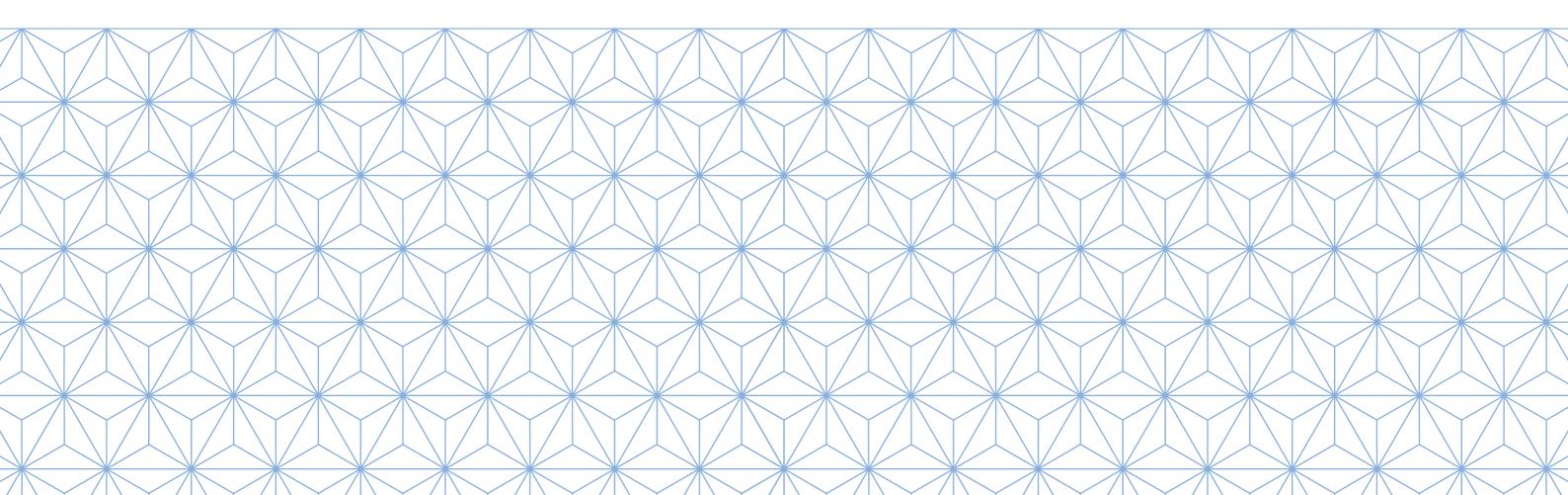


JICA PROFILE 2024

JICA
PROFILE
2024

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY





# Efforts to Realize *Human Security* Through Co-creation, Founded on Trust Built with 70 Years of Cooperation

The year 2024 marks 70 years since Japan joined the Colombo Plan in 1954 and initiated its Official Development Assistance (ODA). Around the world, events such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the armed conflict between Israel and Hamas have disturbed world peace and pose a major threat to the free and open international order. The effects of climate change grow more severe with each year. In addition, the threat of infectious diseases and the issue of debt crises present the world with a complex web of crises. As a result, there are doubts about achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 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-creating 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* as we continue to utilize Japan's strengths in our cooperation efforts. We aim to address social issues in developing countries and help create a sustainable world through *quality growth*. In light of changes in both domestic and international situations in fiscal 2023, we actively worked on projects to support reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine and to combat climate change in cooperation with the private sector. In Japan, these efforts included initiatives to strengthen ties between local governments and developing countries, as well as to foster an inclusive society where all people can

live safely and securely together. In addition, thanks to the smooth progress of infrastructure projects in India and other countries following the COVID-19 pandemic, we achieved our largest-ever cooperation success in terms of expenditure.

At JICA, we believe we have a very important role in promoting sustainability as an organization that assists developing countries in achieving the SDGs. In November 2023, we formulated the JICA Sustainability Policy. JICA will also review its organizational management practice to further promote sustainability management.

We will continue to promote co-creation with various partners and proactively propose attractive cooperation packages that leverage Japan's strengths. We will also ensure that all relevant parties take thorough safety measures. Through these efforts, we will contribute to realizing *human security*, protecting a free and open international order and boosting the world's trust in Japan.



December 2024 **TANAKA Akihiko**President

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

02 JICA PROFILE 2024 03

The Significance of Japan's International Cooperation

JICA's Endeavors

Types of JICA's Cooperation

The international community is at a historical turning point. With increasingly unbridled global geopolitical competition, along with attempts to unilaterally change the status quo through the use of force, multilateralism and international order based on the rule of law, which have fostered the stability and prosperity of the international community, are confronted with serious challenges, thus posing a more serious risk of dividing the international community. In addition, we have recognized climate change as a more concrete problem, while the global spread of infectious diseases and sharp rises in food and energy prices around the world have compounded crises by slowing economic growth and creating economic disparity both domestically and abroad.

In today's era of compounded crises, it is difficult for Japan to address the various issues on its own. Major countries also bear the responsibility to cooperate with the international community and work together to address the development issues in developing countries, as well as global issues that are increasingly complex and serious. Furthermore, in order to create an international environment that is desirable for both Japan and the world by considering how effective international cooperation has been in achieving its objectives, we must carry out international cooperation in a more strategic, effective, and sustainable manner.

International society is exposed to compounding crises, and the social and developmental issues being faced are becoming increasingly complex. In this backdrop, JICA will strengthen its ability to prevent and respond to a variety of crises in keeping with its philosophy of *human security*, further promoting the creation of an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economic community.

Based on the priority policies presented in the Development Cooperation Charter, JICA undertakes activities in three main areas: (1) "Quality growth" in the new era and the eradication of poverty through such growth; (2) Realization of peaceful, secure, and stable societies, and maintenance and strengthening of a free and open international order based on the rule of law; and (3) Leading international efforts to address increasingly complex and serious global issues. In this context, it promotes the co-creation of new solutions with partners in Japan and other countries, including developing countries. It also contributes to resolving issues in Japan, by circulating the solutions to social issues and the knowledge and experience cultivated in collaboration with developing countries over the course of 70 years.

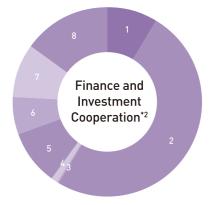
JICA has various types of cooperation, including Technical Cooperation, Finance and Investment Cooperation, and Grants.

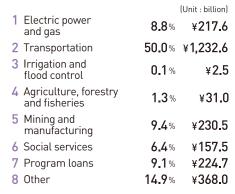
Technical Cooperation	People-to-people cooperation
Finance and Investment Cooperation	Lending or investing of funds under concessional terms to developing countries for their development
Grants	Core infrastructure development and equipment provision
Citizen Participation	A broader base of international cooperation
Emergency Disaster Relief	Response to natural and other disasters
Research	Co-creating practical knowledge for peace and development
Public-Private Partnerships	Supporting social and economic development through private sector business activities

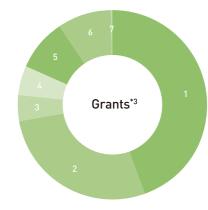
Scale of Operations \$2,808.6\$ billion



			(Unit : billion)
1	Planning and administration	8.4%	¥16.0
2	Public works and utilities	<b>17.9</b> %	¥33.9
3	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	10.7%	¥20.2
4	Mining and manufacturing	0.8%	¥1.6
5	Energy	3.4%	¥6.4
6	Business and tourism	3.8%	¥7.2
7	Human resources	10.4%	¥19.7
8	Health and medical care	6.8%	¥12.9
9	Social welfare	<b>1.7</b> %	¥3.2
10	Other	36.0%	¥68.0







		(Unit : billion)
1 Planning and administration	44.6%	¥69.3
2 Public works and utilities	27.6%	¥42.9
<ol> <li>Agriculture, forestry and fisheries</li> </ol>	4.3%	¥6.6
4 Energy	<b>5.2</b> %	¥8.0
5 Human resources	8.9%	¥13.8
6 Health and medical care	<b>9.</b> 0%	¥13.9
7 Social welfare	0.5%	¥0.7

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

- \*1 Technical Cooperation expenses include Technical Cooperation expenses managed under the Finance and Investment Account budget, but exclude administration costs.
- \*2 Total commitment amount of ODA Loans and Private-Sector Investment Finance.
- \*3 Aggregated amount of Grants committed through concluding of respective Grant Agreements.

JICA PROFILE 2024

JICA PROFILE 2024

Overview of

Fiscal 2023

Operations in

### To Leave No One Behind

The SDGs, adopted at the United Nations in September 2015, are a set of international goals that aim to eradicate poverty and realize a sustainable society by 2030 based on the core principle of "leaving no one behind." The SDGs consist of 17 goals that address the social, economic, and environmental dimensions, and 169 targets to achieve them. Both developed and developing countries are required to take them on, with various stakeholders joining together.

The year 2023 marks the "halfway point" of the SDGs, which were formulated in 2015 and are to be achieved by 2030. The quadrennial SDG Summit was also held this year, and momentum has been building for the entire international community to make further strides toward achieving the SDGs. In addition to communicating and sharing with the international community its contribution to the SDGs through cooperation-related initiatives to date, JICA is also looking toward enhanced cooperation strategies as we head toward the year 2030.

JICA will contribute toward the achievement of the SDGs by aiming to realize "Human Security," which is the guiding principle of the Development Cooperation Charter adopted by the Government of Japan. In accordance with the concept of Human Security, we believe that the creation of sustainable, resilient economies and societies that leave no one behind, and which are also able to protect peoples' lives, livelihoods and dignity, constitute an important social reform for the purpose of achieving the SDGs.

Approaches to Achieve the SDGs

# SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT



















### Mobilizing a Wider Range of Resources to Tackle Global Issues

The JICA Global Agenda is a set of cooperation strategies for global issues that identifies the development goals and actions undertaken from a global perspective in terms of contributing toward the SDGs.

We delineate strategies for 20 issues in alignment with the SDGs of Prosperity, People, Peace, and Planet. Herein, we aim to realize human security while broadening our impact through collaboration and co-creation with our diverse partners.

Diamet

Danla

Dassassilve

Prosperity	People	Peace	Planet
01	06	11	16
Urban and Regional Development	Health	Peacebuilding	Climate Change
	$\bigcirc$		
02	07	12	17
Transportation	Improving Nutrition	Governance	Natural Environment Conservation
03	08	13	18
Energy and Mining	Education	Public Finance and Financial Systems	Environmental Management
		$\uparrow \downarrow \\ \boxed{\bigcirc}$	
04	09	14	19
Private Sector Development	Social Security, Disability,	Gender Equality and Women's	Sustainable Water Resources Management
Development 57	and Development	Empowerment	and Water Supply
	TT		
05	10	15	20
Agriculture and Rural Development (Sustainable Food Systems)	Sport and Development	Digital for Development	Disaster Risk Reduction throug Pre-disaster Investment and Build Back Better
. 104	0.0	۹ م	\ <u></u>

JICA Global Agenda

JICA PROFILE 2024 07 06 JICA PROFILE 2024

### **JICA Sustainability Policy**

To achieve *human security*, in addition to strengthening capacity to prevent and respond better to crises and creating an economy and society that are inclusive and resilient, it is essential that we aim to realize a sustainable world in which the three dimensions - economy, society, and environment - are in harmony and no burden is left for future generations.

JICA announced the JICA Sustainability Policy in October 2023 as a specific guiding policy. For JICA to gain trust as an organization that will help developing countries achieve the SDGs, it is extremely important that JICA take the initiative in promoting sustainability and working to achieve the SDGs.

Under the new Development Cooperation Charter, JICA will focus on the following areas as our Sustainability Policy.

As a climate change measure, JICA aims to implement all new projects in a manner aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement. In addition to mitigation measures to reduce climate change, we will implement adaptation measures to achieve societies that are resilient to climate change and support a whole of society transition in developing countries.

Conservation of the global environment is our responsibility for the future, and JICA will strengthen its efforts to conserve the natural environment, including protection of the marine environment, forests, and water resources, and promote the mainstreaming of biodiversity.

JICA respects basic human rights and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion, including gender equality, to create opportunities and an environment where diverse human resources can thrive and grow.

JICA will disclose information accurately and transparently in accordance with international disclosure standards.

Based on the Japanese government's declaration to achieve Carbon Neutrality by 2050, JICA aims to achieve carbon neutrality for its organization by 2030.

JICA will further strengthen its governance and organization-wide efforts for sustainability management, led by the Sustainability Committee and the Office for Sustainability Management.

### **ESG Initiatives**

To promote sustainability, JICA strengthens its initiatives in the areas of Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG).

#### Environment

To address climate change, the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015 states that the increase in the global average temperature should be held well below  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$  above pre-industrial levels, and efforts should be pursued to limit the temperature increase to  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Subsequently, the goal was set to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050 to pursue the " $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  target". For biodiversity conservation, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted in 2022 has led to growing momentum for Nature Positive, which aims to conserve at least 30% of land and sea areas to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity by 2030.

JICA, under its Sustainability Policy, is aligning all new projects step-by-step with the goals of the Paris Agreement, while also preparing the transition plan aimed at achieving carbon neutrality. Moreover, we enhance our efforts to conserve the natural environment, including protecting marine ecosystems and forests, while also advancing initiatives contributing to biodiversity conservation in such fields as urban development and agriculture.

#### Social

Aiming to realize *human security*, JICA clearly states its respect for basic human rights in its Sustainability Policy. Our initiatives to promote the protection of human rights in developing countries vary from human resource development in the areas of Business and Human Rights, inclusion of persons with disabilities, improving healthcare and educational environments, to enhancing living conditions through the development of social and economic infrastructure such as bridges and roads.

Toward achieving gender equality, JICA promotes the integration of gender perspectives across its projects and conducts various initiatives including support for survivors of gender-based violence and promotion of gender-smart businesses incorporating gender-sensitive approaches.

#### Governance

To accelerate sustainability in both organizational and operational management, JICA established the Office for Sustainability Management in April 2023, and newly appointed the Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) and Director General for Sustainability Management in October 2023. Since October 2024, Executive Senior Vice President has taken over the role of CSO. In FY2023, we held the Sustainability Committee meetings five times to discuss directions and specific details of JICA's sustainability management initiatives.

In addition to establishing the organizational framework, we also participate in domestic and international initiatives for contributing to promote sustainability in collaboration with various stakeholders.

Main sustainability-related initiatives





TNFD Forum





30by30 Alliance for Biodiversity

2X Challenge





### [Scale of Operations by Region]

Southeast Asia and Pacific	Cooperation 23 countries	Total value of JICA programs	¥ 515.4 billion
East Asia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus	Cooperation with 9 countries	Total value of JICA programs	¥ <b>57.8</b> billion
South Asia	Cooperation with 8 countries	Total value of JICA programs	¥1,200.2 billion
Latin America and the Caribbean	Cooperation 31 countries	Total value of JICA programs	¥ 74.8 billion
Africa	Cooperation 48 countries	Total value of JICA programs	¥ 108.9 billion
Middle East and Europe	Cooperation 24 countries with 24 and regions	Total value of JICA programs	¥486.6 billion

### [ Building Relationships ]

### Accepted



Training participants and students from developing countries in fiscal 2023 (Cumulative total approximately 700,000 people) 13,083 people

### Dispatched

JICA experts and JICA volunteers in fiscal 2023 Cumulative total approximately 270,000 people)

8.731 people

### Southeast Asia

### Co-creation partners for the future

2023 marked the 50th Year of ASEAN - Japan Friendship and Cooperation. Japan and Southeast Asia have demonstrated the stance of mutual learning and strengthening collaborations as important and equal 'co-creation' partners working together to resolve regional issues, as well as global issues such as climate change.

In recent years, Southeast Asia has achieved exceptional economic development and has increased its presence on the global stage. At the same time, development challenges are becoming increasingly diverse and complex, and issues are arising on a global scale. JICA will work together with ASEAN countries in resolving these issues, and as we head into the next 50 years, we will build new partnerships based on the trust cultivated up to the present.

### Operational focus areas in Southeast Asia and cooperation

To contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in this region, in addition to economic integration and physical connectivity through airports, ports, and roads, we will work to achieve safe ocean travel by strengthening maritime safety and security capabilities.

Furthermore, to achieve economic/social development and decarbonization, which is a social challenge on the global level, we will strive for collaborations with industry to realize a sustainable society.

#### Activities that support regional development

JICA cooperates in the development of Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) systems in various countries, including Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. An MRT operation company in Indonesia builds railways using ODA loans. It also leverages the experience and skills learned from Japan to provide training in railway operation and maintenance to MRT operation companies in Vietnam and other countries.

In the Philippines, JICA strengthens maritime safety and security capabilities by providing Multi-Role Response Vessels (MRRVs), as well as training for persons involved in the monitoring of maritime activities, such as illegal fishing.

To support measures against climate change, we have started support in formulating long-term plans Symposium held by JICA to commemorate 50 years of Japan-ASEAN friendship and cooperation





Philippine Coast Guard and multi-role response vessel conducting

targeting decarbonization in Cambodia, Laos, and Indonesia. In Laos, we have developed domestic rules to enable broad area connections with electric power systems in neighboring countries.

JICA also emphasizes collaborations with the ASEAN Community, and has begun cooperating in the development of the food value chain and cybersecurity countermeasures. In addition, JICA shares the knowledge that it has accumulated with development cooperation agencies in Southeast Asia that have begun cooperating with other developing countries, and is building platforms that will support those regions well into the future.

JICA PROFILE 2024 11 10 JICA PROFILE 2024

<sup>•</sup> The figures show the total value of JICA programs in each region, including Technical Cooperation (Training Participants, Experts, Study Teams, Provision of Equipment, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers [JOCVs], Other volunteers, and Other costs), Finance and Investment Cooperation (commitment amount), and Grants (newly concluded G/As) in fiscal 2023.

<sup>·</sup> Figures exclude JICA's cooperation for multiple countries or multiple regions and international organizations.

### The Pacific

### Issues unique to island countries

Japan and Pacific Island Countries (PICs) share the Pacific Ocean and have historical and long-lasting relations. PICs face common issues derived from the challenges unique to island countries: they are small and isolated, and being surrounded by ocean, they are susceptible to the effects of natural disasters, while at the same time being separated geographically from key international markets. In recent years, there has been an increasing sense of risk given that this region is the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Japan and the PICs have been holding a summit-level meeting called Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM) every three years since 1997, where leaders discuss various challenges faced by the region and its countries, to seek out solutions together and strengthen relationships with Japan.

### Promoting cooperation based on PALM

Based on the Ninth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM 9) held in 2021, JICA's cooperation in the region revolves around five priority areas, including climate change / disaster resilience and strengthening the foundation for sustainable and resilient economic development.

In FY2023, JICA began cooperating to increase resilience in the face of climate change, for example by transmitting weather information to the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) in Samoa, and by providing training to administrative officers in the region.

In keeping with directions newly put forward at the Tenth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM10), held in July 2024, we will cooperate in contributing to strengthening the bonds that developed between Japan and PICs.



Apifo' ou College in Nuku' alofa, Tonga Photo: Imamura Kenshiro / JICA

### East Asia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus

### The need to reduce dependence and to foster domestic industries

JICA operates ODA in nine countries in East Asia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus: Mongolia, five Central Asian countries, and three Caucasus countries, all of which are situated in Inland Asia.

Although Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are endowed with energy and mineral resources, the economies of these countries are vulnerable to fluctuations in global commodity prices, so they need to reduce their dependence on natural resources. Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, on the other hand, are not so rich in fossil fuel resources. Remittances from Kyrgyzstanis and Tajikistanis working in Russia and elsewhere account for a large part of the GDP in each country, pointing to the urgent need to foster domestic industry and create employment in order to improve economic independence.

### Cooperation contributes to self-reliance and stability

This region shares national borders with China and Russia, as well as with Afghanistan and Middle Eastern countries; it is therefore under the strong political and economic influence of these neighboring countries.

Maintaining self-reliance and stability of the countries in the region is essential to the stability of the entire Eurasian continent. With this understanding, JICA focuses on four main areas of cooperation: strengthening governance including the development of legal systems; industrial diversification, which includes stimulating private sector led economic activity and promoting small and medium enterprises; infrastructure development, including the construction of airports, roads, and power plants; and human resources development, which involves the Japan Centers for Human Resources Development and JICA's scholarship programs. At the same time, JICA works to promote cooperation among countries in the region.

In fiscal 2023, JICA provided Uzbekistan with financial cooperation loans to contribute to growth in the private sector and support vulnerable parties susceptible to the effects of economic conditions. It also conducted surveys aimed at strengthening logistics functions in the Caspian Sea Route (Middle Corridor), which does not pass through Russia, a country currently subject to economic sanctions. In FY2024, JICA will promote broad



Women processing wool into felt fabric at a workshop



Power plants constructed in Uzbekistan with Japanese ODA loans

regional collaborations to strengthen connectivity both within the region and with other regions, and as part of activities aimed at the diversification of industry, JICA will cooperate in the training of engineers in Mongolia, putting in place an environment to support that training.

12 JICA PROFILE 2024 JICA PROFILE 2024 13

### South Asia

### Development issues underlying growth potential

South Asia is a geopolitically important region that connects Southeast Asia with the Middle East and Africa. This region has a population of approximately 2 billion, with nearly half under the age of 25°1. While the economic growth rate for the region as a whole slightly decelerated to 5.7% in 2023°2 compared to the previous year, the region has potential with its abundant youth population for growth driven by the significantly expanding consumption and labor markets.

On the other hand, the number of people in absolute poverty in South Asia is 190 million<sup>\*3</sup> and the gender gap is particularly large compared to other parts of the world. Also, the region is vulnerable to natural disasters caused by climate change, such as floods.

### **Expanding broad cooperation**

In response to the development issues in South Asia and to build resilient social systems, JICA implements projects in a broad range of fields such as infrastructure development, trade and investment environment improvement, healthcare and education improvement, securing regional peace and stability, strengthening intra- and interregional

connectivity, accepting international students in Japan, and human resource development. Furthermore, JICA will continue to actively work on climate change measures, gender mainstreaming, and enabling digital transformation (DX) through cooperation in general.

In India and Bangladesh, JICA contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through improvement of transportation and a modal shift to public transportation by supporting the construction of urban railways and intercity railways. In fiscal 2023, the southern section of Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line-6 was opened in Bangladesh. In Pakistan, JICA has initiated collaboration between Japanese companies and local ICT talent with the aim of improving industrial competitiveness. Furthermore, in response to the economic crisis in Sri Lanka, JICA supported the country's efforts for debt restructuring through cooperation in strengthening public investment management, supporting power sector reform, and improving capacity through training programs for making better policies systems. In Afghanistan, after the Taliban took control of Kabul in August 2021, JICA continued its support and considered other possibilities for cooperation to meet a wide range of humanitarian needs through collaboration with international organizations and in line with Japanese government policies.

- \*1 Calculated based on data from the United Nations "World Population Prospects 2023"
- \*2 World Bank, "Global Economic Prospects, January 2024"
- \*3 Calculated based on data from World Bank, "Poverty & Inequality Indicators"



Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line-6 in Bangladesh

Photo: IFRC Emergency relief supplies responding to the June 2022 earthquake in eastern Afghanistan





Students learning surveying techniques at a Governmental College of Technology in Pakistan

### Latin America and the Caribbean

### Diverse collaboration needs and manpower with knowledge of Japan

Latin America and the Caribbean region comprises 33 countries with a total population of 650 million\*1, and has a diverse natural environment ranging from jungles to glaciers. At the same time, many of these countries share a common language and culture; for example, with Spanish.

Although the income level of the whole region is generally high, more than 30% of the population still lives in poverty\*2. Many countries in the region have diverse needs for support, being prone to frequent natural disasters such as earthquakes and hurricanes, and are faced with public security issues and irregular migration, while others have serious problems with aging populations and non-communicable diseases including heart disease.

JICA provides cooperation to promote economic development through trade and investment, as well as the development of stable and robust societies and economies, with a view toward equal partnerships with countries in the Latin American and Caribbean regions, which share with Japan universal values such as freedom and democracy. Being home to more than 3 million Japanese emigrants and their descendants (*Nikkei*) in total\*3, a focus is placed on cultivating leaders with knowledge of Japan and strengthening relations with *Nikkei* communi-

ties in the region, as an important partner for Japan carrying out more than 6 trillion yen in trade each year.

#### Cooperation based on partnership

In FY2023, JICA entered into broad-ranging cooperation in this region, approving Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) for Brazil and Peru to achieve climate change measures and Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Collaborations with Paraguay in the aerospace field were also initiated. There are plans to use satellite data in the agricultural and disaster prevention fields with the cooperation of the Kyushu Institute of Technology and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). In Guatemala, international seminars are held to improve public safety in the region, sharing expertise from the Japanese police.

A new Memorandum of Understanding has been completed regarding expansion of co-financing schemes with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Validation programs initiated by companies participating in the TSUBASA Program, which supports innovative Japanese start-up businesses in doing business in the region based on collaborations between the IDB and JICA, are also moving ahead smoothly.

- \*1 The World Bank Open Data
- \*2 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (2022)
- \*3 Ministry of Foreign Affairs; "Estimated number of Japanese Descendants (Nikkei) living overseas"; as of October 1, 2023.



Nikkei junior high and high school students who came to Japan for the Education Program for Nikkei Next Generation



Staff analyzing satellite data at the Agencia Espacial del Paraguay (AEP) Photo: AEP

14 JICA PROFILE 2024

JICA PROFILE 2024

### **Africa**

### Investing in the people of Africa

Approximately 1.4 billion people are living on the African continent, rivaling the populations of China and India. Their average age is just 18.6 years (2021), and the population is expected to nearly double to approximately 2.6 billion people in 30 years, by 2054.

Africa is facing significant challenges such as: investing in the huge potential of its bulging youth population; rapidly increasing demand for food; and preparations for natural disaster risks and potential impacts on agricultural production resulting from climate change.

### Contributing to the growth of Africa and Japan

At the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) in August 2022, Prime Minister Kishida Fumio announced that Japan would tackle these challenges so that Africa and Japan can grow together. JICA contributes to achieving this by steadily implementing the initiatives that Japan announced at TICAD8.

Specifically, in fiscal 2023, following the reclassification of COVID-19 to Class 5 under the Infectious Diseases Control Law of Japan, JICA invited 135 participants in the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative) to Japan and resumed in-person networking events with the Japanese business sector. In response to the food crisis triggered by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, JICA has delivered ODA loans of 10 billion yen to the Tanzania Agricultural Inputs Support Project (TAISP), while also promoting the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) initiative to increase rice production in Africa. In addition, JICA has supported kaizen (the Japanese approach to quality and productivity management) initiatives and infrastructure development as part of efforts to promote economic growth in Africa.

In fiscal 2024, JICA will continue to discuss, in partnership with the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), how to create Africa's future by looking back at the track record of 30 years of cooperation since TICAD 1 in 1993 and by preparing for TICAD 9 to be held in August 2025.



JICA experts giving guidance on rice production to Malagasy counterparts

JICA supports Africa's economic growth by promoting startups





The Soumba Bridge in the Republic of Guinea, rebuilt with grant aid

### Middle East and Europe

### Two civil wars and chaotic regional conditions

The Middle East is still beset by turmoil after the Arab Spring and is experiencing compounded crises such as: protracted civil wars in Yemen and Syria; the chronic refugee situation in countries adjacent to Syria; and the increasingly serious water shortage brought about by climate change. Furthermore, the armed conflict that erupted in the Gaza Strip in October 2023 has caused immense damages in the region, and there are concerns that the effects will spread to the surrounding countries as well.

In Europe, Russia's aggression against Ukraine has had a huge impact on Ukraine and the surrounding countries, and an earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria in February 2023 has dramatically affected the residents of both countries, as well as refugees from surrounding countries, making a rapid recovery essential.

### Aiming for rapid, medium- to long-term cooperation

In this backdrop, in fiscal 2023, JICA undertook cooperation from a rapid, medium- to long-term perspective, focusing on two main pillars: Executing strategic support in response to compounded crises, and sharing Japan's development experience and good practices unique to Japan.

In the Middle East, in response to the armed conflict in the Gaza Strip, JICA provided variety of materials to Gaza, including tents, blankets, medical consumables, and food kits. In addition to the continued support for the oil refinery project in Iraq, JICA is cooperating in the water sector in Tunisia, and the extension of Cairo Metro in Egypt as key infrastructure to support the day-to-day lives of the citizens. JICA also cooperated in promoting tourism as a key source of income in numerous countries.

In Europe, JICA has been involved in clearing landmines and unexploded ordnance in Ukraine, and has cooperated in emergency recovery and economic reconstruction, for example by promoting private sector investments. In Türkiye, JICA has cooperated in creating earthquake recovery plans and rebuilding infrastructure and have provided support to SMEs. In the West Balkans, JICA cooperated in putting in place an environment for entrepreneurs to achieve high-quality growth.

Other activities during this period included rolling out the JICA Chair program in seven countries in the region, and contributions to the cultivation of future leaders who can foster a long-lasting bilateral relationship between each country and Japan. JICA also put related parties in the Tohoku region in contact with Ukraine and Türkiye, and provided opportunities to learn from experiences in recovery from the East Japan earthquake.



Rubble-clearing tractor provided to Ukraine Photo: Mykolaiv City



A family living in the Gaza Strip receives distribution of a food kit

16 JICA PROFILE 2024

JICA PROFILE 2024

### **Diverse Projects and Partnerships**

Partnerships with Universities and Research Institutions As the world is faced with compounded crises, partnerships with universities and research institutions are indispensable for addressing challenges facing partner countries and achieving the SDGs because of their extensive and advanced knowledge.

JICA promotes partnerships with these institutions through various approaches, including their participation in JICA's research projects and studies on international cooperation, in technical cooperation projects in developing countries, as well as accepting students from these countries.



Cooperation with the Private Sector

JICA has networks and trusting relationships with the governments of developing countries as well as the know-how in project implementation in the developing world gained through ODA over many years. While making use of these assets, JICA provides wide-ranging support schemes, as shown in the figure at right, to produce better development results efficiently and effectively through further collaboration with the private sector.



#### **Volunteer Programs**



JICA's volunteer programs support activities by citizens who wish to cooperate in the economic and social development as well as the reconstruction of developing countries.

These programs with a long-standing history, and which primarily dispatch Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), were founded in 1965. They are widely recognized as a good example of grassroots-level international cooperation extended by the Japanese government and JICA and are highly praised by partner countries.

A cumulative total of 56,402 JICA volunteers have engaged in face-to-face international contributions. As of the end of March 2024, 1,324 JICA volunteers are active in 74 countries.

## Partnership with *Nikkei* Communities in Latin America and the Caribbean



As part of Japan's post-war immigration policy, JICA has provided support to people who have moved to Latin America and other regions. More than 3 million *Nikkei* (Japanese emigrants and their descendants) live in Latin America and the Caribbean. As leaders who can foster a long-lasting bilateral relationship between each country and Japan, their presence represents strong bonds between Japan and the region. Meanwhile, generational change in these areas is proceeding, and an increasing number of non-*Nikkei* people are playing important roles in *Nikkei* communities. Various other changes include the development of new activities and networking.

JICA is carrying out partnership programs for *Nikkei* communities while taking into account the changes in today's *Nikkei* community, and will work to build a sustainable co-creative society through new links between Japan and *Nikkei* communities.

# Support for the Acceptance of Foreign Human Resources / Multicultural and Inclusive Society



The number of migrant workers in Japan hit a record high of over 2 million in 2023. With Japan's population aging and the birthrate declining, a labor shortage is a growing concern, and to maintain economic growth, Japan will have to accept more and more migrant workers.

By working to promote proper and effective acceptance of migrant workers in Japan, JICA aims to contribute to respect for their human rights and to the socioeconomic development of both developing countries and Japan.

## Promoting Citizen Participation in International Cooperation



JICA is working on Citizen Participatory Cooperation activities with Japanese NGOs, local governments, universities, and private companies as primary partners to promote international cooperation activities.

JICA Global Plaza, which has multiple locations in Japan, including Ichigaya in Shinjuku, Tokyo, holds interactive exhibitions based on the concept of "seeing, listening, and touching."

JICA promotes development education in schools to foster the abilities of students and pupils to understand how development challenges facing the world relates to Japan.

### Emergency Disaster Relief

JICA dispatches Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams and provides emergency relief supplies when major disasters occur overseas in response to requests received from the governments of affected countries or international organizations.



### Partnerships with International Organizations and Other Development Partners

To address these complex and protracted global challenges, JICA partners with various partners including the United Nations, international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), development cooperation agencies in developed and emerging countries, private foundations, and NGOs. JICA is strengthening collaboration with these partners through policy dialogue and project implementation.



#### Research

Inheriting the philosophy of Dr. Ogata Sadako, former JICA President, JICA Ogata Research Institute conducts policy-oriented research on the challenges faced by developing countries and aspires to strengthen Japan's intellectual presence in the international community.



18 JICA PROFILE 2024 19

### Organization

Title Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

President TANAKA Akihiko

Headquarters (Kojimachi)

Nibancho Center Building, 5-25 Niban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

102-8012, Japan

Tel: +81-3-5226-6660 through 6663

Headquarters (Takebashi)

Takebashi Building, 4-1 Ohtemachi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

100-0004, Japan

Tel: +81-3-5226-6660 through 6663

Headquarters (Ichigaya)

Ichigaya Building, 10-5, Ichigayahonmuracho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo

162-8433, Japan Tel: +81-3-3269-2911

Establishment October 1, 2003

Capital ¥8,415.7 billion (As of July 2024)

Full-time Staff 1,979 (As of July 2024)

Objectives Established as an Incorporated Administrative Agency under the Act

of the Incorporated Administrative Agency - Japan International Cooperation Agency (Act No. 136, 2002), JICA aims to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation as well as the sound development of Japanese and global economy by supporting the socioeconomic development, recovery or economic stability of developing regions.

JICA's website

Social Media Accounts

Domestic Offices

Overseas Offices









