Peacebuilding

From Prevention of Conflict Recurrence to the Consolidation of Peace, State Building, and Restoration

Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), relevant goals are shown in color.

In recent conflicts, citizens are the major victims, and many post-conflict countries relapse into conflicts without achieving stability and development. The citizens displaced by armed conflicts who flee to other countries often put heavy burden on the countries hosting them.

JICA's peacebuilding assistance focuses on socioeconomic development that brings solutions in the face of social disparities and unequal opportunities as well as on capacity building of relevant stakeholders, including politicians, administrators, and judiciaries, in order to help establish confidence between government and citizens.

● **Overview of the Issue**

Armed conflicts destroy infrastructure, force people to be displaced, break up bonds of the communities, and sometimes causes mutual distrust and friction among neighborhoods. In such countries, public services are suspended and governments lose confidence from their citizens. Reconstruction of economies and societies requires long-term effort as whole social systems have collapsed and the poverty of vulnerable people have been aggravated.

In order to prevent conflicts and consolidate peace, military interventions and political measures such as preventive diplomacy are necessary. Establishment of stable states requires reconstruction of infrastructure that will support people's lives and economic reconstruction, as well as institution and capacity building of government that can fairly address people's needs, empowering communities and people.

● **JICA Activities**

Aiming at building a state where violent conflicts will not occur or recur, through establishment of a government trusted by its citizens and development of resilient societies, JICA provides cooperation to alleviate difficulties faced by the people affected during and immediately after a conflict, together with support to achieve stable development over the medium and long term.

At the immediate post-conflict stage, JICA provides assistance for rehabilitation of governmental services. Basic administrative functions disrupted by the conflict must be restored swiftly. JICA's assistance is intended to fulfill people's heightened expectations following the peace agreement, while restoring confidence between people and the government. Lately, conflicts can often be very lengthy and extensive, causing internal displacement and outflows of refugees. In addition to assistance for these internally displaced persons and refugees, support for their host countries and communities is also among JICA's important activities [➡ .

Case Study

Colombia:
Project on Capacity Development on Information Security Management of Land Information System for Land Restitution Policy Promotion

Assistance for Land Restitution to Encourage Displaced People to Return Home

On November 30, 2016, a peace agreement was reached between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), bringing an end to the internal armed conflict that continued for about 50 years. More than 6 million Colombians are said to be displaced due to this conflict. Since many of them have fled to urban areas and come to live on uninhabitable mountainsides, establishing social systems and improving living environment are strongly required to restore their life.

In 2011, the epoch-making Victims and Land Restitution Act defined victims and stipulated the restoration of land titles forcibly taken by rebels, and the Land Restitution Unit, a special administrative body of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, began developing land information management systems. However, since registration required sensitive information, including applicants' personal details and land seizure, applicants may run into danger if the information leaks. So it is definitely necessary to strictly maintain information security.

JICA provided technical assistance to enhance information security management by holding seminars for engineers responsible for system development and officials engaged in system operations and management, and conducting training in Japan to share information on land management and other efforts undertaken for reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture. JICA has continued supporting these restoration efforts for the consolidation of peace in Colombia.

A JICA training session for system designers of land information management