JICA’s Actions Toward Achieving SDGs

Health for All to Leave No One Behind: Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Programs (2016-2030)

UHC means that all people can access the health services they need, of sufficient quality, without financial hardship. It is estimated that 350 million people cannot access essential health services, and every year 100 million people are pushed into poverty due to out-of-pocket payments on health services.

JICA, together with international organizations such as WHO and the World Bank, contributes to achieve UHC through strengthening health systems, maternal and child health and infectious disease control.

"Health Sector Policy Loan for Attainment of UHC in Kenya (ODA loan of up to 4 billion yen agreed in 2015)" supports the policy actions of the Government of Kenya for implementing Free Maternity Services, Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HISP), and Result-Based Financing for primary care facilities. By supporting these policy actions, this loan aims to increase facility-based delivery rates (from 44% in 2013 to 65% in 2018) and beneficiary households of HISP (from 0 to 42,300 households in 2018).

JICA implementing more than 200 projects around 60 countries all over the world

In Africa, more than 200 million people are undernourished, and the prevalence of stunting remains high among children under 5 years of age. JICA, together with NEPAD, launched IFNA at the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) in 2016.

In collaboration with African governments, international organizations, private corporations, civil society organizations, etc., the IFNA aims to accelerate the implementation of their comprehensive actions on the ground, with a view to contributing to agriculture, health, education, water/sanitation, gender, etc.

(April 2018)
**Forest Conservation Using Satellite Technology:**

*Forest Governance Initiative/JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics (JJ-FAST) (2016-2023)*

The loss of tropical forests continues unabated due to illegal logging and other factors, and implementing measures to stop the loss is a global priority. JICA, together with Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), developed an early warning system for deforestation of tropical forest (JJ-FAST) by using JAXA’s Advanced Land Observing Satellite (ALOS-2). The system monitors tropical forests for 77 countries and allows free access from anywhere in the world.

JICA also supports human resource development through technical cooperation, in addition to international seminars, regional seminars, etc. By doing so, JICA contributes to conserve tropical forests through the improved forest governance, with the aim of mitigating climate change and fostering biodiversity.

Between 2009 and 2012, JICA and JAXA supported the monitoring of illegal logging in the Amazon Basin of Brazil using observation data from ALOS, the predecessor to ALOS-2. More than 2,000 incidents of illegal logging were detected by ALOS in Brazil, which greatly contributed to a 40 percent reduction in illegal logging areas.

JJ-FAST is a web-based system using JAXA’s ALOS-2 to:

- Monitor and release deforestation data even in the rainy season
- Allow free access to the data from PCs and mobile devices from anywhere

*Project on Capacity Development for Forest Conservation and REDD+*

*Training Program “Tropical Forest Conservation Using the Forest Monitoring System with ALOS-2 Satellite” (Participating countries: Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Columbia, Peru, Malaysia, Philippines)*

**Integrating Economic, Social and Environmental Dimension of Sustainable Development:**

*Policy Reform Program in Mongolia (2017-2020)*

In Mongolia, the public debt-to-GDP ratio reached to 88 percent in 2016 along with the low GDP growth, due to a drop in the international prices of minerals, a slowdown in the economy of China, etc. Given these circumstances, economic and fiscal reforms as well as the promotion of helping the socially vulnerable are needed in Mongolia.

Under an international aid framework with the aim of economic and fiscal reconstruction, JICA signed a loan agreement with the Government of Mongolia for the Fiscal, Social and Economic Reform Development Policy Loan (up to 32 billion yen) in December 2017. In addition to strengthening economic growth, JICA comprehensively supports to improve social welfare and health care systems, and address urban environment issues such as air pollution in Ulaanbaatar, through collaboration with various other projects being carried out in Mongolia.

(Goals and targets to be achieved by the policy actions of the above project)

- **Target 2.1:** Ensure access to nutritious food
- **Goal 3:** Health and well-being for all
- **Target 4.3:** Ensure access to tertiary education
- **Target 4.4:** Increase the youths and adults who have relevant skills
- **Goal 5:** Economic growth and employment
- **Goal 9:** Infrastructure and industrialization
- **Target 11.1:** Ensure safe housing, basic services, etc., and upgrade slums
- **Target 11.3:** Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization
- **Target 11.6:** Reduce the adverse environmental impact of cities
- **Target 17.1:** Strengthen domestic resource mobilization capacity for tax and other revenue collection

**Public-Private Partnerships**

(SDGs Business, Private-Sector Investment Finance, Social Bonds)

In achieving the SDGs, collaboration among every stakeholder has become even more important, and the contribution of private-sector firms is even more strongly expected in order to solve various development issues. JICA has already promoted collaboration with the activities of the private sector, through Private-Sector Investment Finance, Preparatory Survey for Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Infrastructure Projects, etc.

In February 2017, JICA initiated the Feasibility Survey for SDGs Business in order to accelerate PPP for the achievement of the SDGs.

Since September 2016, JICA has issued Social Bonds defined by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) to mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries.

- **Private-Sector Investment Finance:** Tsetsi Wind Farm Project in Mongolia
  - Mongolia faces great challenges in meeting its growing demand for electricity as a result of its rapid economic growth. Also, as a country under the serious impact of climate change, the government has been promoting the introduction of clean energy. In September 2016, JICA signed financing agreements for the Tsetsi Wind Farm Project with Clean Energy Asia LLC, which is a joint venture formed by SB Energy Corporation in the SoftBank Group (Japan) and Newcom LLC of Mongolia. In October 2017, the 50MW wind power station started its operation by harnessing the rich wind resources of the Gobi region.

**Three pillars of JICA’s cooperation toward achieving the SDGs**

1. **Take a leadership to contribute to achieving the SDGs, which will result in promoting Japan’s cooperation philosophy: “human security” and “quality growth”**
2. **Play a key role in achieving 10* out of 17 goals making use of Japan’s own development experience**
3. **Introduce innovations and strengthen partnership to ensure the impact of its cooperation on the achievement of the SDGs**

* 10 goals: 2 (Zero hunger), 3 (Health), 4 (Education), 6 (Water/sanitation), 7 (Energy), 8 (Economic growth), 9 (Industry/infrastructure), 11 (Sustainable cities), 13 (Climate actions), and 15 (Forest/biodiversity)

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**JICA Volunteer Programs**

JICA Volunteer Programs support the grass-root level activities by Japanese citizens who cooperate in solving various problems in developing countries. Approximately 2,500 volunteers are dispatched to more than 70 countries around the world (February 2018). As one of the latest trends, there have been collaborations between private companies and JICA volunteers who are well-versed in the local culture and have hands-on knowledge about the local communities.

In Uganda, the Japanese medical soap and disinfectant manufacturer Saraya Co., Ltd. cooperated with JICA to investigate whether the local market would accept the use of disinfectants that can be used without water.

A JICA’s nursing volunteer working for a local hospital demonstrated how to use the disinfectant and explained its effects to hospital staff, and listened to the opinions of the hospital side about it. Utilizing such information shared by the JICA volunteer, Saraya is steadily preparing to introduce the disinfectant into the markets of Africa.

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**Japan International Cooperation Agency**

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**Partnership with Civil Society:**

Volunteer Programs

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