

## Evaluating Country Assistance Programs - Transport Sector Evaluation Trial in the Philippines -

International development aid organizations such as the World Bank and the Asia Development Bank have been conducting country assistance program evaluations focusing on development outcomes. It generally reviews the organization's aid policy for the country to improve the formulation of a plan and policy for more effective aid activities.

In line with this international trend, JBIC has also begun to conduct country assistance program evaluations based on recommendations from experts.

In the Philippines, for example, JBIC is currently conducting a country assistance program evaluation on a trial basis targeting the transport sector, which is a priority area for JBIC's aid in that country. Among various projects in the sector, it focuses on 44 projects implemented over the past 15 years (including ongoing projects) in areas such as roads, bridges, and airports, where both the project scopes and the costs are of a considerable scale. The evaluation will assess the consistency of the Philippines' development goals and national plans with the ODA loan projects and their level of contribution in light of the five DAC evaluation criteria.

This initiative will assist JBIC in identifying points to be addressed in conducting country assistance program evaluations. JBIC plans to utilize the evaluation results as reference information for providing more effective and efficient assistance in areas such as the formation of future ODA loan project schemes in that country and in the transport sector.



## Paris Declaration Monitoring - Supporting the Country Evaluation in the Philippines -

In March 2005, about 500 delegates from 91 countries and 26 international organizations met in Paris to attend the High-Level Forum for Improving Aid Effectiveness. At the forum, discussions were held on issues for improving aid effectiveness, future policies and goals. Commitments to achieve the goals were agreed upon, as referred to as the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The agreement stipulates 56 commitments in five areas: ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for development results (MfDR), and mutual accountability (see the table below). Twelve monitoring indicators were also established, and periodic monitoring will take place until 2010, the target year for achieving the commitments.

The DAC Evaluation Network Meeting in November 2006 agreed to evaluate improvement of development achieved as a result of the implementation of commitments under the Paris Declaration. This evaluation consists of two phases. Targeting about 10 partner countries (recipient countries) and 10 donors (organizations), Phase 1 will focus on analyzing areas of evident improvement since adoption of the Paris Declaration, and Phase 2 will evaluate the development outcomes and the overall impact.

In the Phase 1 Paris Declaration country evaluations, with

assistance from the donors, the partner countries will take ownership in conducting evaluation including the formulation of the TOR (terms of reference) and the selection of the evaluator. Japan is assisting this evaluation exercise: JBIC for the Philippines and JICA for Bangladesh.

Results of the Paris Declaration country evaluations are to be announced at the third High-Level Forum for Improving Aid Effectiveness in Ghana in September 2008, and along with the Phase 2 evaluations, are expected to be utilized as information for examining the improvement of aid effectiveness.

### Five Areas of Commitment in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness

Ownership	Initiative and leadership of partner countries
Alignment	Alignment of donors' support with partner countries' development strategy, system and procedures
Harmonization	Harmonization of the donor activities
MfDR	Management and decision-making for development results
Mutual accountability	Mutual accountability of partners and donors for development results