CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Every state in the world has interdependence with one another. Nowadays, interdependence among states is increasing and increasingly emphasizing on the problem of economic, social and politics between countries that need assistance and countries that provide assistance. Where aspects of interests from one another are carried out for their national interests. One of the form of interaction in the international scope is the distribution of development assistance from developed countries to developing countries which is known as official development assistance.

Official development assistance is various organizations and groups, including governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private companies, carry out economic cooperation to support socioeconomic development in developing countries.

Japan is one of the country who sent their assistance to several countries. Japan was known as one of the recipient countries of foreign aid because it needed large funds to rebuild the country due to losing the war in 1945. However, in 1954 Japan followed the Colombo Plan and became one of the countries providing technical assistance to developing countries. Since then, the Japanese government has continued to strive to increase collaboration by utilizing the funds and technology through Official Development Assistance.

ODA is used by Japan as a tool for its foreign policy approach with an affirmation to the world that ODA aims to improve social-economics for recipient countries including human rights, reduce poverty, and women's empowerment. In other words, Japanese government made ODA as a diplomatic
instrument to enhance prosperity and encourage economic development shows that Japan cares about developing and poor countries by using the loans or its aid. Hence, here Japan’s ODA tried to prove that their intention is not for political purpose but merely for humanitarian purpose which set to enhance prosperity in South Sudan.

One of the form of relationship among state that has these aspect is foreign loan and foreign aid between Japan and conflict-prone countries. Japan sees a possible link to enhance prosperity through Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA). Fragile states have likewise risen as a top priority and concern in current development thinking and practice. South Sudan has been an important area of donor focus in this respect (Wild et al., 2011, p. 12). South Sudan is one of the conflict-prone countries that can be found in Africa.

Japan’s ODA began to provide its aid to South Sudan in 2012 as post-conflict reconstruction. Japan’s ODA through JICA has worked in partnerships with the Government of South Sudan to enhance prosperity of the country. JICA is implementing its programs in four focus areas in South Sudan: 1) Improvement of basic economy and social infrastructure; 2) Development of alternative industries; 3) Improvement of basic living and livelihood.

In regarding to its motive, enhancing prosperity is one of the important agenda of Japan’s diplomacy towards Africa. Particularly, of South Sudan is directly linked to the prosperity of the whole Africa. Since Sudan and South Sudan decided to peace and Sudan gained independence in 2011, Japan with its initiative provide assistance to South Sudan, taking into consideration that South Sudan is a new state and still remain vulnerable.

Based on four motives of foreign aid by K.J Holsti, Japan as a donor country provides its foreign aid to countries in Africa because of humanitarian motives or motives for humanity in which Japan wants to reduce the level of poverty in Africa to enhance the prosperity in Africa.

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.

The form of the technical assistances as the strategy of Japan’s Official Development Assistance to South Sudan on post-conflict reconstruction from 2012 to 2016 are The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply System of Juba, The Project for Construction of Nile River Bridge, and The Project for Improvement of Juba River Port.

The form of grant aids as the strategy of Japan’s Official Development Assistance to South Sudan on post-conflict reconstruction from 2012 to 2016 are Grant to Provide Food Assistance for Vulnerable People, Emergency Grant Aid for South Sudanese IDPs and Refugees, and Grassroots Cultural Grant Aid.

Both form of assistance of Japan’s Official Development Assistance, technical assistance and grant aid had successfully conveyed the goals of Japan’s ODA to enhance prosperity in South Sudan. Nowadays, the impact of Japan’s ODA post-conflict reconstruction could be seen by the adequate basic human needs that had been received by the people of South Sudan.

In light of the utmost importance of peace at the critical juncture in the history of South Sudan, Japan conveyed the hope of the Japanese people that the array of assistance projects is meant to better navigate the South Sudanese people to take the helm of the development and to transition to a peaceful, harmonious society.