

About JICA

An Overview of Programs and Strategies

JICA, Playing a Core Role in Japan's ODA

Various organizations and groups, including governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private companies, carry out economic cooperation to support socioeconomic development in developing countries. The financial and technical assistance that governments provide to developing countries as part of this economic cooperation are called Official Development Assistance (ODA). ODA is broadly classified into two types: bilateral aid and multilateral aid. Multilateral aid consists of financing and financial contributions to international organizations.



JICA, in charge of administering Japan's ODA, is one of the world's largest bilateral aid agencies. JICA supports socioeconomic development in developing countries through flexible combination of various types of cooperation methods, such as Technical Cooperation, Finance and Investment Cooperation, and Grants.* It operates in approximately 150 countries and regions of the world.

*Excluding Grants that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides considering diplomatic necessity.

Technical Cooperation

People-to-people cooperation

Technical Cooperation supports the development of human resources that will promote socioeconomic development in developing countries and the establishment of administrative systems by utilizing the knowledge, experience, and technologies of Japan. By accepting training participants in Japan and dispatching Japanese experts, JICA supports developing countries' capacity development in solving problems.

Finance and Investment Cooperation

Lending or investing of funds under concessional terms to developing countries for their development

ODA Loans are extended under generous lending conditions (long repayment periods, low interest rates) for projects supporting the development of developing countries. They are applied to infrastructure construction and other projects and programs requiring a large amount of funding. Private-Sector Investment Finance, on the other hand, provides financial support for private-sector activities in developing countries.

Grants*

Core infrastructure development and equipment provision

Grants provide funds to low-income developing countries without the obligation of repayment to support the construction of facilities necessary for social and economic development, such as schools, hospitals, wells, and roads, and the procurement of equipment and other supplies.

JICA

Citizen Participation

A broader base of international cooperation

JICA cooperates in diverse ways with NGOs, local governments, universities, and other organizations that participate in international cooperation activities. JICA dispatches volunteers such as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) as a part of its citizen participatory cooperation. Furthermore, JICA supports development education, which is designed to deepen understanding of the challenges facing developing countries, chiefly in the field of school education.

Emergency Disaster Relief

Response to natural and other disasters

In cases where large-scale disasters occur overseas, JICA dispatches Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams in response to requests from the governments of affected countries or international organizations in accordance with the decision of the Japanese government. These JDR teams engage in rescue efforts, treat wounds and illnesses, provide emergency relief supplies, and assist disaster recovery.

Research

Co-creating practical knowledge for peace and development

JICA works together with diverse partners for the purposes of world peace and development and conducts quality research with policy impact by integrating a field-oriented perspective. It also returns such research outcomes to JICA's operations as part of its efforts to contribute to the realization of *human security*.

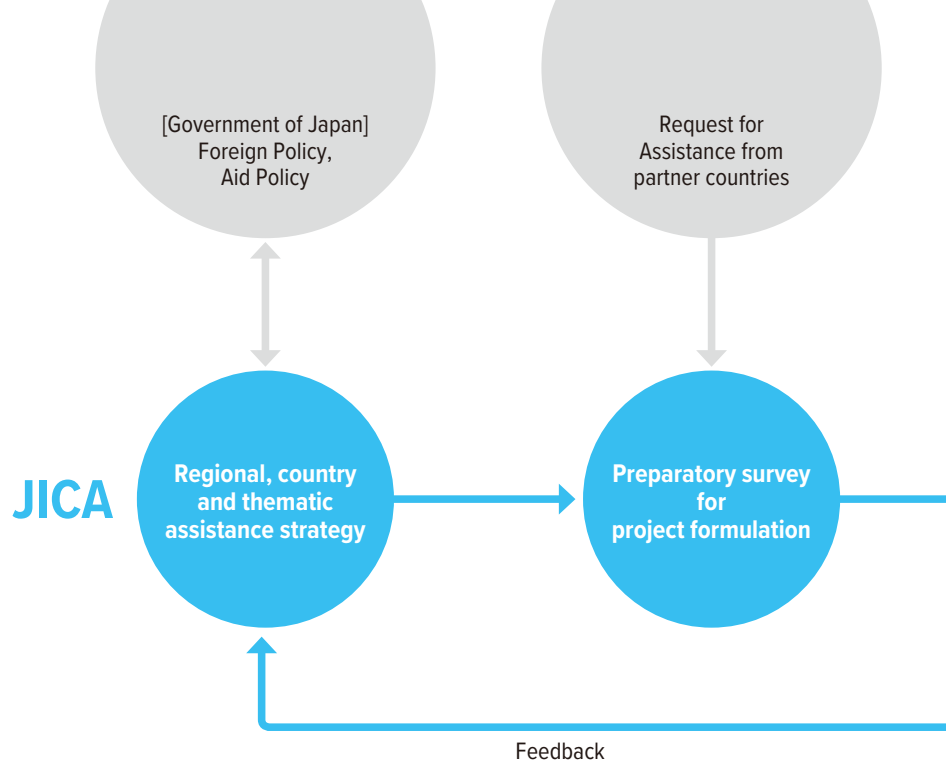
Public-Private Partnerships

Supporting economic and social development through private-sector business activities

By providing support for the introduction of excellent technologies and products by Japanese private companies and their participation in projects, JICA contributes to the solution of the social and economic issues faced by developing countries. Such support is extended through schemes including Private-Sector Investment Finance and support programs for SMEs' overseas business development.

JICA's Cooperation

JICA implements effective and efficient cooperation under the Japanese government's aid policy based on an unbiased, broad perspective that extends beyond assistance schemes such as Technical Cooperation, Finance and Investment Cooperation and Grants. In particular, JICA promptly conducts project formulation and implementation by undertaking preparatory surveys to investigate the content of cooperation at project sites before receiving aid requests from partner countries.



The 4th Medium-term Plan (Fiscal 2017–21)

In accordance with the law, JICA conducts its operations based on medium-term plans stipulating five-year cycles. In the 4th Medium-term Plan, which began in fiscal 2017, JICA has formulated plans based on the Development Cooperation Charter and international frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), concerning development issues such as infrastructure and economic growth, human-centered development, universal values and peacebuilding, and global issues, along with regional priority issues as well as partnerships with various actors and contributions to international discussions. JICA also sets out detailed measures for strengthening its organizational and operational foundations, security, and internal controls in the Plan.

Through efforts to achieve these plans, JICA will continue to play its expected role both within and outside Japan.

Outline of the 4th Medium-term Plan

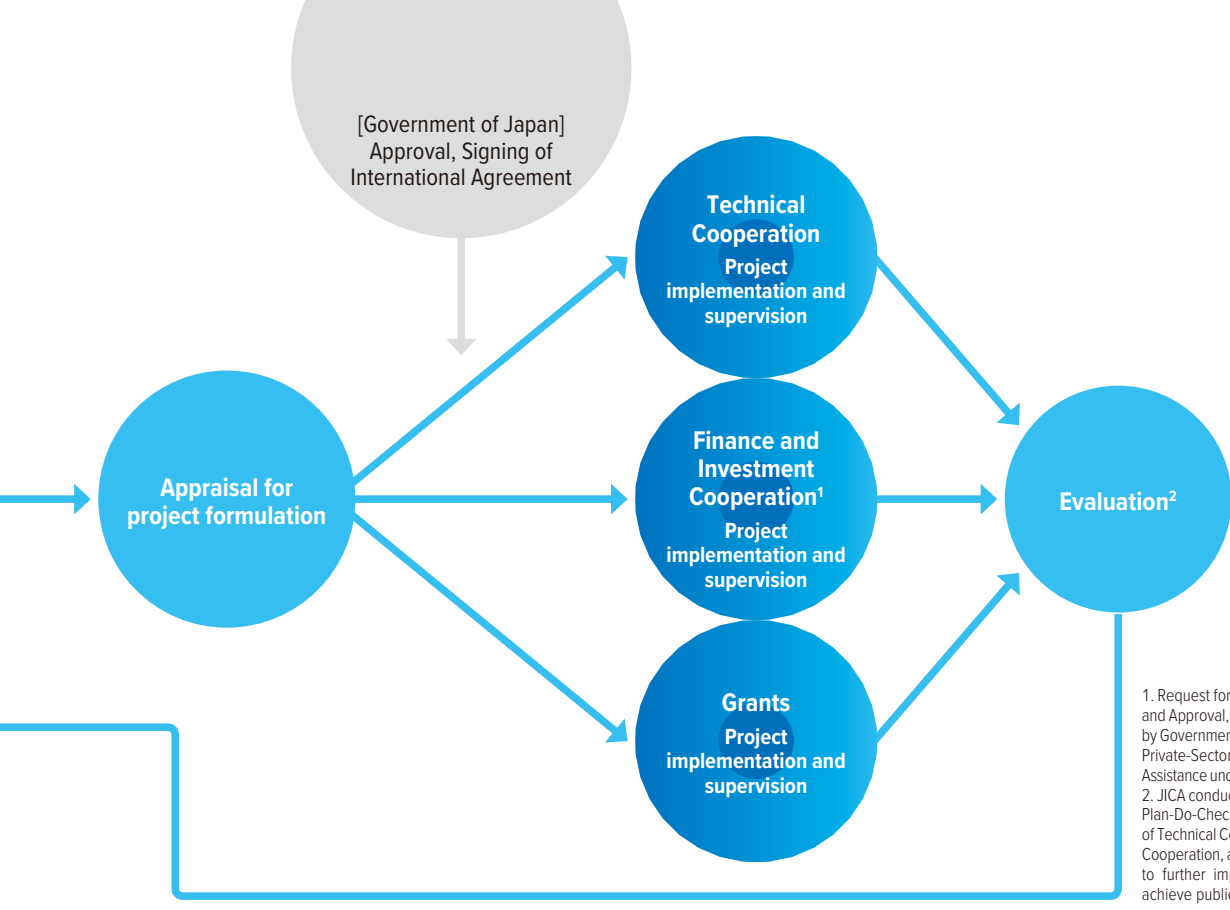


Operational Focus Areas

- (1) Strengthen the human capacity of individuals who will be key players in their countries' development
- (2) Fortify partnerships between actors in Japan who are involved in, and contributing to development cooperation and regional vitalization
- (3) Contribute to international commitments and serve as a leader in the international community
- (4) Strengthen security measures

Prioritized Approaches

- (1) Promote development cooperation that builds a mutually trusted relationship by emphasizing country ownership and partnership
- (2) Promote human-centered approaches based on the concept of *human security*
- (3) Strengthen strategic operations and enhance the quality of JICA's operations
- (4) Disseminate clear, uniform information



1. Request for Assistance from partner countries, and Approval, Signing of International Agreement by Government of Japan are not a prerequisite for Private-Sector Investment Finance and Technical Assistance under Finance and Investment Account.
 2. JICA conducts evaluations of projects using the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle for each scheme of Technical Cooperation, Finance and Investment Cooperation, and Grants, and employs the system to further improve operations and sufficiently achieve public accountability.

Concrete Initiatives

- Efforts to address priority issues**
 - (1) Secure a foundation and driving force for economic growth
 - (2) Promote human-centered development, which supports basic human life
 - (3) Share universal values and realize a peaceful and secure society
 - (4) Build a sustainable and resilient international community by addressing global challenges
- Strengthen Japanese partnerships**
- Regional priority issues**
- Strengthen foundations for implementation**
(Public relations, research, project evaluations, etc.)
- Strengthen security measures**
- Other important operational management issues**
(The promotion of effective and efficient development cooperation; Proactive contribution in international discussions and strengthening partnerships with international organizations, bilateral donors and others; and Strengthen internal controls)

Address development issues and global issues and contribute to national interests in Japan through development cooperation

- Realize peace, security, and prosperity as well as an international environment with high stability, transparency, and predictability
- Contribute to enhancing the international community's confidence in Japan, strengthening the relationship between developing areas and Japan, and formulating the order and the norms of the international community
- Contribute to the vitalization of the economy and society in Japan through strengthening the relationship between developing areas and Japan