



# Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

One of the largest and most developed economies in the world, Japan is home to the world's most literate, technically advanced, and affluent population. The country remains to be a world leader and an economic powerhouse, becoming one of the world's leading industrialized nations and one of the world's top sources of development aid.

In 1954, Japan joined the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific and since then started various cooperation projects. In the Philippines, JICA has been a very active development partner for over half a century, with, for example, cumulative financial cooperation exceeding JPY 4 trillion, the number of JICA experts dispatched to the country exceeding 10,000, and the number of Filipinos trained by JICA exceeding 42,000.

## Our Work in the Philippines

Over the years, the Philippines has benefitted greatly from Japan's assistance and cooperation programs — in infrastructure, health care, education, food security, and capacity-building of many government agencies. JICA in the Philippines supports inclusive and dynamic development anchored on key pillars: achieving sustainable economic growth, overcoming vulnerability, and peace and development in Mindanao.

In 2014, Japan and the Philippines celebrated 60 years of friendship and cooperation.



## What We Do

JICA's various schemes of development assistance to the Philippines are through:

 <p>1 Technical Cooperation</p>	 <p>2 Finance and Investment Cooperation</p>	 <p>3 Grants</p>
 <p>4 Citizen Participation</p>	 <p>5 Emergency Disaster Relief</p>	 <p>6 Public-Private Partnerships</p>
		 <p>7 Research</p>



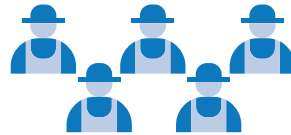
# JICA's Contribution in the Philippine Agriculture Sector

Despite the steady growth of the Philippines' economy, the Agriculture Sector's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has continuously declined compared to the GDP growth rate average. The sector, however, employs almost one-third of the country's total labor force.

Japan's agriculture sector, on the other hand, is considered one of the most advanced and developed in the world and since the 1960s, Japan has been contributing to the socio-economic development efforts in the agriculture and fisheries sector in the Philippines. Japan has utilized its Official Development Assistance (ODA) to actively support economic and social growth in the sector through its various schemes.

**247**  
ODA assistance

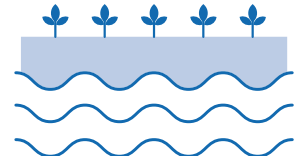
to agriculture and fisheries for all Schemes of Cooperation from the 1960s to 2021



**325,734**

agrarian reform beneficiaries

(ARBs) and other farmers' organizations supported



**479**

national and communal irrigation systems

constructed and rehabilitated with a total of

**11,814 km** and **204,872 ha** in service areas



**195,607,294,071**

Yen cumulative grants, technical cooperation, and concessional lending to the agriculture and fisheries sector

**2,812**

basic infrastructures implemented

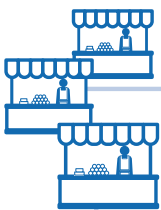
including farm-to-market roads, post-harvest facilities, and fish ports

**2,588**

irrigators' associations, farmers' groups, cooperatives, and water users' associations strengthened

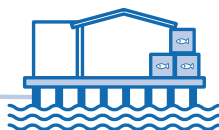


**2,348** km of farm-to-market roads constructed

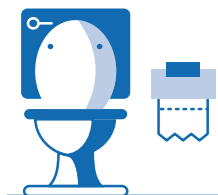


**375** units of post-harvest-facility built

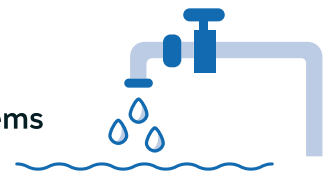
**89** fish ports



**746** toilets built



**279** water supply systems constructed



**107** bridges built

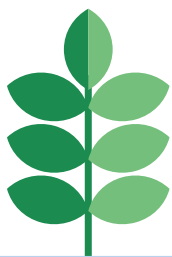


# Historical Timeline on JICA's Cooperation in the Philippine Agriculture Sector

## 1968

The Government of Japan began implementing the Grant Assistance for the Food Aid Project (KR) based on the Food Aid Convention (FAC) to alleviate food shortages in developing countries.

Japan also started to dispatch experts (235 in total) to the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) until 2000.



## 1974

The first Japanese ODA loan for the irrigation sector in the Philippines was extended in 1974.



## 1977

Japan initiated the Grant Assistance for Underprivileged Farmers (GAUF) and provided the initial fund through a commodity assistance that comes in the form of farm inputs like fertilizers. These commodities are sold, and the proceeds are utilized to finance various agricultural and fishery projects as well as environmental and socio-economic development projects.

Promoted integrated area development in agriculture where irrigation and electricity were combined. An example of this was the Cagayan Integrated Agricultural Project.



## 1990

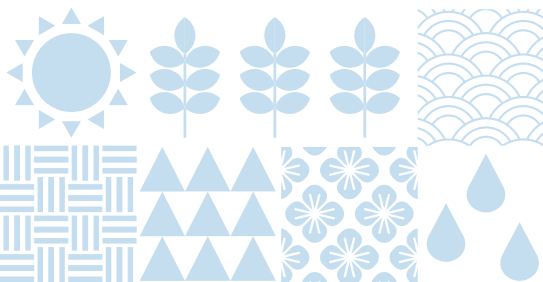
JICA implemented its first irrigation project in Mindanao, the Malitubog-Maridagao Irrigation Project.

## 1995

Started partnership with the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) for Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project (ARISP) building farm-to-market roads, irrigation and drainage, post-harvest facilities to empower agrarian reform communities.

## 2002

Concluded the Bago River Irrigation System Rehabilitation and Improvement Project, the largest national irrigation system in Negros Occidental.

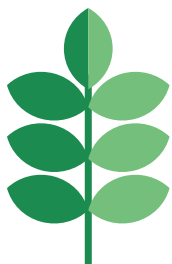






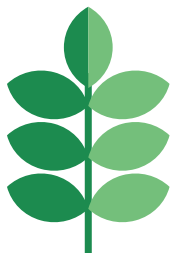
## 1983

Started the Bohol Irrigation Project building dams and irrigation facilities to serve rural farmers, later becoming the blueprint of Bohol's economic development.



## 1985

JICA had assisted the establishment of Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) by virtue of Executive Order 1061 through Grant Aid. Since then, technical cooperation projects had been implemented from 1992 to 2002 to develop farming technology mainly for the small-scale rice farmers.



## 2004

Supported PhilRice to develop and promote location-specific technology for rice and rice-based technology to be disseminated to farmers in different ecosystem and agronomic conditions.

## 2017

Launched of the Harnessing Agribusiness Opportunities through Robust and Vibrant Entrepreneurship Supportive of Peaceful Transformation (HARVEST) for inclusive financing of farmers and agriculture enterprises in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao.

## 2022

Elevated cooperation in agriculture through vegetable value chain development and marketing.



# Our Partnership with the Philippines

To address sustainable development challenges, for decades, JICA has established strong partnerships, collaborative engagement, and active dialogues and meetings with various international/regional organizations, financing institutions, and bilateral agencies.

“It will be easier for many farmers to have access to irrigation water. We are confident that more farmers will be encouraged to return to rice farming.”

- **Mr. Doming Florentino**, chairperson of one of the beneficiary irrigator’s associations, on the Kadingilan Settlement Area in Bukidnon where three irrigation subprojects were provided



“To sustain the momentum (of the country’s agricultural growth), irrigation is key and the irrigation system like the one we are inaugurating today is part of government efforts to continue building on the progress we have made in the agriculture sector. With this project, we hope to boost per hectare productivity by 25 - 50% — improvements that will benefit 3,000 farmers and their families, and the thousands of Filipinos especially in Palawan who are dependent on rice.”

- **Former Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei Nograles**, on recognizing the contribution of Malatgao RIS in the agriculture sector of the country

“We continue to treasure the various assistance from the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to private sector partnerships to other programs. I think our minds are really in synergy because the things that you have discussed, and described, are the very strategies that we would like to pursue under the “OneDA” Reform Agenda. We believe that these programs will really help us have a stronger hold to make the lives of our farmers and fisherfolk more prosperous this time.”

- **Former Secretary William Dar**, Department of Agriculture



“We think that the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) approach has a huge potential in the Philippines. Although most of the activities in SHEP are already being taught to our farmers and/or implemented, still, our farmers are into “grow and sell” not “grow to sell”. By adopting SHEP approach, which empowers and motivates farmers to be self-reliant and pursue market-oriented agriculture, we are optimistic that Filipino farmers will have a more profitable and sustainable agribusiness”

- **Mr. Richmond Pablo**, ex-SHEP trainee



# JICA's Agricultural Sector Strategic Map

Since 1960s, JICA has stood by and supported the Government of the Philippines' (GOP) agriculture sector. The table below summarizes how Japan's ODA shifted its focus and expanded its approach in support to various key policies and milestones in Philippine agriculture.

	Before 1990s	2000-2010	2011 - Present
Major PH Policy/ Milestones	Green Revolution ('60-'70s)*	Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program ('88-'14)	Food Staples Sufficiency Program ('11-'16)
	Masagana 99 ('73-'85)	Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act ('97)	Agri Pinoy Rice Program ('11-'16)
	Foundation of IRRI ('60) / NIA ('63) / DAR ('71) / NFA ('72) / PhilRice ('85)	Ginintuang Masaganang Ani ('04-'10)	Free Irrigation Service Act ('18)
Japan ODA Focus	Food Security / Irrigation Area Enlargement / Rural Infrastructure / Financial Accessibility / Input Support, etc.		
			Income Generation / Market-Oriented-Agri / Value chain improvement
Japan ODA Approach	Infrastructure Construction and Productivity Improvement	Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Institutional Development	
		Farmers Organization and SME Development	

\*Rice self-sufficiency was achieved by the late 1970s due to the Green Revolution.

REF: Rice self-sufficiency around 90% ('90s) around 80% ('00s; largest rice importer)



JICA continues to hold partnership meetings with emerging countries and various partners for development cooperation. It also continuously works with "non-traditional" partners.

To know more about JICA's works and activities, please visit [www.jica.go.jp](http://www.jica.go.jp).



Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is the world's largest bilateral development organization operating in over 150 countries to help some of the globe's most vulnerable people. JICA in the Philippines provides cooperation in economic growth, poverty reduction, disaster mitigation, other development issues such as health and governance, and in promoting peace and development in conflict-affected Mindanao. With these focus points, JICA aims to promote inclusive and dynamic development to secure a better future for Filipinos.

#### **MISSION**

JICA, in accordance with the Development Cooperation Charter, will work on human security and quality growth.

#### **VISION**

***Leading the world with trust***

JICA, with its partners, will take the lead in forging bonds of trust across the world, aspiring for a free, peaceful, and prosperous world where people can hope for a better future and explore their diverse potentials.



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