

2. Sustainable Growth

(1) Socio-economic Infrastructure

To reduce poverty in developing countries, it is indispensable not only to implement measures to reduce poverty and to provide assistance in the areas of social development that directly help the poor, but also to promote sustainable economic growth. Therefore, it is important to improve the socio-economic infrastructure that serves as the foundation for the improvement of developing countries.

<Japan's Efforts>

Japan supports infrastructure development and fosters the human resources to maintain, manage, and operate this infrastructure, in accordance with the development policies of developing countries. In terms of specific infrastructure development, development is carried out on roads, ports, airports, and information and communication technology (ICT). Such infrastructure contributes to an expansion of exchange between urban and rural areas, ensures security against disasters, and promotes trade and investment with overseas regions. In addition, social infrastructure, which contributes to ensuring education, health, safe water and sanitation, housing, and better access to hospitals and schools, is also established, as well as development of agricultural and fishery markets and fishing ports to revitalize local economies.



Heading toward the Saigon River Tunnel that is part of the "Saigon East-West Highway Construction Project" in Vietnam (Photo: Koji Sato/JICA)

Cambodia

"Project on Capacity Enhancement of Environmental and Social Considerations for Resettlement" Technical Cooperation Project (April 2010 - Current)

Further improvement of the transportation infrastructure is an issue that must be resolved in order to achieve a higher level of economic growth in Cambodia through preparation and maintenance of the infrastructure. Meanwhile, it is also important to give appropriate consideration to environmental and social aspects when moving ahead with development, and in particular, if it is necessary for residents to relocate in conjunction with the construction of new roads and the increase of traffic lanes on existing roads, it is necessary to give appropriate consideration to respecting fundamental human rights, the transparency of information, etc. Cambodia has many development needs, and in the future, the Resettlement Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance plans to take overall control of support for the relocation of residents in conjunction with public works projects conducted by the central government, provincial governments and city governments, so improvement of the abilities of the Department is a pressing issue. To contribute to a resolution of this issue, Japan dispatches Japanese specialists and proactively implements projects to improve the capabilities of staff members who propose policies related to resettlement, and to support the maintenance of implementation rules and strengthening of the implementation structure. These efforts are expected to enable development to proceed in an appropriate and sustainable manner.



Utilizing audiovisual equipment to make explanation meetings easier for residents to understand (Photo: JICA)

(2) Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The dissemination of ICT* contributes to the achievement of sustainable economic growth by upgrading industries and improving productivity. It also contributes to the resolution of issues related to medical care, education, energy, the environment, disaster management, and other societal issues. Utilization of ICT improves their

democracy as encouraging information disclosure by the government, enabling the improvement of broadcast media, and improving the mechanisms. It is also extremely important to strengthen the civil society through improvement of the convenience and quality of services.

<Japan's Efforts>

Japan provides active support to eliminate the disparities in ICT between regions and nations in order to enhance the quality of life for all people. Specifically, the main focus of support is on the construction of communication and broadcasting equipment and facilities in developing countries, and on introducing related legislation and fostering human resources. At the same time, Japan aims to provide comprehensive assistance including the infrastructural, human resource, and system aspects, such as the promotion of the Japanese style of digital terrestrial broadcasting abroad, that will also be effective in bringing economic growth to Japan.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer helps nuns learn how to use a computer in Ecuador (Photo: Akihito Takahashi)

Terminology

* Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

ICT is technology that integrates computers and other information technology with digital communication technology, as characterized by the Internet and mobile phones.

Bhutan

"Project on Capacity Development of Bhutan Broadcasting Service" Technical Cooperation Project (September 2007 - September 2010)

Aiming to lessen the widening information gap among regions, the government of Bhutan has made efforts to enhance the functions of the Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation, give accurate information, and raise the educational level of the general public. Responding to such needs, Japan has dispatched television programming specialists to Bhutan since September 2007 to conduct training on creating digital educational video materials, to disseminate education and raise public awareness, and training on digital broadcasting technology. By dispatch of experts and training, Japan has contributed to improving the staff members' ability to create programs and strengthening their management abilities. Thanks to these efforts, nationwide broadcasts of high-quality programs have become possible in Bhutan, providing accurate information widely to the people is actualized, and the information gap among regions has narrowed.



Bhutan Broadcasting Service staff members film in the National Assembly Chamber (Photo: JICA)

(3) Cooperation between Trade, Investment, and Other Official Flows (OOF)

It is a key that the private sector plays a leading role for sustainable growth in developing countries. Also it is important to revitalize private-sector activities such as the development of industry and the expansion of trade and investment. However, in developing countries beset by a

variety of challenges it can sometimes be difficult to set in place an environment that attracts private investment. Therefore supports from the international community are required.

<Japan's Efforts>

Japan utilizes ODA and Other Official Flows (OOF*) to support the advancement of small and medium-sized companies in developing countries, the transfer of Japan's industrial technology, and the formulation of economic policies. In addition, Japan supports the environment of the trade and investment and development of the economic infrastructure in order to improve the export capabilities and competitiveness of developing countries.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Doha Round Negotiations (the Doha Development Agenda)* which started in 2001 also emphasizes the promotion of development through participation in the multilateral free trading system by developing countries. Japan has contributed to the trust fund set up within the WTO in an aim to improve the capacity of developing countries to engage in trade negotiations and participate in the global market, thereby gaining the ability to carry out the WTO agreements.

Regarding access to Japanese markets, Japan has implemented the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), which adopts lower tariff rates than general rates for exports of products from developing countries. In



Parliamentary Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Chiaki Takahashi meets with WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy at the WTO Third Global Review of Aid for Trade (AfT) Ministerial Level Meeting in Switzerland

particular, Japan provides duty-free quota-free access* for Least Developed Countries (LDCs*). In addition, Japan also actively promotes Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs*), and supports economic growth in developing countries through the liberalization of trade and investment.

In recent years, discussions have intensified over Aid for Trade (AfT*) at various international forums, including the WTO and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), as a means of further promoting support by developed countries, including Japan. At the Second Trade Global Review Meeting on Aid for Trade held in July 2009, Japan announced its own new strategy for Aid for Trade called "Development Initiative for Trade 2009,"* with approximately \$12 billion in total support for trade-related projects in three years from 2009 to 2011. This includes technical cooperation such as the dispatch of 40,000 experts and acceptance of trainees over the same period. The Initiative has garnered high praise from numerous countries.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer teaches graduates of a school of home economics in Djibouti. Their products are sold to members of the Japan Self-Defense Forces and others as souvenirs. (Photo: Seico Tamai)

The project is currently making steady progress. In terms of specific initiatives, Japan provides funds for the development of transportation networks vital to trade, including ports, roads, and bridges, as well as for projects to construct power plants and power grids, etc. It also provides technical cooperation in trade-related areas, including the education of customs officials. Japan also provides assistance to small-scale production groups and small companies in developing countries for the One Village, One Product Campaign*. In addition, Japan aids developing countries in attracting private sector investment by finding challenges unique to developing countries, recommends measures to promote investment, and otherwise encourages private investment.

Further, Japan is proactively engaged with Regional Technical Group on Aid for Trade for Asia and the Pacific which researches successful examples of development assistance that has contributed to economic growth through exports in the Asia region. At the Third Aid for Trade Global Review Meeting held in July 2011, examples of Japan's success in development assistance and other results from meetings of the Technical Group were introduced to representatives of other regions, and garnered high praise from participating countries.



A Mayan resident weaves traditional textiles under the direction of a Senior Volunteer in Guatemala (Photo: Sadao Muraoka)

Terminology

* Other Official Flows (OOF)

Flows of funds to developing countries from the public sector which are not considered to be ODA because the main purpose is not development. Examples include export credit, direct investment, financing of international organizations, etc.

* Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

Countries deemed by the United Nations to be particularly lagging in development even compared to other developing countries, based on the income classifications of developing countries. Countries that meet certain criteria, including a per capita gross national income (GNI) of \$905 or less. Currently, there are 48 countries that have been so designated: 33 in Africa, 9 in Asia, 5 in Oceania, and 1 in Latin America.

* Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

A broad economic agreement between specific countries (or regions) that, in addition to free-trade agreements (FTA) that stipulate the elimination of customs duties and the liberalization of trade in services and goods, addresses non-trade issues, such as the movement of natural resources, investment, government procurement, and bilateral cooperation, etc.

* One Village, One Product Campaign

Overseas utilization of an approach that began in Oita Prefecture in 1979. The aim is to create jobs and revitalize the community by developing unique local products through the utilization of local resources and traditional technology. Efforts are made to discover handicrafts, textiles, toys, and other attractive products that emanate the unique ethnic characteristics of developing countries in Asia and Africa, etc., and spread them out to a wider range of people, thereby aiding in the improvement of exports of products from developing countries.

* Doha Round Negotiations (the Doha Development Agenda)

Negotiations between multiple WTO member countries aimed at liberalizing trade in a wide range of fields, including reduction/elimination of customs duties on industrial products and agriculture, forestry and fisheries industry products, and loosening regulations in the service sector. One of their challenges is the development of developing countries through trade.

* Duty-free quota-free access

Measures implemented by the developed world to eliminate customs duties, quotas, and other obstacles to exports from least developed countries (LDCs) to the developed world. The number of target products has been expanding, and approximately 98% of products exported by LDCs to the developed world can be imported without payment of duties and without quotas. (As of November 2011)

* Aid for Trade (AFT)

Assistance is provided to developing countries to support efforts to improve trade-related capabilities and to prepare and maintain the infrastructure, for the purpose of aiding developing countries in achieving economic growth under the WTO's multilateral trade structure.

* Development Initiative for Trade 2009

Comprehensive measures to support the sustainable development of developing countries through trade. For developing countries to enjoy the benefits of a free trade system, not only must trade be liberalized, but it must be built on the three pillars of (i) production (improvement of the ability to produce competitive products), (ii) distribution and marketing (preparation and maintenance of a domestic and overseas logistics system including the distribution infrastructure), and (iii) purchasing (pioneering of markets). The aim is to combine means of assistance such as "knowledge and technology," "funds," "people," and "systems" with these three aspects, and provide comprehensive support that connects producers and laborers in developing countries to consumers in the developed world and developing countries.

Ukraine

"Ukraine-Japan Center" Technical Cooperation Project (May 2006 - May 2011)

Ukraine became independent from the Soviet Union in 1991, and the transition to a market economy did not go smoothly due to lack of human resources to introduce such new ways of thinking, entrench new ideas in society, and develop the ideas further for the benefit of the society. Thus, the development of such human resources has been an issue. To address this issue, Japan established the "Ukraine-Japan Center" as a site to foster human resources capable of making contribution to Ukraine's economic development and promoting cooperation between the two countries in various fields. The activities of the Center are diverse, and revolve around (i) the development of business people (business administration courses, trade investment seminars, collaboration among government, industry, and academia, etc.), (ii) Japanese language education, and (iii) promotion of mutual understanding (introducing Japanese culture, etc.). These efforts yielded many outcomes, for example; Japanese management techniques were adopted by the government and businesses, and the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course was added to universities' curriculum. In addition, networks have been established among business, government, and the general public of Ukraine and Japan; as a result, mutual understanding between the people of both countries has deepened. The Center has become widely popular with the people of Ukraine as a good example of "Visibility of Japanese Aid," and has served as a hub for exchange with Japan.



A business seminar conducted by Japanese experts
(Photo: Ukraine-Japan Center)

India

"Project for Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Program (VLFM)" Technical Cooperation Project (August 2007 - Current)

In August 2007, when India's manufacturing industry was seeking change, the "Project for Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Program" was launched to let India know Japan's style of production, then develop India's own style of manufacturing techniques to strengthen India's manufacturing industry. Under the India's first system of collaboration among government, industry, and academia, four courses were offered for employees categorized by job title in the participating company. Over 400 individuals have completed the required courses, and are now active in India's manufacturing industry. Through the dedicated guidance of chief advisors and specialists dispatched from Japan, participants have learned not only manufacturing techniques, but also Japan's style of work discipline, and became leaders in the manufacturing industry. In addition, the individuals who completed the project's courses have created products that have had an impact on the manufacturing industry, including the development of "ChotuKool," a scaled-down refrigerator, and creating a submersible pump in collaboration with farmers, who are also their customers. The project was originally scheduled to end in August 2010, but Japan and India agreed to continue it until March 2013, to enable India to carry it autonomously in a sustainable manner.



Senior management course training in Japan (Photo: JICA)

(4) Policy Formulation and Institution Building

For the sustainable growth of developing countries, not only the establishment of the socio-economic infrastructure, but also the policy formulation, institution building, and human resources development are important. It is essential

to support eradicating corruption, legal and institutional reforms, improving the efficiency and transparency of public administration, and strengthening the administrative capacity of local governments.

<Japan's Efforts>

As part of its support in policy formulation and institution building, Japan provides assistance for development of the legal system. Improvement of the legal system serves as the foundation for development of the country through self-help efforts that are based on good governance. Assistance for this sector is a typical example of person-to-person cooperation between Japan and the recipient countries, and plays a role in “Visibility of Japanese Aid.”

In addition, improvement of the legal systems in developing countries through such measures will also improve the work environment for Japanese companies that work in those countries. Accordingly, it plays an extremely important role in support for the New Growth Strategy (see “Terminology” on page 43) including the “Deployment of Integrated Infrastructure Systems” (see “Terminology” on page 43) to prepare institution building. Japan’s assistance for the improvement of legal systems comes through its “soft power,” and serves as the underpinning for strengthening Asia’s potential for growth.

Moreover, for democratic development Japan supports the institution building for legal, judicial, administrative, public service, and police systems, support for the implementation of democratic elections, strengthening of civil society, and aid improvement of women’s status. Japan also provides support for the prevention of corruption, the development of statistical capabilities, and the enhancement of the abilities of local governments.

For the issues of criminal justice Japan also support the training and seminars for professionals on the criminal justice of developing countries in Asia and the Pacific through the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime

and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI).

Japan provides assistance for the policy formulation and institution building not only for specific projects, but also for financing the national accounts of local government.

In the area of capacity building of police agencies that constitute a cornerstone in maintenance of domestic security, Japan transfers the knowledge and technology and experiences of the Japanese police in international cooperation, provides equipment, and assists in the preparation and maintenance of facilities, while emphasizing the development of human resources, including creation of systems and improvement of administrative capabilities. The National Police Agency dispatches experts to and accepts trainees mainly from Asian countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines. Through this, Japan strives to transfer the attitudes, investigative abilities, and forensics technology of the democratically controlled Japanese police, who are trusted by the Japanese people.



A Japanese expert specialist gives advice on improvements to a Brazilian police supervisor in a police box in Sao Paolo, Brazil as part of the “Project on Implementation of Community Policing Using the Koban System” (Photo: Shinichi Kuno/JICA)

Thailand

"Project on Enhancing the Capacity of Local Public Service Provision through Local Coordination and Cooperation" Technical Cooperation Project (February 2010 - Current)

In 1997, the constitution of Thailand was amended to promote decentralization. However, the size of each municipality providing public service is small, and under the present situation, municipalities are unable to provide the level of public services required as a result of decentralization. Therefore, municipalities are required to provide public services efficiently by collaborating with other municipalities. This project aims to focus its efforts on important areas. For example, it is important for governing bodies higher than the prefectural level to support municipalities (cities, towns, and villages). Thus, the project aims to transfer the technologies and skills for efficient public services by sharing the knowledge and experience gained through coordinating with higher-level governments with municipalities. Through these efforts, the project is expected to improve the ability of the municipalities to provide public services that support the foundation of people's lives, and to contribute to Thailand's further development.



A Japanese expert inspects a joint project (removal of weeds from irrigation canals) between adjacent municipalities
(Photo: JICA)

(5) Cultural Preservation and Promotion

In developing countries, more people are interested in the promotion and preservation of their own cultures. For example, cultural heritages that symbolize a country are not only the source of pride for its people, but can also be used effectively as sightseeing resources to develop the society of the residents of surrounding areas. However, many of the cultural heritages of developing countries are at risk, and support to protect those cultural heritages can be viewed as cooperation that goes direct to people's hearts, and has long-term impact. In addition, the preservation of the precious cultural heritages that are shared by all humankind is an issue that not only developing countries should be dealing with, but the entire international community as well.



The Tikal ruins in Guatemala

<Japan's Efforts>

Since 1975 Japan has continued to contribute the promotion of cultural and higher educational activities and preservation of cultural heritages of developing countries with Cultural Grant Assistance*. Specifically, Japan has implemented construction of the facilities for the preservation and use of the cultural heritages and cultural properties, sports and cultural facilities, higher education and research organization facilities, and improvement of necessary equipment in the said facilities. The equipment and facilities provided to developing countries through Cultural Grant Assistance are also used as bases for providing information of Japan, and for cultural exchange, and would deepen the understanding of

Japan and fostering a sense of affinity toward Japan. In recent years, from the viewpoint of "greater visibility of Japanese assistance," support for Japanese language education, traditional Japanese martial arts, and other such areas have been priority areas.

In FY2010, Japan provided assistance for the tourism and educational facilities related to natural and cultural heritages in Tanzania, Cambodia, Honduras, and Guatemala. In addition to providing the opportunity for the people of these countries to become familiar with their precious natural and cultural heritages, this assistance was intended to contribute to socio-economic development through the tourism industry.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, Japan has supported the project for improvement of the musical instruments of the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra which contributes to domestic ethnic reconciliation and peace activities through ethnic musical performances involving performers from multiple ethnic groups. In addition, Japan has provided support for language education and musical education in universities in Kyrgyzstan, where instable conditions continue due to the conflict between young people from different ethnic groups, in an effort to contribute to the “consolidation of peace.” Further, Japan has provided support for the production and broadcast of television programs in Argentina, Sri Lanka, Laos, Benin, Guinea-Bissau, and Tonga, and for Japanese language education in Ethiopia, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Ukraine.

Moreover, Japan is supporting restoration and preservation of the cultural heritage, providing equipments, and conducting the necessary preliminary or general

studies and surveys on heritage through “the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage” that has been established in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Particular efforts are put in the capacity building of human resources in developing countries, through the dispatch of international experts, workshops, and other activities which serve to transfer technology and knowledge as well. Japan provides support not only related to so-called tangible cultural heritages, but also for intangible cultural heritages such as traditional dance, music, handicraft technology, oral traditions, through “the Japan Funds-in-Trust for the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage” which has been established in UNESCO as well. Through the Funds, Japan supports projects of the training of successors, the storage of records, and other activities.



Rehearsal in the National Theater in Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of the “Project for the Improvement of Musical Instruments of the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra” (Photo: JICA)



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer teaches judo in Niger (Photo: Seico Tamai)

Terminology

* Cultural Grant Assistance

Cultural Grant Assistance provides the funding to contribute to the promotion of cultural and higher educational activities and preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries (procurement of equipment, construction of facilities, etc.). There are two types: “General Cultural Grant Assistance,” which is provided to governmental organizations, and “Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects,” which is provided to NGOs and local public entities for small-scale projects.

Turkey

“The Project for the Construction of Kaman-Kalehoyuk Archaeological Museum” Cultural Grant Assistance (June 2007 - April 2009)

Kaman-Kalehoyuk Archeological Museum, home to artifacts found in the Kaman-Kalehoyuk archeology site located in the crossroads of East-West-South-North cultural exchange in the central Turkey, was built through Japan’s Cultural Grant Assistance. A grand opening ceremony was held in July 2010 as an event of the “Japan Year 2010 in Turkey.” Since 1985, the Middle Eastern Culture Center in Japan has been engaged in excavation of the site. Over the past year, more than 40,000 people have visited the museum, and educational activities including classes on the archaeological sites and archaeology for children and local residents, and training for researchers have been held. In addition, the Turkish government has begun making efforts for roads construction and improvement in the neighboring areas, etc., to attract tourists. The museum is expected to have socio-economic impact on the local community. Many media have covered the museum, and its effect of creating a sense of affinity toward Japan and promoting exchange between the two countries are anticipated.



Inside the museum (Photo: Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology at the Middle Eastern Culture Center)