human development is the broadening of options so that people can live full, creative and stable lives with freedom and dignity. Above all, receiving an education, living a long and healthy life, and enjoying a humane living standard are the basis of human life. Seeking to achieve freedom and potential for all people, JICA has focused on contributing to achieving the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs; see page 78) declared as key objectives for the future prosperity of the human race based on the principle of human security. JICA has introduced wide-ranging cooperation in the fields of education, health and medical services, and social security to many developing countries.

Basic Education
—Wishing to Convey the Joy of Learning to the Children of the World—
JICA Helps to Strengthen the Capacity of People in Various Positions around Children such as Teachers, the Community and Administrators

Topic Overview
There are approximately 75 million children in the world who are unable to attend primary school and the majority of them live in developing countries. Furthermore, it is estimated that there are 776 million people, or 16% of the world’s adult population, who lack basic literacy (reading, writing and numeracy) (EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2009). The primary reason that children do not attend school is poverty. If they cannot gain basic abilities in reading, writing and numeracy, they can only get work in unstable, low-paying jobs, even after becoming adults. As long as they are locked in this vicious cycle, they are in a situation where it is difficult to escape from poverty.

To realize Education for All (EFA), which aims to have all children attending school by 2015, the international community has undertaken a number of efforts. However, it is predicted that several tens of millions of children will still not be attending school when the target date of 2015 comes.

Example
Basic Education
Afghanistan
Strengthening of Teacher Education Program

Developing High-Quality Teachers Who Can Properly Teach
Afghanistan is now facing serious education problems. The education system has been devastated by many years of internal conflict. Furthermore, since the inauguration of a new administration, children’s school attendance has increased dramatically due to the expanding reconstruction process. As a result, in reality there is not only a shortage of schools, but there is an absolute shortage of teachers who can properly teach.

With a number of countries and international organizations providing support to the Afghanistan government to address these educational problems, JICA is collaborating with those in mathematics and science are introduced, and in workshops at local teacher training schools JICA has adopted models and experiments and conducts hands-on trial lessons that have been well received.
JICA’s Initiatives
Basic education means educational activities for acquiring the minimum required knowledge and skills that people need for living and refers to preschool education, primary and secondary education, as well as non-formal education represented by adult literacy education and community education. Receiving basic education is not only a basic right for all people; it is also the foundation for building world peace and stability.

Based on Education for All and the Dakar Framework for Action, JICA is supporting basic education based on three pillars, namely, 1) improvements in primary and secondary education enrollment, 2) improvements in the quality of primary and lower secondary education; and 3) improvements in education administration and school management.

Improvements in Primary and Secondary Education Enrollment
JICA assists in upgrading and expanding school education services through the construction of schools using Grant Aid. Meanwhile, to communicate the necessity of school education requires educating parents and the community. JICA seeks to raise school attendance rates by eradicating child labor, which interferes with education, improving the health conditions of children and improving the overall educational environment that surrounds them.

Improvements in the Quality of Primary and Secondary Education
In order to equip children with reading, writing and a range of problem solving skills, it is important that they attend school and receive a quality education. The appeal and clarity of classes offered in primary and secondary education greatly affect the motivation of children to attend school and are key factors in preventing school dropouts and repetition of the same grade. When observing lessons in primary and secondary school classes in developing countries, one often finds teachers explaining their subjects merely by writing on the blackboard with students simply listening to lectures. To improve this situation, JICA is promoting student-centered lessons that stimulate the student's interest and comprehension and is improving teacher training curriculum and developing and disseminating textbooks and teaching materials.

In addition, JICA is particularly committed to strengthening valuable mathematics and science education.

Improvements in Education Management
As a basis for continually raising the attendance rates of primary and secondary education, it is essential to have the management capability for education administration and school management. This would include understanding non-attending children and encouraging their attendance, teacher deployment, distribution of teaching materials, planning and implementation of educational activities and properly allocating budgets. JICA provides assistance for schools and administrations to assess issues faced by schools, develop school action plans in line with community needs and help strengthen management capabilities so these can be implemented.

JICA also corrects educational gender disparities in education through educational activities that promote women's education, creating systems and literacy education for adult women. We also work to upgrade and expand non-formal education while collaborating with volunteer programs and NGOs so that children who do not attend school and people unable to read and write can acquire the knowledge and techniques needed for social life.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)
—Nurturing Technical Personnel Who Will Lead Nation Building—
JICA Seeks to Provide More Options for People Who Have Completed Their Basic Education and for People Who Had Few Opportunities to Receive Education and Training

Topic Overview
In many developing countries, people have few opportunities to receive quality education and training. Consequently, human resources are not effectively utilized, and opportunities to gain sufficient earnings are thus limited. The fact that human resources that can take the lead in industries are not being developed has become a major bottleneck to industrial promotion and development.

JICA’s Initiatives
As cooperation approaches in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), JICA has established “Industrial Human Resource Development” and “Expansion of Opportunities for Improving Livelihoods.” In Industrial Human Resource Development, people learn techniques, skills, demeanor and the mental attitude necessary for getting a job. In this manner, steps are taken to nurture human resources that contribute to the country’s economic development. In Expansion of Opportunities for Improving Livelihoods, we develop cooperation to improve income and reduce poverty through work and entrepreneurship.

In nations with relatively smooth economic development, such as in the Middle East and South Asia, demand is high for the education of technicians who contribute to the needs of industry. JICA is presently undertaking trainer training both in vocational training institutions and technical colleges, the revision of curricula with the involvement of relevant agencies and the creation of training and education systems in collaboration with industry and governments. Elsewhere, in post-conflict countries and poverty-stricken countries such as those in Sub-Saharan Africa, JICA carries out training aimed at the practical acquisition of basic technology and skills, with the goal of fostering those human resources who are capable of building and running informal-sector small businesses that serve as the real backbone of the economy.

Putting the knowledge and experience accumulated from past cooperation in such countries and regions as ASEAN, Central and South America and Senegal and Uganda in Africa, into use toward cooperation with other nations (South-South cooperation) is a feature of JICA in this field.
Higher Education —Educating Creative Human Resources to Lead Nation-Building—

JICA Aims to Strengthen Education and Research Capabilities at Key Universities in Developing Countries and to Promote Cooperation among Industry, Universities and Regions

**Topic Overview**

In regions such as the ASEAN nations and South Asia, where primary and secondary education is developed to a high degree and economic growth is sound, demand is increasing for skilled personnel, especially in industry. Expectations continue to grow for higher education support, with the aim of building universities that will contribute to regional development, to industry and to the education of skilled researchers.

**JICA’s Initiatives**

In the knowledge-based society of today, higher educational institutions bear strong demands to play a role in research and development, education and social contribution—a role, that is, as “intellectual hubs” of knowledge and information. In developing countries as well, there is an increasingly vital role for higher educational institutions to play in meeting society’s expectations in fostering human resources to lead nation-building, raising the intellectual level of society and contributing to regional development.

JICA’s roster of programs for higher education is diversifying as the environment surrounding higher educational institutions changes. In the past, JICA’s cooperation has focused on establishing and expanding those faculties and departments in technical, engineering and science fields, which are seen as directly contributing to industrial development and technological advancement. More recently, the target areas of cooperation have been extended to higher education administration and university management.

JICA is also making efforts in areas such as the improvement of research and development capabilities of graduate schools; the strengthening of collaboration between industry and local government bodies; programs utilizing intraregional networks among universities; educational cooperation for remote and vast regions; and expanded support for foreign students. Drawing fully on the features of higher education in Japan, JICA is making effective use of the three schemes of Technical Assistance, ODA Loan and Grant Aid to advance cooperation programs that flexibly meet partner countries’ situations and needs from a more global and long-term perspective.

**Example**

**Higher Education Indonesia**

Technical Cooperation Project for the Development of the Engineering Faculty of the Hasanuddin University (UNHAS), South Sulawesi

Building a University to Contribute to the Northeastern Region of Indonesia through Integrated Implementation of Technical Assistance and ODA Loan

With an economic structure heavily dependent upon primary products such as crops and mineral resources, and 17% of its population (3.1 million people) living in poverty, the northeastern region of Indonesia (six provinces in Sulawesi Province and two provinces in Maluku Province) faces a worsening gap with other regions. Against this backdrop, expectations are high for Hasanuddin University, the largest university in eastern Indonesia and a regional intellectual resource, as well as for programs to carry out research and development activities aimed at the needs of the region and the fostering of skilled personnel to lead industrial development on the back of cooperation with JICA.

With the aid of Japanese universities, JICA has begun a cooperative project that aims to strengthen the foundations of the Hasanuddin University Engineering Faculty’s education and research system by introducing the laboratory system features of Japan’s engineering education. Since its start, many members of the Hasanuddin University’s faculty have taken doctorate and master’s degrees at Japanese universities, building relationships of trust and human resource networks with Japanese university faculties, including Kyushu University, Hiroshima University, Toyohashi University of Technology and Kumamoto University.

In addition, the Hasanuddin University Engineering Faculty Development Project was launched as an ODA loan project. This project involves the construction of a new engineering campus, deployment of education and research equipment and study abroad programs. Transfer to the new Engineering Faculty is scheduled for 2012. This integrated implementation of Technical Cooperation projects and ODA loans is expected to maximize beneficial effects.
Health and Medical Services
—Toward the Securing of Life and Health for People in Developing Countries—
JICA Supports Efforts toward Strengthening Health Care Systems, Improving Maternal and Child Health Care and Combating Infectious Disease in Developing Countries

Topic Overview
Even now, many precious lives are lost due to diseases or childbirth complications that could be easily prevented or treated if basic health and medical services were in place. Although health is a basic human right, in developing countries many people still face these risks to life.

JICA’s Initiatives
In 2008, two large international conferences took place in Japan: TICAD IV in May and the Toyako Summit in July. The Toyako Framework for Action on Global Health—Report of the G8 Health Experts Group, formulated at the Toyako Summit, clearly indicated the strengthening of health systems, maternal and child health care, and infectious disease control as future directions for achieving MDGs in the health care field.

The strength of JICA programs is their ability to offer cooperation that meets local needs and conditions, as a direct counterpart to levels from policy to the community.

Yet another great strength is the ability to undertake multi-sectoral efforts: implementing programs—Grant Aid for facility and equipment investment, Technical Assistance for expanding human resources and strengthening organizations, ODA loans for scaling up projects, etc.—in an integrated fashion, as well as preparing infrastructure for safe water supply, and so on.

There are many aid organizations working in the health sector. Accordingly, aid coordination is necessary. Considering this situation while also respecting partner country ownership, JICA coordinates and cooperates with international organizations such as WHO and other donors in order to enhance health and medical services in developing countries, including efforts toward the strengthening of health systems, improvement of maternal and child health care, and infectious disease control.

Strengthening Health Systems
The establishment and strengthening of health systems is vital for sustainable and effective action toward improving health and medical services in developing countries.

Improvement of Hospital Management through Japanese-Style Methods
Health institutes in developing countries face a lack of resources on many fronts, including shortages of doctors, nurses and other medical staff; medical equipment and drugs; budgets for staff and operational expenses; and information about patients and treatment records. Under these circumstances, Sri Lanka has introduced Total Quality Management (TQM) techniques for quality control developed in Japanese industry, improving hospital management without incurring substantial costs. Through the Asia-Africa Knowledge Co-Creation Program, under which Asia and Africa share knowledge and experience, JICA has shared Sri Lanka’s hospital improvement experience with 15 African nations (Group 1: Uganda, Eritrea, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Nigeria, Malawi, Madagascar; Group 2: Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Benin, Mali, Morocco).

Through training in Japan and in Sri Lanka, health administrative officials and hospital managers from African countries studied the SS-KAI-ZEN-TQM theory, focusing particularly on how to improve workplace environments by using the SS (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain) principle as an entry point for TQM. After returning to their home countries, training participants implement workplace environment improvements using the SS principle in pilot hospitals. What distinguishes these efforts is the effective use of available resources without large-scale investments; the accumulation of creative ideas and daily endeavors by both medical administrators and staff; and visible results in the form of hospital cleanliness. Also noteworthy is a clear improvement in staff satisfaction and motivation, as the program begins with improvement of the work environment (i.e., creation of a clean and work-friendly environment) even as it aims for improvements in the quality and safety of health services. JICA will support pilot hospitals in their efforts to step up to KAIZEN (CDI: Continuous Quality Improvement) and also promote the SS policy as well as national dissemination.
maternal and child health and combating infectious diseases. “Health systems” refer to the entire framework for administrative system preparation, medical facility improvement, medicine supply management, effective use of accurate health information, management of financial resources as well as the fostering and management of human resources to advance these processes while directly providing health and medical services to people.

As programs supporting the establishment of health systems in developing countries, JICA undertakes activities to strengthen the functions of health care administration at the state or prefectural level in nations undergoing decentralization to local regions, such as Tanzania. JICA also helps improve the health information systems necessary for health policy making and project management in Pakistan. In nations undergoing reconstruction, such as Afghanistan where health systems collapsed during protracted civil war, JICA undertakes the strengthening of overall health systems, including administration for expanding human resources, maternal and child health care and infectious disease control including tuberculosis, offering comprehensive support from a consistent perspective extending from central and provincial governments to actual medical organizations in the field.

Regarding the strengthening of the personnel component within health systems, the Japanese government declared at TICAD IV in 2008 that it would undertake to train 100,000 health care personnel within five years. Toward the realization of that plan, JICA is undertaking many health care training programs in Japan, in third countries and in the field, pairing these with health worker training support that incorporates 5S-KAIZEN-TQM methods in hospital management deployed throughout Japanese industry. JICA’s support also includes aid for the establishment and reformation of educational organizations for health workers.

**Example**

Health and Medical Services: Maternal and Child Health Care in Syria

### Strengthening Reproductive Health in Syria

Cooperation with Local People Active as Health Care Volunteers

In recent years Syria, like neighboring countries in the Middle East, has built a relatively favorable health care environment. However, large disparities exist within the nation, and the level of reproductive health (RH) remains low in farming communities.

The Project for Strengthening of Reproductive Health dispatched Japanese consultant teams experienced in rural development in developing countries to the Manbij District in Aleppo Governorate, with the goal of increasing the usage of high-quality maternal and child health care and RH services. Coordinating with dispatched Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOVCs) and gaining the involvement of local persons working as health care volunteers, JICA undertook activities aimed at community health care education and the strengthening of capabilities in health centers providing reproductive health services.

JICA’s health care education activities conveyed to expectant mothers and their families the importance of regular prenatal checkups for safe childbirth. As married women in the nation often must have their husband’s permission to leave the village, it was vital for husbands, their mothers, and other family members to understand the need for checkups. In addition, the project disseminated information on the importance of, and techniques for, family planning, including outlets for obtaining birth control, in order that couples could make decisions on family planning measures together.

**Maternal and Child Health Care: Reproductive Health**

Every year over 500,000 women worldwide die from causes related to pregnancy or childbirth, and nearly 10 million children die before reaching five years of age. Over 90% of these cases take place in developing countries. The health of children and women, including pregnant women, is a serious issue in developing countries, and improvement will require going beyond conventional approaches to maternal and child health care, aiming for progress in lifelong health related to gender and procreation (i.e., reproductive health).

JICA is providing aid that comprehensively addresses reproductive health at all stages—adolescence, pregnancy, childbirth, child rearing, and family planning. To further the spread of safe and humane childbirth in West Africa, JICA is advancing aid for the creation of systems to support continuum of care, such as the promotion of prenatal checkups, education of skilled birth attendants such as midwives, and the establishment of a referral system for pregnant women, while supporting

With the cooperation of health center staff, local health care volunteers played a central role in the activities, which also drew in local groups and religious leaders.

At the end of the project, improvements in health center services resulted in an increase in satisfaction among prenatal checkup recipients (from 41% at the start of the project to 86%) and an increase in the use of family planning (from 26% to 42%).

Outreach health care activities in Talhozan Village
partnerships among countries in these regions. JICA also believes that the Maternal and Child Health Handbook that JICA helped to develop and promote within Indonesia and the Palestinian Authority is an effective method for consolidating continuous care, and plans to introduce these books as a part of maternal and child health care programs in other nations as well.

**Infectious Disease Countermeasures**

Infectious diseases are a worldwide problem common to all humanity, threatening lives and livelihoods in every corner of the globe. By providing assistance for health care system strengthening, personnel training and research, JICA assists developing countries in creating an institutional mechanism for the prevention, laboratory testing, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, polio (poliomyelitis), malaria, Chagas disease and influenza.

In addition, JICA strives to enhance its assistance by aligning with international actors such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the Roll Back Malaria initiative; and the Stop TB Partnership. In ODA loan-based infrastructure projects such as road and port construction, JICA promotes preventative education activities for construction workers in order to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Furthermore, as a component of the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development, JICA commenced cooperation for dengue fever research in Thailand, making use of Japan’s advanced knowledge in the field of infectious disease research.

*1 A WHO-led malaria initiative
*2 An international partnership established in 1998, consisting of a network of international organizations, national governments, donors from the public and private sectors, governmental and nongovernmental organizations and individuals to fight tuberculosis.
*3 A joint program with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) that aims to gain new knowledge that leads to solutions for global issues such as environmental and climate change, infectious diseases, water and disasters, for the purpose of contributing to society from the results of the research.

**Example**

*Health and Medical Services: Infectious Disease Control Regional Project Aid for Combating Chagas Disease in Central America*

*Achieving a Central American First in Guatemala: Interrupting New Transmission by Vector Insects*

Chagas disease is a parasitic disease endemic to Central and South America. Infection is transmitted through an insect vector, the kissing bugs Pentatomoidea of the family Reduviidae. Infection can result in untreatable damage to the liver, spleen, and heart, leading in some cases to death. It is known as a disease of people living in poverty, as the insect thrives in the mud walls and thatched roofs typical of underprivileged homes. JICA quickly turned its attention to the disease, and from the 1990s undertook a survey of the vector insect’s habitat within Guatemala. From 2000, while beginning full-scale aid to combat the insect within the country, JICA expanded the target of its aid to include El Salvador, Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua, and undertook a leading role in combating Chagas disease through eradication of the insect, monitoring reappearance of the insect through education of local people and strengthening relevant local administration functions.

In November 2008, the interruption of new transmission via the vector in Guatemala was recognized by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). “Interruption” is an interim goal signifying a state of essentially zero new cases of infection, a noteworthy achievement and a first in Central America.

JICA aims to raise people’s consciousness and build a system to maintain an environment preventing outbreak of the vector insect, with the end goal of controlling Chagas disease.
Social Security
---The Dilemma of Developing Countries: Those Most in Need of Social Security Are the Least Equipped--- Establishing Social Security Systems and Providing Relief for the Socially Vulnerable

**Topic Overview**
Social security is the provision of income or services by a country, official institution, or community, in response to injury, disease, aging, disability, unemployment and other livelihood issues that cannot be borne by individuals. Especially in developing countries where many socially vulnerable persons struggle with issues such as poverty, social security systems should play a significant role. It is in these very developing countries; however, where systems are yet to be established. An extremely vexing dilemma is that social security systems are least available in the developing countries where they are needed the most. The international community is increasingly realizing the need for a system that aids the socially vulnerable and prevents downside risk.

**JICA’s Initiatives**
Based on Japan’s knowledge and experience in social security systems, JICA is undertaking projects to enrich the social security systems of developing countries, focusing on the three areas of social insurance and social welfare; assistance for persons with disabilities; and labor and employment. In addition, JICA is making efforts toward its own internal reform, promoting projects such as disability awareness training for JICA-related personnel.

**Social Insurance and Social Welfare**
In this sector, JICA is supporting the development of social insurance systems such as medical insurance and pensions, in addition to the strengthening of social welfare policies for the elderly, children and mothers. More specifically, JICA is providing assistance for the reform of pension systems in Chinese rural villages as well as for the development of community-based integrated health care and social welfare service models for the elderly in Thailand. This includes the education of staff in medical care and welfare services.

**Assistance for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)**
Although assistance for PWDs is enshrined in social welfare, JICA sees the disabled not simply as recipients (or beneficiaries) of social welfare but also as participants with a role in the advancement of developing countries. JICA’s ultimate goal is to build nations where all people, whether disabled or not, live in peace. With this in mind, JICA aims to support full participation and equality for PWDs in developing countries, with emphasis on assistance that allows PWDs to become more involved in society. In this context, JICA is putting effort into the establishment of barrier-free environments as well as initiatives that empower PWDs through the training of PWD groups and leaders. The Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD) is a good example of such a project.

With regard to the disabled, APCD has twice carried out Barrier Free Rural Community training for architects, administrative officials, and parties concerned with the disabled, resulting in the formation of a network among the three groups and the realization of barrier-free subways and shopping malls through the inclusion of disability-related parties in the planning stage of facilities.

**Labor and Employment**
In addition to policy-level assistance in such areas as labor and employment policy, JICA provides support toward specific systems and areas including work placement services, labor standards, occupational safety and health, labor relations and occupational insurance (employment insurance, workers’ accident compensation). Legal frameworks and enforcement systems in the field of labor, especially occupational safety and health, are generally lagging in developing countries, and workers lack adequate social protection. In many developing countries, workers who have been injured in occupational accidents do not receive adequate medical care or compensation, subsequently losing their means of income, and facing the risk of falling into extreme poverty. The current global economic crisis also has a negative impact on the labor sector.

JICA is providing assistance for the improvement of occupational safety and health in Malaysia and China, plus support for the improvement of the National Employment Service Center Project in Indonesia, a work placement service based on Japan’s “Hello Work” work placement system.
Assistance for the Disabled Rwanda Skills Training Project for the Reintegration of Demobilized Soldiers with Disabilities

Aiming to Empower Demobilized Soldiers with Disabilities in an Effort to Help Their Return to Society

Following a protracted civil war and the massacres in 1994, a new government took hold in the landlocked Rwanda in east-central Africa. In 1997 the government initiated the Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Program, which succeeded in demobilizing 34,000 soldiers by the end of 2004.

However, most of the demobilized soldiers with disabilities had no means of livelihood, resulting in a loss of hope due to social and economic limitations.

In response to the Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Program, a program whose funds were also provided by the World Bank, JICA initiated the Skills Training Project for the Reintegration of Demobilised Soldiers with Disabilities. Reexamining the framework of assistance by the Rwandan government for soldiers with disabilities, which had been limited to the provision of rehabilitation equipment, this program offers vocational training support to enable the soldiers to return to society.

Main activities under the project include the creation of barrier-free facilities, training for instructors at vocational training centers and training aimed at curriculum development and improving awareness among PWDs themselves. The project facilitated mutual understanding of the core values of JICA’s assistance toward PWD: Empowerment and Promotion of a Barrier-Free Society. Additional support to follow up on the results of this cooperation is planned for 2009.

After undergoing training, demobilized soldiers have formed a cooperative union for building furniture.