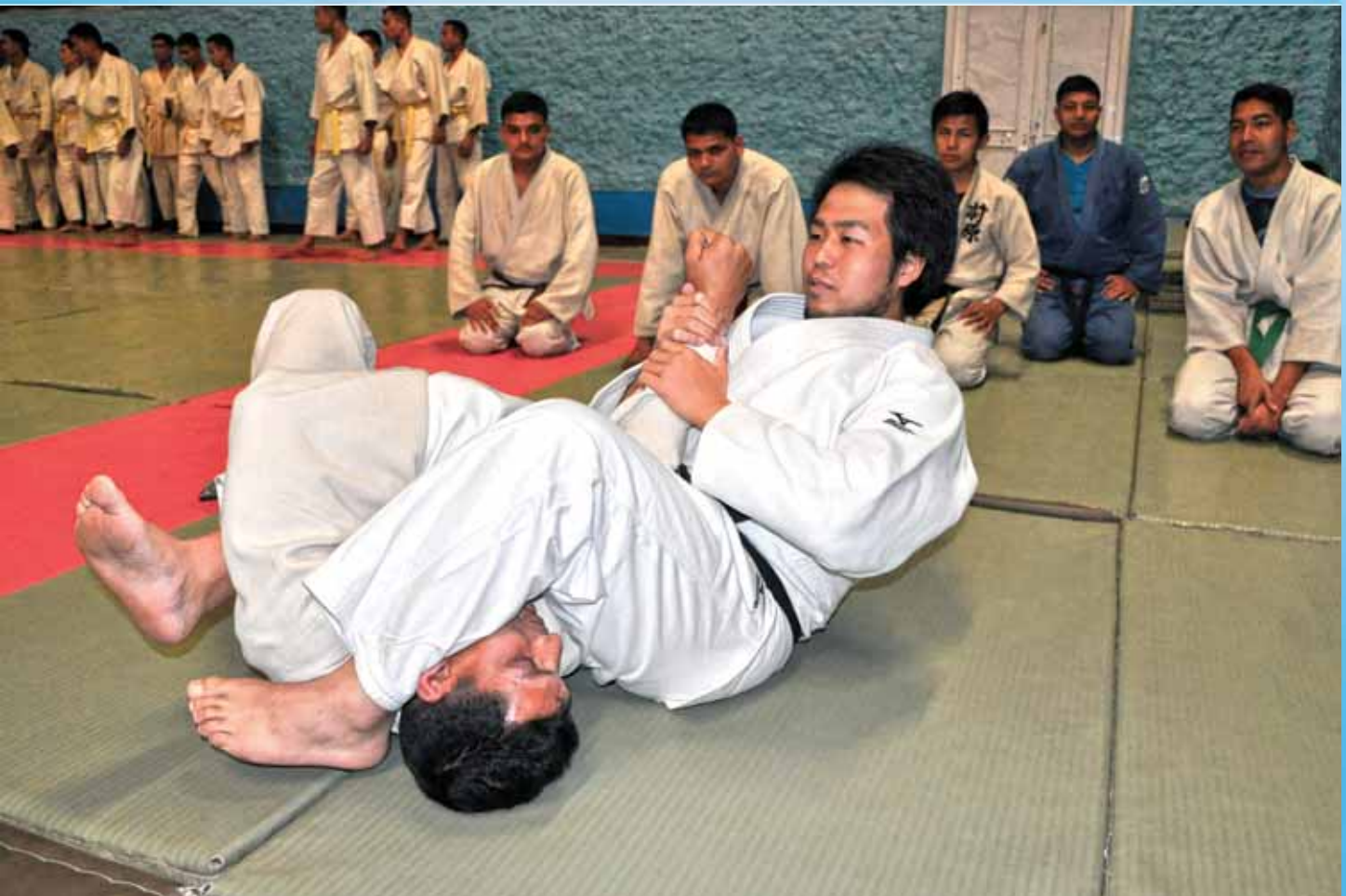


JICA VOLUNTEER PROGRAM IN NEPAL



Japan International Cooperation Agency

Introduction

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program was founded in 1965 as part of JICA's grass root level technical cooperation scheme. This program has already commemorated its 50th anniversary, largely due to the efforts of the volunteers themselves, local officials and people in developing countries who worked with them, and people in Japan who support the program.

The JICA's volunteer program expect volunteers to live among the people of the country where they are dispatched and to pursue their activities with local people, enabling them to ascertain development needs from the viewpoint of those living there. They work with the local people to contribute towards the respective country's socio-economic development making effective use of their abilities and experiences. This has always been the ideal of the JICA volunteer program since the inception. JICA dispatches Japanese volunteers who want to use their technical skills and practical experience for the benefits of developing countries as they work together with local people in those countries.

JICA Volunteers

JOCV

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) is a cooperation scheme of JICA, in which young volunteers from 20-39 years old are dispatched to work and live with local communities and stakeholders for two-years service. The objective of this scheme is to assist in the socio-economic development utilizing activeness and passion of Japanese youth as well as promote mutual understanding and strengthen friendship between Nepal and Japan at the grass roots level.

SV

Senior Volunteers (SV) are Japanese Volunteers between 40 and 69 years of age, who are motivated by the volunteering spirit and possess practical knowledge and technical skills backed up by their own abundant working experience. SVs are assigned to a wide range of fields. The objective of this scheme is to utilize accumulated rich experience of Japanese nationals after their successful careers in various field for the development of developing countries.

GOAL:

For many years JICA has been evaluating its volunteers program, and this has resulted in a reconfirmation of the following goals:

- To contribute towards the socioeconomic development or reconstruction of developing countries and regions
- To strengthen friendship and mutual understanding between developing countries, regions and Japan
- To give back to the society the fruits of volunteer-activity experience

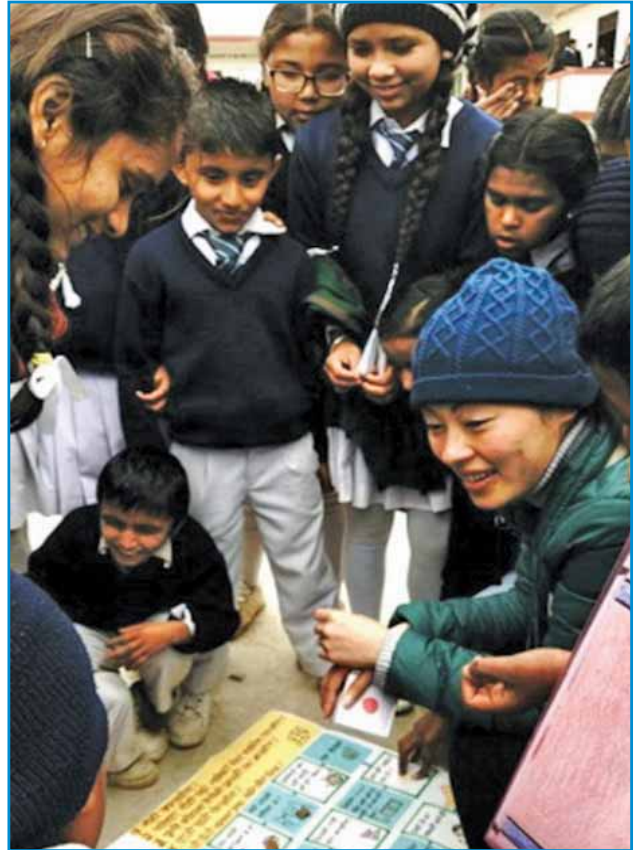


JICA Volunteers in Nepal

The first batch of JICA volunteers was dispatched to Nepal in September, 1970. The areas of the JICA volunteer program in Nepal span different sectors and a diverse range of sub-sectors, including agriculture, forestry and fisheries, repair & maintenance, environment education, community development, youth activity, civil engineering, sanitation, health, education and culture, as well as planning and administration.

As of March 2016 a total 1327 JICA volunteers have worked in Nepal. Widely recognized as a representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency, volunteer activities have not only earned high acclaim from Nepal but also received increased praise in Japan, where expectation for these programs are also rising. The four and half decades of the JICA volunteer program in Nepal has been devoted to the sharing of rich experience at the grass root level for Nepal's nation building endeavor through the 'Learning by Doing' approach.

Each year JICA volunteers who are eager to make use of their skills and experience acquired in Japan are sent to Nepal. They work in different areas of expertise to take part in various fields across the country and help improve the livelihood of Nepali people.



Why JICA volunteers are dispatched to Nepal ?

Agriculture/Rural Development

- To improve the administrative system
- To help reduce poverty in rural area
- To raise the living standard through stable food production
- To provide assistance for agriculture cooperative association

Local Government and Community Empowerment (Gender/Social Inclusion)

- To enhance, empower communities and rural citizens from gender and social inclusion perspective
- To support the socially vulnerable and excluded people (disadvantage women, internally displaced people, street children, etc.)

Transportation and infrastructure/Urban Environment

- To improve air traffic control management and international airport passenger service
- To help follow traffic rules in the Kathmandu Valley
- To build public awareness for solid waste management
- To create public awareness on disaster prevention
- To support alternative energy development and use of solar energy

The Sports for Tomorrow

Japan aims to export to the people of all generations including the young who represent the future sporting values and Olympic and Paralympic movement for a better future of the world.

Three Pillars:

- International Cooperation and exchange through sports.
- Academy for Tomorrow's Leaders in Sports
- Play True 2020

Private Sector Development

- To promote campaigns focused on right choice of the locally available products
- To enhance self reliance and creativity within the local community
- To develop marketing network

Education and Health

- To improve quality of education
- To foster children's aspiration for learning
- To support for developing teaching techniques/materials/training and provide field assistance
- To enhance medical and nursing care services
- To train officials and strengthen primary healthcare system in local level
- To improve maternal and child health care in regional, district and VDC levels

Social Activation

- Culture exchange through people to people interaction at grass root level
- Change of mind of Nepali youth into positive social activation
- Promote international Co-operation
- To promote sports culture by supporting sports for all, trainings for trainers and sports for person with disabilities "PWD's"

AS A LIVELIHOOD FACILITATOR

Agriculture / Rural Development

In a country where about 65 percent of people are engaged in agriculture, development in this field is indispensable to reduce poverty and improve the living standard of people in rural areas. JICA has a long history of dispatching volunteers in the agriculture and rural development sectors. In 1970, three members from the first batch of JICA Volunteers to Nepal were dispatched in the Rapti Agriculture Experiment Farm of Chitwan District. Since then, hundreds of volunteers have worked hard to provide technical assistance and support to agricultural activities, cooperative associations, and organizations. The target and future focus of the Volunteer program in agriculture and rural development is to contribute to 'increasing opportunities for earning agricultural income' by producing cash crops, livestock, and forest products; 'enhancing food security assurance' by stabilizing food production; and 'strengthening administrative and farmers organizations' through development of human resources and empowerment. Some of the contributions of JICA Volunteers in this sector are tunnel-farming system that successfully introduced off-season vegetables, regular food items such as tofu, miso, soya, rainbow trout fish, junar(sweet orange), mushroom, persimmon, pear, etc. JICA Volunteers are thus facilitating livelihoods by focusing on sustainable capacity development of the farmers.



AS A CHANGE MAKER

Local Government and Community Empowerment (Gender/Social Inclusion)

The Volunteers dispatched under the 'Local Government and Community Empowerment Program' are presently providing assistance for the socially marginalized people and communities. JICA Volunteers are assigned to address needs and issues of women, person with disabilities as well as socially vulnerable people and to reflect their plight and development at the central ministries and policy making level. Among the approaches of this program, Volunteers pursue empowerment of local people at the grassroots-level by 'strengthening the capacity of the socially vulnerable



people and providing balanced assistance to them', and 'developing rural community from a perspective of the gender mainstreaming and social inclusion' through which to contribute to building a democratized country. Volunteers assigned to this program have a common target i.e. to understand and fulfill the needs at grassroots-level through various activities and to bring fruitful changes in their lives. Typical examples of such activities are introducing new technical knowledge in the Women Skill Development Project (WSDP), reinforcing

social activities in Women Cooperatives, etc. Thus, JICA Volunteers act as change agents for the empowerment of disadvantaged people and contribute to the removal of social and economic disparity of Nepal.



AS AN ECONOMIC GROWTH BOOSTER

Transportation and Infrastructure

In order to expand economic opportunities, it is necessary to develop infrastructure including transport and business environment. JICA Volunteers have been dispatched to improve Air traffic control radio maintenance and Airport passenger service at Tribhuvan International Airport, and Traffic management and Road safety in the Kathmandu Valley. Private Sector development poses another important challenge to driving economic growth. To create employment through activation of local industry, JICA assists in improving the business environment including small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development, policy and rules, customs, and financial sector. JICA Volunteers have been engaged in vocational training such as IT instructor, computer technology, textile design, etc. JICA Volunteers thus are boosting sustainable economic growth through helping infrastructure and institutional development.



Urban Environment

Environmental pollution caused by rapidly developing urban areas and natural disasters act as hindrances to the development of infrastructure in Nepal. JICA Volunteers have been contributing towards the battle against these urban environmental issues by spreading environmental awareness, developing human resources, and encouraging traffic education. The target of environmental education by Volunteers is to help implement waste control programs in addition to giving technical support to these programs. They will also focus on taking disaster-prevention measures including mitigation of risk and damage resulted from the earthquake, flood, and landslide disasters, and enhancing adjustability to the global climate change. JICA Volunteers in Nepal are playing their parts at the grassroots-level to activate the society for secure and clean country.



Private Sector Development

Private sector development has been included as a new entry in JICA's new assistance strategy, as it poses very important role to drive economic growth, especially, it aims to improve the business environment for the growth of local enterprises in secondary and tertiary industries, as well as the promotion of direct inward investment. Today JICA volunteers have been involved in the field of promotion of One Village One Product (OVOP) with Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) an umbrella organization of the Nepalese private sector to launch OVOP in Nepal, promotion of agro tourism at the local level, and SME's and network of marketing at the district level.



AS A DREAM WEAVER

Education

More than 100 JOCVs have been dispatched to the education sector in Nepal since 1980s. Most of them were individually dispatched as Science and Maths teacher at the secondary level. Since 2004, however, the focus has shifted to elementary education or early childhood development to support Nepal Government's Education for All (EFA) program. JICA Volunteers have worked all over Nepal in the education sector and have helped foster dreams and hopes of young students. These students in turn have grown up to be successful teachers, entrepreneurs and professionals.



Health



In 1971, the first JICA Nurse Volunteer was dispatched to Kalimati Tuberculosis Hospital in Kathmandu. Since then, about 200 Volunteers related to the field of health and medical care have followed in her footsteps. Their main mission is to enhance the service of core hospitals, strengthen urban type primary healthcare, improve local healthcare, and take measures against infectious diseases. The focus now is to dispatch Volunteers to rural areas so as to act as caretakers providing high quality health care services and facilities to the poor and socially excluded people.

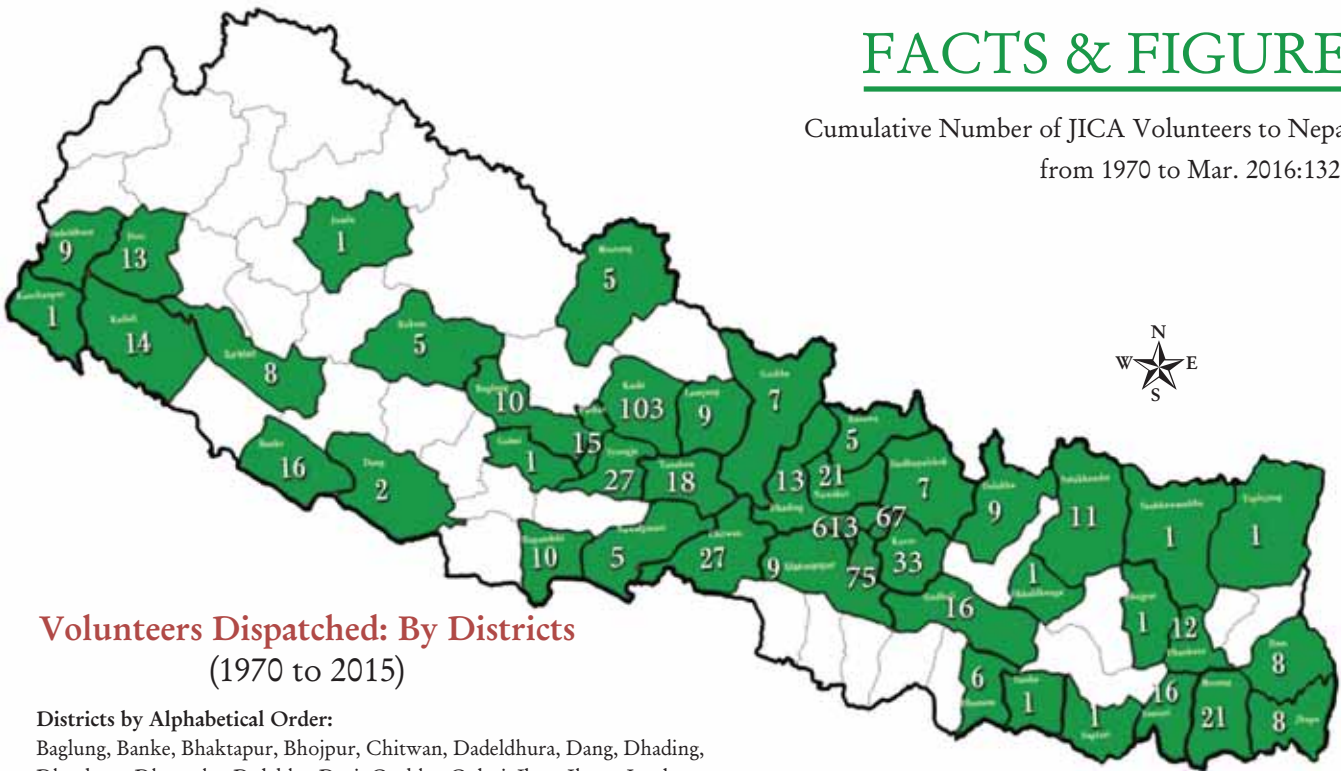
AS A MESSENGER

Social Activation

JICA Volunteers act as messengers by sharing the Japanese culture and sports with young aspirants of Nepal. As a result, many of them have become sports representatives of Nepal. This act of cooperation peculiar to JICA Volunteer program has contributed to activate the society of Nepal by channeling impressionable minds of Nepali youth into positive social activities. Volunteers working in this area focus on areas such as sports including Volleyball coach for National team, Japanese language, cultural exchange, etc. One of the remarkable contributions of Volunteers in this sector is the introduction of Judo and Karate to Nepal. They also gave training for self-defense to the Nepal Police force. The result of South Asian Federation Game in 2016 reflects the contribution of JICA Volunteers in the sports field. The players were awarded medals in Judo. Similarly support for person with disability in sports is under consideration.

FACTS & FIGURES

Cumulative Number of JICA Volunteers to Nepal
from 1970 to Mar. 2016:1327



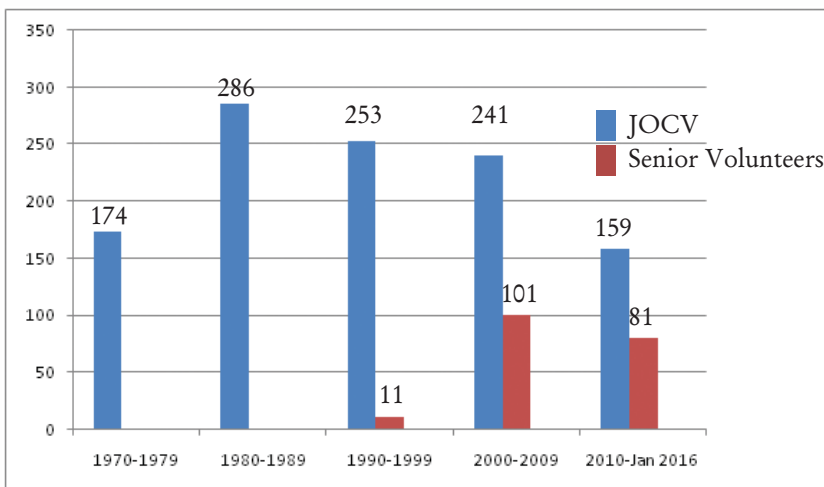
Map of Nepal

Volunteers Dispatched: By Districts (1970 to 2015)

Districts by Alphabetical Order:

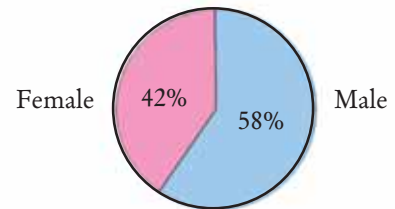
Baglung, Banke, Bhaktapur, Bhojpur, Chitwan, Dadeldhura, Dang, Dhading, Dhankuta, Dhanusha, Dolakha, Doti, Gorkha, Gulmi, Ilam, Jhapa, Jumla, Kavre, Kailali, Kanchanpur, Kaski, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Lamjung, Makwanpur, Morang, Mustang, Nawalparasi, Nuwakot, Okhaldhunga, Parbat, Rasuwa, Rukum, Rupandehi, Sankhuwasabha, Saptari, Sindhuli, Sindhupalchowk, Siraha, Solukhumbu, Sunsari, Surkhet, Syangja, Tanahu

Volunteers Dispatched: By Years

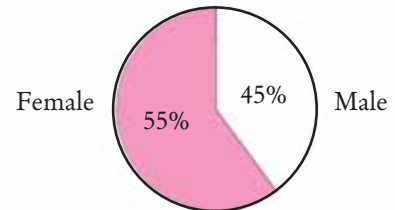


Volunteers Dispatched: By Gender

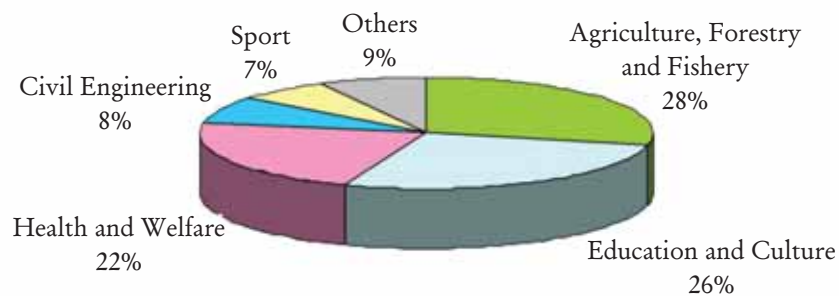
Gender Status from 1970 to 2015



Gender Status at Present, Jan 2016



Dispatched Sectors (1970 to 2015)



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