

Enhancing Development Partnerships

— Scaling Up Development Outcomes in Coordination with International Development Cooperation Organizations

Issues in Recent Years

Japan and other donor countries along with international agencies (hereinafter “donors”) have increased their efforts in addressing poverty reduction and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). International consensus was reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development in 2002, held in Monterrey, Mexico, and at the Follow-Up International Conference on Financing for Development in 2008 in Doha, Qatar, on securing the necessary funds to achieve the MDGs. There are also demands for improving the quality of aid. The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (Paris Declaration) of 2005 generated more debate about the effectiveness of assistance. After the Accra Agenda for Action of 2008 in Ghana, donors summarized the results of initiatives regarding aid effectiveness at the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4) in 2011 in South Korea.

Development issues have become much more globalized and diversified, however. Such issues include inclusive growth without disparity, support for conflict-affected and fragile states, climate change, food security, job creation (especially following the Arab Spring), and disaster risk management.

Following the Lehman crisis, the amount of ODA provided by OECD/DAC member countries has generally been flat. Given the need to use limited funds for a broad array of development issues, there are growing demands for donors to be accountable, and for focusing more on results-based delivery and development outcomes.

Private-sector companies, foundations, NGOs, and emerging countries have played a vital role in development cooperation in recent years. A frequent topic at the G20 and other international forums has been the diversification among the actors of development cooperation and debate about their role. It is essential for a development organization to constantly monitor trends in global development issues and strengthen its ability to gather and provide up-to-date development agendas for international discussions. Furthermore, more efforts should be made to promote project collaboration with other donors and other development cooperation bodies. All of these activities are vital to the efficient and effective implementation of development cooperation.

Donor Coordination for Development Issues

JICA has been enjoying partnerships with, for example, European countries, the United States, and international organizations. At locations where development assistance is provided, JICA works with these partners to supply joint financing, technical cooperation, and other forms of support. To provide assistance more effectively and efficiently at large-scale development projects, donors usually focus their assistance on fields or technologies where they have much expertise and in some cases collaboration is used when a single organization cannot provide the required assistance. JICA

constantly monitors the trends of development cooperation by providing input to and receiving feedback from such discussions. This process is vital to grasp the development needs on the ground, which helps to determine JICA's development cooperation policy. JICA actively participates in annual meetings and conducts mutual visits with donor executives of the World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), African Development Bank (AfDB), and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Such dialogues make it possible to share a strategic approach to global development issues as well as to assistance strategies for specific regions and countries.

JICA executive officers attended the ADB Annual Meeting (in Manila in May 2012) and the IMF/WB Annual Meeting (in Tokyo in October 2012). These officers gave keynote addresses and served as panelists at many seminars involving recent development issues where they explained JICA's position, activities and policies [\[see the column \]](#). In addition, JICA President Akihiko Tanaka is nurturing relationships with development think tanks in Washington, New York, Brussels, and London, as well as the DAC, United Nations, and other organizations and hosted seminars that cover such themes as TICAD, the Post-2015 development agenda, inclusive growth, and human security. All these activities are aimed at achieving a better understanding of JICA's development philosophy.

JICA also has a strong involvement with the World Development Report (WDR), which is issued every year by the WB. WDR 2013 “Jobs” incorporates case study reports of the JICA Research Institute. JICA has been sharing its thoughts with the WB on WDR 2014 “Managing Risk for Development” since the initial preparation stage. JICA supplied numerous background papers and helped facilitate a high-quality dialogue.

President Akihiko Tanaka has been named to the advisory panel for the Human Development Report (HDR), which is issued every year by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This is one of the most influential reports in the field of international development. The panel includes prominent academics, politicians, development specialists, and others, including Nobel laureates. Members of the advisory panel discuss the central themes for next year's HDR.

JICA and the IMF held their second joint conference (in Bangkok in January 2013), following the first event in 2011. It focused on economic transformation and inclusive growth. JICA and the IMF each presented empirical analysis that were followed by discussions involving about 100 participants, including high level officials from the finance ministries, central banks, and development ministries of 11 low-income Asian countries. Holding this seminar provided a forum for all these countries to have active and frank discussion. Furthermore, the event deepened understanding about achieving inclusive growth as promoted by JICA and the dialogue and information

sharing with the IMF will help strengthen JICA's operation strategies.

The United Nations has held a Global South-South Development Expo every year since 2008. In association with this expo, JICA has co-organized director-general level meetings about South-South cooperation. Donor countries, emerging countries, and developing countries shared their views and experiences involving both South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation. This meeting is one of JICA's efforts for encouraging South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation that contributes to the development of partner countries. At the 2012 expo, JICA was recognized for its nearly four decades of activities supporting South-South cooperation, knowledge sharing of good practices and lessons learned.

JICA periodically holds strategic discussions with some development partners. These discussions include the WB, ADB, and UNDP, as well as the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) (on support to refugees), the EU (on support to Africa), the French Development Agency (AFD) (on support to Asia, Africa and the Middle East, and climate change), the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) (on water sector in Africa), the German Development Bank (KfW) (on environmental programs), and the Australia Agency for International Development (AusAID) (on support to Oceania and Africa). JICA held its first partnership dialogue with the Arab Coordination Group, which includes the Islamic Development Bank. For the purpose of gathering information in Europe and disseminating JICA's policy as well as strengthening partnership with the EU, JICA newly stationed a chief representative in Brussels.

JICA has signed many memorandums of understanding (MOUs) over the past few years. In fiscal 2012, MOUs were signed with the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the Asia Foundation. In addition, there are periodic discussions with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. By using mutually complementary cooperation in areas of shared interest, JICA

aims to provide assistance of even higher quality.

JICA is a member of the International Development Finance Club (IDFC), a global network formed in September 2011 by 19 bilateral and sub-regional development banks of developed countries and emerging countries to support sustainable development. JICA is also vice-chairman and a member of the club's steering group. In October 2012, JICA hosted the first Annual Meeting in Tokyo. At the meeting, JICA held a seminar that was also attended by many Japanese and international private-sector companies and led discussions regarding climate change financing.

Partnerships with Emerging Countries

In recent years, China, South Korea, Thailand, Brazil, and other emerging countries have become development cooperation providers. Discussions about development cooperation can no longer take place without reflecting this trend. JICA has been sharing with emerging countries a variety of development approaches and issues that reflect experiences of Japan as Asia's sole DAC donor for many years as well as knowledge gained from Japan's own economic growth. In fiscal 2012, JICA participated in the third Asian Development Forum that took place in Thailand and the fourth forum in Indonesia. At these events, representatives of Asian countries, including emerging countries and international organizations, discussed initiatives and know-how regarding solutions for Asian development issues. Topics included green growth, inclusive growth, disaster prevention mainstreaming, Post-2015 development agenda, and other subjects.

There are also periodic meetings with development cooperation organizations in China, South Korea, and Thailand, along with opportunities for joint discussions and mutual visits. JICA maintains and deepens partnerships with these organizations by sharing information about recent development issues and JICA's operations as well as its experience with development cooperation.

JICA Disseminates Messages at the 2012 IMF/WB Annual Meetings

The IMF/WB annual meetings took place in Tokyo in October 2012. This was the second time (the first was in 1964) that Tokyo hosted this event, which is said to have attracted approximately 10,000 to 20,000 people. This meeting was an excellent opportunity for JICA, under the new president Akihiko Tanaka, who was named in April 2012, to tell the world about JICA's strong commitment and leadership in development activities. At the annual meeting, the IMF and WB held many official seminars for discussions by prominent government and business leaders about the economy and development issues. Mr. Tanaka led the discussions in four seminars, including those proposed by JICA (the Post-2015 development agenda, jobs and development, energy development in Africa (TICAD V), and global health). At these seminars, Mr. Tanaka

delivered messages on JICA's philosophy and its approach to development issues and played an active part in global debates.

During the annual meeting, JICA hosted and co-organized several other seminars as well. These events covered many increasingly diverse and complex issues in the world. Seminars included the outlook for food security and actions needed in the ASEAN region, where economic growth continues; public-private sector collaboration to promote green growth; new cooperation in Islamic countries between JICA and development finance organizations; and assistance for the Middle East and North Africa following the Arab Spring. JICA is playing a leading role in such international debate and making significant intellectual contributions. In addition, JICA held more than 100 dialogues



JICA President Akihiko Tanaka speaks at a seminar held at the IMF/WB annual meetings (second from right).

with the representatives of national governments and international organizations who visited Japan for the IMF/WB annual meetings.

As one of the world's largest bilateral development cooperation organizations, JICA remains committed to strengthening collaboration with the WB, IMF and other international organizations, bilateral development organizations, and regional development finance organizations. JICA will continue to provide knowledge and information to the world while making an intellectual contribution to discussions aimed at solving increasingly diverse development issues.