

Southeast Asia



Southeast Asia Holds the Key to Progress in Japan and the Rest of the Asian Region

Southeast Asia has become increasingly important in recent years for its significant economic growth, spurring development throughout Asia. Accordingly, trade and investment between Japan and Southeast Asian countries has expanded. In addition, the consortium is expected to deepen Japan's economic relationship with ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries. ASEAN, which has set a goal of fully establishing an ASEAN community by 2015, plans to predominantly utilize this community to enhance regional economic integration. In order to promote Japan-ASEAN collaboration, the Japanese government has announced plans to expand both the Fund and ODA toward important Southeast Asian partner countries. Southeast Asia is crucial to Japan and Asia's future progress. JICA works collaboratively to provide timely and pertinent solutions to a variety of issues to support sustainable growth in the region.

Pillars of Aid

Focus Issues Include Economic Growth via Enhanced Region-Wide Competitiveness, Securing Regional Stability and Remediating Regional Disparities

Southeast Asia consists of Timor-Leste as well as the 10-member nations that comprise ASEAN, founded for the purpose of ensuring economic growth as well as political and economic stability throughout the Asian region.

Future stagnation in economic activity and severe economic degradation are causes for concern for ASEAN nations. Although ASEAN established the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) under Framework Agreements on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation (1992) to liberalize regional trade, promote external and intra-regional direct investment and strengthen the international competitiveness of local industries, the U.S. financial crisis that grew to significant proportions in 2008 triggered a decline in exports and economic growth (See "Feature" on page 14).

Timor-Leste, which achieved its independence in May 2002, continues to face political instability, unemployment and discord among its people. At the same time,

most other countries in the region are still faced with unstable public security. In order to gain stability in Southeast Asia, not only is economic growth essential, but also such "nation building" activities as improving administrative capacities and expanding human resources.

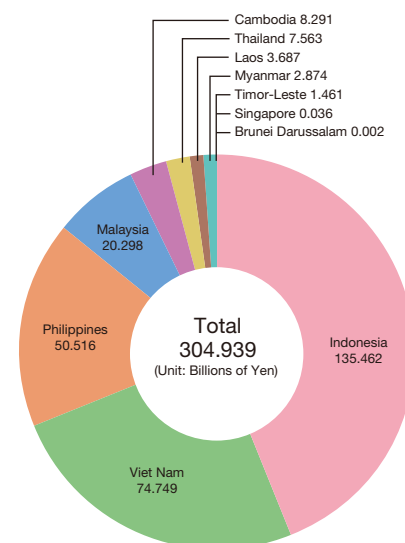
Southeast Asia is also susceptible to widening development disparities between original and new ASEAN members. Closing these gaps and achieving region-wide development require improvements in social and economic infrastructures across borders as well as comprehensive and unified actions toward environmental issues.

In light of these conditions, JICA works to support and contribute to economic expansion and regional stability in Southeast Asia.

* ASEAN consists of two member groups: original members comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Brunei Darussalam, which joined before 1994; and new members namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam, nations that subsequently joined from 1995.

JICA Programs in Southeast Asia (Fiscal 2008)

Scale comparison of JICA programs based on total expenses for Technical Assistance, ODA loans (disbursed amount) and Grant Aid (disbursed amount) per country.



* JICA's cooperation to multinational and international organizations is excluded.

Priority Issues and Efforts

Natural Disaster, Regional Disparity and Economic Distortion Challenge the Development of ASEAN's Original Members

ASEAN's original members, Singapore, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, successfully expanded their

economies as emerging nations. Accordingly, Japan's assistance has gradually shifted from Grant Aid to mainstream loans such as ODA loans which require repayment. However, original members continue to require assistance to spur and underpin any

recovery in their economies seriously impacted by the 2008 US subprime mortgage crisis.

Frequent natural disasters, such as a recent spell of floods and earthquakes, are also critical impediments to sustained economic growth in coun-

tries such as Indonesia and Philippines. Not only do these countries require humanitarian assistance, but also infrastructure development to support reconstruction.

Furthermore, countries that have managed to secure rapid economic development confront the unique challenge of a widening income gap between rural and urban populations. Inadequate infrastructure in rural areas leave many people without access to basic social services relating to health and medical care, education, information, water and sanitation. This exemplifies the continuous need for major support in social development in Southeast Asia.

Region-Wide Support throughout the Mekong Region

The Mekong region is defined by the banks of the majestic Mekong River that runs through the Indochinese Peninsula. Measuring 4,800 km in length, the Mekong River is one of the world's largest with a basin area that is more than two times the size of Japan's total

land surface. The origin of its waters begin at the Tibetan Plateau from which it travels through China's Yunnan Province, winds its way along the borders of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand, flows through Cambodia and Viet Nam and empties into the South China Sea. Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam, which are situated along the river's banks and are all new ASEAN members, are not only specially recognized as Southeast Asia's "Mekong region nations," but have also earned the acronym CLMV, comprising each of the country's first initials.

Economic development in the Mekong region lags behind ASEAN's original members and stands out among other Southeast Asian nations for sustaining a high poverty ratio. On the optimistic side, with the potential to become a harbor for Japanese investment and an important trade and economic partner, its relationship with Japan is expected to steadily improve. The following represents JICA's development focus in the Mekong region.

- 1) Infrastructure development to promote growth and strengthen competitiveness
- 2) Well-balanced sustainable development, climate change countermeasures, environmental conservation and urban environment improvement
- 3) Stable financial and economic support as a result of partnership between the public and private sectors
- 4) Improved livelihoods for poor populations to correct local disparities within each country and region, expansion of basic social services and local- and community-based development assistance
- 5) Environmental conservation, countermeasures against climate change management and prevention of natural disasters and infectious disease countermeasures across national borders

Country Overviews and Priority Issues

■ Indonesia

Nation-Building That Stands Up to Poverty and Environmental Erosion

After the inauguration of Dr. H. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in Indonesia, the nation set targets to reduce its unemployment rate to 5.1% and the poverty rate to 8.2%. At 9.7% and 16.6%, respectively, in 2007, these goals have yet to be fulfilled. In addition, due to earthquakes off the coast of Sumatra and other natural disasters caused by climate change, along with the global financial crisis from September 2008, Indonesia is at risk of economic stagnation and rising poverty. There is also the problem of a growing disparity between its western region, represented by the developed Jakarta metropolitan area, and its eastern region. It is therefore important to support sustainable economic growth in Indonesia.

Under these circumstances, JICA is cooperating with Indonesia to provide support in the following priority areas: "sustainable growth driven by the private sector;" "creating a democratic

and equitable society;" and "peace and stability." Based on this support framework, the Japanese ODA loan agreement, Climate Change Program Loan (see page 17), which supports Indonesia's policies targeting the reduction of greenhouse gas emission and adaptation to climate change, was signed in September 2008. Other examples of environmental support include JICA's continued promotion of renewable energy. Accordingly, in 2004, Indonesia was provided with a Japanese ODA loan, under the Special Term for Economic Partnership (STEP), for the expansion of the Lahendong Geothermal Power Plant in North Sulawesi. In addition, from November 2006 to March 2008, JICA worked to formulate a master plan for the "Study on Arterial Road Network Development Plan for Sulawesi Island" as part of several initiatives to combat poverty in the eastern region. Along with efforts that facilitate efficient transportation and distribution in Indonesia's eastern region, JICA will continue to support local economic re-

vitalization and overall development in the region well into the future.

■ Philippines

Tackling the Ramifications of Conflict, Poverty and Stunted Growth

Guided by the 10-point agenda proposed by the president, the Macapagal-Arroyo administration formulated the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP 2004-2010), which positions the fight against poverty, the pursuit of overall economic growth and the creation of employment as the nation's fundamental issues. At the start of 2008, however, the country's impoverished were particularly impacted by soaring international natural resource and food prices. Meanwhile, the global recession has exacerbated conditions, causing a worsening of its real economy. Support for both sustained economic growth and families living in poverty are therefore essential to helping Philippines halt any further damage to its economic environment. Moreover,

efforts aimed at making peace in the conflict region of Mindanao between government and anti-government forces are necessary.

In light of these circumstances, JICA has committed itself to the following three priority issues: 1) Sustainable Economic Growth Aimed at Creating Employment Opportunities; 2) Support for the Self Reliance of Impoverished People and Improvements to Their Quality of Life; and 3) Peace and Stability in Mindanao.

Under the ODA loan-supported Environmental Development Project begun in 2008, Philippines is currently working to reduce emissions of environmental pollutants domestically and thereby improve the living environment of its people. Executed through the Development Bank of Philippines to provide mid- to long-term financing to both the private sector and local government units, this project is expected to help make strides in preserving and improving the nation's fragile environment.

Within the conflict-affected areas of Mindanao, JICA is providing continued support for the promotion of peace and stability in several ways. As a part of this support, JICA is conducting local surveys to ascertain the needs of the people and research into its social and economic structure, supporting the formulation of local development planning, strengthening the administrative capacity of its local government, as well as improving basic living conditions. JICA likewise provides "food aid" via the World Food Programme (WFP) to these conflict-affected areas in the form of a Grant Aid project. Furthermore, a seminar on peace and reconstruction was held in January 2009 on Penang Island, Malaysia as part of the Japan-Malaysia Partnership for Peace in Mindanao. Through this and other initiatives, JICA will continue to support development for the promotion of peace.

■ Thailand

New Signs of Progress Commensurate with the Country's Development

In 2006, the government of Thailand launched its 10th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2006-2011) with the aim of becoming a more global nation by enhancing human resource development and social systems improvement for future change. To this end, Thailand continues to pro-

mote raising the level of grassroots economies, increase domestic demand and strengthen its international competitiveness. Having reached an approximate US\$3,400 in gross national income (GNI) per capita (2007), Thailand is soon expected to reach an upper-middle-income country status, which depends on its response to the global economic crisis. Accordingly, Thailand's development focus is gradually shifting away from developing country issues to those related to its burgeoning new status.

Thailand now needs support to buttress its own developmental progress. In specific terms, assistance is required in human resource development aimed at strengthening competitiveness for sustainable growth, environmental management system reinforcement, measures for an aging society as well as anti-human trafficking and other efforts to help vulnerable people—all issues associated with a maturing society. Furthermore, Thailand now has the chance to fulfill its role as an emerging donor to underdeveloped regions such as the Mekong Subregion and parts of Africa by collaborating with Japan to offer aid and assistance.

In fiscal 2008, JICA launched the Mass Transit System Project in Bangkok (Red Line) (I), an ODA loan for the construction of railway systems, and implemented Phase 2 of the Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-NETII), a Technical Cooperation project. For the latter, the project provides support enabling universities to conduct an intraregional student exchange program for higher degree education which ultimately helps develop human resources. Moreover, the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (Phase 2), a Technical Cooperation project, provides assistance to the disabled via local centers and promotes barrier-free living through the provision of related information and staff training.

■ Cambodia

Overcoming the Negative Legacy of the Civil War

Since the mid 90s, in the aftermath of its extensive civil war, Cambodia has worked to accelerate its transition toward becoming a market economy and since 2004 seen its economy grow over 10% for four consecutive years.

As a result, Cambodia's per capita GNI rose from US\$300 in 2003 to US\$490 in 2007, while its poverty rate dropped from 34.7% in 2004, to 30.1% in 2007. In spite of such signs of progress however, the levels of Cambodia's economic indicator and Human Development Indicator (HDI), the latter which includes literacy and infant mortality rates, remain among the lowest of ASEAN countries.

In order for Cambodia to continue its development and to overcome poverty, it is essential that it work steadily toward improving its economic and social infrastructures as well as continue to build and develop institutional and human capacity in a variety of fields. As such, JICA is responding to Cambodia's broad development needs, focusing particularly on hard and soft economic infrastructures as well as social development that will deliver the benefits of economic growth to its people, including socially disadvantaged groups while strengthening of good governance, the ultimate basis of all development.

As part of its support for the reinforcement of Cambodia's economic infrastructure, JICA is helping to promote improvements to the nation's main roads and harbors that are essential to the international transport of goods, including the Sihanoukville Harbor, its largest international port. Private-sector support through the development of a special economic zone as well as institution building and personnel development to boost trade and investment is also an essential part of this venture. In support of Cambodia's principal industry, agriculture, JICA is working collaboratively to enhance distribution and improve agricultural productivity by upgrading irrigation facilities and promoting agricultural technology dissemination. In terms of social development, JICA is working to enhance livelihoods and ensure human security by improving health services such as maternal and child health care, enhancing science education and upgrading water works and other social infrastructures. To further support the strengthening of good governance, JICA is helping to develop civil law and civil procedural law as well as to train and cultivate legal professionals. At the same time, it is providing support for public finance and the promotion of administrative reform under the scheme of the Poverty

Reduction and Growth Operation (PRGO) as well as training for tax specialists.

■ Laos

Determined not to succumb to poverty, Laos is promoting the adoption of an open market economy accompanied by market economy principles, making the eradication of poverty a top national priority. The extreme poverty that plagues Lao is demonstrated by the high percentage, at 33%, of its population of 58,600,000 who live below the poverty line, while some 82% of its workforce subsists through agricultural means. Making matters worse is the nation's mountainous terrain, which accounts for 80% of its land mass, making infrastructural improvements all the more difficult. Lao also faces the challenge of providing universal access to social services to an estimated 49 distinct ethnic groups who often live in isolated and segmentalized regions.

Taking these issues into consideration, JICA outlines its basic stance toward support for Lao under the following three criteria. First, support for the steady achievement of the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (for further details, see page 78). Second, support for the building of a firm foundation upon which Lao can realize a level of economic growth that will serve as a driving force for the country's independent and sustainable expansion. Third, support for developing its

own capabilities that will underpin self-reliant efforts and ultimately help reduce poverty and achieve economic growth. More specifically, these support goals encompass 1) Basic education; 2) Health and medical services; 3) Agriculture forestry and rural development; 4) Social and economic infrastructure development; 5) Private sector strengthening; and 6) Improvement of administrative capacities.

In line with these efforts, JICA provides operational support in such forms as the Capacity Development for Sector-Wide Coordination in Health that aims to strengthen the business regulation capabilities of the Lao Ministry of Health (Lao PDR), co-financing of the Poverty Reduction Support Operation (PRSO) 3 and the Study on the Improvement of Water Environment in Vientiane Capital. The overall aim of this support is to assist Laos in its independent efforts to rise from its impoverished state.

■ Myanmar

Rehabilitation from the Giant Storm

The Union of Myanmar (formerly, Burma) had maintained socialist economic policies since 1962. Yet, in 1988, national scale demonstrations in support of democratization resulted in the abolishment of its socialist regime. In place of socialism, Myanmar's national military, which suppressed the demonstrations, took provisional control and

organized the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), later renamed the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC). Despite an overwhelming victory by Aung San Suu Kyi of the National League for Democracy in the 1990 general election, the SLORC (SPDC since 1997) has maintained its military rule. Since Aung San Suu Kyi was detained and put under house arrest in May 2003, the Japanese government has in principle withheld any new proposals for assistance to the country. However, as an exception, Japan is supporting urgent humanitarian efforts, human resources development for democratization and economic structural reform, and ASEAN regional cooperation. For example, JICA has a project for preventing the spread of the area's three most threatening infectious diseases: malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. Another project supports rural development and the changeover of crops in areas that were once largely used for the cultivation of drugs.

In May 2008, Myanmar was ravaged by Cyclone Nargis, which caused unparalleled damage with approximately 140,000 either dead or missing. The hardest stricken region was the delta area of the Ayeyarwady Division where restorative development efforts are still taking place. The most urgent support offered by the United Nations and ASEAN members has prioritized improvements to food supplies and rations, protection of the vulnerable, provision of

Example

Indonesia "Brantas River Basin Development"

The Epic "Brantas Spirit" Project Brings Indonesia and Japan Together

Indonesia's Brantas River runs through the eastern portion of Java and is the second largest river in the island. Brantas River had repeatedly caused large-scale flooding in its surrounding areas, including the City of Surabaya. In an attempt to tackle this problem, the Indonesian government formulated the General Development Plan of the Brantas River Basin in 1961 and began to implement a comprehensive development program in flood control, irrigation and hydropower generation.

Along with this Indonesian government program, JICA formulated and updated master plans on comprehensive water resource management in the Brantas River basin in 1973, 1984 and

1998. For more than 30 years, JICA has provided financial and technical support for water resource development, flood control and irrigation facility construction in the area. As a result of these efforts, the Brantas River basin has seen a decrease in flooding and an increase in rice production volumes. Moreover, thanks to the realization of hydropower generation, power supply to industrial areas has been secured, allowing Surabaya to grow, emerging as the second largest city in the nation.

In addition, many talented Indonesian technicians have been nurtured through these activities.

In the process of tackling the numerous challenges that lay before them, the Japanese and Indonesian technicians, who dedicated their efforts to the development of the Brantas River basin, cultivated a



The Brantas River that runs through the eastern region of Indonesia

"Brantas Spirit." Currently, Indonesian technicians with this "Brantas Spirit" play leading roles in water resource management all over the country.

shelters and the restoration of schools. From an emergency and humanitarian perspective, JICA has also been providing relief efforts focusing on agriculture, education and disaster prevention.

■ Viet Nam

Urgency for the Foundation of International Competitiveness

Since its adoption of a Doi moi (reform) policy, Viet Nam's transition to a market economy has picked up tremendous pace. Beginning in the 90s, its average GDP growth has steadily climbed to more than 7.5%, while its poverty rate has significantly improved, dropping from 58.1% in 1993 to 19.5% in 2004. Also, with its acceptance into the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), Viet Nam must now strive to boost its international competitiveness. On the other hand, however, some of its most serious issues such as environmental degradation and income disparity among its urban and rural citizens have come to light. To address these issues and in order to promote sustainable development in Viet Nam, JICA is providing effective support through the organic combination of financial cooperation and Technical Cooperation based on the following four main pillars of support: promoting economic growth and strengthening international competitiveness; improving living and social conditions and correcting disparities; pursuing environmental conservation; and strengthening governance.

JICA's multifaceted support for small and medium-sized enterprise development is one example of such activities. Specifically, JICA provides funding to small and medium-sized businesses (through ODA loans), supports the strengthening of policy frameworks (by JICA experts), works to improve the techniques and know-how of small and medium-sized enterprises (through Technical Cooperation projects and volunteers) and trains skilled technicians (through Technical Cooperation projects).

Viet Nam's water environment sector is another field in which JICA has placed considerable emphasis. JICA provides Technical Cooperation to develop the capacities of central and local administrative agencies for water environment management as well as to boost the scientific and technical capacity of research institutes in its effort to support policy implementation. Moreover, support through ODA loans is given to build drainage and sewage treatment facilities in metropolitan areas.

■ Timor-Leste

The Road to Peace

In 2002, Timor-Leste declared its independence and in 2007 held its first presidential and national parliament elections as an independent nation. In 2006, Timor-Leste was faced with east and west confrontation issues and in 2008 an attack on its president. Despite these setbacks, as evidenced by the removal of urban IDPs, Timor-Leste is gradually gaining its public safety and security. Based on this progress, the

government began placing emphasis on development under the slogan "Good-bye Conflict, Welcome Development." This represented a turning point for the government in its efforts toward nationwide, full-scale development. On the understanding that Timor-Leste is an important area in the maintenance of peace and stability within the Asia-Pacific region, JICA will continue to support the country in its endeavors to secure stability and in the development of such key fields as human resources, institution building, maintenance and improvement of infrastructure, agricultural and rural development and the consolidation of peace.

In the field of maintenance and improvement of infrastructure, for instance, through the Project for the Capacity Building in Road Maintenance, JICA provided its technical training for the development of road maintenance skills as well as planning and the execution of repairs of the country's life-line roads. JICA is currently considering the possibility of a succeeding project. Furthermore, JICA has been active in carrying out the Irrigation and Rice Cultivation Project in Manatuto, a three-year plan from 2005, under the Agriculture and Rural Development Program. With the purpose of improving the productivity of rice cultivation over approximately 600 hectares of targeted area, JICA dispatched specialists to help improve irrigated rice systems and water conservation management. JICA considers these activities as essential to the further development of Timor-Leste.

Example

Philippines "Central Luzon Expressway"

Improving Distribution Networks and Contributing to the Revitalization of Local Economies

Philippines' Central Luzon area is an important rice cultivation base that also serves as a distribution center for agricultural products from Northern Luzon. It is a core industrial area that has seen a significant influx of people from Northern Luzon. As such, it is expected to serve as an alternate hub for the logistics functions that are now centered in the metropolitan area of Manila.

However, owing to an insufficiently developed and poorly maintained road network, distribution speed and cost posed significant problems. The solution, supported by ODA loans, was to build a 90 km, four-lane, expressway to connect the cities of Subic, Clark and Tarlac and thereby alleviate economic overconcentration in Metro Manila as well as encourage local logistics functions and the exchange of human resources in the Central Luzon area.

Since the opening of the expressway in July 2008, required drive times from Subic to Clark and from Clark to Tarlac have been greatly reduced to 40 and 30 minutes, respectively. Thanks to the application of a Special ODA Loan system, the project benefited from Japan's technological expertise and know-how in the construction



View of the Central Luzon Expressway after its inauguration

of roads and bridges. Ultimately, Philippines expects the completion of the Central Luzon Expressway will encourage promotion and growth of the local economy.

■ Malaysia

Despite the current impact of the global economic crisis, Malaysia's per capita GNI reached US\$6,540 in 2007 and exemplifies its steady growth toward reaching a more developed nation status among its fellow ASEAN members. In order therefore to aid Malaysia in building more equitable and cooperative partnerships into the future, JICA is focusing efforts on the following four priority areas. 1) Enhancement of the Mutual Interests of Japan and Malaysia; 2) Overcoming Challenges caused by Rapid Growth; 3) Overcoming Regional Issues; and 4) Strengthening Capacity Development as a Donor and Promoting South-South Cooperation.

Major projects currently being implemented include the Higher Education Loan Fund Project: HELP3 that gives local students the chance to study science and engineering in Japan; Preparation of the National Sewage Treatment that builds sewage treatment plants and related facilities in districts where health standards have deteriorated (both implemented through ODA loans); the Bornean Biodiversity & Ecosystems Conservation Programme Phase II (BBEC II) in Sabah; and the Improvement of Ability in Maritime Safety and Security Project that was developed to help improve the capabilities of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) (both implemented through Technical Cooperation).

■ Singapore

In Singapore, JICA conducts the Japan-Singapore Partnership Programme for the 21st Century: JSPP 21, which offers about 20 training courses annually for approximately 400 participants from around the world. Furthermore, despite closing its Singapore liaison office in 2009, JICA has newly decided to send a research fellow to the National University of Singapore to initiate network-building activities such as joint research, seminars and so on.

Example

Cambodia "Program for Improving Access to Safe Water"

Comprehensive Support Scheme for the Safe Delivery of Water

Cambodia is unfortunately one of a number of countries that is yet to enjoy the simple privilege of having running water available to it at any time and anywhere, 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

Through the "Program for Improving Access to Safe Water," JICA provides comprehensive and effective support for the construction and rehabilitation of water supply facilities such as purification plants and the development of related technical human resources, using Technical Cooperation, Grant Aid and ODA loan schemes. A Series of cooperation projects for improving water supply in Phnom Penh is representative activity under the

program. In 1992, JICA launched a development study "the Master Plan and Feasibility Study on the Phnom Penh Water Supply System in Cambodia" in order to formulate a master plan of water works development whose target year was 2010; then based on the plan, in 1993 and 1997, the Government of Japan provided Grant Aid that supported the renovation of the aging Phum Prek Water Treatment Plant, and the elevated reservoirs and improvement of the distribution pipe network. As a result of these projects and the Technical Cooperation including dispatchment of experts, the delivery of safe water to over 600,000 people was achieved for the 10-year period until 2004.

In addition, JICA has been carrying out the Project on Capacity Building for a Water Supply System to assist in the cultivation of those skilled engineers and technicians needed to provide waterworks services. Phase 1 of this project (2003–2006) involved the training of personnel from the Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority (PPWSA) to operate and maintain water systems properly.

Phase 2 (2007 – present) involves the training and education of human resources from eight local cities throughout the country by those PPWSA skilled staff trained under Phase 1. This effectively ensures the expansion of skilled human resources. Thanks to the cooperation mentioned above, the operating capacity of the PPWSA has improved by leaps and bounds, and Phnom Penh City now enjoys a low leakage rate of 6%, which is lower than that recorded in developed nations.

In terms of new projects, agreement was reached in March 2009 to the provision of a new ODA loan to the Niroth Water Supply Project. The project, co-financed with the French Development Agency (AFD), aims to address growing water demand in Phnom Penh and the surrounding area. Based on waterworks expansion plans prepared through JICA's development study, the Project will construct a new 130,000-ton water supply facility to serve the people and businesses in the expanding Phnom Penh region.