

Through technical cooperation and grant aid assistance, JICA has been active in the areas of environmental infrastructure and enhancing the capacity, as well as in harmonizing inter-ethnic collaboration between different communities in Kosovo.

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PHASE 2

**Scheme:** Technical Cooperation  
**Project Period:** June 2022 to June 2026  
**Counterpart organization:** Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Air pollution in urban areas of Kosovo has become a serious environmental problem due to emissions from the lignite-fired power plants, residential stationary sources such as heating and cooking, as well as vehicles, and its effect on human health is a major concern. In addition, compliance with the ambient air quality standards of the EU is also required, but Kosovo is lagging in this aspect as well.

Furthermore, Kosovo has strongly requested assistance for the capacity development, and support for establishing necessary systems and structures to help fulfill the EU obligations, which Kosovo aspires to access to in the future.

Under these circumstances, JICA has continued the effort to support capacity development to control air pollution in Kosovo and started implementation of the “Capacity Development Project for Air Pollution Control in Kosovo Phase 2” with the aim to develop capacities for air quality management based on technical evidence by creating future scenarios and evaluating the effectiveness of measures based on this scientific evidence.



## THE PROJECT FOR CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OF RADIO TELEVISION OF KOSOVO (RTK) PHASE 2

**Scheme:** Technical Cooperation  
**Project period:** January 2021 to January 2024  
**Counterpart organization:** Radio Television of Kosovo (RTK)

The goal of this project was providing assistance to RTK to enable accuracy, impartiality, and fairness in its programming, thereby providing a bridge to communication in this multiethnic country so that the programs of RTK are watched by a wide range of people in Kosovo. This was to be done with Japan's public media organization sharing its accumulated knowledge in technology, program production, and in the gathering and reporting of news.

The Project activities includes establishing Prizren and Mitrovica Regional offices, developing internal criteria for fair and unbiased program production, and utilizing digital archive system. The new regional offices allow for more in-depth regional coverage and the shaping of this information into news and programs. The project phase 3 is planned to start in 2024.



RTK in Prizren

## THE PROJECT FOR ENHANCEMENT OF CAPACITY FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT TOWARD SOUND MATERIAL-CYCLE SOCIETY PHASE 2

**Scheme:** Technical Cooperation  
**Project Period:** July 2021 to July 2024  
**Counterpart organizations:** Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure (MESPI), Municipalities of Malisheva, Rahovec, Suhareka and Dragash

Since 2011, JICA has supported improvements of waste management including donation of collection trucks in Prizren Municipality and four municipalities namely Malisheva, Suhareka, Rahovec, and Dragash. The measures taken in the Phase 1 project within the framework of the “Prizren model” include establishing a department in charge of waste management and allocating appropriate personnel as well as introducing a waste tax, allowed Prizren to improve its waste management capacity. On the other hand, in the four target municipalities, which were also included as project sites in the Phase 1 project, similar results could not be achieved. Against this background, the objective of the Phase 2 project has been set to strengthen the waste management capacity of MESPI and four target municipalities

where resources such as budget and personnel are limited. The phase 2 project will explore a method of improving waste management, which can be applicable to other small and medium-sized municipalities with limited resources in the country.



Training in Japan

## PROJECT ON CAPACITY BUILDING FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION THROUGH NATIONAL FOREST FIRE INFORMATION SYSTEM (NFFIS) AND ECO-DRR

**Scheme:** Technical Cooperation  
**Project period:** March 2021 to February 2026  
**Counterpart organization:** Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Ministry of Internal Affairs

The occurrence of forest fires in Kosovo not only affects the reduction of forest resources and biodiversity but delays the recovery of forests and may also lead to the occurrence of other natural disasters, such as soil erosion. Therefore, early detection and counter-measures against forest fires are very important for minimizing damage, and thus a system that monitors the whole country using satellite images from the sky is effective.

To tackle this issue, Kosovo has requested support from the Japanese government for the implementation of the “Project on Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction through National Forest Fire Information System (NFFIS) and Eco-DRR”.

National Forest Fire Information System (NFFIS) that has been introduced in Kosovo is an integrated Web-GIS system for fire prevention and early warning, which allows sharing information with relevant agencies. On the other hand, to realize a sustainable and resilient environment and to reduce disaster risks, the sustainable management, conservation, and restoration of ecosystems – known as “Eco-DRR (Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction)” is indispensable.

The purpose of the Project is to strengthen the capacity of government official in the prevention and mitigation of forest fires and other natural disasters through the establishment of NFFIS and Eco-DRR.



## ABOUT JICA

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) assists and supports developing countries as the executing agency of the Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA).

In accordance with its vision of "Leading the world with trust", JICA supports the resolution of issues of developing and transient countries by using the most suitable tools of various assistance methods and a combined regional-, country- and issue-oriented approach.

JICA oversees administering some ODA such as technical cooperation, finance and investment cooperation and grants in an integrated manner, except for contributions to international organizations. JICA, one of the world's largest bilateral aid agency, operates in approximately 140 countries and regions and has approximately 100 overseas offices.

### Technical Cooperation

For the human resources development and the formulation of administrative systems of developing countries, technical cooperation involves the dispatch of experts, the provision of necessary equipment and the training of personnel from developing countries in Japan and other countries. The cooperation plans can be tailored to address a broad range of issues.



*Meeting with counterparts - Project for Capacity Development for Air Pollution Control Phase 2*



*Counterpart Training in Japan - Project for Capacity Development of Radio Television of Kosovo Phase 2*

### Finance and Investment Cooperation

#### ODA LOAN

The ODA loans support developing countries by providing low-interest, long-term and concessional funds. The ODA loans are used for large-scale infrastructure and other forms of development that require substantial funds.

#### PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT FINANCE

JICA supports the acceleration of developing countries' economic/social growth through the private sector, through debt and equity investment for the development projects of private companies.



*Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project Phase 2 (India)*

### Grants

Grants are the provisions of funds to developing countries that have low income levels, without the obligation of repayment. Grants are used for the improvement of basic infrastructures such as schools, hospitals, water-supply facilities and roads, along with obtaining health and medical care, equipment and other requirements.



*The Project for Improvement of Solid Waste Management*

\* Applicable programs and cooperation vary from country to country.

Disaster Relief

Research

Cooperation through Citizen Participation



## ABOUT JICA BALKAN OFFICE

Established in 2006 in Belgrade, Serbia, JICA Balkan Office covers Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia.

JICA Balkan Office aids with growth and stability to the countries of the region and fostering the promotion of regional cooperation among the countries, working mainly in the area of environmental conservation, disaster risk reduction, private sector development and consolidation of peace.

\*The Government of Japan recognized Kosovo as an independent country on March 18th, 2008.

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