

Technical Cooperation

Using Multi-tiered Assistance to Aim for Capacity Development of Developing Countries

● Responding to Diverse Needs

Technical Cooperation is people-to-people cooperation that supports developing countries in enhancing their comprehensive capacities to address development challenges by their own efforts. The needs of developing countries are becoming increasingly diverse. In addition to the development of agriculture, transport infrastructures, industries, healthcare services and education, in recent years, these needs have extended to development of legal systems, transitioning to a market economy, peacebuilding and reconstruction assistance, and environmental and climate change measures.

Formulating customized cooperation plans with developing countries enables JICA to provide multi-tiered assistance for human resources development, organizational strengthening, policy formulation, and institutional development in developing countries, by utilizing the knowledge, experience and technologies of both Japan and developing countries.

● Effectively Combining a Variety of Components

1. Dispatch of Experts

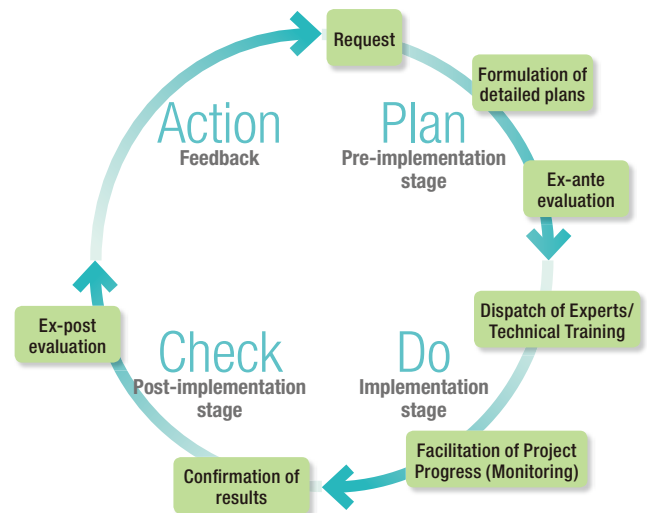
Japanese experts are dispatched to developing countries to provide necessary technologies and knowledge to government officials and engineers (the counterparts of the partner country). At the same time, they cooperate with these counterparts to develop/disseminate technologies and systems that are suitable to the partner country. Depending on the historical background, language, and regional characteristics of the partner country, JICA can also dispatch experts from third countries (countries other than Japan or the partner country) in order to deliver services more efficiently.

2. Technical Training

JICA invites competent personnel in developing countries, who are responsible for social and economic development, to Japan as training participants. They participate in training programs in Japan to acquire the knowledge and technologies needed in their countries (e.g. Group and Region-focused Training Programs, Training Programs for Young Leaders). JICA also organizes



Project for the Extension of Inland Aquaculture (Benin): An expert is checking catfish and tilapia at a farm house, for the purpose of promoting inland aquaculture (Photo by Masataka Otsuka)



overseas technical training programs in third countries.

3. Provision of Equipment

Equipment needed by experts etc. for implementing effective cooperation is provided to partner countries.

4. Technical Cooperation Projects

Technical Cooperation projects, which use the optimal combination of the “Dispatch of Experts,” “Technical Training” and/or “Provision of Equipment,” are the core operation of JICA’s Technical Cooperation. Project outcomes can be obtained by working together with the counterparts and associated organizations in the partner country through planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the project in a systematic and comprehensive manner [→ See the figure].

Implementation Process

1) Project Identification and Formulation

JICA identifies and formulates projects through discussions with the government of the partner country, information gathering by JICA overseas offices, preparatory surveys and other activities.

2) Request and Approval

Based on the request from the partner country, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, related ministries and agencies and JICA decide on the approval of the project. Approved projects are reported by the Japanese government to the partner country and a note verbale concerning the cooperation is exchanged through the diplomatic channel.

3) Planning/Ex-Ante Evaluation

In order to clarify details and expected outcomes of the project and examine the appropriateness of implementation, a detailed planning survey is conducted. Five evaluation criteria, namely relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability, will be evaluated as part of ex-ante evaluation.



Project for Improving Livelihood of Small-scale Farmers in Cajamarca (Peru): An expert is checking for diseases of purple corn and giving advice to the local counterparts, in order to improve the livelihood of the small-scale farmers. (Photo by Kosuke Okahara)

4) Project Implementation/Monitoring Project Progress

JICA and the government organization of the partner country sign Record of Discussions (R/D) regarding project implementation, details of the activities and necessary measures.

During the project, based on the plan formulated at the planning phase, JICA and partner organizations implement the project with periodical monitoring. Then, the outcomes are reviewed at the end of the project.

5) Follow-up/Ex-Post Evaluation

Although projects usually finish after a certain period, complementary assistance will be provided as necessary. Ex-post evaluation is conducted several years after the project completion and the evaluation results are then shared as lessons learned and used as a reference when formulating and implementing similar projects.

5. Technical Cooperation for Development Planning

While supporting developing countries' policy formulation and master plans, JICA provides technologies, such as survey/analysis methods and planning methods to the counterparts in the partner country.

Following the completion of this cooperation, developing countries are expected to conduct the followings.

- 1) Formulate plans for sector/regional development or rehabilitation/reconstruction by utilizing the recommendations;
- 2) Implement plans (project) by raising funds from international organizations and others; and/or
- 3) Carry out the recommended organizational/institutional improvements.

6. Science and Technology Cooperation on Global Issues

As a modality of JICA's Technical Cooperation, "Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)" incorporates elements of joint research for developing and applying new technologies and acquiring new scientific knowledge. SATREPS will help address global challenges [environment, energy, natural disasters (disaster prevention), infectious diseases, food supplies and other problems that require global cooperation] by using partnerships that encompass universities and research institutions, etc. in Japan and those in developing countries.

This is a joint project by Japan Science and Technology Agency, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and JICA

[→ See page 114 for details].



Project for Supporting Social Welfare Administration -Promotion of the Social Participation of the Deaf Community Phase 2 (Myanmar): A skill improvement course is being provided for sign language trainers. (Photo by Shinichi Kuno)