

CHAPTER IV

FORM OF JAPAN'S ODA TO SOUTH SUDAN AS ITS STRATEGY

In this chapter, the author discusses about the form of Japan's ODA to South Sudan as its strategy, in which this chapter elaborates the form of Japan's ODA as its strategy to South Sudan along with its impact that had enhanced prosperity in South Sudan.

The form of the foreign aid as its strategy is in accordance with the type of foreign aid in which included in the bilateral aid's type. Bilateral aid is provided in three forms: Technical Cooperation, Loan Aid and Grant Aid, Military Assistance. In addition, other schemes of bilateral aid include the dispatch of volunteers.

Japan's aid to South Sudan as its strategy to enhance prosperity in South Sudan is in the form of technical assistance and grant aid which is in accordance with the type of forms of foreign aid by Holsti.

A. Technical Assistance

Technical assistance is an assistance that has several people with special expertise from industrialized countries who will be sent to developing countries to provide assistance in various development projects. But technical assistance is not made to disseminate knowledge and expertise. Technical assistance of Japan's Official Development Assistance to South Sudan supports the development and improvement of technologies that are appropriate for the actual circumstances to this country, while also contributing give adequate basic social services.

Here's the form of the technical assistance as the strategy of Japan's Official Development Assistance to South Sudan on post-conflict reconstruction from 2012 to 2016 :

1. The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply System of Juba

The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply System of Juba in South Sudan aims to enlarge the facilities at the Juba water treatment plant, as well as construct new water delivery pipelines and new water supply system (eight water tanker feeding stations and 120 public tap stands), which improve the water access rate in Juba from the current coverage of about 8 percent to at least 50 percent (JICA, Signing of First Grant Agreements with the Republic of South Sudan, 2012). This project had made huge impacts in South Sudan which improves access to safe water for people in Juba by expanding the capacity of water treatment and scaling up water distribution.

The impact of this project has greatly been seen by the end of September 2017, as much as 390 thousand of Juba residents had access to drink water at home (Japan G. o., 2015), thereby enabling them to enjoy the rights to pursue lifestyles which everyone wish to pursue. This project not only fulfills the basic needs of individuals but also facilitates the healthy and productive life of women and children in the communities. Furthermore, former Japanese Ambassador to South Sudan said that improved public health through the use of safe, stable water supply would decrease the morbidity from waterborne diseases such as cholera, diarrhea and typhoid." Thus, this project had succeed to deliver prosperity in South Sudan since access to clean and safe water is one of the essential needs in the city to improve health conditions and sanitation as well as people's quality of life.



Source: (South-South World, 2018)

Figure 4.1 Urban Water Supply in South Sudan

2. The Project for Construction of Nile River Bridge

The Project for Construction of Nile River Bridge is a project for constructing a new bridge on the arterial road connecting Juba to Kenya and Uganda. to improve the transportation capacity of the primary distribution route for South Sudan. Currently, a temporary structure, the Juba Bridge (the only bridge across the Nile in South Sudan) spans the Nile River for the arterial road, but the bridge is markedly deteriorated and the road route creates urban congestion, so that JICA has conducted a study to improve both problems with the construction of the new bridge. The Grant Aid is provided for detailed design work for the construction of the Nile River Bridge (JICA, Signing of First Grant Agreements with the Republic of South Sudan, 2012).

This project had succeed to enhance prosperity in South Sudan upon its objectives of the project which were to ensure traffic safety and boost the transportation capacity of the East African Northern Corridor in Uganda. There has been much attention on the project in Uganda, where today the bridge is viewed as a symbol of economic growth. The completion of the bridge enables a stable and efficient flow of goods in East African countries such as Uganda, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, and the economies of these countries had given greatly benefit in the form of development (Commissioning Ceremony for a New Bridge over the Nile River: Supporting international corridor development through the construction of a new bridge over the Nile, 2018).



Source: (JICA, 2018)

Figure 4.2 New Bridge over the Nile River

3. The Project for Improvement of Juba River Port

South Sudan, which attained its independence in 2011, has been faced with numerous challenges. The capital, Juba faced enormous bottlenecks worsened by its rapidly growing population, which demands improvement in infrastructures to boost social and economic activities. Thus, in order to tackle problem aimed to boost the economic and social activities, Japan's Official Development Assistance delivered its assistance in the form of technical assistance on the project of Juba River Port. The Project for Improvement of Juba River Port is a project to improve the Juba River Port, which is an important port in River Nile. In South Sudan where numerous domestic arterial roads are unimproved, river traffic on the Nile functions an important distribution route. With the development of South Sudan, the Juba River Port has steadily improve. Through this project, ODA through JICA construct a 200-meter pier and landing equipment that includes a 120-ton crane, storage and management facilities, provide stevedoring, and acquire materials and equipment to enhance the port's functions and improve safety.

This project gave significant impact to South Sudan where the goal of Japan's Official Development Assistance to enhance prosperity in this country had been accomplished by this project. The project has identified Juba River Port as the key infrastructural facilities essential for the smooth movement of goods, services and people in South Sudan. Furthermore, the improvement of Juba River Port had ensured better access to clean and safe water and expanded the capacity for river and road transport system in Juba, these assistances had significantly contributed to generate the more conducive

environment for vibrant economy of the city itself as well as the country.



Source: (JICA,2012)

Figure 4.3 Juba River Port

B. Grant (commodity import program and grant)

Grant Aid, which is an assistance scheme that provides necessary funds to enhance socioeconomic development, is financial cooperation along with developing countries without obligation for repayment. Particularly in developing countries with low income levels, Grant Aid is broadly utilized for building hospitals, bridges and other socioeconomic infrastructure, as well as for promoting education, HIV/AIDS programs, children's healthcare and environmental activities, which straight support the improvement of living standards (JICA, 2015, p. 2). In addition, Grant aid is comprised of all types of bilateral ODA, which is certainly provided regardless

repayment obligation. The main subjects of Japanese grant aid cover Basic Human Needs (BHN), e.g health, sanitation, food security as well as other ‘soft aid’ aspects, such as environmental protection and human resource development. Prior to DAC High Level Meeting in 2001, in which a recommendation to untie ODA to LDCs Countries was agreed upon among member states, grant aid was offered in the form of tied aid makes it possible for Japanese firms to win contracts without competition (Pitzen, 2016, p. 19)

The capital assistance method and the most preferred are grants or gifts that do not require repayment. However, gift giving like this always creates conflict for donor countries and recipient countries. Because the big state government will replace Grant with a long-term loan. Grant in the economic field is often done when recipient countries face emergencies such as sudden military threats, hunger, disease outbreaks and natural disasters.

Here’s the form of grant aid as the strategy of Japan’s Official Development Assistance to South Sudan on post-conflict reconstruction from 2012 to 2016 :

1. Grant to Provide Food Assistance for Vulnerable People

In 2013, Japan’s ODA to South Sudan is in the form of grant assistance where Japan’s ODA has contributed US\$1.934 million (190 million Japanese Yen) to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) for food assistance to the most vulnerable people in the Republic of South Sudan (MOFA, Japan Contributes \$1.9 Million To Provide Food Assistance For Vulnerable People In South Sudan, 2013, p. 1). WFP utilized the funds to purchase pulses and cereals in South Sudan, where the organization is responding to the urgent humanitarian needs of food insecure.

In South Sudan, WFP has supported more than 2 million people since the beginning of the year through various food assistance activities, along with life-saving food allocation for returnees, refugees and internally displaced people, specialized nutritional support for mothers and young children, school meals, and food-for-assets projects that help communities improve livelihoods and enhance their ability to cope with floods, droughts and other natural and man-made disasters (MOFA, Japan Contributes \$1.9 Million To Provide Food Assistance For Vulnerable People In South Sudan, 2013, p. 2).

Japan's Official Development Assistance through World Food Programme (WFP) WFP provided life-saving emergency food supplies, food and cash transfers in return for work to construct and rehabilitate community assets, school meals, and special nutritious products to prevent and treat malnutrition in children and pregnant and nursing women.

Mr. Takeshi Akamatsu, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan in the Republic of South Sudan said that the grant on food security greatly enhance the situation of vulnerable people including refugees, internally displaced persons and South Sudanese returnees by providing much needed food supplies. He added that the grant shows Japan's high commitment to enhance prosperity and food security in South Sudan. WFP has been one of the most important partners to the Government of Japan in delivering humanitarian assistance.

This food assistance reaffirmed Japan's willingness to support crucial needs for enhancing prosperity, and also to meet basic human needs such as adequate food and nutrition in South Sudan. Furthermore, Japan's ODA had successfully sustain the most vulnerable and provide adequate living conditions in South Sudan.



Source: (UN News, 2018)

Figure 4.4 Food Assistance by Japan's ODA through WFP to South Sudan

2. Emergency Grant Aid for South Sudanese IDPs and Refugees

This grant helps Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) of South Sudan as well as South Sudanese refugees outside the country who have been forced to leave their home since the conflict elevated On December 2013. In order to save their lives and manage their basic human needs, The assistance is used to cover the most pressing humanitarian needs stipulated in the Plan, such as food and nutrition, health, water and sanitation, protection, logistics and refugees. Japan's humanitarian assistance to South Sudan since December 2013 to 2014 totals 42 million USD. All the assistance announced by Japan have been disbursed and implemented in a timely manner in accordance with South Sudan Crisis Response Plan (CRP) issued by Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

All the administrative procedures has been fulfilled by the government of Japan and disbursed all the pledged contributions set up at the Humanitarian Conference in Oslo on 20 May 2014 by mid-June. Ambassador of Japan to Norway at the Conference in Oslo for the deteriorated humanitarian situation since mid-December 2013 in South Sudan, Mr. Akio announced that the pledge amounting up to 17 million USD (Stonor, 2013, p. 1).

This grant aid had significantly delivered its aims to manage the basic human needs of those Sudanese Internal Displaced Persons as well as the refugees. It could be seen by their assistance pressing humanitarian needs assigned to cover the need of health and water sanitation, food and nutrition, protection, logistics and refugees. The effort of Japanese Official Development Assistance to enhance prosperity in South Sudan by this project is seen by its efforts contribute on maintaining the minimal hygienic environments even under harsh conditions, and successfully preventing cholera and other infectious diseases. Japan's Official Development Assistance distributed emergency goods to those who fled the fighting, and in Juba, new initiatives had been undertaken to support victims of violence and to prevent conflict. Furthermore, it helped cope with the sudden influx of South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries of Kenya, Ethiopia, and Uganda which Japan Official Development Assistance worked on setting up new refugee camps through water provision, improvement of hygiene environments, emergency education, and establishment of pediatric wards (Humanitarian response to South Sudan conflict, 2016). Thus, those refugees and IDPs able to live in sufficient circumstances, hence it noted that Japan's Official Development Assistance had

successfully enhance prosperity to South Sudanese refugees and IDPs.



Source: (Japan Platform, 2016)

Figure 4.5 Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) & South Sudanese Refugees with Japanese Volunteer Team

3. Grassroots Cultural Grant Aid

In 2015, Japan's Official Development Assistance delivered its aid in the form of grant aid. The assistance which delivered by Japan in 2015 called as Grassroots Cultural Grant Aid. Cultural Grant Assistance is a part of Official Development Assistance (ODA), delivered to contribute to the promotion of cultural and higher educational activities and preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries. It is carried out through two schemes: Cultural Grant Assistance and Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (MOFA, Official Development Assistance (ODA) Cultural Grant Assistance, 2018) .

Grant assistance for Cultural Grassroots project (GCGP) provides nonrefundable financial assistance to

support the implementation of cultural and higher education projects conducted by non-profit organizations, NGOs, local authorities, research and higher education institutions, etc that are active at the grass-roots level in developing countries. Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Project which is delivered to South Sudan supported the promotion of culture and higher education at the grass-roots level this country, while also acting as cooperation which encouraged understanding of and cultural exchanges with Japan (Embassy of Japan in Armenia).

The Government of Japan invited entities such as national and international NGOs accredited by the authorities in South Sudan to apply for the Grassroots Cultural Grant Aid Project. This project had successfully implemented and enhance prosperity in South Sudan which Japan's Official Development Assistance supported community level socio-economic development projects initiated by civil society organizations addressing people's Basic Human Needs (BHNs). This project had contributed to improvements in various fields including health, education, and skill training as well as social welfare sectors .

The overall goal of Grassroot Cultural Grant Aid Project which is applied to South Sudan is to enhance the wellbeing of people at the grassroots level, such as:

- Education: Primary education, illiteracy reduction, and vocational training.

In this sector, Japan's Official Development Assistance had successfully given proper education to the children, youth and teenagers in South Sudan where by the end of 2016, 4,000 children from the tambura state learned comfortably at 14 school buildings with a total of

56 classrooms in nine primary schools in Tambura State. They were constructed with accompanying 17 toilets divided to a total of 68 separate rooms for boys and girls. Six buildings were also constructed for temporary learning centers (Japan Ambassador Seiji Okada challenges international community for more support to South Sudan). Hence, it delivered prosperity for the children, youth and teenagers in the term of education.



Source: (Global Partnership for Education, 2019)

*Figure 4 6 Cultural and Higher Education
Project of Japan's ODA to South Sudan*

Hence, it had been denoted that through the form of foreign assistance, technical assistance and grant aid which are delivered by Japan's Official Development Assistance on post conflict reconstruction to South Sudan as its strategy had successfully enhance the prosperity in South Sudan due to its impacts that greatly gave adequate

basic human needs and enhanced the living conditions of those vulnerable people.