

## **Preface**

"Leading the world with trust." JICA announced its new vision in 2017.

With the announcement of our new vision, we have reaffirmed JICA's two major missions of realizing human security and quality growth. We will keep working on international cooperation proactively in partnership with a range of domestic and international stakeholders to realize a world in which no one is left behind.

The main objectives of JICA's project evaluation are: (1) To improve project operations by learning the lessons from the past projects and (2) To ensure organizational accountability and transparency by publicizing evaluation results timely. To enhance both the quality and the strategy of our cooperation under the vision of "Leading the world with trust," we are leveraging the results of project evaluation.

A decade has passed since JICA and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Operations of the then Japan Bank for International Cooperation consolidated and formed the new JICA in 2008. The establishment of the new JICA enabled to implement Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) in an integrated manner. Since then, JICA has established an integrated evaluation system for its Technical Cooperation, ODA Loan and Grant Aid projects and worked on both publicizing more comprehensive evaluation results and learning from the evaluation results and lessons.

This Annual Evaluation Report compiles the results of JICA's evaluations on its projects and includes an outline of JICA's evaluation mechanisms and the results of ex-post evaluations conducted by the third-party evaluators. This fiscal year 2018, we further promoted the process analyses focused on project implementation process, improved evaluation methods from various perspectives and carried out statistical analysis on evaluation results and impact evaluation. In line with international trends such as accumulating and utilizing knowledge, we also shared JICA's knowledge with domestic and overseas stakeholders. Some of these efforts are highlighted in this report.

In many cases, JICA implements development projects in very challenging environments such as conflict-affected areas, and our operations require innovations to promote socioeconomic progress in developing countries amid rapid environmental changes and technological advancements on a global scale. Given the difficulties and ambitious goals of these projects, such projects are sometimes difficult to achieve high ratings in the project evaluation. Even so, we are determined to continue challenging ourselves to advance development of the world by making the best use of the lessons learned by our evaluation results to maximize our cooperative efforts.

We strongly hope this report will be broadly shared and will help deepen your understanding of JICA's activities. We would also like to thank you for your continued support and trust in JICA.

March 2019 Shinichi Kitaoka, President Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)