3. International Cooperation

3.1. International Cooperation in the Port and Harbor Sector

3.1.1. Overview

Forty-five years have passed since Japan began participating in the Colombo Plan and offering assistance to developing countries, even as it was striving as the recipient of international assistance to revive itself after World War II. Since completing the repayment of its loans from the World Bank for the construction of such infrastructure as the Tokaido Shinkansen and the Tomei Expressway (1990), Japan has become the world’s largest donor of bilateral assistance.

With diverse ODA programs and the originality and hard work of the many involved, Japan is seeing the results of its assistance to more than 150 developing countries throughout the world.

3.1.2. Technical Cooperation

(1) Development Studies

Development studies are designed either to be used in creating the public development plans that lay the foundation for socioeconomic infrastructure, or in compiling the basic data that is key to these development plans. To ensure that these studies contribute to the socioeconomic development of developing countries, the results are compiled into reports submitted to the governments of recipient countries.

These reports provide the governments of developing countries with important resources for drafting development policy and also serve as a basic reference for government requests for economic and technical cooperation to put development plans into action.

Port and harbor development studies are moving farther and farther beyond the traditional development plans that focused on a single port; these comprehensive and complex studies now support long-term nationwide port and harbor policy in recipient countries.

As of 2000, a total of 134 studies in 47 countries have been conducted.