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## Japan International Cooperation Agency

### JICA

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## Securing Potable Water

JICA Team visited Damascus Water Supply System and Sewerage Authority DAWSSA during 11-17 March 2005. the Team explained the Draft Report of the Grant Aid Project "Rehabilitation of Water Transmission Tunnels in Damascus City". JICA Syria Office Resident Representative Mr. Kazuhide Nagasawa headed the team.



The team met Deputy Head of State Planning Commission "SPC" Mr. Bassam al-Sebai, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction Dr Kamal al-Sheikha, Director General of DAWSSA and his Deputy with all concerned staff.

The Team met Deputy Head of SPC

This project aims at reducing the rate of water leakage from 27% to 5% through rehabilitation of water transmission tunnels. These tunnels convey water from Feighi spring to Damascus City. Moreover, the tunnels are considered the most important facilities for water supply in the Syrian capital.

throughout on job training and training courses provided in Japan. DAWSSA would be able to operate and maintain the tunnels in the future.

JICA is concerned in reducing water leakage to secure effective exploitation of the limited water resources.

During Rehabilitation works DAWSSA staff will obtain the necessary experience

At the end, worth mentioning that JICA conducted the relevant Preparatory Study in July 2004 and Basic Design Study in November-December 2004. Finally, JICA will submit the final report to DAWSSA by July 2005.

## 3 New Senior Volunteers Experts Arrive in Syria

On April 06, 2005, a group of three Senior Volunteers arrived in Syria to be assigned in the following organizations.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Recipient Organization</i>	<i>Speciality</i>
Mr. Shigeyasu Amada	UNRWA.DTC	Vocational Training
Mr. Taguhisa Fujitani	MoA&AR.GOSM Aleppo	Group coordinator
Mr. Masanori Sekiguchi	Jandar Electricity training Center	Group coordinator



Mr. Taguhisa Fujitani



Mr. Masanori Sekiguchi



Mr. Shigeyasu Amada



## "Challenges of Syrian Textile Industry" presented by JICA Senior Volunteer at Ministry of Industry

Textile industry prospects for development and competition at open market environment was discussed at the first session of industrial forum organized by the Ministry of Industry and the SEBC.

Since textile Industry in Syria has a long tradition and following the request of the Syrian government, JICA dispatched Mr. Sadayuki ONISHI, Senior Volunteer to the Ministry of Industry.

Mr. Onishi, started his work at the Ministry two years ago, he has provided consultancy and help in many fields related to marketing, upgrading textile sector, quality and other policy formulation issues side to side with the General Directorate for Textile Industries (GOTI) and Directorate of Private sector Industry. His valuable contributions led the Ministry of Industry to extend his assignment for another one year starting from April, 2005. The expected output of his work summarized in enhancing the management of GOTI, reach the overseas marketing and suggestion in both legislatives and frame work

of MOI.

In his speech, Mr. Onishi revealed the current situation of Syrian Textile industry with respect of the global situation in addition to problems & challenges facing it.

With analytical review, he presented to the audience the reasons of Syrian Textile deterioration after several flourish periods especially for the Jacquard Fabrics where it was linked to the world "DAMASK".

He also explained how the private sector could survive and continue to reach reasonable stages compared to the public sectors. In consequence, the key point of developing the Syrian textile industry is through the support of private Small & Medium Enterprise (SME).

On the other hand, modernization of public sector is as important as the support of the private SME through formulating comprehensive Reform plans and appointing capable young Managers who are able to handle production cycle properly and make access to recruit

world's top Machines.

At the end, Syrian industry is in transitional period and should get benefit from every chance for development especially within the frame of the formation of the strategic Partnerships such as Syrian-European and the Greatest Arab trade free zone.

Along with JICA's contribution in supporting Ministry of Industry, there are several other contributions in Chambers of Industries at Damascus and Aleppo and Intermediate Institute for Textile Industries in Damascus through dispatching the experienced Senior Volunteers.



Mr. Sadayuki ONISHI, JICA Senior Volunteer during his presentation

## Group Training on Variety management and seed quality assurance concludes

From April 3<sup>rd</sup> till April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005 a regional group training course on Variety management and seed quality assurance took place at ICARDA HQs in Aleppo- Syria in cooperation with JICA under third country training programme.

This training course is a part of the 5 years programme started in 2004, targeting Syrian and Afghan scientist, in addition to some participants

from surrounding countries in the region such as Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and others. The programme is aiming at strengthening human resource capacity in agricultural research, crop improvement and seed technology to support sustainable national agricultural production and seed programme development.

The programme that includes various seminars, workshops, and group

training courses will continue till March 2009.



JICA Syria office Resident Representative handing over certificate to one of the participants



## The project of Environmental Monitoring will be launched soon

Within the frame work of the project of Capacity Building of Environmental Monitoring in the Laboratories of the Directorates of Environment in Syria which is under implementation in cooperation between JICA and Ministry of Local Administration and Environment, a Japanese expert team will arrive in Syria at the beginning of May, 2005.

The expert team will visit different Syrian governorates where they will meet governors and concerned people to discuss the work plan

that will enable the smooth distribution of the equipment donated for the project by the Japanese government.

The equipment will be used for measuring water pollution and providing the necessary data about environmental pollution to help in spreading environmental awareness among people towards environmental issues and problems in order to set out the appropriate solutions that assist in building healthy developed societies.



Signing Minutes of Meeting between MO Local Administration & Environment and JICA for the project of Environmental Monitoring

## JICA participates in a workshop in cooperation with Revolution Youth Union

In the occasion of the 17<sup>th</sup> conference of the Revolution Youth Union, the Development and Environment Bureau of the Union invited JICA Syria Office to participate in a workshop for introducing the activities achieved in the previous period and discussing the future plans.

During the workshop, the project of Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) which is under implementation in cooperation with JICA Syria Office, was introduced. The participants praised the current

existed cooperation as Youth Union paid great efforts contributed to the success of the project activities.

The Branch of the Youth union in Damascus Rural participated in different issues of CBR and accepted including some disabled students in the Summer Clubs arranged by the Union.

Both sides confirmed the importance of continuing the cooperation programs and extending every possible assistance to expand the project to different villages

in Damascus Rural enabling bigger number of disabled people participating in different community activities.



Signing Minutes of Meeting between MO Local Administration & Environment and JICA for the project of Environmental Monitoring

## JICA Participates in Rural Development

On April 10, 2005 Mr. Katsuaki Takahashi (System Engineer) arrived to Syria in be assigned at the UNDP Project of Rural Development in "Jabal Al Hoss" as a group coordinator.

This is the third assignment for Mr. Takahashi in Syria, where he worked

for two years in The Ministry of Supply at the Technical Affairs Department, and for one year as a short term JOCV Volunteer in the field of Computer Techniques for Al-Anssar NGO in Damascus city, which is receiving the Grassroots for the equipment for computer training from the Japanese Government.



Mr. Katsuaki Takahashi





## JICA Experts at GOSM leave

On Apr 6, 2005, Dr. KAMEYA Mitsuro left Syria after a short term assignment at GOSM. During his assignment he worked with his counterpart on development the techniques of production of virus antiserums for the PVY virus that affecting potato transplants in Syria.

Earlier in March, Dr. KATAYAMA Katsumi; expert on Potato seed Multiplication, has finished his successful 3 years assignment at GOSM. Through his long assignment, the technical level of potato seed production engineers has been improved, the production at the

green houses has started and a quality control system, and laboratory have been established.

in a courtesy call to the ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Nabi Rasheed; the deputy minister, stressed the importance of adopting the recommendations and techniques developed by JICA Experts and their counterparts, in order to overcome the difficulties faced in production of the seeds and antiserums, in order to overcome the factors depressing the potato production in Syria.

It is worth mentioning that JICA

cooperation with GOSM continues through dispatching of Senior volunteers in various fields



Dr. Nabi and Dr. Katayama, along with his counterparts and JICA Syria Office Sector coordinator.

## New JOCV Volunteers Group arrive in Syria.

On April,05.2005, a group of 10 Volunteers arrived in Syria to be assigned in the following organizations, after finishing the Arabic language course for one month in Damascus. The assignment period of the JOCV Expert Volunteers is two years, where they work with their local counterparts to upgrade the level of their technical experiences, each according to his or her specialization:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Recipient Organization</i>	<i>Speciality</i>
Ms. Maki Ohashi.	MoA&AR, UNDP.	Handcrafts.
Ms. Saori Maeda.	Damascus University.	Japanese Language.
Ms. Megumi Yamato.	MoSA & L, CBR Project.	Handcrafts.
Mr. Koichi Furukawa.	UNRWA, EDC.	Audio Visual Education
Mr. Shuichi Ito.	UNRWA, EDC.	Computer techniques.
Mr. Noriyuki Kawada.	UNRWA, Schools Homs	Music.
Mr. Takuya Sasaki.	MoSA&L, FIRDOS, Homs	Environmental Education.
Mr. Daichi Konuma.	MoSA&L, FIRDOS, Qunaitra.	Environmental Education.
Mr. Atsunori Hasegawa.	General Sport Federation. Homs.	Judo
Mr. Daisuke Itahara.	Youth Federation	Computer techniques.



Ms. Maki Ohashi.



Ms. Saori Maeda.



Ms. Megumi Yamato.



Mr. Koichi Furukawa.



Mr. Shuichi Ito.



Mr. Noriyuki Kawada.



Mr. Takuya Sasaki.



Mr. Daichi Konuma.



Mr. Atsunori Hasegawa.



Mr. Daisuke Itahara.