

Partnerships with NGOs and Other Organizations

— Collaboration with Diverse Actors of International Cooperation

As development issues have become more complicated, there is a greater need for Japanese overseas cooperation to mobilize people, knowledge, and expertise, based on the concept of human security, in order to cope with diverse themes such as the MDGs.

Reflecting this drive to engage more with key actors of development, collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities, and local governments has become important for implementing effective ODA in areas such as education, health, and environment improvement, community development, peacebuilding, and reconstruction. JICA has been strengthening its engagement with these actors of civil society in a variety of forms, namely through dialogues, partnerships, and support programs.

JICA Partnership Program (JPP) Joint Implementation of Overseas Development Projects

JICA implements JPP projects jointly with Japanese organizations that are ardent about implementing international cooperation projects, including NGOs, universities, local government entities and public-interest corporations. JPP is based on proposals from these experienced organizations,

which helps benefit the local people in developing countries. JPP projects are unique as they directly contribute to improving the lifestyles and livelihoods of the people by carrying out detailed activities at the grassroots level. In fiscal 2012, JICA implemented 206 JPP projects in 45 countries. JPP projects consist of three schemes: Partner type, in which organizations with a certain level of experience in developing countries utilize their experience and skills; Support type, in which projects are carried out by organizations with less experience in developing



Lecture given by a midwife at a classroom for mothers in Sudan
(Partner type project implemented by Rocinantes: Reduction of Maternal and Infant Mortality Rate in Sherif Hasaballa Zone)

Case Study

Local Government Type Project Miyako-jima's Water Supply Model Project in Samoa (Miyakojima City)

The island nation of Samoa, which is located in the South Pacific, faces many issues in terms of maintaining a stable water supply including the impact on water purification of water sources becoming very muddy in the rainy season and a chronic shortage of water caused by high rates of leakage.

Miyakojima was formerly referred to as a 'waterless island' and had to suffer terrible hardships in securing water in the past. Nowadays, however, it has built up knowhow in water purification treatment using Ecological Purification System (slow sand filtration) and original watershed management countermeasures that are both low cost and simple to operate with the result that safe and delicious drinking water can now be supplied to the population of the whole island. In this project, this fund of experience and knowhow has now been transferred to Samoa in the form of the Miyakojima Model with the aim of contributing to the construction by the Samoa Water Authority of an independent/self-reliant water utility administration system.

City Official

Project Manager Kenji Kajiwara

The project had also great significance for us as residents of Miyakojima. The history of the Miyakojima water supply stretches back only some 50 years or so but the situation

prevailing at the beginning of the water supply on the island strongly resembles the current situation in Samoa. Without enough funds or materials, the experience, skills and ingenuity of the personnel engaged on the project is absolutely crucial. Experienced, skilled personnel and younger staff members from Miyakojima City worked together to give training in leakage prevention technology in Samoa and the process was also a good opportunity for us to pass on technologies and our experiences of the establishment of the water supply on Miyakojima.

The cooperation of Dr. Nobutada Nakamoto of Shinshu University has been obtained for the transmission of water purification treatment using Ecological Purification System – which is the core issue of the project – and for repeatedly supplying guidance to ensure that Samoa's water purification plants operate normally.

In running the project, it was confirmed that it was possible to increase the purifying power of the ecological purification process because of the high rate of bioactivity experienced as a result of the plentiful sunlight and high temperatures common to both Samoa and Miyakojima. These results were fed back to Miyakojima and so, in turn, made it possible to improve the operating system at the Miyakojima water purification plants.

This was significant not just for Miyakojima since the project also was highly valued by the Samoan side for the results it produced in

improving the operation and maintenance of their water purification plants and in reducing the volume of water leakage. I think that the result was to multiply the exchanges between the two sides and that this was more a question of understanding not just the position in which the Samoan side found itself but also their social history, culture and customs, than merely of determining whether or not the content of the training provided by the Japanese side was correct or not. I would like to thank Ex-Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer Mr. Susumu Kinjo (currently belongs to Nago City Hall) who was active in the Samoan water service/supply operation more than 20 years ago, and Mr. James of Samoa who participated in the first year of JICA's Training and Dialogue Program for kindly providing the top quality lubrication for the human and cultural exchanges. This has been a project that has re-emphasized yet again the importance of human resources.



Detecting the sounds of leakage with a meter

countries; and Local government type, in which local government entities play a central role and utilize their know-how accumulated in their localities.

NGO-JICA Japan Desk Supporting Activities of Japanese NGOs

JICA has “NGO-JICA Japan Desks” in 21 countries to support the activities of Japanese NGOs operating in developing countries. These desks offer consultation and information on various aspects, for example, on local laws, local systems, the social situation and the state of local NGO activities, which are also helpful for NGOs in implementing JPP projects.

Support for Capacity Building Strengthening Human Resources and Organization for Better International Cooperation

To support international cooperation activities by NGOs and citizen groups, JICA provides a variety of support programs. These include Project Cycle Management (PCM) method training*¹; training for organizational strengthening through human resource development*²; and dispatching of advisors with special expertise*³. In fiscal 2012, the following trainings are implemented.

*1 Project management basic seminar utilizing PCM method for persons in charge of international cooperation; 308 participants

*2 Training for organizational strengthening through human resource development for NGOs; 15 participants

*3 Dispatch of advisors for NGO organizational strengthening; 13 organizations: for strengthening of NGO overseas projects; 4 organizations and 2 countries (group training)

NGO-JICA Dialogue Meeting Promoting Equal Partnerships

JICA emphasizes the importance of dialogue between NGOs for ensuring deeper mutual understanding and promoting excellent collaboration. Through its headquarters, overseas offices and domestic offices, JICA exchanges opinions and information with NGOs on regional and sectoral issues. Also, JICA holds a quarterly dialogue meeting with NGOs, where both sides discuss the effective cooperation and promotion of equal partnerships.

JICA Donation Fund for the People of the World International Cooperation through Donations

The JICA Donation Fund for the People of the World encourages citizens, corporations and groups to participate in international cooperation. The donations are used to support Japanese civil society groups’ activities aiming to alleviate poverty, improve healthcare, education, and environment of developing countries. In fiscal 2012, the fund supported seven projects.

Case Study

Partner Type Project Negros Silk Industry Support Project (OISCA International)

As a result of the dramatic collapse in the price of sugar in the 1980s, the Negros Islands, which had formerly relied so heavily on the sugar industry, was referred to for a while as the Island of Starvation. From 1989 onwards, OISCA International started to sponsor both technical guidance in and the diffusion of sericulture technologies among the farming communities living in the mountain regions that faced particularly difficult living conditions with the aim of securing an income for them to live on. Silk production started in 2006 and subsequently a fully integrated production system was established taking in every stage of the manufacturing process from silkworm-egg card through to the production of woven textiles. Interest in and hopes for the future of silkworm culture grew year by year and, particularly in the mountain regions in the country, the number of subsistence farmers hoping to participate in sericulture increased. To meet this need, the JICA Partnership Program (partner type) was

inaugurated in October 2011 with the aim of further expanding this improvement in the lives of the subsistence farmers of the Negros Islands. Along with increasing production of good quality cocoons, the aim is to reinforce the diffusion structure by improving the quality of silkworm breeds and through sericulture associations. Moreover, the aim is also to ensure that the silk industry becomes the local industry of the Negros islands in the future as a result of initiatives to introduce processing technology for twisting yarn from raw silk thread and by expanding markets for finished silk products.

NGO Staff

Project Manager Shigemi Watanabe

Before the production of silk began, natural woodlands were being cut down and burnt to make charcoal in the villages in the mountain regions (the project site), and the people were making a living by gathering wild orchids. But now that silk production is underway, they are planting mulberry trees, and raising silkworms so that good quality cocoons are produced with the result that their income is now 1.5 to 2 times greater than it was before. Because the standard of living for the people of the villages has been raised, their children are now able to attend school, and the silk industry has brought smiling faces back to the inhabitants of these villages. Moreover, an integrated structure is now in place extending from

cocoon to silk thread, and has been welcomed as also providing a place offering employment opportunities for local women too. On the other hand, many issues such as the training of diffusion personnel still remain as the expansion in the number of silkworm farmers continues to increase, but we shall do our best to deal with each one of these challenges as they arise.

Local Staff

Negros Occidental Head of Agricultural Diffusion Lucille Gelvorea

As you know, although the production of sugar is the key industry in the Negros Islands, we are aware of the vulnerability inherent in relying on a single crop, and the need to introduce and foster a new industry has long been an issue. Fortunately, thanks to the support received from JICA and OISCA International, we are now seeing a gradual expansion in the production of silk cocoons and because this new silkworm sector has now brought forth the growth of a new industry in the form of the production of finished silk, we in the state government have high hopes for the project. Moreover, since the mulberry orchards are contributing to the greening of the mountain regions, the Environment Agency is also evaluating the process of afforestation at the single village level highly and plans to take in the cultivation of mulberry trees.



Weaving has become a source of employment for local women.