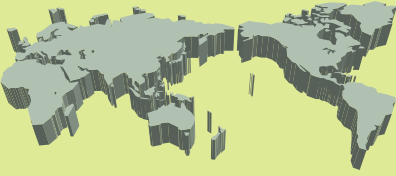


# Chapter 3



# Africa



# Current State of Development



Villagers welcoming a JICA study team (Senegal).

## Socioeconomic Development Facing Extensive Difficulties

Africa refers here to sub-Saharan Africa with the exception of Sudan. This is a vast area stretching over 21.87 million square kilometers with a varied climate characterized mostly by arid desert zones and humid tropical rain forest.

Although most African countries gained their independence during the 1960s, many, under the influence of agricultural management during the colonial period, have inherited a monocultural structure with their economic foundations resting on specific primary products. The effects of drought and other changes in the natural environment and of fluctuations in international markets are therefore liable to have immediate repercussions on these economic foundations and to result in fragile economic structures.

Restricted access to education means that national development has had to proceed with limitations on the human resources required for nation-building. This has meant that African countries have thus had to face

countless difficulties on their paths to socioeconomic development following independence.

## A Region with Two-thirds of the World's LLDCs

During the 1960s, the decade when many African countries gained their independence, these countries benefited from an international economic environment characterized by stability in the international prices of primary products for export. This meant that they were able to achieve steady growth, assisted by aid received from industrialized countries. However, with the exception of a few countries, their economic growth has become sluggish since the 1970s owing to a fall in the prices of primary products; the oil crises; the failure of economic management; unstable political foundations; drought, flooding and severe climate changes; regional conflict; and civil war.

During the 1970s, many countries had to take out large loans in order to maintain levels of income and investment. However, their gross national products (GNPs) have in real terms shown negative growth since

### Basic Principles of JICA Aid for Africa

Aid from Europe and the United States has failed to grow significantly since the end of the Cold War, and as a result, African countries have increasingly looked to Japan for assistance.

At the same time, in light of the importance of this region in terms of international politics, Japan organized the First Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD I) in 1993 and TICAD II in 1998. The aim of these conferences was to stress the importance of African development to the international community and to enhance understanding and support for the region.

On the basis of the guidelines for Japanese

aid to Africa presented at these conferences, JICA determined that the ultimate goal of African development should be poverty alleviation, and we are now striving to make improvements in human resources development and in the capacity to formulate and implement policy in the following fields:

- (1) Social development centering on education, health and medical care, and water supply;
- (2) Agricultural development with consideration given to food security as well as to the poorer sectors of society;
- (3) Development and reinforcement of systems of the market economy that contribute to

the development of the private sector; and (4) Democratization as the basis of development, prevention of conflict and post-conflict recovery.

In providing cooperation in these areas, JICA is planning to promote South-South cooperation\* which makes use of development experience in Asia, and intra-regional cooperation centering on regional bases, in addition to actively participating in the drafting, implementation and monitoring process of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper\* (PRSP) and sectoral programs based on aid coordination.

the 1980s, and by the end of the 1990s their external debt had grown to enormous proportions. A consequence of this was that financial resources which would normally have been directed toward development and public services had to be used to pay off debt, resulting in a shortage of the funds required for normal social services.

This decline in economic growth and the burden of heavy debt have resulted in the fact that 32 of the world's 48 least among less developed countries\* (LLDCs) are concentrated in Africa, and about two-fifths of the population belongs to the class of the absolute poor, having to live on less than US\$1 a day.

## Support for Africa in an Atmosphere of Change

The countries of Africa are currently at a major political and economic turning point.

In the political arena, many countries adopted a system of single-party dictatorship or military rule under powerful leaders in order to maintain their national unity following independence. But, following the disappearance of the Cold War structure in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union, and under the influence of demands made by donor\* nations, African countries are gradually becoming more pluralistic and are moving toward multi-party systems. The year 2000 saw progress in democratization, such as the peaceful transition of power in Senegal, but there were also concerns about the escalation of conflicts in a number of countries in which new political turmoil has emerged or civil war has continued.

In the economic arena, many countries have



JOCV carrying out a village survey (Senegal).



Training for personnel involved in maternal and child health care (Ghana).

collapsed economically and financially. Since the 1980s, efforts have been made under the guidance of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to change over to economic policies that involve a series of structural adjustments\*. The aims here are to open up the economy, improve government finances and bring about improvements in the international balance of payments of these countries by moving away from managed economic policies controlled by the public sector and by stimulating the economy through investment and market activities. As a consequence of such measures, there are several countries, such as Uganda, Ghana and Burkina Faso, where efforts toward economic reform have induced stable economic growth and brought international recognition. However, in many countries, administrative, fiscal and governmental reforms involving sudden economic liberalization, privatization and the downsizing of the public sector are having a serious effect on the poor by lowering the standard of social services and causing unemployment. Since the 1990s, there has been a growing demand for development carried out in parallel with reform of the overall economic structure that takes account of the social repercussions of reform and also emphasizes benefits to the poor.

Organizations engaged in development activities are increasingly reviewing development from a total perspective, including not only the public sector but also those that have hitherto generally been the recipients of social services, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector. A sector program approach is now being adopted in order to avoid the situation in which various donors work on their own separate projects using the limited resources possessed by the developing country in question. This

approach involves the formulation of specific sectoral issues, development strategies, and budget allocation plans in collaboration with the developing country, followed by cooperation implemented in accordance with a plan for the sector as a whole. Formulation of a PRSP is also becoming increasingly common with the participation of a wide range of related individuals and

organizations including donors, NGOs, the general public and the private sector. A PRSP is a three-year plan for economic and social development that focuses on poverty alleviation. The approach to development in Africa has thus reached a major turning point in recent years in line with political and economic reform.

# Tackling Priority Issues in JICA Programs

## Current State of Aid

In fiscal 2000, JICA provided cooperation to 44 countries in Africa, a figure representing all the countries in the region with the exceptions of Somalia, Liberia and Comoros. Cooperation with African countries accounted for around 14% of the total value of JICA's Technical Cooperation. Africa occupies a particularly important place in the Dispatch of JOCV Program: around one in four JOCV was sent to Africa in fiscal 2000.

## Building on the TICAD II "Tokyo Agenda for Action"

TICAD II was held in Tokyo under the joint sponsorship of the United Nations and the Japanese government in October 1998. Attended by representatives of 80 countries, 40 international agencies and 22 NGOs, TICAD II saw the adoption of the "Tokyo Agenda for Action," which aims to set the basic agenda for future cooperation in Africa. On the basis of this agenda and with the awareness that the ultimate aim of African development is poverty alleviation, JICA is actively contributing to capacity building\* in Africa in connection

with the priority issues summarized below.

In 2001, a TICAD meeting at the ministerial level is scheduled with the aim of reviewing African development since TICAD II and formulating strategy for the future. Based on the results so far, JICA intends to actively participate in the TICAD process.

### Main Approaches

#### 1. Support for Human Resources Development

When carrying out human resources development in Africa, raising the abilities of administrative organizations and the private sector plays an even more important role than in other developing countries. Because of this, the training of people who are able to manage organizations and systems is indispensable. JICA believes that the most important issues for it to tackle in Africa are human resources development and related institutional development, and it is engaged in long-term cooperation involving various forms of Technical Cooperation.

#### 2. Promotion of Inter-regional Cooperation

Since the size of the economy and the capacity to administer aid differs from country to country, it is not effective to provide aid in exactly the same way to all



A training participant engaged in an international exchange festival organized by Kagoshima Prefecture.

countries. Furthermore, there are many common issues facing the region, issues that might best be tackled jointly in order to achieve optimum results.

For this reason, based on the results of cooperation accumulated in a number of priority countries, JICA believes that one important approach to providing aid effectively and efficiently is to promote inter-regional cooperation to support neighboring countries by using the abilities of related organizations in partner countries.

In line with this approach, in East Africa, JICA is promoting the African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD), which is carrying out research, engaging in human resources development,

and generating information for the benefit of African society from its base in Kenya at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Engineering. In West Africa, we are actively providing inter-regional cooperation in the fields of vocational training and water supply in Senegal.

Furthermore, with a view to promoting international measures to combat parasites, we are implementing inter-regional cooperation in Kenya and Ghana.

### 3. Aid Coordination, PRSP and the Sectoral Program Approach

The year 2000 saw major developments in aid coordination. Especially, in conjunction with the deepening

## Front Line

### Integrated Human Development Program (Improvement of Livelihood and Health)

Ghana

Community Empowerment Program, Dispatch of Technical Cooperation Experts, Acceptance of Technical Training Participants, etc.

### Facing the Alleviation of Poverty with Multi-faceted Cooperation

#### ◆ Combining Various Forms of Cooperation to Tackle Poverty Alleviation

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Ghana, a West African nation with a population of 19 million, was the first African state to achieve independence (1957). It has been making various efforts to achieve the stable development of its society and economy; however, it still faces many development issues, including an increase of people in absolute poverty in some regions.

Against this backdrop, from April 1999 JICA formally started its Integrated Human Development Program (IHDP)—the only program of its kind—in order to deal with the multi-faceted development problem of poverty while taking into consideration the use of various forms of aid. One characteristic of this program is that it does not utilize one single form of cooperation, as is traditionally the case; instead, it combines various forms of cooperation to horizontally and comprehensively tackle poverty. The program is also being implemented with due attention paid to coordination with the projects of other donors and NGOs. Further, with the active involvement of local residents and regional development authorities, JICA is currently considering concrete details of the program while taking into consideration the poverty alleviation policies of the government of Ghana.

#### ◆ JICA Starts Activities in Regions with a High Percentage of People in Absolute Poverty

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So far, JICA has: a) established an office in the Ghana National Development Program Committee; b) selected four districts within the Upper East Province, which has a high share of people living in absolute poverty, as the initial priority activity areas; and c) just started field-level activities. More specifically, under the framework of the Community Empowerment Program, a number of measures are being implemented with a view to improving the economic and social status of rural women. These efforts include support for non-agricultural production activities (such as the manufacture of pottery and ceramics), improvement of primary education (such as establishment of PTAs and improvement of opportunities for girls to receive education), improvement of primary healthcare (such as the movement to abolish female circumcision and the Provision of traditional



Women urgently need to be freed from the task of water collection.

training for midwives), and strengthening of food security by building crop storage facilities for households.

The Dispatch of Technical Cooperation Experts Program supports the strengthening of rural development administration by holding workshops with the participation of local residents and by the formulation of medium-term development programs by development officers in the target districts.

The Acceptance of Training Participants Program sends staff of the government of Ghana to courses in Japan or in third countries.

A pilot project supports the processing of agricultural products by installing processing machines in the community near the local market. The project aims to raise the income of farmers by increasing the value added to agricultural products. This program also provides multi-faceted aid that includes effective utilization of Japanese Grant Aid projects such as the utilization of counterpart funds or grant assistance for grassroots projects, in addition to Technical Cooperation.

In order for these projects to have effective results in the future, the organization and systems of the government of Ghana need to be improved to strengthen the capability of its personnel in the field of development administration and to widen the field of activities.

(JICA Ghana Office)



of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, the PRSP formulation process has seen substantial development in each country. In anticipation of PRSPs becoming development policies shared by all donors, JICA is actively participating in and contributing to the formulation process while putting emphasis on the cultivation of ownership\* on the part of the African side. In addition, JICA continues to participate in the monitoring of the implementation of PRSPs, which is the principal issue after formulation.

In addition, the “sector program” approach, which is closely related to the PRSP process, is being promoted in such fields as education, health and agriculture, mainly in English-speaking African countries. JICA is working on clarifying the role of its cooperation in connection with the sector programs in order to realize more effective cooperation. JICA is also working on such issues as the harmonization of procedures for the “common basket” (an aid method by which a common fund is established to which each donor contributes), and improvement of the predictability of aid. As part of these efforts, JICA began a study on the support program for rural and agriculture sector development in Tanzania in March 2001. JICA is hoping to improve the capacity of the Tanzanian government by providing support for the formulation of a development strategy and sector program in this area.

**4. Promoting Cooperation Between Asia and Africa**

Promoting cooperation between Asia and Africa is an approach to aid that emerged from the TICAD process. It involves the sharing of development experience gained in Asia with Africa.

JICA will continue its effort to strengthen cooperative relationships between the two regions by expanding training courses held in Asia for Africa, while also trying to match African needs with possible areas of cooperation from Asia.

**Important Topics**

**1. Social Development**

Scientific subjects and mathematics form the core of Japanese educational cooperation. In addition to package cooperation\* (a combination of Project-type Technical Cooperation, group Dispatch of JOCV and



\*Asia-Africa Cohabitation Forum”, which was attended by training participants from five East African countries.

the upgrade of facilities and equipment by means of Grant Aid) in Kenya, JICA is currently supporting science and mathematics education in Ghana by combining a project involving training and retraining of elementary and secondary school teachers with group training in Japan. In South Africa, too, JICA is combining the dispatch of expert teams with training and research support in Japan with a view to strengthening the system for retraining teaching personnel.

In the field of health and medical care, cooperation is being provided in Tanzania and Zambia with emphasis on strengthening primary health care (PHC). In order to raise the quality of health services and medical care, JICA is also training medical practitioners. Further, concerning infectious diseases that constitute major problems in Africa (such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis), in addition to projects under implementation in Ghana, Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe, JICA is looking to enhance its cooperation through Japan-U.S. joint project formulation studies\* in Tanzania, in order to realize the “Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative” that was announced at the Kyushu-Okinawa G8 Summit of July 2000.

In the field of water supply, we are attempting to further expand regional water supply projects that we have been actively involved in since TICAD I and to raise the maintenance and administration capacity of water supply facilities. In this connection, we are implementing the “Groundwater Development and Water Supply Training Project” (Project-type Technical Cooperation) in Ethiopia, which is aimed not only at engineers but also at the community organizations of water administration unions. In Senegal, we have been educating those concerned by holding an international workshop aimed at West African countries that is intended to stress the importance of maintaining and administering water supply facilities and of promoting health education through the construction of wells. We are also considering the implementation of concrete projects to promote these programs.

In Africa, women play the major role in agricultural production, housework and child-rearing, yet they have relatively little opportunity to benefit from education and other social services, which places them in a socially disadvantaged position. When providing cooperation, JICA therefore tries to ensure that the benefits are felt equally by women and men. With participation at the initial stages of the development process by the local communities who are beneficiaries of our activities, we are striving to introduce community-participatory development\* methods in order to improve our operations and encourage the idea of ownership.

## 2. Agricultural Development

Most of the African population is involved in agriculture, and most people continue to produce food for their own self-sufficiency. It is important therefore to

contribute to the alleviation of poverty in rural areas by improving conditions of food security through efforts to raise the productivity of small-scale farmers and by ensuring sources of cash income through the introduction of cash crops.

JICA is thus encouraging the supply of agricultural production materials by means of Grant Aid to African countries. We are also providing Technical Cooperation aimed at promoting irrigated cultivation among small-scale farmers in countries including Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Tanzania and Kenya.

## 3. Development of the Private Sector

In addition to training personnel who can contribute to development of the private sector by improving and strengthening the market economy system, encouraging trade and investment, and

# Front Line

The Project on Aquaculture and Technical Development of Malawi Indigenous Species

Malawi

## Restoring the Production Quantity of Endemic Species in Lake Malawi Through Cultivation

Project-type Technical Cooperation

### ◆ Catches Dropped Due to Rampant Overfishing and Environmental Destruction

Although Malawi is situated in the inner part of East Africa, most of its people like to eat fish, with 60–70% of the protein intake of Malawians originating from fish.

Annually, between 60,000 to 70,000 tons of fish are caught from the lakes and rivers surrounding Lake Malawi. However, due to rampant overfishing and environmental destruction in recent years, the number of fish caught has stagnated. On the other hand, as the population of Malawi is growing at a rate of 3% per year, the annual amount of fish consumed per person in Malawi has dropped from 12 kilograms 12 years ago to around 7 kilograms in recent years.

### ◆ Turning Sales Profits into Funds for the Project

Against the backdrop of stagnating levels of fish production, the government of Malawi planned to increase production through cultivation. However, as many endemic species live in Lake Malawi, policy forbids the introduction and cultivation of foreign species from the viewpoint of preserving biological diversity<sup>7</sup>.

In response, JICA selected endemic species for cultivation and implemented a first-phase project entitled The Research Project for Small-scale Aquaculture of Malawian Indigenous Species from March 1996 to April 1999, with the aim of developing appropriate cultivation techniques.

Based on basic data obtained from this three-year first phase, JICA has been implementing the Project on Aquaculture and Technical Development of Malawi Indigenous Species since April 1999, with the twin objectives of establishing reproduction technology for fish of the carp family that are considered suitable for cultivation, and developing appropriate cultivation techniques for the tilapia and African catfish, which were already being cultivated. In this project, technology development and guidance have been carried



Counterparts are now able to carry out operations on their own.

out in the fields of reproduction, cultivation techniques, development of feed and verification experiments over the past two years. Counterparts<sup>7</sup> in Malawi have deepened their understanding and knowledge, and they are now able to carry out many of these activities on their own.

On the other hand, Malawi, with a per capita GDP of about US\$200, is amongst the LLDCs, and it faces difficulties in securing funds for research institutions. In order to deal with this situation, the project sells newborn and grown fish that have been bred at the national cultivation center and its branches to fishermen and residents in the surrounding area, and uses the profits to fund the project. Currently, the project is earning a yearly profit of US\$5,000, which is used to run the center.

In Malawi, where the social and economic infrastructure is weak, it takes time for a project to become established. It is expected that determined and continued efforts by both the Malawian and Japanese sides will encourage the smooth development of the center and improve the lives of the people of Malawi.

(JICA Malawi Office)

fostering small and medium-sized enterprises, JICA is providing support primarily through the Acceptance of Technical Training Participants (country and region-specific courses), Dispatch of Technical Cooperation Experts and Development Studies.

Upgrading of roads, bridges and electrification is indispensable for economic development and stimulating investment, and JICA is providing support in this area primarily through Grant Aid. Human resources development aimed at raising capacity to maintain and manage facilities after their construction is also under way through the Dispatch of Technical Cooperation Experts and the Acceptance of Technical Training Participants.

#### **4. Good Governance and Peacebuilding**

Taking account of the historical and cultural backgrounds of African countries, JICA is actively cooperating to establish the principles of good governance.\* This entails allowing the basic principles of constitutionalism, democracy and basic human rights to take root and raising the accountability, transparency and efficiency of government, as these are the bases for development.

In 2000, members of parliament from the six nations of Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Madagascar and South Africa and government officials from Nigeria

were invited to Japan to attend a seminar on democratization organized by JICA. Its focus was the development of democracy and the process of economic development in Japan. We intend to strengthen and expand our cooperation in this field in the future.

In addition, in conflict-ridden Africa, JICA formulated projects aiming to lessen the burden accompanying the acceptance of refugees through the implementation of a joint project formulation study with the UNHCR in Tanzania. This was part of a new initiative in the field of post-conflict reconstruction (peacebuilding).

#### **5. Follow-up to the Prime Minister's Visit to Africa**

In January 2001, then-Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori visited Africa as the first Japanese prime minister ever to do so. In his policy speech, Mr. Mori stated Japan's determination to tackle African problems by saying "There will be no stability and prosperity in the world in the twenty-first century unless the problems of Africa are resolved". JICA is planning to provide support by establishing real ownership of cooperation in Africa, promoting South-South cooperation, implementing measures against infectious diseases such as AIDS, and providing cooperation in the information technology (IT) area.