

# Climate Change

## Tackling the Global Climate Challenge



\*Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), relevant goals are shown.

### Overview of the Issue

Climate change is predicted to increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather events and natural disasters, and undermine the foundation of human well-being, including natural ecosystems and social and economic activities. Climate change is an emergency that threatens economic growth, poverty reduction, and human security. Tackling climate change is a global challenge that should be addressed by the international community as a whole.

In December 2015, the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) took place in Paris to define a new international framework "Paris Agreement" for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and avoiding/minimizing the negative impact of climate change. Today, JICA is providing support to accelerate climate actions around the world.

### JICA Activities

JICA is diversifying its efforts to support climate actions in developing countries aligning with the JICA Climate Change Cooperation Strategy. Based on this strategy, JICA is mainstreaming climate actions into its development programs and projects in various sectors. JICA's cooperation in addressing climate change focuses on the following four priorities:

#### 1. Promoting low or zero carbon and climate resilience in urban and infrastructure development

JICA facilitates climate actions for low or zero carbon and

climate resilience in developing countries where economic growth is rapid and the demand for infrastructure is enormous. JICA's support is to accelerate climate actions in urban and infrastructure development through Technical Cooperation, Finance and Investment Cooperation, and Grants.

#### 2. Enhancing climate risk assessment and countermeasures

The negative impact of climate change has been materializing in every part of the world, and thus consideration of climate risks is essential for all actions in developing countries. JICA supports the capacity development to identify and assess climate risks and take measures to avoid or minimize them [→ see the case study below].

#### 3. Supporting climate policy and institutional development

Climate actions require long-term commitment. JICA supports policy and institutional capacity development for developing countries in order to achieve their climate objectives.

#### 4. Enhancing conservation and management of forests and other ecosystems

Deforestation and anthropogenic land use change have two major negative impacts. First, it promotes the degradation and loss of forests and other ecosystems. Second, it will lead to an increase in global GHG emissions. Therefore, JICA is strengthening community-based sustainable forest management through technical cooperation projects.

### Fiji (Regional): Project for Reinforcing Meteorological Training Function of FMS

#### Contributing to human resources development for accurate monitoring of the climate and weather in Pacific island countries



A scene in a training session on meteorological measuring instruments

Pacific island countries (PICs) are prone to natural disasters. They are particularly vulnerable to floods and landslides caused by cyclones. Damage from these disasters is increasing year by year. In this region, the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) plays a focal role in weather observation and forecast. This technical cooperation project was implemented to support human resources development at meteorological services in PICs by strengthening FMS's capacity to train meteorological personnel.

Many countries in the Pacific region do not have adequate data needed to conduct meteorological analysis due to the lack of observational capacity and equipment.

Nauru, in particular, was in urgent need of surface weather observation, which had not been implemented at the national level.

With cooperation provided by the project, Nauru commenced surface weather observation and issuing weather bulletins to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for the first time in the nation's history. The commencement of surface weather observation in Nauru, which constituted a gap in such observations, will enhance the global meteorological observation network and data accumulation, which in turn will likely contribute to more accurate climate change projection.