

# COLUMN 1

## Improvement of Evaluation Seminar in Cooperation with JICA

JBIC conducts joint evaluations with the objective that developing countries will conduct evaluations on their own

For effective and efficient implementation of ODA loan projects, it is critical that developing countries take the initiative in conducting evaluation. Since 2001, JBIC has been holding "ODA Loan Project Evaluation Seminar" in cooperation with JICA to provide training for officials in departments responsible for ODA loan projects in developing countries. In the seminar, we assist participants to enhance their evaluation capability through giving lectures on systems and methods of evaluation adopted by JBIC and JICA, policy evaluation in Japan, and case studies, etc. In addition, starting from 2004, each participant draws up an action plan on how to apply those evaluation methods and/or system to each project they are responsible for, and how to disseminate what they learned among their organizations. JBIC provides follow-up for participants to achieve their action plans through joint



Enthusiastic discussion by participants

evaluations. We conducted joint evaluations with relevant organizations in Thailand and Indonesia last year, and with those in India, Sri Lanka and the Dominican Republic this year. In Thailand, transfer of JBIC's evaluation methods, including rating method, is currently under way and they are considering applying these methods to their development projects on a trial basis. Thus, joint evaluations served as the first step toward an improved and harmonized evaluation system. Since the start of this seminar in 2001, a total of nearly 90 participants have completed the course. JBIC will continue the seminar as part of efforts to make it possible for developing countries to conduct evaluations on their own, while proceeding with the establishment of an international network for project evaluation by encouraging involvement of those who completed the seminar in evaluation activities and exchange of information.



Participants visiting Akashi Kaikyo Bridge

## PR Activities Concerning Japanese ODA Loan Project Evaluation

Sending Information from JBIC's Operations Evaluation Office  
- making evaluation activities widely known

In order to make our project evaluation activities known to many people, JBIC prepare an "Evaluation Highlights on ODA Loan Projects" and brochures to present JBIC's activities and evaluation results to people in various fields. "Evaluation Highlights on ODA Loan Projects 2004" (published January 2005) was distributed to agencies concerned and also to universities, NGOs, libraries, and those who are interested in



Philippine staff of assistance-related activities reading a brochure about "Financial Assistance for Agrarian Reform"

development assistance. Also, in an attempt to make many people familiar with project evaluations, JBIC prepared a brochure, "How are ODA loans used?", which explains ODA loan projects in plain language. The brochure is provided to high school students visiting JBIC on school trips. At the Aichi Expo, the Report was handed out at each country's pavilion. In addition, at the Philippines Pavilion, a brochure containing an article from the *International Development Journal* about the thematic evaluation "Credit Support to Beneficiary of Agrarian Reform" (see p.75) was distributed. JBIC's feedback activities based on evaluation results and the seminar for evaluation (see above) are also introduced through domestic media (newspapers, etc.). As for media coverage abroad, the *Daily Mirror* of Sri Lanka (May 2005) carried an article about evaluation efforts by JBIC and evaluation results of projects implemented in the country. In addition to continuing to publish information through the evaluation report and brochures of various kinds, JBIC is planning new attempts, including visual feedback of evaluation results.