

Glossary

A African Union (AU)

The world's largest regional organization comprised of 53 member countries and regions in Africa. Headquarters in Ethiopia's capital city of Addis Ababa. Inaugurated with the reorganization and enhancement of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in July 2002. In January 2010, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was integrated into the AU. The organization has since increased its role in development. AUC is the commission of the AU.

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.

B Base of the Pyramid (BOP)

People living in poverty with incomes below US\$3,000 a year. Approximately four billion people around the world are estimated to form the BOP. "BOP business" refers to business which has the potential to improve a variety of issues that face people in poverty in developing countries as well as people who are excluded from society and development processes.

C Capacity Development (CD)

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.

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 tackling 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.

D 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)

An international committee comprised of aid donor countries to discuss issues surrounding aid, development and poverty reduction in developing countries. It is one of the three major committees of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Japan became a member in 1964 at the same time it became a member of the OECD.

E Education for All (EFA)

An international initiative commenced in 1990 with the aim of providing education opportunities to people around the world. Specifically, the current EFA has established six goals to be achieved by all countries and regions by 2015, including ensuring access to and complete free and compulsory primary education, eliminating gender disparities in education, and achieving a 50% improvement in levels of adult literacy (The Dakar Framework for Action). To achieve these goals, the international community is working together on a variety of initiatives. These goals are also identified in Goals 2 and 3 of the MDGs.

Emerging Countries

Developing countries which achieved rapid economic growth in recent years in such regions as Central and South America, Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe.

F 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."

G 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.

I 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.

M 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).

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.

N NERICA Rice

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 Growth Strategy

A policy for promoting the growth of the Japanese economy. The Japanese government announced the basic policies in December 2009. The six strategic areas are: Strategy for becoming an environment and energy power through green innovation; Health power strategy through life innovation; Asian economic strategy; Strategies for promoting a tourism-oriented nation and local revitalization; Science-and-technology-oriented nation strategy; and Employment and human resources strategies.

O ODA Graduate Country

The List of ODA Recipients created by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) consists of two parts. Part I lists the countries included in the United Nations target for aid of 0.7% of Gross National Product (GNP), and Part II lists the remaining recipient countries of aid. Countries which developed further and progressed from Part I to Part II are referred to as ODA graduate countries.

ODA Review Final Report

A set of recommendations presented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in June 2010 regarding the way forward for ODA in view of the changes in the domestic and international environments. The report discusses, among other items, the ODA philosophy, priorities, strengthened cooperation with the private sector and NGOs, strategic and effective aid, information disclosure, and wider public participation in ODA activities.

P Public Private Partnership (PPP)

Utilizing the private sector for the provision of public services, PPP is a method of implementing programs through the coordination of the public and private sectors. It includes a wide range of schemes which are tailored to the level of participation of the private business, ranging from a simple consignment of a project to build-operate-transfer (BOT) and full privatization. "PPP infrastructure project" refers to infrastructure projects implemented through the coordination of the public and private sectors by utilizing the private sector for the provision of public services.

S Sound Material-Cycle Society

A society that decreases consumption of natural resources and reduces environmental burden. The Japanese government established the Basic Act on Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society in 2000 to serve as a vision for the society's way forward in place of the traditional concept of the mass production, mass consumption and mass disposal society. The practical action guideline for realizing this sound material-cycle society called for the 3Rs of reduce, reuse and recycle.

South-South Cooperation

The implementation of cooperation programs for least developed countries lagging behind in development by middle-income developing countries which are relatively more developed through the use of their own development experience and human resources.

Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP)

Terms for ODA Loans introduced in 2002 to raise the visibility of Japan's ODA through technical transfers for developing countries by utilizing Japan's advanced technologies and know-how. More concessional terms are applied compared with Japan's tied procurement and other loan terms.

T 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.

Triangular Cooperation

The implementation of cooperation programs by Japan, jointly with other donors and international organizations, aimed at the further development of developing countries.

U United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

A United Nations organization which provides assistance to children with a focus on health in developing countries, through improving nutrition, supplying drinking water, promoting the welfare of mothers and children, and providing education, among other approaches.

W 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.