

# ADCA

Agricultural Development Consultants Association

**JAPAN**

# 2025

<https://www.adca.or.jp/>



## Greeting



President: HATCHO Nobumasa  
(Professor emeritus,  
Kinki University)

The Association was established in January 1975 as a voluntary organization by a group of consulting companies with a strong interest in and high motivation for overseas agricultural and rural development. Later, in May 1977, it became a public incorporated association named Agricultural Development Consultants Association (ADCA), and in 2013 it became a general incorporated association, and now it consists of 3 regular members, 1 supporting member, and 11 cooperative supporting members.

Since the establishment of ADCA, the situation surrounding Official Development Assistance (ODA) and agriculture and rural areas has changed significantly. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development was held in 1991, and many efforts are currently underway to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. However, the results are not always sufficient, and problems such as stable food supply, poverty, environmental degradation, and global warming are becoming more serious. Under these circumstances, there is an increasing need to improve living standards, prosper local communities, and preserve the environment in rural areas in developing countries, and I believe that the role of consultants in development cooperation is extremely important.

Japan's cooperation in agriculture and rural development initially focused on infrastructure development and related technical assistance, but over time it began to focus on capacity building (dissemination and training), income improvement and marketing, and support for measures against climate change and environmental degradation. In this context, the significance and role of Japan's agricultural development cooperation and the consultants who support it have also changed. For this reason, we believe that there is an urgent need to develop human resources capable of responding to various issues in agriculture and rural areas, improve their capabilities, and strengthen their competitiveness.

The Association will continue to work closely with government-related organizations to continue its active activities, such as collecting and organizing information and materials, developing human resources, coordinating overseas activities conducted by member companies, and implementing project finding.

I would like to conclude my remarks by asking for the further understanding, support, and cooperation of all parties concerned.

## **What is ADCA?**

ADCA is an incorporated association established to effectively promote cooperation in overseas Agricultural and Rural Development (ARD) and carries out the following activities:

1. Planning and implementing project-finding studies related to overseas agricultural development
2. Acquiring and applying information and materials related to overseas ARD
3. Providing technical services and advice to consultant members and other organizations
4. Conducting survey to promote participation in overseas ARD projects
5. Engaging in public relations and dissemination activities for overseas technical cooperation
6. Undertaking other necessary initiatives to advance overseas ARD cooperation

Since its establishment, ADCA has conducted project-finding surveys in over 120 developing countries worldwide. In recent years, it has continued to identify potential project implementation areas on an annual basis.

These projects address a wide range of aspects in agricultural and rural development, including: the development and utilization of water resources and agricultural land, improvement to land infrastructure such as irrigation and drainage, rural modernization, environmental conservation, research and dissemination of agricultural development technologies, poverty alleviation, human resource development, microfinance, food and water security, and other comprehensive regional agricultural and rural development initiatives.

## **Project Finding**

When engaging in overseas cooperation for agricultural and rural development, identifying and selecting appropriate projects are crucial for enhancing the effectiveness of international cooperation and ensuring the basic condition for success. Furthermore, to promote overseas agricultural and rural development cooperation, it is essential not only wait for requests from the partner country but also to proactively discover and identify projects independently.

In developing countries, vast areas of land still hold potential for development. Despite the evident need and enthusiasm for such development, projects selection is often delayed or inappropriate due to technical and economic limitations, making it difficult for projects to proceed smoothly.

In the case of Japan, overseas cooperation in agricultural and rural development is officially initiated through bilateral government negotiations. However, this process depends on receiving a request for cooperation from the partner government. The Japanese government initiates projects upon receiving such an official request.

"Project finding" refers to the investigation of the possibility of cooperation in a specific area based on a request from a developing country before bilateral government discussions. This approach aims to effectively advance the subsequent government-based negotiations and realize the project more efficiently.

## Lecture, Study Session and ADCA Seminar

At the lecture and study session, diverse topics were presented by many prominent figures involved in international cooperation, including representatives from JICA, other international cooperation implementing organizations, research institutes such as universities, consultants, general contractors, NGOs, and more. The discussion explored the future possibilities and directions of Agricultural and Rural Development (ARD) on a global scale.

Japan's contributions and concrete methodologies have been widely disseminated with individuals from various fields—not only those involved in international cooperation but also the general public and university's students—through ADCA seminars conducted in collaboration with universities. Additionally, global issues related to food and agriculture have been explored to enhance understandings of ARD within the framework of Japan's ODA, through lectures, case reports, and panel discussions.

### Lectures

- Demonstration of smart agriculture delivered by Jusanko Land Improvement District, 2022
- World Heritage Irrigation Structures: Asset management using ICT for the Terui Irrigation Canal delivered by Iwate Prefecture Terui Land Improvement District, 2023

### ADCA Seminars

- (2017) International Cooperation and Disaster Recovery at Miyagi University
- (2018) Collaboration Between Regional Contribution and International Cooperation at Kochi University
- (2022) Applying Your Learning to International Cooperation (Kochi University, Hirosaki University) (virtual seminar)
- (2023) The Choice of International Cooperation—The Real Challenge of Development Consulting (hybrid event: virtual and face to face)
- (2024) The Choice of International Cooperation—The Diverse Human Resources Supporting the Field of International Cooperation (hybrid event: virtual and face to face)



## Training Projects

JICA's technical cooperation consists of "dispatch of experts," "provision of equipment," "acceptance of trainees", and "technical cooperation projects" which appropriately integrate these components. Most of the “trainee acceptance” programs are conducted in Japan, and ADCA undertakes and implements training courses commissioned by JICA Tsukuba and JICA Tohoku.

Additionally, ADCA independently conducts training aimed at enhancing the capability of young engineers. These include programs such as "Practical Agricultural Training,” “Study Sessions for Supporting the Overseas Expansion of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises”, “Project Cycling Matrix training: Basic and Intermediate Levels”.

## Research Projects in Southeast ASIA

Since the 1970s, the Japanese government has provided grants and other forms of support for project formulation in various fields under the supervision of the respective ministries to promote the preparation of high-quality ODA proposals. However, the budget for ODA project formulation has since been centralized under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA. As a result, ADCA has relied on its own "Overseas Agricultural Development Research Fund", together with research and study budgets provided by relevant ministries, to undertake research initiatives that contribute to the formulation of ODA projects in the areas of agriculture and rural development.

Below are some of the recent projects undertaken by ADCA.

### **(1) Survey for Planning and Evaluation of Stock Management of Irrigation and Drainage Facilities**

(Survey commissioned by MAFF; JFY2020 – JFY 2022)

#### (a) Background:

This project addresses the advanced deterioration of agricultural water management facilities in South East Asia. These facilities, developed over many years, are now inadequate to meet water demand, leading to a decline in agricultural productivity and damage to the regional economy.

#### (b) Key Goals:

Promote Japanese "stock management technology" by adopting the Life Cycle Cost (LCC) evaluation used in Japan, which helps to extend the life of agricultural water management facilities.

#### (c) Target Countries:

- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Socialist Republic of Vietnam

#### (d) Key Outputs:

Asset management guidelines for irrigation facilities, tailored to the needs of each country, have been developed.

A database system, the ADCA Asset Management System, has been developed to store and

efficiently use asset management data.

(e) Key Achievements:

The workshops in Laos and Vietnam were well received, prompting the Mekong River Commission (MRC) to develop its own asset management guidelines for wider use by its member countries.

Laos and Cambodia are preparing to implement these strategies at the national level through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) initiative.

**(2) Study of Efficient Water Management System Based on the Advanced Telemetry Technology**  
(Subsidized survey from MAFF; JFY 2022 – JFY 2024)

(a) Objective:

This project aims to apply Japanese agricultural and rural development technologies, focusing on improving agricultural water infrastructure management through ICT (Information and Communication Technology).

(b) Previous Survey

- ADCA-1 Project (2016–2018): Focused on irrigation water management technologies.
- ADCA-2 Project (2019–2021): Applied advanced irrigation drainage systems.

These earlier surveys validated Japanese ICT equipment's efficiency and led to the development of the ADCA System – Telemetry, capable of monitoring multiple ICT systems.

(c) Key Activities:

① Demonstration Surveys:

Conducted in model areas to evaluate how ICT technologies can improve and optimize the efficiency of the management and operation of agricultural water infrastructure systems.

② Guidelines and Manuals Development:

Guideline for planning ICT use and Telemetry System Operational and Maintenance Manual have been developed to support the use of these technologies overseas.

③ Formulation of draft project plans:

Site identification and specific business plans were formulated and presented to relevant institutions in the target regions.

(d) Target Countries

- Kingdom of Thailand
- Socialist Republic of Vietnam

(e) Key Achievements:

Transfer of ADCA system (telemetry) to government servers in

- Thailand (renamed the RIO-9 system under the Royal Irrigation Department [RID]).
- Vietnam (renamed the VAWR system under the Vietnam Academy for Water Resources [VAWR]).

The system is actively used in the field by irrigation technicians and engineers and has received widespread positive feedback on its effectiveness.

**(3) Comprehensive Rural Development Model Examination Project** (Survey commissioned by MAFF; JFY2023 – JFY 2024)

(a) Objective:

The project aims to create sustainable rural development models in South East Asian countries by integrating rural development technologies available in Japan and establishing a comprehensive approach to rural infrastructure development.

(b) Key Activities:

① Field Survey:

A field survey was conducted at potential project sites in Cambodia.

② Information Exchange:

Cooperative discussions and feedback were sought from: □

- Cambodian government institutions.
- The Japanese Embassy in Cambodia.
- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Cambodia office.

The project plan was designed to reflect the insights gained from these exchanges. A field survey was conducted at potential project sites in Cambodia.

(c) Target Countries:

Kingdom of Cambodia

(d) Key Achievements:

① Elaboration of a Technical Cooperation Project Plan:

The draft plan outlines a potential technical cooperation project specifically for rural development in Cambodia.

It emphasizes infrastructure solutions packaged with Japan's expertise in rural development.

② Development of guidelines:

A guide for the planning and implementation of rural infrastructure development projects has been developed.

**(4) Study for Promoting Climate Change Countermeasures through Agricultural and Rural Development in the Asian Monsoon Region** (Subsidized survey from MAFF; JFY 2023 - ongoing)

(a) Objective:

This project aims to combine climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies through agricultural and rural development, based on Japanese technologies and products. The main goal is to establish this as a model case for international cooperation on climate change.

(b) Key Activities:

On-site demonstration applying Japanese technologies and products:

- ICT-based water management systems for alternate wetting and drying (AWD).
- Implementation of subsurface drainage systems.





# Membership Directory

## Regular Member

Company Name	Location	Telephone	Zip code
Sanyu Consultants Inc.	Daiichi Fuji Building, 35-16 Daikancho, Higashi-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan	+81-52-933-7801	461-0002
NTC International Co., Ltd.	Sumitomo Realty & Development Kameido Building 12F, 1-42-20, Kameido, Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-6892-3401	136-0071
Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.	5-4 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-3238-8030	102-8539

## General Supporting Members

Company Name	Location	Telephone	Zip code
Oriental Consultants Global Co., Ltd.	Tokyo Opera City Tower 9F, 3-20-2, Nishishinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-6311-7570	163-1409

## Supporting Member A

Company Name	Location	Telephone	Zip code
HAZAMA ANDO CORPORATION	1-9-1, Higashi-Shimbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-3575-6001	105-7360
Vision and Spirit for Overseas Cooperation Co., Ltd.	HK Park Bldg. I 8F, 3-15-5 Kanda-Nishiki-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-6380-9930	101-0054
Kitai Sekkei Co., Ltd.	1030, Kamitoyoura, Azuchi-cho, Omihachiman, Shiga, Japan	+81-748-46-2336	521-1398
Midori Engineering Laboratory Co., Ltd.	Dotsu Building 8F, 1-23, North 5 West 6, Chuo- ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan	+81-11-555-5000	060-0005
C.D.C. International Cooperation	Golden Sun Bldg. 2F, 4-3-6, Nakayamate-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan	+81-78-252-1054	650-0004
Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.	Shinjuku Front Tower, 21-1, Kita-Shinjuku 2- chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-6362-5931	169-0074
Aero Asahi Corporation	4-7-41, Shinkiba, Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-3522-0647	136-0082

## Supporting Member B

Company Name	Location	Telephone	Zip code
Agricultural and Rural Development Information Center (ARIC)	MY ARC Nihonbashi Building 2F, 10-16, Tomizawa-cho, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku, Japan	+81-3-5695-7170	103- 0001
The Japanese Institute of Irrigation and Drainage (JIID)	Toranomon NN Building, 1-21-17, Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-3502-1387	105- 0001
The Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering	Nougyodoboku Bldg. 3F, 5-34-4, Shimbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-3436-3418	105- 0004
Japan Association for International Collaboration of Agriculture and Forestry (JAICAF)	Akasaka KSA Bldg. 3F, 8-10-39, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan	+81-3-5772-7880	107- 0052

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