

Partnerships with NGOs and Other Organizations

Cooperation with New Leaders of International Cooperation

Partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are becoming increasingly important in working toward the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and addressing the issue of “human security.” NGOs possess the strengths, experience and knowledge for responding flexibly and quickly to the needs of local residents who are beyond the reach of services provided by governments and public institutions. Cooperation with NGOs is now becoming indispensable for implementing effective ODA projects, especially in such fields as education, healthcare and community development support, as well as peacebuilding and reconstruction assistance. JICA is promoting cooperation with NGOs in a variety of forms.

JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

Joint Implementation of Overseas Development Projects

JICA implements JPP projects jointly with Japanese organizations which have experience in international cooperation and a strong desire to implement development programs, including NGOs, universities, local government entities and public-interest corporations. JPP is based on proposals from these experienced organizations, which helps benefit the local residents in developing countries. In fiscal 2009, JICA implemented 190 programs in 46 countries.



Rural development through the joint production and shipment of vegetables by local women (International Volunteer Center of Yamagata)
(left) Shipments delivered to a contract hotel
(right) Regular meeting of women union members

NGO-JICA Japan Desk

Supporting Activities of Japanese NGOs

JICA has “NGO-JICA Japan Desks” in 24 countries to support the activities of Japanese NGOs in developing countries. These desks offer consultation and information on various aspects, for example, on local laws, local systems, the social situation and the state of local NGO activities. The services provided by these desks are helpful for NGOs in implementing JPP projects.

Organizational and Capacity Building Activities

Strengthening Human Resources and Organization for Better International Cooperation

To support international cooperation activities by NGOs and citizen groups, JICA provides a variety of support programs. These include Project Cycle Management (PCM) method training; training for organizational strengthening through human resource development (Training for Raising Public Relations Capabilities of Local NGOs); and dispatching of advisors with special expertise. In fiscal 2009, 286 persons participated in the training courses and advisors were dispatched to 24 organizations.

NGO-JICA Dialogue Meeting

Promoting Equal Partnerships

JICA emphasizes the importance of dialogue between NGOs for ensuring deeper mutual understanding and promoting excellent collaboration. Therefore, JICA exchanges opinions and information with NGOs on regional and sectoral issues through its headquarters, overseas offices and domestic offices. Also, JICA holds a quarterly dialogue meeting with NGOs, where both sides discuss the effective cooperation and promotion of equal partnerships.

Partnerships in Japan

Cultivating Understanding for the Citizens in Developing Countries

JICA collaborates with Japanese NGOs within Japan as well. As a primary characteristic, Japanese NGOs have a strong tie with the Japanese local community. By utilizing this relationship, NGOs share their experiences at community events and awareness-raising venues, where Japanese citizens have the opportunity to deepen their understanding and empathy toward developing countries. The 17 JICA domestic offices serve as a focal point for NGO-JICA collaboration within Japan. (Refer also to page 148, Citizen Participatory Cooperation).

JICA Donation Fund for the People of the World

Utilizing Donations from Citizens

JICA has set up the JICA Donation Fund for the People of the World to receive donations from citizens, enabling citizens to have better access to participate in international cooperation. The donations are used to support Japanese civil society groups’ activities in order to

improve the livelihood, healthcare, education, and environment of developing countries. In fiscal 2009, the fund supported 12 projects.

Case Study

Supporting Community-Led Initiatives to Improve Healthcare Environment

Community-Based Healthcare Program and Program for Improving Livelihoods in Payatas, Philippines (Partnership Type JPP Program)

Creating a Sustainable System for Improving the Healthcare Environment

Situated in the suburbs of Quezon City in the Philippines' capital of Metro Manila, Payatas is home to the largest garbage dumpsite in the Philippines. Numerous scavengers earn their living by collecting and selling recyclable items. However, income from these activities is a mere 100 pesos per day (approximately ¥200), which is only around one-fourth of the minimum wage. Moreover, because of the poor living environment around the dumpsite, many residents suffer from health problems that include skin diseases, respiratory illnesses and infectious diseases.

In response to this situation, the Intercommunication Center for Asia and Nippon (ICAN) (head office: Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture), a Japanese NGO working in Payatas since 1996, launched a JPP project to provide medical examination, health education, tuberculosis control and childcare support in cooperation with local residents who have completed healthcare training courses (community healthcare volunteers). In addition, to ensure that these activities will continue to be carried out by local residents, ICAN established a community cooperative association so that the profits from the association are allocated to healthcare activities. The program is helping the sustainable efforts by the residents in order to improve the poor health conditions of the community (implementation period of the program: November 2007 – October 2010).

Widening Scope of Cooperation between NGOs and JICA

The partnership between ICAN and JICA is taking shape in a variety of forms besides JPP, such as through JICA's Teacher Overseas Training, fairtrade events, International Cooperation College events, Training for Raising Public Relations Capabilities of Local NGOs and NGO Human Resources Development Training program, as well as through ICAN's Symposium for Peace on

Mindanao, Illustration Letters and domestic briefing sessions. In addition, from fiscal 2010, collaboration has started between ICAN, which serves as a counselor for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and JICA's Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) and Coordinators for International Cooperation (domestic liaison officers). Opportunities are growing in which Japanese citizens work to address cross-border issues from each of their local communities.



Residents who have undergone training are active in community healthcare activities.