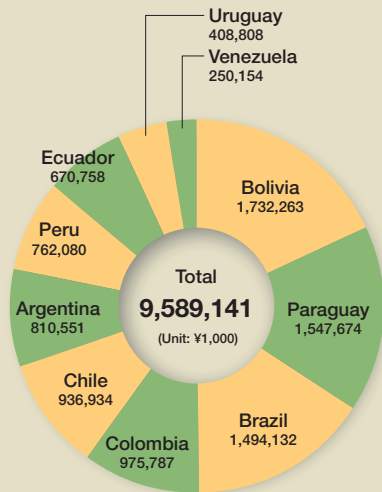


# South America



## Pillars of Aid Aiming for Sustainable Development by Correcting Disparities within and among Countries

### Cooperation results by country in South America (FY2006)



\* This is the total amount of bilateral cooperation. The amount of cooperation provided to North and Latin America including cooperation that covers a group of countries is 20,455,245 thousands of yen.

In South America, privatization of public projects and trade liberalization are progressing, while nationalization of resources and an anti-globalization trend is emerging. Due to similarities in history, culture, and language, movements toward regional cooperation and economic integration as well as free trade agreement and economic partnership agreement beyond the region are becoming prominent. On the other hand, individual countries manifest different actions under the influence of their respective social backgrounds. The region contains countries of a relatively high economic standard (medium-developed countries) and ones of a low standard (impoverished countries). Aside from impoverished countries, even medium-developed countries have localized poverty issues and the poverty group is expanding in spite of steady economic growth, widening the gap between rich and poor. Such poverty issues have recently led to the birth of left-wing national governments. In addition, poverty issues contribute to political and economic instability, social disorder involving drugs and

public security, and environmental issues.

The magnitude of natural resources, food supply capacity, and economic scale in South America imply the possibility that political and economic disorder and worsening environmental destruction in the region may affect the international economy and the environment on a global scale. In order to correct disparities within and among countries and realize sustainable development in the region, JICA focuses on the perspective of human security and addresses the following priority issues.

1. Poverty reduction and disparity correction
2. Cooperation for sustainable economic growth using Japan's experience and knowledge
3. Addressing global issues
4. Peacebuilding and support for the socially vulnerable
5. Promotion of partnership, regionwide cooperation, and South-South cooperation
6. Active collaboration with Nikkei (Japanese descendant) communities

## Current State of Development

In South America social disparities are historically prominent, triggered by colonial rule. In the 1980s, economic reform based on the policy of Neo-liberalism was promoted at the initiative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. As a result, while economic growth was achieved, in many countries problems such as widening disparities, an expanding poverty group, and increasing social instability became more serious.

The economies of countries in South America except for Brazil greatly depend on primary products, and they are significantly affected by trends in the world economy. In order to achieve continuously stable economic growth, development of an investment environment, including promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises, trade promotion measures, improvement in governance, and capacity development of communities need to be supported.

One of the problems caused by poverty and economic growth is environmental degradation. Response to not only regional issues including solid waste generated from gutters around the urban areas and water resources contamination, but also global

issues such as rapid deforestation in the Amazon, are urgently required.

The South American economic zone, which is endowed with abundant resources and high food production and supply capacity, is crucial to Japan, which relies on overseas resources and food. On the other end, the countries of South America that are trying to grow out of economies dependent on exports of primary products need Japan's technology. Even in economically developed countries, it is possible to provide cooperation in fields where Japan's experience and knowledge can be utilized. It is not too much to say that Japan and South America are in an economically complementary relationship.

### The Presence of Japanese Emigrants and Their Descendants

Cooperation in South America cannot be considered without the presence of communities of Japanese descendants (Nikkei). The emigration of Japanese people to South America started more than 100 years ago and immigrants from Japan and their descen-

dants have established a solid position as reliable members of the local regional society. Nikkei succeed in a wide area such as agriculture, health, and education, contributing to the feeling of a

strong affinity toward Japan and enhancing friendly relationships between Japan and the countries to which Japanese people have emigrated.

## Addressing Priority Issues in JICA Programs

### Poverty Reduction and Disparity Correction

JICA supports efforts to reduce poverty and correct disparities that are shared by most countries in South America across sectors with a focus on not only the capacity development of central and local governments and community empowerment, but also collaboration with civil organizations and other donors.

In Bolivia, mainly in villages where wells were built using the equipment provided through grant aid, the upgrading of the water supply system is promoted in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank and other donors. Also, in cooperation with activities of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, a project called "Water is Health and Vital" is being implemented to promote rural development activity aimed at increasing cash income. The purposes of the project are to transfer the maintenance and management skills of the water supply system, disseminate clean water, and sustain the effects.



With water pipes connected to every household, safe water supply improved hygienic conditions and reduced women's and children's labor for drawing water. (The project "Water is Health and Vital" in Bolivia)

In Paraguay, JICA is implementing the Project for Diversification of Beekeeping (Extension and Upgrade of Propolis, Pollen) to increase the honey production of small-scale apiary farmers in rural areas. As part of this project, a guidebook entitled "Illustrated Apiary Technology," which can be understood even by beginners or illiterate apiary workers, has been published. Through these activities, JICA is working to support the entire apiary business with a view to transfer process technology such as propolis production and market sales in the capital city, not only honey production.

### Cooperation Utilizing Japan's Experiences As Well

In order to address poverty reduction and disparity correction, the quality of life of the people needs to be improved by upgrading governance as well as generating employment through national economic growth.

In Ecuador, appropriate projects are being implemented to promote small and medium-sized enterprises and development by launching cultivation of small and medium-sized enterprises that lead to the creation of employment.

In Peru, through in-country training and training in Japan, Local Activation through the Experiences Shared among the Municipalities is being implemented to improve the capabilities

of the workers in municipal offices in designing and formulating a project and drawing up a plan. This project is ongoing in collaboration with JICA volunteers and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

In Venezuela, as cooperation utilizing Japan's experience and knowledge, experts in Japan's railway operation techniques are dispatched to Venezuela's first on-the-ground railroad, Caracas Railway, contributing to safe and efficient railway operation.

### Addressing Global Issues

In South America, which has abundant natural resources and food supply capacity, cooperation to address cross-border issues such as environmental issues is important.

In Uruguay, Chile, Argentina, and Peru, CDM (clean development mechanism) afforestation projects and cooperation for enhancing planning capacity for those projects are being implemented (see p.11-13).

In Brazil, improvement of the satellite surveillance system of Amazon tropical rainforests is considered to be effective for restraining and controlling illegal deforestation. Therefore, JICA dispatched an expert to build a geographical information database for environmental crimes.

In Argentina, JICA is implementing the Project to Intensify Ozone Layer Studies in South America to transfer technologies necessary for observing the ozone layer and analyzing data and install equipment necessary for such activities. JICA is preparing to develop it for regionwide cooperation, including the neighboring country, Chile. The project aims to enhance ozone layer observation and sophisticate the data supply system necessary to understand the conditions of ozone layer in the mid- and high-altitude areas of South America.

### Peacebuilding and Support for the Socially Vulnerable

To support the socially vulnerable, such as internally displaced persons and street children, efforts aimed at reconstructing basic living infrastructure are required. In Columbia, volunteers are dispatched to facilities where internally displaced persons and the socially vulnerable are housed. They give instructions on recreational activities and small plays that foster imagination as well as on the production of crafts using available materials so that the children in those facilities can have opportunities for the future.



Introducing successful cases and PCM methods to improve project design and formulation capabilities of municipal staff (Local Activation through the Experiences Shared among the Municipalities in Peru)

In Chile, where the population is aging, the Project for Social Welfare Policies for the Elderly is being implemented for the purpose of promoting social welfare for the elderly in line with local needs.

### Promotion of Partnership, Regionwide Cooperation and South-South Cooperation

Since countries in South America share similarities in terms of history, culture, and language, assistance through regional mutual cooperation is important to address development issues common to the region.

Japan has concluded partnership programs with medium-developed countries (including Chile, Argentina, and Brazil) in the region. Positioning these countries as partners, JICA provides cooperation for countries inside and outside the region. Together with Brazil, in particular, JICA has conducted many third-country training courses targeting Portuguese-speaking African countries, etc. The coordination in preparation for a joint program between Brazil and JICA is ongoing.

JICA is also implementing the Project of the Capacity Development for Improvement of Livestock Hygiene in the Southern Part of South America through Regional Technical Cooperation in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay, in order to establish human resources development systems in rela-

tion to livestock disease diagnosis and build a network necessary for person-to-person collaboration and sharing information on diagnosis and epidemiology. In the project, a seminar on avian influenza has also been held as a regionwide issue.

Furthermore, as assistance for the integration of Mercado Comun del Cone Sur (MERCOSUR), JICA is implementing the Study on Improvement of Packaging Technology for Merchandise Distribution in MERCOSUR and the MERCOSUR Tourism Promotion Project.

### Collaboration with Nikkei Communities

Many Nikkei play active roles in various areas in South America, contributing to regional development and fostering friendship and trusting relationships with Japan. They are key players with high potential in international cooperation and collaboration with them is quite effective. Therefore, positioning Nikkei communities as development partners, JICA pushes forward further collaboration. In particular, Brazil has long dispatched Brazilian experts of Japanese ancestry to neighboring countries in collaboration with Nikkei communities. Recently, there are also cases in which Brazilian experts of Japanese ancestry are dispatched for technical cooperation to Angola and Mozambique in Africa where the official language is Portuguese as in Brazil.

## Front Line Japan-Chile Partnership Programme

### The Project for Shellfish Aquaculture Development in Peru

#### Japan and Chile Work Together to Implement South-South Cooperation

##### Disseminate aquaculture techniques to artisan fishermen

The Japan-Chile Partnership Programme (JCPP) was established in 1999 for the purpose of contributing to socioeconomic development in developing countries by combining human resources, techniques, and financial resources in Japan and Chile. Since then, Japan and Chile have jointly implemented various technical cooperation projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. One of them is the Project for Shellfish Aquaculture Development in Peru.

Peru has long boasted a fishing industry and the government is strengthening the aquaculture sector as an important source of foreign currency. In particular, dissemination of aquaculture techniques and business instruction for artisan fishermen is positioned as an important measure for expanding employment and improving fishermen's lives.

Since 2001, JICA and the International Cooperation Agency of Chile (AGCI) have dispatched Chilean experts to Peru to jointly support the promotion of shellfish aquaculture in Peru. However, although development

of technical personnel in aquaculture was successful, it did not result in dissemination of the technique to artisan fishermen.

In response, a field study was carried out once again targeting artisan fishermen in Casma, Peru, and a trilateral project was launched by Japan, Chile, and Peru in 2004.

##### Aim for self-reliance and enterprise

This project focused on support for fishery technicians engaged in disseminating aquaculture for Peruvian scallops (small scallops) in Peru and strengthening the organization of artisan fishermen. Peruvian fishermen underwent training in Chile and they were highly inspired by directly seeing and listening to the experiences of the Chilean artisan fishermen, development of business, and the start-up process of a fishermen's organization business. As a result, over the course of two experimental cultivations related to the project, 590,000 shellfish were successfully caught. In addition, the fishermen's organization grew and got to spend the revenues from the first catch on an environmental impact assessment required for acquisition of marine

farming rights. They then officially acquired the marine farming rights for 56ha through formal procedures.

Now that three years have passed since the start of the project, the fishermen are looking to establish a company that handles everything from production to sales of shellfish. A group of women also emerged and have started preparations to open a restaurant, showing a willingness to improve their lives in the area. It is expected that the project will develop with the aim of promoting the fishermen's self-reliance in aquaculture business and improving lives in the fishing village.

(JICA Peru Office)



Training in the aquaculture field: Chilean women's participation in aquaculture led to Peruvian women's active participation in the project.