

In recent years, the environment surrounding ODA loans has changed dramatically. In addition to the importance of establishment of efficient and effective ODA loans, it has become necessary to explain the results accurately to the Japanese public and further consolidation of ODA loan evaluation is being sought. The new ODA Charter that was approved by the Japanese government in August 2003 identified the need to carry out consecutive evaluations at all stages, i.e. ex-ante, mid-term, and ex-post, as well as third-party evaluations conducted by experts in order to assess the results objectively. Moreover, the disclosure of information, including the publication of evaluations, was highlighted as being necessary to promote public participation in ODA issues.

As a consequence of these changes, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is making efforts to improve the evaluation system for ODA loan operations. Specifically, since fiscal 2001, in addition to “Ex-Post Evaluations” that target completed projects, “Ex-Ante Evaluations” were introduced in an attempt to establish a consistent evaluation system. Moreover, in order to increase the objectivity and neutrality of evaluation operations, efforts have been made to reflect the views of third-parties on the ex-post evaluations. Since fiscal 2002, JBIC has successfully managed to attain opinions of third-parties in all of our ex-post evaluations.

With a view to enhancing information disclosure and publicity, JBIC endeavors to announce evaluation results promptly on the JBIC website. Moreover, seminars and workshops are organized both in Japan and in developing countries in order to contribute to the activities in developing countries, by sharing the experiences and lessons acquired from the ex-post evaluations. The 3rd World Water Forum, which was held in Osaka, Kyoto and Shiga in March 2003, provided one such opportunity for feedback activities. During the Forum, JBIC hosted a session, “Sustainable Water Supply in Developing Countries,” which attracted a total of 200 participants, including those from abroad. We believe that a network for future South-South cooperation could be constructed by providing participants with the opportunity to discuss problems facing developing countries and share some experiences of success.

This “Ex-Post Evaluation Report on ODA Loan Projects 2003” contains summaries of the evaluations undertaken in fiscal 2002. It includes 41 project evaluations, nine evaluations by theme, and four country-based/sector-based evaluations of past projects, which were summarized either by country or by sector. For details, please refer to the JBIC website (<http://www.jbic.go.jp/>), which features complete evaluation reports, ex-ante evaluation reports and the results of feedback activities. We look forward to receiving any comments that may help to further improve the quality of JBIC’s evaluation procedures.

February 2004
Hiroshi Oita
Director General
Project Development Department