



Rural Development

Agricultural and Rural Development Provides an Avenue to Reduce Global Food Insecurity and Poverty



Director General's Message

Hiroto Mitsugi Director General, Rural Development Department

Sectoral Issues

- ➔ Agricultural and rural development is essential, as it will be directly instrumental in achieving two of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Goal 1 of ending poverty and Goal 2 of ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.
- ➔ Providing support that covers, in its scope, entire food systems—from production to consumption—is important for the stable delivery of safe and reliable food.

Fiscal 2015 Initiatives

- ➔ To address global and policy issues, JICA implemented cooperation in the building of value chains, the strengthening of resilience to climate change, and agriculture and nutrition.
- ➔ In Africa, JICA provided 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).

Future Cooperation

- ➔ JICA will focus on *water*. It will promote efficient irrigation that uses satellite technology and ICT. It will also deliver assistance that includes climate-smart agriculture as a component.
- ➔ JICA will consider overall physical distribution—from the farm to the table—and incorporate the perspective of nutrition.

pick up
A look at
programs by
numbers

20 Countries

The SHEP approach has changed the mind-set of farmers from “grow and sell” to “grow to sell.” The Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) in 2013 set the target of expanding this approach to 10 countries in Africa. By the end of fiscal 2015, it was adopted by 20 countries, 1,300 extension workers, and 30,000 farmers.

Kenya: A family in a model farmers' group. They increased their income owing to the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Unit Project (SHEP UP) and bought a water tank. (Photo by Takeshi Kuno)