

# Outline of Japan's ODA to Maldives

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

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## 1. Introduction

Maldives is a small island state, which is of about 1,190 islands (198 manned islands). Japan and Maldives has maintained traditionally cordial relations. Japan has extended grant and technical assistance to Maldives for assuring and improving people's standards of life, considering difficulties coming from its geographical peculiarities. In June 2006, Japan decided to extend the first ODA Loan assistance to Maldives (reference to 4 mentioned below). Maldives has become a cool earth partner of Japan in June 2008.

Note: Main Economic Data (2007)(Source: World Bank WDI)  
Population: 0.31 Million, GNI/Capita: US\$3,190,  
Economic Growth Rate: 6.6%,  
Finance of the state (revenue): 5171.6 million Rufiyaa  
(38.8 billion Yen) (2006)  
Exchange Rate: 1 Rufiyaa=7.50Yen (June 2009)

## 2. Japan's ODA Policy

Maldives is located in geopolitically important area between Southwest Asia and Middle East. To keep a good relationship with Maldives, it is required to support the socio-economic development through the utilization of Japan's ODA with efficiency and effectiveness.

## 3. Priority Areas

Japan has mainly assisted in the field of health and education on the basis of Maldives' national development plan. Japan also continues to provide food aid since 1981 considering Maldives' geographic specialty. Food aid, which is considered as the method of humanitarian aid, has been managed effectively and efficiently and ensured its original objectives that lighten the burden of foreign currency and utilize the counter-part-fund for the social development.

## 4. ODA Loan

In June 2006, Japan decided to extend ODA loan to Maldives, which is the first time for the country (Maldives Tsunami Reconstruction Project: up to 2.733 billion yen). The project aims to reestablish the efficient distribution of goods and reliable sewage service through the assistance to the reconstruction of a number of small infrastructures such as harbors and sewages damaged by the tsunami in the aftermath of the earthquake off the coast of Sumatra in December 2004, thereby contribute to improving the living conditions of the affected people and economic recovery in Maldives.

## 5. Grant Aid

Japan has extended for the assistance of primary school construction and shore strengthening works in Male Island (see note) by Grant Aid. In 2008, grant aid was extended for Food Aid (380 million yen). Cumulative grant aid till FY 2008 was 25.8121 billion yen (E/N Base).

### Japan's ODA to Maldives (past 5 years)

(100 million yen)

FY	ODA Loan	Grant Aid	Technical Cooperation
2004	-	22.56	2.70
2005	-	1.49	4.40
2006	27.33	1.40	2.16
2007	-	9.13	1.73
2008	-	3.80	1.46
Cumulated Total	27.33	258.12	58.03

Note: ODA Loan and Grant Aid is on E/N basis, Technical Cooperation is JICA disbursement basis.

## 6. Technical Cooperation

(Note) Japan implemented the project against a storm surge (shore strengthening works) in Male for 15 years from the year of 1987 to 2002. Therefore Male Island is protected with a seawall with 6km in circumference. It prevented Male Island from the occurrence of the death and being suffered from Tsunami disaster in Male Island. In June 2006 Japan received a green reef environment award for their contribution.



Japan's technical cooperation has been mainly provided with focus on counterparts training including the invitation of the youth to Japan and dispatch of JOCVs.

JICA disbursement for technical cooperation in 2008 was 146 million yen. Cumulative JICA disbursement up to 2008 is 5.803 billion yen. Up to 2008, total number of counterparts trained in Japan: 735, experts dispatched: 50, JOCVs : 249.

### Japan's main ODA projects for past five years (Including Tsunami Rehabilitation / Reconstruction)

