

JPFP Newsletter

Secretariat of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

January 2024

Toward JPFP's 50th Anniversary #8

Parliamentary Networks and Achievements Part 2

The role of parliamentarians is crucial in addressing population issues, which are closely linked with all social and development aspects. The Government of Japan has supported the parliamentarians' networking on population and development, as well as its contributions to international cooperation and problem resolution. For example, in 2000, the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) was created within the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). JTF has been a driving force in promoting inter-regional cooperation and parliamentary activities on population and development in various regions and countries around the world, leading to tangible results.

One of these results is improved accountability and transparency for ODA. After hearing from African parliamentarians say that they were uninformed of what ODA projects were being implemented in their countries and constituencies and how much money was actually being spent, APDA conducted a series of projects to increase accountability and transparency in ODA (2009-2014). The participating parliamentarians urged their governments to disclose the information of their ODA and improve the process. As a result, reporting of ODA projects to parliament became mandatory in Uganda and Zambia, while in Kenya, the project's recommendations contributed to the revision of the country's Constitution to provide for transparency and accountability. In several countries, including India, ODA process issues were also raised in parliament for the first time.

On the occasions of parliamentarians' meetings last year, it was reported that JTF's support has triggered successful developments. Based on the recommendations by JTF-funded parliamentarians' meetings organized by APDA and FAPPD, the Egyptian Parliament has passed a series of laws including the National Council for Women Law No. 30 of 2018, Persons with Disabilities Rights Law No. 10 of 2018, and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood Law, and the Elderly Rights Law[1]. The Djibouti Parliamentary Group on Population and Development began drafting a bill on reproductive health and rights and maternal health, with the support of APDA/JPFP[2]. Other participating parliamentarians from the African, Arab, and Asian regions also expressed their appreciation for Japan's consistent support through JTF.



[1] Opening Address by Hon. Abdul Hadi Al-Qasabi, (MP Egypt, former Chair of FAPPD, and Chair of the Committee on Social Solidarity and Persons with Disabilities) at the Meeting of the Egyptian Parliamentary Committees Concerned with Population and Development on 14 November 2023.

[2] Presentation by Hon. Hassan Omar (MP Djibouti and Chair of the Djibouti Parliamentary Group on Population and Development) at the Global Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development Toward the G7 Hiroshima Summit on 25 April 2023.

IPPF: Japan-supported activities to protect the health and lives of conflict-affected people in Ukraine

In the war time, violence against women and girls has increased rapidly. Also, many healthcare facilities were destroyed, logistical supply chains are broken, making services unavailable or limited. Under such circumstances, "Woman Health and Family Planning (WHFP)", IPPF's Member Association in Ukraine, is conducting a project for conflict-affected people in Ukraine with the support of the Government of Japan.

This project has provided medicines and commodities, trainings for healthcare providers and trainings for educators, which has greatly helped mitigate consequences of sexual and gender-based violence and facilitate access to essential services and comprehensive sexuality education (CSE).



"Our Foundation has noteworthy experience of collaboration with different donors. This project, funded by the Government of Japan, is notable for us because we are implementing it in a challenging time for Ukraine when so many people here, including women and adolescents, are in dire need. The support we receive from Japan today lets us provide qualitative SRH, GBV and CSE services for our compatriots and make their lives better, healthier and safer."



Galyna Maistruk, Executive Director, WHFP

IPPF

Government of Japan awards IPPF \$2.08 million to support women and girls affected by conflict and natural disasters

WHFP

IN THE FRAME OF THE UKRAINIAN-JAPANESE PROJECT THE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION "WOMEN'S HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING" CONDUCTED THE FIRST TRAININGS FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS FROM POLTAVA REGION ON PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Activities for Strengthening National Committees on Population and Development in Egypt

APDA, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Japan Trust Fund (JTF) and in cooperation with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), promotes activities tackling population and development issues in partner countries.

On 14 November, the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD), the Egyptian Parliament and APDA organized a meeting in Cairo, in which participants shared a series of laws and advocacy efforts building on the recommendations by APDA and FAPPD's parliamentarians' meetings

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JPFP

Established in 1974, JPFP has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPFP, in concert with APDA, has created a network of parliamentarians on population and development, through which a diverse range of knowledge and experience has been shared to accomplish concrete results.

Read more

APDA

APDA since its establishment in 1982 has served as the secretariat of JPFP.

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Supported by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)





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