

Preface

Today, the world faces prolonged, compounded crises. Climate change is causing more frequent natural disasters with increasing numbers of casualties, even as the threat of infectious diseases has not faded. Moreover, challenges to a free and open international order based on the rule of law persist, including ongoing armed conflicts and humanitarian crises.

Global economic trends and domestic policies are closely interlinked, affecting international relations. Without international cooperation, it is impossible to address such compounded crises. Indeed, it is this turmoil in the international order that makes international cooperation — in line with JICA's vision of "Leading the World with Trust" — all the more essential.

In this era of compounded crises, JICA aims to develop innovative solutions through co-creation with a wide range of partners.

Project evaluation is a cornerstone of effective international cooperation. At JICA, project evaluations are 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. JICA is continuously working to develop evaluation systems and methodologies that meet the changing landscape of international cooperation, as well as the roles it is expected to play.

This report presents JICA's project evaluation system and provides an overview of evaluation results. This fiscal year, in addition to the consistent implementation of ex-post evaluations, we enhanced our evaluations by assessing project outcomes — such as improvements in people's happiness and satisfaction, as well as empowerment and social inclusion — from the perspectives of "People's Well-Being" and "Leave No One Behind." This initiative is part of our efforts to realize JICA's mission of human security and the principles of the SDGs. Another effort involved conducting "thematic evaluations" (comprehensive and cross-sectoral analyses) based on the outcomes and lessons learned from projects aimed at promoting gender equality, as well as working to utilize evidence, with the goal of using project evaluations to further enhance learning, improvement, and accountability. Furthermore, through activities such as joint evaluations of the Third Country Training Program under South-South cooperation with Thailand, we have also worked to foster "co-creation of knowledge" by sharing and advancing insights among emerging donors, recipient countries, and developed-country donors.

It is our hope that this report will be widely shared and will help promote a better understanding of JICA's activities. We look forward to your continued support and engagement as we strive to further enhance our activities.



March 2026

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