

From
the People of Japan

White Paper on
Development Cooperation 2022

Japan's International Cooperation



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Foreword

One year and three months have passed since I was appointed as Minister for Foreign Affairs in November 2021. In February 2022, Russia commenced its aggression against Ukraine. It has caused a large number of casualties and displaced persons, and also caused energy and food crises, which have impacted not only Europe, but the whole world. Japan is not an exception and the lives of Japanese citizens and the business of Japanese companies have been seriously affected.

The international community is currently facing an upheaval of order that is described as the end of the post-Cold War era, and we stand at a historic crossroads. Universal values such as democracy and the rule of law, and the international order, which have until now underpinned the peace and prosperity of the international community, have been exposed to serious challenges. The dissemination and implementation of international rules on development also remains a challenge, and opaque and unfair development finance hinders the sound and sustainable development of some developing countries. The security environment surrounding Japan is also becoming increasingly severe and uncertain. At the same time, we must not halt efforts to address global issues such as the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate change, and global health, including infectious diseases control.

While these compound risks threaten the security of each country and human security of each individual, Japan works on diplomatic issues with a determination to fully safeguard its own peace and stability, to fully defend universal values, as well as to contribute to humankind and to take on a leadership role in the international community. In order to promote cooperation toward realization of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP),” to help the world and Japan prosper together, and to enhance the resilience of the international community, it is essential to fundamentally strengthen Japan’s own diplomatic capacity by making more strategic use of ODA, which is one of the most important diplomatic tools.

From this viewpoint, the “Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2022” announced in June 2022 mentioned strengthening diplomacy through the expansion of ODA as one of its pillars. In September, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) announced the revision of the “Development Cooperation Charter,” which articulates the basic policy of Japan’s development cooperation. This is the first revision in eight years, and the details are currently under review. In December, the Advisory Panel proposed the following three basic policies based on the guiding principle of human security: maintaining the international order based on universal values; creating an environment for developing and prospering together with the world; and leading international efforts to address global issues. In order to advance development cooperation in keeping with the times, we will formulate a new Charter during the first half of this year, taking into consideration the Advisory Panel’s proposals and the opinions of a wide range of stakeholders.

In order to maximize the impact of development cooperation and enhance the strategic approach, it is also essential to further strengthen collaboration with domestic and international partners. Cooperation with like-minded countries such as the G7, the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. (QUAD), and with international organizations, have diplomatic significance to promote multilateralism and international cooperation, disseminate and implement international rules on development, and strengthen Japan's leadership on global issues. All Japan efforts in collaboration with the private sector and civil society are also significant for enhancing the attractiveness of development cooperation that takes advantage of Japan's strengths.

For more than 65 years, Japan has continued development cooperation with approaches unique to Japan, such as development led by developing countries themselves and efforts focusing on people, while working together hand-in-hand with Japanese companies and civil society. Such Japan's efforts have earned the trust of developing countries and the international community in promoting diplomacy, and many countries have expressed their gratitude to Japan. We believe that this trust by the world is the driving force for opening up a new frontier for Japanese diplomacy.

In 2023, Japan assumes the G7 Presidency and also starts serving a two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. Japan shall respond to the trust of developing countries, which constitute the majority of the international community, while ensuring its own security and growth. Furthermore, Japan shall lead the international community in responding to the multiple crises facing the world, such as climate change, environmental issues, and global health, with approaches unique to Japan. From a medium- to long-term perspective, promoting development cooperation is an investment in the future of the international community and Japan, in the sense that it helps realize a peaceful and stable society. Japan's development cooperation is expected to play a greater role than ever before. Japan shall demonstrate further leadership with the understanding and support of Japanese citizens.

March 2023

Minister for Foreign Affairs

HAYASHI Yoshimasa



Introduction: Significance of Japan's International Cooperation

Japan has achieved reconstruction and economic growth after the war with assistance from developed countries and international organizations at the time, and has provided various support to a total of 190 countries and regions. Japan's total Official Development Assistance (ODA) in 2021 ranked third following the United States and Germany, which shows that Japan plays an important role as a responsible country in the international community.

As we see from the impact of the spread of COVID-19 and the situation in Ukraine, a crisis that occurs somewhere in the world is by no means "someone else's problem" for any country or region in the world. The economies of Asia and Japan are closely linked to each other, and mutual support between Asia and Japan is essential for mutual development. World peace and economic and social stability and prosperity are also important to Japan, which depends on imports for much of its energy and food from overseas. To contain COVID-19, and prepare for future pandemics, helping to strengthen medical systems in developing countries will lead to reducing the risk of infection in Japan and improving the environment for Japanese companies to expand their businesses.

Over 65 years of development cooperation have greatly contributed to building amicable bilateral relations with developing countries and to their growing trust in Japan in the international arena. As an expression of their appreciation to and trust in Japan, some developing countries have adopted the results of Japan's cooperation in the design of their own banknotes and postage stamps. At the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake and other recent disasters, Japan received many messages of sympathy and support from countries around the world, including developing countries. Moreover, Japan has received tremendous support from countries around the world, including developing countries, in international elections, as evidenced by the fact that Japan has been elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council 12 times, the most of any UN member state. These are the fruits of diplomatic efforts, including the strategic use of ODA and can be said to demonstrate the high level of trust and expectation that the international community has toward Japan. In an age of competition among nations, where uncertainty is increasing due to changes in the balance of power, it becomes even more important to strengthen relationships with countries, including developing countries, in order to uphold the international order based on the rule of law.

As globalization continues, an increasing number of Japanese companies are expanding their operations overseas. However, it is also true that there are challenges to business development in developing countries, such as underdeveloped infrastructure, lack of technical personnel, and opaque tax and legal systems. ODA is and shall continue to be utilized to support the business development of Japanese companies in developing countries by helping to solve such issues, conducting surveys and verification projects for business start-ups, and promoting the use of Japanese technology.

As the international community becomes increasingly interdependent, global issues that cannot be solved by the efforts of a single country are becoming more serious and complex. Japan shall continue to utilize ODA in an appropriate and transparent manner, and provide more strategic and effective development cooperation in partnership with various stakeholders around the world, with the aim of resolving global issues so that such efforts lead to the enhancement of Japan's peace, security, and prosperity.



Cambodia's two Mekong bridges built with the cooperation of Japan, known as the "Kizuna Bridge" and "Tsubasa Bridge," respectively, and used in banknote designs



Prime Minister Hu'akavameiliku (center) welcoming the Japan's Self-Defense Forces airplane arriving at the airport in Tonga carrying emergency relief goods in response to the damage caused by the volcanic eruption (January 2022)



Kenya's largest geothermal power plant construction project supported by Japan with yen loans. Most of the turbines for power generation are made in Japan, and delivered by Japanese companies. (Photo: Marubeni Corporation)

Development Cooperation Charter and Japan's Development Cooperation

Japan's development cooperation is founded on the Development Cooperation Charter (decided by the Cabinet in February 2015). The Development Cooperation Charter describes Japan's basic policies to contribute 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 to secure Japan's national interests through such efforts. The Official Development Assistance (ODA) is expected to be utilized ever more strategically and effectively as one of the most important foreign policy tools. In order to promote development cooperation in keeping with the times, Japan plans to formulate a new Development Cooperation Charter during the first half of 2023 (the Development Cooperation Charter is available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website. ¹ See "ODA Topics" on page 23 for the revision of the Development Cooperation Charter).

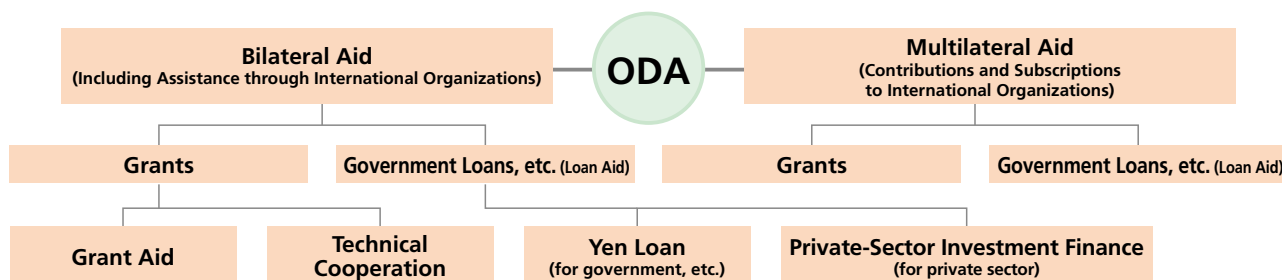
1. Japan's basic policies of the Development Cooperation Charter

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 promotes 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 issues."

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 22) 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, etc.** ODA can also be broken down into **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 to developing regions without repayment obligation. The assistance scheme implemented by Japan is comprised of **grant aid**, which provides funds needed for the socio-economic development of developing regions without repayment obligation, and **technical cooperation**, which develops human resources that will be responsible for the socio-economic development of developing regions by utilizing Japanese expertise, technology, and experience. Among contributions and subscriptions to international organizations, contributions earmarked for specific countries and projects are accounted for as bilateral aid in statistics (see Chart I-1 on page 13).

Additionally, Japan's **government loans, etc. (loan aid)** in bilateral aid include **yen loans** for lending the funds needed for the socio-economic development of developing regions on 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 private entities 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 multilateral 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 multilateral 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 xv.

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



Sierra Leone "Electricity is back! Make it snappy while it's available!"
Photo: Alazi Dream Project Japan



Timor-Leste "Tug of War"
Photo: AKAIKE Naoya

Special Photograph Collection (1)

- Stories from the Field -

This collection of photographs is from the "Global Festa JAPAN 2022" photo contest. (See page 149 for details.)



Malawi "Cooking together for children's nutrition"
Photo: International Support and Partnership for Health (ISAPH)



Philippines "First time brushing teeth"
Photo: NPO DAREDEMO HERO



Tonga

"From Japan to Tonga, with all our hearts"
Photo: Peace Winds Japan



Madagascar

"Tree of hope for tomorrow"
Photo: AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS)



Uganda

"Japan and Uganda - smiles connect us over 4,000 km"
Photo: OTA Kenji



Kosovo

"First origami experience"
Photo: KUROSAWA Satoru



Bolivia

"The well revived!!"
Photo: RaaX



Paraguay "The Road Improvement Project in Repatriación"
(Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project)

Local officials and stakeholders expressing their gratitude to Japan at the handover ceremony. The project made it possible for the local residents to use the road safely regardless of the weather.



Djibouti "The Project for the Reinforcement of Maritime Transport Capacity at the Gulf of Tadjourah" (Grant Aid)

The provision of the new ferry for the stabilization and efficiency of the transportation network connecting Tadjourah in the northern region and Djibouti City, the capital.

Special Photograph Collection (2)

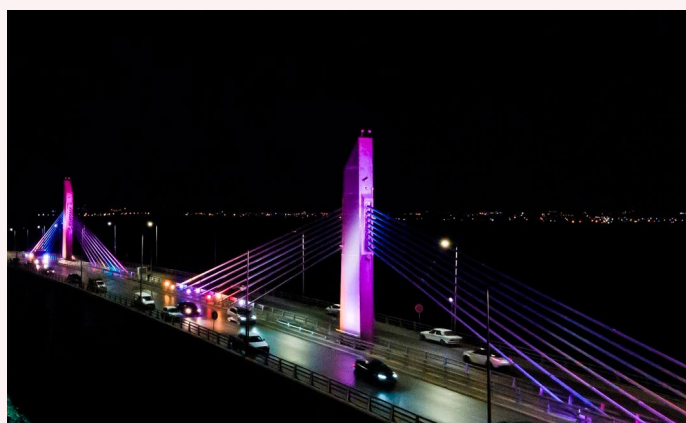
- Stories from the Field -

Japan works to develop quality infrastructure that supports the lives and economic activities of people living in developing countries and serves as the foundation for their national development.



India "Chennai Metro Project"
(Yen Loan)

Chennai Metro running on an elevated railroad. The construction and maintenance of subways promote greater mobility and the alleviation of traffic congestion in the city.
(Photo: Chennai Metro Rail Ltd.)



Tunisia "Rades - La Goulette Bridge Construction Project"
(Yen Loan)

The Rades-La Goulette Bridge lit up on the occasion of TICAD 8. Connecting La Goulette on the north side of the Tunis Lake Canal with Rades on the south side serves to divert traffic that was concentrated in the central districts of Tunis. (Photo: JICA)



Nepal

"Nagdhunga Tunnel Construction Project" (Yen Loan)

Construction of a tunnel at the Nagdhunga Pass, which will serve as a gateway to the Kathmandu Metropolitan Area. It is expected to respond to the rapidly increasing traffic demand, reduce travel time, and enhance traffic safety. (Photo: JICA)



Viet Nam

"Nhat Tan Bridge (Viet Nam-Japan Friendship Bridge) Construction Project" (Yen Loan)

Construction of the bridge for the improvement of logistics efficiency and the easing of traffic congestion. (Photo: JICA)



Laos

"Nam Ngum 1 Hydropower Station Expansion Project" (Yen Loan)

Installation of a power generator in the construction work of the Nam Ngum Dam, which increased the capacity of stable, sustainable, and efficient power supply to the Vientiane Metropolitan Area. (Photo: JICA)



Philippines

"New Bohol Airport Construction and Sustainable Environment Protection Project" (Yen Loan)

A control tower, administration building, and utility facility constructed alongside the airport. By developing and expanding airport facilities, it became possible to meet the increasing demand for air transport. (Photo: JICA)



Iraq

"Water Supply Improvement Project in Kurdistan Region" (Yen Loan)

Repairment of the dilapidated water transmission and distribution facilities, and the construction and expansion of water treatment plants. Securement of a stable water supply service is expected through this project. (Photo: JICA)

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Columns marked with  were created by selecting topic ideas from those submitted by the public via MOFA's Twitter, Facebook, ODA email newsletter, or similar.

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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 2022 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]



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) removing defective beans with coffee farmers in Rwanda (Photo: JICA)

[Back Cover Photograph]



A JICA project expert engaging in a project for strengthening operational capacity of unexploded ordnance removal agency (UXO Lao) and counterparts of UXO Lao in Khammouane Province, Laos (Photo: JICA)



See page 148 for details on ODA-Man

In principle, this White Paper describes Japan's development cooperation implemented from January 1 through December 31, 2022. However, some matters that occurred through February 2023 are also included. Please note that all titles of individuals in the text are current as of the time of writing.

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Japan's Efforts in Response to the Situation in Ukraine

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Prime Minister Kishida explaining Japan's efforts to ensure a stable supply of energy and food during a video conference on the situation in Ukraine with the leaders of the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Canada, Poland, and Romania, as well as the NATO Secretary General (September 8, 2022) (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

Part I Japan's Efforts in Response to the Situation in Ukraine

1 Japan's Efforts in Response to the Situation in Ukraine

2022 was a year in which Russia's aggression against Ukraine had major impacts not only on Ukraine and its neighboring countries, but also on the entire world, while COVID-19 was still not under control.

It has been reported that approximately one third of the population of Ukraine was displaced from their homes since the beginning of the aggression in February 2022, with 6.54 million people ¹ forced to evacuate internally, including children and civilians, and nearly 16 million people ² forced to seek safety abroad.

Many of the displaced persons both in and outside Ukraine have lost their jobs and are in tough situations. There are growing needs for assistance such as shelter, food, basic necessities, and health and medical care in both Ukraine and its neighboring countries where many Ukrainian people have evacuated. Meanwhile, ongoing attacks have damaged infrastructure and energy facilities across Ukraine. This situation continues to deteriorate the ability to provide essential social services such as health, medical care, and education. Furthermore, it is seriously bearing on the lives of citizens, due to the fact that debris removal as well as landmine and unexploded ordinance (UXO) disposal are firstly required so as to allow access to essential services and the provision of relief products. Additionally, the need for winterization assistance is also increasing due to the prolonged conflict.

Owing to the prolonged situation between Russia and Ukraine, both of which have been the world's leading grain exporters, the stable supply of grain has been seriously affected especially in developing countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, which depend heavily on imported grain produced in both countries. In addition, grain transaction prices are rising across the

globe, inflating food prices. Furthermore, the energy prices are also soaring since the energy supply has not expanded globally due to multiple factors such as geopolitical tension caused by Russia's aggression against Ukraine and unseasonable weather worldwide, while energy demand is increasing in line with the economic recovery from COVID-19.

As described above, Russia's aggression against Ukraine has deteriorated the humanitarian situation in Ukraine and its neighboring countries and destabilized Ukraine's economy and society. The situation has also disrupted global supply chains across the world, bringing into sharp relief new challenges for the entire international community, regarding food and energy security, which form the basis for people to live with dignity, as well as the maintenance and strengthening of a free and open trading system.

Such a complex crisis is by no means "someone else's problem" for Japan, and has seriously affected both the life of Japanese citizens and the business of Japanese companies. Without resolute responses to any attempts to change the status quo, the consequences would be to allow any similar intentions in other areas and regions than Ukraine, including Asia. As Japan finds itself in the most challenging and complex security environment since the end of World War II, it becomes increasingly important to maintain and strengthen a free and open international order based on the rule of law and to fully uphold universal values such as freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. Taking the consistent position that Russia's outrageous act should not be tolerated and that it is necessary to advance support for Ukraine and its neighboring countries, Japan has been



Foreign Minister Hayashi attending the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in virtual format (February 2022)



Internally displaced persons receiving relief items from Japan such as blankets, plastic sheets and sleeping mats in Yampil, Vinnytsia Oblast, Ukraine (Photo: UNHCR)

¹ International Organization for Migration (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), statistics dated October 2022.

² United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Operational Data Portal, statistics dated November 29, 2022.



Shelter Operation in Romania for people fleeing Ukraine (Photo: IOM)

working with the international community, including the G7 members, since the outset of Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

At the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meetings and the G7 Summit held during the months of April and March, Japan announced the provision of a total of \$200 million in emergency humanitarian assistance. With this announcement, Japan clearly demonstrated its stance to stand by Ukraine and its people, to overcome this crisis in collaboration with the international community, including the G7 members, and to ensure the peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community.

Since then, Japan has continuously shown its willingness to work on the relevant issues by actively leading discussions in international forums such as the G7, G20, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), and the United Nations General Assembly, in collaboration with the international community. This includes not only responses to humanitarian crises, but also efforts for the comprehensive recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine and support for countries referred to as "the Global South," since they are facing global food insecurity and energy crises caused by the situation in Ukraine and are becoming particularly vulnerable.

Japan responds to these humanitarian situations and provides medium- to long-term assistance for the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine as well as assistance to the countries facing global food and energy security crises.

In December, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)'s supplementary budget included ¥60 billion for assistance in Ukraine and its neighboring countries, and ¥102.2 billion for developing countries in Asia, island countries, the Middle East, and Africa. As the role of the G7 grows more than ever before, Japan, as the holder of the 2023 G7 Presidency, takes the lead in addressing various issues facing the international community, including the situation in Ukraine.



Activities by the JICA survey team dispatched to Moldova (Photo: JICA)

(1) Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance in Ukraine and Its Neighboring Countries

A. Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance through International Organizations

Following the start of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, on February 24, Japan issued a Foreign Minister's Statement, addressing its intention to make efforts to improve the situation in cooperation with the international community including the G7 members, standing alongside Ukraine and its people. At the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held virtually three days later, Foreign Minister Hayashi announced emergency humanitarian assistance to Ukraine in the amount of \$100 million, and other G7 countries strongly welcomed Japan's decision. At the G7 Summit held in Brussels, Belgium, in March, Prime Minister Kishida shared serious concerns with other G7 leaders about the humanitarian situation in Ukraine and its neighboring countries and announced an additional \$100 million in emergency humanitarian assistance. This was in response to a call for further assistance from Ukrainian President Zelenskyy, who attended the meeting.

To put forward the announcement of assistance at the G7 meeting, Japan decided to provide emergency humanitarian assistance totaling \$100 million in March, and an additional \$100 million in April.³ The said assistance, summed up to \$200 million, was provided to Ukraine and its neighboring countries, namely Moldova, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic, through 10 international organizations. These organizations included the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN World Food Programme (WFP), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This humanitarian assistance was delivered to the people of Ukraine facing difficulties in urgent areas such as health and medical care, water and sanitation, food assistance and food security, and protection of displaced persons and children.

³ Including \$3 million provided via FAO and \$4.5 million via UNDP as described in "(2) Support for the Stability and Reconstruction of Ukraine" on page 6.



Food distribution support in Ukraine (Photo: Good Neighbors Japan)



Generators provided by Japan and installed in shelters in Bucha District, Kyiv Oblast (Photo: UNHCR)

B. Bilateral Assistance

Japan makes efforts in response to the situation in Ukraine through JICA, utilizing the network established with other countries and international organizations. JICA dispatched its survey team three times between March and May to Moldova, where Japan has a track record of cooperation in the medical and health sector since the 1990s, in order to assess the cooperation need for accepting displaced persons from Ukraine in the health, medical and humanitarian assistance sectors. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health of Moldova and the World Health Organization (WHO), with whom Japan has long-standing cooperative relationships, Japan coordinated the activities of emergency medical teams from various countries, capitalizing on its know-how accumulated from past disaster relief activities. Japan also embodied the support needs in concrete terms, selected emergency medical equipment, formulated plans for deploying emergency medical teams in preparation for a possible deterioration of the situation, and supported medical data management. In May and September, Japan also donated wireless portable ultrasound devices.

In July, Japan began dispatching experts to Moldova to strengthen its capacity to maintain and manage medical equipment. In August, Japan decided to donate medical equipment worth ¥1 billion to five hospitals that were receiving displaced persons from Ukraine in Chisinau, the capital of Moldova.

In October, Prime Minister Kishida attended the “International Expert Conference on the Recovery, Reconstruction and Modernization of Ukraine,” co-hosted by the Government of Germany and the European Commission, by sending a video message. In the message, Prime Minister Kishida announced that Japan would extend winterization assistance to Ukraine for the forthcoming harsh winter season, in addition to the cooperation provided so far, such as protection and support for displaced persons. Prime Minister Kishida also indicated that Japan, as the 2023 G7 Presidency,

would actively lead discussions within the international community toward the speedy restoration of peace and reconstruction in Ukraine. To give shape to this proposal, Japan announced it would extend Emergency Grant Aid of approximately \$2.57 million in November. The assistance included the provision of generators and solar lanterns as winterization assistance through UNHCR to those who are unable to use heating facilities and lighting equipment due to blackouts. In December, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoshikawa attended the “International Conference in Support of Ukraine’s Civil Resilience,” co-hosted by the Governments of France and Ukraine in Paris, and made known the passing of the supplementary budget, which included a budget for additional assistance in Ukraine and its neighboring countries. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Yoshikawa also announced that Japan would provide necessary humanitarian assistance together with support for Ukraine’s recovery and reconstruction, focusing on urgent humanitarian assistance and strengthening the civilian resilience of the Ukrainian people, along with energy-related support in the form of generators and the like.

C. Efforts by Japanese NGOs

Japanese NGOs also provide a wide range of humanitarian assistance, utilizing ODA. The Japan Platform (JPF) ⁴ decided to conduct a preliminary investigation by member NGOs the day after Russia started its military operations and began investigating the assistance needs and the procurement condition in Ukraine and its neighboring countries. Considering the steeply increasing number of displaced persons and the result of the survey, JPF decided to go into action on March 7. Of the aforementioned total of \$200 million in emergency humanitarian assistance by the Government of Japan, approximately ¥3.5 billion (\$32.6 million) was provided to JPF. Together with private funds, support programs worth a total of ¥4 billion have been organized

⁴ See the glossary on page 145.



Distributing vouchers that can be exchanged for children's winter items to displaced people from Ukraine staying in Romania (Photo: Plan International Japan)

so far, and 12 JPF member NGOs implement support projects. These NGOs provide assistance capitalizing on their strength, such as psychological and social support activities that address the concerns of displaced persons and evacuation support for those who live in dangerous areas, in addition to the distribution of food and daily necessities (including winterization goods) and assistance in the areas of water and sanitation, and medical care.

Furthermore, considering local needs and international trends, the Government of Japan decided in October to relax the requirements and expand the usage of cash transfer support of JPF's emergency and humanitarian assistance projects in response to the situation surrounding Ukraine. Support activities, including cash transfer support, began to be implemented in February 2023.

D. Cooperation among Relevant Ministries and Agencies

In an effort to meet the urgent needs of Ukraine and its neighboring countries, the Government of Japan is working to provide prompt assistance through close coordination among relevant ministries and agencies.

At the G7 Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers' Meeting held in March, the ministers agreed to cooperate in providing assistance to Ukraine in the agricultural and food sectors. In the same month, Dr. Korsunsky, Ambassador of Ukraine to Japan, made a direct request for food aid to then Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Kaneko. Based on this request, the Ministry secured a total of 15 tons of Japanese groceries as relief supplies, consisting of packed rice, canned fish, whole milk powder, and canned bread. In May, these foodstuffs were transported to Poland along with goods such as medicines and medical equipment donated by Japanese pharmaceutical and medical equipment companies to the Embassy of Ukraine in Japan. Then State Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Takebe visited Warsaw in Poland at this opportunity and handed over the abovementioned relief supplies to the Government of Ukraine.



Then State Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Takebe handing the list of relief supplies to Mr. Deshchytisia, Ambassador of Ukraine to Poland (Photo: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

In April, in response to a request from then Ukrainian Minister of Internal Affairs Monastyrsky to then Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Kaneko, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications secured 25 items of fire-fighting/rescue materials and equipment, and communication devices, totaling 30 tons, that could be used in Ukraine, with the cooperation of the Japanese fire departments and private sector organizations/enterprises. In May, the Government of Japan decided to extend Emergency Grant Aid of approximately \$1.66 million to the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) to transport these relief supplies. These relief supplies were delivered to the depot for Ukrainian relief supplies in Poland, along with relief supplies such as medicines and medical supplies donated by private companies to the Embassy of Ukraine in Japan.

E. Non-ODA Budgetary Efforts

The Government of Japan also provides non-ODA assistance. In April, in response to a request from UNHCR, Japan donated 5,000 blankets, 4,500 plastic sheets, and 8,500 sleeping mats to UNHCR as in-kind assistance in accordance with the International Peace Cooperation Act. In addition, approximately 103 tons of humanitarian relief supplies stockpiled at the UNHCR warehouse in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) were transported to Poland and Romania by a Japan Self-Defense Force aircraft.



A Japan Self-Defense Force aircraft transporting UNHCR humanitarian relief supplies, which were delivered afterward to displaced persons from Ukraine via UNHCR (Photo: Ministry of Defense)



Humanitarian relief supplies transported by a Japan Self-Defense Force aircraft arriving in Romania. (From the left) Mr. Dogeanu, Head of the General Directorate for Civil Protection in the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ms. Todorean, Director General of the Department for Global Affairs in Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ueda, Ambassador of Japan to Romania, and Mr. Zapata, UNHCR Representative in Romania, confirming Japanese assistance (Photo: UNHCR)

The transported goods are being delivered to people displaced from Ukraine through UNHCR.

In addition, under Article 116-3 of the Self-Defense Forces Law, Japan grants equipment and goods of the Japan Self-Defense Forces to the Government of Ukraine, including bulletproof vests, helmets, winter battle dress uniforms, tents, cameras, medical supplies, emergency rations, and generators, ensuring their appropriate control after the transfer.

(2) Support for the Stability and Reconstruction of Ukraine

A. Japan's Cooperation to Ukraine to Date

Japan established diplomatic relations with Ukraine in 1992 and started economic cooperation in 1997. Since then, Japan has continuously provided support for the consolidation of democracy, social stability, and transition to a market economy, in order to help Ukraine's self-reliant and sustainable growth.

In 2005, Japan implemented the "Boryspil State International Airport Development Project" in Kyiv as Japan's first yen loan project in Ukraine, to support the development of the country's critical infrastructure. Through this project, Japan contributed to improving the airport's passenger throughput capacity and users' convenience by constructing a new international passenger terminal building and related facilities.

When Ukraine fell into political instability after its independence, Japan contributed to the betterment of people's livelihoods and the regional reconstruction through a dispatch of Japanese electoral observers and a project titled "Early Recovery of Social Services and Peacebuilding in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts," a grant aid for conflict prevention and peace building. In addition, Japan supported financial stabilization through the provision of a "Development Policy Loan."

Japan so far provided technical cooperation in the areas of macroeconomics, energy, and private sector development, with the aim of building capacity of the people of Ukraine to handle challenges in these areas.

The assistance included technical cooperation through the Japan EBRD Fund, JICA training programs, and dispatch of a financial expert as advisor to the Minister of Finance of Ukraine. Japan also provided assistance that would directly benefit people on the ground through Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, focusing on health, sanitation, and education sectors. In 2020, during the spread of COVID-19, Japan provided grant aid of up to ¥200 million for the provision of health and medical equipment such as MRI systems (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 112 for Japan's assistance in public broadcasting).

Based on this long-standing friendly relation between the two countries, the Government of Japan began providing assistance that would contribute to the stability and future of Ukraine, along with the emergency and humanitarian assistance from the onset of Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

B. Support for Ukraine's Stability, Future Recovery and Reconstruction

At the G7 Summit held in March in Brussels, Belgium, Prime Minister Kishida expressed Japan's intention to swiftly provide a loan of \$100 million as a parallel financing with the World Bank to support the Ukrainian economy in addition to emergency and humanitarian assistance. Furthermore, at the Summit-Level Video Conference on the Situation in Ukraine held in April, Prime Minister Kishida announced an increase in financial support from \$100 million to \$300 million, and on May 20, he announced to further double the amount up to \$600 million in total.

The Government of Japan coordinated to fulfill the procedures expeditiously in order to respond to the urgent and short-term financial needs for Ukraine's economic crisis. As a result, as early as April 28 in Tokyo, Foreign Minister Hayashi and Dr. Korsunsky, Ambassador of Ukraine to Japan, exchanged notes concerning the loan aid "Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan," in relation to the initially announced \$100 million (¥13 billion) financial support.



Dr. Korsunsky, Ambassador of Ukraine to Japan, and Foreign Minister Hayashi exchanging notes concerning the Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan (April 2022)



Dr. Korsunsky, Ambassador of Ukraine to Japan, and then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki exchanging notes concerning additional loan aid for the Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan (June 2022)

On June 7, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki and Ambassador Korsunsky exchanged notes regarding additional loan aid of \$500 million (¥65 billion).

In addition to the loan aid, Japan provided assistance of \$3 million ⁵ through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in April during Ukraine's planting season to help restore agricultural production by assisting the planting in agricultural land. In July, Japan additionally provided \$17 million ⁶ through FAO to expand its supplemental grain storage capacity for the upcoming harvest season starting in autumn, and to support grain exports from Ukraine by building the technical capacity of its inspection facility, which became necessary as the alternative transportation routes for grain export were operationalized.

Besides the above-mentioned cooperation, Japan provided assistance of \$4.5 million ⁷ in April for emergency debris removal, and mine action through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in order to ensure the safety of civilians in affected communities in Ukraine, as well as to secure access for the delivery of necessary relief supplies. In addition, through JICA, Japan holds seminars online to share knowledge and experience in post-disaster waste management, such as sorting methods and recycling technologies from its experience following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.

In the area of countermeasures against landmines and UXO, Japan supports mine clearance activities in Ukraine in cooperation with Cambodia, where Japan has provided assistance for landmine removal over the years.

(3) Supporting the Countries Referred to as "the Global South" Facing Serious Impacts

Russia's aggression against Ukraine shakes the very foundations of the existing international order and



Relief supplies arriving in Lviv Oblast in western Ukraine via FAO to support the expansion of Ukraine's grain storage capacity (Photo: FAO)

its consequences spread worldwide. In particular, it inflicts additional damage on economies and societies of developing countries, which are already facing many difficulties.

On the occasion of the G7 Summit in March, Prime Minister Kishida expressed concern that Russia's aggression against Ukraine was fueling the price increase in energy and food, and stated the need for assistance for the affected countries and the importance of moving into action to ensure energy and food security. In May, at the G7 Development Ministers Meeting held in Berlin, Germany, which then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki attended, the "Statement by the G7 Development Ministers on the global effects of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and the G7's comprehensive support for Ukraine, affected neighboring countries as well as countries of the Global South" was issued.

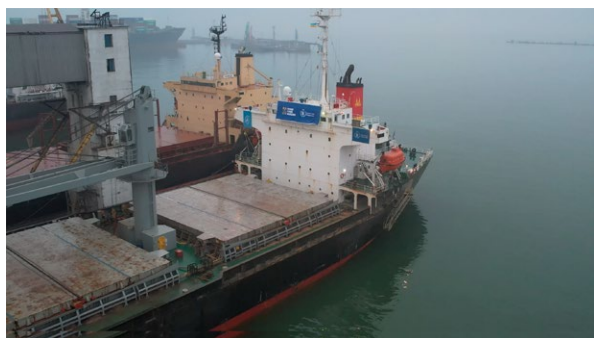
In June, Foreign Minister Hayashi attended the Ministerial Conference "Uniting for Global Food Security" hosted by Germany as a response to the global food security affected by the situation in Ukraine. In the presence of attendees from key donor states including the G7, as well as countries affected by food crises and international organizations, Foreign Minister Hayashi introduced Japan's efforts, including emergency humanitarian assistance through WFP to Yemen and Sri Lanka, both of which were facing increasingly serious food crises due to Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and agricultural assistance to Ukraine through FAO. Foreign Minister Hayashi also stated that Japan was looking into providing further assistance and would continue to provide support correspondent to the needs of affected countries.

At the G7 Elmau Summit held in Germany in June, Prime Minister Kishida emphasized the importance of showing solidarity, through concrete assistance to the countries actually in food crises. In this context, he announced

⁵ As part of the \$100 million additional emergency humanitarian assistance announced in April.

⁶ As part of the \$200 million food security assistance announced in July.

⁷ As part of the \$100 million additional emergency humanitarian assistance announced in April.



Ukrainian wheat being transported to Somalia, a country facing the food crisis, with the assistance of WFP (Photo: Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority)



Ukrainian wheat arriving in Somalia and being packed in bags marked with Japan's national flag (Photo: © WFP/Jamal Ali)

additional assistance in response to the global food crisis, totaling approximately \$200 million,⁸ mainly in the form of food assistance aimed for countries in Africa and the Middle East. In July, as an embodiment of this announcement, Japan decided to provide assistance bilaterally and through UN agencies and Japanese NGOs. It included the provision of food assistance and production capacity building for countries facing food shortages, emergency food assistance to countries in the Middle East and Africa, as well as support for the promotion of grain exports from Ukraine.

Furthermore, at TICAD 8 held in Tunisia in August, Prime Minister Kishida pointed out that the food crisis in Africa was becoming more serious than ever. He announced that, in response to this situation, Japan would co-finance approximately \$300 million with the African Development Bank's African Emergency Food Production Facility to bolster medium- to long-term food production capacity in Africa. Prime Minister Kishida also announced that Japan would continue to provide assistance aimed at strengthening the African countries' own grain production capacity and improving the income of smallholder farmers by further cultivating the skills of 200,000 people in the agricultural field. It would include such initiatives as the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) (see "Stories from

the Field" on page 84) and the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP).

At the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia, held in November, Prime Minister Kishida once again emphasized the need for urgent action to ensure food and energy security. Prime Minister Kishida explained Japan's efforts to date to address the global food crisis caused by the Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and stated that Japan would further enhance its emergency assistance, including food assistance to countries severely affected by rising food and energy prices in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. As an example to embody this commitment, Japan decided to provide an Emergency Grant Aid of \$14 million in order to transport Ukrainian wheat from the Odesa Port to Somalia for distribution in collaboration with WFP. It was implemented in response to Ukrainian President Zelenskyy's announcement at the UN General Assembly in September to donate Ukrainian wheat to Ethiopia and Somalia.

The consequences of the prolonged situation surrounding Russia and Ukraine continue, increasing the need for assistance. As a measure to maintain and strengthen a peaceful and stable international order, Japan strives to support not only Ukraine and its neighboring countries but also developing countries in Asia, the Pacific Island region, the Middle East, and Africa.



Prime Minister Kishida participating in the session on the situation in Ukraine at the G7 Elmau Summit (June 27, 2022) (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)



Foreign Minister Hayashi co-chairing TICAD 8 (August 27, 2022)

⁸ Including the \$17 million in assistance via FAO described in "(2) Support for the Stability and Reconstruction of Ukraine" on page 6.

Japanese Personnel at International Organizations*¹

Playing Active Roles on the Front Lines across the World

Mr. NEMOTO Mioh

Deputy,^{*2} United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Tokyo Office (former JPO^{*3})

In the summer of 2022, I was deployed to the UNICEF Bulgaria Country Office as an Emergency Coordinator for three months to work on humanitarian assistance for displaced persons from Ukraine.

At that time, nearly 700,000 Ukrainians had arrived in Bulgaria via Romania and other countries. Most of them were children and women. In collaboration with the government, NGOs, and communities, I was responsible for all aspects of UNICEF's emergency response activities on the ground, including planning and implementation of humanitarian assistance programs, such as education and psychosocial care and support to displaced children from Ukraine, emergency supply and procurement, and securing human resources, as well as managing financial resources. Furthermore, while communicating with the Embassy of Ukraine, the Embassy of Japan, and the EU Representative Office in Bulgaria, I tried to be flexible in our humanitarian response given the changing nature of the situation of displaced people from Ukraine.

What served as the core for supporting Ukraine's neighboring countries were the support hubs called "Blue Dots." UNICEF established 40 hubs in adjacent countries, working in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The said hubs provided the children and their families with the information and relief supplies they needed for evacuation life, as well as emotional care and spaces for learning and play. "Blue Dots" are administrated utilizing the contributions from the Government of Japan as well as donations from Japanese individuals, organizations, and private companies. The support from Japan is a great help in restoring the daily lives of Ukrainian displaced children, leaving no one behind.



Ms. MAEHARA Masumi

Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF Tajikistan Country Office (former JPO)

I am in charge of the maternal and child nutrition program at the UNICEF Tajikistan Country Office. Despite the country's economic growth, the nutritional condition of the people is not as desirable as it should be, especially for women and children. In addition to stunting, severe wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies, we have observed an increasing trend in obesity and non-communicable diseases in recent years. In the midst of recovery from the socio-economic damage caused by COVID-19, price rising caused by Russia's aggression against Ukraine has made it difficult for people to access nutritious food and health services.

Under these circumstances, with the aim of preventing malnutrition, I work to improve maternal and child diets, promote breastfeeding and healthy complementary food for young children, and support the provision of nutrition services at healthcare facilities and in communities. I also support the capacity building of health workers and providing supplies in order to offer treatment and care for children with severe wasting.

With the support of the Government of Japan, UNICEF works to protect the lives and health of pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children, aiming at providing not only nutrition support but also comprehensive support in the fields of vaccines, water, sanitation and hygiene.

Ms. KANEDA Takako

Supply Chain Officer, Supply Chain Operations Division (SCO), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) Rome Headquarters (former JPO)

In response to the escalation of the aggression against Ukraine in February 2022, WFP began relief operations in Ukraine and its neighboring countries to provide food to those who fled the war, lost their homes and jobs, and became unable to support themselves. WFP had not operated in Ukraine since 2018 and thus had no contracted warehouses or transportation companies. I was deployed to Poland for three months from March 2022 as a member of the first-wave emergency deployment to build a logistics base and a transportation network from Europe to Ukraine from scratch.

Our activities were conducted under certain strain amid the rapidly changing situation upon local logistics regulations, border congestion, and volatile fuel prices. We focused, however, on getting supplies to those in need, in collaboration with private logistics and procurement providers, WFP-led logistics clusters, and humanitarian assistance partners. With the cooperation of the Government of Japan from the beginning of the operation, WFP was able to support 1 million people in conflict-affected Ukraine and the neighboring countries in the one month after the war began, and more than 3 million by the end of the year, through food, cash, and logistical assistance.



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

*2 Scheduled to be appointed as Deputy Representative of UNICEF Syria Country Office in February 2023.

*3 Junior Professional Officer

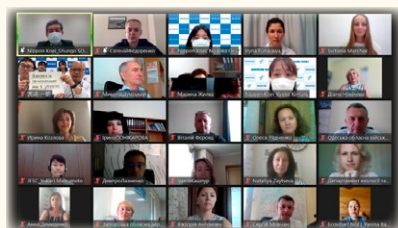
Japan's Efforts in Ukraine and Its Neighboring Countries

Waste Management

Ukraine

Technical Cooperation "Capacity Development for Municipal Waste Management"

JICA held online seminars intended to share Japan's knowledge and experience in post-disaster waste management with debris-stricken Ukraine. The seminars drew over 120 attendees.



Winterization Assistance

Ukraine

Emergency Grant Aid "Emergency Grant Aid for Winterization Assistance in Ukraine"

Large-scale blackouts occurred in various areas of Ukraine caused by the destruction of a large part of energy infrastructure facilities from Russia's attacks. The Government of Japan provided winterization assistance by providing generators and solar lanterns for those without access to heating facilities and lighting equipment.

Financial Support

Ukraine

Loan Aid "Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan"

Japan, in cooperation with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, provided financial support to the Government of Ukraine to support the promotion of various institutional reforms in the economic field.



Assistance to Health and Medical Sectors

Moldova

Dispatch of JICA Survey Team "Dispatch of the Needs Assessment Survey Team to Moldova to Assess the Needs for Humanitarian and Medical Assistance for Displaced Ukrainians"

In cooperation with the Moldovan Ministry of Health and related organizations, through visiting shelters and local medical institutions that accept displaced persons and exchanging information, the team identified the need for future cooperation in the health, medical, and emergency humanitarian assistance sectors. The survey team also joined forces with the Emergency Medical Team Coordination Cell (EMTCC) organized by WHO to contribute to the overall coordination of international medical support and medical information management.



Emergency Humanitarian Assistance

Ukraine

Moldova

Romania

Slovakia

World Food Programme (WFP) "Emergency Humanitarian Assistance/Additional Emergency Humanitarian Assistance in Ukraine and Neighboring Countries"

Japan, through WFP, provided food to approximately 370,000 people in Ukraine and hot meals to approximately 9,600 people in shelters in Moldova. Japan also provided support for the transport of aid workers and relief goods in Ukraine and its neighboring countries.



(Photo: WFP)



(Photo: UNHCR)

Assistance Based on the International Peace Cooperation Act^{*1}

Ukraine	Moldova	Romania	Slovakia
Poland	Hungary		

UNHCR "International Peace Cooperation Operation for the Relief of Afflicted People of Ukraine/ Material Assistance for Afflicted People of Ukraine"

Japan donated 5,000 blankets, 4,500 plastic sheets, and 8,500 sleeping mats to UNHCR. In addition, Japan cooperated in transporting 17,280 blankets, 12,000 plastic sheets, solar lamps, and kitchen sets, totaling approximately 103 tons, using Self-Defense Forces aircraft.

^{*1} Efforts with non-ODA budget.

Japan provides various assistance to Ukraine and its neighboring countries, which have been affected by Russia's aggression against Ukraine. This section introduces some of Japan's efforts.

Japanese NGO's Visible Cooperation

Distribution of Daily Necessities and Educational Support

Ukraine **Poland**
Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)
"Distribution of Food Items and Non-food Items and Educational Support for People Affected by the Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine"

SVA distributed food and daily necessities to the displaced persons staying in shelters in Poland and Ukraine, thereby reducing the burden of their evacuation life. In addition, access to education for children was improved by distributing educational materials and making the learning environment better for children staying in shelters.



(Photo: SVA)



(Photo: IVY)

Support for Medical Equipment

Ukraine
IVY "Capacity Building of First Responders and Support for Medical Equipment, Medicines and Medical Supplies in Ukraine"

IVY developed first aid responders in Ukraine and conducted psychological emergency first-aid training for psychological care. This assistance also contributed to saving the lives of the injured and mental recovery for those who have suffered psychological trauma by providing medical supplies.

Support for Evacuation and Evacuation Life

Ukraine
Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)
"Evacuation of Vulnerable Civilians from Areas Affected by the Humanitarian Crisis and Displaced Needs Support in Ukraine"

PWJ helped people in vulnerable positions, especially the elderly, persons with disabilities, women, and children, evacuate from the eastern, northern, and southern regions of Ukraine to safer areas. They also set up shelters at temporary evacuation sites and distributed food and daily necessities for those evacuees.



(Photo: PWJ)

Supporting Places for Children to Interact

Moldova
Association for Aid and Relief (AAR)
"Development of Protection Mechanisms in Urban and Rural Areas in the Republic of Moldova"

AAR set up a community center in the capital city of Chişinău, and provided necessary services to displaced persons and community residents based on individual assessments. At the Child Friendly Space, group activities such as sports, painting, handicrafts, and watching movies are organized for children of displaced persons and of host communities to participate in together.



(Photo: AAR)

Ukraine

Moldova

Romania

Emergency Humanitarian Assistance

Ukraine **Moldova** **Romania**
Slovakia **Poland** **Hungary**
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
"Emergency Humanitarian Assistance/Additional Emergency Humanitarian Assistance in Ukraine and Neighboring Countries"

Japan, through UNHCR, provided shelter and daily necessities (including blankets, water containers, and hygiene products) and protection services (registration as displaced persons and legal assistance) for 290,000 displaced persons in Ukraine and 510,000 displaced persons in Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia.



(Photo: UNHCR)

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

Japan's total ODA in 2021 ⁹ was approximately \$17,634.14 million (approximately ¥1,935.6 billion) according to the Grant Equivalent System (GE system) ¹⁰ 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 third ¹¹ following the United States and Germany.

The breakdown is as follows. Bilateral ODA accounted for approximately 77.8% of overall disbursements, while ODA to multilateral institutions accounted for approximately 22.2%. Bilateral ODA is expected to contribute to the strengthening of Japan's relations with recipient countries. Meanwhile, ODA to multilateral institutions 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 \$3,257.21 million (¥357.5 billion), or approximately 18.5% of total ODA. Among these grants, grants through multilateral institutions, etc., accounted for approximately \$2,095.7 million (¥230

billion), or approximately 11.9% of total ODA. Technical cooperation accounted for approximately \$2,423.12 million (¥266 billion), or approximately 13.7% of total ODA. With regard to government loans, etc., loan disbursements accounted for approximately \$12,126.28 million (¥1,331 billion), while the grant equivalent of government loans, etc., totaled approximately \$8,035.91 million (¥882.1 billion), or approximately 45.6% of total ODA.

Japan's bilateral ODA disbursements (including support for the graduated countries designated as "developing areas" ¹²), in descending order by percentage of total disbursements (gross disbursements), are as follows. ¹³ (See Chart I-2 on page 14 and Chart III on page 128 for details.)

- ◆ Asia: 59.1% (approximately \$10,519.46 million)
- ◆ Middle East and North Africa: 11.0% (approximately \$1,951.44 million)
- ◆ Sub-Saharan Africa: 9.5% (approximately \$1,691.7 million)
- ◆ Latin America and the Caribbean: 4.0% (approximately \$707.86 million)
- ◆ Oceania: 3.5% (approximately \$618.48 million)
- ◆ Europe: 0.5% (approximately \$96.66 million)
- ◆ Assistance covering multiple regions: 12.5% (approximately \$2,220.96 million)

⁹ DAC members' final figures for ODA disbursements in 2022 are to be published at or after the end of 2023.

¹⁰ The GE system records the amount of government loans, etc., 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 government loans, etc., 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.)

¹¹ OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

¹² Graduated countries designated as "developing areas" refer to the countries and regions graduated from the DAC List of ODA Recipients that the Government of Japan designates as "developing areas" and continues to provide ODA to based on Article 3 (Purpose of the Agency) of the Act of the Incorporated Administrative Agency-JICA. In 2021, by disbursement basis, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Brunei, Chile, the Cook Islands, Kuwait, Oman, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay were under this category.

¹³ Gross disbursement basis.

Chart I-1

Japan's ODA by Type (2021)

2021 (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		1,161.51	1,274.90	-8.9	1,274.93	1,361.12	-6.3
Debt relief		—	—	—	—	—	—
Grants through multilateral institutions, etc.		2,095.70	1,793.46	16.9	2,300.35	1,914.74	20.1
Technical cooperation		2,423.12	2,401.35	0.9	2,659.75	2,563.74	3.7
Total grants (A)		5,680.33	5,469.71	3.9	6,235.03	5,839.60	6.8
Government loans, etc. (Amount disbursed: Gross disbursement) (B)		12,126.28	11,417.36	6.2	13,310.45	12,189.44	9.2
(Amount recovered) (C)		6,186.02	6,643.84	-6.9	6,790.10	7,093.12	-4.3
(Net disbursement) (D)=(B)-(C)		5,940.26	4,773.52	24.4	6,520.34	5,096.32	27.9
(Grant equivalent) (E)		8,035.91	7,711.63	4.2	8,820.64	8,233.12	7.1
Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis) (A)+(B)		17,806.61	16,887.07	5.4	19,545.48	18,029.04	8.4
Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis) (A)+(D)		11,620.59	10,243.23	13.4	12,755.37	10,935.92	16.6
Total bilateral ODA (Grant equivalent basis) (A)+(E)		13,716.24	13,181.34	4.1	15,055.68	14,072.72	7.0
Grants to multilateral institutions (F)		3,474.15	2,503.71	38.8	3,813.41	2,673.03	42.7
Government loans, etc. to multilateral institutions (Amount disbursed) (G)		670.53	913.24	-26.6	736.01	975.00	-24.5
Government loans, etc. to multilateral institutions (Grant equivalent) (H)		443.74	575.19	-22.9	487.08	614.09	-20.7
Total of contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions (Gross and net disbursement basis) (I)=(F)+(G)		4,144.68	3,416.96	21.3	4,549.42	3,648.03	24.7
Total of contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions (Grant equivalent basis) (J)=(F)+(H)		3,917.90	3,078.91	27.2	4,300.49	3,287.11	30.8
Total ODA (Gross disbursement) (A)+(B)+(I)		21,951.29	20,304.03	8.1	24,094.90	21,677.07	11.2
Total ODA (Net disbursement) (A)+(D)+(I)		15,765.27	13,660.18	15.4	17,304.80	14,583.94	18.7
Total ODA (Grant equivalent) (A)+(E)+(J)		17,634.14	16,260.25	8.4	19,356.17	17,359.83	11.5
Nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)		5,127.65	5,223.48	-1.8	562,838.40	557,671.60	0.9
% of GNI (Net disbursement basis)		0.31	0.26		0.31	0.26	
% of GNI (Grant equivalent basis)		0.34	0.31		0.34	0.31	

Notes:

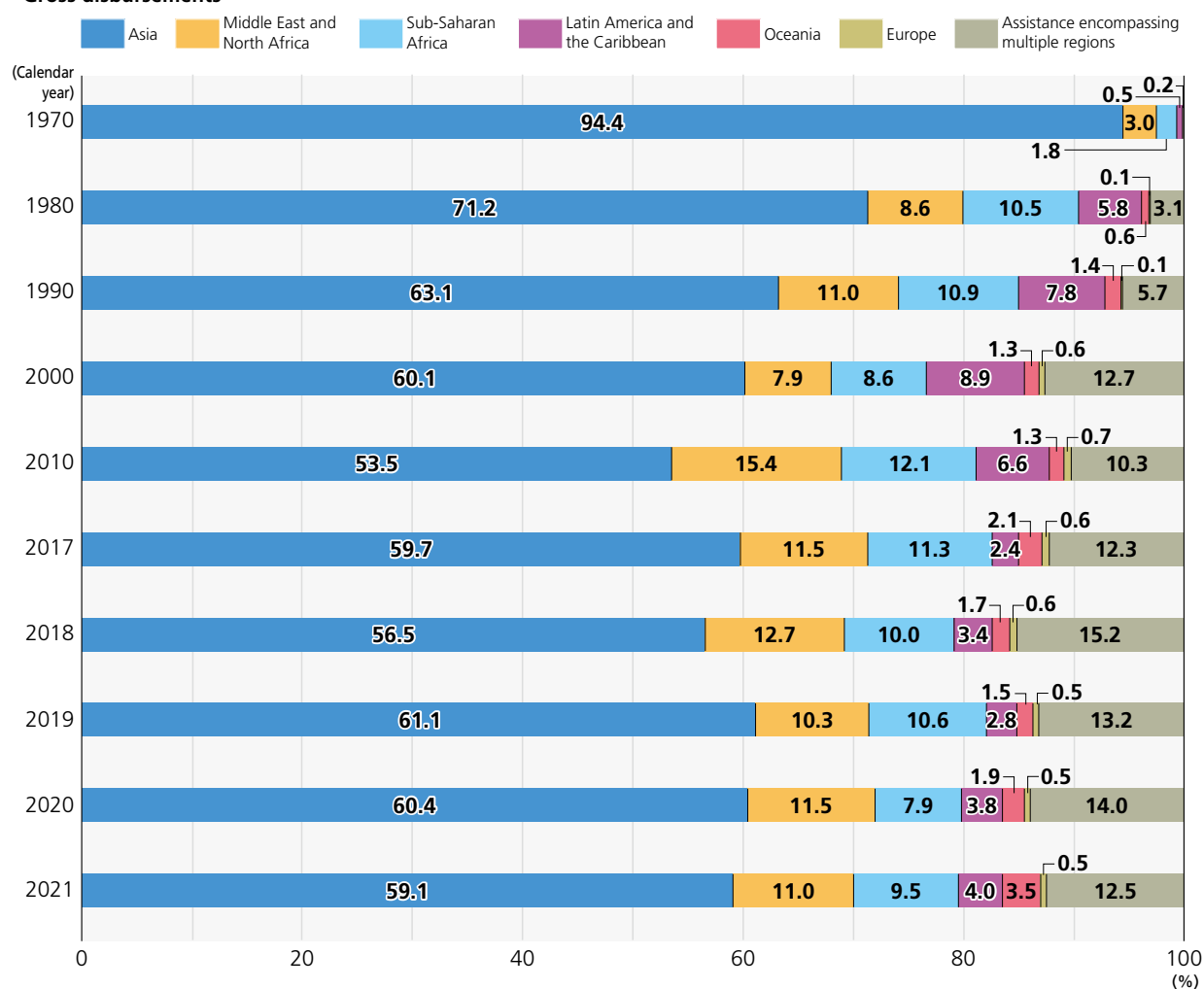
- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.
- [-] indicates that no assistance was provided.
- Conversion rate: 2020 US\$1=¥106.7624, 2021 US\$1=¥109.7653 (exchange rates are specified by the OECD-DAC).
- "Grant aid" here is not the same as grant aid implemented as Japan's aid scheme.

- Excluding assistance for the graduated countries designated as "developing areas." For more information regarding disbursements that include assistance for the graduated countries designated as "developing areas," see Reference Statistics: 2 (1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2021) (page 162).
- Graduated countries designated as "developing areas" refer to the countries and regions graduated from the DAC List of ODA Recipients that the Government of Japan designates as "developing areas" and continues to provide ODA to based on Article 3 (Purpose of the Agency) of the Act of the Incorporated Administrative Agency-JICA. In 2021, by disbursement basis, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Brunei, Chile, the Cook Islands, Kuwait, Oman, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay were under this category.

Chart I-2

Trends in Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region

Gross disbursements



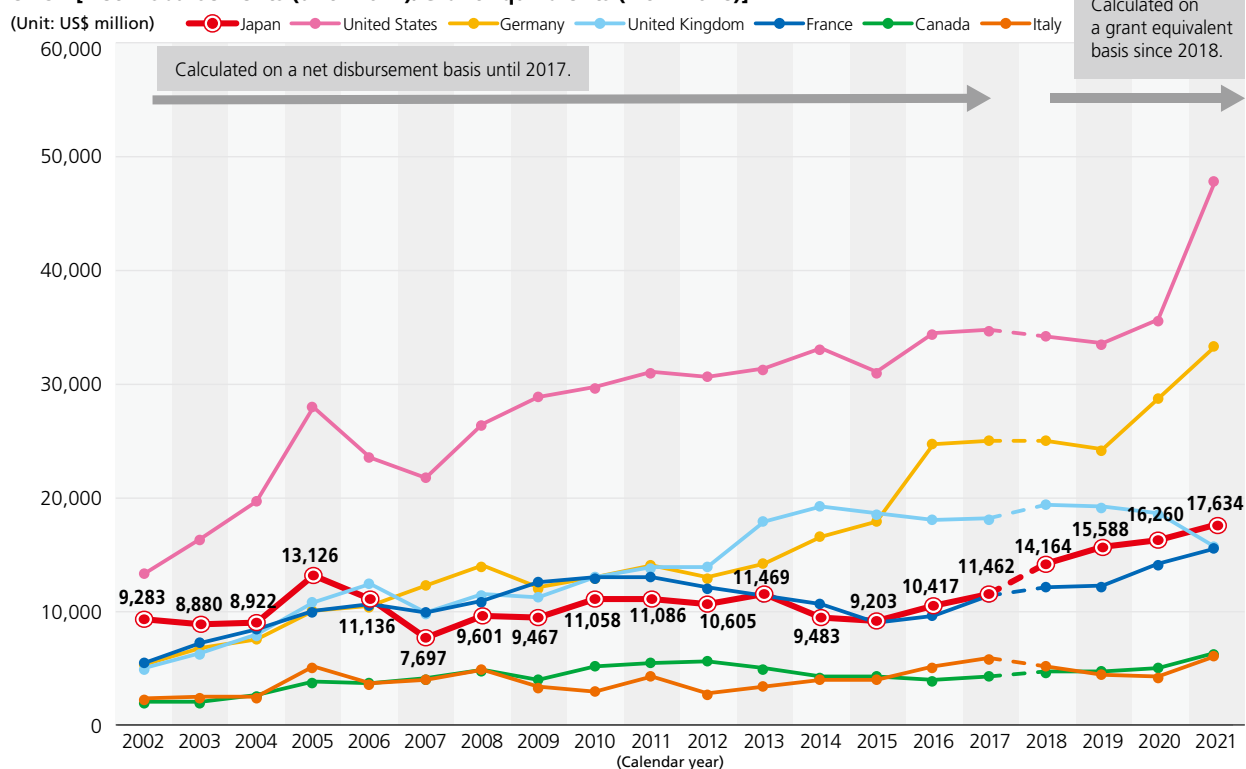
Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Notes:

- Assistance encompassing multiple regions includes assistance that cannot be classified by region, such as dispatchment of survey teams in multiple regions.
- Due to rounding, the total may not add up to 100%.

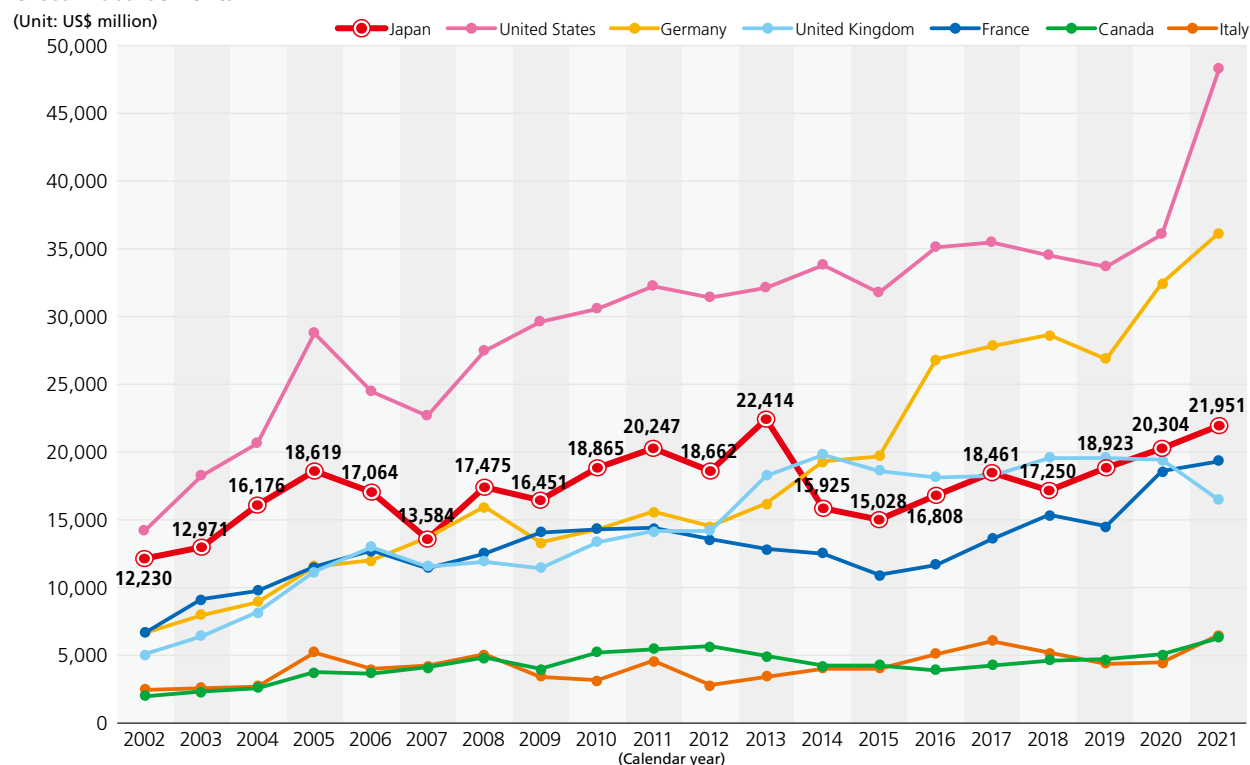
Chart I-3 Trends in the ODA of Major DAC Countries

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



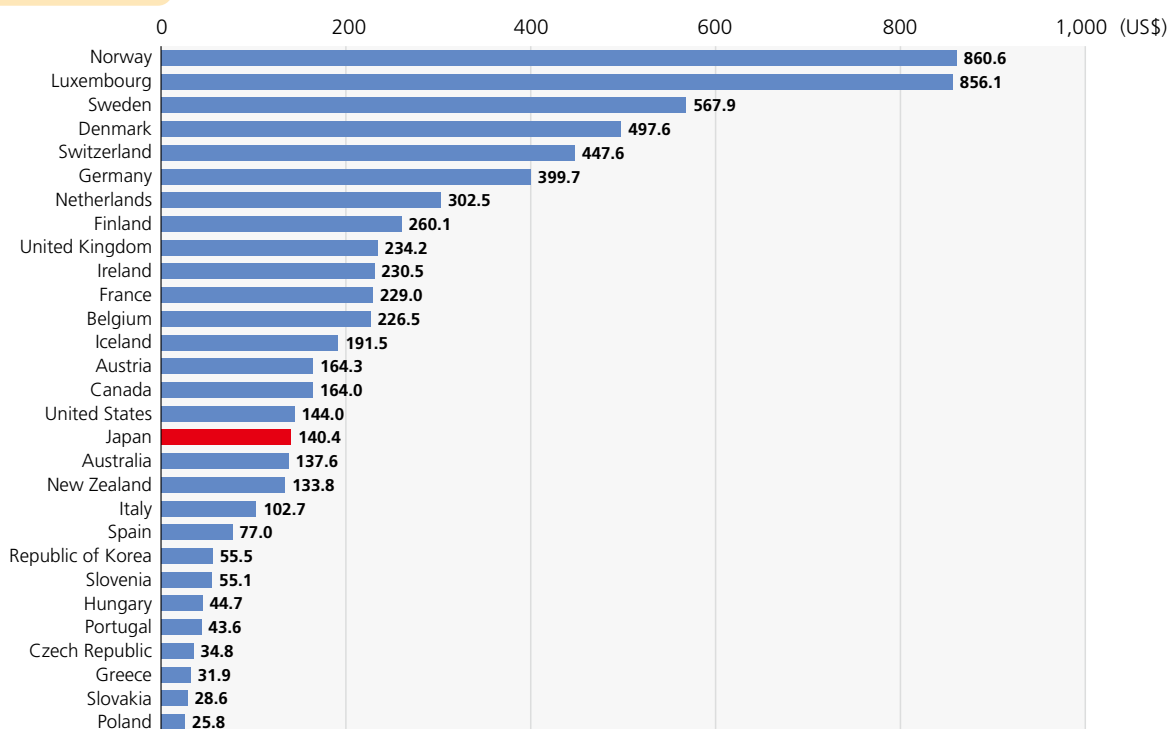
Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Gross Disbursements



Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Chart I-4 Per Capita ODA in DAC Countries (2021)

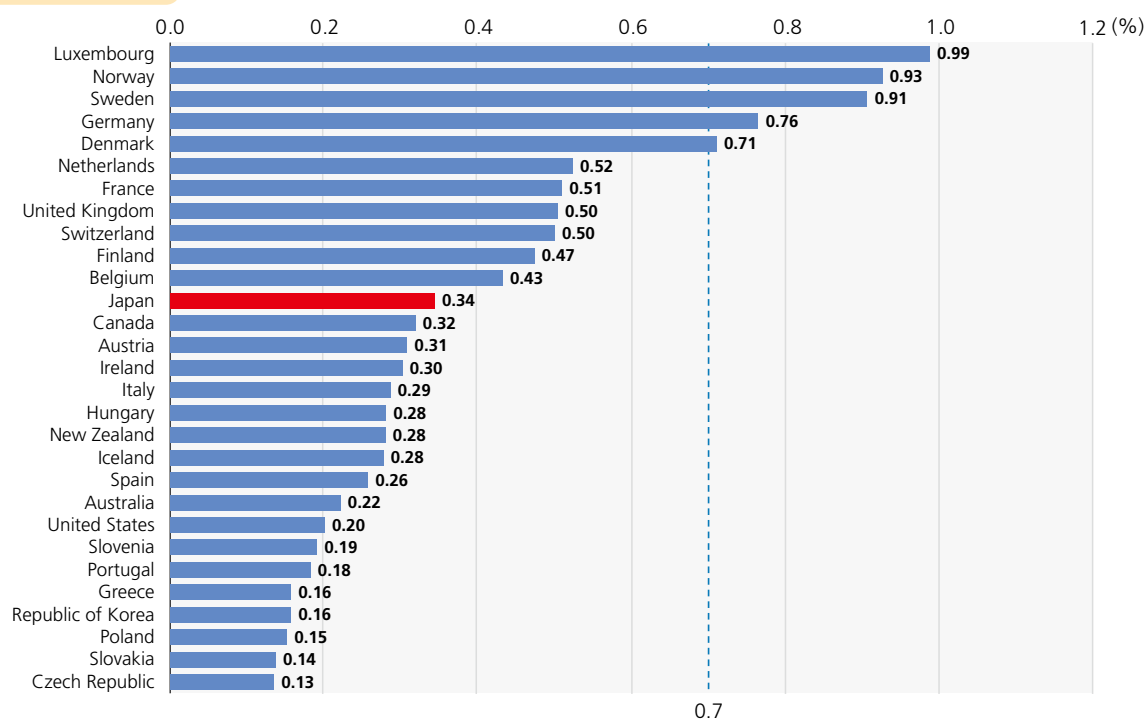


Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Notes:

- Grant equivalent basis.
- Preliminary figures are used for Portugal.

Chart I-5 Ratio of ODA to GNI in DAC Countries (2021)



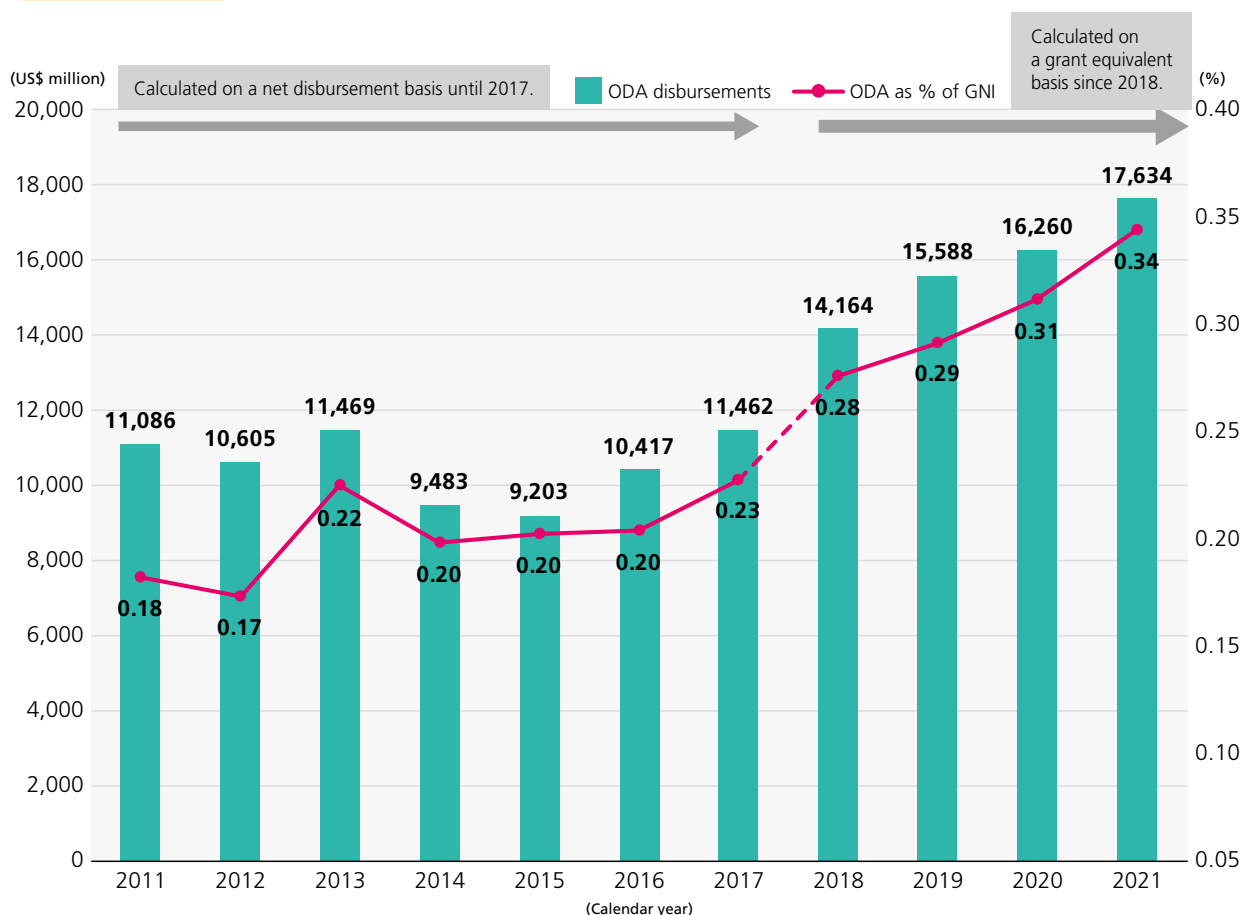
Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Notes:

- Grant equivalent basis.
- In 1970, the UN General Assembly set a target of 0.7% of GNP (currently of GNI) for ODA.
- Preliminary figures are used for Portugal.

Chart I-6

Trends in Japan's ODA and as Percentage of GNI



Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Note:

- Disbursements were calculated on a net disbursement basis until 2017, and on a grant equivalent basis since 2018.

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

The OECD-DAC establishes 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 government loans, 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 2021.

■ Aid Disbursements by Major Donors

ODA provided by DAC countries in 2021 (calculated by GE system) amounted to approximately \$185,930 million. By country (GE system, percentage out of total ODA of DAC countries), the United States ranked first (approximately \$47,805 million, 25.7%), Germany second (approximately \$33,272 million, 17.9%), Japan third (approximately \$17,634 million, 9.5%), the United Kingdom fourth (approximately \$15,712 million, 8.5%), France fifth (approximately \$15,506 million, 8.3%), Canada sixth (approximately \$6,303 million, 3.4%), Italy seventh (approximately \$6,085 million, 3.3%), Sweden eighth (approximately \$5,934 million, 3.2%), and the Netherlands ninth (approximately \$5,288 million, 2.8%), with the G7 countries occupying the top spots. ¹⁴

14 OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Chart I-7

Bilateral ODA Distribution of Major DAC Countries by Sector (2021)

(Unit: %)

Sector \ Country	Japan	United States	United Kingdom	France	Germany	Italy	Canada	DAC Average
Social infrastructure (education, health, water and sewerage, etc.)	27.8	39.5	34.3	34.6	43.0	28.5	54.4	40.3
Economic infrastructure (transport, communications, electric power, etc.)	35.8	3.1	11.7	23.1	15.7	4.4	5.0	13.0
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	2.6	2.1	2.7	3.5	5.1	2.8	5.5	3.6
Manufacturing and other production sectors (mining, environmental protection, etc.)	14.2	2.5	15.3	22.9	12.4	6.6	4.8	10.4
Emergency response (humanitarian aid, etc.) and food aid	6.6	38.2	10.6	1.0	10.9	10.2	15.7	17.3
Program and other assistance (debt relief, administrative costs, etc.)	13.0	14.5	25.5	14.9	12.9	47.5	14.6	15.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Notes:

- Commitment basis
- Due to rounding, the totals for each sector may not add up to 100%.

■ Sectors Aided by Major Donors

Disbursements in 2021 from the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Canada were concentrated in the social infrastructure sectors, including education, health, and water supply and sewerage. The United States allocated about the same amount (slightly less than 40% of total ODA) to emergency response (humanitarian aid, etc.) and food aid as it does to social infrastructure. On the other hand, in the economic infrastructure sectors, such as roads, bridges, railroads, communications, and electric power, Japan has the highest allocation with 35.8% of its total ODA, followed by France with 23.1%. 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 59.1% of gross disbursements in 2021 [hereinafter the same]) (Chart I-2), Sub-Saharan Africa was the top recipient of aid from the United States, Canada, France, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Italy (34.9%, 42.4%, 26.6%, 23.4%, 19.8%, and 40.5%, respectively).¹⁵ In terms of the percentage of total aid disbursements from major DAC countries by region, the United States was the largest donor to the Middle East and North Africa (30.5%), Sub-Saharan Africa

(37.2%), and Latin America and the Caribbean (28.7%). Australia provided 45.3% of total ODA to Oceania, while Germany accounted for 31.0% 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 (2021)

By type of assistance, approximately 85.4% of ODA provided by all DAC countries in 2021 were grants (bilateral grant aid¹⁶: approximately 49.3%; bilateral technical cooperation: approximately 9.3%; grants to multilateral institutions: approximately 26.8%), and approximately 14.7% were government loans, etc. (bilateral loans: approximately 13.5%; loans to multilateral institutions: approximately 1.2%). With the exception of Japan and France, the top 10 major DAC countries implemented most of their ODA as grants (bilateral grant aid, bilateral technical cooperation, and grants to multilateral institutions) (Chart I-9).

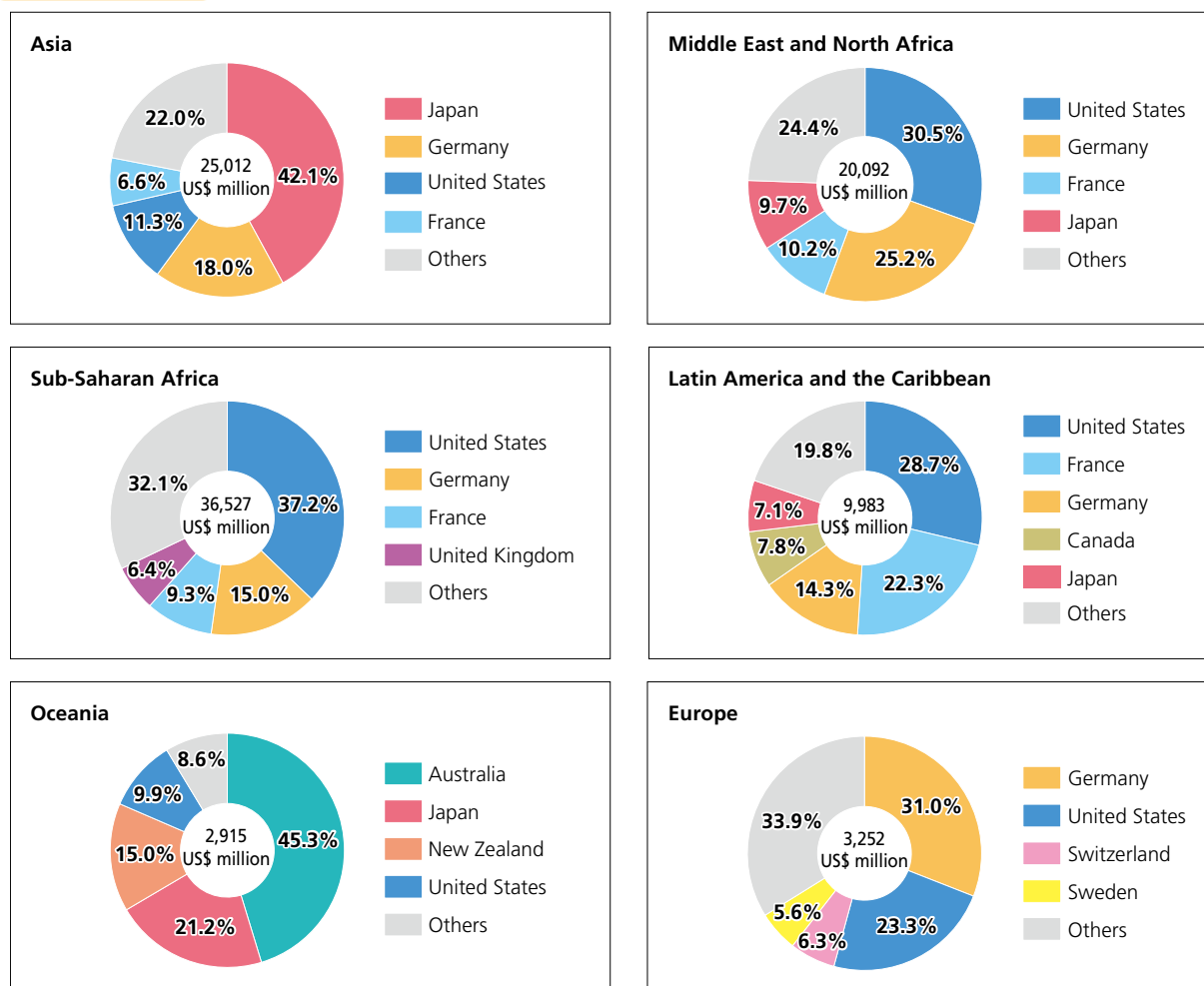
Loan aid (e.g., yen loan) accounts for a large share of Japan's ODA because Japanese assistance aims to support developing countries' self-reliant efforts to achieve economic growth. This is based on the idea that effective development cooperation requires awareness raising that development is not granted; 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

¹⁵ OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

¹⁶ Bilateral grant aid refers to grant aid, debt relief, and grants through multilateral institutions, etc., on Chart I-1 on page 13.

Chart I-8

Major DAC Countries in ODA by Region (2021)



Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Notes:

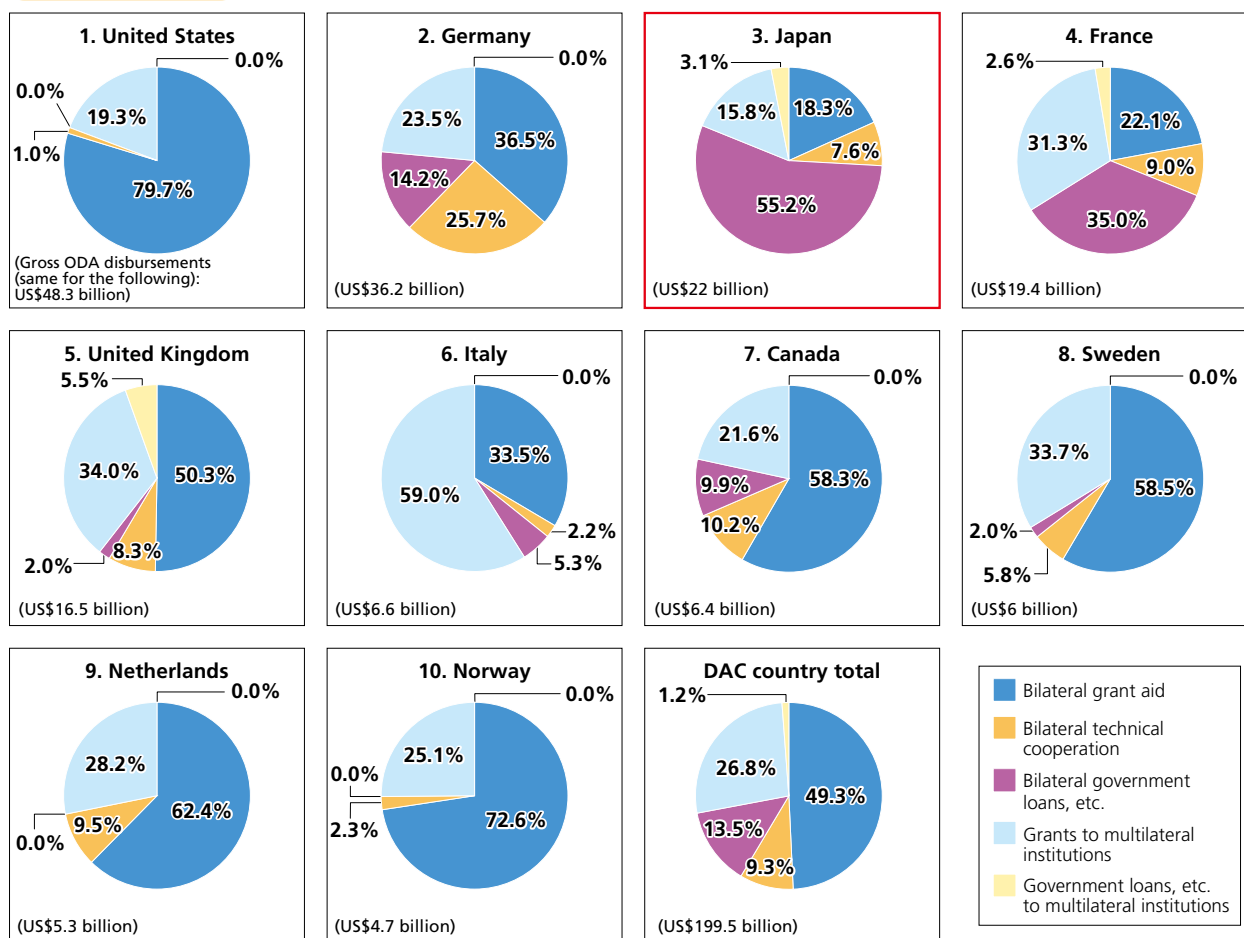
- Gross disbursement basis.
- Regional classifications are the same as the Chart III (page 128).
- The figures in the graphs are the total ODA of DAC countries.

their projects. Japan's cooperation strives to enable the people of developing countries to sustain and evolve the projects on their own even after Japan's yen loan projects

are completed. This approach is unique to Japan, which places importance on self-help efforts.

Chart I-9

ODA of DAC Countries by Type of Assistance (2021)



Source: OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

Notes:

- Top 10 DAC countries by ODA for 2021 based on gross disbursements.
- Due to rounding, the total may not add up to 100%.

3

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

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, Argentina, Mexico, Turkey, South Africa, and private foundations, in addition to the DAC members. Although only a few non-DAC countries report to DAC, according to DAC Statistics alone, the total amount of aid provided in 2021 was more than \$19 billion by non-DAC countries, more than \$270 billion of private funds by both DAC and non-DAC countries, and approximately \$12 billion by NGOs.¹⁷

As the Leaders' Declaration adopted at the G20 Bali Summit states that the G20 will "Unlock further investments for low- and middle-income and other developing countries, through a greater variety of innovative financing sources and instruments, including to catalyze private investment, to support the achievement of the SDGs," funding by various actors will need to be directed to developing countries, in order to achieve the SDGs. While the flow of funds to developing countries is diversifying, it is essential to accurately grasp the flow of funds and to effectively utilize limited development finance 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. It has also been pointed out that there are opaque and unfair lending practices that do not conform to international rules and standards.

Under these circumstances, the need for the transparency of development finance and other such matters were discussed at various international forums in 2022, including the G7, G20, TICAD 8, and the OECD. For example, at the TICAD Ministerial Meeting held in March, Foreign Minister Hayashi took up the importance of transparent and fair development finance, while at TICAD 8 in August, Prime Minister Kishida emphasized in his video message the importance of ensuring transparent and fair development finance. At the G20 Development Ministerial Meeting held in September, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei emphasized the importance of solidly implementing elements such as transparency, openness, economic efficiency, debt sustainability, and consideration for the environment and society, as stipulated in the G20 Principles for

Quality Infrastructure Investment. State Minister Takei also called on G20 countries to share similar efforts and knowledge and emphasized the importance of ensuring transparency and fairness in development finance and adhering to international rules and standards on development finance.

The Ministerial Council Statement adopted by the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in June 2022 states that the member countries recognize the challenges to the OECD's standards and norms by emerging donors and will reinforce their global engagement through consolidating the OECD's role and advancing its standards globally. This follows the "OECD's 60th Anniversary Vision Statement" adopted in October 2021, which sets out the OECD's basic policies for the next 10 years, urging "all stakeholders" to promote compliance with the OECD standards and practices to improve transparency and accountability. The "Policy Statement on Future Perspectives for the Development Centre," adopted at the Eighth High-Level Meeting of the Governing Board of the OECD Development Centre¹⁸ in October, expressed the need to rectify transparency and accountability issues in areas such as debt and financial stability.

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 33 regarding efforts on debt issues, and page 145 regarding partnership with other countries and international organizations).



Then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Miyake meeting with OECD Secretary-General Cormann during the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in June 2022

¹⁷ OECD database (OECD.Stat) (December 2022)

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 2021 disbursements)

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Recipient Countries				
Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (46 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 Yemen Zambia	Armenia Bolivia Cabo Verde Cameroon Republic of the Congo 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 Sri Lanka Syria	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 Islands 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: OECD website

Notes:

- GNI of each country is from 2016.
- Square brackets [] denote regional names.

ODA
Topics

1

Revision of the Development
Cooperation Charter

1 Changes in the Situation since 2015

Since the revision of the Development Cooperation Charter in 2015, many efforts have been made in order to address global issues through international cooperation, such as the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and entry into force of the Paris Agreement on climate change. On the other hand, the international order based on universal values has been severely challenged, led by Russia's outrageous and illegal aggression against Ukraine, which makes it all the more urgent to realize the concept of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP). Amid the COVID-19 pandemic seriously affecting the global economy and the international community, disruption of the global supply chain due to abrupt changes in the international situation, as well as cybersecurity issues arising from greater digitalization accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, have shown that the economy and security are directly linked, impacting each country.

With the world exposed to such uncertainty, developing countries face difficulties charting a path to stable development. Responses in accordance with the concept of human security are urgently needed as poverty reduction efforts have become less likely to be addressed and the food and energy crises have exacerbated humanitarian situations. At the same time, the division of roles played between the public and private sectors in development cooperation have changed, as is shown in the increase in the number of private sector and civil society initiatives to address challenges such as the SDGs and climate change.

2 Revision of the Development Cooperation Charter



Second Meeting of the Advisory Panel on the revision of the Development Cooperation Charter

Amid such great shifts in international situations, further enhancement of Japan's "diplomatic capacity" is indispensable in order for Japan to continuously meet the expectations and trust placed on it by the international community, as well as to ensure Japan's national interests such as peace and prosperity, while upholding universal values including freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. To that end, further utilization of ODA is required as one of the most essential diplomatic tools. In response to this, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) announced that the government would revise the Development Cooperation Charter in September 2022, and decided to establish



Foreign Minister Hayashi

the Advisory Panel on the revision of the Development Cooperation Charter, chaired by Mr. NAKANISHI Hiroshi, Professor at the Graduate School of Law, Kyoto University, under Foreign Minister Hayashi.*1

3 Advisory Panel Meetings



Submission of the report of the Advisory Panel on the revision of the Development Cooperation Charter to Minister Hayashi

From September to November 2022, Advisory Panel meetings were held four times under Minister Hayashi, in which the members actively discussed such issues as the direction of development cooperation for the next 10 years, enhancement of the strategic use of ODA, principles for implementation, and financial and human resources for ODA implementation, among other matters. The report*2 summarizing the Advisory Panel discussions was submitted to Minister Hayashi in December 2022.

This report set out recommendations from the perspective of the further strategic utilization of ODA that meets the demands of today, in view of the changes in the international situation after the formulation of the current Charter. The report proposed to uphold three policies as the direction of development cooperation going forward, based on human security as the guiding principle: contributing to maintaining the international order based on universal values as the foundation for peace and prosperity; creating an environment of mutual help and co-creation, where Japan and the world develop and prosper together; and leading international efforts to addressing increasingly complex and serious global issues.

In addition, the report also proposed (1) strengthening cooperation with partners within and outside Japan, including like-minded countries, the private sector, and civil society; (2) increasing the flexibility of assistance methods through ODA; and (3) increasing the attractiveness of Japan's development cooperation by leveraging its strength through "offer-type" cooperation. It further recommended that these efforts be backed by the setting of concrete paths to reach international goals over the next 10 years, such as achieving a 0.7% ODA to GNI ratio, which is an international goal.

Japan plans to formulate a new Development Cooperation Charter around the first half of 2023, taking into consideration the content of the report and broad public opinion.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoshikawa

*1 https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000323.html

*2 <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/100432142.pdf> (in Japanese only)

MOFA Officials Interview

Tell us about ODA work!



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has established Embassies in 195 countries around the world as the front line of diplomacy. They serve to conduct negotiations and communications with partner governments, collect and analyze political, economic, and other information, and conduct public diplomacy and cultural activities to promote a proper understanding of Japan. In developing countries, another important role of the Embassies is to work on development cooperation through Official Development Assistance (ODA). This section presents interviews with some MOFA officials who have experience working at Japanese Embassies abroad.

Okada: Please tell us about your experience in the development cooperation work at the Embassy: how Japan's assistance brings benefits to partner countries and if there are any rewarding or challenging aspects.

Aoyama: In Mongolia, Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects¹ is actively conducted in repairing aging facilities of schools, nurseries, etc., across the country. Many people think of Japan's "Grass-Roots Grant Aid" when it comes to community-based support. This made me realize, when working at the Embassy, that Japan's development cooperation had led to building a great deal of trust in Japan among the people of Mongolia. I cannot deny that on many occasions, I felt that the people of Japan and Mongolia had different characteristics and behavioral patterns unique to each nation. However, in any part of the vast country, I heard words of gratitude such as "Thank you" and "My child attends a school supported by Japan." I could feel first hand that the presence of Japan was widely recognized.

I also experienced a case in which Japanese assistance led to the strengthening of bilateral relations over the years. In 2019, then Prime Minister of Mongolia Khurelsukh, who came to Japan to attend the Ceremony of the Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor at the Seiden (State Hall), expressed his aspiration: "I would like to have your support in finding my host family in Aomori Prefecture, who warmly welcomed me when I came to Japan for JICA training in the 1990s. I would like to invite them to Mongolia as I promised during my homestay." Without knowing even their names, I managed to find the host family by searching the National Diet Library for any clues from that period and by asking the press. The invitation was fulfilled in the summer of 2022, and Mr. Khurelsukh, who had become the President of Mongolia, rejoiced at the reunion with his host family in Mongolia. I realized that Japan's development cooperation connects people in various places, leading to the building of better relationships between countries.

Noguchi: Guinea-Bissau,² the country I covered from the Embassy of Japan in Senegal, was politically unstable, with frequently-attempted coups d'état at the changes of government. Under such circumstances, there was a growing momentum to hold legislative elections in order to build a stable nation. However, Guinea-Bissau did not have the sufficient

know-how to hold legislative elections as it had little experience in the field. Driven by the desire to realize legislative elections in the country, we started considering what kind of assistance Japan could provide, and decided to support the election through collaborating with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The elections can be an occasion where the struggles for leadership among influential figures become apparent. This election was no exception, and was postponed for various reasons. It was finally completed successfully with the support of various countries, including Japan. Through this experience, I became deeply aware of the significance and difficulties for democracy to take root. When I saw the Japanese flag on the

election posters alongside those of other supporting countries from the EU and Africa upon the successful election, I was pleased with the fact that Japan could support the country's significant reform in its own way.

Inaba: In Angola, where I previously worked, I observed numerous countries engaging in development cooperation, including emerging countries. Unfortunately, in certain cases, a substantial amount of financial aid was provided without sufficient consideration of the sustainability of the recipient country, nor did it align with international rules and standards. I firmly believe that one of the characteristics of Japanese assistance lies in its ability to integrate various strategies while striving to contribute to the long-term development of the recipient country. Specifically, Japan provides support for the construction of basic infrastructure facilities through grant aid, alongside technical cooperation in the form of human resources development and vocational training to ensure the proper maintenance and management of these facilities. By adopting this approach, the facilities can effectively support the sustainable growth of the country.

Japan also partners with Brazil to engage in triangular



AOYAMA Daisuke,
Assistant Director

After working at the Embassy of Japan in Mongolia, Mr. Aoyama worked on TICAD IV and the Hokkaido Toyako Summit. He is currently in charge of SDGs-related work at the Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau.



Host: OKADA Yuki,
Deputy Director
Development Assistance
Policy Planning Division

a current focus on automobile maintenance. This form of development cooperation becomes possible when Japan's assistance to Brazil proves fruitful and gains the trust of the recipient country, allowing it to pass on its experience to other developing countries. People of Angola who have undergone training through Japanese assistance deeply appreciate the support, as it enables them to secure jobs with the skills acquired through vocational training, leading to more stable life. I found immense satisfaction in being part of this enduring and uniquely Japanese contribution that addresses the specific needs of our partner country.

Okada: Please tell us about your current development cooperation work at the MOFA Headquarters: if there are any rewarding or challenging aspects particular to working at the Headquarters, and how you utilize your experience of working at Embassies.

Noguchi: Currently, I am in charge of planning how to secure ODA budget. Without a budget, assistance cannot be provided on the ground. Therefore, I believe that my current role is to connect the field where development cooperation is implemented with the Japanese politics and the citizens. In order to get a budget approved, we should be able to clearly explain to the public that Japan's assistance contributes to the development of the recipient countries, and ultimately to Japan's national interest; how ODA is effectively implemented in cooperation with Japanese companies and civil society; how ODA implementation ultimately meets with Japan's national interest; and how important it is for Japan to utilize ODA to solve global issues, such as climate change and infectious diseases, that cannot be solved by a single nation. I am working hard, questioning myself and learning every day, to be able to explain the significance of ODA to the public and to realize Japan's development cooperation.

Aoyama: In our work at the Ministry, it is very important to determine how to prioritize the numerous issues and countries that require assistance. Based on the results of the dialogues with partner countries and needs analysis, the Embassies respectively send requests for cooperation to the Headquarters to address the challenges that each country faces. While all of these requests are important for respective countries, we need to prioritize the requests from multiple perspectives in order to make use of limited budget strategically and effectively in line with Japan's foreign policy. We specifically ask ourselves whether the

cooperation can demonstrate Japan's comparative advantage, and whether we can follow up until the actual delivery of development effects. When working on the ground, we tend to focus only on the assistance needs, but I understand it is essential to consider how assistance that responds to those needs is important for Japanese diplomatic strategy from the project formation stage. In other words, it is necessary to have a deep understanding of both Japan's broader diplomatic strategies and needs on the ground so as to accomplish better cooperation.

Inaba: What I have noticed while working at the Headquarters is the disparity in viewpoints between the Headquarters and Embassies overseas. Embassy officials often encounter

challenges when coordinating with our partner countries on the frontline of diplomacy, which wouldn't be as complicated if it were in Japan. For instance, obtaining a single document from the partner government may not be a straightforward process. During my time working abroad, simply requesting multiple times didn't always yield results, and there were instances where I had to personally approach the responsible personnel's desk to obtain a single document. However, my experience at the Embassies has proven valuable at the Headquarters, as it allows me to formulate realistic and effective diplomatic policies from the perspectives of our partner countries. This insight helps bridge the gap and better understand the needs and complexities faced by our diplomatic counterparts.

Okada: Lastly, please tell us about your thoughts on Japan's future development cooperation.

Inaba: There are numerous partners around the world with whom we can collaborate. I firmly believe that cooperating with various actors, including other donors and international organizations, is essential to maximize the effect of our initiatives within a limited budget. This realization struck me during my time at the Office of the Director of the Global Health Strategy Division, where I worked to enhance vaccination rates in partner countries worldwide. While working in tandem with other actors, it is equally crucial for Japan to uphold its own mission and fulfill its commitments. I am of the opinion that seeking the realization of Japan's policies, while fostering synergies with the efforts of other actors, is of paramount importance. By approaching challenges from broader perspectives and fostering collaborative solutions, we can effectively address existing issues and work toward a more sustainable and impactful approach.

Noguchi: In the dramatically changing current global situation, I think it is imperative to reaffirm the importance of ODA. The progress toward achieving the SDGs has been seriously challenged amid the spread of COVID-19 while natural disasters and conflicts are taking place around the world. The role of ODA is enormous in responding to such huge challenges. In order to achieve results effectively within a limited budget, "selection and concentration" are obviously important. On the other hand, without a sufficient budget, it will be difficult to continue assistance and cope with new challenges. Therefore, I believe that it is critical to put effort into increasing the budget, ensuring that we thoroughly explain the importance of ODA to Japanese citizens and obtain their consent on how we increase and use the ODA budget, and showing expected results for both Japan and the world.

Aoyama: I feel that other countries have high expectations for Japan. As the global situation changes rapidly, both business and ODA will require even greater speed. In order to meet the expectations placed on our country, I believe that it is important for various actors in Japan to get engaged in development cooperation and to bring an effective division of roles between the public and private sectors. This means, if the private sector can take the lead in tasks that stand as a business while the public sector takes charge of other areas, we should support creating such a framework that will greatly contribute to the partner countries' growth in a more sustainable manner.



INABA Daiki,
Assistant Director

After working at the Embassy of Japan in Brazil and the Embassy of Japan in Angola, Mr. Inaba was engaged in support measures against COVID-19 at the Office of the Director of the Global Health Strategy Division, International Cooperation Bureau. He currently deals the bilateral relations with Angola and Mozambique at the Second Africa Division, African Affairs Department, Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau.



NOGUCHI Ayumi,
Deputy Director

While working at the Embassy of Japan in Senegal, Ms. Noguchi also covered the affairs of the Embassy of Japan in Guinea-Bissau. Currently, she is in charge of tasks related to ODA budget at the Aid Policy and Management Division, International Cooperation Bureau.



*1 Grant aid that provides the necessary funds for relatively small-scale, grass-root level projects that directly contribute to community residents, based on the principle of human security and with the aim of promoting economic and social development in developing countries (the maximum grant limit is 10 million yen or less in principle). This program targets NGOs and local public entities.

*2 Japan does not have an embassy building in Guinea-Bissau, but the Embassy of Japan in Senegal concurrently covers the operations in Guinea-Bissau.

*3 See the glossary on page 109.

Part



Measures for Each Priority Issue

- 1** Cooperation Aimed at Achieving “Quality Growth” 28
- 2** Sharing Universal Values and Realizing
a Peaceful and Secure Society 43
- 3** Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues
and Human Security 56



A Japanese engineer giving instructions to local workers at the construction site of the “Project for the Reinforcement of Marine Transport Capacity at the Gulf of Tadjourah,” a grant aid project in Djibouti (Photo: JICA)

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 huge demand for infrastructure and the investment gap by 2040 is estimated to be 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 openness, transparency, 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 G20 Osaka Summit in 2019. The importance of “quality infrastructure

investment” has been confirmed at various bilateral and multilateral meetings.

At the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM) in June 2022, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Miyake pointed out the importance of creating an environment in which Africa’s growth should not be hindered by opaque and unfair development finance that is not consistent with international rules and standards, and emphasized the significance of implementing the “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment.” In the Ministerial Council Statement, the participating ministers and representatives reaffirmed their expectations for the follow-up of the “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment,” while taking into account some approaches proposed by OECD member countries such as the Global Gateway strategy⁴ and the Blue Dot Network certification framework.⁵

The Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII)⁶ was launched at the G7 Elmau Summit in June 2022. At the side event on the PGII held during the G20 Bali Summit in November 2022, Prime Minister Kishida stated that Japan is working to improve the investment environment and develop human resources through infrastructure development by introducing concrete examples of quality infrastructure investment. In addition, Prime Minister Kishida stressed the importance of infrastructure development and development finance to be carried out in line with the “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment,” adhering to international rules and standards and in a transparent and fair manner. He also stated that the Government of Japan is determined to further promote quality infrastructure investment under the Japanese G7 Presidency in 2023 and to support the self-sustaining growth of each partner country through working with them. In the G20 Bali Leaders’ Declaration, the leaders confirmed their support for the “Compendium of Quality

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 33.

⁴ A new strategy announced by the European Commission in December 2021. It aims to increase investments that promote democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnerships, environmental friendliness and reduced burdens, and secure infrastructure, as well as investments that catalyze private sector investment.

⁵ A framework for internationally accrediting quality infrastructure projects in developing countries to be established by Japan, the United States, and Australia, with the United States taking the lead since November 2019.

⁶ An initiative for the G7 to work together to promote quality infrastructure investment, launched at the G7 Elmau Summit in June 2022. At the summit, the G7 leaders announced their aim to collectively mobilize up to \$600 billion in public and private investment over the next five years, with a particular focus on quality infrastructure.



An example of Japan's cooperation that contributes to the Japan-ASEAN Connectivity Initiative. JICA experts providing technical guidance for the construction of Indonesia's first subway, the “Jakarta Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) North-South Line” (left photo: JICA), and the train car of the Philippine's Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT Line 3) overhauled with Japanese assistance (right photo: JICA)

Infrastructure Investment (QII) Indicators” developed for the G20, and expressed their expectation for further discussion on how the QII indicators can be applied.

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. The State Railway of Thailand (SRT) Red Line, with Japan-made rolling stocks, opened in August 2021.

The Government of Japan will continue to disseminate the “G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment” throughout the international community, and will further work on efforts to implement “quality infrastructure investment” together with countries around the world including Asian countries and international organizations such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and OECD.

■ 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), the transfer of Japan's industrial technology, and the 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.

At the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) ⁷ held in Tunisia in August 2022, Japan announced initiatives that would promote enhancement in regional connectivity, in

addition to social infrastructure development in Africa through the development of quality infrastructure and one-stop border posts at national borders.

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 measures, Japan encourages 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 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 of strengthening 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 2022, through ITC, Japan provided assistance to women entrepreneurs in Africa for the utilization of e-commerce, and technical cooperation for expanding vaccine production and distribution in Nigeria.

Japan provides infrastructure support such as funding

⁷ See “ODA Topics” on page 127.



Stories from the Field

“Freedom Bridge,” a Symbol of Freedom and Peace

—The First Large-Scale Infrastructure Construction Project in South Sudan—



South Sudan, which gained independence from Sudan in July 2011 after many years of conflict, faces a serious lack of social and economic infrastructure. As a landlocked country, South Sudan relies on land transportation for logistics, but the lack of road and bridge development is a hindrance to the country's economic development. The Nile River, which divides the country into east and west, runs through the capital city Juba, but there was only one old bridge over the river that was built in 1972. This bridge was only able to allow one-way traffic for repairs, which significantly disrupted traffic and logistics.

In response to the situation, in 2013, Japan commenced the construction of the second bridge over the Nile River, which would form part of the international transportation corridor that connects to Uganda and to Kenya, under the grant aid “Project for Construction of Nile River Bridge.”

The original plan was to complete the construction by the end of 2016, but soon after the construction began in December 2013, it was suspended due to a conflict between the presidential faction and the vice-presidential faction. Although the construction resumed in February 2015, another conflict occurred in July 2016, and the construction was once again forced to be suspended. The construction subsequently resumed in May 2019, but in April 2020, due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, it had to be suspended until March 2021.

Mr. UMEDA Norio of CTI Engineering International Co., Ltd., who served as a consultant for the construction, describes the situation at that time as follows. “While the period of the construction itself was three years and 10 months, the period of suspension of the construction totaled four years and 11 months. I learned from the reports from our South Sudanese staff, who looked after the construction site while the Japanese staff had evacuated abroad, that South Sudanese government officials often visited the site to inspect

it and showed attentiveness for it. I felt that the country had high hopes for the bridge that we were building.”

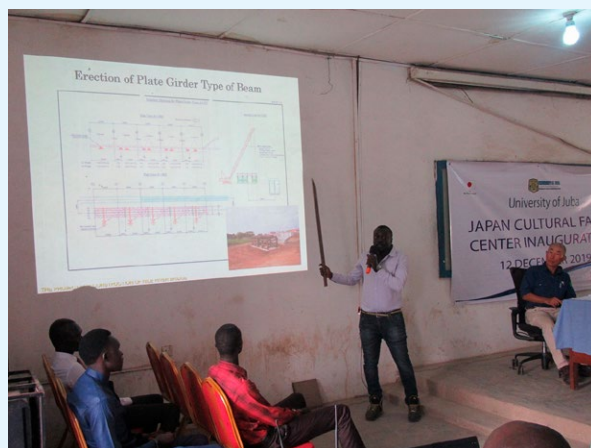
After construction resumed in March 2021, it progressed smoothly with the cooperation of the South Sudanese workers. Mr. Umeda says, “They adapted well to the work that they experienced for the first time. Through their daily work, they learned many things besides techniques, such as being punctual, observing discipline, and striving to keep the work site in good order. Thanks to them, we were also able to work pleasantly.”

Furthermore, Mr. Umeda says, “South Sudan has never had such a large-scale civil engineering project. We saw the construction site as a place of learning for university students who major in civil engineering, so we invited them there to experience civil engineering work as the construction progressed and tried to transfer technology to these young people who would lead the future of the country. In addition, under the philosophy that ‘to teach is to learn twice,’ when we gave a lecture on bridge construction at a local university, I instructed South Sudanese engineers to present the project themselves.”

After three suspensions, the 560 meter long bridge was completed in May 2022, eight years and nine months after the construction began. The bridge shortened the time required to cross the Nile River and enabled large vehicles to pass safely. Through this, it is expected to facilitate international logistics, which is important for the economic development of South Sudan, the landlocked country. At the opening ceremony, President Salva Kiir and First Vice President Riek Machar also attended. The President expressed his gratitude to Japan and his hopes for recovery and peace. This bridge is called the “Freedom Bridge” and has become a symbol of peace and freedom. Japan's cooperation leads to the recovery and development of South Sudan.



Completed Freedom Bridge. It is expected to contribute to smoother logistics and economic development. (Photo: Dai Nippon Construction)



Mr. Umeda and a South Sudanese engineer delivering a lecture to the students at the University of Juba (Photo: CTI Engineering International Co., Ltd.)

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 COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's aggression against Ukraine have created interrelated and compound risks, such as food and energy security, which hit people in vulnerable situations harder and threaten their human security.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),* adopted by the UN in September 2015, are the targets for the entire international community to tackle global issues in an integrated manner, including peace, the rule of law, and human rights, leaving no one behind. Japan will work to address and prevent interrelated and compound risks and will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by the international community.

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 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.

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 actively works 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.



for the development of transportation networks, including ports, roads, and bridges, as well as for the construction of power generation 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, port development and access toll road construction have 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 toward improving logistics and other matters. One example is that a full-scale operation of a car terminal has started in December 2021 by a local company invested by Japanese companies (see “Stories from the Field” on

page 30 and “Project Introduction Column” on page 89 for Japan’s infrastructure assistance in South Sudan and Rwanda).

Regarding support for customs, Japan actively



A Japanese expert teaching a survey method at the construction site of the Soumba bridge in Guinea, which is being reconstructed through grant aid (Photo: Dai Nippon Construction)



One Stop Border Post (OSBP) facility on the Tanzania-Kenya border developed with assistance from Japan. Immigration control counters at the front, with a customs office in the back, allowing one-stop procedures for leaving Kenya and entering Tanzania. (Photo: JICA)

provides support mainly in ASEAN member states aimed at improving the capacity of customs through sharing Japan's expertise and skills in the area. With contributions to the World Customs Organization (WCO), Japan supports capacity building activities that help to facilitate international trade while securing safety through promoting the introduction of international standards adopted by WCO as well as of best practices by various different countries. In addition, Japan dispatches its customs officials as JICA long-term experts to six ASEAN countries⁸ to provide support tailored to their needs. In Africa, as a JICA-WCO joint project, Japan implements a program (the Master Trainer Programme) to train instructors who will play leading roles in customs administrations in various countries. The program has been expanded to Pacific Island countries since 2021.

Furthermore, Japan provides assistance to small scale production groups and small companies in developing countries over the "One Village, One Product Campaign."⁹ 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 secure 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 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 2022, National Tax Agency (NTA) personnel served as JICA long-term experts in countries such as Laos, the Philippines, and Viet Nam, in areas including taxpayer management, international taxation, and tax collection. In addition, 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 cooperates with IMF and ADBs in their technical assistance on taxation, including domestic resource mobilization, and provides support in terms of human resources, expertise, and financing, thereby contributing to strengthening capabilities in the field of taxation in developing countries in Asia, and beyond.

In order to support the sustainable development of developing countries, it is also important to implement the OECD/G20 BEPS Project,^{*} which works to prevent aggressive tax planning measures by multinational enterprises. By implementing this project in a coordinated manner with various countries, developing countries will be able to address the tax avoidance of multinational enterprises appropriately and to 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 solution⁹ 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 quickly implement the agreement.

■ Finance

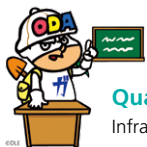
A sound and stable financial system, coupled with smooth financial and capital markets, forms an essential foundation for the sustainable economic development of developing countries. As financial globalization advances, it is pivotal that financial systems in emerging countries are properly established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

⁸ The six countries are: Cambodia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand.

⁹ 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 their physical presence. Pillar Two is the introduction of a global minimum tax rate from the perspective of curbing the competition to lower corporate income taxes.

Based on this concept, the Financial Services Agency of Japan conducted training on financial administration in emerging countries concerning regulatory and supervisory systems and initiatives in Japan’s financial and capital markets. Specifically, “seminars on insurance

supervision” were held from January to March, and “seminars on banking supervision” were held from July to November in 2022. Each seminar was held in an on-demand format,¹⁰ with a total of 107 participants from seven countries.



Glossary

Quality Infrastructure

Infrastructure that genuinely contributes to “quality growth” that 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 view of life-cycle costs, and (iv) debt sustainability, were endorsed at the G20 Osaka Summit in June 2019.

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 2022, there are 46 eligible countries: 9 in Asia, 33 in Africa, 1 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 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.

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.

One Village, One Product Campaign

The One Village, One Product Campaign is a globally prevailing initiative launched in Oita Prefecture, Japan in 1979. The initiative 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 handicrafts, 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 of governments and global companies.

(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

¹⁰ 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.

Promoting Efforts toward the Realization of “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)”



Sihanoukville Port, Cambodia (Photo: JICA)

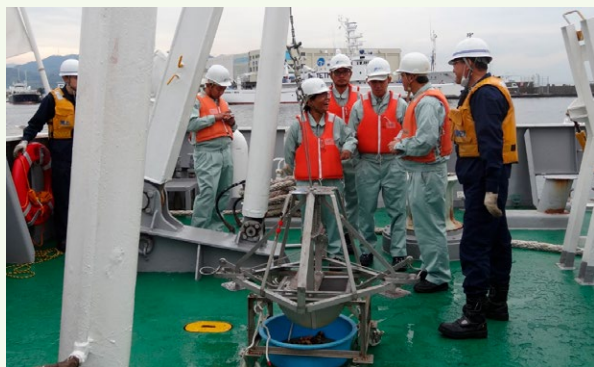
The Indo-Pacific region, which extends from the Asia-Pacific Ocean through the Indian Ocean to the Middle East and Africa, is the core of vitality for the world and home to half of the world's population. To establish a free and open order based on the rule of law with the countries and regions of the Indo-Pacific with various partners in the international community that share these ideals, Japan promotes efforts to realize the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” that Japan advocated in 2016. Japan has already confirmed cooperation on these efforts with not only the United States but also Australia, India, Canada, the Republic of Korea, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and major European countries. In May 2022, Prime Minister Kishida hosted the Quad Leaders' Meeting, where the leaders affirmed their continued and strong commitment toward the realization of FOIP, and concurred on further deepening collaboration and cooperation with the respective countries and regions. During the Shangri-La Dialogue held in June, Prime Minister Kishida announced to lay out a new plan to strengthen FOIP cooperation by the following spring. Amid Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine, which has

shaken the very foundations of the international order, FOIP is becoming even more important.

Japan's ODA is one of the important tools for the realization of FOIP. For example, Japan aims to promote economic prosperity by enhancing connectivity across the region. It intends to achieve the growth of the entire region by developing ports, airports, roads, railways, and other infrastructure within the area and connecting cities and hubs with one another in line with international standards.

One example is assistance for Sihanoukville Port in Cambodia. Sihanoukville Port, which handles approximately 70% of Cambodia's container cargo imports and exports, supports the overall economic development of Cambodia. However, its container cargo handling capacity is becoming strained as a consequence of the country's strong economic growth. Japan provides assistance to construct a new container terminal. Japan also signed a Japanese yen loan agreement in August 2022 for a project to expand the same container terminal, thereby contributing to improving the port's container cargo handling capacity as well as enabling large vessels to dock directly at the port. Japan also provides support to improve the efficiency of the port operations through the dispatch of JICA experts and the implementation of technical cooperation projects so that the port can operate as a hub of principal ports in the region. The development of the port, which is geopolitically important as it is located at the node between the Pacific and Indian Oceans, is expected to boost the realization of FOIP.

In September 2022, Japan decided to provide assistance to Yemen in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the grant aid project “the Project for the Improvement of Efficiency in the Port of Aden.” This project also supports the enhancement of the region's connectivity through strengthening the functions of the Port



JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP), “Hydrography for Charting and Disaster Management” course



Teamwork between Japanese and Indonesian engineers in the Patimban Port Development Project, Indonesia, which is undergoing construction through Japanese loan aid

of Aden located near the Bab al-Mandab Strait that serves as the doorway to the Red Sea. As the conflict in Yemen has made it difficult to access some ports in the country, the number of cargo ships entering the Port of Aden is rising every year, making it a vital marine facility for commercial activities and humanitarian aid activities in the country. This project is expected to speed up cargo handling and reduce cargo transportation costs by providing equipment for the renovation of cargo sheds and digitalization of container management at the Port of Aden.

Facilitating smooth logistics processes by securing connectivity also contributes to supporting Japanese companies' exports to the region and overseas expansions. Japan supports the development of quality infrastructure toward the realization of connectivity across the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Japanese technology transfers and human resources development are effective in supporting developing countries to build quality infrastructure and will enhance the

competitiveness of Japanese companies in ODA tendering, as well as strengthen trust in Japan.

Japan also contributes to securing maritime peace and safety. For example, in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, a logistics hub navigated by approximately 16,800 Japan-related vessels every year, Japan utilizes ODA to support capacity building for anti-piracy measures in coastal countries, thereby reducing the number of piracy incidents. Similarly, in the Indian Ocean, Japan contributes to ensuring marine traffic safety by providing capacity building support to coast guard agencies for maritime rescue, technical cooperation for nautical chart preparation, and support toward Vessel Traffic Service (VTS).

Furthermore, Japan strengthens the promotion and consolidation of the rule of law in developing countries by providing assistance for the development of legal systems and judicial reforms. Through such efforts, Japan contributes to establishing good governance in developing countries, creating a foundation that is crucial to the realization of sustainable growth, and fostering an effective trade and investment environment for Japanese companies' overseas expansions.

Japan is an island country and a leading importer ranked fourth in the world. Its industries and the lives of its people are heavily reliant on maritime transportation and cargo. From this perspective, securing connectivity and ensuring the safety of sea lanes are important for Japan's economy, energy, and food security. 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.



Supporting the development of One Stop Border Posts (OSBP) at the border between Zambia and Botswana through the rebuilding of border facilities and the integration of customs, immigration control, quarantine, and other related operations between the two countries, with a view to enhancing connectivity in the southeastern part of Africa. The photograph shows the entry gate to the OSBP facility on the Botswana side. (Photo: JICA)

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 Initiative¹¹ for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)* and the Paris Club's¹² Evian Approach.¹³ 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 order to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on low-income countries, the G20 and Paris Club launched the "Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI)"* in April 2020 and implemented measures that temporarily allow these countries to suspend official debt service payments. It is estimated that at least \$12.9 billion of total debt service was deferred under the DSSI between May 2020 and December 2021, thereafter benefiting 48 countries.¹⁴ Although the DSSI expired at the end of December 2021, debt restructuring will be more swiftly implemented under the "Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the DSSI,"* agreed on in November 2020.

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. Loans without consideration of debt sustainability are criticized as a "debt trap" by the international community.

The "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment"¹⁵ 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. Most of the recipient countries do repay their loans. However, 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,¹⁶ cancellation, and reduction only when they are absolutely necessary. As of the end of 2022, Japan has cancelled ODA debts worth a total of approximately ¥1.129 trillion toward 33 countries since FY2003. However, in 2022, as well as in 2021, no debt cancellation measures have been taken.

At TICAD 8, Japan announced financial cooperation of up to \$5 billion under the fifth phase of the "Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa"* (EPSA5) covering the period from 2023 to 2025. This includes a new special window of up to \$1 billion to support countries that are engaging in reforms for enhancing debt transparency and sustainability and thereby making steady and significant progress in their debt situations.

From the perspective of ensuring debt sustainability, an important element of the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment," Japan is working on the improvement of 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, in FY2021, Japan conducted a training program on contingent liability risk management in cooperation with the World Bank for 40 government officials from 20

¹¹ An initiative agreed at the Cologne Summit (Germany) in 1999.

¹² 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.

¹³ A new Paris Club approach to debt restructuring (the Evian Approach). Debt relief measures 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.

¹⁴ See World Bank website (<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/debt/brief/covid-19-debt-service-suspension-initiative>)

¹⁵ See the glossary "Quality Infrastructure" on page 33.

¹⁶ 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.

countries, including Ghana and Zambia. Japan also made new financial contributions to the respective trust funds

of the IMF and World Bank, supporting the capacity building of indebted countries.



Glossary

Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)

39 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.

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 debt repayments 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 February 23, 2022, 42 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.

Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa (EPSA) Initiative

A cooperative framework established by Japan in 2005 together with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to promote private sector-led economic growth. At TICAD 8 held in August 2022, Japan and AfDB announced financial cooperation of up to \$5 billion under the fifth phase of Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa (EPSA5) covering the period from 2023 to 2025. The fund consists of \$4 billion under existing windows, and a maximum additional \$1 billion that will be provided under a new special window. Japan will establish this special window to support countries that are engaging in reforms for enhancing debt transparency and sustainability and thereby making steady and significant progress in their debt situations.

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

The dissemination of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) ¹⁷ 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, in order to provide highly competitive products and services and to enhance market competitiveness, it is important to promote Digital Transformation (DX). ¹⁸

Japan's Efforts

■ Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Japan promotes “quality infrastructure investment” in the ICT field in developing countries. ¹⁹ 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 (see also “Project Introduction Columns” on pages 39 and 112). Specifically, Japan actively works to support the overseas promotion and the introduction of the Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial (ISDB-T), ²⁰ which has been adopted in a total of 20 countries ²¹ in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and other regions as of December 2022. In addition, JICA training programs are conducted every 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

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ In 2017, Japan formulated the Playbook for Investment in “Quality ICT Infrastructure” for ICT policymakers and procurement managers of the respective countries and regions.

²⁰ A terrestrial digital broadcasting system that was developed in Japan. Its functions, such as an emergency alert broadcast system, TV broadcasting reception on mobile terminals, etc., and data broadcasting, give the system advantages in disaster response and the provision of diverse services.

²¹ The 20 countries are Japan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Argentina, Uruguay, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Chile, Nicaragua, Brazil, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela, Bolivia, Honduras, Angola, and Botswana.

dialogues and joint projects with partner governments.

Japan also works with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) ²² to provide a variety of development assistance in the fields of telecommunications and ICT to developing countries. Since October 2020, under the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan has 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. Among the pilot projects in the “Giga” initiative ²³ jointly implemented by ITU and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Japan has provided support for introducing internet connectivity to schools in Rwanda. In 2022, through additional support from Japan, the target countries for C2R were expanded to Benin, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Sierra Leone, and Zimbabwe, where projects are currently underway.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) ²⁴ 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 FY2021, eight training programs regarding issues such as broadband networks and cybersecurity were implemented and

attended by approximately 150 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.

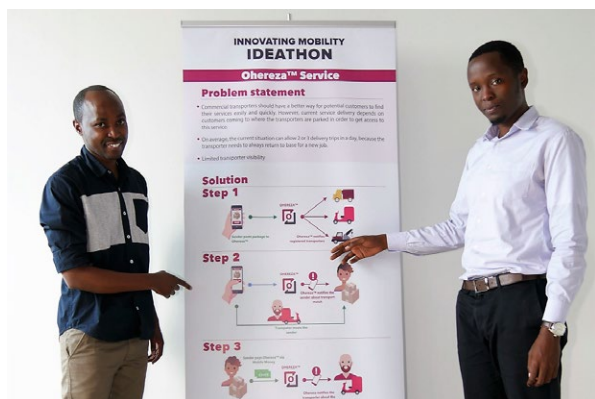
In the Asia-Pacific region, over 2 billion people do not have internet access due to factors including the fragile infrastructure and the inability to afford it. In the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region and Pacific Island countries, Japan develops an environment to make low-cost, high-speed internet available even in remote islands and areas.

In December 2021, Japan, the United States, Australia, Kiribati, Nauru, and the Federated States of Micronesia jointly announced Japan-U.S.-Australia joint support for the East Micronesia Cable. In July 2022, the Project Executive Board Meeting was held online and attended by the six countries, confirming the steady progress of the project. In these ways, 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. ²⁵ As a specific initiative, the “ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC)” was established through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) ²⁶ and conducts cybersecurity exercises and other efforts. A total of 948 people had completed the training by 2022, exceeding the initial target of more than 700 attendances over four years that was set when the Center was opened in 2018 (see page 55 for efforts of AJCCBC).

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

The Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program, ²⁷ 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



Young people who released a commercial transporters service app that allows potential customers to select the most suitable transporters as part of the “ICT Innovation Ecosystem Strengthening Project,” a technical cooperation project in Rwanda (Photo: JICA)

²² A UN specialized agency that 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. In 2022, Mr. ONOE Seizo was elected as Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau of the ITU.

²³ An initiative launched by UNICEF and ITU in 2019 with the aim of enabling internet access in schools around the world, focusing on developing countries.

²⁴ 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. Since 2020, Mr. KONDO Masanori has been serving as the Secretary General.

²⁵ In 2015, the Cybersecurity Strategic Headquarters was established in the Cabinet Secretariat of Japan, and in 2016 the “Basic Policy to Support Cybersecurity Capacity Building in Developing Countries” was reported to the Headquarters.

²⁶ See ⁴ on page 93.

²⁷ See also Part IV 1(5).

Promote Infrastructure Development in Thailand by Utilizing Japanese Technology

Thailand



The Project for Capacity Development and Promotion of Utilization of National CORS^{*1} Data Center Technical Cooperation Project (September 2020 – February 2024)

In Thailand, work efficiency and productivity enhancement are a challenge in various industries due to a shortage of human resources and a decrease in veteran engineers associated with declining birthrates and aging populations in society. In particular, there is significant demand for infrastructure development and business promotion with ICT construction machinery^{*2} that uses high-precision positioning^{*3} to enable autonomous operations of construction and agricultural machinery. It is important to appropriately operate a network of CORS. However, as multiple government agencies independently set and measure CORS according to their respective purposes of use, errors occurred in positioning data and those agencies were unable to share and mutually use the obtained information. Thus, the Government of Thailand established the National CORS Data Center (NCDC) as a reference station to observe and correct errors that occur in CORS.



Road construction using high-precision positioning data and ICT construction machinery (Photo: JICA)

Under this project, Japan provides technical assistance to allow NCDC to centrally and accurately analyze and distribute positioning data from CORS, by means of networking 240 CORS across Thailand and by building a network that enables advanced surveying, so that relevant agencies can utilize disseminated information.

In order to promote the utilization of high-precision positioning, Japan publicly invited Japanese and Thai companies to undertake projects. Japan, together with agencies of the Government of Thailand, selected a total of eight projects in the sectors of agriculture, surveying, construction, and automated vehicle operation, and launched pilot projects. In the agricultural sector,

a project is underway to develop a method to precisely spray agricultural chemicals using self-driving agricultural helicopters by leveraging high-precision positioning. In the construction sector, a road construction project is underway applying autonomous driving construction machinery, in addition to high-precision surveying and construction by making use of three-dimensional (3D) data, and there are growing expectations for higher quality and efficient construction work with the use of high-precision positioning.

Through these pilot projects, Japan will continue to provide support for industrial promotion and infrastructure development using high-precision positioning, and will contribute to the further stable management of high-precision positioning data.



An on-site tour of road construction using high-precision positioning data and ICT construction machinery (Photo: JICA)

^{*1} Continuously Operating Reference Stations (facilities that take an accurate measurement of a position and altitude on Earth by continuously receiving radio waves from a positioning satellite).

^{*2} Heavy machinery in the construction sector that incorporates information and communication technology (ICT).

^{*3} Real-time and accurate measurement of positions and altitudes of data operation anywhere on Earth. It is expected that autonomous construction and agricultural machinery operation, as well as industrial development through the use of autonomous driving technology, can be realized by leveraging high-precision positioning.

technology fields in Japan and developing countries. 179 research projects in 53 countries around the world have been adopted by FY2022 (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 76 and 82).

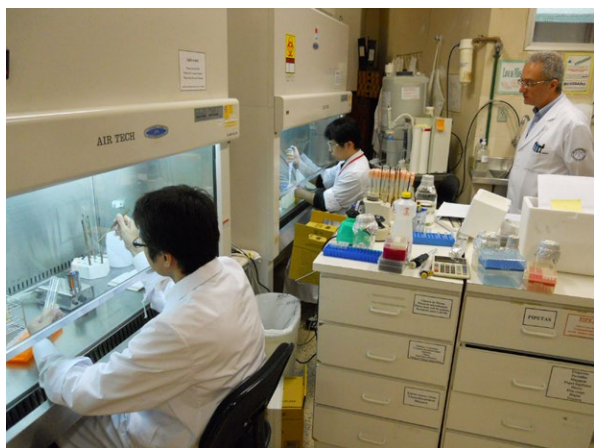
Japan also develops networks among the next generation based on cooperation for human resources development, by strengthening assistance for overseas engineering universities.

In Asia, Japan provides support to the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT), which was founded with the aim of establishing Japanese-style engineering education, by procuring equipment and supplies for education and research and by developing curriculum designs, while also conducting cooperation on education and research with Japanese universities.

As of 2022, a consortium has been organized by 29 universities, 2 research organizations, and other institutions in Japan, and people-to-people exchanges between Japan and Malaysia have also been promoted through dispatching Japanese faculty and joint research. Since 2012, Japan has provided scholarships to students studying remote sensing (satellite image analysis) in courses taught by Japanese instructors at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) ²⁸ 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 Mongolia, Japan has implemented the “Higher Engineering Education Development Project” since 2014, in which engineering teachers and researchers

²⁸ 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.



Japanese and Brazilian medical institutions conducting joint research on fungal infection diagnosis (Photo: JICA)

from the National University of Mongolia and the Mongolian University of Science and Technology conduct joint research with Japanese universities and research institutes. This project provides opportunities to study abroad. Furthermore, it promotes support for the purpose of industrial diversification by providing equipment such as Artificial Intelligence Training Servers and spark plasma sintering machines to Mongolian universities, and supporting AI development, such as autonomous vehicles, and research on product processing of Mongolian rare metals (for the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST), see “Stories from the Field” on page 68).

(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,²⁹ 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 have diverse 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 utilizes its insight and know-how in cooperation with the private sector. Japan supports the capacity building of teachers and trainers, the reinforcement of the operational capacity of training schools, and the development and revision of curriculums and teaching materials, in order to further strengthen the linkages between education and employment.

Between 2016 and 2022, Japan, in collaboration with the industrial sector, provided comprehensive assistance including facility and equipment improvement to 19 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions through 13 projects in nine countries. 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, demobilized soldiers, and refugees and those whose lives had been affected by conflicts.

In Asia, with a view toward the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation in 2023, Japan has implemented the “Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative 2.0,”³⁰ 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 the previously focused cooperation in practical technology, design and development capabilities, innovation, business administration, planning, and management capabilities.

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.

Moreover, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare



Members of a self-help group in Tripura state in India, working on sewing as part of livelihood development activities (Photo: Tripura Forest Department)

²⁹ Mechanisms in which people can live in safety and without difficulties.

³⁰ 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.

(MHLW) conducts training both in Japan and in targeted countries of Cambodia, Indonesia, and Viet Nam. The training ³¹ is designed to transfer the know-how of Japan’s skills evaluation system accumulated in the government and the private sector (Japan’s National Trade Skill Test and Certification and skills competitions) to those in targeted countries in order to develop and secure a quality workforce. In FY2021, a total of 211 people from three 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 the African region, Japan has supported the development of industrial human resources for the sustainable growth of each individual, through the ABE Initiative (African Business Education Initiative for Youth)* and the Kaizen ³² Initiative, which are driven by industry-academia-government collaboration, as well as technical assistance in partnership with international organizations. The ABE Initiative had provided training opportunities to approximately 2,000 people by December 2022 (see “Project Introduction Columns” on pages 94 and 119 for Kaizen Initiatives). At TICAD 8 held in August, Japan announced its intention to help develop human resources in fields such as industry, health, medicine, education, agriculture, justice, and administration that would support the future of Africa. In addition, Japan has set up Project NINJA (Next Innovation with Japan) ³³ to support startup ecosystems in developing countries and provides assistance for identifying issues faced by entrepreneurs, policy recommendations, capacity building of corporate management, promoting cooperation among entrepreneurs, business matching

between entrepreneurs in developing countries and Japanese companies, and promoting investment, in collaboration with various stakeholders.

■ Employment, Including Job Creation

Japan also provides assistance in the area of labor issues. The COVID-19 pandemic and Russia’s aggression against Ukraine have had major socio-economic impacts on various countries, and the impact has been particularly severe on socially vulnerable people including youth and women. In light of this, there is a strong international need for support and response to realize decent work for all workers. Japan provides technical cooperation mainly in the Asian region to improve standards of occupational safety and health and social insurance systems, through contributions to the ILO, among others. In addition, Japan contributes to employment support for youth in Africa ³⁴ as efforts to realize decent work.



Preparing for instructor training in the technical cooperation “Project for Improvement of Technical Education for Industrial Human Resources Development,” in Bangladesh (Photo: JICA)



Glossary

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

Through the collaboration of Japan’s advanced science and technology and ODA, SATREPS aims to resolve global issues in the fields of environment and energy, bioresources, disaster prevention and mitigation, and infectious disease control. Under this program, research institutes both in developing countries and Japan work together to conduct international joint research with the following objectives: (i) enhancing international cooperation in science and technology, (ii) acquiring new knowledge and technologies that lead to the resolution of global issues, and through this process, creating innovations (iii) promoting 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.

African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)

This program aims to promote human resources development for business and industry in Africa, and to foster “navigators” who support the business activities of Japanese companies in Africa. Continuously carried out since its launch at TICAD V in 2013, the program has provided youth from Africa with opportunities to pursue master’s degrees at Japanese universities, as well as business programs such as internships at Japanese companies, Japanese language training, and business skills training.

³¹ The types of training include “Training for people in charge of writing test standards and test questions, etc.,” and “Training for people in charge of testing and grading, etc.” The number of participants above is the total for all types of training.

³² An approach in which each worker at a production site comes up with and implements their own ideas on how to eliminate inefficiency in the production process and improve quality and productivity. In Japan, in the period of rapid growth after WWII, this approach was cultivated on the job by the manufacturing industry to increase quality and productivity, and is based on 5S: “Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain.”

³³ Entrepreneur support activities aimed at creating business innovation in developing countries, which were launched by JICA in January 2020.

³⁴ Ethiopia, Gambia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, and Sudan.

Dominican Republic



Project for Enhancing the Mechanism for Sustainable Community Based Tourism Development in the North Region

Technical Cooperation Project (April 2016 – March 2022)

In the Dominican Republic, one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Caribbean, large-scale development projects with foreign capital have been actively implemented to date. Such large-scale development, however, did not properly utilize the natural and cultural resources of the surrounding area, and opportunities for local residents to benefit were also limited.

Japan, therefore, provides assistance for Community-Based Tourism (CBT) promoted and led by local communities, which the Government of the Dominican Republic advocates, and supports sustainable tourism development that leads to regional development.

This project aimed to create employment and revitalize the regions through the promotion of local specialty products, targeting the 14 northern prefectures. To achieve this, Japan helped develop new tourism products such as experience-based tourism that emphasizes the experience of enjoying the culture and nature unique to the region. Japan further supported planning

tourism routes to attract tourists to rural areas and developing human resources related to marketing.

As a result, the project succeeded in creating new tourism demand that utilized local resources, such as adventure experiences including kayaking and rock climbing, and workshops for making folk crafts. Community-led tourism activities bring benefits to areas that were previously left out of tourism development.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) giving instructions during a folk craft workshop at a regional exposition (Photo: JICA)



A JICA expert introducing experience-based programs and local products that utilize local resources at a regional exposition (Photo: JICA)

In addition, as COVID-19 countermeasures, Japan provided assistance for formulating infection prevention guidelines and protective equipment against infectious diseases so that CBT could continue amid the pandemic. Furthermore, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Japan also supported the formulation of a post-COVID-19 recovery plan, whose results were reflected in the Government of the Dominican Republic's Strategic Vision 2030 for CBT Promotion.

Japan will continue to support sustainable tourism development in which local communities play an active role.

2

Sharing Universal Values and Realizing a Peaceful and Secure Society

2-1 Assistance for Realizing an Equitable and Inclusive Society

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

In order to achieve “quality growth” in developing countries, it is necessary to equip them with social infrastructure that is equitably and stably managed, so that the rights of individuals are guaranteed, and people can be engaged in socioeconomic activities with a sense of safety. To strengthen such foundations in developing countries, 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 this regard, it is necessary to provide developing countries with legal technical assistance, including support for advancing legislation, improving legal practice, and training legal and judicial personnel (including legal professionals and staff engaged in correction and rehabilitation services). In addition, support is required for the development of economic systems, including human resources, which should include the establishment of taxation systems, appropriate tax collection, management, and execution, 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 in countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam. The assistance includes legal and judicial system reform, drafting of laws and regulations, capacity development of national and local government officials for the operation and execution of legal systems, enhancement of internal audits, and 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 over more than 20 years for the development of legal and judicial systems, the country's first civil code entered into force in May 2020, and currently, support for the operation of the civil code is being provided. In Indonesia, a collection of judgments (trademark cases edition) for judges who mainly deal with intellectual property cases was published in

March 2022. Furthermore, in July of the same year, the “Question and Answer Book on the Establishment of Regional Regulations and Regional Head Regulations,” a set of reference materials for government officials in charge of drafting and reviewing laws and regulations, was published. These publications are widely used for the capacity building of legal practitioners and other related professionals in the country.

The development of legal and judicial systems and economic systems in developing countries, as well as the development of human resources capable of properly operating those systems, will lead to improvements in the business environment for Japanese companies to operate in these countries. Japan's assistance for the development of legal and judicial systems and economic systems, drawing on Japan's “soft power,” promotes and underpins growth in the world, including Asia.

In response to the “Kyoto Declaration”³⁵ adopted at the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto Congress)³⁶ held in Kyoto in March 2021, Japan actively conducts follow-up activities to materialize the declaration. Specifically, Japan leads the formulation of UN Standards and Norms on Reducing Reoffending by utilizing knowledge of reducing reoffending through Japanese public-private partnerships. In addition, Japan takes initiatives of regularly holding related forums, such as the “Global Youth Forum for a Culture of Lawfulness” (Col-YF) with the aim of empowering young people who will lead the next generation, and the “Criminal Justice Forum for Asia and the Pacific” (Crim-AP), an information-sharing platform to further promote international cooperation for criminal justice practitioners in the Asia-Pacific region.



Judges of the People's Supreme Court of Laos and a JICA expert holding up the Civil Code enacted in 2018 with Japanese assistance under the “Project for Promoting the Development and Strengthening of the Rule of Law in the Legal Sector of Lao P.D.R.” and a poster for the announcement (Photo: JICA)

³⁵ An outcome document of the Kyoto Congress that provides medium- to long-term guidelines for the UN and UN Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

³⁶ The largest UN international conference in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, held once every five years. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) serves as the secretariat of the conference.



Stories from the Field

Protecting the Life and Dignity of Displaced Syrian Refugees

—UNHCR Activities in Lebanon—



More than a decade has passed since the Syrian crisis began in 2011. While the international community's attention is shifting to humanitarian crises in other regions, many Syrian refugees are still unable to return home and are uncertain even about their lives for tomorrow. Among those, 90% of the Syrian refugees staying in the neighboring country of Lebanon*¹ live in poverty and face many hardships.

One of the biggest challenges there is securing safe and comfortable shelters. Refugees, who live in apartments, houses, and rented spaces in shops and warehouses, face issues such as privacy, safety, and deterioration of the buildings. Refugees who rent shelters on their own with a contract may face a forced eviction if they are unable to pay the rent due to poverty. In addition, the winter in Lebanon is very harsh, with temperatures often dropping below zero. Therefore, improving the living conditions is a priority in order to protect the life and dignity of each refugee.

In response to the difficulties facing those Syrian refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with the support of the Government of Japan, distributes materials necessary for shelter reinforcement and repairs for waterproofing, wind proofing, and privacy enhancement, while also supporting infrastructure development such as drainage systems. UNHCR also distributes winterization items to protect the lives of refugees from the severe cold, such as high thermal blankets, waterproof sheets, sleeping bags, and warm clothes for winter.



Refugees in the snow carrying mats and blankets provided by UNHCR as winterization assistance (Photo: UNHCR)

Furthermore, as part of efforts to protect refugees, UNHCR provides support for the establishment and operation of community centers. These community centers, accessed by both refugees and the people from the host communities, provide various programs and services such as English and computer lessons, vocational training, and activities for security, and health and hygiene awareness. The community centers also accept individual consultations for problems that arise in daily life. Support is continuously given to people in need in order to ensure that all people in the community, including refugees, can live in peace and in harmony.

Over a decade on since the outbreak of the crisis, the needs for humanitarian assistance have diversified in Lebanon. Mr. ITO Ayaki, UNHCR representative in Lebanon, emphasizes that, "I sincerely hope that the international community will not forget this country facing various crises, and that safe and dignified lives for all communities are secured, including the people of Lebanon, refugees, and migrants. UNHCR is with people in Lebanon." UNHCR will continue to provide assistance to ensure the safety of refugees and protect their rights while maintaining close contact and cooperation with the Government of Lebanon, the Lebanese Armed Forces, police, media, NGOs, UN agencies, academia, and embassies in Lebanon.



Mr. Ito (center), UNHCR representative in Lebanon, visiting a refugee family's shelter and asking about their daily needs and difficulties (Photo: UNHCR)

*1 Lebanon is one of the countries with the highest number of refugees per capita. Of the refugee population, the number of Syrian refugees is approximately 810,000 (as of December 2022), which together with Palestinian refugees is said to account for 25-30% of the Lebanese population.

With regard to capacity building assistance for national and local public officials to operate and enforce legal and judicial systems, Japan conducts international training courses, studies, and local seminars, specifically with the aim of strengthening the development of human resources, such as legal practitioners. In 2022, as it had been in 2021, it was still difficult to conduct training in Japan due to restrictions on the new entry of foreign nationals to Japan posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of this situation, Japan conducted online training on topics such as drafting laws and legislation, operation of legal and judicial systems, and legal professional nurture in accordance with the needs of the above-mentioned countries. The training was attended by legal practitioners and lawmaking professionals including justice ministry officials, judges, and prosecutors from these countries. Additionally, Japan sent legal professionals to face-to-face seminars and workshops held locally to give lectures.

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. As one of the efforts, since April 2022, Japan regularly holds the “Asia-Pacific Real Estate Legislation Study Group” as a forum for conducting comparative research on real estate legal systems in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, and the Philippines.

(2) Assistance for Governance Including Anti-Corruption Measures

Corruption cases involving public officials, such as bribery and embezzlement, can become a factor that impedes the environment for fair competition and sound 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 through its cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the secretariat of the Convention, Japan is actively engaged in developing legal systems concerning the prevention of corruption and law enforcement operations, as well as in providing capacity building assistance to justice and law enforcement agencies.

In addition, through the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), ³⁷ Japan conducts

annual training programs and seminars for criminal justice practitioners in developing countries, such as in Asia and Africa, as part of its legal technical assistance and support for governance, including anti-corruption measures.

As an example of a specific initiative, Japan annually holds 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 November 2022, the 24th UNCAC Training Programme on the theme of “Identifying, Tracing, Freezing, Seizing, Confiscating, and Recovering Proceeds of Corruption: Challenges and Solutions” was held face-to-face with participants visiting Japan.

Furthermore, Japan holds 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 2022, the 16th GG Seminar on the theme of “New and Emerging Forms of Corruption and Effective Countermeasures” was held face-to-face in Japan. It was attended by 17 criminal justice practitioners from 10 countries, namely 9 ASEAN member states (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet



The 24th UNCAC Training Programme (Photo: UNAFEI)



Group photo at the 16th GG Seminar (Photo: UNAFEI)

³⁷ 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 6,300 graduates from 142 countries and regions since its establishment.

Nam) and Timor-Leste.

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. UNAFEI responds to the changing global society by holding training programs and seminars on these topics to criminal justice practitioners widely in developing countries around the world. For example, in 2022, various seminars and training were held online: the 177th International Senior Seminar on the theme of "Preventing Reoffending through a Multi-stakeholder Approach" was held from January to February, the 178th International Training Course on the theme of "Cybercrime and Digital Evidence" from June to July, and the 179th International Training Course on the theme of "Juvenile Justice and Beyond – Effective Measures for the Rehabilitation of Juveniles in Conflict with the Law and Young Adult Offenders" in September.

(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 that take proactive steps toward democratization in their efforts to move toward democratic systems, such as through assistance for holding fair and transparent elections, and assistance for the media in ensuring the citizens' right to know and protecting freedom of expression.

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 items for COVID-19 measures such as masks and non-contact thermometers. 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 Kosovo, Japan has implemented the "Project for Capacity Development of Radio Television of Kosovo (RTK)" since January 2021 to deliver accurate, neutral, and fair broadcasting to all citizens. In order to improve the accuracy of reporting in multiethnic areas, Japan provides assistance for preparations of the opening of branch offices in ethnic minority areas and mixed ethnic areas, and for the capacity enhancement of program production staff through on-the-job training and workshops by JICA experts. These activities contribute



Conducting training on studio cameras at Radio Television of Kosovo
(Photo: NHK Foundation)

to the broadcasting of fair and impartial programs to all citizens, including ethnic minorities (see also "Project Introduction Column" on page 112 for the assistance for public service broadcasters in Ukraine).

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 due to 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. Furthermore, the effects of a conflict in one country or region spread to the rest of the world in one way or another.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine, which started in 2022, led to soaring food and energy prices, spurring a serious humanitarian crisis, and having a major negative impact on the global economy, society, and stability (see Part I for Japan's support related to Ukraine). In recent years, there are concerns about the impact of climate change on peace and stability. As the challenges faced by the international community become more complex and diversified, peacebuilding efforts aimed at establishing the foundations for development are increasingly important for the consolidation of sustainable peace.

Japan's Efforts

In response to humanitarian crises caused by conflicts and other causes, Japan promotes the "Humanitarian-Development Nexus" in which urgently needed humanitarian assistance is provided from the initial stage taking into account medium- to long-term development

cooperation. As humanitarian crises become more prolonged and diverse, Japan also places importance on the idea of “Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus,” in which assistance is provided for sustained peace through resilient nation-building and social stabilization from a medium- to long-term view even in times of peace. 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.

In order to provide seamless assistance, Japan combines different types of support such as assistance through international organizations, grant aid, loan aid, and technical cooperation, and provides 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 supports the 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 coexistence with host communities, reconstruction in areas such as the repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons, and the rebuilding of basic infrastructure (socio-economic infrastructure). In these efforts, Japan actively promotes women's participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding in line with UN Security Council resolutions, including UNSC Resolution 1325, which recognizes the importance of the role of women in peacebuilding.

For example, from 2021 to March 2022, Japan provided various assistance at women's centers in Gaziantep and Izmir, Turkey. 3,981 female refugees and women in the host community were supported in areas such as legal assistance, information on immigration procedures, health and psychological counseling, and vocational training. Both the refugees and the Turkish communities that accept them are in a difficult economic situation. 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 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.

In the international community, discussions on conflict resolution and prevention, as well as post-



WFP staff providing food and nutrition assistance to refugees in a refugee camp in Kenya (Photo: WFP)

conflict recovery and assistance for nation-building, are taking place in forums such as the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC).^{*} Japan has been a member of the PBC since its establishment, and has made active contributions by addressing the importance of working to build institutions and to develop human resources, and the need to strengthen cooperation among related organizations (related UN bodies such as the UN Security Council, UN General Assembly, and PBC, donor countries, regional agencies, international financial institutions such as the World Bank and IMF, and the private sector). As of December 2022, Japan contributed a total of \$61.3 million to the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)^{*} and assisted the fund as a major donor. In addition, Japan plans to work on peacebuilding as one of the priorities during its two-year term as a non-permanent member of the Security Council starting from January 2023.

Furthermore, Japan has long made efforts to strengthen coordination between development cooperation and international peace cooperation activities such as UN peacekeeping operations (UN 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 proactively contributes to the framework of the “UN Triangular Partnership Programme (TPP),” where three parties, namely the UN, Supporting Member States, and Troop Contributing Countries, cooperate together to conduct training and other activities for uniformed personnel to be dispatched to UN PKO missions. Under this framework, for example, Japan Self Defense Force (JSDF) personnel are dispatched to Africa and Asia to train engineering personnel on the operation of heavy

engineering equipment. In the medical care field, Japan dispatches JSDF personnel to conduct life-saving training and contributes to the development of telemedicine systems for UN PKO missions.

■ Support for Refugees and Displaced Persons

Given the situations in Syria, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Ukraine, and other countries, the number of forcibly displaced people including refugees and displaced persons worldwide has been increasing year after year. In 2022, the number reached over 100 million people, the highest level since the end of World War II, and humanitarian situations became increasingly severe. From the viewpoint of human security, Japan provides 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 enable each person to get back on their own feet (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 44).

In particular, Japan works with international organizations, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to continue to provide assistance around the world by distributing supplies for basic living needs such as shelter and food. Furthermore, Japan works with 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 in addition to the above-mentioned UN organizations, and provides assistance for refugees, displaced persons, and others, even in areas with security concerns by utilizing their expertise and delivering capabilities. For example, in 2021, Japan extended Emergency Grant Aid to Ethiopia through WFP, IOM, and other organizations in order to provide medical supplies, food, etc. in support of internally displaced persons affected by the military engagement in the country.

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 provides assistance for refugees, displaced persons, and others in collaboration with Japan Platform (JPf) ³⁸ (see also page 140, Cooperation with Japanese NGOs).

■ Protection and Participation of the Socially Vulnerable

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. However, 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 provides support for the social reintegration of child soldiers and the protection and empowerment of children who are the most vulnerable in conflict-affected areas, through UNICEF. For example, Japan supports the social reintegration of former child soldiers in Chad and the protection of children and women who are victims of sexual violence in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, and Myanmar. Japan also provides humanitarian assistance to displaced persons such as orphans and children separated from their families in Ukraine and its neighboring countries.

Through UNHCR, Japan carries out protection activities for refugees and displaced persons, as well as provides the humanitarian assistance that they need. For example, in Yemen, Japan supports developing a system that enables the children of refugees and displaced persons to receive necessary medical and legal protection through assisting birth registration. Meanwhile, in Kenya, Japan implements support to improve refugee camps’ sanitary conditions and strengthen access to safe water.

In addition, 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 the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, and other countries.

■ 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 steadily implements 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-Peace

³⁸ See the glossary on page 145.



A Japanese expert giving technical guidance for mine detectors in Cambodia (Photo: JICA)

Nexus. For example, Japan supports upgrading the overall capacity of the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) through strengthening of its training capacity at home and abroad, capacity building of administrative staff, and building of information systems so that the CMAC can make further international contributions. Japan decided to support the construction of the CMAC training complex and outreach facility in November 2022 in order to improve the training and educational environment for personnel involved in landmine countermeasures and to promote understanding and raise awareness of landmine issues among visitors. Through such comprehensive support, CMAC provides joint Japan-Cambodia assistance to Ukraine and training for the mine-action staff of third countries such as Colombia and Laos, and thus contributes to the realization of South-South cooperation.³⁹ Japan 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, implements education projects that support 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 FY2001). The reach of these awareness activities among residents is steadily expanding.

Furthermore, in Laos, a country particularly affected

by UXOs, Japan dispatches UXO disposal experts and provides equipment. Specifically, Japan supports 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 such bilateral support, Japan is proactively engaged in measures against mines and UXOs through international organizations. In 2022, Japan conducted clearance, risk education, and victim assistance against landmines and UXOs through the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in Afghanistan, Syria, Palestine, Sudan, Nigeria, and South Sudan. For example, in Syria, Japan provided assistance to victims of explosive ordnance and worked to formulate a framework for the implementation of assistance to victims through UNMAS. In 2022, Japan also provided support for mine risk reduction education in the Central African Republic, Chad, Iraq, Palestine, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Yemen via UNICEF. It also provides support including risk reduction education in countries and regions such as Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria, Ukraine, and other countries through the ICRC.

Small arms and light weapons are called “the de-facto weapons of mass destruction” because they are still used in actual conflicts and claim many lives. Japan is 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),” and actively contributes to the discussions on countermeasures against small arms and light weapons.

■ Human Resources Development for Peacebuilding and Development

Qualities required for those engaged in the field of peace building are increasingly diversified and complex. Through the “Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development,”⁴⁰ Japan cultivates civilian specialists who can make a significant contribution on the ground both in Japan and abroad, and a total of over 900 people have participated in training programs in Japan. Many graduates of these programs are playing active roles in the fields of peacebuilding and development around the world including regions such as Asia and Africa.

³⁹ See the glossary on page 109.

⁴⁰ 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_b/j_kusei_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 the field offices of international organizations.



Glossary

UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)

An advisory body to the UN Security Council and the General Assembly established in March 2005. The PBC aims to advise and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery. It provides advice to the Security Council and the General Assembly, among others through briefings and written submissions. Japan has consistently served as a member of the Organizational Committee, which is a central body of the PBC, since its establishment.

UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

A fund established in October 2006. The fund provides assistance in Africa and other regions to prevent the recurrence of regional conflicts and civil wars after their end, and assistance for conflict prevention. Specifically, it supports peace processes and political dialogue, revitalization of economies, institution building of states, and participation of women and youth in nation-building, among other efforts.

(2) Humanitarian Assistance during Natural Disasters

In recent years, due in part to the impact of climate change, the frequency of short-term and localized abnormal torrential rainfall increases worldwide, and the damage caused by floods and landslides also tends to be more intense and frequent. Since developing countries have fragile economic and social infrastructures, many of them suffer great damage from disasters and require assistance from the international community.

Japan's Efforts

In the event of a large-scale disaster overseas, Japan stands ready for the immediate provision of emergency assistance upon the request of the government of affected countries or international organizations. Japan offers several forms of assistance, such as the deployment of disaster relief personnel, in-kind assistance, and financial assistance. Japan provides either one or a combination of these forms of assistance considering the scale of the disaster and the request from the affected country or international organization.

A. Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Teams

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 instructions on emergency disaster mitigation measures and recovery activities), and (v) Self-Defense Force Unit (to undertake medical activities and/or transportation of aid supplies and personnel when it is deemed particularly necessary). These teams are dispatched either individually or in combination.

B. Emergency Relief Goods

Emergency relief goods are provided as in-kind assistance. Japan stockpiles, in three overseas warehouses managed by JICA, tents, blankets, and other supplies needed and to be provided for the affected people swiftly in the wake of a disaster. In 2022, Japan provided emergency relief goods to 16 countries. ⁴¹

C. Emergency Grant Aid

As financial assistance, Japan provides Emergency Grant Aid to the governments of countries affected by natural disasters and/or conflict, and to international organizations that provide emergency assistance in affected areas for the purpose of providing relief to victims, refugees and displaced persons of natural disasters and conflicts overseas, and others.



Staff of the Department of Disaster Management Affairs in Malawi distributing emergency supplies from Japan to those affected by the cyclone that hit the country in late January 2022 (Photo: JICA)

In August 2022, at the request of the Government of Pakistan, Japan provided tents and plastic sheets as emergency relief goods in response to a flood disaster in the country. In addition, responding to the continuation and expansion of the subsequent damage, through multiple international organizations, Japan provided Emergency Grant Aid of a total of \$7 million as humanitarian assistance in various fields including food, shelter and non-food items, health and medical care, and water and sanitation. When Tonga was hit by a volcanic eruption and tsunami in January, Japan provided assistance with a combination of dispatch of disaster relief personnel, in-kind assistance, and emergency grant aid (see Part III, Section 3 “Oceania” on page 103 for details of assistance for Tonga).

⁴¹ The 16 countries are Afghanistan, Belize, Brazil, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Honduras, Kiribati, Madagascar, Malawi, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Sudan, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Zambia.

D. Other Efforts

Japanese NGOs also provide various forms of assistance to disaster victims utilizing ODA. They often work as a partner with international organizations and others in emergency relief activities. Japan Platform (JPF)⁴² 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 such as Afghanistan (earthquake), Pakistan (flood), Ukraine (conflict), and other regions (see page 140, Cooperation with Japanese NGOs for the achievements).

Disaster response is a common concern of Japan and ASEAN countries, which are beset by numerous natural disasters. Japan supports the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), which was established in 2011, and has contributed to strengthening its capacity. In 2022, Japan continued to provide support for the building and utilization of the Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA) to rapidly transport emergency relief items to affected countries and for human resources development.

(3) Assistance for Stability and Security

Transnational organized crime and acts of terrorism continue to pose a threat to the entire international 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 establishing systems, improving administrative capacities, and developing human resources, while transferring knowledge and skills to police agencies in developing countries, who play a key role in maintaining security.

As one of the examples, in 2022, the National Police Agency (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.



A Japanese expert providing instruction in the field of communication and command control under the technical cooperation “Project on Nationwide Capacity Development of Police Officers for POLMAS-Indonesian Civilian Police Activities” in Indonesia (Photo: JICA)

B. Counter-Terrorism

The environment surrounding terrorism has changed greatly as a result of the spread of COVID-19. Although the restrictions on movement due to the pandemic have reduced terrorism in urban areas, the increasing dependence of people on information and communication technology (ICT) facilitates the spread of extremism by extremist groups using the internet and social media. In some areas where the governing capacity of the nation was already vulnerable, the pandemic has further degraded the governance and helped expand the scope of terrorist organizations’ activities. Some have pointed out the possibility of a number of terrorist attacks as a result of the easing of movement restrictions that were a countermeasure against COVID-19.

In 2022, Japan implemented various projects through international organizations in order to promptly respond to changes in the environment surrounding terrorism. Such projects include the capacity building against violent extremism and educational support for Maldivian youth and women in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (approximately \$180,000). Japan also contributed \$450,000 to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for a project to build the capacity of criminal justice authorities in nine countries in Southeast Asia to respond to online and offline exploitations by terrorists in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

C. Measures against Transnational Organized Crime

Japan, as a State Party to the UN 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.

⁴² See the glossary on page 145.

■ Countermeasures against Illegal Drugs

While actively participating in relevant international conferences such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) under the UN, Japan proactively makes efforts to combat illegal drugs as an issue to be tackled globally. In 2022, Japan provided financial contributions to the UNODC to monitor the distribution of illegal drugs, including new compounds,⁴³ strengthen border control capabilities, and continuously survey the illegal cultivation of opium poppy, a raw material used in drug production, in cooperation with related organizations in Southeast Asian and Central Asian countries.

In addition, the NPA of Japan holds discussions on the regional drug situation and relevant investigational measures as well as on modes 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,⁴⁴ 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 releases annual reports on its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, while also strengthening cooperation with various ministries, agencies, relevant organizations, and NGOs. In 2022, Japan formulated the “2022 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons” in order to further enhance and strengthen countermeasures against trafficking in persons.

Japan provides support to victims of trafficking in persons identified in Japan through its contribution to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), toward their safe repatriation to their respective home countries and their independence and social rehabilitation through the provision of education and vocational training. Japan also supports measures against trafficking in persons and efforts to strengthen the law enforcement capacity in Southeast Asia and the Middle East, through bilateral technical cooperation and financial contributions to projects delivered by UNODC and other UN agencies. Japan further provides financial contributions to and participates in the Bali Process, an Asia-Pacific regional framework against people smuggling, trafficking in persons, and related transnational crime.

■ International Measures against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing

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 laundering⁴⁵ and terrorist financing through intergovernmental frameworks such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).⁴⁶ In order to implement effective global measures against money laundering and terrorist financing, each country needs to properly implement the international standards in this field set by the FATF so as not to create loopholes in the measures. Assistance for countries and regions with insufficient capacity and resources to deal with money laundering and terrorist financing will contribute to the improvement of international measures to counter money laundering and terrorist financing. Therefore, Japan provides assistance for FATF-style Regional Bodies, which promote the effective implementation of the FATF standards in non-FATF member countries, with a particular focus on supporting activities such as technical assistance conducted by the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG), an FATF-style Regional Body in the Asia-Pacific region.

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

■ The Seas

As a maritime nation, Japan depends on imports for a large part of its energy resources and food, and therefore, ensuring marine traffic safety, including through addressing threats to maritime transport, is an issue that directly affects Japan’s existence and prosperity. Moreover, an open and free international order of the seas based on the rule of law is extremely important not only for the realization of a 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 34 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 the 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

⁴³ New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). Also known as “designer drugs.” These are substances that are produced synthetically to have effects similar to controlled drugs (narcotics, etc.). They are not recognized as legal medicines, and are compounds that exhibit unregulated psychotropic effects.

⁴⁴ The act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons for the purpose of exploitation, such as forced labor or prostitution (Article 3 (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children).

⁴⁵ 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.

⁴⁶ Established based on the Economic Declaration of the Arch Summit (G7 Summit) in 1989.

Ensuring Maritime Safety in the South China Sea

Philippines



Maritime Safety Capability Improvement Project for the Philippine Coast Guard (Phase 2)

Loan Aid (October 2016 onwards)

The Philippines is a maritime nation consisting of more than 7,000 islands with a coastline of approximately 36,000 km, and maritime transport plays a major role in the country's economic and social development. However, the number of maritime accidents doubled in 2015 over the past five years, due to an increase in passenger and cargo transport, as well as aging vessels and improper operations such as overloading. In addition, the risk of maritime crime is also increasing, and strengthening measures to deal with smuggling, poaching, terrorism, and other problems has become one of the important issues.



PCG's Patrol Vessel BRP Teresa Magbanua, commissioned in May 2022 (Photo: JICA)

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), responsible for maritime safety and maritime law enforcement, had an absolute shortage of vessels and could not adequately take emergency response in the event of maritime accidents or appropriate actions against crimes such as smuggling. Against this backdrop, Japan decided to provide two 97-meter class patrol vessels,^{*1} the largest in the country, through loan aid with the aim of improving PCG's capabilities for maritime rescue and maritime law enforcement operations offshore and in coastal areas.

These patrol vessels were built in Japan amid the COVID-19 crisis owing to the efforts of the parties concerned from both

countries. Despite a challenging situation where people could not easily visit each other to discuss the details of the vessels' design and manufacturing, the two patrol vessels were successfully commissioned in the Philippines in May and June 2022 respectively, after a period of preparation including training for ship operators. The patrol vessels, built with Japan's cutting-edge technology, are expected to ensure the maritime security surrounding the Philippines, contributing to the realization of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)," which upholds the commitment for peace and stability based on the rule of law.



Then President of the Republic of the Philippines Duterte delivering a speech at the commissioning ceremony of BRP Melchora Aquino

^{*1} The vessels have a length of approximately 96.6 m, a maximum speed of 24 knots, and a cruising range of more than 4,000 nautical miles. In addition, they are also equipped with devices and equipment necessary for maritime situational awareness and maritime law enforcement activities including telecommunications equipment capable of monitoring the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), facility for helicopters, remotely operated unmanned underwater vehicles, and high-speed work boats. They play a particularly important role in rescue operations in stormy weather and patrols in offshore and coastal areas.

carries out human resources development through the training and 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. Furthermore, Japan provides patrol vessels and other equipment related to maritime security and safety to Pacific Island countries such as the Federated States of Micronesia and Samoa (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 53 for efforts in the Philippines).

As an effort to promote regional cooperation in countering piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Asia region, Japan leads 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. Since 2017, Japan has

implemented comprehensive training aimed at capacity building for maritime law enforcement agencies of the ReCAAP Contracting Parties,⁴⁷ among others. In 2022, a total of 21 countries, namely 19 ReCAAP Contracting Parties plus Indonesia and Malaysia, participated in the training that was held online due to COVID-19. Best practices were shared by each country, which contributed to deepening the anti-piracy-related knowledge of the participating countries and to promoting cooperation among coastal countries.

In order to counter the threat of piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden in Eastern Africa, Japan has been conducting anti-piracy operations since 2009. Moreover, Japan 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

⁴⁷ The 21 countries are Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Germany, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Laos, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Viet Nam.

of Conduct.⁴⁸ This Trust Fund was used to establish information-sharing centers for anti-piracy measures and the Djibouti Regional Training Centre. Training programs to improve maritime security capacities in countries neighboring Somalia have been held at the Regional Training Centre, and in 2022, workshops were held in March and June.

Also, in cooperation with the Japan Coast Guard, maritime law enforcement training courses are carried out with the participation of maritime security officers from the countries surrounding Somalia. In 2022, 18 officers from 15 countries in total 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 a total of approximately \$550 million for the restoration of basic social services, improvement of policing capability, and revitalization of domestic industries in Somalia.

Oil spillages 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 by polluting the coast. Hence, it is important to strengthen the capacity for dealing with such oil spill incidents. As part of the cooperation in response to the oil spill from a bulk carrier off the coast of Mauritius in 2020, Japan signed exchanges of notes for grant aid to provide equipment to strengthen maritime safety capabilities in February and August 2021. Additionally in August, Japan decided to provide technical cooperation to restore and conserve coastal ecosystems as well as to restore and improve the livelihoods of local fishermen and residents. Japan will continue to support the medium- to long-term economic development of the country through the steady implementation of these assistances.

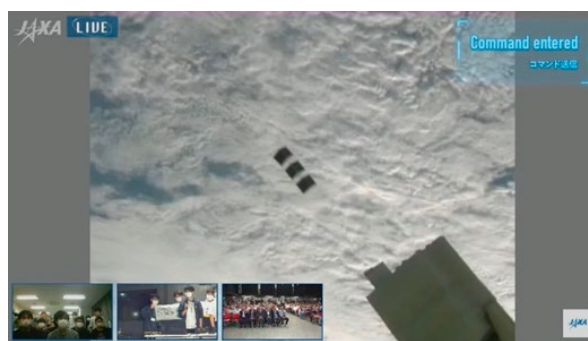
Furthermore, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) has been conducting a training program in the United Kingdom every year since 2009 with the aim of nurturing nautical chart experts in developing countries. This program is carried out with grant assistance from The Nippon Foundation and the participation of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard in the management of the program. The training program 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 is 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 also proactively provides assistance in the field of human resources development for emerging 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 Japanese Experiment Module "Kibo" aboard the International Space Station (ISS), are highly acclaimed in the international community. In August 2022, Moldova's first CubeSat was deployed through the "KiboCUBE" program.⁴⁹ Prime Minister Gavrilita and other officials in the country watched the deployment via live broadcast, which showed the high expectations for Japan's space cooperation in the country.

Japan formulated a basic policy in 2016 to strategically and effectively provide all-Japan support for the capacity building of emerging space faring nations and has actively supported such nations. For example, Japan is conducting forest monitoring in 78 countries in the regions of Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, utilizing a tropical forest monitoring system (JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics: JJ-FAST) that uses satellite data from "ALOS-2." At TICAD 8 held in 2022, Japan pledged to conduct regular monitoring of forests utilizing JJ-FAST and to train 100 people in 43 African countries with tropical forests, as well as to train a total of 800 forest management officials in 10 African countries.

In addition, in order to contribute to the realization of the rule of law in outer space, Japan provides capacity building assistance to emerging space faring nations in the development and operation of domestic space-related laws. Since the announcement of Japan's



Moldova's CubeSat being deployed from "Kibo" on August 12, 2022
(Photo: JAXA/NASA)

⁴⁸ A regional cooperation framework for Somalia and its neighboring countries.

⁴⁹ 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."

cooperation with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)'s "Space Law for New Space Actors" project in May 2021, Japan has been providing assistance to emerging space faring nations 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. In 2022, Japan conducted tailor-made legal capacity building assistance for Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

■ 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 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 2022. In addition, through the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), Japan supported the strengthening of the investigative capacity of officials at law enforcement related agencies to deal with crimes committed in cyberspace, which increased under the COVID-19 pandemic.

Furthermore, the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) was launched in Bangkok, Thailand, utilizing the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) ⁵⁰ 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



Third-country training on cyber security conducted under the technical cooperation "Project for Human Resources Development for Cyber Security Professionals" in Indonesia (Photo: JICA)

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 face-to-face exercise programs available online. Face-to-face training resumed in October 2022, and the Cyber SEA Game, which is a cyber security skills competition among young engineers, was held in person at the first time in the last two years.

Japan also contributed to the World Bank's Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund and works on capacity building assistance in the field of cybersecurity for lower middle income countries.

The NPA has conducted 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 been conducting exercises on cybersecurity for industrial control systems in important infrastructure sectors, such as electricity and gas, targeting the Indo-Pacific region, with the cooperation of experts from the governments and private sectors of Japan and the United States every fiscal year. Since FY2021, the EU has participated as an organizer in the exercises.

⁵⁰ See 4 on page 93.

(1) Health and Medical Care

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 aims to “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.” In addition, achieving “universal health coverage (UHC)”⁵¹ is positioned as an important global target in order to respond to various health issues, diversified across countries and regions. On the other hand, at present, it is estimated that at least half of the world’s population has no access to basic medical care, and that approximately 5 million⁵² children under the age of five die annually due to preventable diseases. Over 295,000 women⁵³ 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. Moreover, COVID-19 continues to have a wide range of effects on everyone on earth. COVID-19 has not only cast an unprecedented negative impact on the entire international community, but has also exposed the vulnerabilities of the current global health architecture, including the aspects of governance and finance.

At the G7 Elmau Summit in June 2022, Prime Minister Kishida introduced Japan’s COVID-19 vaccine-related support and pointed out that this pandemic highlighted the importance of UHC. At the G20 Bali Summit in November of the same year, Prime Minister Kishida stated the need to strengthen the global health architecture and the importance of achieving more resilient, equitable, and sustainable UHC. At the same time, he expressed his intention to position global health



Japan’s provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) to healthcare workers engaged in COVID-19 response as part of the “Project for the Strengthening of Health Service Delivery of Integrated Health Service Network (RISS)” currently being implemented in Honduras

as one of the important issues to be addressed at the G7 Hiroshima Summit under the Japanese Presidency in 2023.

Japan’s Efforts

■ Support in Response to COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, since its outbreak, Japan has provided a total of approximately \$5 billion in assistance to developing countries through bilateral channels and through international organizations. In addition, in order to underpin economic and social activities in developing countries, as well as to address their financial needs, including in the health and medical sectors, Japan has established the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan and has provided loans totaling over ¥500 billion to 18 countries from July 2020 to the end of December 2022.

Japan believes it is necessary not only to overcome the current pandemic, but also to strengthen health systems to prepare for future health crises, as well as to maintain an enabling international environment for health security across broader sectors. It is under these three pillars that Japan provides assistance.

In order to contain COVID-19 worldwide, it is important to ensure equitable access to safe, effective, and quality-assured vaccines, as well as to therapeutics and diagnostics in all countries and regions. Based on this idea, Japan has provided vaccine-related assistance to various countries and regions, in line with international frameworks such as the COVAX Facility (COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility).*

From June 2021 to December 2022, Japan provided approximately 44 million doses of vaccines to 32 countries and regions (in 2022, approximately 4.45 million doses were provided to 2 countries as bilateral donations, and approximately 4.63 million doses to 11 countries through the COVAX Facility). In the recipient countries and regions of vaccines from Japan, the major local media widely covered Japan’s assistance on television and in newspapers, and gratitude for the vaccines was expressed on social media. As part of the “Last One Mile Support” for delivering vaccines to vaccination sites, Japan provides support for improving a cold chain⁵⁴ system and strengthening the vaccine administration capacity of medical personnel.

In February 2022, Prime Minister Kishida announced

⁵¹ The concept that all people have access to effective and quality-assured health services at affordable costs without financial hardship.

⁵² According to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) survey (as of 2020). The previous total was over 5.2 million children.

⁵³ According to the World Health Organization (WHO) survey (as of 2017). The previous total was over 303,000 women.

⁵⁴ 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.

Support for COVID-19 Response

In 2022, Japan continued to provide support for COVID-19 response to developing countries. Japan announced financial support totaling up to \$1.5 billion for the COVAX Facility, and implemented efforts such as vaccine donations, “Last One Mile”^{*1} Support,^{*} and developing and strengthening medical systems for infectious disease control.

Through the global spread of COVID-19, we were reminded that “no one is safe until everyone is safe.” ODA is essential to protect the health and economic activities of Japanese citizens too. This section introduces some of Japan’s efforts.

Cambodia Last One Mile Support

Japan provided equipment related to prevention, diagnosis, and monitoring, including the maintenance of cold chains^{*2} (200 vaccine coolers, 400 motorcycles for vaccine transportation, etc.). Motorcycles contribute to vaccinations in hard-to-reach remote areas (Last One Mile Support).



Timor-Leste Vaccine Donations, Last One Mile Support, and Developing and Strengthening the Medical Systems

Japan provided approximately 170,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine that were manufactured in Japan in 2021. In addition, in cooperation with Australia, UNICEF, and other partners, Japan provided ambulances and vaccine transport boxes that use technologies from Japanese companies, and strengthened the capacity of health bureau personnel, to facilitate the transportation of vaccines to rural areas.

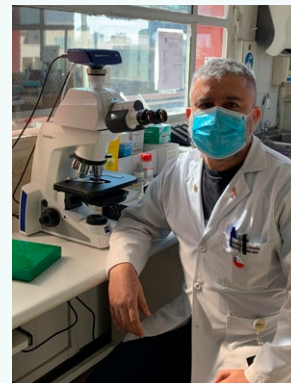


Tajikistan Provision of Ambulances and Strengthening the Health System

Japan provided 67 municipal and district-level hospitals across Tajikistan with 94 ambulances equipped with basic medical equipment or ones capable of providing specialized medical services. The Government of Tajikistan expressed its gratitude for Japan’s contribution to improving the ability to transport emergency cases of COVID-19 and the access to health services for people living in remote areas.



Chile Strengthening Testing Capacity by Providing Equipment



Japan provided equipment related to COVID-19 testing to a hospital in Chile where an ex-training participant of the FY2019 JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program^{*3} works as a doctor, aiming at supporting the ex-trainee’s activities. As a result, the hospital increased its capability to handle 20% of the total PCR tests in Chile, contributing to the enhancement of the country’s testing capabilities.

Peru Prevention and Awareness Raising of COVID-19

In collaboration with the Asociación Peruano Japonesa (Japanese Peruvian Association), Japan implemented a COVID-19 prevention and treatment campaign. By disseminating Japan’s know-how, such as avoiding the “Three Cs” (closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings) in Peru, Japan extended visible cooperation throughout the country.



African Countries Support for Vaccine Manufacturing and Healthcare System Development

Private-Sector Investment Finance of up to \$400 million was provided for the African Export-Import Bank (Afrexim).^{*4} Through Afrexim, Japan supports the smooth recovery of socio-economic activities from COVID-19 by developing regional manufacturing and supply bases for medical products and pharmaceuticals, including vaccine production lines in Africa, as well as developing healthcare-related facilities such as hospitals.



^{*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} See 54 on page 56.

^{*3} Knowledge co-creation program titled “Strengthening Laboratory Techniques and Surveillance System for Global Control of HIV and Related Infectious Diseases.”

^{*4} A regional development financial institution with members from 52 African governments.

that the Government of Japan would support one of the constituent organizations of COVAX, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), in its vaccine development and production, through a contribution of \$300 million over the next five years. In April of the same year, Prime Minister Kishida attended the Gavi COVAX Advanced Market Commitment Summit 2022 in the form of a video message. He stated that the key was to ensure equitable access to vaccines in every country and region of the world and called on the international community to demonstrate its solidarity to overcome the crisis. He also announced a further contribution of up to \$500 million to COVAX, in addition to the contribution of \$1 billion that had already been disbursed.

In May 2022, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki and then State Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare Sato attended the Joint Working Session of the G7 Development and Health Ministers. At the Session, State Minister Suzuki stated that, while upholding the concept of “leaving no one’s health behind,” it is necessary to revitalize the economies and societies of developing countries and to resume cross-border travel to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic. She then announced that Japan would provide up to \$100 million in assistance to this end, primarily to the Indo-Pacific region, focusing on three pillars: national vaccination data systems in developing countries, border control management with measures against infectious diseases applied, and infectious waste disposal.

“Building back better” from COVID-19 was one of the main themes at TICAD 8⁵⁵ held in August as well. The “Tunis Declaration,” which was adopted as its outcome document, confirms the commitment to uphold the concept of human security, the need to build a resilient and sustainable society to achieve the SDGs, and the importance of intensifying efforts in the health sector to achieve UHC. Japan supports the implementation of a comprehensive COVID-19 response in Africa. Japan’s support includes the contribution of up to \$1.5 billion in vaccine support via the COVAX Facility, the development of cold chains to safely deliver vaccines to various vaccination sites in each country, the efforts to improve aversive feelings toward vaccination, and assistance for the production, supply, and procurement of vaccines within the region.

Furthermore, Japan responds to the acute phase of COVID-19 through financial contributions to the World Health Organization (WHO) for its Health Emergencies Programme,^{*} the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE),^{*} and other relevant programs.

Japan has supported building health and medical systems in developing countries for many years from various perspectives such as supporting the capacity building of healthcare workers, networking regional hospitals, and strengthening regional health systems.

During the recent COVID-19 crisis, the medical facilities that Japan has supported evidently play central roles for infection control measures.

■ Formulation of Japan’s Global Health Strategy

Global health is an important issue for the international community, as it not only directly affects people’s health, but also encompasses major economic, social, and security risks. In light of various changes in the world situation, such as the spread of COVID-19, the Government of Japan formulated the “Global Health Strategy” in May 2022. The goal of the Strategy is to contribute to developing global health architecture for international health security and strengthening Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (PPR) for public health emergencies including pandemics, and to achieve more resilient, equitable, and sustainable UHC required for the post-COVID-19 era in order to embody human security. Under this Strategy, Japan promotes efforts to strengthen PPR and achieve UHC through consolidating collaboration with various stakeholders, including international organizations, public-private partnership funds, and private companies.

■ Building a Global Health Architecture that Contributes to Health Security

Based on the experience and lessons learned from the response to COVID-19, the international community takes a growing interest in strengthening PPR for future public health crises. In 2022, Japan announced a contribution of \$50 million to a new fund (the Pandemic Fund) hosted by the World Bank. Furthermore, Japan provides assistance for strengthening capacities in preparedness and responses against infectious diseases in developing countries, through an additional contribution to the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Multi-Donor Trust Fund (HEPRTF), which Japan launched in cooperation with the World Bank Group.

In addition to developing financial mechanisms, Japan actively contributes to rulemaking in the international arena. In February 2022, under WHO, the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiation Body (INB) on a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic PPR (WHO CA+) (so-called “Pandemic Treaty”) was held, followed by three more INB meetings until the end of 2022. Japan contributes to the meetings as a member state and a Japanese delegate serves as one of the vice-chairs of INB. Japan also actively leads the discussions on the amendments to International Health Regulations (IHR), which are taking place concurrently.

■ Promotion of UHC

Japan promotes international cooperation based on the recognition that it is necessary not only to address existing health issues that suffered a setback during the

⁵⁵ See “ODA Topics” on page 127.

spread of COVID-19 but also to achieve more resilient, equitable, and sustainable UHC.

Japan has heretofore provided support for the health and medical care 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. In addition, based on various lessons learned from global pandemics such as COVID-19, Japan works to strengthen health systems including the development and networking of core medical facilities and support for human resources development in the medical field. These efforts contribute to the promotion of UHC, as well as to the PPR for public health emergencies. Japan also provides assistance in a wider range of areas to create a more resilient environment against infectious diseases, including the development of water and sanitation infrastructure such as water supply and sewage systems, and the improvement of food security.

Japan contributes to the prevention of infectious diseases in over 15 countries by providing water purification chemicals, fuel for water trucks, personal protective equipment (PPE) for water utility personnel, and plumbing materials, as well as encouraging handwashing and conducting awareness-raising activities. JICA takes the lead in providing support for environmental improvements through supplying safe and secure water, handwashing facilities, and soaps, and also in implementing initiatives such as the “Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign” to promote proper handwashing in developing countries.

Primary healthcare services under UHC include all services ranging from nutritional improvement, vaccination, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, infectious disease control, noncommunicable disease (NCD) control, and comprehensive community care and long-term care for older persons (see “Food Security and Nutrition” on page 83 regarding nutritional improvement).

Especially with regard to maternal and child health in developing countries, there are major issues still unsolved. In response to this situation, in 2022 Japan provided support in many countries including Cambodia, Laos, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Angola, Burundi, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, and Senegal to improve maternal and child health.

Furthermore, Japan carries out activities utilizing the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook as a means of improving maternal and child health, drawing on its experience and expertise. The MCH Handbook can contribute to the Continuum of Care (CoC) from pregnancy, childbirth, the post-partum period,⁵⁶ the neonatal period, infancy, to early childhood. It also enables mothers to acquire knowledge about health,



A woman in Nepal, who received training through Japanese assistance, sharing information on maternal and child health and nutritional improvement as a community health volunteer (Photo: WFP/ Srawan Shrestha)

helping them raise awareness and modify behavior. As a concrete example of this assistance, in Indonesia the MCH Handbook is widely used throughout the country as a result of Japan’s cooperation. Moreover, among the countries promoting the use of the MCH Handbook, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea, Tajikistan, Kenya, and Madagascar, there are sessions organized to share their experiences and learn from each other.

Japanese NGOs also work in the area of health and medical care using the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects scheme. For example, in 2022, the NPO Rocinantes introduced compact ultrasound diagnostic equipment, helped improve water and electricity supplies for mother’s shelters,⁵⁷ and provided training for medical workers and community volunteers in order to improve maternal and child healthcare in Chisamba District, Zambia (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 107 regarding efforts of a Japanese NGO in Honduras).

Japan works in cooperation with international organizations, 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, aiming to thereby improve the health of a greater number of women and children. Japan also contributes to raising vaccination rates in developing countries through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance,^{*} and bilateral cooperation (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 152 for the active role played by Japanese UNFPA personnel).

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) positions health as one of the key priority sectors in its “Strategy 2030” and sets the following three pillars to achieve UHC in the Asia-Pacific region in cooperation with Japan: (i) building institutional framework, (ii) accelerating human resources development, and (iii) investing in infrastructures. In April 2021, Japan began contributing to the ADB’s Japan Trust Fund for the purpose of

⁵⁶ The period after childbirth in which women recover to a similar condition before pregnancy, usually around one to two months after birth.

⁵⁷ A facility that accommodates expectant mothers who are about to give birth until the delivery date or time.

providing technical assistance and small grants to accelerate supports based on these three pillars.

In May 2022, Prime Minister Kishida held a telephone talk with WHO Director-General Tedros. They concurred on setting up a task force to materialize the establishment of a WHO UHC center in Japan. In September of the same year, Prime Minister Kishida delivered his statement at the General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly, stating that Japan would continue to take a leading role in strengthening the global health architecture and achieving UHC in the post-COVID-19 era, toward the G7 Summit under the Japanese Presidency in 2023. In the same month, Foreign Minister Hayashi co-hosted the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of UHC in New York. At the meeting, he stated that through the COVID-19 crisis, the world realized the importance of investing in health systems to enhance the foundations of resilient economies and societies. Foreign Minister Hayashi also pointed out the need to maintain and strengthen efforts to achieve UHC by making use of this momentum.

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

SDG target 3.3 sets out to end epidemics of the three major infectious diseases by 2030. Japan makes strong efforts to support measures against them and strengthen health systems through the “Global Fund.”⁵⁸ From its establishment to 2022, Japan has contributed approximately \$4.3 billion to the Global Fund. Furthermore, at TICAD 8 held in August 2022 and the Global Fund’s Seventh Replenishment Conference in the following month, Prime Minister Kishida announced

that Japan would additionally contribute up to \$1.08 billion over the next three years. In order to ensure that measures against the three major infectious diseases are carried out more effectively, Japan also implements bilateral cooperation such as enhancing health systems, community empowerment, and improving maternal and child health as a complementary support to the efforts made through the Global Fund.

As for bilateral cooperation in HIV/AIDS countermeasures, Japan provides assistance to raise awareness for preventing new infections as well as to promote testing and counseling. Primarily in Africa, in 2022, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) continued to engage vigorously in deepening people’s knowledge and understanding of HIV/AIDS prevention and providing care and support to people living with HIV/AIDS.

With regard to tuberculosis, Japan engages in reducing the annual number of deaths from tuberculosis in developing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa, in accordance with the “Stop TB Japan Action Plan,” revised in 2021. As an interim goal by 2025, Japan aims to achieve a 75% reduction in deaths from tuberculosis (compared to 2015) and a 50% reduction in tuberculosis incidence (compared to 2015; less than 55 cases per 100,000 people) through a public-private partnership, drawing on Japan’s own experience and technology cultivated through its struggle against tuberculosis.

In respect of malaria, one of the major causes of infant mortality, Japan supports the effort to strengthen local communities in Myanmar and Solomon Islands as anti-malaria countermeasures. Through contributions to the Global Fund, Japan also takes measures against malaria on a worldwide level.



A JICA expert instructing influenza and Hand-Foot-Mouth disease (HFMD) testing techniques at the Bac Giang Centers for Disease Control in Viet Nam (Photo: JICA)



A JOCV working as a pharmacist at a private hospital in a rural area of Malawi to inspect prescriptions and manage drug inventories and orders with colleagues

⁵⁸ Public-Private Partnership established in 2002, led by the discussion held at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000 when infectious diseases control was set as a major discussion topic for the first time. It contributes to efforts to achieve the SDGs by providing financial cooperation for measures against the three major infectious diseases (AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria) and strengthening health systems in developing countries.

Infectious Disease Control Measures through Partnership between an International Organization and Japanese Companies

Six African Countries^{*1} and Four Asian Countries^{*2}



Sustainable Technology Promotion Platform (STePP) Demonstration Project to Transfer Japanese Technologies and Products to Developing Countries to Limit the Impact of COVID-19^{*3}

Contributions and Subscriptions to International Organizations (Supplementary Budget) (November 2020 – December 2022)

In 2020, with the widespread threat of COVID-19, secondary infections spread at medical care institutions in developing countries in Africa and Asia because of outdated healthcare and medical technologies as well as insufficient hygiene awareness.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization Investment and Technology Promotion Office in Tokyo (UNIDO ITPO Tokyo), with the financial contribution of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, launched a project to transfer Japanese technologies that would contribute to infectious disease mitigation in developing countries. 12 Japanese companies were selected for the project from among those registered with the Sustainable Technology Promotion Platform (STePP) operated by UNIDO ITPO Tokyo.^{*4}

The project was implemented in 10 countries in Africa and Asia, and the selected companies transferred their technologies for the needs of each country such as disinfectant fabrication, antibacterial coating, and medical testing equipment. Initially, the companies planned to send Japanese engineers to the countries, but the spread of COVID-19 infections in each country made travel difficult. Therefore, the Japanese companies sought alternative ways to carry out their efforts by sending the relevant equipment to the cooperation sites and providing technical training online.

In Kenya, medical waste had become a source of infection as it was not properly handled and disposed of. In response to this situation, technical assistance guided the installation and trial operation of a medical waste incinerator at a medical facility via online technical training and workshops. As a result, it became



Members of AGC Inc. holding an online meeting with staff members of a medical facility in Viet Nam for the installation of water-purifying equipment (Photo: UNIDO ITPO Tokyo)

possible to properly incinerate all of the medical waste generated at the medical facility, which is around one ton every week. In Viet Nam, a total of eight sets of water-purifying equipment were installed at a medical facility and a food-processing factory that had hygiene management problems. Technical guidance was provided remotely concerning the maintenance, management, and operation of the equipment. It led to the improvement of hygiene conditions for 220,000 employees and hospital patients, and 100,000 consumers.

This project led to the new discovery that Japanese technologies could contribute to mitigating the impact of infectious diseases in developing countries and that they could be transferred remotely. Based on this experience, UNIDO promotes its partnership with Japanese companies and supports their overseas expansion.

^{*1} Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, and Uganda

^{*2} India, Indonesia, Mongolia, and Viet Nam

^{*3} See below for the details of this project.

http://www.unido.or.jp/en/activities/technology_transfer/stepp-demo-results/

^{*4} A platform designed to introduce excellent Japanese technologies to developing and emerging countries. The platform broadly showcases Japanese technologies and knowhow that contribute to inclusive and sustainable industrial development through its website, exhibitions, and programs for inviting officials from developing countries who specialize in investment promotion. As of December 2022, 135 technologies from 117 companies are registered on the platform.



The hospital in Nairobi, Kenya that introduced a medical waste incinerator from KINSEI SANGYO CO., Ltd., of Japan. The incinerator made it possible to dispose of all the medical waste generated at the facility. (Photo: UNIDO ITPO Tokyo)

■ Responding to Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR)

Anti-microbial Resistance (AMR)⁵⁹ is a serious threat to public health, and in recent years, countermeasures against AMR have gained momentum. In order to advance measures against AMR, Japan promotes the “One Health Approach,” which aims to link, across sectors, those engaged in the field of sanitation concerning humans, animals, and the environment. Based on the agreement at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019 on promoting

the “One Health Approach,” 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 takes the lead in tackling AMR, including through participation in the Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance. In 2022, Japan contributed approximately ¥200 million to GARDP.

⁵⁹ Pathogenic microorganisms, including bacteria and viruses, gaining resistance to antimicrobials such as antibiotics and antiviral drugs, which causes the drugs to lose sufficient efficacy.

■ Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

Parasitic and bacterial infections, such as Chagas disease, Filariasis, and Schistosomiasis, are known as “neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).” More than 1 billion people worldwide are infected with NTDs, causing major socio-economic losses to developing countries. Japan contributed a total of ¥14.3 billion to the Global Health Innovative Technology (GHIT) Fund by 2022 and provided support for countermeasures against NTDs through GHIT. In addition, Japan signed “the Kigali Declaration on neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)” in June 2022, and cooperates closely with the relevant countries and international organizations on countermeasures against NTDs.

Furthermore, Japan has provided support against Lymphatic Filariasis for Pacific Island countries through technical cooperation since the 1970s. The “Project for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in the Pacific Region” supports mass drug administration of anthelmintics to stop transmissions in infected areas via public-private partnership, dispatching Japanese experts to provide technical instructions, and utilizing drugs provided to WHO free of charge by the Japanese pharmaceutical company Eisai Co., Ltd. This long-term support from Japan has proved successful, with 9 of 14 Pacific Island countries (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu) having eliminated Lymphatic Filariasis. Through the dispatch of experts and other means, Japan



Medical workers publicizing mass drug administration to control Filariasis in East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea (Photo: JICA)

will continue to support the elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in Pacific Island countries.

■ Polio

Polio is on the brink of eradication. Japan, mainly in cooperation with UNICEF and Gavi, provides support toward its eradication with a focus on countries where cases of infection are still being identified (polio-endemic countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan). During 2022, in Afghanistan, Japan provided support for routine immunization activities and the procurement of vaccines necessary for polio vaccination campaigns in cooperation with UNICEF.



Glossary

COVAX Facility (COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility)

A comprehensive mechanism for resource mobilization and supply coordination led by Gavi to secure equitable access to vaccines. COVAX enables the 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 146 countries and regions as of December 2022.

WHO Health Emergencies Programme

A part of 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 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.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

A public-private partnership 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 both 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 \$1.23 billion in aid by 2022 since the initial contribution in 2011.

ODA
Topics

3

Promoting Efforts toward
the Realization of Human Security

In his address delivered at the General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2022, Prime Minister Kishida spoke about the promotion of efforts based on the concept of human security in the new era, as one of the three pillars for realizing the vision of the UN.

Human security is a concept that focuses on each and every human being, and advances nation and community building through the empowerment and protection of individuals to live happily, in dignity, and free from fear and want. Japan has long promoted the concept of human security in the international community. Japan's Development Cooperation Charter also positions it as the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation. Human security, which puts the spotlight on individuals, is also aligned with the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aim to realize a society that "leaves no one behind."

The Government of Japan has made various efforts to promote human security so far, both in terms of the dissemination of the concept and its practical application on the ground. Under Japan's leadership, the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on a shared understanding on human security in 2012. Since 2000, Japan has proactively promoted the concept of human security in the international community on numerous occasions, such as by holding symposiums on human security. The COVID-19 pandemic put the lives, livelihoods, and dignity of people around the world at risk. In response to the situation, then Prime Minister Suga proposed, in his address at the General Debate of the UN General Assembly in September 2020, deepening discussions on a new approach to human security, and the High-level Advisory Panel was later established under the auspices of the UN. Based on the discussions held in this Panel, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) published the Special Report on Human Security in February 2022, and Foreign Minister Hayashi delivered a video message at its global launch held online. This Special



Foreign Minister Hayashi delivering a video message at the global launch held online



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) published a Special Report on Human Security in February 2022 (Photo: UNDP)

Report advocates the need for "human security in the new era" that incorporates the concept of "solidarity," in addition to the two conventional pillars of human security that are "protection" and "empowerment." Global issues such as climate change and infectious diseases cannot be resolved by any one country alone, so it is vital for each country and every individual to address them in a coordinated manner and with the spirit of solidarity. The Government of Japan supports the approach of "human security in the new era," and strives to promote and practice this concept.

Furthermore, through Japan's leadership, the UN Trust Fund for Human Security was established in 1999 to promote the implementation of human security in the field. By FY2021, Japan had contributed a total of approximately ¥49 billion to this fund. The trust fund has supported 282 projects implemented by UN agencies to ensure human security in over 100 countries and regions by the end of 2021.

Japan will continue to play a leading role in the international community toward the realization of human security.

(2) Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation are vital issues linked to human life. Throughout the world, approximately 2 billion people do not receive a supply of safely-managed drinking water, and 3.6 billion people cannot use safely-managed sanitary facilities such as toilets.⁶⁰ In developing countries where piped water is not widely available, women and children are often compelled to spend hours fetching water, being deprived of opportunities for participation in society and for education. An unstable supply of water has a negative impact on healthcare and agriculture. SDG 6 sets forth the objective to “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”



A JICA expert working with Cambodian counterparts at a sewage pipe construction site to improve the sewage management capacity of Phnom Penh to treat its increased volumes of sewage due to rapid urbanization and population growth (Photo: JICA)

Japan's Efforts

Japan has the best track record in the world for cumulative total assistance since the 1990s in the fields of water and sanitation. In 2022, Japan provided assistance for the development and expansion of water supply and sewerage systems in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, and Viet Nam. In Cambodia, for instance, Japan supports Phnom Penh Capital Administration and the Ministry of Public Works and Transport in their efforts to build a sewerage management system through the development of legal and institutional systems concerning sewerage management. As for Tajikistan, Japan implements a technical cooperation project to strengthen the water service management capacities of Pyanj and Khamadoni Vodokanals in order to improve water supply services (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 115 for details).

At the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit, which was held in Kumamoto City, Japan in April 2022, Prime Minister Kishida announced the “Kumamoto Initiative for

Water,” Japan’s measures to contribute toward resolving water issues. The Summit was attended by leaders and ministers from approximately 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region (see “ODA Topics” on page 65).

Japan also makes efforts to improve water environments in developing countries around the world in cooperation with Japanese and local private companies and organizations. For example, in Indonesia, the “Verification Survey with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technologies for Automatic Regenerating Activated Carbon Wastewater Purification Systems with a View to Promoting the Use of Regenerated Water and Industrial Wastewater Treatment” was implemented utilizing JICA’s SDGs Business Supporting Surveys. There was a need to solve environmental issues such as river pollution caused by insufficient treatment of dye effluent and ground subsidence following excessive ground water intake, as the textile industry thrives in the country. Through this project, so far, two large-scale purification systems have been installed, which made it possible for factory wastewater to be treated and reused. They contribute to the effective use of water as a resource, the rationalization of water usage, and the reduction of the amount of wastewater, thereby reducing the environmental impact on nearby rivers (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 124 for support to Uganda through Japan Platform (JPF)).

In order to address 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) of Japan implements the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA). Through cooperation among 13 participating countries⁶¹ from Asia, WEPA aims to enhance water environment governance in Asia through building human networks, gathering and sharing information, and strengthening capacity. In April 2022, the 17th WEPA Annual Meeting was held in a hybrid format, both online and in-person. It focused on the “Current Status and Challenges of Domestic Wastewater Governance” and “Current Status and Issues of Introduction of Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems.” The participants shared information on progress made on water environment governance in each country and lively exchanged views. Moreover, to contribute to achieving “halving the proportion of untreated wastewater” set in Target 6.3 of the SDGs, MOE introduces Japan’s advanced decentralized wastewater treatment facility “Johkasou” technology, legislative systems, etc., mainly for Asian regions. The 10th workshop was held online in November 2022 with a focus on grey water treatment, which is one of the major issues in decentralized wastewater treatment. During the workshops, presentations were

⁶⁰ According to the data of UNICEF (2020). <https://data.unicef.org/resources/progress-on-household-drinking-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-2000-2020/>

⁶¹ The 13 countries are Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Japan.

ODA
Topics

4

The 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit

Water is a blessed resource that underpins our society. In the form of natural disasters, however, it can pose a threat to human life and prosperity. For example, in recent years, the frequency of water-related disasters has been increasing across the world. In Japan, the frequency of torrential rains has increased by approximately 40% compared with 30 years ago, and in the Asia-Pacific region, the number of water-related disasters impacting large populations*¹ has nearly tripled over the past 30 years. Besides water-related disasters, water is deeply related to a range of challenges in society such as poverty, public health, food, the environment, energy, and peace and security.

The Asia-Pacific Water Summit is a high-level international conference for top government leaders from the Asia-Pacific region, with the aim of deepening awareness of water issues and encouraging concrete resource mobilization and initiatives. The 4th*² Asia-Pacific Water Summit was held in Kumamoto City, Japan, on April 23 and 24, 2022. It was the first time in 15 years that the Summit was held in Japan. Approximately 5,500 participants attended the Summit both in-person and online, with participation by leaders and ministers from 31 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including Japan. Prime Minister Kishida participated in the Summit from Japan, and held luncheons and bilateral meetings with the leaders of the countries in attendance. The theme of the Summit was “Water for Sustainable Development: Best Practices and the Next Generation,” and discussions were held to reaffirm the importance of water in the process of recovery from COVID-19 and to continue sustainable development for future generations.

The opening ceremony featured online remarks and a commemorative speech by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. Prime Minister Kishida delivered the keynote speech at the Heads of State and Government (HSG) Meeting held in the afternoon, stating that Japan would make proactive efforts, including the development of “quality infrastructure,” toward



Water treatment facility constructed under the “Rajasthan Rural Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project” in the Nagaur district of Rajasthan in northwest India. This ensured safe and stable drinking water supply services. (Photo: Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Rajasthan)



Beginning of the HSG Meeting (Photo: Japan Water Forum)

resolving social issues related to water, while coordinating and cooperating with various countries and international organizations. He also announced the “Kumamoto Initiative for Water,” Japan’s measures to contribute toward resolving water issues. Moreover, during the HSG Meeting, the leaders of the participating countries announced the “Kumamoto Declaration.”*³ The Chair’s Summary was announced on the second day, April 24, compiled based on the active discussions among the participants from various countries and organizations over the two days.

At the closing ceremony, a representative of youth from the Asia-Pacific region (India) together with a high school student from Fukuoka Prefecture delivered the “Message from Youth” in which they conveyed the importance of cooperation between youth and adults and reaffirmed the importance of strengthening youth participation in regional sustainable development.

As an old saying goes, “the one who governs water governs the country.” Nowadays, governing water greatly contributes to the resolution of social issues on a global scale. The outcomes of the Summit, which was attended by the leaders of many countries, are not limited to the Asia-Pacific region. They are expected to provide significant strength and wisdom for future discussions on global water issues as well as disaster risk reduction and climate change. The outcomes are also expected to be an important input to the UN Water Conference, which is scheduled to take place in March 2023 for the first time in 46 years.

*1 Refers to a flood that affects 1,000 or more people.

*2 The first Summit was held in Beppu City, Oita Prefecture, Japan in 2007, the second was held in Thailand in 2013, and the third was held in Myanmar in 2017.

*3 In order to accelerate efforts in water-related fields, the Declaration calls for substantial actions for change and improvement in three fields: governance, finance, and science and technology.



Children washing their hands at a water supply facility constructed at an elementary school in Tajikistan (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 115)

made about the importance and benefits of properly treating grey water, measures related to legal systems for expanding the spread of treatment facilities, and examples of efforts by local public entities, followed by active discussions on these topics. This helped the participants gain a common understanding of the future direction and improvement measures to resolve the issues. Through the workshop, information on decentralized wastewater treatment systems, including the “Johkasou” facility, was disseminated, and cooperation with people involved in decentralized wastewater treatment in each country was strengthened.

(3) Quality Education for All

There are as many as 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).⁶² In particular, the percentage of children who cannot go to school has increased since 2000 in Sub-Saharan Africa. Above all, children with disabilities, children of minority ethnic groups or those in disadvantaged communities, children of refugee and displaced people, and those living in remote areas are at the greatest risk of being left behind. The impact of the spread of COVID-19 has also been significant. In addition to the loss of learning opportunities due to school closures, it is pointed out that some children do not return to school even after reopening. These situations raise further concerns about malnutrition, early marriage, and gender inequality of those children.

SDG 4 aims 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.”*

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides developing countries with a broad range of support, including the enhancement of basic education,⁶³ higher education, and vocational training.

Japan promoted its “Education x Innovation” initiative,⁶⁴ which was announced in 2019, and met its commitment by supporting approximately 9.47 million children and youths over the three-year period. 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 the “G20 Initiative on Human Capital Investment for Sustainable Development” (G20 Osaka Summit 2019), Japan further strengthens support for education that improves basic academic skills, STEM education,⁶⁵ and development of e-learning, among others (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 99 for Japan’s efforts in Nepal).

Also, Japan contributed a total of approximately \$46.62 million from 2008 to 2022 to the “Global Partnership for Education (GPE).”* Since 2015, the number of children supported by partner countries of GPE has reached 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 education sector, including continued support for GPE, as well as the support for the education and human resources development of 7.5 million girls in developing countries.



Children studying with a math textbook created with Japanese assistance in the technical cooperation “Project for Improving Teaching and Learning Mathematics for Primary Education,” in Laos (Photo: JICA)

⁶² Pages 209, 413, and 427 of the “Global Education Monitoring Report 2021/2.” <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379875>

⁶³ The educational activities designed to enable individuals to acquire 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.

⁶⁴ Based on the “G20 Initiative on Human Capital Investment for Sustainable Development” announced at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019, this unique initiative of Japan was announced to provide education for innovation and education through innovation to at least approximately 9 million children and young people over the three years from 2019 to 2021.

⁶⁵ STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, and refers collectively to these four educational fields.

At TICAD 8⁶⁶ held in August 2022, as an initiative in the field of education (human resources development including youth and women) for Africa, Japan expressed that it would help improve children's learning by promoting school enrollment, improving inclusiveness, and providing school meals through initiatives such as the "School for All" project. Japan also announced that, through these efforts, it aims to eventually provide quality education, including STEM education, to 9 million children and improve access to quality education for 4 million girls. In addition, through human resources development and acceptance of international students under the Japan-Africa university network, Japan works to develop highly-skilled human resources, including those in the fields of science and technology (see "Stories from the Field" on page 68 for Japan's support in Egypt).

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 to improve the education environment for children. In cooperation with the World Bank, GPE, and others, Japan works to expand the project throughout each targeted country. 70,754 elementary schools in nine countries have introduced the program as of October 2022.

In the Asia-Pacific region, Japan provides assistance for initiatives toward the achievement of SDG 4. It includes 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), as well as support for improvement of education quality, enhancement of early childhood education, spread of non-formal education, and improvement of teachers' teaching skills. Moreover, Japan supports human resources development in developing countries by engaging in a wide range of efforts such as strengthening networking among higher



A JOCV teaching the four basic arithmetic operations at an elementary school in Dikhil Region, Djibouti (Photo: JICA)

education institutions between Japan and ASEAN, collaborating with the industrial sector, participating in joint research projects with neighboring countries, and accepting international students to Japanese higher education institutions and other institutions.

■ 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 can contribute to the realization of all SDGs by fostering the builders of a sustainable society, and Japan, as the country that proposed ESD, continues not only to engage in the promotion of ESD but also to play a significant role in its global advocacy and enhancement through the funds-in-trust to UNESCO. In addition, through the aforementioned funds-in-trust, Japan actively promotes ESD by implementing the "UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development" together with UNESCO, honoring organizations and institutions that conduct excellent initiatives toward putting ESD into practice. 18 organizations have been awarded to date.

⁶⁶ See "ODA Topics" on page 127.



Stories from the Field

Establishing a University of Science and Technology in Egypt that Implements the Japanese Education System

—A Contribution toward the Development of the Middle East and Africa by Fostering and Producing Excellent Researchers—



In Egypt, the lack of experimental and practical equipment at universities due to the increase in the number of university students had an impact on the teaching methods employed. In particular, in the Faculty of Engineering, lecture-style education through classroom learning has been the norm, with only a limited number of universities offering practical education. In response to a request for support from the Government of Egypt to establish a new university based on the concept of “offering small class sizes, postgraduate and research-oriented, practical, and international standard of education,” which are the characteristics of Japanese-style engineering education, Japan launched the technical cooperation project “Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST)” in 2008.

During Phase 1 of the project, from October 2008 to January 2014, assistance was provided mainly in the areas of developing curriculum and dispatching experts and professors, in cooperation with 12 Japanese universities including Kyushu University, Kyoto University, Tokyo Institute of Technology, and Waseda University. It led to the establishment of E-JUST in 2009 as a graduate university specializing in engineering-related fields. In Phase 2 of the project implemented from February 2014 to January 2019, the Faculty of Engineering as well as the Faculty of International Business and Humanities were established and began accepting undergraduate students. This made a solid foundation for E-JUST to become a top-class research university in Egypt that promotes human development and contributes to the development of Egyptian industry and society. In the earlier stages of the project, there was confusion among the Egyptian faculty members about the concept of the university. However, once the Japanese-style laboratory-based education began to show positive

results, the Egyptian faculty members’ commitment to implementing the new style and the learning attitude of the students showed positive changes.

Dr. OOKAWARA Shinichi, Specially Appointed Professor of the Tokyo Institute of Technology, talks about the achievement of the E-JUST project as follows: “As a result of continuous and consistent research supervision provided through the project, the Japanese-style educational method was highly evaluated, and the number of students has grown from 30 to 3,000 today. When I participated in a forum of Egyptian universities, the E-JUST booth was given a prominent location at the venue and the Egyptian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research visited our booth, which made me realize that our efforts were highly appreciated.”

Dr. Ookawara has accepted doctoral students from E-JUST at his lab at the Tokyo Institute of Technology every year, and provides beneficial opportunities for E-JUST students to experience research life through cutting-edge research in Japan, as well as for Japanese students to acquire international perspectives.

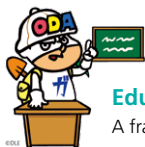
Thereafter, several Egyptian universities were established modelled on E-JUST. This situation proves that the concept of E-JUST has been widely accepted in Egypt. Professor Emeritus SUZUKI Masaaki of the Tokyo Institute of Technology, who serves as the first vice president of E-JUST, talks about his prospects in the future as follows: “E-JUST has now developed into one of the top research universities in Egypt. In Phase 3 of the project (February 2019 – January 2025), we would like to contribute to the development of African countries by accepting more international students from Africa while taking advantage of the existing and newly created scholarship programs.”



Dr. Ookawara teaching an Egyptian student in his class



The entrance ceremony of E-JUST in October 2022 (Photo: E-JUST)



Glossary

Education 2030 Framework for Action (FFA)

A framework for action that succeeds “The Dakar Framework for Action: Education for All,” aimed at achieving education for all and adopted at the “World Education Forum” in Dakar, Senegal in 2000. The FFA 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)

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 societies, and private-sector corporations and foundations. It was renamed GPE from Fast Track Initiative (FTI) in 2011.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

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 reaffirmed in the “ESD for 2030,” adopted by a resolution of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly in 2019. “ESD for 2030” is a succeeding program of 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 framework for the implementation from 2020 to 2030.

(4) Gender and Inclusive Society

A. Promotion of Women’s Empowerment and Participation

The social norms and systems in developing countries are generally shaped by men’s perspectives, which leave women in vulnerable positions in many aspects. On the other hand, women are critical actors in each country’s development, and their participation leads not only to the improvement of their own lives but also to increasing the impact of the development. 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, and on appropriate family planning, leading to women’s social advancement and economic empowerment. Moreover, it contributes to the sustainable and inclusive economic growth of developing countries.

The “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda)” strongly and clearly addresses that “Realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets.” In concrete terms, 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 that men and women participate equally in all phases of development cooperation and reap the benefits equitably.

Japan’s Efforts

In the “Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment,”⁶⁷ Japan set the following three basic principles: (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. Based on this strategy, Japan advances its efforts in the international community to promote gender mainstreaming,⁶⁸ gender equality, and women’s and girls’ empowerment.

In 2018, Japan contributed \$50 million to the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi).⁶⁹ As of June 2022, Japan has supported 50,068 women-owned/led small and medium enterprises (WSMEs) in 59 countries.



Female students of a children’s club exchanging opinions on the prevention of human trafficking under the project on “Human Trafficking Prevention for Women and Girls in Dien Bien Province” in mountainous areas of Viet Nam (Photo: World Vision Japan)

⁶⁷ Thematic policies formulated in 2016 to promote the active participation of women in development cooperation.

⁶⁸ Integrating a gender perspective into all policies, measures, and projects in order to achieve gender equality in every field. In the field of development, it refers to the process of clarifying development challenges, needs, and impacts on both men and women, at every stage of planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, of all development policies, measures, and projects, based on the premise that they have different impacts on men and women.

⁶⁹ The launch of We-Fi was announced at the G20 Hamburg Summit in 2017. 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.

Specifically, 40,378 WSMEs have received financial assistance while 13,885 received training to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for management. According to the World Bank, 70% of WSMEs in developing countries are unable to receive financing from financial institutions or are faced with poor borrowing terms. In response to such a situation, through We-Fi, Japan promotes the development of legal systems free from gender discrimination and supports women entrepreneurs in having equal access to financing and markets.

At the G7 Elmau Summit held in June 2022, the G7 Leaders' Communiqué affirmed their commitment to make every effort to collectively increase the share of G7's bilaterally allocable ODA advancing gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment over the coming years.

In December 2022, Japan held the World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2022, with the main theme "Mainstreaming Gender into a New Form of Capitalism." Looking ahead to discussions under the G7 Presidency of Japan in 2023, the following five sub-themes were set: (i) New Form of Capitalism and Women, (ii) Realizing a Society Protecting Women's Dignity and Pride, (iii) Enhancing Awareness and Engagement of Men; (iv) Women's Participation in Decision-Making Processes, and (v) Women's Participation in Peace and Security. Along with the themes, leaders and experts active in various fields in Japan and overseas exchanged opinions on how to create a better society. In addition, Japan designated the period before and after WAW! 2022 as "WAW! Weeks," and registered 107 side events in promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment, which are the aims of WAW!.

Japan also provides support through UN Women and contributed approximately \$21 million in 2021 and \$14 million in 2022 for promoting political participation and economic empowerment of women, eliminating sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, improving women's role in the peace and security fields, and strengthening gender-responsive policies and budgets. Furthermore, in 2022, Japan continued to contribute to the prevention of COVID-19 with gender perspectives in Africa and Asia. For example, in Somalia, Japan supported 2,234 women with regard to COVID-19 prevention measures. In South Sudan, Japan supported 13,189 internally displaced persons and host community residents in improving their knowledge of COVID-19, including the importance of vaccinations, and of gender-based violence that was on the rise as COVID-19 spread.

Japan considers sexual violence in conflict cannot be tolerated. Therefore, Japan places importance on collaboration with the UN Office of the Special



A woman with baskets produced through the "Project for Enhancing Women's Resilience in Refugee Camps and Host Communities" in Kenya, with the aim of increasing women's cash income and achieving economic independence (Photo: UN Women)

Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC).⁷⁰ Amid the spread of COVID-19 in 2022, Japan contributed approximately \$517,000 to the OSRSG-SVC to provide legal assistance to victims of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo while taking measures against COVID-19 infections.

Japan also contributed an additional €2 million in 2022 to the Global Survivors Fund (GSF),^{*} making it a total of €6 million in contributions so far. Japan, as its board member, actively contributes to supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in conflict-affected areas, including the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq. In July 2022, on the occasion of the 50th regular session of the UN Human Rights Council, Japan co-hosted a side event on reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Ukraine with GSF and its board members (France, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Korea), the United States, Ukraine, and others. In September of the same year, on the occasion of the UN General Assembly, Japan once again co-hosted a side event on supporting survivors with GSF, its board members, the United States, Canada, and Ukraine. At the WAW! 2022 held in December, Dr. Mukwege, one of the founders of GSF, participated online.

Japan formulated its National Action Plan in 2015 for the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) adopted in 2000 and other relevant resolutions, in order to support women in conflict-affected and fragile countries through international organizations and bilateral assistance. In terms of the G7 framework, under the G7 WPS⁷¹ Partnership Initiative (2018), Japan has assisted its partner country of Sri Lanka since 2019. Japan provides assistance for the formulation of its WPS

⁷⁰ See also MOFA's website (https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page23e_000466.html) for Japan's efforts regarding the prevention of sexual violence in conflict.

⁷¹ G7 WPS is an abbreviation for G7 Women, Peace and Security.



The “Women Entrepreneurship Development Project” providing training to women who aim to start a business in Ethiopia (Photo: JICA)



A JICA expert practicing tango therapy for persons with disabilities as part of technical cooperation in Paraguay (Photo: JICA)

Action Plan and for women’s financial empowerment, including for the households of widows who are left behind after the 26-year internal conflict, as a project for the implementation of the country’s Action Plan. The livelihood support provided by this partnership is appreciated 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.

B. Assistance for People who Tend to be in Vulnerable Situations

Challenges such as poverty, conflicts, infectious diseases, terrorism, and natural disasters have varying impacts depending on the situations that individuals are in, including their country and region, or whether they are women and/or children. 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 thus 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 their situations, including persons with disabilities. Article 32 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ⁷² stipulates that States Parties would undertake measures for international cooperation and its promotion.

Policies for persons with disabilities cover a number of different areas, such as welfare, health and medical care, education, and employment. Japan applies its accumulated expertise and experiences in these areas to

support developing countries in implementing measures and policies on disability through ODA and NGO activities (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 72).

For example, Japan takes a thorough hands-on approach to suit various local needs, such as by incorporating accessible design in the planning of railroad and airport construction, developing vocational training centers and rehabilitation facilities (for people with disabilities), and providing minibuses as transportation for persons with disabilities. Additionally, Japan provides a wide range of technical cooperation through JICA to enhance the capacity of organizations and personnel engaged in assisting persons with disabilities. These efforts include acceptance of trainees from developing countries and dispatch of JOCVs and experts such as physical and occupational therapists as well as social workers.

■ Assistance for Children

Generally, children tend to be in vulnerable situations. Today, there are many children around the world placed in harsh environments due to the impact of COVID-19 in addition to conflicts, natural disasters, etc., and the number of child refugees and internally displaced children is rapidly increasing. In response to this situation, Japan provides a variety of humanitarian and development assistance for children bilaterally and through international organizations. In 2022, through the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Japan provided assistance for children being affected by poverty, conflict, natural disasters, COVID-19, and other factors in 59 countries mainly in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

As for the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, ⁷³ Japan provides cooperation that directly benefits residents at the grassroots level. Under this scheme, Japan implements projects that contribute to improving the living conditions of children, such as the construction and refurbishment

⁷² Japan ratified the Convention in 2014.

⁷³ 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>).

Developing “Job Coaches” who Connect Persons with Disabilities and Companies

Mongolia



Project for Promoting Employment of Persons with Disabilities (DPUB2)

Technical Cooperation Project (February 2021 – January 2025)

The Government of Mongolia, which ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2009, promotes measures to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities and their participation in society, including enacting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act in 2016. As one of the measures to support the economic and social independence of persons with disabilities, the government obliges companies to employ persons with disabilities under the labor law, and makes efforts to implement the Employment Promotion Program for Persons with Disabilities. On the other hand, companies' level of understanding regarding the employment of persons with disabilities remains low, and a working environment that responds to their characteristics and needs has not been developed, which poses a challenge.

In light of this, JICA, in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Mongolia, makes initiatives to develop specialized human resources called “job coaches.” Job coaches provide services such as matching companies with persons with disabilities and supporting their adaptation to the workplace, toward the realization of their entering the workforce. In this



Corporate awareness raising seminar for enhancing the understanding of disabilities (Photo: JICA)



Staff of an employment support organization and an instructor engaging in group work at a job coach introduction seminar (Photo: JICA)

project, so far, four introductory seminars have been held for officials of government agencies, employment support organizations, and private companies, to develop job coaches. For nurturing job coaches, in addition to delivering lectures on the basic concepts and services of job coaches, the project is making efforts such as group work in which seminar participants act as job coaches and learn skills for negotiating with companies regarding the employment of persons with disabilities and teaching work to persons with intellectual disabilities. Participants commented, “I am satisfied to learn detailed and useful knowledge regarding the employment of persons with disabilities.” In July 2022, the project started providing employment support services by job coaches, and so far, 48 people with disabilities have actually used them.

Through this project, guidelines for the subsidy system and a human resources development system were established. In the future, it is expected that the employment of persons with disabilities will be further promoted by creating a system for continuously providing employment support services by job coaches and promoting corporate awareness.

of elementary and junior high schools, provision of medical equipment to hospitals, and development of wells and water supply facilities.



Children in Guinea expressing their gratitude with hand-made plates and pictures for school meal support from Japan (Photo: WFP)

For example, in the Philippines, Japan currently provides cooperation for the construction of a school building for junior secondary education at Datu Igwas Indigenous People Integrated School. The school is located in Kidapawan City in North Cotabato Province, and the students have no other choice but to take classes in simple temporary classrooms, as the school building collapsed due to a strong earthquake. It is expected that this assistance will provide a safe and appropriate learning environment and improve the quality of basic education. In Armenia, Japan provided cooperation for the construction of a playground and exercise area at a village school for children at compulsory education stage in the village of Margahovit in Lori Province. The project is expected to contribute 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 strengthen their athletic abilities and health maintenance.



Handover ceremony for the expanded and renovated basic education school and kindergarten through the “Project for Improvement of Two Educational Facilities in Tegucigalpa City” in Honduras



Members of the Japanese Bolivian Nikkei Association's National Volunteer Group promoting Japanese culture at “Anime Concert 2.0” through demonstrations of origami and “shodo,” Japanese calligraphy (Photo: JICA)

(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 hence assistance to protect such cultural heritage sites is required. The preservation and promotion of culture, including the invaluable cultural heritage in developing countries, should be addressed not only by the countries with cultural heritage in danger, but also by the entire international community.

With regard to sports, they 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 normative consciousness. The influence and positive power of sports play a role as a “catalyst” for the development and growth of developing countries.

Japan's Efforts

Japan has provided assistance for the promotion of culture, including sports, higher education, and 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 for cultural exchanges with Japan, contributing to a deeper understanding of Japan and fostering a sense of affinity toward Japan. In 2022, Japan implemented 28 projects that support 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 ¥300 million in FY2022 and has implemented multiple projects in the field of cultural heritage through the fund. In Japan's assistance, a particular emphasis is put on human resources development in developing countries so that they themselves can preserve their own cultural heritage in the future. To this end, Japan 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 the support for tangible cultural heritage, Japan also supports the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional dances, music, handcraft techniques, and oral lore (oral traditions) through successor training, records conservation, and creation of safeguard mechanisms under the Japanese Funds-in-Trust.

Japan also conducts training programs with the aim of improving the capacities to protect cultural heritage by inviting young experts engaged in 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, Japan conducts biennial training on maintenance and repair methods for wooden buildings and on survey records of archeological remains. In 2022, Japan conducted training on 3D documentation methods for archaeological remains for experts of Viet Nam via videoconference.

Furthermore, Japan supports the field of sports using various programs including ODA and “Projects for Sports Diplomacy Enhancement,” in order to pass on the legacy of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 and to continuously promote “Sport for Tomorrow,”⁷⁴ Japan's international contribution through sports that aims to share the value of sports and promote the Olympic and Paralympic Movement.⁷⁵ In addition, 50 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers

⁷⁴ Sport for Tomorrow website: <https://www.sport4tomorrow.jpnsport.go.jp/>

⁷⁵ MOFA's sports diplomacy initiatives: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/culture/people/sports/index.html>

(JOCVs) were dispatched to developing countries in the field of sports in 2022.



Glossary

Global Survivors Fund (GSF)

Fund launched by Dr. Denis Mukwege and Ms. Nadia Murad, Nobel Peace Prize laureates 2018. It aims to facilitate access to reparations and support for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence against the backdrop that many of them do not receive public reparations. GSF conducts awareness-raising activities regarding the development of the judicial system to support and give relief to survivors.

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 for the preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries. It aims to promote friendly relationships and mutual understanding by encouraging cultural and educational advancements in developing countries as well as cultural exchanges between Japan and the recipient countries through such assistance. There are two modalities; “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

The environment and climate change issues, addressed in the SDGs, are critical time-sensitive challenges that the international community must work together on, with the occurrence of extreme weather events and devastating natural disasters in recent years. Japan has vigorously worked on addressing these issues and provided 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 the 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. It has become important to take measures to address this issue in recent years. As of December 2022, 87 countries and regions have shared the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision,” an initiative led by Japan at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019 that aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050. 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 promote effective measures against marine plastic litter worldwide.

Japan supports marine plastic countermeasures through the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). In the “CounterMEASURE II” project, to which Japan

contributed ¥627 million, UNEP has established an expert group in Southeast Asia and India, supported the group in building scientific knowledge, and conducted training for more than 2,000 people since March 2020. In response to the worsening marine pollution caused by plastic waste, UNEP also developed a method for monitoring the flow of plastic waste into the ocean. In addition, to enable science-based policymaking, UNEP conducts sampling surveys of plastic litter and scientific analysis on its pathways and formulates 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 (hotspots), and released on a dedicated website ⁷⁶ available to the general public.

Moreover, as part of expanded assistance for ASEAN to address marine plastic litter issues, which was announced at the ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2018, Japan provides capacity building support and conducts



A researcher and a local counterpart sampling seawater in red tide areas in Chile (Photo: JICA)

⁷⁶ “Mobile Application for Macro Plastic Survey” (<https://arcg.is/1DOOWW>)

awareness-raising and PR activities for environmental conservation, primarily on reducing marine plastic litter in ASEAN countries since 2019.

For example, in 2022, through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF),⁷⁷ Japan provided assistance to strengthen capacity for marine litter reduction through the formulation of national action plans in ASEAN countries, to strengthen capacity development of local governments in ASEAN to tackle microplastics and water pollution, and to build capacity for monitoring and reduction of marine litter from fisheries. Regarding ODA projects, from October to December 2022, both online and in-person training in Japan were held, with 13 participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The participants learned about the global trends in discussions and Japan's efforts regarding measures against marine litter. In February 2022, collaborating with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Japan decided to provide support to Nigeria, which works to formulate measures for plastic waste management. Japan's support includes assistance in the formulation of guidelines for managing plastic waste, the provision of equipment to promote recycling, and the training to improve capacity, focusing on the Federal Capital Territory (especially Abuja) and Lagos State in the country.

■ Conservation of Marine Resources

In the ASEAN region, Japan conducts training and workshops on countermeasures against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing through JICA in cooperation with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). Curbing the impact on fish ecosystems affected by IUU fishing that exceeds regulatory thresholds leads 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

The issue of climate change is a global challenge that should be addressed beyond national borders, and requires concerted efforts by the international community, including not only developed countries but also developing countries, to strengthen their efforts. "The Paris Agreement" was adopted at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) held in 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, Japan declared that it would achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2050. In April 2021, Japan also declared 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)"⁷⁸ reflecting these goals, together with "The Long-term Strategy under the Paris Agreement" to the UN (see "Master Techniques from Japan to the World" on page 76 for Japan's efforts in relation to net-zero GHG emissions).

Japan expressed at COP26 held in 2021 that it would further provide up to \$10 billion in both public and private finance over a five-year period, in addition to the assistance totaling ¥6.5 trillion in both public and private finance over five years from 2021 to 2025, already announced at the G7 Cornwall Summit in June 2021. Japan also announced the doubling of the amount of assistance for adaptation to climate change to ¥1.6 trillion over five years.

From November 6 to 20, 2022, COP27 was held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. COP27 focused on strengthening the implementation of climate actions as the session was called the "Implementation COP" built on the outcome of COP26 in November 2021. The cover decision of COP27, the "Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan," calling on Parties to strengthen their actions in each area of climate change, and the "Mitigation Work Programme" to urgently scale up mitigation ambition and implementation toward 2030, were adopted. Moreover, a decision was adopted to establish new funding arrangements, including a fund to assist particularly vulnerable developing countries in responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

The "Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)," which was launched at COP26 by France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the EU to support South Africa, expanded its target countries to India, Indonesia, Viet Nam, and Senegal at the G7 Elmau Summit in June 2022. Japan, together with the United



Members of the communities' Resources Management Committees working to protect marine resources in Vanuatu. Japan has been implementing the "Project for Promotion of the Grace of the Sea in Coastal Village in Vanuatu" for over 10 years. (Photo: JICA)

⁷⁷ See ⁴ on page 93.

⁷⁸ Parties set their GHG emission reduction targets and formulate measures to achieve them as NDC. It will then be submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat.

Japan's Leading-Edge Research Promotes Geothermal Power Development in El Salvador



In El Salvador in Central America, where volcanoes are distributed across the country, geothermal power generation is an important energy source that accounts for approximately 27% of the domestic power supply and demand. Currently, El Salvador promotes the further development and use of geothermal power generation, a renewable energy source, in order to reduce thermal power generation, which accounts for approximately 25% of total power generated. However, due to the difficulty in proceeding with geothermal power development on its own, the Government of El Salvador requested Japan to provide technical cooperation through JICA. Based on the request, Japan has implemented the "Project for Thermoluminescence Techniques in Geothermal Exploration and Integrated Evaluation System of Geothermal Reservoir" in El Salvador since 2018 under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program.*1

Thermoluminescence Techniques*2 are Japan's unique techniques that Dr. TSUCHIYA Noriyoshi, Professor of the Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University, and principal investigator of this project, has advanced the research and development on for over 20 years. These techniques can be applied to narrow down promising areas for geothermal development inexpensively and efficiently. The project is working on the technical transfer by inviting faculty members from the University of El Salvador and engineers from geothermal power company to Japan to learn relevant leading-edge technologies that are under research in Japan, or by holding workshops in El Salvador with lecturers from Japan. "It is crucial to have people understand the importance of principles as well as the know-how of the technology. The speed of development in El Salvador is much faster than in Japan, so it is interesting to see how our research and new technologies are being rapidly put to practical use," said Dr. Tsuchiya. Through this project, geothermal power



A field survey to collect rock samples for exploration using thermoluminescence near the Ahuachapán Geothermal Power Plant (Photo: JICA)

development has already commenced at four sites, while geothermal exploration is ongoing at another four sites.

The project has also achieved significant results in terms of human resources development and research and development. Researchers at the University of El Salvador developed a world-first geothermal technology after deepening their knowledge and conducting multiple experiments in Japan, and their paper was published in a prestigious international journal. It is expected that learning from Japan will foster researchers in El Salvador and promote geothermal research in their country.

Dr. Tsuchiya also hopes that young researchers, who will lead the future of Japan, will "understand firsthand" the significance of international cooperation and the importance of international exchange. Therefore, he takes Japanese students with him to project sites and focuses on human resources development through fieldwork. Seeing the students throw themselves into the local community without hesitation, he said, "As we proceed with geothermal research while overcoming cultural barriers, I feel we are advancing international exchange at the grass-roots level. I renewed my conviction that it is important for researchers in both countries to continue exchanging and inspiring each other even after the completion of the project."

This project contributes to expanding the use of renewable energy in El Salvador through the development of geothermal power generation, as well as to fostering researchers in both countries.



Thermoluminescence measurement equipment provided to the University of El Salvador. This equipment, originally developed by Tohoku University, enables exploration for prospective geothermal sites. In addition, an X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) analyzer and an Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-OES) have also been provided. (Third from the left (back row): Dr. Tsuchiya) (Photo: JICA)

*1 See the glossary on page 41.

*2 A resource exploration method for revealing wide-area geothermal activities as well as local heat sources and hydrothermal activities.

Environmental Conservation in Pacific Island Countries through Continuous Cooperation

Nine Pacific Island Countries^{*1}



Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries Phase 2 (J-PRISM 2)

Technical Cooperation Project (February 2017 – March 2023)

In the Pacific Island countries, the amount of waste is increasing due to lifestyle changes. There exist many challenges, however, in conducting appropriate waste management, owing to a lack of treatment facilities and human resources. In response to this situation, Japan provides various types of assistance related to waste management to the region, making the most of its accumulated knowledge and experience. In Phase 1 of this project, implemented from 2011 to 2016 targeting 11 Pacific Island countries, Japan supported the training of human resources engaged in waste management as well as the improvement of disposal sites in each country. Furthermore, Japan conducted Phase 2 from 2017 to further strengthen each country's waste management systems, focusing on their strategy formulation and institutional capacity building.



A city official from Port Vila and a JICA expert installing wooden composting frames at an elementary school and providing environmental education to children (Photo: JICA)

waste management around Port Vila, and reduce illegal dumping and littering. To this end, Japan supported measures such as the implementation of the National Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy (NWPCS), reinforcement of the monitoring capacity, formulation of the Port Vila Municipal Council Annual Solid Waste Management Plan (ASWMP), as well as the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS).^{*2}

In Vanuatu, one of the target countries, Japan had been supporting the development of the Bouffa Landfill on the outskirts of its capital city Port Vila, including the expansion of the landfill site, for more than 15 years since 2006. Building on the foundation laid by its continuous support, in Phase 2 of the project, Japan aimed to conserve the country's environment, optimize



A JICA expert handing over the completed Solid Waste Management Plan (2021-2030) to the Mayor of Port Vila (Photo: JICA)

As a result, core staff for waste management were appropriately assigned at both national and local levels, leading to resolving the human resources shortage. At the Bouffa Landfill, the waste management infrastructure has been strengthened by enabling municipal officers to maintain and manage the disposal site themselves through transferring Japan's surveying techniques for calculating the disposal site capacity. In 2019, the Cabinet decision was made to accelerate the introduction of CDS, and necessary adjustments, including finalizing the bills for its introduction, are currently being made. With the introduction of CDS, which will enable resource recycling in Vanuatu, the amount of waste is expected to be reduced.

These efforts also help prevent the outflow of plastic waste into the ocean. Japan will continue to support sustainable and self-reliant waste management in the Pacific Island countries and contribute to environmental conservation.

^{*1} Fiji, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

^{*2} CDS is a system in which a deposit is paid by the consumer when they buy canned or plastic-bottled drinks. The deposit is refunded when the cans or bottles are returned to a designated collection point for recycling.

States, has proceeded discussions as a co-lead country of the Indonesia JETP. On November 15, 2022, partner countries, including Japan and the United States, and Indonesia concurred and issued the Joint Statement on the Indonesia JETP, which supports Indonesia's efforts in the transition from coal to renewable energy. In addition, on December 14, 2022, the International Partners Group including Japan, and Viet Nam agreed on the "Political Declaration on establishing the JETP with Viet Nam."

Regarding multilateral support, Japan supports developing countries through its contribution to the "Green Climate Fund (GCF),"^{*} the world's largest multilateral climate fund. Japan has pledged a total of 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 209 projects have been approved and implemented by December 2022, which in total are expected to reduce GHG emissions by 2.4 billion tons and increase the resilience of 680 million people through support for adaptation. Additionally, from Japan, JICA, MUFG Bank, and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation are approved as "Accredited Entities" that are entitled to propose GCF projects. To date, two projects by MUFG Bank have been approved; sustainable forestry project in seven countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America (March 2020) and assistance on climate bond issuance in developing countries (October 2022), along with two projects by JICA; Community-based Landscape Management for Enhanced Climate Resilience and

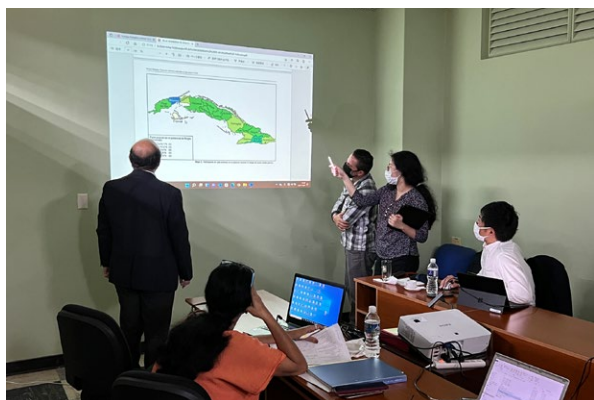
Reduction of Deforestation in Critical Watersheds in Timor-Leste (March 2021) and Building Climate Resilient and Safer Islands in the Maldives (July 2021).

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

In line with the above proposal, Japan contributes to 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. The launch of both mechanisms was announced at COP26, and efforts for implementation are currently underway at each institution.

As a specific example of bilateral assistance, Japan supports 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 “Project Introduction Column” on page 77 regarding support for waste management in Pacific Island countries).

In relation to the African region, at TICAD 8 held in August 2022, Japan launched the Green Growth Initiative with Africa (GGA) with the goal of addressing climate change and transforming the energy structure toward decarbonization. Under this initiative, Japan aims to maximize its cooperation through three approaches; (i) ownership and co-creation, (ii) flexible finance mobilization, and (iii) collaboration with diverse partners, and promotes various efforts to contribute to the sustainable growth in Africa.



A meeting on the formulation of an electricity sector master plan for the development of renewable energy in Cuba (Photo: JICA)

In regard to the support for the ASEAN region, Japan implements comprehensive cooperation for decarbonization transitions based on the “ASEAN-Japan Climate Change Action Agenda 2.0” announced by Prime Minister Kishida at the ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2021. As part of its assistance for climate change actions in developing countries, Japan promotes the “Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM),”⁷⁹ which facilitates the diffusion of advanced decarbonizing technologies to partner countries around the world including developing countries. This contributes to GHG emission reductions in partner countries, and helps Japan to achieve its own reduction targets as the emission reductions in developing countries can be credited as Japan’s reduction efforts. In 2013, Japan signed the first Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) pertaining to the JCM implementation with Mongolia. Since then, Japan has established the JCM with 17 countries, and in 2022, it signed new MOCs with eight countries. As of the end of 2022, the JCM credits have been issued from 40 energy-saving and renewable energy projects in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Maldives, Palau, Saudi Arabia, and Kenya. These JCM projects contribute to GHG emission reductions worldwide.

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

■ Biodiversity

In recent years, expansion of human activities in scope, scale, and types has given rise to serious concerns about further degradation of habitats and the destruction of the ecosystem. Japan values biodiversity efforts, as seen in its initiative to hold the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)^{*} (COP10) in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture in 2010. In addition, Japan makes contributions to the Japan Biodiversity Fund⁷⁹ to support the capacity building of developing countries. In December 2022, the second part of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) was held in Montreal, Canada, and the “Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework” was adopted as the new global goals and targets, replacing the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Japan will continue to contribute in this field, aiming to realize the 2030 mission that is “to take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery” and the 2050 Vision of “living in harmony with nature,” described in the framework.

Illegal trade of wildlife has also become an increasingly serious issue. The international community pays attention to this issue, as it has been one of the funding sources of international terrorist organizations. Japan actively contributes to the discussions at the Convention on

⁷⁹ Established in the Secretariat of the CBD by Japan during its COP10 Presidency with the aim of building capacities in developing countries.

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

■ 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. Through voluntary contributions to ITTO, Japan supported projects such as managing forest fires in the tropics, which have become more frequent and serious recently, in Indonesia and Peru between January 2021 and June 2022, building capacity for sustainable forest management in tropical timber producing countries, and developing a timber-tracking system to combat illegal logging. Through these projects, in Indonesia, training on fires for firefighting authorities was implemented and a new monitoring and reporting system was developed for fire prevention patrols, in addition to the enhancement of local stakeholders' capacity. As for Peru, more than 200 volunteer firefighters were trained, and tools and platforms were established for training and capacity building in relation to forest fire prevention and response at the Peru's National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR).



A JICA expert conducting a field survey with counterparts on a sustainable forest management plan in Son La Province, Viet Nam, in the "Project on Enhancing Sustainable Natural Resources Management Phase 2" (Photo: JICA)

■ Environmental Pollution Control Measures

In developing countries, regulatory controls on hazardous chemical materials are often not in place, which sometimes lead to environmental pollution and health damage. Japan possesses accumulated knowledge, experience, and technology related to environmental pollution control measures and utilizes them to solve environmental pollution problems in developing countries. Japan also conducts technical cooperation, such as dispatching experts to and accepting trainees from developing countries, in the areas of environmental management techniques in the chemical industry, 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 the Minamata disease. In addition to conducting training to support Nepal and other countries in ratifying the convention, Japan conducted surveys in Indonesia and other countries to promote the international expansion of Japan's excellent mercury management technology. Furthermore, from 2019, the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP/ROAP) as an implementing agency has been conducting the "Project for Promoting Minamata Convention on Mercury by making the most of Japan's knowledge and experiences," with Japan's contribution. Through this project, Japan supports member states in improving the quantity and quality of domestic mercury-related information and developing a platform to implement mercury management in line with the Convention. The project utilizes the resources in and around Minamata City and technology possessed by Japanese institutions to design a comprehensive program to strengthen implementation capacity.

In the field of waste management, based on the "MARINE Initiative," Japan announced to develop 10,000 officials engaging in waste management around the world by 2025 and trained approximately 17,000 officials by FY2022 through various means such as training programs.

Moreover, as a model project for waste management support in Africa under the "African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP),"* Japan provides support for the Hulene final landfill site in Mozambique. At TICAD 8 held in August 2022, Japan announced that, under the ACCP, it would promote decarbonization and recycling in the waste sector, and improve public health including through waste management that benefits 30 million people in Africa, as well as to implement human resources development for 1,000 people. In Antananarivo, the

capital city of Madagascar, a project is underway to improve equipment related to the collection, transportation, and final disposal of waste, with the aim of enhancing the city's waste management capacity.



Guidance being given on the semi-aerobic landfill method (Fukuoka method) to staff of Peruvian Ministry of Environment and local public entities at the sanitary landfill site in Huaura Province, Peru. The Fukuoka method, a landfill disposal technology, was developed by Japan and is being introduced in Asia and Africa. (Photo: JICA)



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. Having been established in 1991, 184 countries including Japan participate (as of January 2023). The World Bank manages the contributions from member countries. Through 18 implementing agencies including MDBs (World Bank, ADB, etc.) and UN organizations (UNDP, UNEP, etc.), it assists developing countries under five focal areas, namely biodiversity loss, climate change, international waters, land degradation, and chemicals and waste. It is designated as the financing mechanism to five international conventions: UNFCCC, CBD, UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), 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 their GHGs (mitigation) and in their responses to the effects of climate change (adaptation).

Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

A mechanism to evaluate contributions from Japan to GHG emission reductions or removals realized through the diffusion or implementation of leading decarbonizing technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure, etc., mainly in developing countries in a quantitative manner, and to use the contributions to achieve Japan's NDC.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

A convention adopted in 1992 to advance global efforts to address biodiversity issues. 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, Japan, together with JICA, the City of Yokohama, UNEP, and the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) aiming to share knowledge on waste management and promote the achievement of the SDGs in Africa. 160 cities in 43 countries in Africa have joined the Platform, 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

Disasters have serious consequences on the entire society and economy in developing countries that are vulnerable to this issue. Therefore, it is necessary to build a disaster-resilient and flexible society to protect human lives from disasters, while making efforts toward sustainable development. 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.

In recent years, various issues related to the management of cities have received increased attention. They include such issues as handling the disposal of the substantial amount of waste produced in urban areas and suburbs, pollution of air, water, etc., development of infrastructure facilities including sewage and waste treatment systems, and rapid population increases and the consequent rapid 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.” As shown by this fact, 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 “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 82). 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. These include 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 in post-disaster recovery, 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



Drinking water produced by JS Osumi, a transport ship of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, being replenished in a household water tank in tsunami-stricken Kanokupolu Village in the main island of Tonga, Tongatapu

disaster risk reduction. Specifically, Japan promotes human resources development in developing countries for a total of 48,000 officials and local leaders in charge of disaster risk reduction tasks as well as disaster risk reduction education for a total of 37,000 children who are responsible for the next generation, in addition to the support benefiting at least 5 million people over the four-year period from 2019 to 2022 through flood countermeasures, such as developing dikes and flood-control channels. Such efforts contribute to promoting not only the enhancement of disaster-resilient building structures and developing disaster monitoring facilities in each recipient country, but also the development of human resources in fields such as establishing laws and plans related to disaster risk reduction, formulation of disaster risk reduction policies, and disaster monitoring. Consequently, the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction progresses in developing countries.

In addition, a resolution was adopted to designate November 5 as “World Tsunami Awareness Day” responding to Japan's call at the UN General Assembly in 2015. Accordingly, the High School Students Summit on “World Tsunami Awareness Day” has been held in various parts of Japan annually since 2016. In 2022, it was held in Niigata Prefecture on October 19 and 20. Furthermore, on November 4, 2022, Japan co-organized an event to raise awareness of the necessity to reduce the risk of tsunamis at the UN Headquarters with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

Moreover, in close cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Japan implements projects to support the formulation of tsunami evacuation plans and tsunami evacuation drills for countries at high tsunami risk in the Asia-Pacific region. Since the start of the projects in 2017, the institutionalization of disaster risk reduction has been promoted in Palau, as seen in a Presidential Proclamation declaring September of every year as National Preparedness Month. Also, by the end of 2022, the formulation and revision of tsunami disaster management plans, as well as programs for tsunami education, have been implemented at 441 schools across

Sharing Lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Japan's Technologies

—Joint Research with Mexico to Create Readiness against Megathrust Earthquakes—



Mexico, like Japan, is a country prone to natural disasters. The country is located where earthquakes tend to be triggered by friction instabilities between plates, and is said to be one of the areas with the highest risk of ocean trench megathrust earthquakes and subsequent tsunamis in the world.

The "Project for Hazard Assessment of Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the Mexican Pacific Coast for Disaster Mitigation" (SATREPS)^{*1} began in 2016 when Associate Professor ITO Yoshihiro of the Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, proposed cooperating with the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), with the idea of helping Mexico based on lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011. Dr. Cruz Atienza, the principal investigator on the Mexican side who has contributed to the development of seismology in Mexico, recalled the situation at that time and said, "Mexico was hit by a magnitude 8.0 earthquake in 1985 and suffered a large amount of damage in and around the capital city. One of the factors was our weakness in assessing risk and preparing countermeasures. Faced with a lack of expertise on undersea earthquakes and tsunamis as well as financial resources, I welcomed this cooperation proposal as the head of the Department of Seismology in UNAM."

In the State of Guerrero, located on the southern Pacific coast and the subject of this joint research, indications have been identified that megathrust earthquakes and earthquake-triggered tsunamis may occur in the near future. Therefore, it was necessary to carry out more precise observations and to establish highly reliable earthquake/tsunami models based on the observed data. It was also imperative to raise awareness of threats posed by tsunamis among Mexican people with no experience of major tsunami-based damage. To resolve these issues, stakeholders of both countries worked together to promote research and the implementation of research results into society. Dr. Cruz Atienza said, "This project has delivered three major results for Mexico."

First, this project has established seismic and geodetic



The research team preparing to install seismometers and pressure recorders (Dr. Cruz Atienza, the main researcher on the Mexican side (third from the left), and Associate Professor Ito of the Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, serving as a representative from Japan (center)) (Photo: Kyoto University)



An event held on the Second World Tsunami Day in the city of Zihuatanejo de Azueta, a targeted city of this project, to commemorate disaster prevention education and bury a time capsule. Capsule to be opened 50 years later in 2067. (Photo: Kyoto University)

networks operating onshore and on the ocean floor. Based on the lessons from the 1985 major earthquake and Japan's cooperation, Mexico installed seismometers, pressure recorders, and other devices on the ground and on the seafloor for the first time. Japan also shared a variety of know-how such as operation and maintenance of these devices and analysis methods of data obtained from them. Mexican researchers successfully developed new theories and methodologies in geodetic observation, and established powerful data analysis methods.

Second, the project developed and verified hazard maps by simulating earthquakes and earthquake-triggered tsunamis. The tsunami inundation simulation, which was developed based on Japan's insights, illustrated how far inland a tsunami can reach and how people should evacuate. The Mexican side conducted seismic hazard simulations to quantify the risk in coastal areas. These efforts help inform people of the threat posed by earthquakes and tsunamis and the appropriate actions to take.

Third, the project has also worked with Mexico's National Center for Disaster Prevention, which was established by Japanese grant aid after the 1985 major earthquake, to develop disaster education programs based on scientific evidence and Mexico's needs, as well as to introduce these programs to many schools. In developing these education programs, Japan's expertise in disasters from a psychological aspect was also of great help.

Dr. Cruz Atienza appreciates these significant achievements and says, "We are thankful for the collaboration with great Japanese researchers and funding from Japan. We are now engaged in the next proposal to leverage collaboration results in wider areas." It is expected that both countries will further enhance collaboration in this area in the future.

^{*1} See the glossary on page 41.

23 countries, with over 190,000 students, teachers, and other school personnel participating in tsunami evacuation drills. With regard to support for Arab countries, from 2021 to 2022, Japan provided technical assistance through UNDRR to 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 from 2016, Japan and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office have worked together to provide support for human resources development targeting female government officials in developing countries vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly focusing on women’s roles and leadership in the event of tsunamis. Under this project, 356 people from 31 countries participated by the end of 2022.

Japan also contributes in the field of overseas deployment of ICT systems for disaster risk reduction. Japan’s ICT systems for disaster risk reduction make it possible to collect, analyze, and disseminate disaster related 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 (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 104).

■ Realizing Sustainable Cities

Japan takes initiatives to resolve global issues directly related to human settlements, including efforts for disaster risk reduction, recovery from natural disasters, and promoting a sound water cycle. Specifically, 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.” Japan also works together with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) 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

Amid the lingering effects of COVID-19, Russia’s aggression against Ukraine has severely affected the global food security,⁸⁰ causing soaring food prices and supply chain disruptions. According to the report of “the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022,”⁸¹ between 702 and 828 million people were estimated to be in hunger in 2021. This number increased

by approximately 150 million since the global spread of COVID-19, showing an increase of 46 million in 2021 alone. The report also predicts that 670 million people, which accounts for 8% of the world’s population, will still be affected by hunger in 2030. As this ratio is the same level as the proportion of undernourished people in 2015 when SDG 2 “Zero Hunger” was launched, the report notes that immense efforts are required to achieve the SDGs. In September 2021, the “UN Food Systems Summit” was held for the first time at the call of UN Secretary-General Guterres, for the purpose of realizing recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as achieving the SDGs by 2030. This Summit advocated that all people take action toward the transformation of “food systems,” which consist of food production, distribution, and consumption, in order to ensure global food security.

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. 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 “Stories from the Field” on page 84, and “Project Introduction Columns” on pages 85 and 139 for assistance regarding enhancement of rice and agricultural production).

■ Efforts to Provide Food Assistance and Improve Nutrition

Japan provides food assistance based on requests from developing countries facing food shortages. In FY2022,



Japanese staff members of WFP (dispatched under the JPO Programme) who support smallholder farmers to improve agricultural productivity, ship produce, and gain access to markets in the “Connecting Smallholder Farmers to Markets” program in Kenya pictured with the farmers receiving support (Photo: WFP)

⁸⁰ A state where all people, at all times, can access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.

⁸¹ A report jointly prepared and published by FAO, IFAD, WFP, UNICEF, and WHO.



Stories from the Field

A Platform for Increasing Rice Production in Africa

—CARD Activities that Connect African Countries with International Organizations—



Since the 1990s, in Africa, where the economic growth has been remarkable, there has been a greater demand for rice production as rice consumption has increased along with Africa's rapid population growth and urbanization. In addition, agriculture is an important industry for Africa, accounting for more than 20% of GDP in as many as 30 African countries. Therefore, it is essential to support farmers and raise the level of food self-sufficiency for continued sustainable growth. In particular, under the current situation where food prices are rising due to global circumstances, leading to the food crisis in the continent, it is becoming increasingly important to improve food self-sufficiency in African countries.

At the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in 2008, JICA, in partnership with an international NGO, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), launched an initiative called the "Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)," aiming at doubling Africa's rice production. Currently, CARD involves 32 African member countries, with 14 international organizations and 5 African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as supporting partners.

Dr. HANEISHI Yusuke, General Coordinator of the CARD Secretariat, explains CARD as follows: "Development partners, including JICA, support the formulation of the National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) in each member country and provide assistance for increasing their rice production in line with the strategies. The CARD Secretariat monitors the implementation of the NRDS in each country."

The CARD initiative achieved the goal of doubling rice production in Africa (from 14 million tons to 28 million tons) and completed its first phase in 2018. In the second phase, which commenced in 2019, CARD aims at further increasing production toward 2030 as well as promoting a strategy



A consultative meeting for the formulation of the "Rice Offensive," a regional rice strategy for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in Abuja, Nigeria. Director-general level officials from the agricultural ministries of 14 countries participated alongside representatives from various international organizations to finalize the formulation process of the ECOWAS version of rice development strategy. (Seventh from the right: Dr. Haneishi) (Photo: CARD Secretariat)

based on four perspectives called "RICE," which stands for "Resilience," "Industrialization," "Competitiveness," and "Empowerment." In order to improve rice "productivity" and "quality," which were revealed as challenges in the first phase, CARD has begun efforts to increase the yield per unit area^{*1} by focusing on new research and development of seeds and farming methods, as well as strengthening the capacity of rice millers to raise the competitiveness of domestic rice.

"The CARD initiative, led by Japan for more than 10 years, is now recognized by international organizations and donor countries as an established platform for rice. Even without support from the CARD Secretariat and JICA, African countries themselves reach out to CARD member donors for assistance in implementing their NRDS. In addition, the number of offers of assistance from non-member donors has also increased, and each member country obtains assistance based on their NRDS and puts it into practice for promoting the rice sector development. This is a great achievement for CARD, as it has supported the ownership of African countries," says Dr. Haneishi.

In this way, CARD has not only achieved increased rice production successfully in African countries, but also demonstrated a strong presence as a platform that connects member countries with development partners. Through the CARD initiative, JICA will continue to provide assistance for food security in Africa with various partners.



Rice fields in Fogera Plain in Amhara Region, Ethiopia. Farmers start cattle plowing for the next crop immediately after harvesting. (Photo: CARD Secretariat)

^{*1} Numerical value that indicates how much of a crop is harvested per unit area. It is calculated by dividing the total amount of crops harvested by the unit area.

Regional Agricultural Revitalization through Cooperation between the Provincial Government and Farmers

Laos



The Project for Participatory Agriculture Development in Savannakhet Province

Technical Cooperation Project (June 2017 – June 2022)

Savannakhet Province, located in the southern part of Laos, is a region with thriving agriculture centered on rice cultivation. However, the cultivation techniques that the provincial government strives to spread had not fully spread among farmers, and this had been a factor in the low yield. In response to the situation, this project aimed to increase farmers' productivity and income by supporting them to proactively improve their cultivation techniques, in partnership with officers and extension workers from the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO) in Savannakhet.

The project started with understanding the needs of farmers by setting up meetings in which the provincial officers and extension workers held direct discussions with farmers. As the farmers faced serious challenges in securing funds and rice seeds

the cultivation techniques attained through the training. As a result, the unit yield of rice increased by 31% compared to the level before the start of the project. In addition, 74% of the farmers participating in the training (2,803 people in total) continued to use the cultivation techniques.



Implementation of training on rice farming techniques (Photo: JICA)

for the next crop in the aftermath of the torrential rains in 2018, "Strengthen Cultivation Techniques by Rice Seed and Fertilizer Lending Program" was launched to provide support to them. This loan program required farmers to attend training in order for rice cultivation techniques to be shared with them. The farmers used loaned quality seeds and fertilizers while utilizing and practicing



Extension workers, farmers, JICA officials, and project staff conducting a yield survey to confirm the results of the training on rice farming techniques (Photo: JICA)

Furthermore, the project helped the province cooperate with private institutions to enable the province to operate its own loan program, and obtained the cooperation of a Lao bank. In Savannakhet Province, the loan program continues even after the completion of this project and the farmers purchase quality seeds and fertilizers with their increased income, which shows sustainability.

It is expected that farmers, provincial officers, and extension workers will continue to work together to further revitalize local agriculture.

Japan contributed a total of ¥7.8 billion to 27 countries and one region as a grant mainly with the provision of Japan's Government-Owned Rice.

In addition to bilateral support, Japan is engaged in efforts to provide food assistance in cooperation with international organizations. For example, through the World Food Programme (WFP), Japan supports school meal programs to improve access to education, as well as initiatives to encourage people to participate in the development of agricultural land and social infrastructure through the distribution of food. In 2022, Japan contributed grant aid of ¥200 million each in February and August through WFP to Sierra Leone, which chronically faces food shortages, with the provision of Japan's Government-Owned Rice, as well as beans and vegetable oils. In 2021, WFP conducted activities including the distribution of approximately 4.4 million tons of food and food assistance based on cash transfers to approximately 128 million people in 80 countries around the world. Japan contributed a total of approximately \$226.19 million to the WFP projects in 2021.

Furthermore, Japan supports the improvement of nutrition in developing countries through contributions to the multilateral development banks (MDBs). In 2021, 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 addition, from the perspective of mainstreaming nutrition in development policy, Japan hosted the 20th replenishment final meeting of the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group in December 2021, and included in its agenda the strengthening of human capital, including improving nutrition status, as a priority area.

In addition, Japan hosted the "Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021" in December 2021 and issued the "Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth" as the outcome document of the Summit. More than \$27 billion in nutrition-related financial contributions was announced by governments and other stakeholders at this Summit, including Japan's contribution of more than ¥300 billion in nutrition-related assistance announced by Prime Minister Kishida. Japan promotes

cooperation for improving nutrition in the international community based on the outcomes. Specifically, Japan works with WFP to provide grant aid for food and nutrition assistance to displaced persons from Myanmar in Bangladesh. Japan also works with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to provide specialized nutritional foods to children, pregnant women, and nursing mothers in Timor-Leste.

■ 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 promotes the establishment of food value chains for developing countries in cooperation with private companies. In FY2022, based on the "Plan to Promote the Establishment of Global Food Value Chain," which defines priority initiatives to establish a food value chain in each country and region, Japan organized bilateral policy dialogues with Thailand and Palau.

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. Specifically, under the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)* Phase 2, Japan proceeds with efforts 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. CARD targets have expanded to 32 countries (see also "Stories from the Field" on page 84 for the efforts by CARD).

In TICAD 8 held in August 2022, Japan set the goal to provide human resources development for 150,000



Harvesting rice in a domestic rice harvesting festival held under the "Project for Increasing Farmers' Households' Income through Strengthening Domestic Rice Production in Timor-Leste" (Photo: JICA)

people and to realize a doubling of rice production (56 million tons) by 2030 through CARD.

Moreover, in order to transform agriculture from self-sufficient to "income generating" activities, Japan provides assistance through the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach.* The SHEP approach refers to an effort to assist smallholder farmers producing fruits and vegetables, aimed at increasing their income by causing a mindset shift to "growing to sell" and through improvements to farm management and cultivation skills. Japan has so far provided training and dispatched experts to 29 countries in Africa to support the transformation from the existing subsistence agricultural model. Japan expressed at TICAD 8 that it would support 66,000 people's shift to agriculture for "earning" through the SHEP approach. Japan also stated that it would provide \$300 million through co-financing to support the strengthening of food production in coordination with the African Development Bank's African Emergency Food Production Facility.

■ Food Security through International Organizations

Japan has been involved in the development of the "Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)"⁸² in order to contribute to the improvement of food security through the enhancement of transparency in international agricultural markets. Japan contributes to project costs of AMIS while sharing information on Japan's experiences.

Japan also provides assistance in the agricultural sector through international organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (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, provides 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. In April 2022, Japan provided seeds, fertilizers, etc., to smallholder farmers in Ukraine. In July, Japan also provided food-related assistance in response to the impact on the global food security caused by the situation in Ukraine. As part of this effort, Japan decided to provide food-related assistance mainly to the Middle East and Africa and support the expansion of Ukraine's supplemental grain storage capacity to facilitate its grain exports. Japan also supports research and development aimed at both increasing productivity and sustainability, including variety development, the introduction of digital agricultural technologies, and other efforts conducted by CGIAR, which is comprised of

⁸² 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.

15 international agricultural research institutions.

In addition to the above-mentioned assistance in the agricultural sector, Japan contributes to the enhancement of animal hygiene through the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and FAO. For example, Japan participates in the “Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal

Diseases (GF-TADs),” established by WOAH and FAO in response to transboundary animal diseases such as Avian Influenza, Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), and African Swine Fever (ASF), supporting the initiatives of international organizations in the field of animal hygiene mainly for the Asia-Pacific region.



Glossary

Food Value Chain

An activity in which various stakeholders cooperate, including the farmers, suppliers of farming materials and implements, such as seeds, fertilizers, and farming machinery, processing companies of agricultural produce, transportation and distribution companies, and retailers, aiming at creating 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 agricultural produce, developing attractive new products, reducing transportation costs, increasing sales opportunities by expanding the sales network, and other activities.

Global Financing Facility (GFF)

An initiative launched in 2015 by the World Bank, the UN, 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 mobilize funds effectively 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

A trust fund 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.

Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)

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 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 TICAD 7 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 establishing agricultural management systems to improve the household incomes and livelihoods of farmers.

New Rice for Africa (NERICA)

A general term for rice developed in 1994 by the CGIAR Africa Rice Center through the hybridization of high-yield Asian rice with weed, disease, and insect pest resistant African rice. 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 has provided 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

An approach started by Japan in Kenya in 2006 to assist smallholder farmers producing fruits, vegetables, and other produce. It aims to increase their income through converting farmers' mindset from “grow and sell” to “grow to sell” and by improving farm management and cultivation skills. Japan promotes the activities integrating the SHEP approach around the world with a focus on Africa.

(9) Securing Access to Resources and Energy

The number of people without access to electricity is estimated at approximately 733 million in the world and more than 48% of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa as of 2020.⁸³ The lack of electricity, gas, and other energy supplies also leads to many issues, such as delays in industrial development, loss of employment opportunities, and a further increase in the poverty rate.

The global energy demand is expected to increase further in Asia and other parts of emerging and developing countries. Meanwhile, energy prices have soared due to factors such as Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and unseasonable weather worldwide. Under such circumstances, it is important to ensure energy security through diversification of energy suppliers and energy sources.

⁸³ IEA “Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report,” p. 25. (<https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/8b276fc2-c1ae-4a54-9681-eea1eb143d7f/TrackingSDG7TheEnergyProgressReport2022.pdf>)

Japan works on the provision of support that enables modern energy supply and 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.) (see also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 76 and “Project Introduction Column” on page 89).

For example, in the Pacific Island countries located across expansive ocean areas with vulnerability to the influence of climate change, Japan assists in mainstreaming grid-connected type renewable energy from the perspective of energy security and the realization of low-carbon or decarbonized societies. In the Dominican Republic, which highly relies on imported fossil fuels for its electricity supply, Japan supports LED light use for streetlights on public roads across the country through yen loans in order to help improve the energy efficiency of the country. These efforts are expected to contribute to promoting energy conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the public sector of the country.

At TICAD 8,⁸⁴ held in August 2022, the Green Growth Initiative with Africa (GGA) was launched with the aim of maximizing Japan's cooperation through three concepts, namely ownership and co-creation, flexible finance mobilization, and collaboration with diverse partners. As part of the contribution based on GGA, Japan announced its support for private investment in renewable energy projects, expansion of geothermal power generation, and cooperation in the field of mineral resources such as copper and rare metals that were indispensable for achieving a decarbonized society. As support for African countries to appropriately preserve and utilize natural resources and ecosystems, and to realize sustainable growth (green growth), Japan helps in the operation and maintenance of the Africa Power Pool (interconnected power grid among several countries), power distribution networks, and grid stabilization, among other efforts.

In Kenya, through the support to develop the Olkaria Geothermal Power Plants, Japan contributes to increasing and stabilizing power supply, and Japanese companies are responsible for part of the project implementation. In 2022, the ceremony for the official commissioning of the Olkaria I Additional Unit 6 and V Geothermal Power Plant was held. With the inauguration of the plants, Kenya has become sixth in the world in terms of installed capacity of geothermal power.



A wind power plant built in India under the “New and Renewable Energy Development Project”

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 55 resource-producing countries and many supporting countries including Japan, civil society including extracting companies and NGOs participate in the EITI. They work 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 and information and communication technology (ICT), artificial intelligence (AI), and robotics are utilized in diverse industries, including not only the manufacturing industry and the service industry but also agriculture and construction.

Based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Paragraph 70), the UN has established the UN Inter-agency Task Team on STI for the SDGs (UN-IATT) and promotes Science, Technology, and Innovation for SDGs (STI for SDGs) on a global scale, in cooperation with countries. The UN Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) was held again in 2022. Expectations for STI are internationally increasing as a key to achieve the SDGs while optimizing limited resources.

⁸⁴ See “ODA Topics” on page 127.

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 Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program"⁸⁵ and others in order to resolve challenges faced by developing countries. The development of a sustainable land management framework to combat desertification in Ethiopia is a good example from SATREPS that contributes to resolving challenges in developing countries.

The UN-IATT conducts the "Global Pilot Programme" in six pilot countries, India, Ukraine (since 2021), Serbia, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Kenya, in order to promote the formulation of 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 addition, through contributions to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Japan has continued to support Japanese companies that consider launching projects to resolve social challenges in developing countries through STI since FY2020.



7th STI Forum held at the UN Headquarters (May 2022)

Contributing to Stable Supply of Energy through Long-Term Support

Rwanda



The Project for Improvement of Substations and Distribution Network Phase 3

Grant Aid (September 2018 - August 2023)

In Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, demand for electricity has increased due to rapid urbanization and population growth in recent years. However, the shortage of power supply facilities caused the overloading of the main substations in the city. Therefore, the power supply of the city has been unstable, and has affected the economic activities of Kigali and the living condition of citizens.

In response to the situation, since 2011, Japan has been providing assistance for ensuring the stable and efficient supply of electricity. The assistance includes maintenance of facilities such as substations and power distribution networks through grant aid, as well as technical cooperation, such as improving the capacity of the public electric power corporation to develop efficient power systems and facility maintenance and management.



New Gasogi substation and distribution line



Mr. Uruno, a consultant, explaining how substations and distribution lines work
(Photo: Yachiyo Engineering Co., Ltd.)

Under the grant aid project titled the "Project for Improvement of Substations and Distribution Network Phase 3," as a response to the growing demand, a new substation was built and approximately 20 km of distribution lines were installed in Kigali to ameliorate the overloaded state of major substations in the city. The new distribution lines, which are laid in parallel with the existing ones, enable the prevention of power outages even if one of the distribution lines breaks or if there is a sudden increase in power demand in one area.

In this way, Japan's long-term assistance has greatly contributed to the stable supply of electricity to 1.2 million residents in the city, and thus the development of Kigali's economic infrastructure and the improvement of the living environment for its citizens.

⁸⁵ See the glossary on page 41.

Part



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Local residents and Ms. Nakatani, Ambassador of Japan to Paraguay, celebrating the completion of the road at the inauguration ceremony for the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project, "Artigas Community Health Center Access Road Construction Project" implemented in General Artigas District, Itapua Department of Paraguay

1 East Asia

East Asia consists of a variety of nations, which include least developed countries (LDCs) such as Cambodia and Laos; countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines, which still face large income disparities domestically despite significant economic growth; and countries such as Viet Nam, which are transitioning to a market-driven economy.

Japan has established political, economic, and cultural relations with these countries, which are located at the center of the Indo-Pacific region. The region's stability and development are directly linked to the security and economic prosperity of Japan. Based on this perspective, Japan engages in development cooperation that responds to the diverse socio-economic circumstances of East Asian countries and to the changing context of cooperation required.

Japan's Efforts

Japan has contributed to the remarkable economic growth of East Asia by implementing development cooperation that combines ODA with trade and investment, including the development of socio-economic foundations through 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 promote 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.

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 ¥225 billion to five countries, taking into account the economic impacts. Since January 2022, Japan has also provided additional vaccines of approximately 4.46 million doses manufactured in Japan to Viet Nam and Indonesia, bringing the total number of vaccines



Vientiane Wattay International Airport in Laos with expanded and improved facilities to respond to increasing passenger demand (Photo: JICA)

provided so far in East Asia as bilateral donations and through the COVAX Facility ¹ to 27.08 million.

■ Support for Southeast Asia

ASEAN countries ² are located along Japan's sea lanes and have strong economic ties with Japan, with approximately 15,000 Japanese companies (business establishments) operating in the region as of October 2021. 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 a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” promoted by Japan. At the ASEAN-Japan Summit 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 fundamental principles of the AOIP and FOIP 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 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and economic and other possible areas of cooperation). Furthermore, at the ASEAN-Japan Summit held in November 2022, Japan issued a report that outlined progress on Japan's cooperation for the AOIP (Progress Report) and explained that the total number of concrete cooperation projects had reached 89 since the adoption of the Joint Statement (see also “ODA Topics” on page 34).

Japan enhances cooperation in light of ASEAN's

¹ See the glossary on page 62.

² The 10 ASEAN member states are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) at a support facility for persons with disabilities in Malaysia, hearing about the status of social participation of persons with disabilities while learning original product making (Photo: PDK BANDAR KULIM)

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 the development gaps as its pillars of cooperation. 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” at the ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2019. 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.

With regard to strengthening connectivity, Japan supports the enhancement of ASEAN connectivity based on the “Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025,”³ 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 conducted training on cyber security (see page 55 for details), marine plastic litter management, public international law, and treatment of criminal offenders by FY2022. Moreover, based on the “Japan-ASEAN Connectivity Initiative” announced in 2020, Japan supports strengthening

ASEAN connectivity in both hard and soft infrastructure. For hard infrastructure support, it focuses mainly on projects to strengthen land, sea, and air corridor connectivity totaling approximately ¥2 trillion, while for soft infrastructure support, it focuses on developing human resources who contribute to strengthening connectivity, by training 1,000 individuals over 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 example is the “Technical Assistance Project to Establish of the Philippine Railway Institute (PRI)” assisted through ODA in Metro Manila. As urban railways are being developed in Manila, there is a need for a sustainable system for developing human resources capable of carrying out advanced operations and maintenance of the railways. To correspond to this need, the Government of the Philippines decided to establish PRI as an entity responsible for developing and supervising human resources working for railways. To establish PRI, Japan assisted in the construction of the PRI facility as part of a subway construction project with loan aid, provided simulators and other necessary training equipment with grant aid, and supported institutional building and capacity development through technical cooperation. Through this wide range of assistance, Japan contributes not only to the construction of railway infrastructure, but also to the development of railway maintenance and management capacities and related human resources.

In regard to the disaster risk reduction and disaster health management, since 2009, Japan has continuously contributed 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, the establishment of a Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA), capacity building of the 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 teams from ASEAN countries and developing standard operation procedures

³ See the glossary “Quality Infrastructure” on page 33.

⁴ A fund established in 2006 to support ASEAN’s endeavors to advance integration by correcting regional disparities, aiming at the establishment of an ASEAN Community. Japan announced its contribution of a total of ¥7.5 billion (approximately \$70.1 million) at the 2005 ASEAN-Japan Summit, and later contributed a total of \$100 million to the “JAIF 2.0” in 2013. Japan provided additional contributions in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

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.

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. This is part of Japan's contributions to strengthening the capacity of the ASEAN region to respond to public health emergencies and to prepare for, detect, and respond to emerging infectious diseases. In October 2021 and February 2022, Japan held online training for public health officials from ASEAN countries responsible for the Centre's operations. Japan also makes arrangements to dispatch experts to the Centre. Additionally, Japan 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 developing 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" announced at the ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2018. Japan provides support to Thailand in establishing "Kosen schools (Technical Colleges)," which are unique to the Japanese education system and provide Kosen education with the same standards as those in Japan, as part of its contribution to the development of industrial human resources in the ASEAN region. In addition, Japan implements 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 had accepted people from all across Asia under this project.

Japan also engages in economic cooperation, holding investment seminars, invitation programs, and the "BIMP-EAGA+Japan" dialogue for the East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).⁶ In 2021, fishing port facilities and a fish

Promotion of KAIZEN in Cooperation with the Government of Malaysia

Malaysia



Enhancing Productivity and Competitiveness through KAIZEN for African Countries

Technical Cooperation (Third Country Training) (2011 – 2022)

Since the 1980s, JICA has been carrying out projects to promote the KAIZEN^{*1} method to contribute to the advancement of industrial development in Southeast Asia. Within the region, KAIZEN has spread widely in Malaysia in particular, contributing to the country's current economic development.

Malaysia established the Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) in 2008 to strengthen the international competitiveness of Malaysian companies through training and consulting based on the KAIZEN method. Furthermore, the MPC makes use of this experience to promote KAIZEN to other developing countries and carries out activities to support their industrial development.

Meanwhile, in African countries, there was a growing awareness that improving the quality and productivity of the products they produce would be essential for the development of their own industries, and interest in the Japanese style KAIZEN increased. In response to this situation, since 2005, JICA has been providing cooperation to African countries for the improvement of productivity, mainly through the KAIZEN method.

Under such circumstances, since 2011, Malaysia has continued to provide this training to African countries as part of their cooperation for the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)^{*2} led by Japan. Specifically, Malaysia invites government officials from African countries and provides training on the theory and practice of "Seiri (Sort), Seiton (Set), Seiso (Shine), Seiketsu (Standardize), and Shitsuke (Sustain)" (5-S Principles), with JICA providing financial and technical cooperation. To date, more than

100 participants from 19 African countries have participated in the training. The training, which makes use of Malaysia's experience and knowledge, has been highly valued.

This training not only contributes to the development of African countries, but also strengthens the partnership between Japan and Malaysia. It is a meaningful triangular cooperation^{*3} that also contributes to the promotion of Japan's KAIZEN brand, and Japan will continue these efforts.



An instructor from Malaysia running a workshop
(Photo: JICA)

^{*1} See ³² on page 41.

^{*2} See "ODA Topics" on page 127.

^{*3} See the glossary on page 109.

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.



A group of women participating in an activity to learn skills for income generation under the project on “Human Trafficking Prevention for Women and Girls in Dien Bien Province” in mountainous areas of Viet Nam (Photo: World Vision Japan)

market were completed on Biak Island in Papua Province, Indonesia, and in 2022, tuna unloaded from the port were exported to Japan.

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 Japan and the Mekong countries adopt an assistance policy for the region.

Japan focuses on the strengthening connectivity critical for economic growth in the region and 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 Mass Transit System (Red Line) in Bangkok, Thailand.

Based on the “Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030” announced 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.” 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



Staff of PARC Interpeoples' Cooperation (PARCIC) inspecting coffee fields in Timor-Leste, for the purpose of replacing aged trees with new ones and improving soils under the JICA Partnership Program (JPP) “Coffee Field Improvement Project” (Photo: JICA)

“Five Points of Cooperation,” including the “Mekong SDGs Investment Partnership,” 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.

Japan exchanged notes with Cambodia, the Chair of ASEAN in 2022, during the ASEAN-Japan Summit in November concerning support for the provision of equipment necessary for the construction of cybersecurity systems, the first assistance in this area, in addition to the support for landmine countermeasures, water supply, and medical waste management. With Laos, Japan signed an agreement concerning the provision of equipment necessary for clearing unexploded ordnance, as well as a Record of Discussions for the “Project for Integrated Energy Master Plan towards Sustainable Carbon Neutral Society,” which aims to formulate a long-term energy transition masterplan for achieving a carbon-neutral society (the project is set to start in January 2023).

■ Assistance for Myanmar

Regarding Myanmar, since the coup d’état in February 2021, the Government of Japan has consistently urged the Myanmar military to take concrete actions to (i) immediately stop the violence, (ii) release those who are detained, and (iii) swiftly restore Myanmar’s democratic political system. There is no ODA project newly established between Japan and the regime led by the Myanmar military since the coup.

On the other hand, the humanitarian situation in Myanmar has deteriorated further due to the spread of COVID-19 and the coup d’état, making humanitarian

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.

assistance to the people of Myanmar an urgent issue. Japan actively provides humanitarian assistance through international organizations and other partners to improve the situation. In February 2022, Japan decided to provide support in the areas of food, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, shelter, and protection, as well as to offer oxygen concentrators and personal protective equipment such as masks to respond to COVID-19, through a range of international organizations and the ASEAN Secretariat (a total of approximately \$18.5 million). The implementation of this assistance was sequentially commenced during 2022. In April 2022, Japan also announced the additional emergency assistance and provided emergency supplies including food and shelters, and installed water-related equipment and facilities, through international organizations (\$8.3 million). Furthermore, in May 2022, the Government of Japan decided to provide assistance in Myanmar and Thailand through Japanese NGOs via Japan Platform (JPF), in the fields of food and supplies, water and sanitation, health and medical care, protection, and education, which was worth up to ¥235 million, and projects are currently underway. The Government of Japan will continue to pay close attention to the needs of the people of Myanmar, who are facing difficult circumstances, and actively



Villagers in Myanmar bathing with water from a tap installed under Japan's humanitarian assistance (Photo: ©ADRA Myanmar in 2022)

provide humanitarian assistance that reaches the people of Myanmar in need, in partnership with international organizations, the ASEAN Secretariat, and NGOs, taking into account the local situation, humanitarian needs, and level of urgency.

■ Termination of ODA to China

The Government of Japan terminated the provision of new ODA to China at the end of FY2018, and all ODA projects for China were completed by the end of FY2021.



Glossary

ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)

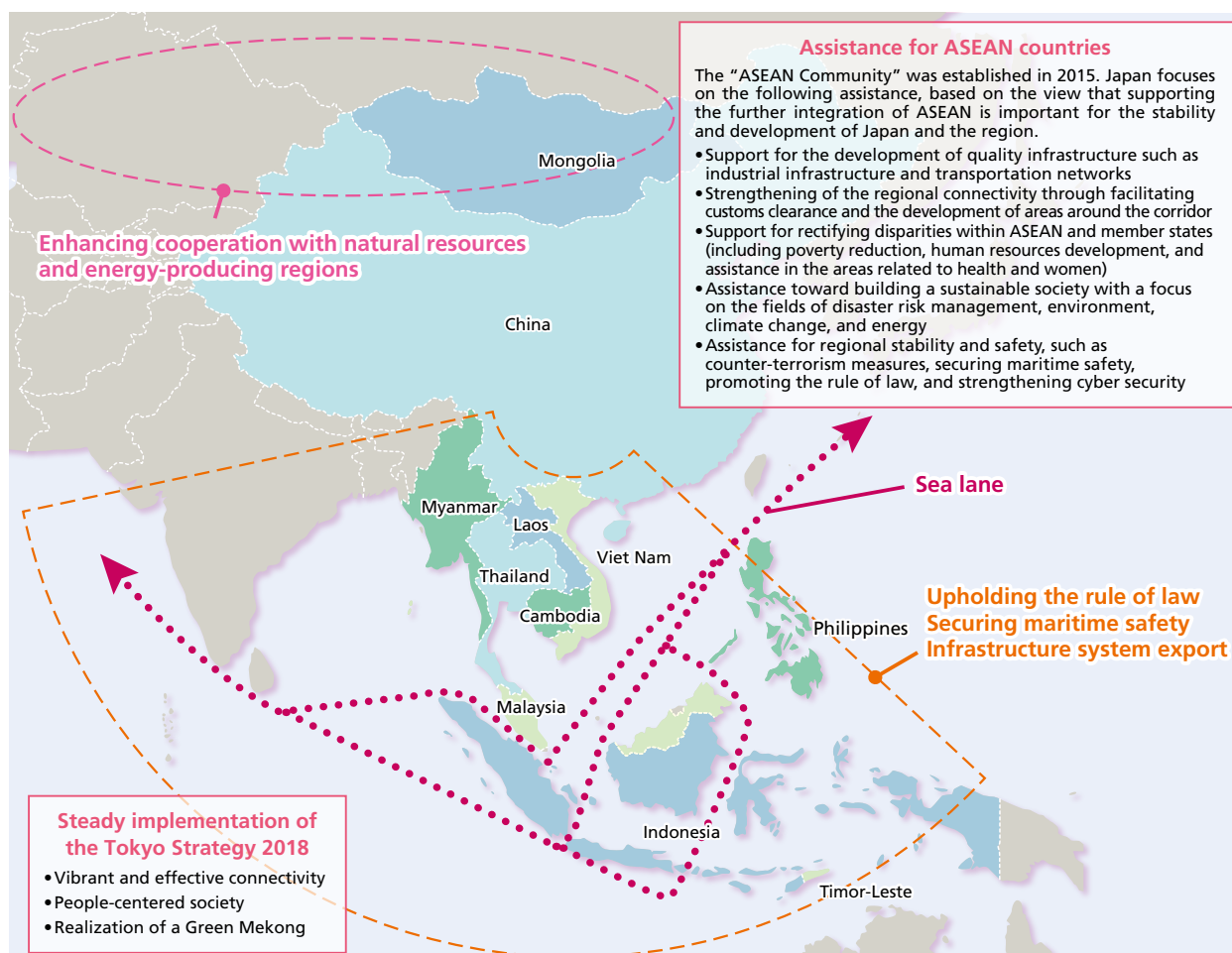
An initiative to create a vision of even closer cooperation in the Indo-Pacific and strengthen ASEAN-centered regional architecture. It is not aimed at creating new mechanisms or replacing existing ones; rather, it is intended to enhance ASEAN's community building process and to better face challenges arising from the current and future regional and global environments. It shares many fundamental commonalities with a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" promoted by Japan.

Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 (MPAC 2025)

An action plan for strengthening ASEAN connectivity that was adopted at the ASEAN Summit in 2016 as the successor 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.

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in East Asia



The Southwest Asian region has enormous economic potential with huge markets, including India. 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 challenges that need to be addressed, including infrastructure development, development of primary education as well as health and medical care 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.⁹ Japan provides a wide range of assistance to harness the economic potential of the region as well as to reduce disparities between the rich and the poor.

Japan's Efforts

Many countries in Southwest Asia were also dealt great societal and economic blows by the spread of COVID-19. Through grant aid, Japan provided equipment, including small ambulances and portable X-ray machines, and training to medical institutions and other organizations in Bangladesh, Bhutan, and the Maldives. For Sri Lanka and the Maldives, in anticipation of the resumption of cross-border travel, Japan implemented grant aid for the development of human resources by providing equipment and facilities necessary for border control with countermeasures against infectious diseases.

In recent years, India has been one of the largest recipients of Japan’s yen loans. Japan has supported

India for the development of economic and social infrastructure, including in the fields of electric power and transportation, the improvement of the investment environment, and human resources development, which would contribute to enhancing connectivity and strengthening industrial competitiveness. In addition, in support of its sustainable and inclusive growth, Japan plays a significant role in India’s growth through support for various fields, including support of the forestry sector with the aim of not only dealing with climate change but also improving livelihoods through effective utilization of forest products, support for the development of health and medical systems, and poverty reduction.

In March 2022, Japan provided a total of seven yen loan projects with a total amount of approximately ¥312 billion, including projects for the construction of the Dedicated Freight Corridor linking Delhi and Mumbai and metro rails in Chennai, road construction to improve connectivity, and development of agricultural production infrastructures to increase farmers’ incomes. At the Japan-India Summit Meeting held in March, Prime Minister Kishida referred to these seven yen loan projects and stated that the Government of Japan would like to continue to support the sustainable growth of India through cooperation in building quality infrastructure in India. In response, Prime Minister Modi expressed his appreciation for Japan’s support.

Furthermore, on the occasion of the Japan-India Summit Meeting in May 2022, Japan and India signed a yen loan agreement for the “Project for the Construction of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (III),” and confirmed that they would continue to make steady progress on the high-speed rail project, which is a flagship project of Japan and India. Once the plan is completed, the travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad is expected to be shortened to approximately two hours, while it currently takes at least five hours by express train, and the train fare is expected to be roughly half of the corresponding airfare (see “Stories from the Field” on page 102 for the “Project for Construction of the International Cooperation and Convention Centre”).

With regard to Bangladesh, which has been developing remarkably and attracting an increasing number of Japanese companies in recent years, Japan seeks to further advance the “Japan-Bangladesh Comprehensive Partnership” and promote development 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



Women learning how to raise horticultural crops through technical cooperation under the “Jharkhand Horticulture Intensification by Micro Drip Irrigation (JHIMDI) Project,” yen loan project for India (Photo: JICA)

⁹ World Bank website (note that Afghanistan is included in South Asia).
<https://www.worldbank.org/ja/country/japan/brief/south-asia> (in Japanese only)

Ensuring the Continuation of Children's Learning

Nepal



Project for Improving the Quality of School Education in Nepal

Technical Cooperation Project (January 2019 – January 2024)

While Nepal has reached 96.6% in its primary school education enrollment rate, it faces the challenge of low academic achievement in mathematics among lower elementary students. Therefore, Japan decided to provide support for improving the basic academic performance in mathematics of students, including the development of mathematics learning materials that are easy for children to understand and handbooks for teachers, and training for teachers.

After the project started, elementary schools were closed for a long period of time due to the spread of COVID-19 since 2020, which posed a challenge to create an environment for children to continue learning.

In response to this situation, the project developed self-learning materials in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science

and Technology of Nepal. The materials were distributed to all students in the first to third grades of elementary schools in pilot districts, a total of approximately 7,600 students, to enable them to continue high-quality mathematics learning at home. Special efforts were made to ensure that children could make progress in their studies even without face-to-face classes, such as indicating the corresponding page of the textbook in the learning materials as well as providing sufficient examples, illustrations, and exercises. These learning materials also include feedback sheets for parents and teachers to use with a view to stimulating communication between parents and teachers, which has been difficult in Nepal.

Thus, Japan provides assistance tailored to local needs and supports securing learning opportunities even under the difficult situation caused by COVID-19. Japan's assistance aims to help children develop their academic ability without being left behind, toward the promotion of "Quality Education for All," which is one of the SDGs.



Students receiving explanations about how to use self-learning materials at an elementary school in Pipra Village, Mahottari District (Photo: JICA)



Elementary school students receiving self-learning materials at their school in Tatopani Village, Jumla District (Photo: JICA)

(iii) enhancing connectivity. In June 2022, Japan provided two yen loan projects totaling approximately ¥165.9 billion to Bangladesh, including the "Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project (Line 5 Northern Route) (Phase 2)" to support the improvement of connectivity and economic infrastructure development.

Regarding the displaced persons fleeing from their homes in Rakhine State, Myanmar, to Bangladesh due to the deteriorating security situation, Japan has expressed its appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh for accepting the displaced persons for a prolonged period and reaffirmed its continued support, including reduction of the burden on host communities, at foreign ministers' meetings and other occasions. Japan provides various forms of support to benefit the host communities and displaced persons. In addition to the support already provided to Cox's Bazar District, in January 2022, Japan, ahead of other countries, extended Emergency Grant Aid of \$2 million in total for displaced persons relocated to Bhasan Char in areas such as food and health through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). Furthermore, Japan provided support for improving the general living conditions of displaced persons in collaboration with other international organizations, such as the International Organization for

Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). On the other hand, under the framework of the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects, Japanese NGOs have provided assistance for the improvement of women's livelihoods and the protection of children in the communities hosting the displaced persons. Japan also provides support through the Japan Platform (JPF) to deliver life-saving humanitarian assistance including distributing daily necessities, improving hygiene and sanitation, providing medical treatment, and protecting women and children. Japan's grant aid to these displaced persons amounts to approximately ¥3.06 billion.

Moreover, Japan provides grant aid to Bangladesh for human resources development of young government officials.

Sri Lanka, which is strategically located along sea lanes connecting Asia with the Middle East and Africa, has traditionally been a country that is friendly to Japan. Japan has been working on strengthening cooperation with Sri Lanka in areas such as enhancing connectivity and the maritime sector, toward the realization of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)." Japan also continues to support the regions that are lagging behind in development due to the impact of past conflicts, and provides assistance in areas such as livelihood improvement, industrial and human resources



Members of the Union Councils (municipality) in Bangladesh discussing ways to enhance community clinic functions in training conducted as part of the “Project for Strengthening Health Systems through Organizing Communities” (Photo: JICA)

development with a focus on the agricultural sector, and countermeasures for natural disasters.

Since 2019, Sri Lanka has experienced large-scale tax reductions, and its main industry of tourism suffered a significant decline in the number of tourists due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has led to a decrease in foreign currency reserves and difficulties in importing essential commodities such as medicines and food, which resulted in the worsening of the humanitarian situation. In response to this situation, the Government of Japan provided Emergency Grant Aid to Sri Lanka in May and September 2022, totaling \$6.5 million, for humanitarian assistance in the areas of food, nutrition, health, and sanitation through international organizations.

The Maldives, as with Sri Lanka, is located in a strategic position along the sea lanes of the Indian Ocean. Japan has been working on strengthening cooperation with the country toward the realization of a FOIP. In 2022, Japan provided grant aid for police security equipment to the Maldives, which face security vulnerabilities as an island nation, and grant aid for enhancing resource conservation and waste management systems.

With the world’s fifth largest population, and its geopolitical importance as the interface 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 important from the perspective of peace and stability in the surrounding regions, as well as in the international community as a whole.

In order to urgently address the rapidly worsening humanitarian situation caused by floods in Pakistan since June 2022, Japan provided Emergency Grant Aid of \$7 million to Pakistan through international organizations in areas such as food, shelter and non-food relief items, health and medical care, and water and sanitation. Japan also provided emergency relief goods, including tents and plastic sheets through JICA. In January 2023, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Akimoto attended the International Conference on Climate



A JICA expert visiting a community and conducting survey interviews with residents in Pakistan under a technical cooperation project that supports market diversification of the country’s garment industry and expansion of its women’s employment (Photo: JICA)

Resilient Pakistan and announced that, subject to the completion of domestic procedures, Japan will provide further assistance of approximately \$77 million in areas such as disaster risk reduction, health and medical care, and agriculture, for the reconstruction and further development of Pakistan.

In addition, in 2022, Japan provided a grant aid to support vaccinations for polio eradication in Pakistan, where wild poliovirus is endemic. Japan also provided a grant aid to upgrade sewerage and drainage services in Punjab Province in 2021.

The establishment of democracy, stability, and prosperity in Nepal, a country that has had traditionally friendly relations with Japan is 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 assisted with “Build Back Better” in the country. With Japan’s assistance, bridges, hospitals, and other public infrastructure facilities as well as a total of approximately 85,000 houses and a total of approximately 270 schools have been completed by October 2022. Japan also provides a range of technical support related to strengthening the government’s disaster risk reduction capabilities and promoting the use of buildings that comply with construction standards. Moreover, in 2022, Japan provided two yen loan projects, including support for economic growth and resilience, and two grant aid projects, including the rehabilitation of irrigation facilities (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 99 for Japan’s assistance to Nepal).

Japan’s development cooperation toward Bhutan has achieved steady results, especially in the improvement of agricultural productivity, development of economic infrastructure such as road networks and bridges, and human resources development. In 2022, Japan provided grant aid for the construction of the Royal Centre for Infectious Diseases and the provision of medical equipment for the Centre, aiming to improve diagnoses and treatments for serious infectious diseases and to appropriately prevent the spread of infections.



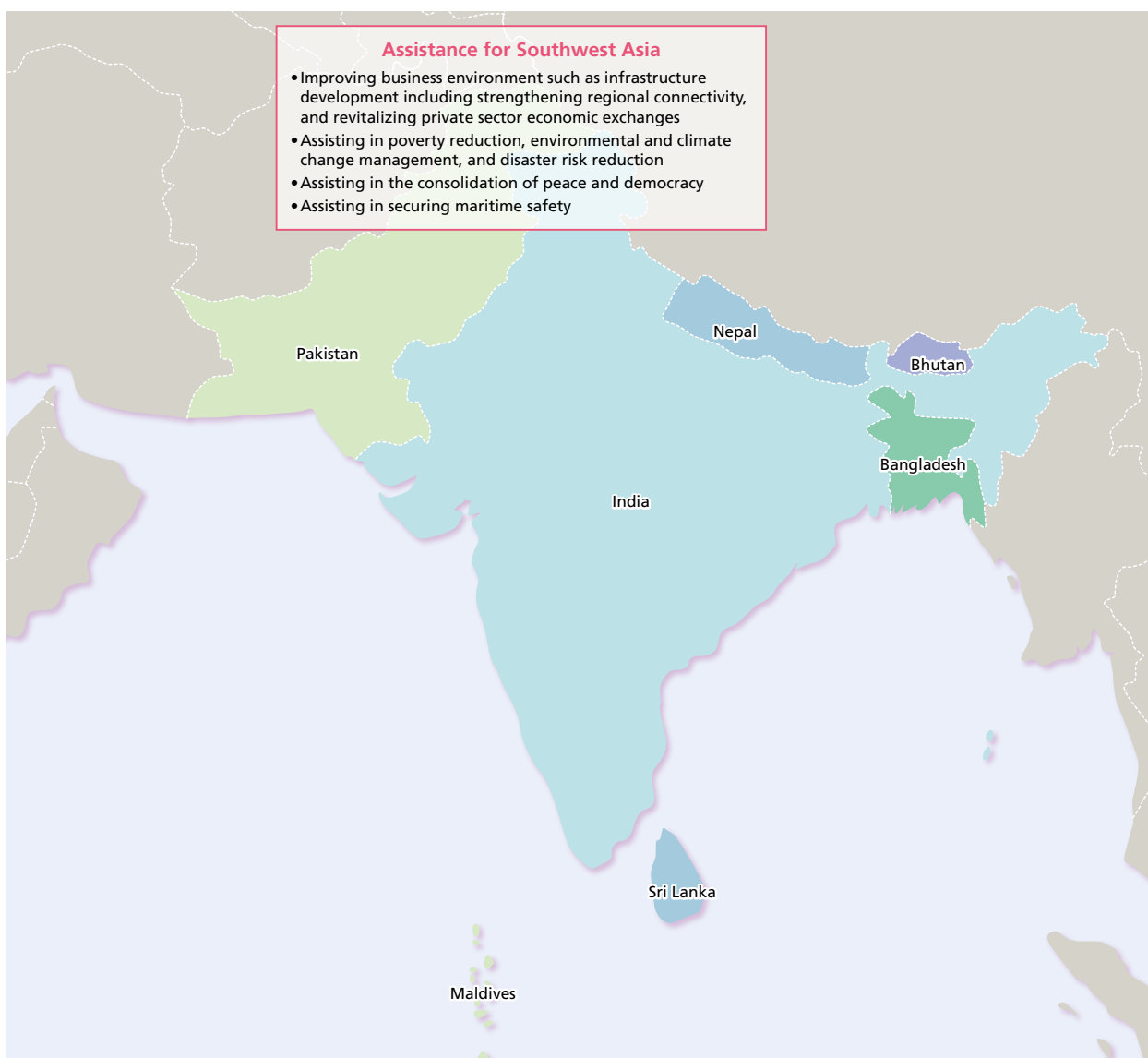
An MRI machine provided to the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital in Nepal through a grant aid from Japan (Photo: JICA)



Japanese experts practicing vegetation works for preventing erosion and weathering of a road slope at the sites in Bhutan under the "Project for Capacity Development on Countermeasures of Slope Disaster on Roads in Bhutan" (Photo: JICA)

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Southwest Asia



Constructing an International Convention Center as a Hub for Cultural and Human Exchange in a Holy City of India



An aerial view of the International Cooperation and Convention Center in Varanasi (Photo: JICA)

India has many attractive tourist spots that draw people from all over the world, and tourism is one of the industries driving the country's economic growth. Varanasi City in the State of Uttar Pradesh has a history of approximately 3,000 years and receives approximately 7 million visitors a year from India and abroad for both pilgrimages and tourism. The city holds many tourism and cultural events, but it was a challenge that there were no facilities that could accommodate a large number of people.

In response to the expectation expressed by Prime Minister Modi at the Japan-India Summit Meeting in 2015 for the development of a convention center in Varanasi City, Japan decided to implement the "Project for Construction of the International Cooperation and Convention Center in Varanasi (VCC)" through grant aid.

The construction work, which started in 2018, faced unique local challenges. "People in India have a different sense of time compared with ours. They would not start preparations and arrangements for the next process before the current ones were complete. Therefore, there was room to improve work efficiency. We had to constantly monitor and take the initiative to start making arrangements for the next process," said Mr. TABATA Mitsugu of Fujita Corporation, who oversaw the construction site, talking about the situation at the time. The spread of COVID-19 also had a major impact on the construction. "One day, suddenly the whole city was locked down. We had no idea when the lockdown would be lifted, and we could not even get close to the project site for a long time."

While overcoming these various challenges, the VCC was successfully completed in 2021. The completed VCC has a Main Hall with a seating capacity of 1,200 people and the latest stage and sound equipment, as well as conference rooms and dressing rooms. The design incorporates beautiful curves inspired by Hindu symbols, and it has become an unprecedented symbolic building that is unique and embodies Indian culture. "I think that we made the most of Japan's high technical capabilities in this highly difficult construction of a building with many curves," said Mr. OTA Masataka of Fujita Corporation. The project also provided management know-how in general, including how to operate stage equipment and how to plan cultural events.

For the opening ceremony held in July 2021, Prime Minister Modi and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh attended from the Indian side, while then Prime Minister Suga provided a video message from the Japanese side. With the hope that the completed VCC would become a symbol of Indian wisdom, Prime Minister Modi gave the center the nickname "Rudraksh" (meaning bodhi fruits).

India assumes the G20 Presidency in 2023, and various meetings are scheduled nationwide. In addition to holding such international conferences, the VCC can also host large-scale events for cultural and citizen exchanges. As a result, the number of visitors with purposes other than conventional tourism will increase, and it is expected that this will contribute to the development of the city through international exchanges and further tourism promotion.



Indian Prime Minister Modi (third from the right) attending the opening ceremony and then Prime Minister Suga delivering a video message (Photo: JICA)

3 Oceania

The Pacific Island countries are Japan's "neighbors" bound by the Pacific Ocean and also share deep historical ties with Japan. In addition, in possessing vast Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ),¹⁰ these countries are key to maritime transport activities and provide essential fishing grounds for bonito and tuna fisheries.

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 specific industries, geographically extended territories over a 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 entire region. Japan promotes cooperation with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF),¹¹ a framework for regional cooperation composed of Pacific Island countries, and has hosted the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM), a summit meeting between Japan and Pacific Island countries every three years since 1997.¹²

In June 2021, prior to the 9th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9), a meeting of the Interagency Committee for Promoting Cooperation with Pacific Island Countries was held and a policy to strengthen all-Japan efforts for Pacific Island countries was compiled. At PALM9 held in July, the "Joint Action Plan for Strengthening Pacific Bonds and for Mutual Prosperity" was adopted as an annexed document to the Leaders Declaration. In response to the Joint Action Plan, Japan provides assistance to Pacific Island countries for the next three years from 2021, focusing on the following five priority areas: (i) COVID-19 Response and Recovery, (ii) Sustainable Oceans based on the Rule of Law, (iii) Climate Change and Disaster Resilience, (iv) Strengthening the Foundation for Sustainable and Resilient Economic Development, and (v) People-to-People Exchanges and Human Resource Development

(see "Project Introduction Column" on page 77 for cases of support to the Pacific Island countries region).

In response to the spread of COVID-19, in February 2022, Japan additionally provided approximately 7,000 doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan to Tonga through the COVAX Facility,¹³ with which the total doses of vaccines Japan has provided to the Oceania region reached 330,000. Furthermore, throughout the Pacific Island countries region, by the end of 2022, Japan contributed to the strengthening of health and medical systems by providing health and medical equipment, developing cold chains¹⁴ to deliver vaccines to vaccination sites, and securing medical personnel to administer the vaccinations. In addition, to support economic recovery, Japan has provided COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loans totaling ¥52.5 billion to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands. Japan also provides support for strengthening the border control capacity of the region with measures against infectious diseases toward the upcoming resumption of economic activities after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moreover, to Tonga, which was affected by the volcanic eruption and tsunami that occurred on January 15, 2022, Japan provided emergency relief goods through JICA and also dispatched the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Team Self-Defense Force (SDF) Unit to transport the



Mr. Kawakami, Ambassador of Japan to Fiji (left), Mr. Sayed-Khaiyum, Acting Prime Minister, Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications, Housing and Community Development of the Republic of Fiji (center), and Dr. Suzuki, Deputy Resident Representative of JICA Fiji Office (right) shaking hands at the loan agreement signing ceremony for the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan (Phase 2) (February 22, 2022) (Photo: JICA)

¹⁰ Maritime zones where a sovereign country has certain economic rights that can be established outside its territorial waters.

¹¹ As of December 2022, the 15 PIF member countries and 2 member regions are Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Nauru, Tuvalu, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Cook Islands, Niue, French Polynesia, and New Caledonia (Kiribati withdrew from PIF).

¹² The PALM Ministerial Interim Meeting has been held approximately 18 months after each PALM with foreign ministers serving as co-chairs since 2010.

¹³ See the glossary on page 62.

¹⁴ See 54 on page 56.



Japan dispatched the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Team Self-Defense Force (SDF) Unit to Tonga, which was hit by a volcanic eruption and a tsunami. The residents of Tonga holding a banner showing “thank you” in Japanese at an airport to welcome the landing of the CH-47 of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force transporting fresh water made in the JS Osumi, a Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force vessel. (Photo: Ministry of Defense)

goods. In addition, as reconstruction assistance, Japan provided waste disposal-related equipment and water infrastructure maintenance equipment to Tonga. Japan also made a decision to raise the maximum grant amount to provide a wireless nationwide early warning system for disasters and to provide broadcasting devices and facilities of the Tonga Broadcasting Commission (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 104 for Japan’s assistance 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 Pacific Island countries region toward the post-COVID-19 era.

Protecting Lives through Disaster Communication

Tonga



Project for Nationwide Early Warning System and Strengthening Disaster Communications

Grant Aid (June 2018 - April 2023)

Tonga, an island country in the South Pacific, consists of four archipelagos of over 170 large and small islands. The country is prone to natural disasters such as cyclones, earthquakes, and tsunamis, and it is ranked as the third most vulnerable country in the world to natural disasters.^{*1} Despite this situation, the necessary equipment for communicating disaster information to residents was not in place, causing delays in evacuating residents.



Construction of an antenna for an AM radio broadcasting system that enables information communication to the Niua Islands, approximately 600 km from the capital (Photo: JICA)

Against this backdrop, Japan started to develop an early warning system connecting the Tonga mainland and remote islands, as well as facilities and equipment for the Tonga Broadcasting Commission. However, the project was delayed due to the impact of COVID-19, and furthermore, a volcanic eruption and tsunami occurred in January 2022 before the system and equipment were fully installed with Japan’s assistance. Domestic and international telephone and internet communications were cut off, which made it difficult to assess the situation on remote islands, confirm safety, and communicate disaster information. If the early warning system that was planned to be developed under this project had been completed, it would have been possible to quickly communicate disaster warning and safety information nationwide. It was regrettable that the system was incomplete at the time of the eruption and tsunami, and the Government of Tonga and the

citizens expressed their earnest desire for its early completion.

Approximately two months after, Japanese engineers returned to the project site to restore damaged facilities and equipment and installed the remaining equipment. At the opening ceremony in September 2022, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Tupouto’a ‘Ulukalala said, “Our calling is preparing ourselves to prevent casualties of natural disasters. We can save those who might be affected in the future by using this early warning system,” indicating his strong recognition of the importance of this system in Tonga.

Through this project, the arrival time of tsunami warning to residents was reduced from a maximum of 90 minutes to less than 8 minutes, and the siren sounds can now reach all residents in tsunami hazard areas.

The Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9), one purpose of which is to strengthen the partnership between Japan and Pacific Island countries, lists “climate change and disaster resilience” as one of the priority areas for Japan to cope with Pacific Island countries over the next three years. Japan will continue to cooperate with Pacific Island countries, which are vulnerable to natural disasters, by utilizing Japan’s knowledge of disaster prevention.

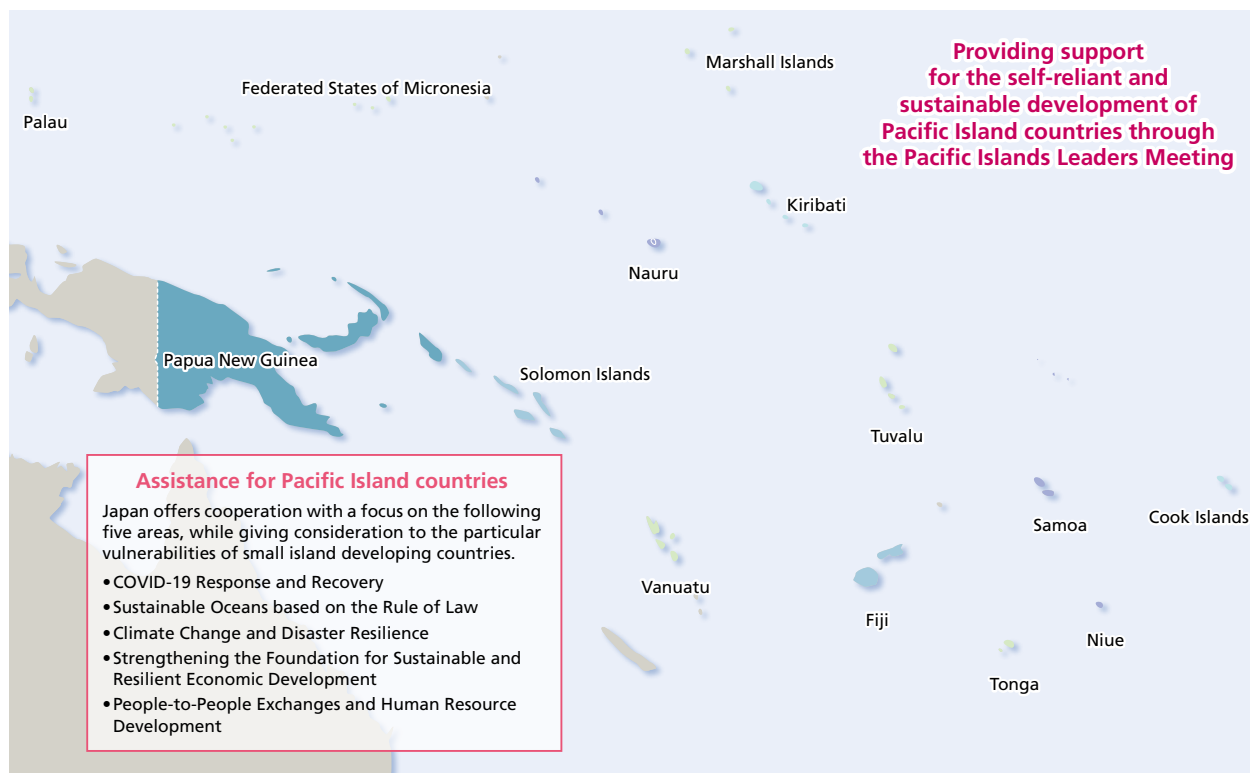
^{*1} Based on the Global Risks Report 2021.



Remote Activated Receiver (RAR). An “indoor siren terminal” installed to expand and complement the range of siren alarms at approximately 500 locations nationwide. (Photo: The Consortium of Yachiyo Engineering Co., Ltd., Japan Telecommunications Engineering and Consulting Service, and Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.)

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Oceania



Latin America and the Caribbean, comprising 33 countries, is a major force in the international arena and has an enormous emerging market with a population of approximately 650 million¹⁵ and a regional GDP of approximately \$5.5 trillion¹⁶ (as of 2021). This region is of strategic importance in terms of diplomacy and economy. Since many of its countries respect fundamental values such as freedom, democracy, and the rule of law, and are also suppliers of minerals, energy, and food, Latin America and the Caribbean has steadily enhanced its presence in the international community. Especially in the current circumstances, when food and energy supplies are seriously affected globally, the role of Latin America and the Caribbean is becoming increasingly important.

On the other hand, the Latin American and the Caribbean region still has major developmental needs to be addressed within common challenges facing the international community, including climate change, disaster risk reduction, vulnerabilities in the areas of health and medical care, which were revealed by the spread of COVID-19, and poverty. There are also many countries in this region having vulnerabilities particular to small island states.

This region has a traditionally strong personal and historical bond with Japan due to the Nikkei (Japanese immigrants and their descendants) communities, which has a population of approximately 2.3 million, the largest among all Nikkei communities in the world. Japan has thus maintained stable and friendly relations with this region for a long period. Japan focuses on maintaining and strengthening these relations with the Latin American and the Caribbean region by providing assistance unique to Japan (such as quality



The signing ceremony for six Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects totaling ¥58 million, attended by Foreign Minister Hayashi at the residence of the Ambassador of Japan to Ecuador (January 2023)

infrastructure, disaster prevention and mitigation utilizing Japan's experiences, clean energy technology, "Visible Japanese Development Cooperation" through technical cooperation by volunteers and others) in ways that consider each country's income level, situations, and needs. Through such assistance, Japan strives to help the region realize resilient and sustainable development.

Japan's Efforts

In 2022, Foreign Minister Hayashi affirmed through foreign ministers' meetings with countries in the Latin American and the Caribbean region that Japan will further deepen its cooperation with each of the countries on global issues, including economic security and environmental issues. In January 2023, Foreign Minister Hayashi visited Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, and Argentina, and reaffirmed that Japan will work to strengthen bilateral economic relations, cooperation, and exchanges with them. He also reaffirmed that, in view of the current severe situation facing the international community, Japan will work more closely with these countries in maintaining and strengthening a free and open international order based on the rule of law, as well as addressing important global issues such as climate change. State Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Parliamentary Vice-Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Japan who also visited Latin American and the Caribbean countries in 2022 expressed Japan's intention to support the growth of these countries through supporting the restoration of the region's economic and social stability affected by the spread of COVID-19, continuously cooperating in the areas of health and medical care, helping enhance the region's resiliency, and promoting digital transformation (DX) and green transformation (GX). Through these efforts, Japan strives to further strengthen its ties with the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

■ 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.

In 2022, Japan extended grant aid to Haiti through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

¹⁵ World Bank website <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=ZJ>

¹⁶ World Bank website <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.CD?locations=ZJ>



An evacuation tent which Japan provided to Chile under the “Project for Strengthen Contagion Prevention Measures in Emergencies under COVID-19,” a technical cooperation project (Photo: JICA)

which was devastated by the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in 2021, for the reconstruction of hospitals and police stations in the affected areas. Japan provides assistance that utilizes its expertise in the disaster risk reduction to the Latin American and the Caribbean countries facing the Pacific Ocean including Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru, where earthquakes frequently strike. Japan also provided emergency relief goods to Belize, Brazil, Cuba,

Guatemala, and Honduras, which suffered damages from hurricanes, flooding, and other disasters in 2022. For Caribbean countries, Japan provides various kinds of assistance to help them overcome the particular vulnerability of island states to natural disasters and climate change. For example, Japan extended grant aid to Surinam in October 2022 for the provision of disaster risk reduction equipment made by Japanese companies, including drainage pumps, to be used for flood disaster prevention.

Moreover, Japan provides wide range of cooperation as the efforts to address environmental issues in the region, including assistance for scientific and technological research on climate phenomena, conservation of biodiversity, and conservation of the Amazon rainforest using remote sensing. In March 2022, Japan extended a loan to Peru for the construction of solid waste management facilities. In the areas of promoting energy conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, Japan also provides support for the introduction of solar power generation in countries such as Mexico and Brazil through Private-Sector Investment Finance and other schemes. In 2021, Japan provided yen loans to the Dominican Republic and Paraguay to increase energy efficiency.

Public
nomination

Support Activities by a Japanese NGO to Protect the Lives of Mothers and Children

Honduras



Project to Improve Maternal Health Care Services in Teupasenti Municipality

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (March 2019 – February 2022)

The Municipality of Teupasenti, located in the mountainous area of El Paraiso Department in eastern Honduras, had no facility for childbirth, and thus pregnant women had no choice but to travel outside the city in order to give birth at any facility. There was also an issue of not being able to receive appropriate prenatal care at existing healthcare centers, causing a higher maternal mortality rate than in any other city.

In this project, AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS), a Japanese NGO, implemented a wide range of support activities to ensure safe childbirth. It includes the improvement of the existing health centers and their systems, which would serve as the first contact point for community healthcare, as well as awareness-raising activities for pregnant women.

To begin with, AMDA-MINDS provided eight health centers with



Doctors and nurses participating in a technical training session on how to use ultrasound diagnostic equipment, and examining an image of a pregnant woman's abdomen on the screen (Photo: AMDA-MINDS)

medical equipment and consumables, including ultrasound diagnostic equipment, with necessary technical training, in order to strengthen the system for health and medical care provision. As a result, prenatal care is now available five days a week at the principal health center with ultrasound equipment installed.

AMDA-MINDS also

conducted training for 90 health volunteers and 40 traditional midwives (birth attendants) on emergency medical care, first aid, and perinatal health with the aim of increasing the response capabilities of the community as a whole. The participants recognized their role and acquired knowledge and skills on safe childbirth through the training. This knowledge and information were passed on to a total of 7,750 local residents.

As a result of these activities, the number of pregnant women who received prenatal care four or more times increased from 33% to 74% throughout the city. Furthermore, the number of pregnant women who received ultrasound testing at least once increased from 45% to 80%, while the postnatal checkup rate increased from 65% to 77%. The rate of facility deliveries outside the city also increased from 70% to 80% as residents now have access to accurate health-related information and can spend their perinatal period in a safe environment. These figures indicate that caring systems for expectant and nursing mothers have been established throughout the area. This is indeed a unique NGO project that encourages communities to take voluntary problem-solving efforts while mediating the efficient delivery of government services to local communities.



Health volunteers eagerly participating in a training session (Photo: AMDA-MINDS)

■ 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 and sewerage infrastructure in metropolitan regions and the countryside. In February 2022, Japan extended grant aid to Paraguay for the construction of water supply systems. In addition, Japan works on spreading its terrestrial digital broadcasting system (ISDB-T) ¹⁷ through public-private collaboration. As of December 2022, 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 areas of health and medical care. In the Latin American and the Caribbean 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 increases the need to establish a system capable of rapid and accurate diagnosis and treatment.

From April 2021 to February 2022, Japan provided grant aid to Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Venezuela, for the development of cold chain systems ¹⁸ in response to COVID-19. Japan also extended loans to the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Honduras to support their response to the COVID-19 crisis in 2021 and 2022.

In response to the rapid spread of cholera, mainly in the capital city since October 2022, in January 2023, Japan decided to provide Haiti with an Emergency Grant Aid of \$3 million in the areas of health, water and sanitation, and food, through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

Japan also makes continuous effort for the 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) (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 140 for a JOCV's activities in Belize).

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 has continuously provided technical cooperation to El Salvador for mathematics and arithmetic education since 2021.

■ South-South Cooperation and Cooperation with Regional Organizations

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico achieved results in South-South cooperation,^{*} and Japan signed partnership programs with these countries. Based on such partnerships, Japan collaborated with Argentina in 2022, for example, to provide assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, Japan cooperated with Mexico in introducing non-traditional tropical fruit production systems in northern countries of Central America. In Chile, Japan conducts human resources development programs through triangular cooperation^{*} in the field of disaster risk reduction and succeeded in training 5,169 people, exceeding the initial target of 4,000. 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 are currently dispatched to Central American countries to pass on know-how 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

The Central American region faces the problem of migrants who aim to immigrate to the United States and Mexico to flee from poverty and insecurity in their



Local residents and staff of the Japanese embassy in Bolivia delighted at the water flowing from a tap at the handover ceremony of the water supply system constructed by Japan's support

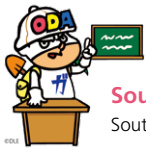
¹⁷ See ²⁰ on page 37.

¹⁸ See ⁵⁴ on page 56.

country. Japan provides support for the measures to address the root causes of their migration such as poverty, security, and disasters. Moreover, in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and WFP, Japan provides assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico for the promotion of voluntary repatriation of migrants, prevention of outflow of migrants, and social reintegration of returnees.

Due to the deterioration of the economic and social conditions in Venezuela, approximately 7.1 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants have flowed mainly to neighboring countries as of September 2022. This has caused the deterioration in the living conditions of the host community residents and the instability of the

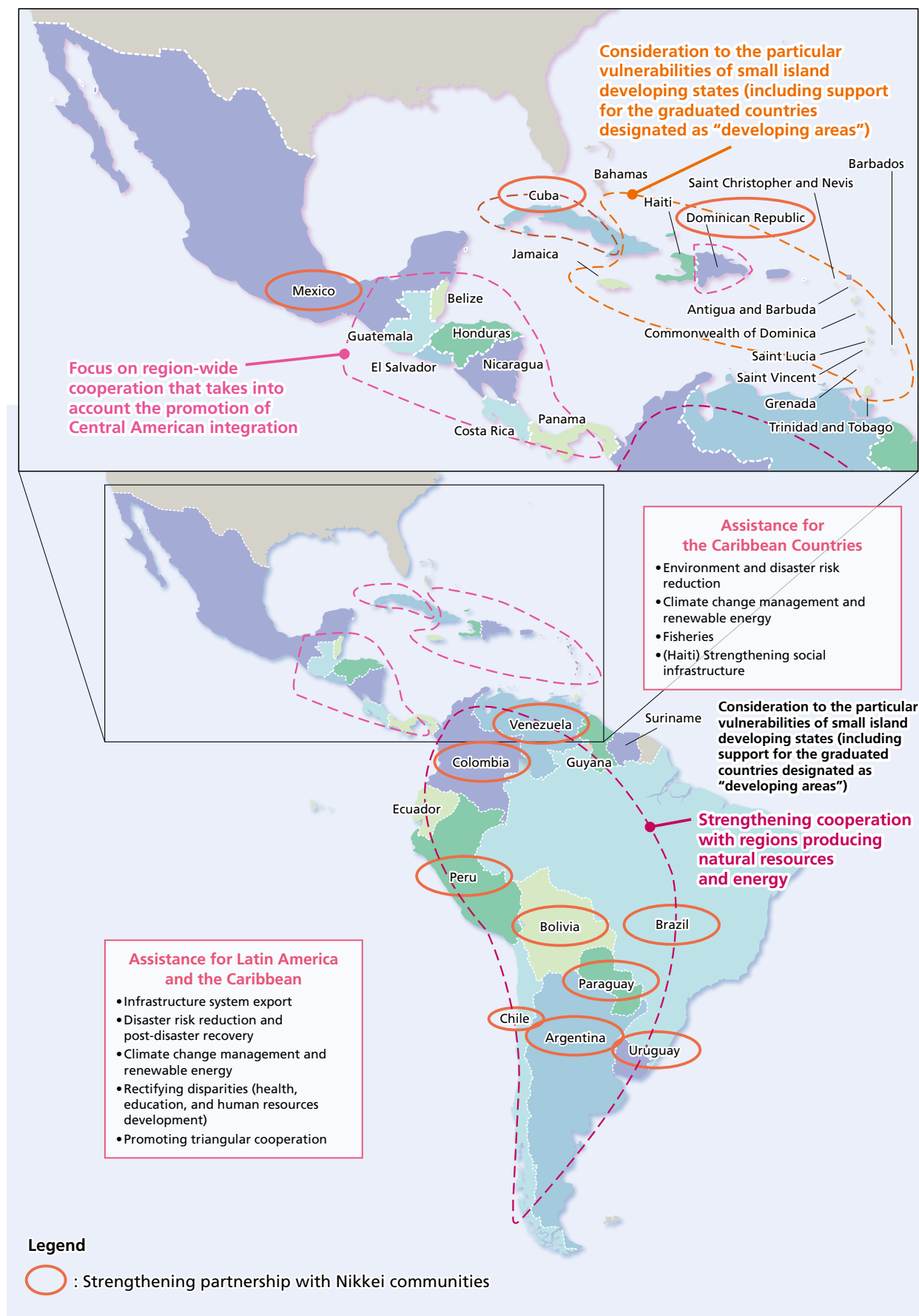
region, and the lack of adequate response has been a challenge. In February 2022, Japan announced its decision to provide assistance to Venezuela as well as Colombia and Ecuador, its neighboring countries hosting displaced persons from Venezuela through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with the aim of providing social integration support including protection and vocational training for the vulnerable people. In September 2022, in light of the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Venezuela, Japan announced cooperation through UNICEF to improve hygiene conditions in schools and their surrounding areas including installation of hand-washing facilities.



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.”



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. Japan regards European countries as important partners that share fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, market economies, and the rule of law. With the aim of contributing to the further stability and development of Europe as a whole, Japan supports their efforts such as the reconstruction of economic infrastructure and addressing environmental issues. In addition, Japan works to strengthen comprehensive relations with the European Union (EU) and other regional international organizations based in Europe, by continuing and promoting dialogues and collaborations, and by building human networks.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine since February 2022 has caused serious humanitarian crises in Ukraine and its neighboring countries. As of December 2022, there is still no prospect of the situation improving. People's lives are seriously affected across the world, such as by supply chain cutoffs and soaring energy and food prices. Japan provides support to respond to these humanitarian crises, as well as medium- to long-term assistance toward the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine (see Part I, 1, "Japan's Efforts in Response to the Situation in Ukraine" on page 2 for Japan's Ukraine-related assistance).

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides assistance for their efforts such as the reconstruction of economic infrastructure and addressing environmental issues, with the aim of further strengthening relations with these countries that share fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, market economies, and the rule of law, as well as contributing 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 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 EU and others. Under the "Western Balkans Cooperation Initiative" ²⁰ (2018), Japan supports

necessary socio-economic reforms of the Western Balkan countries toward EU accession.

In Serbia, Japan provides support to promote the country's high-quality economic growth by focusing on the development of the private sector, environmental conservation, and the improvement of economic and social services. The "Project for Modernization of Public Urban Transport in the City of Belgrade," implemented since November 2020, aims to improve the ability of the Secretariat for Public Transport (SfPT) of Belgrade through efforts to improve the efficiency of public transport services (buses, trams, and trolleybuses), which are the major mode of transport for citizens, and improve their fair collection abilities. Through these efforts, the project aims to create an eco-friendly public transport system that the city hopes for. Furthermore, in Sid Municipality in the western part of the country, Japan supports the "Project for Capacity Development of Solid Waste Management," which aims to establish efficient and sustainable general waste management models in small and medium local governments, and to promote area-wide waste management systems by encouraging garbage separation at the source and the "3Rs" (Reduce waste, Reuse, and Recycle resources), including the reduction of generated waste.

For Kosovo and Montenegro, Japan supports the "Project on Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction through National Forest Fire Information System (NFFIS) and Ecosystem-based Disaster and Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR)," which aims to reduce the risks of forest fires and other natural disasters.

In addition, in response to the spread of COVID-19,



A Japanese expert teaching how to develop a model for ecosystem-based park management at Divjake-Karavasta National Park in Albania (Photo: JICA)

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.

Japan has provided health and medical equipment totaling ¥1.2 billion since 2020 to eight countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Ukraine, in order to strengthen their vulnerable health and medical systems.

While providing this assistance, in light of disparities in economic development in Europe, Japan considers the countries that once joined EU as having graduated from ODA recipient status, and gradually reduces its assistance, encouraging them to actively provide development cooperation to developing countries in the region.

Japan's Assistance for the Establishment of the Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine (PBC) Contributing to Building a Reporting System during Disasters and Emergencies

Ukraine



The Project for Capacity Development of Public Service Broadcaster of Ukraine

(1) Grant Aid (April 2019), (2) Technical Cooperation Project (January 2017 – March 2022)

In order for the mass media to fulfill its role of monitoring power and guaranteeing the public's right to know, it is necessary to develop a public broadcasting station that is independent of the government and the market. In Ukraine, the Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine (PBC) was established in January 2017 through the merger of 32 companies, including the National Television Company of Ukraine (NTU), 22 regional state broadcasting companies, National Radio Company of Ukraine, and film production companies. However, with a strong image as a government billboard and average viewer ratings of less than 1%, there was an urgent need to enhance the staff capacity and improve the content.



A workshop conducted by Japanese experts (Photo: JICA)

Therefore, Japan provided support for strengthening PBC's staff capacity to create educational and cultural programs, and for building a broadcasting structure in the event of disasters and emergencies. Japan also provided broadcasting materials and equipment.

Following the start of Russia's aggression against Ukraine in February 2022, PBC has continued to broadcast mainly news reports while moving its physical bases to escape from the war. Through Japan's assistance, an information network between



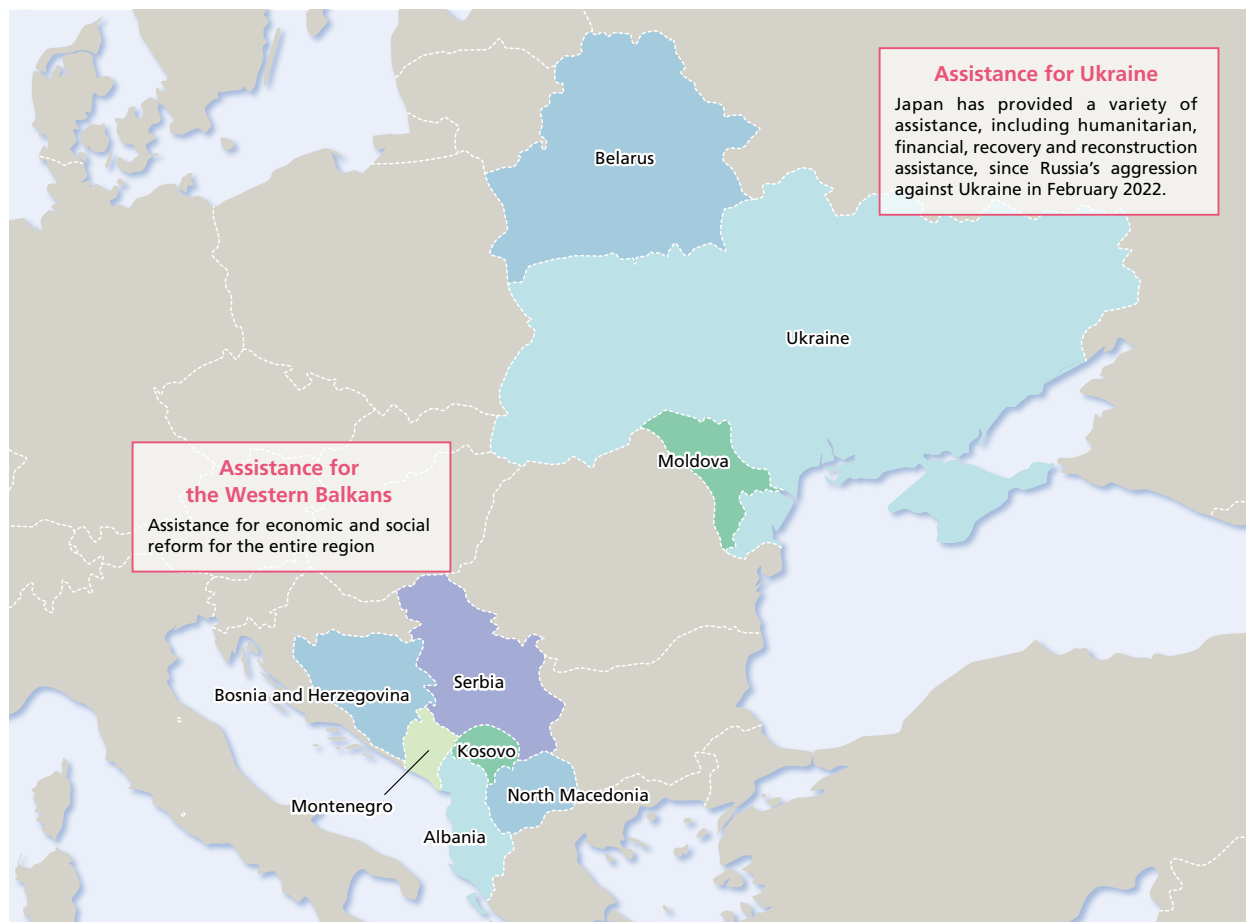
Filming a puppet show program (Photo: JICA)

PBC's Kyiv headquarters and nationwide local branches was developed, and a "Manual for Reporting Natural Disasters and Emergencies" that summarizes how to report in an emergency was compiled. Such assistance is now contributing to PBC's continuous broadcasting during wartime.

In addition, changing the mindset of reporters supports PBC's emergency coverage during wartime. Through the project, Japan provided training to build information channels with government agencies. As a result of the training, the mindset of many PBC reporters changed from "information is something that the government unilaterally chooses to provide at their convenience," which the reporters had believed since the era of the former Soviet Union, to "information is something that reporters go out and obtain themselves." This is another example of Japan's contribution to Ukraine.

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in Europe



6 Central Asia and Caucasus

The Central Asian 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 hold great significance for those of the Eurasian region as a whole. The region is also strategically important for its abundant natural resources such as oil, natural gas, uranium, and rare earths. At the same time, the region is geopolitically vulnerable to the influence of major countries in its vicinity, as well as to the public security situations of neighboring countries.

Central Asian and Caucasus countries have worked toward transitioning to a market economy 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. In addition, the sanctions against Russia related to its aggression against Ukraine in 2022 have affected the countries economically and socially, including logistical restrictions, and they are under pressure to deal with such a situation.

Japan provides cooperation toward the free, open, and sustainable development of the Central Asian and Caucasus region.

Japan's Efforts

Japan provides assistance for Central Asian 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 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. At the 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the "Central Asia plus Japan" Dialogue held in Tokyo in December 2022, the ministers agreed to promote cooperation along new models, with emphasis on "investment in people" and "quality of growth" in order to achieve sustainable development in the five countries in Central Asia. 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 of cooperation, namely (i) assistance for human resources development of architects for state building (human resources



The 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the "Central Asia plus Japan" Dialogue (December 2022)

development) and (ii) assistance for paving the way to an "Appealing Caucasus" (infrastructure development and business environment improvement).

Japan has accepted approximately 12,100 trainees from Central Asian and Caucasus countries and dispatched approximately 3,300 experts to those countries by 2022 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 and others, the Development Studies Program, and the development of human resources for business at the Japan Center for Human Resources Development.

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 2022 to eight Central Asian and Caucasus countries for the provision of health and medical equipment. From January 2022, Japan provided approximately 700,000 doses of vaccines to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan through the COVAX Facility.²¹ In addition, Japan provided medical equipment for the diagnosis of non-communicable diseases worth approximately ¥1 billion to the Kyrgyz Republic, and medical equipment and educational materials for medicine worth approximately ¥800 million to Uzbekistan.

Furthermore, Japan has dispatched water service policy advisory experts to Tajikistan to provide training for the country-wide implementation of the volumetric tariff system for water supply service, which was established under the "Project for Strengthening the Water Service Management of Pyanj and Khamadoni Vodokanals" (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 115 for details).

²¹ See the glossary on page 62.



Uzbekistan nurses exchanging ideas with a Japanese expert about how to provide effective nutrition education in their communities (Photo: JICA)

In addition, Japan provides support to the Central Asian region in the areas of border control, anti-drug measures, and prevention of violent extremism in light of such factors as the situation in neighboring Afghanistan.

Stable Supply of Safe Water

Tajikistan



Project for Strengthening the Water Service Management of Pyanj and Khamadoni Vodokanals Technical Cooperation Project (April 2017 – June 2021)

In Khatlon Province, located in the southern part of Tajikistan, only approximately 47% of residents had access to safe water due to the aging water supply facilities built during the former Soviet Union era. Especially in Pyanj and Khamadoni Districts, many residents used poor quality water such as water from irrigation and shallow wells for drinking and living.



A JICA expert conducting operation and management training for well pumps for engineers of the local VKs (Photo: JICA)

To overcome this situation, from 2008 to 2016, Japan renovated and expanded water supply facilities in both districts through grant aid. In addition, Japan had implemented this technical cooperation project since 2017 to ensure that these facilities would be properly operated and maintained. Aiming to strengthen organizational capacity and improve the management of both water and sewerage public utilities (Vodokanals/VKs) in Pyanj and Khamadoni, the project provided guidance on how to organize data required for operating water supply systems as well as operate and maintain water supply facilities.

In particular, the project succeeded in converting the fee collection system from the previous fixed-rate system to the meter-rate system advocated by the government. As a result of these efforts, a safe and stable water supply was made possible 24 hours a day. In addition, by increasing the water supplied population, the revenue of VKs increased (1.65 time increase in Pyanj), which contributed to improving their management significantly. This was

the first time that a meter-rate system was introduced in Khatlon Province, and the fee collection system that applies Japanese knowledge and systems was established as the "Pyanj/Khamadoni Districts model." The model is expected to be further promoted and expanded.

Tajikistan is actively involved in the water sector in the international community. In June 2022, Tajikistan and the UN jointly held an international conference^{*1} in the capital Dushanbe, while Tajikistan, together with the Netherlands, will co-chair a UN conference^{*2} in New York in March 2023. At the June 2022 meeting, the achievements of this project were shared, and then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Honda reported on the "Kumamoto Initiative for Water" at the Fourth Asia-Pacific Water Summit^{*3} held in Japan. Through this project, Japan and Tajikistan deepen mutual cooperation in the water sector and demonstrate their presence in international initiatives.

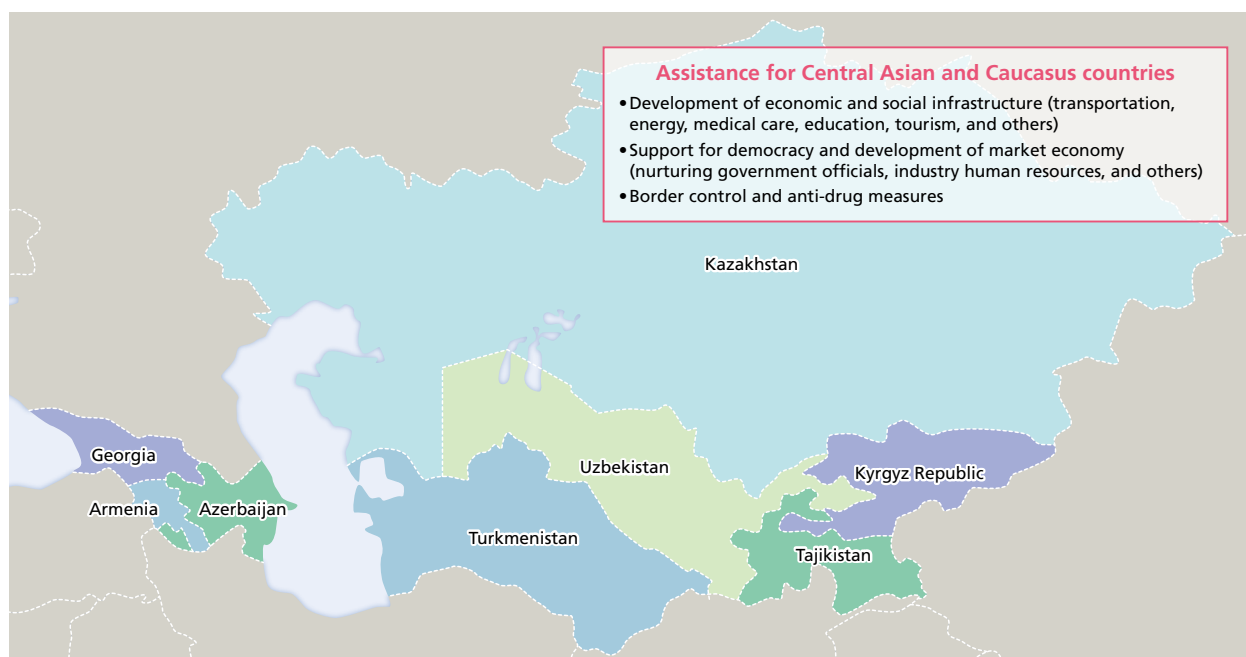


A meter reader reading a water meter newly installed through the introduction of the meter-rate system (Photo: JICA)

^{*1} Second High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development."

^{*2} 2023 Conference for the Midterm Comprehensive Review of Implementation of the UN Decade for Action on Water and Sanitation (2018-2028).

^{*3} See "ODA Topics" on page 65.



MASTER TECHNIQUES from Japan to the World

3

Contributing to Agriculture Promotion with Japan's Technical Guidance on Organic Fertilizers

—Disseminating and Establishing Agricultural Techniques
through the Soil and Crop Analysis Center of Kyrgyz National
Agrarian University—



The Kyrgyz Republic became an independent country in 1991 following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Agriculture is one of the main industries in the country, but after independence, the destruction of collective farming and the degradation of administrative functions led to the discontinuance of technical assistance and the distribution of agricultural resources such as chemical fertilizer to farmers. While the country had to depend on expensive and unstable imported chemical fertilizers because they were not manufactured domestically, farmers had a hard time purchasing a sufficient amount. As a result, declines in technical expertise and soil fertility lowered crop yield and quality, and consequently, the income of farmers who constitute around 60% of the population.

Biomass research co., ltd. (Bird) plays a role in improving this situation. Bird started as a venture company which was supported by Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine in Hokkaido, Japan, and works on biogas plant projects leveraging the university's research outcomes. Since 2013, Bird has been working on a JICA Partnership Program to promote organic farming by providing technical assistance for producing organic fertilizers in the Kyrgyz Republic. In February 2022, "Human Resources Development Project for Soil and Crop Analysis Technology at Kyrgyz National Agrarian University" started for a planned period of three and half years, aiming to establish and disseminate organic farming techniques in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Dr. NISHIZAKI Kunio, an executive officer of Bird, who has been working on various projects in the Kyrgyz Republic for a long time, explains that "We started this project to leverage Japan's techniques so that we could develop organic fertilizers using livestock waste readily available to farmers and promote their usage. This approach was welcomed by farmers since other fertilizers were expensive and unaffordable, while



Providing technical assistance to local farmers on making organic fertilizers

these fertilizers can be produced from discarded livestock waste. Using these organic fertilizers in infertile land doubled harvests. As harvests visibly grew, farmers almost started fighting to get the organic fertilizer. This experience made me recognize that using organic fertilizers would help promote agriculture in the country. The Kyrgyz Republic and Hokkaido have many similarities such as climate and industries, so I feel familiarity with the country. I continue to cooperate with people in Kyrgyz, with a hope to help struggling farmers as well as to promote the country's agriculture."

Many seminars on organic fertilizers were held through such cooperation. Many farmers have started organic farming, since organic fertilizers are environment-friendly and cost-effective and help improve the quality and quantity of crops as well as the income of farmers. In recognition of his contribution to the development of organic farming in the Kyrgyz Republic, Dr. Nishizaki received the title of professor emeritus from Kyrgyz National Agrarian University in 2016.

In 2019, the Kyrgyz Republic enacted a law about organic agricultural production and established a policy of promoting organic farming across the country. "Techniques that accurately analyze soil conditions and enable good harvest with a minimum amount of fertilizer should be established in the Kyrgyz Republic in order to further develop organic farming in the country. We currently help the country establish soil and crop analysis techniques that are crucial for this purpose, organize manuals and documents that are important tools for sharing these techniques, and develop leaders who disseminate them to farmers," says Dr. Nishizaki. As crops from organic farming have added value, the project plans to support selling them in new markets including through exports. Organic farming garners a lot of expectations as a technique that helps the growth of the Kyrgyz economy.



Dr. Nishizaki providing a lecture to leaders in organic farming at the Soil and Crop Analysis Center in Kyrgyz National Agrarian University

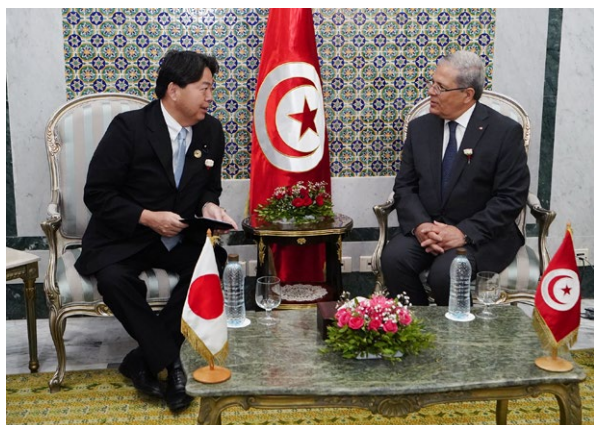
Japan depends on the Middle East and North Africa region for approximately 90% of its crude oil imports, and the region, as a key point for global distribution, is critically important from the perspective of Japan's economy and energy security. It is also a region with high potential and expectations 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. For example, 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.

As a responsible member of the international community, Japan has made significant contributions to the peace and stability of the Middle East region through ODA and other means. Japan will continue to make active diplomatic efforts toward easing tension and stabilizing the situation in the region by taking advantage of the favorable relationships it has built with Middle Eastern countries.

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.



Foreign Minister Hayashi holding a meeting with Mr. Jerandi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad of Tunisia (August 2022)

■ 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 sixth Conference on "Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region" (Brussels VI Conference) held in May 2022, and swiftly carried out the assistance totaling approximately \$90 million. This assistance includes humanitarian aid and support for social stabilization for Syria and its surrounding countries (see also "Stories from the Field" on page 44).

As for Iraq, Japan provides assistance in the oil and gas sector, which are the foundation of Iraq's economy, as well as in the electricity, water, and sewage sector, which constitute basic life services, through yen loans and other means, and also supports human resources development through technical cooperation. In addition, Japan engages in assistance to strengthen governance in Iraq with the aim of developing Iraq independently as a stable 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 approximately \$3.3 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 125 Syrian students from FY2017 to 2022 to foster human resources who will contribute to Syria's recovery in the future.

■ Assistance to Yemen

Yemen faces 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 \$400 million in humanitarian aid to the country as a major donor country, through international organizations over eight years from 2015 to 2022. In 2022, in addition to the humanitarian aid through international organizations, Japan continued to provide education and training in Japan by accepting Yemeni students through Japanese Government Scholarship and conducting training for Yemeni experts through JICA, in order to foster human resources to back up Yemen's self-reliant stabilization. Additionally, Japan provides support for strengthening the functions of the Port of Aden in Yemen to develop an environment that allows people to conduct economic activities (see

“ODA Topics” on page 34 for Japan’s assistance in the Port of Aden).

■ Assistance to Afghanistan

As humanitarian needs in Afghanistan and neighboring countries have increased since the Taliban seized power in August 2021, Japan has actively participated in international meetings, stated its policy for humanitarian aid, and emphasized the importance of ensuring the safety of aid workers and humanitarian access. At the High-Level Pledging Event on Supporting the Humanitarian Response in Afghanistan held in March 2022, co-hosted by the UN, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Qatar (which Foreign Minister Hayashi attended by delivering a pre-recorded video message), regarding the Taliban’s decision to postpone the re-opening of secondary schools

for Afghan girls, the attendees called for the Taliban to urgently reverse this decision. They also emphasized that every Afghan citizen, regardless of gender, should be given an equal right to education at all levels. However, even after these statements were issued, there have been reports that the Taliban is further increasing restrictions on the rights of women and girls. In cooperation with the international community, Japan continues to urge the Taliban to improve the situation.

Since August 2021, Japan has decided on and implemented assistance totaling over \$330 million through international organizations and NGOs in areas such as shelter, health, water and sanitation, food, agriculture, and education. The assistance includes emergency assistance provided in response to the damage caused by the earthquake that hit eastern

Triangular Cooperation for Africa with Tunisia as a Gateway

Tunisia



(1) Project on Quality/Productivity Improvement

(1) Technical Cooperation (Phase 1: September 2009 – March 2013, Phase 2: January 2016 – December 2021)

(2) Human Security as a Factor in Socio-Economic Development

(2) Contributions and Subscriptions to International Organizations (March 2021 – September 2022)

In Tunisia, where the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8)^{*1} was held, triangular cooperation for African countries is promoted by taking advantage of abundant human resources in various specialized fields.



In training in Japan, Tunisian trainees visiting a cleaning company that actually employs the KAIZEN methods (Photo: JICA)

Through JICA’s technical cooperation, Tunisia has been working on KAIZEN^{*2} in the industrial sector since 2006. So far, nearly 100 companies have implemented the KAIZEN methods such as organizing and revising flow lines to improve work efficiency, which has led to improved productivity. With this knowledge, Tunisia conducted KAIZEN training for Libya in December 2021. Approximately 30 people, including representatives of the Libyan Ministry of Economy and entrepreneurs, participated in this training, which served as a foothold for the introduction of KAIZEN in Libya. The Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of Tunisia aims to establish a Productivity and Quality Improvement Center (KAIZEN Center) to accept training participants from both inside and outside the country, in order to promote KAIZEN in Africa with Tunisia as a hub.

Japan’s community police activities are also expanding from Tunisia to other African countries. In Tunisia and through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Japan makes efforts to establish “accessible police,” similar to Japanese police boxes, small police stations that serve local neighborhoods, to improve



Security agencies officials from Sub-Saharan Africa attending the African conference on “accessible police”

citizen’s accessibility to police stations. In July 2022, an African conference on “accessible police” was held in Tunis, with a total of 320 participants from 17 African countries and 11 international organizations.

In addition, third country training is conducted in Tunisia to share the knowledge of Japan and Tunisia with African countries,^{*3} in fields such as health and medical care.

The Government of Tunisia puts a lot of effort into education and has abundant professional human resources such as engineers and doctors. In addition to Arabic, many of these professionals are fluent in French and English. Making good use of this wealth of human resources, Japan’s technology and knowledge are expected to be transferred to African countries with Tunisia as a gateway.

^{*1} See “ODA Topics” on page 127.

^{*2} See 32 on page 41.

^{*3} In the technical cooperation projects, “Medical Equipment Management for African Countries” and “Waste Management and Urban Sanitation in African Cities,” third country training on proper use of medical equipment and on hygiene were conducted respectively.

Afghanistan in June 2022.

Since 2001, Japan has provided a wide range of development assistance to Afghanistan for the country's sustainable and self-reliant development, hosting two ministerial-level support meetings (2002 and 2012) and supporting various sectors such as humanitarian needs, health, education, agriculture and rural development, and women's empowerment. With regard to future assistance to Afghanistan, Japan will promptly implement the aforementioned humanitarian aid. Japan will also engage with the Taliban and respond appropriately after carefully assessing the aid needs for the people of Afghanistan, 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 the Middle East Peace, and has provided more than \$2.2 billion in assistance since the 1993 Oslo Accords. Specifically, Japan provides various types of humanitarian assistance through international organizations and NGOs to improve the severe living conditions of the socially vulnerable people in the West Bank including East Jerusalem and people affected by conflicts in the Gaza Strip, Palestine. In April 2022, in response to the significantly worsened humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, due to the spread of COVID-19 and damages caused by the flood disaster, Japan provided Emergency Grant Aid of \$3.35 million through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Moreover, from July to September 2022, Japan also provided assistance in the amount of \$8 million through UNRWA and WFP for improving food security in Palestine and contributing to solving Palestine's development challenges, among other purposes.

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. For example, Japan provides financial assistance to the tenant companies of the Jericho Agro-Industrial Park (JAIP), the flagship project of the "Corridor for Peace and Prosperity" initiative. Furthermore, in March 2022, Japan held an online meeting to connect 31 Palestinian companies, 7 Japanese companies, and 56 Vietnamese companies under the framework of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD)²² in order to promote business-to-business transactions.

■ Assistance to the North Africa Region

In Morocco, the "New Development Model," which is positioned as the country's long-term national development strategy, was formulated and published in May 2021. Regarding a strategy for the education sector, the Model identifies improving the quality of basic education as an urgent need. In response to this, in July 2022, Japan helped the country carry out educational reforms by providing financial support to the Government of Morocco, signing the Exchange of Notes (E/N) regarding the provision of a yen loan of up to ¥22 billion for the purpose of improving children's learning environments (see "Stories from the Field" on page 68 for Japan's efforts in Egypt).

In Tunisia, triangular cooperation for African countries is promoted by taking advantage of the abundant experience and human resources of the country. The cooperation includes the promotion of a Japanese-style approach for improving quality and productivity called KAIZEN, introduction of "accessible police," promoted by Japan, and third-party training in the medical care field (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 119 for details).

Moreover, in August 2022, Foreign Minister Hayashi visited Tunisia as the Special Envoy of Prime Minister Kishida to attend the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) (see "ODA Topics" on page 127 for TICAD 8). During the visit, Foreign Minister Hayashi paid a courtesy call on President Saied, had a meeting with Mr. Jerandi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad of Tunisia, and signed the bilateral technical cooperation agreement and the Memorandum of Cooperation on the Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM) between the two countries.

■ Support in Response to COVID-19

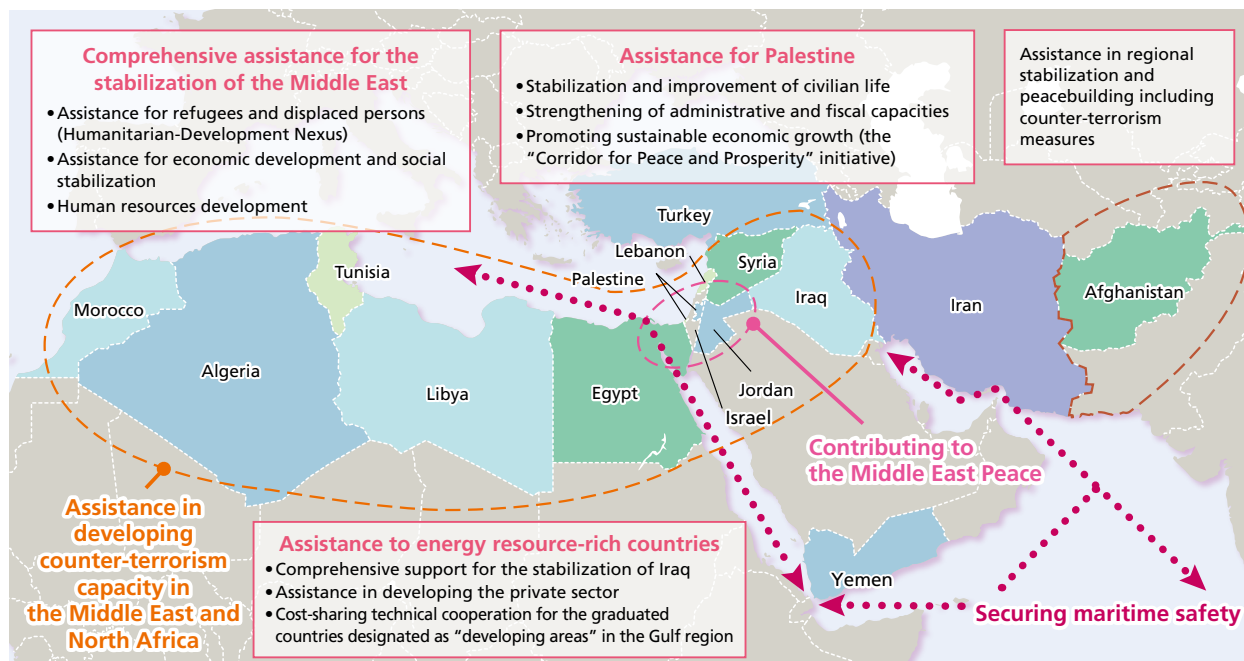
In 2022, Japan provided various assistance in response to COVID-19. Japan provided approximately 700,000 additional doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan to Iran through the COVAX Facility,²³ bringing the total number of vaccine doses provided by Japan to the Middle East and North Africa region to 5.16 million. In February, in cooperation with UNICEF, Japan provided equipment such as refrigerated vehicles for vaccines and training for local medical teams to Egypt, which faces the urgent challenge of developing a cold chain. In October, Japan decided to support Afghanistan for its sustainable COVID-19 vaccination by providing the necessary equipment to improve its cold chains systems. In Tunisia, Japan supports the development of a digital information management system for immunization status data to deal with threats to public health, through UNICEF, toward the upcoming revitalization of the economy and society in the post-COVID-19 era.

²² A regional cooperation framework launched by Japan in February 2013 to support Palestinian nation-building by mobilizing the resources and economic development expertise of East Asian countries toward realizing peace through a "two-state solution."

²³ See the glossary on page 62.

Japan's development cooperation policy

Priority areas in the Middle East and North Africa



Africa, which is expected to account for a quarter of the world's population by 2050, is a young and hopeful continent with great potential for dynamic growth. 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,"²⁴ Africa's own new development initiative. In a series of movements that continue to threaten the foundation of the international community, with Russia's aggression against Ukraine as a flagrant example, it becomes more important than ever for the international community to respond in union. Africa's position in the international community is accordingly growing, and it is necessary to further promote cooperation with African countries.



Prime Minister Kishida delivering a speech via video call and Foreign Minister Hayashi attending in person as a Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, at the opening session of the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8), held in Tunisia (August 2022)

Japan's Efforts

Japan has contributed to Africa's development over many years, including through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD).^{*} At TICAD 8, held in August 2022 in Tunisia, Prime Minister Kishida made statements online in all sessions, and Foreign Minister Hayashi participated in person as a Special Envoy of the Prime Minister. Taking the opportunity of TICAD, Prime Minister Kishida had bilateral talks with a total of 10 countries and organizations, including President of Tunisia Saied, President of Senegal Sall, and African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson Faki, and Foreign Minister Hayashi held bilateral talks with 21 countries,

including eight heads of state and government. These meetings covered discussions on Russia's aggression against Ukraine and opaque and unfair development finance, in addition to bilateral relations. The various meetings also confirmed cooperation between Japan and African countries in the international arena, too, on issues such as early recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, food security, the North Korean issue, and UN Security Council reform.

Japan also announced at TICAD 8 that over the next three years it will put in \$30 billion as the sum of public and private financial contribution, with an emphasis on "investment in people" and "quality of growth," engaging in green investment, promotion of investment, development finance, public health, human resources development, regional stabilization, and food security. In terms of human resources development, Japan aims to train more than 300,000 professionals in a wide range of fields that include industry, health, medicine, education, agriculture, justice, and administration. As "a partner growing together with Africa," Japan aims to promote African development with people-focused approaches that are quintessentially Japanese, and to realize a resilient Africa that Africa itself aims to achieve (see "ODA Topics" on page 127 regarding TICAD 8).

■ Economy

At TICAD 8, Japan announced that it will strengthen a free and open international economic system to "build back better" from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis in order to safeguard people's livelihoods. Japan also announced that it would support green growth in the respective countries toward achieving a resilient and sustainable Africa, and bolster private and start-up companies expanding into Africa with a focus on vibrant and dynamic young people.

To date, as "investment in people" toward the realization of quality growth, Japan has developed industrial human resources who contribute to the promotion of businesses. Under the ABE Initiative,²⁵ Japan has provided training opportunities to approximately 2,000 young Africans through JICA. In addition to industrial human resources, Japan also helps to train ICT professionals through technical cooperation, and supports start-up companies and entrepreneurs through Project NINJA.²⁶

Japan also promotes quality infrastructure investment, focusing on the three priority areas²⁷ toward enhancing

²⁴ 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.

²⁵ See the glossary on page 41.

²⁶ See ³³ on page 41.

²⁷ Three areas spanning the East Africa Northern Corridor, the Nacala Corridor, and the West Africa Growth Ring.



Farmers in Mombo, Tanga region, learning how to operate combine harvesters in agricultural machine training implemented under “Data Collection Survey on Strengthening of Training System and Promoting Rice Cultivation Package in the United Republic of Tanzania” (Photo: JICA)

connectivity. Utilizing digital transformation (DX), Japan works to improve logistics through infrastructure development, One Stop Border Posts (OSBP), and other initiatives, and works with the World Customs Organization (WCO) to support capacity building in the areas of border control and the collection of tariffs (see “Stories from the Field” on page 30 for Japan’s support for the construction of the “Freedom Bridge” in South Sudan).

In July 2022, Japan made the decision to provide approximately \$130 million in food assistance to African countries in response to the growing food crisis caused by soaring food, fertilizer, and energy prices due to Russia’s continued aggression against Ukraine. Furthermore, in order to strengthen medium- to long-term food production capacities, Japan provides support for doubling rice production, co-finances approximately \$300 million in cooperation through the African Emergency Food Production Facility of the AfDB, and also helps human resources development with the aim of cultivating the skills of 200,000 people in the agricultural sector over the next three years. Japan continues to contribute to enhancing Africa’s food security, through both short-term support such as food aid, and medium- to long-term support including capacity improvement for agricultural production (see “Stories from the Field” on page 84 for support for increasing rice production, and see “Project Introduction Column” on page 139 for support for the introduction of advanced agricultural technologies through public-private partnerships).

■ Society

At TICAD 8, Japan expressed its commitment to implement long-lasting initiatives that value each and every person against the backdrop of the continued

growing population in Africa, and to correct the apparent disparities coming to the surface toward realization of a quality living environment, taking into account human security, the SDGs, and Africa’s Agenda 2063.

The fight against COVID-19 remains a major challenge for Africa. Japan continues to provide support, with a comprehensive, detailed, and quintessentially Japanese approach, including financial contributions to the COVAX Facility,²⁸ the donation of vaccines, “Last One Mile Support,” such as cold chain system²⁹ development, support for overcoming aversion to vaccination, and assistance for the production, supply, and procurement of vaccines in the region. Japan has provided more than 2.52 million vaccine doses manufactured in Japan to Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone through the COVAX Facility. In addition, toward economic and social revitalization in anticipation of the post-COVID era, Japan supports seven African countries³⁰ in developing a digital immunization information system through the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in order to respond to public health threats, including new coronavirus variants. Japan also works with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other organizations to cultivate medical personnel in order to strengthen field-level support that serve as bases for addressing infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

Japan will continue its efforts to strengthen health systems in Africa through support via international organizations, including the pledge of up to \$1.08 billion to the Global Fund announced at TICAD 8, as well as bilateral assistance. In addition, Japan will also contribute to achieving universal health coverage (UHC) in Africa based on the concept of “leaving no one’s health behind,” with a focus on prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR) for future public health emergencies (see “Project Introduction Column” on page 124 for initiatives to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene environments in Uganda).

“Human resources development” is important as a key driver of economic growth, and Japan works to improve access to quality education, including that for youth and women. At TICAD 8, Japan announced the provision of quality education, including STEM education,³¹ to 9 million people, and the support to improve access to education for 4 million girls. Through technical cooperation and other initiatives, Japan works to promote school enrollment, increase inclusiveness, and provide school meals. For example, since its launch in 2004, the “School for All” project, which aims to improve the education environment for children through collaboration among schools, parents and guardians, and

²⁸ See the glossary on page 62.

²⁹ See 54 on page 56.

³⁰ The seven countries are Tunisia, Uganda, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Benin, Malawi, and South Sudan.

³¹ See 65 on page 66.

Uganda



Improvement of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Environment for Refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Host Communities^{*1} in Western Uganda

Japan Platform (JPF)^{*2} (February 2021 – October 2021)

In Uganda, Africa's largest refugee-hosting country, there is a need for assistance in refugee settlements, where an increasing number of refugees coexist with local residents. In Kyaka II Refugee Settlement, which mainly hosts refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, it is a priority to secure access to safe water, as the actual water supply does not meet the demand of its growing population, and so refugees and local residents have no other choice than to fetch water from rivers or puddles. At schools, the existing facilities of latrines and hand-washing stations are not sufficient for the increased number of students, and the issue of "period poverty," where female students miss school because they cannot afford to buy sanitary products, is conspicuous.

Under such circumstances, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ), a Japanese NGO, provided assistance for improving the water supply and sanitary conditions with grant assistance from Japan Platform (JPF). PWJ extended the water distribution network/pipelines and installed additional water tap stands so that approximately 3,000 people could obtain water from taps. In addition, PWJ provided training to the Water Management Committees, composed of beneficiaries, to ensure appropriate operation and maintenance of the water facilities.

At schools, in addition to the construction of latrines, hand-washing facilities, and changing rooms,^{*3} the PWJ staff made household visits^{*4} to 400 female students to distribute Menstrual Hygiene Management kits.^{*5} PWJ also conducted training for both male and female students of the School Health Club on menstrual



School Health Club students making reusable sanitary pads (Photo: Peace Winds Japan)

hygiene and how to make reusable sanitary pads. Students provided their feedback, saying, "I'm glad, because I can't ask my family to buy sanitary pads especially when life gets tougher due to COVID-19," and "I want to teach how to make reusable sanitary pads to other students and my family members."

This project utilized JPF funds to quickly respond to humanitarian crises and leveraged the strengths of NGOs in providing finely-tuned assistance for people who have not yet received aid and for pressing issues. It supported the coexistence of refugees and local residents, which also leads to the realization of one of the three pillars of TICAD,^{*6} "Peace and Stability." PWJ will continue its activities across the world.



Female students receiving Menstrual Hygiene Management kits (Photo: Peace Winds Japan)

^{*1} This refers to those who originally live in the refugee-hosting areas.

^{*2} See the glossary on page 145 regarding JPF.

^{*3} A place where female students can wash their bodies and clothes or change clothes during menstruation. It is also used as an office for female staff so that female students can use the space easily without worrying about being noticed. The place is also tailored to serve as a consulting space for menstrual hygiene.

^{*4} Due to the lockdown under the spread of COVID-19, the distribution was done through household visits.

^{*5} Reusable sanitary pads, underwear, laundry soap, and a bucket for school girls.

^{*6} See "ODA Topics" on page 127 for TICAD.

regional communities, has expanded to approximately 70,000 primary and junior high schools in nine countries across Africa.

In Africa, there is also an urgent need to address the various challenges associated with rapid urbanization. Under the "African Clean Cities Platform" (ACCP), ³² Japan promotes improvements in public health through waste management. In addition, Japan engages in environment-related initiatives, including climate change countermeasures, such as regular forest monitoring under the JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropic (JJ-FAST) (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 141 for greening activities in Niger).

■ Peace and Stability

At TICAD 8, Japan expressed its commitment to support Africa's own efforts to achieve peace and stability, which are required preconditions for economic growth, investment, and betterment of livelihoods, under the "New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA)."^{*}

Peaceful and stable societies and sustainable growth can only be achieved under the rule of law. Japan provides cooperation to maintain and enhance the rule of law, including training for police officers and support for border control. In addition, Japan provides support for human resources development to build institutions and

³² See the glossary on page 80.



A woman in Nigeria receiving a sewing machine as part of a start-up kit after receiving training and lectures at a Women and Girls Entrepreneurship Development and Empowerment Hub established through grant aid (Photo: UN Women)

strengthen governance in the judicial and administrative sectors, for conducting fair and transparent elections, and for ensuring public security. To promote mutual understanding and cooperative relations between the government and people as the foundation of peace and stability, Japan supports collaboration between local government and communities.

In addition, Japan supports Africa's own efforts for mediation and conflict prevention through strengthening the capacity of PKO personnel at Peacekeeping Training Centers in Africa and supporting the African Union (AU) and other regional organizations. 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 provided training at the facilities.

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. For example, to help stabilize the Sahel region, Japan implements measures to improve public services, such as the support through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for residents of the Liptako-Gourma region,³³ and thereby contributes to the strengthening of community bases.

Since the independence of South Sudan in 2011, Japan has supported its nation-building. Currently Self-Defense Forces personnel are deployed to the headquarters of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) as its staff officers. 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 plays a major role in the consolidation of peace and economic stabilization in South Sudan.

Moreover, Japan supports the holding of the "National Unity Day" sports event, which is held annually by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of South Sudan, since it began in 2016 in order to promote the reconciliation, friendship, and unity of its citizens. The sixth event was held in March 2022, with the participation of 372 athletes under the age of 20 representing the whole country. In October 2022, as part of the "Project for Youth Empowerment through Sports for Peace Promotion," a total of 14 persons from the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of General Education and Instruction, and the South Sudan Athletics Federation, were invited to Japan for training including visits to the Japan Sports Agency and other administrative organizations and educational institutions. Through their experiences and exchanges of opinions at the places they visited, the participants reaffirmed the power of sports for reconciliation and human resources development. It is important that the international community continue to cooperate and support the consolidation of peace in South Sudan, so that the people of the country can feel secure due to the stabilization of peace and also ensure that conflicts will never be repeated.



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 UN, 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." TICAD 8 was held in Tunisia in August 2022, with the participation of 48 African countries, including 20 heads of state and government.

New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA)

The new approach advocated by Japan at TICAD 7 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 communities, based on the principles of respecting Africa's ownership and taking measures against root causes of conflict and terrorism.

³³ A region bordering the three countries of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, where terrorist attacks occur frequently.

Japan's efforts in Africa

1. **Economy:** Japan will strengthen a free and open international economic system to “build back better” from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis in order to safeguard people’s livelihoods. Japan will also support green growth in the respective countries toward achieving a resilient and sustainable Africa. Furthermore, it will bolster private and start-up companies expanding into Africa with a focus on vibrant and dynamic young people.
2. **Society:** Against the backdrop of the continued growing population in Africa, Japan will implement long-lasting initiatives that value each and every person and strengthen investment in people. Taking into account human security, the SDGs, and Africa’s Agenda 2063, Japan will aim to correct the apparent disparities coming to the surface and realize a quality living environment.
3. **Peace and Stability:** Japan will support Africa’s own efforts to achieve peace and stability, which are required preconditions for economic growth, investment, and betterment of livelihoods, under the “New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA),” an initiative that approaches the root causes of impediments to human security as well as peace and stability while respecting Africa’s ownership. Japan aims to realize a society in which people can live secure lives.

Efforts in the field of maritime security

- Maritime security capacity building support
- Provision of patrol vessels
- Development of port infrastructure

The West Africa "Growth Ring"

Efforts toward regional stability

- Assistance for displaced persons
- Assistance for community empowerment
- Human resources development in judicial and administrative sectors

Cooperation for promotion of UHC


- Cultivating health and medical care professionals
- Enhancing regional core laboratory functions and building of networks
- Strengthening initiatives in areas of maternal and child health and nutrition

Development of the East Africa Northern Corridor

Development of the Nacala Corridor

Quality infrastructure investment

- Wide-area comprehensive development, focused on the three Core Corridors
- Strengthening intra-regional connectivity
- Improvement of logistics through One Stop Border Post (OSBP) and border control capacity building, etc.

Legend  : Areas exposed to threats of conflict and terrorism

 : Countries promoting UHC

ODA
Topics

5

Japan as “a Partner Growing Together with Africa” —TICAD 8—

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) is an international conference on the theme of African development. Since 1993, TICAD has been organized under the leadership of the Government of Japan in cooperation with the UN, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, and the African Union Commission (AUC). The Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) was held in Tunisia from August 27 to 28, 2022, with the participation of representatives from 48 African countries, including 20 heads of state and government.

At TICAD 8, Prime Minister Kishida emphasized the importance of “investment in people” and “the quality of growth,” recognizing the potential of Africa as a driving force of global growth. He announced that Japan would invest \$30 billion as the sum of public and private financial contribution over the next three years and carry out initiatives in the fields of (i) Green investment, (ii) Promotion of investment, (iii) Development finance, (iv) Public health, (v) Human resource development, (vi) Regional stabilization, and (vii) Food security. In addition to the three plenary sessions on “Economy,” “Society,” and “Peace and Stability,” a Business Forum was held. The Forum was attended by approximately 100 participants each from Japanese and African companies, and the strengthening of business ties between Japan and Africa was discussed. On the final day of the Conference, the TICAD 8 Tunis Declaration was adopted as a guidepost for future Japan-Africa relations and sustainable growth in post-COVID-19 Africa.

In order to support the sustainable growth of Africa, over the next three years, Japan will provide a variety of assistance in line with the needs of African countries, centered on initiatives in the seven above-mentioned fields. For example, with regard to (iii) “Development finance,” Prime Minister Kishida announced that Japan would provide co-financing of up to \$5 billion under the Enhanced Private Sector



Support for the development of education with community participation and school management models to improve access to basic education, quality of education, and gender equality (Madagascar) (Photo: JICA)

Assistance (EPSA 5),*1 a collaborative framework with the African Development Bank (AfDB), including establishing a special window of up to \$1 billion to support countries that have made steady and significant progress in restoring their sound debt management. In addition, toward realizing fair and transparent development finance, Japan cooperates with African governments and international organizations to support public-debt management capacity building.

With regard to (vii) “Food security,” Japan has provided a total of \$130 million in food assistance to Africa in response to the food crisis caused by the impacts of the situation in Ukraine. Japan also announced that it would provide co-financing to the AfDB’s African Emergency Food Production Facility for approximately \$300 million to strengthen mid-to long-term food production capacity. In addition, as initiatives to expand long-term food production, Japan has strengthened Africa’s own grain production capacity through the “Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)”**2 with the goal of doubling rice production, and also helped increase the incomes of smallholder farmers in Africa by spreading the production of horticultural crops through the “Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP)”**3 approach. At TICAD 8, Japan announced its intention to assist with capacity building for a total of 200,000 people in the agriculture sector through these efforts. As “a partner growing together with Africa,” Japan will continue to strongly support the realization of a resilient and sustainable Africa that Africa itself aims to achieve.



An ABE Initiative*4 participant in an internship at a Japanese company that manufactures metal products (Photo: JICA/Suntech Co., Ltd.)

*1 See the glossary on page 37.

*2 See “Stories from the Field” on page 84.

*3 See the glossary on page 87.

*4 See the glossary on page 41.

Chart III

Japan's Bilateral ODA by Region (2021)

(Unit: US\$ million)

Rank	Type Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants through multilateral institutions, etc.	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
Asia region total		538.09	368.16	430.39	1,336.65	9,183.52	5,107.37	4,076.14	5,412.79	10,520.16
East Asia region total		380.52	148.80	265.71	795.03	3,109.65	3,615.38	-505.73	289.30	3,904.68
(ASEAN total)* ¹		367.84	113.65	239.84	721.34	3,092.40	2,778.22	314.17	1,035.51	3,813.73
1	Philippines	23.43	8.79	55.19	87.41	1,087.65	442.15	645.50	732.91	1,175.06
2	Indonesia	96.59	20.41	34.68	151.68	881.41	1,347.19	-465.78	-314.10	1,033.10
3	Cambodia	54.97	16.71	23.34	95.02	375.42	11.44	363.98	459.00	470.44
4	Viet Nam	79.23	9.03	45.69	133.95	305.64	602.78	-297.14	-163.19	439.59
5	Myanmar	71.40	42.44	37.03	150.87	253.76	0.20	253.56	404.43	404.63
6	Thailand	15.01	2.16	18.52	35.69	179.69	279.12	-99.42	-63.73	215.38
7	Laos	14.83	13.96	16.92	45.71	8.81	5.68	3.14	48.85	54.53
8	Mongolia	7.25	21.11	12.73	41.08	13.32	35.35	-22.04	19.05	54.40
9	Timor-Leste	2.70	8.11	6.96	17.76	3.94	—	3.94	21.70	21.70
10	Malaysia	11.70	0.14	8.47	20.31	—	89.67	-89.67	-69.36	20.31
11	China	—	—	1.26	1.26	—	801.80	-801.80	-800.55	1.26
12	*Brunei	0.68	—	0.01	0.69	—	—	—	0.69	0.69
	Multiple countries in East Asia* ²	2.73	5.93	4.93	13.59	—	—	—	13.59	13.59
Southwest Asia region total		122.56	144.55	133.29	400.40	5,443.53	1,315.64	4,127.89	4,528.29	5,843.93
1	India	15.99	41.87	62.46	120.32	3,262.16	995.21	2,266.95	2,387.27	3,382.48
2	Bangladesh	29.32	49.77	22.93	102.02	1,963.64	112.74	1,850.90	1,952.92	2,065.66
3	Sri Lanka	2.71	12.35	7.42	22.49	154.83	206.05	-51.21	-28.73	177.32
4	Nepal	19.33	14.17	11.88	45.38	45.76	—	45.76	91.14	91.14
5	Pakistan	29.25	11.35	18.99	59.58	16.40	0.03	16.37	75.95	75.98
6	Maldives	23.73	1.37	1.13	26.22	—	—	—	26.22	26.22
7	Bhutan	2.23	—	7.94	10.18	0.75	1.62	-0.87	9.31	10.93
	Multiple countries in Southwest Asia* ³	—	13.67	0.54	14.20	—	—	—	14.20	14.20
Central Asia and Caucasus region total		34.54	22.95	25.30	82.79	381.89	136.43	245.46	328.25	464.69
1	Uzbekistan	6.50	0.20	6.37	13.06	375.84	40.53	335.31	348.37	388.90
2	Tajikistan	9.46	12.51	8.30	30.28	—	—	—	30.28	30.28
3	Kyrgyz Republic	6.99	2.71	6.91	16.62	0.83	4.83	-4.00	12.62	17.44
4	Azerbaijan	2.48	1.20	0.25	3.93	5.22	32.97	-27.75	-23.81	9.16
5	Armenia	4.47	3.61	0.44	8.52	—	10.23	-10.23	-1.71	8.52
6	Kazakhstan	3.71	—	1.05	4.76	—	37.98	-37.98	-33.22	4.76
7	Turkmenistan	—	2.71	0.49	3.20	—	1.99	-1.99	1.21	3.20
8	Georgia	0.93	—	1.03	1.96	0.00	7.91	-7.91	-5.95	1.96
	Multiple countries in Central Asia and Caucasus	—	—	0.46	0.46	—	—	—	0.46	0.46
Multiple countries in Asia* ⁴		0.47	51.87	6.09	58.42	248.44	39.92	208.52	266.94	306.86
Oceania region total		76.14	63.04	21.46	160.63	458.92	0.55	458.36	619.00	619.55
1	Papua New Guinea	10.16	11.91	5.43	27.51	318.15	—	318.15	345.67	345.67
2	Fiji	1.74	0.38	2.62	4.74	117.07	0.55	116.51	121.25	121.81
3	Solomon Islands	23.01	2.10	3.29	28.40	22.78	—	22.78	51.17	51.17
4	Palau	11.11	0.40	1.52	13.03	0.92	—	0.92	13.95	13.95
5	Tonga	12.56	0.29	0.87	13.72	—	—	—	13.72	13.72
6	Samoa	4.22	2.67	1.66	8.55	—	—	—	8.55	8.55
7	Vanuatu	3.51	—	1.70	5.21	—	—	—	5.21	5.21
8	Tuvalu	3.16	—	0.02	3.18	—	—	—	3.18	3.18
9	Federated States of Micronesia	1.97	—	0.70	2.67	—	—	—	2.67	2.67
10	Kiribati	0.74	0.38	0.26	1.37	—	—	—	1.37	1.37
11	Nauru	1.12	—	0.02	1.14	—	—	—	1.14	1.14
12	Marshall Islands	0.68	—	0.41	1.09	—	—	—	1.09	1.09
13	*Cook Islands	1.08	—	0.00	1.08	—	—	—	1.08	1.08

Rank	Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants through multilateral institutions, etc.	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
14	Niue	1.03	—	0.00	1.03	—	—	—	1.03	1.03
15	[Tokelau]	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00
	Multiple countries in Oceania	0.04	44.91	2.97	47.92	—	—	—	47.92	47.92
Latin America and the Caribbean region total		92.95	44.08	110.68	247.71	463.70	231.01	232.69	480.40	711.41
1	Brazil	0.77	—	30.30	31.06	281.86	65.93	215.93	247.00	312.93
2	Panama	0.08	—	2.85	2.93	72.62	9.54	63.08	66.01	75.55
3	Paraguay	4.25	0.08	5.22	9.55	35.38	33.06	2.32	11.87	44.93
4	El Salvador	4.76	—	6.87	11.64	27.08	24.43	2.65	14.29	38.71
5	Guatemala	0.83	5.61	4.80	11.24	13.46	12.80	0.66	11.90	24.70
6	Bolivia	13.02	—	10.25	23.26	0.31	—	0.31	23.58	23.58
7	Peru	11.55	—	9.04	20.59	1.51	46.97	-45.46	-24.87	22.10
8	Nicaragua	6.35	7.09	3.03	16.47	0.71	—	0.71	17.18	17.18
9	Costa Rica	0.44	2.97	0.88	4.28	12.71	22.93	-10.22	-5.93	16.99
10	Honduras	8.31	4.01	3.24	15.56	0.45	—	0.45	16.01	16.01
11	Ecuador	8.22	—	2.55	10.76	5.23	3.92	1.30	12.07	15.99
12	Cuba	5.16	2.97	2.03	10.16	—	—	—	10.16	10.16
13	Argentina	4.72	—	4.11	8.83	—	1.87	-1.87	6.96	8.83
14	Haiti	2.10	4.20	0.43	6.72	—	—	—	6.72	6.72
15	Saint Lucia	5.36	—	1.02	6.39	—	—	—	6.39	6.39
16	Mexico	—	0.04	5.06	5.10	—	—	—	5.10	5.10
17	Venezuela	4.71	—	0.27	4.98	—	—	—	4.98	4.98
18	Dominican Republic	0.43	0.09	3.76	4.27	—	3.91	-3.91	0.36	4.27
19	Saint Vincent	1.82	1.55	0.11	3.49	—	—	—	3.49	3.49
20	Dominica	2.71	—	—	2.71	—	—	—	2.71	2.71
21	Colombia	1.13	—	1.52	2.65	—	—	—	2.65	2.65
22	*Chile	0.36	—	1.76	2.12	—	0.92	-0.92	1.20	2.12
23	Jamaica	0.08	—	0.68	0.76	1.21	4.62	-3.41	-2.65	1.97
24	Antigua and Barbuda	1.82	—	0.04	1.86	—	—	—	1.86	1.86
25	Grenada	1.82	—	0.01	1.83	—	—	—	1.83	1.83
26	*Uruguay	1.01	—	0.22	1.23	—	—	—	1.23	1.23
27	Guyana	0.77	—	0.06	0.82	—	—	—	0.82	0.82
28	Belize	0.20	—	0.46	0.66	—	—	—	0.66	0.66
29	Suriname	0.12	—	—	0.12	—	—	—	0.12	0.12
30	*Barbados	—	—	0.10	0.10	—	—	—	0.10	0.10
31	*Saint Christopher and Nevis	0.07	—	—	0.07	—	—	—	0.07	0.07
32	*Trinidad and Tobago	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
33	*Bahamas	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
	Multiple countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	—	15.48	9.98	25.46	11.17	0.12	11.06	36.52	36.63
Europe region total		15.18	4.93	12.71	32.82	63.84	45.67	18.17	50.99	96.66
1	Serbia	0.90	—	2.64	3.54	59.27	1.26	58.01	61.55	62.81
2	Ukraine	2.64	4.50	2.14	9.28	0.94	26.38	-25.44	-16.16	10.22
3	Bosnia and Herzegovina	5.91	0.43	0.69	7.04	3.14	6.84	-3.70	3.34	10.18
4	Albania	2.00	—	2.46	4.45	0.38	6.42	-6.04	-1.58	4.83
5	Kosovo	0.50	—	2.34	2.85	—	—	—	2.85	2.85
6	North Macedonia	1.61	—	1.09	2.70	—	4.77	-4.77	-2.06	2.70
7	Moldova	1.39	—	0.73	2.11	0.10	—	0.10	2.22	2.22
8	Montenegro	0.08	—	0.50	0.58	—	—	—	0.58	0.58
9	Venezuela	0.15	—	0.01	0.16	—	—	—	0.16	0.16
	Multiple countries in Europe*5	—	—	0.11	0.11	—	—	—	0.11	0.11
Middle East and North Africa region total		60.83	588.59	53.87	703.29	1,248.49	740.83	507.66	1,210.95	1,951.78
1	Iraq	1.13	50.48	4.63	56.23	403.15	171.25	231.90	288.13	459.38
2	Egypt	12.64	13.19	13.04	38.87	330.29	191.20	139.09	177.96	369.16

Rank	Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants through multilateral institutions, etc.	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
3	Morocco	0.28	0.67	2.40	3.35	229.98	85.56	144.42	147.78	233.33
4	Afghanistan	4.71	196.95	10.87	212.53	—	—	—	212.53	212.53
5	Jordan	6.67	18.01	4.62	29.30	107.49	61.36	46.13	75.43	136.79
6	Turkey	0.78	13.33	0.58	14.70	89.49	145.98	-56.49	-41.78	104.19
7	[Palestine]	26.04	58.36	6.96	91.36	—	—	—	91.36	91.36
8	Syria	—	84.02	3.63	87.65	—	—	—	87.65	87.65
9	Tunisia	0.16	1.35	2.79	4.31	82.23	76.57	5.67	9.97	86.54
10	Yemen	2.07	64.46	0.23	66.77	—	—	—	66.77	66.77
11	Iran	—	41.55	2.81	44.36	—	1.84	-1.84	42.52	44.36
12	Lebanon	—	16.30	0.36	16.66	—	6.35	-6.35	10.32	16.66
13	Libya	—	14.70	0.02	14.71	—	—	—	14.71	14.71
14	Algeria	—	1.00	0.23	1.23	—	0.73	-0.73	0.50	1.23
15	*Saudi Arabia	—	—	0.30	0.30	—	—	—	0.30	0.30
16	*United Arab Emirates	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
17	*Kuwait	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
18	*Bahrain	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00
19	*Oman	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00
	Middle East subtotal*6	41.41	543.47	35.02	619.90	600.13	386.78	213.35	833.25	1,220.03
	North Africa subtotal*7	13.09	30.90	18.48	62.47	642.50	354.05	288.45	350.92	704.97
	Multiple countries in the Middle East and North Africa*8	6.34	14.22	0.37	20.92	5.86	—	5.86	26.78	26.78
	Sub-Saharan Africa region total	349.66	357.90	278.66	986.22	705.57	61.51	644.06	1,630.28	1,691.79
1	Mauritius	16.40	1.17	2.42	19.99	275.72	8.96	266.76	286.75	295.71
2	Kenya	6.92	12.01	23.57	42.51	200.30	14.29	186.01	228.52	242.81
3	Rwanda	13.13	2.28	12.55	27.96	42.98	—	42.98	70.93	70.93
4	Mozambique	17.73	5.51	12.46	35.70	34.00	—	34.00	69.70	69.70
5	Uganda	20.63	8.64	15.09	44.37	22.03	3.67	18.36	62.73	66.39
6	Burkina Faso	29.79	28.13	5.94	63.85	—	—	—	63.85	63.85
7	Ethiopia	18.57	19.77	15.03	53.36	7.60	—	7.60	60.96	60.96
8	Sudan	22.55	16.04	10.35	48.94	—	—	—	48.94	48.94
9	Democratic Republic of the Congo	14.40	17.15	10.58	42.13	—	—	—	42.13	42.13
10	Tanzania	13.41	1.48	10.39	25.28	16.46	—	16.46	41.74	41.74
11	South Sudan	15.56	20.27	5.89	41.71	—	—	—	41.71	41.71
12	Madagascar	10.87	4.82	12.02	27.70	13.98	—	13.98	41.68	41.68
13	Senegal	16.35	0.75	14.86	31.96	7.55	—	7.55	39.50	39.50
14	Côte d'Ivoire	0.85	1.88	7.67	10.40	23.86	—	23.86	34.26	34.26
15	Cameroon	4.89	11.60	6.19	22.67	11.36	—	11.36	34.03	34.03
16	Ghana	8.07	12.07	11.62	31.75	0.00	—	0.00	31.75	31.75
17	Nigeria	10.15	14.27	6.49	30.91	—	5.20	-5.20	25.71	30.91
18	Zambia	8.13	4.92	10.76	23.81	2.65	—	2.65	26.46	26.46
19	Niger	2.91	12.05	7.10	22.06	—	—	—	22.06	22.06
20	Somalia	—	20.89	0.85	21.74	—	—	—	21.74	21.74
21	Malawi	7.29	3.69	8.69	19.67	—	—	—	19.67	19.67
22	Liberia	10.79	5.93	1.14	17.86	—	—	—	17.86	17.86
23	Zimbabwe	6.02	8.64	2.95	17.62	—	—	—	17.62	17.62
24	Mali	2.73	12.57	1.00	16.31	—	—	—	16.31	16.31
25	Sierra Leone	0.05	10.49	5.51	16.06	—	—	—	16.06	16.06
26	Botswana	4.72	0.33	2.53	7.57	5.56	4.30	1.26	8.83	13.13
27	Namibia	8.65	2.36	1.54	12.55	—	8.55	-8.55	4.00	12.55
28	Djibouti	6.32	2.81	2.69	11.82	—	—	—	11.82	11.82
29	Burundi	3.19	6.82	1.17	11.18	—	—	—	11.18	11.18
30	Guinea	4.46	2.22	3.15	9.84	—	—	—	9.84	9.84
31	Chad	—	9.44	0.04	9.48	—	—	—	9.48	9.48
32	Benin	4.24	1.62	2.97	8.83	—	—	—	8.83	8.83

Rank	Type Country or Region	Bilateral ODA								
		Grants				Government loans etc.			Total (Net disbursement)	Total (Gross disbursement)
		Grant aid	Grants through multilateral institutions, etc.	Technical cooperation	Total	Amount disbursed (A)	Amount recovered (B)	(A)-(B)		
33	Democratic Republic of the Congo	4.19	4.15	0.44	8.78	—	—	—	8.78	8.78
34	Mauritania	4.76	1.75	1.61	8.13	—	—	—	8.13	8.13
35	Angola	4.73	1.24	2.03	7.99	—	—	—	7.99	7.99
36	Cabo Verde	5.15	—	0.06	5.21	2.43	—	2.43	7.64	7.64
37	Eswatini	3.95	2.32	1.08	7.34	—	1.84	-1.84	5.51	7.34
38	South Africa	0.47	1.29	5.03	6.79	—	0.43	-0.43	6.36	6.79
39	Central Africa	—	6.42	0.03	6.45	—	—	—	6.45	6.45
40	Gabon	3.15	0.65	2.35	6.15	—	—	—	6.15	6.15
41	Guinea-Bissau	—	5.96	0.07	6.03	—	—	—	6.03	6.03
42	Gambia	3.05	2.59	0.24	5.89	—	—	—	5.89	5.89
43	Togo	2.98	0.30	0.76	4.04	—	—	—	4.04	4.04
44	Lesotho	1.13	2.50	0.41	4.04	—	—	—	4.04	4.04
45	Sao Tome and Principe	3.81	—	0.01	3.83	—	—	—	3.83	3.83
46	Eritrea	—	1.96	0.40	2.35	—	—	—	2.35	2.35
47	Comoros	—	0.90	0.10	1.00	—	—	—	1.00	1.00
48	Equatorial Guinea	0.09	—	0.03	0.12	—	—	—	0.12	0.12
49	*Seychelles	—	—	0.06	0.06	—	—	—	0.06	0.06
	Multiple countries in Sub-Saharan Africa* ⁹	2.43	43.27	28.74	74.44	39.08	14.28	24.81	99.25	113.53
	Assistance encompassing multiple regions	31.86	668.98	1,517.86	2,218.71	2.25	—	2.25	2,220.96	2,220.96
	Total	1,164.70	2,095.70	2,425.63	5,686.03	12,126.28	6,186.94	5,939.34	11,625.37	17,812.31

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 is not the same as grant aid implemented as Japan's aid scheme.
 - 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.
 - Negative numbers show the recovered amount of loans exceeded the disbursed amount.
 - Countries with an asterisk * are the graduated countries designated as "developing areas," and square brackets [] denote region names.
- *1 Figures of the (ASEAN total) are the total amount of Japan's bilateral ODA disbursements for Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, 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 of the "Middle East subtotal" are the total amount of Japan's bilateral ODA disbursements for Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, [Palestine], Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.
- *7 Figures of the "North Africa subtotal" are the total amount of Japan's bilateral ODA disbursements for Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.
- *8 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.
- *9 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 Partnerships with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation

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A JOCV coaching rugby to students at the school he is assigned to in Gandhinagar, Gujarat State in India (Photo: JICA)

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 overall capability of Japanese companies can be further demonstrated in ODA projects by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and JICA. The Government of Japan promotes partnerships with the private sector in investment projects by incorporating the private sector's knowledge and expertise into ODA projects as early as the project formulation stage, and by sharing the roles between the public and private sectors with ODA covering basic infrastructure and the private sector providing investment, operation, and maintenance. The aim is to carry out projects more efficiently and effectively, and to further enhance development outcomes.

A. Grant Aid for Business and Management Rights

In FY2014, the Government of Japan launched grant aid for business and management rights over public works projects in developing countries in which the private sector is involved in the overall implementation, from construction to operation and maintenance. This grant aid aims to leverage Japanese advanced technologies and know-how for the development of developing countries through facilitating Japanese companies' acquisition of business and management rights. In FY2022, Japan and Cambodia signed the Exchange of Notes (E/N) regarding a grant aid for the "Project for the Expansion of Phum Prek Water Supply System."

B. Improvement of Japan's Yen Loans Leveraging Japan's Strengths

In order to promote "Visible Japanese Development Cooperation" through utilizing and transferring Japan's advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries, the Government of Japan introduces the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) under the yen loan scheme, which is further improved by expanding the scope of application and lowering the interest rates,

among other measures. In addition, it introduces 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 utilizing Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in which Japanese companies participate. In recent years, there are an increasing number of orders of yen 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 makes efforts to improve its ODA loan and Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) by speeding up Japan's yen loan procedures and creating new loan options. For example, the period necessary for government-related procedures for yen loans, which normally takes three years, has been reduced to approximately one and a half years at the fastest for important projects. The eligible countries for yen loans with repayment currency conversion options have been expanded to middle- to upper-middle-income countries and Dollar-Denominated Japanese ODA loans and Japan's yen loans with Preferential Terms for High Specification ⁴ have been established, on the condition that JICA's financial grounds are ensured. Based on



Indian children with weak sight using vision recovery training equipment (SDGs Business Supporting Survey)

- ¹ The Equity Back Finance (EBF) loan provides a yen loan for the developing country's share of the investment of the Special Purpose Company (SPC) that takes the lead in public projects in the developing country. It is restricted to PPP infrastructure projects, wherein the recipient country governments or their state-owned companies and others make the investment, and the Japanese companies participate as a business operating body.
- ² The Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan is a yen loan for VGF that 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.
- ⁴ Yen loans with Preferential Terms for High Specification are concessional yen 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.

its announcement on further speeding up yen loan procedures under the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure,”⁵ the Government of Japan has shortened the period required from the initiation of the feasibility study to commencement of construction work to one and a half years at the fastest and increased “the visibility” of the period required for projects implementation. Japan strives to improve its yen 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 on the ground through business and to promote collaboration with a wide range of partners

by incorporating ideas from private companies based on their creativity and originality. Public announcements are made on the JICA website, and JICA adopts proposals submitted by companies based on their content.

At the second public announcement in FY2021, a total of 24 projects in 13 countries (SME Partnership Promotion Survey: 7 projects; SDGs Business Model Formulation Survey with the Private Sector: 12 projects for the “SME Support Type” and 2 projects for the “SDGs Business Support Type”; SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector: 1 project for the “SME Support Type” and 2 projects for the “SDGs Business Support Type”) were adopted under this program. For the public announcements in FY2022, the program was reorganized on a trial basis to make it more convenient and effective. Through this reorganization, the new categories of “Needs Confirmation Survey” and “SDGs Business Validation Survey” were established in addition to the existing “SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector” (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 135, and “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 138. For more information about the program’s framework, target areas and countries, and other details, see the JICA website).⁶

Poverty Reduction by Converting Waste into Products

Zambia



(1) Project for Expansion of Banana Paper Making Factory in Mfuwe in the Eastern Province

(1) Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (December 2015 – April 2018)

(2) Small and Medium-Size Enterprise (SME) Partnership Promotion Survey for Sustainable Pulp Production Made of Banana Stems

(2) JICA’s SDGs Business Supporting Survey (November 2021 – January 2023)

Aiming to reduce poverty in Zambia’s rural areas, One Planet Café Ltd. started a banana paper business in 2011, focusing on discarded banana stems. One Planet Café purchases discarded banana stems from local farms and extracts fibers from the stems. The fibers become a raw material for paper. Adding value to “waste” results in an income increase for banana farmers.



Local staff of the company operating a machine that extracts fibers from banana stems (Photo: JICA)

Japan supports the company’s efforts through ODA. In the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project, Japan supported expanding a factory and setting up a training room for making hand-made banana paper in Zambia. Meanwhile, the SDGs Business Supporting Survey provides assistance for research into processing banana stem fibers into pulp. This pulp will become a raw material for paper.

The banana fiber produced in Zambia is sent to Japan and made into banana paper at the Echizen

Washi factory, which has a long history of making traditional Japanese paper called “washi” for over 1,500 years. Through collaboration with Japanese printing firms and paper product manufacturers, the use of banana paper is expanding around the world. The manufactured “One Planet Paper®” is the first paper in Japan to receive fair trade certification, and is widely used for such things as business cards, wrapping paper for cosmetic brands, and graduation certificates.

One Planet Café also conducts training to improve the income of people in rural Zambia, as well as wildlife conservation training. Poverty alleviation is expected to curb illegal deforestation, poaching, and the illegal trade of wild animals.

In this way, the public and private sectors collaborate to reduce poverty through creating new jobs and increasing income in Zambia.



Postcards made with banana paper being sold at a local store (Photo: JICA)

⁵ Announced at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in 2016, the Expanded Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure includes Japan’s commitment to provide approximately \$200 billion funds in the following five years for infrastructure projects in the world including Asia. It also includes further system reforms, strengthening the structure of related institutions including JICA, as well as securing financial foundations.

⁶ https://www.jica.go.jp/priv_partner/activities/sme/index.html (in Japanese only)

Grant Aid

- ✓ Part of the project-based grant aid in recent years was provided for the purpose of Japanese companies' acquisition of business and management rights over public works projects.
- ✓ Products of Japanese companies (manufacturers, trading companies, etc.) are utilized in many projects that apply grant aid through procurement agents.

Yen Loan

- ✓ Approximately 63% of contracts (procurement in foreign currency) were awarded to Japanese companies (construction, electricity, transportation, trading companies, etc.) in FY2021.
- ✓ Yen loans under the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) totaling approximately ¥470 billion were provided in FY2021.

Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF)

- ✓ A total of 60 PSIF projects (approximately ¥520 billion) were implemented from 2011 to the end of FY2021.

Preparatory Surveys for Private-Sector Investment Finance

- ✓ Publicly inviting proposals for Preparatory Surveys for PSIF from Japanese private companies (construction, transportation, trading companies, etc.), formulation of business plans that utilize JICA PSIF is supported. 76 preparatory surveys are supported from FY2010 to date.

SDGs Business Supporting Surveys

- ✓ Business verification surveys by Japanese companies (manufacturers, construction companies, etc.) are supported in matching the needs of developing countries with advanced products and technologies of Japanese companies. 1,389 surveys have been supported from 2010 to date.

■ 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 partnerships 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 PSIF in mind. Through PSIF, JICA supports feasibility surveys for the formulation of business plans and calls for proposals widely from private companies that plan 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 2022, four projects were adopted in Asia and Africa.

■ "JICA Private-Sector Partnership Volunteer Program"

As for the "JICA Private-Sector Partnership Volunteer Program," established in 2012, 126 volunteers have been dispatched to 38 countries thus far and actively support the overseas expansion of companies. Through the activities of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) under the program, volunteers are expected to learn the unique business practices and identify the market needs in the countries they are dispatched to, and then to apply those to their business activities on their return.

D. Private-Sector Investment Finance

Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) ⁸ refers to a type of ODA financing scheme in which JICA provides investments and loans to private companies carrying out projects in developing countries that are considered

highly effective from a development perspective when they cannot receive sufficient funds from private financial institutions. JICA signed 60 investment and loan contracts in total by the end of FY2021, with many Japanese companies participating (for more information about the program's framework, target areas, conditions, and other details, see the JICA website). ⁹ Recent examples of successful PSIF projects include an onshore wind power project in Viet Nam (Loan Project) and a waste biological recycling project in Kenya (Impact Investment Project), both of which were signed in 2021. The former carries out project financing to promote the introduction of renewable energy in Quang Tri Province to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This project is also expected to serve as a model case for wind farm projects led by the private sector in Viet Nam and attract investment in subsequent projects. The latter invests in a project in Nairobi to appropriately collect the increasing waste and to promote its recycling into feed, fertilizers, biofuels, etc. It aims to resolve social challenges associated with waste processing and agricultural productivity that many countries in Africa face. Japan also 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 93 for Initiative on Overseas Loans and Investments for ASEAN).

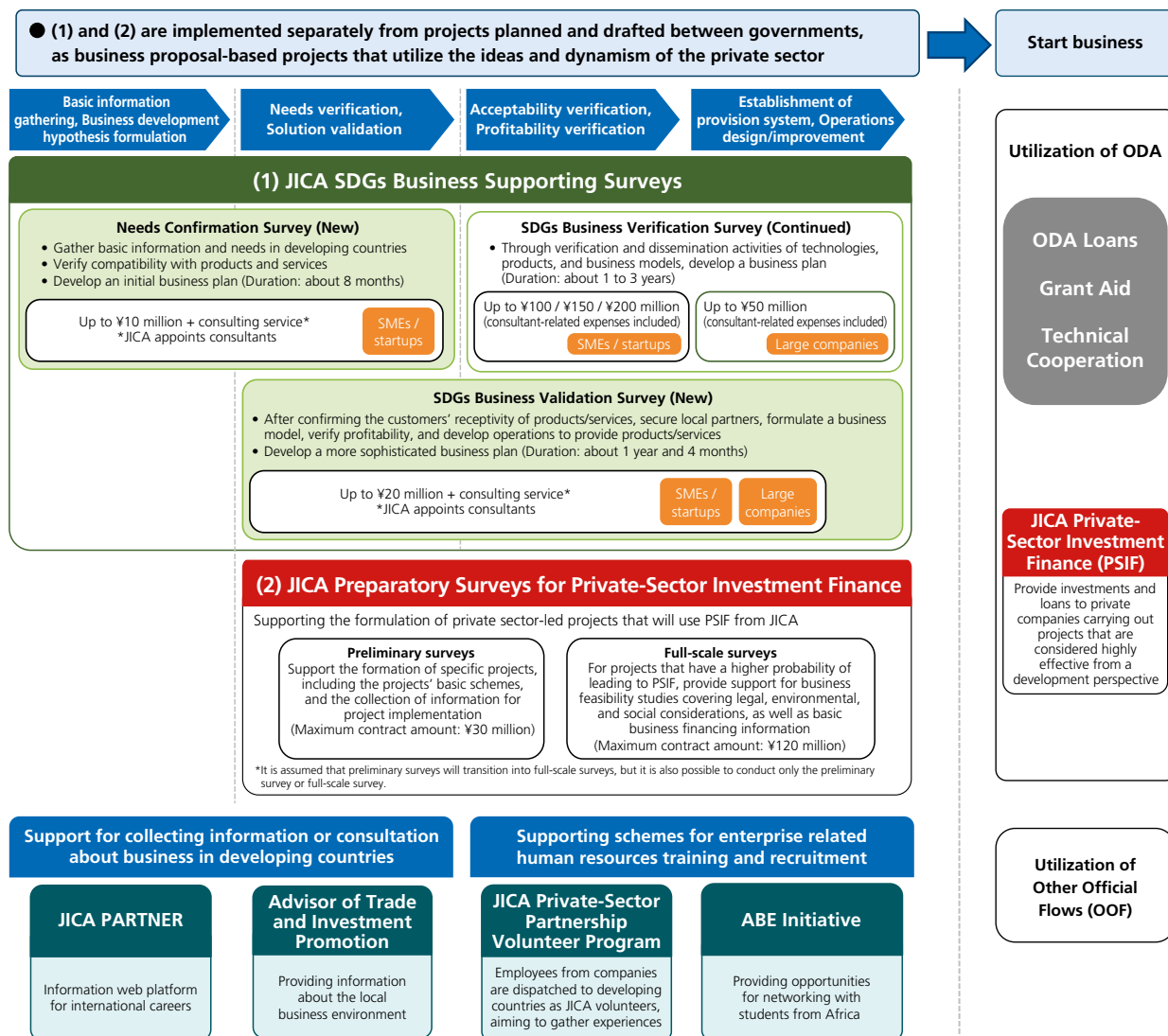
Japan's development cooperation is carried out in partnership with diverse actors. When implementing development cooperation, it is important for the Government to strengthen collaboration between JICA and other agencies responsible for handling official funds

⁷ https://www.jica.go.jp/priv_partner/activities/psiffs/index.html (in Japanese only)

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 https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/schemes/finance_co/loan/index.html (in Japanese only)

Chart IV-2 Public-Private Partnership Support Schemes Using ODA



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 private sector.

In addition, international organizations, such as the United Nations 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 Japanese private companies, and supports the development of businesses that contribute to solving problems in these countries. The public announcements in FY2022 invited proposals for the newly established categories of "Needs Confirmation Survey" and "SDGs Business Validation Survey," in addition to the existing "SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector." In the newly established categories, JICA appoints consultants who can assist Japanese private companies in their business development, and thereby creates an environment in which the companies can concentrate on surveys for business development. The program is expected to not only support the expansion of Japanese small and medium-sized enterprises' (SMEs') businesses abroad, but also invigorate the Japanese economy and local communities (see also Chart IV-2 on page 137).

Inclusive business

Inclusive business is a generic term for business models 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.

Contribution to Countermeasures against the Growing Cases of Chronic Kidney Disease in the Philippines

—Provision of Low Protein Rice Production Technology by a Japanese Company—



In the Philippines, the National Objectives for Health were formulated, and health and medical standards have been improved through the implementation of various measures such as the National Health Insurance Program for spreading healthcare services. However, the types of diseases that undermine public health have changed. Lifestyle-related diseases account for half of the top ten leading causes of mortality in the Philippines, and the number of people with diabetes and chronic kidney disease (CKD) caused

by obesity has increased. Against this backdrop, there is a growing demand to improve diets as well as to introduce and popularize dietary therapy to counter such diseases.

Biotech Japan Corporation (BTJ), headquartered in Niigata Prefecture, has long been engaged in the research, development, and marketing of low protein rice. With the Japanese market coming into a plateau due to population decline, however, the company was exploring the possibility of expanding into foreign markets. BTJ focused on the Philippines, where it is possible to communicate in English and people consume more rice than in Japan. In 2014, BTJ visited the country to conduct a market survey on dietary therapy for diabetes and CKD patients, and came to the conclusion that the introduction of low protein rice could help the people in the Philippines improve their dietary lives. Amid the difficulties it faced in finding a local business partner that could serve as a foothold for its overseas expansion, BTJ achieved a breakthrough by utilizing JICA's Support for Japanese Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Overseas Business Development scheme (currently implemented as SDGs Business Supporting Surveys). Development of BTJ's business was accelerated immediately after the adoption of the "Verification Survey with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technologies for Low Protein Rice for Dietary Therapy of Chronic Kidney Disease in the Philippines" by JICA. With regard to the benefits of utilizing JICA's support scheme, Mr. EGAWA Jo, BTJ's Chief Executive Officer, says, "Even the companies that had previously turned us away would meet with us immediately when we explained that it was a JICA project. I was surprised at the complete difference in their openness to taking appointments. It made me keenly aware of the wonderful trust that JICA has built up over the years."

This project, implemented in cooperation with the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), involved the production of low protein rice by using long-grain rice grown in the Philippines. However, there were many challenges in transferring Japan's technology because of the different



An employee of Biotech Japan Corporation (left) providing instructions to local staff on how to conduct quality inspections on low protein rice (Photo: Biotech Japan Corporation)

properties of this rice compared to short-grain rice, which is the mainstream variety in Japan. Long-grain rice has a propensity to crack when it undergoes processes to reduce protein content, which made BTJ struggle with selecting suitable varieties of long-grain rice. According to Mr. Egawa, "The hard water in the Philippines makes processing more difficult in comparison with the soft water used in Japan, and the people also have different preferences in rice flavors and textures from the Japanese people. Therefore, we produced numerous prototypes to create the exact product that suits the preferences of Filipinos."

As a result of these efforts, low protein rice production technology for Philippine rice was established. Efforts are now ongoing, in cooperation with the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), to disseminate dietary therapy by explaining the effects of low protein rice to local doctors and nutritionists, among other measures. In this way, ODA provides support for the overseas expansion of SMEs as well as contributes to resolving issues in developing countries. Local doctors have expressed their appreciation with feedback such as, "We are truly happy to finally be able to realize the production of low protein rice in the Philippines."



Promoting low protein rice with an exhibition on it. It attracted attention from medical practitioners as a food that enables easy nutritional management. (Photo: Biotech Japan Corporation)

Public
nominationSupporting the Overseas Business Expansion of Japanese Companies
into Africa

Tanzania, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria



Data Collection Survey on Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization through Introduction of Modernized Agricultural Technologies in Sub-Saharan Africa

JICA Data Collection Survey (February 2022 – February 2024)

With a large share of the workforce engaged in it, agriculture in African countries is one of the most important sectors for economic growth and poverty reduction. Many farmers in African countries, however, still use traditional methods in agriculture, so it is a huge challenge to improve their agricultural productivity, including mechanization, as well as the quality of their agricultural products.

"Promoting installation of Advanced Agricultural Technologies" was listed as one of the priority actions under the Agriculture Innovation Platform in Africa (AIPA)*¹ proposed at the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 7)*² in August 2019.

As a response, it was agreed to set up the Africa Field Innovation Center for Agricultural Technology (AFICAT)*³ with the aim of contributing to improving agricultural productivity and the quality of agricultural products. For the launch of a full-scale AFICAT in the future, this JICA data collection survey is run as a pilot activity in the five countries where Japanese companies are interested in expanding their businesses; Tanzania, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria, focusing on mainly the utilization of rice-related agricultural machinery.

In Nigeria, Honda Motor Co., Ltd. held a seminar for government officials and smallholder farmers in Lafia, Nasarawa State, and demonstrated how to use and maintain a small power tiller with an

actual machine. Participating farmers commented, "This will help reduce working hours," and expectations for the advancement of agricultural mechanization increased.

The necessary implementation structure for the full-scale operation of AFICAT will be proposed based on the knowledge obtained through this survey. AFICAT is expected to continue serving as a foothold for Japanese agriculture-related companies to expand their businesses into Africa. At the same time, it is also counted on to promote agricultural mechanization, enhance agricultural productivity, and improve the quality of agricultural products in African countries, utilizing Japanese products and technologies.



An online seminar in Tanzania for officials from the Tanzanian Ministry of Agriculture held by Kett Electric Laboratory Co., Ltd. Participants lively exchanged questions and opinions about the company's agricultural machinery and products. (Photo: Kaihatsu Management Consulting, Inc.)



A demonstration of a power tiller conducted by Honda Motor Co., Ltd. for local farmers and officials from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Nigeria (Photo: Kaihatsu Management Consulting, Inc.)

*¹ A concept that aims to strengthen and promote linkage among the three pillars of the agricultural sector, namely, productivity improvement, farmer empowerment, and high-value addition.

*² See "ODA Topics" on page 127 regarding TICAD.

*³ A framework established to introduce advanced agricultural technology and promote agricultural mechanization in African countries through public-private partnerships between Japan and Africa. It is expected to serve as a base for exhibitions and demonstrations of agricultural materials and equipment, as well as human resources development and innovation.

(2) Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JICA Volunteer Program)

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JICA Volunteer Program) started in 1965 and has a long record of success over half a century. More than 54,400 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 not only contributes to the economic and social development of developing countries and regions, but also promotes mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and



A community development volunteer belonging to W-SAT in Rwanda explaining the composition of water to local residents using a water quality testing kit (Photo: JICA)

Part
IV

1

Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships with Diverse Actors

Working to Build a Bridge of Happiness!

Belize



Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Participation with Incumbent Occupation) Category: Music (June 2015 – March 2017) Ms. MORI Mio (Kyoto Prefectural Board of Education)

The Toledo District, located in southern Belize, lacked teachers with specialized music education. I was assigned to Toledo Community College where I conducted music classes and provided technical guidance to fellow teachers. During my assignment, a colleague of mine who understood the importance of emotional education suggested, "Let's form a chorus club and participate in competitions! I want to build confidence in our students!" Approximately 15 students who expressed an interest in joining the club competed in a regional qualifier, and the club made it to the national competition. In addition, I organized workshops at five schools and events in three regions in order to spread Japanese culture, and more than 1,500 people in total enjoyed activities such as traditional Yosakoi dance and wearing casual-style kimono called yukata. Through the activities I engaged in as a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV), I learned that "the happiness of children and the community is something that transcends the boundaries of various positions and is created through everyone's cooperation."



The established chorus club competing in a regional qualifier (Photo: MORI Mio)

Currently, I am back working as a music teacher at a high school in Kameoka City, Japan. In addition to music classes, I work to connect high school students with Kameoka City Hall, universities, and private companies, and actively engage in planning and managing collaborative classes^{*1} on the SDGs.

While the world and society are changing rapidly, the environment surrounding Japanese students and the problems they face are also diverse. Under such circumstances, I believe that we can create new forms of happiness by collaborating not only with schools and teachers but also with



Japanese cultural event held in Punta Gorda, the place of assignment (Photo: MORI Mio)

people in various positions. I would like to work as a person who can create various connections by removing the "wall" between the school and the community, making use of my experiences from JOCV activities.

^{*1} Business entities, NPOs, and other organizations that are working to solve social issues conduct classes together with schools, utilizing their specialized knowledge and skills, in order to realize practical and real learning that cannot be offered by schools alone.

these countries and regions through the deepening of local people's affinity for Japan. 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 perspectives through the program contribute to the local 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 140 for the activities of a JOCV who participated in the program while retaining their job).

As for the response to COVID-19, after all volunteers returned to Japan at once in March 2020, the dispatch of JOCVs resumed in November of the same year, and volunteers had been dispatched to 61 countries by December 2022. The resurgence of COVID-19 cases caused difficulties for the planned dispatch of new JOCVs and the autumn recruitment for FY2021 was suspended. However, both spring and autumn recruitment for FY2022

have taken place, and JOCVs have been dispatched sequentially depending on the infection situation in the receiving countries. For example, in Rwanda, where JOCV activities have resumed, JOCVs are involved in the activities of the "Water Security Action Team (W-SAT)," which engages in initiatives to secure safe water, develop systems for maintenance and management of water supply facilities, and implement a wide range of activities related to water use. Volunteers also participate in activities related to coffee, which include providing technical instruction on coffee growing, enhancing marketing capabilities, and training the next generation of coffee growers.

(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. The Government of Japan 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 building of NGOs, and dialogues with NGOs (see also the MOFA website ¹⁰ for more information on international cooperation and NGOs).

A. Financial Cooperation for NGOs’ Projects

The Government of Japan cooperates in various ways to help 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



A local employee of NPO Love Green Japan explaining soil testing in Panchkhal City, Nepal (JICA Partnership Program)

through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. The grant covers a wide range of fields, such as health, medical care and sanitation, rural development, assistance for persons with disabilities, education, disaster risk reduction, and landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) disposal. In FY2021, 51 Japanese NGOs utilized this grant to implement 96 projects in 35 countries and 1 region, amounting to approximately ¥5.7 billion (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 107).

Cleaning Cities, Greening the Land, and Enriching Lives

Niger



Greening Activities with Organic Garbage in the Metropolitan Area of Niamey, Republic of Niger

JICA Partnership Program (Support Type) (September 2021 – September 2024)

In Niger, which is located on the southern edge of the Sahara Desert, desertification that devastates the land is severe, causing a decline in the production of agricultural and livestock products. It is a serious problem that leads directly to hunger and poverty for many citizens in Niger because more than 80% of the population is engaged in agriculture and livestock farming.

For the past 20 years, Professor OYAMA Shuichi of Kyoto University has been working with the Ministry of Environment and Anti-desertification of Niger and the local people to combat desertification and solve the problems of hunger and poverty. Based on a greening model backed by Dr. Oyama’s many years of research, this project carries out activities for greening degraded land using sorted and collected urban household waste. By dumping urban organic waste into degraded land, the sand that is blown in by monsoons accumulates and termite activity increases,



A boy on summer vacation taking care of livestock on a new pasture that was once degraded land (Photo: OYAMA Shuichi)



Dr. Oyama explaining the greening mechanism using urban waste to officials of the Ministry of Environment and Anti-desertification of Niger (Photo: JICA)

both of which improve the soil. Plastic bags mixed into waste act as plastic sheets for agriculture, preventing the evaporation of precious moisture in arid regions and helping plants grow.

So far, 36 blocks (21 hectares) of degraded land have been developed into grazing land, fields, and forests according to the wishes of the citizens. The increase in livestock grazing land and crop arable land has created jobs and led to cash income for citizens, and the expansion of green spaces has reduced conflicts between farmers and herders.

This project contributes to resolving various issues such as preventing desertification by greening degraded land, resolving urban waste problems, reducing poverty among local people, and bringing regional peace and stability.

¹⁰ https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page_000025.html

■ 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 FY2021, JPF implemented 94 projects under 20 programs, including Response to Iraq and Syria Humanitarian Crisis, Response to Afghanistan Humanitarian Crisis, Myanmar Displaced Persons Humanitarian Assistance, Humanitarian Assistance of Palestine/Gaza, Humanitarian Response to South Sudan Conflict, Humanitarian Response to Ethiopia Conflict, COVID-19 Emergency Response, Support for Victims of Cyclone Seroja, and Support for Victims of Typhoon Rai in the Philippines (see Part I for assistance related to Ukraine). As of December 2022, JPF has 45 member NGOs (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 124).

■ NGO Project Subsidies

NGO Project Subsidies is another form of financial support provided by the Government of Japan to Japanese NGOs. Three types of projects supported by the subsidies are; “research projects” that identify and formulate development cooperation projects and conduct post-project evaluations, “international cooperation-related projects in Japan” and “international cooperation-related projects based overseas,” which support holding and/or participating in training sessions and lectures in Japan and abroad with the aim of helping applicant NGOs expand and deepen their international cooperation activities. In FY2021, the Government of Japan provided NGO Project Subsidies to six Japanese NGOs, and supported project formulation surveys, conducting post-project evaluations, and holding/participating in seminars and workshops including those held online, in Japan or abroad.

■ JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

JICA Partnership Program (JPP) is a joint effort between JICA and Japanese NGO/Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), local public entities, universities, private companies, and other organizations to meet the diverse needs of developing countries. Applicant organizations propose international cooperation projects based on their accumulated knowledge and experience, while JICA commissions the project implementation to the applicant organizations (see the JICA website ¹¹ for information on program details among others). Through JPP, approximately 200 projects are implemented every year. The number of the countries implementing JPP has reached a cumulative total of approximately 90 (see also “Project Introduction Column” on page 141).

B. Support to Capacity Building 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 FY2021) 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 the younger generation, who can play an active role in Japanese NGOs for international cooperation in the future. A total of seven interns were accepted by NGOs through this program in FY2021.

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 FY2021, four people received training through this program.

■ NGO Study Group

The NGO Study Group hosted by MOFA aims to strengthen NGOs and their capacities. Appointed by MOFA, study groups organized by members of Japanese NGOs who are interested in some specific themes faced by NGOs conduct joint studies and research, seminars, workshops, symposiums, and other activities, and produce reports and recommend specific measures for improvement. In FY2021, the NGO Study Group activities were conducted on the following two themes: (i) “Study and Analysis of Global Trends in ‘Localization’ in International Cooperation and Examination of Issues and Possibilities for Promoting this Theme at Japanese International Cooperation NGOs,” and (ii) “Study and Research on Respect for Human Rights and Measures to Strengthen Capacity at NGOs in the Era of the SDGs.” The reports and outcomes of these activities are available on the MOFA website ¹² (in Japanese only).

¹¹ https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/citizen/partner.html

¹² https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/houkokusho/kenkyukai.html (in Japanese only)

Stories from the Field

Measures for Supporting the Aging Society through “Mutual Learning” between Thailand and Japan

—Multi-Organizational Collaboration Helps Spread Community-Led Care for the Elderly: Initiative of Yugawara Town and NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL (NGO)—



In Thailand, the aging of the population is progressing rapidly as indicated by the proportion of elderly people, which jumped from just over 10% in 2015 to over 14% in 2022. To respond adequately to this situation, it is important to revitalize elderly care initiatives at the community and local government levels, as it is not sufficient to only respond through improving national-level systems such as pension and elderly care insurance.

Yugawara Town in Kanagawa Prefecture is a town with many “healthy elderly people”: while the town has the highest aging rate in the prefecture, the needs for long-term care are relatively low. In 2019, Yugawara Town, which is actively engaged in international exchanges, signed a “Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Cooperation” in the areas of elderly welfare and tourism with the Municipality of Bueng Yitho, Thailand. In partnership with NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL, a Japanese NGO that has supported Thailand for many years in the field of welfare for the elderly, Yugawara Town assists Bueng Yitho Municipality in its efforts to revitalize elderly care that is rooted in the characteristics and needs of each community through mutual visits and online seminars.

Specifically, the Municipality of Bueng Yitho, in cooperation with Yugawara Town, NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL, Thammasat University in Thailand, and others, strives to provide comprehensive elderly care by developing daycare centers for the elderly, as well as by coordinating with home-based nursing care and private residential nursing care facilities. Whereas Yugawara Town provides advice based on its own welfare policies and the insight of relevant service providers in Yugawara Town on elderly care, NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL, making the most of its experience in supporting Thailand, promotes collaboration as an intermediary between local governments and universities in Japan and Thailand, based on its human networks and comprehension of the issues faced by Thai local governments. In this way, they provide assistance that maximizes their respective strengths as a local government and an NGO. In addition, through this



The signing ceremony for a network to promote comprehensive elderly care in Bueng Yitho. Nine local governments from Thailand including Bueng Yitho took part, along with Yugawara Town and others. (Photo: NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL)

project, various domestic and foreign organizations visit for studying and workshops at the municipal training center, established in Bueng Yitho for mutual learning about welfare for the elderly. This demonstrates that the center serves not only as a venue for mutual learning beyond national borders but also for exchange and learning among local residents in Thailand. Under the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative promoted by the Government of Japan, these initiatives won the Healthy Aging Prize for Asian Innovation (HAPI) Grand Prize*1 established by the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).

Mr. NAITO Yoshifumi, Executive Director of Yugawara Town, places an emphasis on cooperation among local governments, and says, “It is not that Yugawara Town teaches other local governments. Rather, we try to learn from each other in a flexible manner. Learning from one another about initiatives at the local government level also leads to building trust between us.” Based on the cooperative relationship built through these efforts, Yugawara Town has welcomed two Thai staff members, fluent in both Japanese and English, into the town’s tourist information center. These staff members, who are ready to serve foreign tourists, are expected to further promote international exchange in Yugawara Town and thus contribute to the continued development of the town’s tourism industry.

Since FY2022, Yugawara Town has been entrusted with a project under the JICA Partnership Program, and is working to spread the comprehensive elderly care implemented in the Municipality of Bueng Yitho to other local governments in Thailand. The addition of Yugawara Town to the local government network in Thailand has expanded the mutual learning network among municipalities in Thailand. With the continued cooperation of multiple organizations in Thailand and Japan, community-led elderly care is expected to spread even more widely throughout Thailand.



NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL staff conducting rehabilitation training in Thailand with Japanese experts connected online (Photo: NOGEZAKA-GLOCAL)

*1 Awarded to recognize innovative efforts (programs, services, products, and policies) that address the challenges facing aging societies in 14 Asian countries and regions, including Japan.

C. Dialogue with NGOs (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 FY2021 due to the impact of COVID-19. However, a subcommittee meeting, namely the “Partnership Promotion Committee,” was held twice in August 2021 and January 2022, and the “ODA Policy Council,” was held once in March 2022 (see the MOFA website ¹³ 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 FY2021, with participation of 36 organizations in the first meeting and 94 organizations in the second meeting (see the JICA website ¹⁴ 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 highly detailed and attentive manner. For this reason, the Government of Japan promotes 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 ¹⁵ (see “Stories from the Field” on page 143 for specific examples).

(5) Partnership with Universities and Educational Institutions

The Government of Japan strives to widely collaborate with universities from an intellectual perspective on the broader aspects of development cooperation, ranging from organizing development cooperation experiences into theories, putting them into further practice, and feeding back the lessons learned to the Japanese community in the form of teaching, taking into

account their roles in contributing to the development of developing countries, nurturing human resources in the field of international cooperation, and formulating and disseminating Japanese philosophies and theories of development cooperation. Japan indeed promotes projects including technical cooperation, yen loans, and the JICA Partnership Program (JPP) in collaboration with various universities.

To give an example, the Government of Japan accepts junior government officers of developing countries as international students at Japanese universities through the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) with the aim of nurturing advanced human resources who will be the drivers of socio-economic development in their home countries. To date, the number of universities accepting students has reached a cumulative total of 41, and the number of JDS fellows admitted to the master's or doctoral programs in Japan has exceeded 5,000. Moreover, Japan provides support to Thailand to establish and operate “Kosen schools (Colleges of Technology),” which are unique to the Japanese education system, 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 implements the ASEAN University Network/ Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net) Project,* as a JICA technical cooperation project to strengthen the network among the universities in Japan and ASEAN, promote collaboration with the industrial sector, and conduct joint research with neighboring countries (see also “Stories from the Field” on page 68).

In addition, MOFA and JICA implement the “Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program,” ¹⁶ 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 program (see “Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation, and Research and Development” on page 38 for the results, and “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 76 and 82 for cooperation in El Salvador and Mexico).

Above-mentioned partnerships with universities contribute to the advancement of the academic capabilities of developing countries for solving issues, as well as the globalization of Japanese universities where trainees from abroad receive training or conduct their research.

¹³ https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/taiwa/kyougikai.html (in Japanese only)

¹⁴ https://www.jica.go.jp/partner/ngo_meeting/index.html (in Japanese only)

¹⁵ 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)

¹⁶ See the glossary on page 41.



Glossary

Japan Platform (JPF)

An emergency humanitarian aid organization established in 2000 through a partnership among NGOs, the government, and the business community. JPF aims to support and coordinate 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, in the event of 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)

Established in 2001 as a university network comprising 26 top-ranking engineering universities in 10 ASEAN member countries and 14 partner universities from Japan. AUN/SEED-Net 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 supported mainly by the Government of Japan through JICA, with the cooperation of the governments and universities of Southeast Asia and Japanese universities.

(6) Partnership with Other Countries and International Organizations

A. Partnership for the G7 and G20 Development Issues

In May 2022, the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting was held in Berlin, and various issues in the areas of development were discussed. From Japan, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki attended. The G7 reconfirmed that the international community will cooperate in providing support standing in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and its neighboring countries. In addition, the Ministers discussed promoting quality infrastructure investment and addressing development finance issues, promoting effective and just energy transitions while respecting the ownership of each developing country, and promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. Then State Minister Suzuki introduced Japan's assistance, including its food assistance to Africa, and reaffirmed its support for quality growth focusing on Africa's potential. She also expressed Japan's determination to work toward development led by Africa itself during TICAD 8, which was to be held in August.

Then State Minister Suzuki also attended the Joint Working Session of the G7 Development and Health Ministers with then State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare Sato. At the Session, the Ministers discussed facilitating equitable and sustainable access to vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics in developing countries and strengthening pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response in developing countries. Japan pledged up to \$100 million in assistance, primarily to the Indo-Pacific region, to support the three pillars consisting of a vaccination data system, border control management with infection control measures in place, and infectious waste disposal in developing countries.

Prime Minister Kishida attended the G7 Elmau Summit in June 2022. In the Summit, international economic issues, including challenges regarding development

finance and the infrastructure financing gap, were discussed. Prime Minister Kishida stated that the debt issues of developing countries have become increasingly serious, and the G7 must come up with effective solutions to these issues. He also emphasized that it is important to enhance the implementation of the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment," which contain transparency, openness, economic efficiency in view of life-cycle cost, and debt sustainability, which all creditor nations must adhere to, and called on the attendees to further deepen the discussions. As a result of the discussions, the G7 agreed to aim to narrow the global infrastructure financing gap by mobilizing \$600 billion in the coming five years through the "Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment." The leaders also reaffirmed that the G7 will increase global food and nutrition security in response to the global food crisis brought about by Russia's aggression against Ukraine and, to that end, provide an additional \$4.5 billion.

As for the G20, the G20 Development Ministerial Meeting was held in Belitung, Indonesia, in September 2022, and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei attended. He condemned Russia's aggression against Ukraine and spoke about topics such as the implementation of the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment,"



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei giving a speech at the G20 Development Ministerial Meeting held in Belitung, Indonesia (September 2022)



Then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki giving a speech at the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting (May 2022)

ensuring the transparency and fairness of development finance, and the importance of adhering to international rules and standards. He also talked separately with the attendees of each G20 Member and reaffirmed collaboration with them in the field of development.

As for the G20 Bali Summit in October, Prime Minister Kishida attended from Japan. He strongly condemned Russia's aggression against Ukraine and stated that Russia's nuclear threat as well as its use were absolutely unacceptable. He also stated Japan's intention to further strengthen emergency assistance, including food assistance, to countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and others that are seriously affected by soaring food and energy prices. In addition, Prime Minister Kishida introduced that Japan has provided comprehensive assistance on a scale totaling \$5 billion for efforts in response to COVID-19 in developing countries and others, based on the concept of multilateralism. He also emphasized that we should not stop responding to the COVID-19 pandemic since it is not over yet. The G20 Bali Leaders' Declaration, which was issued at the end of the discussions, acknowledged the need for inclusive and quality infrastructure investment for stronger recovery and resilience and underscored the need to address the financing gap toward implementation of the 2030 Agenda, through enhancing innovative financing mechanisms while noting the importance of transparency and mutual accountability.

B. Dialogue with Major Donors

Japan holds dialogues with major donors to exchange views on priority issues and policies. In February 2022, a bilateral dialogue on development policy at the Director-General level between Japan and Germany was held, where both countries confirmed their close coordination in view of the G7 Presidencies, Germany in 2022 and Japan in 2023. They also exchanged views on the development cooperation policies of Japan and Germany, infrastructure development in developing countries, and global challenges, including measures to address climate change and responses to COVID-19.

In July, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki held a video conference with Minister of International Development of Canada Sajjan. Both sides exchanged views on cooperation in the international arena, including close cooperation among the G7 for issues such as assistance for Ukraine and food security. In addition, they shared views to accelerate the concrete cooperation of the "Shared Japan-Canada Priorities Contributing to a Free and Open Indo-Pacific" announced in the Japan-Canada Foreign Ministers' Meeting in May 2021.

In addition to the members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that are traditional actors in development cooperation, emerging countries such as China, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Brazil, and South Africa, have become more proactive in providing assistance to developing countries in recent years. Through such assistance, these emerging countries have come to gain considerable influence over development issues. By cooperating with other countries, including emerging countries, Japan provides assistance to emerging countries (triangular cooperation) that helps enhance the effectiveness of the assistance extended from emerging countries to developing countries (South-South cooperation) (see "Project Introduction Column" on page 119 for the cases of South-South cooperation (triangular cooperation)).

With regard to Japan-China relations, the Second Japan-China International Development Cooperation Policy Consultation was held in June 2021. Both countries exchanged views on various development issues and foreign aid from China.

The "Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC)" is a multi-stakeholder platform for driving the effectiveness and efficiency of development cooperation, bringing together not only donor countries but also a wide range of stakeholders, including developing countries, international organizations, private sectors, civil society, and local public entities for discussions. In December 2022, the Third High-Level Meeting of GPEDC was held, and the importance of its four effectiveness principles: Country Ownership, Focus on Results, Inclusive Partnerships, Transparency and Mutual Accountability, was reaffirmed.

C. Partnership with International Organizations

Japan promotes collaboration with international organizations to address various developmental and humanitarian issues. In May 2022, Prime Minister Kishida had a telephone talk with Director-General Tedros of the World Health Organization (WHO). In July, Executive Director Beasley of the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and Administrator Steiner of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) respectively visited Japan and paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Kishida. Then, in November, Prime Minister Kishida received a courtesy call from Executive Director Russel of the

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) during her visit to Japan. Foreign Minister Hayashi held a meeting with Executive Director Sands of the Global Fund, who visited Japan in April, with Commissioner General Lazzarini of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), who visited Japan in October, and with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Grandi, who visited Japan in November. In addition, in March, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki held a meeting with Chief Executive Officer Berkley of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, who was visiting Japan.

In addition, in order to facilitate assistance through partnerships with international organizations, Japan also holds dialogues with UN agencies and major international organizations. In 2022, Japan held regular policy dialogues with UNICEF, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), WFP, and others (see “Stories from the Field” on page 152 for Japanese personnel who work at UNFPA, and page 9 for Japanese personnel who work at international organizations).



Prime Minister Kishida receiving a courtesy call from Executive Director Russel of UNICEF (November 2022) (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

(1) Efforts for Information Disclosure and Promoting Public Understanding and Support

The Government of Japan makes various efforts for public relations and information dissemination regarding ODA.

A. Strengthening Public Relations and Information Dissemination

In today's globalized world, Japan and developing countries are in a relationship of supporting each other. Japan's ODA is of great significance as a critical effort by Japan to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world, including developing countries, and thereby secure Japan's national interests. Since ODA is funded by the taxes paid by the people of Japan, it is crucial to communicate the significance and efforts of development cooperation in an easy-to-understand manner, and to gain the understanding and support of a wide range of people in Japan. It is also important that Japan's efforts be properly understood overseas in order to enhance friendly bilateral relationships and Japan's credibility in the international community. From these perspectives, ODA public relations become increasingly important.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) makes efforts for more effective ODA public relations, in cooperation with JICA. MOFA focuses on publicizing its policies, using specific measures to reach young people and small and medium-sized enterprises in rural areas that do not have much contact with ODA. The measures include posts on ODA websites and social media, YouTube videos, ODA email newsletters, ODA-related videos, public relations events, and ODA Delivery Lectures in educational institutions in Japan. One example is "Go! ODA Man," an animated video series that introduces Japan's ODA efforts. Other recent examples include a TV drama focused on spreading awareness of the Maternal and Child Health Handbook, featuring TV personality and author Mr. MATAYOSHI Naoki, and streaming a

documentary video on the themes of safety and security of marine traffic, and quality infrastructure, with actor Mr. YOSHIHARA Mitsuo as a reporter. These publicity activities intend to communicate respective themes to the public in easier-to-understand and friendlier manners by featuring high-profile performers (see "ODA Topics" on page 149 for details). In addition, Japanese embassies in developing countries, etc. help local media to cover ODA project sites. Japan's national flag is displayed on donated equipment or facilities built by Japan to increase the visibility of Japan's cooperation. Furthermore, ambassadors and Consuls-General of Japan frequently post on Twitter and Instagram by themselves to enhance the understanding of local people about Japan's ODA.

In the White Paper on Development Cooperation published annually, MOFA works to make its contents easy and fun to read by including many photos and reports from the field, and strives to ensure transparency on the implementation status of ODA by including the relevant statistical data.

JICA also puts efforts into public relations through International Cooperation Delivery Lectures in which ex-Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) share their experiences as lecturers, as well as on-site ODA experience learning for officials of local public entities using its 15 offices across Japan.

As a joint public relations effort not only by MOFA and JICA but also by other parties involved in development cooperation in Japan, MOFA, together with JICA and the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC), holds one of the largest international cooperation events in Japan called "Global Festa JAPAN" every year around the time of International Cooperation Day (October 6). In 2022, in order to facilitate participation from overseas and various areas in Japan, the event was held in a hybrid format both in-person at the Tokyo International Forum and online on Saturday, October 1, and Sunday,



TV drama "The First Step: Sekai wo Tsunagu Ainoshirushi (Japanese only)," set in MOFA's International Cooperation Bureau and showing scenes of actual international cooperation



Top page of the MOFA's ODA Twitter account

ODA
Topics

6

ODA Public Relations

—In Order to Make ODA Feel Closer and More Familiar—

● Information dissemination about development cooperation

According to a public opinion survey*1 conducted by Japan's Cabinet Office in 2021, 87.4% 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. Aside from the growing public awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this positive public opinion about development cooperation in Japan shows the acknowledgment of Japanese people about how "No one is safe until everyone is safe" through the worldwide spread of COVID-19, as well as their broad understanding of the fact that the growth of developing countries will eventually have a favorable impact on the Japanese economy and the stability of their daily lives.

This column introduces MOFA's various initiatives for information dissemination and public policy communication on the significance of Japan's development cooperation.

● TV dramas/Documentaries

MOFA works on a new initiative to produce public relations contents that make use of high-profile performers in order to deliver its message to a broader range of the public.

One of the initiatives is the production of a TV drama, "The First Step: Sekai wo Tsunagu Ainoshirushi,"*2 with the cooperation of Yoshimoto Kogyo Co., Ltd. The drama takes place at MOFA's International Cooperation Bureau, as well as at actual international cooperation sites, and features TV personality and author Mr. MATAYOSHI Naoki. This drama transmits stories of love, hope, and courage through parent-child affections and the growth of characters, revolving around the Maternal and Child Health Handbook, which was introduced to the world through ODA.

MOFA also produced the documentary video, "Efforts for a free and open ocean,"*3 which closely covered scenes of ODA related to the ocean, with actor Mr. YOSHIIHARA Mitsuo acting as a reporter. Bearing in mind the diplomatically important concept of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)," this video vividly shows various forms of Japanese cooperation in the safety and security of marine traffic, including the preparation of nautical charts by the Japan Coast Guard, support for capacity development related to Vessel Traffic Service (VTS), and to law enforcement/rescue operations at sea, as well as Japan's support for quality infrastructure in coastal development to achieve connectivity.



The documentary video, "Efforts for a free and open ocean," which closely covers scenes of ODA related to the ocean

● Go! ODA-Man

ODA-Man, who has marked its fifth year as MOFA's ODA PR character (see also "Strengthening Public Relations and Information Dissemination" on page 148), has also released a variety of videos*4 to inform people about the contribution of Japan's ODA to the world. These videos are well-received. In 2022, seizing the opportunity of the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8), ODA-Man released three videos about Japanese development cooperation for Africa: "ODA for Africa's Rice Cultivation," "ODA for ICT Development in Africa," and "ODA for the Grand Egyptian Museum."



Go! ODA-Man

● Global Festa JAPAN 2022

In October 2022, the international cooperation event Global Festa JAPAN 2022*5 was organized. At this 31st Global Festa JAPAN, under the theme of "Connecting the world. Creating the future together. Everyone participating in international cooperation," the number of participating organizations was more than doubled from the previous year so that a greater number of people would learn about countries and regions, with extensive exhibition booths, including through securing space, particularly for foreign missions in Japan, as well as allowing the booths to sell products.

At the Global Festa, MOFA sponsored stage programs on the theme of utilizing ODA for the overseas expansion of small and medium-sized enterprises, which usually do not come into much contact with ODA, and held panel discussions on the theme of the participation of the younger generation in future international cooperation. MOFA also held an award presentation ceremony for its photo contest, which has become customary. There was a record number of 256 entries for the 2022 photo contest, in which professional photographer Mr. AOKI Hiroshi together with 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*6 on the ODA website.

*1 The FY2021 Public Opinion Survey on Diplomacy took place from September to November 2021. 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/r03/r03-gaiko/index.html> (in Japanese only)).

*2 https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/sanka/page22_001443.html (in Japanese only)

*3 https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/sanka/page22_001603.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/page24_000157.html (in Japanese only)

*6 https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/press/event/page23_001348.html (in Japanese only)



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Ms. Yoshikawa greeting an audience

October 2, with approximately 22,000 participants, exceeding the previous year.

As a result of these efforts, despite the impact of COVID-19, public response to various public relations tools has steadily increased, as shown by the number of participants in Global Festa JAPAN, the number of ODA Delivery Lectures, and the number of views of posted ODA-related videos. Japan continuously promotes efforts to strengthen public relations even further.

B. Information Disclosure on Implementation and Evaluation of ODA

The Government of Japan set up the “ODA Mieruka Site”¹⁷ (a website for visualization of ODA) on the JICA website, and posts ODA project summaries, results and ex-ante/ex-post evaluations, and other related information.

Likewise, the MOFA website publishes the results of policy and program level ODA evaluations¹⁸ and other related information, in addition to new ODA projects, and statistical materials, in order to promote more effective implementation and public understanding and support for 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. Over the past seven years, a total of 190 ODA Delivery Lectures were held with the participation of approximately 20,000 students and others. JICA also promotes cooperation with ex-JOCVs and local boards of education, and holds International Cooperation Delivery Lectures by JICA trainees staying in Japan. In FY2021, approximately 1,800 lectures were held and attended by approximately 150,000 participants, which exceeded the previous fiscal year. Other efforts to promote understanding and participation in international cooperation include “Visit JICA,” in which students can

visit JICA offices in Japan, and the “JICA Essay Contest on International Cooperation for Junior and Senior High School Students.” JICA also runs the exhibition facility “JICA Global Plaza.”

D. Promotion of Discussion and Dialogue

The Government of Japan holds information sessions for NGOs, companies, business associations, and others on how to utilize ODA in respective activities. In addition, the Government of Japan provides opportunities for dialogue with the public interested in diplomacy and ODA, including by holding lectures on international trends and Japan’s efforts in international cooperation.

(2) Enhancing 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. To this end, in collaboration with universities and Japan offices of international organizations, MOFA actively recruits, trains and supports Japanese nationals who can play active roles on the global stage.¹⁹ Based on the recommendations made by the Advisory Board for ODA to “foster global human resources, including those responsible for development cooperation,” the government holds seminars in and outside of Japan to explain the recruitment system of international organizations for students at secondary and higher educational institutions and persons already employed. Recently, seminars are mainly conducted online, which enables incumbent Japanese UN staff to remotely participate and share their experiences with specific examples. The government also produces YouTube videos and holds seminars featuring senior officials or human resource experts from international organizations, among other efforts.

Moreover, the Government of Japan offers the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, striving to nurture human resources to be active in international organizations, including in the area of international development cooperation (see page 9 for the



ODA Delivery Lecture given by a MOFA official

¹⁷ ODA Mieruka Site: <https://www.jica.go.jp/oda/> (in Japanese only)

¹⁸ ODA evaluations: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/index.html>

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.



Ms. YAMAGUCHI Kaho, Emergency and Stabilization Programme Officer of IOM, a Japanese staff member working for IOM Kenya Country Office since 2020 under the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, packing leaf mold in the assistance project to enhance agricultural resilience against drought for local residents in Turkana County, Kenya (Photo: IOM)

activities of a Japanese staff member at international organizations, and “Stories from the Field” on page 152 for a career introduction of a staff member of an international organization after working as a JPO). MOFA has dispatched a cumulative total of over 1,900 JPOs, 56 of whom were sent in FY2021. In addition, MOFA implements the “Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development”²⁰ (see “Human Resources Development

for Peacebuilding and Development” on page 49 for details).

Through the Participatory Network for Expert Recruitment (PARTNER)²¹ website, JICA centrally distributes information on international cooperation (such as recruitment and various training and seminar opportunities) led 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.

The JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development²² 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 to the development of human resources.

²⁰ Program for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development: https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/peace_b/j_ikusei_shokai.html (in Japanese only)

²¹ International Cooperation Career Information Website “PARTNER”: <https://partner.jica.go.jp/> (in Japanese only)

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.



Stories from the Field

Voices of Japanese Personnel Working in International Organizations

—Supporting Socially Vulnerable People in Viet Nam—

“I want to work across different countries” and “I want to study abroad.” Those were my vague thoughts when I was a junior high school student who was raised being told that “women do not need to go to university,” in a rural Japanese town where traditional ideas persisted.

With the understanding and support of my parents for advancing to higher education, I entered Yokohama City University and majored in International Relations. While there was opposition to my plan, with people saying “What will you do after studying abroad?” I was determined to go, and graduated from the Department of Political Science at Indiana University in the United States. Afterwards, I received a scholarship from the Institute of Developing Economies Advanced School (IDEAS) in Japan and obtained an MSc in Demography from the London School of Economics. Later, I also obtained an MBA from the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom to further improve my skills.

My career at the UN started as the Junior Professional Officer (JPO)*¹ at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Zambia. At that time, I was still young at 26 years old. During the JPO interview, I was asked, “What can you offer to the UN without work experience?” I remember that I responded, “Inexperience and freshness are my value.” I now regret that I was young enough to have a smart mouth. After that, I was employed as a regular staff member of UNFPA and worked at the Headquarters in New York. After serving as the Deputy Representative in South Africa, and as the Representative in Mongolia, I am currently the UNFPA Representative in Viet Nam. My career and experience include secondment to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Mozambique and UNDP Malawi as Deputy Resident Representative, and being in charge of peacebuilding and the Democratic Republic of the Congo at JICA.

Working in Viet Nam is nothing but happiness for me. Under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the UN and with the slogan “Leave No One Behind” as our



The author holding a baby at an obstetrics and gynecology clinic supported by UNFPA in an ethnic minority area

motto, my job is to protect socially vulnerable people who tend to be left behind in the process of national growth. For example, there are many cases in Viet Nam where pregnant women who live in minority ethnic areas end up dying from childbirth at home without having pre-natal checkups and appropriate medical care due to a lack of access to hospitals. Furthermore, domestic violence against women is a serious issue in Viet Nam, where the male-dominated society is deeply rooted. Elderly people are also vulnerable and often live in poverty because of weak social protection systems. We listen to the views of such vulnerable people and provide financial and technical support, while receiving funding from the Government of Japan in recent years. Furthermore, utilizing the neutral position of the UN, we propose policy recommendations based on international perspectives and evidence, and are closely involved in national decision-making processes to assist the Government of Viet Nam in adopting the appropriate policies.

The UN has many highly qualified and experienced professionals. I am who I am today thanks to the support of my seniors and other colleagues. In addition, the UN offers a good welfare program and understands and promotes pursuing one's career while parenting, so that the staff can achieve a good work-life balance.

Under the recent unstable state of the world, I feel that the expectations from international society for Japan as a developed country in Asia are increasing day by day. Now that we have an easy access to the world, I sincerely hope that the younger generation of Japan will take an interest in foreign countries and venture out into the world.

KITAHARA Naomi
UNFPA Representative, Viet Nam



Public announcement of the opening of a domestic violence victim hotline supported by the Government of Japan set up in front of the UN building in Viet Nam

*1 See page 150 for details on JPOs.

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 and 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.

The Government of Japan has made various efforts to take lessons from these experiences for the future, such as improving evaluation systems, enhancing transparency, improving project management processes, and holding 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.

In order to implement projects with due consideration for environmental and social aspects, JICA has established the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Consideration as a part of its efforts to ensure the appropriateness of its development cooperation. In 2022, JICA revised the Guidelines based on the response of the international community to the threats of climate change and efforts to improve the quality of environmental and social considerations.

(1) Prevention of Fraudulent Practices

Fraudulent practices related to ODA projects not only hinder their appropriate and effective implementation, but also undermine trust in ODA that is funded by the taxes paid by the people of Japan. Therefore, fraudulent practices are absolutely unacceptable.

Based on lessons learned from past fraudulent practices, MOFA and JICA have strengthened efforts to prevent those practices. These include enhancing monitoring systems (such as "strengthening the function of the consultation desk for information related to fraud and 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 remains firmly committed to the prevention of fraudulent practices in ODA with 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 employees of companies and members of NGOs, is a prerequisite for the implementation of development cooperation centered on ODA projects. In 2022, the relaxation and removal of border measures and movement restrictions against COVID-19 progressed worldwide. MOFA and JICA remained vigilant even in these circumstances and continued to conduct appropriate risk assessments and take appropriate measures to prevent infections or the spread of infections during overseas travel, striving to ensure the safety of the people involved in international cooperation projects, including Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), and making every effort to facilitate their projects.

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 make 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



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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 structures of MOFA and JICA.

become permanent after the Final Report and the Council in 2022 discussed the safety measures for the people involved in international cooperation projects in light of the recent changes in the global situation, including the terrorism and security situation.

As the risk of terrorism remains serious even amid the COVID-19 pandemic, MOFA enhanced the contents of “Golgo 13’s Security Guidelines for Japanese SMEs Abroad (in Japanese only)” series in April 2022, which has been utilized to strengthen safety measures of Japanese citizens, including those involved in international cooperation projects, by releasing additional episodes and commentary videos on how to tackle “multiple risks” such as terrorism amid an infectious disease pandemic. Since October 2022, MOFA has started the distribution of educational messages and useful knowledge regarding safety measures in collaboration with the Golgo 13 series as “Message from Duke Togo” on the LINE messaging platform.

(3) Enhancing Management and Ensuring Accountability of ODA

In order to enhance management and ensure the accountability of ODA, Japan has taken the following measures: (i) enhancing the PDCA cycle (project formation (Plan), implementation (Do), evaluation (Check), follow-up activities (Act)), (ii) strengthening program approaches, 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

The ODA evaluations by third parties are conducted both from “development viewpoints,” which determine whether ODA is contributing to the recipient country’s development, and from “diplomatic viewpoints,” which determine what favorable impacts ODA has on Japan’s national interests.

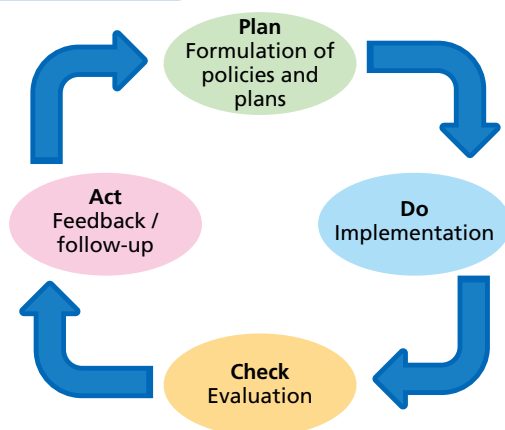
Evaluations from “development viewpoints” are conducted based on three evaluation criteria, namely, whether the ODA policies are consistent with Japan’s high-level policies, global priority issues, and the needs of the recipient countries (Relevance of Policies), what effects Japan’s ODA has in practice (Effectiveness of Results), and whether appropriate processes had been taken to ensure the Relevance of Policies and Effectiveness of 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).

In view of the plan to formulate a new Development Cooperation Charter during the first half of 2023, MOFA conducted the “Review of Japan’s ODA Evaluations from FY2015 to FY2021” in 2022 by reviewing past ODA evaluation reports in line with the main items of the Development Cooperation Charter, with the aim of providing recommendations for future ODA policies, issues to be considered for their implementation, and new perspectives to be included.

MOFA publishes the evaluation results on its website²⁷ to fulfill public accountability and to gain public understanding and support for ODA by enhancing the transparency of ODA.

JICA also conducts evaluations on respective projects of grant aid, loan aid, and technical cooperation, as well as thematic evaluations. JICA conducts consistent ex-ante,

Chart IV-3 PDCA Cycle



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, etc. “Incomplete projects” are projects for which loan disbursements have not been completed after 10 years have elapsed following the decision to implement the project, etc.)

²⁶ In addition to policy-level ODA evaluations (third-party evaluations), regarding grant aid implemented by MOFA, internal evaluations are carried out for projects in which the maximum amount of aid offered through an E/N is ¥200 million or more, and third-party evaluations are carried out for projects of ¥1 billion or more since FY2017. The results of these evaluations are publicized and utilized to improve the formation of future ODA projects.

²⁷ <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/index.html>

implementation, and ex-post evaluation for each project and establishes 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. JICA also strives to enhance impact evaluations,²⁸ recognizing the importance of quantitative examination of the effects of their projects.

The ODA evaluations conducted by MOFA and JICA are 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 DAC adopted the “DAC Recommendation on Ending Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance.”

In response to such movements, MOFA conducts

awareness raising activities such as training for its staff. It also posts the summaries of Japan’s basic position and the DAC Recommendation on the MOFA website³⁰ to promote public understanding.

JICA raises awareness of the importance of SEAH prevention among a wide range of relevant parties involved in JICA projects by posting a message from the president about eradicating SEAH on its website,³¹ 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.

The eradication of SEAH was one of the agenda items at the Partnership Promotion Committee Meeting of the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings, which were held in August 2021 and January 2022. In response, MOFA took measures such as incorporating SEAH prevention into the implementation guidelines for the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects in FY2022, and continuously considers specific measures in collaboration with relevant parties in Japan.

In December 2021, a joint letter to the UN 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.

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.

³⁰ https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/about/doukou/page24_000019.html (in Japanese only)

³¹ https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/compliance/seah_eradication.html

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1 FY2022 ODA Budget (Initial Budget)

(1) ODA Budget

(Units: ¥100 million, %)

Category	FY2021			FY2022		
	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	5,680	69	1.2	5,612	-68	-1.2
Project budget (net)	17,357	1,670	10.6	15,736	-1,621	-9.3
Scale of projects (gross)	24,124	1,424	6.3	22,890	-1,234	-5.1
JP¥ exchange rate against US\$	¥108			¥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	FY2021			FY2022		
	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	5,209	65	1.3	5,141	-69	-1.3
1. Bilateral grants	4,192	-3	-0.1	4,124	-68	-1.6
(1) Economic development assistance, etc.	1,632	—	—	1,633	1	0.1
(2) Technical cooperation	2,550	-1	-0.0	2,481	-69	-2.7
(3) Others	10	-2	-16.7	10	—	—
2. Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	1,017	68	7.2	1,017	-1	-0.1
(1) UN and other international organizations	711	67	10.4	713	2	0.3
(2) Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)	306	1	0.4	303	-3	-0.9
II Loans	470	4	0.9	471	1	0.1
JICA (Finance and Investment Account)	470	4	0.9	471	1	0.1
III Total	5,680	69	1.2	5,612	-68	-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	FY2021			FY2022		
	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	9,053	449	5.2	8,623	-430	-4.7
1. Bilateral grants	4,860	-30	-0.6	4,777	-83	-1.7
(1) Economic development assistance, etc.	1,632	—	—	1,633	1	0.1
(2) Technical cooperation	3,218	-28	-0.9	3,134	-84	-2.6
(3) Others	10	-2	-16.7	10	—	—
2. Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions	4,192	478	12.9	3,846	-347	-8.3
(1) UN and other international organizations	1,160	98	9.2	1,163	2	0.2
(2) MDBs	3,032	381	14.4	2,683	-349	-11.5
II Loans	15,071	975	6.9	14,268	-804	-5.3
(1) JICA (Finance and Investment Account)	15,000	1,000	7.1	14,200	-800	-5.3
(2) Others	71	-25	-25.8	68	-4	-5.2
III Total (project scale)	24,124	1,424	6.3	22,890	-1,234	-5.1
(Reference) Amount recovered	-6,767	—	—	-7,154	—	—
Net	17,357	1,670	10.6	15,736	-1,621	-9.3

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

FY2021 project budget				FY2022 project budget			
Gross ¥2.4124 trillion (6.3% increase)				Gross ¥2.2890 trillion (5.1% decrease)			
Expenditure by type of assistance		Budgetary sources		Budgetary sources		Expenditure by type of assistance	
Grant aid 163.2 billion (same as previous year)		General account 568.0 billion (1.2% increase)	MOFA 449.8 billion (1.6% increase)	General account 561.2 billion (1.2% decrease)	MOFA 442.8 billion (1.6% decrease)	Grant aid 163.3 billion (0.1% increase)	
Technical cooperation 321.8 billion (0.9% decrease)						Technical cooperation 313.4 billion (2.6% decrease)	
Others 1.0 billion (16.7% decrease)						Others 1.0 billion (same as previous year)	
UN and other international organizations (Contributions) 116.0 billion (9.2% increase)			Total for 12 ODA-related ministries and agencies 118.2 billion (0.0% increase)			Total for 11 ODA-related ministries and agencies 118.3 billion (0.2% increase)	UN and other international organizations (Contributions) 116.3 billion (0.2% increase)
MDBs (Contributions/issuance of government bonds for contributions) 303.2 billion (14.4% increase)		Special account 1.0 billion (0.3% decrease)	Special account 1.0 billion (0.7% increase)	MDBs (Contributions/issuance of government bonds for contributions) 268.3 billion (11.5% decrease)			
Loan 1.5071 trillion (6.9% increase)		Subscriptions/ issuance of government bonds for contributions 316.9 billion (14.9% increase)	Subscriptions/ issuance of government bonds for contributions 282.3 billion (10.9% decrease)	Loan 1.4268 trillion (5.3% decrease)			
		Fiscal Investment and Loan Program, etc. 1.5265 trillion (6.6% increase)	Fiscal Investment and Loan Program, etc. 1.4446 trillion (5.4% decrease)				
Net ¥1.7357 trillion (10.6% increase) Amounts recovered ¥676.7 billion				Net ¥1.5736 trillion (9.3% decrease) Amounts recovered ¥715.4 billion			

Note: Each figure has been rounded to the nearest ¥100 million.

(5) ODA Budget Changes by Each Ministry and Agency (General Account)

(Units: ¥ million, %)

Category	FY2021	FY2022		
	Budget amount	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
Cabinet Office	19	—	—	—
National Police Agency	19	18	-0	-1.5
Financial Services Agency	189	191	3	1.5
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	819	842	23	2.8
Ministry of Justice	357	368	11	3.1
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	449,798	442,821	-6,977	-1.6
Ministry of Finance	78,023	77,814	-209	-0.3
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	17,119	17,561	442	2.6
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	6,229	6,292	63	1.0
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	2,599	2,554	-45	-1.7
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	11,978	11,902	-76	-0.6
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	315	310	-5	-1.6
Ministry of the Environment	492	492	-0	-0.0
Total	567,955	561,164	-6,790	-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	FY2021	FY2022		
	Budget amount	Budget amount	Amount change from previous year	Percentage change from previous year
Cabinet Office	19	—	—	—
National Police Agency	19	18	-0	-1.5
Financial Services Agency	189	191	3	1.5
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	819	842	23	2.8
Ministry of Justice	357	368	11	3.1
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	494,058	487,081	-6,977	-1.4
Ministry of Finance	1,870,030	1,753,624	-116,406	-6.2
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	17,119	17,561	442	2.6
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	6,620	6,661	41	0.6
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	9,736	9,319	-417	-4.3
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	12,621	12,573	-48	-0.4
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	315	310	-5	-1.6
Ministry of the Environment	492	492	-0	-0.0
Total (project scale)	2,412,393	2,289,040	-123,352	-5.1
(Reference) Amount recovered	-676,715	-715,438	—	—
Net	1,735,678	1,573,602	-162,075	-9.3

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 2021

(1) Official Development Assistance by Type of Assistance and Currency (2021)

2021 (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		1,164.70	1,290.78	-9.8	1,278.44	1,378.07	-7.2
	Debt relief		—	—	—	—	—	—
	Grants through multilateral institutions, etc.		2,095.70	1,793.62	16.8	2,300.35	1,914.92	20.1
	Technical cooperation		2,425.63	2,405.31	0.8	2,662.50	2,567.97	3.7
	Total grants		5,686.03	5,489.72	3.6	6,241.29	5,860.96	6.5
	Government loans, etc.		12,126.28	11,417.36	6.2	13,310.45	12,189.44	9.2
	(Amount disbursed: Gross disbursement)							
	(Amount recovered)		6,186.94	6,643.84	-6.9	6,791.11	7,093.12	-4.3
	(Amount recovered excluding debt relief)		6,186.94	6,643.84	-6.9	6,791.11	7,093.12	-4.3
	(Net disbursement)		5,939.34	4,773.52	24.4	6,519.33	5,096.32	27.9
	(Net disbursement excluding debt relief)		5,939.34	4,773.52	24.4	6,519.33	5,096.32	27.9
	Total bilateral ODA (Gross disbursement basis)		17,812.31	16,907.08	5.4	19,551.74	18,050.40	8.3
	Total bilateral ODA (Net disbursement basis)		11,625.37	10,263.24	13.3	12,760.62	10,957.28	16.5
	Grants to multilateral institutions		3,474.15	2,503.71	38.8	3,813.41	2,673.03	42.7
	Government loans, etc. to multilateral institutions (Amount disbursed)		670.53	913.24	-26.6	736.01	975.00	-24.5
	Total of contributions and subscriptions to multilateral institutions		4,144.68	3,416.96	21.3	4,549.42	3,648.03	24.7
	Total ODA (Gross disbursement)		21,956.99	20,324.03	8.0	24,101.16	21,698.43	11.1
	Total ODA (Net disbursement)		15,770.05	13,680.19	15.3	17,310.05	14,605.30	18.5
	Nominal Gross National Income (GNI) (US\$ billion, ¥ billion)		5,127.65	5,223.48	-1.8	562,838.40	557,671.60	0.9
	% of GNI (Net disbursement basis)		0.31	0.26		0.31	0.26	

Notes:

- Conversion rate: 2020 US\$1 = ¥106.7624, 2021 US\$1 = ¥109.7653 (exchange rates are specified by the OECD-DAC).
- "Grant aid" here is not the same as grant aid implemented as Japan's aid scheme.
- Including assistance for the graduated countries designated as "developing areas."

(2) Distribution of Bilateral ODA by Sector (2021)

2021 (calendar year)

(Commitment basis, Unit: US\$ million)

Sector	Type	Grant aid	Technical cooperation	Total grants	Government loans, etc.	Bilateral ODA	
							(Share, %)
I. Social infrastructure & services		1,730.55	573.27	2,303.82	1,981.93	4,285.76	27.81
1. Education		199.11	299.47	498.58	—	498.58	3.24
2. Health		942.63	99.40	1,042.04	722.08	1,764.12	11.45
3. Population policies and reproductive health		16.52	14.96	31.48	—	31.48	0.20
4. Water and sanitation (water and sewerage)		161.20	64.54	225.74	986.54	1,212.29	7.87
5. Government and civil society		270.79	39.72	310.51	—	310.51	2.02
6. Other social infrastructure & services		140.30	55.19	195.48	273.31	468.79	3.04
II. Economic infrastructure & services		375.94	206.50	582.44	4,929.54	5,511.98	35.77
1. Transport and storage		317.19	135.18	452.37	2,877.13	3,329.50	21.61
2. Communications		3.33	18.44	21.77	—	21.77	0.14
3. Energy		49.64	26.87	76.51	2,004.24	2,080.74	13.50
4. Banking and financial services		4.14	7.65	11.79	48.17	59.96	0.39
5. Business support		1.64	18.37	20.01	—	20.01	0.13
III. Production sectors		112.12	275.35	387.47	911.79	1,299.26	8.43
1. Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries		87.56	146.65	234.21	168.28	402.49	2.61
1) Agriculture		57.46	111.42	168.88	168.28	337.16	2.19
2) Forestry		2.74	24.53	27.28	—	27.28	0.18
3) Fisheries		27.36	10.70	38.06	—	38.06	0.25
2. Manufacturing, mining, and construction		17.90	87.54	105.44	743.51	848.95	5.51
1) Manufacturing		15.62	85.25	100.88	743.51	844.39	5.48
2) Mining		—	2.28	2.28	—	2.28	0.01
3) Construction		2.28	—	2.28	—	2.28	0.01
3. Trade and tourism		6.66	41.16	47.82	—	47.82	0.31
1) Trade		6.10	34.81	40.91	—	40.91	0.27
2) Tourism		0.56	6.35	6.91	—	6.91	0.04
IV. Multi-sector aid		539.31	587.43	1,126.74	158.95	1,285.70	8.34
1. General environmental protection (environmental policy, biodiversity, etc.)		27.34	17.99	45.34	—	45.34	0.29
2. Other multi-sector (urban/rural development, etc.)		511.97	569.43	1,081.41	158.95	1,240.36	8.05
V. Commodity aid and general program assistance		76.07	—	76.07	1,199.12	1,275.19	8.28
1. General budget support		9.11	—	9.11	1,199.12	1,208.23	7.84
2. Food aid		66.37	—	66.37	—	66.37	0.43
3. Import support		0.59	—	0.59	—	0.59	0.00
VI. Debt relief* ¹		—	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Humanitarian aid (emergency food assistance, reconstruction, disaster risk reduction, etc.)		487.48	7.50	494.98	455.52	950.50	6.17
VIII. Administrative costs and others		10.36	790.92	801.28	—	801.28	5.20
Total		3,331.83	2,440.98	5,772.81	9,636.85	15,409.66	100.00
BHN (I.+III.1+V.2+VII.)		2,371.96	727.43	3,099.39	2,605.73	5,705.12	37.02

Notes:

- The total figure may not be the same as the figure when calculated by adding up due to rounding off.

- 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 how the OECD DAC measures and collects data.

*1 "VI. Debt relief" does not mean granting new funds but rather modifying repayments and other conditions of loans already provided by the government.

List of Japan's Assistance Related to Ukraine: March – December 2022

March	
11th	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): \$25.6 million Shelter, Non-Food Items, Protection of Displaced Persons
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC): \$15.1 million Health and Medical Care, Non-Food Items, Water and Habitat, Protection of Displaced Persons
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): \$14.2 million Child Protection, Health and Medical Care, Water and Sanitation, Education
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance United Nations World Food Programme (WFP): \$14 million Food, Logistics
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance International Organization for Migration (IOM): \$12 million Shelter, Non-Food Items, Health and Medical Care
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA): \$5 million Inter-agency Coordination, Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF)
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Through Japan Platform (JPF) (Japanese NGOs): \$14.1 million Health and Medical Care, Food, Non-Food Items, Water and Sanitation, Shelter, Protection of Displaced Persons
	19th Dispatch of the Needs Assessment Survey Team to Moldova to Assess the Needs for Humanitarian and Medical Assistance for Displaced Ukrainians (JICA)
8th–	Grant of Japan Self-Defense Forces Equipment and Goods to Ukraine *Assistance based on the Self-Defense Forces Law
April	
1st	Material Assistance for Afflicted People of Ukraine *Assistance based on the International Peace Cooperation Act
5th	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance UNHCR: \$14.5 million Non-Food Items, Temporary Evacuation Shelter, Protection (Safe movement of displaced people, improving protection of women and children)
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance WFP: \$14 million Food
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance UNICEF: \$10 million Child Protection, Health and Medical Care, Nutrition, Education
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance ICRC: \$10 million Health and Medical Care, Non-Food Items, Water and Habitat, Protection of Displaced Persons, Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Disposal
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance World Health Organization (WHO): \$9.5 million Health and Medical Care (Provision of Medicine, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Medical Equipment, etc.)
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC): \$8 million Health and Medical Care, Water and Sanitation, Evacuation Assistance
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance IOM: \$8 million Health and Medical Care, Protection (Counter-Trafficking, Data Analysis on Internal Displacement, Humanitarian Border Management, Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, etc.), Water and Sanitation
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): \$4.5 million Protection (Emergency Debris Removal, Mine Action, etc.)
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Through JPF (Japanese NGOs): \$18.5 million Health and Medical Care, Food, Non-Food Items, Water and Sanitation, Temporary Evacuation Shelter, Protection (Psychosocial Support), Education
	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO): \$3 million Restoration of Agricultural Production (Planting in agricultural land, etc.)

5th	Dispatch of the Needs Assessment Survey Team (the second Survey Team) to Moldova to Assess the Needs for Humanitarian and Medical Assistance for Displaced Ukrainians (JICA)
28th	Loan Aid "Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan" (co-financing with the World Bank): ¥13 billion (\$100 million)
	Grant Aid "Economic and Social Development Program": ¥300 million Provision of health and medical equipment such as endoscopes, enhancement of the health and medical system
	International Peace Cooperation Operation for the Relief of Afflicted People of Ukraine *Assistance based on the International Peace Cooperation Act
May	
12th	Assistance in providing food and other items at the request of the Government of Ukraine Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
16th	Dispatch of the Needs Assessment Survey Team (the third Survey Team) to Moldova to Assess the Needs for Humanitarian and Medical Assistance for Displaced Ukrainians (JICA)
26th	Provision of wireless portable ultrasound devices to Moldova (JICA technical cooperation)
27th	Emergency Grant Aid for the Transportation of Relief Products for Ukraine United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS): \$1.66 million Provision of firefighting/rescue materials and equipment, and communication devices with the cooperation of the Japanese fire service departments and private sector organizations/enterprises (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)
June	
7th	Loan Aid "Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan": ¥65 billion (\$500 million) Additional Support to Ukraine for Its Emergency Economic Recovery (policy loan)
29th–	"Capacity Development for Municipal Waste Management" Holding online seminars intended to share Japan's knowledge and experience in destruction waste management (JICA technical cooperation)
July	
5th	Food assistance and capacity building for countries facing food shortages: ¥5.087 billion (approximately \$47.1 million) Bilateral food assistance and capacity building for food production
	Food assistance and capacity building for countries facing food shortages WFP: ¥3.903 billion (approximately \$36.14 million) Food assistance and capacity building for food production
	Food assistance and capacity building for countries facing food shortages FAO: ¥2.130 billion (approximately \$19.72 million) Capacity building for food production
	Emergency food assistance and support to promote grain exports from Ukraine WFP: \$68 million Emergency food and nutrition assistance
	Emergency food assistance and support to promote grain exports from Ukraine United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA): \$5 million Emergency food assistance
	Emergency food assistance and support to promote grain exports from Ukraine FAO: \$17 million Support to promote grain exports through expanding supplemental grain storage capacity in Ukraine
	Emergency food assistance and support to promote grain exports from Ukraine Through JPF (Japanese NGOs): \$10 million Emergency food assistance
September	
16th	Provision of portable ultrasound devices to Moldova (JICA technical cooperation)
30th	Provision of neonatal ventilators to Moldova (JICA technical cooperation)
30th	Data collection survey for cooperation in taking countermeasures against landmines and UXOs in Ukraine (JICA)
November	
11th	Emergency Grant Aid WFP: \$14 million Food assistance in Somalia utilizing Ukrainian wheat
22nd	Emergency Grant Aid for Winterization Assistance in Ukraine UNHCR: \$2.57 million Provision of generators and solar lanterns
December	
2nd	MOFA FY2022 supplementary budget: Support for Ukraine and its neighboring countries: ¥60 billion
2nd	MOFA FY2022 supplementary budget: Support for developing countries in Asia, Island Countries, the Middle East, Africa, and other regions: ¥102.2 billion

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