

Efforts to Improve Operations

JICA has carried out activities with the aim of improving its administrative services under the Mid-term Objectives and Plan. JICA's priorities are the improvement of aid strategies, accumulation, utilization and dissemination of knowledge, development of new lending schemes, and improvement of policy and structure for Public-Private Partnerships. In addition, JICA responded promptly and accurately to political requests for support of SMEs' overseas operations. JICA also made an effort to speed up project implementation, optimize budget execution management, and reduce expenses.

JICA strives to create and disseminate new value in a self-sustained and dynamic manner through these efforts.

Examples of detailed activities to improve operations are explained below.

Efforts for Improving Organizational Structure

To strengthen the management capacity, JICA studied the involvement of implementation plans, such as refining operations and developing schemes, as well as how to create the organization needed to achieve the goals of plans. Based on the results of these studies, JICA has started taking a number of actions.

Based on the policies of the Japanese government concerning ODA, JICA established new divisions in a timely manner for extending assistance for the overseas activities of SMEs. Additionally, JICA created the new position of Special Advisor for Knowledge Management to further enhance the accumulation, utilization and dissemination of knowledge. Furthermore, JICA adjusted the division of duties at headquarters with flexibility in order to respond to the aid needs of each region and country and conduct projects in a strategic and effective manner.

Due to these activities, there are 23 departments, 5 offices, 2 secretariats and a research institute as of March 31, 2013. JICA is also taking actions in order to rationalize the internal document approval process, expedite decision-making, clarify responsibility and authority, and rectify the scope of management.

Efforts for Cutting Costs and Boosting Procurement Competitiveness

In consideration of the screening process and other factors, JICA is continuing to work on further cutting and rationalizing costs as well as on making procurement activities more competitive. The results of these efforts are open to the public.

Measures to increase competitiveness of JICA's procurement include comprehensive third-party inspections on the suitability of noncompetitive negotiated contracts, the introduction of open bids (Quality and Cost Based Selection) for outsourcing contracts for periodic administrative tasks, easier requirements for submitting bids (applying government registration systems instead of JICA's own system, lightening the burden imposed on making proposals), and the preannouncement concerning planned projects. JICA will continue to carry out revisions in an appropriate manner based on the Basic Policy on Operational Revisions of Incorporated Administrative Agencies (Cabinet Decision of December 7, 2010).

Strengthening Overseas Functions

In order to strengthen its overseas functions, JICA is reexamining its network and structure of overseas offices to promote its effective operation in developing countries. In addition, JICA is reinforcing logistics support provided by headquarters to overseas offices for the smooth and steady implementation of overseas activities.