

The Summit for Democracy

Japan's Initiatives

December 2021

Government of Japan

Japan has shared its experiences and knowledge based on the belief that in order to make democracy take root in a country, it is important to stand and work with that country.

Japan will continue such efforts by utilizing not only bilateral initiatives but also multilateral frameworks including the G7, G20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the United Nations (UN) bodies.

1 Working Together to Make Governments More Transparent (Fighting Corruption)

(1) Implement existing international frameworks such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption domestically in a steady manner.

Undertake following actions in line with international anti-corruption frameworks such as the G7, G20, and the UN:

- Steadily implement “National Anti-Money Laundering, Countering the Financing of Terrorism, and Counter Proliferation Financing Actions Plan”, such as promoting legislative reforms pursuant to Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Recommendations; and
- Cooperate with Financial Intelligence Units in developing countries through information sharing.

(2) Implement Official Development Assistance (ODA) in a transparent manner.

- Continue to ensure transparency and accountability of implementation of ODA internationally and domestically through such efforts as reporting to OECD/DAC and annual publication of White Paper on Development Cooperation; and
- Continue to ensure appropriate and effective implementation of ODA including through monitoring systems to prevent fraudulent practices.

(3) Implement various assistance and programs, including dispatch of experts, training, and human resource development.

Support human resource development and building and strengthening institutional capacity in various countries through following measures:

- Strengthen capacity of the national police: Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, and others

- Improve legal and judicial system and its operation: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Viet Nam, and others.

2 Working Together for Stronger Democracies (Defending against Authoritarianism)

(1) Support efforts toward fair elections in various countries.

Support free and fair electoral process in various countries through following measures:

- Improve election management capacity (including dispatch of advisors as well as training of members of electoral commissions and staff personnel at voting stations): Cambodia, Pakistan, and others
- Provide equipment to support elections (including ballot boxes or servers to register biometrics): Libya, Pakistan, and others.

(2) Strengthen coordination to counter disinformation.

Reinforce coordination to counter disinformation through initiatives such as the G7 Rapid Response Mechanism, which aims to defend democracy against foreign malicious activities.

(3) Implement various assistance and programs, including dispatch of experts, training, and human resource development.

- Support capacity building of both staff and institutions for media freedom and media protection measures: Kosovo, South Sudan, Ukraine, and others
- Support human resource development and building and strengthening institutional capacity in various countries through following measures (Same as those listed under 1(3)):
 - Strengthen capacity of the national police: Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, and others
 - Improve legal and judicial system and its operation: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Viet Nam, and others.

3 Working Together towards Greater Respect for Human Rights (Advancing Human Rights)

(1) Promote responsible business conduct.

- Support advancement of human rights in business activities through steady implementation of measures that have been set out in “the National Action

Plan on Business and Human Rights” launched in October 2020. To that end, also promote follow-ups by multi-stakeholders.

- Promote efforts to respect human rights in global supply chains (e.g., Promotion of responsible business conduct overseas in cooperation with international organizations, “Platform for Sustainable Cacao in Developing Countries” with close Japanese ties).
- (2) Promote cross-ministerial efforts under the Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on International Human Rights Issues, who was newly appointed in November 2021.
- (3) Promote empowerment of women, girls, and vulnerable groups and also support survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Actively contribute to promoting fundamental human rights particularly of vulnerable groups, including women and girls.
 - Support developing and enhancing aid programs for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

(END)