



Initiatives of Japan towards 2015

Millennium Development Goals

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goals



Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Nobutaka Machimura

Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is the responsibility of the whole international community.

Japan has been taking initiative in the formulation of the internationally agreed development goals from the very beginning. It helped to formulate the basic principles of the prototype of the MDGs, the DAC New Development Strategy, with an emphasis on ownership and partnership, institutional and capacity development, and comprehensive approaches, and proposed setting concrete, quantitative goals, the International Development Goals.

The degree to which the MDGs are on track to being achieved varies among regions and sectors. Japan shouldered one-fifth of the overall global volume of ODA throughout the 1990s. In Asia, where Japan provided around 60 percent of the total ODA, GDP per capita has increased about tenfold over the past 40 years.

The year 2005 is a milestone year and Japan is pleased that there is gathering momentum in the international community for the achievement of the MDGs.

Prime Minister Koizumi announced at the Asian-African Summit in April that Japan will continue its efforts towards the goal of providing ODA of 0.7 % of its gross national income in order to contribute to the achievement of the MDGs. From this point of view, Japan will strive to realize a strategic expansion of its ODA volume in order to ensure a credible and sufficient level of ODA. In this context, Japan intends to increase its ODA volume by US\$10 billion in aggregate over the next 5 years.

Japan is still one of the largest donors in some sectors such as education and health. In the area of health, for instance, Japan will provide comprehensive assistance amounting to US\$5 billion over the next 5 years as part of its Health and Development Initiative. Also, Japan will provide US\$500 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the coming years.

Here, Japan reaffirms that, with an emphasis on poverty reduction through economic growth and human-centered development, Japan will actively work towards achieving the MDGs and play a leading role in realizing UN reform in various areas including development.

Japan's Basic Philosophy Towards Development -ODA Charter and Medium-Term Policy on ODA-

The ODA Charter, the fundamental document of Japan's ODA policy, clearly outlines Japan's philosophy and principles towards development assistance. The Medium-Term Policy on ODA is positioned under the Charter and sets forth Japan's positions, approaches and specific actions on basic policies and priority issues in the next three to five years. The ODA Charter puts high priority on "poverty reduction," which is a common development goal of the international community and "peace-building," in

which Japan is actively involved. Moreover, the ODA Charter stipulates as one of its basic policies the "perspective of 'human security',"* aiming at enhancing assistance not only for recipient governments, but also for the people and local regions in the recipient countries.

**Japan promotes "human security" which is a concept to protect and empower people threatened in their survival, livelihood and dignity.*



Outline: Japan's ODA policy

Basic Policies

Supporting Self-Help Efforts of Developing Countries

Perspective of "Human Security"

Assurance of Fairness

Utilization of Japan's Experience and Expertise

Partnership and Collaboration with the International Community

Priority Issues

Poverty Reduction

Also aiming at achieving the MDGs, Japan provides cross-sectoral assistance, direct assistance to the poor from the perspective of "human security," assistance through economic growth, and assistance for institutions and policies to reduce poverty.

Sustainable Growth

Since the private sector is the key to achieving sustainable development, Japan provide assistance for development of economic and social infrastructure, policy formulation and institution building and assistance in human resource development. Moreover, Japan stresses the support to strengthen economic partnerships.

Addressing Global Issues

Japan addresses both environmental problems and natural disasters. Assistance focuses on three priority areas including actions against global warming. Moreover, Japan takes coherent measures for disaster prevention focusing on earthquakes and tsunamis.

Peace-building

Peace and stability are prerequisites for development. Therefore Japan provides coherent, rapid, and effective assistance corresponding to various stages, and gives consideration to vulnerable members of society.



Japan's Efforts for Each of the Millennium Development Goals



Based on perception that input-based approach would not bring a fundamental solution to development problems, the MDGs is set to focus on result 'output-based' approach which sets the quantitative goals with time boundaries. In view of its own and Asian countries' development experience to date, Japan believes that it is important and indispensable to take a poverty reduction

approach through economic growth by providing assistance for building human resources, developing infrastructure and developing institutions and policy environment, in order to achieve the MDGs.

Also, based on the principle stated in the Monterrey Consensus for partnership by the developed countries in response to ownership by developing countries, Japan recalls anew that these are goals for which all countries should participate and endeavor to achieve.

Based on this kind of premise, Japan, as a donor country that has provided one-fifth of global ODA over the past ten years, has been making the world's largest contribution in the water, environment, health and education sectors, which are included in the MDGs.

1

Poverty Reduction through Economic Growth



In developing parts of the world, approximately 1.1 billion people live on less than one dollar a day. There will be no solution to poverty without economic growth. It is important to promote productive activities of the poor, improve the nutrition and health conditions of women and children, promote education, empower women, invigorate agriculture and mitigate vulnerabilities to natural disasters, among other things.

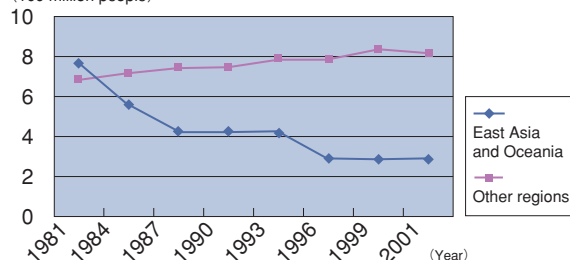
From this perspective, Japan is supporting development and nation-building by supporting education, health, rural development, small- and medium-sized enterprise development, and the expansion of basic social services as well as strengthening cooperation with the poor. In particular, agricultural and rural development play a key role in achieving the MDGs, especially the first goal of reducing poverty and hunger by half. While it is said that approximately 70% of the rural dwellers in developing countries are poor, the increase in production of staple crops through the Green Revolution will contribute to reducing hunger among the poor. Also, if production of agricultural products picks up, it becomes possible to sell the agricultural products in urban areas through infrastructure development of rural markets and rural roads, and by conducting this together with agriculture-based industry promo-

tion assistance, it would be possible to link this with income improvement of the poor. As for poverty reduction from the aspect of hunger countermeasures, in order to promote private-sector trade and investment, Japan emphasizes infrastructure development and human resources development. And the example of East Asia is success being applied to Africa's development through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Process (refer to 6. Trade and Investment).



Comparison of Trends in the Population of the Impoverished (1981-2001)

(100 million people)



(Note) Impoverished population: Number of people who live on less than \$1 per day. Source of data: World Development Indicators Total except East Asia and Oceania

2 Basic Education



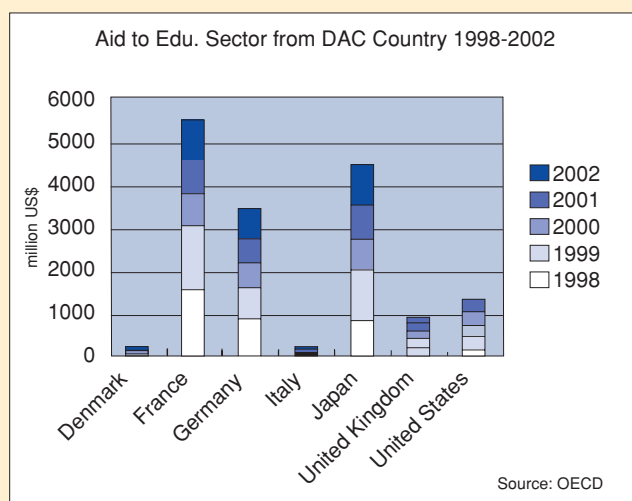
Basic education is important both from the perspectives of human development and nation-building as it is about acquiring the knowledge and capability necessary for every human being to live with dignity and to choose a future for himself or herself. More than 103 million children are still unable to attend school due to various reasons, of which 57% are girls. Universal primary education and elimination of the gender gap in education are included in the MDGs.

Basic education is one area where Japan can make use of its own experience of having made human resources development the basis for nation-building, and the concerned organizations of the Japanese government are cooperating to promote concrete efforts for assistance in this sector.

At the Kananaskis Summit in June 2002, Japan launched the Basic Education for Growth Initiative (BEGIN), and has since been strengthening cooperation in the basic education sector. The three priority areas of BEGIN are 1) ensuring "access" to education, 2) improving "quality" of education, and 3) improving "management" of education. Japan has provided approximately 28.3 billion yen in FY2002 and approximately 41.9 billion yen in FY2003 through bilateral and multilateral channels.

Specifically, in addition to ensuring students "access" to education through the construction and rehabilitation of primary and secondary education facilities, provision of various educational materials

as well as improvement of educational environment have been assisted. Japan is also providing assistance for teacher training particularly in science and mathematics, and improvement of teaching methods and development of teaching materials, in order to improve the quality of education for the children of developing countries. In recent years, Japan has been increasing new types of cooperation, including school management and education plan development with community participation and educational data management. Japan is also promoting efforts toward an integrated approach in response to the complex challenges surrounding basic education in developing countries.



3 Health and Medical Care



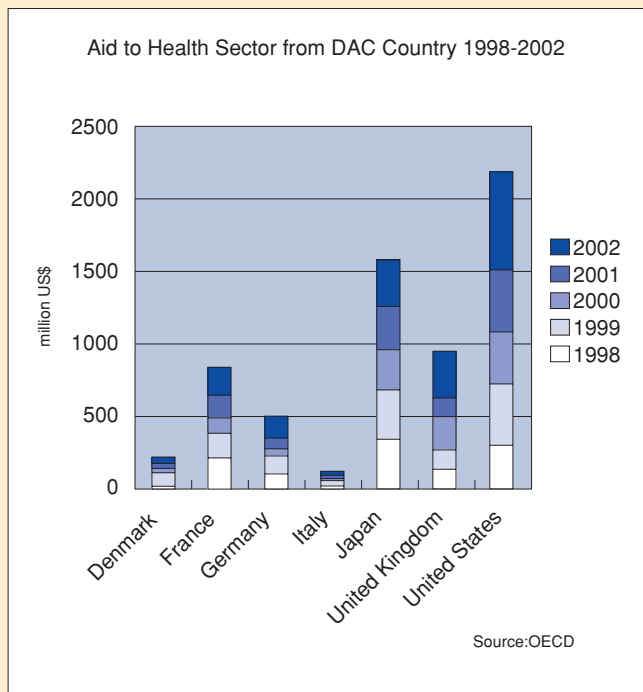
Throughout the world, there are many children and mothers who die of preventable and curable diseases. In addition, approximately 3 million people die every year of HIV/AIDS, approximately 2 million of tuberculosis and approximately 1 million of malaria, and the victims are the people of the developing world in many cases. Because these diseases seriously affect societies and economies and are one of the leading causes of poverty, three goals of the MDGs are on the health and medical care sector.

In order to secure the health of development actors, Japan has provided over US\$4 billion in assistance from 2000 to 2003 under the Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative (IDI), much greater than

the originally declared amount. In June 2005, Japan held the High-Level Forum on Health MDGs in Asia and the Pacific, announced the Health and Development Initiative, and pledged US\$5 billion in assistance over the next five years. Through these efforts, in addition to countermeasures against infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, as well as polio and parasitic diseases, Japan intends to further expand comprehensive assistance for the attainment of the health MDGs in developing countries by helping to strengthen health and medical care systems and human resource development, supporting education, water and related sectors, as well as gender.



Japan, ahead of other donor countries, appealed the importance of the issue of infectious diseases at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000. This awareness spread to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS and the G8 Genoa Summit in 2001, which led to the establishment of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Amid growing international concern about the threat of infectious diseases, the importance of supporting the fund was reaffirmed in the action plan adopted at the Evian Summit in 2003. As the only major Asian donor country to the Global Fund, Prime Minister Koizumi announced in June 2005, a new pledge of \$500 million in the coming years in his speech to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Okinawa Summit in 2000, and, as a board member, Japan is advocating the need for strict financial management to ensure the stability and sustainability of the fund, and the importance of three balances : the balance between assisted regions, the balance between the three major infectious diseases and the balance of prevention, treatment and care.



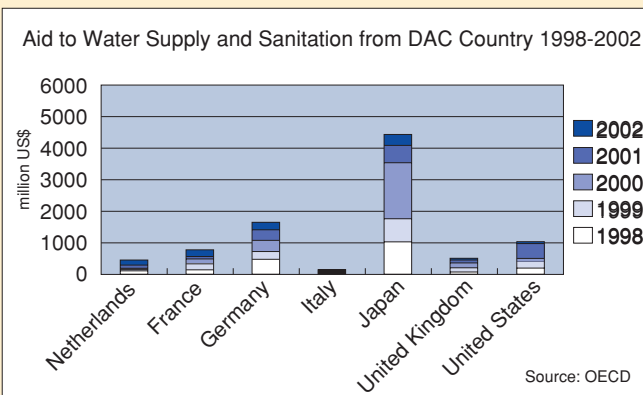
4 Water and Sanitation



Due to factors such as rapid population growth, concentration in urban areas and growth of industry, serious water-related problems are occurring in all countries such as water shortage, water pollution and flood damage. Almost half the world's population does not have access to basic sanitation, and there are regions with international disputes over water. In order to avert a maior crises, the international community is making efforts to solve water and sanitation problems.



Japan had supported the provision of drinking water and sanitation for more than 40 million people through Official Development Assistance (ODA) over a five-year period until 2000. In the five years leading up to 2002, of the global ODA for water supply and sanitation (approximately US\$2 billion per year), Japan was the top donor in the world, with its assistance accounting for 40% of the total, at approximately US\$900 million per year.



Furthermore, by hosting the 3rd World Water Forum in March 2003, and by taking active cooperation with countries such as the United States and France, Japan has been taking global initiatives in this sector on a global basis.

5

Environment

Goal
7

Based on the Environmental Conservation Initiative for Sustainable Development (EcoISD) announced in August 2002, Japan is promoting concrete cooperation in the environmental sector. This initiative embodies Japan's philosophy and principles of environmental cooperation and outlined action plans which would serve as the foundation for future cooperation, ahead of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Based on the three principles of "human security," "ownership and partnership" and "the pursuit of environmental conservation and development" of the EcoISD, Japan is promoting cooperation in the four priority areas of "global warming," "pollution control," "fresh water" and "conservation of the natural environment." In addition, Japan has stated that as a concrete goal, it would cooperate to train 5,000 people as human resources for the environmental sector over a five-year period beginning in FY2002.

Japan's record of cooperation in the environmental sector in FY2003 totaled approximately US\$2.8 billion including grant aid, yen loans, technical cooperation and contributions to international organizations, and accounted for approximately one third of overall ODA. As cooperation using the grant aid for global environment (currently grant aid for water resources and environment) newly established in FY2001, there were six projects implemented totaling approximately US\$36.9 million (exchange of notes basis), such as the "Project for Afforestation on the Coastal Area" in the Republic of Senegal and the

"Project for improvement of Solid Waste Management in Xian City Plan" in the People's Republic of China.

With the UN General Assembly resolution of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) proposed by Japan at the WSSD, the DESD was launched from 2005 to 2014. Education for sustainable development covers a wide range of educational issues including environment, basic education, human rights, peace and health. In this decade, every country is expected to undertake efforts towards a world where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from education and learn values, behavior and life-styles required for a sustainable future.

In the field of global warming, Japan announced the Kyoto Initiative in 1997 aimed at further strengthening assistance for the efforts of developing countries to address this threat mainly through ODA. Specifically the Initiative includes (1) cooperation in capacity development, (2) ODA loans on concessional terms and (3) effective use and transfer of Japanese technology and know-how.



6

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Goal
8

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is portrayed as one of the most potent forces in shaping the 21st century. Since ICT is a user-oriented technology, people acknowledge the opportunities provided by ICT, and it will be possible for the international community to achieve further development through the active utilization of ICT. For this reason, it is necessary that people everywhere be able to benefit from the global information society, thus, eliminating the digital divide is an extremely important challenge.

At the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in July 2000, Japan announced its Comprehensive Cooperation Package to Address the International Digital Divide. Through this package, Japan will promote cooperation based

on the four pillars of 1) intellectual contribution to policy and institution building, 2) human resources development, 3) building ICT infrastructure and networking and 4) promoting the use of ICT in development assistance.

Given that ICT is basically a sector that is developed through private-sector leadership, a large part of this package focuses on non-ODA cooperation such as investment finance, export finance and untied loans. Based on these points, Japan is allocating ODA cooperation to sectors that are not well provided for on a commercial basis, such as infrastructure development and human resources development in developing countries.



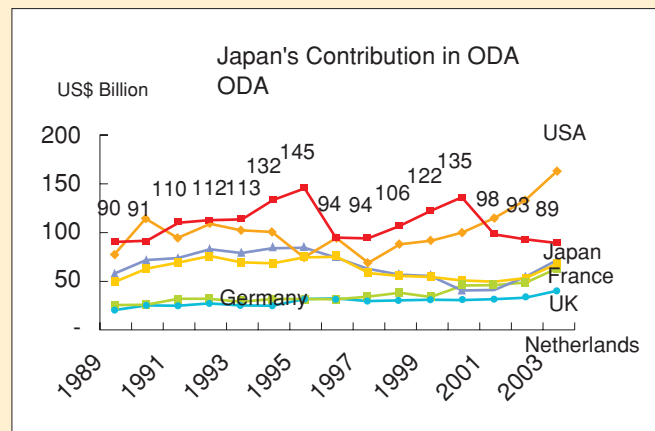
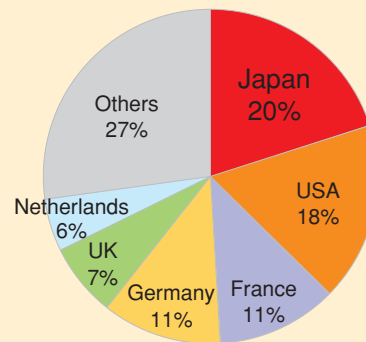
7 ODA



Goal 8

In the 10 years between 1991 to 2000, Japan provided the largest amount of ODA in the world. It is a top donor country that disbursed one-fifth of global ODA in the past decade. In the 51 years since 1954, Japan has provided a total of US\$230 billion in ODA to 185 countries. A substantial portion of that (42% of total ODA from 1960 to 2003) amount went to the countries of East Asia and has greatly contributed to its development. In this way, Japan's ODA, which covers areas from infrastructure development to human resource development, has contributed greatly to each of the countries' economic development and poverty reduction. In the future, as was announced by Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi at the Asian-African Summit, Japan will continue its efforts towards the goal of providing official development assistance (ODA) of 0.7% of our gross national income in order to contribute to the Millennium Development Goals. From this point of view, Japan will ensure a credible and sufficient level of ODA. To this end, Japan will strive to realize a strategic expansion of its ODA volume. In this context, Japan intends to increase its ODA volume by US\$10 billion in aggregate over the next five years. Japan will also double ODA to Africa in the coming three years, and will continue to place focus on grants.

Japan's Contribution in ODA Share of ODA (1994-2003)



8 Debt Relief

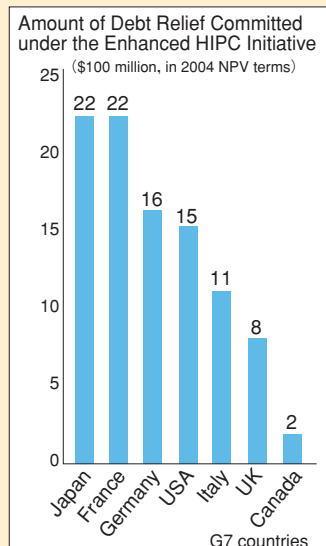
Goal 8

In order to secure development funds, many developing countries borrowed loans from external sources. However, as it became difficult to sufficiently repay these loans due to unpredictable socioeconomic changes, a large number of countries became deeply indebted. To address this situation, Japan, in addition to actively participating in and contributing to international discussions on this issue, has been undertaking debt reduction measures for heavily indebted countries in cooperation with the international community. Japan made the largest contribution of all creditor nations (approximately US\$2.2 billion) to

the Enhanced HIPC Initiative, which was established as the debt relief measure for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) (Note) and agreed upon at the 1999 G8 Cologne Summit. Japan considers it important to swiftly and steadily implement this initiative.

Moreover, Japan, together with other G8 countries, agreed to cancel 100% of outstanding debts of eligible HIPCs to the IMF, IDA, and AFDF, at the G8 finance Ministers' meeting in 2005.

(Note) Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs): Poor developing countries with high debt ratios. Since 1996, 42 countries have been recognized by the IMF and World Bank as HIPCs.



9

Trade and Investment

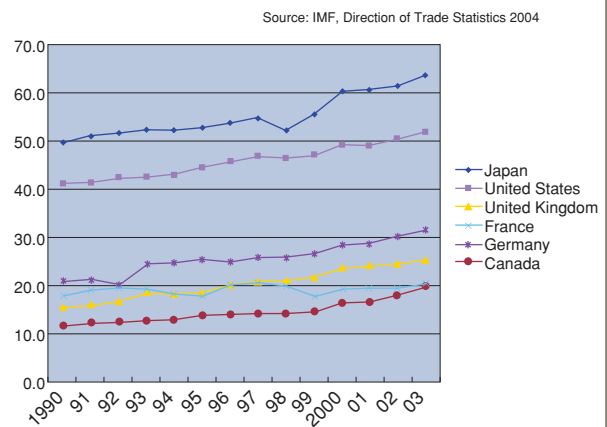
Goal 8

Private-sector trade and foreign direct investment (FDI) is the driving force of economic growth. In order to make it sustainable, the mobilization of various capital sources, including domestic investment and private-sector funding through trade and FDI and other means in developing countries is indispensable. To this end, in addition to assistance for infrastructure development, Japan has promoted the multilateral trading system inclusive of developing countries and the promotion of regional cooperation.

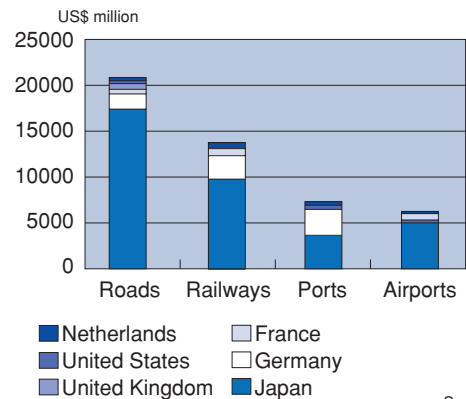
Japan has contributed to growth in Asia by coordinating ODA with trade and investment. Japan has been carrying out World Trade Organization (WTO)-related and export promotion assistance, and has sought to improve market access (make approximately 93% of exports from least developed countries (LDCs) tariff- and quota-free), with a view to accelerating developing countries' integration into the multilateral trading systems for the promotion of international trade. Japan is also putting emphasis on investment protection and liberalization through bilateral investment treaties (BITs), as well as on economic partnership agreements (EPAs).

The importance of economic infrastructure development is that it becomes the basis for trade and FDI. Japan has had distinguished track records in this area among major donor countries. In response to expansion of trade and investment opportunities in developing countries, Japan is contributing to the virtuous cycle of further flows of private funds to developing countries, which by actively promoting investment in and the sale of exports from developing countries, become the source of development funds.

Ratio of Imports from Developing Countries in Total Imports to Major Developed Countries



ODA towards Trade-related Infrastructure Development (Roads, Railways, Ports, Airports) (1990-2003)



Focusing on the "Year of Africa 2005"



1 Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)

- For more than a decade Japan has been actively promoting African development, with the TICAD process as the cornerstone.
- Japan will host TICAD IV in 2008.

2 "Year of Africa 2005"

● Japan pronounced the year 2005 as the "Year of Africa" in an effort to raise awareness in the international community about African issues.

Building on this momentum Japan is committed to enhancing its assistance to Africa.

● While intending to increase its overall ODA volume by US\$ 10 billion over the 5 years, Japan announced at the Asia-Africa Summit in Indonesia in April 2005, that it will double its ODA to Africa will in the three years to come.

● Making use of this expansion of ODA to Africa, Japan will enhance its assistance in the following five areas, that is, 1) consolidation of peace, 2) health, 3) agriculture and rural development, 4) trade and investment, and 5) Asia-Africa cooperation.

● In particular, based on the new initiative focusing on "Health and Development," Japan will provide comprehensive assistance in the health sector amounting to US\$5 billion over the next five years. Africa will be a major beneficiary of this initiative.

● Also, in light of the Asian experience, Japan believes it is important to focus on assistance for enhancing productivity movement and the dynamic efforts of the private sector.

1. African Millennium Village

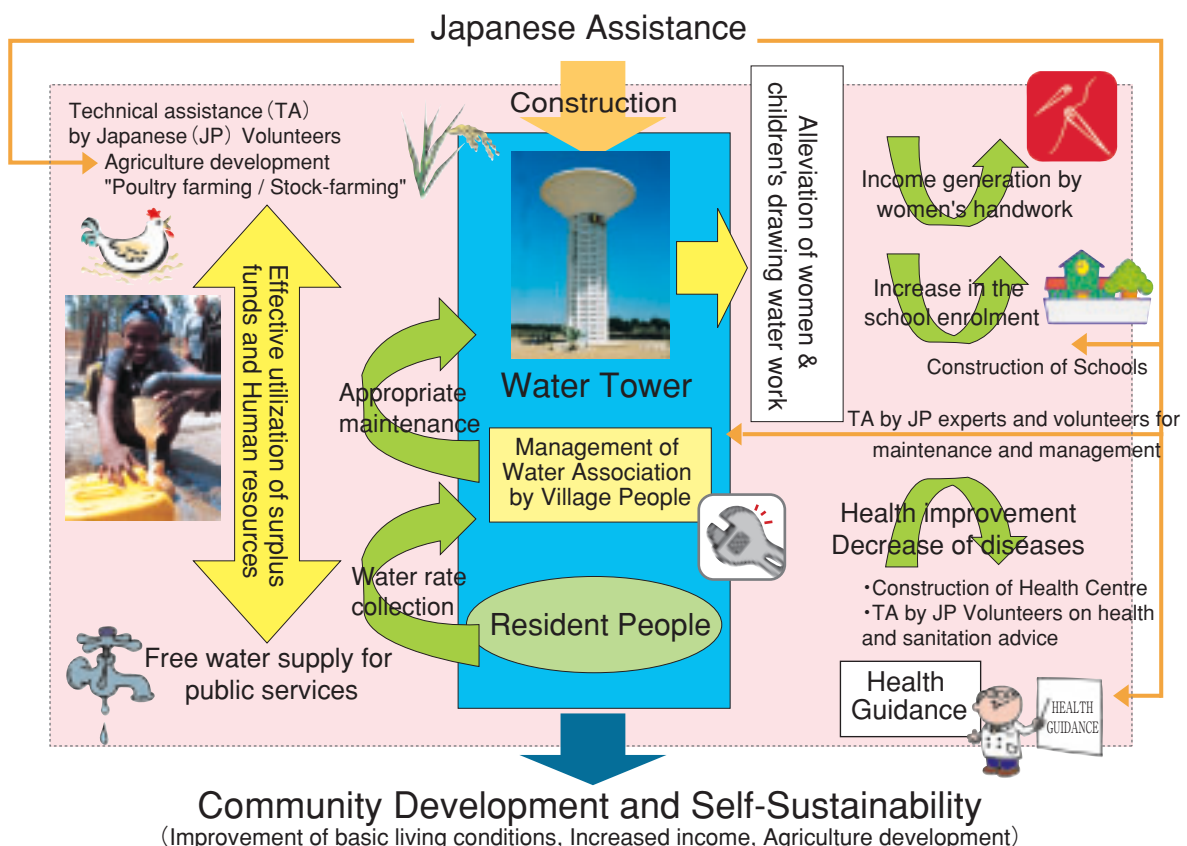
Japan and the UN Millennium Project led by Professor Jeffrey Sachs are partnering to launch an African Millennium Village (AMV) in eight clusters of villages across a range of agro-ecological zones in Africa, each presenting distinct challenges to poverty reduction. AMV will provide a critical knowledge base for achieving the Millennium Development Goals in rural Africa. With emphasis on the need for an African Green Revolution, AMV focuses on promoting human security by empowering African villages to implement integrated rural development policies through strategic investments in agriculture, health, education, and other sectors.

2. "Green Revolution in Africa"

In order to help realize "Green Revolution" to increase agricultural productivity, Japan will support formulation of agricultural policies, agricultural experiment and research, and dissemination of agricultural techniques, etc, including the promotion of development and diffusion of NERICA (New Rice for Africa).

3. Fighting against Malaria

To fight against malaria, Japan will provide 10 million long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets to African countries by 2007. Japan is considering supporting to increase production of these bed nets in order to strengthen the supply system. Furthermore, Japan will intensify its cooperation with other development partners such as international organizations and NGOs, aiming at promoting awareness raising education and activities about malaria, disseminating directions on how to use the bed nets, and distributing these nets efficiently.



Voices from Africa

Fighting against Malaria



Yutaka Kikugawa

HIV/AIDS Coordinator,
Eritrea Office,
United Nations
Children's Fund
(UNICEF)

In the State of Eritrea, many people are at constant risk of malaria. However, due to the success of measures recently taken to counter malaria by the Government of Eritrea, there has been a drastic reduction in the number of malaria sufferers, which is one of the objectives of the MDGs (179,501 in 1999, 27,783 in 2004. Data: Eritrean Ministry of Health 2005). The measures to counter malaria make it possible for malaria patients to receive treatment immediately after infection and for pregnant women to receive dosages of preventive medicine. Still, the most cost-effective procedure is said to be the appropriate usage of insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs) during sleep by those living in malaria prone regions. UNICEF has been promoting the distribution of ITNs

together with other development partners such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank. Most notably, the long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) which have been distributed starting FY2004 by the Japanese Government through JICA, is greatly appreciated by the busy inhabitants of malaria prone villages because these nets do not require periodic insecticide applications. Through the Ministry of Health, approximately 30,000 LLINs have already been distributed, and there are still new requests for LLINs.

**In February 2005, the Government of Japan announced that an additional 10,000,000 LLINs will be provided by the year 2007.*

Spreading a Small Dot of Paint across Local Communities



Takeo Tamura

Japan Overseas Cooperation
Volunteers (JOCV)
HIV/AIDS Control Nakuru,
Kenya. Affiliated
NGO ICROSS

A total of 26,555 people have volunteered for JOCV. Currently 2,661 (as of January 2005, JICA Statistics) are working at the grassroots level in various countries and regions of the world. Since I joined a home-based care project through my posting in the Republic of Kenya, I have trained community health workers, guided opportunistic infections management and done drug stock control for home care services.

Everyday I visit HIV/AIDS patients' homes. I see them suffering from their pain, their poverty, and discrimination against them and I feel overwhelmed at just how much needs to be done. But everyday I see them living positively despite of their difficulties, I am encouraged by their warm smiles and gain strength to fight against

AIDS with them.

Perhaps the presence of a volunteer seems like nothing more than a dot of paint to the local people. Still, taken within the perspective of a large painting encompassing the people and the area of a foreign culture where he works, one dot of paint can produce new colors and shapes as it battles and mixes with other colors. This means that inter-changes and transformation occur between JOCV volunteers and the people they work together with. I believe that these changes will benefit the local communities.

I am certain that the continuation of such efforts will contribute to the achievement of the MDGs.

African Village Initiative

Africa still faces various problems such as extreme poverty, conflict and infectious disease, and has many challenges to overcome Japan, who has initiated TICAD process for African development for more than ten years, decided to re-enhance its assistance for rural communities' development by launching the "AVI" based on the model case of Japanese assistance in Thaiba Ndiaye Village in Senegal (see flow chart).

This initiative aims at empowering local communities to meet their own needs in deprived areas and post conflict regions or countries in transition from reconstruction stage to development stage. It takes a form of multi-sectoral assistance, such as the improvement of the basic educational environ-

ment, the supply of safe and hygienic water, improvement of health and sanitation and agricultural development. This initiative also covers assistance at the local government level which is responsible for their development in order to develop entire region or country.

In implementing the AVI, Japan emphasizes ownership of recipient communities or counterpart institutions, while actively advance close cooperation among partners such as international organizations and NGOs with a view to realizing effective and efficient assistance.

Words of the People of Thaiba Ndiaye Village in Senegal Aiming at Sustainable Development through the Management of a Water Tower

"Until my village came to be able to use the water from the water tower, my entire life consisted of transporting water. For my family of 50 people, I used to carry 30 liters of water on my head which I drew from a well 700 meters away. I had to make 32 trips a day!"

●
Female

"What we envision is the village development with water as the pivot. The water tower has certainly brought forth various fruits to the village, including those in the area of health. Next will be the development of farming and stock-breeding methods that utilize water from the water tower for growing vegetables, fruits and raising livestock."

●
Chair of the Water Association

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8919, JAPAN

TEL: +81 (3) 5501-8000

<http://www.mofa.go.jp>