Japan (JICA)

AID PRIORITIES

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is the independent institution of the Government of Japan responsible for the international cooperation and development agenda of the country.

JICA’s vision is one of inclusive and dynamic development, which it aims to achieve through its four priority areas:

1) Addressing the global agenda and working in concert with international society to address the various globalization-related issues that developing countries face;
2) Reducing poverty through equitable growth by providing support for human resources development, capacity building, policy and institutional improvements, and provision of social and economic infrastructure;
3) Improving governance through support aimed at improving the fundamental systems needed by a state, including systems needed to effectively provide public services and at fostering the institutions and human resources needed to manage those systems appropriately;
4) Achieving human security, especially in relation to issues of conflict, terrorism, disaster, environmental destruction and infectious disease.

JICA does not have a sector or geographical focus and instead works in almost all areas of international development, including: planning and administration, public works, agriculture, forestry, fishery, mining, energy, tourism, education, human resources, health and welfare. Developing countries and regions targeted for assistance included 150 countries/regions in 2015.

WASH STRATEGY/ACTIVITIES

JICA is strongly committed to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially focusing on four main areas:

1) Urban water supply: JICA will support efforts to achieve SDG target 6.1, covering service improvement in terms of accessibility, availability and quality;
2) Rural water supply and sanitation: JICA will continue to work to expand access to safe drinking-water in rural areas with the aim of realizing universal access;
3) Water pollution control: JICA will promote cooperation for the strengthening of legal, institutional and monitoring systems for water pollution control, to help achieve SDG target 6.3;
4) Integrated water resources management (IWRM): JICA will promote cooperation for IWRM, drawing from expertise in both natural and social sciences.


Specific targets

JICA is contributing to achieving Japan’s initiative for Africa, the Yokohama Action Plan 2013–2017, which was adopted at the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development in 2013. This plan stipulates the following regional targets:
1) Improvement of access to safe water and sanitary conditions for 10 million people;
2) Human resource development for water supply (1 750 people).

A global target in conjunction with the SDGs is currently in preparation.

WASH PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

From 2006 to 2015, JICA’s water and sanitation programmes have helped provide 36 million people with drinking-water; 4 200 people with training in the WASH sector; and 7 800 people with the opportunity to participate in training courses organized in Japan. Additionally, 5 300 Japanese experts in the WASH sector were dispatched to developing countries.

WASH AID PRIORITIES: DISTRIBUTION OF AID DISBURSEMENTS

By activity type (2015)

JICA includes a number of high priority activity types, a few examples of which are provided below:

1) Ensuring affordability is taken into consideration with projects focusing on water tariffs;
2) Supporting safe management of wastewater and residuals;
3) Promotion of water use efficiency and sustainable withdrawals;
4) Supporting health through capacity development projects in the rural water supply and sanitation sectors in cooperation with the health sector, especially for strengthening public sensitization and monitoring;
5) Enhancing access and improving service levels;
6) Supporting sustainability of WASH services;
7) Focusing on urban sanitation and drinking-water supply;
8) Improving transparency and accountability;
9) Supporting education and training
10) Promoting alignment with national recipient government priorities.

By region in (2015)

- Central Asia and Southern Asia: 13%
- Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia: 25%
- Latin America and Caribbean: 25%
- North America and Europe: 27%
- Oceania: 1%
- Sub-Saharan Africa: 8%
- Western Asia and Northern Africa: 2%
- Not applicable: 1%

An additional <1% of water and sanitation ODA is targeted to sector or multi-country programmes

Source: OECD-CRS, 2016

http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaaas/en/
In order to realize sustainable withdrawal of fresh water, JICA will also contribute to the formulation of water resources development and management master plans and the improvement of monitoring capacity. In the area of integrated water resources management, JICA has supported the formulation of national master plans for water resource development and management in more than ten countries as well as basin-wide or region-wide plans in many countries.

LESSONS/IMPACTS

JICA is cooperating to develop the capacity of eight provincial waterworks in Cambodia by strengthening the leadership of the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft and harnessing the resources of Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority. Since the project commenced in 2012, it has improved organizational capacity to manage the data necessary to formulate and monitor with related business plans and enhance human resources development. It has helped achieve steady improvement in the performance of provincial waterworks. All of the waterworks have since become profitable and one has successfully revised tariffs after extensive public and political consultation.

JICA has also been working on non-revenue water (NRW) reduction, implementing technical cooperation projects in many countries, such as: Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Samoa, and Viet Nam. In these projects, dedicated sections or teams for NRW management and countermeasures were established, and training was provided to foster skilled staff and create Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), guidelines, and action plans. In the Solomon Islands, the NRW ratio was reduced from 56% to 18% in more than 15 pilot areas. In Peru, the NRW ratio was reduced from 38% to 25%, and from 26% to 18%, in two pilot areas respectively.

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FUTURE OUTLOOK

In future, JICA will fully utilize its strength to cover both capacity development and physical investments; prepare long-term development plans; and mobilize Japan’s internal network of knowledge, experience and technology.

JICA will also promote South-South cooperation in close and broad partnership with institutions in developing countries. JICA will address institutional and organizational capacity development for the water sector and water utilities, as well as the expansion of revenue bases for water utilities through physical investment. As capacity improves, JICA will support self-sustained financing by partner countries, including the mobilization of private funds and strengthening of public-private partnerships.

JICA will continue to support expansion of the access to safely managed drinking-water in rural areas by strengthening community participation and administrative support systems, and highlighting the importance of hygienic behaviour. Institutional WASH for schools and health facilities will be promoted by collaboration with related sectors.

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