

# Celebrating 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*of*  
**JOCV** Japan  
Overseas  
Cooperation  
Volunteers



**The Power of JICA Volunteers**  
-Change the World, Change Japan-



# Our History

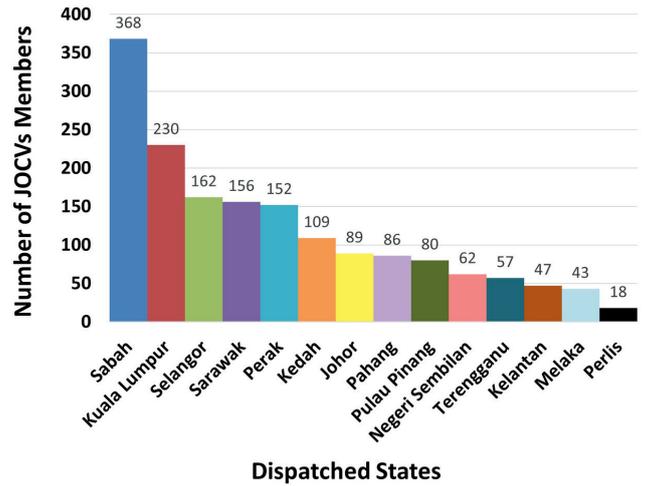
JICA's Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) were first dispatched to Laos in 1965. Since then, the program has continued to expand significantly and JOCVs have been dispatched to 99 countries in various fields.

The first group of **five volunteers** was sent to

**MALAYSIA** on   
**15th January 1966**



- 1 Physical education
- 2 Rice culture
- 2 Vegetable growing



Number of JOCVs Dispatched to Malaysia by State from January 1966 to March 2025

By March 2025,  
there is a total of **1,660** JOCV members  
have been dispatched to Malaysia



## Field Ranking



**1** Japanese Language Education  
(160 members)

**2**

Early Childhood Education  
(74 members)



**3** Electric & Electronic  
(71 members)

**4**

Vegetable Growing  
(56 members)



**5** Food Crops & Rice Culture  
(54 members)

## Japanese Language Education

is the main field of dispatch to Malaysia, beginning at the University of Malaya in 1966. The demand for Japanese language instructors grew:



- In the late 1960s, as more Malaysians wanted to work in Japanese companies
- Since the introduction of 'Look East Policy (LEP)' in 1981 by then-Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad



## Our Objectives

- (1) To **cooperate in the economic and social development** as well as the reconstruction of developing countries
- (2) To **deepen mutual understanding** and coexistence in cross-cultural societies
- (3) To **give back** the volunteer experiences to society



In addition to supporting Malaysia's economic and social development, a key pillar of the JOCV program is to **foster mutual understanding, friendship and trust** through grassroots activities. Volunteers engage with the local community by speaking the same language and living and working alongside Malaysians.

Upon completing their service, volunteers often express that they have '**learned more than they taught**'. This reflects the unique and enriching experiences of the JOCV program, where they typically teach locals but gain even more knowledge and insights in the process.



Have a question? Feel free to contact us!

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