

JICA Global Agenda for No. 12 Governance



Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) works toward the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

1. Objectives

(1) Objective of the Global Agenda

It aims (i) to build a society in which universal values, such as freedom of the person and speech, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, and the rule of law, are realized, and each citizen is respected as a human being and can live in happiness, and (ii) to support the strengthening of democratic and inclusive governance that contributes to the realization of these principles. Specifically, it aims to build and improve systems in the public administration, judiciary, and media, and to develop human resources who will be responsible for these systems.

In other words, we aim to achieve a state in which the administrative, legal, and judicial systems are constructed and operated as systems that embody these universal values, and are able to fulfill their functions of guaranteeing the rights of the people. In addition, in order for universal values to be realized, it is important to have a society where the media can freely disseminate information and each citizen has access to a wide range of information and can formulate and present his or her own opinions through such information.

(2) Objective of Development Scenarios (“Clusters”)

In order to achieve the above objectives, this global agenda has two clusters: ensuring the rule of law, and strengthening the capacity of civil servants and public human resources. In addition, the strengthening of maritime security capabilities cluster of the Global Agenda for Transport and Traffic will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this global agenda from the perspective of ensuring the rule of law at sea.

- 1) Ensuring the rule of law: The objective is to develop and implement laws and regulations, improve access to justice, develop and improve systems related to public broadcasting and media, and develop human resources for this purpose, based on universal values (fundamental human rights, freedom, equality, etc.).
- 2) Strengthening the capacity of civil service and public human resources: The objective is to build a central and local civil service system and develop human resources capable of providing appropriate and efficient administrative services based on universal values, and to strengthen the capacity for planning and implementing projects necessary to deliver services to the public.
- 3) Strengthening maritime security capabilities: The objective is to strengthen law enforcement capabilities at sea from the perspective of ensuring the rule of law in the international arena, particularly in the Indo-Pacific.

2. Current Situation, Analysis of Issues, and Reasons for Setting Objectives

(1) Current Situation and Analysis

- The rule of law is a concept that forms the basis for realizing universal values such as fundamental human rights, democracy, and freedom of the person and speech. In other words, it is an important prerequisite for promoting the development of not only the nation but also the economy and society in general, by ensuring that all citizens, including the leaders of the nation, are subject to the law and that the rights and freedoms of the people are not arbitrarily violated.
- The SDGs also include the following targets of Goal 16 that are relevant to the objectives of this global agenda: Target 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; Target 16.6 Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels; Target 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels; and Target 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.
- According to Freedom House's annual Freedom in the World (the latest edition is 2021), the state of democracy in the world has been regressing for 15 consecutive years, with a decrease in the number of countries that have freedom and an increase in the number of countries that do not. The report also notes that the spread of COVID-19 is creating situations that constrain freedom beyond the limits necessary to prevent infection.
- The Rule of Law Index by the World Justice Project (WJP) evaluates the status of each country based on the following eight categories of law and administration: (1) constraints on government authority, (2) anti-corruption, (3) government openness, (4) fundamental rights, (5) order and security, (6) enforcement of regulations, (7) civil justice, and (8) criminal justice. According to the 2020 report, the average index for Western European countries (19 countries) is 0.79. However, even the highest index obtained among lower middle-income countries (30 countries) by Ghana (0.57), is more than 0.2 points away from that average of the Western European countries, while Cambodia has the lowest among the group at 0.33. Among low-income countries (19 countries), Rwanda (0.62) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (0.34) have the highest and lowest scores, respectively.
- Looking at individuals, the WJP estimated in its Measuring the Justice Gap report in 2019 that 1.4 billion people worldwide need legal solutions to some civil or administrative problems but have not received any, and another 250 million are in

- situations of extreme injustice.
- Ensuring the rule of law is important not only within each country, but also at the international level, and international laws need to be properly enforced. However, the situation in each country is still weak and needs to be further strengthened, especially with regards to enforcing the law of the sea.
 - In the area of public administration, World Bank analyzed the current situation through seven items in the World Governance Index. For example, in both Voice and Accountability and Government Effectiveness, the majority of countries in Asia, Africa, and the Pacific are in the lower 50% group. This is because there are challenges in many areas, such as ensuring good governance at all levels from central to local, and building democratic institutions and systems that ensure broad participation and accountability.
 - As for the media, according to the World Press Freedom Index 2020, an index of 25 or less is judged to be satisfactory in terms of press freedom. Only 13 developing countries fall into the top two categories: Jamaica, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Suriname, Samoa, Namibia, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Republic of South Africa, Burkina Faso, Botswana, Papua New Guinea, and Senegal. On the other hand, Nepal, South Sudan, Myanmar, and other countries are classified as difficult (43 countries with a score of 35 to 54) or serious (19 countries with a score over 55).
 - Thus, it can be said that there are many issues that need to be resolved, whether in terms of democracy in general, or specifically the legal and judicial systems, the public administration, or the media. In order to ensure the rule of law under these circumstances, it is an important prerequisite that the drafting and enforcing of laws and the resolution of disputes are done properly and that the public has access to the law in each of these stages. In this case, access to the law does not mean making laws and regulations formally public, but ensuring that they are properly accessible. In other words, the concept includes enacting laws based on the opinions of the people, making them sufficiently simple and understandable to the people, implementing them, operating administrative and judicial procedures in accordance with the laws, providing a mechanism to solve problems when one's rights are violated, and providing support to those who cannot access such a mechanism on their own (providing access to justice).
 - Based on this understanding, an analysis of the situation in developing countries shows that although laws and regulations have been enacted in some form or another, those enacted during the former colonial period are still in effect, especially in Asian countries, and many citizens do not understand the contents of these laws and regulations. In addition, even when laws and regulations have been enacted, there are still problems in operating and enforcing them, such as inconsistent and unpredictable interpretations by the public administration and judiciary mechanisms for resolving disputes, such as in court cases, and lack of support for citizens in

conflict.

- In addition, there are various problems, such as the existence of corruption in the civil service, insufficient public disclosure of government procedures, lack of enforcement of regulations based on laws and regulations, insufficient provision of administrative services, and lack of a mechanism to provide relief to citizens who have suffered such disadvantages due to those problems. In order to deal with these issues, it is necessary to ensure that public servants are recruited from the public based on their abilities and in accordance with fair procedures, that their awareness of their roles and abilities are enhanced, that their integrity is improved, that they acquire the skills necessary to provide administrative services, and that they deepen their understanding of the relationship between public administration and the public.
- With regard to the freedom of the press, there are still restrictions such as state intervention in the media, and there is much room for improvement in how to share the information that is necessary for the people to make decisions. Therefore, it is necessary to encourage the government to understand these principles and improve the public's access to information by strengthening the functions of the media.

(2) Reasons for Setting Objectives for the Global Agenda

The ultimate goal of this global agenda is to build a society in which universal values are realized and each citizen can live in happiness. In order to do so, it is necessary to develop human resources who understand and internalize universal values and can assume leadership positions. In addition, it is also necessary to establish various systems to ensure these principles, and to properly operate these systems to realize universal values. Based on this understanding, the development and improvement of administrative, legal and judicial, and media systems, as well as the development of human resources who will be responsible for these systems, have been set as the objectives of the global agenda.

(3) Global Efforts to Resolve the Issues

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the Third Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, declares that, in view of the effects on the world of the tragic and inhumane acts of World War II, nations shall strive through the rule of law to uphold universal values, such as freedom of speech; respect for fundamental human rights; the dignity and worth of the human person; and equal rights of men and women. Furthermore, these principles have come to fruition in various international treaties, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted in 1996.
- Prof. John Ruggie, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the

issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, developed the “Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations ‘Protect, Respect and Remedy’ Framework,” which were endorsed by the UN Human Rights Council at its 7th session in 2011, and states have begun to develop action plans based on those principles.

(4) Policy of the Government of Japan

- Free and open Indo-Pacific: The Government of Japan aims to improve the connectivity of the region from the Pacific Ocean to the Indian Ocean, and to promote prosperity and stability in the entire region by creating a free and open Indo-Pacific. In particular, the global agenda is expected to contribute to the creation of the government’s policy on ensuring a rules-based international order, including the rule of law.
- Human security: It is the foundation of the concept of human security that the fundamental freedoms and rights of each individual should be guaranteed through the rule of law, so that everyone can live in dignity, free from fear and want. The Global Agenda for Governance aims to guarantee the fundamental freedoms and rights of each individual and to ensure freedom from fear and deprivation by developing and improving administrative, legal and judicial, and media institutions, thereby contributing to the provision of human security. In the process, it is necessary to be fully aware that these basic freedoms and rights must also be guaranteed to various vulnerable groups.
- Transparency, integrity, anti-corruption, and good governance have been agreed upon as issues to be addressed by each country in the outcome documents of G7 and G8 summits.
- The Strategy for Overseas Development of Infrastructure Systems 2025 states that “the government will provide support for the development of legal systems by supporting the legislation of basic laws, specialized laws, and business-related laws based on needs identified through various channels, including memoranda of cooperation; supporting the human resource development of experts engaged in the operation of legal systems; supporting the development of judicial infrastructures that serve as the basis for economic activities, such as the strengthening of governance to prevent corruption; and supporting the establishment of intellectual property systems.”
- Action Plan on Business and Human Rights: As a supporter of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Government of Japan formulated an action plan in October 2020 to promote respect for human rights in business activities. The outcome of this global agenda is expected to contribute to the achievement of the action plan.

3. Significance of Japan and JICA's Engagement

Appropriate governance is an essential element for ensuring that the rights of each individual are guaranteed, that people can engage in economic and social activities with peace of mind, and that society is managed in a fair and stable manner. It is also a precondition for quality growth, which includes building a fair and inclusive society and reducing inequality. Making the most of Japan's strengths in the following areas and actively providing assistance in these areas will not only put Japan's development philosophy into practice and increase trust towards Japan, but they will also be significant in fostering empathy for universal values, including the rule of law, by putting the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" concept into practice and sharing its benefits.

In addition, Japan has had the experience of introducing various institutions from Western countries in its modernization process. In the fields of law and justice, Japan introduced a new legal system based on the legal systems of Western countries around 150 years ago, and then adopted the U.S. legal system after World War II. In terms of administrative systems, the conventional system based on the shogunate and feudal system was completely changed, and a modern government system and a prefectural, municipal, and township system for a unified national control of local administration were introduced also around 150 years ago. After World War II, these systems were completely reorganized into the current civil service system and local government system.

In the process, Japan fostered human resources who understood the concepts brought from Western countries, and they played a central role in drafting laws, establishing systems, and developing human resources in a wide range of legal, judicial and administrative fields. They did not simply bring the laws and systems of Western countries directly into Japan; rather, they took the time and effort to take into account and reflect the social, cultural, and historical background of Japan as they drafted new laws and established new systems.

It is against this background that Japan has achieved results and gained the trust of its partner countries. For example, in the field of law and justice, Japan started cooperating with countries who are in transition, such as the Indochina countries and Mongolia, after Vietnam requested support for drafting its Civil Code. In the area of public administration, Japan has cooperated mainly in local administration, emphasizing the autonomy and spontaneity of the partner country based on the perspective that each country has its own unique situation and background. Japan's approach of looking at issues together and developing systems that are tailored to partner countries' situations can be called "hand-in-hand" cooperation. No other developed country has such experience in fully adopting foreign systems in both law and public

administration, and sharing Japan's experience and methods of modernization over the years with developing countries facing similar challenges is a form of cooperation that only Japan can provide. Another of Japan's great strengths is that it has a framework for directly communicating these experiences and methods through active practitioners in the fields of law, justice, and public administration.

4. Scenarios Contributing to Objectives of the Global Agenda, and Clusters

(1) Basic Principles and Approach of the Global Agenda

- Institution building and improvement, and human resource development and capacity building are the two wheels to achieve the objectives of this global agenda. First, establishing and improving institutions will ensure the principles of freedom of the person and speech, fundamental human rights, the rule of law, and democracy, and we will support the development of the necessary systems, such as legal and judicial systems that draft and interpret laws and regulations and resolve disputes, an administrative system that applies laws and regulations, and a media that upholds the people's right to information and ensures these principles. In addition to supporting the development of these systems, we will also work to improve the existing systems to this end. Secondly, in order to make these systems function, we will develop human resources who fully understand the principles and who will be responsible for the actual operation of the systems, and we will form a framework for the continuous development of human resources. With regard to the development of human resources, it is necessary not only to improve the abilities of the civil service, legal professionals, and media personnel who are already in charge of the actual practice, but also to strengthen the abilities of those who are in charge of teaching law, public administration, and media at higher education institutions from the perspective of developing the next generation. In addition, from a medium- to long-term perspective, the enhancement of specialized education for university students and graduate students is also required.
- When building the capacity of public administration, it is necessary to take into account Japan's own experience, develop human resources, and pay attention to the need for cooperation on participatory local development planning and implementation based on collaboration between public administration and residents, as well as cooperation for improving accountability.
- It is not easy to understand such ideals as freedom of the person and speech, fundamental human rights, rule of law, and democracy because they are conceptual

and abstract, and it is important to convey these ideals to people in various ways over a long period of time. Therefore, with the core human resources of each country in mind, we will actively provide opportunities for long-term trainings and studies in Japan, and give them opportunities to internalize these principles. By cooperating with the JICA Development Studies Program, we will share not only specialized fields but also the history of Japan's modernization, which is the basis of Japan's experience.

- Through these efforts to develop administrative, legal, and judicial systems that function in accordance with their intended purposes, and improve the abilities of the civil service and legal professionals, we can improve the predictability of administrative procedures and/or dispute solutions by the public, increase the number of people who settle disputes through judicial procedures and/or alternative dispute resolution (ADR), and raise the public's trust in public administration and the legal and judicial systems. In addition, by strengthening media systems, especially public broadcasting entities, we will ensure the public's right to information and increase the public's trust in the media, thereby achieving the objectives of the global agenda.
- In order to build and improve the system, develop human resources, and enhance their capabilities, we will promote two major initiatives: ensuring the rule of law for the legal and judicial system and media, and strengthening public administration for the administrative system. For the former, we aim to share universal values (fundamental human rights, freedom, equality, etc.) and ensure the rule of law by developing and enforcing laws and regulations, strengthening law enforcement, improving access to justice and election management, and developing human resources who will be responsible for these efforts. At the same time, by building and strengthening media-related systems and training human resources, we will contribute to the creation of a system that effectively upholds the rule of law by guaranteeing freedom of speech. In terms of strengthening public administration, the Government will support the establishment of central and local civil service systems that can provide administrative services appropriately and efficiently based on these values to uphold universal values, and strengthen the framework for public human resource development to support this. In addition, by supporting the strengthening of personnel and systems for development planning and project implementation in local governments with transparent and autonomous decision-making processes that include local residents, and by collaborating with citizens and others, we will contribute to strengthening the administrative infrastructure to protect the rights and livelihoods of citizens and promote stable development.

(2) Development Scenarios (Clusters)

- The following two clusters will be implemented within the two main initiatives of

ensuring the rule of law and strengthening administrative functions. In the first initiative, the strengthening maritime security capabilities cluster will also be included in this global agenda from the perspective of upholding the rule of law in the international arena.

(1) Ensuring the rule of law

Based on universal values (fundamental human rights, freedom, equality, etc.), we aim to guarantee and realize fundamental rights and freedoms and to create a fair and transparent business environment by improving a country's ability to develop and implement laws and regulations and provide access to justice, and by providing support to public broadcasting and the media. We will also actively promote new initiatives to protect vulnerable groups in order to ensure basic human rights at all levels.

Up until now, we have achieved results in human resource development, as can be found in examples of long-term training program participants assuming key positions in the legal and judicial sectors in various countries after their study in Japan. Other achievements include various laws being enacted, a call center being created to provide access to justice, and mediation systems being introduced.

As we build on our achievements to date, we will continue to improve laws and regulations and strengthen operational and enforcement systems, particularly in civil and economic law. Since it is important for citizens to be able to receive the necessary support in a timely and appropriate manner when a dispute arises, we will also focus on improving access to justice. In addition, freedom of speech is very important in realizing and guaranteeing the rights of the people, so we will provide support for the media to ensure this freedom. In the future, we will strengthen our work on the Business and Human Rights and launch new initiatives with a focus on vulnerable groups, such as elimination of child labor in Ghana.

It is important that vulnerable groups, such as women, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and foreigners, are not left behind in the implementation of these efforts, and that mechanisms are incorporated to guarantee their rights and ensure the necessary access to justice. When developing human resources, we will aim to achieve the overall gender balance within the counterpart organization while also taking into account the situation of each individual in the organization.

Specifically, we aim to achieve our goals through one or a combination of the following:

1) Development and implementation of laws and regulations

- Support for the development and implementation of basic laws and regulations in the fields of civil law and economic law: We will support the capacity-building of human resources not only in the areas of the drafting of laws and regulations and the legislative process, but also in the area of actual implementation of laws and regulations.

- Support for efforts to ensure consistency between different laws and regulations

2) Access to Justice

- Support for the establishment of bar associations
- Support for the establishment and operation of public legal aid systems
- Improvement of dispute resolution systems, especially support for the creation and operation of alternative dispute resolution systems

3) Development of human resources for the legal profession

- Establishment of a training system for legal personnel

4) Media

- Support for strengthening the functions of public broadcasting
- Efforts to improve and various policies and institutions concerning the media

5) Efforts to protect the rights of vulnerable groups

- Promotion of sustainable cocoa platforms in developing countries, efforts to eradicate child labor in Ghana, and efforts to improve basic human rights for vulnerable groups, such as training for female police officers in Afghanistan

In this cluster, we will simultaneously develop (1) cooperation that builds upon the existing cooperation (“Scaling-up Programs”) and (2) cooperation that aims to tackle new issues (“New Frontier Programs”).

For Scaling-up Programs, we will select regions and countries that can be expected to have further impact and contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the cluster. We will take into consideration the possibility of securing resources from relevant ministries and agencies while making use of the results of past cooperation projects, and promote cooperation as a priority. More specifically, for the Mekong countries, Indonesia, Mongolia, and Nepal, efforts (1) through (3) described above will be continued in an evolving manner, with innovations as described in the Strategic Initiatives section below.

For Africa, cooperation in the areas of law and development as described in (1) above will be implemented selectively, while focusing on efforts to improve access to justice as described in (2) above. Specifically, we will develop a future cooperation plan based on the results of studies on access to justice and business law, while building on our experience of cooperation projects mainly in Asia to date.

For other countries and regions, we will focus on cooperation projects through the Knowledge Co-creation Program. As for the media, cooperation projects will be implemented mainly in countries that are undergoing some form of change in the governance structure.

For New Frontier Programs, new issues will be identified and cooperation will be promoted to solve those issues by involving a wide range of stakeholders beyond the framework of existing cooperation resources. Initially, issues around “Business and Human Rights” will be addressed under this Program. Projects will be planned and implemented to prevent human rights abuses in the supply chain in industries that have close relationships

with Japanese companies and consumers (related to (5) above). With regard to the same issue, the Sustainable Cocoa Platform for Developing Countries was established in January 2020, and institutional design for the elimination of child labor in Ghana and a study on the protection of vulnerable workers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in several countries are currently underway. We will formulate a concrete plan based on these studies. In doing so, especially in relation to the latter study, we aim to contribute to the resolution of issues related to the acceptance of foreign workers in Japan.

(2) Strengthening the capacity of civil service and public human resources

We aim to build a central and local civil service system and develop human resources that can provide appropriate and efficient administrative services based on universal values such as the rule of law and cooperation with residents, as well as to strengthen the capacity for project planning and implementation that is necessary to deliver services to the public.

To achieve these goals, cooperation will be implemented with emphasis on a fair civil service recruitment system, the transparency and integrity of administrative procedures, and processes that allow relevant residents to participate in decision-making in an inclusive manner.

Specifically, the following areas of cooperation are envisioned:

(1) Civil service system

- Support for improving the examination and training systems for civil servants
- Human resource development for local government officials to contribute to improving service delivery to citizens

(2) Development of public human resources

- Fostering human resources who are expected to play an active role as national or regional leaders with networks with Japan

(3) Improving the capacity of local governments to formulate and implement plans

- Supporting strengthening of central and local systems and structures that help local governments formulate and implement development plans based on the participation and cooperation of citizens and the private sector

For this cluster, we will select regions for cooperation with the first cluster of ensuring the rule of law in mind. From this perspective, CLMV countries, Central Asian countries, and Bangladesh are assumed to be the main targets in Asia. In Africa, based on the Institution Building and Governance Enhancement initiative in TICAD VII, we will examine the possibility of expanding our cooperation projects to countries that can utilize the results of our longstanding cooperation with Tanzania.

Taking into account the overall resources available, consideration will be given to the possibility of scaling-up existing projects.

(3) Strengthening maritime security capabilities

From the perspective of ensuring the rule of law in the international arena, especially in the Indo-Pacific, it is important not only to work to ensure the rule of law within each country, but also at the international level. In particular, strengthening maritime security capabilities to enforce laws in the oceans will contribute greatly to achieving the objectives of this global agenda, and can be positioned as part of such efforts. Specifically, through issue-specific training and long-term training, we will work with organizations responsible for maritime security to improve their knowledge and experience on public international laws. This cluster will also be positioned in the Global Agenda for Transport and Traffic.

- During the current medium-term plan period (Apr 2017 to Mar 2022), we aim to sustain the current level of investment.
- To expand the impact of our cooperation, we will seek close linkages with financial cooperation, including through provision of policy advice on the policy matrix of development policy loans.

5. Strategic Approaches for the Global Agenda and Clusters

(1) Use of Innovation

- In Japan, digitalization and DX in this field have not progressed much, but based on the government's policy of promoting digitalization, various efforts are expected to be made in the future. In addition, the government has begun to study the possibility of amending the law to make trials IT-enabled. In future cooperation projects, we will share information on the process and the outcomes of such policy-making efforts in Japan. In addition, the private sector is expected to make various proposals for the digitalization of public administration, and we will actively incorporate such proposals. Two-way cooperation where achievements of such efforts in developing countries will be shared with Japanese stakeholders for their utilization will be sought.
- In addition, there are some local governments that are making advanced efforts in e-government, and we will actively gather information on these local governments' case studies and make use of them.

(2) Utilization of the Japanese Experience and the JICA Development Studies Program

- Around 150 foreign students in the fields of law and political science come to Japan

annually for long-term training through technical cooperation and grant aid (JDS). We will build a medium- to long-term network with these students as part of our investment under this global agenda and invite them to partner with us as core human resources for cooperation in respective partner countries.

- In addition, as a component of this global agenda, the international student program “Core Human Resources in the Legal Field” has been accepting doctoral students since 2017. Furthermore, with the aim of expanding the scope of the program and organically linking it with technical cooperation, we have started accepting master’s degree students from 2020 (“Core Human Resources in the Legal and Justice Fields” and others). Furthermore, in relation to the FOIP, we launched a “Core Human Resources in Public International Law” program from the perspective of promoting the rule of law in the international arena. We will continue to expand the acceptance of international students in the master’s program (more than 80 new students by 2025) to develop, from a medium- to long-term perspective, human resources who have internalized the concept of the rule of law, as well as future leaders and intellectuals who understand Japan well. We also aim to expand and strengthen stakeholders involved in technical cooperation projects, such as Japanese universities and institutions or the organizations in partner countries to which the students originally belong, by continuously providing opportunities for them to be involved in projects during and after their stay in Japan. We envision those students who studied in Japan will be able to play the roles that Japanese experts currently play in the future, supporting partner countries’ journey to self-reliance.
- The international student program “Local Government with Citizen Participation” is also being implemented in the cluster for strengthening the capacity of civil service and public human resources.
- In the field of governance, knowledge and experience in practice lie mainly in the public sector, so we will collaborate and cooperate closely with ministry officials, legal professionals, and researchers, among others.
From the perspective of collaboration with localities, we will aim to co-create value in the field of public administration by sharing our efforts for local development in various ways and supporting inbound exchanges from developing countries.
- In addition, based on the results of our ODA cooperation to date, some countries are moving from the stage of receiving support from Japan to the stage of mutual knowledge-sharing, so we will create a platform in the field of governance that encompasses all relevant stakeholders to develop a two-way network.

(3) Specific efforts to mobilize a wide range of external resources

- Many donors, including UNDP and the EU, are working to support the field of

governance, and we will actively coordinate with other donors, because multiple donors can make a significant impact by sharing roles properly.

6. Other Considerations

(a) Response to COVID-19

- With the global spread of the novel coronavirus, a variety of legal issues have arisen. For example, there is a need to expedite the handling of legal disputes, such as the impact on the fulfillment of debt obligations due to the drastic decrease in income of individuals and companies, and contractual issues due to delays in logistics caused by restrictions on international movement. In addition, it is necessary to pay more attention to the reliable provision of administrative services and access to justice for vulnerable groups in order to solve legal problems and remedy rights under the current circumstances where it is difficult for them to even maintain a basic standard of living.

(b) Relation with JICA's Other Global Agendas

- From the perspective of providing human security, there is a close relationship with the Global Agenda for Peacebuilding, which is responsible for implementing cooperation with fragile states. We envision that as fragile states develop, the focus of cooperation to these countries will shift to institutional development, human resource development, and capacity building under the Global Agenda for Governance.
- The development of laws, regulations, and systems, as well as the development of human resources to carry out these tasks, are the basic foundation that is common to other global agendas; and in particular, specific approaches to development of laws will be utilized in other global agendas.
- From the perspective of the realization of basic human rights, we will actively consider cross-sectoral efforts in various global agendas, such as health, education, and social security, because they will greatly contribute to the realization of these basic human rights, especially social rights. For issues where efforts have already been made, such as child labor and the protection of vulnerable workers, it is extremely important for multiple global agendas to cooperate organically.

What is the JICA Global Agenda?

JICA's cooperation strategies for global issues. JICA, with its partners, aims to show global impacts realizing the goals set under JICA Global Agenda. JICA Global Agenda and its goals will be shared among partner countries and various actors, enhancing dialogue and collaboration, therefore, maximizing the development impacts. Through these efforts, JICA will comprehensively contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 as well as realize Japan's Development Cooperation Charter which focus on "human security," "quality growth," and "addressing global challenges".



Nibancho Center Building, 5-25 Nibancho,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8012, Japan
Email: gpgpb@jica.go.jp



Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is an international cooperation organization that is centrally responsible for the implementation of bilateral assistance among Japan's Official Development Assistance. JICA cooperates with about 150 countries and regions around the world.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/index.html