

From
the People of Japan



Spreading Smiles throughout the World



Grant Assistance for
Grass-Roots Human
Security Projects





“The Project for Construction of Kun Long Basic Education High School in Kun Long Township”, Shan State Republic of the Union of Myanmar, FY2013

The “KUSANONE” program spreads joy throughout the world.

Going to school, receiving medical treatment at a hospital, drinking clean water, and living in a safe area without land mines.....

There are many countries and regions throughout the world where the residents cannot live under such decent conditions.

In order to directly connect with people living in such areas and supply them with what they truly need, it is necessary not only to provide assistance through the governments of developing countries and international organizations, but also to cooperate with a wide range of community-based organizations working at the grass-roots level.

It is with this perspective in mind that the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (KUSANONE) was established.

Although each project may be small in scale, it is Japan’s unique assistance program to meet the diverse needs of local communities by directly supporting the development activities run by NGOs and local governments, rather than by national (central) governments.

This program is unique to Japan, so it is called “KUSANONE” to reflect its Japanese name.

The KUSANONE program aims to achieve a world where no one is left behind and all people can live with peace of mind by “promptly” holding out a hand to “every single person” in “every corner”.

Over the 30 years since the program was established, we steadily expanded the types of support provided, and now our grants currently support initiatives in 141 countries and one region.

Many smiles and words of gratitude which we have received in return from program beneficiaries are manifestations of our efforts.

We intend to continue to expand the KUSANONE program and spread joy throughout the world.

The Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects is commonly referred to as “KUSANONE” in Japan.

“Kusa” means “grass” and “Ne” means “roots” in Japanese.



“The Project for Improving Elementary School No. 1 in Chagar CityIslamic”, Republic of Mauritania, FY2015



“The Project for Expanding Charbonnages Elementary School”, Gabonese Republic, FY2013



KUSANONE 30 Years of History

The KUSANONE, which started as the “Small Scale Grant Assistance” program in 1989, will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2018. Over these years, the grant program continued to be carried out, even as the name changed to “Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Projects” in 1995 and then to the current name in 2003. Compared to the outset, the number of projects implemented, the number of countries funded, and the grant amounts have increased significantly. Japan will continue to forge ahead with people around the world through these activities, which will mark 30 years in 2018.



KUSANONE's 30 Years of History



2018

Introduced “KUSANONE for Japanese Local Government Partnership” scheme / Reached cumulative total 27,015 projects funded

2016

Introduced “KUSANONE for Public-Private Partnership” scheme / Reached milestone of funding over 20,000 projects

2009

2008

Celebrated 20-year anniversary

Changed name of program to “Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects”

2003

Reached milestone of funding over 10,000 projects

2002

Reached milestone of funding projects in over 100 countries / introduced “KUSANONE for Recycling” scheme & “KUSANONE for Micro Credit” scheme

1999

1998

Celebrated 10-year anniversary

Changed name to “Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Projects”

1995

Introduced “KUSANONE for Anti-Personnel Landmine counter measures” scheme

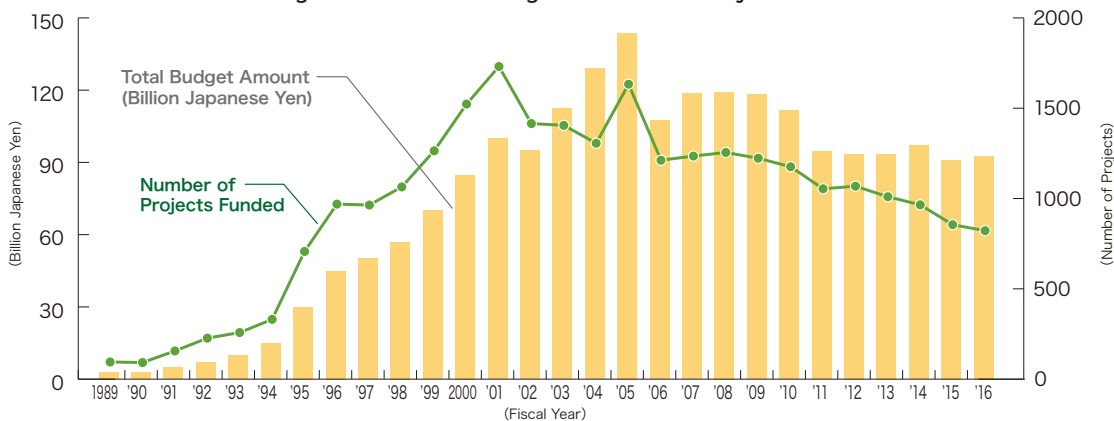
1992

“Small Scale Grant Assistance” scheme was founded

Initiated activities in 32 countries

1989

Changes in KUSANONE Budget & Number of Projects Funded



Column



KUSANONEKO

This character was presented in the Global Festa JAPAN 2017 exposition which was held in Tokyo in 2017, prior to the 30th anniversary since the establishment of the KUSANONE. The cute character, which is holding a blade of grass, brings smiles to the faces of people around the world.

*“Kusa” in Japanese means “grass” and “neko” means “cat.” Kusano-neko (Grass Kitty) is a play on the words KUSANONE (Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects).

Photographs Pictured on This Page

(Upper left) Federal Republic of Nigeria
“The Project for Construction of Local Education Authority Primary School Gwako in Gwagwalada Area Council in the Federal Capital Territory”, FY2010
(Lower left) Solomon Islands
“The Project for Provision of Ambulance for the Operations of Unexploded and Abandoned Ordnance (UXO/AXO) Removal”, FY2012

(Upper right) Islamic Republic of Pakistan
“The Project for Expansion of Primary and Middle School in Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa”, FY2010
(Lower right) Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
“The Project for the Construction of the Telavi Bridge and Road in the Wuchale Woreda, North Shewa Zone, Oromia Regional State”, FY2012

Before and After

Brighter Futures Achieved through "KU·SA·NO·NE"

Islamic Republic of Iran

"The Project for Construction of Prefabricated School Houses in Khuzestan Province", FY 2015

Recipient Organization: Khuzestan Province's Education Office



Before

In this village where nomads reside, school classes were often held outside and in tents. Hence improving the educational environment was an issue that needed to be addressed.



After

We offered support with prefabricated school houses that are both sturdy and capable of quickly achieving their purpose. Nomadic children are now able to attend classes indoors, in a safe environment, even when it is windy and rainy outside.

Islamic Republic of Pakistan

"The Project for Expansion of Primary School in Lashora, Khyber Agency, FATA", FY2013

Recipient Organization: (Local NGO) LAMP (LAMP: Learning Awareness and Motivation Programme)



Before

In this FATA community, which is one of areas of Pakistan where development is most delayed, children were forced to go to school outdoors. With our support, children started having classes inside of a school, and their parents were greatly relieved.



After



Democratic Republic of the Congo

"The Project for Construction of Hand Driven Water Well in Maluku Commune", FY2016

Recipient Organization: Women's Association for Total Development



Before

Image of the area before we provided support for constructing a water well. Locals were using unsanitary river water and were walking several kilometers to get water at the closest well.



After

Image of handover ceremony. As soon as we conducted the ceremonial tape cutting, locals rushed to fill their bottles with water. They expressed great joy over being able to drink safe water.

Kingdom of Thailand

“The Project for Building Waste Treatment Facilities to Promote Resource Recycle and Reuse”, FY2013

Recipient Organization: Voluntary Association for Public and Society

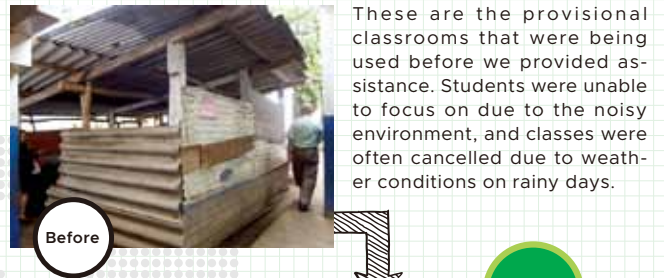


Unable to keep up with processing the large amounts of waste that are generated, foul smells, insect damage, and other problems started to emerge. To respond to these problems, we implemented a recycling project to improve the locals' capacity to collect and process waste themselves. Recycled products, such as the one shown in this image, are becoming popular amongst the locals.

Republic of El Salvador

“The Project for Improving Elementary School in Los Zapes Hamlet of Izalco”, FY2016

Recipient Organization: (Local NGO) Elementary School Operations Committee for Los Zapes Hamlet in Chorro Arriba Village



These are the provisional classrooms that were being used before we provided assistance. Students were unable to focus on due to the noisy environment, and classes were often cancelled due to weather conditions on rainy days.



These are the newly built classrooms after we provided support. The students are now able to attend class in a safe and learning-friendly environment. On the day of the completion ceremony, the children waved Japanese and El Salvadorian flags and expressed their gratitude and admiration towards Japan.

Kingdom of Tonga

“The Project for Upgrading of Water Supply System for Fua'amotu Village”, FY2012

Recipient Organization: Fua'amotu Village Water Committee



Due to the aging of the water supply facilities that were installed in 1986, supply cut-off and other issues often occurred. However, after upgrading the facilities, there is a stable and sufficient supply of water.

Republic of Kenya

“The Project for the Renovation of a Maternity Ward at Kiptulwa Dispensary”, FY2014

Recipient Organization: Kiptulwa Dispensary



This is the former outpatient ward at Kiptulwa Dispensary before we provided support. There were plans to renovate the outpatient ward into a maternity ward but plans were suspended due to a lack of funding.

Newly renovated building, complete with full array of medical equipment. Mothers can now feel at ease with giving birth in a sanitary environment.

Scheme



KUSANONE Scheme

The Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects is commonly referred to as “KUSANONE” in Japan. “Kusa” means “grass” and “Ne” means “roots” in Japanese.

- The KUSANONE is a framework that essentially supports local NGOs and local public organizations that are working in eligible countries and regions, rather than the governments of those countries, in order to respond to various development needs in a prompt and precise manner, but on a comparatively small scale.

● Eligible Recipients

(1) NGOs working in developing countries (including local NGOs and international NGOs; in principle Japanese NGOs who are eligible for Grant Assistance for Japanese NGOs are excluded)
(2) Nonprofit organizations such as local public organizations, educational institutions such as primary and junior high schools, and medical institutions
(3) Nonprofit organizations that implement development projects at the grass-roots level in eligible countries
(4) Individuals and profit organizations are not eligible

● Eligible Countries & Regions (as of October 2017)

141 countries and one region (Palestine)

Countries eligible for the KUSANONE are selected from ODA eligible countries and regions specified by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

● Project Areas

The KUSANONE mainly covers tangible improvements, such as constructing primary and junior high schools, improving fundamental medical equipment at hospitals, and excavating wells, etc. However, intangible improvements such as capacity building amongst people may also be eligible for support if determined to be important.

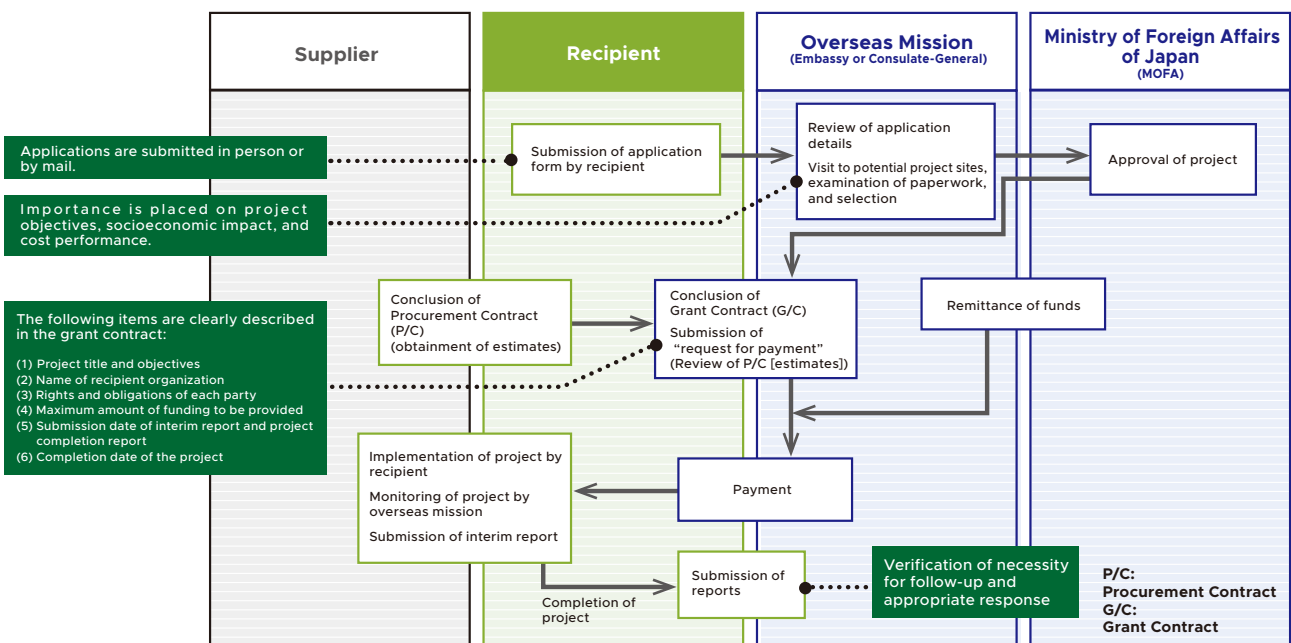
The following areas are not financed by the KUSANONE:

- * Projects for assisting research at advanced academic institutions and projects for improving the capacities of the recipient organization itself
- * Projects that are limited to commercial activities and creation of employment of particular individuals and organizations, and where the direct benefits for grass-roots activities are uncertain
- * Projects that are not closely related to economic and social development (such as culture, arts, and sports related projects)
- * Projects with a political or missionary purpose or the intention of military use
- * Even if a project is eligible for the KUSANONE, consumables, small fixtures, and running and maintenance costs of facilities and equipment, etc., are not financed

● Maximum Grant Limit

Standard limit: 10 million Japanese yen Max. limit under certain conditions: 100 million Japanese yen

KUSANONE Flowchart





KUSANONE Scheme for Specific Projects

● Public-Private Partnerships Achieved through Cooperation between Japanese Companies and NGOs, etc.

This is a scheme in which public enterprises partner with Japanese companies in initiatives that are of high public interest to both heighten development effects and improve recognition of the company, as well as contribute to improvement of the environment where activities are carried out and economic and social development in developing countries, etc.

Eligible Countries	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Standard Maximum Grant Limit	Up to 10 million Japanese yen
Items Covered	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Points to Consider	When the company is supplying products for the project, the company must also make an additional contribution (such as transferring skills, etc.).



“The Project for Training for Eco-Friendly Coffee Production”, Jamaica, FY2010

● Grant Activities through Partnerships with Local Governments of Japan

This is a scheme in which the skills and knowhow that Japan’s local governments possess are put to use to expand the horizons of local governments who are working to promote international cooperation, and to contribute to economic and social development in developing countries.

Eligible Countries	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Standard Maximum Grant Limit	Up to 10 million Japanese yen
Items Covered	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Points to Consider	When the Japanese local government’s skills or knowhow is being utilized, the Japanese local government must also make an additional contribution (such as teaching skills, etc.).



“The Project for NRW (Non Revenue Water) Reduction in Mayangon Township ,Yangon Region”, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, FY2013

● Anti-Personnel Landmine Countermeasures

This scheme supports organizations that carry out activities related to addressing landmine issues from a humanitarian perspective, such as removing anti-personnel landmines, providing support to landmine victims, and educating people on how to avoid landmines, etc.

Eligible Countries	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Standard Maximum Grant Limit	Up to 70 million Japanese yen
Items Covered	Landmine removal equipment, and vehicles and equipment needed during landmine removal activities, expenses for supporting landmine victims (such as for prosthetic leg manufacturing equipment), and seminars on avoiding landmines
Points to Consider	When support is for civilian government institutions, consult the overseas mission.



“The Project for Upgrading Anti-Personnel Landmine Removal Equipment in Meta Department and Tolima Department”, Republic of Columbia, FY2009

● Recycling

This is a scheme in which second-hand equipment* from Japan is reused in recipient countries, with the aim of contributing to economic and social development there, and the related transportation expenses and servicing costs are covered.

* Second-hand equipment includes used fire engines, ambulances, garbage trucks, and school desks and chairs, etc.

Eligible Countries	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Standard Maximum Grant Limit	Up to 10 million Japanese yen
Items Covered	Transportation expenses and servicing costs, etc.
Points to Consider	Customs duties and customs clearance fees are not covered.



“The Project for Reusing Secondhand Fire Engine in Nairobi City County”, Republic of Kenya, FY2015

● Micro Credit

This scheme contributes to economic and social development by lending small amounts of funding to people who cannot easily obtain loans, such as poor people and women.

Eligible countries	Same as KUSANONE scheme
Maximum amount of a grant	Up to 20 million Japanese yen
Points to note	The recipient organization must have some experience with microcredit financing.



“The Project for Provision of Micro Credit Capital for Augmentation of Income and Poverty Alleviation in South Cotabato”, Republic of the Philippines, FY2010



Spreading Smiles throughout the World

Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects



For more details, please contact a Japanese embassy or consulate.

*** List of Japanese embassies and consulates:**

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/annai/zaigai/list/>

http://www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb_cons/over/multi.html

[List of Cover Photos]

From top to bottom

Republic of Kenya

“The Project for the Renovation of a Maternity Ward at Kiptulwa Dispensary”, FY2014

Kingdom of Tonga

“The Project for Upgrading of Water Supply System for Falehau Village”, FY2012

Republic of Honduras

“The Project for Expansion Renovation of Rupert Amaya Elementary School and Pedro Bonilla Basic Education School in Yarula Municipality”, FY2013

Kingdom of Thailand

“The Project for Providing a School Bus for Disadvantaged Children at the Fountain of Life Children’s Center”, FY2014

The United Republic of Tanzania

“The Project for Community Water Supply at Kiwawa and Ngongongare Villages in Arumeru District, Arusha Region”, FY2013