

ODA at 60

Japanese

1950s

1954

Japan joins the **Colombo Plan**; begins paying war reparations to Asian countries.

1958

Japan launches its **yen loans**, with India as the first recipient.

1960s

1964

Japan formally joins the **OECD** (the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

1970s

1978

Japan's first medium-term **ODA target** issued, aiming to double the total amount of ODA within three years.

1980s

1989

Japan becomes the world's **top donor** of ODA.

Japanese Official Development Assistance began 60 years ago in 1954, when Japan became a participant in the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific. Originally positioned as part of the country's war reparations, ODA came to function as a foreign policy instrument in the 1960s, especially in Asia. Japan's economic boom brought major

increases in ODA expenditures. In 1989 the total assistance provided by Japan was the highest in the world.

Japanese ODA has taken different forms over the years—technical cooperation, yen loans, grant aid, and volunteer assistance. In all its forms, it has contributed considerably to progress in developing countries.

1990s

1991–2000

Japan retains its position as the world's **top provider** of ODA.

1992

Formal approval of Japan's **ODA Charter**.

1993

TICAD (the Tokyo International Conference on African Development) launched.

2000s

2003

Japan announces up to \$5 billion in loans and grant aid for the reconstruction of Iraq.

2010s

2012

Japan co-hosts the **Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan**, pledging up to \$3 billion in new assistance.

