

Foreword

Success Stories

Japan has been the top donor country to the Philippines for many years. From 1967 to 2008, Japan extended official development assistance (ODA) totaling US\$20.560 billion to the country.

Japan extended 33% of all the ODA received by the Philippines in 2008. This ODA has built many of the physical structures and facilities (e.g., airports, ports, roads, and water systems) needed for the operation of Philippine society. It has contributed to the country's development efforts in many fields including irrigation, flood control, education, health care, earthquake detection, rural road network construction, water supply, and livelihood programs. It has changed the lives of many Filipino citizens for the better.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is the organization responsible for implementing the technical cooperation, grant aid, and yen loan programs of Japan's ODA to developing countries such as the Philippines. Over the years, JICA's strategy in the country has been aligned with the Philippine government's vision of fighting poverty by building prosperity for the greater number of the Filipino people.

In this publication, we tell the success stories of the people and communities that have been helped by the partnership between Japan and the Philippines.

JICA is staying focused on implementing programs that address three priority areas in the Philippines: sustainable economic growth to create more employment opportunities; poverty reduction; and peace and stability in Mindanao. Our country assistance strategy will be in line with the new Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016), which emphasizes public-private partnership infrastructure development and social protection.

Over the years, we have stressed the importance of a participatory approach in ensuring the achievement of project objectives. We at JICA sometimes say, "If the project is not managed by the beneficiaries, it is called 'donorship.' If they participated in the project, it is called 'ownership.'" These success stories show how project ownership ensures the sustainability of projects.

We look forward to many years of fruitful partnership.



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