# East Asia and Central Asia

**Providing Support that Meets the Needs of Each Country and Improves Regional Connectivity** 

#### **Director General's Message**

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## **Regional Issues**

- Most countries in this region are landlocked, and those countries that are poor in natural resources struggle with insufficient basic social services, while those that are rich in natural resources face the challenge of widening economic disparity and the economic vulnerability of fluctuating resource prices.
- Development of human resources with a global perspective continues to be important for further transition to market economies.

# **Fiscal 2014 Initiatives**

- JICA launched its first ever Sector Project Loan in Uzbekistan, which comprehensively supports the expansion of the power supply, including several advanced power-generation projects.
- Continuous efforts have been made by Japan and China on common challenges that the two countries directly face, including air pollution. The outcome of this continuous cooperation was reflected in the first major revision in 25 years of China's Environment Protection Law.

### **Future Cooperation**

- JICA will provide support according to the needs and circumstances of each country, including reducing poverty and minimizing disparity through rural development and employment promotion, as well as industrial diversification. In addition, JICA will also support infrastructure development that will contribute to improving economic connectivity in the region.
- As for China, JICA will promote cooperation in selected areas where both Japan and China face common challenges, and that have direct impacts on Japan.



This is the number of qualified mediators that the Project for Strengthening the Mediation System in Mongolia has supported to date. JICA assisted in the formulation of the Mediation Law, enacted in May 2012, and raised the capacity of relevant personnel. JICA has been continuously supporting the introduction of a mediation system in Mongolia that facilitated early and rational dispute resolution through negotiations that are satisfactory to the citizens. To date 9,908 cases of mediation have been implemented at the courts of first instance throughout Mongolia

The Kyrgyz Republic: Japanese experts and their counterparts in a drifting-snow zone consider suitable road maintenance and management. (Photo by Kaku Suzuki)