

3 Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and Human Security

As globalization advances, the international community has been confronted with various challenges such as disparity and poverty, terrorism, refugees and displaced persons, infectious diseases, disaster risk reduction, climate change, and marine plastic litter. These social, economic, and environmental issues are intertwined with one another, and are linked across national boundaries. In order to resolve such transboundary global issues, it is necessary for the international community to move beyond the conventional concept of developed and developing countries, and to work together to address the issues.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are 17 international targets to be achieved by 2030, which were agreed upon by all UN Member States at the UN Summit held in September 2015 as a successor of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While the MDGs were targets established for developing countries, the SDGs represent a commitment by the entire international

community including developed countries, and therefore could be described as a “compass” providing the direction toward the fundamental resolution of global issues that must be tackled by both developing and developed countries.

Since the adoption of the SDGs, the Government of Japan established the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, with Prime Minister Abe as its head and all the Cabinet members as its members, and has actively worked on achieving the SDGs both in Japan and abroad through the formulation of the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles, which sets the direction for the promotion of the SDGs, and the SDGs Action Plan, which compiles specific policies. This section features Japan’s initiatives aimed at achieving the SDGs, from the perspective of various fields including health, water and sanitation, education, gender, environment, and climate change (see also page 3 “SDG Summit 2019” for details on initiatives in 2019).

Human Security

The SDGs present a vision of a rich and vibrant society where “no one will be left behind,” and which reflects the concept of “human security” that Japan has been promoting for many years. This concept focuses on each individual, and seeks to build states and communities by protecting and empowering individuals so that they can live in dignity, free from fear and want. In the Development Cooperation Charter, it is also positioned as the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan’s development cooperation. In order to promote human security, the Government of Japan undertakes various efforts, both to (i) spread the concept and to (ii) put it into practice on the ground.

(i) Spreading the concept

After the unanimous adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the resolution concerning common understanding of human security led by Japan in 2012, Japan has been continuing to spread the concept centered on the United Nations Human Security Unit. In February 2019, Japan took the opportunity of the 25th anniversary of the introduction of the concept of human security, and held the High-level Event “Human Security at 25” with the UNDP, the United Nations Human Security Unit, and related countries at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

(ii) Putting the concept into practice on the ground

Japan spearheaded the launch of the “UN Trust Fund for Human Security” in 1999. Japan has thus far contributed approximately ¥46.8 billion in total, and supported 248 UN projects to ensure human security in 96 countries and regions.



(Photo: UNHCR)

Dr. OGATA Sadako, former President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), passed away on October 22, 2019.

Dr. Ogata served as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and President of JICA, and demonstrated distinguished leadership on the frontlines of efforts to tackle global issues such as refugees, poverty, and conflict resolution. Furthermore, she was one of the first proponents of the concept of human security and thoroughly took a field-based approach by actively visiting various sites. For many years, Dr. Ogata made significant contributions to peace, stability, and development around the world, including co-chairing the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan held in Tokyo in 2002. Japan honors Dr. Ogata's tremendous achievements and offers its sincere condolences on her passing.



(Photo: JICA)

Dr. NAKAMURA Tetsu, Representative in Afghanistan of Peshawar-kai and Executive Director of Peace Japan Medical Services (PMS) (at the time), passed away on December 4, 2019, in eastern Afghanistan, as a victim of a gun attack.

For many years, Dr. Nakamura provided medical services to Afghan citizens and displaced persons, and strived to rehabilitate rural villages through irrigation work, thereby improving the lives of many people in Afghanistan. Furthermore, he greatly contributed to friendly relations between Japan and Afghanistan. The people's tremendous love and respect toward Dr. Nakamura was shown by the fact that President Ghani himself carried Dr. Nakamura's coffin at his state funeral in Afghanistan, as well as the memorial services held around the world after the incident. Japan honors Dr. Nakamura's great achievements and offers its sincere condolences on his passing.



(Photo: PMS)

(1) Health and Medical Care

Many people in developing countries still do not have access to basic health services that are available in developed countries. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the WHO, and others, more than 5.3 million children²¹ under the age of five die annually due to infectious diseases, malnutrition, diarrhea, and other preventable causes, even today. Over 295,000 women²² die during and following pregnancy and childbirth per year, primarily due to the lack of emergency obstetric care provided by skilled health professionals such as obstetricians, gynecologists, and/or midwives. Furthermore, rapid population growth has made poor countries suffer from further poverty, unemployment, hunger, poor access/quality of education, and environmental deterioration. This has led to SDGs Goal 3, set as "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages." In addition, in order to respond to various health issues, which differ across countries and regions, achieving "Universal Health Coverage (UHC)" is positioned as an important international goal to ensure that all people have access to basic health services at an affordable cost when needed.



Japan's Efforts

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

Japan has placed importance on measures to improve healthcare that is directly linked to human security. In light of the establishment of the "Development Cooperation Charter" in February 2015, the Government of Japan established the "Basic Design for Peace and Health" as a theme-based guideline for global health policy in September the same year. This policy aims to utilize Japan's expertise, technologies, medical devices, and services in order to achieve the following: (i) provide basic health services (UHC) for all people throughout their lifetimes, and (ii) establish a system to respond to public health emergencies such as the Ebola virus disease. These efforts are also important for the countries receiving assistance to consider and resolve health issues by themselves, while tackling challenges in global health as identified in the SDGs. The Government of Japan has been actively leading the promotion of UHC as a "Japan brand" at international meetings such as the G7, TICAD, the United Nations General Assembly, and more.

The G20 Osaka Summit and TICAD7 were held in Japan in 2019, increasing momentum for the promotion of UHC. Prior to the G20 Osaka Summit, the Government of Japan announced that it would provide contributions aimed at saving the lives of approximately one million

AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria patients, and providing immunizations to around 1.3 million children from 2019 through contributing to the field of global health (measures for various issues such as infectious diseases, health risks, maternal and child health, UHC, antimicrobial resistance (AMR)²³, and water and sanitation).



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) (midwife) providing technical instruction to a colleague in San Bartolomé Jocotenango, El Quiché, Guatemala (Photo: JICA)

At the G20 Osaka Summit in June 2019, under its Presidency, Japan discussed specific policies toward resolving matters concerning achieving UHC, realizing a healthy and vibrant ageing society, and health emergencies including AMR. Japan also raised the importance of health financing for the promotion of UHC as well as the items that should be considered by finance authorities when establishing this system, and the commitment toward the "G20 Shared Understanding on the Importance of UHC Financing in Developing Countries" was confirmed at the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting held in Fukuoka in June 2019. Moreover, during the G20 Osaka Summit, Japan held the first-ever G20 Joint Session of Finance and Health Ministers, and discussions were held on the approach to cooperation among finance authorities and health authorities, as well as cooperation between the WHO and the World Bank toward the promotion of UHC in developing countries.

The Yokohama Declaration 2019 and Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 were adopted as outcome documents at TICAD7 in August 2019 based on the gains of TICAD VI and the G20 Osaka Summit, and the two documents reaffirmed the commitment to further promote UHC in

²¹ As of 2018. The previous total was over 5.4 million children.

²² As of 2017. The previous total was over 303,000 women.

²³ Micro-organisms such as pathogenic bacteria and viruses having resistance to antimicrobial agents such as antibacterial and antiviral agents, rendering these agents ineffective.

Africa. In addition, discussions were held on effective policies, including strengthening health systems such as sustainable health financing through bolstering cooperation among health and finance authorities, strengthening capacity development, control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, maternal and child health, nutrition improvement, water and sanitation, and promoting cooperation with the private sector, thereby specifying the further promotion of UHC in Africa. Furthermore, Japan unveiled “TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa,” whereby it announced its commitment to expand UHC, the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative, and the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020. At TICAD7, Japan also hosted many health-related official side events as well as the launch meeting of Gavi’s* third replenishment. Japan also held the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Award Ceremony, which awarded medical care providers and researchers who made contribution to health and medical care field in Africa.

At the United Nations, the first United Nations High-Level Meeting on UHC was held in September 2019. During the meeting, Prime Minister Abe introduced various countries’ efforts to promote UHC at the G20 Osaka Summit and TICAD7 in 2019, and emphasized the importance of healthcare, as well as the promotion of horizontal efforts in the nutrition, water, and sanitation fields and strengthening health financing. At the meeting, UHC Political Declaration was endorsed, which reaffirmed goals, such as providing essential health services to all people and eliminating impoverishment due to health-related expenses by 2030. In addition, the Political Declaration demonstrated strong political-level commitments for achieving UHC, such as strengthening health financing, promoting Primary Health Care (PHC)*, tackling infectious and non-infectious diseases, improving situations on water, sanitation, and nutrition, promoting education in health, and developing human resources for health and others.

*** Promotion of UHC (Japan’s Specific Contributions)

In particular, under the “Basic Design for Peace and Health” enacted in 2015, the Government of Japan provides assistance that utilizes its experience, technology, and expertise, to achieve UHC that will “leave no one behind,” including the poor, children, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, refugees and displaced persons, ethnic minorities, and indigenous people. Specifically, such support includes tangible assistance such as building hospitals, supplying medicines and medical devices, as well as non-tangible assistance such as human resources development and system building.

Primary healthcare services under UHC comprise all services ranging from nutritional improvement (see page 78, “(8) Food Security and Nutrition”), vaccination,



Patients taking blood tests at the hospital in the Gaza Strip in Palestine. Blood test equipment was provided through the Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Projects.

maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, infectious disease control, non-communicable disease (NCD) control, and comprehensive community care and long-term care for the elderly. Among these, immunization is one of the most cost-effective investments, and it is estimated that 2 to 3 million lives could be saved through immunization each year.

Japan has provided a total of approximately \$129.7 million to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, since its first contribution in 2011 until the initial budget for FY2019. Gavi was established in 2000 to improve the immunization rate in developing countries. Since its establishment, Gavi has provided immunization for 700 million children and saved more than 10 million lives. In order to promote this initiative, the Government of Japan held the launch meeting of Gavi’s third replenishment in Yokohama on the occasion of TICAD7 in August 2019, during which there were discussions regarding funding requests for the third capital increase period (2021-2025) of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. As for bilateral assistance, Japan contributes to increasing vaccination rates by providing assistance for vaccine production and management, as well as the maintenance and management of cold chains²⁴.

With regard to maternal and child health in developing countries, there are still significant challenges, despite improvements such as a reduction in the under-five mortality rate and maternal mortality rate, as well as an increase in births attended by skilled health professionals. Japan’s assistance aims to strengthen sustainable health systems by providing comprehensive, continuous maternal and child care and strengthening the ownership and capabilities of developing countries. In pursuit of these aims, Japan has been supporting countries such as Ghana, Senegal, and Bangladesh in an efficient manner. Through these assistance, Japan contributes to making necessary services accessible to all women at every stage of pregnancy (including that of adolescence and family

²⁴ A system for delivering products to the destination while keeping them cool. This makes it possible to maintain the quality of medical supplies such as vaccines.

planning), as well as for newborns and infants.

Furthermore, Japan is implementing activities utilizing the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook as a means of improving maternal and child health, based on its experience and expertise. The MCH Handbook can contribute to the Continuum of Care (CoC), from pregnancy, childbirth, the post-partum period²⁵, the neonatal period, infancy, and to early childhood. It also enables mothers to acquire knowledge about health, which in turn raises awareness and encourages behavior modification. To give an example of the concrete assistance, the MCH Handbook is being widely used throughout the country in Indonesia, as a result of Japan's cooperation. Moreover, among the countries promoting the use of the MCH Handbook, including Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, and Kenya, there have been sessions to share their experiences and learn from each other. Furthermore, exchanges of opinions are being held with Afghanistan and Tajikistan, which are implementing trial use of the MCH Handbook. In addition, efforts are also being conducted for the utilization of the MCH Handbook in other countries in Africa, including Ghana.

In addition, Japan works with other development partners, such as the United Nations Population Fund

(UNFPA) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), to promote maternal and child health that includes sexual and reproductive health services, and thereby improving the health of a greater number of women and children in aid recipient countries (see also page 141 "Stories from the Field").

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

In a globalized world, as infectious diseases easily spread beyond national borders and have a serious impact on the entire international community, it is important to put in place countermeasures for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases²⁶. The Ebola outbreak in the countries of West Africa from 2014 to 2015 took many lives and resulted in the spread of infection to neighboring countries and the secondary infection of medical personnel, and thus became a major humanitarian, economic, and political challenge for the international community. Moreover, Ebola has been spreading once again in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since August 2018. In addition to financial assistance, Japan has seamlessly provided a variety of assistance to such affected countries and international organizations, including the dispatch

Guatemala

Community-based Maternal and Child Health Improvement Project (Phase 1 and 2)

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (March 2018 - (ongoing))

Public nomination

Among all 22 departments of Guatemala, Quiché shows the lowest rate of childbirth assisted by health-care workers, and marks the highest rate of traditional birth attendant (TBA)-led home deliveries in the country at 60.7%*. However, it is difficult to deal with heavy bleeding and risky deliveries during a home birth, and has become a cause of high rates of maternal and neonatal mortality. Therefore, AMDA-MINDS (AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services), one of Japan's NGOs for international cooperation, started a project to improve maternal and child health in March 2018 in the city of San Bartolomé Jocotenango, a city with the highest needs in Quiché. This project is aimed at identifying risks at an early stage with prenatal care, and taking appropriate measures before falling into emergency situations.

In this project, AMDA-MINDS committed foremost to train 70 TBAs, who have earned the immense trust of communities where traditional culture is deeply rooted. This training allows the TBAs to understand the danger signs during pregnancy and childbirth and the importance of prenatal care, and to convey such knowledge to pregnant women. The training for 262 health volunteers including men was also implemented to protect expectant and nursing mothers with support from all the community members. Before the training started, women needed their husband's permission just to undergo medical examinations. Now, since the training helped men to understand the importance of prenatal care and transporting women in danger to a hospital immediately, some women were transferred at an early-stage. AMDA-MINDS also conducts reproductive health

training for elementary and junior high school students to prevent adolescent pregnancy and delivery. The training gives an opportunity for students to learn about the human body system and pregnancy, and to make their own life plans. These efforts are leading to healthier family planning and safer pregnancy and childbirth in the future.



A TBA (far left) and two AMDA-MINDS personnel (seated at right) making a door-to-door visit to a pregnant woman's home. They are providing advice on the woman's lifestyle and danger signs during pregnancy. (Photo: AMDA-MINDS)

*Source: Encuesta Nacional de Salud Materno Infantil, ENSMI 2014-2015

²⁵ The period after childbirth in which the woman recovers to a similar condition before pregnancy, usually around one to two months after birth.

²⁶ Emerging diseases are infectious diseases that were not previously known and have been newly recognized in recent years, such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), avian influenza, and the Ebola virus disease. Reemerging diseases are infectious diseases that had spread throughout the world in the past and subsequently saw a decrease in the number of cases, but have been on an increasing trend again in recent years, such as cholera and tuberculosis.

of experts and provision of emergency relief goods. Furthermore, Japan is supporting the efforts to overcome the Ebola crisis through public-private cooperation, such as providing medicine and rapid test kits utilizing the technology of Japanese private companies.



An infection control expert of the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Infectious Diseases Response Team providing instruction to a medical care worker on how to put on and remove protective clothing that protects against the Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Photo: JICA)

From the point of view that building a sustainable and resilient health system is crucial to controlling infectious diseases, Japan has been strengthening the capacity of prevention, preparedness, and response to public health crises, particularly in African countries, and aims to realize an Africa in which all people have access to health services. To that end, Japan is swiftly implementing assistance that contributes to their social and economic recovery, including assistance for the health sector such as capacity building of medical staff and improvement of medical facilities, infrastructure development, and food security enhancement.

Moreover, Japan, as a nation that proactively contributes to the peace and prosperity of the international community, has led discussions in international fora such as the G7 and TICAD on the establishment of the Global Health Architecture, a framework of the international community for responding to these health crises. In particular, on the occasion of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016, Prime Minister Abe announced a contribution of \$50 million to support the strengthening of WHO's responses to public health emergencies, of which Japan contributed \$25 million by the end of the same year to the WHO Health Emergencies Programme*, and approximately \$10.8 million to the Contingency Fund for Emergencies

(CFE)*. Furthermore, Japan then contributed around \$3 million to the WHO Health Emergency Programme in 2018, and \$22 million to the CFE in 2019. These contributions to the WHO Health Emergency Programme and CFE are being used to respond to the outbreak of the Ebola virus disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo that has continued since 2018.

In addition, with the support from the Government of Japan, the World Bank took the opportunity of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit to launch the Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF)*, and Japan announced a contribution of \$50 million for the PEF before any other country. In response to the continuing Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, PEF is contributing \$60 million to the crisis response efforts. Japan also led the establishment of the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) for WHO to respond to emergencies in cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Furthermore, Japan newly established the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Infectious Diseases Response Team in 2015, which was dispatched to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to provide assistance for the Ebola epidemic in 2018 and 2019. Through these efforts, Japan has been providing swift and effective assistance in infectious disease affected countries.

... Responding to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)²⁷ is a serious threat to public health, and in recent years, more and more countermeasures against AMR have been taken. In order to advance AMR measures, Japan is promoting the “One Health Approach” for those who are engaged in the field of sanitation concerning people, animals, and the environment to work together on efforts. At the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance in the United Nations General Assembly held in September 2016, the “Political Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance” was adopted. The declaration required each country and the related United Nations institutions to promote countermeasures, and the Secretary General of the United Nations to establish cross-sectoral working groups. Accordingly, the Tokyo AMR One Health Conference was held in November 2017. Moreover, in the G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration in 2019, it was agreed to accelerate efforts based on the “One Health Approach.” At the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting held in Okayama in October 2019, the Ministers adopted the Okayama Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers, which mentions the importance of continuing AMR measures based on the same approach. In addition, in the same month, Japan announced that it would contribute ¥1 billion to the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP), which promotes

27 See Note 21 on page 48.

Mozambique

Emergency Grant Aid for Three Countries in Southern Africa affected by Cyclone Idai (April 2019 - October 2019)

On March 14, 2019, one of the largest cyclones in history hit the central part of Mozambique, which caused the loss of more than 600 precious lives. In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, damage caused by river flooding and lightning strikes received attention, but afterwards, a large-scale outbreak of cholera occurred in evacuation centers, causing a secondary disaster that made people suffer in the disaster areas.

Cholera is a disease that spreads including through water contaminated by *Vibrio cholerae*. The spread of cholera can be prevented by improving the water and sanitation environment in the affected areas.

Japan decided to provide \$9.85 million to Mozambique in response to the damage caused by the cyclone, out of which \$1.7 million was allocated to UNICEF.

In April, UNICEF Mozambique organized a cholera rapid response team that implemented a strategy to provide water and sanitation measures, including the distribution of water purification agents and a sanitation awareness campaign, to the cholera patients' households and neighboring residents living inside a radius of 50 meters within 48 hours of patients being transported to the cholera treatment center. These measures were based on data stating that the risk of infection is 36 times higher within 50 meters of a cholera patient's household, and had seen prior success in Haiti and Zimbabwe. At this time, Mr. MORITA Tomohiko, a Japanese official working at UNICEF

Mozambique, was also one of the members of the cholera rapid response team. He also worked with the provincial governments, as well as the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which was actively working in those areas, to contribute to contain the spread of cholera in disaster areas.



Teaching Cholera outbreak countermeasures to residents in the affected areas
(Photo: UNICEF Mozambique)

research and development and diagnosis development for new antibiotics, and indicated that it would exert leadership for AMR measures.

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

SDGs target 3.3 sets out the goal of ending the epidemics of the three major infectious diseases by 2030. Japan has been providing support toward achieving this goal through the “Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund),” an organization whose establishment was agreed upon at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit held in 2000. Since its establishment in 2002 to the end of July 2019, Japan has contributed approximately \$3.4 billion to the Global Fund. Furthermore, Japan provides supplemental bilateral aid to the developing countries receiving support from the Global Fund, in order to ensure that measures against these three major infectious diseases are implemented effectively in those countries. Japan also strives to strengthen mutual cooperation on enhancing health systems, community empowerment, and policies for maternal and child health in those countries.

As bilateral assistance for HIV/AIDS countermeasures, Japan is providing assistance such as spreading knowledge to prevent new infections and promoting awareness raising, testing, and counseling. In particular in Africa, JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) for Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Control are vigorously engaged in activities including spreading the knowledge and understanding of prevention among as many people



State Minister for Foreign Affairs SUZUKI Keisuke attending the Global Fund Sixth Replenishment Conference held by the Government of France (October 2019)

as possible, and providing care and support for people affected by HIV/AIDS.

With regard to tuberculosis, in 2008, MOFA and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), in cooperation with JICA, the Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, and the Stop TB Partnership Japan, announced the “Stop TB Japan Action Plan” and have contributed to reducing the annual number of deaths from tuberculosis in developing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa. These efforts aim to achieve a 10% reduction of the number of deaths from tuberculosis worldwide (160,000 people, based on 2006 figures) by making use of Japan’s own experience and technology to take measures

against tuberculosis through a public-private partnership. In 2014, the Action Plan was revised based on the Global Strategy and Targets for Tuberculosis Prevention, Care and Control after 2015, a global strategy to achieve the targets by 2035, which was adopted by WHO in 2014. This reaffirmed that Japan will continue to work on measures against tuberculosis on a global level.



A local personnel checking whether the date of delivery, amount, inspection results, and other details are accurately recorded for tuberculosis specimens, under the guidance of a JICA expert as part of the technical cooperation project, “Project for Strengthening Basic Health Care Services Management for Universal Health Coverage in Zambia” (Photo: JICA)

In addition to these efforts, with regard to malaria, a major cause of infant mortality, Japan provides assistance for anti-malaria countermeasures such as initiatives through the strengthening of local communities, and assistance in cooperation with WHO.

... Polio

Although polio is on the brink of being eradicated, Japan has been working mainly in cooperation with UNICEF to provide support for its complete eradication with a focus on three countries where cases of infection are still being identified (countries where wild strains of polio are constantly present)—Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan. In particular, Japan provided an assistance of ¥1.58 billion to Nigeria in April 2019. Through this assistance, it is expected that strengthening responses to infectious diseases and the surveillance capacity system will promote social development centered on urban areas in Nigeria and contribute to preventing and controlling the spread of infectious diseases in neighboring countries.

Japan also contributed ¥485 million to provide polio vaccines for approximately 20 million children under the age of five in Pakistan in December 2019. In addition, Japan has been providing assistance to Afghanistan in cooperation with UNICEF since 2002, and has recently contributed ¥755 million in FY2019. Furthermore, in Pakistan, Japan has provided grant aid amounting to a cumulative total of more than ¥11 billion in coordination with UNICEF since 1996, and provided an ODA loan of around ¥6.3 billion in 2016. Under this yen loan, a new approach (loan conversion) was adopted; in the new approach, the private sector Gates Foundation will pay the debt owed by the Government of Pakistan if certain targets are achieved. It is expected that these projects will reduce the number of new polio cases and lead to the eradication of polio in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

... Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

Parasitic and bacterial infections such as Chagas disease, Filariasis, and Schistosomiasis, are known as “Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs),” and have infected more than 1 billion people worldwide, causing major socio-economic losses to developing countries. Since infectious diseases can have an impact beyond national borders, the international community must work as one to combat them. Thus, Japan also cooperates closely with all the relevant countries and international organizations on countermeasures against NTDs.

Since 1991, Japan has engaged in launching a full-scale effort against Chagas disease, which is also known as a “disease of poverty,” in Central American countries, and contributed to reducing the risk of infection by providing assistance to establish a system for dealing with Chagas disease vectors. Also in 1998, Japan launched the “Hashimoto Initiative,” and has since contributed to global parasitic control efforts. With regards to Filariasis, Japan also supplies educational and awareness-raising materials to provide knowledge and understanding to a larger number of people, in addition to antiparasitic agents. Moreover, Japan conducts preventive education through the dispatch of JOCVs in order to reduce the number of new cases and prevent the spread of diseases. Through these efforts, Japan will continue to contribute to the treatment for people suffering from NTDs that are not being addressed in Africa and other regions.



Glossary

***Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance**

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is a public-private partnership, which was established with the aim of saving children's lives and protecting people's health by improving immunization rates in developing countries. Governments of donor countries and developing countries, relevant international organizations, the pharmaceutical industry, private foundations, and civil society participate in this partnership.

***Primary Health Care (PHC)**

An approach to comprehensively and equally resolve issues by residents of a local community on their own, as the primary stakeholders through responding to the most vital needs of people, in order to achieve health for all people, by recognizing health as a basic human right. It is composed of three components: (i) comprehensive and equal health and medical services that meet the requirements of people regarding health, (ii) systematic approaches to decisive factors of health, and (iii) giving individuals, families, and communities the right to make their own decisions about their health.

***WHO Health Emergency Programme**

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

***Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE)**

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

***Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF)**

A framework for mobilizing funds quickly and efficiently when a pandemic occurs. At the outbreak of a pandemic, and when the conditions agreed in advance are satisfied, funds are instantly distributed to developing countries, international organizations, NGOs, and others through the PEF, and allocated to the budget for the emergency response.

(2) Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation are vital issues linked to human life. Throughout the world, approximately 2.2 billion people are not provided with safely-managed drinking water, 4.2 billion people cannot use safely-managed sanitary facilities such as toilets, and three billion people live without access to basic hand-washing facilities. The lack of access to safe water also impedes economic growth. For example, in developing countries where piped water is not widely available, in many cases women and children bear the role of fetching water. Sometimes, spending many hours for this work deprives children of opportunities for education, and women of engaging in society. Furthermore, an unstable supply of water has a negative impact on healthcare and agriculture. From this viewpoint, Goal 6 of the SDGs sets forth the target “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) giving instruction on well maintenance and management while drawing water with local residents in Rwanda (Photo: JICA)

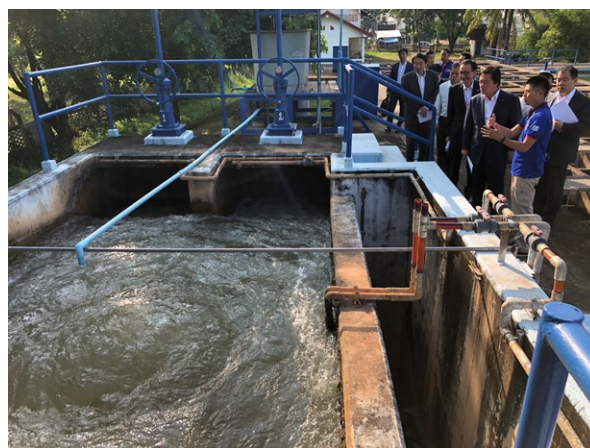


Japan's Efforts

Japan's support has the top cumulative track record in the world in the fields of water and sanitation since the 1990s. Japan draws on its extensive experience, knowledge, and technology in these fields to provide continuous support for promoting the provision of safe water in developing countries, through the means of ODA loan and grant aid, as well as technical cooperation, including the dispatch of experts and accepting trainees from developing countries. Japan also provides support through international organizations such as UNICEF. Specifically, it provides support in both the soft (non-physical) and hard (physical) aspects, including the following: (i) promotion of integrated water resources management, (ii) provision of safe drinking water and basic sanitation through the improvement of sanitation facilities, (iii) support to ensure a stable use of water for agriculture to increase food production, (iv) water pollution prevention such as establishing effluent regulations, etc., and ecosystem conservation through tree planting and forest preservation, and (v) establishment of an early

warning system to mitigate damage due to water-related disasters, strengthening the disaster response capacities of communities, and other purposes.

In the Asia and Oceania regions, Japan implemented projects for the development and expansion of piped water in Indonesia, Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Laos. For example, in October 2019, Japan and Laos signed the Exchange of Notes for a grant aid to improve water supply services, including the construction of new water pipes in Luang Prabang City, which has a World Heritage Site. It is expected that this cooperation will contribute to the development of a sustainable urban environment by increasing the population covered by the city's water supply from approximately 58,800 people in 2017 to around 70,000 people in 2025, three years after the completion of the project. In addition, in December 2019, Japan and Cambodia signed an Exchange of Notes for a grant aid to expand water supply facilities in Pursat City, which has a particularly low water supply coverage rate even among the rural cities in Cambodia. This cooperation is expected to contribute to improving the quality of life in Cambodia through enabling access to safe water for approximately 100,000 residents in the region.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs WAKAMIYA Kenji (third from right) visiting the Chinaimo water treatment plant located in the southern part of Vientiane, the capital of Laos, which was improved with ODA from Japan (October 2019)

Moreover, in Africa, Japan is implementing projects aimed at improving access to safe water and enhancing the water supply rate. For example, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes for a grant aid to provide water supply and water treatment equipment (water trucks, water tanks, etc.) to Eritrea where challenges lie in the deterioration of water supply facilities and equipment. Japan has also signed an Exchange of Notes for a grant aid to provide mobile sea water desalination equipment, water trucks, etc., in order to improve access to safe water during disasters in Cabo Verde.

In addition, projects for improving water supplies and hygiene are implemented by Japanese NGOs through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. For example, Peace Winds Japan, a non-profit organization, is working on a project to improve access to water through

the construction of water supply facilities with the participation of local residents in Sindhupalchok District, Nepal. The District was affected by the earthquake that occurred in February 2018 and faces water shortages including drying-up water sources. In the first year of the project, water supply facilities – nine water intakes, eight water storage tanks, and 52 public taps – were constructed in eight villages in Nepal.

In parallel with these efforts, Japan is also implementing a large number of assistance in the field of water and sanitation that directly benefit local residents, such as the improvement of wells, water supply, and irrigation facilities, as well as disaster prevention measures through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects. For example, Japan provided excavators to the local government in Tajikistan through the Project for Provision of Excavators for Reinforcing Riverbanks in the Temurmalik Administrative District of Tajikistan. Through this project, embankments are being constructed using the provided equipment, which contributes to the prevention of flood damage due to meltwater and expansion of cultivated land.

Efforts for the improvement of the water environments in developing countries in cooperation with Japanese and local private companies and organizations are also being carried out around the world (see also page 57 “Master Techniques from Japan to the World”). For example,

in Oceania, using JICA’s Framework for Supporting Japanese SMEs in Overseas Business (now referred to as the SDGs Business Supporting Surveys), a model formulation survey was conducted in Papua New Guinea regarding a project to sell drinking water to residents using energy-efficient compact seawater desalinization equipment. Through this study, it was confirmed that the project met local needs, leading to the successful start of sales of the equipment.

In addition, in order to eliminate 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) is implementing the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA). With the cooperation of the 13 participating countries²⁸ from Asia, WEPA aims to enhance water environment governance in Asia through building human networks, gathering and sharing information, and capacity building. Moreover, to contribute to achieving “halving the proportion of untreated wastewater” that is raised in Target 6.3 of the SDGs, Japan is also encouraging the spread of septic tanks in developing countries through initiatives that introduce the technology of septic tanks, and legislative systems, etc. by holding workshops and seminars concerning Japan’s advanced septic tank technology, mainly for Asian regions.

²⁸ The 13 countries are Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Japan.

(3) Quality Education for All

Education is a basic human right that should be enjoyed by all people equally, and plays an important role in the socio-economic development that is needed for poverty reduction. At the same time, it also enables individuals to develop their potential and capability, as well as to live with dignity. It is also said that education forms the foundation for peace through fostering understanding of other people and different cultures. However, there are still approximately 64 million children who cannot go to elementary school worldwide²⁹. When including secondary school, there are around 262 million out-of-school children according to the 2017 statistics. In particular, the percentage of children who cannot go to school has been increasing since 2000 in Sub-Saharan Africa. Furthermore, as the World Bank points out in the World Development Report (2018), the learning crisis has also become a major problem, in which even the children who go to school cannot perform basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills. It is necessary to provide opportunities for education and vocational training to young people that respond to social changes and technological innovation, and foster human resources who can create innovation toward resolving global issues.

In order to improve this situation, Goal 4 of the SDGs has been set up as “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” The international community formulated the “Education 2030 Framework for Action”^{*} in 2015, with the aim of achieving this goal.

In 2019, Japan compiled the G20 Initiative on Human Capital Investment for Sustainable Development: Quality Education to Create an Inclusive, Resilient, and Innovative Society, as the G20 Presidency. The G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration reaffirms the commitment to promote quality education that is inclusive and fair for all people through human capital investment. In addition, in his speech to the General Debate of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2019, Prime Minister Abe mentioned the promotion of inclusive, quality education for all girls and women, and emphasized that “the essence of Japan’s international engagement can be found in the fact that we earnestly value education.”

Japan’s Efforts

Japan has traditionally placed importance on assistance in the field of education as an essential area for promoting human security, and has been providing developing countries with a broad range of support, including the enhancement of basic education^{*}, higher education, and vocational training. Coinciding with the UN Summit for the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, Japan announced a new education cooperation

strategy entitled “Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth.” This strategy aims to achieve quality education through mutual learning, under the following basic principles: (i) education cooperation to achieve inclusive and equitable quality learning, (ii) education cooperation for industrial, science and technology human resources development and building the foundation of socio-economic development, and (iii) establishment and expansion of global and regional networks for education cooperation.

During the 7th meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters held on June 21, 2019, the Expanded SDGs Action Plan 2019 was decided. As one of the G20 Presidency’s initiative, Japan announced its “Education x Innovation” initiative to support at least approximately nine million children and young people during the three-year period between 2019-2021. In order to allow all children to complete quality primary and secondary education by 2030, it is essential to encourage innovation to accelerate assistance. Through this initiative, Japan will further strengthen support for education that fosters basic knowledge, STEM education³⁰, development of e-learning, and more (see also page 61, “Master Techniques from Japan to the World”).

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

Also, Japan contributed a total of approximately \$29.75 million in FY2008 and FY2019 to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE)^{*}, an international fund specialized in education. As of 2016, in partner countries that received support through GPE, more than 77 million



Tanzanian female junior high school students attending a science class through the “Project for Establishing a Model School to Produce Women Leaders through Enhancement of Science and Mathematics and All-round Education” (Photo: JICA)

²⁹ From page 120 of the “Global Education Monitoring Report 2019.”
<http://gem-report-2019.unesco.org/chapter/monitoring-progress-in-sdg-4/primary-and-secondary-education-target-4-1/>

³⁰ STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and refers to these four educational fields.

children became capable of receiving primary education, compared to 2002.

Moreover, with a focus on Niger and other West African countries, Japan has been implementing the “School for All” project since 2004, which aims to build relationships of trust between schools, parents and guardians, and local residents, as well as improve the education environment for children. In cooperation with the World Bank, the GPE, and others, Japan is spreading the project throughout the targeted African countries.

In addition, Japan has been promoting the introduction of Japanese-style education at local schools since February 2017 under the Egypt-Japan Education Partnership (EJEP) announced in 2016. 40 “Egypt-Japan Schools” that introduce this Japanese-style education were newly opened by November 2019. The “Tokkatsu-plus,” a model for Japanese-style education in Egypt, provides special activities such as cleaning, chore duties, and class meetings at elementary and junior high schools, centered on holistic education that aims to build harmonious character, including sensitivity and morality. In addition, the education model includes learning through playing at kindergartens and school management needed for conducting special activities. Through such cooperative activities under this model, Japan cooperates in human resources development in Egypt.

Furthermore, in order to contribute to the development of education and improvement of its quality in the Asia-Pacific region, through the establishment of a funds-in-trust within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Japan is providing support for organizing the Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education 2030 (APMED2030), a forum for discussing progress in the achievement of Goal 4 of the SDGs. Japan also supports initiatives toward the achievement of Goal 4 in the Asia-Pacific region including through the complete spread and quality improvement of primary and secondary education, enrichment of early childhood education, improvement of learning environments, and increasing the teaching capacity of teachers. Moreover, Japan supports human resources development in developing countries by engaging in efforts to strengthen networking among higher education institutions between Japan and ASEAN, collaborating with the industrial sector, participating in joint research projects with neighboring countries, accepting international students to Japanese institutions of



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs NAKATANI Shinichi visiting an Egypt-Japan school in Cairo (December 2019)

higher education and other institutions in accordance with the “300,000 International Students Plan,” and a wide range of other measures.

... Promoting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

After the “UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)”^{*} held in Japan in 2014, activities related to ESD to foster builders of a sustainable society have been carried out worldwide under the “Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD,” adopted as the successor program to the “UN Decade of ESD (UNDESD)” program. After that, the new 2020-2030 implementation framework “Education for Sustainable Development: Towards achieving the SDGs (ESD for 2030)” was adopted at the 206th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO in April 2019, the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, which started from September 2019, and the 40th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO in November 2019. In addition, through the funds-in-trust that makes financial contributions to UNESCO, Japan is actively promoting ESD by establishing the “UNESCO-Japan Prize on ESD,” which awards individuals and organizations that conduct excellent initiatives toward putting ESD into practice, and has been presented to 15 organizations to date. Moreover, as of December 2019, international discussions are ongoing, which are about formulating the ESD for 2030 Roadmap to specifically promote ESD.



Glossary

***Education 2030 Framework for Action**

The Education 2030 Framework for Action succeeds the EFA Dakar Framework for Action aimed at achieving education for all, adopted at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal in 2000. It was adopted at the Education 2030 High-Level Meeting, which was held to coincide with the UNESCO General Conference in 2015.

***Basic education**

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

***Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST)**

A university that was established based on the Agreement (Bilateral Agreement) Between the Governments of Japan and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Establish the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology, concluded in 2009. Based on the agreement, Japan provides technical support, including for improving education and research materials, while cooperating with universities in Japan, in order to open and operate E-JUST as a university based on the concept of providing graduate school, research-centered, pragmatic and international-standard education for a small number of students, which is characteristic of Japanese-style engineering education. Japan is currently implementing technical support aimed at establishing E-JUST's foundation as a top-level research university in Egypt in order to enable E-JUST to produce human resources in the field of industry and science and technology who will contribute to the development of the higher education sector and industries in the Middle East and Africa.

***Global Partnership for Education (GPE)**

GPE refers to an international partnership established under the leadership of the World Bank in 2002, which supports the education sector in developing countries. Its members include developing countries, donor countries and organizations, civil society, and private-sector corporations and foundations. It was renamed as GPE from Fast Track Initiative (FTI) in 2011.

***Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**

ESD refers to education that fosters builders of sustainable societies. "Sustainable development" means development that "meets the needs of the future generations while also meeting the needs of the present generation." In order to build such a society, it is necessary to perceive a variety of challenges in contemporary society such as the environment, poverty, human rights, peace, and development as one's own problems, and to then work to find solutions for them. For that purpose, ESD puts importance on creating new values and actions. ESD was affirmed as being the key for achieving all the SDGs in the resolutions of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2017. This was also reaffirmed in the "ESD for 2030" from 2020, which was adopted by a resolution of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, which started from 2019.

(4) Gender and Inclusive Growth

1. Promotion of Women's Empowerment and Participation

The social norms and systems in developing countries are generally shaped by men's perspectives, which renders women to be put in vulnerable positions in many aspects. Compared to the early 2000s, when the MDGs were established, girls' enrolment rate has improved considerably, women's political participation has increased, and as a result more women hold senior-level posts. However, there are still many countries where women continue to lack the same opportunities as men to participate in decision-making processes, which is not restricted to the public sphere such as high-level government decision-making, but also includes family and other private decision-making that affect the lives of women.

On the other hand, women are critical actors of development, and their participation will lead not only to the improvement of their own lives but also to more effective development. For example, improving the literacy of women who have had little or no educational opportunities so far, increases their access to correct information on public health and prevention of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS. This leads to appropriate family planning and promotes women's social advancement and economic empowerment. Moreover, it contributes to the inclusive economic growth of developing countries.

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) adopted at the United Nations Summit in 2015, it is strongly and clearly expressed that "Realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets." Moreover, Goal 5 of the SDGs seeks to "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." Gender equality and promoting women's empowerment are essential for realizing "quality growth." For this purpose, it is important for men and women to participate equally in all phases of development cooperation and to reap the benefits equally.



Japan's Efforts

With a determination that the 21st century should be a world with no human rights violations against women, Japan has been playing a leading role in the international community to promote gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment in order to build "a society where women shine" both domestically and globally, by setting the following three priority fields: (i) promotion of women and girls' rights, (ii) improving an enabling environment for women and girls to reach their full potentials, and



Prime Minister Abe receiving a courtesy call from Ms. Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, who visited Japan on the occasion of the 5th World Assembly for Women (WAW!) (March 2019) (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)

(iii) advancing women's leadership in political, economic and other public fields.

Since 2005, women have been a major topic of discussion at the G7 and G20 Summits, and Japan has actively participated in discussions within the international community. For example, Japan strongly supports the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi)*, of which the launch was announced in July 2017 at the G20 Hamburg Summit with a contribution of \$50 million. This is an important initiative that aims to help women in developing countries make their own living and promote their active involvement and contribution to society. Moreover, in March 2019, Japan held the 5th World Assembly for Women (WAW!) at the same time as the meeting of Women 20 (W20), a group led by the private sector that makes proposals to the G20 for enhancing the economic activities of women. During the meeting, Prime Minister Abe stated that Japan would provide opportunities for quality education and human resources development to at least four million girls and women in three years until 2020 in order to expand opportunities for education among women in developing countries. Furthermore, at the G20 Osaka Summit held in June 2019, women's empowerment was picked up as one of the main themes, and there were discussions on three points: (i) women's labor participation, (ii) support for girls' and women's education, and (iii) reflecting the voices of women business leaders including women entrepreneurs. In addition, the Leaders' Special Event on Women's Empowerment was held with the participation of the G20 Leaders, and the G20's commitment to promoting women's empowerment was reaffirmed.

Guyana and Commonwealth of Dominica

Project for Strengthening Women's Disaster Management Capacities in Guyana and Dominica (through UNDP)

Grant Aid (Partnership with UNDP) (June 2018 - June 2021)

Public nomination

The Republic of Guyana located on the north coast of the South American continent, and the Commonwealth of Dominica, a small island nation in the Caribbean Sea, are heavily impacted by climate change and have been subjected to many natural disasters. In fact, Dominica was seriously damaged by Hurricane Maria in 2017. Moreover, although approximately 90% of the populations of Guyana and Dominica live in coastal areas, they are facing the difficulties of coastal erosion and flooding caused by the rise of sea levels due to global warming. Climate change has become a major challenge that threatens the people and territory of the two countries.

In 2018, Japan began to provide assistance in partnership with UNDP to stabilize livelihoods and strengthen disaster response capabilities, mainly for women who are particularly vulnerable in times of disaster in remote and coastal areas of disaster-prone Guyana and Dominica. Through this cooperation, disaster risk reduction capacity in a total of 1,400 communities (around 20,000 households) is being strengthened through the development of an early warning system for natural disasters. Moreover, the stabilization of livelihoods through enhancing opportunities for micro-grant mechanisms and establishing information sharing and collaboration systems between communities through participation in workshops are being promoted.

For example, a participatory agrometeorology workshop was held to teach how to choose means of livelihood, including selecting appropriate agricultural crops and livestock based on weather information (past data and future forecast) according to each region.

Such efforts have strengthened the capacity of both representatives of women who live in inland and coastal rural areas of Guyana that are vulnerable to flooding and drought, as well as leaders of the Ministry of Agriculture. Based on the experience they gained from the workshop, some women started planting vegetables in their home gardens. There were about 450 participants of the workshop in the first year of the project, and the number of participants has continued to increase steadily thereafter.



A woman who started a vegetable garden in her home after joining a participatory agrometeorology workshop (Photo: UNDP Guyana)



Prime Minister Abe giving the opening speech at the 5th WAW! (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan)

Japan also provides assistance through UN Women. Japan provided approximately \$24 million in 2018 and around \$18 million in 2019 to contribute to initiatives for the political participation and economic empowerment of women, the eradication of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, a stronger role for women in the peace and security fields, and the strengthening of gender considerations in policies and budgets, etc. For example, in Jordan, 203 Syrian female refugees were given assistance in exchange of their work under the “Cash for Work” Program at the Zaatari refugee

camp and the Azraq refugee camp, and 50 female refugees successfully launched a microbusiness³¹ as entrepreneurs. In addition, through Oasis, a center to support women located in Jordan, Japan provides assistance for job training as well as support in the field of care services. This enabled the provision of counseling and psychological support services to over 700 women in refugee camps, while 99 men and boys acquired correct knowledge on gender-based violence through training on this topic. This support has yielded results, including the fact that 93% of the women who received support in Jordan answered that domestic violence had decreased, and 75% answered that female decision-making in the household had increased.

Japan considers that sexual violence in conflict cannot be tolerated. Therefore, Japan places importance on collaboration with the UN (OSRSG-SVC: The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict). In 2019, Japan provided over \$1.53 million in assistance to the OSRSG-SVC for projects in Iraq, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Central Africa, and is contributing to preventing sexual violence and strengthening response capacity through support for improving the judicial system to punish perpetrators.

Furthermore, based on the view that in order to realize a peaceful society more effectively, it is vital to integrate

31 A microbusiness is a small-scale business started by an individual or small group of people with minimal funding.



Female Syrian refugees receiving job training on sewing techniques at Oasis (Photo: UN Women)

a gender perspective and to secure women's participation in all stages of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building, Japan established its National Action Plan for the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

(WPS) and other relevant resolutions in 2015, and has been implementing the Plan. In March 2019, the revised version was formulated. Moreover, under the G7 WPS Partnership Initiative agreed upon at the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in 2018, Japan chose Sri Lanka as its partner country and from FY2019, Japan, in cooperation with the embassies of each G7 country in Sri Lanka, has been assisting Sri Lanka with the formulation of its WPS Action Plan, and also providing assistance in the field of health centered on reproductive health and for the financial empowerment of Sri Lankan women, including women who became widows due to the internal conflict over the past 26 years.

Japan will continue to cooperate with other countries to address the diversifying development issues through these efforts for achieving the empowerment of all women and girls, gender equality, and building a society and system in which men and women support each other.



Glossary

*Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi)

An initiative launched by the World Bank with 14 participating countries, aiming to support the economic independence of women in developing countries and to promote their social and economic participation, by implementing support to overcome the challenges which women entrepreneurs and women-led SMEs in such countries face including access to finance, legal systems, and others. The types of assistance We-Fi provides include financial access assistance for women entrepreneurs, advisory service to facilitate greater business with women entrepreneurs and technical assistance to improve the legal and regulatory systems of developing countries. The initiative is aiming to make more than \$1 billion funds available, with approximately \$350 million from donor countries and additional resources from the private-sector and international financial institutions.

2. Reducing Disparities (Assistance for People who Tend to be in Vulnerable Situations)

Ongoing efforts are being made to implement initiatives towards the achievement of the SDGs. Meanwhile, a number of issues such as the difficulty in identifying where problems lie and addressing them properly from the broader national level are gradually being brought to light. Even when responding to the "increase of disparities," similar problems exist. Moreover, challenges such as poverty, conflicts, infectious diseases, terrorism, and natural disasters have varying impact depending on the situations that individuals are in, including their country and region, or whether they are women and/or children. In order to deal with this situation, it is effective to adopt an approach that takes the standpoint of individual people, which is indispensable for the realization of a society that fulfills the SDGs principle of "no one will be left behind."



Japan's Efforts

... Assistance for Persons with Disabilities

It is important that capacity building and community development are promoted to ensure the social participation and inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in society, especially persons with disabilities. It is Japan's policy to pay due attention to the socially vulnerable, including

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

For example, Japan carefully tailors its assistance to suit various local needs, such as incorporating barrier-free design in the planning of railroad and airport construction, developing vocational training centers and rehabilitation facilities for persons with disabilities, and providing minibuses for their transportation. Additionally, through JICA, Japan provides a wide range of technical cooperation to enhance the capacity of organizations and personnel offering assistance to persons with disabilities in developing countries. These efforts include the acceptance of trainees in Japan from developing countries and the dispatch of JOCVs and experts in relevant sectors, including physical and occupational therapists and social workers.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ratified by Japan in 2014 established independent clauses setting out that state parties would undertake measures for international cooperation and its

Tajikistan

(1) Promotion of Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in Dushanbe

(2) Promotion of Inclusive Education (IE) for Children with Disabilities in Hissar

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

((1) January 2014 - February 2017, (2) June 2017 - (ongoing))

In Tajikistan, many children with disabilities are unable to attend school or receive education that is considerate of their disabilities due to traditional thinking about children with disabilities and inadequate school admissions systems. In order to deal with this situation, the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan), as the only Japanese NGO operating in Tajikistan, has been implementing projects from 2014 with the aim of promoting “inclusive education” that enables all children, regardless of whether or not they have disabilities, to study at mainstream schools in their communities while receiving consideration for the characteristics and/or disabilities of each child.

Initially there were some people opposed to admitting children with disabilities to schools. However, understanding towards inclusive education gradually spread by promoting various initiatives, such as



Learning sign language in an equipped resource class for children with disabilities (Photo: AAR Japan)



A student with disabilities and her mother using the renovated entrance ramp with a donated wheelchair (Photo: AAR Japan)

development of barrier-free renovations of schools, establishment of resource classes for children with disabilities where they can receive appropriate learning support and occupational therapy, training for teachers, and awareness-raising activities for parents and community residents. Today, many children with disabilities are enrolled in schools, and even parents of children without disabilities are saying that it is a good thing that children with disabilities are now able to attend schools with their children and that their children have become more kind and considerate of others.

In the capital city of Dushanbe, a total of 230 children with disabilities have been able to attend schools through a three-year project. Even after the completion of the project, a group of local people there opened the country's first cafe where children with disabilities are able to work. In this way, these initiatives and support for children with disabilities have been steadily taken up by the local people and are expanding.

promotion (Article 32), and Japan continues to contribute to improving the rights of persons with disabilities in developing countries through ODA and other means.

*** Assistance for Children

Generally, children tend to be in vulnerable situations, and today, there are many children in regions around the world that have been placed in harsh environments due to conflicts, natural disasters, etc. Also, the number of refugees and internally-displaced children is rapidly increasing. Japan is providing a variety of humanitarian and development assistance to improve the situation of children in developing countries.

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

Specifically, in Myanmar, Japan is cooperating in the construction of a new school building at Lay Yin Kwin



Former State Minister for Foreign Affairs SATO Masahisa surrounded by children at an elementary school in Mauritania, constructed with support from Japan (February 2019)

Ward Basic Education High School in Puta-O Township, Kachin State, where many minority children and students go to school. It is expected that this assistance will contribute to improving the learning environment for the 968 children and students who took classes at the severely aged school building. In addition, in 2019 in Nepal, Japan provided assistance through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects for the construction of a School Lunch Preparation Center for public

schools in Budhanilkantha Municipality in Kathmandu District, where many children from economically poor households are enrolled. This cooperation provides school lunches to about 5,000 public school students in the city, and is expected to improve the students' nutrition and learning environment. Moreover, through the Project for Construction of School Classrooms in Fidel Castro Ruz Primary School in Tobias Hainyeko Constituency, Khomas Region, Namibia, five new classrooms were constructed at the school, enabling over 630 children to learn effectively by reducing the number of children per class.



A dance performance by children on the school grounds of Fidel Castro Ruz Primary School in Namibia, where Japan supported the construction of classrooms

Japan also provides assistance in cooperation with international organizations. With regard to Cambodia, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes concerning the grant aid “Project for the Prevention of and Response to Violence against Children in Cambodia (through UNICEF)” in January 2019. Under this project, Japan will conduct training that is recognized worldwide for the eradication of violence for the government officials of Cambodia, in order to further expand the implementation scale of

the main initiatives to prevent and respond to violence against children. In addition, Japan will strengthen the communication skills of social workers and medical professionals, who actually come face-to-face with the children. This is expected to lead to a reduction in physical violence in educational settings, etc. and to the creation of an environment in which children who have suffered physical violence can easily consult with counselors.

In addition, Japan, in cooperation with WFP, provided assistance to Pakistan regarding the distribution of nutrition supplement foods and nutrition and health training to infants, pregnant women and lactating women among Afghan refugees, internally displaced persons, and the host community in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province in 2019. This cooperation is expected to improve the nutrition of infants and pregnant and lactating women, through the enhanced nutritional intake of approximately 30,000 infants and around 28,000 pregnant and lactating women who are diagnosed with malnutrition, and mentor training for over 200 female healthcare workers in the target area of the Province.

Furthermore, in Afghanistan, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes regarding the grant aid “Project for Infectious Diseases Prevention for Children (through UNICEF)” in December 2019. This cooperation enables vaccinations for approximately 1.31 million babies under the age of one and 2.92 million women in the reproductive age group, through support for the provision of vaccines necessary for routine immunizations. This support will also enable the polio vaccination of a total of 11 million children under the age of five. Furthermore, it is also expected that the steady implementation of campaigns for routine immunizations and the polio vaccine will contribute to preventing and eliminating infectious diseases among children, such as polio, throughout the country (see page 53 “Polio” for details on support for polio prevention and eradication).

(5) Culture and Sports

In developing countries, there is a growing interest in the preservation and promotion of their own cultures. Cultural heritage that symbolizes a country is a source of pride for people, and, as tourism resources, can be effectively utilized to develop the socio-economic environment of the residents in the surrounding areas. On the other hand, there are also a number of cultural heritage sites that are exposed to an existential crisis due to the lack of funds, equipment, technology, etc. Assistance to protect such cultural heritage directly reaches the hearts of the people in recipient countries and has long-lasting effects of cooperation. In addition, the preservation and promotion of culture, such as invaluable cultural heritages that are shared by all humankind, is an issue that should be addressed not only by the countries with cultural heritage in danger, but also by the entire international community.

Moreover, interest in the promotion of sports is also growing in developing countries. Sports can enhance the quality of people's lives, as they cultivate a sense of respect for opponents, a spirit of mutual understanding and awareness of norms, as well as help maintain and improve health. The influence and positive power of sports play the role of “catalyzer” for the development and growth of developing countries.



Japan's Efforts

Japan has provided assistance for the promotion of culture and higher education, as well as the preservation of cultural heritage, and promotion of sports in developing countries, through the Cultural Grant Assistance* since 1975. Specifically, Japan has constructed facilities necessary for preserving and utilizing cultural heritage and cultural properties, sports and cultural facilities, and facilities of higher education and research institutions in developing countries. Japan has also provided necessary equipment for these facilities (see the column on page 114 for details). Such facilities built in developing countries also serve as hubs for spreading information about Japan and holding cultural exchanges with Japan, as well as deepening understanding of Japan and fostering a sense of affinity toward Japan.

In 2019, Japan approved 17 projects to provide support in the fields of education, including Japanese language education, broadcasting and publishing, and sports under the Cultural Grant Assistance. Furthermore, Japan continued its proactive efforts to provide sports assistance using ODA and “Projects for Sports Diplomacy Enhancement” to advance “Sport for Tomorrow,” a program launched for the purpose of international contribution through sports, with which Japan shares the

value of sports and spreads the Olympic and Paralympic movement as the host country of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 (see page 71, “ODA Topics” for details). In addition, Japan has dispatched 214 JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) in the field of sports.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) teaching judo techniques to students in Malawi.

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 the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Placing a particular emphasis on human resources development in developing countries, based on the idea of enabling people in these countries to protect the cultural heritage of their own country by themselves in the future, Japan also endeavors to dispatch international experts, mainly Japanese experts, as well as hold workshops in order to transfer the technology and expertise to developing countries. In addition to tangible cultural heritage, Japan also supports the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional dances, music, handcraft techniques, and oral lore (oral traditions) by implementing successor training, records conservation, the creation of safeguard mechanisms, and other activities through the above-mentioned Funds-in-Trust.

Furthermore, Japan is also conducting training programs with the aim of improving capabilities for the protection of cultural heritage by inviting young experts involved 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 to conducting biennial training on maintenance and repair methods for wooden buildings and survey records of archeological remains, a training on museums and a workshop in Cambodia were conducted for experts in Central Asia in 2019.

Papua New Guinea

Assistance to the Papua New Guinea Defence Force Military Band Dispatch of JICA expert on Capacity Development of the PNG Military Band (March 2017 - March 2019) Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (August 2017)

Public
nomination

In November 2018, Papua New Guinea hosted the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit for the first time as the chair in its capital, Port Moresby. On the occasion of the gala dinner, the Papua New Guinea Defence Force (PNGDF) Military Band performed to welcome heads of states upon their arrival at the venue. When Prime Minister Abe and his wife arrived, the Japanese children's song "Furusato" was performed to welcome them.

Japan has been providing assistance to the PNGDF Military Band since it was established in January 2017. As part of Japanese assistance to the government of Papua New Guinea, which served as the APEC Chair in 2018, Japan supported the Military Band to help them perform at a series of APEC events. When the Military Band was first formed, most of the members could not read a musical score, and it was their first time even holding wind instruments. However, through Japan's assistance, the Military Band drastically improved their skills, and became capable of performing at official APEC events in less than two years.



The Military Band performing at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Papua New Guinea (Photo: JICA)

Since January 2017, training teams of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) Central Band were dispatched to Papua New Guinea over ten times to provide music lessons for several weeks.

Moreover, in March 2017, Mr. MIZUSHINA Katsuo, a JICA expert and a former leader of the Japan Air Self-Defense Force Central Band, was dispatched to Papua New Guinea to provide technical assistance on performance in coordination with the training provided by the JGSDF Central Band teams for two years. A set of new musical instruments was also provided through the Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, and a set of used instruments was donated by Sendai Ikuei High School, which has a sister school in Port Moresby. In addition, the Japanese government held a nationwide composition contest in Japan and presented the Military Band with "March Port Moresby," a march to be performed at APEC official events. This march is still played at various official events.

Through the support from Japan, the Military Band actively continues to perform while regularly receiving music lessons from the JGSDF Central Band even after completion of the JICA expert dispatch period. In October 2019, the Military Band was invited to Sydney to participate in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a showcase for military bands from around the world.

As can be seen from the fact that the tremendously improved Military Band is loved by the people of Papua New Guinea, as well as expanding its fields of activity, it is considered as one of the achievements of Japanese assistance on human resource development.



JICA expert Mizushima giving instructions to the Military Band on their performance (Photo: JICA)

Glossary

*Cultural Grant Assistance

Cultural Grant Assistance are grants provided to procure equipment and supplies, and improve facilities for the promotion of culture and higher education in developing countries. It is intended to encourage cultural and educational advancements in developing countries as well as cultural exchanges between Japan and these countries, with a view to deepening friendships and mutual understanding. This cooperation includes Cultural Grant Assistance, which provides assistance to governmental organizations of developing countries, and Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, which provides assistance to NGOs and local public entities for small-scale projects.

(6) Environment and Climate Change Actions

The importance of initiatives to address environmental and climate change issues is recognized globally, as such issues have been repeatedly taken up as one of the main topics at the G7 and G20 Summits, and are also mentioned in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted at the UN Summit in 2015. Japan has been vigorously working on addressing these issues, and will continue to actively participate in discussions in the international community.



Japan's Efforts

... Conservation of the Marine Environment

Marine plastic litter is a pressing issue that can have an adverse impact on the marine ecosystem, tourism, fisheries, and human health. In recent years, measures to address this issue have become increasingly important. At the G20 Osaka Summit in June 2019, under Japan's leadership as the G20 Presidency, the member countries shared the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, which aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050. In order to achieve the Vision, Japan announced that it would support capacity building, infrastructure development, and more concerning waste management in developing countries, and launched the MARINE Initiative that focuses on (i) MANAGEMENT of wastes, (ii) Recovery of marine litter, (iii) INnovation, and (iv) Empowerment, to encourage effective marine plastic litter measures worldwide. Under the Initiative, Japan will continue to support capacity-building in developing countries to promote waste management, collection of marine waste, and innovation through specific policies (see "ODA Topics" on page 76 for details).

In addition, at the G20 Osaka Summit, the G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter was endorsed to promote cooperation on effective measures by the countries toward realizing the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision. Consequently, in October 2019, the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue 2019 and Follow-up of the G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter was held in Tokyo. During the meeting, the measures and good practices of the various countries were reported and shared based on the Implementation Framework, and it was reaffirmed that the countries will promote measures and policies through mutual study by the governments of each country and international organizations, as well as other means, in order to realize the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision.

Moreover, as part of expanding assistance for ASEAN concerning marine plastic litter that was announced at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in November 2018, Japan has provided trainings in Japan on survey and analysis methods on marine plastic litter, including microplastics, from August 2019. By the end of September 2019, nine people from Indonesia, Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Thailand have participated in the training. In addition, preliminary



Minister of the Environment KOIZUMI Shinjiro attending the photograph session at the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue and Follow-up of the Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter (October 2019) (Photo: Ministry of the Environment)

surveys for local pilot joint surveys concerning marine litter were held in Indonesia in September 2019 and in Viet Nam in November 2019. Furthermore, at the Eighth Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Summit held in December 2019, Japan, China and the Republic of Korea affirmed that they would promote joint efforts regarding issues of common interest including marine plastic litter.

... Climate Change

Climate change is a global issue that requires a cross-border approach, and strengthening concerted efforts by the international community including both developed and developing countries is needed. Given the fact that the Kyoto Protocol adopted in 1997 imposed the obligations of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions only on developed countries, the Paris Agreement was adopted at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21), held in Paris in 2015, as a new framework under which all countries would work toward GHG emission reductions. The Paris Agreement entered into force in 2016. Upon the adoption of the Paris Agreement, negotiations concerning the implementation guidelines commenced toward its full implementation after 2020. The implementation guidelines were adopted at COP24 in 2018. However, an agreement was not reached at COP24 on the implementation guidelines of the market mechanisms. Since the parties were not able to reach an agreement at COP25 held in Madrid, Spain, in December 2019 as well, it was decided that negotiations will continue with a view to adopting the guidelines at COP26. On the other hand, concrete progress was observed on agenda items such as loss and damage (loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change), gender and climate change, and the impact of implementing response measures (social and economic impacts arising from the implementation of mitigation policies and actions).

In June 2019, Japan's Long-term Strategy under the Paris Agreement was approved by the Cabinet, with its ultimate goal of realizing a decarbonized society as early as possible in the second half of this century. In the field

of climate change, new technologies are being created that are key to realizing a decarbonized society in relation to carbon recycling such as artificial photosynthesis, carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), and hydrogen. The aim is to realize “a virtuous cycle of environment and growth” through the promotion of such innovation, introduction of private financing, and improvement of business environments.

Moreover, Japan is actively supporting climate change actions in developing countries. As part of this effort, Japan is promoting the “Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM),”^{*} which facilitates the global application of Japan’s advanced low carbon and decarbonized technologies, including in developing countries. This will contribute to GHG emission reductions in developing countries, and enable the bilateral sharing of the results. In 2013, Japan signed the first bilateral document pertaining to the JCM implementation with Mongolia, and to date, it has established the JCM with 17 countries as of the end of 2019. So far, the JCM credits have been issued from 33 energy-saving and renewable energy projects in Indonesia, Mongolia, Palau, Viet Nam, Thailand, and other countries. These JCM projects are contributing to emission reductions worldwide.



The 8th Joint Committee between Japan and Viet Nam concerning the JCM (May 2019)

In addition, Japan supports developing countries through its contribution to the Green Climate Fund^{*}, the world’s largest multilateral climate fund. In October 2019, Japan announced that it would contribute up to \$1.5 billion to the GCF’s First Replenishment in addition to its initial contribution of \$1.5 billion at the High-Level Pledging Conference held in Paris. In the GCF, a total of 124 projects have been approved by December 2019, with a large number of them entering the implementation phase. In July 2017, JICA and MUFG Bank were approved as GCF’s Accredited Entities, and in July 2019, a proposal by MUFG Bank was adopted as its first project, which would construct solar power and pumped-storage hydroelectricity facilities in Chile.

... Biodiversity

Expansion in the types, scope, and scale of human activities has given rise to serious concerns about further degradation of habitats and the destruction of the ecosystem in recent years. Japan places importance on biodiversity initiatives, such as hosting the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10)^{*} in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture in October 2010. With the aim of providing support for measures such as the capacity development of developing countries toward the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,^{*} Japan contributes to the “Japan Biodiversity Fund,” through which the Secretariat of the Convention organizes workshops to support the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans. In addition, Japan held the Regional Consultation Workshop for Asia and the Pacific in Nagoya City in January 2019 as part of the process of formulating the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, including the next global goals that will replace the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. During the Workshop, Japan’s contributions to the formulation of the Framework were explained.

In recent years, illegal trade in wildlife, including elephant ivory, has become an increasingly serious issue. It is also drawing the attention of the international community as one of the sources of funding for international terrorist organizations. Along with actively participating in the discussions at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Japan works on resolving these issues in cooperation with the international community through contributing to projects implemented by the CITES Secretariat. Specifically, Japan supported the construction of facilities for implementing elephant poaching countermeasures in Uganda and Mozambique and held handover ceremonies in April and July 2019, respectively.



Assistance to Uganda in Developing a Strategic Anti-Poaching Outpost for Elephants by the Government of Japan

*** Environmental Pollution Control Measures

Japan has accumulated abundant knowledge, experience, and technology related to environmental pollution control measures, and has been utilizing them to solve environmental pollution problems in developing countries. At the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury held in Japan in 2013, Japan took the lead in the adoption of the “Minamata Convention on Mercury” as the President, and this Convention entered into force in August 2017. Japan is exercising 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 disease³². At the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in November 2019, Japan was elected to the Implementation and Compliance Committee that promotes implementation and compliance of the Convention, and is actively contributing to the international rules-making of mercury regulations.

In addition, in the field of waste management, the Ministry of the Environment held the Ninth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok from March 4 to 6, 2019 jointly with Thailand’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD). During the Forum, various countries shared information on systematic and technological aspects useful for the promotion of 3R³³, and as the outcome document, the Bangkok 3R Declaration Towards Prevention of Plastic Waste Pollution through 3R and Circular Economy was adopted. Moreover, the 2nd General Meeting of the

African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP) was held as an official side event of TICAD7 in Yokohama from August 26 to 27, 2019. The ACCP was established by the Ministry of the Environment together with JICA, Yokohama City, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the United Nations Human Settlement Plan (UN-Habitat) in April 2017 with the goals of, among others, sharing knowledge concerning waste in Africa and promoting the achievement of the SDGs. The Yokohama Action Guidance for the ACCP, which indicates the direction for future activities of the ACCP, was adopted as an outcome document of the meeting. It was affirmed that the results of the meeting will be incorporated into TICAD7, and there will be further promotion of waste management in various African countries. Consequently, the Yokohama Plan of Action 2019, the outcome document of TICAD7, included a description concerning the ACCP as an initiative to enhance waste management systems.



Garbage bins to promote 3R placed at an elementary school in Thua Thien Hue Province, Viet Nam through support from Japan

³² Minamata disease is a toxic nervous disorder caused by ingesting fish and shellfish contaminated with methylmercury compounds discharged from chemical plants. The disease was officially acknowledged in May 1956 in and around Minamata Bay area in Kumamoto Prefecture, and in May 1965 in the Agano River basin of Niigata Prefecture.

³³ A term referring to the first letter of Reduce (reduce waste), Reuse, and Recycle.



Glossary

*Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

A mechanism to appropriately evaluate contributions by Japan for GHG emission reductions or removals in a quantitative manner through the provision of Japan's advanced low carbon and decarbonized technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure to developing countries and implementation of greenhouse gas reduction projects that aim to diffuse them, as well as the utilization of the achieved reductions as "credit" to achieve Japan's emission reduction target.

*Green Climate Fund (GCF)

A multilateral fund established by the decision of the Cancun Agreements adopted at COP16 in 2010, in order to support developing countries in reducing/sequestering their greenhouse gases (mitigation) and enhancing their ability to respond to climate change (adaptation).

*Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

A convention adopted in 1992 due to the need to address biodiversity issues on a global scale as the issues related to living organisms are borderless. The objectives of the 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.

*Aichi Biodiversity Targets (The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets were set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted at COP10 in 2010. It sets a goal to realize "Living in Harmony with Nature" by 2050, and established 20 individual short-term targets called the "Aichi Biodiversity Targets" in order to implement actions to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2020.

(7) Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction, Measures of Disaster Risk Reduction, and Post-Disaster Recovery and Creating Sustainable Cities

Disasters including earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons, floods, droughts, and debris flows, that occur frequently around the world do not merely take human lives and property. In developing countries that are vulnerable to disasters, the poor are more likely to be affected significantly and displaced by disasters. In addition, protracted secondary damage such as the deterioration of sanitary conditions and food shortages, can increase the severity of the issue, and have a significant impact on the entire society and economy in developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary to build a disaster-resilient and flexible society to protect human lives from disasters. At the same time, efforts aimed at sustainable development are needed. Among them, it is important to promote the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction” that introduces the perspective of disaster risk reduction in all the development policies and plans.

Moreover, in recent years, attention has been focused on the various issues relating to the management of cities, which serve as primary settlement areas of humans and are the focal points of economic, social, and political activities. For example, such issues include measures to handle the disposal of the substantial amount of waste emitted in urban areas and suburbs, prevention of air,

water, and other pollution, development of infrastructure facilities including sewage and waste treatment systems, and responses to rapid population increases and the consequent rapid pace of urbanization. Addressing these issues and engaging in efforts to realize sustainable cities have become priorities for development cooperation. Thus, among the SDGs, Goal 11 sets forth the following task: “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” Likewise, there is growing international interest in resolving the issues of human settlements, including 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. In 2015, as a result of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai City, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was adopted. The Sendai Framework incorporated ideas proposed by Japan, such as the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction,” the importance of investment in disaster risk reduction, the commitments of diverse stakeholders,

Myanmar

Enhancing Comprehensive School Safety in Collaboration with Community in Hinthada Township

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (March 2018 - (ongoing))

Public nomination

The Nabegon village, located in the Hinthada Township of Myanmar, has been flooded for months in the rainy season when the water level of the neighboring Ayeyarwady River rose. There was no safe shelter from flood waters although the water level could reach as high as two meters, and the old wooden building of the local school, which was easily affected by floods, made it often impossible to continue classes.

In response, SEEDS Asia, a non-profit organization engaged in capacitating people and communities to be more resilient to disasters, constructed a “school-cum-shelter” made with reinforced concrete and equipped with raised floors to ensure continued education opportunities and protection of the village residents during floods. This facility is intended to be used as a center for educational and community activities in normal daily life, and is designed to maintain spaces for conducting classes while accommodating evacuees when a flood hits the village. The facility's basic concept of ensuring the health and safety of children while being disaster-resilient, as well as serving as a local disaster management hub, derives from the reconstructive primary schools once built in Japan as part of the reconstruction



The completed school-cum-shelter (Photo: SEEDS Asia)

projects following the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923. Moreover, furniture such as unused desks, chairs, and blackboards donated by Tamba City, Hyogo Prefecture, due to a decline in

its population of schoolchildren, is now being used in Nabegon primary school. Volunteers gathered from all over Japan for the cleaning and transportation of the furniture from Tamba, and new relationships between the children of Tamba City and children of Nabegon village

were established through the exchange of video letters. Additionally, donations by citizens of Japan and Myanmar enabled the installation of a ramp for easier access by the elderly and children with lower limb disabilities to the facility.

In order to make effective use of this facility, SEEDS Asia set up a village disaster management committee consisting of 41 teachers and local residents. In this fiscal year, capacity building training is being carried out each month targeting Nabegon village as well as its surrounding 12 villages. This training aims at enhancing the disaster response capacity of the villages including with the cooperation of Kyoto Municipal Takakura Elementary School, which has a school management council operated by the community, and introducing good practices and the mechanism of collaborative activities between the school and its community.



Children of Nabegon village primary school studying with the school furniture donated by Tamba City and children of Hyogo Prefecture (Photo: SEEDS Asia)



A teacher at an elementary school in Nepal reading aloud a picture story on topics such as evacuation methods during disasters as part of a project through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (Photo: Shanti Volunteer Association)

the concept of “Build Back Better,” and the importance of women’s leadership.

Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe announced the Sendai Cooperation Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction Phase 2 in 2019 as a new support initiative that would become Japan’s future basic policy for cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction. Japan demonstrated its attitude to further contribute to the international community by utilizing its advanced expertise and technology in the field of disaster risk reduction through this announcement. Under this initiative, Japan announced to provide support for at least five million people over the four-year period from 2019 to 2022 through flood countermeasures and other measures that contribute to making the world resilient against disasters so that everyone can live in safety, as well as human resources development for a total of 48,000 officials and local leaders, and disaster risk reduction education for a total of 37,000 children who will create the next generation. Such efforts by Japan enhanced not only the quality of building structures and improvement of disaster monitoring facilities in each country, but also the development of human resources in fields such as laws and plans enactment related to disaster risk reduction, formulation of disaster risk reduction policies, and disaster monitoring. Consequently, the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction is progressing in each country.

In addition, at the UN summit that adopted the 2030 Agenda in September 2015, Prime Minister Abe encouraged other countries to set the UN’s World Tsunami Awareness Day in order to raise awareness of tsunamis. As a result, a resolution adopted at the UN General Assembly in December the same year, established November 5 as World Tsunami Awareness Day. Accordingly, Japan organized the “High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day 2019 in Hokkaido” in Sapporo, on September 2019.

... Realizing Sustainable Cities

Based on the Development Cooperation Charter, Japan implements initiatives to resolve global issues directly related to human settlements, including efforts for promoting disaster risk reduction, recovery from natural disasters, and a sound water cycle. In particular, drawing on its know-how and experience, Japan develops infrastructure, including water and sewage, waste, and energy facilities. In addition, Japan carries out disaster risk reduction programs, human resources development, etc. based on the concept of “Build Back Better,” striving to build cities that are more resilient to natural disasters after rebuilding. Furthermore, Japan implements initiatives through providing assistance to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), which promotes sustainable urban development. One example can be seen in Japan’s collaboration with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), based in Fukuoka, to introduce the environmental technology of private-sector companies and local governments in Japan to their overseas counterparts.

Moreover, at the Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) held in Quito, Ecuador in South America in 2016, the New Urban Agenda (NUA) was adopted as a policy for international efforts aimed at the solution of issues pertaining to urban problems and human settlements, based on the results of the efforts that each country has undertaken in the area of human settlement. NUA contributes to the achievement of the SDGs including Goal 11, and Japan is also advancing efforts aimed at the implementation of NUA.

(8) Food Security³⁴ and Nutrition

The number of chronically undernourished people in the world is estimated at 821.6 million (approximately one in nine people in the world) in 2018, according to the “2019 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World” jointly prepared and published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the World Health Organization (WHO). Although the number of chronically undernourished people had been on a declining trend for more than 10 years until 2014, it has continued to rise since the trend was reversed in 2015. In order to achieve Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), “End hunger, achieve food security and nutrition improvement, and promote sustainable agriculture,” it is vital to put in greater effort. Furthermore, climate change and extreme weather phenomenon in recent years have given rise to a severe food crisis, making it one of the important factors leading to the recent increase in the starving population. Hence, there are calls around the world to accelerate

³⁴ A state where all people, at all times, can access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.

and expand action toward strengthening resilience and adaptability (see page 72 for details on “Issues regarding Climate Change”).

In order to achieve food security, there is a need for multifaceted measures based on international coordination. These measures include not only a sustainable increase in the production of food, but also improvement of nutrition, establishment of a social safety net³⁵, provision of necessary food assistance, and implementation of countermeasures against infectious diseases among livestock. Improving the nutritional status during the first 1,000 days from pregnancy to the child’s second birthday is said to be particularly important as it has a significant impact on the child’s long-term growth thereafter.

In establishing food security, measures toward developing the agricultural sector in developing countries is a pressing issue. Since many of the poor in developing countries live in the rural area, and the majority depend on agriculture for their livelihoods, it is important to tackle the development of agriculture and farming communities. Furthermore, many farmers in developing countries are unable to sell their agricultural products at a high price, and this, among other factors, makes it difficult for them to get out of poverty. Thus, one of the proposed solutions for this is to build a food value chain. This is an initiative in which many stakeholders, including the farmers, suppliers of the necessary farming implements such as seeds, fertilizers, and farming machinery, processing companies of agricultural produce, transportation and distribution companies, and retailers, cooperate to create a chain that can enhance the added value of agricultural produce from the stages of production, to manufacturing and processing, distribution, and consumption. The added value of agricultural produce, specifically, includes improving the quality of products, developing attractive new products, reducing transportation costs, and increasing sales opportunities by expanding the sales network.



Japan's Efforts

Japan proactively addresses global food security issues, giving priority to cooperation for the promotion of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, including the development of food value chains. In the short term, Japan provides food assistance to developing countries to avert food shortages, and in the medium to long term, it aims to help increase and improve agricultural production and productivity in developing countries in order to prevent and eliminate the causes of food-related problems including hunger. As its medium to long-term support, specifically, Japan uses its knowledge and experience to strengthen research and technology development, along with capacity-building in disseminating this technology in a way that is suited to the cultivation environment, promote



JICA Bolivia Office conducting a campaign to increase consumption of farmed Bolivian rainbow trout with the Aquaculture Center at Lake Titicaca (Photo: JICA)

the sustainable use of fishery resources, strengthen organizations of farmers, assist in policymaking, as well as to improve infrastructure such as irrigation facilities, farm roads, and fishing ports.

... Efforts to Provide Food Assistance and Improve Nutrition

Japan is providing food assistance based on requests from developing countries confronting food shortages. In FY2018, Japan contributed a total of ¥5.11 billion as bilateral food assistance in 15 countries, and provided approximately 80,000 tons of grains (rice and wheat), which mainly include Japanese government rice.

Japan, in cooperation with international organizations, is also engaged in efforts to provide food assistance from the perspective of preventing the occurrence and recurrence of conflicts, which is a cause of starvation. For example, through WFP, Japan implements measures such as emergency food assistance, school feeding programs to improve access to education, as well as food assistance to support the self-reliance of local communities by encouraging people, through the distribution of food, to participate in the development of agricultural land and social infrastructure. In 2018, WFP conducted activities including the distribution of approximately 3.9 million tons of food to around 86.7 million people in 83 countries around the world. In 2019, Japan contributed a total of \$155.23 million to WFP projects.

As for initiatives for nutritional improvement, in addition to bilateral assistance for the promotion of breastfeeding and the training of health professionals, Japan also provides assistance through multilateral cooperation by contributing to organizations such as UNICEF and WFP. Japan also participates in the international nutritional improvement initiative, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) as a donor country. In recent years, Japan is also putting effort into promoting nutritional improvement programs in collaboration with private companies, and launched the Nutrition Japan Public Private Platform (NJPPP) in 2016.

35 A mechanism in which people can live in safety and without difficulties.

Japan's Diplomatic Initiatives for Food Security

[Background]

Situation in Japan

- ✓ Depends on other countries for 60% of its food supply on a calorie basis, and 30% of its food supply on a production basis
- ✓ Challenges in increasing production (shortage of manpower due to the decline and aging of farming population, etc.)



Situation in the world

- ✓ Growth in global population
- ✓ Changes in dietary habits due to economic development in emerging countries
- ✓ Increase in production of bioenergy
- ✓ Climate change, frequent occurrences of abnormal weather conditions
- ✓ Limited number of countries with excess export capacity
- ✓ Rise in uncertainty of food prices, and financial commoditization of agricultural products

[Diplomatic initiatives]

1. Promote food production worldwide

- **Promote investment**
For the promotion of responsible investment in agriculture, promote the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems formulated by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), and hold bilateral dialogues and Joint Public-Private Missions for the establishment of food value chains through public-private partnership, etc.
- **Promote the development of agriculture and agricultural settlements, as well as research and development, and the spread of technology**
Development of Cerrado in Brazil, Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD), etc.
- **Respond to climate change**
Prevention of drought and other natural disasters, and construction of early warning systems, etc.

2. Create stable agricultural product markets and trading systems

- **Initiatives towards maintaining/strengthening free trade systems, monitoring of market functions**
Efforts to realize the prohibition of export restrictions in principle under WTO, strengthening regulations on export restrictions in Economic Partnership Agreements, follow-up on price trends (e.g. through the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)), and measures against price fluctuations, etc.

3. Provide support/safety-nets for the vulnerable

- **Setting of goals at multilateral fora**
Setting of the realization of zero-hunger as one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Goal 2 of the SDGs)
Formulation of the "G7 Vision for Action on Food Security and Nutrition" at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016 in order to achieve the goal of lifting 500 million people out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030, set at the G7 Elmau Summit in 2015.
- **Bilateral support**
Support for agricultural development through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), etc.
- **Food assistance and nutritional support in cooperation with international organizations**
Contributions to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP), Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and others, provision of dietary supplements, providing means of livelihood, Nutrition Japan Public Private Platform (NJPPP), etc.

4. Develop systems in preparation for emergency situations and food crises

- **International cooperative frameworks**
ASEAN+3 Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR), Rapid Response Forum (RRF) of the G20

Through this platform, in cooperation with partners from private companies, civil society, and academic research institutions, Japan contributes to nutrition improvement specifically by creating an environment that can boost initiatives of Japanese food-related enterprises, etc. for nutritional improvement in developing countries.

Japan has further intensified its efforts to improve nutrition. For example, at the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI), Japan launched the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA) with the aim of accelerating nutrition improvement in Africa, and announced the expansion of IFNA's experience and knowledge throughout the African continent to improve the nutrition of 200 million children under the age of five in Africa at the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).

*** Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020

Positioning nutrition as an important basic area for achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Japan as the host country of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games will hold the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020. Through this summit, Japan aims to promote international initiatives for resolving malnutrition.

At the Summit, discussions on various topics related to nutrition will be conducted with a large number of stakeholders in order to resolve challenges. Specifically, the following five themes are planned to be discussed: integrating nutrition to UHC, building healthy and sustainable food systems, addressing malnutrition in vulnerable contexts, promoting data-driven monitoring (accountability), and securing financial resources for improving nutrition (see page 48 for details on UHC).

*** Establishment of Food Value Chains, and Promotion of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Japan is promoting the establishment of food value chains for developing countries through public-private partnership. In FY2019, Japan organized bilateral policy dialogues with Viet Nam, Cambodia, India, Brazil, and Russia. In December 2019, Japan formulated the "Plan to Promote the Establishment of Food Value Chains," which stipulates priority initiatives for building food value chains in countries and regions throughout the world.

Moreover, with the aim of realizing food security and eradicating poverty in Africa, Japan places emphasis on agriculture as an industry that plays an important role in Africa's economic growth, and contributes to its

development. For instance, Japan supports the research of NERICA* (New Rice for Africa), a cross-breed between Asian rice and African rice, and the spread of its production techniques, as well as support for increasing rice production based on the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Moreover, at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) held in 2008, Japan established the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)*, and announced the CARD Initiative. Since then, Japan had established a goal of increasing rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa from 14 million tons as of 2008 to double that amount by 2018. In fact, the annual rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa (provisional value) increased to 30.1 million tons by 2017, meaning that the initial goal of doubling production has been achieved.

Furthermore, at TICAD7 in 2019, Japan announced the launch of CARD 2nd phase in order to achieve a goal of further doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa (from the 2018 goal of 28 million tons to 56 million tons by 2030). Under CARD 2nd phase, efforts are strengthened toward doubling rice production by increasing the number

of eligible recipient countries from 23 to 32 and adopting the RICE (Resilience, Industrialization, Competitiveness, Empowerment) approach* including efforts for enhancing the quality of locally-produced rice.

Also, in order to promote the transition from self-sufficient agriculture to income generating agricultural activities, on the occasion of the Fifth Tokyo International



A JICA expert (left) giving instructions on how to use fertilizer in rice cultivation as part of the SHEP approach project in Rwanda (Smallholder Market-oriented Agriculture Project in Rwanda: SMAP) (Photo: JICA)

Senegal

Project for Improvement of Irrigated Rice Productivity in the Senegal River Valley (PAPRI22)

Technical Cooperation (April 2016 - March 2021)

Rice is one of the staple foods of Senegal, which is a leading rice consuming country in West Africa. However, domestic rice production has not kept up with demand, and the country faces the challenge of improving its self-sufficiency rate.

Japan has been continuing its cooperation for supporting the improvement of rice self-sufficiency in Senegal, and to date, has been implementing a number of rice cultivation projects, particularly in the Senegal River valley in northern Senegal, where more than 70% of the country's domestic rice is produced.

Under this project, which has been implemented since 2016, Japan has cooperated closely with related organizations such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment and other central ministries and agencies to support the formulation of a medium- to long-term master plan for rice cultivation in the Senegal River valley. The Master Plan has been highly recognized by the Government of Senegal because it included reviews of agricultural development and technical



Conducting waterway compaction work as part of a farmer-participatory construction work in the department of Podor in January 2018 under the guidance of SAED (National Company of Development and Exploitation of Land in the Delta of Senegal River, and Faleme Valleys) extension officers who had received the leader's training on maintenance and management under PAPRI22 (Photo: JICA)



Instructing a women's group in the department of Dagana on the operation of a rice-polishing machine in September 2018 (Photo: JICA)

assistance in the Senegal River valley and recommendations for the Government, and emphasized the importance of ownership by the Senegalese side in the formulation process. Moreover, the Master Plan has greatly contributed to Senegal's rice cultivation policy, through its incorporation into the country's national rice development plan.

Furthermore, Japan is providing technical supports to improve rice productivity and quality in the departments of Dagana and Podor, which are especially active in rice cultivation in the Senegal River valley. Specifically, Japan is implementing community-based cooperation to achieve (1) appropriate maintenance and management of irrigation facilities, (2) efficient dissemination of rice cultivation techniques and introduction of suitable seed cultivation methods, (3) improvement of the quality of rice polishing, moisture management for paddy and polished rice, and other appropriate post-harvest treatment, (4) enhancement of the quality of agricultural machinery servicing, and (5) promotion of double-cropping. JICA experts dispatched from Japan to Senegal who go to the fields together with local farmers and provide technical assistance have gained a great deal of trust from the people who are involved in agriculture in these communities.

Conference on African Development (TICAD V) held in 2013, Japan announced the broad expansion of the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach* to African countries and the provision of human resources development (1,000 technical instructors and 50,000 people from smallholder organizations) through the SHEP approach. By 2018, Japan had provided training for 12,357 technical instructors and 120,085 smallholders from 29 countries, including non-African countries, toward the promotion of market-oriented agriculture.

In addition, in response to requests from African countries at TICAD VI for greater cooperation in the agricultural field, Japan has launched a platform that connects African countries and Japan. Through this platform, Japan dispatched six experienced experts from 2018 to 2019 to carry out the transfer of outstanding agricultural technology and advance human resources development as well as to promote excellent projects in the field of agriculture.

*** Food Security through a Multilateral Cooperation Approach

Japan proposed the “Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)”** initiative at the G8 L’Aquila Summit (Italy) in 2009, with the aim of easing the unintentional negative impact of large-scale agricultural investment

in developing countries, such as the acquisition of agricultural lands by foreign investors, against the backdrop of the need for increased food production in the world and rising international food prices. Under Japan’s initiative, the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment (PRAI) were formulated by FAO, IFAD, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the World Bank, while the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) were adopted at the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2014. Japan, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, promotes efforts for conducting research to facilitate “Responsible Agricultural Investment” and initiatives to share good practices in order to raise awareness and promote understanding at the regional level.

At the G7 Summit 2015 in Schloss Elmau (Germany), the G7 set an ambitious target of “aiming to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030” and announced the “Broader Food Security and Nutrition Development Approach.” Based on this approach, the G7 also announced the “G7 Vision for Action on Food Security and Nutrition” at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in 2016. In response to the G7 Vision for Action, Japan works on the following priority areas to achieve the target by 2030: empowering women, improving nutrition through a people-centered approach,

Bangladesh

Project for Livelihood Support to Bangladeshi Smallholder Farmers and Food Assistance to Displaced People from Myanmar Grant Aid (Partnership with WFP) (January 2019 - January 2021)

Bangladesh has achieved remarkable economic growth in recent years. One of its important industries is agriculture, which accounts for around 40% of the country’s total labor force and a large proportion of GDP. Meanwhile, it is necessary for small-scale farmers, who account for approximately 11 million out of approximately 40 million people living in poverty in Bangladesh, to secure cash income, and thus to improve their livelihoods by growing cash crops.

Moreover, since August 2017, many displaced persons have flowed into Cox’s Bazar in southeastern Bangladesh from Rakhine State in Myanmar, and more than 900,000 people are still living in evacuation shelters. It is said that the diets of roughly half of the displaced persons are below the international poverty line*¹, and the nutritional conditions of displaced persons have been in a critical state in terms of not only amount, but also lack of dietary balance. Thus, urgent improvement is needed.

In response to this situation, Japan began to provide support in partnership with WFP from 2019 to transfer cultivation technologies for crops such as mung beans to small-scale farmers, and to provide assistance to enable displaced persons from Myanmar to purchase mung beans produced by small-scale farmers with electronic food distribution cards (E-vouchers*²). Grameen euglena and euglena Co., Ltd., which have been engaged in the cultivation of mung beans using Japanese agricultural technology in Bangladesh since 2014, are transferring the technology in partnership with WFP.

Through this cooperation, approximately 2,000 kg of mung beans have been provided to the camps for displaced persons by December 2019. Moreover, it is expected that the livelihoods of small-scale farmers and the nutritional conditions of displaced persons will be



A displaced person purchasing mung beans at a grocery store in a camp for displaced persons where E-vouchers can be used (Photo: WFP)

improved through the training of around 2,000 people regarding techniques for cultivation of crops such as mung beans. Furthermore, users of the E-vouchers have said that it has enabled them to purchase beans, vegetables, and various other foods, and that the mung beans they ate for the first time were delicious. These voices from the E-voucher users show the achievement of this assistance.

*¹ The World Bank sets the international poverty line at \$1.90 per day.

*² A system that allows people to purchase food from grocery stores using prepaid cards.

and ensuring sustainability and resilience within agriculture and food systems. Moreover, the ministers who attended the G7 Development Ministers Meeting in 2019 discussed food security in the Sahel region, which is in a particularly serious situation, and published the Joint Paris G7/G5 Sahel Communiqué.

Furthermore, Japan has been involved in initiatives such as providing assistance to the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) in the G20, which aims to enhance the transparency of the international agricultural market. Through this inter-organizational platform launched in 2011 by the G20 as a measure to counter the wild fluctuations of food prices, the G20 member countries, major importing and exporting countries, corporations, and international organizations participate in a system for sharing information on the agricultural and food market (such as production volumes and prices) in a timely, accurate, and transparent manner. Japan has provided project costs to AMIS, while sharing information about Japan, to contribute to the enhancement of food security.

Japan also provides assistance in the agricultural sector to enable developing countries to strengthen their own foundations for food production through international

organizations such as FAO, IFAD, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and WFP, while also making contributions to the enhancement of animal hygiene through the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and FAO. For example, Japan has provided assistance in technical cooperation for the agricultural and rural development of developing countries, the establishment of international standards and norms in the food and agriculture fields, and the development of statistics etc., through FAO. In addition, Japan provides support for research on the variety development conducted by CGIAR, which is comprised of 15 agricultural research institutions, and promotes collaboration with the Group through exchanges among researchers. Concerning transboundary zoonotic diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease and African Swine Fever (ASF), Japan is contributing to enhancing animal hygiene in the Asia-Pacific region, in cooperation with the OIE and FAO, through active contributions to the Global Framework for Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), which was established by those two organizations.

Glossary

*New Rice for Africa (NERICA)

NERICA is a general term for rice developed in 1994 by the Africa Rice Center (formerly West Africa Rice Development Association [WARDA]) through the hybridization of high-yield Asian rice with African rice, which is resistant to weeds, diseases and insect pests. In order for NERICA to suit the natural conditions of each region in Africa, they are characterized by (i) a higher yield, (ii) a shorter growth period, (iii) higher resistance to dryness (drought), and (iv) higher resistance to diseases and insect pests than conventional rice. Since 1997, Japan has partnered with international organizations and NGOs to provide 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.

*Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)

CARD is a consultative group composed of donor countries, African regional organizations, and international organizations, partnered with rice-producing countries in Africa that are interested in rice production and development.

*Resilience, Industrialization, Competitiveness, Empowerment (RICE) approach

An initiative adopted under CARD 2nd phase to realize the goal of doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa. Specific efforts include stabilizing production through adaption to climate change and population growth, industrial formation in local areas in cooperation with the private sector, enhancing the quality of home-grown rice so that it can compete with imported rice, and the establishment of agricultural management systems for improving the household incomes and livelihoods of farmers.

*Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP) approach

The SHEP approach refers to an effort to assist smallholder farmers to enhance their agricultural organizations through training and research on local markets, and to provide guidance on cultivation techniques and development of agricultural roads while taking into account gender issues, in order to help them improve their capacities to manage their market-oriented agricultural businesses. Japan is supporting the adoption of SHEP in Africa.

*Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)

RAI is an initiative that aims to maximize the interest of local areas, including farmers, and investors, as well as minimize the risks to both sides, by balancing between the responses to the need to increase agricultural investment for severe poverty reduction in rural areas of developing countries and the responses to the unintentional negative impact of agricultural investment, such as a threat to various rights including food security and land ownership of the local people.

(9) Securing Access to Resources and Energy

The number of people without access to electricity in the world is estimated at around 840 million as of 2017, and more than 570 million in Sub-Saharan Africa (more than approximately one in two people in this region). In Sub-Saharan Africa, it is estimated that around 900 million people will still be relying on fuelwood (e.g. charcoal, kindling) for cooking in 2030, which produces indoor air pollution that is one cause of death among youths. The lack of electricity, gas and other energy supplies also leads to many issues, such as the delay in industrial development, a loss of employment opportunities, and a further increase in poverty. Stable energy supply and appropriate consideration to the environment are essential since the global energy demand is expected to increase further, mainly in emerging and developing countries, particularly in Asia.



Japan's Efforts

In order to realize sustainable development in developing countries, Japan works on the provision of services which enable modern energy supply and the stable supply of electricity for industrial development. In addition, Japan provides support for the establishment of an environmentally friendly infrastructure (socio-economic infrastructure), such as the construction of energy-saving equipment and power generation facilities that utilize renewable energy (hydropower, solar photovoltaics, solar thermal, wind power, geothermal power, etc.). For example, Japan is providing assistance for the construction and rehabilitation of geothermal power plants in the Olkaria geothermal field in Kenya, utilizing ODA loans for clean and stable power supply regardless of weather, which contributes to a total of around 400 MW of power generation. Moreover, in Pacific island countries with limited and scattered land, which are vulnerable to the influence of climate change, Japan, under the “hybrid island concept,” is providing assistance to improve the efficiency of diesel power plants and mainstream grid connected type renewable energy to achieve the reduction of greenhouse gases and fossil fuel consumption, from the perspective of energy security and climate change measures.

In view of the major global shifts occurring in both the supply and the demand sides of the energy sector amidst the increasing momentum of international initiatives towards decarbonization initiated by the Paris Agreement entering into force, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) announced in July 2018 that it will advance energy diplomacy, which responds to the world's energy situation and continuing energy transitions. Moreover, at the Foreign Embassy Strategy Council on Energy and

Mineral Resources held in February 2019, members of MOFA gathered together with members from overseas diplomatic missions, other relevant ministries, attendees from various organizations and the private sector, and experts to discuss the challenges and measures related to securing a stable supply of energy and resources in Japan. The meeting contributed to the further strengthening of Japan's energy and resources diplomacy, as well as a common understanding on several issues in this area. For example, the participants recognized that the energy policies of each country under the recent energy situation have both direct and indirect influences not only on the energy situation of the neighboring countries and regions but also that of the whole world. Secondly, amid the diversifying environment surrounding the international energy situation and increasing uncertainty, the participants also shared the importance of the role of overseas diplomatic missions to accurately grasp the current situation regarding energy policies and supply/demand situations in their respective countries in order to establish a system that allows them to respond swiftly even to short-term changes, while maintaining a long-term outlook.

Japan also supports the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which is a multinational cooperative framework to increase the transparency of the money flow in the development of oil, gas, mineral, and other resources. Under this framework, extracting corporations report the amount of payment to the governments of resource-producing countries, and the governments also report the amount of the revenue to the EITI in order to ensure transparency of the money flow. In addition to 52 resource-producing countries and many supporting countries including Japan, extracting companies and NGOs are participating in the EITI, and working together to prevent corruption and conflict, as well as to encourage responsible resource development that leads to growth and poverty reduction.



Tiltable wind turbine set up in Tonga through the Project for Installation of Wind Power Generation System (Photo: JICA)

(10) STI for SDGs

In the world today, progress in science and technology, as represented by artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics, leads to social changes and underpins economic growth, through utilization of information technology (IT) and information and communication technology (ICT) in diverse industries, including not only the manufacturing industry and the service industry but also agriculture and construction. Utilizing STI and adapting it for social changes is a common theme for not only developed countries but also developing countries. In addition to discussions in various countries, attention to this theme is also being paid at multilateral forums such as the G7, G20, and OECD.

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Paragraph 70), the United Nations promotes STI for SDGs on a global scale, with cooperation by various countries by establishing the United Nations Inter-agency Task Team (UN-IATT) within the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) created based on a multi-stakeholder collaboration between United Nations member states, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities, and other stakeholders. In addition, as an initiative of TFM, the United Nations Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) has been held annually since 2016. Furthermore, the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit adopted in September 2019 mentions the commitment to harnessing STI with a greater focus on digital transformation for sustainable development. As can be seen from these efforts, there are increasing international expectations for STI as a key to contribute to realizing the SDGs by fully utilizing limited resources.



Japan's Efforts

In the process of its economic development thus far, Japan has the experience of overcoming its own issues in fields such as health and medical care, environment, and disaster risk reduction while fully utilizing STI. Based on these experiences, in recent years Japan has been engaging in cooperation related to science and technology to resolve issues faced by developing countries through the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) and other such initiatives (see page 25, “Glossary” for details on SATREPS). Some good practices of problem-solving initiatives by SATREPS include the development of climate change predictions and an early warning system on infectious diseases in South Africa, and the establishment of a system for resolving and adapting to water-related disasters in Thailand (see page 100, “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” for details on specific initiatives by SATREPS).

In December 2015, as a part of the Science and Technology Diplomacy Advisory Network utilized in the process of planning and formulating various diplomatic



Inspecting the automatic weather observation equipment installed through the “Project for Establishment of an Early-warning System for Infectious Diseases” in South Africa (Photo: JICA)

policies including Japan’s diplomacy and international conferences, the Advisory Board for the Promotion of Science and Technology Diplomacy was established and composed of academic experts in fields related to science and technology diplomacy. In May 2017, the Advisory Board released the Recommendation for the Future (STI as a Bridging Force to Provide Solutions for Global Issues), a recommendation regarding specific science and technology diplomacy initiatives toward implementing the SDGs, including promotion of cooperation among different sectors such as private companies and civil society as well as human resources development in the area of science and technology. In addition, in May 2018, the Advisory Board presented the Recommendation on Science, Technology and Innovation to Achieve the SDGs and its Guiding Tool, the STI Roadmap.

Based on these two recommendations, at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019, the importance of STI was recognized, as well as the need for effective participation by various stakeholders, including governments, academia, research institutions, civil society, the private sector, and international organizations in harnessing the potential of STI. As a result, the Guiding Principles for the Development of Science, Technology, and Innovation for SDGs Roadmaps, formulated by the G20 Development Working Group, were endorsed as an Annex of the G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration.

Alongside this, in order to encourage countries around the world to consider formulating roadmaps, the UN-IATT began an initiative known as the Global Pilot Programme and chose five countries – Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, India, and Serbia – to be the first pilot countries. In order to support these five countries, in cooperation with the European Union (EU) and international organizations, Japan has begun consideration on assisting particularly Kenya and India in formulating and implementing roadmaps.

In addition, at TICAD7, based on the content of the Recommendations towards TICAD7: Achieving an Innovation Ecosystem together with Africa, submitted by the Advisory Board for the Promotion of Science and Technology Diplomacy, Japan contributed to discussions

for promoting practical implementation of the results of international joint research and R&D with cooperation of international organizations toward STI for SDGs. Moreover, the Yokohama Declaration 2019, adopted as the outcome document of TICAD7, also recognizes the important role of STI.

Furthermore, taking the opportunity of TICAD7, the SDGs Solution Hub (<https://sdgs-solution-hub.go.jp/>) was launched as a website to introduce Japan's advanced science and technology that can contribute to helping developing countries, including African countries, achieve the SDGs, as well as its good practices. The Government of

Japan will continue to enrich the site's content, and strive to establish the STI for SDGs Platform, a framework that includes schemes for compiling local issues in developing countries and support for resolving them with technology.

Japan will continue to make use of the high potential of STI and actively participate in initiatives of the international community toward resolving the extensive global issues raised by the SDGs, including climate change, changes in marine environments, reduction of biodiversity, issues with food and water resources, infectious diseases, and disasters.