**Increasingly Active Cooperation with the Private Sector, NGOs and Other Organizations**

**JICA and Sony Corporation Implement Joint Project for Public-Private Partnership in Promoting HIV/AIDS Education in Ghana**

JICA is strengthening its partnerships with private-sector corporations to more effectively support social and economic development in developing countries. From June to July 2009, JICA and Sony Corporation implemented a project in Ghana aimed at preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS, which is also one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of the international community. This project was highly successful, as evidenced by an approximately three-fold increase in the number of persons undergoing HIV/AIDS testing compared with before.

**Ambitiously Addressing Environmental Problems and Climate Change**

**Implementing 21 Projects for Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)**

From 2008, JICA and the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) began implementing joint projects for solving global-scale issues, covering such areas as the environment and climate change, infectious diseases, water shortages and natural disasters. These projects aim at human resource development and capacity building of researchers and research institutes in developing countries through the promotion of joint international research by Japanese research institutions and research institutions from developing countries and regions. JICA implemented 21 Technical Cooperation projects in 2009.

**Steadily Fulfilling Japan’s International Commitments**

**Japan and Brazil Implement Triangular Cooperation in Africa**

In April 2009, the governments of Japan and Brazil concluded a cooperation agreement for supporting developing countries by utilizing the successful examples of Japan-Brazil cooperation in agricultural development. Based on this agreement, the following September, representatives of Japan, Brazil and the African country of Mozambique signed an agreement in Mozambique’s capital city of Maputo to promote agricultural development in a tropical savannah area of Mozambique. Accordingly, the three countries will implement a triangular cooperation project that utilizes the agricultural development know-how gained from the conversion of cerrado, or savannah grasslands, with highly acidic soil into an agricultural region in Brazil.

**High Acclaim for JICA’s Support for the Steadily Growing Asia/Mekong Region**

**Implemented Various Types of Cooperation for Enhancing Economic Infrastructures and Investment Environments**

In recent years, the countries of the Mekong River Basin on the Indochina Peninsula have achieved dramatic economic growth. This region has also attracted attention as a target of investment by Japanese-affiliated companies, and the region’s relationship with Japan is expected to deepen further in the future. JICA has provided intensive support for development in this region and in November 2009, JICA’s support was highly acclaimed at the Japan-Mekong Foreign Ministers’ Meeting.

---

*Children intently watch a soccer match featuring the Ghana national team at this public viewing.*

*Developing countries are particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change.*

*The Cambodia capital of Phnom Penh has witnessed an increase in vehicles and numerous traffic jams along with economic development. (Photo by Kenshiro Imamura)*

*Related article Page 153*
March 2010

**Increase in “International Disaster Relief” and a Rising Need for JICA’s Disaster Prevention Cooperation**

**Japan Disaster Relief Team Earns Heavy-Class Accreditation**

Fiscal 2009 witnessed large-scale disasters that included a typhoon in Taiwan in August 2009, a typhoon in the Philippines in September, an earthquake in West Sumatra in Indonesia also in September and an earthquake in Haiti in January 2010. Accordingly, JICA carried out international emergency relief operations in regions worldwide through the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) team.

Year after year, rising expectations have been placed on the JDR teams that carry out search and rescue operations for victims whenever a major disaster occurs overseas. The JDR team aims to be a rescue team trusted worldwide.

In March 2010, the Japan Disaster Relief team members underwent an assessment (capability assessment of international urban-type search-and-rescue teams held by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) and earned the Heavy-class qualification, the highest-level classification.