

Background

- Middle East peace process is a core issue of the Middle East and North African region and is vital for the region's stabilization.
- Following the "Arab Spring," instability of neighboring countries and stagnation of the peace process have resulted in serious economic situations in Palestine as shown in aggravated inflation and unemployment rate of the youth. The situation of the Gaza Strip is deteriorated.

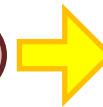


- Japan supports a two-state solution whereby Israel and a future independent Palestinian state coexist and prosper together. On this basis, Japan has been extending assistance to the Palestinians focusing on 3 pillars; ① political approach to the two sides, ② assistance for Palestinians' state-building efforts, and ③ confidence building measures between the two sides.
- Japan's assistance amounts to **1.9 billion US dollars** in total since 1993.

Basic aid policy

Peace building through promoting economic & social self-reliance

Stability and betterment of people's livelihood



e.g. improving basic life infrastructure; support for socially vulnerable people (refugees, women, children etc.)

Reinforcement of governmental administrative capacity



e.g. support for improving fiscal situation and public services

Promotion of sustainable economic growth



e.g. agricultural development; promotion of small-and medium-sized enterprises; support for tourism development

Japan's unique initiatives

● “Corridor for Peace and Prosperity” Initiative

(1) “Corridor for Peace and Prosperity” Initiative is a Japan’s mid-and long-term effort to support the coexistence and co-prosperity of the Israelis and the Palestinians. It aims to promote economic and social development in Jericho and the Jordan Valley area through regional cooperation among Palestine, Israel, Jordan and Japan.

(2) As a flagship project of this initiative, the four sides are working towards the establishment of the Jericho Agricultural Industrial Park (JAIP), which is expected to lead to the development of Palestinian private sector.

As of July 2018, 37 tenants signed the agreement to operate in the industrial park and 12 factories are in operation.

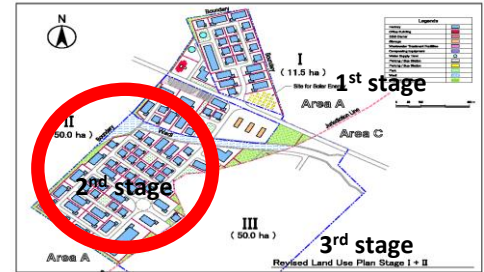


Image of Jericho Agro-Industrial Park



● “Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD)”

(1) Since 2009, to utilize the knowledge, experience, and economic power of the East Asian countries which have succeeded in economic development, Japan started cooperation with other East Asian countries in order to support the development of Palestine’s institutions and human resources. In collaboration with Indonesia and Malaysia, Japan has offered training courses for Palestinians in the fields of agriculture, finance, and small- and middle-sized enterprise support.

(2) In February 2013, Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD) was held in Tokyo, aiming to pursue the possibility of further increasing the cooperation among East Asian countries. The 2nd Ministerial-level Conference was held in March 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Senior Official’s Meeting was held in Hakone in February 2016.

(3) In May 2018, the Senior Official’s Meeting was held in Jakarta. The 3rd Ministerial-level Conference was held in Bangkok, Thailand in June 2018. The participants reviewed the assistance by respective countries and expressed or reaffirmed future assistance. The participants also reaffirmed the importance of UNRWA and expressed their support.



CEAPAD2 (March 2014, Jakarta)



CEAPAD3 (June 2018, Bangkok)
Introducing JAIP product (Ice Tea)

Various assistances

● Assistance to the Palestinian refugees

Japan extends assistance to Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and the Palestine through UNRWA. In the FY2017, Japan contributed approximately US\$43 mil including emergency assistance to Project for Construction of Sewer System in Aqbat Jaber Palestine Refugee Camp. Disbursed 10 mil USD for UNRWA through Emergency grant aid in April 2018.

- A school constructed through Japan's ODA (Baq'a Refugee Camp in Jordan)
UNRWA manages 685 schools in Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Jordan.

- There are around 5.1 million registered Palestinian refugees in Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.



● Assistance to socially vulnerable people

Japan extended around US\$0.6 mil worth assistance in FY 2017 through UNICEF in health, protection, education and other sectors, to help socially vulnerable and marginalized people including children.



Mobile Clinic funded by Japan. 2018, UNICEF



A domestic water tank at home, provided by UNICEF funded by Japan. 2012 Gaza, UNICEF/Pirozzi

● Assistance to the Gaza Strip

- (1) In July 2014, Japan extended emergency grant aid amounting to US\$ 5.5 mil through UNRWA and UNICEF. Other assistance includes US\$ 2.2 mil assistance through Japanese NGOs and US\$ 0.8 mil assistance through JICA alumni society in Palestine.
- (2) In March 2015, US\$ 52.5 mil assistance for Gaza through UN organizations (UNRWA, UNICEF, WFP etc.) and Japanese NGOs was extended. US\$9.7 mil assistance of the same kind will also be disbursed by the end of FY2017 .

● Enhancing private sector

(1) Supporting trade and tourism sectors

Following holding an exhibition, JETRO has dispatched experts of body care product manufacturing, offered training courses and supported Palestinian companies to participate in the FOODEX. JICA has been supporting tourism industry through sending experts, offering training, and supporting MICE activities.



(2) Supporting private business including JAIP's tenants

In coordination with the EU, Japan supports to enhance business activities and expand job opportunities in the West Bank and Gaza. Japan contributes US\$ 10.6 mil to fund investments on equipment and facilities of private business including US\$ 4 mil which is earmarked for support towards Jericho Agricultural Industrial Park tenants.

● Assistance for improving financial conditions

- (1) Taking into consideration of the severe fiscal condition of the Palestinian Authority, Japan has extended non-project grant assistance to support PA's efforts for economic and social development (FY 2010: US\$25 mil, FY 2011 and FY 2012: US\$10mil, FY 2013: US\$8 mil, FY 2014: US\$10 mil).
- (2) Japan also extended financial assistance through the World Bank trust fund for Palestinian development in FY2012 – FY2016 (Total US\$99 mil).