

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.