

COLUMN2

Workshop was held to share evaluation results with people in developing countries

In August 2004, JBIC held a workshop on the thematic evaluation “The effectiveness of farmer participation in alleviating poverty” in Tacloban, Leyte Island, Philippines. In this evaluation, 1) the relationship between the participatory approach and its effectiveness and 2) benefits brought by the participatory approach to executing agencies and farmers were analyzed by taking up examples of the Bohol Irrigation Project and other projects. The workshop discussed such topics as “are the activities by the executing agency to raise attention of farmers at the project preparation stage (when the irrigation association is established) effective in encouraging joint activities by members?” and “will farmers’ involvement in construction works lead to efficiency improvement such

as shortening of the project implementation period?” It was found that the timeliness is important for attention-raising activities at the project preparation stage (8-12 months prior to the start of irrigation would be the best), and that farmers’ involvement in construction works could enhance efficiency of the project by facilitating early resolution of the land acquisition issue. The insights obtained from the feedback are reflected in the summary report on page 77 and the full text report (see our website).



Various effects of the participatory approach were made clear through the discussions with farmers and the executive agency.

For better evaluation and feedback ~Feedback Committee~

Ex-Post Evaluation of ODA Loan Project Feedback Committee is organized as a part of JBIC’s effort to enhance feedback of the ex-post project evaluation results both at home and abroad. Meetings of the Committee are held twice a year. As of

List of Feedback Committee Members

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| Kiyoko Ikegami | Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Tokyo Office |
| Katsuji Imada | Co-Director, CSO (Civil Society Organizations) Network Japan |
| Eietsu Imamatsu | Editorial Writer, the Mainichi Newspapers |
| Akira Kawaguchi | Manager, Asia & Oceania Group, International Economic Affairs Bureau, Japan Business Federation |
| Hisashi Takanashi | Executive Consultant (MA), Engineering Consulting Firms Association, Japan |
| Yoshiharu Tanizaki | Manager, Policy Promotion System Team, Planning Bureau, Mie Prefecture |
| Satoko Miwa | Director, Office of Evaluation, Planning and Coordination Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) |
| Hironitsu Muta | Professor of Human Resource Development, Tokyo Institute of Technology |
| Akiko Yuge | Director, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Tokyo Office |

December 2004, 6 meetings have been held since FY2002. The Committee, chaired by JBIC’s Executive Director in charge, is composed of 19 members including 9 external experts (see the table on the left). Based on the lessons learned and recommendations obtained in project evaluations, the Committee discussed how and what kind of feedback should be provided for ODA loan projects in the future as well as to governments of developing countries and Japanese people from various angles. Also examined were the results of evaluation verification commissioned by JBIC to the Japan Evaluation Society and JBIC’s responses. JBIC will reflect what is discussed in the Committee in ODA loan projects with a view to strengthening evaluation activities and feedback. Summaries of meeting proceedings are available on the JBIC website.

Contributing to the establishment of a project monitoring system in developing countries

JBIC conducted feedback seminars on evaluation results of the projects carried out in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, and India among 52 evaluated projects in FY2003 for recipient organizations and executing agencies of these countries. In these seminars, JBIC briefed participants on the rating and evaluation results of each project, and exchanged opinions with participants concerning the method and contents of evaluation. As for the favorably rated

projects, we shared factors behind the success with the participants. As for the projects in which some problems were pointed out, we discussed the causes of the problems and improvement measures with the developing country’s side. Also, in order to facilitate generation of sustainable effects of the projects, JBIC made a proposal on the method of monitoring project effects, and thus helped developing countries reinforce the system for continuous project monitoring on their own.