

East Asia

Strengthening of Strategic Partnerships Aiming for a Mutually Beneficial Relationship

East Asia contains China—a country dealing with numerous issues including environmental problems resulting from its dramatic economic growth—and Mongolia, which is pursuing rapid development underpinned by its abundant mineral resources. The sound 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.

Special Feature

Program Goals and Overview

Concrete Initiatives

Cooperation Modality

Operation, Management and Evaluation

Data and Information

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 cross border pollution, yellow sand, and infectious diseases, and the resolution of other such issues, as well as the creation of systems and standards to increase performance forecasts for companies entering the Chinese market) and promoting mutual understanding at multiple levels.

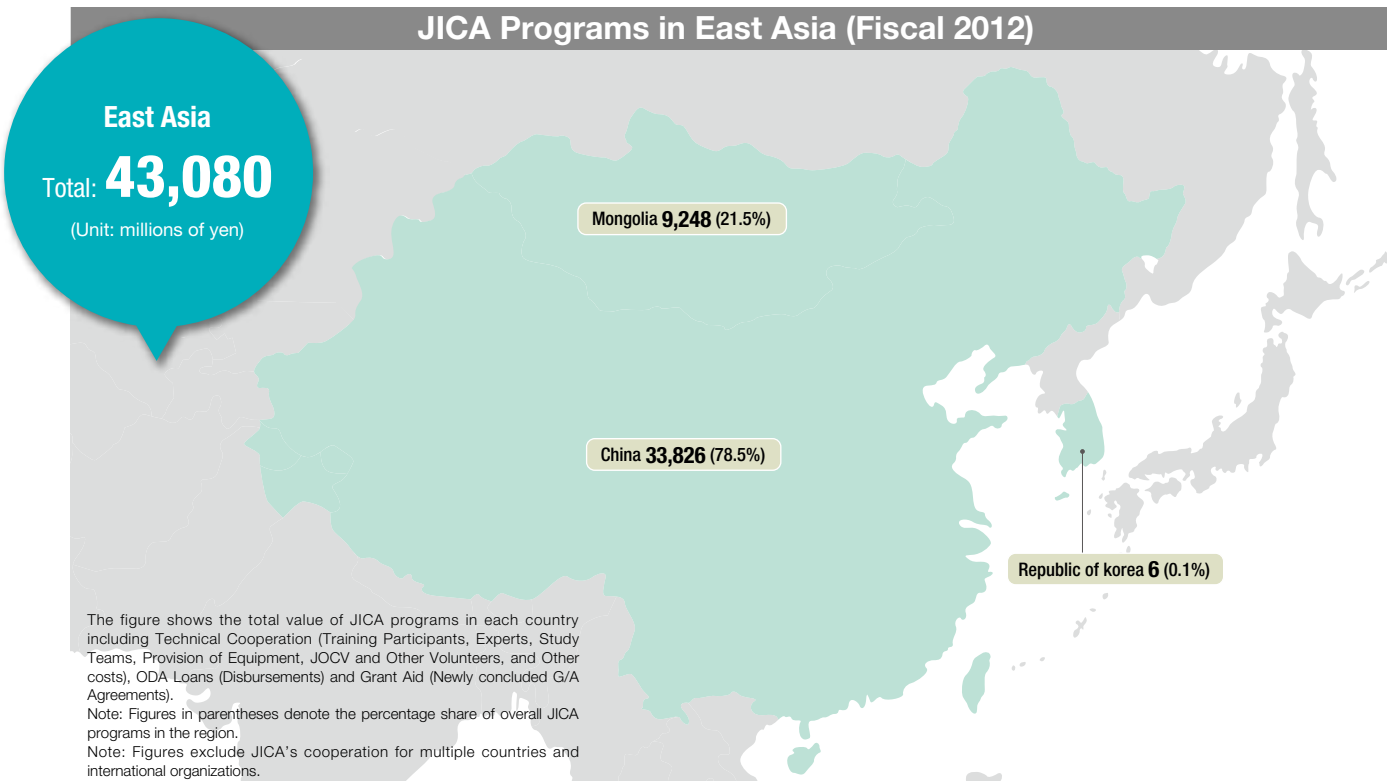
- (1) Cooperation to confront global issues such as infectious diseases and environmental problems
- (2) Assistance for the open and reform policy (including promotion of good governance)
- (3) Promotion of mutual understanding

● 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

JICA Programs in East Asia (Fiscal 2012)



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 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 Total Emission Control of Nitrogen Oxide in Atmosphere: Based on Japan's experience with pollution, this project aims to find ways to reduce the emissions of nitrogen oxide, a causative agent for 2.5 micron particulate matter

(PM2.5) that, among airborne particles, is particularly damaging to health. To that end, the project is investigating technological measures and public policies and systems and spreading the use of practical control technologies and methods.

● Mongolia

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.

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.

Case Study Mongolia Boosting Ulaanbaatar's Ability to Deal with Air Pollution

Aid for Restoring Clean Air in Ulaanbaatar

The city of Ulaanbaatar has the world's second worst air pollution (WHO survey). With residents actually suffering harm from the air pollution, urgent measures are needed to deal with the problem. With the goal of boosting Ulaanbaatar's ability to deal with its air pollution, JICA is providing aid to improve capabilities in technology that require advanced expertise and to strengthen administrative capabilities required for introducing systems for air pollution control.

The air pollution in Mongolia's capital city of Ulaanbaatar comes mainly from the emission gases of power plants, heating boilers and cars. The electric power stations are thermal-fired and old. Inefficient boilers and stoves burn large amounts of coal for heating purposes during winter, when temperatures can drop to as low as minus 30 to 40°C. In addition, the city's seriously congested streets contribute to high levels of automobile emissions.

Despite these conditions, there was no understanding of just how much these sources were affecting air pollution in the overall city or what measures were needed to deal with the problem.

At the request of the Mongolian government, JICA began full-scale work on a project in March 2010 to address the issue. To start with, JICA's priority on this project was to pave the way for implementing air pollution measures by improving the technological and administrative capacities of Mongolian institutions to measure and manage the air pollution in the city.

Specifically, JICA provided aid for measuring emission gas density and cataloging sources of pollution and transferred technology that requires advanced expertise, such as atmospheric dispersion simulations. As a result, based on the data they collected, the Mongolian government slowly began to get a clear picture of how much each source was contributing to the pollution. Moreover, JICA recommended measures for pollution-related facilities based on technical analysis. This process has yielded concrete results because the Ulaanbaatar City Council has approved several of the recommendations for implementation. JICA also placed emphasis on creating a system for registering boilers and other facilities to enable public administrators to determine and control sources of pollution and building a framework within which administrative agencies, private

sector businesses and university and research centers could cooperate on air pollution measures.

However, actually improving the air quality requires a change in related government strategies and large investments. Sources of pollution need to install emission control equipment and convert their fuel combustion systems to cleaner systems. In addition, infrastructure establishment and urban planning, including management of land usage, must be reviewed.

Restoring clean air to Ulaanbaatar will require making recommendations for measures determined on a scientific basis and getting them actually implemented. For that purpose, JICA will continue to provide cooperation aimed at further boosting Mongolia's ability to deal with air pollution.



Black smoke being emitted by electric power station



Measuring emission gas density in smoke stack