

# Building peaceful and just societies without fear and violence

JICA aims to create peaceful societies

that leave no one behind by helping

to build resilient states and

societies that can prevent

outbreaks and

recurrences of

violent conflicts.

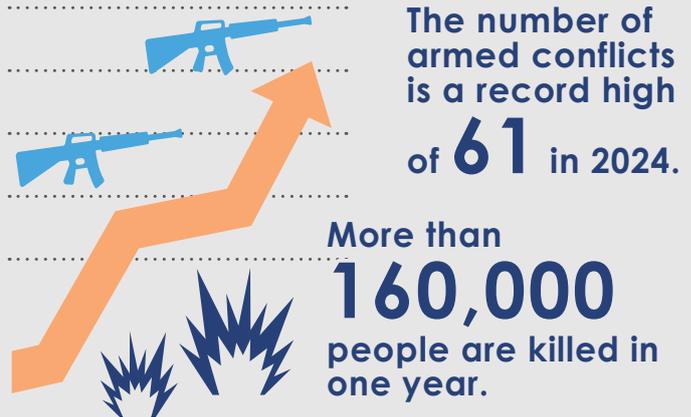
To mitigate conflict risks and to strengthen state and societal capacities to deal with crises and threats, JICA works on capacity development and institution building to create governments that are trusted by the people, as well as community reconciliation and the recovery, reconstruction, and development of social and human capital.



## Violent conflicts are on the rise and are a major cause of poverty.

The number of armed conflicts globally has been on the rise since 2015, reaching a record high of 61 in 2024, killing more than 160,000 people, the largest in this century.

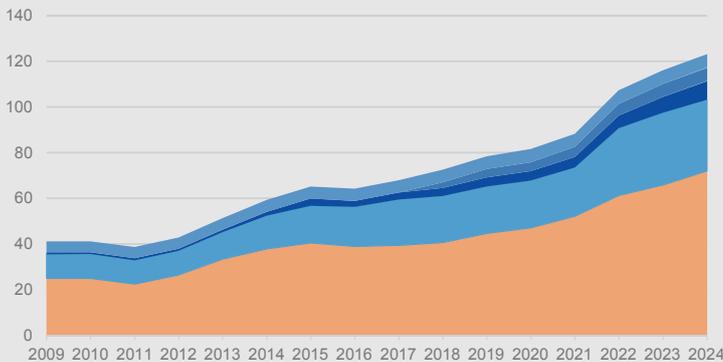
Currently, the countries with the highest poverty rates are concentrated in fragile and conflict-affected states and in Sub-Saharan Africa and conflict is a major cause of poverty. According to the World Bank's estimate, two-thirds of extreme poverty will be concentrated in fragile and conflict-affected countries by 2030.



## More than 120 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced

As of the end of 2024 as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order.

- Internally displaced people
- Refugees (under UNHCR's mandate)
- Asylum-seekers
- Palestine refugees (under UNRWA's mandate)
- Other people in need of international protection



Source : UNHCR Global Trends

## The number of forcibly displaced persons surge due to increased and prolonged conflicts.

The number of refugees and internally displaced people is also at its peak and now with more than 120 million, of which 73% are hosted by low- and middle-income countries. Since the beginning of the 2010s, while large-scale country-wide civil wars have decreased, conflicts in smaller regions and remote areas in or across some countries have become more frequent, and they tend to be protracted. Currently, 67% of refugees are in protracted refugee situations (displaced for more than five years). Some protracted conflicts have spread across borders into neighboring countries, or have involved non-state armed groups moving through unstable areas. There is a growing risk of the expansion of global or regional terrorist groups with extremist ideologies and violent extremism.

## Japan respects the rule of law and maintains the principle to resolve any disputes peacefully and diplomatically. Japan contributes to build peace in the international community based on its own experiences.

Based on its own experiences of World War II and post-war reconstruction, Japan respects the rule of law and maintains the principle to resolve any disputes peacefully and diplomatically, not by the use of force. Japan has its own state-building experience after the Meiji Restoration in the late 19th century, when it created and developed its state institutions as a non-Western country by adapting itself to the rules of the international community at the time. Japan's experience can be shared as an experience of building a state where universal values are adapted to each country's circumstances, dialogue is emphasized, and the dignity of each individual is protected based on the rule of law. In addition, Japan's experiences of post-war reconstruction, response to disasters such as the Great East Japan Earthquake, and subsequent reconstruction

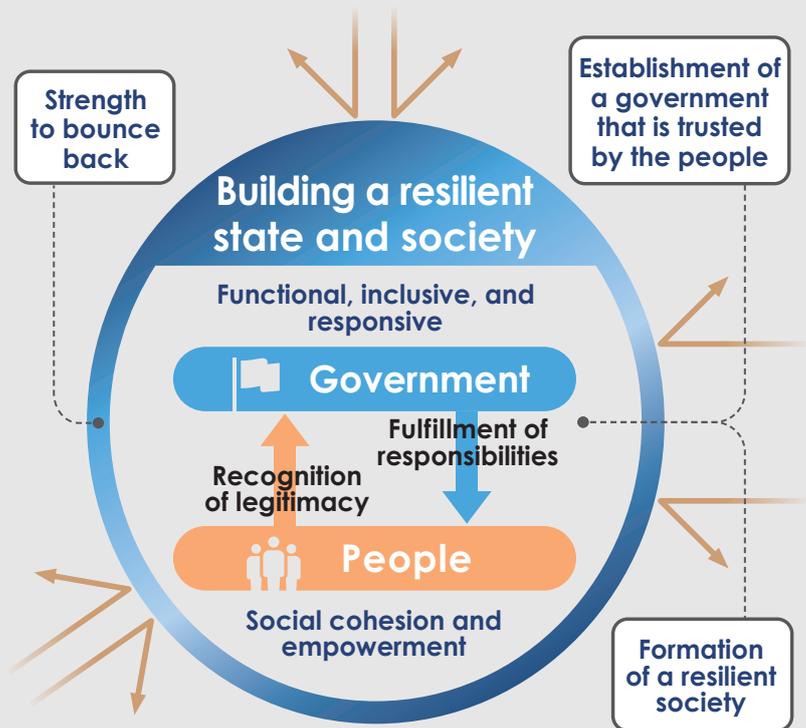
can provide many insights for reconstruction and institution building in situations where social and administrative functions have been disrupted.

JICA has been strengthening its activities for peacebuilding since the 1990s, and has made efforts to operationalize "human security" principles. In particular, JICA's approach of institution building and capacity development through dialogues with partner countries has been effective in building trust in the societies in these countries. It also has extensive knowledge and experiences as a development agency in dealing with refugees and displaced people, as well as the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus through its dialogues and partnership with humanitarian agencies such as UNHCR.

Approach 1

### Trust building through capacity development of local governments

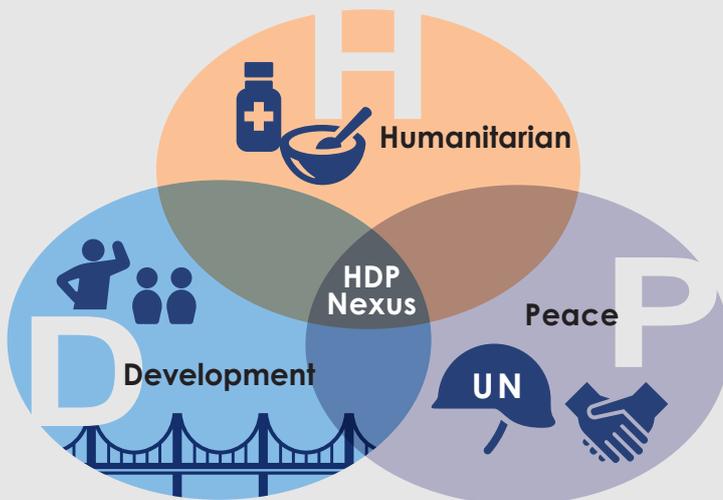
To build resilient states and societies that prevent the outbreak and recurrence of violent conflicts, JICA will support fostering trust based on the "human security" approach, which consists of protection and empowerment. To establish a government that is trusted by its citizens, JICA supports the capacity development of local governments, which are closest to the people, so they can deliver inclusive and responsive public services. Furthermore, in conflict-affected societies, JICA assists in rebuilding trust among people from diverse backgrounds, including youth, women, former combatants, victims, displaced persons, and returnees, through collaborative efforts such as improving basic infrastructure and enhancing livelihoods.



Approach 2

### Addressing increasing and prolonged forced displacement

JICA, as a development cooperation agency, responds to increasing and prolonged forced displacement situation in cooperation with humanitarian agencies and peace actors such as diplomacy and security actors. By promoting the self-reliance of displaced persons and strengthening the socio and economic capacities of host countries, JICA aims to transform host communities into inclusive societies that enable peaceful coexistence with displaced populations, ultimately supporting the creation of conditions for their voluntary and sustainable return to areas of origin.



Approach 3 Mine Action

Landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) continue to hinder recovery and development, posing a threat to people's lives for many years after conflicts have ended. JICA aims to reduce the risk of impact from landmines and UXO and to promote the social inclusion of victims through survey and clearance, risk education and victims assistance. In doing so, JICA assists in strengthening the national ownership and capacity of affected countries so that mine action activities could be carried out sustainably and effectively. Another feature of JICA's cooperation is its collaboration with Cambodia, which has been engaged in mine action for almost 30 years, and JICA promotes knowledge sharing with Cambodia and other affected countries.



## 1

## Supporting the Establishment of an Autonomous Government and Consolidation of Peace in Mindanao, Philippines

Mindanao experienced over 40 years of civil war between the government and armed groups. In 2014, peace agreement was reached between the Government of the Philippines and Moro Islamic Liberation Front, and preparations are underway to establish the Bangsamoro Autonomous Government.

JICA has supported the peace process through cooperation in various fields since before the peace agreement. Currently, JICA is supporting to strengthen the administrative capacity of an autonomous government to be able to provide inclusive services to its people. Furthermore, in order to facilitate the implementation of the peace agreement, JICA is supporting the socio-economic transformation of decommissioned combatants through skills training and fostering trust among conflict parties.



Skills training of decommissioned combatants (coconut farming, production and processing)

## 2

## Comprehensive Support to Building a Peaceful Society That Leaves No One Behind in Colombia

Colombia has endured over 50 years of civil war between the government and armed groups. Even after the 2016 peace agreement with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), armed groups continue to engage in combat, primarily in rural areas. In conflict-affected regions, JICA is supporting the improvement of administrative services, promoting cooperative activities in agriculture and livelihoods, facilitating the return and resettlement of internally displaced persons, and advancing mine action and assistance to conflict victims. It also promotes peace education in collaboration with Okinawa, Japan, based on its post-war experience. Through comprehensive approach, JICA contributes to the implementation of peace agreement and building resilient societies which reduce disparities and leave no vulnerable group behind.



Clearing landmines

### Working with Partners

## Partnership with international organizations and NGOs, including humanitarian and peace actors. Leveraging Japan's experiences and lessons learned from post-war reconstruction and post-disaster recovery.

JICA works with a wide range of international organizations and NGOs, including humanitarian agencies and peace actors, to prevent conflict and mitigate fragility in countries and regions through complementary partnership. JICA also works in cooperation with local governments in Japan in order to

share Japan's experiences in state-building, and post-war and post-disaster reconstruction. Furthermore, JICA promotes partnerships with the private sector to foster self-reliance and improve livelihoods in conflict-affected areas, as well as to develop technologies and equipment to advance mine action.



Nibancho Center Building, 5-25 Nibancho,  
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8012, Japan  
Email: gpgpb@jica.go.jp



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.

### What is JICA Global Agenda

JICA's 20 cooperation strategies for global issues to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 and to the realization of Human Security as the guiding principle of Japan's development cooperation. We set global goals based on an analysis of the issues and promote our development cooperation projects to achieve them. Furthermore, we aim to expand the results of development cooperation by promoting dialogue and collaboration with our partner countries as well as various actors at home and abroad.