

East Asia — Strengthening of Strategic Partnerships Aiming for a Mutually Beneficial Relationship

China must deal with numerous issues including environmental problems resulting from the country's dramatic economic growth, as Mongolia advances toward rapid development underpinned by its abundant mineral resources. The consistent and sustained development of these countries has become increasingly important for Japan as well as the world.

JICA's cooperation in this region is contributing to building stronger economic relationships with China and Mongolia that are both reciprocal and mutually complementary. Furthermore, as China becomes increasingly influential as an emerging donor, JICA is promoting dialogues, seminars and other measures to strengthen collaboration with China as fellow donor nations.

Key Aid Strategies

Support regional stability and growth that is sound and sustained

China

The Government of Japan established the Economic Cooperation Program for China in October 2001 with emphasis on six sectors. Based on China's economic growth and technological progress in recent years, JICA is currently concentrating on the following three priority areas. Cooperation is extended with regard to shared challenges faced by both countries (for example, measures against pollution, yellow sand, and infectious diseases that cross into Japan, and the resolution of other such issues, as well as the creation of systems and standards to increase the predictability of companies that enter the Chinese market) and promoting mutual understanding at multiple levels.

(1) Cooperation to confront global issues such as infectious diseases and environmental problems

(2) Assistance for the open and reform policy (including promotion of good governance)

(3) Promotion of mutual understanding

Mongolia

JICA is focusing on cooperation on areas in accordance with the three priority areas stated in the Mongolia Aid Policy announced in April 2012.

(1) Sustainable development of the mining sector and enhancement of governance: Establish systems and train personnel to achieve sustainable development of mineral resources, the key element of Mongolia's economic advancement, as well as establish systems for the proper management of revenues from natural resources.

(2) Assistance for inclusive growth: Create employment primarily

JICA Programs in East Asia (Fiscal 2011)

East Asia

Total: **45,896**

(Unit: millions of yen)

Mongolia **7,341** (16.0%)

China **38,555** (84.0%)

The figure shows the total value of JICA programs in each country including Technical Cooperation (Training Participants, Experts, Study Teams, Provision of Equipment, JOCV and Other Volunteers, and Other costs), ODA Loans (Disbursements) and Grant Aid (Newly concluded G/A Agreements).

Note: Figures in parentheses denote the percentage share of overall JICA programs in the region.

Note: Figures exclude JICA's cooperation for multiple countries and international organizations.



at SMEs and smaller companies to diversify industrial activities, and improve basic social services.

- (3) Enhancement of the capacity and function of Ulaanbaatar as an urban center: Improve the city's infrastructure facilities, and upgrade urban planning and management capabilities.

Country Overviews and Priority Issues

Major projects in this region for priority issues are as follows.

China

The Project for Promotion of Municipal Solid Waste Recycling: The goal of this project is to promote proper management of urban waste materials and recycling (reuse) of waste materials. In addition, the project supports the establishment of national policy and legislative systems through joint research and exchange of Japanese and Chinese experts.

Mongolia

Project for Capacity Development of Business Persons through Mongolia-Japan Center for Human Resources Development: In this project, JICA provides professional development training through the Mongolia-Japan Center for Human Resources Development, constructed through Grant Aid, to nurture individuals who can play key roles in the creation of a market economy. The center offers business courses and provides assistance to SMEs and microenterprises.

New Ulaanbaatar International Airport Construction Project: Construction of a new airport in Ulaanbaatar will improve the safety and reliability of air access for the capital city and provide greater convenience for travelers, contributing to further economic development in Mongolia.

Case Study

China Environment Construction at Co-existent Areas of Human Beings and Crested Ibis

For Co-existence of People and Crested Ibis

The beautiful Crested Ibis often referred to as the “jewel of the Orient,” is in danger of extinction, and her protection is a global agenda. Although Crested Ibis was thought to be extinct in China, seven birds were found in the Shaanxi province in 1981. Since then, continuous effort has raised the population to more than 1,600. The current seven crested ibis in Japan are the descendants of these birds in China. Japan and China have been cooperating for more than 30 years for this endangered species.

The success in restoring the population has been remarkable worldwide. However, this protection effort has caused another problem. Since Crested Ibis feeds in paddy fields, restrictions in the application of

fertilizers and chemicals result in the income drops from these fields. China is currently struggling with such difficulties in co-existence of human lives and the birds protection.



A crested ibis in flight (photo taken in Shaanxi Province, China)

In 2010, JICA initiated a five-year project to assist Chinese government to tackle the issue in both Shaanxi and Henan provinces. Supports include breeding and protecting Crested Ibis in the region, as well as restoring paddy fields and supporting organic agriculture. The project also has environmental education program for elementary school students in order to foster an understanding of Crested Ibis.

In Japan, the city of Sado in Niigata Prefecture is well known as a Crested Ibis habitat, and programs are underway to facilitate the co-existence of people and Crested Ibis. For instance, the area produces a brand of rice that is grown in a safe environment for the birds. The community also promotes Crested Ibis to attract tourists and for environmental education for children. In the city of Toyooka in Hyogo Prefecture, similar activities to protect Oriental Stork have produced benefits and succeeded in revitalizing the area. Chinese government and people show high interests in these initiatives in Sado and Toyooka. The project in China continues to further facilitate mutual learning of people in Japan and China, and create an abundant environment for coexistence of people and Crested Ibis.