

Partnerships with NGOs and Other Organizations

Collaboration with Diverse Actors in International Cooperation

As development issues have become more complicated, there is a greater need for Japanese overseas cooperation to mobilize people, knowledge, and expertise, based on the concept of human security, in order to cope with diverse themes such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In order for more people to become interested in international cooperation and also obtain opportunities to get involved in developmental challenges, JICA has been promoting “civic participation” through providing assistance, cooperation, and dialogue for NGOs, local governments, universities, and private sector entities.

● JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

Joint Implementation of Overseas Development Projects

JICA implements JPP projects jointly with Japanese organizations that are ardent about implementing international cooperation projects, including NGOs, local government entities, universities, and private companies. JPP is based on proposals from these experienced organizations, which helps benefit the local people in developing countries. JPP projects are unique as they directly contribute to improving the lifestyles and livelihoods of the people by carrying out detailed activities at the grassroots level. In fiscal 2014, JICA implemented 250 JPP projects in 50 countries.

JPP projects consist of three schemes: the partner type, in which projects are carried out by organizations with a certain level of experience in developing countries; the support type, in which projects are carried out by organizations with less experience in developing countries; and the local government type, in which local government entities play a central role and utilize the know-how accumulated in their localities.

In fiscal 2014, as part of the Japanese government’s policy of Economic Measures for Realization of Virtuous Cycles, JICA promptly conducted projects according to the Special Category of Local Economy Revitalization for local governments under the fiscal 2013 supplementary budget.

● NGO-JICA Japan Desk

Supporting the Activities of Japanese NGOs

JICA has NGO-JICA Japan Desks in 20 countries to support the activities of Japanese NGOs operating in developing countries. These desks offer consultation and information on various matters, for example, on local laws, local systems, the social situation, and the state of local NGO activities, which are also helpful for NGOs in implementing JPP projects.

● Support for Capacity Building

Strengthening Human Resources and Organization for Better International Cooperation

To support international cooperation activities by entities that include NGOs, JICA provides a variety of support programs. These include Project Cycle Management (PCM) method training, dispatching advisors with special expertise, and training for quick



Handmade paper training, part of the JICA Partnership Program (local government type) titled Industrial Promotion of Handmade Paper in the Kingdom of Bhutan, proposed by Hamada City, Shimane Prefecture, conducted by Sekishu Washi Cooperative

response to regional NGO-specific issues. In fiscal 2014, the following programs were implemented.

- Project management basic seminar utilizing the PCM method for individuals in charge of international cooperation; 416 participants
- Dispatch of domestic advisors for NGO organizational strengthening: dispatched to 10 organizations
- Dispatch of overseas advisors for NGO organizational strengthening: dispatched to 3 organizations
- NGO human resources training and Regional NGO-Proposed training: conducted 4 training events; 62 participants

● NGO-JICA Dialogue Meeting

Promoting Equal Partnerships

JICA emphasizes the importance of dialogue with NGOs for ensuring deeper mutual understanding and promoting excellent collaboration. Through its headquarters, overseas offices, and domestic offices, JICA exchanges opinions and information with NGOs on regional and sectoral issues. Also, JICA holds a quarterly dialogue meeting with NGOs where both sides discuss the effective cooperation and promotion of equal partnerships.

● JICA Donation Fund for the People of the World

International Cooperation through Donations

The JICA Donation Fund for the People of the World encourages citizens, corporations, and groups to participate in international cooperation. The donations are used to support Japanese civil society groups’ activities aiming to alleviate poverty and improve health care, education, and the environment of developing countries. In fiscal 2014 the fund supported 12 projects.

Case Study

JICA Partnership Program

Supporting Improvement of Life Skills — The Skills to Live

Philippines: Building Life Skills Training Program for the Urban Poor Children in Kasiglahan Resettlement Area (a support type project)

Project Operator: Salt Payatas Foundation

People who have left their homes because of the development of Metro Manila, natural disasters, etc., live in the Kasiglahan Resettlement Area. Many of the residents are temporary workers and face severe poverty. The project provides combined support to the children of the area to enter schools and to improve Life Skills* to better cope with problems that they encounter.

The Salt Payatas Foundation that has been supporting the Philippines for about 20 years and has been active in resettlement



To become a community-rooted facility: a picture of a workshop with the residents

areas, including Kasiglahan. An incomplete educational environment, together with family problems and a lack of motivation to learn, were major background factors for low enrollment rates and students leaving schools before graduation, and the graduation rate for secondary education was only 48%.

To cope with this situation, Salt Payatas has taken initiatives to improve Life Skills through establishment and management of a library for children, empowerment projects such as support to increase women's income levels, and other activities in the Payatas Area, which adjoins the Kasiglahan Area, since 2010.

Based on the experience in the Payatas Area, this project, which started in December 2014, aims (1) to run a Life Skills training program that suits characteristics and trends of the children and mothers in the Kasiglahan Resettlement Area, (2) to develop trainers to conduct Life Skills training, and (3) to manage the Empowerment Center, which is a base for these activities.

The Voice of an NGO Staffer

Emiko Ogawa
Project Manager

Through an investigation that we conduct on baselines, we are researching to find out what capabilities the local children need, and what type of training is effective. We face many difficulties, but children's precious smiles and local people's kindness help us carry on.

* The World Health Organization (WHO) defines Life Skills as "psychosocial abilities for adaptive and positive behaviour that enable individuals to deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life."

Mobilizing the Knowledge and Capabilities of Public and Private Sectors to Reduce Waste

Solomon Islands: Establishing Separate Collection System of Household Waste in Cooperation with Public and Private Sectors Based on a New 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Return) Concept (a partner type project)

Project Operator: Learning and Ecological Activities Foundation for Children

Honiara City, the capital city of the Solomon Islands, faces a big environmental and sanitary problem, since untreated waste is piled outdoors while the volume of imported goods made of plastic is sharply increasing. With the New 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Return) as keywords, the public and private sectors are jointly working to establish a separate collection system for household waste.

In Honiara, where household waste is rarely separated and the number of garbage trucks is limited, the increased amount of unattended waste is creating an unsanitary environment.



Delegates from Honiara City visiting a paper recycling company

The project collects and analyzes basic data regarding garbage collection, and also explores new solutions that suit the conditions specific to an island country, in place of waste recycling. In more specific terms, a method to collect and intermediately treat plastic bottles, and then return them to the countries that exported the products, is under practical consideration.

In October 2014, the Mayor of Honiara and three other delegates attended a study tour in Japan, and learned about waste reduction initiatives that the Learning and Ecological Activities Foundation for Children had taken in Nishinomiya City in Hyogo Prefecture, and methods of environmental education applied in educational institu-

tions, including primary schools. Meanwhile, in Honiara, the Cooperation Committee was established by citizens, administrators, and corporations. The Committee has carried out activities to raise local awareness of the issue through local events, etc.

The Voice of an NGO Staffer

Masayoshi Ogawa
Project Manager

Waste recycling is difficult within the Solomon Islands. I would like to see the establishment of a separate collection system for household waste through united cooperation of stakeholders in Honiara, including citizens, administrators, and corporations, so that waste, such as used plastic bottles, can be returned to the countries of manufacture as high-quality materials.

The Voice of a Local Staffer

Natsuko Kishimoto
Local Coordinator

I think that the first step to solve the waste problem is for each stakeholder, not just the City Council, to have problem awareness and take action.