

Session 1. Reinventing the role of Multilateral Cooperation of North East Asian countries

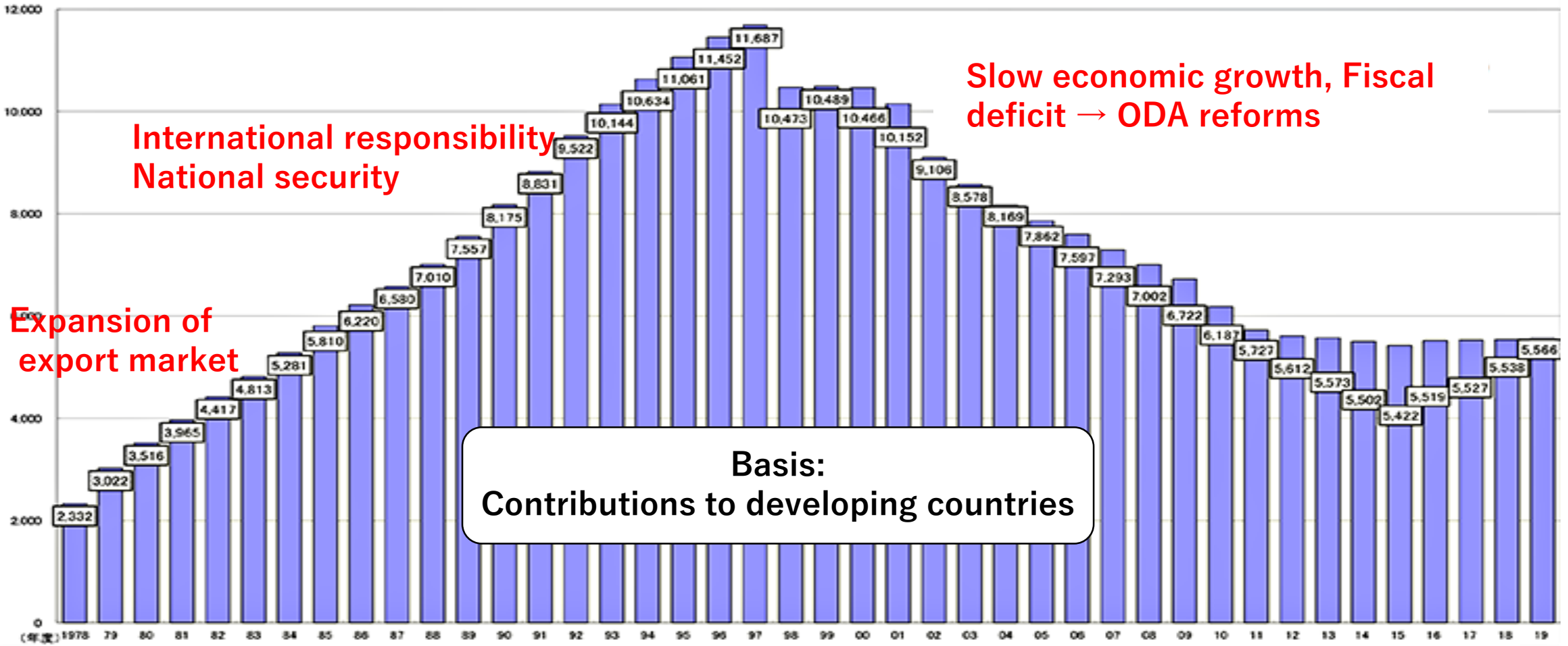
Discussion

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Japanese Government's ODA Budget

Unit: 100 mil yen



Source: Made data from MOFA Website (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shiryo/yosan.html>)

Japan's ODA and Development Cooperation Charters

- Official Development Assistance Charter (1992)
- Official Development Assistance Charter, revised (2003)
 - ← International & domestic factors (political, economic, etc.)
development challenges,
development assistance regime, etc.
- Development Cooperation Charter (2015)

Development Cooperation Charter: Background

- Development challenges are more diverse, complex, and widespread => Extend the scope of cooperation
 - Increasing role of funds and activities other than ODA for development of developing countries => Necessity of collaboration
 - Globalization=> Need for international cooperation including developing countries to ensure peace and prosperity
- Source: MOFA 2015b
- National Security Strategy (2013): ODA as one of policy tools of Japan's national security
 - Japan Revitalization Strategy (2013): ODA as one of policy tools to promote export of infrastructure system

Development Cooperation Charter

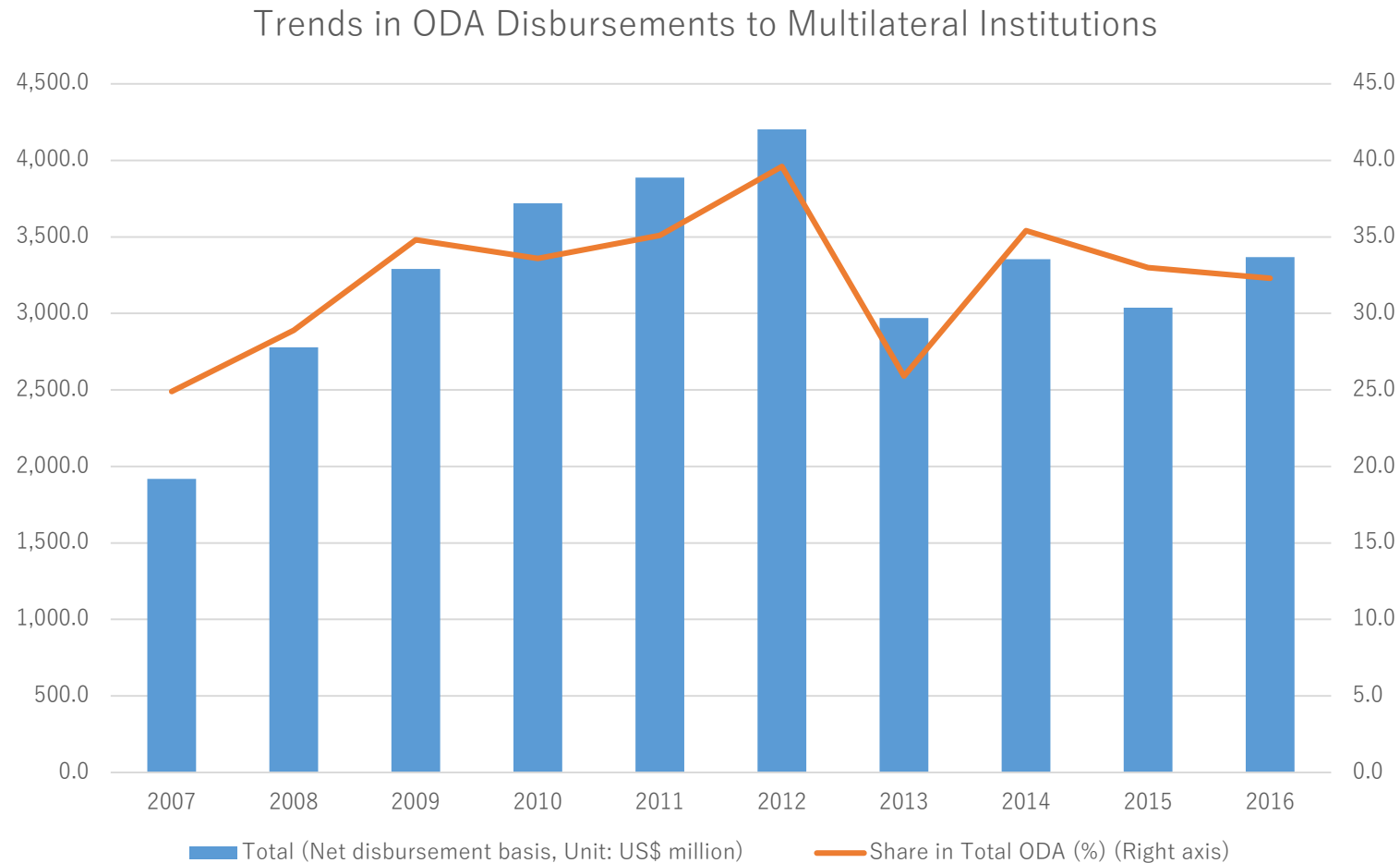
- Japan's Development Cooperation Charter (2015) explicitly used the words “national interests,” while emphasizing the principle of international cooperation.
 - *Note: the relation between “national interests” and ODA has long been debated particularly since late 1990s.*
(Source: Kiya and Yamagata 2019; Oyama forthcoming; Watanabe 2019)
- This triggered controversy in Japan over whether it is appropriate to seek “national interests” through ODA.

Development Cooperation Charter

- “... Amid all these changes, a peaceful, stable and prosperous international community is increasingly intertwined with the national interests of Japan. To secure its national interests, it is essential for Japan, as a “Proactive Contributor to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, to work together with the international community including developing countries to address global challenges. ...”
- “... Based on this recognition, Japan will promote development cooperation in order to contribute more proactively to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community. Such cooperation will also lead to ensuring Japan’s national interests such as maintaining its peace and security, achieving further prosperity, realizing an international environment that provides stability, transparency and predictability, and maintaining and protecting an international order based on universal values. ...”

Source:MOFA 2015a

Trends in ODA Disbursements to Multilateral Institutions



Source: Made from MOFA. 2018. White Paper on Development Cooperation 2017

Strengthened Partnerships (only examples)

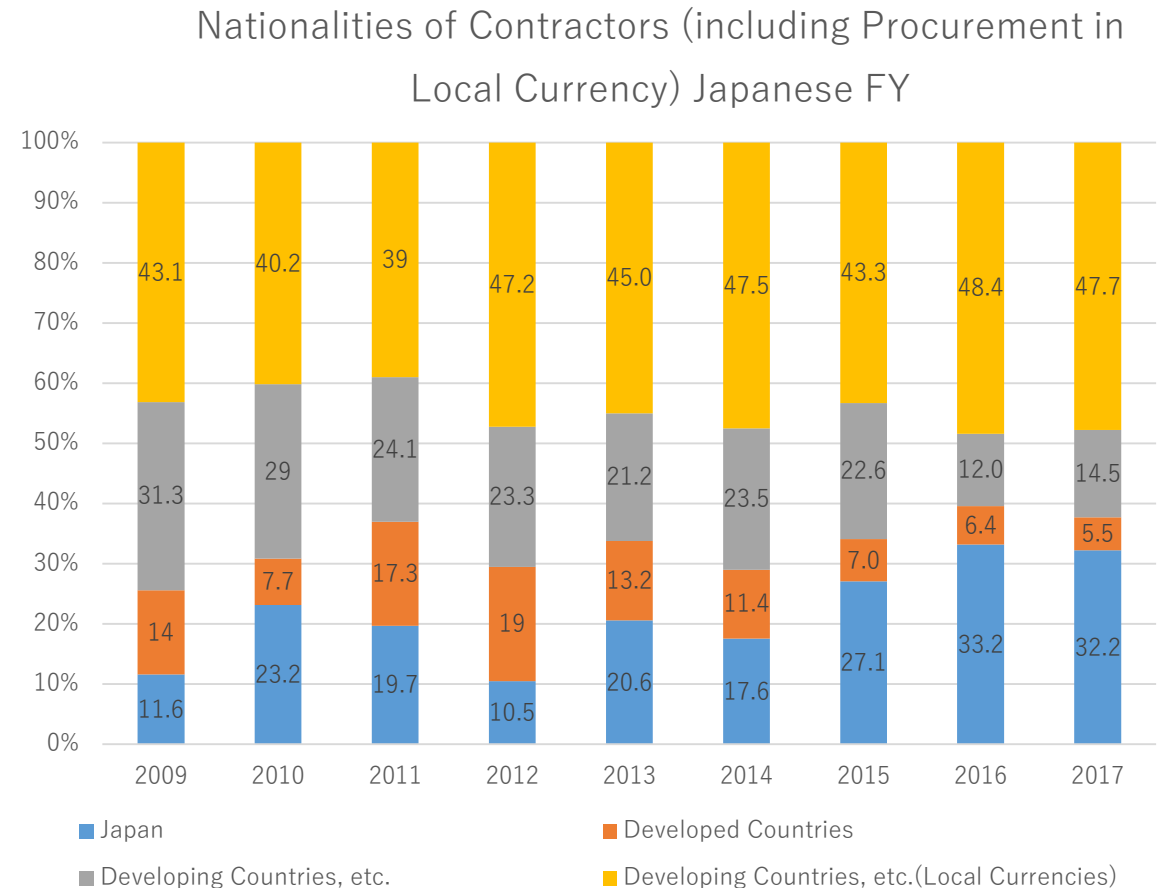
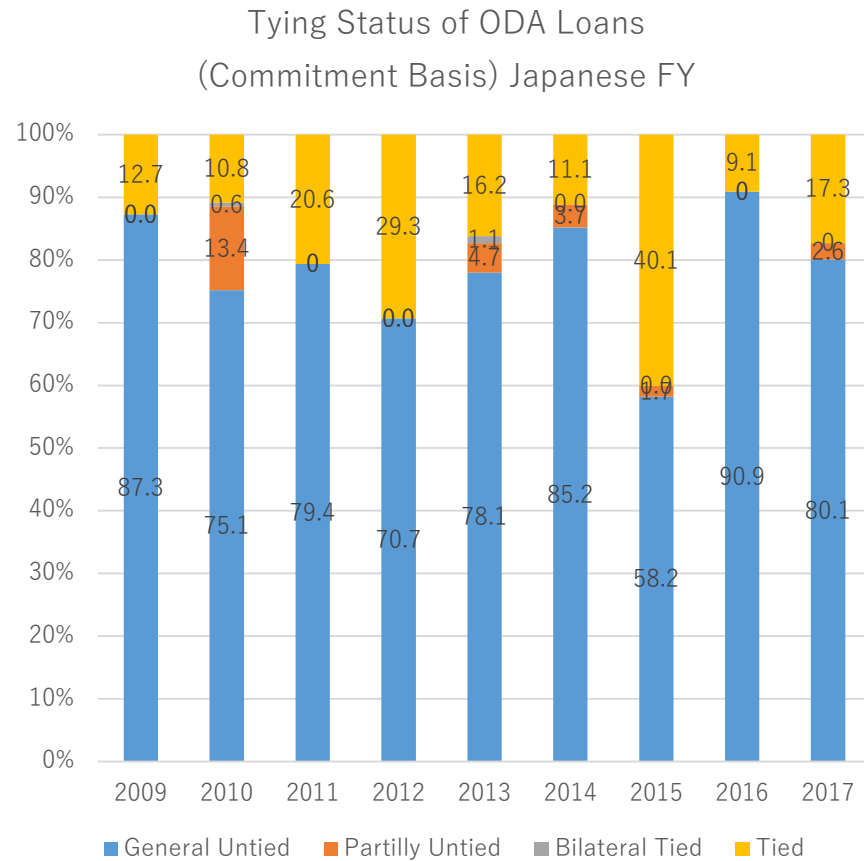
<Japanese government>

- Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD): Japan, UN, UNDP, AUC and World Bank. Inclusive and open forum.

<JICA>

- World Bank: High level annual consultations since 2014
- WB group, ADB, IDB, AfDB, EBRD: various co-financing programs/projects
- UNDP: MOU in 2009, and annual consultations since then.
- Bi-lateral donors: AFD, KfW, USAID, etc.
- Asian partners: KOICA, Korean Exim Bank, Chinese Exim Bank, NEDA (Thailand), etc.
- Global Delivery Initiative (GDI) for knowledge sharing

Japan's ODA loans: Tying status and Nationalities of contractors



Source: Made from JICA Annual Reports 2014 and 2018

Comments:

Bilaterals to leverage the best of their countries

- Kiya (Ch. 2 and 4, Kiya and Yamagata 2019) argues:
 - The contents of “national interests” are decided by the people, and therefore can be changed.
 - “Global interests” and “national interests” are not necessarily contradictory. It is possible simultaneously to achieve both.
 - Japan should find and expand common areas of “global interests” and Japan’s “national interests.”
 - “Japan agenda”: areas of cooperation where Japan can leverage its strengths.
 - Examples: universal health coverage (UHC), disaster prevention, human resources development, Kaizen, rice green revolution, etc.
 - Improve quality of Japan agenda, and branding. Scale-up them with recipient countries and development partners.

Comments (cont.)

- The North-East Asian countries adopt the approach proposed by Kiya?
- Recipient countries basically welcome competition among donors because it gives more choices to them.
- Sharing of knowledge and experiences among the NE Asian countries, multilaterals, recipient countries, and other partners for greater complementarity and synergy.
- Role of research: impact analysis, generation of innovative ideas/approach
 - Example: East Asian export-led growth model may not work

Selected References

- Kiya, Masahiko and Tatsufumi Yamagata. 2019. *Why should we act for international cooperation? Looking beyond humanitarian and national interest considerations.* Nihonhyoronsha (in Japanese)
- Hulme, David. 2016. *Should Rich Nations Help the Poor?* Polity Press
- JICA. Annual Reports 2014 and 2018
- MOFA of Japan. 2015a. Development Cooperation Charter (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/files/000067701.pdf>)
- MOFA of Japan. 2015b. Development Cooperation Charter (outline) (<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/files/000067702.pdf>)
- Oyama, Takanori. forthcoming. “Sengo Nihon Niokeru ODA Gensetsu no Tenkan Katei.” Background paper. JICA-RI (in Japanese)
- Watanabe, Matsuo. 2019. “Henkasuru Kankyo to Nihon no ODA Seisaku”. Background paper No.4. JICA-RI (in Japanese)