



Annual 2008 Report

Japan International Cooperation System



The JICS Vision

JICS is a public-service foundation working to ensure 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.

JICS plays a bridging role in assistance projects

JICS maintains an impartial stance to ensure fairness and transparency

JICS puts its knowledge and experience to work in assistance projects

JICS endeavors to manage its operations appropriately and to train capable personnel

JICS Code of Conduct

Based on the precepts of the JICS Vision, we pledge to act in accordance with the ten principles shown below, with the goal of promoting higher-quality international cooperation.

- We will meet our responsibilities as a public service corporation
- We will provide high-quality services
- We will strictly observe laws and rules
- We will exercise consideration for local conditions
- We will practice information disclosure
- We will manage information appropriately
- We will respect human rights
- We will act in a socially responsible manner
- We will endeavor to preserve the environment
- We will create a positive workplace atmosphere

Information on JICS

Name of Organization:

Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)

Office:

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President:

Takahisa Sasaki

Vice President:

Yukihisa Sakurada

Date of Establishment:

April 12, 1989. JICS was established as a public-service foundation authorized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

Endowment:

387 million yen

Number of Employees:

185 (as of December 1, 2009)

Purposes:

The purposes of the Foundation are to promote higher quality international cooperation by cooperating in the appropriate and efficient implementation of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) and other international cooperation programs for developing countries and territories and thus to contribute to the economic and social development of the world as well as the enhancement of friendly international relations

Business:

The Foundation shall conduct the following business while paying due respect to the work of private enterprises in order to accomplish the purposes described above:

1. Business which contributes to the promotion of the appropriate and efficient implementation of grant aid programs, technical cooperation programs and loan programs which are parts of Japan's ODA;
2. Business which contributes to the promotion of the appropriate and efficient implementation of international cooperation programs executed by international organizations, foreign governments or other entities engaged in international cooperation activities;
3. Follow-up activities and after-care activities for such programs mentioned above in items 1 and 2;
4. Research and studies on methods of efficient implementation of international cooperation;
5. Education and support which promote international cooperation; and
6. Other activities necessary to achieve the purposes of the Foundation.

Overseas Project Offices:

Afghanistan, Madagascar, Pakistan, Vietnam, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Senegal, Niger, Ethiopia, Benin, Lesotho, Nicaragua, Peru, Bolivia, Palestine, Laos, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali

As of December 1, 2009

Cover photos | ① | ② | ③ |

- ① Harvested crops grown with fertilizer provided by Grant Assistance for Underprivileged Farmers (Cambodia)
- ② Children at Dhaka in Bangladesh
- ③ School constructed by Grant Aid for Community Empowerment (Madagascar)

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Preface

A Message on the 20th Anniversary of the Japan International Cooperation System

The Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) was established as a public-service foundation in April 1989 upon authorization by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. As part of Japan's economic cooperation activities, JICS aims to promote high-quality international cooperation by providing appropriate and effective assistance in implementing bilateral grant activities. Over the years, JICS' operations have steadily expanded to yen loans and to overall international cooperation projects in addition to those of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA), and we now marked the 20th anniversary of JICS' founding on April 12, 2009.

Over that time, JICS has been able to make a notable contribution to Japan's international cooperation activities, with the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and others, and with the support of various foreign government organizations and ODA-related bodies. I wish to express my deep gratitude for the support and cooperation these parties have extended to JICS.

Global conditions have markedly changed in the past 20 years, as has the environment in which Japan's ODA operates. The Japanese Government's allocation for ODA out of the general account budget peaked at 1.1687 trillion yen in FY1997 and has been declining ever since. Examining the budget for FY2009 by category, the budgets for technical cooperation and grant aid have increased year-on-year for the first time in nine years, but the overall ODA budget stood at 672.2 billion yen, down 42.5% from the peak figure. We are required now to work harder to implement efficient and effective

aid within a limited budget.

To make this possible, new JICA was born in October 2008 when JICA and the yen loan division of the former Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) were amalgamated into a single organization for implementing ODA. It is expected that this organizational change will strengthen

the aid implementation process and that coordination among assistance programs, which consist of technical cooperation, grant aid and loan aid, will generate a synergy effect at the same time.

Against the backdrop of the major change in the aid implementation process and of a growing need to implement more effective and efficient assistance, JICS actively makes suggestions to New JICA, based on its organization's experience and know-how as a procurement agent over the past 20 years, to improve the efficiency of implementation procedures and to materialize system design for new programs.

While working on a main business of procuring equipment and materials, we have been engaged in the most challenging projects since our founding such as assistance to reconstruct public facilities in the countries affected by the earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and tsunami in the Indian Ocean of 2004 and assistance to rehabilitate devastated facilities in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

In recent years the experience and know-how accumulated in implementing such projects are being put to good use in new projects for grant aid for disaster prevention and reconstruction and grant aid for community empowerment, toward which we are working wholeheartedly.

Additionally, JICS continues to serve as a procurement agent for Japanese governments' other aid programs, such as environment program grant aid, food aid and grant assistance for underprivileged farmers. They are all intended to alleviate the global-scale problem of climate change and the consequent sharp increase in food prices which



might cause a food crisis in developing countries.

JICS has also been actively involved in international assistance projects other than Japan's ODA. In FY2008, JICS undertook new projects as a procurement agent for avian flu support measures for the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and for the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

Based on the JICS Vision and the JICS Code of Conduct, JICS looks forward to your support and understanding as it strives to be a reliable procurement organization in the eyes of both Japan and the world and contribute to efficient implementation of Japan's ODA. On the occasion of our 20th anniversary, all of us at JICS resolve anew to work together to make this organization better, and we look forward to your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Takahisa Sasaki". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Takahisa Sasaki
President
Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)

October 2009