

# Social Development

Governance/Gender Equality and Female Empowerment/  
Urban and Regional Development/Peacebuilding/Transportation/ICT

## Overview of the Social Development Field

In many developing countries, basic systems and the framework of society, such as administrative systems and basic infrastructure, are underdeveloped or incomplete, hindering development. In the context of capacity development (CD), which forms the core of its projects, JICA provides cooperation in the social development field focused on social capacity building.

In order to successfully develop social capacity while ensuring proper governance, it is important to establish appropriate social systems and frameworks, create adequate regional

development plans, construct traffic infrastructure based on such plans, and develop information communication networks. In the area of post-conflict and post-disaster reconstruction and peacebuilding, demand for which has risen in recent years, it is necessary to improve facilities, systems, and networks comprehensively across society in a cross-cutting manner.

## Governance

### Overview

Governance is the concept that pays attention not only to the government and administration, but also to the entire framework of social management, including the general public and the private sector. Governance includes fostering civil society organizations and the promotion of participation of the general public in the policy process, in addition to such themes as legal system development, police reform, public sector reform, decentralization, privatization, and anti-corruption measures.

In the sector of governance, support is provided to establish and improve basic national systems and improve a framework and system for the effective provision of public goods and services in line with public needs. Governance concerns the roots of relationships between people and their governments, and thus calls for long-term assistance based on an understanding of the country's history, society, and systems. Although assistance for governance is still a new concept throughout the world, it is perceived to have great influence on the results of development and aid.

### JICA's Efforts

In order to improve governance in developing countries, JICA implements assistance mainly for building institutions and organizations and developing human resources. In consideration of Japan's own experience with modernization, JICA takes an

approach of presenting possible options and strengthening capacity through dialogue and collaborative work to help the partner government to individually construct systems and frameworks fit for their country, instead of introducing specific systems and policies as they are. Specifically, JICA's assistance in the governance sector can be sorted into two categories: (1) developing and improving the operation of legal and judicial systems, and (2) improving administrative functions.

### Assistance in the Legal and Judicial Sector

In the legal and judicial sector, JICA's assistance is focused on developing legal systems and improving police functions. Its target is mainly countries without legal systems or undergoing a transition toward a market-oriented economy. Cooperation for developing legal systems is provided in four areas: (1) drafting of laws and regulations (development of legislation); (2) development of legal organizations (organizational development); (3) development of legal professionals (development of human resources); and (4) enhancing the legal knowledge and skills of the society (improvement of people's access to legal and judicial systems); with the aim of developing the social foundation necessary for establishing the rule of law. For example, support for drafting laws, improving the operational structure, and nurturing legal professionals are provided in countries such as Viet Nam, Cambodia, China, and Uzbekistan. In Indonesia and Mongolia, assistance is being provided that includes enhancing the settlement system in addition to activities to upgrade legal services

for citizens.

Assistance for police is centered on developing structure and cultivating human resources. Specific examples include assistance for establishing civilian police in Indonesia, enhancing crackdown capacity in the Philippines, and the introduction of the police box system in Brazil.

### Improving Administrative Functions

For appropriate allocation and management of resources as well as improving the administrative functions needed to effectively provide public services, JICA provides support that includes strengthening the administrative capacity to formulate and implement development plans; developing government

statistics; improving the skills of government employees; ameliorating the administrative capacity of local governments; improving administrative transparency; enhancing the organization of communities; and the promotion of citizens' participation in politics. Specifically, in countries including Cambodia, assistance is being provided for improving skills related to government statistics, and in countries such as Ghana and Bangladesh, JICA assists in enhancing government employee training. Moreover, as decentralization reform is underway in many developing countries, assistance is being provided in countries such as Tanzania, Zambia, and Pakistan for strengthening organizations and developing human resources to help local governments provide services that meet the people's needs.

Figure 3-4 JICA's Assistance in Governance

Support for Governance						
Legal and Judicial Sector Support			Support for Improving Administrative Functions			
Subcategory	Development of legal and judicial systems	Public safety	Building democratic systems	Administrative foundation	Local administration	Statistics
Major Assistance Issues	Drafting and enactment of legislation, training for legal professionals, reform of the judicial system, penal and judicial administration, etc.	Civilian police, fire safety, emigration and immigration control, maritime safety, etc.	Election system and management, strengthening of legislative body, enhancement of media services, etc.	Management of development projects, development plan and policy, revision of the public servant personnel system, etc.	Local administration and decentralization, capacity development of local administration, etc.	General statistics, poverty monitoring, etc.

## Gender Equality and Female Empowerment

Development assistance with a gender perspective focuses on the disparity between men and women in the target society and their different needs, and consists of providing gender-sensitive and detailed assistance in accordance with these circumstances. This type of assistance also entails surpassing existing gender frameworks to provide assistance aimed at developing the capabilities possessed by all individuals and advancing an equal relationship between men and women.

In Afghanistan and Cambodia, JICA provides assistance for strengthening the administrative structure for promoting gender equality – mainly the Ministry of Women's Affairs – and for improving their capability to create gender-sensitive policy. In the case of a rural pilot project, incorporation of the gender perspective in the development effort that accurately reflected

women's needs produced not only better results for itself but also served to improve the awareness of women. In addition, a change in consciousness for men and an increased say for women within the community were also confirmed.

The gender perspective is vital for all projects, and the promotion of gender equality (gender mainstreaming) is required to some degree for all projects. Projects focused on agricultural development, maternal and child health, and primary education have traditionally been designed to incorporate the gender perspective. However, JICA currently takes the same approach to other projects, too, as needed, implementing gender analyses from the project design stage and encouraging activities that incorporate an appropriate gender perspective.

## Urban and Regional Development

### Overview

The world's population is estimated to have been approximately 6.5 billion in 2006, of which more than 50%, or 3.3 billion people, reside in urban areas. In particular, the percentage of urban populations concentrated in the developing world is estimated to rise to 80% in 2030, indicating future progress of rapid urbanization in developing countries.

The advancement of urbanization brings about efficient economic activity and resulting economic growth on the one hand, but on the other hand, it causes problems such as deterioration in the living environment, heavy traffic, the deterioration of public security, and the emergence of slums. There is concern that these problems may slow down economic and industrial development at the regional and national level.

Sustainability of projects is essential in order to push forward

the development of cities and regions. This must be ensured through community participation in development, appropriate local administrative systems, and overall administrative capacity. However, these are lacking in many cases, hindering appropriate development in developing countries.

Therefore, it is necessary to take a comprehensive approach in addressing development issues from a medium- and long-term perspective.

### JICA's Efforts

JICA contributes to economic growth and improvements in living standards of a developing country through urban and regional development.

In the sector of urban and regional development, JICA provides technical cooperation related to the formulation of urban

## Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia City Master Plan/Urban Development Program Study

The population of Ulaanbaatar increased rapidly following the shift to a market economy in the early 1990s, growing to 650,000 by 1998 and currently surpassing one million. Nearly half of the city's areas remain without sufficient roads, water, and other urban infrastructure, where residents still live in traditional transportable dwellings called "gers." The living environment has become a significant urban problem.

In order to address this situation, in February 2007 JICA commenced cooperation, planned for a two-year period with the objective of creating a master plan for the city, with completion envisioned in 2030.

Besides drafting a master plan that includes a plan to develop transportation, waterworks, and other infrastructure in Ulaanbaatar by 2030, this cooperation involves a proposal for an urban planning system for

realizing future visions, as well as creation of educational materials that promote residents' understanding of urban development.



Ulaanbaatar

development master plans and a comprehensive regional development plan, development of local administrative systems, and human resources development. Projects have been designed to advance economic and social development focused on individual residents, by designating the following five priority issues:

- (1) Comprehensive and exhaustive approach to various issues in urban and specific areas;
- (2) Emphasis on capacity development of the entire society toward urban and regional development, including administrative agencies, regional social organizations, and communities;
- (3) Development of local administrative systems appropriate to national conditions;
- (4) Balanced regional growth and correction of disparities among areas, reflecting the perspective of local residents; and
- (5) Balanced development with a minimum negative impact from urban development.

More specifically, urban development master plans (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; Lusaka, Zambia) and comprehensive regional development plans (Kabul, Afghanistan) include analysis of issues and tasks of urban and specific areas, as well as formulation of medium- and long-term visions, development

policies, sector-specific plans, and proposals for concrete action plans to realize them including project costs. Through the process of formulating a master plan, JICA supports the development of human resources and organizations in charge of formulating urban development and regional development plans. Furthermore, JICA is working to disseminate planning skills in order to incorporate the voice of communities into the development plans, which traditionally have been formulated mainly by the administration.

In addition, JICA undertakes capacity development for local administrative bodies, focused on skills needed for efficient and effective project management from the stage of planning to that of implementation.

In addition, JICA supports R&D institutions for new housing development technologies (China, Thailand) in capacity aspects, in order to improve the living environment of urban residents, including the poor. It also provides technical cooperation for developing highly accurate geographic information (topographic map) that underpin development planning (Montenegro, Mauritania, etc.)

## Front Line

Kyrgyzstan

Towards independent community building

### Vitalizing the community via the One Village, One Product Campaign

Sixteen years following the collapse of the Soviet Union, economic growth in Kyrgyzstan remains stagnant as the nation is impeded by poor natural resources and disadvantageous topographical conditions. Regional disparity has engendered a continuous outflow of the labor force from rural areas to cities and neighboring countries, making people's lives increasingly unstable.

Against this backdrop, in Kyrgyzstan's eastern Issyk Kul Province, JICA has begun The Community Empowerment Project in the Issyk-kul Oblast (technical cooperation project) for independent community building with confidence and pride.

This project aims to vitalize the community based on the idea of the One Village, One Product Campaign. Efforts are underway for a series of processes – from the selection and production of specialty goods to their distribution – in tandem with the training of community resident groups. Currently, preparation has been started to produce wild berry jams, dried fruits, and herb products as local specialties. They will be sold by the "Town Research Lab," which was jointly established by the Issyk Kul Government and Issyk-Kul State University, as well as by neighboring

tourist facilities for the foreseeable future.

People who used to live under a planned economy have little experience in personally planning, manufacturing, and distributing goods with a long-term vision. A plan has just been completed, but it has already begun to generate confidence in the people and awaken the community. One year has passed since the start of the project, and the provincial government has positioned the One Village, One Product Campaign as part of its province development strategy, eager to promote the approach.

(Kyrgyz Republic Office)



Drying herbs produced in the pre-pilot project

## Peacebuilding

### Overview

Japan's ODA Charter adopted in 2003 identifies peacebuilding as a new priority issue. The Medium-term Policy on ODA announced in 2005 defines the objective of peacebuilding as to prevent occurrence and recurrence of conflicts, alleviate various difficulties that people face during and immediately after conflicts, and subsequently achieve long-term stable development. Specifically, peacebuilding requires assistance in accordance with the stage, such as for the prevention of occurrence and recurrence of conflicts, reconstruction immediately after conflicts, and medium- and long-term reconstruction and development. In particular, immediately after conflicts, when central and local governments often have difficulties in functioning properly, the peace and stability of a society can be realized by achieving outcomes that allow the people to feel peace (dividend of peace) with speed and flexibility, while dealing with constant changes in situations.

### JICA's Efforts

Peacebuilding efforts take place in a series of processes from the emergence of tensions, outbreak of conflict, cease fire, and reconstruction based on peace accords to subsequent development. Within these processes, peacebuilding is conducted by combining the separate approaches of military frameworks (such as cease-fire monitoring groups), political frameworks (such as preventive diplomacy and settlement), and socioeconomic frameworks (such as humanitarian relief and development assistance). JICA, based on political frameworks including the Medium-term Plan on ODA mentioned earlier, conducts peacebuilding assistance, mainly focusing on development assistance following peace accords. Therein, particular importance is placed on the following four points:

- (1) Support for reconstruction of social capital
- (2) Support for restoration of economic activities
- (3) Support for recovery of governing function of the government
- (4) Support contributing to increased public security

In regard to reconstructing social capital, by reconstructing the basic infrastructures (roads, bridges, water supply, health and medical care, and educational facilities) lost through war, JICA secures the basic conditions of reconstruction projects and pays consideration to allowing people to feel the dividend of peace as soon as possible. In Mindanao, the Philippines, for example, JICA is surveying the needs of communities impacted by war while also working to rebuild basic infrastructure such as water supply facilities and clinics.

For restoring economic activities, support is provided for improving agricultural productivity and vocational training. As for recovering the governing function of the government, support

is provided for conducting elections and the development of democratic administrative systems. Furthermore, in regard to strengthening public security, skills training for the social reintegration of demobilized soldiers and support for democratic law enforcement are provided.

In conducting these projects, JICA takes an approach with the following five points in mind in order to incorporate particularly the perspective of human security into its development assistance:

- (1) Contributing to rapid and seamless implementation of human-centered assistance that will definitely reach people in need
- (2) Focusing on the socially vulnerable, thus contributing to their own efforts for capacity development
- (3) Providing support for the community and people, as well as for the government
- (4) Providing support not only for a conflict-ridden country, but also for neighboring countries and regions where necessary, in view of the conditions of the people in those countries and regions
- (5) Taking note of support which helps prevent occurrence or recurrence of conflicts, instead of promoting the occurrence or recurrence of conflicts

In particular, as consideration for the prevention of occurrence or recurrence of conflicts, a peacebuilding needs and impact assessment (PNA) is performed in order for JICA cooperation to avoid the furthering of conflicts and to contribute to preventing the occurrence or reoccurrence of conflicts. In recent years, these considerations have been emphasized through projects conducted in areas such as Sri Lanka, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mindanao in the Philippines, and Columbia, and JICA is currently working to enhance these considerations in other nations and regions as well.



Children in Mali

## Transportation

### Overview

To support sustainable development and growth in developing countries, it is essential to develop transportation infrastructure that serves to transport people and goods. Furthermore, the development of transportation infrastructure will alleviate traffic congestion and streamline logistics, and is thus anticipated to contribute to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and combating further

climate change.

The demand for improved transportation infrastructure – including for roads, railways, ports, and airports – remains substantial in developing countries, and the need for maintenance, management, repair and modernization of aging facilities is expected to increase rapidly.

In addition, transportation infrastructure development requires a substantial amount of funds, posing a major challenge

in securing required financial resources. Since it is difficult to develop all of the necessary infrastructure with limited public funds, it is becoming all the more important to consider securing various financial resources including private funds, and to provide transportation services expected by users efficiently and in a sustainable way.

Furthermore, in developing transportation infrastructure, it is also necessary to consider the impact on the natural environment and society along with countermeasures to deal with that impact.

### JICA's Efforts

JICA's cooperation in the sector of transportation aims mainly to vitalize economic and social activities, which leads to improvements in income and living environments of the people, by transporting people and goods swiftly, smoothly, and safely.

Through the development of a transportation infrastructure and related human resources in developing countries, people's living situations are made more predictable and safe. This also promotes smoother transportation and the development of the living environment, contributing to economic growth and improvement in the standard of the living environment at the same time. The cooperation does not stop at the development of infrastructure alone. Infrastructure is developed focusing on its users and the surrounding people, considering "for what" and "for whom" the cooperation is provided. In this light, community participation and cooperation with NGOs are actively promoted.

Considering transportation infrastructure as contributing to the happiness and convenience of the people, JICA carries out the following technical cooperation covering a wide range of activities, in addition to traditional cooperation for hardware such as roads:

- (1) Support for developing fundamental skills in order to improve capacity of the transport administration (capacity development in transportation)



Seminar on cross-border transportation possibilities (spreading benefits to logistics companies, etc.)



Traffic between Thailand and Laos

- (2) Support to adapt to globalization and regionalization with the aim of promoting the globalized transport of goods and people and development of regional economic zones (international transportation)
- (3) Support for ensuring fair mobility of people and harmonious land development (national transportation)
- (4) Support for sustainable growth of urban areas and improvements in the living standards (urban transportation)
- (5) Support for developing the minimum required transportation infrastructure with the aim of improving living standards in local areas (local transportation)

In order to solve today's increasingly diversified and complicated transportation issues, it is considered effective to approach the issues by categorizing them into the above-mentioned five groups. It is important thereby to look at the movement of people and goods, instead of just examining transportation means.

### Cross-border Transportation Infrastructure

JICA sees cross-border transportation infrastructure as a means to facilitate regionalization by spreading over a broader region across national borders. Therefore, JICA believes that development of cross-border transportation infrastructure goes beyond national borders, and includes development of regions to forge networks for expanding transportation throughout regions, system making to promote cross-border transportation such as for streamlining cross-border procedures, and the improvement of software aspects such as developing human resources.

Advancement of cross-border transportation is expected to contribute to the economic vitalization of less-developed countries and regions, the correction of regional disparities, and poverty reduction.

Meanwhile, it is thought necessary to pay full consideration to the negative impacts of cross-border transportation, including the possibility of being of disproportional benefit to the regions with strong economies, as well as the spread of crime and infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS.

## ICT (Information and Communication Technology)

### Overview

Information and communication technology (ICT) is applied in various fields such as administration, education, and medical care, contributing to the improvement of socioeconomic development. However, these benefits are not available to many people

in developing countries, generating a digital divide.

The IT Strategy Headquarters was established in the Cabinet Office in response to the Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society adopted at the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in July 2000. JICA promotes cooperation for bridging the digital divide in developing countries mainly in Asia.

## Japan's ICT Assistance in the Philippines

*Case Study*

Based on the Philippine Government's National Information Technology Plan for the 21st Century, the University of the Philippines (UP) formulated a plan for establishing the University of the Philippines IT Training Center (UP-ITTC) with the objective of developing mainly engineering-related university graduates into highly-specialized and task-oriented IT human resources. UP thereby supports the realization of the government's IT plan.

This project is implemented with the objective of enabling UP-ITTC to provide university graduates (from IT-related and other departments) and engineers currently working in the IT industry with training that meets the needs of the Philippine IT industry. Through the project, JICA conducts a technology transfer in supplying highly specialized engineers to the local IT industry, after training them with the practice-oriented IT program. Specifically, Japanese specialists direct the formulation and early implementation of a curriculum related to the transfer of three technology categories – network technology, application development, and integrated systems development – while UP staff direct classes and

center operations.

One characteristic quality of this project is effective government-citizen partnerships, including scholarships and donations from Japanese companies, which need a mass of IT engineers to run their local establishments. UP-ITTC also offers students the option of participating in Japanese-language proficiency seminars, supplying highly specialized engineers who can understand Japanese to local Japanese firms, winning high evaluations.



A class at UP-ITTC

### JICA's Efforts

JICA has identified five development strategy goals for the cooperation it provides.

#### JICA Development Strategy

- (1) Capacity building in the area of ICT policy formulation: JICA dispatches ICT policy advisors to develop national ICT strategies, telecommunication policy, ICT industry development policy, etc.
- (2) Human resources development in the ICT sector: To spread ICT, JICA institutes a human resource development project with the objective of enhancing the skills of ICT-related personnel such as technicians and policymakers. This project is at the heart of technical cooperation within the ICT sector.
- (3) Development of communications infrastructure: In order to develop base communication networks and rural communication infrastructures, JICA assists in the

formulation of future plans for communication network and helps strengthen maintenance and operation systems.

- (4) Improving efficiency and effectiveness through ICT use in various sectors: JICA supports the introduction of ICT in government administration and utilizes ICT in cooperation in sectors such as education, medical care, and commerce, thereby improving the efficiency and effectiveness of projects.
- (5) Use of ICT to improve aid efficiency and effectiveness: JICA-Net Program.

JICA will continue to implement various cooperation programs in order to connect ICT to effective socioeconomic development, by selecting appropriate ICT in line with the actual situation of a country or region, while respecting the initiative of the partner country.

## Front Line

Bhutan

Democratization assistance via television broadcasting

### Towards independently creating a broadcasting station trusted by citizens while sharing Japan's technology and experience

For Bhutan, 2008 was an historical turning point as it was the first year for the country as a democracy. The Bhutanese King, who is popular among national citizens, made a personal decision to shift to a parliamentary democracy and has henceforth been making preparations. Japan has aided Bhutan in its attempt at democratization by providing assistance for the Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation (BBSC).

BBSC is Bhutan's only broadcasting station, with a history of less than 10 years since its inception in 1999. Its employees have little experience, with not much equipment, and regular broadcasting time is limited to five hours (excluding re-broadcasting). Thereupon, the Japanese Government has provided the station with some equipment, and JICA implements a technical cooperation project for enhancing broadcasting technologies and the station's program-making capacity. Specialists who used to work for NHK or those who are currently active were sent to provide multi-faceted advice on election news reports and live parliamentary proceedings based on Japan's experience. It has previously taken over one week for news to arrive from rural areas; however, thanks to daily

training and portable live broadcasting devices and vehicles provided by Japan which were operated to their fullest capacity, during the election campaign and on election day the voices of candidates and voters from each region throughout the country were aired in a timely manner. Moreover, vote count results were instantaneously broadcasted via television and radio. In this manner, a general election ended with a shared sense of unity by voters throughout the country. (Bhutan Resident Office)



A specialist providing training inside of a broadcasting station for live parliamentary broadcasts