

Safety Policy for Construction Works in Japanese ODA Projects

1. Basic Concept

The highest priority must be placed on ensuring safety and protecting human life in construction works of Japanese ODA projects. For Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as JICA), an organization that aims to realize Human Security and supports economic and social development in developing countries, it is unacceptable that the lives of those involved in its projects to be endangered. JICA is expected to ensure high safety standards on its all construction sites, considering the fundamental principles and rights at work indicated in the United Nations 'Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights'¹. JICA is determined to improve prevention measures and reduce occupational accidents, with the aim of eventually eradicating all preventable accidents.

JICA recognizes and thoroughly implements its role in disseminating “the Japanese culture of safety” to all organizations and individuals engaged in Japanese ODA projects.

2. Basic Policy

(1) Promoting the highest priority on safety for all construction works

JICA will further promote maximum safety measures for prevention of occupational accidents. This will ensure that all parties in construction works prioritize safety and protecting human life, in compliance with the following basic policy for safety management.

Basic policy for safety management

- Full implementation of measures to eliminate causes of accidents
- Full implementation of measures to prevent accidents
- Compliance with the related rules and regulation applied to Japanese ODA projects
- Full implementation of measures to prevent public accidents
- Full implementation of PDCA (Plan, Do, Check, Act) cycle of safety management
- Information sharing with all parties
- Ensuring participation of all relevant parties in construction safety

measures

In order to ensure safety in construction works, JICA formulated “The Guidance for the Management of Safety for Construction Works in Japanese ODA Projects,” “JICA Standard Safety Specification (JSSS),” and so forth. JICA is determined to improve the implementation of safety measures in compliance with the Guidance and JSSS. JICA is also determined to promote the full implementation of safety measures through site visits by JICA experts and missions.

¹ 'Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights'

(2) Promoting a safety culture

JICA will promote the dissemination of our experience in construction safety, which can be branded as “the Japanese culture of safety,” in cooperation with employers, consultants and contractors.

- JICA will strive to establish mechanisms of self-sustained and proactive occupational safety measures in relevant organizations, such as executing agencies, and will foster momentum to raise awareness on safety measures in developing countries.
- JICA will promote understanding among all parties in developing countries on the importance of prioritizing safety and protecting human life. We will also stress the need to invest in adequate safety management measures and highlight that by conducting appropriate safety management, efficiency, productivity and quality can be enhanced.

In order to disseminate a safety culture, JICA will support developing countries' safety management capacity development through ODA projects, including construction works and technical cooperation.

The Safety Policy for Construction Works in Japanese ODA Projects will be communicated to all employees and personnel who work for or on the behalf of JICA. It will also be made available to the wider public.

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Akihiko Tanaka

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