

Philippines

Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Bridges along Arterial Roads Project (III)



One of the bridges constructed by the project (Naguilian Bridge)

Outline of Loan Agreement

Loan Amount / Disbursed Amount	4,616 million yen / 4,365 million yen
Loan Agreement	December 1994
Terms & Conditions	Interest rate 3.0%p.a. Repayment period 30 years (Grace period 10 years)
Final Disbursement Date	October 2001

Project Outline

The project involved rehabilitation of superannuated bridges on the Pan-Philippine Highway, the largest north-south artery in the country, and Manila North Road, which connects Metro Manila and northern Luzon, targeting improved physical distribution on the links between the capital and the regions.

Results and Evaluation

This project was the successor to Japan's ODA loans extended in 1990-91, which were used to fund the rehabilitation of 84 bridges, and involved detailed studies of bridges constructed some 40-50 years ago that were conspicuously deteriorated, with replacement/rehabilitation being conducted on 8 bridges. The rehabilitation of these bridges, including one that collapsed due to the transit of overloaded vehicles or one that had been washed away due to flooding caused by typhoons and a temporal bridge was being used, was assigned a high level of priority. Due to superannuation, measures had been instituted on each of the bridges, including 5-ton weight restrictions and the prohibition of heavy vehicle traffic, however, the project enabled the weight limit to be lifted to 15 tons. Rehabilitation work was conducted sequentially and was completed between 1997 and 2000, contributing to annual increases in the volume of traffic, guaranteed physical distribution to the regions, and increased levels of convenience for residents.

Since the work was carried out by local corporations, the project is also indicated to have facilitated technological transfer via the introduction of new bridge engineering technologies throughout the design and implementation phases. Although there are no problems with the condition of project bridges, attention will need to focus on securing budget allocation for their operation and maintenance as a national issue in the future.