Triangular Cooperation:
Supporting Innovation and Capacity Development

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Japan Approach

Actively utilizing Triangular Cooperation to aggressively encourage South-South Cooperation opportunities.
Advantages

• Mutual learning leads to innovation.
• Innovations are disseminated to other countries.
• Context-specific: Local knowledge and resources, combined with technology and financial aid.
Multiplying Effect

• Transfer of beneficiary practices to new countries.
• Dissemination of achievements from past cooperation.
• Capacity development allows Country A to become a new donor.
How It Works

Triangular Training Programs
Partnership Programs
Region-wide Programs
Other Structured Programs
Triangular Training Programs

- Japan works with recipient Country A to build capacity and co-create innovative solutions.
- Japan helps Country A share innovations with Country B.
- Country A and Country B establish South-South Cooperation.
Partnership Programs

• Advanced Triangular Cooperation.
• Periodic consultation and joint planning.
• Institutionalizes the process of conducting triangular cooperation.
• JICA has Partnership Programs in 12 countries, including Asia, Africa and South America.
Partnership Programs
Case Study

The Cerrado Miracle and Pro-Savana
Improving the Cerrado

- Cerrado, Tropical Savannah of Brazil, was barren land, with sterile soil, which has now been converted into one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world.
- Developed innovative agriculture techniques
Technology for the tropical savannah was not available in the North

- Brazil, with its strong ownership, established EMBRAPA (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation)

- “EMBRAPA Cerrado” started its research in 1974

- JICA supported “EMBRAPA Cerrado” from the beginning: Soil improvement and development of varieties of grains adapted to tropical climate
Cerrado After

(Source: Yutaka Hongo, Senior Consultant of JICA)
ProSavana in Mozambique

• Agricultural development of Mozambique’s savannah, based on Cerrado.

• Triangular Cooperation with Brazil and Japan for location-specific innovative solutions.
Triangular Cooperation Lessons Learned

• Sharp focus on impact and sustainability.
• Process must be demand-driven (not donor-mandated).
• Country ownership is critical.
Triangular Cooperation Lessons Learned

• Involve a diverse set of actors, including the private sector and civil society.

• Systematically strengthen innovation; share lessons and best practices.
Japan Approach

How Triangular Cooperation and South-South Cooperation fit into Japan’s overall approach to development.
Japanese Experience

Aid Recipient

Post War

Aid Recipient & Donor

1950s-1960s

Aid Donor

1970s and since
Extending the Japanese Experience

Capacity-building

Country A as recipient

JAPAN

Country A

Country A as donor

Triangular Cooperation

JAPAN

Country A as recipient & donor

Country A

Country B

South-South Cooperation

Country A

Country B

Country B
Thank you.

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