JICA’s Efforts for Poverty Alleviation

- Focusing on the collaboration between health and welfare sectors-

1 September 2010

Shintaro Nakamura
JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)
Senior Adviser on Social Security
Outline

1. JICA’s approach to poverty alleviation
2. Examples of JICA’s undertakings in Thailand and Syria
3. JICA’s cooperation schemes
JICA’s approach to poverty

1. Mainstream the poverty alleviation
2. Understand the poverty comprehensibly and accurately
3. Strategic planning and implementation
Mainstream the poverty alleviation

Poverty is a cross-cutting issue.

- In designing an education system, how can we ensure the affordability for low-income households?
- In designing a health insurance system, how can we cover low-income households?
- In constructing a road system, how can we ensure the access from poor areas?
- In developing a finance system, how can we ensure the accessibility for low-income households?
Mainstream the poverty alleviation

A small additional input can make a difference.

- Subsidy system or scholarship to cover school materials and textbooks in designing an educational system
- Insurance premium according to the amount of household income in designing a health insurance
- Construction of all-weather access road from poor areas in developing a highway system
- Development of mobile banking in developing a finance system
Understand the poverty comprehensibly and accurately

• What is “poverty” in the local context? What factors are relevant to “poverty” in the local context?
  – “Poverty” does not necessarily mean “not having necessary income or food”.
    • In some countries, “poverty” means not to have permanent house and well. In some countries, poverty means not to have house and to live in other people’s land.

• In designing, developing and implementing undertakings for poverty alleviation, how can we target poor people accurately?
  – In general, poor people do not have enough power to raise their voices and participate in development process.
Strategic planning and implementation

• In planning undertaking
  – Serious commitments from the counterpart government
  – JICA’s strengths in its experiences and approaches
  – Other actors’ priorities are carefully considered.

• In implementing phase
  – Nurturing ownership of the counterpart

• Focus is;
  – Medium- and long-term development of the capacity of counterparts, rather than short-term performances.
Collaboration between Health and Welfare

1. CTOP in Thailand

- CTOP Project in Thailand (Project on the Development of a Community Based Integrated Health Care and Social Welfare Services Model for Thai Older Persons)

- Four year project since 2007 under the cooperation among Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security and JICA.

- In 4 project sites, according to local context, integration models of health and social welfare services have been developed.

- The model in Surat Thani in southern part of Thailand is a mobile one-stop service provided to older persons (MOST, Mobile One-stop service, Surat Thani)
MOST in Thai CTOP, Surat Thani

A place in the community for “One-Stop Service”

- Prefecture social welfare office
- Community hospital, clinic
- Municipality
- Community leaders

Health workers
Social workers

Pick-up service by municipality for the older persons who have difficulty in going-out

volunteer

volunteer

volunteer
MOST in Thai CTOP, Surat Thani
CTOP in Thailand: Contexts

1. Thai government’s policy priority
   - How to deal with the rapid aging of the society?

2. Japan’s strength
   - Experience of rapid aging process
   - Experiences in the last 20 years in developing integrated health and social welfare services

3. Thai government’s commitment
   - Appoint Permanent Secretaries of the Ministries as the project directors, Deputy Permanent Secretaries as the project managers
   - Share these models nationwide

4. JICA’s commitment
   - Long- and short-term experts, trainings in Thailand and Japan, necessary equipments
Collaboration between Health and Welfare

2. CBR in Syria

- Syria CBR Project (Community Based Rehabilitation)
- CBR is a strategy for the full participation of persons with disabilities (PWD), including economic participation.
- It is achieved through the empowerment of PWD and concerted supports by local resources including health and social services.
- Project has been implemented under the cooperation between Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and JICA.
- In Harran village, local coordinator is developing networks among local resources inside and outside the village.
CBR in Syria
Networking among local resources in Harran

CBR Coordinator (PWD)
Women Federation
Development Center
Health Center
Cultural Center
Baath Party
Pioneer Organization
Local Charity Organization
Mayor
CBR in Syria
Networking with resources outside the village

Self-help organizations
(Damascus Blind Association)

Government facilities
(Vocational Training Center)

NGOs
(Rajaa Institute for Children with Learning Disability)

Private companies
(Asseel underwear company)

NGOs
(Alnour Institute for children with CP)

Government facilities
(Rehabilitation Center)
3-tier scheme in Syrian CBR

Government Organizations
- CBR Office of Ministry of Social Affairs
- Secretariat

Governorate offices
- Training
- Report, Request

Public Offices
- Development Center, School, Health Center, etc
- Coordination

NGOs
- Coordination
- Cooperation
- NGOs, Villagers, etc
- Charity Organization, NGO, Local Volunteers, etc

NGOs
- Coordination
CBR in Syria: Contexts

1. Syrian government’s policy priority

2. Japan’s strength
   – Experiences in promoting community welfare in the last 20 years.

3. Syrian government’s commitment
   – Establish CBR Office in the Ministry
   – Appoint CBR Unit in all the governorates and train the members

4. JICA’s commitment
   – Long- and short-term experts to the ministry, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) to the villages, trainings in Japan and Thailand
JICA’s cooperation schemes

- JICA cooperates by utilizing various schemes
  - Experts
  - Volunteers (Senior and Junior volunteers)
  - Technical support project (Combination of experts, training and necessary equipment)
  - Cooperation with Japanese NGOs
- There are already a big number of ex-participants of JICA training in each country.
- The key to fruitful cooperation is serious commitment by both sides.