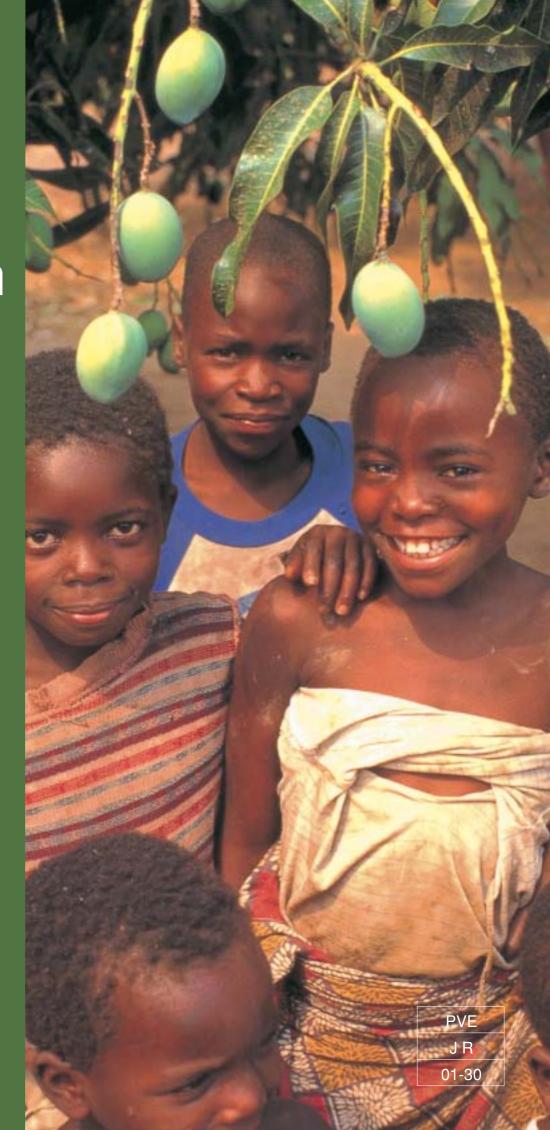
Annual Evaluation Report 2001 [Summary]



Japan International Cooperation Agency

Annual Evaluation Report 2001

Japan International Cooperation Agency

PREFACE

Over the past half-century, assistance from Japan and other developed nations to support the socioeconomic development of developing countries has led to a halving of the infant death rate, an extension in the average life span, and a 50% drop in the number of children not receiving primary education. However, explosive increases in the populations of developing countries mean that about 1.2 billion of the six billion people living today must still scratch by on one dollar or less per day.

Even as we enter the 21st century, there are still many issues facing developing countries that require attention, including poverty, conflict, refugees, environmental destruction, and the spread of infectious diseases. This means that, for the prosperity and stability of the entire international community, the role of official development assistance (ODA) in supporting the nation-building process in developing countries is as important as ever.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan's major ODA implementation agency, has as its motto "human development, national development, bringing people together". For some 40 years, JICA has engaged in a variety of international cooperation projects aimed at developing countries and regions that center mainly on technical cooperation. This kind of cooperation, which is often referred to as "person-to-person" cooperation, is becoming more and more important in the international community as "aid with a face".

On the other hand, Japan's economic status continues its long-term slide, and this has led to more intense public debate on the role of ODA. This includes forceful calls for implementation of efficient ODA that places emphasis on results, and for objective evaluation of ODA and the release of evaluation results to the public. Under these circumstances, those responsible for Japan's ODA are now obliged to conduct administrative evaluations as an efficient financial management tool, and this had led to the introduction of a system whereby "Ex-ante evaluation" is carried out prior to a project's implementation to verify its necessity. Based on this, starting this fiscal year JICA is taking steps to expand and enhance its evaluation system to ensure even more effectiveness and efficiency in its project implementation. In addition to the introduction of ex-ante evaluation in its operations, this effort includes revision of JICA's Evaluation Guidelines and strengthening of its structure for feeding back the results of evaluations into future operations.

This report, which is the seventh such report issued by JICA to date, includes the results of all JICA evaluations carried out in FY1999. In the course of implementing these evaluations, we received the valuable cooperation of a large number of outside personnel, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them.

Finally, it is my hope that this report will help readers gain a deeper understanding of JICA's projects and evaluations. And I would like to add that all comments and suggestions regarding its content will be most welcome.

December 2001

Yushu TAKASHIMA
Vice President
Japan International Cooperation Agency

Cover photographs

Front cover : Zambia

Back cover : Viet Nam

Frontispiece : China



Evaluation Survey Published in This Report





This is an abbreviated map that does not reflect actual national boundaries and locations. Country names indicated on the map include only those countries that were subject to the evaluation studies described in this report.

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