

Rolling Plan for the Republic of the Marshall Islands

as of April 2021

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 foundation for Economic Growth	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme							Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDG s	Note	
	[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 late years, though, many issues remain in numerous regions and sectors. Development of infrastructure is a big issue not only for main industries such as copra(dried coconut) and fishery sectors, and also for the private sector including tourism, which is expected to grow in future. In addition, existing infrastructure which has been deteriorated due to long-time negligence needs maintenance and improvement.					[Strategy for the Development Needs] Japan is to develop and also to maintain infrastructure that is urgently required for economic growth of the Marshall Islands. 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. Supporting development of sea/air transportation network is important for the Marshall Islands since it is a lifeline for the islands country.								
		• Improvement of economic and social infrastructure is supported through provision of equipment for infrastructure maintenance. Capacity development is assisted through the training programs. • Grant aid projects for infrastructure development are provided. Experts and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) are dispatched and training programs are provided in order to enhance capacity in infrastructure maintenance and financial management.	Dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) to the Field of Capacity Development in Management and Maintenance of Economic and Social Infrastructure	JOCV	Before JFY 2020		JFY 2021	JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025		8,9	Resume JOCVs dispatch as soon as they can travel
			Trainings in Japan on Economic and Social infrastructure	TR	██████████		██████████						9,11	
			Project for Strengthening Legislatures' Capacity in the Pacific Island	GA	██████████							5.20	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16	(Collaboration w/UN, Implementation by UNDP), Amount is total of assistance for multiple countries
			The Project for Enhancing Maintenance Capacity for Heavy Duty Machinery for Infrastructure Development	EXP	██████████								9	
			Aid Coordination Advisor	EXP			██						16,17	
			Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development	GA	██████████							3.71	7, 9, 11	Grant of diesel fuel

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By utilizing fish market granted through the Grant Aid, fish distribution chains from the neighboring islands to Majuro is improved, which helps to make best use of fishery resources and betterment of livelihood in the neighboring islands. Development of industrial foundation is assisted through capacity enhancement in private sector such as tourism, by providing trainings and by dispatching JOCVs. 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, is assisted. 	Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development	GA							2.00	9, 12, 14	Equipment for fishery (fishing boat and others)		
			Dispatch of JOCVs in Industrial Promotion field	JOCV			###	###	###				8, 9	Resume JOCVs dispatch as soon as they can travel	
			Trainings in Japan on Industrial Promotion	TR									8, 9		
			Project to Promote Cooperation in the International Fisheries	Fisheries Agency -TA									14	Dispatch of Expert, Provision of Equipment	
			The project for enhancing livelihoods and food security through coastal fish aggregating device fisheries in the Pacific (Collaboration with FAO)	GA								5.10	9, 12, 14	Amount is total of assistance for multiple countries	
			Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects in the field of Industrial Development	GA								0.18	9, 12, 14, 15		
Development Issue 1-2 Strengthening of Education	[Background and Current Situation] Education is presented as one of the top priorities in the development plan of RMI. It is required to develop teaching skills of teachers at all levels of primary, middle and high school education. In particular, enhancing mathematical skills is emphasized since it serves as foundation in learning technical skills which are crucial for economic development of the nation. Human resource development including technical education and vocational training has become more important. 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 upgraded lately by assistance of the United States based on the Compact of Free Association. CMI focuses on IT (Information Technology) education recently. Japanese language classes have been provided at CMI over the past 28 years by JOCVs. The assistance will be continued in an effective manner following the needs analysis.		[Strategy for the Development Needs] Based on Japan's Education Policy, "Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth," the following assistance will be implemented. 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. With regard to assistance for Japanese language education, it will be continuously supported by responding to the needs as well as consideration historical relations. It is important to take account of support from both public and private sectors. 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 technical education and vocational training is becoming more important to increase employment possibilities both domestically and abroad.												
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	JFY 2020	JFY 2021	JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDGs	Note		
	Program for Education in Islands and Distant Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to teaching students at school as done conventionally, teachers' voluntary efforts to improve their teaching skills is supported by JOCVs. Provision of training programs on education in Japan is continued. Effective cooperation is implemented through coordination with JOCVs. Trainings and dispatch of JOCVs contributing vocational training and technique acquisition are explored. Educational environment is improved by utilizing Grant Aid. 	Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects for Education in Islands and Distant Areas	GA							0.61	4			
			Dispatch of JOCVs to the Field of Education in Islands and Distant Areas	JOCV			###	###	###					4	Resume JOCVs dispatch as soon as they can travel
			Training in Japan on Education in Islands and Distant Areas	TR										4, 10	
SDGs Global Leader Course			CTR										4, 17	Also included in other cooperation programs	

Development Issue 1-3 Improvement of Health Care Services	[Background and Current Situation] In the Marshall Islands, basic medical care system is at work, though, medical professionals who can provide proper health and medical services are in need. In addition, medical facilities and equipment as well as maintenance management of those require improvement. Advanced medical service is yet to be provided. Change of people's living environment in recent years has created new issues; Overpopulation in the urban areas is one of the causes of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and leprosy, which needs appropriate measures. Implementing countermeasures toward infectious diseases transmitted by anthropod vector such as dengue fever and zika fever; and toward pandemic outbreak of COVID-19 are essential. As for lifestyle-related disease such as diabetes, patients have been steadily increasing that WHO sounds alarm, making efforts in awareness-raising of health management. Maternal and child health has been an issue in the Marshall Islands for long time. In addition, malnourishment of children has become serious recently. The 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, prompt measures are in need. Improvement of medical services in neighboring islands requires immediate attention.			[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, measures for malnourishment and nurturing of health care professionals will be supported through training programs. Awareness-raising on lifestyle-related disease, which is presently implemented through collaboration of JOCVs, will be further strengthened by continuing to dispatch JOCVs such as nurse, nutritionist and physical therapist. Such activities are to be implemented in Ebeye as well by combining with JOCVs and training programs. Upgrading of medical services in the entire country including neighboring islands will be supported through the Grant Aid.											
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	JFY 2020	JFY 2021	JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDG s	Note		
	Program for Health Care in Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By utilizing 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. 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 medical service management is assisted. Dispatch of JOCVs and training programs leading to effective utilization of equipment and facilities granted by other aid schemes, is implemented. Improvement of medical services in the entire country is supported. 	Dispatch of JOCVs to the Field of Health Care in Islands	JOVC									3, 4		
			Trainings in Japan on Health Care in Islands	TR										3, 4	
			Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development	GA									5.50	3, 10	Medical ship
Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development			GA									3.31	3	Medical equipment	
		Strengthening Immunisation Programs in Pacific Islands Countries	ML								10.19	3	Amount is total of assistance for multiple countries		
Development Issue 1-4 Capacity Development in the Field of Maritime Security	[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 sustainable fisheries. Capacity development in the field of maritime security and safety including countermeasures against increasing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing has become critical.			[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 maritime order that is of importance for it.											
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	JFY 2020	JFY 2021	JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDG s	Note		
	Program for Capacity Development in Maritime Security and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities and equipment are provided through grant aid. Capacity development such as trainings on maritime law enforcement are provided. The experts in the concerned field are dispatched. 	The Project for Construction of Training and Operation Center of Maritime Security	GA								4.50	16		
Trainings in Japan on maritime security and safety			TR										16		

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 its capital, Majuro, 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 from a long-term viewpoint. 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 the cause of 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 densed 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. Under such condition, development well-balanced with environmental conservation is required.</p>		<p>[Strategy for the Development Needs]</p> <p>The synergistic linkage among on-going Technical Cooperation Project, "Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Islands Countries (J-PRISM)", dispatch of JOCVs to the concerned agencies, training programs in Japan, and Grant Aid may be utilized to formulate policies and strategies on waste management. Hands-on experiences and outcomes from JOCVs as well as from the trainees will be reflected on such policies through Technical Cooperation Project.</p> <p>Capacity of administrative officers, business person and NGOs will be developed through feasible, sustainable and applicable countermeasures.</p> <p>Capacity development in monitoring as well as management in the fields of water resources and environmental conservation will be supported.</p>											
Japan's Assistance Program		Program Summary	Project	Scheme	JFY 2020	JFY 2021	JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDG s	Note
Development Issue 2-1 Environmental Conservation	<p>Program for Developing Recycle-based Community in Islands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulation of policies on solid waste management and institutional establishment is assisted. Awareness for environmental protection is raised by education at schools and communities. Reduction of waste by 3R method (Reduce/Reuse/Recycle) is promoted. Capacity of waste management professionals is developed. Monitoring abilities in analysis of leaked water from waste disposal site are improved. By assisting formulation of waste management strategy through collaboration with EU and SPREP, overall improvement of waste management is aimed. 		Grant Aid for Economic and Social Development	GA	██████████						2.00	15	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	██████████							6, 11, 12	Regional Project (based in Samoa)
			Dispatch of JOCVs to the Field of Development of Recycle-based Community in Islands	JOCV	██████████							11,12	Resume JOCVs dispatch as soon as they can travel
			Training in Japan on Environmental Protection Management	TR	██████████							4,6,12	
<p>Program for Environmental Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training programs on water resources management and environmental conservation are provided. By strengthening environmental education, awareness on issues such as environmental management/conservation and water resource management is raised. 		Training in Japan on Environmental Conservation/Water Resource	TR	██████████							6,13		

Development Issue 2-2 Climate Change	[Background and Current Situation] The RMI government of the Marshall Islands assesses sea level rise caused by climate change as the existential threat, and strengthening the response toward such threat is raised as one of the national priorities. By formulating a policy in 2009 to cover 20% of power supply by renewable energy such as solar power by 2020, the government has continuously promoted greenhouse gas reduction and breakaway from reliance on diesel. The Marshall Islands played leading roles on climate issues at COP21 held in 2016, and declared ambitiously that it would target 100% of power supply by renewable energy source by 2050. Therefore, continuous assistance for more stable and efficient energy supply is required. Assisting effectively in 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 Projects, "the Project of construction of PV Generation System in Ebeye" and Technical Cooperation Project, "the Project for Introduction of Hybrid Power Generation System in Ebeye." Additionally, appropriate adaptation measures against climate change will be explored and effective assistance will be implemented through collaboration among donors.										
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	JFY 2020	JFY 2021	JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDG s	Note	
	Program for Countermeasures against Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical cooperation and facility construction utilizing existing power grid with Diesel Generators are implemented in order to promote renewable energy. Toward more efficient utilization of energy, capacity development in energy-saving, optimisation of power generation facilities including those of renewable energy, and in maintenance/management of power transmission/distribution lines is supported. Assistance in disaster preparedness measures is carried out. 	The Project for the Installation of Solar Electricity Generation System in Ebeye Island	GA	█						10.70	7, 11, 13		
			Project for Introduction of Hybrid Power Generation System in the Pacific Island Countries	TCP	█								7, 11, 13	Regional Project (based in Fiji)
			Training in Japan on Measures against Climate Change	TR	█								13	
			The Project for the Improvement of Water Reservoir at Majuro Atoll	GA	█							17.57	6, 11, 13	
Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience through Improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure (UNDP)			ML	█							7.4 million USD	11, 13	Japan-UNDP Partnership Fund	
<p>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, [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, [DS] = Data Collection Survey</p> <p>Solid Line [—] = Schedule, Dash Line [- - -] = Tentative Schedule</p>														