Building Capacity of People and Systems for Prevention → To Achieve Human Security

Guiding Principles

In order to protect the "life, livelihood and dignity" of each individual and to achieve Human Security, JICA has set forth two guiding principles. One of them is "empowering individuals, organizations, and societies to increase their capabilities." People in developing countries are, of course, not people in need of permanent assistance. They are not just weak individual to be protected from threats, but have the ability to act on their own behalf and for society. We focus on developing the potential of individuals, their organizations, and their communities so that they can address many problems locally.

The other principle is "building resilient societies (systems) that can protect themselves against various threats." To that end, JICA emphasizes "prevention." To reduce infections from spreading, we encourage preventive initiatives such as washing hands and wearing masks. To prevent conflicts from recurring, JICA supports nurturing a culture of mutual understanding and reconciliation that transcends religious and ethnic differences through sports exchanges. To minimize the impact of natural disasters, it is necessary to build levees, improve the accuracy of forecasts, and conduct evacuation drills. In this way, we can protect people by creating a society that minimizes damage and allows them to recover quickly when a threat strikes.
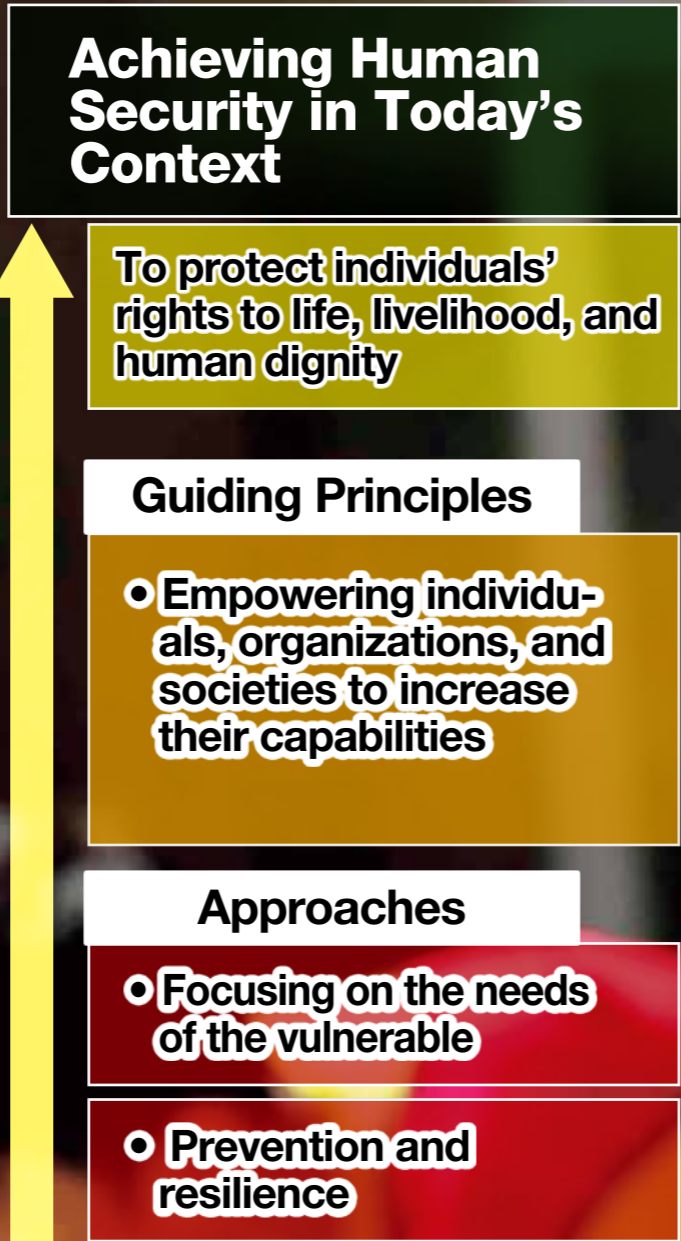
JICA's approach

These principles are reflected in the various ways of cooperation undertaken by JICA. By looking at various threats to people in the order of their seriousness, we can see clearly the people who face threats to their lives, livelihoods, or human dignity. Such analysis can supplement the data at country-level, and it enables us to see the people in most need. In order to protect people's freedom and dignity, it is imperative that society as a whole and the international community work together to create systems to protect people from threats and to strengthen the capacity and institutions so that people, organizations and societies can help each other.

To live in dignity, a number of conditions are required. They include: better nutrition, education, a hygienic environment, economic stability, social security, and the rule of law. Numerous challenges such as poverty, health, hygiene, and education can overlap each other to deprive people of their freedom and potential. Therefore, to achieve Human Security, we need integrated approaches that can deal with the various factors that deprive people of their freedom and potential. It is an approach that goes beyond just thinking of solutions for each sector separately, and requires partnership with a range of organizations and experts in multiple sectors.

The Global society is working together on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). JICA, while working on the SDGs, is guided by the principles of Human Security and focused on the individuals, making efforts to strengthen the abilities of people to address challenges on their own, and contributing to the creation of systems that can respond to a range of threats, including new ones.

Achieving Human Security in Today's Context

To protect individuals' rights to life, livelihood, and human dignity

Guiding Principles

- **Empowering individuals, organizations, and societies to increase their capabilities**
- **Building resilient societies (systems) that can protect themselves against various threats**

Approaches

- **Focusing on the needs of the vulnerable**
- **Combination of protection and empowerment**
- **New solutions for new problems**
- **Prevention and resilience**
- **Multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach**

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