

# JICA's Initiatives for Refugee Situations: Leveraging the potential of development cooperation

Support for refugees and their host communities towards peaceful coexistence and solutions



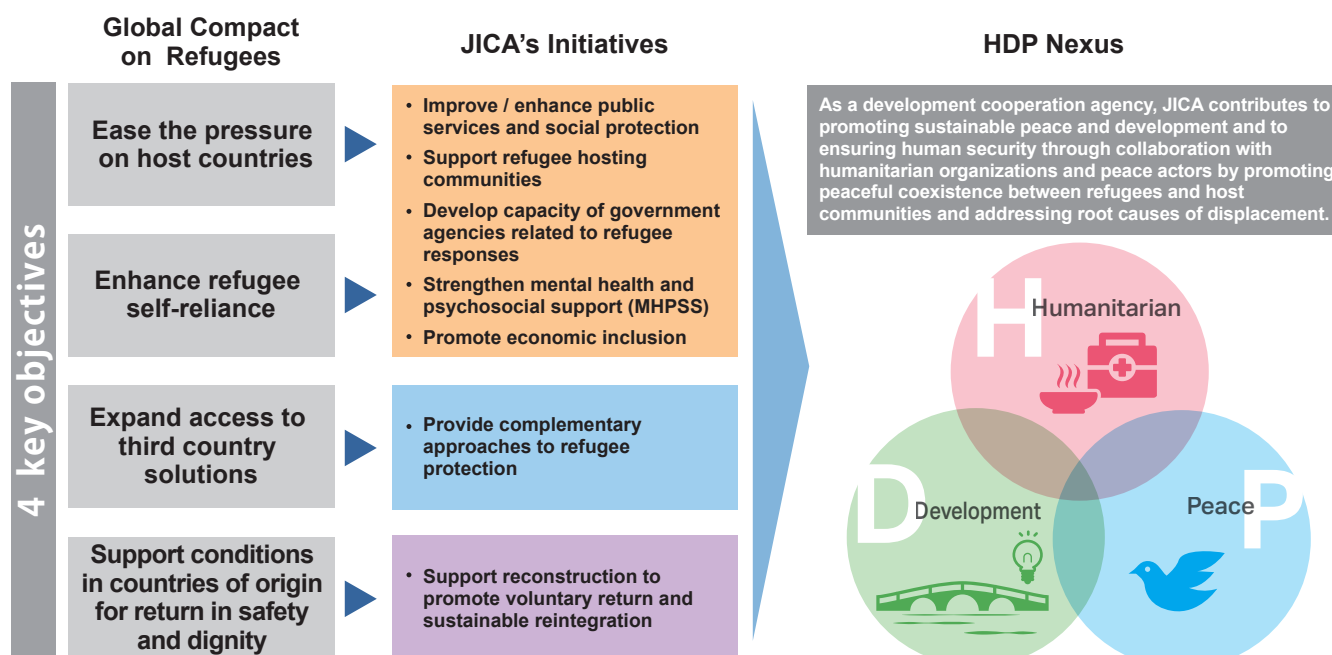
Photo: Takeshi Kuno

## JICA's refugee responses and the HDP Nexus

The number of forcibly displaced populations continues to be at its peak every year, with more than 110 million persons displaced at the end of June 2023, with 75% of refugees hosted by low- and middle-income countries. Furthermore, 66% of refugees are in protracted situations (displaced for five years or more) due to increased complexity of conflicts and political instability. Faced with compound crises including climate change, innovative forms of support is needed to ensure the safety and dignity of refugees and forcibly displaced persons.

JICA responds to the forced displacement crises through the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDP Nexus) to ensure human security. JICA provides support to enhance the capacity of host countries and communities to reduce tensions, improve the public services to both refugees and their host communities, help their self-reliance through capacity development, and promote better conditions for voluntary repatriation and reintegration.

In line with the four key objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees, JICA responds to increasing and protracted challenges of refugees and forcibly displaced persons through the mutually complementary efforts of humanitarian, development and peace actors.





## Economic inclusion

### ► Uganda

#### Supporting refugee self-reliance through rice production



JICA's Promotion of Rice Development Project in Uganda, which has been ongoing for many years, has expanded its rice production training to include refugees. By supporting refugees learn cultivation techniques, JICA is contributing to food security and improving their livelihoods.

### ► Zambia

#### From resettlement / local integration to self-reliance of former refugees



Photo: Kenji Tajima

Zambia has historically accepted large numbers of refugees. JICA is promoting the sustainable resettlement of former refugees by the Zambian government through the collaboration for resettlement plan/procedures and livelihood improvement activities.

## Promoting public services and social protection

### ► Uganda

#### Realizing integrated development plans for refugees and host communities



JICA continues to promote peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities by supporting the government's efforts for refugee inclusion to the national development plan. It supports capacity development of local governments for planning and implementation of development plans that integrate the needs of refugees and host communities.

### ► Moldova

#### Mitigating the impact of the influx of refugees from Ukraine



JICA aims to improve the environment for accepting refugees from Ukraine and mitigate the impact on the Moldovan people through financial support. Additionally, by providing equipment to core hospitals, JICA is supporting medical systems that face many challenges due to the influx of refugees.

### ► Afghanistan

#### Improving the living conditions through supports for health, education and livelihoods in areas hosting forcibly displaced persons and returnees



While the number of refugees from Afghanistan and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in country is increasing, some people are also returning to the country and their homeplaces. JICA works with UNHCR to provide area-based assistance to improve the living conditions of IDPs, returnees and host communities.

## Comprehensive support for host communities

### ► Bangladesh

#### Easing the pressure on host communities



JICA is implementing initiatives in areas that accept displaced people from Myanmar, such as infrastructure development, livelihood enhancement, education and health service improvements, with the goals of easing burden on local communities and improving their livelihoods.

### ► Jordan

#### Infrastructure development for the host communities of Syrian refugees



JICA is working to ease the pressure of accepting refugees by providing assistances such as improving water supply systems and providing equipment needed for waste management in the northern region.

## JICA's cooperation for refugee issues: Cases

JICA promotes Humanitarian - Development - Peace Nexus (HDP Nexus) and works to ensure human security for refugees, forcibly displaced persons and their host communities.



## Cooperation with government agencies concerning refugees and forcibly displaced persons

### ► Uganda / Zambia / Bangladesh

#### Cooperation with government's authorities at the policy and strategic level through the dispatch of experts



In order to support host countries to promote the HDP Nexus, JICA is supporting capacity development of ministries concerning to refugee and displaced persons by dispatching experts to Uganda, Zambia and Bangladesh.

## Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)

### ► Türkiye / Jordan

#### Enhancing psychosocial care for youth and children of refugees and host communities



In response to stress and psychological trauma associated with forced displacement and anxiety while living in the host societies, JICA continues to strengthen its mental health and psychosocial support for youth and children through technical cooperation and other means.

## Complementary approaches to refugee protection

### ► Accepting international students into Japan

#### Protection and human resource development through education



JICA has been working with UNHCR since 2017 to accept Syrian refugees who have been deprived of the opportunity to pursue their study in Japanese universities. JICA is also to expand the opportunities for more refugees and displaced persons.

## Reconstruction support to promote return and sustainable reintegration

### ► Colombia

#### Facilitating return and development by strengthening resilience of conflict-affected areas



JICA promotes self-reliance and development through mine action activities and community rebuilding efforts such as rural development in conflict-affected communities, inclusive of migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and local residents.

### ► South Sudan

#### Support for improving the capacity of local government



In order to rebuild local communities and consolidate peace in South Sudan, which deals with many refugees and returnees, JICA is supporting the capacity development of local government officials to ensure that local governments provide appropriate basic services based on collaborative efforts between the local governments and residents.

### ► Ukraine

#### Assisting with recovery and reconstruction following invasion damage



JICA supports the return of refugees through recovery and reconstruction assistance following the damages on their living environments due to invasion. JICA extends assistance to actions against landmines and unexploded ordnances, which contaminate approximately 30% of the country's territory. JICA also supports debris management and the restoration of infrastructure.



# Global Refugee Forum and JICA's Partnership



## JICA's involvements in the Global Refugee Forum

At the 2nd Global Refugee Forum, JICA supports the multi-stakeholder pledge for the HDP Nexus (led by Japan), as well as to expand its support for refugees and host communities in the areas such as economic inclusion, peacebuilding, psychosocial support, support for Rohingya displaced persons and complementary pathways.



Photo: UNHCR

## Partnership with UNHCR

UNHCR and JICA concluded the first Memorandum of Cooperation in 1999 when late Sadako Ogata served as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Since then, UNHCR and JICA have been important partners with each other, aiming to ensure human security. Keeping in mind the humanitarian and development nexus, UNHCR, which provides humanitarian assistance, and JICA, a development agency, complement each other to advance cooperation for refugees and forcibly displaced persons.



Photo: UNHCR

## Partnership with private sector

Recent studies and experience have confirmed that refugees can be positive economic agency in local economies, and that business activities for and by refugees can make viable contribution to the local economies. In this context, JICA is exploring ways to support refugee self-reliance and host community development in partnership with the private sector.

## Collaboration with civil society

In order to respond to diverse needs of refugees and host communities, JICA promotes collaboration with NGOs, local governments, universities, and other civil society organizations through a variety of means including grassroots technical cooperation.



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Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is an international cooperation organization that is centrally responsible for the implementation of bilateral assistance among Japan's Official Development Assistance. JICA cooperates with about 150 countries and regions around the world.

<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/issues/peace/index.html>

