

# Follow-up Cooperation

## Follow-up Cooperation Adds Value to Projects

### Post-Project Support

Cooperation projects conducted by JICA are completed after a predetermined period of time. JICA carries out ongoing monitoring after a project has ended to assess the partner country's self-help efforts in maintaining and enhancing the results of the project. JICA also provides indirect support and supplementary support when necessary. Such support is referred to as "Follow-up Cooperation," which may be broadly divided into two categories.

#### 1. Follow-up Cooperation to Solve Problems with Facilities and Equipment

This type of cooperation involves working with the partner country to solve problems that may have arisen with facilities constructed by or equipment provided through Japan's cooperation projects. Such problems can occur owing to a variety of factors, including damage caused by natural disasters, shortage of financial resources in the partner country due to a worsening economic situation, or problems with the use and maintenance of the facilities or equipment.

For Tuvalu, Grant Aid was used to build the inter-island ferry *Manufolau*. This vessel was given to Tuvalu in fiscal 2001 to assist in the transport of people and goods within this island nation.

The government of Tuvalu, which operates and maintains the ferry, uses this vessel for about 50 voyages each year that transport almost 4,000 passengers and approximately 3,000 cubic meters of cargo. However, the government had to shift priority to urgently needed repairs for another inter-island ferry that was constructed in 1987. Allocating maintenance funds for the *Manufolau* became difficult as a result. There were concerns about problems involving repairs to the engine and other key components affecting the ferry's operations. To prevent these problems, JICA extended Follow-up Cooperation to supply replacement parts and send repair technicians.

JICA had to take *Manufolau* to neighboring Fiji because Tuvalu

has no dock for repairing ships. In Fiji, technicians worked on the engine, pumps, oil-water separator and other major parts of the vessel. In addition, the crew of the *Manufolau* received more training to improve their maintenance skills. Following these activities, this inter-island ferry is once again providing safe and reliable transportation services that are a vital lifeline for the people of Tuvalu.

#### 2. Follow-up Cooperation to Expand Project Benefits

Another type of Follow-up Cooperation is the provision of additional support to the partner country to add new value to a completed project or training program in line with the project goal, thereby promoting and expanding the benefits that accrue from a project.

As part of cooperation to assist in fighting crime in Brazil, JICA has conducted two projects in this country between 2005 and 2011: the Project on Community Police of Public Security and the Project on Implementation of Community Policing Using the Koban (Police Box) System. The objectives were to use the Japanese community police system, which is centered on police boxes, in Brazil and extend this system to all areas of the country.

To disseminate the benefits of these multi-year projects in Central American countries, which face an urgent need to fight crime and share many cultural and social characteristics with Brazil, JICA and associated organizations in Brazil provided Follow-up Cooperation. The goal is to use the benefits of these multi-year projects in Brazil in Central American countries. In March 2012, government officials and police officers from Central American countries went to Brazil to observe Japanese-style community police activities that use police boxes. Seeing these activities gave these people a better understanding of the effectiveness of this system. As a result, relationships were strengthened among Brazil, Central American countries and JICA. An agreement was reached to continue providing assistance for improving community police activities in Central



The *Manufolau* inter-island ferry sits at a dock in Fiji for repairs (Tuvalu)



Individuals from Central American countries listen to a presentation on community police activities (Brazil).

America.

JICA Kansai (formerly called JICA Osaka) is extending support involving training programs for emergency and disaster response medical care. Cooperation entails the preparation of an action plan for teaching trainees from other countries about Japan's emergency and disaster response medical care systems so that this know-how can be used in their home countries. In 2008, individuals from the Public Health Bureau of the Thai province of Phuket attended this program. These people had experienced the difficulties of disaster response medical care following the catastrophic Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004. The participants were very impressed with Japan's disaster response medical team system and are now working hard on establishing a Thai version of this system in Phuket. Thus far, about 350 health care professionals from all over Thailand have completed basic training about the disaster response medical team system. Due to this training, these teams are playing a key role in responding to disasters in Thailand, including the widespread flooding of 2011.

To support further improvements in Thailand's disaster response medical team activities, JICA provided Follow-up Cooperation in December 2011. Instructors from the Osaka Prefecture Saiseikai Senri Hospital and other organizations that assisted in JICA Kansai's training program were sent to Thailand. The instructors gave practical lessons and conducted drills for 138 health care professionals from all over Thailand. Training also included lessons learned from emergency health care services provided after the Great East Japan Earthquake. Health care professionals who received this training made possible by this Follow-up Cooperation have the skills to become supervisors for disaster response medical teams throughout Thailand.



Training for individuals who can become supervisors for disaster response medical teams (Thailand)

### Support for Alumni Associations of Former Training Program Participants

Follow-up Cooperation also includes support for alumni associations for ex-participants in JICA's Training and Dialogue programs in Japan. Since the program's establishment, JICA has hosted in Japan more than 280,000 training program participants from developing countries. These participants will play a key role in the future development of their respective countries while also functioning as "important human assets" that serve as bridges connecting Japan with many countries

around the world. To maintain and develop friendships with these ex-participants, who have gained a positive understanding of Japan, as well as to support the ongoing enhancement of the skills and knowledge they acquired in Japan, JICA supports the formation and maintenance of alumni associations of ex-participants in their home countries. As of 2011, there were 130 such alumni associations around the world.

At many of these alumni associations, participants returning from training programs in Japan serve as instructors at study sessions and share their knowledge of JICA activities in their home countries and the results of their own training through the alumni association's website, newsletter or annual meetings.

JICA collaborates with these alumni associations, which it recognizes as valuable human assets, to further enhance the effectiveness of its cooperation projects.

For example, the alumni association in Lebanon (Leba-JICA) holds a joint workshop every year that is also attended by alumni association members in other Middle Eastern countries. Each workshop focuses on a different theme, such as climate change and water management. Workshop participants study good practices and the latest information from Japan as well as initiatives in countries represented at the workshop. These events help upgrade the technological know-how of ex-participants of JICA training and allow them to share their knowledge and experiences. Furthermore, results of these workshops are used to submit suggestions to Middle Eastern countries. Overall, these workshops are an extremely valuable opportunity to hold discussions that can lead to solutions for challenges that all countries in this region need to resolve.

In February 2012, the theme of the joint workshop was "Japanese industries in the Eyes of the Arabs." There were presentations by participants from five countries and regions. In addition, participants heard a presentation about Japanese industry by two Senior Volunteers currently assigned to Jordan. Information about activities in the Middle East and Japan led to lively discussions because of the importance of developing industries in the Middle East.

Follow-up Cooperation helps to extend and enhance the results of past cooperation projects over longer time periods, thereby increasing the effectiveness and quality of Japan's international cooperation efforts.



A JICA alumni association joint workshop on "Japanese industry from an Arabian perspective." (Lebanon)