Tunisia: Quality/productivity improvement project

Director General's Message Industrial Development and Public Policy

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Drawing Out the Vitality of the Private Sector

The Industrial Development and Public Policy Department comprises the private sector, energy and mining and governance groups. In fiscal 2012, the department took steps to enable it to draw out the vitality of the private sector in developing countries to the greatest extent possible. The department strengthened the synergies with each group and proceeded comprehensively with aid for policy and system reform that will improve the business environment, fostering of human resources for industry and supporting industries and energy and mining development.

In today's world, the private sector has taken on an extremely large role in the development of developing countries.

With that in mind, JICA has provided assistance to Asian countries, such as Viet Nam, and to other developing countries with an eye to promoting overseas investment in the private sector. We have assisted with systems and strategies to improve the business environment in the areas of legal, taxation, finance and securities, customs and intellectual property systems and administrative and fiscal reforms.

Another important aspect of developing the private sector is the fostering of human resources for industry and supporting industries, which form the foundation for manufacturing. For example, in India, where there has been a rapid increase in the entrance of Japanese companies into the market, we are providing assistance for training the core management personnel of the manufacturing industry, sharing the essence of Japan's monotsukuri or manufacturing craft. In Mexico, where many Japanese automobile companies have set up local production, we have dispatched experts well experienced in monotsukuri to assist automotive component manufacturers and other supporting industries in upgrading their operations.

In the energy and mining field, our assistance focuses on electric power, the capital investment bottleneck for many developing countries. In fiscal 2012, to make our aid more efficient and effective, we implemented a policy of Low-Carbon, Low-Cost, Low-Risk (3L) in this field.

We were also active in many other fields. We extended assistance to spread the KAIZEN network in Ethiopia and other countries in Africa and to develop local industries through such movements as "One Village One Product." We assisted projects to achieve smooth distribution of goods, such as the Asia Cargo Highway Concept and the One Stop Border Post (OSBP) system. Moreover, we provided assistance through our Japan Centers for Human Resources Development in Indochina.

In fiscal 2013, putting the knowledge of Japan's private sector to good use, we will carry on with active efforts to draw out the vitality of the private sector in developing countries as much as possible from the point of view of advancing development.