Rural Development
Building New Food Systems

Director General’s Message
Makoto Kitanaka  Director General, Rural Development Department

Sectoral Issues
➔ Although significant progress has been made in the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of “eradicate extreme hunger and poverty,” food security, and agricultural and rural development remain important issues that must be addressed.
➔ Providing support for the construction of a food value chain linking production and consumption that takes into account nutrition is an important theme for the stable delivery of safe and reliable food.

Fiscal 2014 Initiatives
➔ In Africa, JICA is providing support for regional development under the initiatives of Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) and for increased food production with the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD).
➔ In Southeast Asia, JICA is providing support for improving farm produce distribution systems through public-private cooperation as a part of support for the construction of a food value chain.

Future Cooperation
➔ With a long-term view to global food security, JICA will address such issues as climate change through water management and other base technologies with local farmer participation, and innovation that incorporates ICT, satellite data, and other advanced technologies.

This is the average yield of paddy rice per ha at 100 demonstration farms established under the Project for Rice-Based Agriculture Development in Afghanistan (the average yield for all of Afghanistan is 2.3t). The project faces major limitations due to internal instability, but this rice-growing potential brings with it hope for Afghanistan’s reconstruction. JICA plans to increase the number of demonstration farms to 875 in fiscal 2015 depending on the security situation.