
JAPAN

REVERSE THE DECLINE IN INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY

Japan has pledged the total amount of at least US\$ 3 billion for agriculture related sectors, including infrastructure. Japan has already committed to a variety of projects amounting to US 1 billion dollars in 2010.

In Punjab Province in Pakistan, Japan has jointly implemented the support of capacity building for strengthening the organization of farmers and development of infrastructures such as irrigation facilities. It is expected that Japan's concrete support will increase the efficiency of water use, improve agricultural productivity, and raise the income of small-scale farmers.

In Uganda, Japan has provided facilities and equipment including agricultural machineries to the National Crops Resources Research Institute. The institute serves as the research and training center for development of New Rice for Africa (NERICA) through the Project for Construction of Rice Research and Training Center. It is expected that Japan's support could improve the quality of rice cultivation research and training, facilitate the fostering of human resources and the promotion of rice cultivation in Uganda, and ultimately contribute to improving rice productivity.

SUPPORT REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LED PROCESSES AND PLAN IN SUPPORT OF RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The first APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security was held in Oct. 2010 in Niigata, Japan under the chairmanship of Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan. The Ministers agreed that APEC economies would collectively pursue the shared goals of (1) sustainable development of the agricultural sector, and (2) facilitation of investment, trade and markets, which includes, in particular, the support for responsible agricultural investment.

Ministers also endorsed an APEC Action Plan on Food Security, which identifies specific activities to be implemented by APEC economies to strengthen regional food security.

With regard to promoting responsible agricultural investment (RAI), policy roundtable named "land tenure and international investment in agriculture" was held in the reformed Committee on World Food Security (CFS), in Oct. 2010. Japan has contributed to CAADP through the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD), aiming at doubling rice production in African countries over ten years by 2018.

Since CARD initiative was launched, 14 countries have developed their own National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS). Japan has implemented 31 projects in total (29 technical cooperation, 1 grant aid, 1 loan assistance) in regard to CARD.