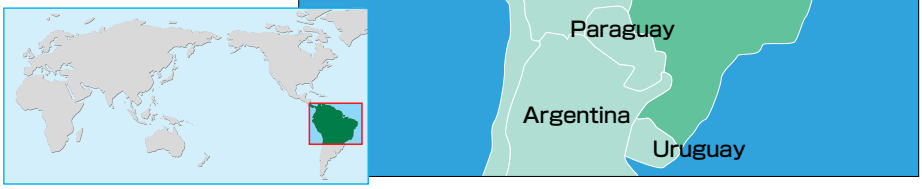
Brazil

Tropical Diseases



Project Site

Recife City (Pernambuco State)

1. Background of Project

In Brazil, basic and applied research in tropical diseases have been carried out extensively, particularly on the main endemic diseases such as Chagas' disease, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis and malaria. Among a number of universities and research institutes, Keizo Asami Laboratory of Immunopathology (LIKA) of the Universidade Federal of Pernambuco (UFPE), which had been supported by Japanese assistance under Project-type Technical Cooperation for eight years (May 1984-May 1992), is preeminent in the field of tropical diseases and immunopathology in terms of degree of experience, scholarly achievements and technology.

Against this background, in order to disseminate the vast technologies and experience of LIKA to 16 Latin American and Portuguese-speaking African countries, the government of Brazil requested Japan to implement a Third-country Training Program for medical professionals in the field of tropical diseases and immunopathology.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

FY1996-FY2000

(2) Type of Cooperation

Third-country Training Program

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organizations

Universidade Federal of Pernambuco (UFPE)
Keizo Asami Laboratory of Immunopathology (LIKA)

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

The latest knowledge of tropical diseases is disseminated in the countries participating in the training.

2) Project Purpose

Participants of the training program improve their knowledge in the field of tropical diseases and immunopathology.

3) Outputs

a) Trainees can properly interpret the typical morphological and physiopathological findings caused by tropical diseases.

b) Trainees can prepare biological assays to investigate tropical diseases according to the latest methodological guidance.

c) Trainees can appropriately process the data obtained from the studies in tropical diseases.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Short-term experts	5
Trainees received	61
Training equipment	
Training expenses	90 million yen

Brazilian Side

Instructors
Training facilities
Training equipment
Training expenses

(5) Participant Countries

Angola, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Dominican Republic

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Brazil Office
(Commissioned to Dr. Liana Lauria Pires)

4. Period of Evaluation

20 October 1999-31 December 1999

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

Training facilities such as classrooms and laboratories were equipped with the necessary items for lectures and practicals. The equipment was high quality and well maintained. The researchers and professors of LIKA, who gave lectures were not only had a wealth of experience, professional accomplishments and technical and academic capabilities, but also took an active interest in the implementation of the training program. The number of lecturers was also suitable for the number of trainees. Considering these factors, it was judged that the inputs had efficiently brought about outputs.

(2) Effectiveness

A total of 48 trainees from 17 countries including Brazilians participated in the courses over four years by 1999. Out of 21 trainees who answered the questionnaires, 85 percent expressed satisfaction with the training courses and answered that the training was useful and improved their skills and knowledge. In addition, some trainees replied that since the training content could be applied in various ways, it awoke their spirit of challenge to carry out research and projects related to tropical diseases at home. From these results, the effectiveness of the program was evaluated high as a whole.

(3) Impact

According to the results of the questionnaires, while there were disadvantages such as the shortage of medical equipment and funds at home, the trainees utilized in daily works the skills and knowledge learned in the training, which contributed to the improvement of diagnosis as well as planning, implementation and evaluation of medical management. Further, all of the trainees who answered the questionnaires were in occupations related to the field of tropical medicine (medical doctors, chemists, bacteriologists, veterinarians, hygienists, etc.) as professors, managers of research institutes or the like, and are engaged in health, education, research and so forth.

Many of these trainees were positive about disseminating the knowledge learned in the training. Specifically, they shared the knowledge with colleagues, focused on themes concerned with tropical diseases in lectures or in seminars, and produced publications.

(4) Relevance

Since the main diseases of the trainees' countries were covered in the training courses, the needs of the trainees were fulfilled. The skills and knowledge the trainees gained have been applied in their countries as stated above. From these, it was concluded that the training courses were relevant to the needs of participating countries.

(5) Sustainability

Since LIKA's operation and management system concerning the training program was well established, and since it maintained a good relationship with UFPE, the sustainability of LIKA as an implementing institution was judged to be sufficient.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Recommendations

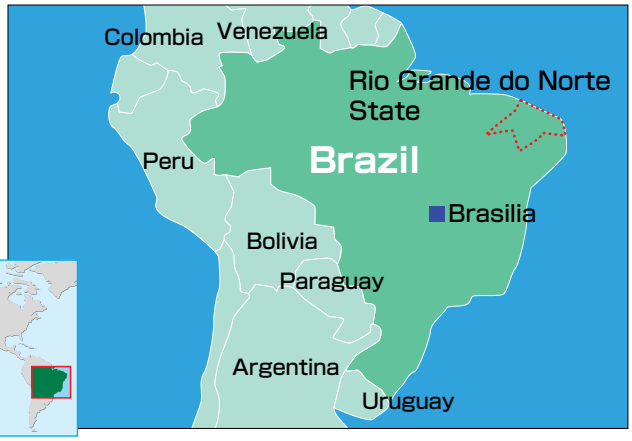
This training program was of great significance from the academic and educational point of view. Japanese experts also highly evaluated the program, particularly the fact that the contents of the training courses were improved each year. From these, it is considered to be effective to implement cooperation program that meets the needs with well-established organization, and hence, it is recommended to continue this training program.

7. Follow-up Situation

Since the demand for this training program was high, and the results were highly evaluated, a new Third-country Training Program entitled "International Course on Tropical Diseases" was started in 2001 for five years.

Brazil

Conservation of Sand Dunes and Desertification Control of Semi-Arid Areas in Rio Grande do Norte State



Project Site

Rio Grande do Norte State

1. Background of Project

On the Atlantic coast of the northeastern region of Brazil, especially in Rio Grande do Norte State, sand dunes had been encroaching on urban areas due to destructive development and tourism exploitation. They were also encroaching on suburban and rural areas, and causing considerable harm to small-scale farming. In addition, in the semi-arid areas lying within the interior of Rio Grande do Norte State, overgrazing, the brickwork industry's prolonged and indiscriminate excavation, and other developments had caused damage to vegetation and soil, leading to desertification. As a result, farmers gave up agricultural work and sought jobs in the brickwork industry, which resulted in a vicious spiral of indiscriminate deforestation and. poor vegetation and soil. With a view to improving the situation, the Brazilian Government requested technical cooperation from Japan in order to develop techniques to restore and conserve sand dunes and prevent desertification.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

1 April 1997-31 March 2000

(2) Type of Cooperation

Expert Team Dispatch Program

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Institute of Economic Development and Environment in Rio Grande do Norte State (IDEMA)

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

To provide better living conditions for the local people by making the land arable through conserving sand dunes and preventing desertification.

2) Project Purpose

Vegetation conditions in the sand dunes and semi-arid areas of Rio Grande do Norte State are improved.

3) Outputs

a) Counterparts gain knowledge of meteorological observation techniques using necessary machinery and materials.

b) Vegetation survey techniques are established.

c) Experiment techniques on sand fixation are established.

d) Techniques of surveying the amount of sand dune shift are established.

e) Survey techniques related to the improvement of semi-arid soils are established

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Long-term experts	1
Short-term experts	10
Trainees received	5
Equipment	30 million yen
Local cost	8 million yen

Brazilian Side

Counterparts	
Experiment site and research facilities	
Local cost	50 million yen

3. Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Brazil Office

(Commissioned to Mr. Arnaldo Roarelli, Junior)

4. Period of Evaluation

25 Sept. 1999-20 Dec. 1999

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

There were a few problems such as delays in the delivery of machinery and materials caused by disorder springing from the Brazilian Government's devaluation of the currency, which had not been expected at the time of planning; however, in general, the inputs from the Japanese side were made smoothly as scheduled and project activities were carried out efficiently. Nontheless, there were some problems in transferring techniques because IDEMA could not provide a full-time counterpart and because IDEMA was not well informed of what the short-term expert was doing due to communication problems. As far as the component of sand dunes fixation is concerned, the efficiency was lower than that of preventing desertification due to the fact that the machinery installed at the experiment site was vandalized several times, and the topographical survey and installation of the well for irrigation, which were inputs on the Brazilian side, were delayed.

(2) Effectiveness

Generally speaking, technical transfer was carried out efficiently and most outputs were obtained. However, it is too early to evaluate the extent to which the project purpose was attained because the improvement of vegetation in the sand dunes area and semi arid areas started only recently due to the severe drought the area experienced for two of the three years of the project.

(3) Impact

The largest impact made by this project was that the implementing agency, IDEMA, became quite conscious of environmental protection and restoration. It was considered that this would probably benefit the local people a great deal in several years.

Some of provided machinery is utilized by other organizations, as well. This would provide benefits not only to the project site, but to the entire State.

(4) Relevance

Encroaching sand dunes on the coast and desertification in semi-arid areas of Northeast Brazil was not solely an environmental problem but also an economic problem causing serious damage to the local economy. Since solving these problems had been a long-standing urgent issue for the Brazilian government, the relevance of this project was considered to be high.

(5) Sustainability

IDEMA has sufficient human resources and machinery to carry out activities in this field. Also, additional support is expected from organizations such as the Mossoró Superior School of Agriculture and the Brasilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources, which were interested in and provided a great deal of support to the project during the implementation stage. On the other hand, there are some problems such as the decrease in the budget allocated from the state government to IDEMA due to the recession in Brazil, and the scarcity of spare parts in Brazil for the machinery provided through the project.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

At the planning stage, both governments should have discussed and confirmed the placement of a full-time counterpart and the activities that Japanese experts would carry out.

(2) Recommendations

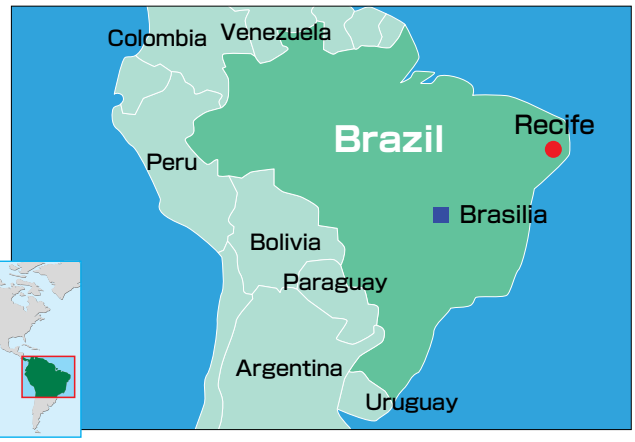
It was recommended that environment education targeting local people be included so that the project could be more sustainable. IDEMA was strongly expecting continued assistance from Japan for the maintenance of machinery and ongoing monitoring activities.

7. Follow-up Situation

It is probable that an Expert Team Dispatch Program "Technology Development for Revegetation and Utilization of Degraded Areas in the Semi-Avid Region (Caatinga) of the Northeastern Brazil" will be conducted by IDEMA as the implementing agency.

Brazil

The Public Health Development Project for the Northeast Brazil in Pernambuco



Project Site

RecifeCity (Pernambuco State)

1. Background of Project

The Government of Brazil introduced an Unified Health System (SUS) under the new constitution proclaimed in 1988, and the two areas of 'prevention' and 'treatment' that had been divided between the Ministry of Social Security and the Ministry of Health were integrated under the Ministry of Health. Also, it was decided to promote decentralization whereby the federal, state and municipal governments each determine their roles and responsibilities.

With this background, and in order to promote the SUS in Pernambuco State in the northeast region where people could not access basic health and medical services, the Government of Brazil requested Project-type Technical Cooperation from the Government of Japan. The aims of the assistance were to establish a public health center (NUSP) at the faculty of medicine of the Federal University of Pernambuco and to improve public health and medical services through collaboration with the state health administration.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

10 February 1995-9 February 2000

(2) Type of Cooperation

Project-type Technical Cooperation

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organizations

Public Health Center at Federal University of Perrnambuco (NUSP: Núcleo de Saúde Pública)
Pernambuco State Health Secretariat

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

New methods for improvement of public health in the pilot areas are applied in Pernambuco State and other states in northeast Brazil.

2) Project Purpose

Through the activities of NUSP, the university and health administration form ties to strengthen SUS, and the health condition of community people in the pilot areas is improved.

3) Outputs

a) NUSP is established and collaboration among organizations such as the university, state, municipality and NGOs is promoted.
b) Public health and medical services (medical staff, facilities and equipment) in the pilot areas are improved.
c) Improvement program for infant mortality in the state hygiene department is supported.
d) The capacities of health and related staff in Pernambuco State are enhanced.
e) The public health services in the pilot areas (65 municipalities) in Pernambuco state for infant-care projects are improved.
f) Effective study and research activities are implemented to address health issues in the pilot areas.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Long-term experts	10
Short-term experts	29
Trainees received	21
Equipment	245 million yen
Local cost	110 million yen

Brazilian Side

Counterparts	117
Land and facilities	
Local cost	US$ 4 million (444 million yen)

3. Members of Evaluation Team

Leader:

Takefumi KONDO, Professor of School of Medicine, Keio University

Public Health:

Kiyoshi TANAKA, Director of the Bureau of International Cooperation, International Medical Center of Japan

Public Health:
Seiki TATENO, Director, Second Expert Service Division, Bureau of International Cooperation, International Medical Center of Japan
Nurse:
Yoko KONISHI, Deputy Director of Department of Nursing, International Medical Center of Japan
Evaluation Planning:
Harumi KITABAYASHI, Second Medical Cooperation Division, Medical Cooperation Department
Evaluation Analysis:
Takaharu IKEDA, IC Net Limited.

4. Period of Evaluation

23 August 1999-6 September 1999

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

The inputs from the Japanese side were for the most part provided as planned. On the Brazilian side, the posting of officials in the NUSP administration was delayed until January 1999, so a lot of work was carried over to the final year of the project. In addition, local funds were delayed due to the economic crisis, but the majority of inputs were arranged considering the constraints. Also, regarding the project implementation, there was good team spirit with Brazil taking ownership, and smooth information sharing among related people.

(2) Effectiveness

In the pilot areas, the infant mortality rate decreased by more than 30 percent compared with the time when the project started, and the infectious disease rate, a cause of infant mortality, decreased from 27 percent to 10 percent on average in the pilot areas. A similar trend was identified in the areas for the improvement program of the infant mortality rate which was part of the collaboration activities between NUSP and Perunambuco State. From these results, it was concluded that the project purpose was achieved.

(3) Impact

NUSP played a model role in the expansion of health services into other rural areas, and through the SUS promotion, contributed to the progress of decentralization in the pilot areas. Also, the training methods and curriculum developed by the project for training community health workers were applied in many municipalities, and thus a large impact was realized.

(4) Relevance

Pernambuco State was still tackling problems to improve public health, and the health department of the state was continuing the decentralization process in the health administration and the program for improvement of infant mortality. Considering this, the project purpose was deemed relevant to the government policy.


Interview in low income area

(5) Sustainability

On the institutional side, the basic infrastructure of NUSP was in place, and collaboration was strengthened among the university, state, municipality, cities and NGOs. Financially, NUSP developed a system to secure funds for research and education on its own by establishing a master's course in the faculty of health. From this point of view, the NUSP had high sustainability.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

NUSP played a key role to promote SUS in cooperation with the state and municipality and this type of cooperation emphasized the importance of coordinating among different organizations. It is important for projects like this not to limit activities to individual technical training by experts but also, as a coordinator, to promote joint work among the different organizations.

As a result of the positive application of PCM, the project staff always achieved activities with common ideas and created outputs. On the other, it was desired to develop more efficient methods of planning, monitoring and evaluation as considerable energy was spent for implementation of the workshops and consensus building.

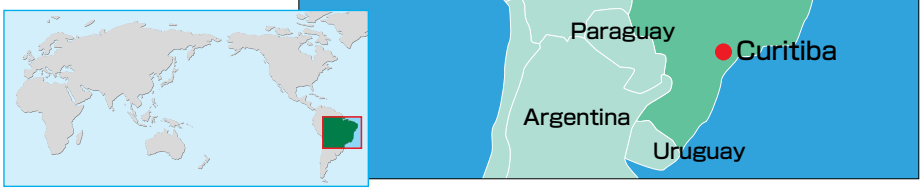
(2) Recommendations

As this project mostly achieved its purpose, it was completed in February 2000 as planned.

In order to disseminate the project outputs into all municipalities across the state, it is desirable that the health department of the state provides instruction and assistance in order to apply the improvement of the health system in the pilot areas.

Brazil

Brazilian Institute of Quality and Productivity



Project Site Curitiba (Paraná State)

1. Background of Project

In June 1990, the Collor Administration (March 1990 to September 1992) started the Brazilian Program for Quality and Productivity (PBQP) with the aim of upgrading quality and productivity of industries of the country, while promoting deregulation such as import liberalization and introduction of foreign capital, and privatization of government-owned enterprises. A number of organizations participated in the Program under which 16 states initially developed their own programs.

Furthermore, the Brazilian Government planned to establish in five states the Brazilian Institutes for Quality and Productivity (IBQP), which carry out specialized activities for improving quality and productivity, and requested from the Japanese Government Project-type Technical Cooperation.

2. Project Overview

(1) Period of Cooperation

1 June 1995-31 May 2000

(2) Type of Cooperation

Project-type Technical Cooperation

(3) Partner Country's Implementing Organization

Brazilian Institute for Quality and Productivity in Paraná (IBQP-PR)

(4) Narrative Summary

1) Overall Goal

The concept and technology of productivity improvement are disseminated among Brazilian society through IBQP-PR.

2) Project Purpose

IBQP-PR is able to upgrade and develop the technology and knowledge for productivity improvement.

3) Outputs

a) The management system of the Project is established.
b) The equipment necessary to implement activities in the said field is provided, operated and maintained properly.
c) The technical capacity of the counterpart personnel is upgraded in the said field.
d) Seminars and training courses are established and managed.
e) Consultation services are implemented systematically.
f) Public relations and promotion for productivity improvement are implemented systematically.

4) Inputs

Japanese Side

Long-term experts	12
Short-term experts	22
Trainees received	40
Equipment	0.84 million real (approx. 53 million yen)
Local cost	approx. 910 million yen

Brazilian Side

Counterparts	20
Land and facilities	
Equipment	0.32 million real (approx. 20 million yen)
Local cost	12 million real (approx. 742 million yen)

3. Members of Evaluation Team

Team Leader:
Norinobu HAYASHI, Managing Director, Mining & Industrial Development Cooperation Department, JICA

Technical Cooperation Planning:
Yoko KATO, Specialist for Technology Cooperation, Technical Cooperation Division, Economic Cooperation Department, International Trade Policy Bureau, Ministry of International Trade and Industry

Technical Transfer Program:
Koh KASUGA, Executive Director, International Division, Japan Productivity Center for Socio-Economic Development (JPC-SED)

Human Resources Development:
Takeshi FUJITA, International Division, JPC-SED

Evaluation Management:
Hironori KIMURA, First Technical Cooperation Division, Mining & Industrial Development Cooperation Department, JICA

Evaluation Analysis:
Wataru TAKADA, CRC Overseas Cooperation Inc.

4. Period of Evaluation

26 March 2000-15 April 2000

5. Results of Evaluation

(1) Efficiency

Counterparts were not allocated as planned and that affected the technical cooperation process. As a gap between the needs of the Brazilian side and those of the Japanese side was revealed at an early stage of project implementation, the means of technology transfer were revised following a series of discussions, to put more emphasis on practical on-the-job training. Such a shift from knowledge-oriented to a more practical approach promoted the smooth implementation of the project.

(2) Effectiveness

Technical transfer proceeded in IBQP-PR in such fields as promotion of a productivity movement and human resource development through the project activities including the increase in the number of the staff (there were 35 staff members at the time of evaluation), establishment of a management system, and utilization of computers and other information technology devices. By the end of February 2000, IBQP-PR held 56 seminars on productivity and accepted 234 trainees to 17 productivity agent capacitating courses. Also, consultation services were provided to 37 enterprises, and the number of publications including brochures and bulletins reached a total of 28. Based on these factors, it was concluded that the project purpose would likely be achieved within the planned cooperation period.

(3) Impact

As the concept of productivity that IBQP-PR proposed was comprehensive, authorities such as the Brazilian Service for the Support of Micro and Small Enterprises (SEBRAE) and the Ministry of Development, Industry and International Trade (MDIC), entrusted IBQP-PR with projects and national policies including reinforcement of competitiveness of enterprises and export promotion. Also, in the Latin America Productivity Seminar organized by IBQP-PR with participation of eight guest countries from Central and South America in January 2000, it was agreed to create the "Latin America Productivity Network" in order to have regular meetings and to exchange information.

(4) Relevance

The overall goal of the project was in conformity with the objectives of PBQP, the national policy under which the project was planned. At the same time, the fulfillment of PBQP required the implementation of activities including dissemination of the concept and technology of productivity, support of enterprises and human resources development in industrial communities through the improvement of productivity organizations such as IBQP-PR. Therefore, it was felt that the project purpose met with the national policy as well.

In addition, the shift of the technology transfer approach from lectures to a more practical manner effectively enhanced the technical capability of IBQP-PR and was thus appropriate.

Brazilian Institute for Quality and Productivity in Paraná

(5) Sustainability

In 1999, the unification of IBQP-National, the central organization of IBQPs, and IBQP-PR was agreed. IBQP-PR was widely recognized as a productivity organization operating nationwide, not only in Paraná State, and therefore its activities should be further strengthened. In terms of financial aspects, the necessary budget for sustaining IBQP-PR's activities was thought likely to be secured considering that closer links with SEBRAE (which was through MDIC to fund most of IBQP-PR's operating expenses) were expected, and that IBQP-PR would increase its self-income from consulting services and other projects. Technical sustainability was also plausible: through the project activities, the counterparts' technical level reached the extent capable of continuing and further improving the ongoing activities.

6. Lessons Learned and Recommendations

(1) Lessons Learned

In cases where an implementing organization is newly established at the start of the project, organizational and institutional weaknesses are likely to impact management of the project. The project design must, therefore, be flexible and regularly monitored in order to make adjustments based on the actual project environment.

(2) Recommendations

As it was believed that the project purpose would likely be achieved within the cooperation period, it was considered appropriate to terminate the project as initially planned.

7. Follow-up Situation

Two Individual Experts, one in productivity promotion (June 2000-May 2002) and the other in management consulting technology (October 2000-October 2002), have been dispatched to IBQP-PR. Also, a Third-country Training Program titled "Productivity Integrated Manegement" is being conducted for five years from 2001/2002.