

## 1. Report of the second half of 2024

We wish you a Happy and Peaceful New Year, 2025. We have had a variety of activities in Papua New Guinea last year as well. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) PNG Office sincerely appreciates all the people who cooperated in our activities and the people of Japan for their kind supports.

As of January 2025, we have the projects and activities ongoing in PNG in cooperation with our PNG counterparts as follows: 2 Loan Projects, 10 Technical Cooperation Projects (1 under preparation to launch), 3 Individual Expert Projects, 16 JICA Volunteers, 1 Private Sector Cooperation Survey, 1 Cultural Grant Aid Project and 2 Grant Aid Projects (under preparation). Furthermore, 44 Long term trainees have been currently studying at universities in Japan.

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

### (1) 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Japan's ODA to PNG!

Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to PNG started in 1974 and the year 2024 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On 17 October, the ceremony was co-organized by the Government of PNG, the Embassy of Japan, and JICA.



More than 200 people participated in the event including the Prime Minister, Hon. James Marape, and

others from the PNG government, foreign missions, UN organizations, universities, business communities, civil societies, etc. The event was covered by the media and that gave valuable opportunities to let the people of PNG know about the outcomes of Japan's ODA by today and its roles to deepen the ties between both countries.

Mr. Hataeda, Senior Vice President of JICA, mentioned in his speech, "With our Vision, Leading the World with Trust, JICA continues its cooperation with PNG to tackle the challenges in this country." Hon. Marape mentioned in his speech that Japan, which had started its support in PNG one year before the independence, is the sincere and genuine friend and said, "We continue our cooperation and expand it more in business partnership as well".

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1554051\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1554051_53494.html)

### (2) PNG participated in PALM 10 in Tokyo

In the 10<sup>th</sup> Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM 10)



held in Tokyo from 16 to 18 July, the mission from PNG, headed by PM Hon. Marape, participated. On 18 July, Hon. Marape met with Dr. Tanaka, the President of JICA,

and expressed his deep appreciation to Japan's 50-year ODA to PNG and had discussions with Dr. Tanaka about further cooperation in future.

### (3) Mr. Will Genia visited JICA PNG

On 28 August, Mr. Will Genia, the world's famous rugby player, visited JICA PNG Office. Mr. Genia has been playing at a Japanese professional rugby team, Hanazono Kintetsu Liners, since 2019 after having had his careers in Australia and France. His surprising visit was realized with the kind cooperation of Hanazono Kintetsu Liners as part of our PR activities of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Japan's ODA to PNG.



After being briefed about JICA's activities at JICA PNG Office, he visited Sogeri Primary School where JICA volunteers were working and observed

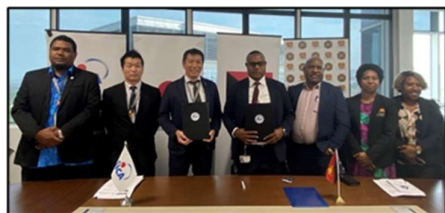
their activities that were teaching math and environmental education. He also went out at the playground with all the students and talked about his life and career and gave his encouraging message to the students, "Pursuing your dreams is a challenge, but if you continued your tireless efforts with passion, your dreams would come true someday".

JICA PNG Office sincerely expresses its appreciation to Mr. Genia and Hanazono Kintetsu Liners for their kind cooperation on his visit.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/topics/2024/1550323\\_53495.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/topics/2024/1550323_53495.html)  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/topics/2024/1550522\\_53495.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/topics/2024/1550522_53495.html)

#### (4) A new scholarship project, JDS, launched

On 22 August, the Grant Agreement (G/A) was signed by the Department of National Planning and Monitoring and JICA for a new grant aid project, “the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)”.



In this project, government officials of PNG will learn at post graduate

schools of Japan. These scholars are expected to contribute to economic and social development of PNG as well as deepening the ties between PNG and Japan in future. Approximately 15 PNG government officials are expected to learn in Japan annually in this project.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1550325\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1550325_53494.html)

#### (5) Public Investment Management to be improved

On 16 August, Department of National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM) and JICA signed on the Record of Discussions (R/D) to start a new technical cooperation project, “Public Investment Management Project”.

Based on the dispatch of an individual expert in the past, this project aims to improve public investment management and its transparency in formulation, selection, and monitoring of public investment projects with DNPM and other relating government organizations according to the Public Investment Program Management Guidelines.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1548733\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1548733_53494.html)

#### (6) Partnership with Eisai Co., Ltd. to fight LF

On 18 September, Dr. Yamauchi (on the left of the photo), the Chief Advisor of “Project for Elimination of



Lymphatic Filariasis Phase 2” visited Eisai Co., Ltd. in Tokyo.

Eisai donates the drug called diethylcarbamazine (DEC), which is used for mass drug administration (MDA) in this project.

Dr. Yamauchi explained the progresses and the next steps of the project and received information from the staff in charge of the Sustainability Department of the company about the experiences of MDA in other countries and shipping status of the drugs to PNG.

JICA sincerely appreciates Eisai Co., Ltd. for its generous support to the project and we will continue to exchange information closely.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1557587\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1557587_53494.html)

#### (7) TC in gravel road maintenance finishes

On 28 August, a Joint Coordinating Committee meeting of the technical cooperation project, “Capacity Development of Road Maintenance Phase 2”, was held to confirm the achievements of the project. JICA has been carrying out its technical cooperation with the Department of Works and Highways for 7 years to improve the capacity of maintenance of gravel roads in 8 pilot provinces. Although this project will end in March 2025, it is expected that the PNG government will continue to maintain its roads based on the achievement of the projects.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1550560\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1550560_53494.html)

#### (8) Japanese schoolteachers visited PNG

From 29 July to 2 August, 10 Japanese school teachers from various prefectures visited PNG. In this program, these teachers observed Japan’s ODA project sites and had discussions with people in education sector in PNG including the Department of National Education. These teachers are expected to promote international cooperation and understanding in their educational activities in their schools.



[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1546989\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1546989_53494.html)

#### (9) Workbooks to improve math ability of students

JICA carried out a technical cooperation project from 2016 to 2020 in which math and science textbooks from G3 to 6 were developed for the first time in PNG. A Japanese textbook company, Gakko Toshio Co., Ltd, which had been involved in this project, also developed math workbooks to supplement the textbooks under JICA’s Private Sector Cooperation. On 5 September, a seminar was co-organized by Department of National Education and JICA in which many people in education sector participated. It is expected these workbooks will support students of PNG to improve their mathematics skills.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1551158\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1551158_53494.html)

#### (10) Towards the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the year 2025

This year 2025 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relationship between PNG and Japan. JICA PNG Office continues its efforts for the economic and social development of PNG and strengthening the ties between the two countries.



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

### [JICA Experts]

#### Mr. ITO Akinori, Chief Advisor

Project for Strengthening Primary Teacher Pre-Service Education in Mathematics and Science in Papua New Guinea



I have been working with Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (DHERST) and Department of National Education (DONE) to develop teaching materials for the teachers and students at Pre-service teachers' college since 2020. During the past 3 years, the knowledge and capacity of my counterparts (CPs) have improved, and we could have developed quality materials for teaching, which have been finalized and used at the teaching fields.

My career in PNG started in 1990, when I was assigned as a JICA Volunteer at Skul Bilong Wokim Piksa (National Film Institute) in Eastern Highlands Province. I really enjoyed working with my enthusiastic CPs and learning the rich culture of PNG. I was also fascinated by my Papua New Guinean friends who accepted me as their family, and great nature and traditions of PNG, that made me decide to work for the development of PNG. Fortunately, after my assignment as a JICA Volunteer, I could continue to work as a Senior Volunteer at NDOE and Chief Adviser of Technical Cooperation projects in education sector. In 2015, I was extremely honored with a Meritorious Public Service Medal, MPS. This year is the 35<sup>th</sup> year since I started my career in PNG. I hope to keep working with my CPs to improve the education in PNG.

### [JICA Volunteers]

Two new volunteers arrived in September 2024 and 7 in November making the total of 16. After taking language training etc., these new volunteers were allocated in their posts.

We wish you all the best in your new journey!!

### (Arrived in September)



(from left)

#### Mr. SUZUKI Yu

Youth Activities  
Popondetta Primary School  
Popondetta, Oro Province

#### Mr. HARA Masaru

Vegetable Growing  
Provincial Department of Agriculture  
and Livestock  
Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province

### (Arrived in November)



(from the 2<sup>nd</sup> left in the back row)

#### Mr. MURAGISHI Masaki

Primary School Teacher, Resurrection Primary School,  
Popondetta, Oro Province

#### Mr. HASEGAWA Masaaki

Community Development, Rabaul District Development  
Authority, Rabaul, East New Britain Province

#### Mr. KITAYAMA Atsuhiko

Youth Activities, Resurrection Primary School, Popondetta, Oro  
Province

(from the left in the front row)

#### Mr. MATSUMOTO Koki

Environmental Education, Urban Local Level Government,  
Alotau, Milne Bay Province

#### Mr. KOBAYASHI Koya

Youth Activities, Bethel Primary School, Popondetta, Oro  
Province

#### Mr. WADA Masaki

Environmental Education, Urban Local Level Government,  
Goroka, Eastern Highlands

#### Mr. MITSUO Yosuke

Environmental Education, Kokopo Vunamami Local Level  
Government, Kokopo, East New Britain Province

### [JICA Staff]

#### Mr. Allan EKO, Program Officer



Konnichiwa everyone! I am currently with the projects team in charge of the infrastructure, fisheries, agriculture, governance sectors, including disaster risk reduction. I also oversee the implementation of the JICA

Training Program in PNG. I started my career with JICA in October 2012. Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to PNG started in 1974. I'm privileged and honored to work for an organization who has contributed immensely to the development of Papua New Guinea for the last 5 decades.

Let's all work together for the sustainable development of Papua New Guinea!

### 3. Current Activities

(As of January 2025)

#### 3-1. Strengthening the Foundation of Economic Growth

##### (1) Economic Infrastructure Development and Maintenance

- (EXP<sup>1</sup>) Development Planning Advisor  
Duration: March 2024 to March 2026
- (YL<sup>2</sup>) Nadzab Airport Redevelopment Project  
L/A<sup>3</sup> signed in October 2015, JPY 26,942 million  
<https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity20.html>  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2023/1519597\\_16866.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2023/1519597_16866.html)
- (TCP<sup>4</sup>) 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  
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.html>
- (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  
Duration: December 2024 to December 2026
- (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](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2023/20231018_42.html)
- (PSC<sup>5</sup>) 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
- (GA<sup>6</sup>) Preparatory Survey for the Project for Improvement of National Fisheries College Waterfront Facilities  
Duration: November 2023 to May 2025

#### 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 November 2025  
<https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/png/english/activities/activity21.html>

##### (4) Health

- (TCP) The Project for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis Phase 2  
Duration: April 2023 to May 2027  
<https://www.jica.go.jp/oda/project/202108336/index.html?wovn=en>

#### 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/oda/project/202004886/index.html?wovn=en>  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/activities/issues/env\\_management/sempllet/ru57g00002nmugh-att/ recycling\\_society\\_e.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/activities/issues/env_management/sempllet/ru57g00002nmugh-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/activity24.html>

#### 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: 36 trainees  
KIZUNA Program: 5 trainees  
Agri-Net Program: 3 trainees  
(GA) Project for Human Resource Development (JDS): under preparation  
<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/dsp-chair/dsp/course/index.html>

#### 3-5. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV)

Currently, there are 16 volunteers are working in PNG, and this figure will be 17 by the end of this fiscal 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>  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1537146\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1537146_53494.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 co-organized with NCDC and UNWOMEN, etc. The logo on the top right of the 1<sup>st</sup> page was designed by JICA PNG Office to promote gender mainstreaming (revised in December 2024).  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/topics/2023/1534775\\_16867.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/topics/2023/1534775_16867.html)

#### 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>  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1536012\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1536012_53494.html)  
[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1540195\\_53494.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/png/information/press/2024/1540195_53494.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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YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Jic97QHU8>

<sup>1</sup> EXP: Expert

<sup>2</sup> YL: Yen Loan Project

<sup>3</sup> L/A: Loan Agreement

<sup>4</sup> TCP: Technical Cooperation Project

<sup>5</sup> PSC: Private Sector Cooperation

<sup>6</sup> GA: Grant Aid Project