

Glossary

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

An international non-governmental organization (NGO), which signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with JICA to strengthen their working relationship.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

An international financial institution whose purpose is the promotion of economic and social development in Asian countries. ADB carries out lending on a semi-commercial basis.

Capacity Development

The process by which a developing country strengthens its own capacity for solving development issues. In contrast to capacity building, which is driven from the outside, capacity development refers to the endogenous process of a developing country improving the capacity of individuals, institutions, systems and society as a whole. JICA's cooperation plays a role in supporting developing countries' efforts at capacity development as a facilitator for such efforts.

Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)

One of the Kyoto Mechanisms—specified in the Kyoto Protocol—for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This mechanism enables a developed country to provide funds or technology for a project that contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in a developing country. In return, the developed country can use all or a part of the certified emissions reductions achieved by the project to meet its emissions targets.

Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)

A consultative grouping of bilateral and multilateral donors, research institutions and other organizations, which aims to promote rice cultivation in Africa via information sharing, harmonization of existing initiatives and projects, and advocacy for further investment.

(Please refer to page 118: Rural Development)

Cool Earth Partnership

At the World Economic Forum's annual meeting held in Davos, Switzerland, in January 2008, then Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda announced the Cool Earth Partnership fund of approximately US\$10 billion to be implemented over a five-year period. The fund will be used to support efforts for combating climate change.

Counterpart

Refers to government officials and technicians from partner countries in international cooperation projects who receive policy advice and technology transfer through such projects.

Developing Countries

Countries whose level of economic development is low compared with developed countries. Although this term is commonly used in reference to developing countries, JICA generally uses it in reference to countries and regions in Part I of the DAC List of ODA Recipients.

Development Assistance Committee (DAC)

A forum for aid donor countries to discuss issues surrounding aid, development and poverty reduction in developing countries. Japan became a member in 1964.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

A specialized agency of the United Nations. FAO's mission is stated as: "achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts—to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives."

Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)

An agricultural research support organization formed under the auspices of the African Union.

Governance

This refers to the building and management of a country's overall framework of institutions to facilitate stability and development. Good governance should enable the efficient mobilization, allocation and management of a country's resources while also reflecting the will of its citizens. Governance also refers to a government's systems for cooperation between government agencies, civil society and the private sector as well as mechanisms for decision-making. Governance encompasses three main dimensions—the national political system, the capability of the government to formulate and implement policy, and systems relating to the interaction between the government and civil society and the private sector.

Gross National Income (GNI)

The total value of goods and services produced by the citizens of a country domestically and overseas during a specified period.

Gross National Product (GNP)

A monetary measure of a country's economic activity during a specified period. May be simply explained as the total sum of money spent within a country during a period.

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

A United Nations specialized agency whose purpose is to provide comparatively short-term funding facilities to member countries necessary to ensure trade payments and other normal financial flows are maintained.

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Established in 1960. A training and research organization focusing on rice growing.

Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)

A national institute that undertakes comprehensive research on agriculture, forestry and fisheries technology in developing countries, particularly focusing on tropical and subtropical regions.

Master Plan

A master plan is formulated as the basic plan for the implementation of many types of long-term development projects.

Medium-developed Countries

Refers to countries whose GNP per capita exceeds US\$3,035 (1995 World Bank estimate).

Medium-term Policy on ODA

Articulates Japan's ODA priority issues and approach for each region. The Medium-term Policy on ODA was formulated and announced in 2005 based on the ODA Charter. It sets out Japan's basic thinking on ODA.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

These serve as the goals of the international community for the 21st century. They draw together the United Nations Millennium Declaration and earlier international development targets agreed at major international summits during the 1990s, forming a unified common framework. There are eight MDGs, which the international community has agreed to achieve by 2015.

NERICA

Acronym for the New Rice for Africa Project. It mainly refers to new upland (dry) rice cultivars but research and development is also being conducted into wetland rice varieties. The NERICA project has developed hybrid rice varieties by crossing high-yielding Asian varieties with African varieties, which are resistant to drought, disease and pests. The new varieties are expected to contribute significantly to the advancement of rice as an important staple in Africa.

New ODA Charter

The revised ODA Charter was approved by the Cabinet in 2003. It clarifies the ideals and principles of Japan's ODA.

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

A development vision for Africa formulated through African leadership. Based on the joint responsibility of member countries and a spirit of mutual benefit.

ODA Graduate Country

In principle, this refers to countries that achieve gross national product (GNP) per capita of approximately US\$10,000 and are classified above the World Bank high-income-country threshold for three consecutive years. Such countries are removed from the DAC List of ODA Recipients.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Loans

Bilateral cooperation in the form of a concessionary government loan to a developing country. Typically, ODA loans have a low interest rate and long repayment period. Loans are used to fund development. Japan's ODA loans are in the form of ODA loans or private-sector investment finance.

One Stop Border Post (OSBP)

Persons, vehicles and goods make a single stop to exit one country and enter another. Customs, quarantine and immigration controls are carried out jointly by the two bordering countries to streamline border-crossing procedures.

Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP)

In September 1999, the development committees of the World Bank and IMF introduced the preparation of PRSP as a requirement for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) seeking debt relief under the HIPC Initiative. A PRSP sets out a country's own policies for poverty reduction and is prepared by a country's government through a participatory process involving civil society and development partners. PRSP are generally updated every three years.

Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP)

This program was established in 2002 to promote aid that is identifiably Japanese. It does so by drawing on Japan's advanced technology and know-how in technology transfer projects with developing countries.

Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)

An international forum focusing on African development. Since 1993, TICAD has been co-hosted by the Government of Japan together with the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and other agencies. TICAD has been held every five years since 1993, with TICAD IV being held in Yokohama in 2008.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1946 to provide emergency food and healthcare to children in countries that had been devastated by World War II. UNICEF provides long-term humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and mothers in developing countries.

West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA)

An international agricultural research organization established in 1971 by 11 African countries.

World Bank

The world's largest development assistance agency. Carries out lending to member-country central governments and agencies that have received debt guarantees by those governments.

World Food Programme (WFP)

The United Nations' food aid agency, which strives to eradicate hunger and malnutrition.

World Health Organization (WHO)

A United Nations specialized agency whose purpose is to combat disease on a worldwide scale and enhance health and nutritional standards through international cooperation.

World Trade Organization (WTO)

An international organization established in 1995 to promote non-discriminatory free trade. As of September 2009, WTO had 153 member countries and regions.