



Japan International Cooperation Agency



# JICA Follow-up Cooperation in Balkan Region



# Outline of Follow-up Cooperation



## What is JICA Follow-up Cooperation?

It is the Program for maintaining and developing effective results of Japanese technical cooperation.



## Objective of Follow-up Cooperation

Once JICA's cooperation including Knowledge Co-Creation Program<sup>1</sup> is completed, the partner countries are expected to take measures and activities, by their own self-help efforts, to disseminate/maintain the achievements of the implemented cooperation. However, **in case the partner countries face difficulty** to accomplish expected goals, despite their efforts and initiative, **follow-up cooperation can be extended** with the aim to add new value to the implemented cooperation **by providing additional input of relatively small amount of budget**.

**The objective is to further diffuse and develop the results** of the past technical cooperation of Japan as widely and deeply in the recipient country as possible.

JICA will realize this policy by:



- (1) supporting **on-site seminars** and **workshops** to be held by former training participants (so-called "ex-participants") or their alumni associations, counterparts and counterpart organizations for the past technical cooperation projects, and/or by
- (2) supporting them for preparing **audio-visual materials, native language materials** or **manuals**. This type is called "software-type" follow-up cooperation.



## Expectation to a JICA Training Program participant

1. Analysis on Issues
  - Understanding current situation
  - Identifying issues/gaps between ideal and real situation
  - Set your objective for training (what you want to learn, what you wish to bring back to your home country)
  - Formulation of your Action Plan
2. Presentation upon your return
  - Training details (general and then target contents)
  - Important lessons learnt
  - Your recommendation/ Your suggestion for changes



<sup>1</sup> JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Programs are a form of technical cooperation that JICA carries out in Japan. Some of the knowledge that Japanese society has accumulated, including its background in areas such as organizational know-how and social systems, can only be understood through first-hand experience. The programs are an important means of technical cooperation which supports human resource development and resolving issues in developing countries.

### 3. Implementation of Action Plan

- Do what you planned during your training in Japan

If you need additional support for your plan implementation, you can **think of using JICA Follow-up Cooperation**.

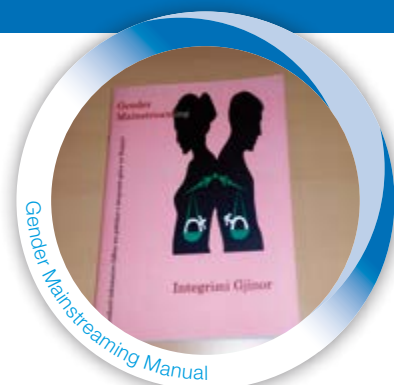


**Follow-up Cooperation can support you to maintain and develop effective results of your training experience!**

- Regarding the follow-up cooperation extended to Individual Technical Cooperation (Knowledge Co-Creation Program – Group and Region Focus), it is important to note that **the support is provided for the self-help efforts of the organizations** etc. which former participants in training programs belong to, not for the activities of ex-participants as individuals.
- Although Knowledge Co-Creation Program usually continues for three years, it is possible to implement follow-up cooperation for the organizations etc. which ex-participants of the first or second year of the training course belong to, even though the three year training course as a whole is not completed.
- **Alumni associations** established by ex-participants **can be supported through follow-up cooperation**. In addition, follow-up cooperation can also cover activities among alumni associations conducted across several countries.



# Successful examples of Follow-up Projects in Balkan region



## ALBANIA

### Knowledge Co-Creation Program “Gender Mainstreaming for the Governmental Officers”

#### Applicant:

Employee of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of Albania

#### Implementing organization:

JICA Alumni Association Albania



#### Background information

The Government of Albania considers gender mainstreaming as an important instrument for achieving gender equality in society through the incorporation of both genders in all legislative, policymaking, planning, implementation and monitoring processes. However, it has to be accepted that modest progress has been made. The Government has identified the need to build the capacities of the local authorities, particularly the capacities of the Gender Equality Employees (GEE) and Gender Focal Points (GFP) but the Ministry of Social Welfare & Youth (former Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs & Equal Opportunities) has been unable to properly convey the scheme of the State Mechanism of Gender Equality to the local governance level due to limited human and financial resources.

Considering the mentioned reasons, JICA decided to support the implementation of the follow-up project proposal by the JICA ex-participant of the program “Gender Mainstreaming for the Governmental Officers” with the aim to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of the local government officials in this field.



#### Objective of the project:

1. To develop and strengthen the capacity of the GEEs and GFPs
2. To convey the knowledge of the gender equality policies of the Government of Albania to the local governments



#### Project activities:

- 1) Preparation and publication of Gender Mainstreaming Manual for GEE and GFP and local government officers
- 2) Organization of knowledge dissemination seminars in 6 cities in Albania

# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## Country Focused Training Program “Building Education Network for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina”

### Applicant:

JICA Alumni Association Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Implementing organization:

JICA Alumni Association Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Background information:

Although many years have gone since the Dayton Peace agreement was signed, ethnic reconciliation is still one of the most difficult problems that Bosnia and Herzegovina faced to deal with. Especially, education is the area where different nationalities sometimes confront, as the education system of the country is clearly divided under the supervision of different entities' authorities. In order to mitigate such tension and promote the importance of ethnic reconciliation through education, there have been many efforts made by the international community.

JICA's country focused training course “Building Education Network for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina” was aimed for teachers from all over Bosnia and Herzegovina, employed at elementary and secondary schools who were involved in education for peace, democracy and human rights. The purpose was to build the network which would work on promotion of peace activities and inter-ethnic cooperation.

All teachers had strong desire to find solutions for their country, with the common goal to achieve peaceful and stable society through education. By the realization of this follow-up project they were one step closer to accomplish this goal.

### Objective of the project:

Raising of pupils' and teachers' awareness about basic values and principles of democracy, basic human rights and liberties and environmental protection.

### Project activities:

Organizing two days different environmental activities for 10 primary schools from six municipalities of Central Bosnia Canton that have different social, national and religious background



## KOSOVO

### Knowledge Co-Creation Program “SME Development Policies”

#### Applicant:

Employee of the Kosovo Investment and Enterprise Support Agency (KIESA)

#### Implementing organization:

Kosovo Investment and Enterprise Support Agency (KIESA)

#### Background information:

In 2013, a senior SME support officer from the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) participated in the JICA program “SME Development Policies”, and learned Japanese export promotion policies and measures. In particular the participant has determined to improve MTI and the recently formed agency, Kosovo Investment and Enterprise Support Agency (KIESA)’s role for effective and strategic promotion of Kosovo companies and products abroad. It is due to the fact that the Kosovo market has been opened to EU, US and Japan with bilaterally concluded free trade agreements.

Kosovo has a significant potential in terms of resources; however, in order to successfully present the country’s companies and products, strengthening the capacity of SMEs is an urgent challenge; and it includes both in terms of improving the productivity and competitiveness. In this regard, strengthening capacity of MTI/KIESA for effective promotion of Kosovo products at market abroad is important objective.

#### Objective of the project:

KIESA will acquire knowledge on effective export promotion by successfully presenting Kosovo companies and products at FOODEX Fair in Japan in March 2015 in cooperation with JETRO and JICA

#### Project activities:

- 1) Hold a presentation on the necessity of enhancing collaboration between the government and private sectors by the training participant
- 2) Prepare for presentation of products of selected companies for the FOODEX on March 2015 in Japan
- 3) Participation in FOODEX (March 2015)
- 4) Prepare and publish article from KIESA for its participation in FOODEX with companies



## SERBIA

### Knowledge Co-Creation Program “Risk Management and Residue Analysis of Chemicals for Environmental Safety”

#### Applicant:

Employee of the Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy –  
Department of Chemistry, University of Belgrade

#### Implementing organization:

Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy – Department of  
Chemistry, University of Belgrade

#### Background information:

Serbia is a country very rich in river waters. Some of them are polluted with chemicals of different type and origin. Also, some of the pollutants in some cases stay in the sediment for long time.

Since Serbia is developing and mostly agricultural country with high interest to protect and to preserve the environment, one of the goal is to research bioremediation potential of polluted spots for self-cleaning and to estimate potential of zymogenous microbial consortium for using pollutants as food. Since the final goal is remediation of hot spots and polluted environment in Serbia, first steps are analytical aspect i.e. qualitative and quantitative determination of pollutants with special focus on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

With this follow-up cooperation, visit of Japanese scientists to Serbia has been planned in order to give a lecture to Serbian scientific community and conduct sampling on the way of Danube river flow and all with the aim to produce stronger bonds between the Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy (IChTM) and the Hyogo Prefectural Institute of Environmental Science (HPIES) for future joint research cooperation.







### Objective of the project:

The objective of the Project is to provide assistance in the transfer of experience and knowledge acquired in the training program in Japan to the Serbian research society and to build a platform for the future research projects and bilateral collaboration between Japanese and Serbian research institutions.



### Project activities:

- 1) Lecture of Japanese experts to the Serbian scientific community and promotion of a joint research between IChTM and HPIES.
- 2) Joint official meeting of members of the Project from Japan and Serbia with the purpose of:
  - Having discussions about the joint research and collaboration between IChTM and HPIES;
  - Producing the plan of experiments regarding the analysis of Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs), other POPs and compounds-products of their transformation in environmental samples of Serbia;
  - Determination of optimal sampling places according to the available data and literature concerning POPs pollution in Serbia;
  - Having discussions about the equipment which is necessary for the joint research;
  - Producing a draft version of the project proposal of our future investigation about transformations of POPs under the influence of abiotic and biotic factors in the river sediments of Serbia;
- 3) Visit to the copper mine Bor, the industrial environmental hot spot of Serbia;
- 4) Visit to solid waste landfills, the communal environmental hot spot of Serbia, located on highway E75 near Sremski Karlovci, Serbia;
- 5) Presenting the F/U activities at the local TV media



## MACEDONIA

### Knowledge Co-Creation Program “Assurance of Food Safety and Quality Control”

**Applicant:**

Employee of the Food and Veterinary Agency

**Implementing organization:**

Food and Veterinary Agency

**Background information:**

The Food and Veterinary Agency feel the necessity of improving the level of awareness of the people for food sanitation in Macedonia. In the past year there was not so much public affirmation for food sanitation and food safety standards, mainly because Macedonia is young country and most of the resources and capacities were spent on implementing new legislation which is in accordance with EU requirements. But during the implementation of new legislation there was no big affirmation and presentation of these standards in the public mainly due to lacking of finance.

With this follow up project the Food and Veterinary Agency would make good impact to the society to improve food sanitation habits and to improve the knowledge of food safety for all age-categories of people in Macedonia.

**Objective of the project:**

Improving of public awareness of food safety, targeting 5 municipalities

**Project activities:**

- 1) Preparation and publication of the promotional materials (targeting children, young adults, adults)
- 2) Provide educational presentation/seminars in 5 municipalities (general public, public administration, kindergartens, schools, universities)



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