

Newsletter

2024 50th Anniversary of Japan's ODA in PNG July 2024

JICA Papua New Guinea Office

1. Report of the first half of 2024

As of July 2024, we have the projects and activities ongoing in Papua New Guinea (PNG) in cooperation with our PNG counterparts as follows: 2 Loan Projects, 11 Technical Cooperation Projects (2 are under preparation to launch), 3 individual Expert Projects, 2 Private Sector Cooperation Surveys, 1 Cultural Grant Aid Project and 8 JICA Volunteers. And 24 Long term trainees have been currently studying at universities in Japan. Furthermore, JICA delivered emergency relief goods to respond to the natural disasters occurred in March and May.

The following is the report of the progresses and achievements of the first half of 2024.

(1) Emergency relief goods delivered



In the mid-March, there were heavy rains causing landslides and floods in the western part of PNG. To respond to this natural disaster, the Government of Japan decided to dispatch emergency relief goods and JICA carried out the operation. The relief goods included tents, sleeping pads, blankets, water purifiers, jerry cans and so on, and they were transported from JICA's warehouse in Singapore on 14 and 16 April. After handing over these items to the Government of PNG, they were delivered to the affected people in 5 provinces with cooperation of the Government of New Zealand and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/153 6012 53494.html

In addition, JICA also provided emergency relief goods to respond to another natural disaster that was a landslide occurred in Enga Province on 24 May. After handing them over to the PNG government, these were delivered to the affected people in Enga Province with the support of the Australian government and IOM.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2 024/1540195 53494.html

(2) Leaning history of Japan's modernization



The lecture to lean Japan's modernization and international relationship, so-called JICA Chair, was organized at University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) on 1 May. Like the last year, Prof. Kato, Vice President of International University of Japan, gave a lecture at UPNG and more than 180 students and lecturers participated from UPNG as well as UNITECH and Divine Word University, which were connected on-line.

On the following day, Prof. Kato visited Sogeri where JICA volunteers work and gave a lecture of Japanese history and culture to the teachers of the primary, secondary and high schools in the area.

(3) Solidarity walk for the International Women's Day

Celebrating the International Women's Day, a solidarity walk event was co-organized by JICA, National Capital District, Department of Community Development and Religion, IFRC, UN Women and Australian High Commission on 10 March. With the theme "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress", about 800 participants walked a 5km course and enjoyed dancing at Era Beach afterwards.



(4) JICA Volunteer program expanding

In addition to 5 JICA Volunteers who arrived last year, we received 3 new volunteers this year. They are introduced in the next section.

(5) National seminar on Kokopo-Rabaul Infrastructure Development Masterplan

On 26 March, Department of National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM) and East New Britain Provincial



Government
co-organized a
national
seminar to
introduce the
draft of
Kokopo-Rabaul
Infrastructure

Development Masterplan with the attendance of Minister for National Planning, Hon. Sir Ano Pala and Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Watanabe Nobuyuki. In the seminar, 11 prioritized projects were discussed and these projects are planned to be reviewed at the National Executive Council later for its approval.

(6) Port database introduced for the better management of port admininistration

on the technical cooperation project with



Department of Transport and PNG Ports Ltd., Port database is under development.

The seminar was held on 22 May to introduce the prototype of the database to stakeholders including National Maritime Safety Authority, PNG Customs, National Statistics Office, Department of Finance etc. The database is expected to contribute to efficient and effective port administration in PNG.

(7) Cooperation in electrification sector



To improve electrification of PNG the project to renovate Ramu transmission line is ongoing and this project is expected to significantly improve the power supply in Morobe

Province. Meanwhile, a technical cooperation project is also ongoing to improve PNG Power Limited's capacity of planning and maintenance of its power supply facilities. Furthermore, an electrification policy advisor to National Energy Authority was assigned in June.

In addition to these projects, Embassy of Japan has been assisting expansion of power supply network, rehabilitation of Rouna hydropower station.

We have been also working with other Development Partners such as USA, Australia, New Zealand, World

Bank, Asian Development Bank for the improvement of power supplies in PNG.

(8) Launch of a new phase of waste management

JICA has been working on Solid Waste Management (SWM) in the Pacific Region since 2000. The Japan's technical cooperation project, "Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management (J-PRISM)", started in 2011, and the current phase (Phase 3) started in 2023 covering 9 Pacific Island Countries including PNG. The Joint Coordination Committee meeting was held in June in collaboration with Conservation and Environment Protection Agency (CEPA) and National Capital District Commission (NCDC). In this phase, 4 other cities, namely Lae, Kokopo, Alotau and Goroka, are added to expand the good practice of NCDC, and 3R + Return is also aimed to be promoted.

(9) Trainees made presentations of their experiences



On 19 April, 2 JICA scholars and 2 short term trainees who were trained in Japan made presentations about their experiences in Japan. Mr. Augustine Mara (DoHERST) gained his Master's degree in education at Naruto

University of Education, and Ms. Eileen Saiyomina (DNPM) (Photo) did her Master's course in International Development Studies at Nagoya University. They are expected to utilize their knowledge acquired in Japan to contribute to the development of PNG.

(10) Japanese business mission visited PNG

On 28 and 29 February, Japanese business mission



visited PNG and PNG-Japan Public Private Economic Seminar was organized by Pacific Islands Centre (PIC). In

this seminar, 13 Japanese companies participated and they actively had discussions with public and private sectors in PNG. JICA PNG Office also attended this seminar and explained about Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) in PNG.

(11) Towards the 2nd half of the year 2024

<u>Japan's Official Development Assistance in PNG started in 1974 and this year is the 50th anniversary</u>. We are planning to organize a ceremony with PNG counterpart in October.

2. Introduction of JICA Experts, Volunteers and Office Staff Members

[JICA Experts] Mr. KIDA Koji, Education Policy Advisor



I work with National Department of Education and assist them to enforce education policies, coordinate with other development partners and add values on Japan's education cooperation. To achieve these objectives, I strongly feel that "communication skills being aware of

the uniqueness of JICA's cooperation in education" and "imagination to connect each output to make collective impacts" are necessary to this advisory work. Every day, I work hard with a dream that JICA's cooperation in education expands in PNG and even other Pacific Island Countries.

Mr. OKABAYASHI Masato, Chief Advisor

Capacity Development Project for Reducing Carbon Emissions from Forest Degradation through Commercial Logging in PNG by Improving Monitoring System of Forest Logging Operations



I have been working for a technical cooperation project with PNG Forest Authority since April 2022. Our project has been developing manuals of logging monitoring and conducting trainings to various stakeholders so that we could contribute to the sustainable logging, which is

important industry for the country as well as local people from the economic and development perspective.

I am always astonished by giant trees and rich biodiversity in the forests of PNG. I strongly wish to contribute to conserve these rich forests for the sake of next generations.

[JICA Volunteers] Mr. MORI Toshiyuki, Community Development Department of Agriculture and Livestock, Milne Bay Province



I have been working at Food Security Division, Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL), Milne Bay Province since March 2024. This Division supports small-scale farmers in the Province and I teach how to maintain agricultural

machinery owned by DAL or local farmers. To introduce new machinery, I survey the crop fields and discuss how to procure appropriate machinery. I enjoy talking to the local people, when I go to the markets in Alotau city center.

Mr. MOCHIZUKI Kento, Community Development Department of Community Development, Milne Bay Province



I have been working with Department of Community Development, Milne Bay Province since March 2024. This Department supports citizens' daily lives and I am currently working to establish

the database of citizen's counselling management. There are many counselling requests from citizens such as domestic violence, child abuse, etc., which are deep rooted and require mental toughness to tackle. I admire my co-workers who face these requests with passion and sincerity. I gained a counsellor license in June because I hope to understand their feelings.

I am always fascinated by the rich culture and people of PNG.

Mr. ADACHI Takeru, Youth Activities City Mission Training Center, Central Province



I have been working at an NGO named, City Mission, since March 2024. At this training center, young trainees from 16 to 25 years old are given opportunities to learn sustainable living skills and I teach basic business theories

and know-hows. Through my activities with them, I am impressed by the toughness of these young people in PNG. I will do my best hoping my activities are fruitful for my friends here.

[JICA Staff] Ms. Dorea MOYARU, Administration Manager



I joined JICA in 1992 as an office secretary. My main duties are accounting support, travel coordination, and general administration for the effective operations of JICA PNG Office.

Working for an international

Development Partner is an experience of a lifetime. The Japanese are known for their strong work ethics and punctuality. When you appreciate these values and apply them in the workplace, you become a valued team member. I am proud to be part of a vibrant Team that drives Japan's Official Development Assistance program in Papua New Guinea.

3. Current Activities

3-1. Strengthening the Foundation of Economic Growth

(1) Economic Infrastructure Development and Maintenance

(EXP¹) Development Planning Advisor
 Duration: March 2024 to March 2026

(YL²) Nadzab Airport Redevelopment Project

L/A³ signed in October 2015, JPY 26,942 million

https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity20.html

(TCP⁴) Project for Capacity Development on Road Development Phase2
 Duration: March 2021 to March 2025

https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity31.html (EXP) Advisor for Promotion of Electrification Policy Implementation

 (EXP) Advisor for Promotion of Electrification Policy Implementation Duration: June 2024 to June 2026

(YL) Ramu Transmission System Reinforcement Project
L/A signed in August 2013, JPY 8,340 million
https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity16.ht
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 (TC) The Project for the Improvement of Planning and Operation of Power System

Duration: March 2022 to March 2025

 (TC) The Project for Capacity Development of DoT in Port Policy and Administration Phase2

Duration: March 2022 to March 2025

- (TC) The Project for Public Investment Management Under the preparation to launch
- (TC) The Project for Development and Enhancement of Land Use Information Management System
 Under the preparation to launch

2) Industrial Promotion

 (TCP) the Project for Improving Resource Related Revenue Management Phase 2

Duration: March 2024 to February 2027

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2023/20231018 42.html

 (PSC⁵) Survey for Creation of Outboard Motorboat Market by Connecting Small Scale Fishers to Value Chain in Papua New Guinea Duration: November 2023 to February 2026

3-2. Improvement of Social Services

(3) Education

(EXP) Education Policy Advisor

Duration: February 2024 to January 2026

• (TCP) Project for Strengthening Primary Teacher Pre-service Education in Mathematics and Science

Duration: September 2020 to April 2025

 $\frac{\text{https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity21.ht}}{\text{ml}}$

 (PSC) Survey for Improving Math Performance Utilizing the Mathematics Workbook for Primary School Students

Duration: July 2023 to October 2024

https://www2.jica.go.jp/ja/priv_sme_partner/document/1536/Bz221 045_summary.pdf

(4) Health

- (TCP) The Project for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis Phase 2
- Duration: April 2023 to May 2027

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2023/1526224_16866.html

3-3. Environment and Climate Change

(5) Environment and Climate Change

 (TCP) Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries Phase 3 (J-PRISM3)

Duration: July 2023 to June 2028

https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/activities/issues/env manage/pamp hlet/ku57pq00002nmuph-att/recycling society e.pdf

 (TCP) Capacity Development Project for Reducing Carbon Emissions from Forest Degradation through Commercial Logging in PNG by Improving Monitoring System of Forest Logging Operations

Duration: April 2022 to April 2025

https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity28.ht ml#:~:text=This%20project%20aims%20to%20enhance,low%20emission%20logging%20in%20PNG.

3-4. Training Courses

Knowledge Co-Creation Program

In Japanese Fiscal Year 2024 (April 2024 to March 2025), 64 trainees in 64 courses are to be trained.

• Long Term Training

The following numbers of trainees are under Master's or Doctor's degree courses as of July 2024.

SDGs Global Leader: 19 trainees KIZUNA Program: 3 trainees Agri-Net Program: 2 trainees

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/dsp-chair/dsp/course/index.html

3-5. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV)

Currently, there are 8 volunteers are working in PNG, and this figure will be 18 by the end of this year.

https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity23.html

3-6. JICA Chair

The third JICA Chair to learn the history of Japan's modernization and international relationship was carried out at UPNG in May 2024. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/dsp-chair/index.html

3-7. Gender Main Streaming

JICA PNG Office conducts various activities to promote gender main streaming, such as seminars for JICA relating personnel to prevent sexual harassment, PR activities to promote female status, and an event coorganized with NCDC and UNWOMEN, etc. The logo on the top right of the 1st page was designed by JICA PNG Office to promote gender mainstreaming.

3-8. Emergency Disaster Relief

JICA also conducts emergency disaster relief activities to respond to disasters by the decision of the Government of Japan. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/jdr/index.html

3-9. JICA Alumni Association

The JICA Alumni Association consists of more than 4000 ex-trainees and carries out various activities such as publishing newsletters etc.

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¹ EXP: Expert

² YL: Yen Loan Project

³ L/A: Loan Agreement

⁴ TCP: Technical Cooperation Project

⁵ PSC: Private Sector Cooperation