

Rolling Plan for the Republic of the Marshall Islands

as of April 2019

Basic Policy of Assistance	Sustainable Economic Growth and Improvement of Living Standard based on Environmental Considerations
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Priority Area 1	Overcoming Vulnerabilities									
Development Issue 1-1 Strengthening of Infrastructure for Economic Growth	[Background and Current Situation] The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) has been facing challenges in developing basic infrastructure which is necessary for its economic growth. Grant assistance has been provided from various donors in the late years, though, many issues remain in numerous regions and sectors. Development of infrastructure is a big issue for main industries such as copra(dried coconut) and fishery sectors, and also for the private sector including tourism that is expected to grow in future. In addition, maintenance and improvement of old infrastructure deteriorated due to negligence for a long time is a substantial problem.				[Strategy for the Development Needs] Japan is to develop and also to maintain infrastructure that is urgently required for economic growth. Japan is to assist in capacity development as well as institutional development contributing to sustainable management of infrastructure. Multiple aid schemes such as dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), training programs and grant aid projects will be coordinated while implementing activities as stated. By utilizing improved infrastructure, Japan is to support industrial development. Assistance for financial management and planning for sustainable development/management will be considered based on needs.					
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule			Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note	
					Before JFY2018	JFY2019	JFY2020	JFY2021	JFY2022	JFY2023
	Program for Economic and Social Infrastructure development; and for Capacity Development in Management	1) Improvement of economic and social infrastructure is supported through provision of equipment. Capacity development is assisted through training programs. 2) Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) are dispatched and training programs are provided in order to enhance capacity in infrastructural maintenance and financial management. Collaboration with other schemes such as grant aid projects is necessary.	Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) to the Field of Capacity Development in Management and Maintenance of Economic and Social Infrastructure	JOCV	████████████████████					
			Trainings in Japan on Economic and Social infrastructure	TR	████████████████████					
		Project for Strengthening Legislatures' Capacity in the Pacific Island Countries	GA	████████████████████						
		SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)	CTR	██						
									(Collaboration w/UN, Implementation by UNDP)	
									Also included in other cooperation programs	

Program for Industrial Development	1) By utilizing fish market granted through the Grant Aid, distribution chains of fish from outer islands to Majuro is improved, which helps to take best use of fishery resources and betterment of livelihood in neighboring islands. 2) Development of industrial foundation is assisted through capacity enhancement in private sector focusing on tourism, by providing trainings and by dispatching JOCVs. 3) Small/Medium Enterprises (SMEs) related to local products are supported. Start-up of business utilizing such SMEs and promotion of foreign investment which leads to creation of employment are assisted.	Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development	GA	█	█					2.00	Equipment for fishery (fishing boat and others)	
		Dispatch of JOCVs to Industrial Promotion field	JOCV	█								
		Trainings in Japan on Industrial Promotion	TR	█	█							
		SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)	CTR	█	█	█	█					Also included in other cooperation programs
		Project to Promote Cooperation in the International Fisheries	PCP-TC	█	█	█						
		The project for enhancing livelihoods and food security through nearshore fish aggregating device fisheries in the Pacific (Collaboration with FAO)	GA		█	█						(Collaboration w/UN, Implementation by FAO)
		Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects in the field of Industrial Development	GA	█	█						0.25	

<p>Background and Current Situation] Education is presented as one of the top priorities in "Agenda 2020", the development action plan of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. It is required to develop teaching skills of teachers at primary, middle and high schools. In particular, enhancing mathematical skills is emphasized since it serves as foundation while learning technical skills. Human resource development including vocational trainings based on improved education has become more important.</p> <p>As for higher education, College of the Marshall Islands (CMI) and a branch campus of University of the South Pacific (USP) are located in Majuro. Educational facilities of CMI have been developed lately by assistance of the United States based on the Compact of Free Association. CMI focuses on IT (Information Technology) education recently.</p> <p>Japanese language classes have been provided at CMI over the past 22 years by JOCVs. The assistance needs to be continued through cooperation with secondary and higher level education. In addition, educational opportunity in Japan needs to be considered.</p>	<p>[Strategy for the Development Needs] Based on Japan's Education Policy, "Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth," the following assistance will be implemented.</p> <p>As an effort in enhancing basic education, JOCVs will keep assisting local teachers to improve their comprehensive teaching skills, with a special emphasis on basic mathematics which is foundation for acquiring technical skills. These efforts are backed up by training programs in Japan to produce a synergistic effect.</p> <p>With regard to assistance for Japanese language education, it will be continuously supported, by responding to the needs resulting from historical relations, considering possibilities of support from both public and private sectors, and confirming meaning of Japanese language education in terms of development of the Marshall Islands.</p> <p>Considering the fact that nearly 40% of current population is under the age of 15, the number of young people who look for job opportunities will increase drastically in near future, and therefore, providing opportunities of vocational and technical trainings are becoming more important to increase employment possibilities both domestically and abroad.</p>
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Development Issue 1-2 Strengthening of Education	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note		
					Before JFY2018	JFY2019	JFY2020	JFY2021	JFY2022	JFY2023				
	Program for Education in Islands and Distant Areas	1) Not only teaching students by JOCVs at each assigned school but assisting development of teaching skills of teachers is also emphasized in order to support teachers' voluntary efforts to improve teaching skills. 2) Provision of training programs in Japan on basic education is continued. Effective cooperation is implemented through coordination with JOCVs. 3) Trainings and dispatch of JOCVs which may lead to vocational trainings and technique acquisition are examined.	Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects for Education in Islands and Distant Areas	GA	█	█						0.40		
			Dispatch of JOCVs to the Field of Education in Islands and Distant Areas	JOCV	█	█	█							
			Training in Japan on Education in Islands and Distant Areas	TR	█	█	█							
SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)			CTR	█	█	█	█						Also included in other cooperation programs	

Development Issue 1-3 Improvement of Health Care Services	<p>[Background and Current Situation] While intensive efforts against infectious diseases have been underway as a regional issue in the Pacific region, improvement in providing local residents with basic health care and medical services is essential. Majuro Hospital, a core hospital of the Marshall Islands, suffers from difficulties such as shortage of doctors, maintenance needs in facilities and equipment. Improvement of management is necessary also. As for lifestyle-related disease in the Marshall Islands, WHO claims necessity of counter measures, and makes efforts in awareness-raising. Additionally, a survey conducted by UNICEF in 2017 reported that more than 35% of children equal to or under 5 years old are malnourished, which may result in developmental disorder, and therefore, the measures are in urgent need.</p>			<p>[Strategy for the Development Needs] Based on Japan's Healthcare Policy, "Basic Design for Peace and Health," the following assistance will be implemented. Infectious diseases control, and nurturing of health care professionals will be supported through training programs. By continuing to dispatch JOCVs such as nurse, nutritionist and physical therapist, awareness-raising of lifestyle-related disease, which is presently implemented through collaboration of JOCVs, will be further strengthened. Such activities are to be implemented in Ebeye as well by combining with training programs. Nurse training will be continuously supported.</p>								
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
	Program for Health Care in Islands	<p>1) Through cooperation with training programs, assistance is provided to raise awareness of the nationals for health care. Prevention of lifestyle-related diseases and improvement in nutrition of children are focused. 2) Development of human resources in various health care areas such as nurse, nutritionist, infectious disease control, health care service, maintenance of facilities and equipment as well as management is assisted. 3) Dispatch of JOCVs and training programs leading to effective utilization of equipment and facilities granted by other aid schemes, are targeted.</p>	Dispatch of JOCVs to the Field of Health Care in Islands	JOCV	Before JFY2018	JFY2019	JFY2020	JFY2021	JFY2022	JFY2023		
			Trainings in Japan on Health Care in Islands	TR								
SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)			CTR								Also included in other cooperation programs	
Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development			GA							5.50	medical ship	
Development Issue 1-4 Capacity Development in the Field of Maritime Security	<p>[Background and Current Situation] It is essential for the Marshall Islands, which has by far enormous EEZ than other island countries, to maintain free and open maritime order under the rule of law, while relying on trade by sea and on fisheries sustainably. Capacity development in the field of maritime security and safety including countermeasures against increasing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing has become critical.</p>			<p>[Strategy for the Development Needs] Capacity development in the field of maritime security including law enforcement will be focused so that the Marshall Islands with huge EEZ maintains the order of maritime, primary resource for the country. In order to strengthen connectivity of the Marshall Islands which lies at geo-politically important location, infrastructure development of sea transportation along with international standard will be supported.</p>								
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
	Program for Capacity Development in Maritime Security and Safety including Law Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities and equipment are granted for maritime security. Capacity development such as trainings on maritime law enforcement are provided. The experts in the concerned field are dispatched. 	Data Collection Survey on Maritime Security and Safety in Pacific Island Countries	Basic Information Collection	Before JFY2018	JFY2019	JFY2020	JFY2021	JFY2022	JFY2023		
			Trainings in Japan on maritime security and safety	TR								
SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)			CTR								Also included in other cooperation programs	

Priority Area 2	Environment and Climate Change											
	<p>[Background and Current Situation]</p> <p>The Marshall Islands, consisting of many narrow atolls and islands, relies heavily on imported consumer goods for their daily commodities due to change of life-style, especially in Majuro Atoll, the capital, and in Ebeye of Kwajalein Atoll where U.S. Army Garrison is located. Consequently, amount of waste generated from those imported goods has been drastically increased. As for waste management, landfill of waste can be the only option due to its narrow and small land areas, which may impose negative impacts on health of residents and also on nature. Accordingly, realistic measures of waste management for the low-lying island needs to be considered. Furthermore, capacity development in practical education on waste reduction as well as administrative measures are urgently required.</p> <p>In addition, impacts of water pollution on coastal industry including fishery and on people are also seriously concerned since causes of the pollution of ocean and groundwater is reported to be overcrowded population in Majuro; and dumping of waste and oil from fishing boats. It is also pointed out that destructive coastal development urged by denser population results in increase of damages by tidal wave and high tide. Serious influence of waste water remaining along the coast area on water quality and ecological system is raised an issue as well. As a whole, development well-balanced with environmental conservation is required.</p>					<p>[Strategy for the Development Needs]</p> <p>The synergistic linkage between on-going technical cooperation project, "Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Islands Countries (J-PRISM)" and other aid schemes such as dispatch of JOCVs to the concerned agencies, training programs in Japan, and grant aid projects may be utilized for capacity development of administrative officers, business person, and NGOs.</p> <p>Feasible, sustainable and applicable countermeasures to manage waste will be established through hands-on experiences and outcomes from JOCVs as well as from trainees who joined the trainings, and through technical cooperation project, by reflecting those outcomes into formulation of waste management policies and strategies.</p> <p>Capacity development in planning, monitoring as well as management in the fields of water resources management and environmental conservation will be supported.</p>						
<p>Development Issue 2-1</p> <p>Environmental Conservation</p>	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
		<p>1)Formulation of policies on solid waste management and establishment of institution is assisted.</p> <p>2) Awareness for environmental protection is raised by education at schools and communities.</p> <p>3) Reduction of waste by 3R method (Reduce/Reuse/Recycle) is promoted.</p> <p>4) Capacity of waste management professionals is developed.</p> <p>5) Monitoring abilities in analysis of leached water from waste disposal site are improved.</p> <p>6)By setting target as improvement of waste management, assistance in formulation of waste management strategy is provided through collaboration with EU and SPREP.</p> <p>7)Project study or dissemination proof of waste management technique developed by Japanese small/medium size enterprises is supported.</p>	Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development	GA	Before JFY2018	JFY2019	JFY2020	JFY2021	JFY2022	JFY2023	2.00	Conservation of oceanic environment
	Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries Phase II (J-PRISM II)		TCP								Regional Project (based in Samoa)	
	Business Verification Project with the Private Sector for the Establishment of Waste Lubricant Recycling System in Marshall Islands		SSM								Business Verification: Waste Lubricant Recycling System	
	Dispatch of JOCVs to the Field of Development of Recycle-based Community in Islands		JOCV									
	Training in Japan on Environmental Protection Management		TR									
	SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)		CTR								Also included in other cooperation programs	
		<p>1) Training programs on water resources management and environmental conservation are provided.</p> <p>2) By strengthening environmental education, awareness on issues such as environmental management/conservation and water resource management is raised.</p>	Training in Japan on Environmental Conservation/Water Resource Management	TR								
	SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)		CTR								Also included in other cooperation program	

Development Issue 2-2 Climate Change	[Background and Current Situation] The government of the Marshall Islands makes much account of promotion of greenhouse gases reduction and breakaway from reliance on diesel, which led to its policy in 2009 to cover 20% of power supply by renewable energy such as solar power by 2020. The Republic of the Marshall Islands played leading roles on climate issues at COP21, and declared ambitiously that it would target 100% of power supply by renewable energy source by 2050. In the medium term, therefore, continuous assistance for more stable and efficient energy supply is necessary. Assisting disaster risk reduction against the issues such as water shortage during drought, inundation from high wave surges, and coastal erosion has become more important.		[Strategy for the Development Needs] Based on the achievement of technical cooperation project, "the Project on the Formulation of Self-Sufficient Energy Supply System in the Marshall Islands" implemented in FY2014, the training will be provided to raise capacity in introducing energy-saving and renewable energy in the Marshall Islands. Effective improvement of facilities and maintenance capacity development will be implemented through collaboration between grant aid project, "the Project of construction of PV Generation System in Ebeye" and technical cooperation project, "the Project for Introduction of Hybrid Power Generation System." Additionally, appropriate measures against climate change will be explored and effective assistance will be implemented through effective collaboration among donors.									
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	Note
					Before JFY2018	JFY2019	JFY2020	JFY2021	JFY2022	JFY2023		
	Program for Countermeasures against Climate Change	1) Technical cooperation and facility construction utilizing existing power grid with Diesel Generators are implemented in order to introduce renewable energy. 2) Toward more efficient utilization of energy, capacity development in energy-saving, optimisation of power generation facilities including those of renewable energy, and in transmission/distribution lines are supported. 3) Assistance in precaution measure against natural disasters is carried out.	The Project for the Installation of Solar Electricity Generation System in Ebeye Island	GA	—————						10.70	
			Project for Introduction of Hybrid Power Generation System in the Pacific Island Countries	TCP	—————							Regional Project (based in Fiji)
			Training in Japan on Measures against Climate Change	TR	—————							
			The Project for the Improvement of Water Reservoir at Majuro Atoll	PS	—————							
SDGs Global Pacific Leader Course =Educational Assistance for Development of State (Pacific-LEADS)			CTR	—————							Also included in other cooperation program	
	Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience through Improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure (UNDP)	ML	—————						7.4million USD	Japan-UNDP Partnership Fund		

Legend: [PS] = Preparatory Survey, [DD] = Detailed Design, [TCP] = Technical Cooperation Project, [TCDP] = 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, [PCP-TC] = Private Companies Proposed-Technical Cooperation, [GA] = Grant Aid, [LA] = Loan Aid (ODA Loan), [ML] = Multilateral Cooperation, [SSM] = Support for Small and Medium sized Enterprise, [EA] = Emergency Assistance, Solid Line [—————] = Schedule, Dash Line [- - - -] = Tentative Schedule