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### Cover Photographs

Construction site for national highway connecting Tajikistan capital Dushanbe to

the Afghan border. (Photo: Shinichi Kuno/JICA)

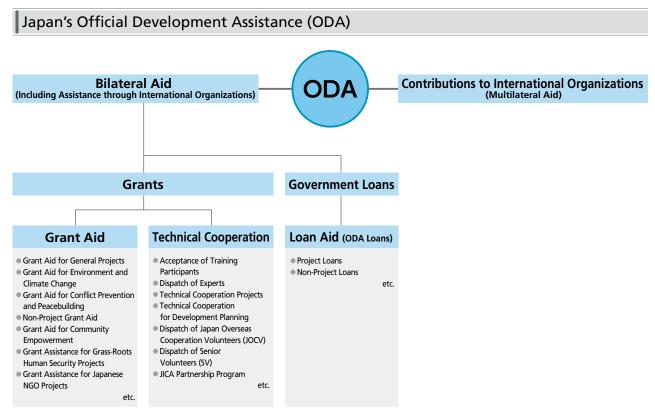
JICA Expert Mr.Nakazawa surveys a landslide point in Abay River Gorge, Ethiopia. (Photo: Kenshiro Imamura/JICA) Part II

Part III Ethiopian children peeking in through the tent entrance.

(Photo: Kenshiro Imamura/JICA)

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Official Development Assistance (ODA) refers to grants and loans with concessional conditions that are given to developing countries and regions that are included on the list of aid recipient countries and regions created by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), mainly for the purpose of contributing to the improvement of economic development and welfare.

ODA consists of bilateral aid, which is used to support developing countries directly, and multilateral aid, which is support provided through international organizations. Bilateral aid can be divided into two categories: grants and government loans. Grants constitute cooperation that is provided to developing countries without compensation. There are two types: grant aid and technical cooperation. Grants include contributions to specific projects implemented by international organizations. On the other hand, government loans are given on the assumption that the developing country will repay the loan in the future. This type of loan takes the form of loan aid (ODA loan). Project loans refer to loans to specific projects implemented by governments of developing countries to develop socio-economic infrastructure such as roads, power plants, and irrigation facilities. Non-project loans refer to loans for assistance in improvement of policies and institutions of developing countries rather than loans to specific projects. Multilateral aid includes contributions to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), contributions and subscriptions to the World Bank, etc.