

Notes about Thematic Standard Indicator Reference in Grant Aid Projects (Guidelines)

I. Role of the Standard Indicator Reference

The Standard Indicator Reference provides examples of the objective and quantitative indicators in different development sectors, which are extracted from the past experience of the development projects supported by JICA.

II. Objectives of the Standard Indicator Reference

The standard indicators have been classified based on the development objectives chart(note) of each development sector. You can refer the standard indicators when setting indicators at the project formulation and the ex-ante evaluation stage in order to establish indicators to measure the quantitative effects of the projects.

(Note) The development objectives chart consists of “development strategic objectives,” “mid-term objectives” and “sub-targets of mid-term objectives”.

The Standard Indicator Reference, however, does not automatically provide appropriate indicators for individual grant aid projects but provides only examples to help your effort to establish indicators of the projects. You have to establish appropriate indicators suitable for the objective of the project by considering the individual situation and specific conditions of the project.

We expect your valuable comments and advices so that we can improve the Standard Indicator Reference.

III. How to Use the **Standard Indicator Reference**

Please see the sample on the next page, on how to use the **Standard Indicator Reference**.

Firstly, (1) identify the type of problem based on the development objectives chart. Then, (2) consider the types of infrastructure needed to solve the problem. Then, (3) set appropriate indicators by referring to the **Standard Indicator Reference** which enables the objective and quantitative measurement of effects. At this point, (4) also refer to indicators used in similar projects in order to get a clear image of the project.

“Operation indicators” are used to quantitatively measure the operation of the project. “Effect indicators” are used to quantitatively measure the effects of the project. In other words, when equipment, facilities, etc. (outputs) were installed or established by the project, (1) operation indicators are used to measure whether or not the outputs are appropriately run and used, and (2) effect indicators are used to measure the effects which the outputs had on the recipients and the project area.

The basic indicators shown in the **Standard Indicator Reference** are generally deemed necessary regardless of the characteristics of the project, for which data collection is deemed possible. The supplementary indicators shown in the **Standard Indicator Reference** are likely to be needed depending on the characteristics and components of the project, or they are indicators where data collection is difficult although they are deemed necessary indicators.

When setting indicators for each project, there is no need to use all the basic indicators shown in the relevant **Standard Indicator Reference**. Rather, it is desirable to adapt them to each project, for example selecting indicators in accordance with the characteristics of the project, utilizing supplementary indicators where necessary, and adding appropriate indicators which are not included in the **Standard Indicator Reference** where necessary.