

Empirical studies by the JICA Research Institute

Empirical Study of Growth and Poverty Reduction in Indonesian Farms

In partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Indonesian Center for Agricultural Socio Economic and Policy Studies (ICASEPS), JICA Research Institute has conducted a survey of approximately 2,200 households of farmers in seven provinces in Indonesia. The empirical analysis of this result, which has tested the relationship between infrastructure development, growth and poverty reduction is cited in the World Development Report 2009 and its East Asia Companion Volume both published by the World Bank. Also, a part of the study is published as a chapter of the book on the Asian financial crisis by the Asian Development Bank. So far, JICA Research Institute has released five working papers including this analysis.

Case Study on the Sustainable and Inclusive Development: Brazil's Cerrado Agriculture

The Cerrado is a tropical savanna in the mid-western part of Brazil, once known as "the barren land". It has transformed itself into one of the richest grain zones in the world in a quarter century since the 1970s. JICA Research Institute analyzed the impact of this agricultural development cooperation program between Brazil and Japan. The result of the study was published as a book called, "Cerrado Agriculture: A Model of Sustainable and Inclusive Development", in July 2012. It was also presented as a side event in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and in the seminars held at the World Bank headquarters.

Case Study on Basic Education in Yemen

JICA has conducted a joint empirical study with the Education Research Development Center (ERDC) of Yemen's Ministry of Education to examine the development and challenges of gender disparity elimination in the basic education of Yemen which is one of the poorest countries among Arab nations, and to examine the learning effects and education quality, under the theme of human capital formulation and gender equality in conflict-affected Islamic states. The result of the study was issued as a background paper for the World Development Report 2012. It was also presented in the International Conference on Education Research held in Korea in October 2011, in the Comparative and International Education Society held in the U.S. in April 2012, and in other meetings.

JICA's Approach to the Millennium Development Goals

For inclusive and dynamic development

[Current situation of the MDGs]

- Goal 1** • 1.3 billion people in extreme poverty (2008)
• 0.925 billion people undernourished (2010)
- Goal 2** • Primary education enrollment rate in Sub-Saharan Africa 76% (2010)
- Goal 3** • 93 girls enrolled in primary school for every 100 boys in Western Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa (2010)
- Goal 4** • Under-five mortality rate 63 per 1,000 live births in developing countries (2010)
- Goal 5** • Maternal mortality ratio 240 per 100,000 live in developing countries (2010)
- Goal 6** • 2.5 million people newly infected with HIV (2011)
- Goal 7** • 19,000 species of plants and animals endangered (2012)
• 0.78 billion people lacking access to safe drinking water (2010)
• 2.5 billion people lacking access to improved sanitary facilities (2010)
- Goal 8** • Access to Internet in developing countries 26% (2011)

Source: UN, The Millennium Development Goals Report 2012
FAO, The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2010
UNAIDS, Together we will end AIDS
IUCN, Red List of Threatened Species 2012

Millennium Development Goals

A decade has passed since the international community set out the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with the primary aim of halving the number of people in extreme poverty within fifteen years. Every country, many international organizations and NGOs have been working towards achieving the MDGs. Nevertheless, given the state of the progress made by 2012, it will be difficult to achieve some of the goals including halving the number of people suffering from hunger, universal primary education, and reducing by three quarters the maternal mortality rate by 2015. Today the progress toward each MDG is affected by various factors such as financial and economic crises, climate change and conflicts. In addressing these global issues, it is increasingly necessary for the international community to endeavor further to achieve the MDGs.

JICA's Efforts to Achieve the MDGs

Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

- JICA has been working for poverty reduction with a comprehensive approach integrating human resource development/capacity development, improvements in policies and institutions, and development of social and economic infrastructure.
- To ensure food security in Sub-Saharan Africa, JICA ambitiously supports in doubling rice production within a decade through establishing the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD).

Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education

- JICA has been promoting cooperation in education with a focus on improving access, quality and management.
- JICA has built or renovated more than 8,800 primary and secondary schools in 47 developing countries, provided trainings to approximately 200,000 teachers in total, and distributed over 200,000 sets of the instruction guides. JICA has supported improving school management and strengthening the administrative functions of local governments.

Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women

- JICA has strengthened its efforts for gender equality and women's empowerment based on both global and national mandates. JICA promotes "gender mainstreaming" as a comprehensive approach to achieve gender equality in all fields of society and incorporates the perspective of gender in all policies, programs and projects.

Goal 4. Reduce child mortality / Goal 5. Improve maternal health

- Focusing on capacity development of health administration and health workers, JICA has supported enhanced maternal and child health through improvement of local health facilities, promotion of antenatal care use, training of skilled birth attendants, and improvement of referral systems for obstetric care, etc. in 64 countries since 2000.
- Since 2000, JICA has provided more than 660 million doses of vaccine and cold storage equipment in 67 countries, and has also implemented vaccine-related technical cooperation in 22 countries to reduce the under-five mortality rate and develop capacity of domestic manufacturing of vaccines.

Goal 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

- HIV/AIDS : JICA has provided technical assistance for accelerating HIV responses, including HIV prevention activities, strengthening CT (Counseling and Testing) services management, enhancing access to treatment, and strengthening of monitoring and evaluation systems in 35 countries in the world since 2000.
- Malaria: JICA contributed to the distribution of mosquito nets in 26 countries since 2000. It also supported establishing administration systems for effective malaria control (prevention, diagnosis and treatment).
- Tuberculosis: Since 2000, JICA has implemented technical cooperation projects for Tuberculosis control in 14 countries and strengthened the national capacity for diagnosis, treatment (DOTS) and prevention, in order to improve the case detection rate and the cure rate.

Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability

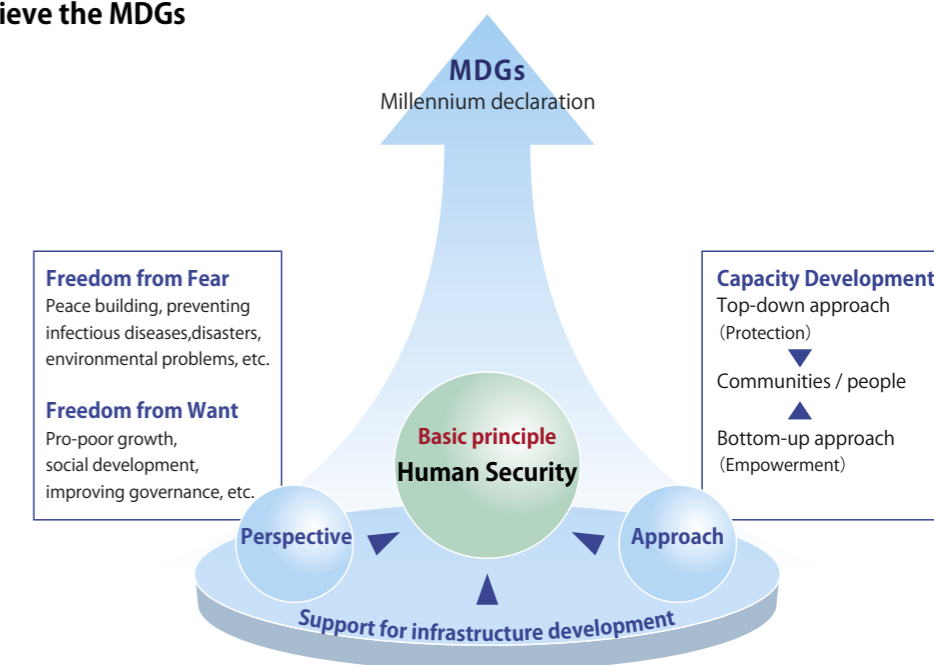
- JICA helps natural environment protection through afforestation (a total of 3.05 million ha) and human resource development (training of a total of 21,000 administrative officers and 537,000 local residents from 2000 to 2010). It has offered a range of technical cooperation for effective and sustainable forest planning, information system development as well as improvement of livelihoods of local people.
- JICA has pursued an integrated cooperation for safe water supply, through providing water facilities (benefitting 22 million people in 53 countries from 2006 to 2010), training administrators of wells and operational engineers of purification plants (attaining more than 14,700 people from 2006 to 2010) as well as educating people to wash their hands before eating and installing toilet facilities.

Goal 8. Develop a global partnership for development

- JICA has extended cooperation conducive to economic growth, especially in Asia, by supporting the development of human resources, institutions, and infrastructure all that are necessary for enhancing trade and private sector investment opportunities.
- In Africa, JICA implements an efficient transboundary system of a "one stop border post" which enables border-related procedures of neighboring countries to complete in one location, including embarkation/entrance procedures and custom examinations, which conventionally have been performed individually in each country.

JICA's Policy for Cooperation to Achieve the MDGs

JICA recognizes "human security" as an important concept for achieving the MDGs, which focuses on people and takes a holistic view of the various threats that they face. As one of the vital approaches to enhance "human security" of the people, JICA supports "capacity development" of developing countries, which helps them overcome problems and manage risks they are undergoing. Furthermore, the role of infrastructure in development is critical. JICA expands cooperation in infrastructure building, as a foundation that underpins potentials and possibilities people realize throughout their lives.



Towards the Achievement of the MDGs – New Challenges –

Applying the Experiences of Asia to the World

- Poverty Reduction through Sustainable Growth -

In Asia, an integrated effort for developing economic/social infrastructure, human resources and institutions has promoted the growth of the private sector and led to the economic growth. This has contributed to poverty reduction by strengthening the financial basis of the governments and expanding public spending in social sectors.

Through its own experiences of modernization, postwar reconstruction, and cooperation to Asian countries, Japan has learned that ownership of developing countries is the driving force of development and that continuous growth is essential in order to sustain and expand development outcomes including the achievement of the MDGs. JICA continues to share the successful lessons learned from Asia with people around the world.

Taking Measures to Overcome Difficulties in Achieving Goals

Problems such as climate change and rising energy, food prices and disasters are high risk factors that could be detrimental to the achievement and the sustainability of the MDGs, and it is essential to take appropriate measures against them. The achievement of the MDGs and the security and stability of the world are closely related to realize one another, and hence more efforts need to be made on peace-keeping through prevention of armed conflicts and their recurrence. In addition, the vulnerable will be left behind by the achievement of the MDGs through economic growth unless the domestic disparity is rectified.

While taking its endeavors on education, health and water as originally proposed in the MDGs, JICA aims at strengthening resilience against emerging potential risks detrimental to achieving them, sustaining and expanding outcomes of the efforts for the MDGs.

Expansion of Development Partnership

In recent years, actors engaging in development issues have become more diverse, as seen in the expansion of the South-South Cooperation between the developing countries. NGOs, private organizations and enterprises are also increasingly engaging in development cooperation. According to the OECD, private funding in developing countries is at least more than three times as much as ODA. It is important to build and utilize effective networks among those actors to boost the impact of development cooperation. JICA will promote these through the JICA Partnership Programs which aim to implement development projects planned by Japanese NGOs, local governments and universities, Preparation Surveys (BOP business partnership promotion, Public-Private Partnership (infrastructure project)), Private Sector Investment Finance, and other appropriate measures. In addition, JICA is actively promoting support for South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation, such as enhancing the partnership and dialogues with development organizations in other countries, particularly in Asia, whose role has been expanding recently, and providing support for their ambitions to become donors in the future. JICA continues efforts for more effective outcomes of development cooperation by exploring partnerships with private sector and emerging countries.

