing states against natural disasters and climate change. In addition to developing disaster-resilient bridges and emergency communications systems and supplying equipment that contributes to strengthening the capacity to cope with disasters, Japan also dispatches experts who are specialized in flood control and soil erosion control.

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, conservation of the Amazon rainforest using remote sensing, and construction of waste disposal facilities. In the area of promoting energy conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, Japan provides support for introducing solar power generation in many countries. In 2021, Japan provided ODA loans to the Dominican Republic and Paraguay to increase energy efficiency (see also "Stories from the Field" on page 109).

■ Economic and Social Infrastructure Development

In order to promote economic and social infrastructure development of the Latin American and the Caribbean region, Japan actively engages in developing water supply



Distributing school meals through Japan's support in hurricane-affected areas in Nicaragua (Photo: WFP)

and sewerage infrastructure in metropolitan regions and the countryside. In addition, Japan has worked on spreading its terrestrial digital broadcasting system (ISDB-T format) through public-private collaboration. As of December 2021, 14 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Japanese system. For these countries, Japan provides technical transfer and carries out human resources development to achieve smooth introduction of the system.

■ Initiatives in the Areas of Health and Medical Care, and Education

Japan also provides various kinds of cooperation for Latin American and the Caribbean countries in the fields of health and medical care. In this region, due to the underdeveloped medical system, non-communicable diseases, infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, and tropical diseases are still serious public health concerns. Furthermore, the spread of COVID-19 urges the establishment of a system capable of rapid and accurate diagnosis and treatment (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 60 for the efforts toward achieving UHC in Ecuador).

In 2021, Japan provided grant aid in response to COVID-19, which includes the development of cold chain systems ¹⁸ in Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica,

Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Venezuela. Japan also extended loans to the Dominican Republic and Honduras to support their response to COVID-19, and provided approximately 500,000 doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan to Nicaragua. Furthermore, in addition to such bilateral cooperation, Japan has provided assistance for capacity building and the supply of goods through the Japanese Trust Funds at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Japan has also continued efforts for Nikkei communities in various countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as providing support for the welfare facilities of the Nikkei communities, accepting trainees, and dispatching Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs).

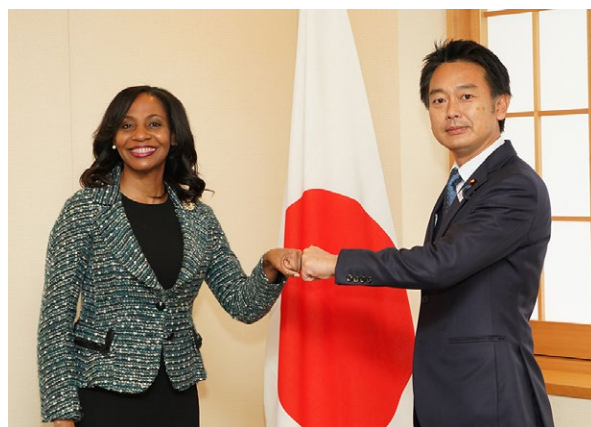
Assistance in the sector of education is extremely important for Latin American and the Caribbean countries, where poverty still persists and education budgets are inadequate. Japan implemented technical cooperation for mathematics and arithmetic education in 2021.

■ South-South Cooperation and Cooperation with Regional Organizations

Brazil, Mexico, Chile, and Argentina have achieved results in South-South cooperation*, and Japan has signed partnership programs with these countries. Based on such partnerships, Japan collaborated with Argentina in 2021, for example, to provide assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Latin America, as well as in Africa. In Chile, Japan conducts human resources development programs through triangular cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction and has succeeded in training 5,169 people, exceeding the initial target of 4,000 (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 107). In Brazil, as a result of many years of cooperation from Japan, the Japanese-style community police system has become widespread. Utilizing this experience and based on the framework of triangular cooperation, Brazilian experts



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Odawara receiving a courtesy call from Mr. Santiago Pardo, Ambassador of Colombia to Japan (November 2021)



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Uesugi receiving a courtesy call from Ms. Shorna-Kay M. Richards, Ambassador of Jamaica to Japan (December 2021)

¹⁸ See 2 on page 2.

are currently dispatched to Central American countries to pass on knowhow in the field of community policing.

Furthermore, Japan cooperates with regional organizations such as the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to provide more effective and efficient support and formulate regional projects related to common development issues in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

■ Assistance for Central American Migrants and Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants

Central America faces the problem of migrants who aim to immigrate to the United States and Mexico to flee from poverty and insecurity in their country. Japan provides support in the areas of poverty, security, and disasters, which are the root causes of their migration. Moreover, in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and World Food Programme (WFP), Japan provides assistance to Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras for the promotion of voluntary repatriation of migrants, prevention of outflow of migrants, and social reintegration of returnees.

Moreover, due to the deterioration of the economic and social conditions in Venezuela, approximately 6 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants have flowed mainly to neighboring countries as of December 2021. This has caused the deterioration in the living conditions of the host community residents and the instability of the region, and

the lack of adequate response has been a challenge. With regard to Colombia and Peru, which have been receiving displaced Venezuelan people, Japan has provided social integration support such as protection for vulnerable people and vocational training, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and IOM. In addition, due to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Venezuela, Japan also cooperates through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support routine immunizations for children and expectant and nursing mothers in the country.



Checking the conditions of flowing water in the water supply system completed with Japan's support in the Dominican Republic



Glossary

South-South cooperation (Triangular cooperation)

South-South cooperation refers to cooperation provided by relatively advanced developing countries to other developing countries, utilizing their own development experiences, human resources, skills, funds, and knowledge. In many cases, the cooperation, primarily technical cooperation, is conducted in countries that have similar natural environments, linguistic, cultural, and economic circumstances, and are facing similar development processes. When supported by donors or international organizations, such South-South cooperation between developing countries is referred to as "triangular cooperation."

Chile

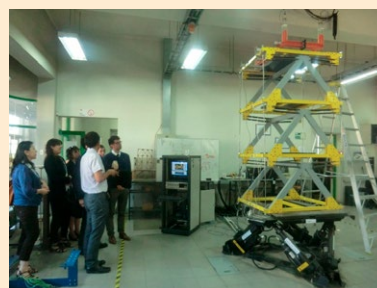
Disaster Risk Reduction Training Program for Latin America and the Caribbean (KIZUNA Project)

Technical Cooperation Project (March 2015 – March 2020)



Chile is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire,^{*1} just like Japan, and earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and other natural disasters often occur. In 1960, after the Great Chilean Earthquake, the largest earthquake ever on record, tsunamis hit all of the areas around the Pacific Rim, and there was significant damage in Japan as well. Given these circumstances, since the 1960s, Japan has provided cooperation to the Government of Chile in disaster risk reduction (DRR), through the improvement of disaster observation technologies, revision of seismic standards, human resources and organizations development for DRR, and other efforts.

Among them, the KIZUNA project is a triangular cooperation^{*2} project that intends to spread the techniques and knowledge in the field of DRR that Japan and Chile have cultivated in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to build an international network through sharing the techniques and experience from different countries. Experts were dispatched from Japan and they collaborated with the Government of Chile, universities, local communities, and others to implement training and seminars for researchers and officials



Trainees on a visit to an earthquake-resistant engineering laboratory (Photo: JICA)

in Latin America and the Caribbean. As a result, 5,169 experts and officials were trained across the region, greatly exceeding the initial target of 2,000, and they have become human resources responsible for DRR in their own country, resulting in a significant contribution to networking within the region.

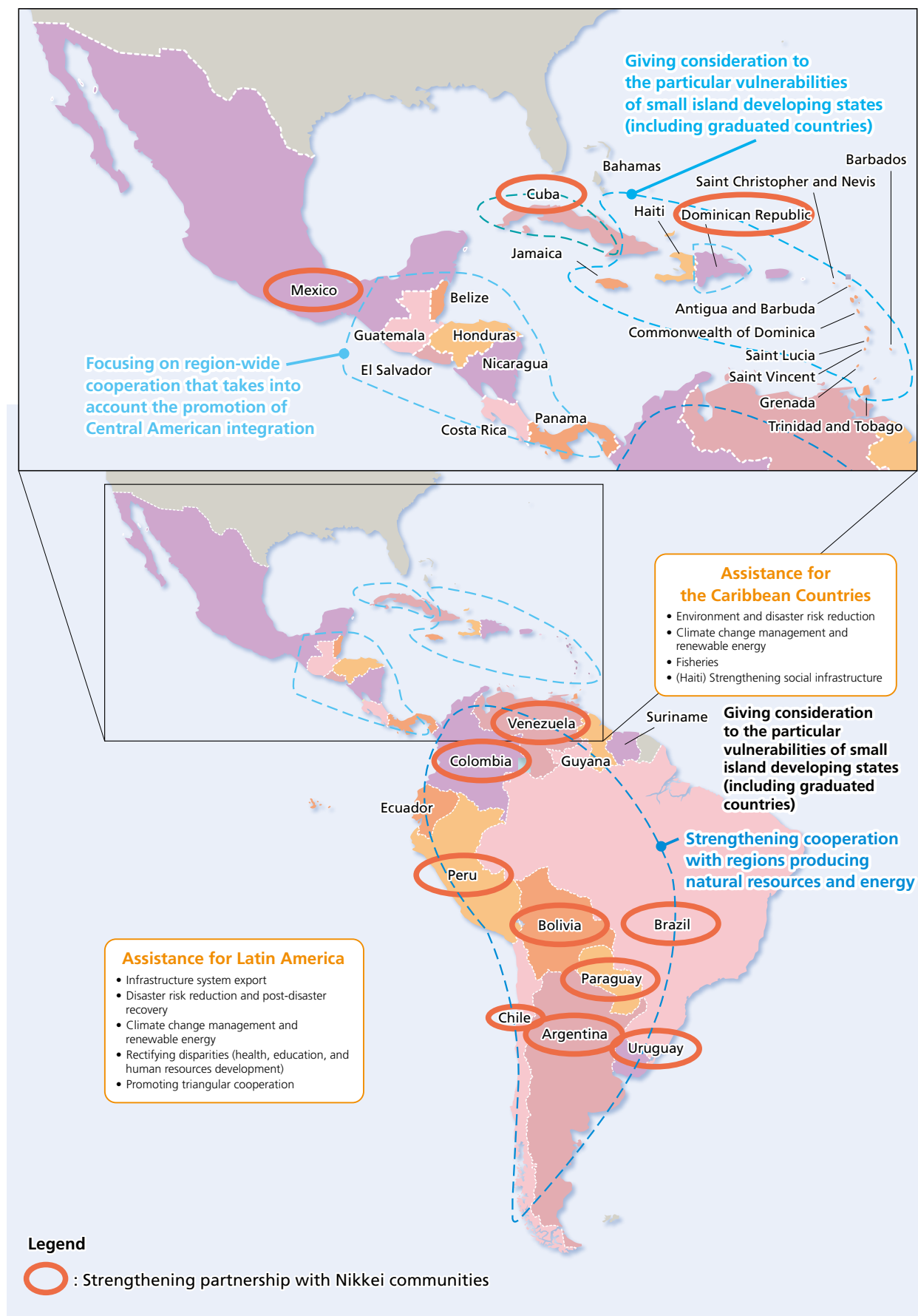
The KIZUNA project is highly valued by the Government of Chile, and it is a model case where Japan's cooperation not only greatly contributed to the strengthening of Chile's DRR systems but also developed into cooperation for Latin America and the Caribbean. A successor project was also commenced from 2021, and going forward, it is expected to lead to the further enhancement of DRR measures throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.



First aid and rescue training implemented with the cooperation of firefighters from Japan (Photo: JICA)

^{*1} A volcanic belt that circles the rim of the Pacific Ocean, and is the collective name of various volcanic archipelagos, including the Japanese archipelago, and volcanic groups.

^{*2} See the glossary on page 106.



Stories from the Field

Making Use of Japanese Techniques and Expertise to Improve the Environment in Bolivia!

—The success of ECO-TOMODACHI created by ex-JICA trainees—



In Bolivia, tourism areas such as the Uyuni Salt Flats located at an altitude of over 3,000 meters above sea level are littered with trash brought in by tourists and lack available toilets. Improving the environment and sanitary conditions in these areas has become an urgent issue. The JICA Bolivia Office cooperates to improve these environments with the aim of revitalizing tourism, which has slumped in the wake of the global spread of COVID-19. In specific terms, JICA works with the Departmental Autonomous Government of La Paz to support the conservation of tourism resources as well as the establishment of a foundation for sustainable development, including training in sanitary management for tourism operators.



ECO-TOMODACHI's logo (Photo: JICA)

As part of this support, six Bolivians who had received JICA training in Japan formed a group called "ECO-TOMODACHI (Tomodachi means friend in Japanese)" in 2017. ECO-TOMODACHI carries out a variety of activities such as waste management, improvement of sanitary environments, and promotion of environmental education across Bolivia in cooperation with local public entities, private companies, NPOs and others. It promotes sustainable tourism development as well.

Having studied waste management and the composting*1 of organic waste in JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP), they are applying the techniques and expertise acquired in Japan to Bolivia and working on their practical implementation and dissemination in a way suitable for the local environment, with JICA's support for their activities. ECO-TOMODACHI is not limited to JICA returnees, therefore the network has expanded considerably and Japanese technology for waste management and improvement of sanitary conditions has been utilized throughout Bolivia.

Mr. Edwin Encinas, a founding member of ECO-TOMODACHI who proactively promotes activities to spread waste management and composting, said as follows: "Legislation on waste management in Bolivia's local public entities was enacted only in 2015, and initially there was a lack of awareness in the country, and we had difficulties in gaining the cooperation of residents. Nevertheless, with the support of JICA, and through steady progress, more local public entities and residents are getting involved in waste management and reduction." He continued, "Japanese techniques for waste management and composting require some time and effort, however the approach itself is simple and is characterized by a high level of adaptability to natural environments. It is very pleasing and enjoyable to let people know that they can turn waste into resources through cyclical composting and use it to grow vegetables."

Ms. WATANABE Mariko, a JICA Bolivia Office staff, also said about their future activities, "While rolling out promotion, technical



Mr. Encinas and a compost consultant (ex-Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer) carrying out training on composting for residents involved in the tourism industry in Uyuni City (Photo: JICA)

cooperation, and tourism strategy proposals for environmental improvements, we try to establish an appropriate support framework through exchanges of views with local residents. As one of our environmental education initiatives, we have also worked with Japanese and Nikkei companies, local public entities, and ECO-TOMODACHI to develop a mobile phone app to learn composting methods. We hope to continue cooperation schemes with Japanese and Nikkei companies while listening to the voices of people in various locations."

Furthermore, the Bolivian Mountain Guides Association and the Socorro Andino Boliviano rescue team work in cooperation with ECO-TOMODACHI and JICA to improve waste disposal and toilet conditions on tourist routes, in response to the increased numbers of mountain-climbers from within and outside Bolivia. Through environmental education to mountaineering guides and residents at the foot of mountains, the Association and the rescue team aim to recycle human waste by composting it to use it for agricultural purposes. There is also a high awareness among the residents of the highland areas that are becoming tourist destinations. "People are proactively cooperating with activities, towards post-COVID-19 tourism development," said Daniel Zaconeta, director of Academia Aventura, a tourism school, expressing his hopes for the program. As a member of ECO-TOMODACHI, Mr. Zaconeta works with JICA to improve the environment in tourism areas.

Mr. Patrick Prieto, Chair of the Bolivian JICA alumni association and also of the JICA alumni association in Latin America and the Caribbean, said about the future outlook as follows: "The number of the JICA returnees in Bolivia is around 6,000. They are sharing their knowledge and experiences acquired in Japan with people around the country. Following the efforts to improve waste management and sanitary conditions together with local public entities, we will utilize our experience in realizing environmental improvements in the tourist destinations as well. We also hope to share our experiences of ECO-TOMODACHI in Bolivia with other parts of Latin America and the Caribbean, which has around 70,000 JICA returnees, and carry out activities similar to ECO-TOMODACHI in other countries." The continued success of ECO-TOMODACHI, which aims to utilize Japanese technologies to create a recycling-based society together with JICA is highly expected.



Sharing composting techniques among ECO-TOMODACHI members specialized in waste disposal (Photo: JICA)

*1 Composting means to produce useful compost by using the effects of microorganisms to ferment and break down organic matter such as food waste, fallen leaves, and sewage sludge.

5 Europe

Many countries in Central and Eastern Europe and of the former Soviet Union that were once under communist regimes currently pursue economic development based on market economies, however they face various issues.

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides assistance for efforts such as the reconstruction of economic infrastructure and addressing environmental issues, with the aim to further strengthen relations with these countries which share fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, market economy, and the rule of law, as well as to contribute to the further stability and development of Europe as a whole.

The reform of the Western Balkan countries ¹⁹ once slowed due to the conflicts in the 1990s. However, as a result of reconstruction assistance from various donor countries and international organizations, as well as reform efforts by the countries themselves, they have graduated from the reconstruction assistance phase and are currently in need of assistance for sustainable economic development. Japan, in support of a unified Europe, provides development cooperation in collaboration with the European Union (EU) and others. Under the “Western Balkans Cooperation Initiative” ²⁰ (2018), Japan supports necessary socio-economic reform aimed at these countries joining the EU (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 111 for efforts to improve financial services in Albania).

In order to encourage independent and sustainable economic growth in Ukraine, in 2021, Japan provided support in a wide range of areas such as developing the economic and investment environment, improving urban environments, and basic social services such as health and education. As for Eastern Ukraine, where there has been an unstable situation due to sporadic clashes



A Japanese expert piloting a drone to take aerial photographs for the “Project on Capacity Building for Ecosystem Based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) through Sustainable Forest Management in North Macedonia” technical cooperation in North Macedonia (Photo: JICA)

between the government side and pro-Russia armed groups since 2014, Japan has provided assistance for displaced persons such as water supply and sanitation improvement, provision of shelters and repairing housing, and indirect support for reconciliation. Furthermore, through technical cooperation, Japan also provides budgetary and financial support training for capacity development of government bodies, operational support for impartial and fair public broadcasting to prevent fraud and corruption, and capacity development for waste management (see page 12 for the activities of Japanese personnel working in international organizations in Ukraine).

In 2021, Japan provided grant aid totaling ¥300 million to Albania, Kosovo, and Montenegro for the provision of health and medical equipment as support for the response to COVID-19.

In light of disparities in economic development in Europe, Japan will gradually reduce assistance for EU member countries, regarding them as ODA graduate countries, and encourages those countries to be donors in order to provide development cooperation more actively for developing countries in the region.

¹⁹ The six countries including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

²⁰ An initiative aimed at encouraging socio-economic reforms of the Western Balkan countries toward EU accession and promoting reconciliation and cooperation amongst the ethnic groups.

Albania

Smallholder Families' Financial Inclusion Project in Albania

Technical Cooperation Project (October 2017 – June 2022)



Although Albania is a candidate country for EU membership, it remains one of the lowest income countries in Europe. The majority of the poor population is working in agriculture, which is an important industry that accounts for approximately 20% of the country's GDP. However, many family run small farmers are scattered throughout rural areas, thus there is a higher cost for financial institutions to provide services to them. As a result, the current rate of bank account ownership is less than 40%, with only 10% of the population receiving loans among small farmers in the rural area. Therefore, it has become an issue to improve the access to financial services of the poor population and establish their economic and livelihood foundation.

The project provides a variety of assistance with its counterpart FED invest, Albania's Savings and Credit Association, which provides financial services in rural areas. Through the project, the availability of bank accounts for online use has been promoted and training

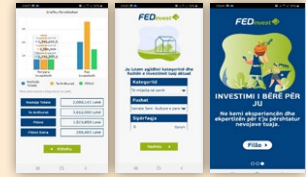


A woman running an agricultural inputs store
(Photo: JICA)

on financial literacy has been implemented. Convenience improved greatly, because now procedures can be completed online without having to go to the bank several times in person, and utility charges can also be paid by automatic transfer.

Furthermore, in response to farmers' growing need for information on agricultural technologies, etc., the project established a support center and developed a mechanism that enabled farmers to, for example, directly ask questions to experts online and track the market prices of agricultural products. Moreover, a questionnaire survey, conducted under this project, revealed that an increasing number of farmers face difficulty managing their farms due to soaring price of the agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilizer caused by factors such as the restriction of movement and the stagnation of goods distribution as part of COVID-19 countermeasures. Therefore, the project provided support of 40,000 Albanian lek (approximately ¥40,000) per farmer for the purchase of agricultural inputs, and many people expressed gratitude. And subsequently, the implementation of the second round was also decided and support was delivered to farmers in a total of 1,250 households.

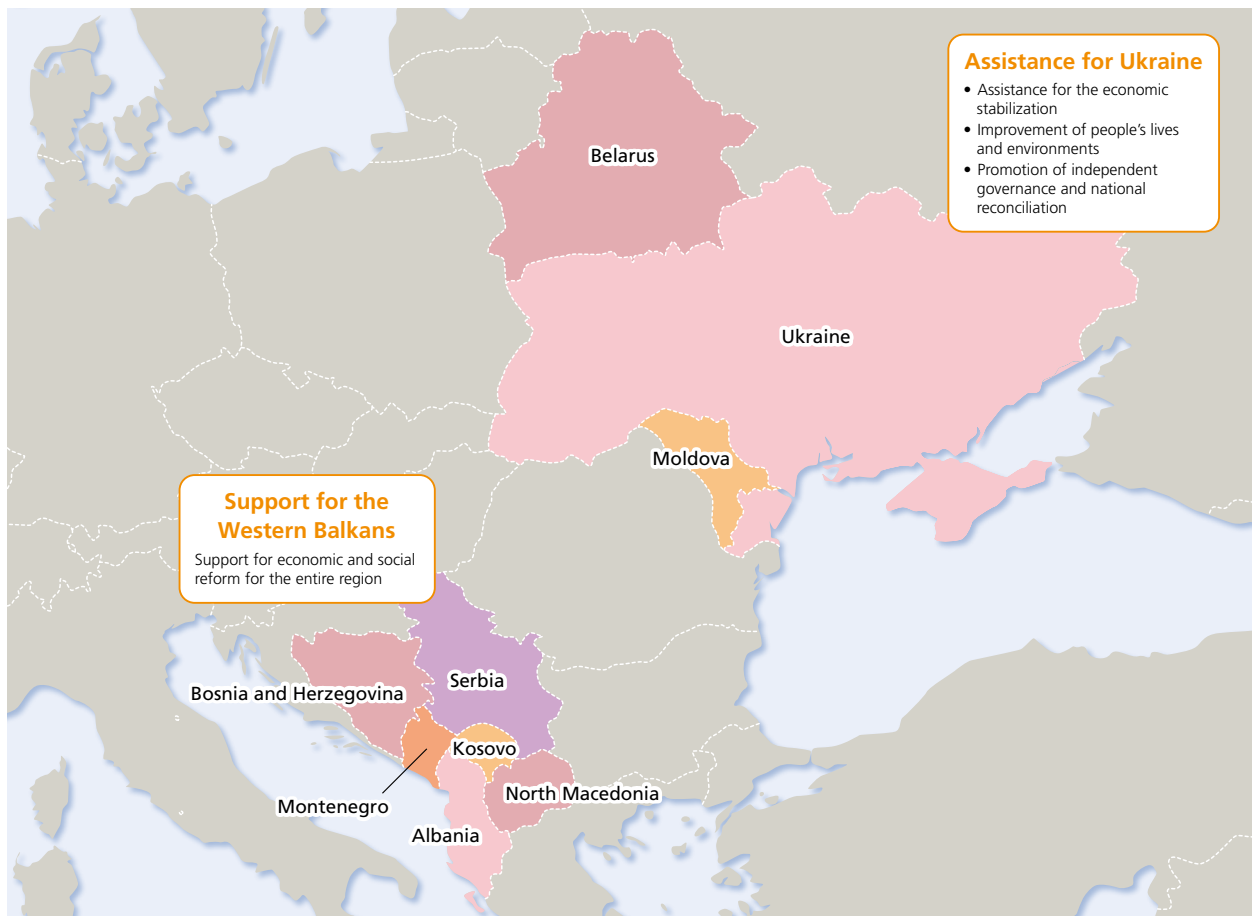
Support will continue to be provided towards the realization of financial services under which "no one will be left behind," including in rural and other remote areas while responding precisely to the needs of the farmers.



An online system enabling people to learn the market prices of agricultural technologies and agricultural products
(Photo: JICA)

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Europe



6 Central Asia and Caucasus

The Central Asia and Caucasus region is located in a geopolitically important place linking East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and Russia. Its development and stability holds a great significance for those of the Eurasian region as a whole. In addition, this region is strategically important since it holds an abundance of natural resources such as oil, natural gas, and uranium.

Central Asia and Caucasus countries have been working toward transitioning to market economy systems and economic development since their independence in 1991. However, they still face issues such as aging economic infrastructure established during the former Soviet Union era, human resources development for the transition to a market economy, and the building of social systems including health and medical care.

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides assistance for the Central Asia and Caucasus countries in diverse fields such as improvement of infrastructure, human resources development, and the rebuilding of basic social services including health and medical care, in order to support these countries' efforts toward resolving the aforementioned issues.

In particular, in regard to Japan's relationship with the Central Asian countries, Japan launched the "Central Asia plus Japan" dialogue in 2004 and promotes cooperation within the region aimed at contributing to the peace and stability of Central Asia, as a partner for maintaining and strengthening the free and open international order. As for Japan's relationship with the Caucasus countries, based on the "Caucasus Initiative" announced in 2018, Japan's basic policy consists of two pillars, namely (i) assistance for human resources development of architects for state building (human resources development) and (ii) assistance for paving the way to "Appealing Caucasus" (infrastructure development and business environment improvement).

Major Japanese support related to infrastructure development in 2021 included a \$195 million budgetary support ODA loan to Uzbekistan to support its efforts to promote reform of the power sector, and grant aid of

approximately ¥1 billion to the Kyrgyz Republic to help protect from ground blizzards on the major highway linking the capital city of Bishkek and the second largest city, Osh.

Japan has accepted approximately 11,600 trainees from Central Asia and Caucasus countries and dispatched approximately 3,200 experts to those countries by 2020 as part of its support for human resources development. Moreover, Japan provides support in the development of human resources necessary for nation-building efforts, including through the implementation of the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship, which is a study-in-Japan program for young government officials, the Development Studies Program, and the development of human resources for business at the Japan Center for Human Resources Development (see also the "Project Introduction Column" on page 34 for human resources development for State Tax Service staff in the Kyrgyz Republic).

In regard to basic social services, as part of its assistance for COVID-19 response, Japan provided grant aid totaling approximately ¥3.2 billion through December 2021 to eight Central Asia and Caucasus countries for the provision of health and medical equipment. Japan has also provided a ¥15 billion COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan to Uzbekistan.

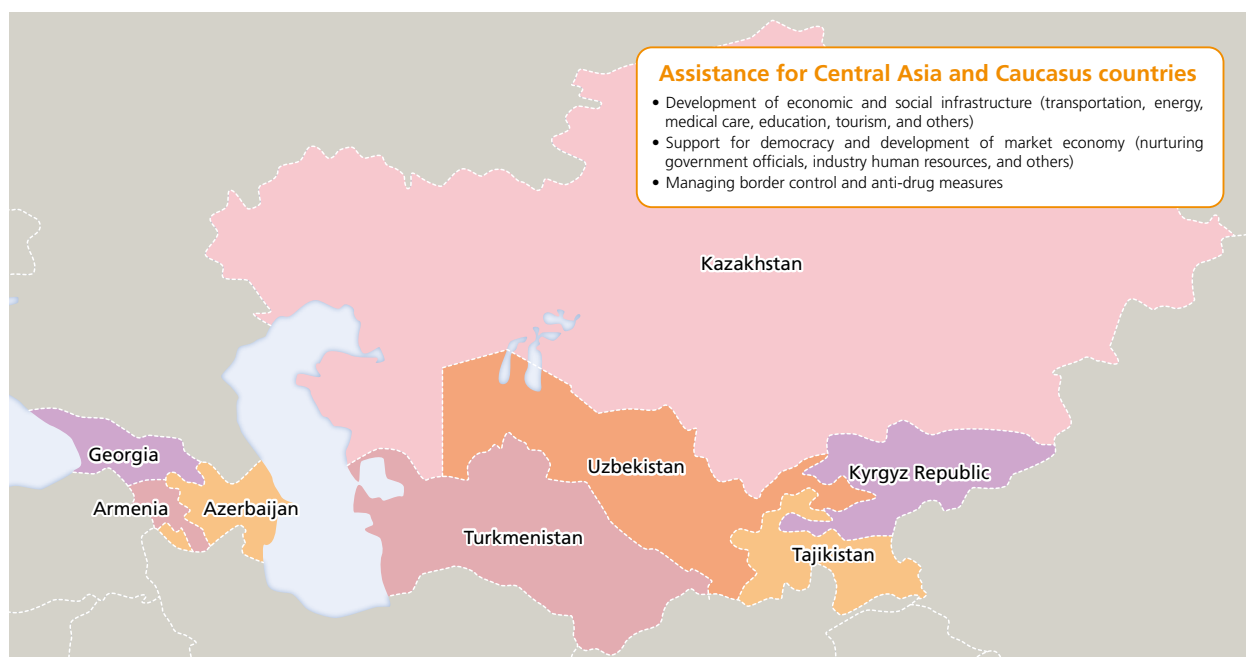
In addition, Japan provides support for managing border control and anti-drug measures in light of the situation in neighboring Afghanistan.



Then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakanishi visits Kazakhstan and meets with First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Nuryshev (August 2021)

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Central Asia and Caucasus



7 Middle East and North Africa

Japan depends on the Middle East and North Africa region for approximately 90% of its crude oil imports, and the region, as a key point for global distribution, is critically important from the perspective of Japan's economy and energy security. It is also a region with high potential and expectations for future growth due to its high rate of population increase, resulting in the expansion of the youth population.

At the same time, the region faces wide-ranging issues such as the Middle East Peace, political turmoil since "the Arab Spring," and heightened tensions surrounding Iran. In particular, conflict in Syria has continued and has brought about a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons, seriously affecting the stability of the neighboring countries and the entire region. In addition, after the Taliban's takeover in Afghanistan in August 2021, humanitarian needs have increased in the country as well as in neighboring countries. Furthermore, the risk of proliferation of violent extremism such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) still remains in various areas.

Japan's Efforts

Peace and stability in this region are extremely important for the stability and prosperity of the international community as a whole, including Japan. Thus, there is a need to provide support through such means as economic assistance and human resources development to achieve sustainable peace and stability in the region.

Support in Response to COVID-19

In 2021, Japan provided various assistance in response to COVID-19. In July 2021, Japan provided approximately 2.91 million vaccine doses manufactured in Japan to Iran through the COVAX Facility. In December, Japan also provided vaccines to Egypt and Syria, and decided to provide additional doses to Iran. In addition, in November 2021, Japan extended an ODA loan of



Prime Minister Kishida attending the G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Meeting on Afghanistan (Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

¥11 billion to support Jordan as it works on COVID-19 countermeasures, through the framework of the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan.

Support for Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, 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 at the fifth Conference on "Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region" (Brussels V Conference) held in March 2021, and swiftly carried out the assistance totaling approximately \$200 million. This assistance includes humanitarian aid and support for social stabilization for Syria and its surrounding countries.

In August 2021, during then Foreign Minister Motegi's visit to Turkey, an Exchange of Notes was signed regarding the provision of an ODA loan of up to ¥45 billion for the purpose of improving the social infrastructure affected by the influx and prolonged stay of Syrian refugees to Turkey, the world's largest host country for Syrian refugees.

As for Iraq, Japan is providing assistance through ODA loans and other means in the oil and gas sector, which are the foundation of its economy, and in the electricity, water, and sewage sectors, which are basic services, as well as support for human resources development through training and dispatching experts. In addition, Japan is making efforts to support the strengthening of governance in order for Iraq to develop as a stable and independent democratic state (see also Part II, 2-1 "(3) Assistance for Democratization").

Since the outbreak of the Syrian crisis in 2011, Japan's assistance to Syria, Iraq, and the neighboring countries has reached over approximately \$3.2 billion. In these ways, Japan provides timely and effective assistance to the region in response to the ever-changing humanitarian landscape (see also Part II, 2-2 (1) Support for Peacebuilding and Refugees/Displaced Persons).

Japan also provides support for human resources development and self-reliance of refugees. Japan accepted 108 Syrian students from FY2017 to 2021 to foster human resources who will contribute to Syria's recovery in the future.

Assistance to Yemen

Yemen is facing the "world's worst humanitarian crisis" with approximately 80% of its population in need of some form of humanitarian aid due to the prolonged conflict. In this context, Japan has provided a total of over approximately \$300 million in humanitarian aid to the country as a major donor country, through international organizations over seven years from 2015 to 2021. In 2021, in addition to humanitarian aid through international organizations, Japan also conducted education and training programs in Japan, including accepting Yemeni students through Japanese

Government Scholarships and conducting training for Yemeni experts through JICA, in order to foster human resources to back up Yemen's self-reliant stabilization.

■ Assistance to Afghanistan

As humanitarian needs have increased in Afghanistan and neighboring countries since the fall of Kabul to the Taliban in August 2021, Japan has been actively participating in international meetings, including the expanded ministerial meeting on Afghanistan co-hosted by the United States and Germany (September 2021, attended by then Foreign Minister Motegi), the High-level Ministerial Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan held by the United Nations (September 2021, attended by then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Washio), and the G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Meeting on Afghanistan held by Italy (October 2021, attended by Prime Minister Kishida). During these meetings, Japan stated its policy for humanitarian aid and emphasized the importance of ensuring the safety of aid workers and humanitarian access.

Based on the policy announced at the above meetings, in October 2021, Japan decided to extend Emergency Grant Aid of \$65 million through international organizations in such areas as shelter, health, water and sanitation, food, agriculture, and education. As of December 2021, the projects are being implemented. Including this assistance, Japan provided a total of approximately \$200 million (approximately ¥22 billion) to Afghanistan during 2021. In addition, in December of the same year, Japan decided to contribute additional assistance totaling approximately \$109 million from the FY2021 supplementary budget through international organizations.

Since 2001, Japan has hosted two ministerial-level support meetings (2002 and 2012) and has provided development assistance in various fields such as

humanitarian aid, health, education, agriculture and rural development, and women's empowerment, in order to achieve Afghanistan's sustainable and self-reliant development. With regard to future assistance to Afghanistan, Japan will promptly implement the aforementioned humanitarian aid and respond appropriately after carefully assessing the needs of the country in close cooperation with the international community.

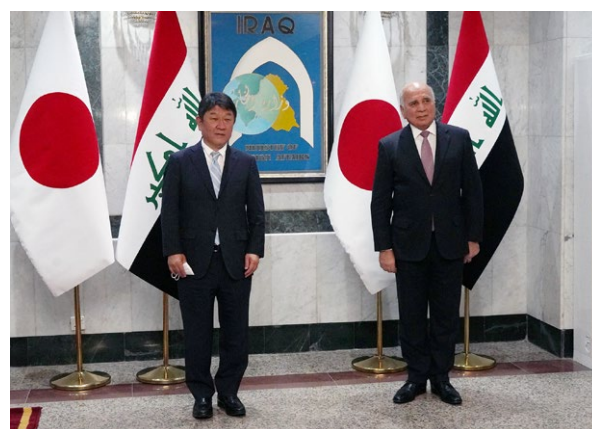
■ Middle East Peace (Assistance to Palestine)

Japan has positioned its assistance to Palestine as one of the important pillars of its measures to contribute to Middle East peace and has provided more than \$2.1 billion in assistance since the 1993 Oslo Accords. Specifically, Japan provided 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. In May 2021, there were clashes between Palestinian militants and Israel, which caused extensive damage to the Gaza Strip. In response to the situation, the Government of Japan provided assistance on the scale of \$23 million through support in the fields of food, debris removal, water and sanitation, and health and medical care, as well as cold chain²¹ development for COVID-19 vaccines and food aid through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Japan is also engaged in a wide range of efforts, including to stabilize and improve the daily lives of Palestinians, strengthen the financial foundation, and enhance the quality of administration, aimed at preparing for the Palestinian nation-building in the future and for a self-sustained Palestinian economy. During then Foreign Minister Motegi's visit to Palestine in August 2021, he



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Honda issuing a video message at the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) Ministerial Meeting (November 2021)

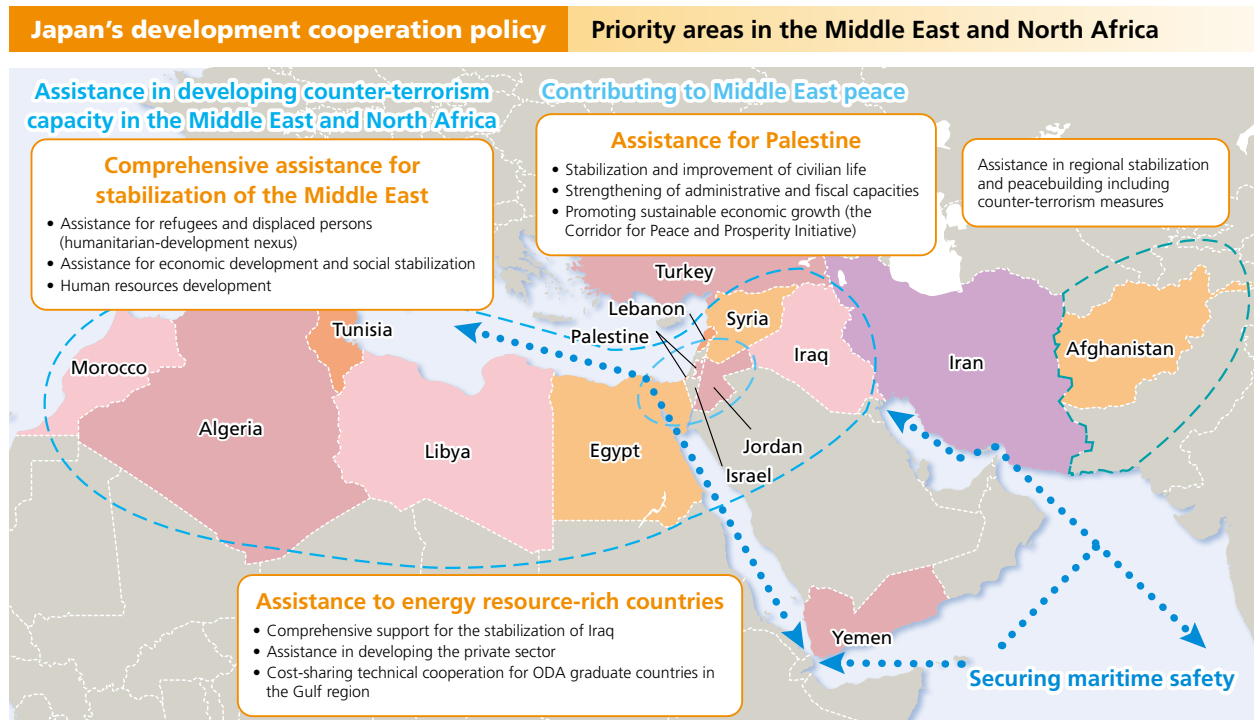


Then Foreign Minister Motegi in the meeting with Foreign Minister Hussein of Iraq during his visit to the Middle East (August 2021)

²¹ See 2 on page 2.

visited the Jericho Agro-Industrial Park (JAIP),²² the flagship project of the “Corridor for Peace and Prosperity” initiative, and attended the opening ceremony for the Palestine Business Prosperity Center built with support from Japan. Furthermore, in order to support the

financial situation of the Palestinian Authority, which has been weakened by the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and measures against it, Japan provided ¥1 billion in grant aid in November 2021.



²² 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 provides support for the development of the Jericho Agro Industrial Park (JAIP) as the flagship project of the initiative. In May 2018, then Prime Minister Abe visited the JAIP during his visit to Palestine.

8 Africa

Africa is a continent with immense potential owing to its rich natural resources and large population of approximately 1.3 billion. However, it also faces various challenges including poverty, fragile health systems, and emerging terrorism and violent extremism. In order to tackle these challenges, African countries work on sustainable development based on Agenda 2063,²³ Africa's own new development initiative. Japan has contributed to Africa's development over many years through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)* and other efforts.

Japan's Efforts

COVID-19 has seriously affected economies and societies in Africa. In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infections and address its economic and social impacts, Japan has provided various support to African countries, including the provision of health and medical equipment for the development of cold chains, etc.,²⁴ both bilaterally and through international organizations. In addition, Prime Minister Kishida stated in December 2021 that Japan would donate approximately 10 million doses of vaccines to Africa.

Looking ahead to TICAD8, which is scheduled to be held in 2022, Japan is actively engaged in various development issues in Africa that have been brought to light by the COVID-19 pandemic (see “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 62 and 135 for non-revenue water measures in Malawi and joint research on community-driven co-creation of forest resource management in Cameroon, as well as “Project Introduction Columns” on pages 133 and 67 for initiatives to increase the resilience of African agriculture utilizing ICT technology and to establish Child Labor Free Zones in Ghana).

Economy

In order to realize quality growth, Japan develops industrial human resources who will contribute to the promotion of businesses, including through the ABE Initiative 3.0,²⁵ and provides training opportunities to approximately 1,600 young Africans through JICA (see also page 10 for activities of ex-participants of the ABE Initiative). Japan also promotes quality infrastructure investment centered on the three priority areas²⁶ toward enhancing connectivity (see also Part II, 1 “(1) Development of Industrial Infrastructure and

Industries and Economic Policy” and “(4) Vocational Training, Industrial Human Resources Development, and Employment Creation” for specific initiatives by Japan. See “Stories from the Field” on page 120 for Japan's support for the Rwanda-Tanzania road improvement project and facilitation of border procedures).



Internally displaced women receiving vocational training in northeastern Nigeria (Photo: UNHCR)

Society

In order to further promote measures toward the expansion of UHC, which was announced at TICAD7, Japan is engaged in the improvement of access to basic healthcare and hygiene environments for three million people and the promotion of the health insurance system. Currently, Japan contributes to the promotion of UHC including through the “Health Sector Policy Loan for Attainment of the UHC (Phase 2)” in Kenya and the “Project for Universal “Nutrition” and Health Coverage through Sustainable Systems for Nutrition Improvement (in Cooperation with WFP)” in Ghana (see also Part II, “3 Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and Human Security” for specific efforts by Japan, and “Project Introduction Columns” on pages 57 and 58 for hospital upgrading in Zambia and the Stop TB Partnership's efforts in 30 African countries).

Through TICAD, which has over a quarter of a century of history, Japan has been focusing on the promotion of health as one of the priority areas and supporting the health and medical systems in Africa. Such assistance Japan has provided so far is demonstrating its true value in the COVID-19 pandemic. (see also page 10 for the activities of a research center in Gabon supported by Japan during the pandemic). Japan will continue to play a leading role in strengthening international collaboration in the health sector in Africa based on its longstanding efforts in this area.

In addition, Japan is proceeding with efforts to provide quality education to three million children through

²³ Adopted at the Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union (AU) in 2015, the same year the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted.

²⁴ See 2 on page 2.

²⁵ See the glossary on page 39.

²⁶ Three areas spanning the East Africa Northern Corridor, the Nacala Corridor, and the West Africa Growth Ring.

the expansion of math and science education and improvement of learning environments.



A parent volunteer in Madagascar serving school lunches as part of the "School for All" project supported by Japan (Photo: JICA)

■ Peace and Stability

Under the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA)* advocated by Japan at TICAD7, Japan has provided support for Africa-led efforts for conflict resolution, as well as assistance for institution building to address the root causes of issues such as conflict and terrorism. As a part of this initiative, Japan has provided support of over \$110 million since 2008 to implement projects that have benefitted peacekeeping training centers in 15 African countries. Japan has also dispatched approximately 60 Japanese lecturers to strengthen the training capabilities of the facilities and provide training at the facilities.

In response to the large number of casualties and displaced persons caused by the military engagement in northern Ethiopia in 2020, Japan decided in February 2021 to extend \$6.6 million (approximately ¥726 million) in Emergency Grant Aid for internally displaced persons in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia. Japan provided humanitarian assistance in the medical field, provision of relief items such as food and hygiene products through WFP, IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Furthermore, in December, as Emergency Grant Aid of \$12.4 million (approximately ¥1.3392 billion), Japan decided to provide support, including food and other relief items, to internally displaced persons in the Afar, Amhara, and Tigray regions in Northern Ethiopia through the UNHCR, WFP, IOM, and United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).

In the Sahel region, Japan contributes to the peace and stability of the region under the banner of NAPSA by providing equipment for strengthening capacity for maintaining security, training for people engaging in institution building, vocational training and education opportunities for the youth, as well as support for human resources development for peacekeeping operations, placing its focus on the administrative vulnerabilities of Sahel countries. Japan also continues its assistance

for refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities in the region.

In Cabo Delgado Province of Mozambique, where the situation has been unstable for several years, the security situation has been improving since the summer of 2021 as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Rwandan security forces have been engaged in operations to eliminate terrorists. In August 2021, Japan signed the Exchange of Notes for grant aid for the provision of patrol vessels in order to strengthen the enforcement against drug trafficking and illegal fishing, which are challenges that the Government of Mozambique faces in the province. Also in 2021, Japan continued to provide food assistance through WFP and humanitarian assistance to displaced persons in vulnerable situations (see pages 12 and 13 for Japanese personnel of international organizations who work in Mozambique).

Since the independence of South Sudan in 2011, Japan has supported its nation-building. Since November 2011, the Ministry of Defense and the Self-Defense Forces have dispatched Staff officers and an engineering unit to the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) (Activities of the engineering unit ended at the end of May 2017).

Japan also supports South Sudan's own initiatives for the peace process including through the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a regional organization of East Africa. Along with the support for infrastructure development, human resources development, and food assistance, Japan has played a major role in the consolidation of peace and economic stabilization in South Sudan.

Moreover, Japan has supported the holding of the National Unity Day sports event, which is held annually by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of South Sudan, since it began in 2016 in order to promote the reconciliation, friendship, and unity of its citizens. Four athletes who had participated in the event joined a long-term pre-Olympics camp in Maebashi City with the aim of competing in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, and two of them qualified for the track and field events of the Games. The strong performance of these two athletes,



Athletes after returning to South Sudan from Japan

who defied adversity, gave courage and inspiration to the people of South Sudan and Japan. After returning

to South Sudan, the four athletes now serve as track and field coaches there and work to foster future athletes.



Glossary

Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)

An international summit-level conference on African development launched by Japan in 1993. Co-hosted with the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, and the African Union Commission (AUC), it is a forum for African development to realize the principles of African ownership and international partnership. TICAD8 is planned to be held in 2022.

New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA)

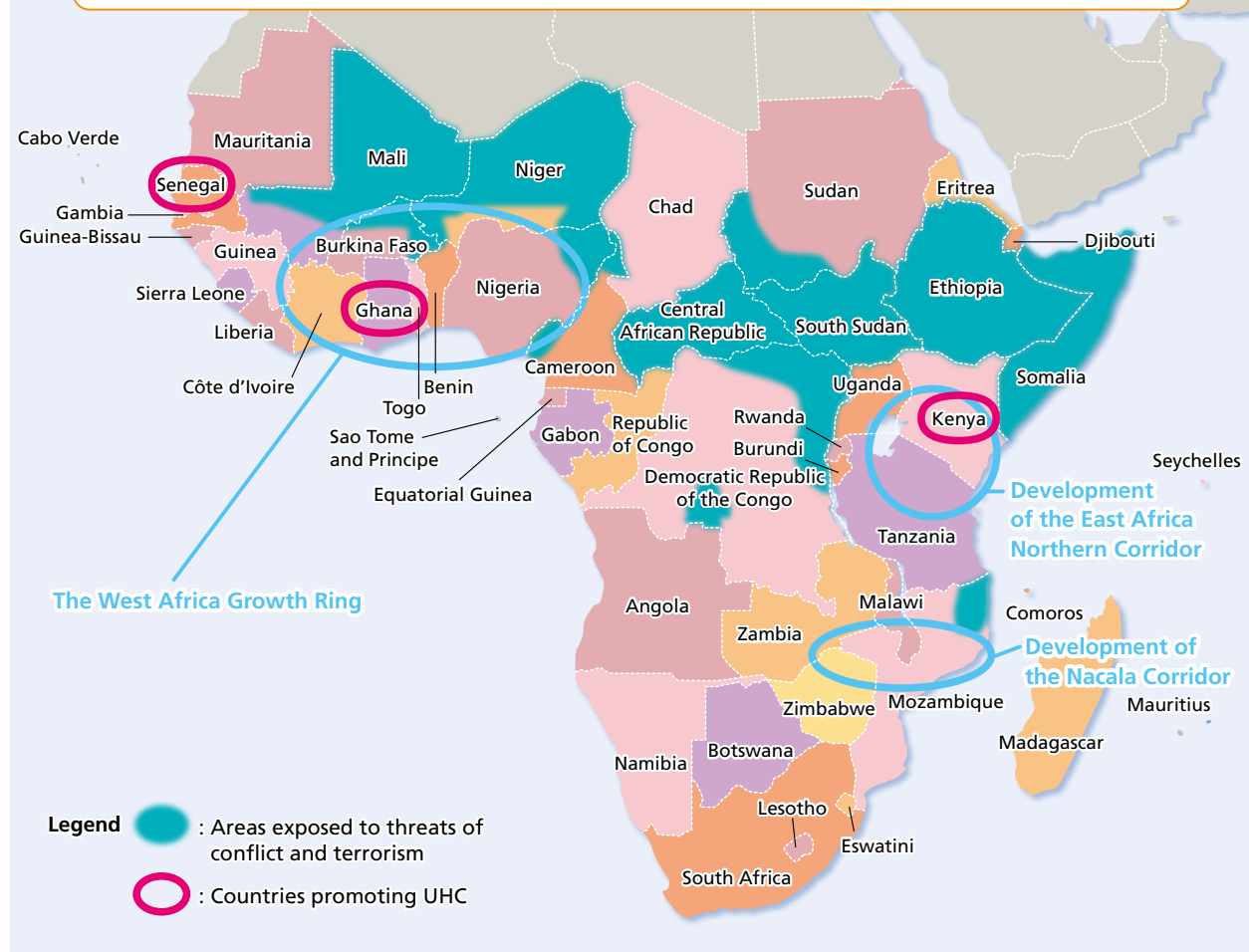
The new approach advocated by Japan at TICAD7 held in Yokohama in August 2019, under which Japan supports African-led conflict prevention, mediation, and intervention efforts by the African Union (AU) and regional economic communities (RECs); institution building and strengthening of governance; and prevention of youth radicalization and strengthening resilience of local community, based on the principles of respecting Africa's ownership and taking measures against root causes of conflict and terrorism, among other efforts.

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Africa (including Sub-Saharan Africa)

TICAD7: Japan's contributions to Africa (August 2019)

1. Economy: To achieve over \$20 billion private investment, Japan will contribute to the improvement of the business environment in Africa as well as bolster economic transformation in Africa through the promotion of Japanese companies' business expansion to Africa and innovation.
2. Society: Japan will contribute to building a resilient and sustainable society to realize human security and the SDGs, which are the foundation of improving people's livelihood and economic growth.
3. Peace and Stability: Japan will support Africa's forward-looking initiatives toward peace and stability which are the preconditions for economic growth and investment as well as improving people's livelihood, through the implementation of NAPSA, which supports African-led mediation and conflict resolution by the AU and others as well as institution building. Japan will also provide its own unique support, particularly persistent and long-term human resources development.



Stories from the Field



Strengthening Regional Connectivity and Promoting Logistics between Rwanda and its Neighboring Countries! —Contributing to economic development across East Africa through comprehensive assistance unique to Japan—



Rwanda has seen continuous economic growth since the end of the civil war in the first half of the 1990s. However, the deterioration of its road transportation infrastructure and the cost of cross-border customs clearance have become problems for the country. The transportation routes in eastern Rwanda are part of the main international transportation corridor*¹ of the East African region, and repairing the deteriorated bridges and roads and improving border control capacity will help to strengthen regional connectivity and promote economic development across East Africa.

In 2016, Japan recommenced loan aid to Rwanda for the first time in approximately 30 years with the inauguration of the Rusumo-Kayonza Road Improvement Project, under the Accelerated Co-Financing Facility for Africa (ACFA) of the African Development Bank (AfDB). In this project, the entire length (208 km) of the Central Corridor*² will be repaired and widened in cooperation with the Government of Rwanda, AfDB, and the European Union (EU). Japan will provide assistance for work on the Rusumo-Kayonza section (92 km), which connects Rwanda and Tanzania, and will promote the further development of infrastructure over a wider area and improvements to logistics infrastructure.

Japan has been working to resolve issues relating to overland transportation in Rwanda, a landlocked country. Japan built the new Rusumo International Bridge between Rwanda and Tanzania and enabled safe two-way movement through the Project for Construction of Rusumo International Bridge and One Stop Border Post Facilities, a grant aid project that started in 2011. At the same time, Japan also developed One Stop Border Post (OSBP),*³ to facilitate smoother customs procedures, thereby contributing to the reduction of transportation costs and expansion of trade and investment between the two countries.

Mr. KAMEDA Hitoshi, who oversaw the work as a consultant for grant aid, said that it was not an easy task to carry out the project in two countries at the same time. He recalled that relations between Rwanda and Tanzania were sore at the time and said, “We had to make sincere efforts to deal with the issues one by one, including giving patient



Signing of the Exchange of Notes (E/N) for the Rusumo-Kayonza Road Improvement Project (Photo: JICA)

explanations to both governments and taking care to ensure that the locally employed workers were able to do their work within the borders of their own respective countries.” The ex-post evaluation found that the customs clearance capacity of Rusumo International Bridge increased approximately three-fold compared to before the construction. The subsequent loan aid this time will enhance further the impact of Japan’s assistance that has been implemented to date.

In addition, Japan has been providing the technical guidance needed for the operation of the newly-introduced OSBPs through the “Project on Capacity Development for Trade Facilitation and Border Control in East Africa,” a technical cooperation project that began in 2017. In this project, Japan worked in partnership with experts from the World Customs Organization (WCO) to streamline customs clearance procedures and develop border protection capabilities by capacity development of customs staff in the East African Community (EAC).^{*4}

In this way, such comprehensive support that combines a variety of schemes in the form of loan aid, grant aid, and technical cooperation, is one of the strengths of Japanese development cooperation. Ms. UJIE Kazuho of JICA Africa Department said “Co-financing with AfDB and technical cooperation with WCO is bringing about major impacts. I hope that the outcomes of our multiple projects in Rwanda will contribute to economic development throughout East Africa.”



New bridge named Rusumo International Bridge under renovation (Photo: JICA)

*1 A major highway that is central to national and regional economic activity.

*2 The corridor that continues from Rwanda through Tanzania to the Dar es Salaam Port, for the purposes of transporting the cargo of landlocked countries.

*3 A form of administration of customs clearance that makes cross-border logistics more efficient by sharing and integrating all the procedures for imports/exports, which normally need to be carried out separately by the customs offices of both the importing and exporting country, thereby enabling them to be done in a single session.

*4 An economic community comprising six member states: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Chart III

Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region (2020)

Calendar year: 2020

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Type Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants			Total	Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation		Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
Asia region total		440.63	260.97	483.84	1,185.45	9,021.00	5,429.22	3,591.78	4,777.23	10,206.45
East Asia region total		305.37	107.71	301.87	714.95	4,459.05	3,772.64	686.41	1,401.36	5,174.00
(ASEAN total)* ¹		274.48	82.62	275.79	632.89	4,193.00	2,878.31	1,314.69	1,947.57	4,825.89
1	Indonesia	8.49	11.50	37.77	57.75	1,312.02	1,518.86	-206.84	-149.09	1,369.77
2	Philippines	32.07	14.16	72.63	118.86	1,032.28	501.74	530.54	649.41	1,151.14
3	Myanmar	71.89	31.39	47.10	150.39	943.13	—	943.13	1,093.52	1,093.52
4	Viet Nam	25.25	5.19	43.66	74.10	546.33	545.24	1.09	75.18	620.42
5	Mongolia	19.19	2.09	15.74	37.02	261.54	35.44	226.10	263.12	298.56
6	Cambodia	87.29	10.69	22.21	120.19	151.04	11.11	139.94	260.13	271.23
7	Thailand	1.29	3.49	24.26	29.05	191.50	204.71	-13.21	15.84	220.55
8	Laos	48.09	4.02	20.56	72.66	16.70	5.84	10.87	83.53	89.37
9	Timor-Leste	7.47	0.99	6.20	14.67	4.50	—	4.50	19.17	19.17
10	Malaysia	0.09	2.20	7.55	9.84	—	90.82	-90.82	-80.98	9.84
11	China	—	—	1.92	1.92	—	858.89	-858.89	-856.97	1.92
	Multiple countries in East Asia* ²	4.23	22.00	2.23	28.45	—	—	—	28.45	28.45
Southwest Asia region total		95.73	79.06	154.78	329.57	4,134.77	1,485.03	2,649.74	2,979.30	4,464.34
1	Bangladesh	17.33	32.72	24.66	74.71	2,056.12	120.62	1,935.50	2,010.21	2,130.83
2	India	6.58	5.97	81.51	94.06	1,713.68	1,115.92	597.77	691.82	1,807.74
3	Sri Lanka	24.42	8.02	11.41	43.85	253.51	213.58	39.94	83.79	297.36
4	Nepal	16.68	6.32	16.87	39.86	47.74	4.91	42.83	82.69	87.60
5	Maldives	10.79	1.99	1.48	14.26	46.83	0.56	46.27	60.53	61.09
6	Pakistan	9.09	17.91	9.88	36.88	16.10	28.46	-12.36	24.52	52.98
7	Bhutan	10.84	2.51	8.55	21.89	0.78	0.99	-0.21	21.68	22.68
	Multiple countries in Southwest Asia* ³	—	3.63	0.43	4.06	—	—	—	4.06	4.06
Central Asia and Caucasus region total		36.19	30.33	22.49	89.01	311.46	148.78	162.68	251.69	400.47
1	Uzbekistan	2.82	5.14	7.83	15.80	297.04	41.67	255.37	271.17	312.83
2	Tajikistan	22.09	0.31	4.26	26.66	—	—	—	26.66	26.66
3	Kyrgyz Republic	6.11	9.53	6.75	22.39	0.33	9.86	-9.53	12.86	22.72
4	Azerbaijan	0.53	—	0.28	0.81	12.84	33.90	-21.05	-20.24	13.65
5	Georgia	3.34	—	0.45	3.79	1.25	8.12	-6.87	-3.07	5.04
6	Armenia	0.99	—	0.93	1.91	—	10.51	-10.51	-8.60	1.91
7	Kazakhstan	0.31	—	1.15	1.46	—	42.68	-42.68	-41.22	1.46
8	Turkmenistan	—	—	0.27	0.27	—	2.05	-2.05	-1.78	0.27
	Multiple countries in Central Asia and Caucasus	—	15.34	0.58	15.93	—	—	—	15.93	15.93
Multiple countries in Asia* ⁴		3.35	43.88	4.70	51.92	115.73	22.77	92.95	144.88	167.65
Oceania region total		123.46	10.75	32.76	166.97	162.14	10.72	151.42	318.39	329.11
1	Papua New Guinea	22.14	1.16	6.76	30.06	96.62	8.63	88.00	118.06	126.69
2	Fiji	14.85	0.59	5.73	21.17	20.14	1.14	19.00	40.17	41.31
3	Palau	12.61	3.78	1.23	17.63	15.48	—	15.48	33.10	33.10
4	Tonga	16.58	0.08	0.96	17.63	—	—	—	17.63	17.63
5	Solomon Islands	9.50	0.39	3.61	13.51	—	—	—	13.51	13.51
6	Marshall	11.48	0.09	0.99	12.56	—	—	—	12.56	12.56
7	Kiribati	11.92	0.18	0.40	12.50	—	—	—	12.50	12.50

Rank	Type Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
8	Vanuatu	6.36	0.38	3.23	9.97	—	0.02	-0.02	9.95	9.97
9	Samoa	7.38	0.18	1.97	9.52	—	0.93	-0.93	8.59	9.52
10	Federated States of Micronesia	5.43	0.16	1.95	7.53	—	—	—	7.53	7.53
11	Nauru	2.19	0.03	0.04	2.26	—	—	—	2.26	2.26
12	Tuvalu	1.95	0.02	0.06	2.04	—	—	—	2.04	2.04
13	Niue	0.12	0.02	0.03	0.17	—	—	—	0.17	0.17
14	[Tokelau]	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00
	Multiple countries in Oceania	0.53	3.62	5.76	9.91	29.90	—	29.90	39.80	39.80
	Latin America and the Caribbean region total	105.27	28.77	92.72	226.76	417.51	253.31	164.21	390.97	644.28
1	Brazil	5.43	0.82	8.29	14.54	142.82	84.62	58.19	72.73	157.36
2	Mexico	7.52	0.09	5.17	12.78	100.00	—	100.00	112.78	112.78
3	El Salvador	0.45	4.68	3.70	8.83	53.92	21.04	32.88	41.71	62.76
4	Paraguay	0.11	—	4.59	4.70	48.74	41.48	7.26	11.96	53.44
5	Guatemala	2.89	—	3.24	6.13	35.87	14.58	21.29	27.42	42.00
6	Haiti	17.17	6.76	1.77	25.71	—	—	—	25.71	25.71
7	Peru	0.38	—	6.65	7.03	14.04	49.23	-35.18	-28.16	21.07
8	Panama	5.80	—	13.46	19.26	—	9.80	-9.80	9.46	19.26
9	Honduras	11.40	0.10	3.23	14.73	0.69	—	0.69	15.42	15.42
10	Bolivia	8.90	—	4.13	13.03	1.82	—	1.82	14.85	14.85
11	Costa Rica	0.05	—	1.92	1.97	12.51	16.82	-4.31	-2.34	14.48
12	Cuba	6.58	0.17	3.57	10.32	—	—	—	10.32	10.32
13	Guyana	9.70	—	0.19	9.90	—	—	—	9.90	9.90
14	Colombia	5.59	—	2.74	8.33	—	—	—	8.33	8.33
15	Dominican Republic	3.30	—	4.72	8.02	—	4.03	-4.03	4.00	8.02
16	Jamaica	5.69	—	1.28	6.97	—	4.75	-4.75	2.22	6.97
17	Ecuador	2.02	—	4.05	6.07	—	4.63	-4.63	1.44	6.07
18	Nicaragua	2.08	—	3.24	5.32	0.45	—	0.45	5.77	5.77
19	Argentina	0.22	—	2.91	3.13	—	1.17	-1.17	1.96	3.13
20	Grenada	1.87	—	0.01	1.88	—	—	—	1.88	1.88
21	Saint Lucia	0.15	—	1.10	1.24	—	—	—	1.24	1.24
22	Belize	0.21	—	0.70	0.91	—	—	—	0.91	0.91
23	Dominica	0.47	—	0.17	0.64	—	—	—	0.64	0.64
24	Saint Vincent	—	—	0.45	0.45	—	—	—	0.45	0.45
25	Venezuela	0.18	—	0.13	0.31	—	—	—	0.31	0.31
26	Antigua and Barbuda	0.09	—	0.05	0.15	—	—	—	0.15	0.15
27	Suriname	—	—	0.03	0.03	—	—	—	0.03	0.03
	Multiple countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	—	16.12	7.75	23.87	6.66	1.15	5.51	29.38	30.53
	Europe region total	7.30	5.61	10.43	23.35	66.92	83.60	-16.69	6.66	90.26
1	Serbia	1.00	—	2.15	3.15	44.94	1.27	43.67	46.82	48.09
2	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.25	—	0.87	1.12	18.83	7.03	11.80	12.92	19.95
3	Ukraine	0.78	4.31	2.98	8.07	0.47	15.18	-14.71	-6.64	8.54
4	Kosovo	1.36	0.72	2.09	4.17	—	—	—	4.17	4.17
5	Albania	0.65	—	1.17	1.81	—	6.60	-6.60	-4.78	1.81
6	North Macedonia	1.32	—	0.09	1.41	—	4.90	-4.90	-3.49	1.41
7	Moldova	0.72	—	0.55	1.26	—	—	—	1.26	1.26

Rank	Type Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
8	Montenegro	0.94	—	0.09	1.03	—	—	—	1.03	1.03
9	Belarus	0.29	—	0.00	0.29	—	—	—	0.29	0.29
	Multiple countries in Europe*5	—	0.58	0.18	0.76	—	—	—	0.76	0.76
Middle East and North Africa region total		76.09	424.43	58.00	558.52	1,377.29	784.46	592.82	1,151.35	1,935.81
1	Iraq	1.87	48.76	3.89	54.52	766.11	121.82	644.29	698.81	820.63
2	Egypt	12.44	6.49	15.74	34.67	276.50	219.11	57.39	92.06	311.17
3	Jordan	26.93	21.24	5.36	53.54	203.35	83.42	119.93	173.46	256.89
4	Afghanistan	12.50	104.47	9.26	126.23	—	—	—	126.23	126.23
5	Syria	—	72.17	3.98	76.15	—	—	—	76.15	76.15
6	[Palestine]	2.72	52.91	6.36	62.00	—	—	—	62.00	62.00
7	Morocco	6.93	1.28	3.35	11.57	49.53	90.93	-41.41	-29.84	61.09
8	Tunisia	7.81	1.75	3.34	12.90	46.58	82.57	-35.99	-23.10	59.47
9	Turkey	0.68	13.78	1.30	15.75	34.43	175.50	-141.08	-125.32	50.18
10	Yemen	—	47.54	0.21	47.75	—	—	—	47.75	47.75
11	Lebanon	0.26	24.25	0.29	24.80	—	6.52	-6.52	18.28	24.80
12	Iran	—	11.12	4.09	15.21	—	3.79	-3.79	11.42	15.21
13	Libya	—	9.47	0.02	9.49	—	—	—	9.49	9.49
14	Algeria	0.05	1.46	0.15	1.65	—	0.75	-0.75	0.90	1.65
	Multiple countries in the Middle East and North Africa*6	3.90	7.64	0.25	11.80	0.80	0.04	0.76	12.56	12.59
Sub-Saharan Africa region total		425.88	303.51	235.31	964.70	373.70	131.15	242.55	1,207.24	1,338.39
1	Kenya	10.95	19.68	40.48	71.11	150.61	82.63	67.99	139.10	221.72
2	Ethiopia	24.17	39.14	11.92	75.23	—	—	—	75.23	75.23
3	Mozambique	18.12	8.48	10.32	36.91	35.81	1.40	34.41	71.32	72.72
4	Côte d'Ivoire	18.20	7.01	5.97	31.18	34.33	—	34.33	65.51	65.51
5	Madagascar	13.93	2.73	7.64	24.30	40.16	—	40.16	64.46	64.46
6	Rwanda	12.28	3.82	7.43	23.53	32.48	—	32.48	56.01	56.01
7	Tanzania	21.56	6.38	12.72	40.67	14.52	3.37	11.15	51.82	55.18
8	Burkina Faso	30.25	9.49	3.69	43.42	9.78	—	9.78	53.20	53.20
9	Ghana	32.01	3.85	13.90	49.75	1.57	—	1.57	51.32	51.32
10	Democratic Republic of the Congo	20.79	18.18	6.72	45.69	—	—	—	45.69	45.69
11	Uganda	11.85	4.09	11.10	27.03	16.98	1.61	15.38	42.41	44.01
12	Senegal	22.55	2.85	11.74	37.14	3.00	0.14	2.86	40.00	40.14
13	Zimbabwe	14.59	16.21	1.89	32.69	—	—	—	32.69	32.69
14	Malawi	20.23	2.32	5.67	28.22	—	—	—	28.22	28.22
15	Cameroon	4.34	6.55	3.57	14.47	11.05	0.63	10.42	24.89	25.52
16	South Sudan	9.11	10.11	3.12	22.34	—	—	—	22.34	22.34
17	Liberia	19.66	0.27	2.03	21.96	—	—	—	21.96	21.96
18	Zambia	6.18	1.00	10.00	17.18	3.83	0.85	2.98	20.16	21.00
19	Benin	13.48	0.14	4.79	18.41	—	—	—	18.41	18.41
20	Somalia	4.94	10.95	1.89	17.77	—	—	—	17.77	17.77
21	Sudan	0.59	10.63	5.63	16.86	—	—	—	16.86	16.86
22	Mauritius	3.78	—	1.43	5.21	9.07	2.47	6.60	11.81	14.28
23	Djibouti	7.63	1.94	4.34	13.92	—	—	—	13.92	13.92
24	Nigeria	1.03	8.39	4.11	13.54	—	5.34	-5.34	8.20	13.54
25	Botswana	4.29	0.18	2.63	7.10	6.31	6.79	-0.48	6.62	13.41
26	Guinea	10.04	1.63	1.29	12.96	—	—	—	12.96	12.96

Rank	Type Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
27	Sierra Leone	3.84	5.26	2.90	12.00	—	—	—	12.00	12.00
28	Mauritania	8.99	2.28	0.43	11.71	—	—	—	11.71	11.71
29	Niger	7.90	1.25	2.04	11.18	—	—	—	11.18	11.18
30	Central Africa	—	10.79	0.05	10.84	—	—	—	10.84	10.84
31	South Africa	0.83	3.68	5.27	9.78	—	0.88	-0.88	8.90	9.78
32	Mali	5.80	2.36	0.71	8.88	—	—	—	8.88	8.88
33	Chad	2.81	4.64	0.10	7.55	—	—	—	7.55	7.55
34	Angola	2.48	1.50	3.28	7.27	—	—	—	7.27	7.27
35	Eswatini	4.28	2.47	0.23	6.98	—	1.89	-1.89	5.09	6.98
36	Togo	3.07	1.85	0.93	5.85	—	—	—	5.85	5.85
37	Comoros	4.78	0.81	0.11	5.70	—	—	—	5.70	5.70
38	Burundi	3.44	1.35	0.88	5.66	—	—	—	5.66	5.66
39	Guinea-Bissau	—	5.27	0.05	5.32	—	—	—	5.32	5.32
40	Republic of the Congo	1.96	1.92	0.35	4.22	—	—	—	4.22	4.22
41	Lesotho	1.06	2.59	0.45	4.09	—	—	—	4.09	4.09
42	Gambia	2.40	0.33	0.39	3.12	—	—	—	3.12	3.12
43	Sao Tome and Principe	3.00	—	0.04	3.04	—	—	—	3.04	3.04
44	Namibia	0.42	0.93	1.31	2.66	—	8.79	-8.79	-6.14	2.66
45	Cabo Verde	0.09	—	0.03	0.12	2.27	0.64	1.63	1.76	2.39
46	Gabon	0.27	0.14	1.87	2.28	—	—	—	2.28	2.28
47	Eritrea	1.40	0.50	0.17	2.08	—	—	—	2.08	2.08
48	Equatorial Guinea	—	—	0.08	0.08	—	—	—	0.08	0.08
	Multiple countries in Sub-Saharan Africa*7	2.07	57.58	17.54	77.20	1.92	13.72	-11.81	65.39	79.11
Assistance encompassing multiple regions		112.14	758.58	1,492.56	2,363.27	1.48	—	1.48	2,364.76	2,364.76
Total		1,290.78	1,792.62	2,405.36	5,488.76	11,420.03	6,692.46	4,727.57	10,216.34	16,908.80

Notes:

- Ranking is based on gross disbursements.
- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.
- [—] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- "Grant aid" here means grant aid provided by Japan as a scheme of assistance, excluding debt relief and grant aid provided through international organizations.
- Aid to "multiple countries" refers to the aid, such as seminars and dispatchment of survey teams in multiple countries within a region.
- "Assistance encompassing multiple regions" includes items that cannot be regionally classified such as dispatchment of survey teams in multiple regions.
- "Country or Region" shows DAC recipients but "total" amount includes bilateral aid to "graduated countries." "Graduated countries" are countries that have been removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients (Chart I-10 on page 23).
- Negative numbers show the recovered amount of loans exceeded the disbursed amount.
- Square brackets [] denote region names.
- *1 Each number in the row of (ASEAN total) 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 "Multiple countries in East Asia" utilize data based on the DAC criteria, and therefore do not incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Myanmar.
- *3 Figures under "Multiple countries in Southwest Asia" utilize data based on the DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Afghanistan, as well as for multiple countries including Myanmar.
- *4 Figures under "Multiple countries in Asia" utilize data based on the DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including some areas of the Middle East.
- *5 Figures under "Multiple countries in Europe" utilize data based on the DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries including Turkey.
- *6 Figures under "Multiple countries in the Middle East and North Africa" utilize data based on the 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.
- *7 Figures under "Multiple countries in Sub-Saharan Africa" utilize data based on the DAC criteria, and therefore incorporate disbursements for multiple countries that cut across some areas of North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Part **IV**

Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation



Conducting training on COVID-19 under the “Project for Establishment of Laboratory Surveillance System for Viral Diseases of Public Health Concern” (SATREPS) implemented in Gabon by Nagasaki University (Photo: JICA)

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Part IV Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation

1 Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships with Diverse Actors

(1) Partnership with Private Companies

The Government of Japan strives to effectively utilize the excellent technologies, knowledge, experience, and funds of Japanese private companies so that the collective strengths of Japanese companies can be further demonstrated in ODA projects by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and JICA. In addition, Japan promotes partnerships with private sector investment projects through the sharing of roles between public and private sectors. For example, the private sector's knowledge and know-how can be incorporated from the stage of ODA project formation, or basic infrastructure can be covered by ODA while investments, operation, maintenance, and management are carried out by the private sector. Japan will enhance development outcomes by strengthening collaboration with private sectors and carrying out projects more efficiently and effectively.

A. Grant Aid

The Government of Japan supports the overseas expansion of Japanese companies by providing mainly their products to developing countries based on the requests and development needs of developing country governments. In 2021, for example, products of Japanese companies were provided to Cambodian organizations that have conducted research and human resources development through collaboration between Japanese and Cambodian industry and academia. This led to the development of highly-skilled engineers in Cambodia as well as the strengthening of the foundation for Japanese companies to expand their business.

B. Improving Japan's ODA Loans Utilizing Japan's Strengths

The Government of Japan has improved its aid schemes including the introduction of the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP), expansion of the scope of application, and the lowering of interest rates to promote "Visible Japanese Development Cooperation" through the utilization and transfer of Japan's advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries. In

addition, it has also introduced the Equity Back Finance (EBF) loan ¹ and the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan ² based on the improvement and application of measures by the recipient governments to promote the steady formulation and implementation of infrastructure development projects by utilizing Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) participated by Japanese companies. In recent years, there are increasing number of orders of ODA loan projects by Japanese companies, which support their overseas business expansion.

In addition, as follow-up measures for "Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure," ³ the Government of Japan has been making efforts to improve its ODA loan and Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) by speeding up Japan's ODA loan procedures and creating new ODA loan options. For example, it has reduced 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 important projects. It has also introduced ODA loans with currency conversion option to middle- to upper-middle-income countries on the condition that JICA's financial grounds are ensured, and established dollar-denominated ODA loans and Japan's ODA loans with Preferential Terms



A Rwandan exchange student receiving training at OTOWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD. The company aims to spread lightning protection technology in the country in cooperation with the Government of Rwanda through the SDGs Business Supporting Surveys. (Photo: OTOWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD./JICA)

- ¹ EBF (Equity Back Finance) loan provides a yen 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.
- ² 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 when Japanese companies invest in the PPP infrastructure projects by the developing country in principle.
- ³ Announced in 2015, the Partnership for Quality Infrastructure has the following pillars: expansion and acceleration of assistance through the full mobilization of Japan's economic cooperation tools, collaboration between Japan and ADB, expansion of the supply of funding for projects with relatively high risk profiles by such means as enhancement of the function of JBIC, and promoting "Quality Infrastructure Investment" as an international standard.

for High Specification. ⁴ Furthermore, in the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure,” ⁵ Japan announced that it would further accelerate ODA loan procedures, decided to reduce 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 increased “the visibility” of the project period. Japan will strive to improve the ODA loan so that projects can be formulated and developed in an expeditious manner.

C. Proposal-based Public-Private Partnership Support Schemes

In order to actively utilize opinions and proposals from private companies, the Government of Japan and JICA also promote public-private partnership support schemes based on private sector proposals, such as SDGs Business Supporting Surveys and Preparatory Surveys for Private-Sector Investment Finance.

■ SDGs Business Supporting Surveys

SDGs Business Supporting Surveys* is a program that aims to solve problems in the field through business and to promote collaboration with a wide range of partners by incorporating ideas from private companies based on their creativity and originality. In FY2021, public announcements were made twice on the JICA website, and JICA adopted proposals submitted by companies based on their content.

In 2021, a total of 86 projects in 29 countries (SME Partnership Promotion Survey: 19 projects; SDGs Business Model Formulation Survey with the Private Sector: 40 projects for the “SME Support Type” and 11 projects for the “SDGs Business Support Type”; SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector: eight projects for the “SME Support Type” and eight projects for the “SDGs Business Support Type”) were adopted under this program (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the

Egypt

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private-Sector Partnership)*1 (January 2019 – January 2020) Mr. NIINOBE Yuta (Panasonic Corporation)



In Egypt, 95% of the entire population is concentrated in the Nile River Basin, which runs from south to north through the country. Among the basin zone, the central and southern areas of Egypt are poor and there is limited access to hospitals for the residents. In order to provide medical services to this region efficiently, an Egyptian philanthropic organization is working on a floating boat hospital project whereby it operates a hospital boat along the Nile River and conducts medical examinations of children living along the river. It has provided medical services free of charge to a total of more than 66,000 children to date.

I participated in the project implemented by the philanthropic organization as a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (Private-Sector Partnership), while retaining the status of an employee of my company, Panasonic Corporation. I was in charge of overall operational control for running the boat hospital and the marketing to increase the number of supporters of the project.

Utilizing my prior work experience at a Japanese manufacturing company, I have improved the efficiency of the medical treatment system by the development and management of medical facilities, establishment of a patient information data system, inventory management of medicines, and the formation of waiting lines. As a



Mr. Niinobe providing water to people waiting for a medical examination in over 40-degree heat, in order to prevent heatstroke (Photo: JICA)



Volunteer ophthalmologist examining a child on the boat (Photo: JICA)

result, the number of patients who could be examined on the boat increased from 500 to 1,500 a day after my arrival. Furthermore, regarding marketing, I was involved in the setting up of social media pages, managing relations with companies sponsoring operations, and the creation of PR materials. In particular, thanks to our proactive promotional activities through social media, and as a result, I gained more than 500 new supporters during my tenure on the project.

After I resumed my work at the company, I took up a position in the Middle East region and have taken charge of marketing in the area so that I can return to society what I have gained as a JOCV, such as the on-site management skills, marketing skills, Arabic skills, and understanding of the local community. I am working with the goals of invigorating Japanese industry overall and further enhancing Japan's brand strength by promoting the products and value provided by Japanese manufacturing companies to the world.

*1 See also page 128.

⁴ Concessional loans provided to projects recognized as contributing to the promotion of “Quality Infrastructure” based on the “G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment” compiled at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016.

⁵ The Expanded Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure was announced at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in 2016. It includes Japan's commitment to provide approximately \$200 billion funds in the following five 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.

World” on page 60. For more information about the program’s framework, target areas and countries, and other details, see the JICA website). ⁶

■ Preparatory Surveys for Private-Sector Investment Finance

In recent years, there has been a growing trend to improve infrastructure in developing countries through public-private partnership and to promote economic and social development through private-sector projects. JICA implements its Preparatory Surveys for Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) to formulate projects that utilize private-sector funds with the provision of support through Private-Sector Investment Finance in mind. Through PSIF, JICA supports feasibility surveys (F/S) for

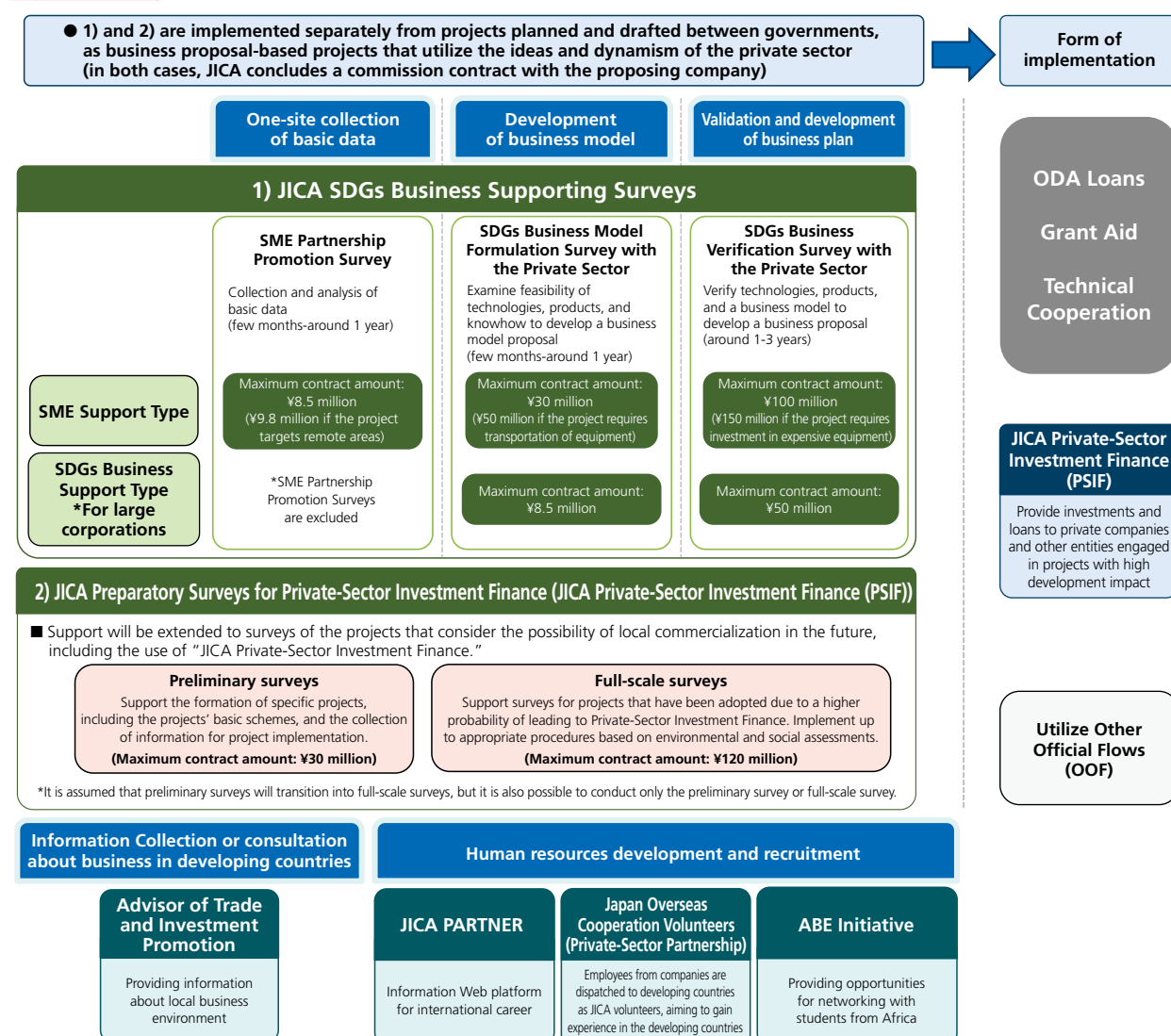
the formulation of business plans by calling for proposals widely from private companies that plans to participate in projects in developing countries (for more information about the program’s framework, target areas and countries, and other details, see the JICA website). ⁷ In 2021, four projects were adopted in Asia and Africa.

■ Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private-Sector Partnership)

As Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private-Sector Partnership), established in 2012, 120 volunteers have been dispatched to 38 countries thus far and actively support the overseas expansion of companies (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 127).

Chart IV-1

Public-Private Partnership Support Schemes Using ODA



⁶ SDGs Business Supporting Surveys: https://www.jica.go.jp/priv_partner/activities/sme/index.html (in Japanese only)

⁷ Preparatory Survey for Private-Sector Investment Finance (formerly Preparatory Survey for PPP Infrastructure Project): https://www.jica.go.jp/priv_partner/activities/psiffs/index.html (in Japanese only)

D. Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF)

PSIF ⁸ refers to a type of ODA financing scheme in which JICA provides necessary funds to private companies carrying out projects that are considered highly effective from a development perspective in developing countries in cases when they cannot receive sufficient funds from private financial institutions (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 130). JICA signed 47 investment and loan contracts in total by the end of FY2020, and many Japanese companies have participated in them (for more information about the program’s framework, target areas, conditions, and other details, see the JICA website). ⁹ A recent good example is the international airport development project in Palau, for which a loan contract was signed in 2019. In Palau, where an ODA loan project was not able to be implemented due to the heavy debt burden of the government, PSIF enabled cooperation as the first public-private partnership (PPP) project to leverage Japan’s quality infrastructure development. In addition, Japan actively supports women entrepreneurs and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises that have had difficulty accessing finance due to the impact of COVID-19, through the Initiative on Overseas Loans and Investment for ASEAN and other efforts (see also page 91 for Initiative on Overseas Loans and Investments for ASEAN).

The Government of Japan continuously reviews and improves its PSIF system and in 2021, the effectiveness of the process of the relevant ministries and agencies as well as JICA has been monitored based on the “Guidelines for Selecting JICA Private-Sector Investment Finance Projects,” which were revised in November 2020.

Japan’s development cooperation is carried out in partnership with diverse actors. When implementing development cooperation, it is important for the Government 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 (JICT) as well as to serve as a catalyst for mobilizing and assembling a wide range of resources, including the private sector.

In addition, international organizations, such as the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), support inclusive businesses* by Japanese companies, utilizing the organizations’ extensive experience and expertise in developing countries.



Glossary

SDGs Business Supporting Surveys

The program, which is based on proposals from private companies, assists in matching the needs of developing countries with the advanced products and technologies, etc., possessed by private-sector companies, and supports the development of businesses that contribute to solving problems in these countries. The program implements the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Partnership Promotion Survey, the SDGs Business Model Formulation Survey with the Private Sector, and the SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector as support options tailored to various project stages. The program has two categories: SME Support Type and SDGs Business Support Type. The former not only supports the expansion of SMEs’ businesses abroad, but is also expected to invigorate the Japanese economy and local communities (see also Chart IV-1 on page 128).

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 Base of the Economic Pyramid (BOP) businesses that resolve social challenges.

(2) Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JICA Volunteer Program)

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JICA Volunteer Program) was started in 1965 and has a long record of success of more than half a century. More than 54,000 volunteers have been dispatched to 98 developing countries and regions in total. This is truly a program for public participation and has contributed to the development of these countries and regions, embodying the “visibility of Japanese development cooperation.”

The JICA Volunteer Program is highly regarded both domestically and internationally. The program contributes not only to the economic and social development of developing countries and regions, but also to promoting mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and these countries and regions through the deepening of local people’s affinity for Japan (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 70). Moreover, the program draws attention in the respect that ex-volunteers utilize their experiences and knowledge to give back to Japanese society. For example, ex-volunteers who have obtained global views through the program contribute to the local

⁸ PSIF assists in the following fields for funding: (i) infrastructure development and accelerating growth, (ii) SDGs and poverty reduction, and (iii) measures against climate change.

⁹ Overview of PSIF: https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/schemes/finance_co/loan/index.html (in Japanese only)

Stories from the Field

JICA's Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) Supports the Establishment and Operation of a General Hospital by Japanese Private Companies in Bangladesh



7

Bangladesh suffers from a chronic lack of medical care facilities and healthcare workers, and people often have to go to medical facilities in neighboring countries to receive appropriate tests and treatments. Therefore, it is a major issue to develop the domestic medical care system.

A delegation from Ship Healthcare Holdings, Inc., a company with experience working on ODA projects in Viet Nam, Myanmar, and other countries, visited Bangladesh medical college hospitals in 2013, and witnessed the severe medical situation, and consequently decided to establish and operate a general hospital in the country. "At the time, patients were sleeping on the floor, for example, even in medical college hospitals, and adequate medical care was not fully provided. We thought we would like to somehow create a medical environment where the people of Bangladesh would be able to receive appropriate tests and treatments within their own country," said Mr. KOBAYASHI Hiroyuki, an Executive Director at the company.



A joint team made up of Japanese and Bangladeshi staff carrying out a meeting on drug management (Photo: SAMSL)

In 2016, the company established a local subsidiary, Ship Aichi Medical Service Limited (SAMSL), and embarked on facility expansion of East West Medical College and Hospital*1 to increase the number of hospital beds from

250 to 650, and on operation of the hospital. JICA invested in SAMSL in 2018 and has provided support for this project at Ship International Hospital, aiming to improve medical care standards of Bangladesh by utilizing the expertise of Japanese hospital administration.

In this project, the hospital was renovated and expanded according to the latest Bangladesh National Building Code,*2 based on the belief that medical facilities must be able to function even at times of disaster. Meanwhile, taking safety into account, the hospital was equipped with infrastructure, such as electricity, air conditioning, water facilities, and others, that would meet the same standards as those of Japanese hospitals. Furthermore, the new hospital also introduced the latest medical equipment and facilities, and adopted the Japanese-style of consultations and examinations such as outpatient reception systems using ID cards.

"The Japanese style of hospital operation takes hygiene-related aspects into

consideration in its design, including the separation of patients and medical staff movement lanes. Whereas there had been sanitation issues in the old hospital such as dirty items and



A Japanese staff member taking the role of a patient in a training exercise (Photo: SAMSL)

clean supplies being placed together, the introduction of the Japanese-style movement lanes has enabled appropriate management of these issues," said Mr. Kobayashi.

There was a big struggle to change the mindsets and behaviors of the local staff, accustomed to protocols and operational practices that had been in place for many years. "It is difficult to get people to understand unexperienced new routines through verbal explanations alone. However, when we work together with the local staff and they experience the success of new methods that bring about a good result, they would tell their colleagues in their workplaces about the advantages of these methods. By developing leaders among local staff continuously, we expect that these leaders will play a central role and that levels among the local staff as a whole will be gradually improved," said pharmacist Ms. ISHII Kasumi.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the construction period had to be extended and the official opening of the new hospital was delayed, but it had a pre-opening in October 2019. After that, it began operation as a Government-designated COVID-19 hospital in June 2020 based on the strong requests of the Government of Bangladesh. The hospital made a significant contribution to the treatment of COVID-19 patients, accepting over 1,600 patients by the end of September 2021, 1,500 of whom were discharged healthily.

*1 The hospital's name at the time. With the inauguration of the SAMSL project, it opened under the new name of "SHIP INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL."

*2 Bangladesh's new earthquake-resistance standards (draft version), revision work on which was carried out with JICA assistance in 2015.



Tests taking place using cutting-edge medical devices: an angiography device (left) and endoscope (right) (Photo: SAMSL)



A JOCV conducting a workshop on dietary education and infant growth in the City of San Juan de la Maguana, the Dominican Republic (Photo: JICA)

revitalization in Japan and the business expansion of Japanese private companies to developing countries.

In order to promote these initiatives, the Government of Japan strives to make it easier for more people to join the program through supporting ex-volunteers in developing their careers, as well as disseminating information on how to participate in the program while retaining one's job (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 127 for the activities of a JOCV who participated in the program while retaining their job).

As for the response to COVID-19, the dispatch of JOCVs was resumed in November 2020 and volunteers were dispatched to 32 countries by December 2021. The spring recruitment for FY2021 was conducted after a one year pause. However, the resurgence of COVID-19 cases caused difficulties for the planned dispatch of new JOCVs and the autumn recruitment for FY2021 was postponed. The recruitment for FY2022 will be held depending on the infection situation.

(3) Cooperation with Japanese NGOs

Japanese NGOs implement development cooperation activities that directly benefit local residents in various fields in developing countries and regions. Even in sites affected by conflict or natural disasters, such as earthquakes and typhoons, they provide prompt and effective emergency humanitarian assistance. 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, NGOs can well provide assistance at the grassroots level, which can be hard-to-reach through the support of the government and international organizations. MOFA positions Japanese NGOs that carry out activities, which represent the "visibility of development cooperation," as indispensable partners in development cooperation. It thus promotes collaboration with the NGOs through the three pillars of assistance, financial cooperation for NGOs' projects, support to capacity development of NGOs, and dialogues with NGOs.

A. Financial Cooperation for NGOs' Projects

The Government of Japan cooperates 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

The Government of Japan 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 health and medical care, education and human resources development, vocational training, rural development, water resource development, and human resources development for landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) removal. In FY2020, 59 Japanese NGOs utilized this scheme to implement 109 projects in 34 countries and one region, amounting to approximately ¥5.8 billion (see also "Project Introduction Columns" on pages 65 and 97).



Libraries were built in 12 target schools in the Dweshula school district in South Africa. The libraries are equipped with computers and other equipment, and IT skills are taught to students of the library committee. (Photo: Together with Africa and Asia Association)

■ Japan Platform (JPF)

Japan Platform (JPF)* supports and coordinates emergency humanitarian aid activities of NGOs in cooperation with Japanese NGOs, the business community, and the government. In FY2020, JPF implemented 93 projects under 19 programs, including assistance for the humanitarian crises that occurred in Afghanistan, Yemen, Iraq, and Syria, emergency assistance for refugees from South Sudan, emergency assistance for Democratic Republic of the Congo refugees in Uganda, Emergency Response for Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Program, and Emergency Response to the damage caused by Locust Crisis. As of October 2021, JPF has 43 member NGOs (see also page 45 for assistance for refugees and displaced persons by JPF).

■ NGO Project Subsidies

In FY2020, MOFA provided NGO project subsidies to seven Japanese NGOs conducting such activities as project identification and formulation, post-project evaluations, and seminars and workshops including online, in Japan and overseas for development cooperation projects.

■ JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

JICA Partnership Program (JPP) is a joint program outsourced by JICA to Japanese NGOs/CSOs, local public entities, universities, private enterprises, and other organizations. Proposals are submitted to JICA for international cooperation activities based on their accumulated knowledge and experience and implemented by these partners in collaboration with JICA (see the JICA website ¹⁰ for information on program details among others). Through the JICA Partnership Program, approximately 200 projects are implemented in approximately 90 countries every year.

B. Support to Capacity Development of NGOs

In response to the growing importance of activities by non-governmental actors and the use of private funding in international cooperation, MOFA carries out the following programs with the objective of further strengthening the organizational structures and project implementation capabilities of Japanese NGOs and developing their human resources.

■ NGO Consultant Scheme

Under this scheme, MOFA commissions highly experienced Japanese NGOs (15 organizations in FY2020) to address inquiries and respond to requests for consultation from citizens and NGOs on such topics as international cooperation activities by NGOs, how to establish an NGO, organizational management and operation, and approaches for providing development education.

■ NGO Internship Program/NGO Study Program

MOFA implements the NGO Internship Program and NGO Study Program with the objective of strengthening the organization through human resources development. The NGO Internship Program aims to develop human resources of younger generation who can play an active role in Japanese NGOs for international cooperation in the future. A total of eight interns were accepted by NGOs through this program in FY2020.

Under the NGO Study Program, mid-career personnel from Japanese NGOs for international cooperation undergo domestic and overseas training and widely share the fruits of their training within their organization and with other NGOs, with the aim of contributing

to enhancing the capabilities of Japanese NGOs as a whole. In FY2020, five people received training through this program.

■ NGO Study Group

The NGO Study Group aims to strengthen NGOs and their capacities by conducting joint studies and research, seminars, workshops, symposiums, and other activities regarding common issues faced by NGOs and reporting and recommending specific measures for improvement. In FY2020, the NGO Study Group was held on the following two themes: (i) "Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) in International Cooperation: Study of Global Trends, and the Development and Dissemination of Guidelines for Efforts by Japanese International Cooperation NGOs," and (ii) "Towards a Resilient Society: Redesigning Japanese NGOs under the impact of COVID-19 pandemic." The reports and outcomes of these activities are available on the ODA website of MOFA (in Japanese only).

C. Dialogue with NGO (NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings and NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting)

The General Meeting of the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting* was not held in FY2020 due to the impact of COVID-19. However, subcommittee meetings, namely the "Partnership Promotion Committee" and an ad hoc meeting of the "ODA Policy Council," were each held one time (see the MOFA website ¹¹ for more information on the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting, meeting minutes, and other details).

JICA holds the NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting to promote dialogue and collaboration between NGOs and JICA. Two meetings were held online in FY2020, with participation of 36 organizations in the first meeting and 94 organizations in the second meeting (see the JICA website ¹² for more information on the NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting, meeting minutes, and other details).

(4) Collaboration with Local Public Entities

As economic development rapidly progresses in developing countries with continued urbanization, there is an escalating need for solutions to urban problems concerning water, energy, waste disposal, urban transportation, anti-pollution, and others, not only in larger cities, but also in regional cities. Under such circumstances, it would be extremely beneficial for the development of developing countries if local public entities in Japan with accumulated expertise in various fields could respond to the needs of those countries in a

¹⁰ https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/citizen/partner.html

¹¹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/taiwa/kyougikai.html (in Japanese only)

¹² https://www.jica.go.jp/partner/ngo_meeting/index.html (in Japanese only)

Public nomination

Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, and Uganda

Building an e-Extension Platform for Smallholder Farmers

(1) Technical Cooperation Project (August 2020 – ongoing)*1

(2) The Nippon Foundation Funds (1986 onwards)



The Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) is a non-profit organization established to support agricultural development in Africa in response to the devastating famine that hit East Africa at the beginning of the 1980s. It has been working to disseminate improved agricultural technologies to smallholder farmers in Africa for 35 years. In particular, SAA concluded a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with JICA in the agriculture sector and, to date, has worked on projects to improve the income of farmers through a technical cooperation project including the market-oriented agricultural promotion (SHEP) approach,*2 among other activities.

In 2020, SAA conducted a survey concerning the impact of COVID-19 on the agriculture of Africa. The results revealed that farmers were having difficulty obtaining seeds and fertilizer, that access to the financial services and market was being affected, and that there were fewer opportunities for farmers to get advice



An agricultural extension worker checking GPS-based cultivation advice through the app (Nigeria) (Photo: SAA)

from agricultural extension workers in their local public entities. In response to this, SAA initiated the launch of Africa's e-Extension Platform*3 concept, aiming to strengthen the resilience of Africa's food system from a medium to long-term perspective by eliminating the information gap between smallholders and their stakeholders and facilitating communication, while making full use of ICT.

For example, in Uganda, SAA has provided improved agricultural technologies and information on markets and weather to farmers and enabled two-way communication between farmers and agricultural extension workers, through an app developed by m-Omulimisa, a local venture. In Nigeria, the utilization of GPS-based agronomy advisory tools enabled the proper application of fertilizer by smallholder farmers, which resulted in an increase of the unit yield*4 of maize by 48%. In Ethiopia, now farmers are able to send information about diseases and insect pests via photos and social media, and agricultural extension workers quickly respond to give them advice through the apps. Going forward, SAA will continue its activities utilizing these digital tools to promote the digital transformation in agriculture in Africa.

*1 Project on Promotion of Market-oriented Agricultural Extension System for Livelihood Improvement.

*2 See the glossary on page 84.

*3 An ICT-based approach developed by SAA with three priority areas of technology transfer, labor-saving agriculture and access to inputs as a response to the logistical stagnation caused by lockdowns. SAA cooperated with local venture companies to introduce smartphone apps for spreading agricultural technologies and to develop new apps, thereby aiming to eliminate the information gap faced by smallholder farmers.

*4 The crop yield per area of an agricultural product.

highly detailed and attentive manner. For this reason, the Government of Japan has promoted the participation of Japanese local public entities in ODA. Moreover, Japanese local public entities themselves also actively promote the overseas expansion of their initiatives, including their local industries, in order to stimulate the revitalization and globalization of the local regions of Japan 13 (see "Master Techniques from Japan to the World" on page 62 for specific example).

(5) Partnership with Universities and Educational Institutions

Some of the roles that universities can play in development cooperation 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, the Government of Japan strives to cooperate with universities in terms of broad intellectual cooperation, regarding all aspects of the cycle of assistance from organizing the theories of

assistance to putting them into practice and giving back to the Japanese people through education. Japan indeed promotes projects including technical cooperation, ODA loan, and the JICA Partnership Program (JPP) in collaboration with various universities.

To give an example, with the objective of developing advanced human resources who will become the core of socio-economic development in developing countries, the Government of Japan utilizes the JICA Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) to accept young officials from developing countries as international students in a total of 41 universities in Japan so far. Over 5,000 international students have enrolled in the universities, including those in master's and doctoral programs. Moreover, Japan provides support to Thailand to establish and operate Kosen schools (Colleges of Technology), which are unique to the Japanese education system, in Thailand, and cooperates in the provision of Kosen education that meets the same standards as those in Japan in order to develop industrial human resources in Thailand. Furthermore, Japan has implemented the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering

13 Support for overseas development of local public entities through ODA: https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/about/page23_000707.html (in Japanese only)

Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net) Project,* as a JICA technical cooperation project, in which Japan works to strengthen the network among Japanese and ASEAN universities, collaborating with the industrial sector, and engaging in joint research with neighboring countries.

In addition, MOFA and JICA have implemented Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS), 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 those of developing countries are being conducted through SATREPS (see “Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation, and Research and Development” on page 37 for the results, and “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 73 and 135 for cooperation in Thailand and Cameroon).

Above-mentioned partnerships with universities have contributed to the advancement of the academic capabilities of developing countries for solving issues, as well as the globalization of Japanese universities through accepting trainees who study in Japan.



Glossary

Japan Platform (JPF)

Japan Platform (JPF), an emergency humanitarian aid organization, was established in 2000 through a partnership among NGOs, the government, and the business community with the aim of supporting and coordinating rapid and effective emergency humanitarian aid activities by Japanese NGOs in the event of a large-scale natural disaster or conflict that results in a vast number of refugees or internally displaced persons, etc. JPF utilizes ODA funds provided by the Government of Japan, as well as donations from companies and citizens to carry out emergency humanitarian assistance, including through the distribution of food/non-food items and livelihood recovery support, during occurrences such as a large-scale natural disaster or a vast number of refugees or internally displaced persons fleeing from conflicts.

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. It comprises the General Meeting as well as two subcommittees, the “ODA Policy Council” and the “Partnership Promotion Committee.”

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.

(6) Partnership with Other Countries and International Organizations

A. Dialogue with Major Donors

Japan holds dialogues with major donors to exchange views on priority issues and policies.

In February 2021, the Seventh Japan-EU High-level Development Policy Dialogue was held and both sides exchanged views on issues including emerging donors, the COVID-19 response, and climate change. In April, the Japan-UK Development Policy Dialogue was held, and both sides exchanged views on agendas such as the G7-related meetings in 2021, emerging donors, the COVID-19 response, the environment and climate change, and education.

In June, the second Japan-China International Development Cooperation Policy Consultation was held. At the beginning of the meeting, the Japanese side stated that China’s foreign aid has drawn increased attention since the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the Japanese side would like to exchange candid views on various development issues. Both sides then exchanged views on topics such as the COVID-19 response, cooperation under multilateral frameworks, statistics, and evaluation.

In December, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki holding a teleconference with USAID Administrator Power (December 2021)

held a video teleconference meeting with United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Samantha Power. State Minister Suzuki explained the priority issues of Japan’s development cooperation policy and stated that Japan would like to collaborate with the United States on development challenges faced by the international community. In response, Administrator Power expressed her

MASTER
TECHNIQUES

4

from Japan to the World

Building a Forest Resources Management Model that Reconciles Tropical Rainforest Conservation with the Lives of Indigenous Peoples**—Improving the lives of people living in the forest through joint research with Cameroon—**

Southeast Cameroon is covered by tropical rainforests with high biodiversity. However, sustaining these rainforest ecosystems has been increasingly difficult since the 1990s due to deforestation for timber exports and overhunting of ivory and bushmeat. Therefore, the Government of Cameroon has established several natural reserves where hunting and timber exploitation are prohibited. Meanwhile, in this region, an ethnic group called the Baka has practiced hunting and gathering, coexisting with nature since long ago. Ironically, the government's conservation policy has deemed Baka's hunting activities for subsistence illegal, making it difficult for them to sustain their traditional lifestyle.

Against this backdrop, researchers from Japan, led by Dr. YASUOKA Hirokazu, Associate Professor at the Center for African Area Studies of Kyoto University, formed an international joint research team with Cameroonian researchers from the Institute of Agricultural Research for Development (IRAD) and other institutes. Dr. Yasuoka has long conducted interdisciplinary research on the ecology of people in the Congo Basin. The team commenced the "Project of Co-creation of Innovative Forest Resources Management Combining Ecological Methods and Indigenous Knowledge (COMECA)" based on the framework of the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program.

Under this project, the team conducts ecological surveys of wildlife in and around the national parks of southeastern Cameroon. Moreover, the researchers combine the scientific results with the indigenous knowledge of local people (experience-based knowledge, skills and practice related to their land and flora and fauna, which are often inappropriate to generalize in a scientific manner). In this way, the team will prepare proposals and a roadmap for the government to sustainably use wildlife and non-timber forest products



A Peters's duiker, one of the main hunting targets in the project site, captured by a camera trap placed in the forest (Photo: COMECA Project)

(NTFP).^{*1} It also plans to cooperate with IRAD, local peoples and others to develop processing methods for Irvingia nuts and other NTFPs to promote alternative means for income.

"To build relationships of trust and to work together for forest conservation, it is necessary to create a system where residents are proactively involved in the use and management of forest resources," said Dr. Yasuoka. "We aim to establish a management model that integrates indigenous and scientific knowledge to build a bridge between conservation authorities and local people. This model will enable the residents to continue their livelihood customs with wild meat while maintaining biodiversity."

Dr. HONGO Shun, a Program-specific Researcher of the COMECA Project, has been conducting fieldwork since 2018. Using motion-triggered camera traps to record wild animals, he estimates the population density of hunted animals and develops a system for monitoring their abundance. "Together with local people," Dr. Hongo said, "we will explore a method where they can monitor faunal resources by themselves employing their indigenous knowledge." He also supervises researchers and students at counterpart institutions in Cameroon.

"The Congo Basin has the world's second-largest tropical rainforests after the Amazon, and a variety of people live in the area besides hunter-gatherers. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has hampered the project's progress, we intend to make steady advances to improve the lives of the people in the forest and the biodiversity conservation," said Dr. Yasuoka.

Combining science and indigenous knowledge, the research team of Japan and Cameroon is now building a forest resource management model for sustainable use of the Congo Basin tropical rainforests, together with local people.



Placing a camera trap for a wildlife survey while camping together with local assistants in the tropical rainforest (Photo: COMECA Project)

^{*1} A variety of products other than timber that are harvested in forest regions, such as nuts, mushrooms, and berries.



Prime Minister Kishida attending the G20 Rome Summit (October 2021)
(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office of the Government of Japan)

gratitude for Japan's contributions including initiatives for improving nutrition such as the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021, as well as cooperation through COVAX, and stated that she would like to further strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries. The two sides also concurred to continue cooperation between Japan and the United States in response to COVID-19 and in the development field.

B. Partnership for the G7 and G20 development issues

In May 2021, the first G7 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting was held in London, and various matters in the development field were discussed. From Japan, then Foreign Minister Motegi attended. The G7 shared the view that it is vitally important to achieve equitable access to vaccines, treatment, and diagnosis throughout the world, including developing countries, under the concept of universal health coverage (UHC) in order to overcome the crisis caused by COVID-19. The G7 also agreed on the importance of supporting girls' education that was especially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and on addressing humanitarian crises such as famine that are increasingly more serious due to COVID-19. Furthermore, on climate change, the G7 reaffirmed its commitment to mobilizing \$100 billion per year in climate finance by developed countries through 2025, and to achieving a balance between mitigation and adaptation.

Then Prime Minister Suga attended the G7 Cornwall Summit held in June. During the Summit, there were discussions on gender equality as an indispensable factor to achieve "building back better" from COVID-19, as well as collective approaches to non-market policies and practices that undermine the fairness and transparency of the global economy as measures for "building back resilient." The G7 also committed to providing support through finance and in-kind contributions equivalent to one billion vaccine doses to end the COVID-19 pandemic. In regard to climate change, Japan expressed its intention to provide assistance which amounts to ¥6.5 trillion to developing countries over the next five years from 2021 to 2025, including further enhancement of



Foreign Minister Hayashi meeting with Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs Truss during his visit to the United Kingdom, which was his first overseas visit since assuming his position, in order to attend the Second Meeting of G7 Foreign and Development Ministers (December 2021)

assistance for adaptation.

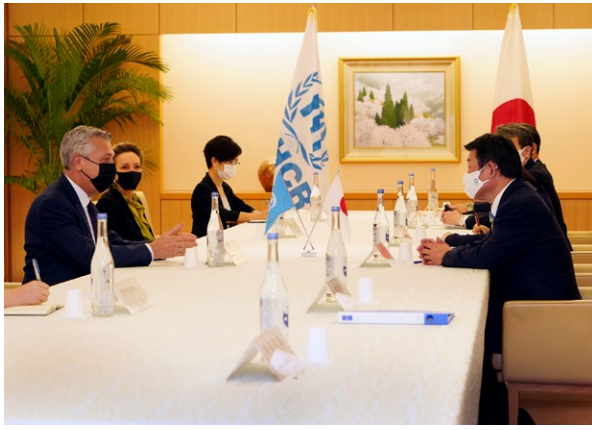
In addition, the second G7 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting was held in December in Liverpool, and Foreign Minister Hayashi attended. In regard to economic partnership, based on the G7 Leaders' Statement issued on December 3, the G7 reaffirmed the common principles on sustainable and resilient quality infrastructure investment and development finance. The ministers also discussed the new threat of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. The G7 reaffirmed their commitment to contribute towards vaccinating the world in 2022 and on working together to expand regional vaccine manufacturing and regulatory capacity, reinforcing health systems, and delivering quality vaccines and other services.

In regard to the G20, the first G20 Development Ministers' Meeting was held in Matera, Italy in June, and was attended by then Foreign Minister Motegi. During the meeting, given that the \$2.5 trillion annual financing gap to achieve the SDGs has been exacerbated by COVID-19, G20 Ministers discussed the need to diversify financing sources. Ministers also discussed regional development and promotion of the SDGs in rural areas in developing countries, taking into consideration that COVID-19 has made it even more difficult to achieve the SDGs in rural areas.

In addition, Prime Minister Kishida attended the G20 Rome Summit in October. At the Summit, the G20 reaffirmed its commitment to a global response to support a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient recovery across the world, able to promote equity and accelerate progress on all SDGs. The G20 also recognized the critical role of quality infrastructure investments in the recovery phase.

C. Partnership with International Organizations

In order to address various development issues and facilitate assistance through partnerships with international organizations, Japan holds dialogues



Then Foreign Minister Motegi meeting with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Grandi

with United Nations agencies and major international organizations. In 2021, Japan held regular policy dialogues with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), and others. In addition, in July 2021, then Prime Minister Suga and then Foreign Minister Motegi respectively held meetings with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Grandi and Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros (see "Stories from the Field" on page 141 for Japanese personnel who work at IOM, and page 12 in Part I for Japanese personnel who work at international organizations).

2 Efforts for Spreading Awareness of Development Cooperation

(1) Efforts for Information Disclosure and Promoting Public Understanding and Support

The Government of Japan makes the following enhancements and efforts for public relations and information dissemination regarding ODA.

A. Strengthening public relations and information dissemination

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) redesigned the ODA website ¹⁴ and then relaunched it in March 2021. MOFA also publishes an ODA email newsletter, ¹⁵ and conducts public relations activities using social media such as Twitter (see “ODA Topics” on page 139 for details).

Furthermore, MOFA introduces ODA in an easy-to-understand manner, including by distributing the animated video series “Go! ODA-Man” ¹⁶ using the ODA PR character “ODA-Man” featured in the popular anime “Eagle Talon,” and by releasing documentary videos featuring a famous Japanese TV personality and author Mr. MATAYOSHI Naoki.

In addition, MOFA holds one of Japan’s largest international cooperation events called “Global Festa JAPAN” every year around the time of International Cooperation Day (October 6), jointly with JICA and the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) (in 2021, it was held in a hybrid format both in-person at the Tokyo International Forum and online on Saturday, October 9 and Sunday, October 10).

In overseas countries, Japanese diplomatic missions

also disseminate information, for example by issuing press releases on the occasion of signing and handover ceremonies of ODA projects. The diplomatic missions also organize site-visit tours (press tours) of Japan’s development cooperation projects for the local media. In addition, Japan creates PR pamphlets, distributes the English version of the White Paper on Development Cooperation, and disseminates information in local languages via social media and websites, among other efforts.

B. Information disclosure on implementation and evaluation of ODA

The Government of Japan launched the “ODA Mieru-ka Site” ¹⁷ (a website for visualization of ODA), and posts project summaries, results and ex-ante/ex-post evaluations, and other related information on the JICA website (there were 4,840 project posts as of October 2021).

Likewise, the MOFA website publishes the results of ODA evaluations ¹⁸ and other such information, in addition to new ODA projects, and statistical materials, in order to promote more effective implementation of ODA.

C. Promotion of development education

MOFA holds the “ODA Delivery Lecture” to explain ODA and other international cooperation at educational institutions, NGOs, and other organizations in Japan. 17 ODA Delivery Lectures were provided in 2021. In addition, JICA implements the “International Cooperation Delivery Lecture,” in which ex-Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) and others talk as lecturers about their experience and life in developing countries, “Visit JICA,” in which students visit JICA offices in Japan, and



“ODA-Man” ©DLE
Global Festa JAPAN (October 2021)



The ODA Delivery Lecture given online by MOFA officials

¹⁴ MOFA's ODA Website: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/index.html>

¹⁵ The ODA email newsletter: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/mail/bn.html> (in Japanese only)

¹⁶ Animated video series “Go! ODA-Man”: https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/press/event/page22_001008.html (in Japanese only)

¹⁷ ODA Mieru-ka Site: <https://www.jica.go.jp/oda/> (in Japanese only)

¹⁸ ODA evaluations: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/index.html>

ODA
Topics

7

ODA Public Relations

Learn more about Japan's ODA Activities that Bring Benefits to the World, and the Contributions of the Japanese People!

● Information dissemination about development cooperation

According to a Cabinet Office public opinion survey^{*1} conducted in 2020, in response to the growing awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 85.7% of respondents answered that in development cooperation in the future “Japan should more actively promote development cooperation” or “The current level of development cooperation is appropriate,” indicating a positive evaluation for development cooperation. ODA, public funds for promoting such development cooperation, is a vital diplomatic tool to address global issues such as infectious diseases and climate change in collaboration with the international community, as well as to improve Japan's standing in the international community.

In order to further promote understanding of the need for ODA and what it actually is, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) is actively engaged in public relations efforts through various types of media, including the MOFA website, email newsletters, social media, and YouTube, and works to disseminate information broadly to the public.

● Documentary series

The “ODA Challengers” series^{*2} is a series of documentary-style videos that introduces the actual frontlines of ODA projects. The series covers subjects such as a female engineer making strenuous efforts on a subway construction site in India; technicians striving to resolve issues in the Olkaria Geothermal Power Development Project in Kenya; and a human resource development project in Laos conducted by a construction company from Wakasa Town, Fukui Prefecture. A video about a geological survey company from Sapporo, Hokkaido, taking on the challenge of repairing and maintaining wells in Bolivia depicts a story where the company and employees were able to grow together through their first overseas expansion.

MOFA also released a video series named “Japanese People Shaping the Future of the World,”^{*3} which explores the enthusiasm of frontrunners who are actively involved in disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding, health and medical care, and other fields, through dialogue with them based on the theme of “Human Security.” MOFA appointed author and TV personality Mr. MATAYOSHI Naoki as the host of this series.



Documentary series



Go! ODA-Man

● Go! ODA-Man

In addition, ODA-Man, who enters the fourth year as MOFA's ODA PR character (see also “Strengthening public relations and information dissemination” on page 138), has also released a variety of videos^{*4} to inform people about Japan's ODA that contributes the world. In 2021, three videos focused on assistance in the infrastructure sector, including roads, ports, and railroads, were released: “ODA on the Road to Development,” “A Partner'ship in Port Development!,” and “Envisioning the Future through Urban Railroads.” Please take advantage of those videos in school and university classes as a beginners' guide to ODA.

● Global Festa JAPAN 2021

In October 2021, the international cooperation event Global Festa JAPAN^{*5} was held for the first time in two years. The theme of this year, the 30th year, was “Toward a Society with Rich Diversity—Let's Talk about the Future We Want.” There was an on-stage program with appearances from a wide array of guests, as well as experience-based events, including exhibitions and activity reports from NGOs, international organizations, private companies, universities and other entities working in international cooperation. The event was held in a hybrid format combining on-site participation and online streaming, and a total of over 10,000 people attended on-site or participated online over the two days.

MOFA held panel discussions and talk sessions focused on diversity, regional revitalization and the overseas expansion of small and medium-sized enterprises, and the participation of the younger generation. Moreover, there was a record high of 234 entries in MOFA's customary photo contest, in which professional photographer Mr. AOKI Hiroshi and Mr. YONEYAMA Kazuhisa of Leica Camera Japan Co., Ltd. served as judges and selected the winning works. The results are available in the event report^{*5} on the ODA website.

^{*1} The FY2020 Public Opinion Survey on Diplomacy took place from October to December 2020. The Cabinet Office entrusted it to a survey organization, which implemented a mail survey of 3,000 Japanese nationals aged 18 and over across Japan (<https://survey.gov-online.go.jp/r02/r02-gaiko/index.html>) (in Japanese only).

^{*2} https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/sanka/page24_000070.html (in Japanese only)

^{*3} https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/sanka/page23_001312.html (in Japanese only)

^{*4} https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/press/event/page22_001008.html (in Japanese only)

^{*5} https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/press/event/page23_001313.html (in Japanese only)

the “JICA Essay Contest on International Cooperation for Junior and Senior High School Students.” JICA also provides the exhibition facility “JICA Global Plaza.”

D. On-site ODA experience

In order to foster understanding of ODA projects among the Japanese people, JICA works to provide on-site ODA experiences to teachers, local public entities’ officials, and others.

E. Promotion of discussion and dialogue

The Government of Japan holds information sessions regarding ODA including assistance for small and medium-sized enterprises through ODA projects. Likewise, the Japanese government also holds lectures and symposiums to introduce trends in international cooperation and Japan’s efforts, offering opportunities for dialogue with the public interested in diplomacy and ODA.

(2) Enhancement of Human Resources and Intellectual Foundations for Development Cooperation

The Government of Japan has set a target of 1,000 Japanese working for UN-related agencies by 2025. Japan proactively provides support to seek out, train, and help develop the careers of human resources with the capacity to be active on the world stage while collaborating with higher educational institutions and Japan offices of international organizations.¹⁹ Based on the recommendation made by the Advisory Board for ODA to “develop human resources for development cooperation,” Japan organizes seminars in and outside of Japan to explain the recruitment system of international organizations for students at secondary and higher educational institutions and company employees. Recently, seminars are mainly conducted online, which enables Japanese UN staff working on the ground remotely participate and share their experiences with specific examples. Japan also produces YouTube videos, and organizes seminars by high-ranking officials and HR managers from international organizations, among other efforts.

Moreover, the Government of Japan strives to nurture human resources to be active in international organizations, including in the area of international

development cooperation, through Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme (see pages 12 and 13 in Part I for the activities of a Japanese staff member at international organizations, and “Stories from the Field” on page 141 for a career interview with a staff member of an international organization after working as JPO). MOFA has dispatched a cumulative total of over 1,800 JPOs since MOFA started this programme in 1974, 54 of whom were sent in FY2020. In addition, MOFA implements the “Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development”²⁰ (see “Human Resources Development for Peacebuilding” on page 46 for details).

Through the PARTNER (Participatory Network for Expert Recruitment)²¹ website, JICA centrally distributes information on international cooperation (such as recruitment and various trainings and seminars opportunities) lead by a wide range of actors such as ministries, agencies, JICA, NGOs, international organizations, companies and universities. It also provides activities such as human resources registration services and career counseling. Furthermore, JICA offers 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. JICA secures human resources with competencies and abundant work experience in developing countries through the Senior Advisor System, as well as offers the Associate Experts Program and the Capacity Enhancement Training for human resources development.

Furthermore, the JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute



Ms. NAMIKI Ai, Programme Policy Officer at WFP Rwanda office (JPO since 2018), distributing specialized nutritious foods for children to mothers at the Mahama refugee camp in Rwanda (Photo: WFP)

¹⁹ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Recruitment Center for International Organizations website (<https://www.mofa-irc.go.jp/>) (in Japanese only) provides information on vacancies in international organizations and a variety of information on working in international organizations.

²⁰ Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development: https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/peace_bf_ikusei_shokai.html (in Japanese only)

²¹ International Cooperation Career Information Website “PARTNER”: <https://partner.jica.go.jp/> (in Japanese only)

Stories from the Field

Voices of Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations

—Realizing the dream by doing my best each day
(Introducing the careers of Japanese personnel)—

8

Longing for a job that is international and helpful to the people in junior and senior high school days

From my junior and senior high school days, I had always had a vague longing to work for an international organization to help people by traveling all around the world, and I wanted to be like that in the future. This was in the 1990s, a time when the work of Japanese staff members of international organizations was being covered in the media, including former UN High Commissioner for Refugees OGATA Sadako.

However, I had rarely left my hometown of Hokkaido, let alone traveled outside Japan, and for someone like me “the world” seemed a tremendously long way away. Although there was only so much a local Japanese junior and senior high school student could do, I studied hard including English in order to enter university and engaged in social contribution activities through the Girl Scout troop I belonged to. Participating in an English speech contest and Girl Scout exchange camp in Alaska were highly valuable experiences.

The fascination of multilingual and multicultural environments: Encounters with Africa and the world

I went to International Christian University and conducted research into the use of multiple languages, focusing on young people in Kenya, as my graduation thesis. I stayed in Kenya during my summer vacation, interacting with students of the same age and traveling to the surrounding countries. Through this experience, I was completely fascinated by the rich culture and the positive-thinking people I met, and returned to Japan with a strong determination to work in a multilingual and multicultural environment and to obtain a job opportunity in the African continent.

A long and winding path: From working in a company, via overseas graduate study, and becoming a JICA project formulation advisor in Senegal

After graduating from university, I studied French, which is essential for working in Africa, while gaining work experience in a company, believing “Perseverance prevails” in Tokyo. Afterwards, I resigned from my company and went to France, to continue studying French, and then went to graduate school. I took development studies so as to continue research into “multilingualism and multiculturalism” and “migration and migrants,” at graduate school and also served as an intern and carried out my graduation research in Mali in West Africa. After that, I worked as a trading company employee and then as a JICA project formulation advisor, over a total of six and a half years in Dakar, the capital of Senegal in West Africa, during which time I also experienced childbirth.



The author during her internship in Mali

Working as a JPO and then becoming an IOM staff member

I applied for the position of a Junior Professional Officer (JPO),*1 just before reaching the age limit. (I had just had my second child, and the



The author giving a speech at a workshop

term of my position as a JICA project formulation advisor in Senegal was coming to an end.) I was hired and, in the following year, I took up a new post at the Morocco office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the only UN organization that specializes in handling issues connected with the global migration. After completing the JPO mission, I was hired as a staff member affiliated to the same office. As of this writing, I have worked in this office for five years in total.

At the IOM, I am in charge of implementing projects for “migration and development” and “governance,” as well as monitoring and evaluating projects overall in Rabat, the capital of Morocco. Specifically, we have various projects, including for supporting the national policy formulation and promoting multicultural coexistence, to ensure that migration contributes to the development of both host and outflow countries. Although there are a lot of on-site work and a series of processes for managing projects within deadlines and limited budget, I am able to fully utilize my past working experience.

Messages to readers: It is fine to take the long way around, sending an encouraging message for women

It may seem like a detour as I became a staff member of an international organization approximately 10 years later after leaving Japan, yet I do not have any regret at all. I had learned both efficiency-oriented ways of work and process-oriented ones at the Japanese company and JICA respectively, and have therefore been able to be of immediate help and contributed to the organization. I can say that doing my best each day, in a given environment, helped me to find the next stage in my journey and brought me to my current destination. And this is not the goal.

I have a message for women. There are many women playing an active role in international organizations. I would be lying if I said having and raising children never made it harder for me to further my career. However, international organizations are most certainly working environments where these issues are widely understood, and there are numerous women in managerial positions. (In fact, all of my previous superiors have been women!) I was able to have and raise two children while working. Indeed, having a family is actually what helps me to stay positive each day, even when I face difficulties in my job.

FUNAKAWA Natsuko

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Morocco

*1 See page 140 for details on JPO Programme.

for Peace and Development ²² analyzes and synthesizes knowledge gained in the field of development cooperation and provides feedback to JICA projects,

thereby contributing to the realization of human security and the achievement of the SDGs, as well as helping to develop human resources.

²² On April 1, 2020, the JICA Research Institute changed its name to the JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development in order to carry on and enhance the philosophy of the late OGATA Sadako, who spearheaded the establishment of the JICA Research Institute, and to strengthen its intellectual contributions to world peace and development.

3 Efforts to Ensure Appropriate Development Cooperation

Japan's development cooperation centered on ODA has not only contributed greatly to the development and growth of developing countries, but also to establishing firm bonds of friendship and trusting relations between Japan and developing countries. It has also made a large contribution toward enhancing Japan's standing in the international community as well as ensuring the peace and prosperity of Japan. On the other hand, there have been cases of fraud committed in ODA projects, failures in delivering expected outcomes and delays due to unforeseen circumstances.

In order to take lessons from these experiences for the future, the Government of Japan has continued making various efforts to improve evaluation systems, enhance transparency, improve project management processes, and hold dialogues with a wide range of stakeholders, including recipient countries and civil society. The Government of Japan will continue to make tireless efforts to implement more effective and appropriate development cooperation.

The Ministry of Finance's Fiscal System Council raised questions on October 20, 2021 about the funds for the ODA grant aid projects, which JICA keeps from delivery to JICA until their payment to the recipient governments, in accordance with the Act of the Incorporated Administrative Agency-Japan International Cooperation Agency. On November 25 of the same year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) announced measures for improvement to reduce and optimize the funds.

Following the measures for improvement, the situations of ODA grant aid projects for which a certain amount of time has passed since the decision of implementation will be examined. After the examination, the options of the termination of the projects that do not have a prospect for progress and the return of their funds to the national treasury will be considered. The relevant organizations will further strive for appropriate and efficient execution of grant aid budgets, such as through discussions with recipient governments.

JICA has introduced its Guidelines for Environmental and Social Consideration as a part of its efforts to ensure the appropriateness of its development cooperation and it is striving to implement ODA projects with due consideration for human rights, the environment and social impacts.

(1) Prevention of Fraudulent Practices

Fraudulent practices related to ODA projects not only disturb their appropriate and effective implementation, but also undermine trust in ODA projects that are funded by the public's taxes. Therefore, fraudulent practices are absolutely unacceptable.

Based on lessons learned from past fraudulent practices, efforts to prevent those practices have been strengthened. These include enhancing monitoring systems (such as "strengthening the function of the Consultation Desk on Anti-Corruption" and "expanding third-party checks"), reinforcing penalties (such as "increasing the maximum period for suspension measures," "raising the amount of penalty charges for breaching contracts" and "introducing a point-deduction system on corporations that repeatedly commit serious fraudulent practices") and expanding the scope for suspension measures (such as "including the groups of the corporations on which the measures have been imposed, as well as entities who have received business transfers from the corporations for which the measures have not yet been lifted, in the scope").

Japan will make continuous efforts to prevent fraudulent practices, under the strong determination that fraudulent practices related to ODA projects are absolutely unacceptable.

(2) Securing the Safety Measures for People Involved in International Cooperation Projects

Ensuring the safety of not only JICA-related workers but also all people involved in international cooperation projects, such as companies and NGOs, is a prerequisite for the implementation of development cooperation centered on ODA projects. In 2021, as a response to the global spread of COVID-19, MOFA and JICA continued to support the travel of people involved in international cooperation projects, including Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) who work on development cooperation on the ground in countries around the world.



©SAITO Takao

Furthermore, following the terrorist attack in Dhaka, Bangladesh in July 2016, the “Final Report”²³ was released as the outcome of the review by the Council on Safety Measures for International Cooperation Projects, in which the relevant ministries, agencies, government-related organizations and experts participated. MOFA and JICA have made efforts to implement the safety measures²⁴ mentioned in the Final Report, and also continue and enhance actions to ensure the effectiveness of safety measures for people involved in international cooperation projects. The Council has become permanent after the Final Report and the Council in 2021 discussed the safety risks of the people involved in international cooperation projects as well as the implementation of the projects amid the COVID-19 pandemic in the context of terrorism, political instability and COVID-19.

The risk of terrorism remains serious even amid the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2021, MOFA released an expanded edition of “Golgo 13’s Security Guidelines for Japanese SMEs Abroad (in Japanese only),” which has been utilized to strengthen safety measures of Japanese nationals, including those involved in international cooperation projects, with an additional episode and commentary on how to tackle “multiple risks” such as terrorism amid an infectious disease pandemic. MOFA has posted the episodes on its website and printed additional copies of the expanded edition of the Guidelines.

After the fall of Kabul in August 2021, the Government of Japan has provided support, including issuing visas and helping arrange flight tickets, to Japanese nationals in Afghanistan, local staff of the Embassy of Japan in Afghanistan and of the JICA Afghanistan office, and others under the recognition that the safe evacuation of all people who wish to leave the country was an urgent issue. As a result of these efforts, a total of over 500 Afghan people with ties to Japan had arrived safely in Japan by the end of January 2022. The Government of Japan will continue to exert all efforts to ensure the safety and provide necessary assistance in leaving Afghanistan for Japanese nationals, local staff members, and others who remain in Afghanistan, while closely cooperating with relevant countries including the United States and Qatar.

(3) Enhancing Management and Ensuring Accountability of ODA

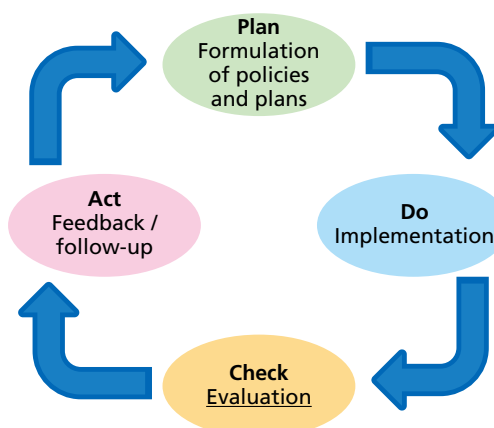
In order to enhance management and ensure the accountability of ODA, Japan has worked on thorough implementation of the following measures: (i) enhancing the PDCA cycle (project formation (Plan), implementation (Do), evaluation (Check), follow-up activities (Act)), (ii) strengthening the Program Approach, 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 each project, 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)”²⁵ as well as ODA evaluations by third parties in order to ensure objectivity and fairness. The recommendations and lessons obtained from these evaluations are reflected in ODA policy to further improve ODA management.²⁶

Chart IV-3

PDCA Cycle



In addition to “development viewpoints,” which determine whether ODA is contributing to the partner country’s development, the third-party evaluations are also conducted from “diplomatic viewpoints,” which

²³ https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22_000141.html

²⁴ The following five points are listed as new safety measures: (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, and (v) Heightening crisis management awareness and improving organizational structure of the MOFA and the JICA.

²⁵ Other than at the policy level, 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 or more and on grant aid projects in which the maximum amount of aid offered through an E/N is ¥1 billion or more. In addition, 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 10 years have elapsed following the decision to implement the project.)

²⁶ In addition to policy-level ODA evaluations (third-party evaluations), regarding Grant Aid implemented by MOFA, internal evaluations have been carried out for projects with a limit on Exchange of Notes (E/N) of ¥200 million or more, and third-party evaluations have been carried out for projects of ¥1 billion or more since FY2017. The results of these evaluations have been publicized and utilized to improve the formation of future ODA proposals.

determine what favorable impacts ODA has on Japan's national interests.

Evaluations from "development viewpoints" are conducted based on three evaluation criteria, namely, whether the ODA policies are consistent with Japan's high-level policies, international priority issues, and the needs of the partner countries (Relevance of Policies), what effects Japan's ODA has in practice (Effectiveness of Results), and whether appropriate processes had been taken to ensure the relevance of the policies and effectiveness of the results (Appropriateness of Processes). Evaluations from diplomatic viewpoints are conducted based on two criteria: how ODA is expected to contribute to Japan's national interests (Diplomatic Importance) and how ODA has contributed to the realization of Japan's national interests (Diplomatic Impact).

MOFA publishes the evaluation results on its website ²⁷ to fulfill public accountability and to gain public understanding and support for ODA by enhancing transparency of ODA.

Moreover, JICA also conducts evaluations on respective projects of grant aid, ODA loans, and technical cooperation, as well as thematic evaluations on each project. JICA conducts consistent ex-ante, implementation, and ex-post evaluation for each project and has established a coherent evaluation mechanism for each of these aid modalities. As for projects that exceed a certain amount, JICA conducts ex-post evaluations by third-party evaluators (external evaluations). JICA also strives to enhance impact evaluations, ²⁸ recognizing the importance of quantitative examination of the effects of their projects.

MOFA and JICA conduct the ODA evaluations primarily based on the Evaluation Criteria of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). ²⁹

(4) Efforts to Address Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment in Development Cooperation

International concern regarding sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH) in humanitarian and development assistance has been growing in recent

years. In October 2018, the United Kingdom held an international conference on SEAH and major donors including Japan signed commitments to strengthen efforts to tackle it. In July 2019, the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) also adopted the DAC Recommendation on Ending Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment in Development Co-operation and Humanitarian Assistance.

In response to such movements, MOFA has conducted awareness raising for its staff through activities including training. It has also put the summaries of Japan's basic position and the DAC Recommendation on the MOFA website to promote understanding among the Japanese public.

JICA has also raised awareness of the importance of SEAH prevention among a wide range of relevant parties involved in JICA projects by posting on its website a message from the president about eradicating SEAH and by adding SEAH prevention measures to its employment regulations and ethics guidelines for JICA personnel. JICA also works to develop a consultation service as well as a response and monitoring system in the event that cases arise.

In 2021, Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) Working Group, which was the main implementing body of MOFA's NGO Study Group for "PSEAH in International Cooperation: Study of Global Trends, and the Development and Dissemination of Guidelines to Implement in Japan," developed "PSEAH Implementation Quick Reference Handbook" and its study group report. Interests in the issue are also growing in Japan and the eradication of SEAH was on the agenda at the First Partnership Promotion Committee Meeting of the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings, which was held in August 2021.

In December 2021, a joint letter to the United Nations Secretary-General was issued, led by the United Kingdom and other like-minded countries, as a call for further efforts by UN agencies to prevent and respond to SEAH, and Japan (Foreign Minister Hayashi) joined in signing the letter.

²⁷ <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/index.html>

²⁸ Evaluation method verifying the effects of development projects by using methods from statistics and econometrics.

²⁹ DAC evaluation criteria: In December 2019, coherence was added to the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability that had been in use since 1991.

Reference

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1 FY2021 ODA Budget (Initial Budget)

(1) ODA Budget

(Units: ¥100 million, %)

Category	FY2020			FY2021		
	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	5,610	45	0.8	5,680	69	1.2
Project budget (net)	15,687	751	5.0	17,357	1,670	10.6
Scale of projects (gross)	22,700	638	2.9	24,124	1,424	6.3
JP¥ exchange rate against US\$	¥110			¥108		

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	FY2020			FY2021		
	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	5,144	47	0.9	5,209	65	1.3
1. Bilateral Grants	4,195	-28	-0.7	4,192	-3	-0.1
(1) Economic development assistance, etc.	1,632	1	0.1	1,632	—	—
(2) Technical cooperation	2,551	-25	-1.0	2,550	-1	-0.0
(3) Others	12	-4	-25.0	10	-2	-16.7
2. Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	949	75	8.5	1,017	68	7.2
(1) UN and other international organizations	644	60	10.3	711	67	10.4
(2) MDBs	305	14	5.0	306	1	0.4
II Loans	466	-2	-0.4	470	4	0.9
JICA (Finance and Investment Account)	466	-2	-0.4	470	4	0.9
III Total	5,610	45	0.8	5,680	69	1.2

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.
 - The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.

(3) ODA Project Budget (for the 10 Ministries and 2 Agencies)

(Units: ¥100 million, %)

Category	FY2020			FY2021		
	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	8,604	634	8.0	9,053	449	5.2
1. Bilateral Grants	4,890	-35	-0.7	4,860	-30	-0.6
(1) Economic development assistance, etc.	1,632	1	0.1	1,632	—	—
(2) Technical cooperation	3,246	-32	-1.0	3,218	-28	-0.9
(3) Others	12	-4	-25.0	10	-2	-16.7
2. Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	3,714	669	22.0	4,192	478	12.9
(1) UN and other international organizations	1,063	440	70.7	1,160	98	9.2
(2) MDBs	2,651	229	9.5	3,032	381	14.4
II Loans	14,096	4	0.0	15,071	975	6.9
(1) JICA (Finance and Investment Account)	14,000	50	0.4	15,000	1,000	7.1
(2) Others	96	-46	-32.3	71	-25	-25.8
III Total (project scale)	22,700	638	2.9	24,124	1,424	6.3
(Reference) Amount received	-7,013	—	—	-6,767	—	—
Net	15,687	751	5.0	17,357	1,670	10.6

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.
- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.

(4) Financing Sources for the ODA Project Budget and Expenditure by Type of Assistance

FY2020 project budget				FY2021 project budget			
Gross ¥2.2700 trillion (2.9% increase)				Gross ¥2.4124 trillion (6.3% increase)			
Expenditure by type of assistance		Budgetary sources		Budgetary sources		Expenditure by type of assistance	
Grant aid 163.2 billion (0.1% increase)		General account 561.0 billion (0.8% increase)	MOFA 442.9 billion (1.2% increase)	General account 568.0 billion (1.2% increase)	MOFA 449.8 billion (1.6% increase)	Grant aid 163.2 billion (same as previous year)	
Technical cooperation 324.6 billion (0.1% decrease)					Technical cooperation 321.8 billion (0.9% decrease)		
Others 1.2 billion (25% decrease)					Others 1.0 billion (16.7% decrease)		
UN and other international organizations (Contributions) 106.3 billion (70.7% increase)		Total for 11 ODA-related ministries and agencies 118.1 billion (0.7% decrease)	Total for 12 ODA-related ministries and agencies 118.2 billion (0.0% increase)	UN and other international organizations (Contributions) 116.0 billion (9.2% increase)			
MDBs (Contributions/issuance of government bonds for contributions) 265.1 billion (9.5% increase)		Special account 1.0 billion (4.3% increase)	Special account 1.0 billion (0.3% decrease)	MDBs (Contributions/issuance of government bonds for contributions) 303.2 billion (14.4% increase)			
		Subscriptions/issuance of government bonds for contributions 275.9 billion (27.5% increase)	Subscriptions/issuance of government bonds for contributions 316.9 billion (14.9% increase)				
ODA loan, etc. 1.4096 trillion (0.0% increase)		Fiscal Investment and Loan Program, etc. 1.4321 trillion (0.0% decrease)	Fiscal Investment and Loan Program, etc. 1.5265 trillion (6.6% increase)		ODA loan, etc. 1.5071 trillion (6.9% increase)		
[Net ¥1.5687 trillion (5.0% increase) Amounts received ¥701.3 billion]				[Net ¥1.7357 trillion (10.6% increase) Amounts received ¥676.7 billion]			

(Notes) Each figure has been rounded to the nearest ¥100 million.

Figures in parantheses show the change from the previous year.

(5) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (General Account)

(Units: ¥ million, %)

Category	FY2020	FY2021		
	Budget amount	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
Cabinet Office	—	19	19	—
National Police Agency	18	19	0	1.7
Financial Services Agency	166	189	22	13.4
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	822	819	-3	-0.4
Ministry of Justice	450	357	-93	-20.8
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	442,901	449,798	6,897	1.6
Ministry of Finance	77,514	78,023	509	0.7
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	16,847	17,119	272	1.6
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	6,417	6,229	-187	-2.9
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	2,686	2,599	-87	-3.2
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	12,267	11,978	-289	-2.4
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	336	315	-22	-6.5
Ministry of the Environment	590	492	-98	-16.6
Total	561,015	567,955	6,939	1.2

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.
- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.

(6) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (Project Budget)

(Units: ¥ million, %)

Category	FY2020	FY2021		
	Budget amount	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
Cabinet Office	—	19	19	—
National Police Agency	18	19	0	1.7
Financial Services Agency	166	189	22	13.4
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	822	819	-3	-0.4
Ministry of Justice	450	357	-93	-20.8
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	484,119	494,058	9,939	2.1
Ministry of Finance	1,734,638	1,870,030	135,392	7.8
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	16,847	17,119	272	1.6
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	6,827	6,620	-207	-3.0
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	12,305	9,736	-2,569	-20.9
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	12,892	12,621	-272	-2.1
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	336	315	-22	-6.5
Ministry of the Environment	590	492	-98	-16.6
Total (project scale)	2,270,013	2,412,393	142,380	6.3
(Reference) Amount received	-701,292	-676,715		
Net	1,568,721	1,735,678	166,957	10.6

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.
- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.

2 Japan's ODA Disbursements in 2020

(1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2020)

● Including disbursements for graduated countries

2020 (calendar year)		Dollar basis (US\$ million)			Yen basis (¥100 million)		
Type		Current year	Previous year	Rate of increase/decrease (%)	Current year	Previous year	Rate of increase/decrease (%)
	Grant aid	1,290.78	1,396.67	-7.6	1,378.07	1,523.01	-9.5
	Debt relief	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Grants provided through multilateral institutions	1,792.62	1,160.78	54.4	1,913.85	1,265.78	51.2
	Technical cooperation	2,405.36	2,726.24	-11.8	2,568.02	2,972.85	-13.6
	Total grants	5,488.76	5,283.68	3.9	5,859.94	5,761.64	1.7
	Government loans etc. (Amount disbursed: Gross disbursement)	11,420.03	9,401.75	21.5	12,192.30	10,252.22	18.9
	(Amount recovered)	6,692.46	7,250.94	-7.7	7,145.03	7,906.85	-9.6
	(Amount recovered excluding debt relief)	6,692.46	7,250.94	-7.7	7,145.03	7,906.85	-9.6
	(Net disbursement)	4,727.57	2,150.81	119.8	5,047.27	2,345.37	115.2
	(Net disbursement, excluding debt relief)	4,727.57	2,150.81	119.8	5,047.27	2,345.37	115.2
	Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis)	16,908.80	14,685.43	15.1	18,052.24	16,013.86	12.7
	Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis)	10,216.34	7,434.49	37.4	10,907.21	8,107.01	34.5
	Grants to multilateral institutions	2,504.71	3,123.03	-19.8	2,674.09	3,405.54	-21.5
	Government loans etc. to multilateral institutions (Amount disbursed)	913.24	1,119.72	-18.4	975.00	1,221.01	-20.1
	Total of contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	3,417.96	4,242.75	-19.4	3,649.09	4,626.55	-21.1
	Total ODA (Gross disbursement)	20,326.75	18,928.18	7.4	21,701.33	20,640.41	5.1
	Total ODA (Net disbursement)	13,634.29	11,677.25	16.8	14,556.30	12,733.56	14.3
	Nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)	5,249.24	5,346.04	-1.8	560,421.50	582,963.20	-3.9
	% of GNI (Net disbursement basis)	0.26	0.22		0.26	0.22	

Notes:

- "Grant aid" here means grant aid provided by Japan as a scheme of assistance, excluding debt relief and grant aid provided through international organizations.
- Conversion rate: 2020 US\$1 = ¥106.7624, 2019 US\$1 = ¥109.0459 (exchange rates are specified by the OECD-DAC).
- "Graduated countries" are countries that have been removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients (see Chart I-10, page 23).
- Japan has a record of disbursements to the following 17 graduated countries and regions: Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Brunei, Chile, Cook, [French Polynesia], [New Caledonia], Oman, Romania, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay (square brackets [] denote region names).

(2) Distribution of Bilateral ODA by Sector (2020)

2020 (calendar year)

(Commitments basis, Unit: US\$ million)

Sector	Type	Grant Aid	Technical Cooperation	Total Grants	Government Loans etc.	Bilateral ODA	
							(Share, %)
I. Social infrastructure & services		1,993.20	522.20	2,515.39	2,667.92	5,183.31	23.30
1. Education		232.01	302.83	534.84	88.36	623.20	2.80
2. Health		1,322.24	56.07	1,378.31	543.26	1,921.58	8.64
3. Population policies and reproductive health		11.39	10.42	21.81	—	21.81	0.10
4. Water and sanitation (water and sewerage)		147.37	62.09	209.45	1,961.29	2,170.74	9.76
5. Government and civil society		218.89	36.32	255.21	—	255.21	1.15
6. Other social infrastructure & services		61.30	54.47	115.77	75.00	190.77	0.86
II. Economic infrastructure & services		134.72	284.88	419.60	8,934.65	9,354.25	42.05
1. Transport and storage		93.46	208.30	301.76	8,469.06	8,770.82	39.43
2. Communications		8.88	16.27	25.14	—	25.14	0.11
3. Energy		26.88	34.51	61.39	453.84	515.22	2.32
4. Banking and financial services		3.68	13.82	17.50	11.75	29.25	0.13
5. Business support		1.83	11.99	13.81	—	13.81	0.06
III. Production sectors		134.07	237.57	371.64	653.83	1,025.48	4.61
1. Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries		119.52	122.90	242.42	313.43	555.85	2.50
1) Agriculture		45.61	95.86	141.46	180.36	321.82	1.45
2) Forestry		2.17	15.91	18.08	97.38	115.46	0.52
3) Fisheries		71.74	11.14	82.88	35.68	118.57	0.53
2. Manufacturing, mining, and construction		6.37	81.80	88.17	340.41	428.58	1.93
1) Manufacturing		6.37	77.40	83.77	340.41	424.18	1.91
2) Mining		—	4.40	4.40	—	4.40	0.02
3) Construction		—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Trade and tourism		8.18	32.87	41.05	—	41.05	0.18
1) Trade		7.59	27.20	34.79	—	34.79	0.16
2) Tourism		0.58	5.68	6.26	—	6.26	0.03
IV. Multi-sector aid		481.88	568.86	1,050.74	1,862.08	2,912.82	13.09
1. General environmental protection (environmental policy, biodiversity, etc.)		22.45	21.53	43.98	128.86	172.83	0.78
2. Other multi-sector (urban/rural development, etc.)		459.43	547.33	1,006.77	1,733.22	2,739.99	12.32
V. Commodity aid and general program assistance		74.50	—	74.50	2,260.65	2,335.15	10.50
1. General budget support		—	—	—	2,260.65	2,260.65	10.16
2. Food aid		74.13	—	74.13	—	74.13	0.33
3. Import support		0.37	—	0.37	—	0.37	0.00
VI. Debt relief* ¹		—	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Humanitarian aid (emergency food assistance, reconstruction, disaster risk reduction, etc.)		362.96	4.91	367.87	261.98	629.86	2.83
VIII. Administrative costs and others		15.94	788.05	803.99	—	803.99	3.61
Total		3,197.27	2,406.47	5,603.74	16,641.12	22,244.86	100.00
BHN (I.+III.1+V.2+VII.)		2,549.81	650.01	3,199.82	3,243.33	6,443.15	28.96

Notes:

- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.
- The above table includes aid for "graduated countries." "Graduated countries" are countries that have been removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients.
- BHN (basic human needs) are composed of: I. Social infrastructure; III-1. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries, V-2. Food aid, and VII. Humanitarian aid from the table above.
- BHN refer to the minimum living requirements for human beings such as food, clothing, and shelter, as well as education.
- The data is based on DAC_CRS Statistics categories.

*1 "VI. Debt relief" does not mean granting new funds but rather modifying repayments and other conditions of government loans etc. already provided by the government.

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