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Technology Transfer Manual on Nature Conservation

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PREFACE

The major contribution made by Japan major to development in Asia, Africa, Latin America and East Europe through international cooperation hardly needs mention. Great contributions have been made such fields as social infrastructure, health care, agriculture and education. The environment however, especially conservation of nature, is still a relatively new field in Japan's international cooperation efforts.

Following the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED: Earth Summit), held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, such concepts as biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, gained significance around the world in terms of the conservation of our natural resources. Japan's efforts in these areas are expected to gain further importance for developing countries.

Just as nature is infinite in its variety, the approaches to conservation of that nature varies from country to country. Wildlife conservation and management in each country reflect not only characteristics of the local nature itself, but also can be interpreted against the history and sense of values in that country. Not a few developing countries regard wildlife conservation as a major national policy and work to promote it by robust wildlife conservation laws and setting aside protected areas. In comparison with these efforts, Japan has pursued relatively modest measures in this area, but nevertheless still maintains numerous natural parks and protected areas and has managed to coexist with wildlife in spite of being such a small country.

Due to these varieties and differences, Japanese experts sent abroad, whose usual work experience is primarily in administration are often bewildered in the countries where they are dispatched. It is essential these experts are given the opportunity fully grasp the key differences between Japan and the local side

The purpose of this training manual transfer of technology is to assist the Japanese experts in review the system of natural environment conservation in Japan as a starting point for devising measures for transferring the kind of technology best suited to actual situation in the country to which they are dispatched. The manual will certainly provide the experts themselves with a unique stimulating opportunity to rethink system of their own country with that in countries with different nature and conservation systems. At the same time, it is hoped that this manual be of use to the experts in explaining Japanese nature and conservation systems to their counterparts. The opportunities to do so will grow, as the experts become familiar with the dispatched countries. Thus through discussion and comparison of the way things are done in the two countries, Japanese experts dispatched abroad will be able to pursue their assigned duties with all the more effectiveness.