

## JICA'S VOLUNTEER PROGRAM ACCELERATES WITH THE ARRIVAL OF NINE NEW VOLUNTEERS

JICA Nepal is excited to announce the arrival of nine new volunteers who are joining its dynamic team in Nepal. The new team of 9 safely arrived in Nepal on August 06, 2024. This fresh cohort of dedicated individuals brings a wealth of diverse expertise and vibrant energy, poised to make a significant impact across various communities. Their arrival heralds the launch of innovative projects designed to promote sustainable development and enrich local lives through collaboration and dedicated service.

To celebrate this milestone, JICA Nepal hosted a special introduction ceremony titled "Embracing New Partnerships: Welcoming JICA Volunteers in Nepal 2024" on August 23, 2024. The event was attended by more than 50 participants comprising of key government representatives, partners from other international volunteer organizations, and media friends. This gathering underscored the collaborative spirit of the program and highlighted the commitment of all stakeholders involved.

The new volunteers will be deployed across a range of sectors, including agriculture, traffic safety, health advisory, and education etc. Each volunteer brings unique skills and perspectives that will contribute to addressing local needs and fostering sustainable development. Their efforts are expected to drive positive change and strengthen partnerships with Nepalese counterparts.

Before coming to Nepal, these volunteers completed a 70-day Nepali language course

*"Volunteerism is an enormous renewable resource for social, economic, and environmental problem-solving throughout the world. Volunteers are at the fore in crises and emergencies, often in very testing and dire situations."*



All the Nine new volunteers upon their arrival in JICA Nepal Office with Former Chief Representative Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu (Standing Centre) and Senior Representative Mr. IIZUKA Kenichiro (Standing 3rd from left).

in Japan. This program not only teaches the language but also provides a thorough introduction to Nepali culture, traditions, and geography. Upon arrival in Nepal, the volunteers undergo an additional 21-day language course to further prepare them for their assignments.

Additionally, volunteers also participated in Home Stay program, living with a Nepali family for two and a half days (August 28-30, 2024). This experience allows them to immerse themselves in the Nepali lifestyle, cuisine, and household customs, helping them adapt more smoothly to life within the Nepali community.

Stay tuned as they embark on their journey, working alongside Nepalese partners/ counterparts to create lasting positive change.



All 13 JICA volunteers during the Introduction ceremony with Newly appointed Chief Representative Mr. MATSUZAKI Mizuki (Centre front row), Former Chief Representative Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu (Front row 5th from left) and Senior Representative Mr. IIZUKA Kenichiro (Front row 1st in left) and Mr. Sunil Kumar Yadav, Under Secretary, Ministry of Finance (Front row 4th from left).

### Commemorating the Introduction Ceremony, Mr. MATSUZAKI

**Mizuki, the newly appointed Chief Representative of JICA Nepal stated,** *"Amongst the 17 goals of SDGs, each JICA volunteer is working in Nepal to achieve one or few of its targets. As per the SDG motto 'No One Left behind', our volunteers work at the grassroot level with local people, which is the most significant advantage of this program. Simultaneously, the program's biggest achievement so far is facilitating the friendship and partnership between Japan and Nepal. By introducing our new volunteers today, we hope to contribute more for the development of Nepal".*

*"I am incredibly excited and honored to join the JICA Volunteer Program in Nepal. Over the next two years, I am committed to applying my skills and making a meaningful contribution. I also look forward to learning extensively from this experience, which I hope to bring back to Japan and share with others,"* expressed one of the enthusiastic Japanese volunteers.

JICA volunteer program founded in 1965 allows Japanese volunteers to work with the local people to contribute to the country's socioeconomic development, making effective use of

S. No	Volunteer's Name	Sector/Field/Office
1	Mr. SAWAGUCHI Koshiro	Traffic Safety/Valley Traffic Police Office, Ramshah Path
2	Mr. TERASHIMA Yuki	Traffic Safety/Valley Traffic Police Office, Ramshah Path
3	Ms. KATOH Haruka	Youth Activities, Mangal Secondary School, Kirtipur
4	Ms. NAKAMOTO Inka Angelina	Physical Education, Patan Secondary School, Lalitpur
5	Ms. KAWAJIRI Nagisa	Fruit Growing/Putali Bazar Municipality, Syangja
6	Mr. YAMASHITA Jun	Public Health Advisor, Sangachowkgadhi Municipality, Chautara
7	Mr. KAWAI Toma	Physical Education, Khagendra New Life Secondary School
8	Mr. YOSHIDA Yusuke	Vegetable Growing, Dhulikhel Municipality, Dhulikhel
9	Mr. HIROSUE Tatsuya	Fruit Growing/Warm Temperature Horticulture Centre, Kirtipur

their abilities and experiences. The volunteers live among the local people for 2 or more than 2 years of the country to which they are dispatched to and pursue their activities enabling them to ascertain development needs from the viewpoint of those living there as well as promote mutual understanding and friendship between Nepal and Japan.

The first JICA volunteers came to Nepal in September 1970. Since then, their activities have diversified in various sectors and sub-sectors which includes agriculture, health, education, forestry and fisheries, repair operations, civil engineering, sanitation, sports, and culture, as well as planning and administration. JICA volunteer program in Nepal is dedicated to the sharing of resources and technology at the grass-root level for Nepal's nation building endeavor through the 'Learning by Doing' approach.

#### Objectives of the JICA Volunteer Program:

- Support socio-economic development and reconstruction in developing countries and regions.
- Foster friendship and mutual understanding between these regions and Japan.
- Share the benefits and insights gained from volunteer experiences with Japanese society.



JICA volunteers have played a crucial role in Nepal's development, particularly in rural areas. Their contributions, like Toru Kondo's introduction of apples in Mustang, have significantly improved local livelihoods. Many Japanese volunteers continue to support Nepal, earning deep gratitude from the people. Their impactful work includes advancing agriculture by introducing crops like sweet oranges in Ramechhap, rainbow trout in Rasuwa, and various fruits and vegetables throughout the country. Additionally, volunteers have enriched Nepalese sports by introducing Judo, Karate, Kendo, and Boccia. The enduring influence of JICA volunteers highlights their exceptional dedication and the strong partnership between Nepal and Japan.

JICA's JOCV program was temporarily halted in 2020 due to COVID-19 but resumed after a gap of 3 years in July 2023 last year. Since then, four volunteers are actively undertaking their responsibilities in Nepal as follows.

1. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV): **Ms. ENOMOTO Miki**, JICA Alumni Association of Nepal's (JAAN) Integrated Community Development Program in Lele, Lalitpur.
2. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV): **Ms. KONDO Airi**, Vegetable growing area, Siddhalek Rural Municipality, Bungchung, Dhading.

3. Senior Volunteer (SV): **Mr. OHASHI Yoichi**, Fishery Research Station, Begnas, Kaski.
4. Senior Volunteer (SV): **Mr. INOUE Masato**, Agro-Marketing expert, Nepal Agricultural Co-operative Central Federation Ltd. (NACCFL), Dhobighat, Lalitpur.

Altogether 1,449 Volunteers (JOCV and SV) have contributed to Nepal's development in the last 53 years.

JICA assures that more volunteers will be coming to Nepal in the following months.

( **Ms. Brinda Singh**, Public Relations Officer, JICA Nepal )

## JICA in History

# JICA'S AIM TO RESTORE AND IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY EARTHQUAKE

## EMERGENCY HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT: ODA LOAN (2015-2020)

Emergency Housing Reconstruction Project (EHRP), funded with the Government of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) concessional loan of 12 billion JPY was one of the key initiatives by JICA for reconstruction and recovery after the 2015 earthquake. The Project contributed to introduce earthquake-resistant standards and community mobilization program. This led to reconstruction of earthquake resilient houses through direct involvement of the community people and helped people rebuild their lives. The Project also took the initiative to provide training to engineers, house owners and masons to disseminate the necessary skills and knowledge to construct earthquake-resistant buildings.

Through EHRP, JICA provided financial assistance (around 35,000 beneficiaries) and technical assistance (around 95,000 beneficiaries) for the housing reconstruction in Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk districts.

*"I lost my house and my husband in the same year. We lost our small house when the earthquake hit, but luckily, all our lives were spared. For three years, we lived in a shed. The mobile masons helped us to build our house brick-by-brick, which is stronger and will not collapse even if another earthquake hits". - Ms. Reshma Binita Bhujel, Sindhupalchowk (one of the beneficiaries of the EHRP project).*



Mason training at Chautara, Sindhupalchowk



Ms. Reshma Binita Bhujel with her children in her newly constructed house in Gorkha



Newly constructed house in Sangachowk, Sindhupalchowk



Community meeting, Community Mobilization Program

## JAPANESE TEACHERS' NEPAL VISIT: A JOURNEY OF LEARNING AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

From July 29 to August 9, 2024, JICA Nepal hosted eight Japanese teachers as part of the 'Study Tour for Teachers Group' organized by JICA Global Plaza. These educators, hailing from Aichi and Shizuoka Prefectures and managed by the JICA Chubu Center, engaged in a variety of activities throughout their stay.

**The teachers visited several JICA project sites, including:**

- The JICA Alumni Association Nepal (JAAN) site, featuring Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)
- The Mitra Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Learning Center & Bhassara School (JPP)

- The Love Green Japan & Nepal (JPP)
- Arunodaya School (JPP)
- The Association for Craft Producers Nepal (Former Volunteer)
- The Nagdhunga Tunnel Construction Project (ODA Loan)

In addition to their site visits, the teachers experienced a village homestay in Patlekheth, Kavreparanchowk. They were warmly hosted by local families, enjoying two nights of traditional hospitality and engaging in cultural exchange classes that highlighted the richness of Nepalese culture. The teachers were deeply impressed by the

warmth and generosity of their hosts. Upon returning to Japan, they plan to share their memorable experiences and the insights gained from their visit through global study classes in their respective schools.

Teachers' purpose is to motivate Japanese students to understand multi-cultural understanding for international cooperation and harmonious society by conducting their classes based on their experience in Nepal.

In addition, the participants must conduct classes and submit their implementation report to JICA Chubu. Sometimes they also have to make some presentation in public event such as global fest.



*Experience Nepali basket*



*Visit to Love Green Nepal Office*



*Bhassara School exchange program*



*Tapari making in Homestay community*



*Cultural exchange program*



*Nagdhunga Tunnel Visit*

## JAPAN INTRODUCES NEW SERIES OF BANKNOTES MADE WITH NEPALI PAPER "ARGELI"

On July 3rd, 2024, Japan introduced a new series of banknotes made from a special type of paper called "Argeli", produced in Nepal.

The introduction of these banknotes marks a significant development in international collaboration and sustainable practices.

The cultivation of Argeli has provided a substantial economic boost to Nepali farmers. This initiative has empowered these farmers including employment opportunities for women farmers, offering them a stable income and an improved standard of living. Moreover, hundreds of youths have obtained employment

opportunities throughout the year to prepare white bark from the Argeli and it supported retaining youths in the villages. The increase in demand for Argeli has led to a flourishing local economy, enabling farmers to invest in better education, healthcare, and overall community development.



Since 1990s this innovative approach was launched by Japanese company, Kanpou Inc., and expanded their business with support by JICA after 2016. JICA's involvement has been crucial in bridging the gap between Japan's technological needs and Nepal's agricultural potential.

JICA's network and trust in Nepal contributed for obtaining permits and approvals and the scope of production activities quickly expanded and they are now able to produce about 150 tons of honeycomb per year at about 30 production sites, which is about three times the amounts that were produced 10 years ago.

The new banknotes not only signify a step forward in sustainable resource utilization but also symbolize the strengthening of ties between Japan and Nepal. As these banknotes enter circulation, they will carry with them a story of international cooperation and the positive impact of sustainable development on local communities.



Processing of the plant



Final material ready for shipping to Japan



Argeli Plant "Mitsumata"



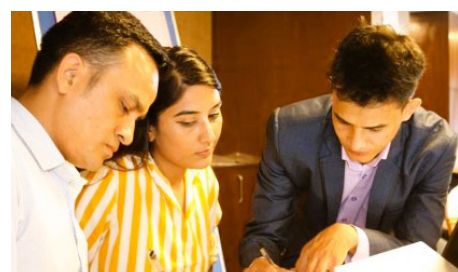
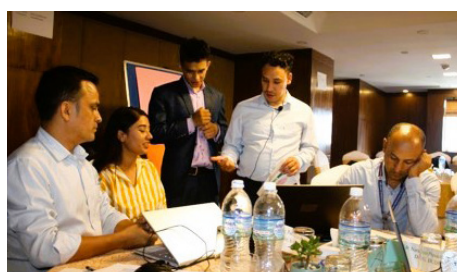
Sample image of the banknote - Image Courtesy Government Public Relations Online  
(<https://www.gov-online.go.jp/article/202406/entry-6075.html>)



## JICA'S SUPPORT FOR DIGITIZING NEPAL NATIONAL BUILDING CODE (NBC) COMPLIANCE AND PERMIT SYSTEM

The Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC), through JICA supported Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) "The Project for Promotion of NBC compliance for Safer Building Construction" hosted a one-day workshop on Building Information Modelling (BIM) on July 19, 2024. It was significant event in Nepal's efforts to digitize its building permit and compliance systems. The workshop gathered officials from various municipalities, government bodies and organizations such as Nepal BIM Forum to explore the potential of BIM in streamlining building permits, with a focus on the Architectural (NBC 206:2024) and Structural (NBC 105:2020) codes.

The workshop focused to familiarize participants about BIM and demonstrated how engineers can use the file developed from the BIM software to check the compliance of exit width, staircase requirements, from the Architectural Checklist and other requirements from Structural Checklist. Participants emphasized BIM's potential to reduce paperwork, save time through automated compliance checks, and improve communication among stakeholders.



The workshop concluded with the recommendation to establish a BIM Task Force within DUDBC. This task force would focus on developing standardized BIM elements for design checks, enhancing the Electronic Building Permit System (e-BPS) to incorporate BIM data. The output of the workshop was submitted to DUDBC after successful completion of the workshop.

As Nepal embraces BIM, this initiative is set to digitize the engineering industry, making building safety and compliance more efficient and transparent.

Follow the link for BIM Workshop video : <https://youtu.be/ls0-cnFz-VY?si=MXGsBoqRVnyXKrhz>



# JICA EXTENDS SCHOLARSHIP FOR GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS THROUGH GRANT ASSISTANCE IN “THE PROJECT FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (JDS)”

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Government of Nepal (GON) have signed the Grant Agreement for “The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)” for Fiscal Year 2024. The agreement, valued at 454 million Japanese Yen (JPY 454,000,000), was signed on 28 Aug 2024, reaffirming the commitment of both governments to enhancing the capacity of Nepal's civil service through advanced education. Government of Japan has been providing this scholarship continuously since 2016.

The Exchange of Notes regarding the assistance was signed by Dr. Ram Prasad Ghimire, Secretary, Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of Nepal (GON) and His Excellency Mr. KIKUTA Yutaka, Ambassador of Japan to Nepal on behalf of the Government of Japan (GOJ). Similarly, the Grant Agreement was signed by Mr. Dhani Ram Sharma, Joint Secretary, International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division (IECCD), Ministry of Finance on behalf of GON and Mr. MATSUZAKI Mizuki, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Office on behalf of JICA.

Under this agreement, JICA will provide 22 scholarships annually—20 for Master's degrees and 2 for PhDs—to Nepali civil servants. These scholarships will enable participants to study at prestigious Japanese universities, enhancing their expertise in fields such as judiciary, economic policy etc., while also expanding their global professional networks.

The JDS program aims to bolster the administrative capacities of young and promising civil servants with advanced skills to become future leaders. They are



All the 22 JDS fellows

expected to contribute significantly to Nepal's social and economic development in the new federal structure by actively engaging in national policy formulation and implementation of social and economic development policies when they complete the program and return to their home country.

Since its inception in 2016, the JDS program has awarded scholarships to 187 Nepali civil servants. Of these, 127 have graduated and are actively contributing to key ministries in Nepal, while 60 currently continue their studies in Japan.

During the occasion, Mr. MATSUZAKI Mizuki, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal, emphasized that “JICA remains committed to strengthen human resource in Nepal.”

## 22 JDS Fellows Embark on their Academic Adventure in Japan!

On August 13, 2024, 22 JDS fellows set off for Japan to begin their academic studies at some of the country's most prestigious universities. This group,

comprising of 20 master's students and 2 doctoral, has undergone rigorous preparation for their studies. As they pursue their degrees, these fellows will also serve as goodwill ambassadors between Japan and their home country.

Before the fellows left for Japan, a pre-departure orientation was organized on July 29, where Embassy of Japan, Ministry of Finance, JICA Nepal Office, Japan Alumni Association Nepal (JAAN), and JDS Alumni Association Nepal (JDSAAN) shed light on their life in Japan, Japan's assistance in Nepal and roles they can play upon their return.

A special courtesy visit to the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) offered further guidance, emphasizing the importance of embracing Japanese working culture. The send-off party at the Japanese Ambassador's residence marked a memorable conclusion and well wishes to their preparation.

We wish all our JDS fellows a successful and enriching experience in Japan!



## SUCCESSFUL HANDOVER OF JICA'S 'PROJECT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IN ADVANCED PUBLIC HOSPITALS' IN KATHMANDU VALLEY

The 'Project for the improvement of medical equipment in advanced public hospitals', organized a handover ceremony on July 11, 2024, to mark the successful completion of the project. H.E. Mr. KIKUTA Yutaka, Ambassador of Japan to Nepal handed over the project to Dr. Roshan Pokhrel, Health Secretary. The event held at Ministry of Health and Population reiterated the primary objectives of the project which was to strengthen the diagnostic and treatment services at eight advanced public hospitals and to improve the provision of quality health services to the people in Nepal.

This project, funded by the Grant Assistance (996 million Japanese Yen) of the Government of Japan, provided medical equipment such as MRI, CT scan, X-ray, C-arm, Ventilators and Patient Monitors to eight advanced public hospitals in Kathmandu Valley, namely.

1. Human Organ Transplant Centre
2. Patan Hospital
3. Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital
4. National Trauma Centre
5. Bir Hospital
6. Shahid Gangalal National Heart Center
7. Kanti Children's Hospital
8. Manmohan Cardiothoracic Vascular & Transplant Centre

The project supported in improving the quality of healthcare services for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in these hospitals, thereby contributing to improvement of the quality of medical services in Nepal.

### MANMOHAN CARDIOTHORATIC VASCULAR & TRANSPLANT CENTRE



Portable X-ray



X-ray

### KANTI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (NEW MRI ROOM)



After Installation



After Installation

### PAROPAKAR MATERNITY AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL (X-RAY ROOM)



Before renovation



Under renovation



After renovation



## FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE PROJECT ON IMPROVEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY PROJECT IN BIRATNAGAR METROPOLITAN CITY UNDER JAPANESE ODA

The foundation stone laying ceremony for the 'Project for the Improvement of Water Supply in Biratnagar' under Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) was held on June 28, 2024, amidst an official ceremony in Biratnagar Metropolitan City, Devkota Chowk, inside the premise of the Nepal Water Supply Corporation (NWSC).

Hon. Minister Rajendra Kumar Rai, Minister of Water Supply graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and laid the foundation stone of the Project. Ms. Shilpa Niraula Karki, Deputy Mayor, Biratnagar Metropolitan City, Mr. Suresh Acharya, Secretary of Ministry of Water Supply, Mr. TAMURA Takahiro, Charge d'affaires ad interim, Embassy of Japan, Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu, Chief Representative, JICA Nepal, Mr. Gunakhar Bhushal, Chairperson, Nepal Water Supply Corporation, other distinguished ministers from the province, mayors, and deputy mayors, were also present during the ceremony.

During the ceremony, Minister Rai expressed special appreciation towards Government of Japan and JICA for its support in constructing this landmark project, and stated his belief that this project will immensely upgrade and improve the water supply facilities, enhance the living standard for the people of Biratnagar City ultimately contributing to the development of social and economic infrastructure of the city.

JICA signed a Grant agreement with the Government of Nepal in Kathmandu on March 2022, to provide grant aid of up to 2.541 billion yen for "The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply in Biratnagar."

This project aims to enhance the living standard for the people of Biratnagar City by renovating and expanding the water supply facilities, thereby broadening the water supply area in Biratnagar City. In addition, this Project aims to contribute not

only to the achievement of SDGs Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation) but also to Goal 3 (good health and well-being).

Despite being the densely populated industrial city and the capital of Koshi Province, the city lacks adequate and potable water supply largely due to the low quantity of water and dilapidated pipelines. The project envisions ensuring adequate access to safe water for the people in Biratnagar City by constructing and upgrading facilities like water treatment plants, clear water reservoirs, distribution main pipelines to name a few.

During the ceremony Mr. Okubo expressed, "The project's beginning today is yet another step of consistent support of Japanese assistance to the Government of Nepal in the water supply sector, one of the fundamental sectors for socio-economic development."

Currently, the construction period of the project is set at June 2024 to May 2026.

## JICA SUCCESSFULLY ORGANIZED THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SHARING SESSION WITH GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL (GON) OFFICIALS

JICA's event on Knowledge and Experience sharing session held on 31 May 2024 in Kathmandu aimed to provide a platform for experts, professionals, and practitioners from both Japan and Nepal to come together, exchange information, and learn from each other's experiences in implementing Technical Cooperation Projects.

The session included presentations on overview of JICA Nepal on its various assistances, as well as experience sharing by prominent GoN officers on JICA's model

Technical Cooperation projects (TCP) as well as their advantages and difference with technical assistance. Through interactive discussions, presentations, and case studies, altogether 70 participants representing various ministries from the GoN gained valuable insights that could be implemented for when new projects are formulated between their respective organizations and JICA.

JICA Nepal office would like to thank all the participants who made this session a resounding success.

Through such events, JICA aims to pave way for sustainable development and stronger partnerships.



## JICA NEPAL HONORED WITH THE DR. DILLI RAMAN REGMI INTERNATIONAL PEACE AWARD, 2080 BS

JICA Nepal has been honored with the Dr. Dilli Raman Regmi International Peace Award, 2080 BS, in recognition of its exceptional contributions to peacebuilding, poverty alleviation, education, and sustainable development in Nepal, as well as its numerous socio-economic impacts globally. For decades, JICA has garnered widespread acclaim and the admiration of both Nepali and international communities.

Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal, received the award from the Right Honorable President of Nepal, Mr. Ram Chandra Poudel, during an official ceremony at the Office of the President on 31 July 2024. Following the ceremony, Mr. Okubo expressed his gratitude, stating, "It is a profound honor to receive such a prestigious award from the Right Honorable President. We are thankful to the organizing committee, and all involved for this recognition. This award reinforces our commitment to working diligently towards progress and prosperity, in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals for Nepal and worldwide."

Past recipients of this award include H.E. Nelson Mandela (former President of South Africa), Mahatma Gandhi (posthumously. Freedom Fighter and Great Leader of India), Jimmy Carter (former President of the United States), Tony Hagen (Swiss scholar and Nepal expert), and Ban Ki-moon (former Secretary-General of the United Nations), among others.

### BACKGROUND:

Dr. Dilli Raman Regmi was a distinguished politician and esteemed academician who devoted his life to the betterment of Nepal and the advancement of human welfare. Before his passing in 2001, Dr. Regmi bequeathed all his assets, including his personal library and museum, to the Ministry of Education, Science,



and Technology of Nepal for public use. He played a pivotal role in Nepal's democratic movement and remained steadfast in his commitment to peace and democracy until the end of his life.

To honor his legacy, the Government of Nepal established two prestigious peace awards: one international and one national. The International Peace Award is presented to individuals or institutions that have made significant contributions to peace, international awareness, and the betterment of Nepal and its people.



## MR. MATSUZAKI MIZUKI APPOINTED AS NEW CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE OF JICA NEPAL OFFICE

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. MATSUZAKI Mizuki as the new Chief Representative of the JICA Nepal Office effective from Aug 01, 2024. Mr. Matsuzaki succeeds Mr. OKUBO Akimitsu, who concluded his tenure in Nepal on July 31, 2024.

Before assuming this role, Mr. Matsuzaki served as the Director of the Basic Education Team 2 (Africa Region) the Basic Education Group within JICA's Human Development Department at the agency's headquarters. His journey with JICA began in July 1998 when he joined as a Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteer in the Philippines. Over his distinguished 26-year career, Mr. Matsuzaki has contributed to various departments and country offices, including those in Laos, Egypt, and Yemen.

Mr. Matsuzaki holds a degree in Physics from Shinshu University, graduating in 1996. His extensive experience and



commitment to international cooperation position him well to lead the JICA Nepal Office.

In his new role, Mr. Matsuzaki is dedicated to furthering JICA's mission of fostering development and prosperity in Nepal. He expressed enthusiasm for working with the JICA Nepal team and reaffirmed his commitment to supporting the people and government of Nepal in achieving their development goals. This year marks the 70th anniversary of Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) globally, and Mr. Matsuzaki assured to commemorate this milestone by continuing to enhance developmental efforts in Nepal.

Under his leadership, the JICA Nepal Office will continue to strive towards JICA's vision of "Leading the World with Trust."

## TUNE INTO 'JICA SANGA SAHAKARYA' - YOUR SUNDAY MORNING INSIGHT ON RADIO NEPAL!

### जाइका सङ्ग सहकार्य

Looking for an engaging way to kickstart your Sunday mornings?

Don't miss the Radio Talk program, '*JICA Sanga Sahakarya*', airing every Sunday at 7:40 AM on Radio Nepal 100 MHz or

online at [अडियो - रेडियो नेपाल](#)

'*JICA Sanga Sahakarya*' is your weekly window into the dynamic world of development cooperation, highlighting the impactful efforts of JICA in Nepal.

For latest and past episodes, visit us online at [कार्यक्रम आर्काइभ - रेडियो नेपाल](#)

([www.onlineradionepal.gov.np](http://www.onlineradionepal.gov.np))



**JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY  
NEPAL OFFICE**

Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

450, Kathmandu, Nepal

+977-1-4525636

+977-1-4525658

[www.jica.go.jp/nepal/english](http://www.jica.go.jp/nepal/english)

[www.facebook.com/jicanepal](https://www.facebook.com/jicanepal)