

The Role JICA Should Play

Economies and security guarantees, previously centering on single countries, as well as the state of public affairs, are undergoing a fundamental paradigm shift, as relationships of mutual interdependence and mutual supplementation for the entire world are advancing simultaneously both at the national level and community level. JICA will respond flexibly to such changing times and meet the expectations of people, and to fulfill this mission will take its utmost efforts to promote the following initiatives in addition to the various initiatives undertaken to the present.

People's Expectations of JICA

Comprehensive and All-Inclusive Approaches that Reach All Citizens

JICA is one of the world's few assistance organizations capable of integrated planning and implementation of Technical Cooperation projects and financial cooperation projects.

In development projects, it is crucial to plan and implement projects that achieve a good balance among its constituent elements (people, materials and money). This includes cultivating human resources; establishing policies and organizational systems;

establishing infrastructures; and procuring program funds. JICA is capable of comprehensively undertaking this type of assistance. Moreover, the experiences gained and networks (information) developed from long years of involvement in development projects are JICA assets to be shared with various development partners. Utilizing these accumulated assistance resources, JICA is implementing assistance that organically combines both policy and system improvements with the establishment of infrastructure and is promoting cooperation to ensure the benefits of development reach all citizens. Concurrently, JICA is working to strengthen information transmission capabilities of domestic institutions, beginning with the JICA Research Institute, and strives to share its various development experiences with a diverse range of partners in Japan and overseas.

JICA was one topic of discussion at the Japanese government's budget screening process under the Government Revitalization Unit in 2009. Although JICA was asked to further enhance efficiency in the ways programs are implemented and its organization operational methods, it was also confirmed during this screening process that there were no problems related to the actual roles and significance of JICA's programs. JICA will continue to firmly fulfill the roles with

Case Study

Switching from Coal to Natural Gas, Introducing High-Efficiency Cogeneration Facilities

China: Beijing Environmental Improvement Project

China is experiencing rising demand for energy in step with its economic growth and is said to be the world's top country in terms of CO₂ emissions. China especially uses a large amount of coal, which is a cause of environmental pollution such as acid rain. The Chinese government is working to reduce emissions of CO₂ and environmental pollutants by switching from coal-burning boilers to boilers fuelled by clean energy (natural gas).

Responding to this policy of the Chinese government, in 2002 JICA provided an ODA Loan for the Beijing Environmental Improvement Project, which targets industrial and residential areas within the Beijing Electronic Zone in northeast Beijing. In this region, numerous aging small coal-fired boilers were used and these were one of the causes of environmental pollution in Beijing. With the participation of Japanese companies possessing advanced energy-conservation technologies, the Chinese government introduced Beijing's first natural gas cogeneration facility (gas combined cycle: heat produced along with power generation is also recovered and reused). This facility not only provides electricity but also supplies hot water to the surrounding industrial regions and households. The cogeneration facility began

operating in winter 2008. As a result, 102 of 128 small coal-fired boilers were removed from operation, enabling an annual 300,000-ton reduction in coal use and a 200,000-ton reduction in CO₂ emissions.

Ji Peng, chairman of the Beijing Municipal People's Government, which is executing the project, gave high praise, stating, "I am

impressed by the high level of Japan's energy-conservation technologies and the diligence and integrity of the Japanese people. I would like to expand the introduction of cogeneration systems to other regions using this project as a model."



A new cogeneration facility. With consideration given to minimizing noise in the surrounding areas, the facility's gas turbine has been enclosed inside a large case (far right).