Annual Report 2009





Japan International Cooperation System

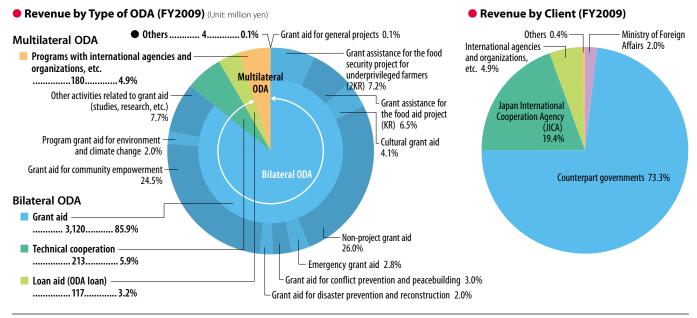
At a Glance

Profile of JICS

Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) is a public-service foundation whose activities primarily focus on aid project supervision within the Japanese government's Official Development Assistance (ODA) programs and other cooperation programs with developing countries. JICS is the only public agency in Japan specializing in procurement operations within the field of international cooperation.

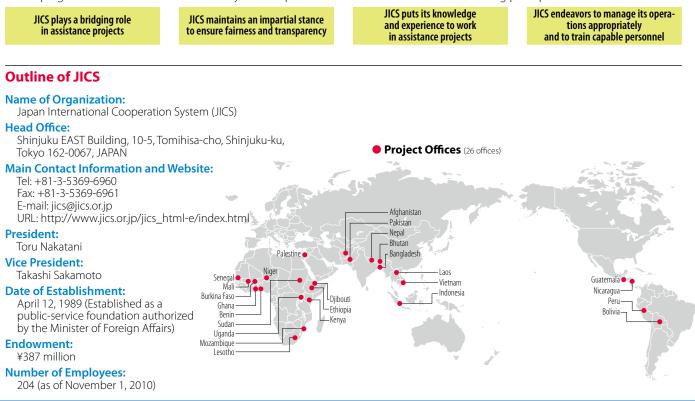
"Procurement" refers to the acquisition of and payment for goods and services necessary to achieve a specific objective. Since its establishment in 1989, JICS has appropriately and effectively carried out the selection and procurement of goods and services (i.e., transportation, design, construction, etc.) needed in local areas where cooperation projects are being implemented.

JICS aims to be a leader in procurement-related operations, with capabilities for executing a full spectrum of international cooperation needs. JICS has set its sights for the future on expanding operations on behalf of a broad range of international agencies and organizations and is working to build up its base of expertise and knowledge while focusing on the development of its human resources.



The JICS Vision

JICS is a public-service foundation working to ensure the appropriate and effective procurement of goods and services required in developing countries, within the framework of the Japanese government's official development assistance and other support for developing countries. JICS endeavors to carry out its operations in accordance with the following precepts.







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A Message from the President

In April 2009, Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) celebrated the 20th anniversary of its establishment. JICS was able to reach this important milestone thanks to the unwavering support and cooperation it has received from stakeholders in Japan and abroad. Now in its 21st year of operation, JICS remains focused on realizing its ultimate goal of becoming a procurement agency that is recognized internationally as a leader in its field. As it strives to further enhance the quality of execution of international cooperation, JICS is committed to fulfilling its role from a standpoint of fairness and impartiality within the Japanese government's ODA programs, particularly bilateral grants. As a procurement agency, by carrying out each project appropriately and efficiently, JICS aims to fulfill the mission that society has set for it.

Within the Japanese government's ODA programs, the operations performed by JICS have focused primarily on the procurement of goods and services as part of grant aid, as well as the provision of support for goods and equipment procurement that is related to technical cooperation. From this base, JICS has expanded the scope of its operations to the broader field of international cooperation, including such areas as initial screening of procurement-related documentation submitted by recipient countries as part of Japanese ODA loan procedures, as well as operations not directly related to Japanese ODA, such as contracts commissioned by the ASEAN Secretariat and other international agencies and organizations. In retrospect, JICS went through a period in which it was attempting to define its expanded role. It took on new operations that went beyond the organization's traditional ambit. For example, in 2002 we began reconstruction assistance operations in Afghanistan, and then in 2004 we commenced reconstruction assistance operations in Iraq. Subsequently, in 2005 we launched full reconstruction assistance operations in response to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. With regard to these projects, I wish to thank all of our stakeholders for their efforts, which I believe were instrumental in the success we achieved in carrying out our duties. In any case, the opportunity to undertake such large-scale projects represented a major challenge for JICS and turned out to be an important turning point for the organization and the direction of its operations.

The new roles JICS took on as part of the aforementioned reconstruction projects included not only procurement of services but also supervision of overall project execution in facility



restoration projects and a wide array of infrastructure construction projects. These projects saw an expansion of the breadth and depth of our operations while the methods required for the execution of such operations were also vastly different to our traditional projects, which had been principally limited to goods and equipment procurement. We needed not only to fulfill our primary function of providing appropriate procurement operations that met quality assurance requirements but also to act swiftly and flexibly in response to a diverse range of needs, issues and problems based on the requirements of counterpart governments. We established a critical presence at each project execution site, and in doing so the entire JICS organization focused on providing the highest quality services possible. We learned a great number of lessons through these experiences, and as a result I believe that JICS was able to bolster its capabilities and roles.

In recent years, based on our involvement in reconstruction assistance projects, we have been commissioned to carry out procurement agent services related to grant aid schemes newly established by the Japanese government—"Grant aid for community empowerment" and "Grant aid for disaster prevention and reconstruction" established in 2006 and "Program grant aid for environment and climate change" established in 2008. We have also been commissioned to undertake individual projects by international agencies and organizations and foreign governments. While utilizing the strengths we have accumulated to date, we are working to further enhance the

quality of our international cooperation operations. Although our capabilities are still relatively modest in scale, we aim to contribute to the greatest extent possible.

Meanwhile, as the environment faced by public-service foundations in Japan undergoes significant changes, the social mission that JICS must fulfill goes beyond project supervision in developing countries. It is only proper that we should be fully accountable to the people of Japan for what we do. To this end, we must strive to provide the public with a high level of understanding of our role and the way in which we carry out our operations. Ás part of this process, we are working to strengthen our organizational systems in such areas as information disclosure, compliance and public relations.

As interest in ODA among the Japanese public and people working within related institutions increases year by year, we must spare no effort to live up to the expectations of all of our stakeholders. In the future, in accordance with the JICS Vision and the JICS Code of Conduct, we must respond appropriately and expeditiously to various issues and changes as we strive to steadily implement our operations. We are committed to becoming an organization capable of winning an increased level of confidence among stakeholders in Japan and abroad. In these endeavors, we look forward to your continued guidance and encouragement.

Toru Nakatani President Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)

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