

Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation



A student from the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad and a Japanese student having a discussion during a lecture under the Project for Future Researchers at IIT-H to Enhance Network Development with Scholarship of Japan (FRIENDSHIP Project) (Photo: JICA)

1 Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships	124
2 Efforts for Spreading Awareness of Development Cooperation	136
3 Efforts to Ensure Appropriate Development Cooperation	142

Part IV Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation

Japan's development cooperation for developing countries, which has been carried out mainly through ODA, must further contribute to solving global issues based on the concept of human security. In order to implement such cooperation, not only the Government and JICA, but also diverse actors such as large companies, small and medium-sized enterprises, local governments, universities and civil society including NGOs, need to work together, leveraging their respective strengths. In doing so, the Government of Japan is utilizing ODA for small and medium-sized enterprises as well as for large companies to support their overseas business expansion, so that they can contribute globally. Furthermore, Japan must assist diverse actors in performing their roles in the field of development cooperation world-wide, as well as maximize the power of NGOs and civil society.

Moreover, since ODA is financed by tax payers' money, continuous efforts are required to ensure the appropriateness of Japan's development cooperation so that Japan's ODA is implemented efficiently and in a lean way. The Government of Japan will also continue to make efforts to strengthen public relations and information dissemination in order to foster a further understanding of Japan's development cooperation domestically and internationally.

1 Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships

Japan's development cooperation is carried out in partnership with diverse actors. For development cooperation implemented by the Government and its associated agencies, it is important to strengthen collaboration between JICA and other agencies responsible for handling official funds such as Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), the Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development (JOIN), and the Fund Corporation for the Overseas Development of Japan's ICT and Postal Services (JICT) as well as to enhance mutually beneficial partnerships with various actors so as to serve as a catalyst for mobilizing and assembling a wide range of resources, including the private sector.

(1) Public-Private Partnership

With the globalization of the economy, the inflow of private finance into developing countries currently exceeds the total amount of ODA. Therefore, it is becoming increasingly important to promote the contribution of private finance to development in order to address the financial needs for the development of developing countries.

Various projects conducted by Japanese private companies in developing countries can yield a range of benefits to these countries such as creating local employment opportunities, augmenting tax revenue, expanding trade and investment, contributing to the acquisition of foreign currency, and transferring Japan's high-standard technology. The Government of Japan carries out various assistance aiming at generating efficient and effective development outcome through such

collaboration with private companies.

For example, the Government of Japan carries out Public-Private Partnership utilizing ODA, which aims to implement projects of a highly public nature more efficiently and effectively through government and private sector cooperation, and institutional development and human resources development through technical cooperation. Japan also provides assistance from the planning stage to the implementation of a project utilizing Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) and ODA loans. Moreover, the Government of Japan assists Japanese companies in collecting information and conducting pilot activities to develop business models for the resolution of various development challenges.

In addition, international organizations, such as UNDP and UNICEF, promote inclusive businesses* by Japanese companies, utilizing the organizations' extensive experience and expertise in developing countries.

A. Public-Private Partnership utilizing ODA

Public-Private Partnership is a form of public-private cooperation in which governmental ODA projects are conducted in collaboration with private investment projects. Under this scheme, opinions from private companies are incorporated from the stage of ODA project formation and roles are shared between the public and private sectors. For example, basic infrastructure is covered by ODA, while investment, operation, and maintenance and management are conducted by the private sector. This aims to utilize the technologies, knowledge, experience, and funds of the private sector in an effort to implement more efficient and effective projects as well as to improve

development efficiency. Typical cases for Public-Private Partnership include cooperation in the fields of water supply and sewerage systems, airports, highways, and railways, among others.

B. Preparatory Surveys for Public-Private Partnership Infrastructure

In recent years, there has been a growing global trend to improve infrastructure through public-private partnership aiming at further enhancing effectiveness and efficiency not only in the construction phase, but also in post-construction operation and maintenance in emerging and developing countries. For such infrastructure projects, it is important for public and private sectors to collaborate and engage with each other from the initial stages of project formulation in order to appropriately divide roles between the public and private sectors. As such, JICA supports feasibility surveys (F/S)* for the formulation of business plans by calling for proposals widely from private companies that are planning to participate in infrastructure projects aiming at utilizing Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) or ODA loans as part of its “Preparatory Survey” of private sector proposal-based programs.

C. SDGs Business Supporting Surveys

Developing countries struggle with various global issues and development challenges including poverty, infectious diseases, conflicts, natural disasters and climate change, which have become increasingly serious and complex in recent years. Thus, it is necessary to incorporate ideas from private companies, based on their creativity and originality, and to solve problems in the field through business and collaboration with a wide range of partners.

The program, which is based on proposals from private companies, is intended to assist in matching the needs of developing countries with the advanced products and technologies, etc., possessed by private-sector companies, and to support the development of businesses that contribute to solving problems in these countries (SDGs business). It is implemented as commissioned surveys, and is utilized for necessary information collection (Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Partnership promotion survey and SDGs Business Model Formulation Survey with the Private Sector) and for the development of business plans based on the verification activities of proposed products or technologies (SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector). The program has two categories: “SME support type” and “SDGs business support type.” The former is also expected to invigorate the Japanese economy and regions, through supporting the expansion of SMEs’ businesses abroad (see also page 57, 61, and 128, “Master Techniques from Japan to the World”).

Furthermore, MOFA provides grant aid (including provision of equipment using SMEs’ products) to support the overseas expansion of SMEs and other entities. By providing Japanese SMEs’ products based on the requests and development needs of developing



Children of the neighborhood gathering around the clear water provided by the test run of drinking water equipment installed by Tohkemy Corporation in Laos (see page 57, “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” for details) (Photo: Tohkemy Corporation)

country governments, MOFA supports not only the socio-economic development of developing countries, but also the overseas business expansion of Japanese SMEs by raising the profile of the SMEs’ products and creating sustained demand for them.

In addition, in order to assist in developing the global human resources required by SMEs, the Government of Japan established the “Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private Sector Partnership)”* in 2012, in which employees from companies are dispatched to developing countries as members of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) while keeping their affiliation with their companies. Through this program, Japan proactively supports the overseas expansion of Japanese companies.

D. Grant Aid for Business/Management Rights

Since FY2014, the Government of Japan introduced grant aid for business/management rights. As such, this grant aid aims to facilitate the acquisition of business and management rights by Japanese companies and utilize Japan’s advanced technologies and know-how for the development of developing countries, by providing grant aid to public work projects that comprehensively carry out a continuum of activities from facility construction to operation, maintenance and management, with the participation of private companies. Since FY2016, this grant aid has been provided for five projects; a project to address water leakages in Myanmar, a project to address medical waste in Kenya, a project to expand water supply systems in Cambodia, a project to address waste management in the Philippines, and a project to build water supply systems in Myanmar.

E. Improving Japan’s ODA Loans

In the near future, it is expected that Japan will provide advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries, and thereby improve people’s living standards. At the same time, Japan seeks to tap into the growth in emerging economies including BOP businesses* in Asia, which have

particularly close relationships with Japan, and to contribute to the vitalization of the Japanese economy. In this regard, it is necessary for Japan to carry out further improvement of Japan's ODA loans to make them even more attractive to both developing countries and Japanese companies.

Up until now, the Government of Japan has introduced the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) scheme to increase the “visibility of Japanese Development Cooperation” through promoting the transfer of Japan's advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries, and taken actions such as improvement of the scheme by expanding the scope of application and lowering interest rates, as well as additional measures, such as the establishment of the Stand-by Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery (SECURE)¹. Furthermore, it has introduced the Equity Back Finance (EBF) loan² and the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan³. These instruments are designed to promote the steady formulation and implementation of infrastructure development projects utilizing Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and to support the recipient governments in the improvement and application of various measures depending on their needs.

In addition, as follow-up measures for “Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure,”* the Government of Japan has been making efforts to improve its ODA loan and PSIF by speeding up Japan's ODA loan procedures and creating new ODA loan options. For example, the following measures are included: reducing the period necessary for Government-related procedures for Japan's ODA loans that normally require three years to approximately one and a half years for important projects, introducing ODA loans with currency conversion option to middle-income countries or higher on the condition that JICA's financial soundness is ensured, and the establishment of dollar-denominated ODA loans and Japan's ODA loans with Preferential Terms for High Specification⁴. Furthermore, in the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure,”* Japan announced that it will further accelerate ODA loan procedures, and decided to reduce the period between the initiation of the feasibility study (F/S)* and commencement of the construction work to one and a half years at the fastest, and increased “the visibility” of the project period. Japan will further strive to improve the ODA loan so that projects can be formulated and developed in an expeditious manner.

F. Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF)

PSIF refers to a type of ODA financing scheme implemented by JICA, and is provided to private companies carrying out projects in developing countries as investments and loans for its necessary funds. Although such projects create jobs and revitalize the economy of hosting countries, it entails various risks, and high return cannot often be expected. Thus, existing financial institutions are often reluctant to provide these companies with sufficient loans. PSIF provides investments and loans for projects that are considered highly effective from a development perspective, but may be difficult to be sufficiently funded by existing financial institutions only. PSIF assists in the following fields for funding: (i) infrastructure development and accelerating growth, (ii) SDGs and poverty reduction and (iii) measures against climate change. JICA has signed 26 investment and loan contracts in total by the end of FY2018.

Also, in order to reduce the exchange rate risk of Japanese companies participating in infrastructure projects overseas, the Government of Japan announced in succession the introduction of local currency-denominated PSIF (2014) and U.S. dollar-denominated PSIF (2015) to supplement the existing yen-denominated PSIF. In 2015, Japan announced the acceleration of PSIF, expansion of the targets of PSIF, and strengthening collaboration between JICA and other organizations as follow-up measures for the “Partnership for Quality Infrastructure.” Specifically, measures were set out that JICA would start its appraisal process, in principle, within one month after an application is filed by private companies or others, while the standard period for JBIC to respond to inquiries on projects was set at two weeks, and also enabled JICA to co-finance with private financial institutions. Other measures include reviewing the interpretation of the “no-precedent policy” requirement and allowing loans to be provided in cases where non-concessional loans by existing Japanese private financial institutions are impossible, even if loans were provided for similar projects in the past.

In 2016, the Government of Japan decided to examine the possibility of the flexible operation of JICA's PSIF by relaxing the upper limit of investment ratio from 25% to 50% (less than the percentage that would make JICA the largest shareholder) and to introduce PSIF in Euros in the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure” and subsequent studies concluded that these are operable and can be introduced.

¹ The system allows developing countries that have a high chance of encountering natural disasters to quickly accommodate funds for post-disaster recovery activities, by having the ODA loan signed in advance.

² EBF (Equity Back Finance) loan provides a yen loan to the developing country's part of the investment of the Special Purpose Company (SPC), which takes the lead in public projects in the developing country. It is restricted to PPP infrastructure projects, wherein the recipient country governments or their nationally-owned companies and others make the investment, and the Japanese companies participate as a business operating body.

³ Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan is the loan against VGF which the developing country provides to the SPC in order to secure profitability expected by SPC when Japanese companies invest in the PPP infrastructure projects by the developing country in principle.

⁴ Concessional loans provided to projects recognized as contributing to the promotion of “Quality Infrastructure” based on the “G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment” compiled at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in May 2016.


Glossary
***Inclusive business**

Inclusive business is a generic term for a business model advocated by the UN and the World Bank Group as an effective way to achieve inclusive market growth and development. It includes sustainable BOP businesses that resolve social challenges.

***Feasibility survey (Feasibility study)**

Feasibility survey verifies whether a proposed project is viable for execution (realization), and plans and formulates a project that is most appropriate for implementation. The survey also investigates a project's potential, its appropriateness, and investment effects.

***Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private Sector Partnership)**

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private Sector Partnership) (formerly known as the Private-Sector Partnership Volunteers) dispatches employees of private companies and other entities to developing countries as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), and contributes to fostering global human resources and overseas business expansion of the companies. Dispatch destinations, categories, and periods of dispatch will be determined through consultation based on the requests from companies. Volunteers are dispatched to countries in which their companies are considering business expansion. It is expected that the volunteers not only gain an understanding of the culture, commercial practices, technical level of the respective destination countries, and language skills, but also acquire communication skills, and problem solving and negotiation abilities, which will be brought back into corporate activities upon their return.

***Base of the Economic Pyramid (BOP) business**

BOP refers to businesses that are expected to be useful in resolving social issues of low-income groups⁵ in developing countries. Accounting for approximately 70% of the world's population, or approximately 5 billion people, low-income groups are attracting attention as a market with potential for growth. Incorporating low-income groups into consumption, production, sales, and other value chains is expected to be useful in providing sustainable solutions to a variety of local societal problems. Some examples include a model which aims to improve nutrition through sales of nutrient-enhanced food for infants of poor families, and another that aims to increase incomes by improving crop yields and quality through technical support related to high-quality mung bean cultivation for poor farmers.

***Partnership for Quality Infrastructure**

Announced by Prime Minister Abe in May 2015, the "Partnership for Quality Infrastructure" has the following pillars: (i) Expansion and acceleration of assistance through the full mobilization of Japan's economic cooperation tools, (ii) Collaboration between Japan and ADB, (iii) Expansion of the supply of funding for projects with relatively high risk profiles by such means as enhancement of the function of JBIC, and (iv) Promoting "Quality Infrastructure Investment" as an international standard.

***Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure**

The Expanded Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure was introduced by Prime Minister Abe at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in May 2016. It includes Japan's commitment to provide approximately USD 200 billion funds in the next five years for infrastructure projects in the world including Asia. At the same time, it includes further system reforms, strengthening the structure of related institutions including JICA, as well as securing financial foundation.

⁵ The income bracket with an annual income per capita of \$3,000 or less in purchasing power parity (PPP). PPP is determined by removing differences between price levels to make purchasing power between different currencies equivalent.

(2) Partnerships Inviting Civil Participation from NGOs and Others

A. Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteer Program

The JICA volunteer program, which includes Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), was founded in 1965 and has been delivering results for more than half a century. The Program has dispatched over 50,000 volunteers to 92 countries in total, contributing to the development of developing countries as a precise example of the “visibility of Japanese Development Cooperation.” This Program is a public participatory program, under which volunteers take 70 days of training prior to their dispatches, and are then assigned to developing countries in principle for a two-year-term to assist economic and social development in the countries, while living and working with the local communities (see also page 70, “Stories from the Field” and the column on page 106).

The JOCV program is highly recognized both domestically and internationally. The program not only contributes to the economic and social development of the recipient countries, but also to deepening local people’s affinity for Japan, thereby promoting mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and these countries. Moreover, the program is drawing attention in the respect that the volunteers return their experiences to society. For example, returned volunteers, who gain global perspectives throughout the program, contribute to the regional revitalization in Japan and the business expansion

of Japanese private companies in developing countries (see the glossary on page 127 for details on the “Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (Private Sector Partnership)”).

In order to promote these initiatives, the Government of Japan has been striving to make it easier for more people to participate in this Program through supporting returned volunteers in developing their careers, as well as disseminating information on how to participate in the Program as incumbents through taking career breaks.

Regarding the JOCV program, a new system has been introduced since the autumn recruitment in 2018, as a result of reviewing the Program. In the new system, volunteers are classified not by the age category (youth/



State Minister for Foreign Affairs SUZUKI Keisuke presenting a certificate of appreciation to a returned volunteer at the Ceremony of Foreign Minister’s Certificate of Appreciation and Gathering (October 2019)

Kenya

Ngong Road Safety Workshops

JICA Volunteer Program (December 2018 - March 2019)

Chronic traffic congestion in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, is a major obstacle to the economic growth of the country. In order to improve the situation, Japan has been assisting projects* for expanding and upgrading of Ngong Road, the most congested one in Nairobi, and has been contributing to easing city traffic since 2012.

At the same time, as a result of the increase of the traffic speed due to the improvement of road conditions, the risk of traffic accidents, particularly for children going to schools near to Ngong Road, has been increasing. Pedestrian crossings, traffic signals and signs were installed under the Project for Dualling of Nairobi-Dagoretti Corner Road C60/C61, however, it is difficult to deliver proper treatment to traffic accident victims since emergency medical service is underdeveloped in Kenya. Approximately 13,000 people have died every year due to traffic accidents in the whole country. Appropriate measures should be taken promptly.

In order to improve this situation, a group of interested members of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and the JICA experts in transport policy in Kenya, together with Kenyan staff from the National Transport and Safety Authority, planned and held a road safety workshop for the teachers of elementary schools located along the road in December 2018. In addition, in March 2019, in response to a request from the teachers of one of the elementary schools participating in the workshop, they also held a workshop for the children at the school.

One of the volunteers told that, as a result of the workshop run with the teachers, children who had answered “Time to cross!” when shown a yellow traffic light at the beginning came to understand the



A teacher explaining a traffic signal at a traffic safety workshop for children (Photo: JICA)

importance of looking both ways before crossing the road, something taken as a given in Japan. Going forward, Japan will continue to promote not only infrastructure development, but also assistance with the people in Kenya.

* “Project for Dualling of Nairobi-Dagoretti Corner Road C60/C61” (grant aid project) was implemented from 2012 to 2018. “The Project for Dualling of Nairobi-Dagoretti Corner Road C60/C61 (Phase 2)” scheduled from 2018 to 2020 is currently under implementation.

senior), but by whether or not the contents of the work require a certain level of experience and skills.

B. Cooperation with Japanese NGOs

Japanese NGOs implement high-quality development cooperation activities in various fields in developing countries and regions. Even in sites affected by conflict or natural disasters, such as earthquakes and typhoons, they have been providing prompt and effective emergency humanitarian assistance. NGOs are attuned to different local situations in developing countries and are capable of carefully tailoring responses to the needs of the local people. Accordingly, NGOs can provide assistance to even the hard-to-reach grassroots level through the support of the government and international organizations. MOFA regards Japanese NGOs that carry out activities, which represent the “Visibility of Development Cooperation,” as indispensable partners in development cooperation. It also promotes collaboration with them through the three pillars of funding assistance for Japanese NGOs (see below), support for the creation of an enabling environment for NGOs’ activities (p.131), and dialogues with NGOs (p.132).

Based on the recommendations made by the Advisory Board for ODA, which held a total of four sessions in 2018, MOFA raised the general administrative expenses rate in April 2019 from the current 5% of local project expenses to a maximum of 15% within the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects (see below). This enables NGOs to use their own funds, which have been devoted to maintaining their own activities in implementing ODA projects, to instead strengthen their organization such as through activities in the field of public relations and fundraising, etc. It is expected that this will strengthen the financial foundation and organizational capacity of NGOs, and increase their recognition as a key player in implementing ODA projects both within Japan and abroad.

Furthermore, under the Development Cooperation Charter, MOFA and NGOs have jointly developed a plan outlining the direction of their collaboration over the next five years, and announced the plan in 2015. Subsequently, MOFA has been following up on this plan, releasing an annual progress report on the joint plan together with NGOs.

--- Funding Assistance for NGOs

The Government of Japan is cooperating in various ways to enable Japanese NGOs to smoothly and effectively implement development cooperation and emergency humanitarian assistance projects in developing countries and regions.

■ Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

MOFA provides financial support for the socio-economic development projects that Japanese NGOs implement in developing countries through the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. There is a wide

range of fields in which the projects are implemented, such as medical care and health, education and human resources development, vocational training, rural development, water resource development, and human resources development for landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance. In FY2018, 59 Japanese NGOs utilized this framework to implement 106 projects in 31 countries and 1 region, amounting to approximately ¥5.04 billion.



Students at a teacher education college in Cambodia taking a class on environmental education as part of the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects “Realization of Sustainable Life Environment through mainly the teaching practical environmental education in Teacher Education College (TEC)” (see the column on page 91 for details) (Photo: Nature Center Risen)

■ Japan Platform (JPF)

Japan Platform (JPF), an emergency humanitarian aid organization, was established in 2000 through a partnership among NGOs, the government, and the business community, and 43 NGOs are its members as of December 2019. JPF utilizes ODA funds provided by MOFA, as well as donations from companies and citizens to carry out emergency humanitarian assistance, such as the distribution of living supplies and livelihood recovery, when a major natural disaster occurs or a vast number of refugees flee from conflicts. In FY2018, JPF implemented 70 projects under 11 programs, including assistance for the humanitarian crises in Afghanistan, Yemen, Iraq, and Syria, humanitarian assistance in Gaza Strip in Palestine, assistance in South Sudan, humanitarian assistance for displaced persons from Myanmar, and assistance for people affected by flood damage in Mongolia and Laos (see the column on page 34).

■ NGO Project Subsidies

MOFA provides subsidies to Japanese NGOs that conduct project formulation studies, post-project evaluations, and seminars and workshops in Japan and overseas for socio-economic development projects. The subsidies are provided at a maximum of ¥2 million up to half of the total project cost. In FY2018, eight organizations utilized these subsidies to implement activities such as project formulation studies, post-project evaluations, and seminars and workshops both in and outside of Japan.

■ JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

JICA's technical cooperation projects are occasionally outsourced to the private sector including NGOs, so as to make use of the expertise and experience of various organizations including NGOs, universities, and local governments. For example, JICA conducts the "JICA Partnership Program (JPP)" in which projects are implemented based on proposals by Japanese NGOs, universities, local governments, and public interest corporations, etc. with an interest in international cooperation. In FY2018, a total of 222 projects were implemented in 51 countries across the world. The Program offers three different kinds of schemes depending on the size and type of organizations: (i) Partner Type (scale of project: less than a total of ¥100 million, duration of project: less than 5 years), (ii) Support Type (scale: less than a total of ¥10 million, duration: less than 3 years), and (iii) Local Government Type (scale: less than a total of ¥30 million, duration: less than 3 years). Less than a total of ¥60 million for projects under the Special Category of Local Government Type).



Children participating in a "Life Skills Improvement Activity" as part of the JICA Partnership Program (JPP), "Ensuring Children's Potential for Development and Independence through Improved Residential Care Practices" (in the Philippines) (Photo: NPO ACTION)

◆ Support for Establishing a Better Environment for NGOs Activities

Further measures to support Japanese NGO activities other than financial assistance include programs for establishing a better environment for NGO activities. The objective of these programs is to further strengthen the organizational arrangements and project implementation capabilities of Japanese NGOs, as well as develop their human resources. Specifically, MOFA carries out the following four programs.

■ NGO Consultant Scheme

Under this scheme, MOFA commissions highly experienced NGOs in all of Japan (15 organizations in FY2018) that addressed inquiries and responded to requests for consultation from citizens and NGOs, regarding international cooperation activities, NGO organizational management methods, approaches for providing development education, etc.

■ NGO Intern Program

This Program aims to open doors for young people seeking employment in Japanese international cooperation NGOs, and to train them to contribute to Japan's ODA in the future. Through the development of these young people, MOFA seeks to expand and strengthen international cooperation in collaboration with Japanese NGOs. To this end, MOFA commissions international cooperation NGOs in Japan to accept and train interns, and disburse a certain amount of the training costs. In FY2018, a total of nine interns were accepted into NGOs through this program.

■ NGO Study Program

Under the NGO Study Program MOFA covers the costs for the domestic and overseas training of mid-career personnel from Japanese international cooperation NGOs, aiming at strengthening their organizations through human resources development. The training is divided into two types: "Practical Training" (the participants improve their practical skills and gain working experience at NGOs that have an excellent track record of international development projects and relevant policy recommendations) and "Training Enrollment" (participants enroll in programs offered by domestic training institutions, aiming at improving their expertise). Trainees can establish training themes themselves, based on the issues that their organizations are facing. Upon returning to Japan, trainees are expected to utilize the fruits of their training for their organizations' activities, and contribute to enhancing the capabilities of Japanese NGOs as a whole by sharing information with other Japanese NGOs. In FY2018, nine people received training through this program.

■ NGO Study Group

MOFA supports Japanese NGOs in organizing study group meetings, aiming to improve the organizational capabilities and expertise of NGOs. Through this program, commissioned NGOs conduct studies, seminars, workshops (participatory lectures), and symposiums in cooperation with other NGOs, etc., and thereby report and recommend specific measures for improvement. In FY2018, NGO study groups were held on the following three themes: (i) "The Role of Japanese International Cooperation NGOs toward 2030," (ii) "Fact-Finding Survey on Diversifying International Cooperation NGOs and the Social Sector," and (iii) "SDGs 16.2 End Violence Against Children." Activity reports and outcomes are available on the ODA website of MOFA.

■ NGO Activities Support Project by JICA

Apart from the support provided by MOFA, JICA also conducts NGO activities support programs in various forms such as training for NGOs and NPOs, public interest corporations, educational institutions, and local governments that carry out international cooperation activities. It is designed for them to conduct and promote more effective and constructive projects. As part of

JICA's own initiatives or through proposals by NGOs, JICA organizes training concerning the implementation of projects in developing countries, necessary to carry out the JICA Partnership Program (JPP), as well as training tailored to the situation of each region and field to strengthen the functions of NGOs.

■ **NGO-JICA Japan Desk**

In addition to supporting NGO's on-site activities, JICA has also established "NGO-JICA Japan Desks" in 20 countries outside of Japan in order to strengthen projects jointly conducted by NGOs and JICA. The NGO-JICA Japan Desks provide support primarily in three areas: (i) Operations essential for the smooth implementation of JICA projects conducted in collaboration with Japanese NGOs, etc., (ii) Operations to assist on-site activities of Japanese NGOs, etc., and (iii) Operations necessary for enhancing cooperation between Japanese NGOs and JICA.

--- **Dialogue with NGO**

■ **NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings**

In order to promote a stronger partnership and dialogue between NGOs and MOFA, the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting was launched in FY1996 for sharing information on ODA

and regularly exchanging opinions on measures for improving partnerships with NGOs. In addition to the General Meeting held once a year, there are currently two subcommittees, the "ODA Policy Council" and the "Partnership Promotion Committee." Both subcommittees are convened three times a year as a general rule. At the "ODA Policy Council," opinions are exchanged on general ODA policies, while at the "Partnership Promotion Committee," the agenda focuses on support for NGOs and partnership policies.

■ **NGO-Embassies ODA Consultation Meeting**

Since 2002, the Japanese Government has been organizing "NGO-Embassies ODA Consultation Meetings" in developing countries where many Japanese NGOs operate, providing actors from embassies, JICA, and NGOs a platform to exchange their views on the efficient and effective implementation of ODA.

■ **NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting**

Based on equal partnership with NGOs, JICA held the NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting three times in FY2018 to promote the realization of more effective international cooperation, as well as public understanding and participation in international cooperation.

Thailand

Community-based Comprehensive Elderly Care Project in Chonburi Province, Thailand -Project in Saensuk Municipality as a Pilot Area- JICA Partnership Program (Special Category of Local Government Type) (January 2016 - December 2018)

Aging population is becoming a serious problem not only in Japan and other developed countries, but also in developing countries that are growing economically. In such developing countries, aging is progressing more rapidly than in developed countries, and there is a need to develop human resources in caregiving and nursing for elderly people. Thailand is a typical example. Despite already becoming an aging society in 2014, and seeing the proportion of its population aged 65 or over rise to 10.7% by 2017, the country is still extremely deficient in caregiving personnel and inadequate in human resources development.

The Saku region, located in the eastern part of Nagano Prefecture, has been actively engaged in rural and regional medical care since around 1947, and has developed a comprehensive local system that provides care for the elderly. After students from Saku University began holding international nursing seminars at Burapha University in the municipality of Saensuk in Chonburi province in southeastern Thailand in 2014, the two universities started academic exchanges. This further developed into an exchange between the municipality of Saensuk and the city of Saku, and the project began in 2016. Saku City office partnered with hospitals and caregiving facilities in the city to receive and train nurses and health volunteers (the Thai equivalents of Japanese home care workers and caregivers) from Saensuk and dispatched short-term experts from Saku to Saensuk to conduct trainings.

Health volunteers started to conduct home care visits while respecting Thai traditions such as local temple assemblies and family-provided elderly care. Another goal of the project is for the nurses who were trained in Saku to become the key persons in Saensuk who will contribute to the establishment of a local nursing and caregiving system.

Through these activities, health volunteers in Saensuk have

improved their ability to develop community activities as well as their care worker's skills, and the frequency of home care visits has increased significantly from once per week before the project started to four times per week after its commencement, contributing to the improvement of the situation of elderly care. In addition, these activities have provided an opportunity for stakeholders in Saku to reconsider the home care system in the Saku region through experiencing the spirit of mutual help and mutual assistance between neighbors in Thailand. Also, the "technology transfer of the Saku city health care model to Thailand" has become widely known and is well received in Japan and abroad. It is expected that the Saensuk model will spread throughout Thailand in the future.



Health volunteers in Saensuk, who have learned Saku's care techniques, helping a local elderly man rehabilitate (Photo: Ms. Ratana Chuklin, Project Assistant)

(3) Collaboration with Local Governments

The various kinds of know-how possessed by the local governments of Japan are needed for the development of the economies and societies of developing countries around the world. For example, against the remarkable growth and urbanization of developing countries in recent years, responses to environmental issues and infrastructure issues have not been keeping up with the pace of growth. Therefore, the cooperation of the local governments of Japan, which have accumulated rich expertise in the fields of water, energy, waste disposal, disaster risk reduction, etc., is becoming increasingly necessary. For this reason, Japan has promoted the participation of local governments in ODA. Moreover, from the viewpoint of the needs of the local governments, Japan is actively promoting the overseas expansion of local governments including their industries in order to stimulate the revitalization and globalization of the local regions of Japan.

Furthermore, JICA established the “Special Category of Local Government Type” under the JPP in FY2013. Aiming at striking a balance between local governments’ overseas expansions initiated by themselves, leveraging their expertise, experience, and skills and solving developmental issues in developing countries, this new measure is expected to create a win-win relationship, which contributes not only to developing countries but also to the revitalization of local economies in Japan.

(4) Partnership with Universities and Educational Institutions

Some of the roles of universities are: to contribute to the development of developing countries, to develop human resources that will be responsible for international cooperation, and to organize and disseminate the philosophy and theories of Japan’s assistance. Taking these roles of universities into account, the Government of Japan is striving to cooperate with universities in terms of broad intellectual cooperation, regarding all aspects of the cycle of assistance, from organizing the theories of assistance to putting it into practice and giving back to the Japanese people through education. As a matter of fact, Japan is promoting projects in collaboration with various universities, including technical cooperation, ODA loan, and the JICA Partnership Program (JPP).

As one example, with the objective of developing advanced human resources who will become the core of socio-economic development in developing countries, Japan utilizes the JICA Project for Human Resource

Development Scholarship (JDS) to accept young officials from developing countries as international students in a cumulative total of 36 universities in Japan. In FY2019, 360 students were newly accepted. Moreover, Japan provides support to Thailand to establish and operate Kosen schools (Colleges of Technology) unique to the Japanese education system in Thailand, and implements cooperation to provide Kosen education that meets the same standards as that of Japan, in order to develop industrial human resources in Thailand. Furthermore, Japan has implemented the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net) Project*, as a JICA technical cooperation project, in which Japan is working to strengthen the network among Japanese and ASEAN universities, collaborating with the industrial sector, and engaging in joint research with neighboring countries.

In addition, a rapid surge in threats stemming from global issues such as global warming and infectious diseases in recent years calls for further advancement in science and technology for solutions. There is an increasing expectation for Japan’s advanced science and technology especially in developing countries, since they are vulnerable to the impacts of these threats, and thus require research and development based on their regional needs. At the same time, it is also imperative for universities and research institutions in developing countries to improve their self-sustainable capabilities in research and development, and build a framework which promotes continuous activities. With this awareness of the issues in mind, MOFA and JICA have been implementing Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)⁶ since 2008, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED). By FY2019, 145 proposals have been accepted, and international joint studies between universities and research institutions of Japan and developing countries are being conducted through SATREPS (see page 100, “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” for specific examples).

Such partnerships with universities contribute to academic advancement in solving problems in developing countries, as well as the globalization of Japanese universities by welcoming trainees from overseas to train and conduct research in Japan.

6 Refer to “Glossary” (p.25) for information on SATREPS.

***ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net)**

AUN/SEED-Net was launched in 2001 as a university network comprising 26 top-ranking engineering universities in 10 ASEAN member countries, and 14 partner universities from Japan. It implements various research and education activities to produce advanced human resources in the engineering sector, with the aim of realizing sustainable development in Southeast Asia and Japan. This initiative is implemented with mainly the support from the Government of Japan through JICA, in cooperation with the governments and universities of Southeast Asia and Japan.

(5) Partnership with Other Countries and International Organizations**A. Partnership with Other Countries**

Japan promotes coordination with other donors on a wide range of development issues. In 2019, Japan conducted dialogues and exchanges of views with the United Kingdom, Australia, the United States, the EU, and others. In addition, among these major donors, based on the commitment at the summit level, specific cooperation and collaboration are promoted in third countries in the Indo-Pacific and other regions including Africa in various fields, such as infrastructure development to strengthen connectivity, maritime security, and disaster risk reduction, and ODA is an important part of this. In order to effectively utilize Japan's ODA and work on development issues with the international community as a whole, cooperation and collaboration with other donors remain important, and Japan will actively promote these efforts.

Members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the so-called traditional donor countries, have been taking a leading role in carrying out development cooperation thus far. Nonetheless, emerging donor countries such as China, India, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, and Turkey have also started to provide assistance for developing countries, and to gain significant influence in recent years on the development issues. Japan, having experienced the transition from an aid recipient to a leading donor, has been striving to promote the effectiveness of emerging donors' development cooperation to developing countries (South-South cooperation), by providing assistance to emerging countries, in collaboration with those and other countries, particularly by means of Triangular Cooperation. Particularly in regard to China, in October 2018, the Government of Japan announced the termination of Japan's provision of new ODA to China while also announcing that Japan and China will promote a new dimension of cooperation as equal partners. In response to this, the Japan-China International Development Cooperation Policy Consultation was held in May 2019, and there was an exchange of information concerning matters such as each country's international development cooperation policies, organizational structure, supervision and evaluation, and experiences of cooperation with other countries and international organizations. As China increases its presence as an aid provider, the Government of Japan believes that it is important for China's assistance to be provided transparently in line with international standards and

initiatives, and is utilizing the opportunity of these dialogues to encourage the Government of China.

B. Partnership for the G7 and G20 Development Issues

On July 4 and 5, 2019, the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting and the G7 Joint Education and International Development Ministerial Meeting were held in Paris, France. In addition to ministers from the G7 countries and various countries in the EU and Africa, representatives from international organizations and others participated in the meetings. At the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting, there were discussions on various issues in the development field including financing for sustainable development, crisis prevention and tackling fragilities, and cooperation between G7 and Sahel countries for issues in Sahel countries. During the G7 Joint Education and International Development Ministerial Meeting, there were discussions on technical and vocational education and training (TVET), girls' education, and the education situation in the Sahel region. Then State Minister for Foreign Affairs ABE Toshiko and then Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology SHIBAYAMA Masahiko attended from Japan, and introduced the outcomes of the G20 Osaka Summit held in June 2019 and Japan's initiatives such as those presented at TICAD7 held in August 2019.

Moreover, the G20 Development Working Group, which has been held annually since its establishment was agreed upon at the G20 Toronto Summit (Canada) in 2010, conducts discussions on development issues. In 2019 under the Japanese Presidency, the G20 Development



Then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abe (second from the right in the front row) attending the photograph session for the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting and the G7 Joint Education and International Development Ministerial Meeting (July 2019)

Working Group discussed 1. Quality infrastructure for Connectivity Enhancement towards Sustainable Development, 2. Human Capital Investment (Education), 3. The 2030 Agenda (SDGs), and 4. Accountability, as priority topics, and formulated outcome documents concerning each topic.

C. Partnership with International Organizations

Amidst the growing need in recent years for the international community to make unified efforts to address global issues, such as poverty, climate change, disaster risk reduction, and health issues, Japan is cooperating with international organizations.

In order to address various development issues, Japan holds a strategic dialogue with the UNDP every year to advance Japan-UNDP cooperation. In 2019, the strategic dialogue was organized in November to exchange views on regional initiatives and thematic issues.

One example of a specific Japan-UNDP cooperation includes cooperation for disaster risk reduction, and a project is being implemented to formulate tsunami evacuation plans and conduct tsunami evacuation drills for countries with a high risk of tsunamis in the Asia-Pacific region. Based on World Tsunami Awareness Day (November 5), which was established under the leadership of Japan at the United Nations General Assembly in December 2015, this project supports raising awareness of tsunami disaster risk reduction as well as disaster prevention capacity development and strengthening of institutions by various countries from local, practical perspectives. It aims for citizens including children in communities in the regions that are vulnerable to tsunamis to prepare for tsunamis and learn what actions they should take if a natural disaster occurs.

As of April 2019, evacuation drills have been implemented in a total of 115 schools in all 18 target countries, and approximately 61,000 people have participated in the drills. Furthermore, the participants not only take part in the actual disaster drill, but also participate from the planning stages including deciding evacuation routes, nominating people in charge of giving instructions and doing headcounts, and preparing for emergency measures presuming that there are injured people, thus building capacity for countries to implement their own evacuation drills without any support in the future.

Going forward, we aim to scale up and systematize evacuation drills that can be implemented by recipient countries on their own, while Phase 2 has begun from

December 2018 targeting the countries with a high risk of tsunamis and high needs for evacuation drills particularly in the Asia-Pacific region.

With a view to bringing development cooperation up to date taking into account the 2030 Agenda, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) implements various initiatives including strengthening collaboration with diverse actors such as emerging countries and the private sector. In particular, discussions are underway on the revision of measurement methods for the appropriate assessment of each country's ODA disbursements, approaches to utilize ODA for mobilization of development finance from the private sector, and approaches to statistically capture a wide range of development finance beyond ODA, including from the private sector and emerging donor countries (see page 14, "ODA Topics" for details on the changes to the ODA calculation system). Furthermore, discussions were conducted on the humanitarian, development and peace nexus as well as the elimination of sexual exploitation, abuse, and sexual harassment in development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, resulting in the adoption of the DAC recommendations on these issues in 2019.

In 2019-2020, the DAC peer review of Japan's development cooperation is being conducted for the first time in six years. Through this process, the DAC members review each other's development cooperation policies, systems, budgets, and more. Japan has been responding to its current peer review by sharing the strong points of Japan's development cooperation, and with the view to learning about better approaches to development cooperation.

In 2016, Japan returned to the OECD Development Centre, the independent organization within the OECD that conducts studies and research on development issues of developing countries. In addition to OECD member countries, non-member countries including emerging and developing countries also participate in the Centre, and it has an important role as a forum for policy dialogues on development in various regions. In 2019, Japan and the Centre co-organized a seminar on triangular cooperation and a High-Level Policy Dialogue with Africa, as an advanced PR effort for TICAD7. During TICAD7, the Centre and the African Union Commission co-hosted the "High Level Policy Dialogue: A Curtain Raiser of *Africa's Development Dynamics: Achieving Productive Transformation*". In this way, Japan and the Centre have been collaborating closely, and Japan will continue to strengthen relations with the Centre.