

## Country Assistance Policy for the Republic of Kiribati

April, 2012

### 1. Relevance of Assistance

The objective of ODA is to contribute to economic development and improve the welfare of developing nations so as to create a world where all people can live in a humane manner and in peace. Many Island Countries, including Kiribati face challenges such as geographical dispersion, small-scale economy and lack of easy access to international markets ensuing barriers to their economic development. Kiribati is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change such as rising sea level, cyclone and drought being an Atoll Island. Furthermore, Tarawa, the capital of Kiribati, contains a deteriorating environment condition emanating from inappropriate garbage disposal, attributed to rapid urban migration.

The national territory of the Republic of Kiribati consists of high geographical dispersion compared to other pacific countries. Therefore, it is difficult to provide adequate health care and medical services to the whole island, resulting in infants and pregnant women facing high mortality rate.

In the economic field, the Republic of Kiribati has no major industries except for fisheries and copra, while the Government's revenue depends highly on fishing license fee, official development assistance (ODA) and remittances from Kiribati nationals employed abroad. Additionally, there is a lack of proper maintenance and management of economic social infrastructures such as ports and fisheries facilities which are the main source of economical activities and human living in Kiribati.

The Government of the Republic of Kiribati embraces a healthy relationship with the Government of Japan particularly in the field of fisheries such as Japanese fishing vessels operate in Kiribati's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) based on the bilateral fisheries agreement. Therefore, it is essential that the Government of Japan continues to support and encourage the efforts of the Republic of Kiribati's self reliance and sustainable development and reinforce a dynamic relationship between the Republic of Kiribati and Japan.

### 2. Basic Policy of Assistance: Accomplishment of Sustainable Economic Growth with Environmental Consideration and Improvement of Living Standard

The Government of Japan has been providing assistance to the Republic of Kiribati prioritizing the field of environment conservation and adaptation measures in climate change. Specific importance is also placed on the improvement of basic social welfare, sustainable economic growth through the development of economic infrastructure

based on the Government of the Republic of Kiribati's national development plan and the assistance policy of the Government of Japan adopted during the Pacific Leaders Meeting (PALM) which has been held every 3 years since 1997.

### 3. Priority Areas

#### (1) Environment / Climate Change

The Government of Japan provides support to the Republic of Kiribati focusing mainly on the field of environment improvement and conservation in Tarawa with the purpose of enhancing in environment friendly living standards and adaptation measures in climate change by solid waste management approach of reducing garbage disposal in the city. Additionally, the Government of Japan renders support to improve disaster prevention capability by the Government and residents of Kiribati.

#### (2) Overcoming Vulnerability

The Government of Japan provides support to the Republic of Kiribati focusing mainly on the improvement of basic health care and medical services as well as improvement of immunization and infectious disease control measures for eradication of Filariasis until 2020.

### 4. Point to be considered

The Government of Japan engages in efforts to implement effective and efficient exchange of views positively with Australia and New Zealand as main donors to Kiribati as well as other donors to avoid duplication of support and to produce a synergistic effect of each aid assistance.

Annex: Rolling Plan for Kiribati

Priority Area 1	Environment / Climate Change											
Development Issue 1-1  Climate Change	[Background] Tarawa, the capital of Kiribati, faces issues of overpopulation and deteriorating living conditions which is compounded by the lack of appropriate treatment of waste and sewage water. The entire country relies on imports and the waste generated from imports can not be effectively managed in Kiribati posing a serious concern. Based on Japan's past technical assistance, a draft of Kiribati's National Waste Management Strategy was produced and is currently awaiting approval.				[Japan's Assistance Policy] In alignment with the SPREP's Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy 2010-2015, Japan provides assistance for formulation and implementation of Kiribati's National Waste Management Strategy through regional technical cooperation projects.							
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
					Before JFY 2013	JFY 2014	JFY 2015	JFY 2016	JFY 2017	JFY 2018		
	Program for Sound Material Cycle Society in the South Pacific	This program intends to reduce household waste through providing compost training and improved garbage collection systems in Tarawa.	Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management (J-PRISM)	TCP								Regional Project
			Training Course for Waste Management	TR								
			South-South Cooperation between Pacific and Caribbean SIDS on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management	ML								UNDP-Japan Partnership Fund
			Training Course for Solar Power	TR								
Development Issue 1-2  Environment Conservation	[Background] Kiribati is one of the most vulnerable countries in the Pacific to the impact of climate change such as sea level rise and extreme weather patterns. The government of Kiribati is currently implementing a program to address effects of climate change with financial support from the Global Environment Facility and assistance from the UNDP.				[Japan's Assistance Policy] Japan provides assistance to Kiribati taking into account the results of Preparatory Study on the Program for Climate Change in the Pacific Islands.							
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
					Before JFY 2013	JFY 2014	JFY 2015	JFY 2016	JFY 2017	JFY 2018		
	Disaster Risk Management Program	This program provides assistance mainly in relation to weather forecast and disaster risk management to improve capability for climate change adaptation and natural disaster risk reduction.	Training Courses for Disaster Prevention	TR								
			Regional Meteorology Training for Pacific Island Countries	TR								Regional Project based in Fiji
			Risk Assessment Capacity Support: SPC/SOPAC Disaster Risk Reduction Programme	EXP								Regional Project based in Fiji
			Project for Reinforcing Meteorological Training Function of FMS	TCP								Regional Project based in Fiji
			Kiribati Disaster Risk Management and Adaptation Project	ML								World Bank (FHR)
			Workshop on Disaster Management / Communications	ML								APT

Priority Area 2	Overcoming Vulnerability											
Development Issue 2-1  Improvement of Health and Medical Services	[Background] Kiribati has a vast territory of 3,000,000km <sup>2</sup> where 33 small atolls are scattered. Due to the geographical remoteness of these islands, Kiribati has difficulties in delivering proper medical and health services to its population. Meanwhile, migration from remote islands to Tarawa has sharply increased in recent years and as a result, more than half of the total population are living in South Tarawa as of 2008. Infrastructures for public utilities and environmental protection in South Tarawa are not sufficiently developed for the increasing population. To address this situation, health program on infectious disease control, human resource development and environmental protection should be strengthened. Moreover, Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) such as hypertension are becoming main causes of morbidity and mortality, and improving the preventative measures is a serious concern.				[Japan's Assistance Policy] In accordance with Japan's Global Health Policy 2011-2015, Japan will continue its support to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, referred to as Neglected Tropical Disease, as part of its Infectious Disease Control program. Japan will also provide support for NCD prevention under its technical cooperation schemes through projects, as well as volunteer and training programs, since NCDs have lately been a serious issue.							
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
	Pacific Islands Health and Medical Program	This program supports the strengthening of infectious disease control and improvement of primary health services through technical cooperation projects and trainings, as well as supports initiatives for NCD prevention .	Project for System Improvement of Expanded Program on Immunization in the Pacific Region (JPPIPS Phase 2)	TCP	Before JFY 2013	JFY 2014	JFY 2015	JFY 2016	JFY 2017	JFY 2018		Regional Project based in Fiji
			The Project for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases	TCP								Regional Project based in Fiji
			Provision of specific medical equipment for Pacific Program to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (PacELF)	EQ								Regional Project
			Health and Medical Service Field Volunteer(s)	JOCV								
			Rehabilitation of health centres	GGP								
			Health and Medical Fields Training Courses	TR								

Development Issue 2-2  Sustainable Economic Development	[Background] Proper development and maintenance of public utilities infrastructure such as ports, roads and fisheries related facilities are important issues in Kiribati. The government of the Republic of Kiribati plans to promote socio-economic development of Kiritimati Island in order to ease the problem of overpopulation in South Tarawa.			[Japan's Assistance Policy] Japan strengthens follow up assistance to existing infrastructure, and supports development of basic infrastructure and building capacity to plan and maintain such infrastructure so that Kiribati continues towards sustainable development.								
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
	Program for Economic Infrastructure Development with Improvement of its Management and Maintenance	This program provides grant assistance for socio-economic infrastructure development and supports capacity building in relevant sectors through training of personnel. Since Japan and Kiribati agreed on dispatch of JOCVs to Kiribati, Japan will extend technical cooperation through the volunteers to enhance capacity for infrastructure management and maintenance.	The Project on the Expansion of Betio Port	GA	Before JFY 2013	JFY 2014	JFY 2015	JFY 2016	JFY 2017	JFY 2018	30.52	
			Regional Adviser for Sea Transportation Maintenance	EXP								Regional Project based in Fiji
			Project for Strengthening the Implementation Capability of South-South Cooperation	TTR								Regional Project based in Fiji
			Infrastructure Development and Improvement of management and Maintenance Field Volunteer	JOCV								
			Infrastructure Development and Improvement of management and Maintenance Field Training Courses	TR								
			Non-Project Grant Aid	NPGA								Fuel for diesel power plant
			Economic Management and Public Sector Reform	ML								ADB (JSF)
			Pacific Workshop	ML								APT
			Kiribati Solar PV Grid Connected Project	ML							US\$4 million	PEC Fund
			Fisheries Development	MAFF-TA								EXP,EQ

Legend: [PS] = Preparatory Survey, [DD] = Detailed Design, [TCP] = Technical Cooperation Project, [TCDF] = Technical Cooperation for Development Planning, [EXP] = Expert, [EQ] = Equipment, [CTR] = Country-focused Training, [TR] = Issue-based Training / Training Program for Young Leaders, [JOCV] = Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, [SV] = Senior Volunteers, [TEXP] = Third-country Expert, [TTR] = Third-country Training, [ICT] = In-Country Training, [STC] = Science and Technology Cooperation on Global Issues, [JPP] = JICA Partnership Program, [xx-TA] = Technical Assistance implemented by organizations other than MOFA and JICA, [GA] = Grant Aid (other than specific grant aid schemes listed below), [NPGA] = Non-Project Grant Aid, [GGP] = Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid, [JNGA] = Grant Aid for Japanese NGO's Projects, [CGA] = Cultural Grant Aid, [GCGA] = Grassroots Cultural Grant Aid, [LA] = Loan Aid (ODA Loan), [MAFF] = Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, [ML] = Multilateral Cooperation, Solid Line [-----] = Schedule, Dash Line [- - - -] = Tentative Schedule