



May 2008 Going Forward

## Aid for Large-Scale Disasters 2008 Sichuan Earthquake

JICA promptly dispatched disaster relief and medical teams to Sichuan, China, in May 2008 after this massive earthquake and provided ongoing aid that also covered mental and emotional care for the residents of devastated areas.  
(Related articles: Pages 40 and 143)

May 2008

## Strengthening Support for Africa Sponsorship of the Fourth Tokyo International Confer- ence on African Develop- ment (TICAD IV)

As an aid implementation agency, JICA played an active part at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development held in Yokohama in May 2008. JICA also formulated a concrete Support Expansion Plan following the adoption of the Yokohama Action Plan (under the Yokohama Declaration), which aims to realize a “vibrant Africa.”  
(Related articles: Pages 18 and 54)



May and October 2008

## Support for Expansion of Food Production Launch of the Coalition for Afri- can Rice Development (CARD)

In Africa, rice production has not kept pace with demand, and nearly 40% of consumption is dependent on imports. Japan announced an ambitious target of doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa within 10 years.

This international commitment by Japan is spelled out in the Yokohama Action Plan, and will be tackled hand-in-hand with the international community. At an event coinciding with TICAD IV, JICA and the Board of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) jointly announced the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) initiative, which proposed an organization under an international framework to support rice growing in Africa. At the First General Meeting of CARD held in Kenya in October 2008, an agreement was reached among JICA, AGRA, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) and other participating organizations to undertake specific cooperation, including (1) the development of human resources to engage in rice growing, (2) the development of cultivation methods suitable to the various regions of Africa, (3) the promotion of commercialization and marketing of harvested rice, and (4) the promotion of South-South cooperation so that experience gained in Asia and elsewhere is applied to Africa.

(Related articles: Page 114 and a press release issued in June 2009 posted on JICA’s website)

# H I G H L I G

July 2008 and February 2009

## Tackling Issues on a Global Scale The G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, World Economic Forum (Davos Meeting)

Japan played a leading role in addressing environmental and economic issues at the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit in July 2008 and the Davos Meeting in February 2009. JICA will further cooperate in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries—especially those countries that have suffered from climate change—under the Cool Earth Partnership proposed by Japan at the Davos Meeting.

(Related articles: Pages 16 and 109)

October 2008

## Strengthening New Partnerships Promoting a Wide Range of Partnerships with NGOs, the Private Sector and International Organizations

JICA is expanding its development partnerships in Japan and abroad. In this context, we continued to promote further collaboration with NGOs and other organizations, and established a new Office for Partnership with the Private Sector in October 2008. Moreover, with the birth of New JICA, we are working to promote greater dissemination of information. These efforts resulted in raising overseas awareness of JICA and its activities, and improving cooperation with the World Bank and United Nations organization. At the same time, JICA has initiated partnerships with such organizations as Japan Post Bank and the Japan Science and Technology Agency.

JICA seeks to strengthen its various development-related partnerships and speedily build a win-win relationship between developing countries, partners and Japan's ODA.

(Related articles: Pages 140 and 152)



October 2008

## The Birth of New JICA The Launch of New JICA in October 2008

As one of the world's largest bilateral development aid agencies in terms of budget size, JICA's new structure enables unparalleled, effective project execution through the integrated administration of Technical Assistance, Loan Aid and Grant Aid.

(Related article: Page 10)

March 2009

## The Importance of Soft Power Support for Human Security in Areas of Conflict

Since the Obama administration took office in the United States in January 2009, the importance of international support for areas of conflict, such as Pakistan and Afghanistan, has attracted greater attention. After being appointed special envoy for the Prime Minister of Japan to Afghanistan and Pakistan in March 2009, JICA President Sadako Ogata visited the United States. There, President Ogata explained to U.S. government officials the results of aid to Afghanistan and Pakistan together with Japan's aid policies that are based on "soft power." Those policies are also in keeping with JICA's cooperation activities in South Asia, including Afghanistan, where JICA has continued to expand its activities over a number of years. The visit served as a turning point for increased media exposure of both Japanese policy and JICA's cooperation activities in conflict areas. It also created interest in the future direction of cooperation.

(Related articles: Pages 21, 46 and 93)

JICA is expanding cooperation activities in the Middle East. In the Palestinian Authority, JICA has helped the Palestinian Authority to strengthen its operation of a range of public services. JICA has also provided support for the improvement of living conditions in the Jericho area of the West Bank through technical projects, including those relating to local administration and maternal and child health. The number of experts and study team members dispatched to the Palestinian Authority in fiscal 2008 has reached approximately 150, with more than 1,000 Palestinian trainees participating in various programs.

(Related article: Page 52)

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