

FY2017 Ministry of Foreign Affairs ODA Evaluation Survey

Trial Results towards the Enhancement of “Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints”

Report

March 2018
International Development Center of Japan Inc.

Foreword

This report, *the FY2017 Trial Results towards the Enhancement of “Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints”*, was prepared by the International Development Center of Japan Inc. commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) in FY2017.

Since 1954, Japan’s Official Development Assistance (ODA) has contributed to the development of developing countries and to solving ever-changing global issues. Today, more effective and efficient ODA with better quality is needed domestically and internationally. MOFA annually conducts ODA evaluations with a policy-level focus, aiming to achieve two purposes: to improve management of ODA and to ensure accountability to the public. In order to enhance transparency and objectivity, MOFA conducts third party evaluations, commissioning to external organizations. This report is based on the results from the trial to enhance “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” in FY2017 and opinions from external experts presented at an expert review meeting. This report aims for the results to be utilized at the next revision of MOFA’s ODA Evaluation Guidelines.

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Professor Yamaya of Doshisha University, acted as chairman at the aforementioned meeting, and seven other experts for their cooperation in the process of making this report. We hereby express our sincerest gratitude to them.

Lastly, any views described in this report are those of the experts and do not reflect the views or stances of the Government of Japan.

March 2018

International Development Center of Japan Inc.

Summary

1. Background and Purpose

This report is based on the results from the trial to enhance evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints in FY 2017 and opinions and proposals presented at the external experts meeting. It aims to be utilized for next revision of MOFA's ODA Evaluation Guidelines.

This report organizes and analyzes descriptions related to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” in existing documents, including the MOFA’s third party ODA evaluation reports FY2015 and FY2016. Furthermore, regarding the FY2017 reports, the following points were organized and analyzed: (i) volume of “evaluation from diplomatic, (ii) evaluation details and conclusions, (iii) manner of description regarding national interests, and (iv) hypothesis verification/utilization of the Diplomatic Bluebook/other remarkable creative points.

2. Key Points from Expert Review Meeting

To discuss the result of aforementioned analysis, the expert review meeting was held on March 2, 2018. The contents of the meeting are summarized as follows.

- Clarification of the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”
 - All were unanimous that it is important to keep conducting evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints going forward.
 - All agreed that enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is essential to further fulfill accountability to the public, which is one of the aims of ODA evaluation.
- Definition of Japan’s national interests
 - In every ODA evaluation project, evaluators should refer to Japan's National Security and Development Cooperation Charter to clarify what national interests Japan is trying to achieve by providing ODA.
 - National interest includes global interest (international public interest). To contribute to global interest leads to achieving national interest.
 - It is important to consider what role Japan should play reflecting changes in this era when conducting ODA evaluation.
 - Participants discussed whether stakeholders should define national interests at the early stage in each evaluation project or policy maker should define them at the stage of selecting evaluation project.
- Framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”
 - Many agreed that MOFA should keep evaluating ODA's development and diplomatic effects separately because evaluating methods and viewpoints are different. Some participants commented what MOFA can do to create a framework for evaluation from

- diplomatic viewpoints is to keep conducting it.
- Opinions were divided as to frameworks of two viewpoints and which viewpoints should be focused more. More trial are needed.
 - It is feasible to evaluate ODA's diplomatic effect by measuring diplomatic importance and impact based on the evaluation questions in MOFA's ODA Evaluation Guidelines.
 - In FY 2017, MOFA used the approach to clarify diplomatic importance of the evaluation target ODA policy first, then assess diplomatic impact. While some commented that it was difficult, majority said it worked fine.
 - A participant commented that evaluation target period should be different when evaluating development and diplomatic effect.

●Means to obtain resource, etc.

- More resource should be utilized. Specific examples include: UN voting records (it needs wider range of information), the Opinion Poll on Japan, the Diplomatic Bluebook, economic statistics on trade and investment, interviews with diplomats (preferably higher-level in Tokyo).
- How policy makers in MOFA head office and/or officials in Embassy utilize effects of ODA in diplomacy can be used for analysis.
- Time, human and financial resources must be ensured to analyze enormous data and systematically evaluate ODA policy. MOFA should fully consider those when allocating budget especially for projects in which field survey countries are far from Japan.

3. Agenda: Towards the future enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Based on the results of discussions in the expert review meeting and the results of the preliminary analysis, issues are summarized as follows.

1. Purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Agenda 1: Clarify purpose of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

In order for stakeholders to understand the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, in what way ODA policy realizes national interests should be clarified (diplomatic importance) in advance, so that how it achieved can be proved (diplomatic impact). By doing so, it should enable public to understand ODA better.

2. Definition of national interests

Agenda 2: Define Japan’s national interests in each evaluation context

In order to prove why ODA is important for Japan's national interests and how ODA has achieved Japan’s national interests, Japan’s national interests must be clearly defined in advance. National interests are described in the National Security Strategy and the Development Cooperation Charter, yet they must be defined in each individual evaluation

project, as each target ODA policy has different context. Policy makers should provide a full explanation rather than third party evaluators develop their own theory.

3. Framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Agenda 3: Set an evaluation framework respectively for evaluation for development viewpoints and evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints.

MOFA should maintain the conventional evaluation respective framework for development and diplomatic viewpoints. It should be noted that the results of evaluations conducted from respective viewpoints may turn out to be contradictory in some cases. Target period should be longer when evaluating diplomatic effects compared to development effects. Also, evaluation questions need to be specific, and evaluation scope should be carefully considered.

Agenda 4: Accumulate practice of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints using current methods

At the expert review meeting, some commented that the evaluation method that was used for the evaluation projects for FY2017 was difficult to use, but majority said it functioned to a moderate extent. Thus, for the time being, MOFA should keep using the current evaluation method, accumulate case studies and consider revisions of the evaluation framework in the future if necessary.

Agenda 5: Make conclusion apprehensible regarding evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

Compared to FY2015 and FY2016 reports, the explanation on diplomatic importance and effects of ODA in FY2017 reports were easier to understand. It can be said that progress has been made by trials and errors, and MOFA should continue making efforts. The rating system should not be applied yet because there are limitation on information availability and difficulty in determining causal relationships, and also evaluation methods have not yet been established. It requires careful consideration if applying rating to evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints. What MOFA can do now to fulfill accountability to the public is to make reports comprehensible for them.

4. Means for obtaining information

Agenda 6: Provide access for necessary information

In the expert review meeting, some commented that “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” had been made feasible because examples of evaluation question had been presented by MOFA. However, in order for evaluators to answer those evaluation questions, MOFA should organize a system to provide more data. Evaluators are encouraged to use publicly available information which includes: the Diplomatic Bluebook, economic statistics on trade, investment, etc., the Opinion Poll on Japan (300 people aged 18 to 59 in respective countries) and UN

voting records (data concerning the results of each country's voting behavior). Evaluators should extend the scope of interviewees; diplomats including particularly higher levels in Tokyo (director-generals and section heads), in addition to policy implementers in Japan's diplomatic missions, to collect more information regarding contributions of ODA to national interests. Attachment 1 provides examples of viewpoints to evaluate ODA's diplomatic effects.

5. Other agendas concerning a system for implementation

Agenda 7: Ensure organizational support for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

Policy makers should provide the public information what national interests particular ODA aims to achieve when formulating the policy and/or provide evaluators enough information at an interview during evaluation instead of evaluators making a hypothesis and proving it.

It should be noted that systematic evaluation requires sufficient resources -time, manpower, and funding. In particular, when field survey is conducted in a country far from Japan, budget needs to be well considered to ensure sufficient survey periods, including travel time.

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Expert review meeting

- Chairman	:	Kiyoshi Yamaya	Professor at the Faculty of Policy Studies, Doshisha University
- Experts (listed in random order)	:	Juichi Inada	Professor at the School of Economics, Senshu University
		Izumi Ohno	Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
		Kazuhisa Najima	Professor at the Faculty of Law, Niigata University
		Kaoru Hayashi	Professor at the Faculty of International Studies, Bunkyo University
		Ryokichi Hirono	Professor Emeritus at Seikei University
		Naonobu Minato	Visiting Professor at the International University of Japan
		Katsuya Mochizuki	Professor at the Graduate School of Toyo Eiwa University

Consultant

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Evaluation period February 2018 to March 2018

Abbreviations

JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
UN	United Nations

Chapter 1 Policy for conducting evaluation

1-1 Background and purpose of evaluation

MOFA started using diplomatic viewpoints to evaluate ODA as trial in FY 2011 in addition to development viewpoints. While development viewpoints are to determine whether and how much Japan's ODA is contributing to development of the recipient country, diplomatic viewpoints are to determine whether and how ODA, funded by people's tax, achieves Japan's national interests. In FY 2015, MOFA started using diplomatic viewpoints in basically all third-party evaluation projects.

There are more limitation when evaluating ODA from diplomatic viewpoints compared to development viewpoints. For instance, the evaluation methods are not internationally established, and it is difficult to quantitative analysis as publically available diplomatic information are limited (which has led to inadequate analysis in some evaluation projects). In order to enhance accountability to the public, it is necessary to enhance "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints", and evaluation questions must be standardized. MOFA has tried to improve "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints" in FY 2017 evaluation projects based on the revised ODA Evaluation Guidelines (11th edition, 2017).

Based on the above background, in this survey, reviewing the trial results with regard to evaluation projects for FY2017, opinions are gathered through holding external experts meetings, including evaluation managers for all evaluation projects in the same year, and, with an eye on utilizing the outcomes for revision of next fiscal year's ODA Evaluation Guidelines, the results are compiled in this report.

Chapter 2 Achievements and efforts concerning “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

2-1 Achievements and efforts

MOFA first introduced diplomatic viewpoints as its evaluation standards in FY 2011 and has been using them in basically all third party evaluations since FY 2015. The number of third party ODA evaluations conducted by the MOFA are as indicated below. Most evaluations used diplomatic viewpoints. In FY2015 and FY2016, all reports clearly showed the evaluation results using diplomatic viewpoints.

Table 2-1 Number of ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) conducted by the MOFA

Fiscal Year	Number of ODA evaluations (third party evaluations)				
	Country Assistance Evaluation	Thematic Evaluation	Scheme Evaluation	Sector Evaluation	Total
2011	3	1	3	1	8
2012	4	2	1	1	8
2013	3	1	1	3	8
2014	3	3	2	2	10
2015	4	2	1	1	8
2016	2	1	1	1	5
2017	3	2	1	1	7
Total	22	12	10	10	54

Note: Evaluations by assistance recipient country governments, organizations, and the like are not included in the above total.

Source: MOFA's Individual Evaluation Reports
http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shiryo/index_hyouka01.html

Chapter 3 Analysis of descriptions relating to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” in existing documents

3-1 Descriptions related to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” in existing documents

In this survey, in order to sufficiently grasp contents defined in these specifications and confirm previous backgrounds, descriptive sections concerning “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” were extracted from the documents listed below, and we proceeded with preparing this report. Table 3-1 is a list of existing documents which contain descriptions relating to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

Table 3-1 documents containing descriptions related to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Fiscal year	Report
2010	ODA Review Final Report: Enhancing Enlightened National Interest -Living in harmony with the world and promoting peace and prosperity-
2010	Survey on ODA Evaluation (Method/System) of Policy Levels
2014	Review (Third Party Evaluation) of Previous ODA Evaluation Projects (FY2003 to 2013)
2015	Development Cooperation Charter
2015	Evaluation of ODA’s PDCA Cycle
2017	Modifications Made to “Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints” in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines

Specific descriptions are compiled in Table 3-2. It has been pointed out that the necessity of evaluation of ODA from diplomatic viewpoints has been noted for many years. The change was triggered by the *ODA Review Final Report: Enhancing Enlightened National Interest -Living in harmony with the world and promoting peace and prosperity-* of 2010. In the Report, assistance was positioned as follows: “assistance to developing countries [...] is by no means a “charitable activity” by developed countries towards developing countries but is a ‘means’ to pursue the collective interest of the world, including Japan”. It goes without saying that “means” exist for achieving “objectives”, and accordingly, in the *Survey on ODA Evaluation (Method/System) of Policy Levels* that was conducted the same year, the following proposal was made: “in correspondence to the positioning of ODA as a ‘means’ of Japan’s diplomacy to pursue the collective interest of the world, in the Enhancing Enlightened National Interest report, it is vital that the MOFA’s evaluation department considers the appropriateness of conducting evaluations from diplomatic viewpoints going forward”. However, it was also noted that “regarding evaluation methods, quantitative evaluation, rating, etc. may not be suitable, and thus descriptive evaluations are considered appropriate”. Furthermore, the two evaluation criteria of “diplomatic importance” and “diplomatic impact (contribution to national interests)” were proposed. Based on this proposal, in the following year, i.e. 2011, evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints was launched as a trial. The above survey report also proposed to use rating in evaluation from development viewpoints, which was later adopted.

Next, “Review of Japan's ODA Evaluations from FY 2003 to 2013 (Third Party Evaluation)” compiled in 2014 noted as follows: “Japan’s ODA is an important means of achieving the objectives of its own diplomacy, such as peace and stability of the international community and regions, prosperity of the global economy, reduction and elimination of national and international disparities, conservation of the global environment, protection of human rights and securing of Japan’s security and prosperity through the realization of these objectives. As Japan aims at fulfilling its obligations as a responsible country in the international community by means of ensuring consistency between its ODA and other political and economic means of cooperation, the implementation of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints is an essential requirement”. Thus, ODA was again clearly positioned as a means to achieve Japan’s diplomatic objectives. As more concrete evaluation items, “diplomatic importance ((1) political aspects, (2) social aspects)” and “diplomatic impact ((1) political aspects, (2) economic aspects, (3) social aspects, (4) others)” were proposed. Subsequently, in the Development Cooperation Charter of 2015, the position of ODA as a “means” was clearly stated again, as follows: “Development cooperation provides one of the most important means for Japan in its agile implementation of such diplomacy” and is “one of the most important tools of Japan’s foreign policy”. The Development Cooperation Charter also clearly stated its promotion, noting that “efforts will be made to undertake evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

Next, Evaluation of the Feedback Mechanism of Japan's ODA (Third Party Evaluation) compiled in 2015 proposed the “improvement in the evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”. It also made the following proposal: “the points and contents of analyses as well as the methods and scope of assessments varied among evaluators. [...] The standardized analytical viewpoints and methods for the evaluation of the diplomatic viewpoints should be clearly defined in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines to standardize and improve the contents and quality of evaluation.” Regarding specific information sources, Evaluation of the Feedback Mechanism noted that “with regard to data on mutual visits of VIPs, data in the Diplomatic Bluebook must be referred to” and cites examples such as utilization of the results of “Surveys of Public Opinion about Japan in Foreign Countries” conducted by MOFA.

In addition, the ODA Evaluation Guidelines (2017) suggests evaluators to understand the objectives of the evaluation target policy, i.e., diplomatic importance, and assess diplomatic impact using collected data.

Table 3-2 Descriptions relating to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” in existing documents

Report	Fiscal year	References relating to evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints									
ODA Review Final Report: Enhancing Enlightened National Interest -Living in harmony with the world and promoting peace and prosperity-	2010	<p>“Development Cooperation” and ODA as its Core <u>Enhancing Enlightened National Interest: Living in Harmony with the World and Promoting Peace and Prosperity</u></p> <p>This philosophy is based on the following view:</p> <p>(i) Under the <u>recognition that Japan’s peace and prosperity can only be achieved within world peace and prosperity</u>, Japan will continue to actively contribute to solving the global and, thereby creating a better international environment.</p> <p>(ii) In this globalized world, assistance to developing countries is not a “charity” but a “modality” to pursue common interests of the world including Japan.</p> <p>(iii) To this end, we need to undertake development cooperation by fully utilizing Japan’s human resources, expertise, financial resources and technologies in addition to ODA</p>									
Survey on ODA Evaluation (Method/System) of Policy Levels	2010	<p>In correspondence to the positioning of ODA as a “modality” of Japan’s diplomacy to pursue the collective interest of the world, including Japan, in the “Enhancing Enlightened National Interest” report, it is vital that the MOFA’s Evaluation Department considers the appropriateness of <u>conducting evaluations from diplomatic viewpoints</u> going forward. However, regarding evaluation methods, since quantitative evaluation, rating, etc. may not be suitable, descriptive evaluations are considered appropriate.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>- Diplomatic evaluation</th> <th>Description method</th> <th>(Points to be described)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Diplomatic importance of assistance</td> <td>Provide a description</td> <td>Describe in accordance with “specific evaluation items”. As far as possible, regarding the diplomatic importance of the implementation of assistance, describe in a way so that conclusions are easily understandable to the public.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diplomatic impact of assistance (contribution to national interests)</td> <td>Provide a description</td> <td>Describe in accordance with “specific evaluation items”. As far as possible, regarding the diplomatic impact brought about by assistance, describe in a way so that conclusions are easily understandable to the public.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: The report proposes describing “outcomes of development assistance” as the third point in the figure above, but the description has been omitted. (p.93)</p> <p>Note that the report also proposed the introduction of rating in evaluation from a development viewpoints.</p>	- Diplomatic evaluation	Description method	(Points to be described)	Diplomatic importance of assistance	Provide a description	Describe in accordance with “specific evaluation items”. As far as possible, regarding the diplomatic importance of the implementation of assistance, describe in a way so that conclusions are easily understandable to the public.	Diplomatic impact of assistance (contribution to national interests)	Provide a description	Describe in accordance with “specific evaluation items”. As far as possible, regarding the diplomatic impact brought about by assistance, describe in a way so that conclusions are easily understandable to the public.
- Diplomatic evaluation	Description method	(Points to be described)									
Diplomatic importance of assistance	Provide a description	Describe in accordance with “specific evaluation items”. As far as possible, regarding the diplomatic importance of the implementation of assistance, describe in a way so that conclusions are easily understandable to the public.									
Diplomatic impact of assistance (contribution to national interests)	Provide a description	Describe in accordance with “specific evaluation items”. As far as possible, regarding the diplomatic impact brought about by assistance, describe in a way so that conclusions are easily understandable to the public.									

Review of Previous ODA Evaluation Projects (FY2003 to 2013) (third party evaluation)	2014	<p>(3) Enhancement of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints was introduced in FY 2011 and actual analysis is currently conducted with reference to “diplomatic importance” and “diplomatic impacts”. Japan’s ODA is an important means of achieving the objectives of its own diplomacy, such as peace and stability of the international community and regions, prosperity of the global economy, reduction and elimination of national and international disparities, conservation of the global environment, protection of human rights and securing of Japan’s security and prosperity through the realization of these objectives. As Japan aims at fulfilling its obligations as a responsible country in the international community by means of ensuring consistency between its ODA and other political and economic means of cooperation, the implementation of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints is an essential requirement. As the importance of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints will continue to increase in the coming years, the ODA Evaluation Guidelines should provide more detailed guidance on this type of evaluation, in the same way as evaluation from development viewpoints. Based on the relevant cases of past ODA evaluations, the following analysis items are conceived. Not all of these analysis items may be applicable because of the specific situation of a subject country but the use of the same analysis items for all ODA evaluations is most likely to make it easier for everyone concerned to understand the strength of the diplomatic effects of Japan’s ODA in individual recipient countries.</p> <p>(A) diplomatic importance ((1) political aspects, (2) social aspects) (B) diplomatic impact ((1) political aspects, (2) economic aspects, (3) social aspects, (4) others)</p>
Development Cooperation Charter	2015	<p>I-Principle (1) Objective of development cooperation: Japan will promote development cooperation in order to contribute more proactively to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community. Such cooperation will also lead to ensuring Japan’s national interests such as maintaining its peace and security, achieving further prosperity, realizing an international environment that provides stability, transparency and predictability, and maintaining and protecting an international order based on universal values. ODA, as the core of various activities that contribute to development, will serve as a catalyst for mobilizing a wide range of resources in cooperation with various funds and actors and, by extension, as an engine for various activities aimed at securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.</p> <p>III-Implementation (1) Implementation principles: On policy making, it is necessary to fully recognize that</p>

		development cooperation is one of the most important tools of Japan’s foreign policy , which calls for strategic and agile responses to ever-changing international affairs.[...] <u>Efforts will be made to undertake evaluation from a diplomatic point of view as well.</u>
Evaluation of ODA’s PDCA Cycle (third party evaluation)	2015	<p>4-3-5: <u>Improving Quality of the “Evaluation from the Diplomatic Viewpoints”</u></p> <p>The standardized analytical viewpoints and methods for the evaluation of the diplomatic viewpoints should be clearly defined in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines to standardize and improve the contents and quality of evaluation. Considering that the results of third-party evaluations be published, the evaluation from the diplomatic viewpoints should be conducted based on the analyses of publicly-available information in general. As for the diplomatic importance, one of the criteria for evaluations from the diplomatic viewpoints, it is important to verify how high-level government officials in the recipient country recognize the effects of Japan’s ODA from the perspectives of ensuring accountability, and therefore, the evaluation is required to verify and analyze the status of reference of Japan’s ODA by the VIPs of the recipient country’s government.</p> <p>. <u>As regards data on mutual visits of VIPs, data in the Diplomatic Bluebook must be referred to.</u> In addition, as Japanese diplomatic offices appropriately follow the remarks made by high government officials of target countries and report them to the MOFA, a system whereby the evaluation team can utilize such information should be established.</p> <p>As for the diplomatic impact, another evaluation criterion of the diplomatic viewpoints, it is necessary to clearly show in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines that the diplomatic impact be verified by the analyses of quantitative data such as the number of personnel exchanges between Japan and the recipient country or similar analyses (18). To strengthen the verification of the diplomatic impact, more emphasis should be given to strengthen information collection during the field surveys of the ODA evaluations (including questionnaire surveys by local consultants) and to utilize the results of “Surveys of Public Opinion about Japan in Foreign Countries” conducted by MOFA(19).</p> <p>(18) For instance, in the “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” of the Country Assistance Evaluation of Kenya appearing in Column 1, remarks made by Kenyan high government officials concerning their expectations in the fields of trade investment and infrastructure support were analyzed chronologically, thus exhibiting a good example of an</p>
(In continuation		

of Evaluation of ODA’s PDCA Cycle)		<p>objective evaluation conducted from a “diplomatic viewpoints” with only a limited amount of information.</p> <p>(19) Since 1960, the MOFA has conducted the “Opinion Poll on Japan” almost every year. The Opinion Poll is a survey aimed at various countries and regions concerning impressions of Japan and relationships between Japan and such countries and regions, and survey results are published on the MOFA’s website.</p> <p>http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/culture/pr/yoron.html (As of March 2016)</p>
Modifications Made to “Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints” in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines	2017	<p>The enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is essential for further fulfilling “accountability to the public”, which is one of the objectives of ODA evaluation. In order to achieve this objective, we will aim towards standardization of evaluation by adopting the following methods in evaluation and, unless there are special circumstances, performing verification.</p> <p>(1) Standardization of verification of “diplomatic importance” As for why ODA in a given country/field/scheme/sector is <u>diplomatically important (what are the national interests expected to be achieved by ODA investment)</u>, (i) the evaluation team performs verification, <u>(ii) a hypothesis is established</u>, and the hypothesis is elaborated through hearings from parties concerned and exchanging views in review meetings.</p> <p>(2) Standardization of verification of “diplomatic impact” In view of the diplomatic positioning and objectives of investment that were indicated with regard to diplomatic importance, “diplomatic impact” will be verified <u>upon narrowing down to items that are expected to be important</u> among the following verification items.</p>

3-2 Descriptions are MOFA ODA evaluation (third party evaluation) reports for FY2015 and FY2016.

The ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) carried out by the MOFA in FY2015 and FY2016 are as follows (see Table 3-3). Table 3-4 is a summary of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints from each evaluation listed on Table 3-3.

Table 3-3 MOFA ODA evaluation (third party evaluation) reports for FY2015 and FY2016

Fiscal year	Evaluation name
2015	Country Assistance Evaluation of Vietnam
	Evaluation of Japan's Assistance for Pacific Island Countries
	Evaluation of Assistance for the South Caucasus
	Country Assistance Evaluation of Morocco
	Evaluation of Japan's Contribution to the Achievement of the MDGs in Environmental Sector
	Evaluation on “Japan's Education Cooperation Policy 2011-2015”
	Evaluation of Debt Cancellation
2016	Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Paraguay
	Country Assistance Evaluation of the United Republic of Tanzania
	Evaluation of Japan's Assistance in the Pollution Control Field
	Evaluation of Grant Aid for Promotion of Japanese Standards
	Evaluation of Assistance in the Industrial Human Resources Development Sector in Thailand

As it is shown in Table 3-4, while the evaluation results are described as high or very high, the evidence each report provides is too general. Some report have not analyzed the detail of why the relevant ODA policy is important to Japan's national interests and how it has contributed to Japan's national interests. In addition, there are gaps in volume in each report because evaluation method has not been established nor has evaluation questions. One report only has used two pages for the diplomatic evaluation results.

In fact, in the Development Project Accountability Committee held at the MOFA on April 24, 2017, when the ODA Evaluation Division reported the results of FY2016's ODA evaluation projects, one committee member made the following remark: “As the MOFA is conducting evaluations, shouldn't ‘evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints’ be conducted in a bit more detailed way? I feel the volume is a bit small”.

In the ODA evaluations for FY2017, in sincere reaction to the voices of the users of these evaluations, it can be said that trial tasks towards enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” were carried out in order to further fulfill “accountability to the public”, as the MOFA explains.

Table 3-4 Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints in MOFA ODA evaluation (third party evaluation) reports for FY2015 and FY2016

Evaluation name	Evaluation results: diplomatic viewpoints
FY2015	
Country Assistance Evaluation of Vietnam	Japan and Vietnam have an extensive strategic partnership and the leaders of the two countries frequently visit each other; therefore, Japan’s assistance has a considerable diplomatic importance. Japan’s assistance is contributing to strengthening economic relationship and interpersonal/cultural exchanges, and its diplomatic impact is also considered to be high.
Evaluation of Japan's Assistance for Pacific Island Countries	Japan’s assistance to Pacific island countries has contributed to the promotion of diplomacy of Japan. In particular, the area, theme, and the amount of assistance were clearly set in the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting, and concrete policies were shared among the leaders of the nations. Additionally, Japan’s assistance has been well acknowledged by the recipient countries. Impacts of the support by the “people” through the technical cooperation or volunteer activities are large.
Evaluation of Assistance for the South Caucasus	The peace and stability of the South Caucasus is indispensable because of their geopolitical importance. Therefore, the diplomatic importance of Japan’s assistance to these countries is high. Japan’s assistance to the three countries has contributed to the strengthening of the bilateral relations between Japan and each of the three countries, and diplomatic impact of Japan’s assistance have been verified in each of these countries.
Country Assistance Evaluation of Morocco	Japan’s assistance to Morocco is diplomatically important because of the diplomatic relationship between the Royal household of Morocco and the Imperial household of Japan, frequent exchange of Training at IFEER(Institut de Formation aux Engins et à l’Entretien Routier), the Implementing Agency of training programs in third countries visits by senior officials of both countries, cooperation at the United Nations General Assembly and the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the geopolitical importance of Morocco as a stabilizing force in the North Africa and Maghreb region, importance of Morocco in pursuing the diplomatic principles of Japan and contribution to the further strengthening of the bilateral relationship. The assistance has also had various impacts, such as the promotion of economic, diplomatic and friendly relationships between the two countries, the increase of pro-Japanese Moroccans through the activities of

	the alumni of JICA’s Training in Japan and JICA volunteers, sustainable development in the Middle East and Africa through the promotion of South-South Cooperation in the fisheries sector, contribution to the stability of the Maghreb region and support to the standpoints of Japan at the United Nations and international arena by Morocco. For the reasons mentioned above, Japan’s assistance to Morocco is evaluated as being significant from a diplomatic viewpoint.
Evaluation of Japan's Contribution to the Achievement of the MDGs in Environmental Sector	In bilateral relations, some diplomatically positive effects were mentioned in environmentally related sub-sectors of recipient countries recognized as important. In multilateral relations, diplomatically positive effects were also confirmed given the fact that Japan has received some commendation from other countries following its clarification of its stance in the appropriate timing in the form of commitments made through international conferences. At the same time, however, it is necessary to note that the some conflict of two national interests, its pursuit of economic interest and pursuit of international presence, occurs for Japan.
Evaluation on “Japan’s Education Cooperation Policy 2011-2015”	From the viewpoint of diplomatic importance, the Policy has assisted to deepen bilateral exchanges and to strengthen Japan’s friendship with other countries. In terms of diplomatic impacts, the Policy has contributed to increase Japan’s presence in the international community. Therefore, we judge the Policy to have diplomatic importance and diplomatic impacts.
Evaluation of Debt Cancellation	Japan is one of the donors owing largest amount of ODA loans to the debtors, and its commitment to the donor harmonization is widely acknowledged in the international community. However, in terms of debt cancellation’s contribution to the bilateral relationship, it is difficult for it to exert any outstanding effect in comparison to other donors, because it is a fruit of a multilateral process. Though it should also be added that when there is a pre-existing expectation in reinforcing Japan’s economic relation with the debtor, and the condition is mature for ODA loans and private investment, debt cancellation has a potential of catalyzing a strong diplomatic effect.
FY2016	
Country Assistance	Japanese immigrants and Japanese Paraguayans have made a significant contribution to agriculture, which helped strengthen bilateral relations. As Japan’s ODA has further increased pro-Japan sentiments in Paraguay, it can be

Evaluation of the Republic of Paraguay	evaluated to have diplomatic importance.
Country Assistance Evaluation of the United Republic of Tanzania	Japan and Tanzania have an extensive strategic partnership and the leaders of the two countries frequently visit each other; therefore, Japan’s ODA has considerable diplomatic importance. As Japan’s ODA is also contributing to strengthening the economic relationship and personal and cultural exchanges, it can be evaluated as having a noticeable diplomatic impact.
Evaluation of Japan's Assistance in the Pollution Control Field	We identified plenty of diplomatic importance to the Policy due to factors such as the true purpose of providing assistance to developing countries, and the ability to create a strong presence of Japan through Japanese comparative advantages. As for the diplomatic impact, the Policy has helped improve bilateral relations by strengthening amicable relations with recipient countries, building smooth communications with neighbouring countries (stability in the Northeast Asian region), and keeping basic relations with sanctioned countries. Through these benefits and other factors such as initiatives borne of the adoption of the Minamata Convention, the Policy has contributed to improved presence of Japan in the international community. Therefore, we evaluate the Policy as having diplomatic importance and impact.
Evaluation of Grant Aid for Promotion of Japanese Standards	Because of such factors as grants being in a concrete form of Japanese products and the quick signing of E/Ns, our evaluation was able to identify such diplomatic benefits as the potential to bind execution of projects with such diplomatic activities as official exchanges. Also identified were such benefits as diversification of diplomatic tool. As for impact on bilateral relations between countries, GAPJS was shown effective in enhancing familiarity with Japanese products at the government and beneficiary levels.
Evaluation of Assistance in the Industrial Human Resources Development Sector in Thailand	Japanese aid has simultaneously helped strengthen Thailand’s industrial power by developing local Thai industries, and contributed to the support and promotion of manufacturing activities, mostly in the automotive industry, of Japanese companies that have been advancing in Thailand. From the viewpoint of economic diplomacy, it has benefited both countries. The growth and success of industrial human resources who is well informed of Japan is also important in terms of diplomatic impact.

Note: Underlines have been added by the survey team of the present survey.

Source: MOFA’s ODA Evaluation Reports http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shiryo/index_hyouka01.html

Chapter 4 Confirmation and summary of trial results of evaluations for FY2017

4-1 Evaluations for FY2017

The ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) carried out by the MOFA in FY2017 are as follows (see Table 4-1). In addition, the ODA Evaluation Guidelines (2017) suggests evaluators to understand the objectives of the evaluation target policy, i.e., diplomatic importance, and assess diplomatic impact using collected data.

Table 4-1 MOFA ODA evaluation (third party evaluation) reports for FY2017

Fiscal year	Report
2017	Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda
	Evaluation of JICA Volunteer Program
	Country Assistance Evaluation of Cambodia
	Evaluation of Japan's ODA to Africa through the TICAD Process for the Past 10 Years
	Country Assistance Evaluation of India
	Evaluation on Japan's Assistance to Connectivity in the Mekong Region with a Focus on the Southern Economic Corridor
	Evaluation of Individual Project under Grant Aid

4-2 Structure of table of contents and volume, and conclusion of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Regarding these evaluation reports, **(i) volume** and **(ii) content** of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” as a result of trial tasks towards enhancement, have been compiled in a list (see Table 4-2).

First, **(i) volume** is between 5 to 23 pages; while the volume of Country Assistance Evaluations was relatively large, there were other types of evaluation covered 15 pages e.g., the Evaluation of JICA Volunteer Program. However, the average volume was larger than that of evaluation projects for the previous fiscal year, which can be an achievement of enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

Next, regarding **(ii) content**, because the content and subjects of evaluation projects differ, various attempts can be observed with regards to analysis methods. In addition, there are gaps in volume in each report because evaluation method has not been established nor has evaluation questions. One report only has used two pages for the diplomatic evaluation results. However, some evaluation projects noted that it is difficult to determine causal relationships; thus, it can be said that evaluation methods are still at a trial stage.

Table 4-2 Analysis 1 of ODA third party evaluation projects for FY2017: (i) volume and (ii) content after “trial tasks” towards enhancement

Report	(i) Volume of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”	(ii) Content of “evaluation from a diplomatic viewpoints”
Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda	<p>Chapter 4 Japan’s assistance diplomacy to Uganda: evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints..... 122</p> <p>4-1 Diplomatic importance..... 122</p> <p>4-1-1 Position of assistance to Uganda in Japan’s diplomacy 122</p> <p>4-1-2 Importance of geopolitical location..... 122</p> <p>4-1-3 Relationship between Uganda and Japan..... 124</p> <p>4-1-4 Summary of diplomatic importance..... 129</p> <p>4-2 Diplomatic impact..... 129</p> <p>4-2-1 Political aspects..... 129</p> <p>4-2-2 Economic aspects 132</p> <p>4-2-3 Social aspects 134</p> <p>4-2-4 Summary of diplomatic impact..... 140</p> <p>(20 pages in total)</p>	<p>Diplomatic importance and diplomatic impact are verified in the evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints. Regarding diplomatic importance, the following three verification items are covered: (i) position of assistance to Uganda in Japan’s diplomacy, (ii) importance of geopolitical location, and (iii) relationship between Uganda and Japan. As for diplomatic impact, verification is conducted with regard to the following three aspects: (i) political aspects, (ii) economic aspects, and (iii) social aspects. In this evaluation survey, <u>Japan’s national interest is understood as Japan’s condition or international environment that is deemed to be beneficial for Japan and changes in bilateral relations with Uganda. Specifically, improvement of the security environment through stabilization of the region surrounding Uganda, enhancement of Japan’s presence in the international community (hereinafter, political aspects), deepening of investment and trade relations, vitalization of Japanese companies’ business in Uganda (hereinafter, economic aspects), development of global human resources, improvement of Japan’s image in Uganda, vitalization of personal exchange, vitalization of grass-root level exchange at the level of private companies and local governments, and deepening of mutual understanding (heretofore, social aspects) can be cited.</u> This evaluation survey strives to grasp the situation of these changes in an objective manner and, as far as possible, to verify causal relationships with regard to Japan’s assistance to Uganda. However, evaluation is deemed restricted in cases where causal relationships are difficult to prove, and determination of causal relationships is not a prerequisite. Accordingly, Japan’s abovementioned national interests are analyzed comprehensively, but rating determinations are not made.</p>
Evaluation of JICA Volunteer Program	<p>Chapter 6 Evaluation results 6-49</p> <p>(6-1 to 6-3)</p> <p>6-4 Diplomatic importance and impact..... 6-45</p> <p>6-4-1 Diplomatic importance 6-46</p>	<p>6-4 Diplomatic importance and impact</p> <p>This section considers diplomatic effects in terms of their importance and impact ((i) bilateral relations, (ii) Japan’s position in the international community).</p> <p>Due to the clear positioning in Japan’s diplomacy and the role of volunteers as “grassroots</p>

	<p>6-4-2 Diplomatic impact: bilateral relations..... 6-49</p> <p>6-4-3 Diplomatic impact: Japan's position in the international community 6-53</p> <p>(15 pages in total)</p>	<p>diplomats,” the diplomatic importance of the program is very high. The diplomatic impact (in terms of bilateral relations) is also very high, as the program is highly regarded by the dispatch destination countries, with official commendations having been awarded.</p> <p>Additionally, as seen from the outpouring of large donations from these countries after the Great East Japan Earthquake, the diplomatic impact (in terms of Japan's position in the international community) is very large.</p>
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Report	(i) Volume of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”	(ii) Content of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”
Country Assistance Evaluation of Cambodia	Chapter 4 Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints..... 117	<p>(1) Diplomatic importance Cambodia <u>is not only a traditional friendly country</u> of Japan <u>but also extremely important politically and economically</u>, and has been a strategic partner since 2013. It is diplomatically very important for Japan to <u>contribute to the development of Cambodia, a strategic partner, through economic cooperation</u>. ... Japan <u>considers Cambodia’s development and geopolitical importance to be very important</u>. ... <u>In view of Cambodia’s geopolitical importance, continual assistance will lead to the development of Japan’s diplomatic assets, the further strengthening of Japan-Cambodia relations, and the development, improvement, stabilization of the Cambodian economy</u>. ... Japan’s assistance to Cambodia is contributing to the strengthening of bilateral diplomatic relations and can therefore be considered diplomatically very important.</p> <p>(2) Diplomatic impact As “Tsubasa Bridge” and “Kizuna Bridge,” which were named by Premier Hun Sen himself, are printed and symbolized on the 500 Riel bill, we can say that <u>the Japanese-Cambodian relationship is deeply tied beyond the concept of only a bilateral relationship through various diplomatic initiatives of Japan such as ODA</u>. In such a sense, the diplomatic ripple effect is high.=====.</p> <p>Japan had played a major role as a top donor in the development of Cambodia until 2009. Even though the scale of the assistance on the basis of the amount has been shrinking, the effects of support for livelihood improvement for the poor, legal and judicial development, agriculture, health and medical care, and infrastructure development are remarkably penetrating. This can be observed from the fact that in local hearing surveys, leading members of various ministries and agencies unanimously expressed their gratitude to Japan for the various historical commitments and development cooperation policies towards Cambodia it has implemented.</p> <p>As already noted, Cambodia is an important friendly country of Japan. As indicated in the personal relationship between Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Hun Sen, Japan-Cambodia relations are favorable. Mutual exchange between the two countries has become salient not only politically and culturally but also economically, and it is clear that Japan’s ODA to Cambodia has contributed to the formation of this intimate bilateral relationship. It has also contributed to the expansion of personal exchange between Japan and Cambodia.</p>
	4-1 Diplomatic importance..... 117	
	4-1-1 Cambodia’s diplomatic importance 117	
	(1) History of the postwar diplomatic relationship between Japan and Cambodia, (2) involvement in Cambodia’s peace, (3) origin of “Proactive Contribution to Peace”, and (4) development of bilateral relations and upgrading to a “strategic partnership”	
	4-1-2 Cambodia’s geopolitical importance 122	
	(1) Cambodia’s geographical location and (2) strategic point in the Mekong region	
	4-1-3 Previous mutual visits of Japanese and Cambodian dignitaries 123	
	4-1-4 Summary of diplomatic importance..... 128	
	4-2 Diplomatic impact..... 128	
	4-2-1 Expansion and deepening of economic relations between Japan and Cambodia 128	
(1) Expansion of Japanese companies, (2) future prospects of the Cambodian economy, and (3) expansion of Japanese-affiliated companies		
4-2-2 Expansion and deepening of personal exchange between Japan and Cambodia 132		
(1) Increase of Japanese residents in Cambodia, (2) increase of Cambodian residents in Japan, and (3) local governments		
4-2-3 Mutual understanding regarding the positions of both Japan and Cambodia in the international community 132		
(1) Cambodia’s lateral assistance, (2) Japan’s understanding towards Cambodia’s position, and (3) opinion polls		
4-2-4 Summary of diplomatic impact..... 135		

Report	(i) Volume of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”	(ii) Content of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”
	(23 pages in total)	
Evaluation of Japan's ODA to Africa through the TICAD Process for the Past 10 Years	Chapter 3 Evaluation of Japan's assistance to Africa based on the TICAD Process 3-4 Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints..... 101 3-4-1 Diplomatic importance 101 3-4-2 Diplomatic impact 103 (6 pages in total)	Since TICAD IV, held in 2008, Japan's focus on assistance to Africa has clearly shifted to economic assistance and so ODA diplomacy is evaluated as being highly important for the economy of Japan. In reality, the ODA measures have not yet brought about sufficient diplomatic effects or economic benefits to Japan accordind to the trade results and sales recorded by Japanese companies' overseas affiliates in Africa. However, investments in Africa are on the rise and Japanese companies are showing brighter prospects for conducting busdiness on the continent, implying the possibility that more diplomatic effects could be gained from Japan's ODA to Africa that would benefit the Japanese economy.

Report	(i) Volume of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”	(ii) Content of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”
Country Assistance Evaluation of India	Chapter 4 .Evaluation results..... 1 (4-1 to 4-2) 4-4 Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints30 4-4-1 Diplomatic importance30 (1) Position of assistance in the three priority fields in Japan’s diplomacy (2) Importance of geopolitical location (3) Importance of Japan-India relations (politics, security, economy, and society) 4-4-2 Diplomatic impact34 (1) Political aspects (2) Economic aspects (3) Social aspects 4-4-3. Summary of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”37 (7 pages in total)	<p>The diplomatic importance of the assistance in the area of “supporting sustainable and inclusive growth” in India is high from the viewpoints of realizing the philosophy of Japan’s development cooperation, geopolitical position of India for Japan, the political, security, economic and social relationships between India and Japan, and goals of the international community. The diplomatic impact of ODA can be observed especially in political and economic aspects.</p> <p>=====</p> <p><Material utilized for verification of diplomatic importance> 1. National Security Strategy, 2. Development Cooperation Charter, 3. Priority Policy for Development Cooperation, 4. Japan Revitalization Strategy, 5. Infrastructure System Export Strategy, 6. Speeches by the Prime Minister, 7. Speeches by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, 8. Diplomatic Bluebook, 9. Development Cooperation White Paper.</p> <p>The National Security Strategy (2013) states that: “In particular, sea lanes of communication, stretching from the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden to the surrounding waters of Japan, passing through the Indian Ocean, the Straits of Malacca, and the South China Sea, are critical to Japan due to its dependence on the maritime transport of natural and energy resources from the Middle East. In this regard, Japan will provide assistance to those coastal states alongside the sea lanes and other states in enhancing their maritime law enforcement capabilities, and strengthen cooperation with partners who share strategic interests with Japan”.</p> <p>Prime Minister Abe announced the “Free and Open Indo- Pacific Strategy” in his keynote address at TICAD VI held in Kenya in August, and stated that the “two continents,” the rapidly growing Asia and Africa, which abound in potential strength, and the dynamism born from confluence of the “two oceans,” the free and open Pacific and Indian Oceans, hold the key to stability and prosperity in the international community, and expressed Japan’s intention to work toward the realization of prosperity in Asia and Africa”.</p>
Evaluation on Japan's Assistance to Connectivity in the Mekong Region with a Focus on the Southern Economic	Chapter 5 Evaluation results.....5-1 (5-1 to 5-3) 5-4 Diplomatic importance and impact..... 5-44 5-4-1 Diplomatic importance 5-44 (1) Diplomatic importance of ODA that aims for the peace and stability of the Mekong region (A) Foreign policy, (B) Understanding of assistance-related parties in the Mekong region (2) Diplomatic importance of ODA that aims for the prosperity of the Mekong region (A) Diplomatic Bluebook, (B) Priority Policy for Development Cooperation, (C) Infrastructure System Export Strategy 5-4-2 Diplomatic impact: relationships between the Mekong countries and Japan 5-47 (1) Political aspects (regional stability) (2) Political aspects (bilateral relations) (3) Economic aspects (A) Improvement of accessibility for Japanese-affiliated companies, (B) number of Japanese companies expanding	<p>5-4-1 Diplomatic importance This section verifies what kind of diplomatic importance Japan’s implementation of ODA for Mekong region connectivity has in the relationship between the Mekong countries and regions and Japan. As a result, as described in detail below, <u>as the purpose of supporting Mekong region connectivity via ODA is to realize the peace, stability, and prosperity of the region as a whole, ODA is highly regarded in the region, and the region is a vital market for Japan due to the country’s close political, economic, and social ties with the region</u>, it is judged that assistance that contributes to the enhancement of Mekong region connectivity is diplomatically important.</p> <p>5-4-2 Diplomatic impact: relationships between the Mekong countries and Japan This section verifies what kind of impact Japan’s assistance towards enhancing Mekong region connectivity has had on the relationship between the Mekong countries and regions and Japan. As a result, impact was recognized in political, economic, and social aspects, and it is judged that assistance towards enhancing Mekong region connectivity has had a certain degree of diplomatic impact.</p> <p>=====</p> <p>(1) Diplomatic importance of ODA that aims for the peace and stability of the Mekong region <u>The Diplomatic Bluebook</u> clearly states that <u>the Mekong region and ASEAN region are partners which exhibit strong economic growth and have great potential, and that peace and stability in those regions is extremely important</u>. The Diplomatic Bluebook mentions the strengthening of</p>

Corridor	<p>business into the Mekong countries, (C) Changes in bilateral trade statistics, (D) Japan's FDI to Mekong countries</p> <p>(4) Social aspects</p> <p>(A) Opinion Poll on Japan, (B) personal exchange between Japan and respective Mekong countries, (C) friendly relationships</p> <p>(11 pages in total)</p>	<p>Mekong region connectivity through the "Japan-Mekong Connectivity Initiative" as a means for realizing peace and stability.</p> <p>From both the above and the fact that the recipients of assistance share a similar view, we judge that Japan's assistance towards strengthening Mekong region connectivity is diplomatically important in terms of political aspects (from the viewpoints of geopolitical location and stabilization of surrounding countries).</p> <p>(2) Diplomatic importance of ODA that aims for the prosperity of the Mekong region</p> <p>As described below in detail, the importance of the prosperity of the Mekong region to Japan and ODA's contribution to the strengthening of Mekong region connectivity as a means to realize such prosperity are mentioned in regard to various policies in the <u>Diplomatic Bluebook, the FY2017 Priority Policy for Development Cooperation, and the Infrastructure System Export Strategy</u>, and thus ODA aimed at the prosperity of the Mekong region is diplomatically important.</p>
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Report	(i) Volume of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”	(ii) Content of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”
<p>Evaluation of Individual Project under Grant Aid¹</p>	<p>Chapter 2: Evaluation regarding the Emergency Grant Aid for the Project to Implement Measures in Response to the Influx of Syrian Refugees (FY2013, Jordan) (2-1 to 2-5)</p> <p>2-6 Evaluation regarding diplomatic importance 2-28</p> <p>2-6-1 Political aspects 2-28</p> <p>2-6-2 Social aspects 2-29</p> <p>2-7 Evaluation regarding diplomatic impact 2-30</p> <p>2-7-1 Political aspects 2-30</p> <p>2-7-2 Economic aspects 2-31</p> <p>2-7-3 Social aspects 2-32</p> <p>(5 pages in total)</p> <p>Chapter 3 Evaluation regarding Non-Project Grant Aid (2014, Palestine) (3-1 to 3-5)</p> <p>3-6 Evaluation regarding diplomatic importance 3-19</p> <p>3-6-1 Political aspects 3-19</p> <p>3-6-2 Political aspects 3-28</p> <p>3-6-3 Social aspects 2-29</p> <p>3-7 Evaluation regarding diplomatic impact 2-30</p> <p>3-7-1 Political aspects 2-30</p> <p>3-7-2 Economic aspects 2-31</p> <p>3-7-3 Social aspects 2-32</p> <p>(5 pages in total)</p>	<p>(i) The Emergency Grant Aid for the Project to Implement Measures in Response to the Influx of Syrian Refugees provided to Jordan in FY2013</p> <p><diplomatic viewpoints>The Japanese government has continuously extended its bilateral assistance to Jordan with a total amount of more than 100 billion Japanese yen, including a Yen ODA loan for the support of Syrian refugees. With this support, the relations between Japan and Jordan have been very good, including top leaders of both sides. For Japan, who relies on the Middle East region for most of its energy resources, supporting the stability of Jordan who has a diplomatic relations with Israel and proactively promoting the Middle East peace process, directly serves the overall stability of the Middle East, and in turn, meets a Japanese national interest as well. In the international society, such as the UN General Assembly, Japan has been appealing for contributions to Syrian refugees, and leading the donor community in Jordan recently.</p> <p>However, since this Emergency Grand Aid was just a portion of the Japanese government’s support to Jordan, it is difficult to evaluate its importance and direct effect on the impact of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Jordan from this Emergency Grand Aid alone. Therefore, the series of Japan’s aid to Jordan was grasped from diplomatic viewpoints, and this was evaluated as a part of that.</p> <p>(ii) Summary of evaluation of Non-Project Grant Aid provided to Palestine in FY2014</p> <p><Diplomatic viewpoints> Support to the PA from the Japanese government since 1993 stood cumulatively at USD 1.78 billion (as of July 2017), and since 2007, ten Non-Project Grant Aids to the PA totaling 10.2 billion Yen have been extended. Such steady and continuous support is considered to have helped develop favorable relations between Japan and Palestine. The Representative Office of Japan to the PA (ROJ) was proactively using development assistance as a means of diplomacy by collaborating with JICA in utilizing the counterpart fund of NPGA. ROJ was also playing an important role for enhancing both development and diplomatic impact through brisk public relations activities including SNS. However, since this NPGA was just a portion of the Japanese government’s support to the PA, it is difficult to evaluate its importance and direct effect on the impact of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Palestine from this NPGA alone. Therefore, the series of Japan’s assistance to the PA was grasped from diplomatic viewpoints, and this NPGA was evaluated as a part of that.</p>

¹ It should be noted that evaluation of the Individual Project under Grant Aid is different from other policy- and program-level evaluations in that it is a project-level evaluation targeting an individual project.

Note: Underlines were added by the authors of the survey report. Source: Quotations from FY2017 ODA evaluation reports (latest drafts as of March 16th).

4-3 Descriptions concerning “national interests” and verification of hypotheses, utilization of the Diplomatic Bluebook, and other remarkable creative points

Next, (iii) descriptions concerning “national interests” and (iv) remarkable creative points in the ODA evaluation (third party evaluation) reports conducted by the MOFA in FY2017 are compiled in Table 4-3. All reports mentioned national interests, and it is understood that most of them stated that the viewpoints of realizing national interests are included in evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints. However, national interest in this case is not only national interest in the narrow sense; it is also understood that “it is essential that Japan strengthens the free trade regime for accomplishing economic development through free trade and competition, and realizes an international environment that offers stability, transparency and predictability” and that “the maintenance and protection of international order based on rules and universal values, such as freedom, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, and the rule of law, are likewise in Japan’s national interests”, as stated in the National Security Strategy (2013).

Meanwhile, it has been recognized for many years that factual determination, including the verification of causal relationships, in evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints is difficult compared to the three evaluation criteria of evaluation from development viewpoints. Various definitions of evaluation have been proposed, one of them being “determining facts (including causal relationships) and, based on that, making some sort of value judgment” (Scriven, M., 1991). Among the above, remarkable creative points were observed in the MOFA’s ODA evaluations for FY2017 with regard to factual determination (see Table 4-3). Naturally, various other creative points, of which the details are compiled in Table 4-4, are present.

Specifically, they include: verification of the degree of matching between target countries’ voting behavior and Japan’s voting behavior through utilization of UN voting records; attempts to create an objective framework of the MOFA’s diplomatic policies based on the Diplomatic Bluebook; preparation of a detailed list on mutual visits by dignitaries based on the Diplomatic Bluebook; quantitative analysis of trade data such as exports and sales of local subsidiaries; utilization and analysis of the results of the Opinion Poll on Japan in ten ASEAN Countries (targeting 300 people aged 18 to 59 from each country). In addition to evaluation questions for “country assistance evaluations”, although it was noted that verification and analysis of direct causal relationships regarding items relating to “sector evaluations” are difficult, qualitative descriptions concerning political, economic and social aspects, respectively, were observed.

Table 4-3 MOFA ODA evaluation (third party evaluation) reports for FY2017

Report	Reference to “national interests”	Remarkable creative points
Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda	Yes	Analyzes Uganda’s voting behavior using UN voting records. Conducts hypothesis verification.
Evaluation of JICA Volunteer Program	Yes	Creates an objective framework of the MOFA’s diplomatic policies based on the Diplomatic Bluebook. Assumes a style of hypothesis verification.
Country Assistance Evaluation of Cambodia	Yes	Compiles a detailed “Changes in Japan-Cambodia Relations (2005-2016)” based on the Diplomatic Bluebook (annual).
Evaluation of Japan's ODA to Africa through the TICAD Process for the	Yes	Conducts a quantitative analysis of “exports and sales of local subsidiaries”, etc. using trade data.

Past 10 Years		
Country Assistance Evaluation of India	Yes	Refers to items relating to “evaluations by sector” in addition to “evaluations by country” verification items. Compiles a detailed “Mutual Visits of Dignitaries (2012-2016)” based on the Diplomatic Bluebook (annual).
Evaluation on Japan's Assistance to Connectivity in the Mekong Region with a Focus on the Southern Economic Corridor	Yes	Refers to the results of the Opinion Poll on Japan in ten ASEAN Countries (targeting 300 people aged 18 to 59 from each country).
Evaluation of Individual Project under Grant Aid	Yes	Although stating that it is difficult to analyze direct causal relationships regarding diplomatic importance and impact just by citing this single case, provides qualitative descriptions concerning political aspects, economic aspects, and social aspects, respectively.

**Table 4-4 Analysis 2 of ODA third party evaluation projects for FY2017:
(iii) descriptions concerning “national interests”, (iv) hypothesis verification, Diplomatic Bluebook, and other remarkable creative points**

Report	(iii) “National interests”	(iv) Hypothesis verification, utilization of the Diplomatic Bluebook, and other remarkable creative points
Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda	<p>The definition of national interest varies among scholars, but international politics specialist H. Morgenthau divides national interests into primary interest (the maintenance of a nation’s physical, political, and cultural unity and self - preservation against threats from other nations), which is perpetual and general, and secondary interest (that determines political behavior in a given era), which is variable. E. Nuechterlein divides national interests into “defense”, “economy”, and “international order”; among these, national interest concerning defense is the same as Morgenthau’s primary interest, while national interest concerning the latter two, namely economy and international order, is considered to correspond to the secondary variable interest. (Source: Cabinet Office/Japan Research Institute, Report: “Review Survey on Public and Private Sector Partnership Towards Optimizing International Economic Cooperation”, March 2002, Chapter 1). As ODA and national defense are separate matters, <u>this evaluation</u> conducts <u>analysis according to an understanding of national interest from a broad perspective of economic relations and the maintenance and promotion of stability and peace in the international environment</u>. It is stated in the Cabinet Office Report (2002) that the concept of national interest has become more multilayered and complex through time and that today, on the backdrop of the</p>	<p>Column: Diplomatic Viewpoints - A Study on ODA’s Contribution to Enhancing Japan’s Presence in the International Community -</p> <p>In the Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda, the evaluation team attempted various examinations in order to enhance evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints. Provided below is a description about the survey and study concerning “ODA’s Contribution to Enhancing Japan’s Presence in the International Community” and the background of the discussions regarding the survey and study.</p> <p><Hypothesis></p> <p>The purpose of ODA is to contribute to the development of developing countries and to ensure Japan’s national interests through ODA activities. Japan’s national interests may be understood in various ways. ODA is a diplomatic foundation, and the utilization of ODA to gain support for Japan from the international community in international conferences such as the UN has often been explained to the public as one of the diplomatic aims of ODA. The evaluation team set up the following hypothesis: if Uganda’s voting behavior in major national conferences is analyzed and confirmed to match Japan’s policies, which would indicate the possibility that Japan’s ODA to Uganda contributed to that in some way or another. The team conducted a survey to demonstrate the hypothesis.</p> <p><Survey results></p> <p>The evaluation team <u>confirmed Uganda’s voting behavior regarding major resolutions submitted by Japan in the 65th (2010) to 71st (2016) UN General Assembly</u>. The team confirmed 28 resolutions in total, which included the resolution on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the “United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons” resolution. Excluding the 13 resolutions that were adopted by consensus (note: a method whereby the chairperson proposes adoption by consensus and, upon confirming there are no obligations raised, declares the resolution adopted), Uganda’s voting behavior consisted of 4 affirmative votes, 0 negative votes, 10 abstentions, and 1 absence, based on which <u>the team determined that</u>, at least in UN General Assemblies held during the period concerned, <u>Uganda’s voting behavior did not necessarily match with that of Japan</u>. (Source: MOFA “Press Releases” and United Nations voting records)</p> <p><The evaluation team’s observations based on discussions with stakeholders></p> <p>Due to the fact that voting behavior in international conferences such as the UN is determined according to each country’s policies with regard to individual cases which are influenced by various factors, the evaluation team judged that it is difficult to measure the extent of ODA’s contribution solely based on the presence or absence of voting behavior that matches Japan’s policies or the number of matching instances and, therefore, <u>judged that it is difficult to evaluate whether ODA had an impact on enhancing Japan’s presence in the international community based on the above results alone</u>. [...] <u>In view of the purpose of third party evaluations</u>, which is to grasp a broad range of information from an impartial viewpoint and <u>make objective value judgements</u>, <u>the evaluation team considered that the results of Uganda’s voting behavior in the UN</u></p>

	increase in the public's position and interest in politics, the concept of "national interest" (interest of the people) has been established.	General Assembly are not suitable as grounds for an evaluative judgment. There are a not-negligible number of cases where gaining support for Japan in international conferences is generally mentioned as one of the purposes of ODA. The present survey is an attempt to conduct verification, to the best of our abilities, based on objective data, from the standpoint of evaluators, but it has been revealed that demonstration is by no means an easy task. The column herein summarizes and indicates the process of analyses, investigations, and discussions that the team has carried out, with a view to contribute to the enhancement of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints in ODA evaluations going forward.
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(Reports)	((iii) National interests)	((iv) Hypothesis verification, utilization of the Diplomatic Bluebook, other remarkable creative points)
Evaluation of JICA Volunteer Program	<p>BOX6-6 What are Japan's national interests? National interests are defined in the National Security Strategy that was approved by the cabinet in 2013. The definition is as follows. The Strategy is intended as a basic policy regarding national security for providing guidelines for policies in areas related to national security, including sea, outer space, cyberspace, ODA, and energy. The government states that based on the Strategy, and under the central control functions of the National Security Council as well as strong political leadership, the government as a whole will implement national security policies in a further strategic and systematic manner. The National Security Strategy summarizes national interests into the following three points: Japan's national interests - <u>Maintaining the peace and security of Japan and ensuring its survival;</u> - <u>Realizing further prosperity of Japan and its people and further consolidating the peace and security of Japan; and</u> - <u>Maintaining and protecting international order based on universal values and rules.</u></p> <p>Japan's national interests (detailed definition) The National Security Strategy describes the definition of national interests in detail as follows. "Japan's national interests are, first of all, to maintain its sovereignty and independence; to defend its territorial integrity; to ensure the safety of life, person, and properties of its nationals, and to ensure its survival while maintaining its own peace and security grounded on freedom and democracy and preserving its rich culture and tradition.</p> <p>In addition, Japan's national interests are to achieve the further prosperity of Japan and its people through economic development, thereby further consolidating its peace and security. To this end, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, it is essential that Japan, as a maritime state, strengthens the free trade regime for accomplishing economic development through free trade and competition, and realizes an international environment that offers stability, transparency and predictability.</p> <p>Similarly, the maintenance and protection of international order based on rules and universal values, such as freedom, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, and the rule of law, are likewise in Japan's national interests. In order to safeguard these national interests and fulfill its responsibility in the international community, Japan, adopting the policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based</p>	<p>The MOFA's ODA Review Final Report (June 2010) places ODA as diplomatic "means" for Japan to pursue the world's common interest. The Diplomatic Bluebook (2017) states that "development cooperation is one of the most important means for Japan to make further contributions through ensuring the peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community from the stance of 'Proactive Contribution to Peace' based on the principle of international cooperation, and to promote its diplomatic policies". The diagram below is an <u>objective framework of the MOFA's diplomatic policies created according to the ideas concerning the abovementioned goals and means and based on the Diplomatic Bluebook</u>. "2 Development of Japan's Diplomacy" in the Diplomatic Bluebook mentions "diplomacy taking a panoramic perspective of the world map and 'Proactive Contribution to Peace'" and concludes with the statement that Japan will "<u>lead the international community to promote Japan's national interest and for the peace and prosperity of the world</u>". Therefore, "diplomacy taking a panoramic perspective of the world map and 'Proactive Contribution to Peace'" is positioned as the top priority goal in the objective framework of diplomacy.</p> <p>6-4-1 Diplomatic importance Diplomatic importance can be evaluated as being very high. First, <u>as a hypothesis on the facts, verification is conducted on the assumption that the JICA Volunteer Program is clearly positioned as an important means for Japan's diplomacy.</u></p> <p>6-4-2 Diplomatic impact: bilateral relations Diplomatic impact (bilateral relations) can be judged as being very large and deemed favorable. First, <u>as a hypothesis on the facts, verification is conducted on the assumption that the JICA</u></p>

	<p>on the principle of international cooperation as a fundamental principle, will seek to achieve the following national security objectives”.</p>	<p><u>Volunteer Program functions as a means for Japan’s diplomacy and contributes to the promotion of friendly relationships with other countries.</u></p>
<p>Country Assistance Evaluation of Cambodia</p>	<p>Therefore, it is very meaningful to assess how Japan’s ODA to respective countries contributes to Japan’s diplomacy in Country Assistance Evaluations conducted by third parties. The Development Cooperation Charter that was approved by the cabinet in February 2015 clearly mentions “contribution to ensuring national interests”. Thus, in the evaluation from “diplomatic viewpoints”, the relationship between Japan’s ODA to Cambodia and diplomacy is analyzed with regard to two evaluation items, namely “diplomatic importance” and “diplomatic impact”.</p>	<p>Table 4-11 Changes in Japan-Cambodia relations (2005-2016) Source: Prepared by the evaluation team based on <u>the Diplomatic Bluebook (2006-2017) (MOFA)</u> = = = = . 4-1 Diplomatic importance 4-1-1 Cambodia’s diplomatic importance (3) Origin of “Proactive Contribution to Peace”: Through taking diplomatic initiatives towards peace in Cambodia, <u>the direction of Japan’s diplomatic policies became more proactive.</u> (4) Development of bilateral relations and upgrading to a “strategic partnership”: Bilateral relations based on economic cooperation <u>developed into a “strategic partnership”</u>. 4-1-2 Cambodia’s geopolitical importance Therefore, Japan considers Cambodia’s development and geopolitical importance to be very important. In particular, the Japanese government considers Cambodia, which is situated along the Southern Economic Corridor, to be <u>the country that holds the key to the region’s prosperity and possesses the power to realize Mekong region connectivity and to correct disparity.</u></p>

(Reports)	((iii) National interest)	((iv) Hypothesis verification, utilization of the Diplomatic Bluebook, other remarkable creative points)
<p>Evaluation of Japan's ODA to Africa through the TICAD Process for the Past 10 Years</p>	<p>Thus, <u>today, the TICAD is clearly regarded as a tool for “strategic efforts towards gaining foreign markets”</u>.</p> <p>Thus, the TICAD and Japan's assistance policies targeting Africa that are announced when leaders meet at the TICAD have had, potentially, since 2008, and more clearly, since 2013, <u>high diplomatic importance, especially with regard to economic aspects</u>, and it can be said that <u>economic national interests are expected to be achieved through ODA activities formed based on such policies</u>.</p>	<p>In view of the above considered diplomatic importance of Japan's assistance policies targeting Africa with regard to economic aspects, let us now verify the diplomatic impact with regard to economic aspects, taking into consideration the goal - <u>“To triple ‘exports and sales of local subsidiaries’ compared to 2011 by 2020” - that the Japan Revitalization Strategy (2012 version) stated as a goal of developing the African market, drawing on the results of the TICAD, as well as others</u> matters.</p> <p>=====</p> <p>Starting in the early 2000s, opinions such as the following began to be heard from financial circles in Japan: “From the viewpoint of Japan implementing ODA as a means to achieve national interests, it should be clearly stated in the (ODA) Charter that Japan will focus its energies on areas where it can exhibit superiority in terms of technological capabilities and know-how” (82). Accordingly, the Democratic Party administration that was established in September 2009 made public the aim of “utilizing ODA appropriately to achieve Japan's growth strategies” (83). Although Africa had finally overcome the “lost 20 years” and was accelerating its economic growth, this was a time when half of the MDG achievement period of up to 2015 had passed and there was little prospect of the MDGs being achieved in Africa, so it is difficult to explain the shift in Japan's assistance policies targeting Africa solely on the basis of factors in Africa. It is thus considered that the idea of utilizing ODA for economic national interests influenced the shift to a certain extent.</p> <p>82) <u>Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), “Opinion regarding review of the ODA Charter”</u>, April 22, 2003. Details in parentheses were added by the quoter.</p> <p>83) <u>MOFA, ODA Review Final Report: Enhancing Enlightened National Interest</u>, June 2010. This Review was promoted by the then Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Okada, of the Democratic Party administration led by Mr. Hatoyama.</p> <p>Thus, amid the increasing trend of moves towards utilizing ODA for Japan's national interests, <u>since the TICAD IV of 2008</u>, the TICAD and Japan's assistance policies targeting Africa that are announced when leaders meet at the TICAD have <u>clearly shifted their direction towards focusing on economic development assistance</u>.</p>
<p>Evaluation on Japan's Assistance to Connectivity in the Mekong Region with a Focus on the Southern Economic Corridor</p>	<p>Chapter 4 Questionnaire survey targeting Japanese diplomatic establishments abroad</p> <p>4-2 Results of the questionnaire survey targeting Japanese diplomatic establishments in five Mekong countries</p> <p>4-2-4 Results of the questionnaire regarding diplomatic importance</p> <p>Regarding diplomatic importance, respondents were asked about the degree of diplomatic importance of ODA relating to Mekong connectivity (centered in the Southern Corridor) in respective countries, the reason for that, and <u>Japan's national interests that are expected to be achieved through supporting Mekong connectivity</u>. As for the degree of importance, Cambodia and Myanmar were “high” and Thailand was “difficult to say”, as indicated in the table below.</p> <p>4-2-5 Results of the questionnaire regarding diplomatic impact</p> <p>Regarding diplomatic impact, respondents were asked whether Japan's support of</p>	<p><u>The results of the Opinion Poll on Japan in ten ASEAN Countries (targeting 300 people aged 18 to 59 from each country)</u>, which was conducted by the MOFA in March 2017, <u>were verified</u>. Although not attributable solely to assistance related to Mekong connectivity, the following results were yielded regarding friendly relations, mutual trust, and Japan's ODA. [...] As is apparent from the above, Japan's assistance that contributes to ASEAN connectivity, including Mekong connectivity, is appreciated by the people of five Mekong countries, and Japan's contribution is recognized as being larger than that of other donors. Although the extent of direct relevance with the above cannot be measured based on the questionnaire survey, it is surmised that the appreciation of Japan's assistance towards Mekong connectivity by the people of five Mekong countries is exerting a certain positive influence on the development of mutual trust between Japan and the Mekong countries.</p>

	Mekong connectivity (centered in the Southern Corridor) has caused any positive changes in Japan's diplomatic position in the international community with regards to, for example, political, economic, or social aspects, and <u>whether it has contributed to Japan's national interests.</u>																			
Country Assistance Evaluation of India	<p>1-4. Evaluation from a diplomatic viewpoints This section verifies <u>why ODA</u> in the area of "assistance towards sustainable and inclusive growth" (hereinafter "Area of Focus 3") in India <u>can be said to be diplomatically important (what the national interests expected through ODA were)</u>. After that, verification is carried out on the diplomatic effects of assistance to Area of Focus 3, or on what was actually accomplished. ====</p> <p>(A) Political aspects: India and Japan share values such as democracy, human rights, and market economy and are <u>important political partners as well</u>. In addition, <u>both</u> India and Japan, as G4 members aiming at reform of the United Nations Security Council, <u>are aiming to become permanent members of the council</u>. (B) National security aspects: As already noted with regard to its geopolitical importance, <u>India is a very important partner</u> to Japan <u>in terms of national security</u>, in view of the importance of free and open open ocean. That is why regular talks such as the annual defense minister meetings, annual National Security Advisor meetings, and 2+2 Meetings are held. (C) Economic and social aspects: Cooperation towards Area of Focus 3 is also important in terms of sustainable development, which is a goal of the international community. 4-1-3 As already noted in "Consistence with international priority tasks", cooperation towards Area of Focus 3 is in concert with many of the SDGs.</p> <p><Diplomatic impact> Diplomatic impact refers to: <u>What was accomplished (what diplomatic effects were produced)</u> as a result of Japan's investment of ODA. Verification items and the material used for verification are listed in Table 4-4-3 below.</p>	<p>1-4-1. Diplomatic importance First, <u>diplomatic importance</u> was <u>verified according to the items in Fig. 4-4-1</u>. [...] <u>As necessary, reference was made to the items relating to "evaluations by sector" in addition to "evaluations by country" verification items</u> in the "Modifications Made to 'Evaluation from a Diplomatic Viewpoints' in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines" (June 2017).</p> <p>1-4-2. Diplomatic impact In view of the diplomatic importance made clear above, diplomatic impact is verified from the viewpoints of political, economic, and social aspects. <u>Here, diplomatic impact refers to: What was accomplished (what diplomatic effects were produced)</u> as a result of Japan's investment of ODA. <u>Verification items and the material used for verification are listed in Table 4-4-3</u> below.</p> <p>Fig. 4-4-1 Verification items for diplomatic importance</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1189 807 1664 1082"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Verification items</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>What is the position of "assistance towards sustainable and inclusive growth" in India with regard to Japan's diplomacy?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>In what way is India important to Japan geopolitically (India's role in the international community and region, etc.)?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>What is the relationship between India and Japan (political, security, economic, social aspects)?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>How is the area positioned within the international community?</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Fig. 4-4-3 Verification items for diplomatic impact</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1700 807 1995 991"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Verification items</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Political aspects</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Economic aspects</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Social aspects</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Utilization of the Diplomatic Bluebook: Fig. 4-4-2 Mutual visits of dignitaries (Notes for 2012 to 2016: Prepared by the evaluation team based on the <u>Diplomatic Bluebook for 2013 to 2017</u>).</p>		Verification items	1	What is the position of "assistance towards sustainable and inclusive growth" in India with regard to Japan's diplomacy?	2	In what way is India important to Japan geopolitically (India's role in the international community and region, etc.)?	3	What is the relationship between India and Japan (political, security, economic, social aspects)?	4	How is the area positioned within the international community?		Verification items	1	Political aspects	2	Economic aspects	3	Social aspects
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Evaluation of Individual Project under Grant Aid	<p>2-8 Evaluation summary (Jordan) [...] Regarding evaluation from a diplomatic viewpoints, the Japanese government has continuously provided bilateral assistance (including yen loans) worth a total of almost 100 billion yen to Jordan in relation to assisting Syrian refugees, thereby realizing continuous assistance ranging from humanitarian aid to development assistance. Owing to this assistance, the relationship between Japan and Jordan, including exchange between their leaders, is very favorable and</p>	<p>Evaluation regarding diplomatic impact <u>Political aspects</u>: King Abdullah stated that "we are grateful to Japan for its assistance to Jordan and the Middle East", promising that "with Japan's assistance, we intend to make efforts towards stabilization of the Middle East". <u>Economic aspects</u>: This project was implemented under the scheme of emergency grant aid of bilateral ODA and involved the supplying of Japanese-made equipment. <u>Social aspects</u>: Japan and Jordan are traditionally-friendly nations. Ever since the two countries entered into diplomatic relations in 1954, their friendly relationship has been symbolized by the good relationship between the imperial and royal families, and active mutual visits of dignitaries have been carried out. His Majesty King Abdullah of Jordan has visited Japan twelve times and is known to be a Japanophile. When the Great East</p>																		

<p>is recognized as becoming stronger and deeper. <u>The act of providing assistance to Jordan and contributing to its stability has a direct bearing on the stability of the Middle East</u>, and can thus be deemed <u>consistent with Japan's national interests</u>. However, <u>it is difficult to analyze direct causal relationships relating to diplomatic importance and impact solely based on this project</u>; therefore, all assistance that has been provided to Jordan to date was observed from diplomatic viewpoints and evaluation was conducted as a part of that.</p> <p>3-8 Evaluation summary (Palestine) [...] The act of providing assistance to Palestine and contributing to its stability <u>contributes to the stability of the Middle East and is, furthermore, consistent with Japan's national interests</u>. [...] However, <u>it is difficult to analyze direct causal relationships relating to diplomatic importance and impact solely based on this project; therefore</u>, all assistance that has been provided to Palestine to date was observed from diplomatic viewpoints and evaluation was conducted as a part of that.</p>	<p>Japan Earthquake occurred in March 2011, medical teams and donations were sent from Jordan. With 2014 marking the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations, cooperative relations have developed in various fields and true mutual trust has been fostered. (Palestine project) <u>Political aspects</u>: Evaluations of the project collected directly from people in responsible positions in the major organizations (IMF, UNDP) of local international organizations are as follows. [...] "Whatever the amount of the Non-Project Grant Aid, what is important is for the international community to show that it intends to continue being involved in assisting Palestine"; "The Non-Project Grant Aid constitutes an important part of Japan's annual 70 to 80 million USD development cooperation to the Palestinian Authority". <u>Economic aspects</u>: The project only accounts for several percent of both the financial assistance to the Palestinian Authority and imports of petroleum products, making its economic impact extremely limited. However, the implementation of the Non-Project Grant Aid, as part of the international community's collective assistance to the Palestinian Authority, for swiftly responding to the Palestinian Authority's dire financial situation was appropriate. As the Palestinian Authority faced chronic problems in finance for its oil imports, the Non-Project Grant Aid worth one billion yen or so per annum provided from 2007 to 2014 was a stable and reliable, albeit small, source of funding. <u>Social aspects</u>: In Palestine, the completion ceremony of the collateral fund utilization project of the Non-Project Grant Aid was covered by the media (Roj TV and the Palestinian Authority are both actively focusing on PR efforts), and even though the presence of Palestine within the international community is becoming smaller, the Non-Project Grant Aid is highly regarded by Palestinians as proof of Japan's continual assistance.</p>
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Note: Underlines were added by the authors of the survey report. Source: Quotations from FY2017 ODA evaluation reports (latest drafts as of March 16th).

Chapter 5 Expert review meeting: organization of issues, discussions, and compiling of results

5-1 Holding of the expert review meeting

The expert review meeting was held on Friday, March 2, 2018. Experts who acted as chief evaluators in seven ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) for the current fiscal year (FY2017) attended. Below is a summary of the expert review meeting. As is noted below, very active discussions took place.

FY2017 ODA Evaluation Survey “Trial Results Towards the Enhancement of ‘Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints’” Review Meeting

Date: March 2, 2018 (Fri.)

Venue: MOFA meeting room

Attendees: (As stated in page ii of this report)

Agendas:

- (i) Explanation of the purpose of the review meeting by the MOFA ODA Evaluation Division;
- (ii) Explanation of the issues organized based on the trial results and general impression by the consultant;
- (iii) Opinion exchange on issues; and
- (iv) Summary of proposal under Chairman Yamaya.

1. Background and purpose of the review meeting:

In FY2011, MOFA has introduced diplomatic viewpoints in addition to development viewpoints as its evaluation standard. While development viewpoints are to examine whether ODA is contributing to development of recipient country, diplomatic viewpoints are to examine how ODA, which is funded by tax, is contributing to Japan's national interests. Since 2015, MOFA has been using "diplomatic viewpoints" in basically all evaluation projects.

Compared to “evaluation from a development viewpoints”, “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” faces numerous limitations, including the fact that evaluation methods for evaluation from such a viewpoints have not been established in the international community, the fact that diplomacy-related information is in principle based on information disclosure, and the fact that quantitative analysis is difficult, and evaluation reports based on insufficient verification have been identified. In this situation, in order to further fulfill “accountability to the public”, which is one of the aims of ODA evaluation, it is essential to standardize and enhance verification items for “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, and in the evaluation projects for FY2017, trial tasks towards enhancement were carried out according to the “Modifications Made to ‘Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints’ in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines”.

In the expert review meeting, based on the aforementioned circumstances, the trial results with regard to evaluation projects for FY2017 were studied, opinions and proposals were gathered from external experts. To utilize the outcomes for revision of next fiscal year’s ODA Evaluation Guidelines, the results of the above are compiled in a report.

5-2 Discussions in the expert review meeting

In the expert review meeting, following the background and purpose of the review meeting, four issues were explained. The issues are as follows. It was explained that Issue 3 is particularly important.

(Issue 1) Clarify the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

(Issue 2) Clarify the definition of the “national interests” that Japan’s diplomacy aims for.

(Issue 3) Clarify the framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

(Issue 4) Establish means for obtaining information.

As the respective issues were considered to be closely related, the expert review meeting adopted an approach whereby the experts stated their comprehensive opinions rather than stating their opinion for each issue. Opinions are organized as follows.

5-2-1 Issue 1: Discussion concerning the purpose of evaluation

Regarding Issue 1, the issue handout that was distributed in advance provided the explanation described in the box below.

(Issue 1) Clarify the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

First, the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, which was introduced preliminarily in FY2011 and has been implemented in earnest since FY2015, needs to be clarified.

(Reference) “Modifications Made to ‘Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints’ in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines” (June 2017)

- It is stated that it is essential to thoroughly explain the significance of ODA to the public in an apprehensible way and thereby gain their understanding and support towards ODA.
- It is stated that the enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is essential for further fulfilling “accountability to the public”, which is one of the objectives of ODA evaluation. In order to achieve this objective, we will aim towards standardization of evaluation by adopting the following methods (which are described in the “Modifications” and have already been applied in evaluations for FY2017) in evaluation and, unless there are special circumstances, performing verification.

(Reference) Discussions carried out when “evaluation from a diplomatic viewpoints” was introduced

- The original proposal for introducing “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” was based on the fact that the Enhancing Enlightened National Interest report had positioned assistance as a “means” for Japan’s diplomacy. It is understood that the proposal was based on the recognition that since ODA is considered as a means for achieving the goals of Japan’s diplomacy, the status of achievement of those

goals needs to be evaluated.

- The relevant section of Enhancing Enlightened National Interest: Living in Harmony with the World and Promoting Peace and Prosperity (2010)² reads as follows: “Under the belief that Japan’s peace and affluence can only be achieved within world peace and prosperity, Japan will continue to actively contribute towards solving various challenges faced by the international community and, through that, needs to create an international environment that is better for Japan. In the current situation of globalization and the lowering of international barriers, assistance to developing countries by developed countries is by no means a ‘charitable activity’ but is a ‘means’ to pursue the collective interest of the world, including Japan”.

Regarding Issue 1 (purpose of evaluation), mainly the following opinions were raised in the expert review meeting.

- One objective of bilateral assistance is the development of a developing country, in other words economic and social development and political and governance assistance. The other objective is to maintain a favorable bilateral relationship between the assistance recipient country and the donor country; in other words the objective is related to diplomacy and foreign policy. Therefore, evaluation should naturally be conducted from those two viewpoints.
- Various departments within the MOFA conduct evaluation based on original viewpoints. Though ODA has a diverse history, there is clearly something universal. Thus, the basis upon which to decide whether to provide ODA to a certain country is universal, in other words, diplomacy itself. The current era of globalization has seen the rise of challenges spreading on a global scale. Contributing in some way or other to such global-scale challenges will help Japan achieve its national interests.
- Making hard efforts to produce development effects on the one hand, and developing an awareness of Japan’s efforts and enhancing its soft power through political approaches towards the leaders, government dignitaries, etc. of recipient countries and activities of public relations on the other. Is that not what diplomacy is all about? The two viewpoints of development and diplomacy are both important, but they overlap in many areas. How should each of them be positioned?
- ODA can be positioned and evaluated according to diplomatic viewpoints in cases where the assistance recipient country clearly positions bilateral relations within its diplomatic strategy. If that is not the case, embassies and the ministry will have to combine various tools, including ODA, to carry out diplomacy. So, to what extent should comprehensive diplomatic capacities be evaluated? This is subject to numerous restrictions in terms of information and time, and will thus require the investment of considerable resources.
- ODA evaluation is becoming more and more complete, and its methodology is becoming more established. That is because, although explaining ODA in terms of diplomacy as a whole is difficult, one can explain its process and outcome of development. But as for diplomacy, it is difficult to explain because the framework is not clear. So the only way is to accumulate cases.

² The official title is: MOFA “ODA Review Final Report: Enhancing Enlightened National Interest -Living in harmony with the world and promoting peace and prosperity-” (June 2010)

<Discussion Summary 1>

- It was the unanimous view that it is important to keep conducting evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints going forward.
- There were no objections to the notion that enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is essential for further fulfilling “accountability to the public”, which is one of the aims of ODA evaluation.

5-2-2 Issue 2: Discussion concerning the definition of “national interests”

Regarding Issue 2, the issue handout that was distributed in advance provided the explanation described in the box below.

(Issue 2) Clarify the definition of the “national interests” that Japan’s diplomacy aims for.

In recent years, voice for a focus on national interest in Japan’s diplomacy have been raised, and the need to clarify what national interests has arisen. Several definitions have been proposed in the MOFA ODA evaluations for FY2017. There is a need to clarify the definition of national interests based on the above.

(Reference) Definition of Japan’s national interests in the National Security Strategy

National interests are defined in the National Security Strategy that was approved by the cabinet in 2013. It is clearly stated that “the Strategy is intended as a basic policy regarding national security for providing guidelines for policies in areas related to national security, including sea, outer space, cyberspace, ODA, and energy”.

Japan’s national interests (main points)

- Maintaining the peace and security of Japan and ensuring its survival;
- Realizing further prosperity of Japan and its people and further consolidating the peace and security of Japan; and
- Maintaining and protecting international order based on universal values and rules.

Japan’s national interests (detailed definition)

The National Security Strategy describes the definition of national interests in detail as follows.

“Japan’s national interests are, first of all, to maintain its sovereignty and independence; to defend its territorial integrity; to ensure the safety of life, person, and properties of its nationals, and to ensure its survival while maintaining its own peace and security grounded on freedom and democracy and preserving its rich culture and tradition.

In addition, Japan’s national interests are to achieve the further prosperity of Japan and its people through economic development, thereby further consolidating its peace and security. To this end, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, it is essential that Japan, as a maritime state, strengthens the free trade regime for accomplishing economic development through free trade and competition, and realizes an international environment that offers stability, transparency and predictability.

Similarly, the maintenance and protection of international order based on rules and universal values, such as freedom, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, and the rule of law, are likewise in Japan’s national interests. In order to safeguard these national interests and fulfill its responsibility in the international community, Japan, adopting the policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation as a fundamental principle, will seek to achieve the following national security objectives”.

(Reference) Description relating to “national interests” in the Development Cooperation Charter

[...] Such cooperation will also lead to ensuring Japan’s national interests such as maintaining its peace and security, achieving further prosperity, realizing an international environment that provides stability, transparency and predictability, and maintaining and protecting an international order based on universal values.

Regarding Issue 2 (definition of “national interests”), mainly the following opinions were raised in the expert review meeting.

<Definition of national interests in the National Security Strategy and the Development Cooperation Charter and opinions regarding national interests in individual cases>

- The viewpoints of national interest is written in the National Security Strategy and the Development Cooperation Charter and is thus clearly positioned according to express provisions. That is why it is said that ODA’s nature as a policy tool has become stronger due to the shift from the previous ODA Charter, which was called the “ODA Constitution”, to the Development Cooperation Charter.
- In all ODA evaluations, it is first necessary to explain what national interests are to be pursued through ODA policy under evaluation. These are more specific matters. For example, I think there is a need to determine a bit more specifically what national interests Japan should pursue, based on relations with Uganda in the case of Uganda, and with Cambodia in the case of Cambodia.
- Without understanding clear diplomatic goals, it is difficult to evaluate diplomatic importance and impact. I gather there are express provisions regarding national interests, but if one applies them to individual evaluation projects, then all national interests are not necessarily explicitly stated. We have no choice but to confirm project backgrounds and other matters through hearings and other methods.
- I think we need to clarify what the national interests are with regard to such and such a country. Evaluation can only be conducted based on that.

<Opinions regarding the scope of national interests>

- Since our present world has a global economy, it faces various problems such as disparity, environmental issues, and corruption; therefore, we cannot pursue “national interests” successfully without creating some sort of international agreement. By contributing to global interests, Japan will be respected from all countries around the world and its international standing will rise. So Japan really needs to further enhance its international standing along those lines.
- I disagree with the view that evaluation can be conducted sufficiently from a development viewpoints alone. We should put national interests to the fore, and they need to be understood from three viewpoints, namely: (i) importance to global interests, (ii) importance in the relationship with the partner country, and (iii) importance to Japan’s economy.

- Even though a change of government may alter views, or the government and people may hold different views, would not the fact that Japan is properly and sincerely making efforts towards development through public interests and that it is pursuing public interests lead to enlightened national interest, from a long-term viewpoints? Will not the fact that Japan provides assistance sincerely in accordance with the SDGs make other countries consider Japan a trustworthy country and, in turn, lead to national interests, as noted above?
- It is important to consider “the role that Japan should play” depending on the international situation at the time. Debating how to carry out ODA in abstract terms without considering changes of the era is pointless. What is important is to evaluate ODA from diplomatic and development viewpoints based on an understanding of what Japan’s role is in the current international environment undergoing change.
- Its relation to Japan’s national interests is often mentioned in terms of national interests in the narrow sense, in other words, people ask what direct advantages it offers to Japan. So it would be good if we could explain a bit more clearly that dealing with global-scale challenges contributes to Japan’s national interests.

<Opinions regarding the time at which to confirm the details of national interests>

- Should national interests be discussed at the stage of evaluation, or should they be defined at the stage of formulation of the project by the division or department in charge? Is it not the case that it would be awkward if the national interests of the project under evaluation had to be defined for the first time at the stage of evaluation? I would like the departments with jurisdiction over such matters to fully explain, at the stage of policy formulation, as to how it will contribute to Japan’s national interests.

<Discussion Summary 2>

- While confirming the descriptions of the National Security Strategy and Development Cooperation Charter which are clearly stipulated and include comprehensive descriptions of the details of “national interests”, there is a need to confirm in detail, for each of the individual evaluation projects, Japan’s “national interests” that ODA policies subject to evaluation are expected to contribute to.
- National interest not only refers to national interest in the narrow sense but also something that may be called global interest (international public interest), and Japan’s contributions to realizing the latter will lead to realization of Japan’s national interest.
- It is important to conduct ODA evaluation with consideration to changes of the era and an understanding of the “role that Japan should play”.
- Should national interests be discussed at the stage of evaluation, or should departments with jurisdiction over such matters, as far as possible, provide explanations on national interests at the stage of agenda formulation.

5-2-3 Issue 3: Discussion concerning the framework of evaluation

Regarding Issue 3, the issue handout that was distributed in advance provided the explanation described in the box below.

(Issue 3) Clarify the framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

- “Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is important for fulfilling accountability to the public, and the public will not be satisfied if it is treated as something in the shadows of “evaluation from a development viewpoints”. Specifically, a system for promoting easier-to-understand “visibility” is considered to be necessary. For example, regarding diplomatic importance, I think we need to devise a way to describe in a concise and direct manner, trying not to deviate from the public’s viewpoint and interest, that “ODA to ○○ is important from the diplomatic viewpoints of ○○ (as well as for Japan’s national interests)”.
- Should MOFA’s ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) adopt the conventional approach involving evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints and development viewpoints separately, place an overall focus on diplomatic viewpoints, or conduct evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints within the framework of the development viewpoints’s evaluation criteria? Moreover, are “diplomatic importance” and “diplomatic impact” appropriate as evaluation criteria for “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”? Such matters need to be considered, taking into consideration the purpose of conducting “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” and the trial results of this year’s projects.
- I think we should go beyond the viewpoints of an evaluation framework; we need to take a viewpoints of utilizing ODA evaluation for foreign policy. Although it is not easy to confirm the evidence for “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, what is important is how the MOFA can explain the evaluation results to the public and the government.

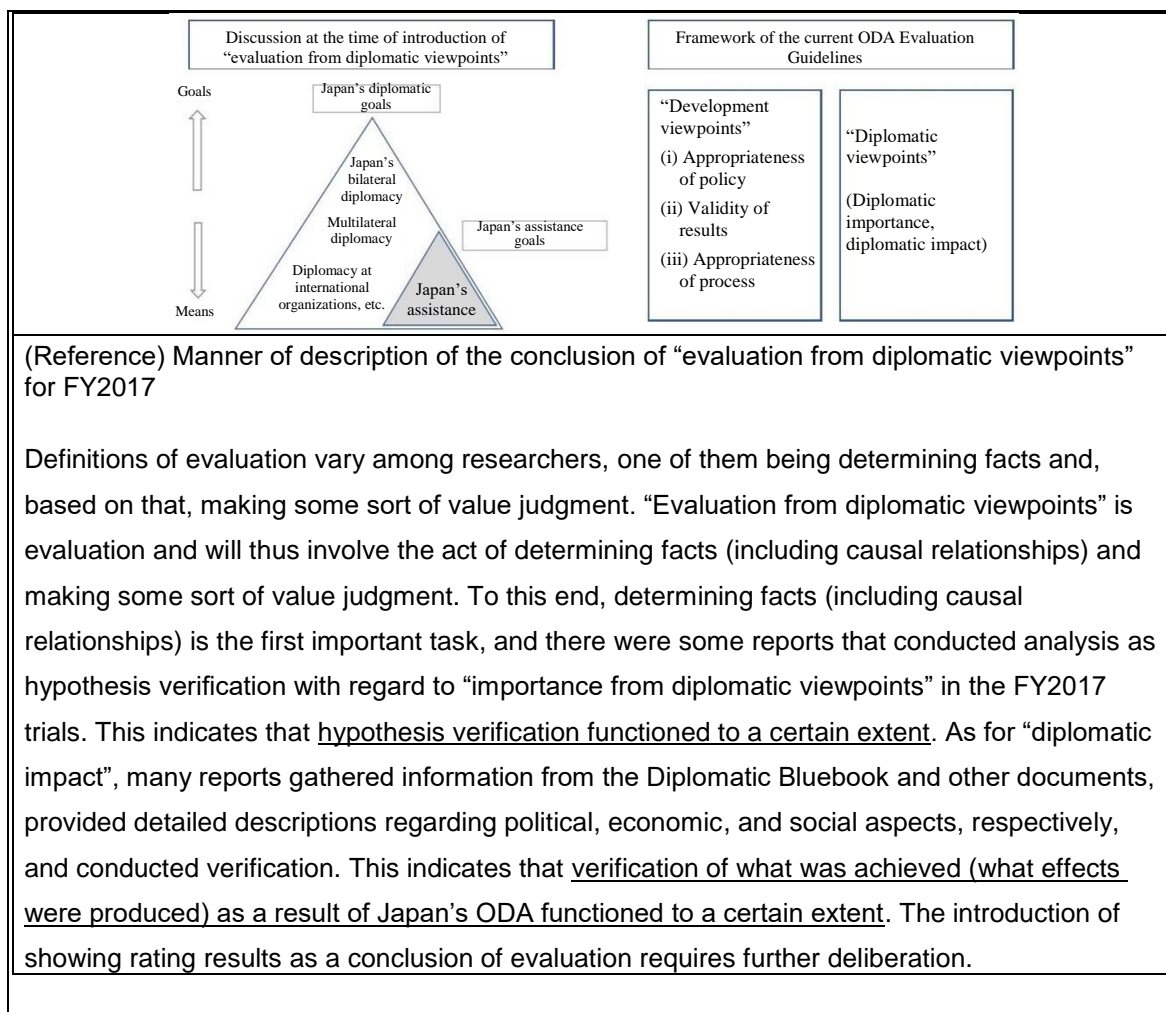
(Reference) Background surrounding the framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

When “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” was introduced in FY2010, a change from the conventional evaluation to the following two layers was proposed. It was based on the idea that diplomacy is expressed in a large policy objective framework and that assistance constitutes a part of that objective framework.

“Evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” ((i) diplomatic importance of assistance, (ii) diplomatic impact of assistance)

“Evaluation from development viewpoints” ((i) appropriateness of policy, (ii) validity of results, (iii) appropriateness of process)

In response to this, the current ODA Evaluation Guidelines have introduced “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, in addition to “evaluation from development viewpoints”, which are based on the conventional five DAC evaluation criteria, and state that evaluation is conducted from the two viewpoints of “development viewpoints” and “diplomatic viewpoints”.



Regarding Issue 3 (framework of evaluation), mainly the following opinions were shared in the expert review meeting.

<General opinions regarding evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints and evaluation from a development viewpoints>

- I believe there are three types of explanations. (i) An explanation that completely separates diplomatic viewpoints and ODA viewpoints, as the two have different viewpoints. (ii) An explanation that attempts to look into ODA from the focal point of diplomatic viewpoints. (iii) An explanation that attempts to explain diplomatic effects within the framework of ODA.
- The integrity of conventional ODA evaluation has been greatly improved. It can be said that there is a consensus that we should keep ODA evaluation as an explanatory tool.
- It is currently at a trial stage, so I think the only way is to somehow build up such efforts and create an explanatory framework for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints.

<Opinions stating that evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints and evaluation from a development viewpoints should be conducted separately>

- Evaluation should naturally be conducted from the two viewpoints of a development viewpoints and diplomatic viewpoints. One objective, just as with international organizations, is the development of a developing country, in other words economic and social development and political and governance assistance. The other objective is to

maintain a favorable bilateral relationship between the assistance recipient country and the donor country; in other words the objective is related to diplomacy and foreign policy. Conducting evaluation by combining the two viewpoints will be very difficult in terms of actual implementation.

- National interests include various interests that are referred to as global interests, so if the focus is on development, then evaluation should be conducted from development viewpoints. If the focus is on Japan' diplomatic relations, then evaluation should be conducted from diplomatic viewpoints. Although separating the viewpoints of development and diplomacy is difficult, we still have to be conscious of their difference.
- Regarding dividing the diplomatic viewpoints into diplomatic importance and diplomatic impact, seen in a different way, it is possible to consider that the two are being divided in a way where diplomatic importance is deemed as appropriateness and impact is deemed as validity + effect. In fact, the reports feature analyses based on subdivisions of diplomatic importance and impact according to various aspects.
- I believe it is possible to conduct evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints according to criteria and evaluation questions. However, there is a need to differentiate evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints and evaluation from a development viewpoints and sort out what matters should be dealt under each criteria.

<Opinions stating that focus should be placed on evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints>

- One thing that can be said from the past experience of providing yen loans to China through the OECF is that diplomacy always comes before development. Therefore, it will be difficult unless we consider that diplomacy comes first, rather than evaluating diplomacy based on ODA. I do not believe that ODA shapes diplomacy.
- The TICAD started in 1993. The reason why the MOFA focused on assistance to Africa at that time was because the collapse of the USSR had lead to the outbreak of various conflicts, which had been suppressed under the Cold War regime, all around Africa. So it was decided to increase ODA based on basic values and universal values. Soon, in the tide of globalization, Japanese companies started to expand business to various parts of Africa. In other words, ODA based on ideals preceded ODA based on economic factors. Furthermore, the method of providing ODA is changing, so it is important to consider "the role that Japan should play" depending on the international situation at the time.
- If achievements have been made from development viewpoints but further effort is required diplomatically, it may be considered that the ODA to that country is not serving its purpose. Giving ODA evaluation so much responsibility is not a good idea; rather, the MOFA should invest resources in that respect and clarify the diplomatic importance.
- There was a debate about cases where ODA has produced effects but is not diplomatically important, but an opposite case is conceivable. Namely, cases where ODA has not produced effects but is diplomatically important, leading to a decision to continue the ODA. I think that is one of the functions that is expected of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints.

<Opinions regarding different time frames for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints and

evaluation from development viewpoints>

- Time frames are not the same for diplomatic evaluation, development evaluation, and project evaluation. The results of diplomatic evaluation become apparent in the long term, which is 10 to 20 years, whereas the results of development evaluation become apparent in five years or so. Some project evaluations start producing results as early as in the following year, but unanticipated negative effects do sometimes occur, which may have an influence on Japan's national interests. In any case, we need to consider different time frames for diplomatic evaluation, development evaluation, and project evaluation separately.

<Opinions stating that more focus should be placed on evaluation from development viewpoints rather than on evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints>

- First, as I place more value on a development viewpoints, I would like to consider diplomatic viewpoints comes after. By focusing on analyzing effects set forth in the "five DAC criteria" from the standpoint of development viewpoints, third party evaluations will be more convincing.

<Discussion Summary 3>

- As "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints" and "evaluation from development viewpoints" are different in terms of their integrity as evaluation methods and in terms of evaluation viewpoints, the majority view was that the two viewpoints should be separated when conducting evaluation as in the past, while some were of the view that the only way for "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints" is to create an evaluation framework through repeated efforts.
- Regarding the framework of "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints", opinions were divided as to the differentiation of evaluation viewpoints and which viewpoints should be focused more when evaluating, which suggests that further trials need to be repeated in the future.
- Some commented that although "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints" could be conducted adequately with "diplomatic importance" and "diplomatic impact" set as evaluation criteria, which was made possible because example evaluation questions had been established.
- As regards the verification method involving confirmation of the diplomatic position and purpose of ODA policies subject to evaluation that was attempted for the evaluation projects for FY2017 in relation to "evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints" and, based on the foregoing, confirmation of the diplomatic impact, some were of the view that the method was difficult, but as it is functioning to a certain extent there were no objections to it in particular.
- Some commented that the fact that the time axis which is subject to evaluation is different for diplomacy and development should be considered.

5-2-4 Issue 4 Discussion regarding access for information

Regarding Issue 4, the issue handout that was distributed in advance provided the explanation described in the box below.

(Issue 4) Establish access for information.

We need an access for necessary information in order to determine facts. The premise is that evaluations are conducted based on publicly available information as they are third party evaluations and evaluation reports are to be published. Thus, it is considered necessary to secure sources of information that are as diverse as possible. In addition, easy-to-understand explanations need to be provided to the public (from the perspective of civilian control), without being too technical. Below are the sources of information, etc. that were used in the remarkable creative sections of MOFA ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) for FY2017.

(Reference) Noteworthy sources of information that can be used in MOFA ODA evaluations (third party evaluations)

<Noteworthy sources of information, etc. that were used in MOFA ODA evaluations (third party evaluations) for FY2017>

UN voting records

- Number of social media shares
- Opinion Poll on Japan in ten ASEAN Countries (targeting 300 people aged 18 to 59 from each country)
- Objective framework of diplomatic policies based on the Diplomatic Bluebook (proposal)
- Detailed table on mutual visits by dignitaries based on the Diplomatic Bluebook
- Trade data such as exports and sales of local subsidiaries, data on mutual visits of people
- Changes in Japan's exports to and imports from Africa and its investment amount in Africa, changes in the balance of Japan's investment in Africa, etc.

<Proposal of other noteworthy sources of information>

- Interviews with diplomatic persons (useful information at a different level than that of individuals in charge may well be obtained, especially by interviewing leading ministry staff (director-generals, section heads)).
- Other publicly available information (the Foreign Policy Bureau's website provides much information on the MOFA's policies)

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/annai/honsho/sosiki/sogo.html>)

Regarding Issue 4 (access for information), mainly the following opinions were shared in the expert review meeting (the specific proposals regarding access for information that were described in the remarks sheet submitted in advance by the chief evaluators and others responsible for ODA evaluation projects for FY2017 are attached to the table at the end of the report). Some mentions were made with regard to the scope of verification of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints, going beyond the discussion regarding access for information; these are also indicated below.

<Opinions regarding access for information>

- Whether officials in embassies and policy makers in the MOFA head office, etc. properly convey to those in appropriate positions of the recipient countries the targets Japan wants to achieve in bilateral relations utilizing ODA results, and actively engage with them: maybe that is what evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints is. However, in the Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda, we tried analyzing UN votes, recognition in the media, etc. but found that, mainly due to restrictions in published data, it is very difficult to verify diplomatic impact.

<Opinions regarding the scope of verification of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints>

- As for within the MOFA, various departments will be involved, which means that carrying out discussions only in the ODA Evaluation Division will not be enough.
- Regarding diplomatic capabilities, there may be cases where diplomatic efforts are made using only ODA, or where other tools are utilized. Which stakeholders are involved, what are the aims, and how do embassies and the MOFA go about promoting diplomacy? That is the question. If we were to really evaluate such matters, which would mean “evaluating the MOFA’s diplomatic capabilities”. The question is, should we go to that extent?
- Whether those in charge of policies within embassies, the MOFA, etc. correctly conveyed the bilateral targets Japan wants to achieve, utilizing ODA outcomes, to the proper persons of the recipient country, and actively engaged with them: maybe that is what evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints is.

<Discussion Summary 4>

- Means for obtaining information should be improved. Specific examples include: UN voting records (although a diverse range of information needs to be gathered to interpret them), the Opinion Poll on Japan, the Diplomatic Bluebook, economic statistics on trade, investment, etc., interviews with diplomatic persons (especially interviews with leading ministry staff (director-generals, section heads)).
- The extent to which those in charge of policies within the MOFA HQ, embassies, etc. convey the outcomes of ODA should also be recognized as a form of information.
- It should be noted that gathering huge amounts of information from various sources and conducting evaluation systematically is only made possible by ensuring sufficient resources (time, manpower, and funding). In particular, budget allocation for surveys on countries that are geographically far from Japan require consideration.

5-3 Outcome of the expert review meeting

The outcome of discussions in the expert review meeting can be organized as follows.

<Clarification of the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”>

- All agreed that it is important to keep conducting evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints.
- There were no objections to the notion that enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is essential for further fulfilling “accountability to the public”, which is one of the aims of ODA evaluation.

<Definition of national interests>

- While confirming the descriptions of the National Security Strategy and Development Cooperation Charter which are clearly stipulated and include comprehensive descriptions of the details of “national interests”, there is a need to confirm in detail, for each of the individual evaluation projects, Japan’s “national interests” that ODA policies subject to evaluation are expected to contribute to.
- National interest not only refers to national interest in the narrow sense but also something that may be called global interest (international public interest), and Japan’s contributions to realizing the latter will lead to realization of Japan’s national interest.
- It is important to conduct ODA evaluation with consideration to changes of the era and an understanding of the “role that Japan should play”.
- Should national interests be discussed at the stage of evaluation, or should departments with jurisdiction over such matters, as far as possible, provide explanations on national interests at the stage of agenda formulation.

<Framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”>

- As “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” and “evaluation from development viewpoints” are different in terms of their integrity as evaluation methods and in terms of evaluation viewpoints, the majority view was that the two viewpoints should be separated when conducting evaluation as in the past, while some were of the view that the only way for “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is to create an evaluation framework through repeated efforts.
- Indeed, regarding the framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, opinions were divided as to the differentiation of evaluation viewpoints and which viewpoints should be focused on more when evaluating, which suggests that further trials need to be repeated in the future.
- Some were of the view that although “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” could be conducted adequately with “diplomatic importance” and “diplomatic impact” set as evaluation criteria, which was made possible because detailed evaluation questions had been established.
- As regards the verification method involving confirmation of the diplomatic position

and purpose of ODA policies subject to evaluation that was attempted for the evaluation projects for FY2017 in relation to “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” and, based on the foregoing, confirmation of the diplomatic impact, some were of the view that the method was difficult, but as it is functioning to a certain extent there were no objections to it in particular.

- A view was expressed that the fact that the time axis which is subject to evaluation is different for diplomacy and development should be considered.

<Information access, etc.>

- Access for information should be improved. Specific examples include: UN voting records (although a diverse range of information needs to be gathered to interpret them), the Opinion Poll on Japan, the Diplomatic Bluebook, economic statistics on trade, investment, etc., interviews with diplomatic persons (especially interviews with leading ministry staff (director-generals, section heads)).
- The extent to which those in charge of policies within the MOFA HQ, embassies, etc. convey the outcomes of ODA should also be recognized as a form of information.
- It should be noted that gathering huge amounts of information from various sources and conducting evaluation systematically is only made possible by ensuring sufficient resources such as time, manpower, and funding. In particular, budget allocation for surveys on countries that are geographically far from Japan require consideration.

Chapter 6 Agenda: Towards the future enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

6-1 Summary of future agendas

Agendas were selected in advance of the expert review meeting according to the contents of the issue handout which was prepared beforehand based on ODA evaluation projects for FY2017 and remarks from respective chief evaluators regarding the trial results, and the details of the discussions in the expert review meeting that were carried out based on the handout. After a posteriori confirmation by members of the expert review meeting, details of the agendas were compiled as follows. The agendas were compiled in a way so as not to go beyond the scope of the discussions in the review meeting, and opinions regarding agenda feasibility were shared by the MOFA ODA Evaluation Division.

6-2 Agenda: Towards the future enhancement of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

1. Purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Agenda 1: Clarify the purpose of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

Based on the discussions held in the expert review meeting, we propose that “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” be conducted according to the following purpose, in order that stakeholders involved in evaluating the purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” can share a common understanding beforehand.

Purpose of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” (proposal)

Regarding ODA, which, in Japan’s difficult economic and fiscal situation, is implemented using precious taxpayer money, it is essential that evaluation be conducted according to “diplomatic viewpoints” for determining what favorable impacts ODA has on Japan’s national interests, in addition to “development viewpoints” for determining whether ODA is contributing to the development of the recipient country. The ODA Review Final Report states that “ODA is a ‘means’ for Japan’s diplomacy towards pursuing global common interests”, and the Development Cooperation Charter states that “development cooperation is one of Japan’s most important means for developing diplomacy in a flexible manner”. In consideration of the foregoing, in order to fulfill “accountability to the public”, confirm the position of the ODA policy subject to evaluation with regard to the contributions it is expected to make to Japan’s national interests (diplomatic importance), and in order to clarify in what way the ODA policy contributed to achieving national interests (diplomatic impact), conduct an evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints.

(Source) Partial additions (underlined sections) made based on the descriptions on page 4 of the MOFA (2016) ODA Evaluation Guidelines.

2. Details of “national interests”**Agenda 2: Define Japan’s national interests in each evaluation context**

As evaluation is to be conducted on in what way “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is important to Japan’s national interests and on what effects were achieved, there is a need to confirm the details of such “national interests”. Obviously, regarding “national interests”, descriptions of the National Security Strategy and Development Cooperation Charter which are clearly stipulated and include comprehensive descriptions of the details of “national interests” need to be referred to, but there is also a need to confirm, for each of the individual evaluation projects, what specifically the national interests that the ODA policies subject to evaluation are expected to contribute to. It should, however, be noted that items with no direct relevance to ODA may be present.

In order to conduct “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” appropriately in each evaluation project, rather than third parties confirming the “national interests” that ODA policies subject to evaluation are expected to contribute to from scratch at the stage of evaluation, such national interests should preferably be properly explained, as far as possible, when policies are formulated or at hearings, etc. with stakeholders.

Table 6-1 Framework of describing national interests (reference example)

Provision/individual Details of national interests	Clear stipulations	Content made concrete in individual evaluation projects
National Security Strategy		
(Japan’s survival) Maintaining the peace and security of Japan and ensuring its survival	Japan’s national interests are, first of all, to maintain its sovereignty and independence; to defend its territorial integrity; to ensure the safety of life, person, and properties of its nationals, and to ensure its survival while maintaining its own peace and security grounded on freedom and democracy and preserving its rich culture and tradition.	(Describe in detail)
(Japan’s prosperity) Realizing further prosperity of Japan and its people and further consolidating the peace and security of Japan	To achieve the further prosperity of Japan and its people through economic development, thereby further consolidating its peace and security. To this end, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, it is essential that Japan, as a maritime state, strengthens the free trade regime for accomplishing economic development through free trade and competition, and realizes an international environment that offers stability, transparency and predictability.	(Describe in detail)
(Global interest (international public interest)) Maintaining and protecting international order based on universal values and rules	The maintenance and protection of international order based on rules and universal values, such as freedom, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, and the rule of law, are likewise in Japan’s national interests. In order to safeguard these national interests and fulfill its responsibility in the international community, Japan, adopting the policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation as a fundamental	(Describe in detail)

	principle, will seek to achieve the following national security objectives.	
Development Cooperation Charter		
(Global interest (international public interest)) National interests such as the maintenance and protection of international order based on universal values	Japan will contribute to the guaranteeing of national interests, including the maintenance of Japan’s peace and security, further achievement of prosperity, realization of an international environment with high stability and transparency and which is foreseeable, and maintenance and advocacy of an international order based on universal values.	(Describe in detail)

(Source) National Security Strategy (approved by the cabinet in 2013) and the Development Cooperation Charter (2015) Details in the parentheses for “details of national interests” were added when this survey report was prepared.

3. Framework of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Agenda 3: Set an evaluation framework respectively for evaluation for development viewpoints and evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

For the time being, maintain the conventional evaluation framework comprising the two different viewpoints of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” and “evaluation from a development viewpoints” while taking into account the differences in evaluation method integrity and viewpoints.

Naturally, cases are conceivable where the results of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” and “evaluation from a development viewpoints” do not conform to each other, but that cannot be helped since the targets, purposes, and evaluation methods differ depending on ODA policy. It should be noted that by avoiding making hasty conclusions that “the necessity of this ODA is negligible” because development effects were not confirmed in “evaluation from development viewpoints”, verifying, to the best possible extent, the diplomatic importance and impact of the ODA policy in question in “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, and indicating the evaluation results thereof, the evaluation of the ODA policy in question may become a positive one (and vice-versa).

It was pointed out in the expert review meeting that the period in which respective results can be confirmed with regard to “policy-level evaluations from diplomatic viewpoints”, “policy-level evaluations from a development viewpoints”, and “project-level evaluations” varies (diplomacy>development>project). Thus, it is important that the evaluation timeframe for evaluation be varied; in other words, “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” should be conducted based on observation of development over a longer period.

Furthermore, the viewpoints of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” is subdivided as follows. This was attempted in FY2017 and confirmed as functioning to a certain extent. The wording of detailed items were refined based on discussions in the expert review meeting. Descriptions stating that “this country is geopolitically important” were observed as an item for “diplomatic importance” in previous reports, but it should be noted that it is necessary to explain the

“position of ODA policies for the geopolitically important country”, not just state that the country is important. Regarding the “scope of verification” of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, in the current system evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints has been conducted from the focus of ODA policies in respective countries and areas under evaluation, and it is desired that, through accumulation of such evaluations, the “scope of verification” of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints will be steadily established.

Table 6-2 Detailed items of “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”

Middle items	Detailed items
(i) Diplomatic importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Position of assistance in regard to Japan’s diplomatic goals and foreign policy: (Describe in detail) - Position of assistance in regard to the geopolitical environment important to Japan: (Describe in detail) - Position of Japan’s assistance in regard to the international community and global challenges: (Describe in detail) - Other positioning of Japan’s assistance: (Describe in detail)
(ii) Diplomatic impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political aspects: (Describe in detail) - Economic aspects: (Describe in detail) - Social aspects: (Describe in detail) - Other aspects: (Describe in detail)

(Source) MOFA (2017) Modifications Made to “Evaluation from Diplomatic Viewpoints” in the ODA Evaluation Guidelines. Some sections were modified.

Agenda 4: Accumulate practice of evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints using current methods

In the expert review meeting, regarding “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”, some were of the view that the verification method that was attempted for the evaluation projects for FY2017 was difficult, but as it is functioning to a certain extent there were no objections to it in particular. Thus, for the time being, there is a need to compile examples on the basis of this verification method and, based on the results thereof, consider revisions of the evaluation framework in the future. Specifically, confirm stipulated policy documents to clarify the “national interests” or “diplomatic significance” to which the ODA policy under evaluation is expected to contribute, verify what importance the ODA policy has from diplomatic viewpoints, and, as a result, verify in detail, to the extent to which confirmation is possible, specifically how the ODA policy contributed to Japan’s national interests (what diplomatic impact was produced). As some verification results obtained through evaluation items for “evaluation from a development viewpoints” overlap with “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” (especially “effectiveness of results” and “appropriateness of processes”), it is meaningful to actively utilize such content in cases where it can be used as grounds for “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints”.

Agenda 5: Make conclusion apprehensible regarding evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

A comparison of the details of FY2015 and FY2016 with the details and conclusions of the FY2017 ODA evaluation (third-party evaluation) that implemented a trial towards enhancing “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” indicated that descriptions for the FY2017 evaluation projects were easier to understand in terms of explaining the significance of ODA policies that

were subject to evaluation and the effects of those policies, from diplomatic viewpoints. A certain degree of progress, accompanied by individual specific descriptions, was observed, and thus it is important to compile such examples. The introduction of rating is premature because survey limitations, for example, limitations on information and the difficulty in determining causal relationships, are great and evaluation methods have not yet been established, and it requires careful consideration as a future challenge. Rather, for fulfilling accountability to the public, the current demand is for descriptions with easily understandable details and conclusions.

4. Means for obtaining information

Agenda 6: Provide access for necessary information

In the expert review meeting, some expressed the view that “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” had been made possible because detailed verification items had been established. There is a need to further improve means for obtaining information necessary for carrying out concrete verification. Publicly available information to be utilized as important information sources includes: the Diplomatic Bluebook, economic statistics on trade, investment, etc., and the Opinion Poll on Japan (300 people aged 18 to 59 in respective countries). In addition, although their interpretation requires a broad range of information gathering, UN voting records (data concerning the results of each country’s voting behavior), etc. are pieces of information that should, as far as possible, be added as a verification item by the evaluation team. Extending the scope of interviews to diplomatic officials (including particularly high-ranking officials such as leading ministry staff (director-generals and section heads)), in addition to persons directly involved in the field of development policy, will provide an important information source for gathering more comprehensive perceptions relating to the contributions of ODA policies to national interests. Attachment 1 describes an example of viewpoints that will serve as a reference for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints.

5. Others

Agenda 7: Ensure organizational support for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

Rather than third parties confirming the “national interests” that ODA policies subject to evaluation are expected to contribute to from scratch at the stage of evaluation, from the viewpoints of conducting “evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints” appropriately, such national interests should preferably be explained as clearly as possible by the departments in charge of policy formulation at the stage of policy formulation or when a hearing on the evaluation survey is held.

Furthermore, whether those in charge of policies within the MOFA Head Office and embassies, etc. are properly conveying bilateral targets Japan wants to achieve, utilizing ODA outcomes, to the proper persons of the recipient country should, based on hearings, etc. from Japanese diplomatic offices and persons of the assistance recipient country who are involved, be added as a verification item for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints, although the diplomatic relationship with the other country needs consideration.

It should be noted that gathering huge amounts of information from various sources and

conducting evaluation systematically is only made possible by ensuring sufficient resources (in terms of time, manpower, and funding). In particular, regarding evaluation projects that require field surveys in countries that are geographically far from Japan, budgets need to be considered in a way so as to ensure sufficient survey periods, taking into account the travel time.

Attachment 1: Examples of viewpoints that will serve as reference for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints

Viewpoint Example 1: Evaluation viewpoints focusing on national interest, especially global interest (international public interest)

Cooperation type	Evaluation viewpoints	Points of evaluation
(i) Cooperation which is evaluated as contributing to solving global challenges and to global interest, and which contributes to the enhancement of Japan's international standing	To what extent did it contribute to achieving national interest common to all countries around the world = global interest, and how much support did Japan's multilateral diplomatic policies gain from countries around the world.	The level of Japan's achievement of monetary, technical, and human contribution (preventing, mitigating, ameliorating, or eliminating global challenges) to the activities of various international organizations and to joint actions with particular countries that engaged in promoting global interest, for example, preventing international conflicts and building peace; predicting, mitigating, and adapting to climate change; preventing infectious diseases; preventing national disasters; and helping refugees.
(ii) Cooperation that contributes to the autonomous enhancement of the partner country's problem solving capabilities and systems	Originally, the level of contribution to eliminating famine in developing countries, eliminating poverty, and preventing infectious diseases, as well as to autonomous economic development and establishing, implementing, and improving environmental conservation policies, was the central theme of evaluation of development impact to developing countries that was expected of bilateral and multilateral ODA. Bilateral ODA and multilateral ODA are both important evaluation viewpoints.	The level of Japan's achievement of monetary, technical, and human contribution (sector and regional development such as the economy, social development, and environmental conservation of the partner country) to the establishment of economic and social infrastructure essential for the partner country's independent development, development of human resources, legislation, and institution building.
(iii) Cooperation	To what extent does it	The level of Japan's achievement

through which Japan's and the partner country's economic relations, mutual understanding and friendship, and national security systems are expected to be strengthened	contribute to Japan's and the partner country's economic relations, cooperative relationship including national security, and the improvement of mutual understanding and friendship between their respective peoples, and, as a result, to what extent does it contribute to Japan's implementation of its multilateral diplomatic policies and the enhancement of Japan's standing within the international community.	of monetary, technical, and human contribution (strengthening of political, economic, and friendly relations with a particular country) to the economic activities of private corporations (trade, direct investment, development financing, technical collaboration, etc.), personnel exchange, cultural exchange projects, etc. between Japan and a particular country
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(Source) Excerpted from an issue handout submitted by an expert (Professor Emeritus Hirono) before the expert review meeting.

Viewpoint Example 2: Viewpoint of ODA evaluation from the perspective of foreign policy

Viewpoint	Detailed explanation
"Responsibility in the international community"	What should be done in order for Japan's ODA to fulfill a unique role and responsibility within the international balance? That will be one of the issues of foreign policy.
"Trust from the partner country's government"	This is also "evaluation of the Japanese government" and "evaluation of ODA activities". Speedy decision making in bilateral relations, the appropriateness of timing and scale, etc. have great significance for enhancing presence in the region concerned. Arranging project content in response to the needs of the partner country's government, to an extent that it does not deviate from the principles, will also lead to the above. Furthermore, it is important to make sure that problems do not occur during or after project implementation. By repeatedly accumulating the above, the Japanese government will gain more trust, which will have an impact on the state of other foreign policies.
Strategic Public Relations	It goes without saying that strategic public relations are necessary in order to maximize the effects of the abovementioned two factors. At least for individual projects, there are three dimensions: "international public relations", "local public relations", and "domestic public relations". Public relations must be carried out in these three dimensions in a well-balanced and active manner, especially for superior projects. As a premise for that, maybe the evaluation axis concerning strategic public relations can be set more positively.

(Source) Excerpted from an addendum (described in the Evaluation of Individual Project under Grant Aid) submitted by an expert (Professor Najima) before the expert review meeting.

Perspective Example 3: Viewpoints, results, and challenges of the trial for evaluation from diplomatic viewpoints (Country Assistance Evaluation of the Republic of Uganda)

Trial viewpoints	Trial results	Acknowledged challenges
(i) Japan's presence in and contribution to the international community	This trial analysis showed that since 2010 at least, the voting behavior of GOU has not always supported Japan's policies as there have been cases where GOU voted against or abstained from voting on draft resolutions submitted to the General Assembly by Japan.	As there is a need to consider various viewpoints we felt that performing objective analysis and demonstration within a particularly limited time period and with limited resources was a challenge.
(ii) Contribution to an increase in recognition and likability of Japan in Uganda	Under the hypothesis that ODA may have some kind of impact on increase in recognition and likability of Japan in Uganda, we conducted an analysis on the number of reports (number of search hits) on Japan and their content in major media outlets (newspaper reports). As a result, it was confirmed that in recent years the number of reports has shown an increasing trend. The results of analysis of report content suggested that there is a strong interest (very large number of shares on social media) in projects that are close to daily life.	This time, due to limitations in time and resources, we were unable to analyze in detail all the articles that came up on the search, but if the budget allows, such surveys will be helpful for formulating Japan's strategy of public relations.
(iii) Beneficial impacts to Japanese companies and organizations (especially small and medium - sized enterprises (SMEs)) that participated in ODA projects	In Uganda, four companies were selected for JICA Public-Private Partnerships and SME Overseas Business Support (five projects in total), and as a result, it was confirmed that at least three companies have achieved commercialization or business expansion/development in Uganda.	With the Public-Private Partnerships and SME Overseas Business Support that utilize ODA, it seems it is easier to grasp relationships such as what was accomplished as a result of ODA investment (what impacts were produced) as compared to the cases of (i) and (ii) above.

(Source) Excerpted from an issue handout submitted by an expert (Professor Ohno) before the expert review meeting.

Attachment 2 List of References

- MOFA (2010) ODA Review Final Report: Enhancing Enlightened National Interest -Living in harmony with the world and promoting peace and prosperity-
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- MOFA (2016) ODA Evaluation Guidelines (10th Edition)
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