



## JICA's Activities in Bhutan - 2016



Photo by Takanobu Asano

Bhutan's first interaction with Japan started in 1962 when the Bhutanese government requested for an agricultural expert to help plan agricultural development in Bhutan. The Government of Japan dispatched Keiji Nishioka as an agricultural expert in May 1964, and since then started sending farm machineries, building farm roads, rehabilitating irrigation channels, dispatching JOCVs, accepting trainees and various other technical knowledge transfer methods. Agriculture and rural development is still key priority area for JICA's support to Bhutan.

## Agriculture & Rural Development

### Agriculture Mechanization

Farm mechanization in Bhutan is aimed at ending drudgery, saving costs, improving yield and enhancing productivity through the use of suitable farm machinery, tools and equipment.

- Current project:  
Technical Cooperation Strengthening of Farm Mechanization Phase II



### Cash Crop Development and Extension

Horticulture development can play a crucial role in poverty alleviation, improving food security and income generation of the farming community.

- Current project:  
Technical cooperation Integrated Horticulture Promotion Project in the Western Central Region



### Development of Irrigation Systems for Food Production

Rehabilitation/construction of irrigation systems contributes to improve national food sufficiency by increasing irrigation water supply, which is the bottleneck of food production.

- Current project: Grant Aid Project for the Rehabilitation of Taklai Irrigation System in Sarpang District



### Rural Business Development

In order to achieve equitable development in the country, small rural entrepreneurs and supporting agencies need to be equipped with practical skills of business development and marketing.

- Current Project:  
Technical Cooperation Community Entrepreneurial Capacity and Rural Enterprise Development



## Improvement of Infrastructure

### Road Connectivity

By replacing old bridges and providing new technologies/equipment, efficient and safe road transport needs to be ensured for poverty reduction in this predominantly mountainous country.

- Current project:  
Grant Aid Reconstruction of Bridges on Primary National Highway 4  
Technical Cooperation Master Plan Study on Road Slope Management in Bhutan  
Grant Aid Improvement of Machinery and Equipment for Construction of Rural Agricultural Road



### Rural Electrification

Access to electricity for un-electrified households in the rural areas will improve the living standards of the local residents and promote economic and social development.

- Current project: ODA Loan Rural Electrification Phase 2



### Geo-spatial Data Infrastructure

Development of 1/25,000 digital topographic maps covering the southern region of Bhutan aims at contributing agricultural and infrastructure development programs.

- Current project: Technical Cooperation Project on Development of National Geo-Spatial Data in Bhutan Support for Public Service

# Support for Democratization

## Local Government and Decentralization

Local Governments are encouraged to involve communities and Community Groups in matters of local governance and develop community ownerships of various public infrastructures and installations.

JICA through its three phases of LGDP projects has been instrumental in not only building the capacity of our local government officials but also in identifying and designing various training curriculums through its ICBP initiative.

- Current project:  
Technical cooperation Support for Community Engagement in Local Governance



## Strengthening Community Policing

- Current project:  
Technical Cooperation Country Focused Training for Strengthening the Capacity of Royal Bhutan Police



## Empowering Women

- Current project:  
Technical Cooperation Country Focused Training for Capacity Building of Government Officials and Rural Women on Gender Mainstreaming and Empowerment of Women

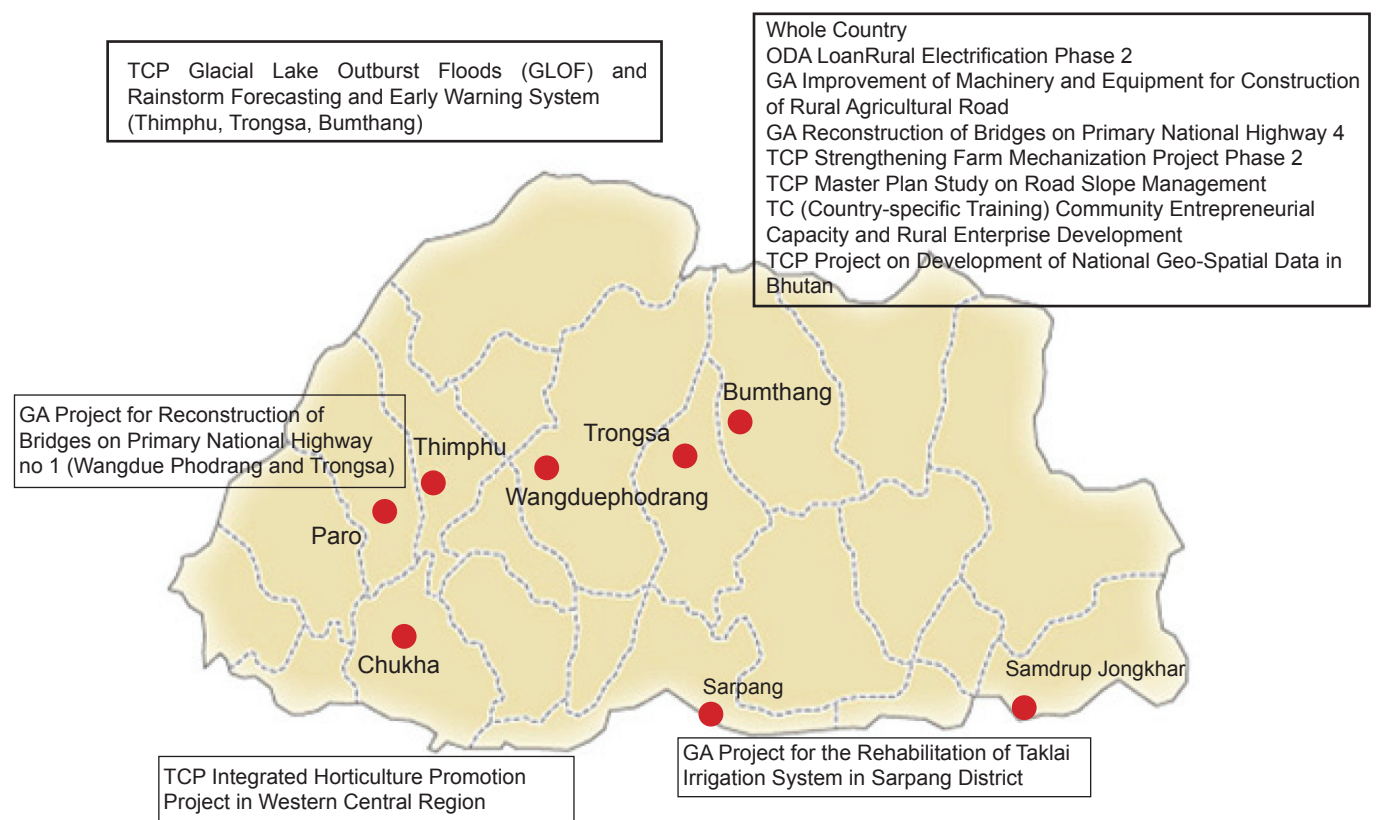
# Cooperation for Climate Change

## Policy Based Assistance for Climate Change

Bhutan is experiencing an increase in the number of disasters related to hydro-meteorological hazards, such as flash floods and rainstorms including cyclones that were brought about by global warming and climate change phenomenon, making it an urgent environmental and economic issue.

- Current project:  
Technical Cooperation Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) and Rainstorm Forecasting and Early Warning System

# On-Going Projects' Sites As of April, 2016



## JICA Volunteers

In July 1988, the first volunteer, a farm machinery engineer was dispatched to Bhutan based on the notes exchanged between the Royal Government of Bhutan and Government of Japan in April of 1987. Today 28 years later, a total of 545volunteers (Senior Volunteers and JOCVs) have been dispatched to contribute to the development of the kingdom and exchange of friendship.

During the initial stages of the JOCV program in Bhutan, agriculture and infrastructure mainly in civil engineering were the main fields of assignments. From 1992 onwards, request expanded in other several technical fields like telecommunication, system engineering, commerce and finance. Even the places of assignments began to spread to all over the country. The trend suddenly moved on towards the Health and Education where JOCV's were requested as Laboratory Technologists and Physical Education Instructor.

At present, there are 17 JOCVs (total 407) and 8 Senior Volunteers (total 138) serving in the kingdom. Bhutan has requested JVs and SVs in several technical and other fields. These include Environmentalist, Agriculture Machinery Advisor, Architects, Handicrafts Advisor, HVAV Engineer, Telecommunication, Automobile Engineer, Waste Management Advisor, Bridge Design & Implementation Advisors, Disaster Management, National Accounts, water resource engineer, Physical Education Instructor, Primary School Education (Math's Teacher) etc.



## JICA Partnership Program(JPP)

The JICA Partnership Program aims to bring direct benefits to the lives of the people in collaboration with Japanese development partners, mainly NGOs/CSOs, local governments and universities, by harnessing their accumulated experience and technologies for development at the grassroots level.

- Current Projects (as of 2016 April)
- The Social Inclusion Project for Differently-Abled Citizens
- Community-Based Sustainable Tourism Development Project in Haa
- Urban Greenery Re-vitalization by Enhancing Capacity on Floriculture and Amenity Landscaping
- Capacity Building and Introduction of Innovative Technologies to Improve Apple Production, Productivity and Processing
- Regional Revitalization through Intra-regional Recycle-based Organic Farming
- Livelihood Improvement of Mushroom Farmers in Western Bhutan



[www.jica.go.jp/bhutan](http://www.jica.go.jp/bhutan)

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