JICA Volunteer Program

JICA Volunteer Program was launched in 1965 to provide official Japanese technical assistance abroad at grassroots levels. Since then, more than 46,000 JICA volunteers have worked in 88 countries all over the world. This program is one of JICA’s principal activities as part of its international cooperation carried out on behalf of the Japanese government.

JICA Volunteers in FSM

In close coordination with the government of FSM and local authorities, JICA has placed Japanese dedicated volunteers in all 4 states of FSM since 1989. In 2014, the number reached about 400 in total.

Supporting Field

- Waste Management,
  Environmental Education
- Elementary Education
- Industry Development and Capacity Building
- Hospital Administration Management, Health Support

Training Program

Training in Japan as technical cooperation

As one of the development assistance schemes, Training Program contributes to human resource development through utilizing Japan’s technology, skills and knowledge, and it has become one of JICA’s unique and characterized core cooperation modalities. In FSM, since the first group of trainees to Japan was dispatched in 1979, more than 450 technical experts and public officials have participated in the program, and each ex-trainee has been contributing to social and economic development in FSM from the community level to the government level. The courses cover a wide range of technical fields: Health, Education, Environment, Agriculture and Fishery, Tourism, Governance, Gender and more.

Follow-up Cooperation

JICA provides necessary post support “Follow-up Project”, in which new equipment and materials are given to replace the old one to enhance the impacts of ongoing activities. In 2015, FMI in Yap was given new devices for training ship “Hokuto” provided through the project type technical cooperation by JICA from 2000 to 2006. In 2014, DHSA received a new generator with automatic transfer switch for National Vaccine Cold Chain Storage under a follow-up cooperation for ex-trainees of JICA training program.

JICA Alumni (Ex-trainees)

JICA Alumni Association (JAA) in FSM was established in 2006 with the purpose to create continued friendship among all JICA ex-trainees, and to share their experience in Japan with younger generations of FSM. At present, 4 Chapters of JAA in each state are established and are positively conducting social contribution activities together with JICA Micronesia.

JICA Micronesia Office

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Edited in 2015.10
As an independent administrative agency that implements official development assistance (ODA) of the government of Japan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) provides bilateral aid in the form of Technical Cooperation, Grant Aid and Japanese ODA Loans for those partner developing countries with existing difficulties. JICA now operates ODA in over 150 countries in the world.

**JICA in FSM**

JICA began its cooperation with the government of FSM in 1979 before its independence by accepting technical trainees to Japan in the field of fishery. JICA Volunteers have been dispatched since 1989, and after the Technical Cooperation Agreement in 2005, the cooperation for FSM was accelerated enabling JICA to enhance the impact of the cooperation with its sustainability and to realize more dynamic support for FSM.

**JICA History in FSM**

- 1979: Trainees were sent to Japan from FSM
- 1980: First Grant Aid was provided
- 1986: FSM Independence
- 1989: Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) began
- 1999: JICA Micronesia Office was opened
- 2000: Project type Technical Cooperation began
- 2001: Dispatch of Senior Overseas Volunteers (SV) began
- 2005: Technical Cooperation Agreement
- 2014: 60 years commemoration of Japan’s ODA operation

**Cumulative Development Cooperation to FSM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Grant Aid (JY)</th>
<th>Technical Cooperation (JY)</th>
<th>Experts</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
<th>Trainees to Japan</th>
<th>Equipment Provision (JY)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>91.67 Billion</td>
<td>8.06 Billion</td>
<td>88 persons</td>
<td>399 persons*</td>
<td>450 persons*</td>
<td>0.55 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(As of 2013.* Figures of Volunteers and Trainees are of 2014)

**OUR VISION: Inclusive and Dynamic Development**

**Today’s Cooperation in FSM**

**Environment**

The solar electricity generation system was installed at COM-FSM college campus and President Office with the maximum capacity of 180KW. JICA’s concept of “Hybrid Island Initiative” aims to reduce fuel consumption and to enhance energy security both adopting appropriate renewable energy and improving operation and maintenance for diesel generators.

Project for promotion of regional initiative on solid waste management (J-PRISM) is undergoing in 11 pacific countries including FSM from 2011, to strengthen human and institutional capacity through technical assistance for local authorities. [www.sprep.org/j-prism](http://www.sprep.org/j-prism)

**Social and Economic Infrastructures**

In order to improve safety of taking off and landing of aircrafts at the Pohnpei International Airport, the runway length was extended by Japanese Grant Aid while other facilities such as airport apron, parking, terminal building were also improved.

The new vessel for 425 passengers, “Four Winds” which can hold 700m³-sized cargo, was handed over to FSM in April, 2015. The ship is expected to facilitate the stable supply of necessary goods as well as transport people for social and economic development through improving stability and safety of sea transportation within FSM.

**Health Service**

To improve the operation of Hospital administration, JICA volunteers are implementing the “5S” method (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardized and Sustain) which can result in delivering better quality services. Furthermore, volunteers are encouraging community people to exercise more and cook healthy to prevent Lifestyle-related diseases.

**In order to overcome the vulnerabilities of small islands countries, JICA continues to work together with each state of FSM for better tomorrow.**

**Industry Development**

Experienced Senior Volunteers are dispatched to the public institutes in the field of agriculture and fishery to support the development of value-added products from existing local resources. Recently-developed flour made of Taros and Breadfruits can be a substitute for wheat flour imported from abroad while utilizing the abundant local products.