



# JICA Research Institute: Aims, Approaches, & Themes

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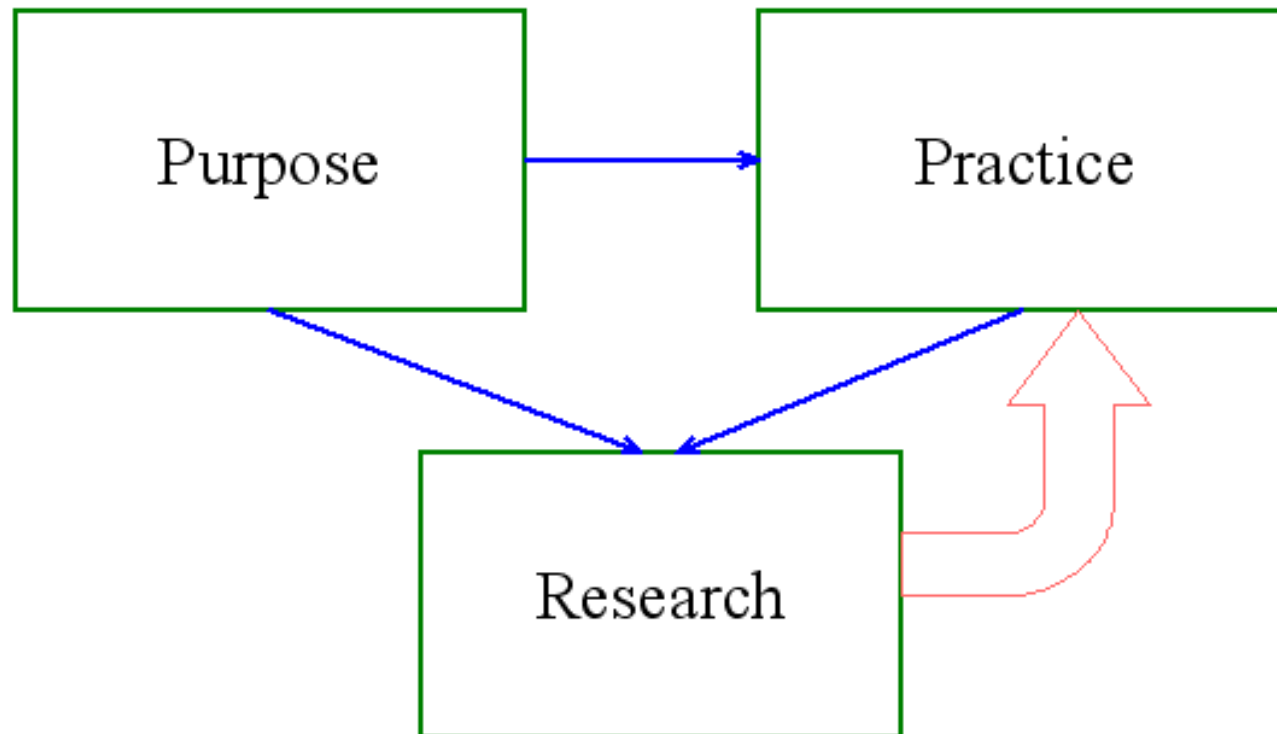
## Research Aims: Operations-Oriented, Academically Solid Studies

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- As a research institute associated with an ODA-implementing agency, JICA-RI will pursue research that can contribute to improving field operations.
- JICA-RI will aim at academically solid research, avoiding assertion, opinion or wishful thinking unsupported by robust empirical evidence.
- We will explore, from mid- and long-term perspectives, practices that best serve the basic purpose of international assistance.

We must not lose sight of the basic purpose of development assistance.

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# Purpose of Development Assistance

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- The basic purpose of international development assistance is to contribute to the realization of conditions in which people, wherever they live, are secure, free from threats to their lives and their integrity and capable of making full use of their potential.
- The task of realizing these conditions will inevitably be a complex and time-consuming one, requiring careful analysis from mid- and long-term perspectives.



# Emergencies

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- Aid-implementing organizations must be ready to extend emergency social safety nets to severely affected countries and people.
- Research institutes concerned with international cooperation should conduct careful, deliberate analysis of previous as well as current crises and their impacts on people in order to make responsible policy recommendations.



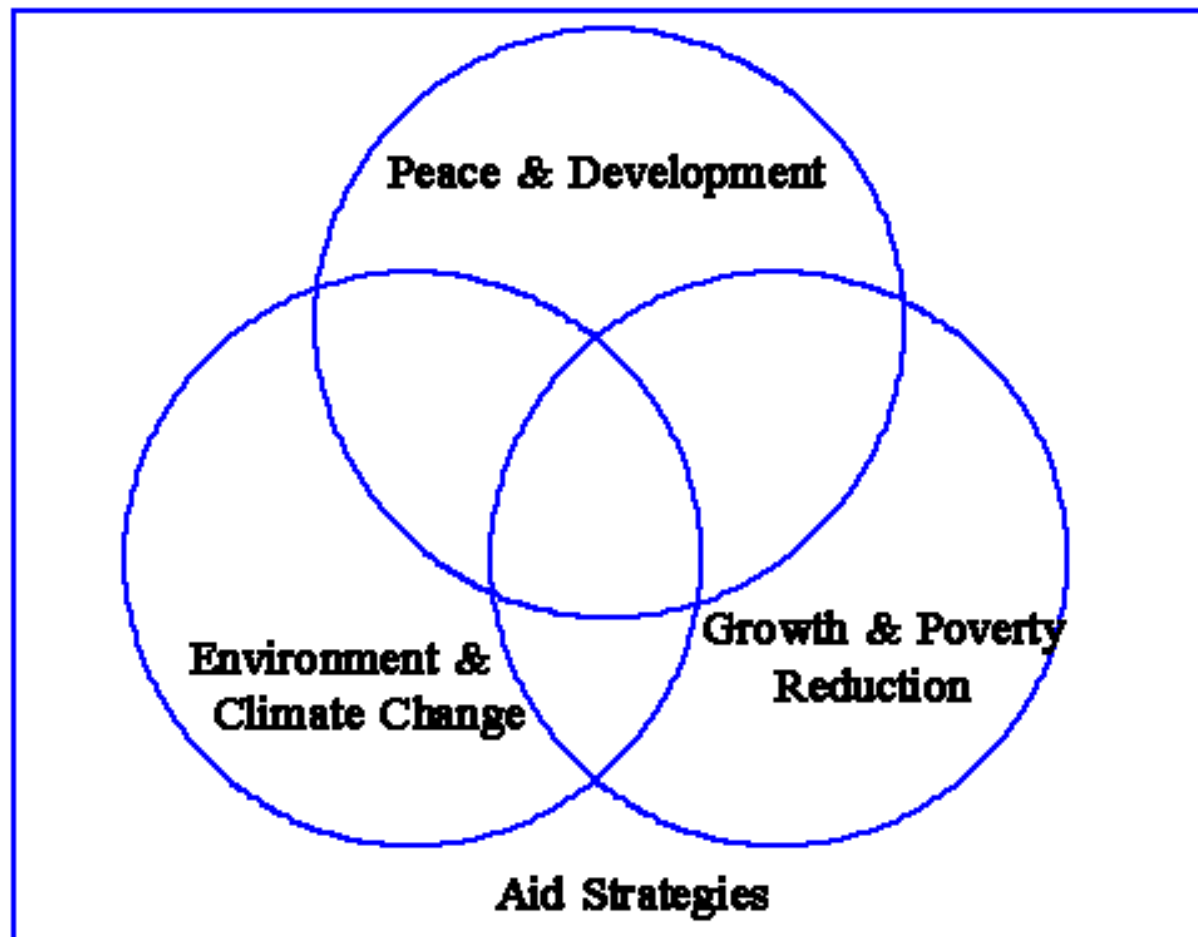
## Research Approaches

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- Cooperation and collaboration between practitioners and academics
- Movement of JICA officials between operations and research
- Archiving and utilizing materials and experiences accumulated over half a century of JICA activities
- Emphasis on field research

# Research Themes

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# Peace and Development

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- Structural and process factors of armed conflicts
- Post-conflict state building for law enforcement, livelihoods, and legitimacy
- Regional responses to cross-border threats to human security





# Growth and Poverty Reduction

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- Ethnic diversity and economic development in Africa
- Political economy of East Asia's recovery from the 1997/98 crisis
- Impact of infrastructure development on growth & poverty reduction in Asia and Africa
- Economic and social factors for the expansion of rice production in Africa



# Environment and Climate Change

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- Impact of climate change on Asia's mega cities
- Mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in Asia and Africa
- Resource governance and public action



# Aid Strategies

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- Revisiting capacity development through comparative case analyses
  - Water supply projects and village organization in Africa
  - Institutional change through infrastructure projects
- Studies on new donors
  - Emerging donor countries in Asia
  - CSR by Japanese companies



## Instead of a Conclusion

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- We will make every effort to carry out solid research and contribute to improving the quality of international cooperation by JICA and other international organizations, so that people can be free from insecurity and able to fully use their capabilities wherever they happen to be born.
- Thank you for listening.