



JICA Project Team

Project Office: DPWH Central Office, Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila

The Project for Improvement of Quality Management for Highway and Bridge Construction and Maintenance, Phase 3
under JICA Technical Cooperation / the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Republic of the Philippines

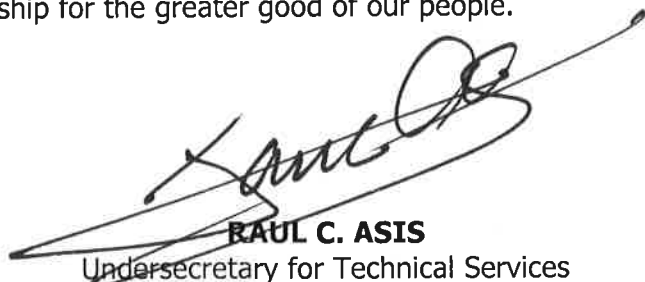
MESSAGE

The continuous advancement of processes and competencies in the Department of Public Works and Highways has been the vital cause for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) to exist for ten years and counting since its inauguration in 2007. This partnership between the Philippines and Japan was forged on the principle of maximizing efficient management of Highways and Bridges from their construction, operations and maintenance. The challenge of course was far beyond what we have expected thus, two (2) phases have come and gone with much desired results and development written in its history. Pilot projects have been implemented, trainings were given to our engineers, and manuals have been published as a result of our never-ending cognitive battle to adapt technologies and systems in Japan to match the localized needs of the Philippine public infrastructure.

However, the successes of the first 2 phases undeniably changed the paradigm of how we do things and the Department saw that it needed to be rebirthed to channel the promising gains that the project was meant to deliver. Thus, the third phase of the JICA-TCP came to be. With a much wider locale that includes regions that were previously excluded in the first 2 phases, creation of a centralized database for the management of bridges and roads in the maintenance stages of their life cycle and the conduct of on-the-job training to neophyte engineers addressing competence issues while keeping abreast with the increasing requirement to 'Build, Build, Build'.

Now that everything is in place, I urge those members of the JICA-TCP to make the most out of this opportunity. This endeavor cannot reap its fruit if we are unable to identify its potency to bear one. You have all the resources that this project can provide and your insatiable need to attain further technical skills and acumen is your limit. Let this third phase be the avenue for the Department's call to continuously advance in this ever changing environment we are all in - for public service.

To the Japanese Government and to the representatives of JICA who have shared their relentless support in this undertaking, I give my utmost appreciation and gratitude on behalf of DPWH. May this fully strengthen the bonds of friendship and solidarity between the two nations and bring a deeper sense of partnership for the greater good of our people.



RAUL C. ASIS
Undersecretary for Technical Services