

Advisory Committee on Evaluation

JICA established the Advisory Committee on Evaluation to enhance the evaluation quality, strengthen feedback of evaluation results and ensure accountability.

The Committee includes experts in international cooperation and those with expertise in evaluation from international organizations, academia, NGOs, media and private sector groups.

In two meetings held in FY 2017, various activities related to JICA's operations evaluation, JICA's responses to advice and recommendations provided by the Committee in the past meetings were discussed. Major activities which JICA had in response to the main points discussed in the meetings in FY 2017 were outlined below.

Chairperson	
Motoki Takahashi	Professor, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University
Acting Chairperson	
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Takashi Kurosaki	Professor, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University
Tetsuo Kondo	Director, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Representation Office in Tokyo
Hisashi Takanashi	Executive Managing Director, Engineering and Consulting Firms Association, Japan (ECFA)
Toyokazu Nakata	Chairperson, Muranomirai (NPO)
Masaichi Nosaka	Senior Deputy Chief Officer, Yomiuri Research Institute, The Yomiuri Shimbun
Yasukiyo Horiuchi	Deputy Director, International Cooperation Bureau, Keidanren (Japanese Business Federation)
Yoshiko Homma	Lawyer (Yoshiko Homma Law Office) / Professor, The Graduate School of Law, Soka University
Kiyoshi Yamaya	Professor, Doshisha University Graduate School of Policy and Management

(as of January 2018)

Suggestions and Recommendations from the Committee	Actions Taken by JICA
Analysis, learning, and feedback of ex-post evaluations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Evaluation should not be an end in itself. It is essential to feed back the evaluation results outside JICA to improve project operations. •Evaluation should be aimed not only at fulfilling accountability but also at making improvements for the project implementation in the future in the PDCA cycle. •The evaluation results should be shared with development consultants and other private-sector professionals through seminars. 	<p>In order to use the "Practical Lessons for Development of New Seaports" (see JICA Annual Evaluation Report 2016, p. 15) to make improvements for the project implementation in the future in the PDCA cycle, JICA held a seminar for private companies such as development consulting firms to discuss demand prediction, locations, lessons learned for port development, and other matters that should be considered in for the project formulation (May 2017). JICA also organized a similar seminar to discuss the results of process analyses (December 2017). Going forward, JICA will continue to perform meta-analyses on different themes and share the results inside and outside JICA.</p>
Process analysis and international knowledge management initiatives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Process analysis is a good way to complement operations evaluation because the analysis can reveal how the project went and why it went so as well as bring additional perspectives which cannot be seen in the Five DAC Criteria into ex-post evaluations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JICA held a feedback seminar on "A Case Study of Delhi Metro in India", which was the first case study in the series of process analyses started in FY2016. Currently, JICA is conducting several other case studies. (Refer to p. 50-52) • JICA performs process analyses in collaboration with the international knowledge management initiative led by the World Bank. The above mentioned case study on Delhi Metro has been featured as a good practice on the website of the initiative. (Refer to p. 52)
Accountability to citizens and sharing of project evaluation results beyond the organizational boundaries	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •We can see some improvements regarding information dissemination to the public. For example, the annual evaluation reports have been made easier for the general public to understand by replacing technical terms with simpler words. •Meanwhile, there remains a need to promote disseminating technical information at more professional levels in terms of sharing lessons learned and utilizing them to improve projects. It is essential to distinguish dissemination to professional development practitioners from one to public and to make efforts to encourage development experts to utilize evaluation results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •In order to promote information dissemination to the public, JICA updated the new online brochure published last year, separately from the JICA Annual Evaluation Report. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/evaluation/c8h0vm000001rdg1-att/evaluations_01.pdf •Meanwhile, JICA is promoting discussions to further enhance learning and improvement. More specifically, JICA will continue to perform cross-sectoral analyses on the above-mentioned evaluation results and lessons learned, as well as process analyses, statistical analyses, and impact evaluation while seeking advice from experts inside and outside JICA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •We can see JICA has made efforts to disseminate information (through conferences, university lectures, and seminars), as previously advised by the Advisory Committee. JICA is expected to intensify its efforts further to disseminate information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •JICA made presentations at the national conference of the Japan Evaluation Society as well as other international conferences and symposiums. (Refer to p. 54)

Related links:

The past suggestions and recommendations from the Committee are available on the JICA website.
 ▶ https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/evaluation/advisory/index.html

