

## Financial Crisis Emergency Window

In response to the recent global financial crisis and in support of the World Bank's Vulnerable Financing Facility (VFF), the GoJ announced the launch of the "Emergency JSDF" program for which it will provide US\$200 million over the next three years. This new program is expected to enhance JSDF's responsiveness to the crisis by streamlining procedures for project approvals with continued focus on innovative and pioneering projects and approaches.

## Application Process

The JSDF Secretariat usually calls for proposals three times a year. World Bank task team leaders (TTLs) only may submit applications to the JSDF Steering Committee on behalf of the proposed grant recipient or beneficiary communities after consulting with them. Together, they complete the application form which includes a proposed budget. In order to ensure harmonization and coordination, Bank task teams are required to consult with the Embassy of Japan accredited to the recipient country. TTLs are also required to secure endorsement by Bank country director and sector managers.

## Selection Criteria

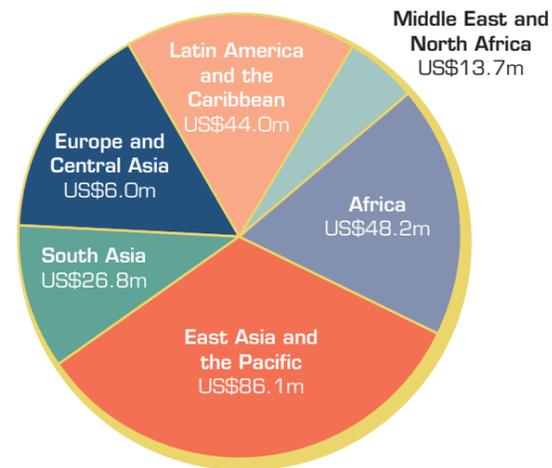
Submitted applications are reviewed by the JSDF Steering Committee before submission to the GoJ for decision. Key criteria for selection include the following:

- The grant must support innovative programs that respond directly and rapidly to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable groups.
- The grant should help spark changes in policy and decision-making at the grassroots level and/or cultivate partnerships with local populations, NGOs/CSOs, while encouraging the participation of such organizations in the design or implementation of the grant.
- The initiatives and mechanisms supported by the grant must have positive prospects for developing into sustainable activities over the long term.
- The grant activity should be consistent with the World Bank's country assistance strategy for the country and its poverty reduction strategy.
- The minimum grant size is US\$200,000 and the maximum is US\$3 million.



## Program Statistics, FY2001–2009

Type of Program	Number of Grants	Amount (US\$ million)
Regular Program	196	260.0
Special Program		
Afghanistan Reconstruction	11	68.7
Tsunami Relief	14	19.8
Pakistan Earthquake	4	6.5
Seed Fund	106	4.6
Other Funds	3	0.4
<b>Total JSDF Program</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>360.0</b>



Regional Distribution of Regular Grants, FY2001–2009  
(A total of 196 Grants, US\$260 million)

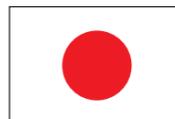
On behalf of the grant beneficiaries, the World Bank Group extends its appreciation to the Government of Japan for its generosity.

For more information about the JSDF, please visit the website [www.worldbank.org/jsdf](http://www.worldbank.org/jsdf), or contact:

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THE WORLD BANK



# Japan Social Development Fund



## Overview

The Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) provides grants to support community-driven development and poverty reduction in developing countries, with a special focus on the poorest and most vulnerable groups. It was established by the Government of Japan (GoJ) and the World Bank in June 2000 to respond to the devastating impact of the East Asian financial crisis of the late 1990s. Its initial purpose was subsequently expanded to make JSDF a leading source of support for innovative social programs to help alleviate poverty in eligible client countries of the World Bank, which include over 100 low and lower-middle income countries.

In the past ten years since its creation, JSDF has provided over US\$360 million grants to support a total of over 330 social development programs and projects, with sole and generous financial contributions from the GoJ. JSDF projects have spanned themes ranging from testing various approaches to social land concessions in Cambodia, to empowering vulnerable female migrants and their families while improving the efficacy of migration in Indonesia. Since 2008, special allocations for Africa have been introduced to support agricultural development, participatory school management, and health services and management enhancement.

## Focus Areas

JSDF grants are designed to complement World Bank operations and programs by supporting innovative activities that cannot normally be financed through Bank loans and credits. Specifically, JSDF focuses on activities which: (i) respond directly to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable groups; (ii) encourage the testing of innovative methods that are new or alternative approaches at the project, country, or regional level, or that facilitate new partnerships or assist new target groups; (iii) support initiatives that lead to developing sustainable outcomes through the adoption or scaling-up of the pilot project; or (iv) build ownership, capacity, empowerment and participation of local communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other civil society organizations (CSOs) to facilitate their involvement in World Bank-financed operations.



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## Partnerships with JICA, Civil Society, and Global Development Community

The experience from project implementation shows that JSDF is a useful tool to bring together various actors, including policy makers, to revitalize the national dialogue on accountability, transparency and equity in such important areas as Education, Social Welfare, Health Care, Agriculture, Law and Justice, and Legal Practices. To leverage expertise and maximize effectiveness, JSDF works with various partners, including:

**Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA):** Collaboration with JICA has strengthened in recent years. There are now regular meetings between the JSDF Secretariat and the Washington JICA Office. A series of proposals emerged from the dialogue between JICA and World Bank task teams. These projects usually build on work carried out within JICA's country assistance strategy.

**NGOs and CSOs:** Experience suggests that high quality NGOs can reach the poor in ways that government projects cannot. JSDF strongly encourages the participation of NGOs, community groups and civil society at large, from project design to implementation. Under the JSDF, a NGO/CSO can be both the recipient and the implementation agency. Over fifty percent of the grants approved under the program to date were implemented by NGO/CSOs.

**Global Development Network (GDN):** At the request of the GoJ, the Bank is collaborating with GDN, an international organization of research and policy institutes promoting knowledge for the purpose of development. Every year, GDN organizes calls for innovative development projects in poor countries. The Bank will participate in the review and selection of those projects and assess the feasibility of providing financing of the GDN award-winning projects and ideas under JSDF.

## Selected 2009 JSDF New Projects



### JAMAICA: Community Crime and Violence Prevention

Jamaica's growing crime and violence are considered to have a significant impact on economic growth and on the island's tourism. Targeting 12 vulnerable communities of inner cities, the epicenter of violent crimes, this US\$2.7 million grant aims to reduce the incidence of crime and violence. A total of 93,500 residents in high-risk neighborhoods are expected to benefit from improved public safety. Project components include:

- Establishment of Jamaica Violence Action Fund to support community organizations and NGOs with successful track records in crime and violence prevention;
- development and deployment of an integrated crime information system;
- community-based crime prevention activities, including social and capacity building activities for youth and young adults.

### ALBANIA: Youth Empowerment through Community Development

Albania is experiencing a "youth bulge" with almost 70% of the population below 30 years-old. About half of them have not completed secondary school and youth unemployment is prevalent. The US\$1.2 million project will work with disadvantaged youth and youth groups in Tirana and Durres, the most populous cities in the country, to help them access education, employment and community decision-making, and become active citizens. Major activities are:

- capacity building for youth through life skill and employment skill trainings;
- provision of seed micro-grants to youth groups, up to US\$2500, to support entrepreneurial activities;
- promotion of youth inclusion in community decision-making and leadership through grant support for youth-identified community development activities.

### KENYA: Community-Based Farm Forestry Enterprise in Semi-Arid Areas

Building upon the JICA-financed Intensified Social Forestry Project, this US\$2 million grant will support poor farmers in Tharaka, Mbeere, and Kitui districts in achieving improved incomes and livelihoods. It will also help strengthen networks among Farmer Field School (FFS) groups. At present, there are about 330 FFS groups. The project aims to establish 80 additional groups with financial and technical support. Major activities are:

- Establishing investment support facility to provide grants and loans to farmers who have capacity to produce farm-forestry based products;
- Supporting field-level innovation through training and network development among farmers;
- Strengthening capacity among FFS networks and Forestry Service staff.

### NEPAL: Pro-poor Targeted Secondary School Stipend

With funding of approximately US\$2 million, this project offers financial assistance to children from poor communities to meet the costs of attending grades 9 and 10. Each year, a cohort of 6,250 grade 9 students will receive the stipend which covers tuition, learning materials, possibly transportation costs, and other living expenses. The main objective is to improve access and schooling quality for socially and economically disadvantaged groups. In addition to stipend program implementation, the project focuses on:

- Capacity development for selecting students, distributing stipends, and monitoring the program;
- Provision of financial incentives to participating secondary schools;
- Evaluation of the program in terms of targeting efficiency and impacts on enrollment and learning outcomes.

### VIETNAM: Improving Basic Education for Ethnic Minority Children

The aim of this US\$1.9 million capacity building grant is to support children aged 5–14 from ethnic minority communities to complete a quality primary education and continue their education in lower secondary school. The project will reach a total of 38,000 children living in Dien Bien, Quang Tri, and Yen Bai where 90% of the population are socially and economically disadvantaged ethnic minorities. Main components are:

- strengthening community and children's participation to improve access to education;
- improving teaching quality through new learning approaches and materials adapted to traditional and local knowledge;
- enhancing school management and participatory monitoring and evaluation to strengthen community engagement.

### MOROCCO: Capacity Building to Improve Schooling for the Poor

This US\$2.3 million grant supports the ongoing government pilot programs aimed to reduce the high dropout rate in primary schools in the poorest rural areas in Morocco. The main focus is to build capacity of Morocco's Ministry of Education and local primary schools and partner NGOs in the administration and supervision of a Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program which will benefit 45,000 children. Components include:

- Building capacity for CCT program operation and support to the beneficiaries to ensure good compliance;
- Training and building capacity of local high schools and parental associations to improve school management and accountability;
- Providing small grants (US\$2,500 each) to parental associations to support their activities.

## Grant Types and Country Eligibility

All low income and lower-middle income countries eligible for World Bank assistance can apply for JSDF grants. There are three broad categories of JSDF grant program:

**Regular Program** finances either project or capacity building activities, up to US\$3 million, aimed at introducing innovative programs providing direct benefits to disadvantaged communities.

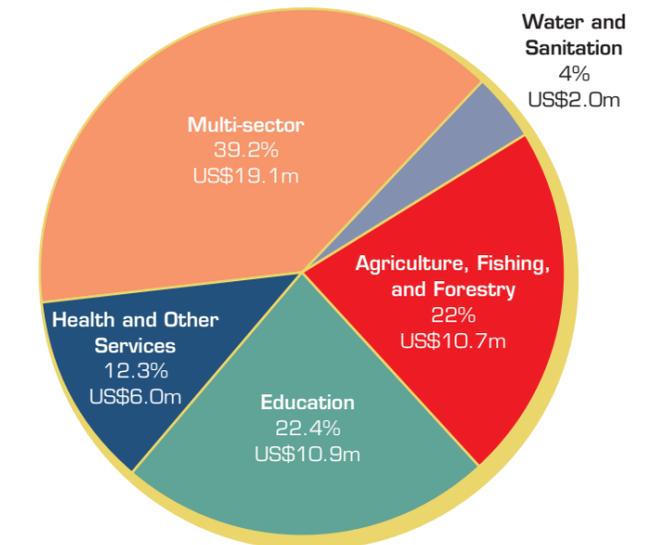
**Seed Fund** provides up to US\$50,000 and helps to prepare proposals for regular program grants, particularly to provide resources to permit early consultations with potential beneficiary groups that may be either remotely located or widely dispersed.

**Special Program** supports a range of development activities with special purposes, such as development and capacity building in Afghanistan, recovery measures following the South Asian/Indian Ocean tsunami of December 2004, and rehabilitation and revitalization of areas in Pakistan affected by the earthquake in October 2005.

Both the Regular Program and Special Program provide grants for capacity building as well as project activities. Specifically:

**Project grants** finance (i) activities that directly provide relief measures, support the improvement of services and facilities for poorer population groups, or reinvigorate social safety nets, or (ii) new and innovative approaches, particularly in the social sectors.

**Capacity building grants** finance capacity building and improvement measures. For example, they enable local communities and NGOs to expand their capacities through hands-on learning. These grants also support local governments working in partnerships with local communities.



FY2009 Sectoral Distribution of Regular Grants (A total of 26 Grants, US\$48.8 million)