

# Part IV

## Strengthening Partnership with Diverse Actors and Disseminating Information on Development Cooperation



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) conducting a seminar for kindergarten teachers in Cameroon to enhance social and emotional education (Photo: JICA)

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

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In order to implement Japan's development cooperation, besides ODA and other support provided by the Government and JICA, diverse actors such as large companies, small and medium-sized enterprises, local governments, universities, civil society including NGOs, and international organizations need to work together, leveraging their respective strengths. The Government of Japan is utilizing ODA to support the overseas business expansion of Japanese companies so that they can contribute globally. Furthermore, Japan is assisting diverse actors in performing their roles in the field of development cooperation worldwide, as well as mobilizing the power of NGOs and civil society.

At the same time, the Government of Japan will continue to strive to ensure that Japan's development cooperation is appropriate so that the country's ODA is implemented efficiently and in a lean way, and 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.

In addition, international organizations, such as the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), also promote inclusive businesses\* by Japanese companies, utilizing the organizations' extensive experience and expertise in developing countries.

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### 1. Efforts for Strengthening Partnerships with Diverse Actors

#### (1) Partnership with Private Companies

In the area of development cooperation, applying private companies' advanced technologies, know-how, and ideas is expected to provide better support. The Government of Japan will strive to utilize Japan's excellent technologies and know-how in its grant aid, ODA loan, and other ODA projects, so that the collective strengths of Japanese companies can be further demonstrated in ODA projects by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and JICA. In addition, Japan will aim to achieve development outcomes by sharing roles between the public and private sectors, promoting partnerships with private sector investment projects, and utilizing private sector technology, knowledge, experience, and funds to carry out projects more efficiently and effectively. For example, private sector knowledge and know-how can be incorporated from the stage of ODA project formation, or basic infrastructure can be covered by ODA while investments, operation, maintenance, and management are carried out by the private sector.

#### A. Grant Aid

The Government of Japan provides grant aid (including provision of equipment using small and medium-sized enterprises' (SMEs') products) to support the overseas expansion of Japanese SMEs and other entities by providing their products to developing countries based

on the requests and development needs of developing country governments. This framework not only supports the socio-economic development of developing countries, but also raises the profile of the SMEs' products provided, thereby creating sustained demand for them.

Furthermore, the Government of Japan has introduced grant aid for business/management rights since FY2014. 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 sector. In FY2019, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes for a grant aid under this scheme to expand water supply facilities in Cambodia.

#### B. Improving Japan's ODA loans

Up until now, the Government of Japan has introduced the Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) scheme to promote "Visible Japanese Development Cooperation" through the utilization and transfer of Japan's advanced technologies and know-how to developing countries, and has subsequently taken actions such as improving the aid scheme by expanding the scope of application and lowering interest rates. The Government of Japan has also taken additional measures, such as the establishment of the Stand-by Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery (SECURE) <sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, it has also introduced the

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

MASTER  
TECHNIQUES

3

## from Japan to the World

## Overcoming COVID-19 with Japanese Technology and Know-how!

—Improving Myanmar's medical system through high-quality, safe medical oxygen supply system—

In Myanmar, there is an urgent need to improve the level of medical care, enhance the training of medical personnel, and strengthen the healthcare system. One of the major challenges is ensuring a safe and stable supply of medical oxygen that is essential for treatment.

In response to this situation, Kitajima Sanso Co., Ltd., a Japanese company headquartered in Tokushima Prefecture, through JICA's Framework SDGs Business Supporting Survey with the Private Sector\*<sup>1</sup>, conducted the "Verification Survey with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technologies for establishing supply chain-management system for safe, high quality and hygienic medical oxygen in Myanmar," in five hospitals in Yangon and its suburbs from 2017 to 2020.

"The biggest issue in providing medical oxygen in Myanmar was the lack of domestic laws and rules on medical oxygen. Therefore, accidents related to medical oxygen occurred frequently in Myanmar, while in Japan it hardly occurs," Mr. Bradley Shelley, Managing Director of Kitajima Sanso, tells us about the situation at the time.

In Myanmar, there were no rules on the quality and safety of medical oxygen. As a result, the concentration of the produced oxygen was not consistent, and oxygen cylinders were transported in the same way as ordinary shipments. As hospitals also had no inventory management systems, they sometimes ran out of stock of medical oxygen because of delays in ordering by hospital staff.

In order to improve this situation, Kitajima Sanso made it a top priority to promote the concept of medical oxygen in Myanmar. Through implementing the KITAJIMA ROC (Responsible Oxygen Cycle) System, the company dedicated itself to giving instructions on every operation from the production of medical oxygen to the management of medical oxygen supply in hospitals.

The KITAJIMA ROC System is a stable supply system of medical oxygen to comprehensively deal with the production, quality control, safe delivery, and stable supply of high-quality

medical oxygen, and is highly evaluated in Japan. During the survey, Kitajima Sanso employees made numerous visits to Myanmar and provided full guidance to oxygen cylinder transporters about truck load management, safety-conscious transport methods, 5S\*<sup>2</sup>, and safety and hygiene, and to hospital staff about the management and use of cylinders.



A Kitajima Sanso employee giving guidance on safe delivery methods to a local medical oxygen delivery staff member (Photo: Kitajima Sanso)



Guidance being given on safe use of medical oxygen at a national hospital in Yangon (Photo: Kitajima Sanso)

"Just teaching the correct know-how would only increase troublesome work for Myanmar people. Therefore, we made an effort to carefully explain why we should perform the task in every task. Myanmar people are very talented and sincere, so they will do the work properly once they understand the reason. When I realized this, I felt a great sense of fulfillment." Mr. KONISHI Yusuke, working in the International Business Division of Kitajima Sanso, said.

Thanks to the cooperation that focused on changing awareness, when Kitajima Sanso staff visited the local hospitals that were beneficiaries of the project half a year after the survey ended, they saw that Myanmar people had developed ROC systems on their own by using local equipment and the hospitals were providing guidance to manufacturing companies, and they noticed that the situation had changed considerably compared to before the project.

Kitajima Sanso's medical oxygen is now widely recognized in Myanmar and is also used in response to COVID-19. When a new hospital specializing in the treatment of COVID-19 was established in a hurry in Yangon, the Government of Myanmar directly requested the company's cooperation, and Kitajima Sanso's medical oxygen was supplied in the new hospital in coordination with a Japanese equipment manufacturer, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar.

In this way, initiative taken by a Japanese company through transferring excellent Japanese medical technology and sharing knowledge is making a significant contribution to strengthening the overall national health and medical system in Myanmar.

\*1 Formerly "Verification Survey."

\*2 Widespread adoption of five steps: Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain (5S).



Equity Back Finance (EBF) loan <sup>2</sup> and the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) loan <sup>3</sup>. 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,”<sup>\*</sup> the Government of Japan has been making efforts to improve its ODA loan and Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) by speeding up Japan’s ODA loan procedures and creating new ODA loan options. For example, it has reduced 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. It has also introduced ODA loans with currency conversion option to middle- to upper-middle-income countries on the condition that JICA’s financial grounds are ensured, and established dollar-denominated ODA loans and Japan’s ODA loans with Preferential Terms for High Specification <sup>4</sup>. Furthermore, in the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure,”<sup>\*</sup> Japan announced that it would further accelerate ODA loan procedures, decided to reduce the period between the initiation of the feasibility study (F/S)<sup>\*</sup> 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 strive to improve the ODA loan so that projects can be formulated and developed in an expeditious manner.

### C. Proposal-based Public-Private Partnership Support Schemes

In order to actively utilize opinions and proposals from private companies, the Government of Japan and JICA are also promoting public-private partnership support schemes based on private sector proposals, such as SDGs Business Supporting Surveys and Preparatory Surveys for Private-Sector Investment Finance.

#### ■ SDGs Business Supporting Surveys

SDGs Business Supporting Surveys is a program that aims to solve problems in the field through business and to promote collaboration with a wide range of partners by incorporating ideas from private companies based on their creativity and originality.

The program, which is based on proposals from private companies, assists in matching the needs of developing countries with the advanced products

and technologies, etc., possessed by private-sector companies, and supports the development of businesses that contribute to solving problems in these countries. It is implemented as commissioned surveys, and is utilized for necessary information collection and business model development (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 not only supports the expansion of SMEs’ businesses abroad, but is also expected to invigorate the Japanese economy and local communities.

In FY2019, a total of 173 projects were adopted in 47 countries under this program (See also “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on pages 73 and 139. For more information about the program’s framework, target areas and countries, and other details, see the JICA website <sup>5</sup>.)



Picture book author Ms. SHINJU Mariko (author of the best-selling picture book *Mottainai Grandma*, which teaches the spirit of “mottainai”: recognizing the value of things and not wasting them) showing children how she creates illustrations at a book fair in Delhi, India / SDGs Business Supporting Survey for the Project for Contributing to Environment and Sanitation Improvement by Reading Japanese Picture Books

#### ■ Preparatory Surveys for Private-Sector Investment Finance

In recent years, there has been a growing 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

- <sup>2</sup> 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.
- <sup>3</sup> 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.
- <sup>4</sup> 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.
- <sup>5</sup> SDGs Business Supporting Surveys: [https://www.jica.go.jp/priv\\_partner/activities/sme/index.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/priv_partner/activities/sme/index.html) (in Japanese only)

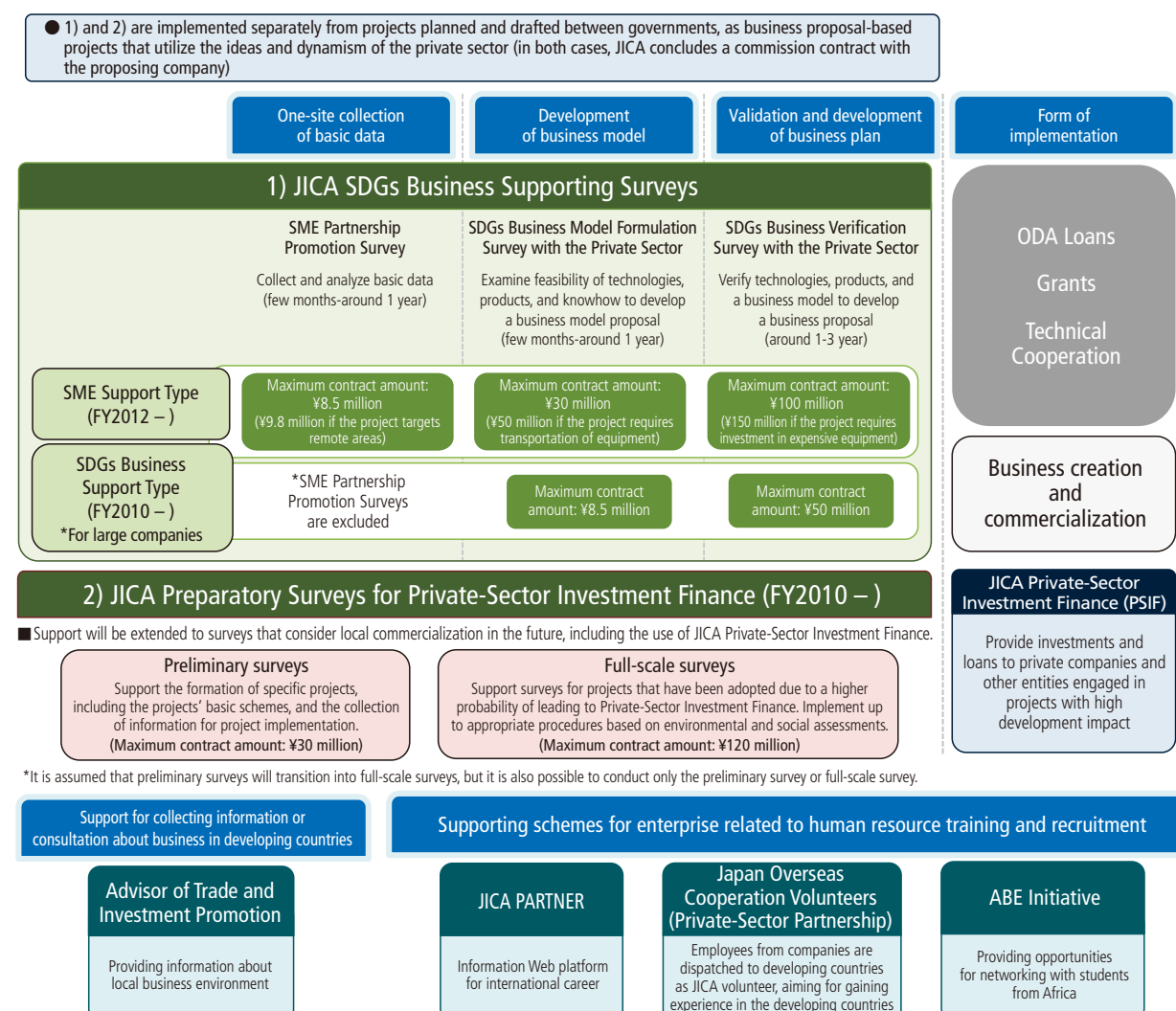
collaborate and engage with each other from the initial stages of project formulation in order to appropriately divide roles between the public and private sectors. In addition to infrastructure, there has also been a growing trend to promote economic and social development in developing countries through private sector projects. For this reason, as part of its Preparatory Survey proposal-based program, 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 projects in developing countries and aiming to utilize Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) (for more information about the program's framework, target areas and countries, and other details, see the JICA website) <sup>6</sup>. In FY2019, seven projects were adopted in

Asia and Africa.

### ■ Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private-Sector Partnership)

In addition, in order to assist in developing the global human resources required by Japanese SMEs, the Government of Japan established the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private-Sector Partnership)\* in 2012. Employees from companies are dispatched to developing countries as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) under the scheme while keeping their affiliation with their companies. Japan proactively supports overseas expansion of Japanese companies through the scheme.

## Public-Private Partnership Support Schemes Using ODA



### D. Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF)

The financial needs for the development of developing countries has increased with the globalization of

the economy, and the inflow of private finance into developing countries currently exceeds the global total amount of ODA. In light of the growing role of private

<sup>6</sup> Preparatory Survey for Private-Sector Investment Finance (formerly Preparatory Survey for PPP Infrastructure Project): [https://www.jica.go.jp/priv\\_partner/activities/psifis/index.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/priv_partner/activities/psifis/index.html) (in Japanese only)

sector finance in development cooperation, it is becoming increasingly important to promote partnerships utilizing private finance (see also “ODA Topics” on pages 142 and 143).

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 their necessary funds. Although such projects create jobs and revitalize the economy of hosting countries, they entail 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 36 investment and loan contracts in total by the end of FY2019 (for more information about the program’s framework, target areas, conditions, and other details, see the JICA website) <sup>7</sup>.

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, it 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, initiatives 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. These measures 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 more flexible operation of JICA’s PSIF by relaxing the upper limit of investment ratio from 25% to 50% (but less than the percentage that would make JICA the largest shareholder) and by introducing PSIF in euros in the “Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure.” Subsequent studies concluded that these are operable and can be introduced.

In November 2020, in order to respond promptly with transparency and predictability to the needs of companies applying to carry out projects, the Government of Japan reviewed the operation of the PSIF appraisal process and revised the “Guidelines for Selecting JICA Private-Sector Investment Finance Projects” for the first time.



A child studying before and after a kerosene lamp has been replaced with a solar-powered LED lantern. Through the “Off-Grid Solar Power Project in Sub-Saharan Africa,” which was the first PSIF project in Sub-Saharan Africa after the Preparatory Survey for BOP Business Promotion (currently the SDGs Business Supporting Survey), JICA helped to improve access to power for people living in off-grid areas of Tanzania by financing a project by Digital Grid Corporation (Photo: JICA)

Japan’s development cooperation is carried out in partnership with diverse actors. When implementing development cooperation, it is important for the Government 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 serve as a catalyst for mobilizing and assembling a wide range of resources, including the private sector.

<sup>7</sup> Overview of PSIF: [https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/schemes/finance\\_co/loan/index.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/schemes/finance_co/loan/index.html) (in Japanese only)

## = 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 Base of the Economic Pyramid (BOP) businesses that resolve social challenges.

### \*Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure

The Expanded Partnerships for Quality Infrastructure was announced by then 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 following 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.

### \*Partnership for Quality Infrastructure

Announced by the then 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.

### \*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)

Under the program (formerly known as the Private-Sector Partnership Volunteers), employees of private companies and other entities are dispatched to developing countries as JOCVs, which contributes to fostering global human resources and overseas business expansion of companies. Dispatch destinations, categories, and periods of dispatch are determined through consultation based on the requests from companies. Employees are dispatched to countries and regions in which their companies are considering business expansion. It is expected that the employees will gain language skills, understand the culture, the commercial practices, the technical level, and other matters of the respective destination countries, and acquire communication skills, problem solving, and negotiation abilities through their activities. It is anticipated that these acquired abilities will be brought back into corporate activities upon their return (for details about the scheme and its results, see Chapter 2.11 of Development Cooperation Reference Materials 2019 published on the MOFA website (in Japanese only)).



## Government Aid Alone Is Not Enough? Mobilization and Utilization of Non-ODA Development Finance

### ● ODA and Private Finance

The White Papers on Development Cooperation have been describing many Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects. However, did you know that ODA actually accounts for only approximately 15% of the total flow of funds from developed to developing countries? Global ODA flows were approximately \$190 billion in 2017. Meanwhile, private direct investment in developing countries was approximately \$540 billion and overseas remittances by individuals approximately \$430 billion, far exceeding the ODA amount\*1.

According to estimates of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), \$3.9 trillion is needed annually to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, but currently an annual shortfall of \$2.5 trillion is being projected. With countries facing severe financial situations, the question is how to utilize abundant private funding for sustainable development.

### ● Coordination with Private Finance

Japan uses ODA to bring the most out of the private sector through such frameworks as JICA's Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) and SDGs Business Supporting Surveys (see pages 136 to 140 for details on Public-Private Partnership initiatives).

An example is Sunrise Japan Hospital in Cambodia. JICA provided PSIF loans when JGC Corporation, Innovation Network Corporation of Japan (now INCJ, Ltd.), and Kitahara Medical Strategies International Co., Ltd. decided on investment in a private hospital development project and on establishment and operation of the hospital. Through this assistance, a hospital that offers the latest Japanese-style medical service has been established in Cambodia. In addition, Japan not only provided medical equipment through grant aid, but also invited 60 Cambodian physicians, nurses, and other healthcare workers to Japan before the opening of the hospital, to equip them with medical skills and know-how through technical cooperation. Such assistance combining several schemes is unique to Japanese development cooperation. As a result of these efforts,

Sunrise Japan Hospital was able to realize reliable Japanese-style healthcare services with medical staff providing medical care with consideration for the feelings of patients and their families in Cambodia, where quality medical services were called for.

In addition to the realization of business expansion of Japanese companies, another major achievement is that the hospital established by this project has become a valuable place where young Japanese physicians who want to hone their skills overseas can gain experience. The hospital initially had approximately 1,300 outpatients per month when it opened in 2016 but it has tripled to approximately 4,500 by 2018, making a significant contribution to improving the health of the Cambodian people. Japan's assistance in this project has generated a win-win effect for all parties involved.

Furthermore, under the SDGs Business Supporting Surveys, JICA helps match the outstanding products and technologies of private companies with the development needs of developing countries based on proposals from the companies, and provides support to establish businesses that contribute to solving problems in developing countries.

For example, SuRaLa Net Co., Ltd. conducted a preparatory survey in Sri Lanka on e-learning materials that use animation to teach math in a game-like manner, taking advantage of the Preparatory Survey on BOP Business (now the SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector). As an outcome of this survey, an e-learning system was introduced in Sri Lanka, while women from impoverished areas were trained as "facilitators" to give guidance to children. This project contributes to the improvement of the academic ability of local students and employment creation for women.

In response to the prolonged closure of schools in Sri Lanka due to the spread of COVID-19, SuRaLa Net also began providing online e-learning for free soon after the schools were closed. From March to August 2020, the company provided math learning support that can be accessed at home for approximately 660 children. Such support makes use of the innovation, knowledge, experience, and speediness of the private sector and cannot be



Japanese and Cambodian staff providing medical care at Sunrise Japan Hospital (Photo: Sunrise Japan Hospital)





achieved by the government alone.

### ● International Discourse on Mobilization of Private Finance and Japan's Efforts

The need to mobilize private finance for the development of developing countries to achieve the SDGs has gained growing recognition in the international community. For example, in 2017, the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) announced the Blended Finance (BF)<sup>\*2</sup> Principles and is encouraging the active mobilization of private finance.

Japan, as the 2019 presidency of the G20 Summit in Osaka, confirmed the important role of innovative financing mechanisms, including BF, in upscaling collective efforts with G20 countries in the leaders' declaration. In the same year, Japan also organized the Meeting of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development and led the discussion on this topic. Additionally, an advisory panel to consider new funding mechanisms for SDGs was established for discussing innovative financing methods and areas in which resources should be used to secure financial resources necessary to achieve the SDGs. In July 2020, the advisory panel submitted to Foreign Minister Motegi a report (summary of final discussion) containing recommendations for promoting the mobilization of private finance, such as impact investment and BF.

### ● New International Statistical System

The importance of mobilizing additional financial resources for developing countries is indisputable. On the other hand, there is not necessarily a framework for tracking the overall flows of development finance beyond traditional ODA globally. In response to this need, a new statistical system is currently under consideration, led by the OECD-DAC, called the Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD).

This system, under a full-fledged discussion since the DAC High Level Meeting in 2014, aims to track a wide range of official financial flows that contribute to sustainable development. If TOSSD comes into fruition, it will enable the monitoring of development finance from non-DAC members that are new actors in development cooperation, such as China, India, Russia, Brazil, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. It will also capture financial resources that do not necessarily have development as their main objective and even private finance mobilized by the involvement of official funds, as long as they contribute to sustainable development.

TOSSD is a grand attempt to broadly capture and make visible the flow of development resources from all donors to developing countries. Japan has many development financial resources that cannot be measured by traditional ODA, and this system will allow Japan to further demonstrate its contribution to sustainable development to the international community.

Since 2017, the International TOSSD Task Force, which includes emerging donors and developing countries, has been addressing technical matters, including the scope of resources to be monitored and calculation methodologies. Japan will continue to actively participate in these processes. While the reporting of TOSSD data has only recently begun, it is hoped that reporting of TOSSD becomes more widespread among non-DAC donors in the future.

With the globalization of the economy, flows of private resources to developing countries now far exceed the total amount of ODA. In this context, ODA must serve as "a catalyst for mobilizing a wide range of resources, including the private sector" (Development Cooperation Charter). Japan will continue to actively contribute to the creation of international rules for broader and more efficient mobilization of sustainable development funds, including non-ODA official funds and even private resources.



Children learning math using the e-learning system of SuRaLa Net (Photo: SuRaLa Net)



Award ceremony for women facilitators and children who studied through the e-learning system (Top left: SuRaLa Net employee who attended the award ceremony) (Photo: SuRaLa Net)

\*1 OECD Resource flows beyond ODA in DAC statistics (<http://www.oecd.org/development/beyond-oda.htm>)

\*2 Blended finance (BF), according to the OECD definition, is a new way of strategically using finance for development purposes and mobilizing for-profit commercial finance for sustainable development. The BF Principles are: (i) anchor BF use to a development rationale; (ii) design BF to increase the mobilization of commercial finance; (iii) tailor BF to local context; (iv) focus on effective partnering for BF; and (v) monitor BF for transparency and results.

## (2) Partnerships for Civil Participation with Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, NGOs, and Other Partners

### A. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JICA Volunteer Program)

The JICA Volunteer Program, including the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), started in 1965 and has been delivering results for more than half a century. More than 50,000 volunteers have been dispatched to 98 developing countries and regions in total, contributing to the development of these countries and regions and embodying the “visibility of Japanese development cooperation.” The program entails public participation. Volunteers receive 70 days of training. Then they are dispatched to developing countries in principle for two years to assist economic and social development in the countries, while living and working with the local communities.

The JICA Volunteer Program is highly regarded both domestically and internationally. The program contributes not only to the economic and social development of developing countries and regions, but also to promoting mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and these countries and regions through the deepening of local people’s affinity for Japan. Moreover, the program is drawing attention in the respect that ex-volunteers utilize their experiences and knowledge to give back to Japanese society. For example, ex-volunteers who have obtained global views through the program are contributing to local revitalization in Japan and the business expansion of Japanese private companies to

developing countries (see the glossary on page 141 for details on “Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Private Sector Partnership)”).

In order to promote these initiatives, the Government of Japan has been striving to make it easier for more people to join the program through supporting ex-volunteers in developing their careers, as well as disseminating information on how to participate in the program while retaining one’s job.

Both the spring selection process and the autumn recruitment in FY2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Recruitment for FY2021 will be held depending on the infection situation (see Part I for COVID-19 Pandemic and Japan’s Efforts).



A JOCV teaching clothes-making to students in Ondangwa, Namibia (Photo: JICA)

The JICA Volunteer Program was revised to classify

## Honduras

### Project for Promoting Home Gardening toward Nutrition Improvement in the Municipality of Vado Ancho in the department of El Paraíso JICA Partnership Program (JPP) (Partner Type) (August 2017 – December 2019)

The Municipality of Vado Ancho in the department of El Paraíso, located in the arid zone of Honduras, is one of the poorest municipalities in the country. Most local people make a living by growing corn and beans. However, since 2014, droughts have been getting longer year after year, resulting in crop failure. This then led to local people being provided with food aid from the government and international organizations. In addition, because of the limited variety of vegetables available for purchase, the local people have been living on a nutritionally unbalanced diet.

In order to resolve these problems, JICA and AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS), a Japanese NGO, promoted home gardening in the Municipality of Vado Ancho through the JICA Partnership Program, which aimed to increase food production that considers the nutritional value of the foods consumed by local people. Specifically, they



An AMDA-MINDS project coordinator checking the vegetables grown by a local resident in a home garden (Photo: AMDA-MINDS)

worked with local NGOs to provide the local people with hands-on training and technical education on home gardening using as little chemical fertilizer as possible, as well as cooking classes using the harvested crops.



A cooking class using vegetables harvested from home gardens (Photo: AMDA-MINDS)

As a result of these efforts, 182 households are now practicing home gardening, which is higher than the original target of 120 households, and the number of crop varieties grown by each household has increased by 24 on average compared to when the project started. Furthermore, other results, such as holding open-air markets to sell harvested crops locally, have been seen. The number of home gardens are still growing, even after the completion of the project.



volunteers not by the age category (youth/senior), but by whether or not the contents of the work require a certain level of experience and skills. These changes have been introduced starting with the autumn recruitment in 2018.

## 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 even at the grassroots level, which can be hard-to-reach through the support of the government and international organizations. The MOFA positions 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 assistance, including financial cooperation (see below), support for the creation of an enabling environment for their activities, and dialogues with them (page 146).

In addition, under the Development Cooperation Charter, MOFA and NGOs jointly developed a plan outlining the direction of their collaboration for the next five years and announced it in 2015. Furthermore, 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 has been 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 health and medical care, education and human resources development, vocational training, rural development, water resource development, and human resources development for landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) removal. In FY2019, 62 Japanese NGOs utilized this scheme to implement 113 projects in 32 countries and 1 region, amounting to approximately ¥5.59 billion (see also the columns on pages 10, 64, and 85).

Based on the recommendations made by the Advisory Board for ODA, which held a total of four sessions in 2018, MOFA raised the ratio of general administrative expenses in April 2019 from what was formerly 5% of

local project expenses to a maximum of 15% within the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. This enabled NGOs to allocate their own funds, which were previously used to cover the funding gap in implementing ODA projects, to strengthen their organization through activities in such fields as public relations and fundraising. 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.



Completion of a health sub-center in Tatkon Township, Myanmar (Photo: People's Hope Japan)

#### ■ 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. As of October 2020, JPF has 44 member NGOs. JPF utilizes ODA funds provided by MOFA, as well as donations from companies and citizens to carry out emergency humanitarian assistance, including through the distribution of food/non-food items and livelihood recovery support, when a large-scale natural disaster occurs or a vast number of refugees flee from conflicts. In FY2019, JPF implemented 106 projects under 12 programs, including assistance for the humanitarian crises that occurred in Afghanistan, Yemen, Iraq, and Syria, humanitarian assistance in Gaza Strip in Palestine, emergency assistance for refugees from South Sudan, humanitarian assistance for displaced persons from Myanmar, assistance for people affected by floods and landslides in Nepal, assistance for people affected by cyclones in Southern African countries, and assistance for displaced persons from Venezuela (see also Part I for response to the COVID-19 pandemic through JPF and page 47 for assistance for refugees and displaced persons).

#### ■ NGO Project Subsidies

In FY2019, MOFA provided NGO project subsidies to six Japanese NGOs conducting such activities as project identification and formulation, post-project evaluations, and seminars and workshops in Japan and overseas for development cooperation projects.

#### ■ JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

JICA Partnership Program (JPP) is a joint project outsourced by JICA to Japanese NGOs/CSOs, local

governments, universities, private enterprises, and other organizations willing to engage in international cooperation. Proposals are submitted to JICA for international cooperation activities based on their accumulated knowledge and experience and implemented by these partners in collaboration with JICA (see the JICA website <sup>8</sup> for information on program details and application procedures among others). Through the JICA Partnership Program, approximately 200 projects are implemented in approximately 90 countries every year.

### \*\*\* Support for Establishing a Better Environment for NGOs Activities

In response to the growing importance of non-government actors and the use of private funding other than ODA in international cooperation, MOFA carries out the following programs with the objective of further strengthening the organizational structures and project implementation capabilities of Japanese NGOs and developing their human resources.

#### ■ NGO Consultant Scheme

Under this scheme, MOFA commissions highly experienced Japanese NGOs (15 organizations in FY2019) to address inquiries and respond to requests for consultation from citizens and NGOs on such topics as international cooperation activities by NGOs, how to establish an NGO, organizational management and operation, and approaches for providing development education.

#### ■ NGO Internship Program/NGO Study Program

MOFA implements the NGO Internship Program and NGO Study Program with the objective of strengthening the organization through human resources development. The NGO Internship Program aims to develop human resources to enable young people to play an active role in Japanese NGOs for international cooperation in the future. A total of nine interns were accepted by NGOs through this program in FY2019.

Under the NGO Study Program, mid-career personnel from Japanese NGOs for international cooperation undergo domestic and overseas training and widely share the fruits of their training within their organization and with other NGOs, with the aim of contributing to enhancing the capabilities of Japanese NGOs as a whole. In FY2019, nine people received training through this program.

#### ■ NGO Study Groups

NGO study groups aim to strengthen NGOs and their capacities by conducting joint studies and research, seminars, workshops, symposiums, and other activities regarding common issues faced by NGOs and reporting and recommending specific measures for improvement.

In FY2019, NGO study groups were held on the following three themes: (i) "Survey on the Status of Organizations and Activities of NGOs and CSOs in Japan," (ii) "Strengthening the Capabilities of Japanese NGOs Engaged in International Cooperation: Lessons Learnt from Disaster Prevention and Relief Activities within the Japanese Borders," and (iii) "Recommendations for Promoting Safeguarding and Development of its Guidelines for Japanese NGOs in the International Cooperation Sector." The reports and outcomes of these activities are available on the ODA website of MOFA.

### \*\*\* Dialogue with NGO (NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meetings, NGO-Embassies ODA Consultation Meeting, and NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting)

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 FY2019, in addition to the General Meeting, two subcommittees, the "ODA Policy Council" and the "Partnership Promotion Committee," convened meetings twice respectively (see the MOFA website <sup>9</sup> for more information on the NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting, meeting minutes, and other details).

In addition, since 2002, in order to promote dialogue and strengthen cooperation with Japanese NGOs in Japan and abroad, embassy officials, JICA, and NGO personnel involved in ODA have been exchanging views at the NGO-Embassies ODA Consultation Meeting with the aim of promoting "visibility of development cooperation" through an all-Japan approach toward the effective and efficient implementation of ODA.

Based on equal partnership with NGOs, JICA holds meetings including the NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting and NGO-JICA Study Sessions to promote the realization of more effective international cooperation, as well as public understanding and participation in international cooperation.

### (3) Collaboration with Local Governments

As rapid economic development progresses in developing countries with continued urbanization, there is an escalating need for solutions to urban problems concerning water, energy, waste disposal, urban transportation, anti-pollution, and others. These various problems are not limited to large cities, but are increasing in regional cities as well. Under such circumstances, it would be extremely beneficial for the development of developing countries if local governments in Japan with accumulated expertise in water, energy, waste disposal,

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/types\\_of\\_assistance/citizen/partner.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/citizen/partner.html)

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda\\_ngo/taiwa/kyougikai.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shimin/oda_ngo/taiwa/kyougikai.html) (in Japanese only)



disaster prevention, and other fields could respond to the needs of those countries in a highly detailed and attentive manner. For this reason, the Government of Japan has promoted the participation of local governments in ODA. Moreover, Japanese local governments are also actively promoting the overseas expansion of their initiatives, including their local industries, in order to stimulate the revitalization and globalization of the local regions of Japan <sup>10</sup> (see “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 88 for specific examples).

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 that universities can play in development cooperation 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 them into practice and giving back to the Japanese people through education. Japan is indeed promoting projects including technical cooperation, ODA loan, and the JICA Partnership Program (JPP) in collaboration with various universities.

To give an example, with the objective of developing advanced human resources who will become the core of socioeconomic development in developing countries, the Government of 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. So far, the scholarship has brought over 4,600 international students to Japan, including

those in master’s and doctoral programs. Moreover, Japan provides support to Thailand to establish and operate Kosen schools (Colleges of Technology), which are unique to the Japanese education system, in Thailand, and cooperates in the provision of Kosen education that meets the same standards as those in 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, further scientific and technological advancement is needed to solve global issues such as global warming and infectious diseases, which have been rapidly becoming more acute in recent years. Research and development in developing countries vulnerable to the impacts of these issues must be conducted according to their regional needs. Expectation for advanced science and technology from Japan is increasing especially in these countries. At the same time, universities and research institutions in developing countries urgently need to improve their self-sustainable research and development capacities and build frameworks for sustainable activities. MOFA and JICA have been implementing Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) <sup>11</sup> 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) under these circumstances. International joint studies between universities and research institutions of Japan and those of developing countries are being conducted through SATREPS (see “Master Techniques from Japan to the World” on page 149 for specific examples).

Above-mentioned partnerships with universities have contributed to the advancement of the academic capabilities of developing countries for solving issues, as well as the globalization of Japanese universities through accepting trainees who study in Japan (see “ODA Topics” on page 148 for Japan’s globalization through development cooperation).

#### = Glossary



##### \*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.

<sup>10</sup> Support for overseas development of local governments through ODA: [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/about/page23\\_000707.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/about/page23_000707.html) (in Japanese only)

<sup>11</sup> See the glossary on page 40. Science and technology cooperation: <https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/schemes/science/index.html> (in Japanese only)

## Revitalizing Japan through Development Cooperation

Japan's development cooperation is supported by a diverse range of actors, including companies, local governments, universities, and the civil society. The involvement of these actors is essential for the effective implementation of Japan's development cooperation. However, did you know that their involvement also contributes to the revitalization and internationalization of Japanese society?

One of the cases in which such effects are seen is the regional revitalization in Japan through interactions with overseas talent. Although there is a temporary decrease due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of foreigners visiting Japan has been increasing in recent years. There were 2.93 million foreign nationals residing in Japan as of the end of 2019 and 1.66 million foreigners working in Japan as of the end of October 2019, both of which were record highs. For the purpose of leveraging this increase in overseas human resources for revitalization of Japanese regional communities, it has become important to create an enabling environment for hosting overseas talent smoothly and appropriately and realize a symbiotic society.

In 2019, the "Xieng Khouang-Kagawa Prefecture-JICA Cooperation Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development" was launched under the collaboration of JICA, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Laos, and the Kagawa Prefecture Farmers' Co-op. Through this program, JICA, in collaboration with relevant people of Kagawa Prefecture, provides technical cooperation in Xieng Khouang Province in Laos aiming at increasing production of agricultural products to improve the livelihood of farmers and promote agricultural development in Xieng Khouang Province. In addition, Kagawa Prefecture, a participant in this program, is expected to benefit from smoother hosting of talented

technical intern trainees from Laos, promotion of business expansion in Laos, and deepening of cross-cultural understanding via interacting with foreign talent (see "Master Techniques from Japan to the World" on page 88 for details).

In Miyazaki City, the Bangladesh-Japan ICT Engineers' Training Program (B-JET) has been established with the collaboration of JICA, Miyazaki City, University of Miyazaki, and local IT companies. The program is designed to support the development of ICT professionals who underpin growth in Bangladesh. ICT professionals from Bangladesh such as graduates of Bangladesh universities of engineering come to Japan after learning the Japanese language and business manners and then intern at IT companies in Miyazaki City while continuing their Japanese language studies at University of Miyazaki. Some of the ICT professionals trained by this initiative found employment in Miyazaki City, which in turn contributes to the internationalization of the city and the revitalization of its ICT industry.

Similar impacts are also witnessed at universities. The JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP) was launched in 2018 to provide international students coming to Japan on ODA programs with an opportunity to systematically learn about Japan's experiences with its own modernization and development and experiences as a donor, and to train the students into future leaders of developing countries. Some of the programs offered at JICA-DSP are not only for international students funded by ODA but are also open to other international and Japanese students. It is expected that having talented people come to Japan from developing countries and learn with other students in English about the Japanese experience will contribute to making Japanese university education as a whole more dynamic and international.



Bangladeshi students participating in B-JET in Japan after training in Bangladesh for internships in Miyazaki



International students participating in "Understanding the Japanese Development Experience" as part of JICA-DSP (Photo: Nagaoka City Museum of Local History)

MASTER  
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## 4

## from Japan to the World

**Preparing for Unknown Infectious Diseases in Africa!**  
—Joint research on zoonotic virus infections between Hokkaido University and the University of Zambia—

Zoonoses caused by viruses that infect both humans and animals, such as COVID-19 and Ebola virus disease, have become a global threat in recent years. Outbreaks of viral zoonoses have also been confirmed in Zambia. It has become a priority for the country to control them. Furthermore, it is highly possible that yet unidentified viruses exist in Africa, and research projects on such novel viruses are now attracting attention not only in Africa, but also on a global scale.

Under those circumstances, the “Project for Surveillance of Viral Zoonosis in Africa” was carried out in Zambia from 2013 as a joint research by Hokkaido University and School of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Zambia (UNZA-SVM) under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)\* program. Additionally, a succeeding project, the “Project for Epidemiology of Zoonotic Virus Infections in Africa,” is being implemented since 2019.

The first step in these two projects was the construction of a virology laboratory with an animal facility to improve the research environment at UNZA-SVM, which had almost no infrastructure for education and research on viral zoonoses. Additionally, diagnostic methods for viral zoonoses such as viral hemorrhagic fever were introduced to the researchers of UNZA-SVM.

Dr. TAKADA Ayato at the Research Center for Zoonosis Control (CZC), Hokkaido University, explained as follows. “This project began thanks to the long-standing close ties between Hokkaido University and UNZA. A school of veterinary medicine was established at UNZA with the cooperation of Japan about 30 years ago. Then, Hokkaido University’s faculty members visited Zambia to train people from scratch and help UNZA to establish a veterinary school. This was the beginning of the exchange between the two universities. Later, our cooperative relationship was further strengthened, as CZC was established at Hokkaido University and a joint



Dr. Takada and UNZA-SVM researchers collecting blood from a bat in the field (Photo: Hokkaido University)

project with UNZA was launched.” Dr. TAKADA is acting as a central figure in this project.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Zambia’s neighboring country, has also joined in the succeeding project which started in 2019, handling not only samples of animals such as arthropods, but also those of humans. The project is intended to strengthen the epidemiological research capacity of the research institutions in the two countries and improve their diagnostic capabilities. This project and the preceding project from 2013 have already discovered various viruses in Zambia. In the DRC, it is expected that the project might contribute to early detection and enhancement of measures against Ebola virus disease, of which there have been several outbreaks in the country since 2017.

Hokkaido University has been accepting students from Zambia and the DRC. The University has been carrying out programs for training them to create experts on zoonosis control. UNZA-SVM has conducted more than 60,000 specimen tests in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who studied at Hokkaido University and came back to their countries are active as core personnel in combatting COVID-19.

Dr. KAJIHARA Masahiro, a faculty member working with Dr. Takada at CZC, expressed his hope for Zambia as follows. “It was hard to train veterinarians in Zambia before; however, they are doing it now. Zambia is even accepting graduate students from other African countries and is becoming a center for veterinary research in Africa.”

Longstanding academic cooperation between Japan and Africa is about to bring about great strides in measures against infectious diseases, a transborder issue, with a view to preparing for infectious diseases in the future.



Checking the presence of a virus (Photo: Hokkaido University)

\*See the Glossary on page 40.



## **(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 2020, Japan conducted dialogues and exchanged 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. Furthermore, with the spread of COVID-19 in 2020, responding to issues in the field of health has become an urgent matter around the world. Addressing global development issues, including the environment and climate change, also remains important. In order to effectively utilize Japan's ODA and work on development issues with the international community as a whole under these circumstances, cooperation and collaboration with other donors is critical, and Japan will actively promote these efforts (see also Part I for international collaboration related to the response to COVID-19).

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 countries such as China, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Turkey, and South Africa have also provided assistance for developing countries and have come to gain significant influence on the development issues in recent years. Japan, having experienced the transition from an aid recipient to an aid provider, has been striving to promote the effectiveness of emerging countries' 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. Japan will continue to work with the international community to ensure that China's development cooperation is transparent and consistent with international standards and initiatives.

### **B. Partnership for the G7 and G20 development issues**

The G7 has been holding the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting as a forum to discuss how to address various issues in the field of development. In recent years, the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting was held in Whistler, Canada from May 31 to June 2, 2018, and the G7 Development Ministers' Meeting and the G7 Joint Education and International Development Ministerial Meeting were held in Paris, France on July 4 and 5, 2019.

Although there was no G7 Development Ministers' Meeting in 2020, meetings of the Development Ministers' Contact Group on COVID-19 have been held to discuss support for developing countries from May onward, co-chaired by Canada and the United Kingdom (with the participation of Australia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, and Sweden, in addition to the G7). Representing Japan, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki attended the meetings three times and made statements on such issues as strengthening global health systems, ensuring equitable access to vaccines, providing timely and appropriate information on food supply and demand and ensuring its distribution, and Japan's efforts to reopen schools.

The G20 has been discussing development issues in the G20 Development Working Group, which has been held since the G20 Toronto Summit (Canada) in 2010. In 2020, under the Saudi Arabian Presidency, the G20 Development Working Group discussed the five priorities of (i) the G20 Support to COVID-19 Response and Recovery, (ii) Quality Infrastructure for Regional Connectivity, (iii) Financing for Sustainable Development, (iv) the 2030 Agenda (SDGs), and (v) Accountability, and adopted each outcome document.

### **C. Partnership with International Organizations**

In recent years, partnership with international organizations has been essential for the international community to make unified efforts to address global issues, such as poverty, climate change, disaster risk reduction, and health issues.



Then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki conducting a teleconference with UNDP Administrator Steiner





Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakanishi attending the sixth High Level Meeting of the Governing Board of the OECD Development Centre (held as a teleconference) (October 6, 2020)



In order to address various development issues and facilitate assistance through partnerships with international organizations, Japan holds dialogues with major international organizations such as UNDP, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, and the World Food Programme (WFP). In addition to these dialogues, in 2020, Japan also exchanged views on the emergency response to the spread of COVID-19. For instance, then State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki confirmed the importance of strengthening cooperation in teleconferences with President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Maurer in April and with UNDP Administrator Steiner in May (see Part I for Japan's support for COVID-19 countermeasures through international organizations, and Part II and III for Japan's partnerships with international organizations in each field and region).

With a view to bringing development cooperation up to date taking into account the 2030 Agenda, the DAC

implements various initiatives including strengthening collaboration with diverse actors such as emerging countries and the private sector (see also "ODA Topics" on pages 142 and 143 for the mobilization and utilization of private sector funding other than ODA).

In addition, the DAC Development Co-operation Peer Review of Japan was conducted from 2019 to 2020.

With Japan's support, the OECD Development Centre is working to disseminate the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment," which were endorsed at the G20 Osaka Summit in 2019, among the international community. The sixth High Level Meeting of the Governing Board of the OECD Development Centre held in October 2020 was attended by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakanishi from Japan, who pointed out the importance of quality infrastructure and expressed Japan's intention to cooperate closely with the Centre.

#### **DAC Development Co-operation Peer Review of Japan <sup>12</sup>**

DAC peer reviews are conducted every five to six years by DAC members to assess each other's development cooperation policies and implementation. Through this process, donor countries share their policies, experiences, and recommendations with each other, aiming for more effective cooperation. The peer review of Japan was the first in six years since 2014, and the EU and Italy were the reviewers.

As a result of the review, in the report released by the OECD on October 12, 2020, the Government of Japan was highly assessed overall for having partially or fully implemented 95% of the recommendations that Japan received in the previous review. Among other things, the report praised Japan's whole-of-society approach to achieving sustainable development through a combination of diplomatic, peace, and development efforts, its emphasis on the self-reliant development of developing countries, and its global leadership in the efforts of disaster prevention and risk reduction. The report also mentions Japan's philosophy of equal partnership and self-reliance that underpins its provision of loans (ODA loans) to developing countries, and acknowledges its effectiveness.

<sup>12</sup> For details, see the ODA email newsletter (No. 432) issued on November 27, 2020: [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/mail/bn\\_432.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/mail/bn_432.html) (in Japanese only)