



Climate Action in Financial Institutions

PRINCIPLES FOR MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE ACTION

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JICA's Internal Strategy for Climate Change and 2020 financial target

Institution Principle Related Work Stream(s)



PRINCIPLE 1:
COMMIT
to Climate
strategies



Publication date: 2017

Date Policy/Tool Established	Additional Capacity Required (e.g., staff, resources, other)	How Established?
March, 2017	Established by Board approval.	Approved by board members in a board meeting.
Monitoring, reporting tools		How Implemented?
Reporting annually in a board meeting is under consideration.		This document is seen as a core strategy for JICA's operations, e.g. formulation or implementation of projects related to climate change measures.
Key Lessons		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust decision and initiative from the board are essential to establish a more effective cross-cutting strategy and achieve concrete actions. • Deep analysis of international trends and other institutions' situations contribute to increase persuasiveness of necessity of climate change measures. 		

Introduction

JICA takes into consideration, for their operations, multiple strategies and international commitments, such as the SDGs adopted by the UN, the Development Cooperation Charter developed by the Government of Japan, JICA's 5-year Strategy and Annual Strategy. Furthermore, JICA recently published a position paper on the SDG Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, which consists of comprehensive contents.

In addition, JICA's multiple departments have their own annual strategies. However, no cross-cutting strategy was in place to effectively connect these strategies in JICA to the objective of supporting operations for climate change measures. Furthermore, JICA has multiple departments in charge of specific sectors. Therefore, the efforts for cross-sectoral issues, such as climate change measures, can be blocked due to coordination problems between departments. Based on this situation, board members took initiatives to formulate common strategies across departments which clearly show tangible targets and actions. JICA thus launched efforts to formulate internal strategic papers for each important issue, including climate change measures.

Development and Design

Firstly, the Office for Climate Change drafted a strategy based on their experiences, in particular focusing on the Japan's advantages, the perspectives of SDGs, innovation, etc., and the results of analyses of international trends and needs or other institutions' situations. The Office for Climate Change gathered comments on the first draft from related departments, such as the Global Environment Department, the Infrastructure Department, and the Industrial Development Department. The Office for Climate Change explained the second draft revised referring to the comments from departments to the board member in charge of climate change issues. After his approval, lastly, this strategy, was discussed in a board meeting and approved. The approved strategy consists of background and analysis of international trend, situations in developing countries and donor agencies, results of JICA'S past operations, JICA's principles for future operations, tangible measures of JICA's cooperation including internal financial target aligning with the Japanese government's 'Actions for Cool Earth (ACE2.0)' initiative targeting to increase by 1.3 climate finance from the current level (2013-2014 average), among other objectives.

Implementation

After approval from board members, this strategy was shared with related departments and requested them to consider this strategy in their operations. The strategy covers a 5 year period and this is to be reviewed annually by JICA's board. Although this effort was initially started as a trial, this will be implemented as an official operational procedure from JFY 2017 and detailed processes are under consideration.

Experience and Impact

1. The relationships between climate change measures and the existing strategies within and around JICA became clear. This document contributed to more strategic operations.
2. JICA staff re-acknowledged the importance of integrating climate change concerns in JICA's operations and clearly understood the concrete actions to be taken.
3. This document is expected to trigger cross-sectoral activities, such as internal seminars (some have been already done).