

South America

Implementing Effective Cooperation with Various Partners

South America, gifted with abundant natural and mineral resources and fertile soil, is achieving steady economic growth spurred by the recent increases in worldwide demand for resources and foods. As a result, income levels have risen in many countries in the region. At the same time, South American countries are still characterized by large disparities in income distribution, where large numbers of people live in poverty in the shadows of economic growth.

JICA, as a development partner, contributes to solving priority issues set out for each country in the region and also partners with them to extend cooperation within and beyond South America in triangular form to support their sustainable economic growth. JICA also concentrates efforts on issues of global scale, such as disaster risk management and quick response as well as forest preservation in the Amazon Basin, which have a significant impact on the global environment.

Going forward, JICA will focus on extending cooperation on economic infrastructure development, mitigating disparities, and addressing global issues, while strengthening partnership with governments and civil societies of the region, including Japanese descendants, private sector entities, and universities in an effort to reach out on the development needs of countries within and beyond Latin America.

Key Aid Strategies **Developing Economic Infrastructure, Mitigating Disparities and Addressing Global Issues**

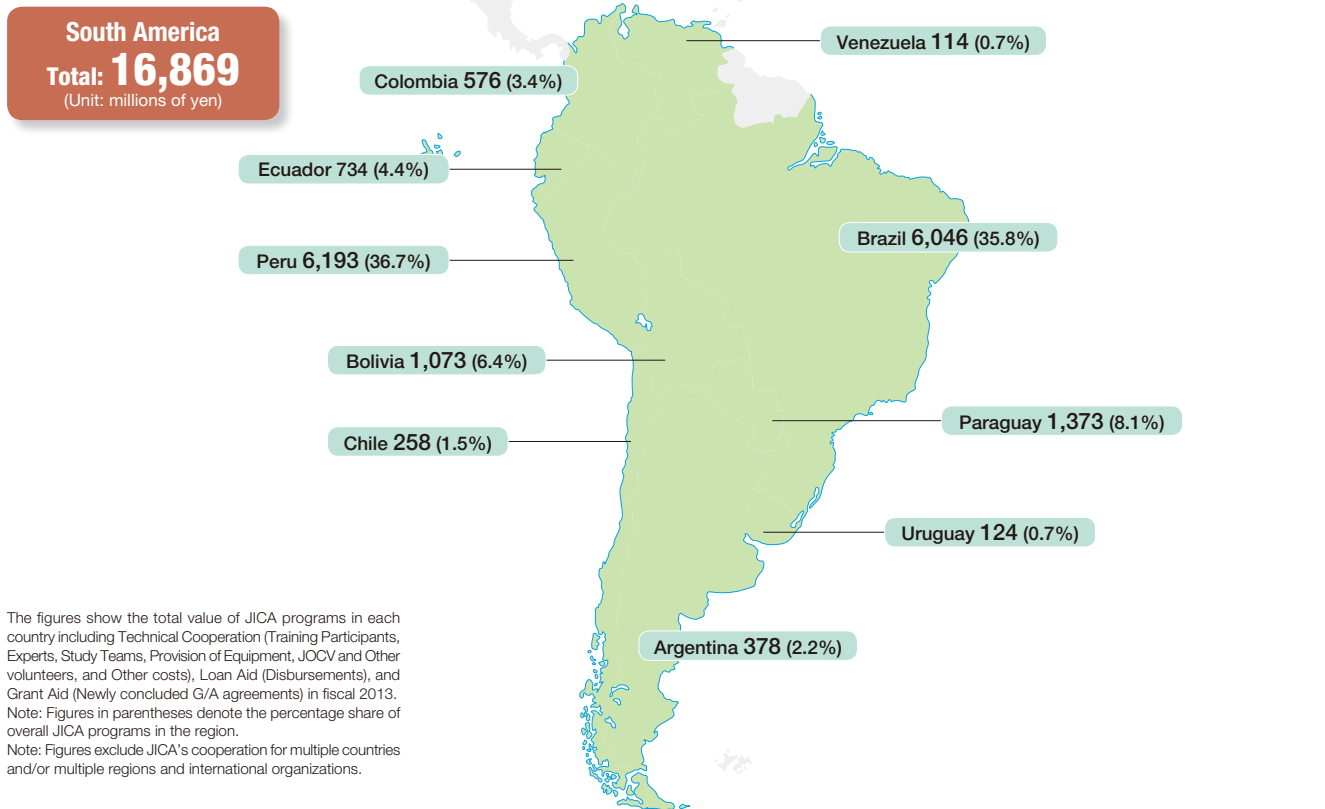
JICA's support in the South American region focuses on three assistance pillars, namely, developing economic infrastructure, mitigating disparities, and addressing global issues.

(1) Developing Economic Infrastructure

South America, with a population of 400 million people, has a high market potential. The economy of many countries in the region, however, depends heavily on the production and export of primary products, which makes them extremely vulnerable to

global economic and market trends. Inadequate infrastructure, weak industrial and trade promotion, and lack of sound investment environment also hinder sustainable development. Strengthening of the administrative capacities of the governments and stabilizing public security are a foundation for encouraging private sector economic activities. Urban environmental problems are getting worse with economic growth, and these problems require an urgent response as well.

JICA Programs in South America (Fiscal 2013)



(2) Mitigating Disparities

Many countries in the region are facing relatively huge disparities compared with countries in other regions of the planet. In spite of the steady economic growth of recent years, there persists considerable social anxiety created by the presence of income gaps at the national and regional levels. Under these circumstances, efforts are being made to mitigate disparities and stabilize society in addition to undertakings to foster economic growth.

(3) Addressing Global Issues

It is important to address global issues such as disaster risk reduction and climate change because South American countries have considerable impact on food, resource, and energy security of the world, and Japan, like other countries, imports food and resources from this region.

The Japan-South America relationship is likely to deepen further from this perspective with the presence of more than 1.6 million Japanese immigrants in the region.

Priority Issues and Activities

● Building a Foundation for Sustainable Economic Growth

Blessed with abundant natural resources, South America has achieved steady economic growth in recent years, primarily driven by private-sector investment.

In the city of Cusco, Peru, known for the Machu Picchu ruins, the San Jeronimo Sewage Plant was completed in 2013 under the “Project for Regional Water and Sewerage Development” (ODA Loan).

In recent years, the sewage drainage volume in the city has increased due to growing tourism and a rising population resulting from improved security. Although the city had utilized an older sewage plant built 30 years ago, the volume of sewage was four times higher than its handling capacity. Consequently, inadequately treated sewage was released into the Watanay River in Cusco. After the completion of the new sewage plants, adequately treated water meets the sewage standard. The new plant also allows people to enjoy fishing along the lower course of the river, as well as to utilize the river water for irrigated agriculture.

In Paraguay, more than 80% of the roads are unpaved and are frequently impassable in the rainy season. These conditions cut off the logistic routes of major industries, such as the livestock industry, interfering with economic activity. JICA is providing support to help establish stable economic growth in the region such as granting ODA Loan to Paraguay for the “Eastern Region Export Corridor Improvement Project,” which will improve the existing road to smoothly link the production region of its livestock industry with ports for export.

Progress in regional integration and economic globalization has accelerated trade activities inside and outside the region. On the other hand, there is an increased need to tighten control over illicit drugs, firearms, and products violating intellectual property rights by organized crime. In JICA’s Third Country Training



Sewage Plant in Cusco funded by ODA Loan (Peru)

Program “Customs Risk Management” conducted with Argentina, the Program provides training on cracking down on infringing products and the Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement to customs officers from 12 Latin American countries. JICA also shares information on Japan’s latest technologies, such as large X-ray screening machines, explosive-substance detecting devices, and so forth.

● Poverty Reduction and the Mitigation of Disparities

Behind the rapid economic growth, disparity has been increasing, and South American countries set poverty reduction and mitigation of disparities as policies with overriding priority.

Situated in the mountainous region of Ecuador, Chimborazo Province is struggling with serious, multiple poverty issues. In this region, income from agriculture is low, there is a lack of such basic infrastructure as education and medical services, and deforestation and soil erosion are progressing. Through the Technical Cooperation project “Capacity Development for Promoting the Sustainable Integral Rural Development for Poverty Reduction in Chimborazo Province,” JICA promotes the understanding of the residents in 30 communities spread across 4(four) zones in the province regarding a significance of participatory development. It also assists in enhancing the implementation structure for collaboration and coordination among the ministries, local governments and local organizations concerned. The Project organizes farmers groups and provides training programs on education, agriculture, health etc. as components of comprehensive rural development. By doing so, their initiatives and self-reliant efforts will be encouraged to improve their livelihoods and incomes. JICA aims at improving the income and life environment of the people in the target areas by facilitating the understanding and support of the residents regarding government-promoted participative development.

Bolivia has maternal and child mortality rates that are extremely higher than other countries in the region. In the La Paz Department, to which the administrative capital belongs, access to health care facilities is relatively easy in urban areas, while there is a low utilization ratio of health care services in rural areas. This circumstance in the department creates a worse maternal and child health situation than in other departments. Through the Technical Cooperation project “Project for Strengthening the Health Network in Rural Region Focusing on Mother and Children Health,” JICA is working on increasing the utilization ratio of health care services and improving the quality of maternal



Participatory Healthcare Activities under JICA Project (Bolivia)

and child health services. This Project is carried out utilizing the FORSA model, a method for participatory health activities that was developed in a past project. The FORSA model was adopted in 2013 as a recommended model for the Multicultural Community Family Health Policy (SAFCI), which is a health policy promoted by the Bolivian government. This model has contributed to enhancing Bolivia's health policies throughout the country, not limited to the target areas.

In Colombia, the long struggle between the government and armed groups has caused the world's largest internally displaced population, with over 4.5 million civilians displaced as of 2012. From fiscal 2008 to 2013, JICA provided various forms of support under the "Program for Supporting Victims of Conflict, Coexistence, and Reconciliation." In the Program, JICA supported the social rehabilitation of internally displaced people and the victims of landmines, along with facilitating the coexistence and reconciliation of victims, victimizers, and receiving communities. Some victims lost their land in the conflict. The Colombian government is now working on the development of a land information system for effective land restitution. Since the system requires advanced information security management, the Colombian government sought assistance from Japan, which has experience in the peacebuilding field and the most highly advanced information technologies in the world. The Technical Cooperation project "Project on Capacity Development on Information Security Management of Land Information System for Land Restitution Policy Promotion" by JICA is expected to play a pivotal role in strictly managing property and personal information on land restitution claimants, as well as conducting the government-promoted land restitution process in a smooth and safe manner.

● Addressing Global Issues

JICA is cooperating in this field with many South American countries. Since this is a region where some countries have relatively advanced levels of technology, JICA pursues research cooperation together with Japanese universities and other research institutes in order to contribute to resolving global issues.

Brazil has faced the need to prevent deforestation and reduce carbon emissions in the Amazonian rain forest, the largest forested area in the world. To cope with these issues, JICA is implementing the "Carbon Dynamics of Amazonian Forests

Project" under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS). A joint research team consisting of Japan's Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, the University of Tokyo and Brazil's National Institute of Amazonian Research, the National Institute for Space Research is studying a method to calculate the accumulated amount of carbon in the Amazon region. This research is utilizing data on the accumulated amount of carbon that is calculated per forest type, as well as remote sensing information that includes satellite images. Establishment of a highly accurate and efficient calculation of the amount of carbon accumulated in forests has been a challenge in designing the system of REDD-plus (Reducing Emission of Greenhouse Gases from Deforestation and Forest Degradation or through forest conservation in developing countries). As a result, joint scientific cooperation with the outstanding technologies between both countries is expected to contribute to international discussion on the establishment of the REDD-plus system [→ see the Case Study on page 83].

Similar to Japan, Chile is an earthquake- and tsunami-prone country. Earthquakes of magnitude 8.8 and 8.2 jolted the country in 2010 and in April 2014, respectively. Tsunamis occurring in Chile may trigger a sizable impact on Japan, across the Pacific Ocean. Since Japan also suffered the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, the actual situation and lessons learned from the disaster are expected to be shared with the international community for enhancement of tsunami risk reduction. Hence, JICA is supporting the Research Project on "Enhancement of Technology to Develop Tsunami-Resilient Community" (SATREPS), a joint research project with Chile. Based on the experiences of both countries, this Project develops tsunami disaster estimation technologies, tsunami warning methods, and educational methods for disaster prevention. Through these efforts, JICA aims to develop knowledge and technologies for cultivating tsunami-resistant communities and residents in Japan, Chile and other countries. As a secondary effect of this Project, various kinds of people involved in disaster risk reduction in Chile have strengthened their partnerships with each other.

Peru is also a country with many earthquakes and tsunamis. The great earthquake of 2007 in Ica, located in the south of Lima, caused economic losses of about \$3 billion. Since El Niño/La Niña have also occurred frequently, disaster response is an urgent issue for the Peruvian government. JICA has provided Peru with disaster risk reduction assistance for over 40 years. Currently, JICA is carrying out the Project for "Enhancement of Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation Technology" (SATREPS) and the "Project for Improvement of Equipment for Disaster Risk Management" (Grant Aid) in Peru. In response to urgent financial needs for disasters, the agreement titled "Stand-By Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery" (ODA Loan) was concluded for the first time in the Latin America in order to support immediate reconstruction. Continuing to utilize various schemes, JICA will be flexibly engaged in disaster risk management support in Peru.

● Strengthening Relationships with Japan's Public and Private Sectors

Public funds from national governments themselves or aid from foreign countries have a smaller impact on the overall

economy in higher income countries, where private sector economic activities are the major force to drive development.

In South America, Japanese private companies have entered the mining and energy sector and others and the number of these companies are increasing each year. The progress of these private sector economic activities will serve to promote further economic development, while also contributing to strengthening the relationships between these countries and Japan.

JICA has dispatched the Second Partnership Promotion Survey in Latin America to Brazil, Peru and Paraguay [→ see

the Case Study on page 116]. More than 20 private companies and organizations participated in the study team, holding meeting with the governments, local companies and local *Nikkei* organizations in the countries. As a result, some Japanese companies started to consider using JICA's programs to start business in these countries and others began to develop concrete business plans with local *Nikkei* society.

Case Study Effort to Diffuse Koban System in Brazil

Nationwide Diffusion of Koban with Public Trust

In the 1980s, the image of the Brazilian police was not favorable, and the public felt a sense of distrust. This is due to police officers' high-handed behavior and violence with the public. In 1997 the São Paulo State Police decided to introduce the Japanese-style community policing system, aiming at erasing its previous image and improving relations with the public.

Emphasizing Crime Prevention in Cooperation with Residents

The community policing system exists not only in Japan but also in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. However, the São Paulo State Police decided to adopt the Japanese-style model, since surveys by the police showed that Japan's Koban (police box) system focuses on crime prevention in cooperation with residents and features walking or cycling patrols and patrol communication.

Through the Brazilian government, the police requested JICA for Technical Cooperation. In response to this, JICA started Technical Cooperation from 2000, including dispatch of short-term experts, training programs on individual issues, and so forth. In the cooperation program, a Brazilian police officer first learned Japan's Koban system and later reported its effectiveness to senior police officials of the São Paulo State Police. This finally resulted in the initiation of full-scale

Technical Cooperation.

The phase-1 of the Technical Cooperation project, called the "Community Police of Public Security," was implemented in 2005 for three years. Some Japanese police officers were dispatched to the São Paulo State Police as experts, providing patrol guidance by walking in the city with local police officers. Under the Project, they were engaged in diffusing Japanese-style community policing based on model Kobans at 54 sites within the jurisdiction.

At the same time, 73 police officers were trained as community police instructors for the São Paulo State Police, and also over 500 state police officers participated in in-state training courses. As a result, this Project contributed to establishing the concept of community policing for the São Paulo State Police.

Making Kobans Familiar to Residents

In the phase-2 of the project, titled the "Project on Implementation of Community



Japanese expert coaching the local police officers at a Koban in São Paulo State. (Photo by Shinichi Kuno)

Policing Using the Koban System," JICA conducted diffusion and deployment of community policing to 12 states, including São Paulo. This project, started in 2008, continued for 3 years. In addition, seminars led by Japanese police officers were provided to 9 states, and the curriculum for community police has been introduced to several state police academies. Some Kobans have set up library rooms, installed some computers, or offered *futsal* lessons so that people can feel free to visit them. These efforts play a role in bringing the public and the police closer and building up trusting relations between them. Some Kobans are called familiarly as simply "Koban" in Japanese pronunciation.

According to the resident awareness survey conducted in 2007 by the São Paulo State Police, 55% of the respondents gave favorable responses, such as "very good" or "good," in light of this, the Koban system has earned the public's trust. Another research also shows that the number of murders was reduced from 600 cases in 1998 to just 3 cases in 2011 in an area of São Paulo City, in the State of São Paulo.

Implementation of Phase 3 Has Been Approved in 2013

The Brazilian government and the State of São Paulo also requested the phase-3 project, Project on "Implementation of Community Policing, for the purpose of nationwide diffusion and deployment." In response to this request, the implementation of this Project has been approved in March 2014. Japan's Koban system is expected to spread throughout Brazil as "KOBAN" and contribute to the country's security improvement.



Local police officers heeding the voices of residents (Photo by Shinichi Kuno)