For Sustainable Development of Developing Regions

In many developing countries and regions, economic and social infrastructure encompassing electricity, gas, transportation, water supply, and sewerage systems, is underdeveloped. Furthermore, in recent years, global issues such as HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases, air and water pollution, climate change, conflicts and terrorism, and financial crises have emerged in addition to the problems of poverty. To address these issues, the international community set the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as common goals, while individual countries have formulated a host of measures.

Loan Aid provides relatively large amounts of development funds under concessional terms to developing countries and regions to support their efforts for growth and development.

ODA Loan

Support and Emphasize Ownership by the Developing Country

Ownership is crucial for economic growth and poverty reduction in developing countries. An ODA Loan, which requires repayment, promotes efficient use of the borrowed funds and appropriate supervision of projects, thereby bolstering developing countries' ownership in the development process. In addition, as an ODA Loan is financial assistance with a repayment obligation, this method of assistance places a relatively small fiscal burden on the Japanese government and represents a sustainable instrument for ODA.

Flow of an ODA Loan: Project Cycle

An ODA Loan follows six steps, and lessons learned from ex-post evaluations implemented at the final stage will be fed back into preparations for new projects. This flow of steps is called the Project Cycle.

- Types of ODA Loans
  1. Project-Type Loans
     1) Project Loans
     Project loans, which account for the largest portion of ODA Loans, finance projects such as roads, power plants, irrigation, water supply, and sewerage facilities. The loans are used for the procurement of facilities, equipment and services and/or for conducting civil and other related works.

     2) Engineering Service (E/S) Loans
     Engineering Service (E/S) loans are for engineering services necessary in the course of survey and planning stages of projects. These services include reviews of feasibility studies, surveys on detailed data on project sites, detailed designs, and the preparation of bidding documents. In the same manner as Project Loans, completion of feasibility studies or their equivalent and confirmation of the project's overall necessity and relevance are prerequisites for this type of loan.

     3) Financial Intermediary Loans (Two-Step Loans)
     Financial intermediary loans are implemented through the financial institutions of the recipient country based on the policy-oriented financial system of the partner country. These loans provide funds necessary for the implementation of designated policies, such as the promotion of small and medium-scale enterprises in manufacturing, agriculture, and other specified industries and the construction of facilities to improve the living standards of the people with low income. These loans are known as "two-step loans (TSL)" because under the process, funds pass through two or more financial institutions before the end-beneficiaries receive the funds. Under this type of loan, funds can be provided to a large number of end beneficiaries in the private sector. Since these loans are implemented through local financial institutions, strengthening of the operational capabilities of these institutions and the development of the financial sector of recipient countries are also expected as the result of these loans.

     4) Sector Loans
     Sector loans are for materials and equipment, services and consulting required for the implementation of development plans in a specific sector consisting of multiple sub-projects. This type of loan also leads to improved policies and systems in the sector.

  2. Non-Project Loans
     1) Program Loans
     Program loans support the implementation of national strategies and poverty reduction strategies of developing countries that are seeking to improve policies and implement general system reforms. In recent years, the most common type of these loans is one in which proceeds are incorporated into...
the target partner country’s budget. In confirming achievement, consultation proceeds with future reform items in support of reforms based on a long-term framework. There are many instances in which these types of loans take the form of co-financing with the World Bank and other multilateral development banks (MDBs).

2) Commodity Loans
In order to stabilize the economies of developing countries, commodity loans provide settlement funds for urgent and essential import of materials to the countries that are experiencing a worsening foreign currency situation and facing economic difficulties. These loans are often used to import commodities such as industrial machinery and raw materials, fertilizer and pesticide and agricultural and other kinds of machinery, the specifics of which are agreed on beforehand between the Japanese and recipient governments.

3) Sector Program Loans
This type of loan is a Commodity Loan used simultaneously to support development policies in prioritized sectors of developing countries. Local-currency counterpart funds received by the government as payment for foreign currency sold to importers are utilized for public investment for sector-specific development.

Private-Sector Investment Finance

Support for Development Projects by the Private Sector in Developing Countries
In recent years, the importance of the private sector in economic and social development in developing countries has been steadily increasing, as international organizations as well as European and U.S. donors greatly boost their support for the private sector. Private-Sector Investment Finance aims to stimulate economic activity and improve the living standards of people in developing countries through equity investments and loans for projects undertaken in developing countries by the private sector. Private-Sector Investment Finance was fully resumed in 2012 after completion of a pilot phase that started in 2011.

Scope of Support
Private-Sector Investment Finance is for such projects with high levels of development effectiveness in developing countries as fall within following three categories: (1) infrastructure and growth acceleration; (2) MDGs and poverty reduction; and (3) climate change.

Organizational Structure of Risk Assessment and Control
Private-Sector Investment Finance has been resumed with an appropriate organizational structure for risk assessment and control. In addition to mutual checks and controls among the departments concerned, JICA conducts portfolio management for the whole of Private-Sector Investment Finance through an independent account— and is reinforcing its capacity for project implementation, risk assessment and management.

Case Study: Philippines: Stand-By Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery

In Preparation for Possible Future Disasters

JICA signed an ODA Loan agreement with the Government of the Philippines to assist in urgent recovery in case of large-scale disasters and to enhance the country’s capacity to reduce and control disaster risks.

First Provision of Stand-By Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery
In March 2014, JICA signed an ODA Loan agreement with the Government of the Philippines to provide a ¥50 billion ODA Loan for “Post Disaster Stand-By Loan.” This is the first provision of JICA’s scheme "Stand-by Emergency Credit for Urgent Recovery (SECURE)" which aims to promptly respond to the financial requirements of post-disaster recovery activities.

The Philippines is regarded as one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Natural disasters affect the country every year, causing enormous economic and human losses as well as frequent damage to social infrastructure. Such damage has affected the economic activities of the country in the long-term. Most recently, November 2013 witnessed Typhoon Yolanda directly hit the islands, including Leyte, Samar, Cebu, Panay, Bohol, and Negros, causing catastrophic damage and more than 6,000 deaths.

With climate change, there are growing concerns about future disasters due to possible occurrences of stronger storms and sea level rise in coastal areas. Hence, responding to disaster risks has been an urgent priority of the Government of the Philippines.

In order to act on these circumstances, the Government of the Philippines has intended to improve its capacity on disaster risk reduction and management through setting policies, which include: (1) formulation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan, as well as capacity enhancement of Local Government Units; (2) introduction of integrated water resources management; and (3) information management on disaster risk reduction and management.

This loan agreement aims to strengthen the country’s capacity on disaster risk reduction and management by assisting the Government of the Philippines on implementation of policy actions, together with responding to temporary financial needs in large-scale disasters.