

Framework of the Project for the Promotion and Enhancement of the Afghan Capacity for Effective Development (PEACE)

1. Duration of the Project (Phase 2)

From March 2016 to March 2025

The first group of participants dispatched in about September 2017, and the final group of participants has to finish their study and leave Japan by March 2025.

2. Fields of study

The Project intends to accept civil servants who wish to study agriculture, engineering, education, health or social science.

The Project's procedure for agreeing upon Fields of Study is as follows:

- 1) Relevant ministries and agencies in Afghanistan propose their prospective fields of study;
- 2) JICA examines the proposed prospective fields of study to confirm their relevancy to JICA's priority areas;
- 3) JICA consults with Japanese universities to confirm their capability/willingness to take on the proposed prospective fields of study; and
- 4) JICA and relevant ministries/agencies in Afghanistan agree on the Fields of Study.

3. Targeted degree in Japan

In order to effectively achieve the development of human resources in Afghan ministries/authorities/universities engaging in the development in the respective areas, the Project principally provides participants with the opportunity to study in a Master's course program in English.

4. Number of participants

250 maximum (in five batches)

5. Targeted participants

- Civil servants (permanent workers except for CRIDA) in the relevant ministries or authorities of the Government of Afghanistan listed below, OR
- Faculty members (permanent) of national universities supervised by the Ministry of Higher Education

Relevant ministries/authorities:

- Ministry of Mines and Petroleum
- Ministry of Public Works
- Ministry of Energy and Water
- Ministry of Urban Development and Housing
- Ministry of Transport
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Kabul Municipality
- Capital Region Independent Development Authority
- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
- Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
- Ministry of Counter Narcotics
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Finance
- Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission
- Ministry of Women's Affairs
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Public Health

Participants are mandated to work for a certain period for ministries / authorities / universities in Afghanistan after the completion of their study in Japan. Women and provincial civil servants or faculty members in ministries/authorities/universities are strongly encouraged to apply.

6. Implementation Framework

1) Operating Committee

The Operating Committee, which is established by the Afghan authorities and JICA, bear overall responsibility for the administration and implementation of the Project. In the Operating Committee, JICA is Co-Chairperson, whereas the Ministry of Higher Education is Co-Chairperson. The Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (IARCSC) and the Embassy of Japan in Afghanistan are the members of

the Operating Committee.

2) JICA

JICA, as Co-Chairperson of the Operating Committee, makes the decision on the following issues: 1) implementation methodology; 2) implementation schedule; 3) prospective fields of study; 4) selection criteria; 5) selection schedule; and 6) selection process. JICA is also responsible for coordination with Japanese universities. JICA hires a supporting organization for the implementation of the Project.

3) Japanese universities

Based on the request from JICA, Japanese universities that can offer suitable academic programs in English in the prospective fields of study proposed by the relevant ministries/authorities/universities under the Project are responsible for:

- i) guiding participants so that their research is in line with the objective of the Project;
- ii) participating in the selection of participants from a technical perspective, including documentary and oral examinations; and
- iii) participating in the meetings that are held to monitor participants' research progress

4) Ministry of Higher Education

Ministry of Higher Education bears overall responsibility for the Project coordination with relevant ministries/authorities/universities based on the rules and regulations of the Government of Afghanistan.

All processes of the Project will be decided and approved by the Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship Distribution Commission.

5) Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (IARCSC)

IARCSC will make effective placement of the personnel after the study based on the pledge.

6) Ministries/authorities/universities in Afghanistan that nominate applicants

In accordance with the objective of the Project and the application guidelines, relevant ministries/authorities/universities in Afghanistan nominate capable applicants to the Project based on their human resource development plan. After the applicants are finally selected under the Project, the relevant ministries/authorities/universities and their applicants are requested to make a pledge to JICA and the Ministry of Higher Education based on the rules and regulations of the Government of Afghanistan, in which the ministries/authorities/universities guarantee the employment or reintegration of their participants upon their return while the participants agree to return to their originating organizations.

Additionally, the relevant ministries/authorities/universities which send their employees appoint a contact person for the Project.

7. Alumni Association

PEACE alumni association was established under JAAA (Japan Afghanistan Alumni Association) in 2015, so that participants to maintain linkages with each other after their return to Afghanistan and effectively utilize their experiences and achievements obtained through the Project. As the first official activity, the association hosted an academic seminar with 120 participants in Kabul in January 2016.