

## 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”<sup>35</sup> adopted at the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto Congress)<sup>36</sup> 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)

<sup>35</sup> 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.

<sup>36</sup> 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\*<sup>1</sup> 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),<sup>37</sup> 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)

<sup>37</sup> 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).<sup>\*</sup> 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)<sup>\*</sup> 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) <sup>38</sup> (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

<sup>38</sup> 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.<sup>39</sup> 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,”<sup>40</sup> 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.

<sup>39</sup> See the glossary on page 109.

<sup>40</sup> 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/jikusei\\_shokai.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/peace_b/jikusei_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. <sup>41</sup>

#### 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).

<sup>41</sup> 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)<sup>42</sup> 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.

<sup>42</sup> 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,<sup>43</sup> 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,<sup>44</sup> 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 laundering<sup>45</sup> and terrorist financing through intergovernmental frameworks such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).<sup>46</sup> 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

<sup>43</sup> 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.

<sup>44</sup> 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).

<sup>45</sup> 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.

<sup>46</sup> 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,<sup>\*1</sup> 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

<sup>\*1</sup> 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,<sup>47</sup> 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

<sup>47</sup> 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.<sup>48</sup> 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.

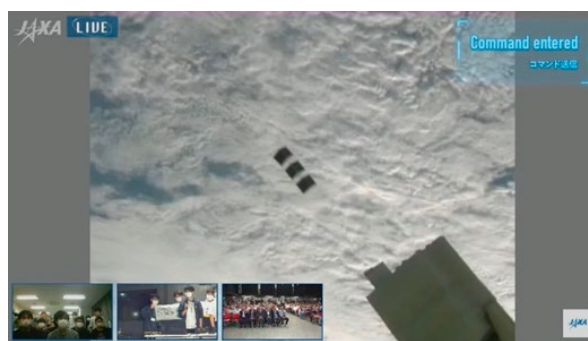
Furthermore, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) has been conducting a training program in the United Kingdom every year since 2009 with the aim of nurturing nautical chart experts in developing countries. This program is carried out with grant assistance from The Nippon Foundation and 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.<sup>49</sup> 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)

<sup>48</sup> A regional cooperation framework for Somalia and its neighboring countries.

<sup>49</sup> 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) <sup>50</sup> 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.

<sup>50</sup> See 4 on page 93.