

# Terminal Evaluation

## Asia

### 1. Outline of the Project

**Country:**

Sri Lanka

**Project title:**

The Project for Improvement of Junior Schools in The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

**Issue/Sector:**

Basic Education

**Cooperation scheme:**

Grant Aid Cooperation

**Division in charge:**

Grant Aid Management Department Project Monitoring and Coordination Division

**Total cost:**

1,329 Million Yen (E/N amount)

**Period of Cooperation**

1998

**Partner Country's Implementing Organization:**

Ministry of Education and Higher Education

**Supporting Organization in Japan:****Related Cooperation:****1-1 Background of the Project**

The Sri Lankan Government has carried out educational reforms in order to increase opportunities for education, improve the quality of education, train and retrain teachers, and improve educational administration. However, the quality of school facilities, generally, has been low, such as several classes accommodated in one large classroom without windows and doors. Additionally, the maintenance of the water-supply system and drainage system has been delayed.

To address these issues, the Sri Lankan Government formulated the plan entitled "The Project for Improvement of Junior Schools" and requested that the Government of Japan provide Grant Aid for construction of junior schools classrooms and auxiliary facilities and the development of teaching materials.

**1-2 Project Overview**

The Project improves the educational environment by constructing 25 school facilities and providing school equipment such as desks, chairs, blackboards, and other necessary equipment and materials for science classes through the Grant Aid program.

The cooperation is divided into two phases. This evaluation survey, which was conducted during the first phase, targeted constructing and improving 12 schools facilities in the Ratrapura District, Kegala District and Gampaha District. The second period was not included because the Project evaluation was carried out right after the completion of establishing all of the facilities, making evaluation premature.

**(1) Overall Goal**

To improve the educational environment for junior schools in Ratrapura District, Kegala District and Gampaha District.

**(2) Project Purpose**

To develop well-conditioned facilities for education and teaching materials in 12 schools in districts of Ratrapura, Kegala and Gampaha.

**(3) Outputs**

- 1) To build 12 schools in the Ratrapura District, Kegala District and Gampaha District.
- 2) To provide school equipment such as desks, chairs and blackboards and materials for science.

#### (4) Inputs

Japanese side:

1,329 Million Yen (E/N amount)

Sri Lankan Side:

Fence and other facilities: (5.8 Million Yen)

## 2. Evaluation Team

### Members of Evaluation Team

Team Leader: Daiki KUNITAKE, Project Monitoring and Coordination Division,  
Grant Aid Management Department, JICA  
Supply Management: Toru TAKAGI, Japan International Cooperation System

### Period of Evaluation

25 June 2001 - 30 June 2001

**Type of Evaluation:**  
Terminal Evaluation

## 3. Results of Evaluation

### 3-1 Summary of Evaluation Results

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#### (1) Relevance

The Project was identified as relevant because it was based upon a "School Rationalization Survey" by the Ministry of Education, and the facilities met the standard of the implementing organization.

All of the classrooms have been used. However, some of the schools still do not have enough classrooms. The Project separated toilets by sex, which contributed to an increase in the enrollment of women. The establishment of new schools facilities has enhanced the motivation of the teachers, which has lowered the previously high rate of absence from work. The Project is considered to be relevant since more students are able to enter the schools and the school attendance rate which now differs among regions is expected to be well corrected.

#### (2) Effectiveness

The number of classrooms has increased from 178 to 200. In accordance with the new standard, average space per a student increased from 0.9m<sup>2</sup> to 1.4 m<sup>2</sup>. The purpose of the Project was achieved since the facilities were fully used, and construction of the facilities and provision of equipment were completed. As for the quality of the science materials, most of the schools have displayed panels in multipurpose classrooms in order to make students more interested in science.

#### (3) Efficiency

The scale of the Project Plan is appropriate since all of the classrooms built in the Project have been fully used.

The construction went smoothly without any problems such as customs clearance, due to the support from the Implementing Organization. It was completed on time and, therefore, management, the scale and the construction schedule were evaluated to be appropriate.

#### (4) Impact

Large classrooms that formerly were shared by several classes, have now been divided by walls and curtains provided by the Project. This has enabled the schools to give lessons in a quiet environment. The lighting and ventilation system have also been improved. The Project ensures a comfortable environment and contributes to improvement of the quality of education in Sri Lanka.

#### (5) Sustainability

Education is one of the most important issues in Sri Lanka, and therefore the budget for education in each district is increasing in general, but the major part of the budget is used as personnel expenses. The maintenance and management costs are the

responsibility of each school. In order to improve the level of maintenance and management of schools, each school should strengthen communication and cooperation between the teachers' committee and School Development Society of parents, accumulate the necessary know-how and apply it in each school.

### **3-2 Factors that promoted realization of effects**

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(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

Sri Lanka abounds in small and rough land. It is highly evaluated that the consultant and the construction companies have well controlled the construction processes, and the construction was terminated on time despite the unfavorable conditions.

### **3-3 Factors that impeded realization of effects**

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(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

N/A

### **3-4 Conclusion**

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The relevance and efficiency of the Project are highly evaluated. It can also be considered efficient because the usage rate of classrooms is high.

### **3-5 Recommendations**

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(1) Economic conditions in Sri Lanka are severe. As budgetary support from the government is expected to be at a low level, ensuring that funds are available for school maintenance and management is an important issue. As mentioned above, the Ministry of Education plans to establish committees of teachers in order to promote information exchanges among schools. It is hoped that the teachers' groups and School Development Society organized by parents and local leaders will cooperate and plan smooth school maintenance.

(2) Although constructing schools in a rural area is given top priority, it is necessary to produce a large number of talented personnel to meet the Information Technology needs of Sri Lanka. For this, new curriculums and computers are needed.

### **3-6 Lessons Learned**

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N/A

### **3-7 Follow-up Situation**

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(1) It is necessary to bring in new curriculums and computers.

(2) The Japanese side needs to consider the dispatch of teachers, experts or Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in order to improve the soft components of education.