

HIGHLIGHTS 2016

Major Topics of
Fiscal 2016

August
2016

TICAD VI Held in Nairobi

Adoption of Nairobi Declaration that aims for the promotion of African ownership and strengthening of international cooperation

The Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) was held in Africa for the first time. The Nairobi Declaration adopted at the conference set out three priority areas calling for the promotion of (1) structural economic transformation through economic diversification and industrialization, (2) resilient health systems for better quality of life, and (3) social stability for shared prosperity. JICA will continue extending assistance in line with the TICAD commitments along with African nations and partners.

JICA President Shinichi Kitaoka and former JOCVs attended the award ceremony held in Manila.



JOCVs Receive Ramon Magsaysay Award

In recognition of contributions in Asia over more than half a century

August
2016

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers received the Ramon Magsaysay Award, which is considered Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Peace Prize and celebrates greatness of spirit and transformative leadership in Asia. This award is granted to individuals and organizations that have achieved excellent results in social contributions in Asia. The award was presented in recognition of the contributions that the JOCVs have made over the years based on the principle of living together and working together with local people. The JOCV dispatch program marked its golden anniversary in 2015. As of the end of March 2017, a cumulative total of 12,403 JOCVs had been dispatched to the Asian region.

October
2016

10th International Conference on Maternal and Child Health Handbook Held in Tokyo

From Japan to the world! Aiming for a global standard

November
2016

The 10th International Conference on Maternal and Child Health Handbook was held in Tokyo in November 2016 with the participation of about 400 people from 38 countries and regions. Cohosted by JICA, the meeting was a valuable opportunity for the participants to learn from one another through the experiences in Japan and various countries. On the final day, the conference adopted the Tokyo Declaration urging promotion of MCH Handbooks as an international standard tool to realize a world in which "No one will be left behind." JICA has been assisting the introduction of Maternal and Child Health Handbooks in more than 25 countries so far.



A JICA expert explains the MCH Handbook in Palestine.
(Photo by Kenshiro Imamura)



JICA High-level Panel: Africa, toward 2063 and beyond

→ See “Africa” on pages 46-49 and the Case Studies on pages 59, 67, and 75

August–
September
2016

JICA Volunteers Support Athletes from Developing Countries

Rio Olympic and Paralympic dreams

Athletes from six countries (Chile, Laos, Mongolia, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, and Paraguay) who had received assistance from JICA volunteers appeared in two events, judo and track-and-field, at the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. These athletes from around the world, who had trained hard with the dream of performing on the hallowed stage, had received encouraging support from JOCVs and Senior Volunteers, who provided advice on not only athletic matters but also self-discipline, compassion for others, and the importance of a never-give-up spirit. Thanks to this guidance, the athletes grew mentally, technically, and physically, and their performances fostered pride in their own nations and the promotion of understanding in other countries.



A JOCV (left) who also served as the head coach for the Samoan judo team poses with judoka Derek Sua.

JDR Medical Team Acquires WHO Certification as Emergency Medical Team

Becomes world’s fourth such certified EMT



A JDR medical team performs a surgery in Nepal.

The Japan Disaster Relief medical team has been certified as an emergency medical team by the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHO introduced a global registry in 2015 so as to ensure the quality of EMTs dispatched at times of disaster, and the certification means that the JDR passed the verification test. Much expectation is being placed in Japan’s contribution to the stable supply of high-quality medical services and to WHO-led international efforts.

October
2016

Counter-terrorism Seminars and Self-Defense Training Kicks Off

Preparing for real-world crisis

In response to the final report by the Council on Safety Measures for International Cooperation Projects, set up jointly by JICA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JICA in October 2016 began safety training for private companies, local governments, universities, NGOs, and other partners engaged in development assistance. In fiscal 2016, more than 1,600 personnel were trained in the 17 training sessions. The lecture was also provided online. The training offered primary skills and techniques of self-defense to defend oneself in potential risks in field operations. The participants also learned about personal security precautions in different types of attacks in real-life scenarios.

In self-defense training, participants learned how to prepare and stay safe in different types of attacks.



→ See “Security and Safety Management” on page 119