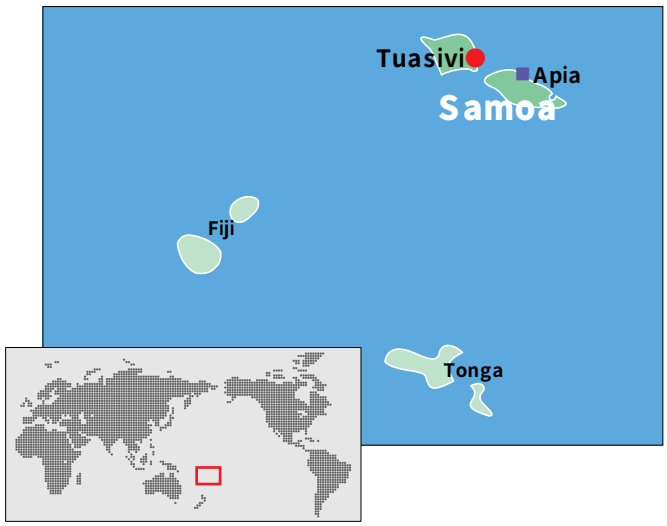
Samoa

Project of Reconstruction of Tuasivi Hospital



Project Sites

Tuasivi

1. Background of Project

Samoa is an archipelago located approximately in the center of the South Pacific, composed of two major islands called Upolu and Savai'i and other smaller islands. Samoa's medical system, consisting of its chief facility, the National Hospital located in the capital of Apia (on Upolu island), as well as the Tuasivi Hospital (on Savai'i island) and other district hospitals and rural health centers, provides various health services.

The Tuasivi Hospital on Savai'i received patients as a representative of Savai'i's medical institutions, but because the differences in medical care on Upolu and Savai'i were great and because the hospital's facilities and medical equipment were growing old, the medical services at the Tuasivi Hospital became limited.

Based on these conditions, the Government of Samoa requested grant aid from Japan in order to rebuild the Tuasivi Hospital, which is a key hospital and plays a central role in medical services on Savai'i.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1993

(2) Type of Cooperation

Grant aid

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Health Department

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

To improve medical care conditions on Savai'i.

2) Project Purpose

To enable the Tuasivi Hospital to perform its role as a key hospital on Savai'i.

3) Outputs

a) To rebuild main diagnosis and treatment facilities.
b) To renovate hospital wards and staff housing.
c) To establish basic infrastructure on the hospital's premises.
d) To provide equipment for diagnosis and treatment.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Grant	624 million yen (E/N amount)

Samoan Side

Land
Electricity and exterior construction
Local cost

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Samoa Office
(Commissioned to Kolone Vaai & Associates)

4. Period of Evaluation

1 December 1998-17 December 1998

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

Construction of hospital facilities and provision of equipment were conducted according to plan and were then handed over to the Samoan side.

The Samoan side originally expected to rebuild the Tuasivi Hospital as a second national hospital on the same scale and with the same facilities as the National Hospital in Apia (on Upolu island). However, a feasibility study indicated that, based on the management capabilities of the Samoan side and the needs of the people of Savai'i, it was judged to be more appropriate not to increase its function to the highest level in the country, but rather to improve its function as a key regional hospital. Therefore, as this project was not overly technical but instead provided equipment of a level that the Samoan side could maintain by itself, it is still being utilized well today. It can therefore be said that the scale of the project was appropriate.

(2) Effectiveness

As a result of this project, patients who were previously

forced to seek medical treatment at the National Hospital in the capital of Apia can now receive the help they need at the Tuasivi Hospital. Three years after the hospital facilities and equipment were handed over, the number of patients per month grew to 1800-2000 people, a 125% increase compared to the number of patients before the reconstruction, and the number of hospital beds used increased by 70%-74%. The number of examinations also increased by 150% and a greater variety of examinations could be carried out.

In this way, because the Tuasivi Hospital is able, as a key hospital on the island of Savai'i, to provide a wide range of health services in a timely manner to residents, this project has attained its objective.

(3) Impact

Since adequate health services could be received at the Tuasivi Hospital, rather than the National Hospital in Apia, the residents of Savai'i were no longer burdened by the long time and expensive fees needed for medical service in Apia. As a result, the residents of Savai'i have a wider access to medical services, and the medical situation of the island is improving.

Furthermore, the disproportionate concentration of patients to the National Hospital in Apia has been relieved. It can be said that this project has had positive effects on the efficiency of the entire Samoan medical system.

(4) Relevance

As this project was designed based on the Samoan Government's development plan, and because the reconstruction of the Tuasivi Hospital following a cyclone in the early 1990s had become an extremely pressing issue, this project was very relevant.

The number of patients receiving consultations at the hospital has increased, judging from which the residents' need for this hospital is great and relevance of this project is high.

(5) Sustainability

Because the budgetary system of the Health Department has improved, and the Tuasivi Hospital receives income both from the Government and from revenue from medical fees, the hospital's financial base has been stabilized. It has become possible to hire excellent doctors and nurses as a result, and sustainability has improved.

The provided equipment is regularly maintained. However, some machine parts are difficult to obtain in Samoa, which could impede the sustainable use of some of the machinery.

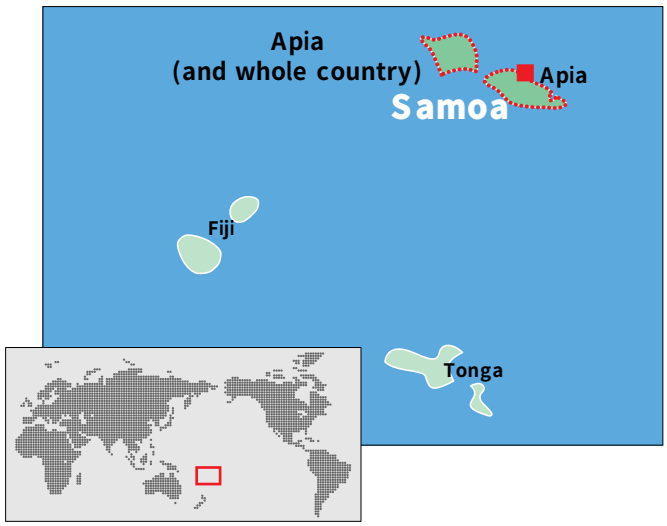
6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

At the time of the feasibility study, it is important to thoroughly examine the needs of the ultimate beneficiaries and the management capabilities of the partner country's implementing organization in order to design an appropriate plan that is realistic in scale and content.

Samoa

Cooperation for Filaria Control



Project Sites

Apia (and whole country)

1. Background of Project

Filaria is one of Samoa's endemic diseases. In a study conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 1964, the rate of detection reached 21%.

Based on this situation, Samoa, with the support of the WHO, has been conducting activities for the eradication of filarial. While cooperating with the WHO, Japan has continually implemented technical cooperation since 1976, centering on the dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV). During the final phase of filaria eradication activities launched began in 1992, with technical and financial assistance from the WHO and JICA, activities have been strengthened and medical measures have been implemented.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1976-FY1998

(2) Type of Cooperation

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), Senior overseas volunteers, acceptance of trainees

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Health Department

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

To promote the eradication of filaria in Samoa.

2) Project Purpose

To improve the technical level of filaria control at the Health Department (Filariasis Control Unit).

3) Outputs

a) For Samoan counterparts to acquire fundamental skills (hygiene practices, machine operating skills, basic testing skills, etc.).

b) To conduct group blood tests on residents.

c) To conduct a campaign to administer anti-filarial drugs.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers	13
Senior Overseas Volunteers	1
Trainees received	2
Equipment (testing equipment)	

Samoan Side

Counterparts	7
Health office	

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Samoa Office
(Commissioned to WHO Scientist Dr. Kazuyo ICHIMORI)

4. Period of Evaluation

6 November 1998-21 November 1998

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

This project conducted an effective transfer of technology through a combined approach, focusing on the dispatch of JOCV members and also including the dispatch of a senior overseas volunteer, acceptance of Health Department staff to Japan for training, and provision of equipment.

As this project was conducted as part of the WHO Filaria Eradication Programme, it was also generally efficient in terms of aid collaboration with other donors.

(2) Effectiveness

Through this cooperation, the Samoan counterparts improved basic skills, such as hygiene practices, machine operating skills, and basic testing skills. Filaria control has been appropriately conducted through the administration of diethyl carbamazine (DEC) to 80% of the country's population between 1993 and 1995, and the administration of a combination of DEC and ivermectin (IVM) between 1996 and 1997. The possibility for achievement of this project's goal is high.

(3) Impact

The rate of detection of filaria had already decreased from 21% in 1964 to 2% by the time the dispatch of JOCV members started in February 1977, through the large-scale distribution of medicines with WHO assistance. Following an increase to 5% in 1980, the rate again began to decrease and had reached 1.1% by 1998. The drop in the filaria detection rate did not necessarily correspond to Japanese cooperation. However, it will be evaluated highly that the increase in the technological level of the staff members at the Health Department as a result of this cooperation contributed to stable progress to the range of filaria eradication.

In addition, the clean-up campaign for environmental health to prevent filaria has been furthered by the spread of information concerning filaria-carrying mosquitoes and the prevention of infection to the public. The campaign has also contributed to the prevention of dengue fever, which is also transmitted by mosquitoes. Through these comprehensive environmental health activities, it is hoped that cases of parasites, scabies, and anemia will also decrease.

(4) Relevance

As the eradication of lymphatic filaria is a global issue being tackled by the WHO, and because the Samoan Government is committed to a proactive response to filaria, the efficacy of the technology transferred through this project is high.

(5) Sustainability

Through this project, the standard of skills of the Health Department staff members have reached the level where the department can independently promote filaria eradication. Also, Samoa is going to introduce WHO simple filaria testing kits. It is expected that the Samoan side will be able to develop its own filaria eradication program, receiving assistance from the Who for a while.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

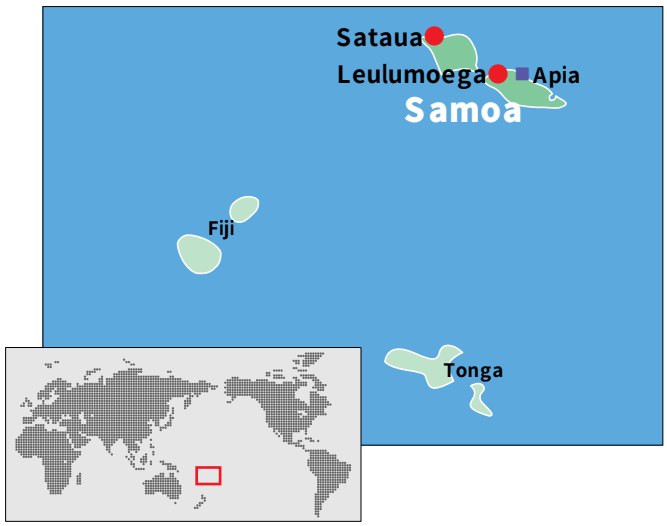
(1) Lessons Learned

JOCV members and a senior overseas volunteer were dispatched for a period of two to three years per person. Their continual dispatch contributed to the achievement, over the long term, of the goal of filaria eradication. This cooperation approach, which is conducted continually over the long term with comparatively small inputs, should be actively considered in the future.

In Samoa, the WHO's strong commitment to the Health Department has influenced the Ministry's policies. Through collaboration with the WHO, this project was able to conduct complementary cooperation. In the future, collaboration with international organizations like the WHO should be further promoted.

Samoa

Project for Reconstruction of Clinics



Project Sites

Sataua, Leulumoega

1. Background of Project

The Government of Samoa's Fourth Five-Year National Development Plan, which began in 1980, drew up a plan for district hospitals in order to improve medical services. As part of this plan, the Government requested grant aid from Japan for the construction of two clinics in highly concentrated areas: one at Leulumoega on Upolu Island, which due to its proximity to the international airport and piers would be forced to perform emergency activities in the event of an accident at these locations, and also at Sataua on Savai'i Island.

In response, Japan provided two clinic facilities and medical equipment in 1982. Subsequently, after a cyclone invasion nearly destroyed the Sataua Clinic in 1990, hampering its medical activities, Japan implemented follow-up cooperation in FY1991 to repair the clinic.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1982
FY1991 (follow-up)

(2) Type of Cooperation

Grant aid

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Health Department

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

To improve medical care conditions in rural areas in Samoa.

2) Project Purpose

To provide a base for local health services in the northeastern part of Upolu and on Savai'i.

3) Outputs

a) To construct clinics at Leulumoega on the island of Upolu and Sataua on the island of Savai'i.
b) To provide medical equipment to the two constructed clinics.
c) To repair cyclone damage to the Sataua Clinic (follow-up).

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Grant	570 million yen (E/N amount)

Samoan Side

Construction of facilities
Electricity, water supply, and exterior construction
Local cost borne

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Samoa Office
(Commissioned to Kolone Vaai & Associates)

4. Period of Evaluation

1 December 1998-17 December 1998

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

At both clinics, the scale of the facilities and the amount of equipment provided was appropriate, and construction of the facilities and provision of the equipment were completed according to plan. The implementation of follow-up cooperation to repair the damage to the Sataua Clinic caused by the cyclone was also an appropriate measure.

(2) Effectiveness

Statistics on the number of patients received were not available for either of the clinics, but through interviews with stakeholders and a site visit in this evaluation study, the activities conducted by the two clinics have responded well to the medical needs of the local residents. Moreover, both clinics contribute as a support medium during emergencies for the neighboring airports, piers, and factories. For these reasons, the objective of this project has been accomplished.

In the Leulumoega Clinic, not only does the service cover the treatments within the clinic, but also sends a team of nurses who visit nearby villages and cooperates with local women's groups to provide medical services at the grassroots level.

(3) Impact

As the amount of time and money needed for local residents to receive treatment has decreased, this project has made great contributions to the health improvement of the local residents who originally had difficulty getting access to medical care.

The establishment of the Leulumoega Clinic was also a factor in alleviating the concentration of patients at the National Hospital on Upolu (in the capital of Apia), which increased the efficiency of the entire medical care system in Samoa.

(4) Relevance

As this project accords with the Government of Samoa's development plan "Health Sector Strategic Plan (1998-2003)" which places high priority on the health field, and also meets the needs of local residents, it has high relevance.

(5) Sustainability

As it is difficult to obtain parts for the provided equipment within Samoa, and there is a shortage of human resources with maintenance skills, sustainable use of the equipment is hampered. Because the X-ray equipment and testing instruments provided to the Leulumoega Clinic were used very infrequently, they had been transferred to the National Hospital in Apia, where they have been utilized effectively.

Financially, although both clinics have secured a stable administrative budget to cover operating expenses and are taking in revenue from medical care fees, this amount is not entirely sufficient and future improvements will be necessary.

Currently Japan is implementing construction and repairs to the two clinics through grant assistance for grassroots projects. It is expected that, following its completion, the clinics will be able to even further demonstrate their function as local medical care institutions.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

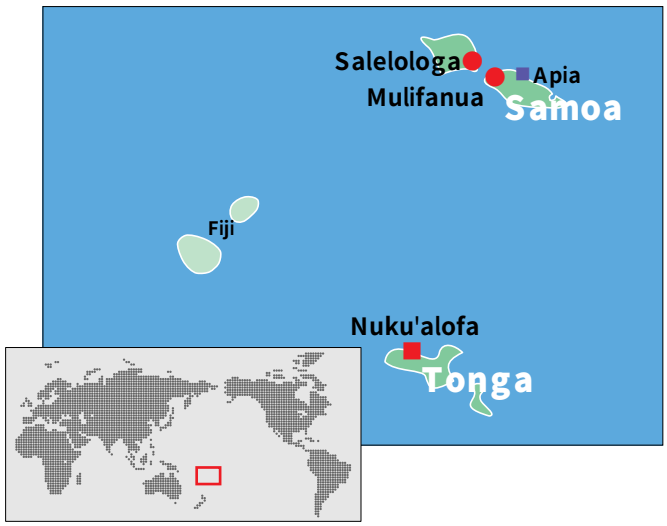
There is a high possibility that the Sataua Clinic's close proximity to the sea intensified the harm done by the cyclone. It is imperative that the geographical condition of a location is taken into consideration in countries with severe natural disasters such as Samoa. Inputs by local planners are important to ensure local condition.

(2) Recommendations

In order for the stable management of both clinics, it is desirable to consider cooperation that focuses not only on "hardware," such as provision of facilities and equipment, but also on "software," such as staff training.

Samoa and Tonga

Cooperation in the Fields of Transportation and Traffic



Project Sites

Salelologa, Mulifanua, Nuku'alofa

1. Background of Project

In the Pacific Islands Countries, it is essential for socioeconomic development to establish and maintain an efficient transportation network in order to overcome the disadvantages of diffusion, geographical isolation, and small national land areas and domestic markets.

With this background, Japan conducted cooperation in phases to establish port facilities in Samoa and Tonga through grant aid, and also supported the development of human resources in the field of port transportation in the partner countries through the provision of opportunities for training in Japan and third country training.

Japan established the three port facilities at Mulifanua, Salelologa and Apia to Samoa in the 1980s, and after Samoa was devastated by large cyclones in 1990 and 1991, implemented emergency restoration of the three ports in FY1990 and FY1992. Japan also provided a multi-purpose tugboat to Tonga in order to improve the efficiency and safety of harbor activities at the Queen Salote Wharf, which is Tonga's primary gateway to the import and export of goods.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1985-FY1993

(2) Type of Cooperation

Grant aid, Acceptance of trainees

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Samoa:

Ministry of Transport, Department of Public Works

Tonga:

Ministry of Marine and Ports

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

To foster socioeconomic development in Samoa and Tonga by increasing the efficiency and safety of maritime transport.

2) Project Purpose

To increase the efficiency and safety of maritime traffic infrastructure in Samoa and Tonga.

3) Outputs

Samoa

a) To improve facilities at the Mulifanua and Salelologa ports.
b) To improve facilities at the Apia port.
c) To restore facilities at the Mulifanua, Salelologa, and Apia ports that were damaged by cyclones in 1990 and 1991.

Tonga

d) To provide a multi-purpose tugboat to help with port activities at the Queen Salote Wharf.
e) To develop human resources for the operation and common maintenance of port facilities.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Grant	4.682 billion yen (E/N amount)
Trainees received in Japan	7
Trainees received to third country training	2

Samoan/Tongan Side

Staff for operation and maintenance
Local cost

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Australia Office
(Commissioned to Willing & Partners Pty Ltd.)

4. Period of Evaluation

February 1999-March 1999

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

The port facilities and equipment provided through grant aid were appropriate in scale and content, and were handed over to the Samoan and Tonga sides as planned. The development of the partner countries' human resources through

training in Japan and third-country training strengthened the partner countries' implementation systems and contributed to the efficient implementation of the project activities.

(2) Effectiveness

The establishment of the Mulifanua and Salelologa ports in Samoa has decreased the amount of time for the unloading of cargo as well as the wear and tear on ships, and has also increased port safety and enabled large ferry ships to enter the ports. At present, these ferry ships make round trips between the two major islands of Samoa, Upolu and Savai'i, three times a day on a regular basis. The establishment of bridges and ferry terminals at the Apia port was also instrumental in the safety of voyages.

In Tonga, ships entering and leaving the port were greatly affected by the weather, but the provided tugboat helped the ships to leave and approach the wharf more easily and reduced the risk of ships being damaged within the harbor. Additionally, maritime safety was increased as disaster relief preparedness for crashes, ships running aground, fires, and oil spills became possible.

As the safety and efficiency of maritime traffic in Samoa and Tonga have improved, this cooperation has attained its goal.

(3) Impact

Currently, transportation performance at each of the ports is higher than before the cyclone damage occurred. The number of passengers at the Mulifauan and Salelologa ports has increased from 120,000 people in 1983 to 414,000 people in 1998, and the number of vehicles transported has also increased significantly from 14,400 units to 36,000 units, which indicates the contribution to increased activities in the domestic transportation sector. The amount of cargo goods that the Apia port handles has also increased as a result of increased safety, from 180,700 tons in 1986 to 258,631 tons in 1997, and transportation costs have decreased because unloading times have shrunk.

In Tonga, due to the decrease in the risk of accidents involving ships entering and exiting the Queen Salote Wharf, the number of ships that enter the port is increasing yearly, from 122 ships in 1993 to 149 ships in 1997. These numbers are expected to continue to increase in the future as well. Also, approximately 15 search-and-rescue operations have been conducted every year by using the provided tugboat with disaster relief function.

(4) Relevance

Because the safety of ports has become an important issue for socioeconomic development in both Samoa and Tonga, the capacitation of port facilities and equipment provided through Japanese grant aid is extremely relevant.

(5) Sustainability

In Samoa, the staff members at the time of project implementation have remained. The provided port facilities are being generally well maintained without any major technological problems. The establishment of the Port Authority which was pending at the planning stages of the project was approved in 1999. This is expected to strengthen the management and operation of port facilities. However, on the financial front, despite the fact that revenues have risen due to increased usage of the port, close to 60% of expenditures have been subsumed by the depreciation of fixed assets. Usage fees have been frozen to approximately one-fourth that of neighboring countries since 1987.

In Tonga, because most of the crew members who received training in operation of the tugboat have been retained, there are no major technological problems. There are also no major financial problems, as revenues have exceeded expenditures (personnel expenses, boat maintenance expenses, dry dock fees, and fuel expenditures) for the past four years. The tugboat operation and its crews have been placed under the auspices of the Port Authority, an autonomous organisation established in February 1999. This rationalisation will consolidate the technical and financial sustainability of the tugboat operation in the long term.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

After the end of Japanese cooperation, in order to ensure the project sustainability by the partner country, it is important to enforce necessary measures prescribed based on the results of a financial analysis taken in the planning stages, including the operating and maintenance costs and establishment of fees.

(2) Recommendations

Considering the importance of maritime traffic to the Pacific region, from a long-term perspective, it is desirable that Japan provides continual cooperation, making good use of various aid schemes such as the acceptance of trainees and the dispatch of experts and Japan overseas cooperation volunteers.