

Preface

In recent years, events such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the armed conflict between Israel and Hamas have disturbed world peace, posing a major threat to the free and open international order. Meanwhile, the effects of climate change grow more severe with each year. In addition, the threats posed by infectious diseases and the issue of debt crises present the world with a complex web of crises. As a result, there are doubts about whether the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be achieved by the 2030 deadline.



The Development Cooperation Charter, revised in June 2023, guides Japan's ODA and continues to emphasize human security as a guiding principle underlying all development cooperation. Human security is an idea that promotes the creation of a society in which all people can live with dignity, free from fear and want. To address the crises threatening human security, countries and organizations must collaborate in solidarity, leveraging their respective strengths to co-create new solutions and value. We believe such efforts will foster a sense of unity in protecting the international order, ultimately leading to a peaceful and prosperous world.

With this in mind, JICA will adhere to the concept of human security, while leveraging Japan's unique strengths in our cooperation efforts. Accordingly, we aim to address social issues in developing countries and help create a sustainable world through quality growth.

Project evaluation is one of the key components of development cooperation. JICA's project evaluation is conducted in accordance with the PDCA cycle, aiming to ensure accountability through the timely and appropriate disclosure of evaluation results, and to use lessons learned from these results to further improve projects.

This report summarizes JICA's project evaluation system and provides an overview of evaluation results. This fiscal year, in addition to implementing ex-post evaluations of projects, we further developed our evaluations by incorporating the perspective of "People's Well-Being," a concept that underlies the principle of human security and the SDGs. Moreover, in order to enhance the impact and accountability of our evaluation activities, we have undertaken several initiatives. These include thematic evaluations focusing on topics such as *Nikkei* (Japanese emigrants and their descendants) communities in Latin America and aid coordination, the compilation of systematic reviews and impact evaluations, and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for text analysis of the lessons learned from these evaluations.

It is our hope that this report will be widely shared and will help promote a better understanding of JICA's activities. We kindly ask for your continued support and encouragement, as well as suggestions for JICA's future operations.

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TANAKA Akihiko, President

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)