To Overcome the Pandemic Together Gaance

The global COVID-19 pandemic is a historic event that continues to devastate not only people's lives and health but societies and their economies as well. Overcoming this calamity is difficult without international solidary and cooperation. JICA is strengthening its efforts to help get over the pandemic and create a society resilient to present and future infectious diseases under JICA's Initiative for Global Health and Medicine.



Cooperation for the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR)

JICA has provided both physical and nonphysical assistance to NMIMR since its establishment in 1979 as a research center of excellence. Such assistance amid the pandemic includes the provision of equipment and materials such as PCR testing equipment and reagents as well as cooperation in implementing a third-country training program for laboratory technicians in nine West African countries, including Ghana.



Palestine Last One Mile Support*

JICA provided cold-chain equipment for transporting vaccines as well as the latest laboratory equipment for COVID-19 testing. The only testing laboratory in the Gaza Strip suffered severe damage from airstrikes in May 2021. JICA acted in a timely manner to deliver the necessary equipment as soon as possible.



Viet Nam

Cooperation for the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE)

JICA has been supporting the NIHE in developing its laboratory and capacity since 2006. The NIHE leveraged its network with provincial laboratories to take the lead in developing the nationwide system for prompt PCR testing from the earliest stages of the pandemic. JICA provided laboratory equipment as well.



Nigeria Cooperation for the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)

JICA provided advanced laboratory facilities and equipment for the NCDC and NCDC network public health laboratories. JICA has also assisted the NCDC in enhancing its management and laboratory capacity and human resources development for preparedness for public health emergencies.



*An initiative by the Japanese government to support partner countries in developing the vaccine rollout system with the aim of delivering the vaccine to "the last person."

Delivering Cooperation in Partner Countries Based on Three Pillars: *Prevention, Precaution, and Treatment*

Treatment

Hospital Construction Constructed, extended, or renovated 341 hospitals in fiscal 1973–2020

Prevention

Handwashing Campaign

Supported 200 awareness-raising activities in 48 countries in September 2020– March 2021

Precaution

JICA

Centers for Infectious Disease Testing and Research

Constructed or scaled-up hub laboratories in **13** countries

Brazil

Follow-up Cooperation for Hospital Japonês Santa Cruz

JICA implemented follow-up cooperation for former participants in its Training Program for Japanese Descendants from Hospital Japonês Santa Cruz. The former participants are playing a central role in conducting activities aimed at preventing hospital-acquired infections, including the development of relevant COVID-19 guidelines.



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Mongolia Cooperation for the Mongolia-Japan Teaching Hospital

After supporting hospital construction and providing medical equipment, JICA has been implementing a technical cooperation project designed to develop high-level hospital management and a high-quality medical service delivery system. Since the hospital is accepting COVID-19 patients, JICA has provided technical cooperation and personal protective equipment for preventing hospital infection.





A Japanese Cartoon for COVID-19 Prevention and Handwashing Is Spreading in 32 Languages

JICA has developed the cartoon "Correct Handwashing" for children in developing countries as part of its Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign. The cartoon has evoked a massive response. It was translated into 32 languages as of July 2021. It has also been turned into a TV commercial and broadcast in some countries.



For JICA's Initiative for Global Health and Medicine, see JICA's Endeavor 2 on page 18. Visit also DICA's Web page "Way Forward, Working Together Against COVID-19" https://www.jica.go.jp/COVID-19/en/index.html.