Emerging economies are accelerating growth, but many countries are still being left behind from globalization. This raises concerns that economic and social inequalities will widen within and among countries. Also, development issues are increasingly complex and diversified.

In 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This agenda calls for strengthening the means of implementation for development, such as finance, technology, and capacity building. It also calls for revitalization of the global partnership for sustainable development. While the percentage of ODA in the total financial flow to developing countries declines, it is increasingly difficult to achieve the SDGs with ODA and other public funds alone. This is why various partnerships and approaches are essential, including mobilization of private funds.

JICA engages in collaboration and co-creation with a wide range of partners in Japan and abroad, including emerging donors, to generate the maximum impact of its programs and projects and thus contribute to the attainment of the SDGs.

**Activities of JICA toward Achieving the SDGs**

Under its guiding principle for achieving the SDGs, JICA is working on a range of activities in Japan and abroad.

On the international front, JICA signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A) in October 2017. SDGC/A is a Rwanda-based international organization established in 2015 to overcome the challenges that stand in the way of achieving the SDGs across the continent. JICA is now working with SDGC/A to advance partnership and disseminate expertise in development with special focus on some goals of the SDGs, including zero hunger (Goal 2), good health and well-being (Goal 3), and quality education (Goal 4).

On the domestic front, JICA promoted public understanding of the SDGs and worked to enhance partnerships toward achieving the SDGs in cooperation with various partners, such as the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren), the Japan Securities Dealers Association (JSDA), the media, and universities. In November 2017, for example, JICA co-organized a symposium on the SDGs with Nikkei Inc.

**Partnerships with International Development Agencies**

Achieving the SDGs requires close partnership with other development agencies. Through such partnerships, these agencies can complement one another with their respective

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1. JICA’s Position Paper on SDGs was released in September 2016.
2. JICA web page on initiatives on the SDGs: www.jica.go.jp/aboutoda/sdgs/
3. In March 2018, the president of JICA assumed the post of the SDGC/A Board Members.
strengths in sectors and technologies. They can also collaborate to provide more effective and efficient support to address difficult challenges that are beyond the capacity of one agency. Dissemination of JICA’s experience and knowledge through participation in international discussions on development cooperation will not only improve the quality of international development initiatives, but also will increase the understanding of Japan’s experiences and approaches.

JICA regularly holds strategic discussions with some of its development partners. In fiscal 2017, the presidents of the World Bank Group and of JICA held the Fourth High-Level Dialogue. They agreed to enhance their partnership to strengthen mobilization of private finance and private sector development and to jointly promote the initiatives to achieve the Universal Health Coverage (UHC). JICA also had annual or regular discussions with other international organizations, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

During fiscal 2017, JICA attended many other international conferences and seminars, including the Annual Meeting of the ADB in May in Yokohama, as well as the World Assembly for Women (WAW!) in November and the UHC Forum in December [see page 10], both held in Tokyo. At these events, the president and other executives of JICA gave keynote addresses and spoke as panelists on JICA’s position, activities, and initiatives.

- **Partnerships with Emerging Countries and South-South and Triangular Cooperation**

In addition to the traditional development agencies mentioned above, emerging countries such as the Republic of Korea, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Brazil, and Turkey have become development cooperation providers. JICA has attached much value in sharing a variety of development approaches and issues with these emerging countries based on Japan’s long experience in development cooperation. JICA continues to hold discussions with these emerging development partners, such as the Export-Import Bank of China, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and Economic Development Cooperation Fund of the Export-Import Bank of Korea (EDCF).

The international community regards JICA’s years of experience highly in South-South and Triangular Cooperation, both of which are designed to share the development experiences of emerging and developing countries. JICA takes the opportunities offered by international forums to share its experiences with the international community. In fiscal 2017, JICA attended the UN Global South-South Development Expo held in Turkey and presented its experience of the Triangular Cooperation project with the Turkish government, namely Support for Afghan Female Police Officers. JICA emphasized the importance of ownership by the people involved as well as of facilitators between the countries involved.

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4. UHC is defined as “ensuring that all people can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship.”