

## 45 YEARS OF GLORIOUS PARTNERSHIP WITH NEPAL!



1978-2023

Japan International Cooperation Agency is a governmental agency that implements Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the Government of Japan. JICA is one of the world's largest bilateral aid agencies with a network of 96 overseas offices operational in more than 150 countries. It is chartered with assisting economic and social growth in developing countries and for the promotion of international cooperation.

In accordance with its vision "Leading the world with Trust," JICA is advancing its activities around the pillars of a field-oriented approach, human security and enhanced effectiveness, efficiency, and speed. JICA supports the resolution of issues in developing countries through flexible combination of various types of assistance.

JICA assists and supports developing countries as the executive agency of Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) by using the most suitable tools of assistance methods. JICA oversees administering ODA in various forms such as technical cooperation, ODA loans, grant aid, public private partnership, citizen participation-Volunteer program and JICA partnership program and emergency relief in an integrated manner.

JICA is celebrating its 45th year of service in Nepal (1978-2023) this year. Since 1978, JICA has supported Nepal's developmental efforts ranging from transport, energy, water, and sanitation, to

aviation, education, health, peace building, legal, and governance and agriculture sectors.

In order to realize JICA's vision, JICA Nepal continues to take the lead in building strong bond with Nepal by providing maximum support to Nepali people and the Government of Nepal for sustainable peace and prosperity aiming to support Nepal's growth for sustainable and balanced economic growth.

Loan financing, grant assistance, technical cooperation and volunteer programs are different forms of JICA's support in Nepal. Advisory from Japanese experts in government agencies and periodic training programs for government officials in Japan have fostered close working relationship at the on-site level thus strengthening mutual understanding, promoting cordial relationship, friendship, and trust between the two countries.

Aiming to achieve sustainable and equitable economic growth, JICA is providing assistance to construct roads, hydropower plants, water supply and sanitation facilities and other infrastructures. JICA's Basic Policy of Assistance for Nepal currently includes three pillars of cooperation as follows: (1) economic growth and poverty reduction, (2) disaster risk reduction and climate change measures, and (3) governance and strengthening democracy.

Considering the perspective of socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan endeavors to provide support for the Government of Nepal's efforts while taking into account consistency with the SDGs. Since the spring of 2020, Nepal has been going through difficulties brought about by COVID-19. Even under the hardships, JICA has been making its best efforts to carry out our tasks to support the country side by side.

Regarding its relations with Japan, since establishment of diplomatic relations in 1956, Nepal has been a friendly country which maintains traditionally good relations with Japan through various exchanges. Nepal and Japan share a long history of friendship. Nepal is well known to Japanese people for the beautiful and glorious Himalayas. Many Japanese tourists visit Nepal, and they are impressed by the magnificent nature, beautiful cities, and villages as well as the warm

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hospitality of the people of Nepal. Japanese people have shown great solidarity by visiting Nepal resulting in increased credibility for various other potential travelers to tour the country. The friendship between the two countries has been nurtured in histories of the relations among people, and the tie is strengthened every year.

JICA Nepal Office will continue to take the lead in building strong bond with Nepal by providing maximum support to Nepali people and the government of Nepal for sustainable peace and prosperity.

### PHOTOS OF SOME OF THE MAJOR PARTNERSHIP/ COOPERATION PROJECTS IN NEPAL



Horticulture Development Projects, Kirtipur: Grant Aid Project (1985-1990) & Technical Cooperation Project (1992-1997)



Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital (TUTH), Maharajunj, Kathmandu: 1982 (Grant Aid Project)



Natural Water Fisheries Development Project:1991-1993 (Grant Aid Project)



Project for the Modernization of Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu: 1995-97 (Grant Aid Project)



Bagmati Bridge, Kupondol, Kathmandu :1993 (Grant Aid Project)



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The project for the improvement and development of medium wave radio broadcasting network in Radio Nepal: (Grant Aid Project)  
Recording-in-progress Radio Nepal Music Studio



Kulekhani Hydropower Project I and II (1975 and 1978 Japanese ODA Loan)

JICA in History

**ASSISTANCE FOR WATER INDUCED DISASTER PREVENTION IN NEPAL.**

**CONSTRUCTION OF INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES OF WATER INDUCED DISASTER PREVENTION TECHNICAL CENTRE (DPTC)**

Nepal suffers from various types of disasters caused by action of water like landslide, floods, soil erosion, debris flow, etc. Government of Japan has been instrumental in institutionalizing Nepal's effort in water induced disaster prevention. Starting from 1991 to 2006, Japan's assistance has surpassed when a training center at the beginning was developed to a full-fledged department.

Through the support, the Disaster Prevention Technical Center (DPTC) which educates engineers, develops appropriate sabo and flood technologies along with collection and analysis of information was established. The Grant Aid Project of 842 million Japanese Yen was implemented later which constructed 4 different facilities to strengthen the capacity of the DPTC.

The DPTC trained many government engineers and conducted mitigation works against floods and landslides at model sites through new technology like Sabo, cylindrical spurs, PNC blocks, bio-engineering works. DPTC also developed courses for training of Government of Nepal officers related to water induced disaster prevention.

To institutionalize the objectives and achievements of DPTC, Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention (DWIDP) was established under the Ministry of Water Resources to work with a clear mandate to act as the lead agency in water induced disaster prevention. After the federalism, DWIDP was merged with Department of Irrigation (DoI) to form Department of Water Resource and Irrigation (DWRI). Currently the infrastructures built under DPTC are being utilized by Water Resource Research and Development Center (WRRDC) under Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation.



Main building of Water Induced Disaster Prevention Technical Centre built with Japanese Grant Assistance, Pulchowk, Lalitpur



Main approach to Technology Development Building built with Japanese Grant Assistance in Pulchowk, Lalitpur

## EX-JICA TRAINING PARTICIPANT AWARDED FOR EXEMPLARY WORK IN DHANKUTA MUNICIPALITY

Dhankuta Municipality has showcased many outstanding works in Solid Waste Management (SWM) sector under the leadership of Mr. Upendra Khanal, Environment Section Chief.



Mr. Upendra Khanal

As a result of collective efforts Mr. Khanal was conferred with Praval Janasewashree Medal for “Excellent Waste Management Manager” by the Government of Nepal in April 2023. The municipality was also rewarded for its outstanding work in 2018 with a sum of Rs.1 million.

Mr. Khanal, an ex-JICA participant undertook training related to SWM in Chubu, Japan in 2017 and online training again in 2021.



Locals and school children of Dhankuta Municipality involved in the community cleaning program.

According to him, most of the learnings from the trainings in Japan has been applied in managing the solid waste in Dhankuta.

“The training was a turning point in my career. Initially, when I joined the Municipality office, the garbage collection and disposal process was only done in 4 wards with 1 tractor. However, with tireless efforts and with improved work effectiveness, the garbage collection is now functional in 10 wards with 4 tractors and have created employment opportunities for many locals. So far, we have conducted SWM awareness training to 850 school children, and 961 community members, and have distributed 100 compost bins with compost making training to locals in Dhankuta. Dhankuta is now considered one of the cleanest cities in Nepal. We also invite people's representatives from different local levels to see our work and adopt the good practices in SWM.”



The landfill site in Dhankuta now transformed into a beautiful garden/park.

## Brief News

### JICA'S SUPPORT FOR IMPROVING URBAN TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN KATHMANDU VALLEY

The Record of Discussions (R/D) for a new technical cooperation project, “the Project on Kathmandu Valley Urban Transport System Master Plan” was signed between Mr. Bhimarjun Adhikari, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport, and Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal office on November 24, 2023.

Based on the R/D, the Project will commence around April 2024 for its 3 years' duration.

This new technical cooperation project will work to develop an urban transport management master plan, identify the high-priority mass transit route and mode in Kathmandu Valley through the pre-

feasibility study and develop appropriate coordination mechanism for comprehensive urban transportation planning and management.

In the Kathmandu Valley, due to geographical limitations and elevation differences, it is difficult to expand the road network. Currently the only means of public transportation system in the region is bus, which makes it difficult to absorb the traffic demand sufficiently.

Under such situation, a comprehensive public transportation system is desired to cater to the need for efficient mobility. Likewise, promoting sustainable economic growth and reduction of environmental impacts such as traffic congestion and air pollution in the Kathmandu Valley is also very important.



## EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SAFER CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS



Training for Design checking and inspection

Earthquake damage is largely caused by collapsed buildings, hence constructing buildings that comply with the standards will greatly contribute to achieving disaster-resistant buildings, which is the objective of the JICA's technical cooperation project -"The Project for Promotion of Nepal National Building Code Compliance for Safer Building Construction (NBCC)".

With the support of the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) and NBCC project, a 3-day workshop (from October 8-10, 2023) was conducted with altogether 31 participants at Dakshinkali municipality in Kathmandu, targeted mainly for Municipal officers (Technical person and Ward Secretary) and consultants (Designer and Supervision Consultant).

The workshop focused on e-BPS (Building Permit System), design checking and inspection, and the responsibilities of municipal officers, supervision consultants, and designers as per the updated Building Construction Working Procedure (BCWP). NBCC is conducting similar workshops in all pilot municipalities.

"Till now I have not been involved as supervision consultant for supervision of construction work of residential building. After this workshop I got an idea about preparation of supervision report, filling the checklist and how to take photo for supervision report. And also, I understood the responsibilities of a consultant in the building permit system." - response from one of the consultants.

JICA Nepal aims to promote construction of safer buildings with the implementation of this project.

## JICA'S GRANT AID SUPPORT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF DHULIKHEL HOSPITAL TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY CENTER

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a grant agreement with the Government of Nepal on 5th Oct 2023 to provide Grant Aid of up to 3,296 million yen for the 'Project for the Improvement of Dhulikhel Hospital Trauma and Emergency Center.'

The Exchange of Notes regarding the assistance was signed between Dr. Krishna Hari Pushkar, Secretary, Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of Nepal (GoN) and His Excellency Mr. KIKUTA Yutaka Ambassador of Japan to Nepal on behalf of the Government of Japan (GOJ). Similarly, the Grant Agreement was signed between Mr. Shreekrishna Nepal, Joint Secretary, International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division (IECCD), Ministry of Finance on behalf of GoN and Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Office on behalf of JICA.

In Nepal, the need for emergency medical care is increasing, with the number of traffic accidents nationwide having nearly doubled in 2021 compared to 2016 due to increased traffic volume. In addition, emergency patients with non-communicable diseases such as strokes and heart disease are also increasing as a result of dietary

changes associated with economic development. Dhulikhel Hospital, the target of this project, in particular lacks the appropriate facilities and medical equipment to deal with these increasing number of trauma and emergency patients.

This project aims to strengthen medical services for the rapidly growing number of trauma and emergency patients in Nepal by constructing a trauma and emergency center including emergency rooms, operating rooms, an Intensive Care Unit, and outpatient consultation rooms and providing medical equipment such as MRI, CT, C-arm, and X-ray machines, high steam sterilizers, etc. at Dhulikhel Hospital, one of the largest tertiary hospitals in the country.

On the occasion, Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu Chief Representative of JICA Nepal expressed JICA's commitment towards continuous contribution to improving the quality of healthcare in Nepal for achieving the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Goal 3 (Good health and well-being). He hoped that the project would bring about improvements in health care services of Dhulikhel Hospital through better treatment using the new medical facilities and equipment.

## COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT ON PARTICIPATORY RURAL RECOVERY (PPRR)



Strengthening community resilience and income generation through handicraft production in Palungtar, Gorkha.

The Project on Participatory Rural Recovery (PPRR) started in September 2019, building on the past reconstruction and recovery assistance of JICA. The project carried out its activities in 4 pilot municipalities in Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk districts with an aim to enhance the capacity of local governments and increase community resilience.

PPRR has succeeded in incorporating communities' needs in the annual and periodic plans of the pilot local governments. It also implemented 40 small scale Community Resilience Projects (CRPs) in pilot municipalities and supported establishing mechanisms to promote CRPs. Based on the

experience of these activities, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) has prepared the "Guidelines on Mainstreaming Community Resilience and Recovery in Local Plans" which was endorsed by the final Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting of the Project.

As the project ended on 20 October 2023, the Government of Nepal will take the responsibility for approving the guidelines and disseminating it to all municipalities, which is vital for ensuring sustainability and replicability of project activities for resilient future.



Final Joint Coordination Committee meeting of the project in Kathmandu (photo source: NDRRMA)



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