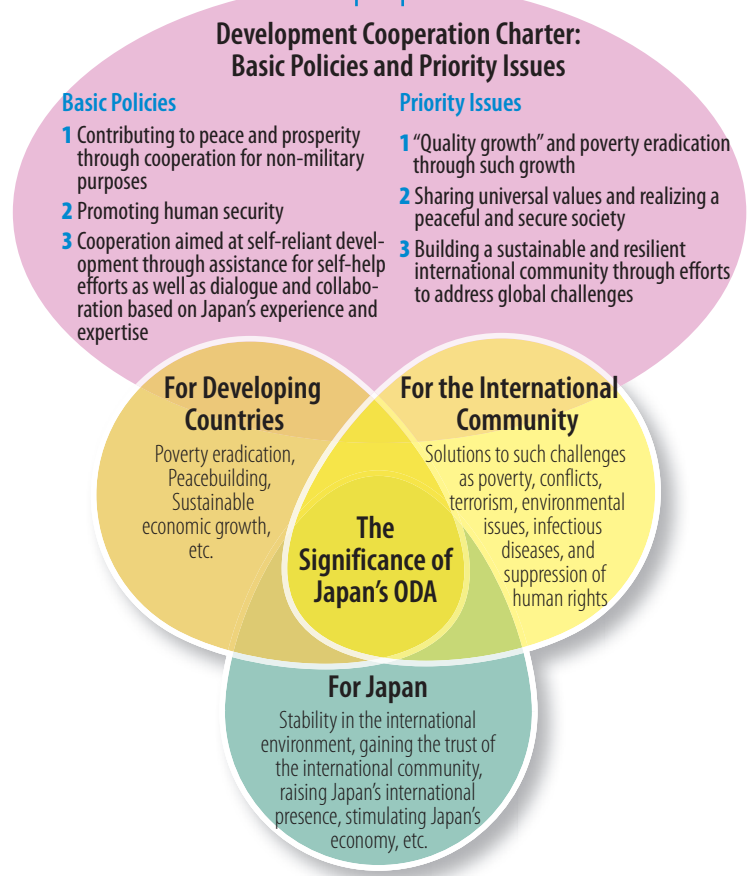


Development Cooperation and the Role of JICS in ODA

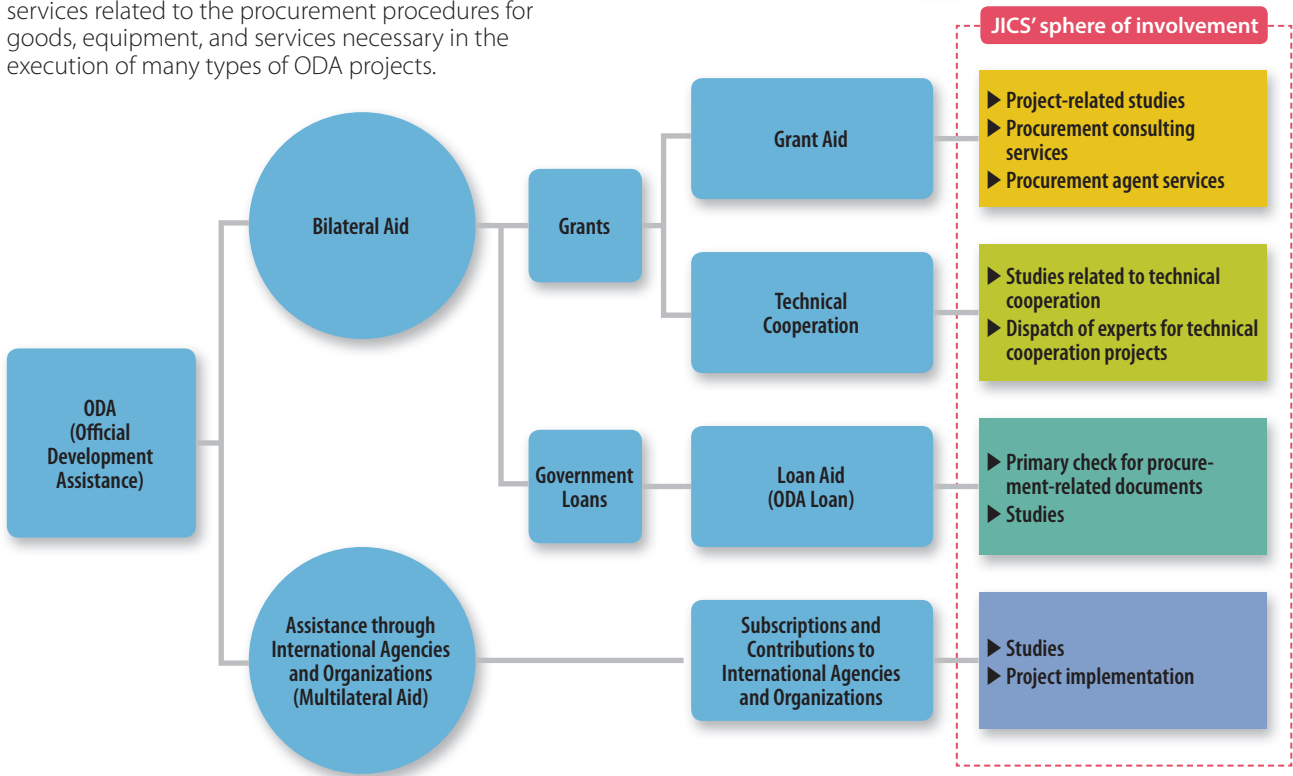
Japan pursues development cooperation based on the objective of contributing to the greatest extent possible to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community. Through development cooperation, Japan assists in the development of developing countries, and undertakes initiatives aimed at solving global-scale issues. The creation of desirable international conditions and the building of strong relationships between Japan and a diverse array of actors in the international community will also further the interests of Japanese citizens.

Japan's ODA policy, which utilizes public funds allocated to development cooperation, is carried out under the Development Cooperation Charter. Policy is implemented based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Japanese government's implementation guidelines, and priority objectives set in each fiscal year.

In accordance with the Development Cooperation Charter, JICS achieves tangible results and continues to make project proposals through the steady execution of operations



ODA may be divided into bilateral aid and multilateral aid, the latter of which is conducted through financing and contributions provided to international agencies and organizations. Since its establishment in 1989 as a fair and neutral procurement organization, JICS has provided a broad range of services related to the procurement procedures for goods, equipment, and services necessary in the execution of many types of ODA projects.



Special Feature

Region and Technology: The Two Mainstays of a New Organizational Structure Designed to Further Strengthen JICS' High-Quality Service Provision

In June 2018, JICS overhauled its organizational structure. In the operational sphere, we established a country- and region-based structure. In addition, we created the Technical Support Division centered on personnel that possess technical expertise. For this special feature, Tomoko Ayukawa, a member of the newly created Technical Support Division, writes about the type of procurement agent JICS is aiming to become under its new organizational structure.

Diverse Human Resources Support Our Procurement Accomplishments in 122 Countries

Over a period of 25 years, JICS has built a record of accomplishments in the field of procurement agent services in 122 countries worldwide. Through these operations, we have accumulated knowledge and data related to a broad range of products and their applications. As needs in the area of international cooperation constantly change, we engage in ongoing discussions while recognizing the importance of dialogue with recipient countries, and work to deliver goods and services in line with those countries requests.

I believe that what underpins JICS' foundations as a procurement agent is the strength of its diverse human resources. People who have the language skills required for communication with partner countries—in such languages as English, French, Spanish and Arabic—carry out a range of operations using their skills as development cooperation professionals, such as Project Cycle Management*¹ (PCM). At the same time, on their own initiative, our staff build up an array of skills and knowledge useful in the provision of procurement agent services. The competencies acquired by individual employees are extremely diverse, including such procurement qualifications as CPP and CIPS*², and competencies in such areas as architecture, information processing and construction machinery.

The people who work at JICS come from varied backgrounds, from new graduates through to those with extensive prior experience in other industries. The people who work at JICS possess differing fortes, but they share a common hope when applying themselves to their work—the desire to obtain the best possible outcome for Japan's ODA. I believe that this is JICS' greatest strength. Furthermore, JICS' human resource strengths are not limited to Japan, but also encompass local staff employed in approximately 24 countries. In particular, local staff bolster JICS' capabilities in conducting dialogue with partner country government agencies and increase responsiveness in the execution of our operations.

*1 Project Cycle Management: A method for managing technical cooperation carried out by the Japanese government

*2 CPP: Certified Procurement Professional
CIPS: Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply; procurement certification offered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Striving for Higher Quality Service Provision by Utilizing Accumulated Technology

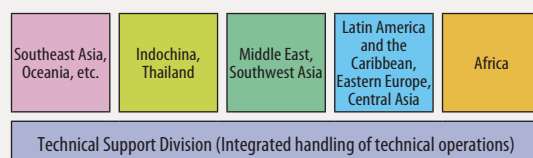
One of the key points of the organizational reform carried out on this occasion is the move to an organizational structure based on countries and regions. Accompanying changes in the mode of execution of grant aid, including the ending of the facility construction-type Grant Aid for Community Empowerment scheme and the establishment of Grant Aid Projects under Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), JICS' organizational structure was overhauled from one based on equipment- and facility-related classifications to a new structure in which regional divisions based on countries and regions are the basic unit. In addition, JICS established the Technical Support Division, which draws together personnel that possess technical expertise. It is expected that the new organizational structure will be effective in advancing the following activities: building strong relationships with the governments, foreign affairs ministries and embassies of recipient countries; efficient aid activities through integrated management of projects within the countries and regions that each division is responsible for; and high-quality procurement operations that have a sound technical foundation.

Previous Organizational Structure

Facilities	Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia • Anglophone Africa • Francophone regions • Spanish-speaking regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglophone Africa • Francophone Africa • Latin America and the Caribbean, Oceania • Asia • Afghanistan, Pakistan • Mekong Region

New Organizational Structure

Execution of procurement agent services based on a country/regional structure





Tomoko Ayukawa
 Technical Support Division,
 Second Management Department

In procurement agent services, technical knowledge is becoming increasingly important. Against this backdrop, many of the personnel working in the Technical Support Division come from backgrounds spanning the manufacturing sector, including electrical equipment, construction machinery and information processing. For example, in recent years, in equipment related to disaster prevention—a category that is increasing in volume—since specifications and functions must be adapted to suit the recipient country's climate and geographical environment, custom-made goods account for a large weighting within equipment procured. Hence, preparation of the specification document included within the tender documentation, as well as evaluation of the design drawings submitted by tenderers, requires an advanced level of technical knowledge. Furthermore, to ensure that equipment supplied can be used by recipient countries over a long period, it is necessary to consider various technical aspects. These include whether the end users in the recipient country will be able to acquire the competence required to utilize the equipment efficiently, and ease of maintenance. Through building up the experience of young staff members based on a personnel rotation system that provides opportunities to work alongside highly experienced, technically capable staff, we aim to develop an organization in which all employees can approach their work with a strong technical grounding.

The Technical Support Division has the role of ensuring that the data held by JICS—one of the organization's key technical assets—is effectively leveraged across the entire organization to improve productivity and strengthen our ability to formulate proposals. At present, we are developing a technical specification database, which will centrally manage the enormous amount of data accumulated in relation to equipment procured to date. Hence, we aim to enhance the efficiency of JICS' high-quality service provision.

Through the creation of the Technical Support Division, I hope that our organization will develop into one that is widely recognized for its strong technical knowledge. "JICS understands technology. That's why this international cooperation project has achieved tangible success." This is the type of stakeholder feedback I want JICS to strive for.

▶ **Leveraging Our Technical Capabilities to Execute Procurement Catering to Local Needs**

In recent years, there has been an increase in procurement agent projects in the fields of disaster prevention and disaster reconstruction, which utilize the capabilities of Japanese companies in these fields.

Under Japan's Non-Project Grant Aid for Provision of Japanese SME's Products, JICS acted as the procurement agent for an earthquake simulation vehicle for Peru—a country that experiences a large number of earthquakes. The vehicle was handed over to Peru at a ceremony held in February 2018, and is expected to play a useful role in disaster prevention drills. In this project, JICS handled the preparation of the specification document for the custom-made earthquake simulation vehicle, which was built specifically to reproduce the characteristics of earthquakes in Peru. JICS also carried out a pre-handover inspection.

At almost exactly the same time, Tonga suffered from severe damage caused by Cyclone Gita. Under Japan's Non-Project Grant Aid for Provision of Japanese Disaster Reduction Equipment, JICS carried out procurement of large tents, electrical generators and chainsaws for Tonga.



Peru: Representatives of the governments of Peru and Japan in front of the earthquake simulation vehicle

Tonga: A large tent being used as a temporary classroom



JICS' Sphere of Involvement in ODA-Related Programs

▼ JICS' Procurement Agent Services: Contributing to Efforts That Address Development Cooperation Priority Issues under Japan's Grant Aid Programme

.....> **Procurement of Goods** **Procurement and Management of Construction**

Procurement Agent Services

As the procurement agent on behalf of the recipient governments, JICS provides procurement services—including management of funds—and carries out project management.

■ Necessity of a Procurement Agent

To utilize funds—granted in accordance with Japan's ODA rules—appropriately and expeditiously, a third-party organization that has a thorough knowledge of relevant rules carries out procurement procedures and manages the grant aid funds.

■ Major Role

- ▶ JICS determines tender conditions by confirming the specifications for materials, equipment, and facilities; the quantity of items; and delivery and construction conditions with the executing agency of the recipient country.
- ▶ JICS selects suppliers and construction companies through the tender process and supervises the contract fulfillment status of the contractors while managing the project's funds.

Procurement of Goods

- ▶ JICS determines the equipment specifications and delivery conditions based on data related to the materials and equipment, and information regarding the customs clearance procedures as well as the systems to receive and store imported goods in the recipient country.
- ▶ To ensure that equipment is delivered in accordance with the contract, JICS carries out checks before shipping and in the recipient country.

Procurement and Management of Construction

- ▶ Based on the needs of the recipient country, JICS together with a construction consultant determines the facilities specifications and the construction conditions for the project.
- ▶ During the construction period, JICS carries out project management.

Realizing quality growth in developing countries while contributing to economic growth and the revitalization of local regions in Japan

The Foundations for Economic Growth "Grant Aid for the Economic and Social Development Programme"

Projects to assist recipient countries implementing economic and social development, including such programs on poverty reduction: JICS procures machinery for public works projects and raw materials that need to be procured from overseas. In some cases, projects also contribute to the overseas expansion of Japanese products.

● Major Procurement Items

- ▶ Petroleum products, steel, etc.
- ▶ Products that also contribute to the overseas expansion of Japanese products

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

170 projects in 77 countries*

High-Quality Infrastructure Investment "Grant Aid Projects under Public-Private Partnership"

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects created to utilize Japan's advanced technologies and know-how to facilitate development of developing countries through grant aid for public works: The projects are implemented comprehensively, including construction work, and joint operation and maintenance service of facilities with Japanese enterprises' participation.

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

Two projects of execution management in Myanmar to reduce non-revenue water and in Cambodia to expand the water supply system



Fetal monitor delivered at the ceremony (Photo provided by the Mongolian Ministry of Health)

Development of an environment for peace and stability of the international community

Conflict and Development

Projects related to such areas as conflict prevention, peacebuilding and the strengthening of maritime security

● Major Procurement Items

- ▶ Equipment for the removal of landmines, equipment for road renovation, and installation of small-scale hydroelectric power generation units and solar power generation systems for the electrification of local villages

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

11 projects in six countries

Humanitarian Assistance "Emergency Grant Aid"

Emergency Grant Aid projects for post-disaster reconstruction, projects for infectious disease prevention and control, etc.

● Major Procurement Items

- ▶ Equipment necessary to combat an Ebola hemorrhagic fever
- ▶ Relief equipment for refugees

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

- ▶ Three projects in three countries



Next-generation vehicle handover ceremony (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

* Includes ongoing projects under the sub-scheme name of Non-Project Grant Aid used until fiscal 2014, the grant of vessels for maritime security, and the grant of disaster reduction equipment

Grant Aid-Related Operations

Grant aid is a form of assistance whereby funds required for the procurement of goods, equipment, and services are provided to developing countries without a repayment obligation. Within Japan's grant aid program, JICS' main operations are procurement agent services.

Addressing Global Challenges and Promoting Human Security

Healthcare/Water/Education

Projects to build schools and healthcare centers: Such projects have the objective of assisting capacity development in communities facing threats to human life and secure livelihoods. With the adoption of local specifications and designs, local enterprises and materials and equipment are proactively utilized.

● Major Procurement Items

▶ Management of construction projects, such as those for elementary and junior high schools, and healthcare centers

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

26 projects in 17 countries

Improvement of Food Shortages "Food Assistance"

Food Assistance (KR) projects, which provide support for purchasing staple grains and cereals to countries grappling with food shortages

● Major Procurement Items

▶ Grains, such as rice, wheat and maize

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

37 projects in 18 African countries, Nepal and Haiti

Environment and Climate Change/Energy

Projects that assist countries working to strengthen their measures to address the issue of climate change: Such projects assist those countries to formulate and implement policies and programs.

● Major Procurement Items

▶ Project execution management for the procurement of materials and equipment, and installation of facilities in such areas as forest conservation and the introduction of clean energy generation systems utilizing solar, geothermal and small-scale hydroelectric power

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

17 projects in 17 countries

Disaster Prevention

Projects for disaster prevention in countries that are vulnerable to natural disasters, and projects that assist in post-disaster reconstruction

● Major Procurement Items

▶ Procurement of disaster prevention system equipment and project execution management of construction

● Accomplishments in Fiscal 2017

Four projects in four countries

▼ JICS' Operations within Japan's Grant Aid Programme other than Procurement Agent Services

Procurement Consulting Service/ Surveys

Cultural Grant Assistance: Communicating the Appeal of Japan to People around the World

Cultural Grant Assistance (CGA) has the objectives of promoting culture and education. CGA is carried out vis-à-vis governmental and public agencies while Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects are provided to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and local public entities.

In fiscal 2017, JICS executed surveys and procurement related to seven projects.

Application Screening

Collaboration with a Diverse Range of Groups: Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides grant assistance for economic and social development projects in developing countries conducted by Japanese NGOs and other groups. In fiscal 2017, JICS provided support in screening of application documentation.

Studies

Feasibility Studies

JICS conducts studies and analyses for the proposal of optimal conditions with regard to facility construction and the procurement of equipment and materials required on projects, which become the basic documentation for the adoption of grant aid projects implemented by JICA. In fiscal 2017, JICS collaborated with consultants to engage in feasibility studies on four projects.



Students leave school by boat from the second floor of a new school building equipped with a flood control structure (Myanmar)



Studies conducted on a project to enhance landmine removal efforts (Cambodia)



Training on the operation and maintenance of wind gauges procured through Japanese SMEs Non-Project Grant Aid (Philippines)

▼ JICS' Involvement in Programs other than Grant Aid

Technical Cooperation-Related Operations

- ▶ Procurement Operational Support
- ▶ Assessment/Monitoring
- ▶ Preliminary Survey

Technical Cooperation is a framework for assisting developing countries to enhance issue-resolution capabilities and raise their ownership of the development process. To achieve these goals, JICA plays a central role in Japan's programs—for example, through the dispatch of experts, supply of necessary equipment, and implementation of human resource training in Japan. Such programs support recipient countries in their efforts to nurture human resources and research and development capabilities.

■ Major Operations

- ▶ Procurement operational support
- ▶ Post-project assessments and monitoring studies
- ▶ Facility, equipment and materials planning study



Procurement operational support (tender)
(Saint Christopher and Nevis)

Loan Aid-Related Operations

- ▶ Primary Checks of Procurement-Related Documents
- ▶ Studies to Facilitate the Smooth Implementation of Loan Aid Projects
- ▶ Ex-Post Procurement Audits

Loan Aid (ODA Loans) involves the loan of development funds to developing countries under such concessionary conditions as long repayment periods and low interest rates. This mode of aid aims to nurture ownership of the development process within the borrower country by promoting the efficient use of loan funds and appropriate execution of projects.

■ Major Operations

- ▶ Primary checks of procurement-related documents prepared by the borrower countries (in fiscal 2017, JICS conducted such checks in 528 cases on documents submitted by Anglophone, Francophone and Hispanophone country governments)
- ▶ Ex-post procurement audits/Ex-post project assessment
- ▶ Studies to facilitate the smooth implementation of Loan Aid projects



Promoting the formation and implementation of ODA Loans (India)

Multilateral Aid-Related Operations

- ▶ Procurement Services
- ▶ Contract Management Support Services

Multilateral Aid enables Japan to contribute indirectly to the development of developing countries through subscriptions and contributions to development aid institutions that are part of the United Nations, and multinational development banks, such as the World Bank.

■ Major Operations

- ▶ Procurement services for projects that utilize a portion of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), which was established by the Japanese government to support ASEAN integration
- ▶ Contract management support services for projects carried out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

■ Major Procurement Items

- ▶ Disaster reduction equipment, communication equipment, maintenance of customs facilities, and development of disaster prevention and navigation systems



Annual meeting in South Korea on avian influenza countermeasures

▼ JICS' Initiatives for Developing New Business

J-Partner

Overseas Business Development Support Activity

JICS, as a partner, supports Japanese private-sector enterprises in their overseas business development activities with their excellent technologies, products, and know-how.

- Joint planning of in-country studies
- Joint preparation and implementation of business plans
- Equity participation by JICS and collaborative management of the joint venture company

▼ JICS' Own Initiatives

● JICS NGO Support Activities

Providing financial support to small and medium-sized Japanese NPOs and NGOs

● Medical Lectures for Travelers

Open lectures regarding tropical infectious diseases and methods for their prevention (Five times per year)

JICS' Major Activities in Fiscal 2017

Grant Aid

Economic and Social Development Programme

Procurement of Disaster-Reduction and Recovery Equipment for the Republic of Suriname

Project Overview

▶ Promoting Hurricane Countermeasures Across the Caribbean Community (CARICOM*) and Suriname

Since fiscal 2015, JICS has procured Japanese-made disaster-reduction equipment through the Economic and Social Development Programme for several areas affected by natural disasters in 12 of the Caribbean island nations participating in the CARICOM. In fiscal 2017, the Economic and Social Development Programme (disaster-reduction equipment) was launched in the Republic of Suriname.

JICS' Initiatives

▶ Massive Hurricane Damage Increases Need for Disaster-Reduction and Recovery Equipment in Caribbean Nations and Reputation of Japanese-Made Equipment

Almost every year, Caribbean nations suffer the effects of hurricanes, making the restoration of damaged infrastructure and societal foundations an urgent issue. Specifically, the hurricanes (Maria and Irma) that struck the Caribbean Sea in 2017 caused tremendous damage in the Commonwealth of Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda and other nations. In response to this damage, there are rising needs for disaster-reduction and recovery equipment, including command vehicles giving instructions on the front line of restoration activities, trucks and heavy machinery at reconstruction sites, disaster prevention warehouses for storing reconstruction equipment used in emergency situations, tents for victims and other equipment meeting an increasingly diverse range of needs. Through the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) set up to assist recovery in the region, CARICOM nations share the strong reputation and information regarding Japanese-made disaster-reduction and recovery equipment delivered under the Economic and Social Development Programme.

▶ JICS' First-Ever Equipment Procurement for Suriname

Suriname is located on the northeastern coast of South America, one of the three countries comprising the Guianas region. Suriname became independent from the Netherlands in 1975. The Japanese government has provided grant aid to Suriname for the first time in years, a country unique in South America as its official language is Dutch. The capital city of Paramaribo, which faces the Atlantic Ocean, is ideally located for trading activities due to waterway development, but when heavy rains fall roads are flooded in a matter of seconds. This area is also plagued by earthquakes, tsunami and other disasters. To protect citizens from these disasters, the Suriname National Coordination Center for Disaster Management (NCCR) requested the Japanese government to provide equipment constituting the core of their disaster prevention planning. At present, JICS is leveraging its procurement experience in the CARICOM region to conduct equipment inspections in a limited timeframe and move forward with procedures aimed at the more efficient and rapid procurement of disaster-reduction and recovery equipment. We expect that the reputation of Japanese-made equipment will also spread in Suriname.

* Caribbean Community (CARICOM): Comprising 14 nations and one region, CARICOM is aimed at regional economic integration, the coordination of foreign policies among member nations, shared service business implementation and cooperation on social, cultural and technological developments.



Counterpart of Agent Agreement:
Suriname National Coordination Center for Disaster Management (NCCR)

Grant Amount: ¥200 million

Exchange of Notes (Bilateral Agreements): January 30, 2018



Masahiro Oshima

Country Assistance
Division 5,
Second Management
Department



Concluding the Agent Agreement with the NCCR (Suriname)



The wide Suriname River



In front of the disaster prevention warehouse procured for Barbados



Command vehicle procured for Saint Lucia

Grant Aid Project Under
Public-Private Partnership

The Project for Reduction of Non-Revenue Water in Yangon City, Myanmar

Project Overview

▶ Public-Private Partnership Method Grant Aid Supporting the Overseas Export of Prominent Japanese Infrastructure Technologies and Management Skills in Long-Term Operation and Maintenance of Facilities

The project introduces Japanese water supply technologies with the aim of reducing clean water leakage (non-revenue water) rates in Mayangone Township in Yangon City. Having completed one-year surveys and detailed designs in the township, the construction including water pipe replacement and other facilities installation was launched by Japan Consortium LLC in December 2017 for another five years.

JICS' Initiatives

▶ Introduction of New Method for Selection of Contractor and Active Engagement Toward Expansion of Target Sector

Based on its many years of experience as a procurement agent, JICS captured the local needs in Myanmar through field surveys while confirming the technologies and services available for the project among Japanese service providers. This enabled JICS to establish the project quality requirements and other bidding conditions in selecting a service provider. Furthermore, a comprehensive evaluation method was introduced as a means for evaluating bidders, leading to the accumulation of new procurement know-how, which is distinctive in Public-Private Partnership method grant aid. This know-how was effectively leveraged in a subsequent project for expansion of water supply in Kampong Thom, Cambodia. Going forward, JICS intends to expand our engagement beyond water supply projects to other sectors such as waste treatment and airport operation.

▶ Ensuring the Timely Selection of Service Providers and Launch of Construction in Light of Urban Development Speed

In response to the rapid urban development in Yangon City, it was necessary for this project that we select a service provider promptly and start construction as soon as possible. In addition to advance preparations made by the JICS Myanmar Project Office, JICS maintained close communication with the Yangon City Development Committee (hereinafter, "YCDC"), an executing agency. In producing the practical strategy, JICS hired advisory consultants with a strong specialization in PPP/PFI*, water leakage countermeasures and legal affairs. The team has successfully accelerated the procurement process up to the selection of a service provider responsible for design, construction work and joint operation and maintenance service through a series of intensive discussions with YCDC stakeholders. This realized the first construction launch in a Public-Private Partnership method grant aid.

Initiatives by Japanese Service Providers

In order to establish a construction plan as well as operation and maintenance strategy, the Japanese service provider and YCDC representatives visited each household with water supply in Mayangone Township one by one through the field survey under the conditions where the proper water pipe diagrams and related data were not well available. At present, Japanese engineers are engaged in construction works aimed at renewing water pipes and restructuring water pipe networks. Steady implementation of construction has gradually contributed to lowering of the non-revenue water rate tremendously in the target area in a constant manner as well as to gradual advancement of the overseas expansion of prominent Japanese water supply technologies for future development.



Counterpart of Agent Agreement: Yangon City Development Committee

Grant Amount: ¥2.106 billion

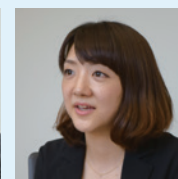
Exchange of Notes (Bilateral Agreements): March 19, 2015



Shinji Hosoya
First Project Management Division,
Third Management Department



Kosuke Tomoshige **Asako Kimura**
First Project Management Division,
Third Management Department



Quarterly joint meeting with YCDC and Japan Consortium LLC

Note: Private Finance Initiative (PFI): A new method utilizing private funds, management and technological capabilities to construct, maintain and operate public facilities and other services (from the Cabinet Office website).



Excavating a road to lay water pipes



Signs announcing excavation work

Primary Check of Procurement-Related Documents under Japanese ODA Loan Projects in Fiscal 2017–2019 (Lots A, B, C)

Counterpart of Contract: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



Miki Sato
Second Project Management Division,
Third Management Department

Project Overview

▶ Supporting Proper Procurement for Projects under Japanese ODA Loans through the Check of Procurement-Related Documents based on Accumulated Expertise

Since fiscal 2004, JICS has been engaged in primary checks, which is confirmation of basic compliance, of procurement-related documents prepared by borrowing governments for Japanese ODA Loan Projects to ensure that these documents are consistent with the guidelines for procurement under Japanese ODA Loans and standard bidding documents prepared by JICA. From fiscal 2017, JICS has been responsible for primary checks for projects worldwide.

JICS' Initiatives

▶ A Capable Team Consisting of JICS Staff Familiar with Projects under Japanese ODA Loans and Public Procurement Procedures and Highly Proficient in English, French, and Spanish

In order to carry out primary checks reliably and expeditiously, we are requested to be not only familiar with the guidelines for procurement under Japanese ODA Loans and standard bidding documents but also possess extensive knowledge regard to public procurement. Having been selected to conduct primary checks throughout the world as a result of proposal-based competitive tender, the primary check team is composed of staff with considerable experience in public procurement and who are highly proficient in languages. Although the assignment of staff is based on the language of the documents, development of human capacities is ensured through sharing of knowledge acquired by working as a team. In fiscal 2017, JICS conducted 528 primary checks. While staff tackle each project individually, in the event of a potential issue, workshops are held for discussions and sharing of each other's views. JICS is well prepared to respond at all times, including the busiest season because of effective teamwork.



Primary check team members

▶ Responding Swiftly and Effectively to the Increasing Number of Projects Implemented under Japanese ODA Loans through Improvement of Efficiency and Utilization of Tools

The number of Japanese ODA Loan Projects are on the increase throughout the world. It is necessary for JICS to complete primary checks within a period of three to seven days, depending of the stage of the project and type of documents, such as prequalification documents, bidding documents, evaluation results and contracts. In an effort to conduct accurate and thorough primary checks within the limited period, a database, where past samples are accumulated, is utilized and shared within the teams. This database enables efficient primary check and contributes to consistent check results. The knowledge gained through the primary checks of numerous procurement-related documents for projects under Japanese ODA Loans is applied in facilitation services for supporting the consultant selection procedure in the Project of Promoting the Formation and Implementation of Japanese ODA Loans in South Asia.



Workshops provide opportunities to share information

Ongoing Operational Domain Expansion

Building on achievements and experience accumulated through international collaborative projects up to now, JICS aims to expand its operational domain within SATREPS* joint research program-related projects and JICS' unique J-Partner service.

SATREPS Joint Research Program

Operational Domain Expansion through Public-Private Initiatives on Collaborative Development Projects

▶ JICS Supports Japanese Research Institution within SATREPS Program-Related Project

In the Kingdom of Bhutan, where earthquakes are frequent, the Project for Evaluation and Mitigation of Seismic Risk for Composite Masonry Buildings in Bhutan is in progress within the SATREPS program since fiscal 2016. This project is conducted by a research team that includes Bhutan's Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs and Japan's Nagoya City University School of Design and Architecture and is aimed at analyzing and improving the aseismic protection of traditional Bhutanese architecture. At the request of Nagoya City University, JICS provided procurement support services for contracting a Bhutanese company for the construction of facilities used for earthquake-related experiments.

▶ Leveraging Know-How Accumulated through Grant Aid Projects for Community Empowerment for More than 10 Years

Construction projects require the creation of blueprints and technical specifications. To select qualified contractors, prevent trouble during construction and ensure smooth progress, it is necessary to fully understand local business practices and reflect a variety of assumed risks in the drafting of tender documents and contracts. On this project, two JICS employees with experience in facility construction project management in Bhutan or in countries throughout the world with local construction companies leveraged their experience to quickly complete a series of operations, from local market surveys to tender execution and contract negotiations.



Testing the strength of test pieces used for traditional construction methods



Yuki Suyama
Country Assistance
Division 6,
Second Management
Department

* Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS): An international science and technology collaboration program addressing global issues. Research programs are conducted by research teams in developing countries for three to five years, led jointly by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).



House built using traditional Bhutanese construction methods

"J-Partner" Overseas Business Development Support Services for Japanese Corporations

▶ Assisting with Problem Solving in Developing Countries and Business Development for Japanese Corporations

Launched in March 2017, "J-Partner" supports Japanese enterprises willing to respond to call for proposals such as JICA feasibility surveys/verification surveys with the private sector for disseminating Japanese technology and JETRO feasibility studies. In fiscal 2017, JICS participated in surveys conducted in Peru, Mexico, Viet Nam and the Philippines aimed at matching up Japanese enterprise business development with local needs, assisting with preparation of survey planning and expansion of sales channels and production bases, collection of information for the establishment of overseas subsidiaries and formulation of business plans. JICS strives daily to support the challenge of Japanese corporations aspiring to establish and develop local businesses with the aim of sustainably solving problems using their excellent products and technologies.

▶ Business Development Support and Business Participation Using Connections with Partner Countries

With experience gathered from a wide variety of ODA projects in more than 150 countries, JICS is good at building favorable relationships with local partners and understanding precise needs. JICS can propose to private enterprises approaches that emphasize the creation of trusting relationships with partner country governments and also aims to participate in project management as a collaborative partner.



Rumiko Takagi
New Business
Development Office



Gathering information on insurance programs with regard to prosthetic limbs at Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (left, Mr. Kato, JICS New Business Development Office)