

## ***Ground Breaking Ceremony for Improvement of Water Supply System for the Zarqa District Project (Phase II)***



Minister of Water & Irrigation,  
Japanese Ambassador at Ground  
Braking Ceremony

On May 26, 2009, Japan and Jordan celebrated the ground-breaking for the Project for ***Improvement of Water Supply System for Zarqa Distict (Phase II)*** at the project site in Zarqa City. The ceremony was attended by H.E. Engineer Raed Abu Saud, Minister of Water and Irrigation, H.E Mr. Tetsuo Shioguchi, Ambassador of Japan, Chief Representative of JICA in Jordan, Officials from the Government of Jordan, and staff of Japanese consultant & Contractor.

Phase II of the Project, which was started in 2007, aims at improving water supply conditions and increasing water availability in Zarqa from 84 liters per day per person to 113 liters, and ultimately causing the improvement of the living conditions of the residents. The project components include the construction of Batrawi Service Reservoir with a capacity of 14000 cubic meters, and Distribution Main of 600 mm & 400 mm in diameter of pipes with approximate lengths of 3.6 km.

The project is expected to be completed by March 2010, by that time, the target areas will be served by gravity distribution instead of pumping distribution so as to ease operation and maintenance and maintain the sustainability of facilities by reducing the pumping costs.

## ***Mid-term Review Mission of the Integrating Health and Empowerment of Women in the South Region Project***

**The Integrating Health and Empowerment of Women in the South Region Project** has started since 2006 for five years, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Higher Population Council, to encourage and increase the utilization of reproductive health services and family planning in the south region focusing in the rural areas and aiming at improving the health services provided by the Village Health Centers, and covering the topics of women's health and empowerment by developing policy recommendation.

Since half of the Project period passed, JICA dispatched the Mid-term Review Mission during the period from June 23, 2009 until July 9, 2009.



Meeting with Ministry of  
Health Secretary General

The Mission prepared the evaluation report, summarized the achievements of the Project, and gave recommendations for the remaining period of implementation.

The Project achievements were such as: recruitment and training of Health Assistant, renovation of twenty three (23) Village Health Centers, provision of health equipment, as well as public awareness program ...

## *The Senior Volunteers & the Industrial Competitiveness*

The senior volunteers program which was introduced in Jordan in 1994 aims at promoting technical cooperation through transferring the accumulated knowledge and experience gained by the volunteers over the years to the Jordanian counterparts. Mr. Nazzal ARMOUTI, the General Manager of the Jordanian Cypriot Construction Industries Company will shed the light on the experience they had with the senior volunteers.

Is your factory safe for letting your kids going around inside it? That's what the senior volunteer from JICA "Mr. Nakamura" begin his presentation to me and my departments' managers. Conveying an important message, from the Japanese management standards, that the civilization prospers and industries raise, by respecting of operators and taking care of their safety, it was a clear message that our men are the most important estates we have in our factory.



Mr. Nazzal ARMOUTI

Our experience as Jordanian Cypriot construction industries Co. with "JICA senior volunteer" program goes back to one year and a half, and let me share some of the efforts that we achieved through those excellent experts "JICA SV"; 4 S procedures were implemented, Safety record improved by 300%, (overall equipment efficiency) OEE improved by 20%, and Company people and factory operators were taught how to sustain the above results and keep on improving it.

Let me say that the above results are tangible results which we felt and seen through numbers. But what more important was, is leading by doing, I do remember when Mr. Nakamura used to hold the broom to clean his office or sometimes the front yard of our factory, setting for us an example, that managers are the first one to take an act and do. I'm sure that JICA SV had shown me and my staff how to put ourselves on a front of mirror to see how we can improve our company, and that we shouldn't be afraid of our problems but to be, from not solving it.

The impacts of the JICA SV program were priceless it was more than money return back; it was a mind setting on how to reflect our knowledge and experience into reality to enhance our performance and management.

## *Project Study on Quantification of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) Emission Reduction*

Through repeated visits and extensive data collection and interviews, the appointed consultant and JICA – Jordan Office were able to conduct this study in an accurate and time sensitive manners. The study which is on Electrical Power Loss Reduction of Transmission and Distribution Networks in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan took place on different related governmental entities and private companies.

In Jordan, a state-owned NEPCO is in charge of most of the electric generation, transmission and distribution. Two private electricity companies; JEPSCO and IDECO are in charge of distributing outside NEPCO's supply area, where both of them purchase electricity from NEPCO and supply electricity to customers. Electric loss from transmission and distribution in Jordan was 9.4% on average from 1986 to 1995. Reduction of grid loss is a critical issue in the country to improve energy efficiency as well as to reduce loss in new power generation development in the future.



Aqaba Thermal Power Station

Results of the study were considered at utmost importance to all stakeholder companies and entities which were reflected on the high degree of cooperation and information sharing by these companies. Mainly, the study comes to examine the cause of transmission and distribution loss from the power sector in Jordan and to propose measures to reduce grid loss, as well as to enhance technical transfer from Japan to stakeholders in the electricity market of Jordan.

As of January 2009, Jordan's electricity system consists of NEPCO, 3 transmission and distribution companies (JEPSCO, EDCO, IDECO), and power generation companies (CEGCO, SEPGCO, AES-Jordan). Three transmission and distribution companies have continued implementing the grid loss reduction measures up to the present day. Estimated grid loss reduction is calculated as 300 GWh for the 9 years from 1999 to 2007.

The study's conclusions and results are definitely providing an outsider's perspective and evaluation for the electrical power loss reduction of transmission and distribution networks, and thus can be used as a measuring or benchmarking tool for future expanded studies that any of the stakeholder companies might conduct on their own operations.

## ***Outline of Dispatching Short Term JOCV for Children's Activities in Palestinian Refugee Camps***

During summer vacation, children in the Palestinian refugee camps used to spend their time at home or in the neighborhood without any specific activities. If there are somebody who facilitate activities with fun, especially some sports programs in a team play, children would spend useful time and are expected to be brought up for positive growth; "a sound mind in a sound body."

On the other hand in Japan, during summer vacation season, many Japanese young people are available for participating volunteer programs abroad. JICA has recently started to recruit those active human resources and dispatch them in a short period to appropriate places where they can extend and utilize their capacities.

JICA Jordan Office has coordinated for Japanese young people who have experiences to facilitate youth activities to be dispatched as JOCV to Jordan and play key roles in the refugee camps, to give opportunity for children to spend useful time in participating summer activity programs in their camps.

Children in the refugee camps will feel a sense of achievement, and learn harmonization through participating activities, which are facilitated by JOCV.

Children in the refugee camps will join activities such as sports, games, handcrafts, etc.... for four weeks

In the final week "Sports Event" will be held in each camp, and on the last day "Final Match of the Sports Event" planned to be held in Amman in August 19.



Sports activities at Refugee Camp

## ***Port Sector Rehabilitation Project Workshop in Amman***

A five days' workshop for the Port Sector Rehabilitation Project was held in Amman, the workshop which was organized by the Project's consulting company Nippon Koei Co., Ltd and attended by the staff of the General Company of Ports of Iraq (GCPI) and JICA's related staff was launched on July 6 till July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

The first day of the workshop took place in Aqaba city where a number of field visits were arranged for GCPI's staff such as visiting the truck marshland yard, which is part of the traffic control system in Aqaba, Aqaba Container Terminal and the General Cargo Port in addition to visiting the main entry point located 45 km north of Aqaba.

As one of the main aims of this workshop was to discuss the latest updates and to provide a brief on the current situation for each of the Project lots' which constitutes of dredging works, wreck removal



Group Portrait

works, procurement of marine and land equipments, discussions were resumed in Amman during which Nippon Koei Engineers' delivered a presentation on each of the Project lots' and the accomplished works so far.

The conclusion of this workshop was fruitful since it assisted in identifying the needed steps to be taken in the coming stage for each of the lots' and the attendance of JICA helped in answering the inquiries of both the consultant and GCPI in addition to providing useful recommendations and advice whenever it is necessary.

It is worth mentioning that the Port sector rehabilitation project is funded by the Japanese ODA Loan for Iraq reconstruction with an amount of JPY 30,211 mil.

## ***Capacity Development Project for Training for Palestinians in the Field of Meteorological Sector***

JICA signed on July 2, 2009 with Jordan Meteorological Department the Record of Discussions for Capacity Development in Meteorology for Palestinians. JICA Jordan Office, in cooperation with Jordan Meteorological Department will implement training course for the staff of Palestinian Meteorological Department.

The first year training will be conducted from July 19, 2009 to August 8, 2009, with total seventeen (17) participants in the fields of Forecasting, Observation, Meteorological Instruments, Numerical Weather Prediction, Climatology & Hydrology and Data Management.



Trainees Group

This training is to be conducted for three (3) years. JICA will bear most of the total budget, while Jordan Meteorological Department will share some portion and take the responsibility of arranging the training, depending on the partnership program which was signed on December 2004.

JICA is actively and progressively implementing the support for Palestine. The Third Country Training Program collaborated with Jordanian Government is the pivotal activities for human resources development. JICA will implement another four (4) courses under Third Country Training Program not only in the Meteorological field but in the fields of water, agriculture, fire fighting & rescue, and food safety and food inspection.

JICA has been carrying out the Third Country Training Program since 1992 with the support of the concerned Jordanian organizations. The total number of participants from Arab countries has so far reached to more than 1,200, including more than 810 from Palestine.

## ***Two Training Courses for Twenty Six (26) Participants from the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture***



Opening Ceremony at CARDNE

26 trainees from Ministry of Agriculture of Iraq participated in the activities of two training courses under the title of the Empowerment of Rural Women and Beekeeping, organized by Regional Centre on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development for the Near East (CARDNE) and National Center for Agriculture Research and Extension (NCARE).

The courses held during the period from June 27 to July 10 were part of a series of training courses funded by JICA, last for two weeks to give participants the skills of the rural research and participation to prepare a national plan for the development of rural women in Iraq.

The training was implemented based on manual skills, knowledge, providing information, changing trends, and accurate measurement of training needs is the basis for development.

These training programs are considered utmost importance for construction of Iraq and development of the rural society, the self-reliance in food production helps to solve the problems of food shortages.

The valuable efforts exerted by JICA in the reconstruction of Iraq, in particular in the area of human capacity-building is not less important than areas of economic development, as the construction and capacity-building is a central pillar of the reconstruction process.

