Overview of International Cooperation
For people, for life, for the future

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan is responsible for a diverse range of areas including “social security,” “social welfare,” “public health (health policy and medical services and water supply administration),” “improvement of working environment,” “promotion of employment,” and “human resources development.” Making the most of the expertise in those areas, MHLW implements technical cooperation projects for developing countries in an integrated and systematic manner.

MHLW provides technical cooperation through various channels, which includes recruiting professionals and accepting trainees for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); subsidizing projects carried out by NGOs; and funding projects implemented by international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Labour Organization (ILO).

MHLW closely works with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), facilitates meetings at the ministerial level, and organizes collaboration projects with ASEAN. We also implement projects through the scheme of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

World Health Organization (WHO) is the UN specialized agency, established in 1948 with a purpose "to reach the highest possible level of health for all people". Since its establishment, WHO has been conducting a wide range of activities, including infectious diseases prevention, food and drug safety and health promotion for the protection of people’s health.

International Labour Organization (ILO), a unique UN agency which employs tripartite system, has established in 1919 for pursuing universal and lasting peace based upon social justice; improving conditions of labour, for example, by the prevention of unemployment and recognition of the principle of freedom of association; and ensuring social security. ILO is actively engaged in technical cooperation with a purpose to realize "decent work" for all.