



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP: JAPAN AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA

As Papua New Guinea (PNG) approaches its Golden Jubilee in 2025, marking 50 years of independence, it also celebrates half a century of diplomatic relations with Japan. This milestone is a testament to the enduring partnership between the two nations, characterized by mutual respect and cooperation. On behalf of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) PNG Office, I extend heartfelt congratulations to the Government and people of PNG.

The partnership between Japan and PNG predates PNG's independence, beginning with the cooperation of the National Fisheries College in Kavieng in 1974 through a Grant Aid Project. Since then, JICA, as Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) implementation agency, has played a pivotal role in supporting PNG's nation-building efforts. Our cooperation spans various modalities, including ODA loans, grant aid, and technical cooperation etc., focusing on three key areas: Strengthening the Foundation of Economic Growth, Improvement of Social Services, and Environment and Climate Change.

JICA's involvement in PNG has been extensive and impactful aligning with PNG policies and strategies. We have supported infrastructure development, such as the renovation of Nadzab Tomodachi International Airport and construction of the sewerage system in Port Moresby through ODA loans. Grant aid has facilitated the improvement of roads and bridges, enhancing connectivity and economic activities. Technical cooperation has promoted rice

farming, community development, remote education, and the production of national standardized mathematics and science textbooks for primary schools. Additionally, efforts to control infectious diseases, conserve forests and biodiversity, and manage solid waste have been integral to our mission. Our partnership extends beyond government initiatives, embracing Public Private Partnership and Civil Participation. Programs like the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) Program and Grassroots Technical Cooperation have fostered community engagement and development. These initiatives aim to establish a safe society where people can live without fear, empower women, and realize gender equity.

As island nations, Japan and PNG share unique challenges, and JICA is committed to leveraging our understanding of the Pacific context to support PNG's Vision 2050 Strategy. This strategy outlines a roadmap for PNG's future development, and JICA is dedicated to being a trusted partner in this journey. Our vision, "Leading the World with Trust," guides our efforts to build a prosperous and sustainable future for PNG.

In conclusion, the 50-year partnership between Japan and PNG is a remarkable journey of collaboration and shared aspirations. As PNG celebrates its Golden Jubilee, JICA reaffirms its commitment to supporting PNG's development goals, fostering a relationship built on trust and mutual respect. Together, we look forward to a future of continued cooperation and shared success.



MATSUOKA Hideaki, Chief Representative, JICA PNG Office



Support of Infrastructure Development for Strengthening of the Foundation of Economic Growth



Support of Development of National Text Book in Education Sector