

# Development Assistance as a “Means for Co-Existence”

## Confronting a Changing World

Japan achieved remarkable growth during the course of the nation’s postwar reconstruction. To ensure that Japan can now meet the expectations of the international community as one of the world’s developed countries, JICA, the organization for implementing Japan’s official development assistance (ODA), has provided support to promote the economic and social advancement of developing countries.

The world is now facing unprecedented major changes, as it confronts the problem of large “disparities in development” as well as new “cross-border issues.” As these changes unfold, JICA is being asked to undertake new initiatives for surmounting these new global issues by drawing on its extensive experience in development assistance cultivated to the present.

### The Significance of Development Assistance Has Been Transformed by Globalization

In the same manner that Oriental paper manufacturing and printing technologies as well as pyro-techniques were transmitted to the West about 1,000 years ago, the world has developed amid repeated cultural and technology interchanges. Spurred by the conclusion of the East-West Cold War and the breathtaking advances in information technologies (IT), contemporary society is entering an era in which the movement of people, goods, money and information move with unprecedented speed on a scale never witnessed before. The effects of various global problems, including those occurring outside Japan, instantly spread across national boundaries and jeopardize the security and prosperity of Japan and the world as a whole. Examples of such problems include the financial and economic crises in 2008, as well as poverty, infectious diseases, terrorism and conflicts, natural disasters, climate change and food and energy shortages.

The dramatic advance of globalization since the 1980s sparked by the so-called “IT revolution” has reshaped the world. Unlike in the past, when the world was made up of nations that existed as solitary entities, today’s world is characterized by “mutual dependence and supplementation that transcends the framework

of national borders.” Japan has strong relationships of mutual dependence with other countries covering a multitude of economic activities, beginning with the import of resources. For this reason, the international community will never allow Japan to focus solely on its domestic problems while ignoring circumstances in the rest of the world or to implement “one-country pacifism,” whereby Japan pursues only its own national interests.

Today, no country in the world can completely sever its ties with other nations, and it is essential to recognize that “the pursuit of the common interests (international interests) of the international community is also interwoven with Japan’s own interests.” As stated in the Preamble of Japan’s constitution, Japan must achieve peace and stability with the world to build good relations with the international community and establish an “honorable position” that will allow it to survive in the future and prosper together with the international community. Development assistance is no longer seen as a charitable activity undertaken by the wealthy to help the poor. Rather, development assistance must be recognized as being a “vital tool for pursuing international interests and ensuring Japan’s survival.”

### The Changing Environment Surrounding Development Assistance

Since 2000, the environment surrounding development assistance both in Japan and overseas has evolved markedly. One particularly notable change has been the unprecedented scope of economic growth in numerous regions in tandem with the rapid advance of globalization. Although the world has yet to fully rebound from the financial and economic crises, so-called “emerging countries” have achieved dramatic economic growth over the past several years. The aggregate size of the economies of the G20 nations, excluding the G8 nations, has grown from US\$7.3 trillion in 1999 to US\$18.7 trillion in 2009, representing a 2.6-fold expansion over this 10-year period.

As one tangible result of this economic growth, the number of people in Eastern Asia and the Pacific subsisting on less than US\$1.25 per day has decreased by half, declining from 640 million persons in 1990 to 320 million in 2005. With Asia’s middle-income segment forecast to reach 2.0 billion people 10 years from now, in 2020, there are expectations that Asia will overcome the financial and economic crises and achieve further growth both as the world’s factory and as a consumer market.

Development assistance carried out over long years by Japan together with all types of partners, including those in the private sector, has contributed significantly to this growth in emerging

countries. To maintain friendly relations and prosper together with emerging countries in the future as well, Japan must promote even deeper mutual interchanges of people, goods and money. At the same time, it will be necessary to mutually share and create knowledge and technologies that will spur innovation that originates overseas. Besides securing the human resources needed to work as engineers at the front lines of assistance, one major future task for Japan will be to firmly nurture Japanese citizens capable of fulfilling such important roles as leading the international community and overseas markets to ensure Japan's stability and growth in the future.

In stark contrast to those Asian and other emerging countries that are enjoying solid growth, in more fragile countries, including numerous African nations, as well as countries like Afghanistan that are in the midst of reconstruction following a period of conflict, people are still unable to extricate themselves from their harsh struggle to merely survive. Although Africa's GDP rose from US\$0.6 trillion in 2000 to US\$1.6 trillion in 2010, this accounted for only approximately 3% of the world economy. Moreover, the poverty rate (the proportion of citizens with an income of less than US\$1 per day) in Sub-Saharan Africa has improved only slightly, declining from 56% in 1990 to 51% in 2005, and today, 400 million people in this region live in extreme poverty.

These fragile countries, where development proceeds at a snail's pace, are significantly affected by global-scale threats that transcend national borders, such as the financial and economic crises, infectious diseases, natural disasters and climate change. Today, there is an unprecedented deepening of complementary relationships and mutual dependence among developing and other countries worldwide as resource production regions and markets for selling manufactured goods. In particular, strengthening support for these fragile countries is not only an essential initiative from a humanitarian perspective but is also indispensable for realizing Japan's stability and prosperity. The importance of such support will likely grow further in the future.

At the Gleneagles Summit in 2005, the advanced countries agreed to increase ODA to US\$154.0 billion by 2010. According to a report by the United Nations, however, the governments of advanced countries are still US\$35.0 billion (approximately ¥3 trillion) short of attaining this international commitment.

Alternately, there has been large growth in "private-sector funds" and "assistance funds from countries other than the advanced countries" that are allocated for development assistance. In contrast to the simple dichotomic structure deployed to the present consisting of "the Donor side and the Recipient side," we are now approaching an era characterized by the promotion

### Case Study

## Utilizing Japan's Railway Technologies for the Construction of a Dedicated Freight Corridor between Delhi and Mumbai

### India: Dedicated Freight Corridor Construction Project (Phase 1)

The volume of freight transportation in India, which has been experiencing solid economic growth, is growing rapidly at an annual rate of around 15%. As a result, both railway and road transportation capacities are reaching their limitations. To address this situation, the Indian government plans to establish a transportation network linking country's principal cities and regions that have large concentrations of industry. As part of these efforts, the government has initiated the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Initiative under which it will link the capital Delhi with Mumbai, which has an international port. The initiative plans to establish an infrastructure such as trunk railroads and roads along the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC). The establishment of this infrastructure will help spur regional economic development, enhance logistics and encourage investment by foreign companies.

In response to this planned network, JICA is assisting with the construction of an approximately 1,500km new railway dedicated freight corridor linking Delhi and Mumbai as a flagship project for Japan-India cooperation. In March 2010, JICA signed an agreement to

provide an ODA Loan worth approximately ¥90.3 billion for the construction of an approximately 950km priority section as Phase 1 of the project. Preparations are currently proceeding with the aim of commencing operation in 2016. Numerous plans for building railway systems have been advancing in countries worldwide that have outstanding environmental performance capabilities and energy efficiency. JICA has a proven track record in India and has provided India with 18 ODA Loans for railway projects in four major cities. These projects include the Delhi Metro (the first railway system registered under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) scheme

in the world), the Kolkata Metro, the Chennai Metro and the Bangalore Metro. The project is noteworthy not only because the new DFC will be built with the largest ODA Loan to date but also because this marks the first Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) project in India. The introduction of high-performance, electric locomotives and totally automated signal and communications systems that integrate cutting-edge Japanese technologies will enable the realization of large-volume, high-speed transportation, energy efficiency and safe and on-time operations.



Logistics efficiency is expected to be enhanced with large-volume, high-speed transportation.

of development assistance in close cooperation with private-sector companies and with institutions and organizations such as foundations, academic institutions and NGOs.

To enable these institutions and organizations to become more involved in development, the establishment of an environment, including building infrastructures and improving systems and policies for developing countries, is becoming a major responsibility of public development organizations.

One lesson learned to date is that sustainable growth that reaches all people is effective in realizing development and that development can only be realized with the cooperation of all concerned parties involved rather than participation by just a few regions, countries, organizations or companies. The Japanese government's implementation of development assistance under an "all-Japan" structure with non-governmental organizations and personnel capable of carrying out a variety of roles is being recognized as an extremely important approach. This approach also reflects the difficult economic and fiscal conditions facing Japan today.

### Cross-Border Approaches to Economic and Security Issues

#### Steadily Emerging from the Financial and Economic Crises

The financial and economic crises that began with the subprime loan problem in the United States in 2008 provide a vivid illustration of the characteristics of contemporary globalization. Starting out as a financial crisis within a single country, the United States, the effects of this crisis instantly spread worldwide as full-blown global

financial and economic crises.

Although the economic downturn caused by these crises was extremely severe, the effects of the crises had a limited impact on Asian countries, which had strengthened themselves by heeding the lessons learned from the Asian financial crisis in the previous decade. Owing in part to the success of such initiatives as expansionary financial support policies focused on Asia that were carried out in cooperation with the international community, an Asian-led economic recovery is finally showing signs of gaining strength.

To ensure that Asia, including Japan, can be a locomotive for the world economy, JICA will continue striving to support this growth, while promoting collaboration that will enable developing countries, including those in Asia, to steadily emerge from the financial and economic crises and achieve sustainable growth.

#### Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change

For the world to attain sustainable long-term growth, it is necessary to properly respond to global-scale risks such as climate change.

Reducing the risk of climate change will, in turn, be contingent on implementing such "mitigation measures" as reducing and curbing greenhouse gas emissions as well as conserving and expanding "sinks," such as forests that absorb carbon dioxide, not only in developed countries but also in developing countries. JICA is providing wide-ranging support for climate change countermeasures, including "co-benefit" support that contributes to economic growth while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The effects of climate change span the globe. With this in

#### Case Study

### Contributing to Cross-Border Cooperation

### Africa: Regional Infrastructure Development

In Africa, with 15 land-locked developing countries, underdevelopment of transport and power networks together with an inefficient system for trade, including customs clearance, act as major impediments to economic growth.

Driven by the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) held in Yokohama in 2008, JICA is engaged in regional infrastructure development initiatives in such sectors as transportation and energy.

In transportation, for example, JICA is contributing to regional economic integration and improvement of intra-regional distribution through the development of the Nacala Economic Corridor that involves connecting Mozambique's port of Nacala on the Indian Ocean with the inland countries of Malawi and Zambia. Following the construction of a bridge on the Zambia-Zimbabwe border with Grant Aid, laws were established and staff training was undertaken in preparation for the introduction

of an One Stop Border Post (OSBP) aimed at speeding up border-crossing procedures. In December 2009, Chirundu began operating as Africa's first OSBP.

In the field of regional power connection, JICA is supporting the establishment of a power transmission network linking five Nile river basin countries (Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo), thereby contributing to efficient and stable power supply, through a co-financed project with the African Development Bank (AfDB).

JICA will continue to proactively assist the

development of regional infrastructure in order to accelerate Africa's economic growth.



A new freight terminal completed at the Chirundu OSBP. The large reduction in border-crossing times is expected to yield various spillover effects including but not limited to improved commercial value of agricultural products, as a result of reduced transport cost.

mind, for developing countries subject to significant impacts of climate change, it is essential to adapt to the effects of climate change in order to achieve sustainable development without forfeiting the benefits of development. In particular, to protect the lives of people living in poverty, it is necessary to implement “adaptation measures” covering such areas as food security, disaster prevention and assuring stable access to water supplies. Climate change is intimately correlated to a host of problems faced by developing countries and it can be said that climate change countermeasures constitute the essence of development. JICA adheres to a policy of simultaneously promoting climate change countermeasures and development. This includes the provision of infrastructures giving consideration to natural disaster measures in cities situated along the coastal areas of Asia as well as providing support in the agricultural sector keeping in mind such climate changes as temperature and precipitation changes.

Because these approaches to climate change differ from development processes in developed countries in the past, it will be necessary to create new ways of development.

## Response to the Global Environment

### —Conservation of Biodiversity

Along with responses to climate change, another global environmental issue is biodiversity, which is facing severe circumstances. Today, the balance of our rich ecosystem consisting

of 1.6 million plant and animal species, including humans, living together on our planet, is said to be crumbling. The world of living organisms has no national borders and the world must cooperate to address biodiversity issues in the same manner as with climate change countermeasures. To attain harmony between the natural environment and human activities, JICA is taking a comprehensive approach to improving the living standards of people living in poverty, achieving a balance between conservation and use of natural resources and enhancing the capacity of governments and citizens.

### Peacebuilding

The conclusion of the East-West Cold War gave rise to hopes for the realization of more stable and peaceful societies. Instead, from the 1990s as well, there was an expansion of violent conflicts, including an increase in the number of domestic conflicts, and numerous civilians are caught in the midst of such conflicts. In preventing the outbreak and recurrence of conflicts as well as to solve them and firmly establish peace, there are limits to relying only on military solutions as well as on such political methods as preventive diplomacy, arms control and mediation. This is also a major reason why the role of development assistance is being emphasized in supporting peacebuilding to solve the principal factors underlying strife, namely the problems of wealth disparities and unequal opportunities.

## Case Study

### Turning Rural Electrification into CDM Projects in Least Developed Countries (LDC)

#### Bhutan and Zambia: Rural Electrification

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is one of the Kyoto Mechanisms prescribed under the Kyoto Protocol. With the involvement of developed countries for which greenhouse gas emissions ceilings have been established, projects for reducing greenhouse gas emissions are carried out in developing countries and credits are issued based on the amount of emission reductions achieved by these projects. Developing countries can then obtain valuable funds by selling these credits. At present, although there are over 2,000 CDM projects registered under the United Nations, CDM projects in upper-middle-income countries such as China, Brazil and Mexico account for three quarters of these projects, with almost none of these projects undertaken in the LDCs.

In response, JICA has proposed the promotion of electrification as CDM projects in regions without electricity in LDCs with the aim of alleviating poverty. Bhutan and Zambia have expressed interest in such a scheme and both countries, with the cooperation of JICA, convened seminars at the Conference of the

Parties held in Copenhagen in December 2009.

Bhutan has traditionally focused on generating hydropower, a renewable energy source. At the seminar, that country's deputy environment minister made an appeal for “supplying hydropower to remote areas without electricity to reduce the use of heating oil and firewood and cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions while improving people's living and alleviating poverty.”

The Zambian seminar was attended by

that country's tourism, environment and natural resources minister as well as the top management of Zambian Electricity Supply Corporation, and Zambia pledged it will work to register a rural electrification initiative as a United Nations CDM project.

To encourage initiatives for undertaking rural electrification as CDM projects, JICA will support efforts to facilitate trading in emission rights that includes the creation of an exchange for carbon credits.



Zambian minister gives a speech at a side event during the United Nation's Climate Change Convention (COP15) in December 2009.



Transporting a transformer up a mountain road (Bhutan rural electrification)



State functions in countries affected by conflict have been lost, and governments cannot even perform such rudimentary functions as ensuring public safety and providing citizens with administrative services. In many cases, citizens lose faith in these governments and then become exposed to dangers that threaten their existence, such as armed conflict, extreme poverty, terrorism and infectious disease epidemics, and are also placed in a vulnerable position against climate change and natural disasters. In such fragile states, JICA is supporting reconstruction and peacebuilding by adopting approaches based on the concept of human security that focus on both strengthening the state functions and responding to the needs of inhabitants and communities. In contrast to implementing measures in an environment where public safety is assured, this type of support by JICA represents a new type of challenge.

For societies to restore peace and prosperity, it is essential to ensure the seamless implementation of “humanitarian assistance” that quickly protects and aids people and “reconstruction and development” that aims for mid- and long-term stability after conflict. To date, JICA has commenced support as quickly as possible in accordance with political, social and public safety developments in countries affected by conflict, including Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan and Democratic Republic of the Congo. At the same time, JICA pays close attention to conflict prevention to

ensure that its assistance does not actually promote conflict-causing factors such as a further widening and entrenching of disparities. JICA has also implemented support that incorporates elements that actively remove conflict-causing factors to the greatest possible extent and that also integrate perspectives for conciliation and co-existence.

JICA will continue to promote initiatives for peacebuilding through development.

### Food Security

Hunger is still likely to be the world’s leading cause of death, and producing food and assuring a stable food supply are thus fundamental development issues for many developing countries. Nevertheless, unstable agricultural production caused by climate change, along with the recent soaring of food prices, is dealing a severe blow to people living in poverty. Therefore, promoting agricultural and rural development in regions with many poor residents provides a safety net for poverty reduction in the country as a whole. Agricultural promotion is a crucial sector for supporting economic growth in pre-industrialized developing countries by helping these nations obtain foreign currencies through the export of agricultural products. JICA is focusing on assisting agricultural and rural development to support food and hunger-prevention measures

## Case Study

### Multifaceted Approach through Policy Recommendations, Gathering of Forest Information Management and Community-Participatory Forest Management

#### Laos: Forestry Sector Project

With mountainous regions accounting for approximately 80% of its landmass, Laos is blessed with an abundance of forests. However, recent years have witnessed a decrease in forested areas due to excessive slash-and-burn cultivation and logging and a conversion of forest to agricultural land. These developments have sparked concerns about the effects of deforestation on ecosystems. In 2005, the Laos government formulated Forest Strategy to the Year 2020, under which it aims to reduce poverty by setting targets that include restoring the proportion of forested land and realizing sustainable production and processing of forestry products.

To date, JICA has cooperated in a wide range of forestry-related initiatives in Laos. These efforts include making policy suggestions for forestry strategies as well as helping to reduce slash-and-burn cultivation by improving people’s livelihoods and developing human resources in agriculture and forestry. Responding to Laos’ Forest Strategy to the Year 2020, as a 10-year plan from 2009, JICA is undertaking unified initiatives that include making policy suggestions focused on mitigating climate change, managing forestry information

and promoting community-participatory forestry management.

JICA promotes these activities through an integrated three-pillar structure consisting of the Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation (PAREDD), Forest Sector Capacity Development Project (FSCAP) (Technical Cooperation), and the Program for Forest Information Management (Grant Aid).

Under PAREDD, JICA seeks to enhance community support improvement tools applicable to systems for curbing deforestation while introducing domestic livestock breeding, freshwater fish cultivation, agroforestry and fruit cultivation in close cooperation with FSCAP and the Grant Aid program. Through these measures, the project aims for a balance between securing new sources of revenues for residents and

conserving forests. As part of this project, JICA will also consider schemes for ensuring that the beneficial effects of CO<sub>2</sub> reductions from curbing deforestation and forest degradation are recycled back to local communities. This project is being implemented in Luang Prabang in northern Laos. Based on the results and information from the project, JICA will propose models for reducing deforestation to the Laos government.



The use of slash-and-burn cultivation is outpacing nature’s restorative capabilities and is causing forestry degradation and deforestation in Laos.

in developing countries. In Africa, for example, to respond to rapidly expanding demand for rice, JICA jointly launched the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) in collaboration with the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). CARD is promoting initiatives to double the production of rice in Sub-Saharan Africa over a 10-year period from 2008 (14 million tons annually to 28 million tons).

#### Disaster Emergency Responses and Recovery/Reconstruction and Disaster Prevention Aid

There has been a sharp rise in the number of people suddenly struck by disasters and who have lost the foundations of their livelihood. In 2008, more than 130,000 people were killed or missing in Myanmar as a result of a cyclone and around 70,000 lives were lost in the Sichuan earthquake in China, while approximately 220,000 people perished from the Haiti earthquake in January 2010. Meanwhile, around 20 million people became victims of the unprecedented damage caused by major flooding in Pakistan in July. As these examples demonstrate, natural disasters easily take the livelihoods and lives of many people in an instant.

Residents of developing countries account for approximately 90% of those who are killed or missing as a result of natural disasters around the world. This high casualty rate is attributable

especially to inadequate preparations against disasters in developing countries, and disaster-related damage is apt to be concentrated among vulnerable people such as the poor and the elderly. The occurrence and strength of cyclones and other natural disasters are expected to increase in the future due to climate change. There is concern that economic losses caused by frequently occurring natural disasters will nullify efforts to achieve growth by developing regions that aim to overcome poverty.

The year 2010 marks the 15th year since Japan’s Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Japan experiences major damage from a variety of disasters that range from geophysical disasters such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions to meteorological disasters such as typhoons, heavy rains and flooding and snow damage. Nevertheless, Japan is an advanced country in the field of disaster prevention and has compiled numerous achievements in this area. Based on the lessons learned from past disasters, Japan has established related legal systems and disaster prevention related facilities, carries out disaster prevention training and education, and sets up emergency response structures that function smoothly when a disaster strikes. There are some countries and international institutions that have some technologies and knowledge related to disaster prevention and disaster emergency response. Nonetheless, Japan is the only country capable of integrated comprehensive

#### Case Study

### Large-Scale Project for the Revitalization of Kabul Gets Underway

#### Afghanistan: Project on the Promotion of Kabul Metropolitan Area Development

The population of Kabul, the capital city of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, used to be around two million in 1999, but has already reached over four million at present, exceeding the population absorption capacity of the city. Therefore, there are escalating urban problems such as lowering of the groundwater level, contamination of water, air and soil, an increase of illegal residents and traffic congestion. The development of social infrastructure and improvement of living conditions are becoming critical issues.

To tackle such issues, JICA conducted the Study for the Development of the Master Plan for the Kabul Metropolitan Area from 2008 to 2009.” The study was in response to a request from the Afghan government, aimed at reconstruction and development of the Kabul Metropolitan Area as a symbol of national integration.

In February 2010, JICA concluded an agreement with the Afghan government to implement a Technical Cooperation project entitled the Project on the Promotion of Kabul Metropolitan Area Development. This large-scale, five-year project (2010- 2014) to develop capacity to realize the master plan

has gotten underway. In the project, JICA has been supporting improvement of Afghanistan’s capacity in the development of infrastructure, implementation of new city development and urban revitalization. JICA will build a solid

foundation for the Kabul Metropolitan Area Development scheme through an appropriate combination of human resource development and steady urban improvement.



Candidate site for a new city (Dehsabz)

cooperation to provide continuous seamless support ranging from disaster emergency response to recovery and reconstruction as well as building disaster prevention structures. JICA regards its assistance for disaster response and prevention as a type of intellectual property that Japan should transmit to the world, and will strengthen its efforts in this area as a form of support that benefits the international public interest within the global community.

### Initiative for Reducing Poverty: Contributing to the Attainment of the MDGs

#### Progress of the MDGs

The United Nations Millennium Summit was convened in New York in September 2000 with the participation of 189 nations. There are now five years remaining until the agreed-upon 2015 attainment period for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were formulated with a view to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, a target for the international community in the 21st century. Through initiatives carried out to date by each country and institution, a certain amount of progress is being made toward attaining each

target, beginning with a reduction in poverty, including expectations that the population of the world's most poor will decline from 1.8 billion in 1990 to 920 million in 2015. However, initiatives have lagged in other areas, including achieving universal primary education, improving maternal health and preventing infectious diseases and providing access to safe water. Regionally, delays are serious in fragile countries, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa and in South Asia.

Moreover, the impact of world circumstances, including concerns about an increase in the proportion of poor and starving following the financial and economic crises in 2008 and the effects of the crises on maternal health, in addition to climate change, conflicts and natural disasters such as the Haiti earthquake in January 2010, are having a large effect on progress toward achieving the MDGs. Therefore, the world must now make greater efforts with even stronger determination to attain these goals.

#### Initiatives toward Achieving Targets

The past 10 years (2000–2010) was a period of large growth for

Case Study

### Promoting Rice Cultivation in Africa

Uganda: Rice Promotion Programs (NERICA Rice Promotion Project in Uganda/Technical Assistance Support to Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture Development Project in Eastern Uganda)

Just as in other African countries, poverty and food shortages are major issues in Uganda. The staple food in Uganda is plantain bananas, maize and cassava. However, in recent years, the consumption of rice, which is easier than other staple foods to cook, has shown a steady increase, particularly in urban areas. As a result, demand for rice has outpaced domestic production and imports have risen, leading to an outflow of foreign reserves. On the other hand, because rice can be sold at higher prices than other staple crops, the production of rice enables farmers not only to secure their own food, but also to earn valuable cash income needed for educational and other expenses.

Compared with other countries in eastern Africa, Uganda is relatively blessed with water resources. Nevertheless, many regions lack sufficient rainfall or do not have irrigation facilities, and therefore rice cannot be cultivated in paddies like in Japan. Accordingly, the Rice Promotion Program encourages the cultivation of both paddy rice cultivated in paddies and upland rice cultivated in fields.

In supporting upland rice cultivation, JICA dispatched experts to train researchers crucial in promoting rice cultivation in Uganda. Concurrently, JICA is promoting NERICA\* rice cultivation among farmers through the provision of equipment and materials necessary for such technical support. For paddy rice cultivation, JICA aims to increase yields in pilot regions

in the eastern province by providing technical assistance to extension workers and small farmers. This assistance includes fundamental paddy rice cultivation techniques, such as rice paddy leveling, bund making and line planting, as well as methods for maintaining irrigation channels and the use of basic agricultural equipment.

JICA regards Uganda as a leading country within its plan to double rice production in Africa. Besides dispatching experts, JICA is providing assistance for broadening the

base for rice cultivation by dispatching Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers to promote the spread of NERICA rice cultivation, as well as by establishing the Rice Research and Training Centre.

\*NERICA (New Rice for Africa): An upland rice variety developed in 1992 through the hybridization of African and Asian rice. NERICA combines the high yields of Asian rice with the strong disease and drought resistance of African varieties. This rice is expected to play a valuable role in promoting rice cultivation in Africa, which depends on rain-fed cultivation.



NERICA in an agricultural test site in Uganda cultivated under the technical assistance of a Japanese expert (Photo by Yuji Shinoda)



the world economy. The world GDP, which stood at approximately US\$32 trillion in 2000, doubled to about US\$60 trillion over the 10-year period to 2010. During this decade, the GDP of Asia, excluding Japan, has tripled from around US\$3 trillion to US\$10 trillion. This growth in Asia has contributed to a decline in the number of people living in extreme poverty. On the other hand, although Africa's GDP rose from US\$0.6 trillion in 2000 to US\$1.6 trillion in 2010, this accounted for only around 3% of the world economy. Moreover, the poverty rate in Sub-Saharan Africa has failed to significantly improve, declining from 56% in 1990 to 51% in 2005, with 400 million people still living on income of less than US\$1 per day.

A variety of factors are considered to underlie Asia's continued breathtaking development. These include the creation of relatively peaceful and stable societies, the establishment of economic infrastructures and legal systems and the securing of funds needed for cultivating human resources and development. Providing in-depth support to ensure sustainable growth and assure that the fruits of this growth reach each person will contribute significantly to the attainment of the MDGs.

From soft components (raising capabilities and improving structures through Technical Assistance) to hard components (establishing infrastructures through financial aid), JICA can provide the support needed by developing countries to achieve sustainable growth and ensure that the benefits of this growth reach each person. In regions such as Asia, where upper-middle-income countries are increasing, JICA is carrying out development assistance aimed at correcting disparities while promoting economic growth.

On the other hand, in regions such as Africa with its numerous

impoverished countries, JICA is providing assistance for eliminating bottlenecks to poverty improvements and realizing fair and sustainable economic growth while striving to support basic social services such as providing access to healthcare, education and safe drinking water. By doing so, JICA will strive to further contribute to the attainment of the MDGs.

In the post-MDGs era after 2015, Africa is expected to continue requiring assistance. Besides traditional MDGs, such global-scale public affairs as climate change and biodiversity will also be matters of common concern. There is also likely to be ongoing focus on building peace through equitable growth and continuously reducing poverty and supporting fragile states through this growth. While remaining aware of co-existence, JICA will continue to make its utmost efforts to attain these goals.

#### Initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa

The African continent, especially Sub-Saharan Africa, is most likely to be the only continent unable to attain most of the MDGs if the current tendency persists according to *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2009* compiled by the United Nations; in contrast, Southeast Asia is expected to achieve nine, and North Africa 11 out of 18 targets. Clearly, development of Africa is crucial, even in comparison with other regions in achieving the MDGs.

Japan's assistance strategy for Africa centers around “Boosting Economic Growth,” “Achieving the MDGs” and “Environmental and Climate Change Issues,” as set forth at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in Yokohama on May 2008. JICA is intensifying its initiatives for achieving the MDGs in Sub-Saharan Africa by providing support

#### Case Study

### Medical Care Team Supports Regional Medical Care amid Enormous Devastation

#### Haiti: Earthquake Disaster

At 4:53 pm local time on January 12, 2010, a devastating magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck an area 25km west-southwest of the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince. Due in part to the epicenter's close proximity to the capital, the tremor caused massive devastation, claiming the lives of 222,517 people, injuring 310,928 and leaving over 3 million people as disaster victims.

At 11 am on January 14, the Japanese government decided to dispatch an assessment team to Haiti, and this team departed on the same date. On the following day, January 15, the Japanese government responded to a request from the Haitian government and dispatched a Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) medical care team on January 16. On January 17, the medical team commenced its activities inside the premises of a nursing

school in the city of Léogâne approximately 40km southwest of the capital. Over an eight-day period, the team provided medical treatment to a total of 534 persons, most of whom were suffering from serious injuries. The Japanese medical team supported medical care in the region in collaboration with teams from other countries. Of particular note, in response to requests from teams from various countries, the Japanese medical team played a large role in providing diagnoses using such devices as digital radiology machines and echo-imaging devices.

Haiti is one region to which UN peace-keeping operation (PKO) missions have been dispatched, as the country has grappled with security problems. However, the Japanese medical team was able to safely complete its activities under the protection of Sri Lankan

military and Canadian military.

Since there were needs for long-term medical assistance after the completion of JDR activities, medical care support was taken over by the Self Defense Force until February 13.



A child after completing a medical examination and a nurse



that steadily reaches people and achieves tangible results. In recent years, the adverse effects of food, financial and economic crises have stalled the progress already made in Sub-Saharan Africa. This reaffirmed the importance of supporting economic growth in achieving the MDGs as well as social development (education: goal 2, healthcare: goals 4, 5, 6). JICA is striving to contribute to realizing comprehensive growth through basic infrastructure development and agricultural assistance, including rice cultivation.

JICA can never address the enormous issues facing Sub-Saharan Africa alone. Therefore, it is indispensable for JICA to collaborate with other institutions to create synergies to pursue efficient and effective assistance on the ground. The TICAD process has been co-organized by the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank. JICA is advocating concerted efforts under the common objective of African development through the achievement of the MDGs via further collaboration while observing respective comparative advantages in the field.

### Collaboration with Business Targeting the BOP (Base of the Pyramid) (BOP Business, Microfinance)

It is said that the worldwide BOP (Base of the Pyramid), persons living on less than US\$3,000 annually, consists of approximately 4 billion people. In recent years, people in this segment have come to be regarded as the core focus, and there have been increased efforts by private-sector companies to carry out businesses serving this segment. In the BOP business, the BOP segment is regarded as latent consumers as well as part of the value chain, and companies provide products and services to this segment using various business methods. BOP business is expected to yield positive development effects that will lead to improvements for the subjects of development. These include improvements in the lives of persons in the BOP segment through the products and services provided by companies as well as increased opportunities for employment and starting up companies.

JICA will collaborate closely with Japanese private companies working to undertake businesses that can bring improvements

#### Case Study

### Programs for Supporting the Socially Vulnerable

#### Thailand: Project on Strengthening Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for Protection of Trafficked Persons in Thailand

According to one survey, every year approximately 800,000 persons worldwide are trafficked across national borders, with around slightly over 30% of these persons from the Asia-Pacific region. Moreover, many of the trafficked persons are children aged 18 and under who are coerced into prostitution or used for forced labor, and many of these persons contract infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

Thailand has experienced numerous cases of trafficking since the 1980s due to the country's geographical location and economic disparities with surrounding countries. Thailand is an origin, destination and transit country of trafficking in persons. As an origin country, Thai people are trafficked to countries such as Japan, the Middle East, the United States and Europe, among others. As a destination country, people from the neighboring countries such as Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar and Viet Nam are being trafficked to Thailand. As a transit country, people pass through Thailand on the way to their destination country such as the Republic of Korea or Malaysia. This makes the human trafficking situation extremely complicated.

Trafficking in persons must be addressed as a cross-border development issue, and in order to tackle this issue, comprehensive measures of "Prevention," "Protection of victims" and "Prosecution of traffickers" are absolutely essential. JICA is undertaking initiatives focused on the "Protection of victims" (identifying victims, providing shelter and care,

supporting job training, rehabilitation and social reintegration).

In 2008, the Thai government formulated the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act 2008 and in cooperation with governments, NGOs and international institutions established a Multi-Disciplinary-Team (MDT) to comprehensively address the problem of trafficking in persons. JICA is participating in this initiative and is implementing a Technical Cooperation project that aims to strengthen MDT functions to

provide better support to trafficked persons. Main activities are workshops and training for MDT members, development of MDT Operational Guidelines, nurturing of case managers, establishment of networks and sharing of information with countries in the Mekong region and Japan on the MDT approach experienced in Thailand.



Job training for rehabilitation and fostering the independence of protected children

in development-related issues faced by the BOP segment in developing countries to raise both the sustainability of these businesses and public benefits. Through these efforts, JICA believes it can contribute to economic and social development, and the achievement of the MDGs, thereby reducing poverty in developing countries.

Many persons in the BOP segment lack the collateral and guarantees to obtain financing and therefore have difficulty in obtaining financial services such as bank deposit accounts, loans and money transfer services. Growth in the microfinance business is driven by developing and providing financial products and services needed by people in the BOP segment. As exemplified by the success of the Grameen Bank that provides low-interest, uncollateralized loans, there are hopes that the microfinance

business can prevent people from falling into the abyss of poverty while enabling people to emerge from poverty.

The BOP business and microfinance are initiatives expected to contribute significantly to progress in achieving the MDGs in the future. Nonetheless, there is also a large risk in these businesses, precisely because these target the BOP segment in developing countries. A unified public-private partnership approach will be needed to continually provide services required by persons in the BOP segment at the appropriate prices. JICA will strengthen partnerships with private-sector companies and NGOs involved in these businesses while establishing structures, cultivating human resources and promoting financial cooperation.

## Case Study

## Supporting the Establishment of a Japanese-Style Science and Technology University

## Egypt: Project for Establishment of Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST)

**Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST) is a national university established in 2009 by the Egyptian government based on collaboration with Japan in line with Egypt’s efforts to promote science and technology. JICA has supported the establishment and operation of the university through a Technical Cooperation project (E-JUST Project).**

With the number of students at each national university in Egypt topping 100,000 per university and a particular shortage of facilities and equipment materials, the environment for research and education in the engineering field for science and technology in that country is inadequate. To improve this situation, the Egyptian government established E-JUST as a core university of science and technology with “Japanese-style” features such as “small-size classes,” “emphasis on postgraduate education” and “education based on research

laboratories.” JICA began providing support for E-JUST in 2008.

In supporting the establishment of E-JUST, JICA formed a consortium consisting of 12 Japanese national and private universities.\* Through this consortium, Japanese faculty have been dispatched to E-JUST, while Egyptian faculty members have been accepted by Japanese universities as fellowship programs. By adopting this approach, JICA and the consortium aim to promote a deeper understanding of Japanese-style engineering education and improve Egyptians’ capabilities in research laboratory operation and department management.

From among the 12 Japanese universities, specific universities were selected as a “main supporting university” to provide support for each of seven individual programs (Electronics and Communications Engineering, Mechatronics and Robotics Engineering, Energy Resources and Environmental

Engineering, Material and Science Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Systems Management, Chemical and Petrochemical Engineering, Computer Science Engineering), and a structure for providing systematic support is being established.

E-JUST began accepting students in February 2010. Student Mohammed Sallam, who is majoring in Mechatronics and Robotics Engineering, explains, “Classes are centered on experiments and I am pleased I can learn so much through practice.” Meanwhile, Waseda University associate professor Hiroyasu Iwata voiced his hopes, “The students have a high eagerness to learn everything just like a sponge that absorbs water. I would like to see students obtain knowledge that allows them to organically combine theory and *monozukuri* (manufacturing).”

\*Tokyo Institute of Technology, Waseda University, Kyoto University, Kyushu University, Hokkaido University, Tohoku University, University of Tokyo, Keio University, Nagoya University, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Ritsumeikan University and Osaka University



Mubarak City Scientific Research and Technology Applications, site of E-JUST's temporary campus



Faculty members from both Japan and Egypt provide instruction for a seminar for the Electronics and Communications Engineering program.