The Age of People's Diplomacy

The TaiwanICDF cooperates with five domestic banks in initiating credit guarantees for private enterprises investing in diplomatic allies.



The Technical Mission to Costa Rica assists the INA in orchid cultivation technology.



The Taiwan International Cooperation Alliance (TICA) is established with six Taiwanese universities to promote various higher education programs for foreign students

The Medical Mission in São Tomé and Princípe stage a mobile and free clinic.



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1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	
• An Agricultural Technical Mission is re-established in Liberia and a Medical Mission is also sent to that nation. A new page is opened in medical and health assistance.	 An Agricultural Technical Mission is stationed in Belize The IECDF signs a transportation development loan agreement with Malawi government, marking the first loan made by the organization. The MOFA drafted the International Cooperation and Development Act. 			• IECDF and the CABEI cooperates on the Infrastructure and Re-lending Project for SMEs, marking the first cofinance project with an international development organization.	 Articles governing the TaiwanICDF proposes by the MOFA are approved by the Legislature Yuan. CITC Alumni Societies (now called TaiwanICDF Alumni Societies) are founded to strengthen contact with those who had previously come to Taiwan for study or training. 	• The TaiwanICDF was establi-shed on July 1.	 The TaiwanICDF establishes the Taiwan Overseas Volunteers and dispatches the first group of five volunteers to Swaziland. CITC is consolidated into the TaiwanICDF. 	

Vision

Irrigation engineering in the Bagré area in Burkina Faso.



The Technical Mission to Swaziland holds a corn demonstration.



Volunteers engage in computer instruction in Malawi.



President Chen Shui-bian encourages the first group of Taiwan Youth Overseas Service to contribute their skills and passion in serving Taiwan's partner nations.

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
 The TaiwanICDF establishes a master's and Ph. D. degrees program for foreign students to study in Taiwan. Six students came to Taiwan for tropical agriculture studies. The Central America Economic Development Fund (ROC-CAEDF)) is created with a total of six nations in the region. The secretariat was established at the TaiwanICDF and is responsible for the operation and management of the fund. A Medical Mission is dispatched to Săm Tomé and Príncipe. The Technical Mission is started from the year after. 	• Taiwan Investment and Trade Service Mission in Central America is established in Guatemala.	 An Industrial Service Mission is established in the Dominican Republic. The TaiwanICDF carried out its first information technology cooperation project, cooperating with World Links on promoting Internet education. 	 The TaiwanICDF starts budgeting for international humanitarian assistance and implementing related projects. The first group of the Taiwan Youth Overseas Service is sent to overseas missions. The TaiwanICDF initiates operations to offer credit guarantees to Taiwanese private enterprises investing in diplomatic allies. 	• The TaiwanICDF establishes the Taiwan International Cooperation Alliance (TICA) with six Taiwanese universities.	• A Technical Mission is stationed in Tuvalu.	• A Technical Mission is stationed in Kiribati.

Vision



A new year has begun and as we continue with our mission, it is also the time to take reflective look at the past year to examine our accomplishments and shortcomings and open a new chapter to the year ahead.

Taiwan first began participating in international development and cooperation in 1959. Over the past 45 years, we have shared Taiwan's developmental experiences with other nations and assisted them in increasing their capacity to achieve a sustainable prosperity. Inheriting the basic structure of its forerunner agencies in Taiwan, the TaiwanICDF was established in 1996. This institution is responsible for conducting the development assistance from Taiwan and contributing to the international community.

While this 2005 annual report focuses on the TaiwanICDF's record over the past year, it also offers us an opportunity to illustrate our key strategies for the future. As Taiwan's principal foreign assistance organization, the TaiwanICDF is well aware of current issues such as the trends toward globalization, the development work has vaulted to the forefront of international agendas, the rapid spread of diseases like AIDS/HIV and avian flu, weather-related catastrophes, gender, education, and environmental sustainability, all of them require a new way of thinking. The TaiwanICDF works to complement the government's diplomatic strategies as it continues its international development and cooperation work. The agency is also working toward becoming even more professional, transparent and systematic in its operations.

The TaiwanICDF will make the best use of its solid foundation to continue implementing international cooperation and development strategies. Not only do we want to advance previous accomplishments, but we also would like to be innovative in facing the challenges of the future. As we look ahead, our goals are as follows:

Expanding Cooperative Relationships

International development and cooperation work is quite complicated and has huge needs. Limited resources must be used to create the greatest benefit. As such, cooperation and the integration of resources among institutions is of the utmost importance. In its nearly five decades of foreign assistance experience, the TaiwanICDF has accumulated abundant experience in various fields. Over this period, it has been constantly establishing cooperative relationships with international organizations and NGOs to boost effect. Through these partnerships, we can further widen and increase the impact of Taiwan's international development work and role as a member of the international community.

In the past, we have maintained close cooperative relationships with the ADB, IDB, EBRD, and CABEI. In recent years, we have also successfully worked with Mercy Corps, the Taiwan Nongovernmental Hospitals and Clinics Association, and other domestic and foreign NGOs. In the future, the TaiwanICDF will continue to strengthen its cooperative relationships in creating a better tomorrow for the international community.

Boosting the Role of Taiwan's Private Sector

Private sector participation plays an important role in international cooperation and development today. The private sector is instrumental in broadening the impact of assistance from the public sector. It also expands and creates business opportunities and can help a nation achieve its diplomatic goals, resulting in a benefit for all situation. The TaiwanICDF's assistance work delves into the societies of developing nations and is coupled with close cooperative relationships with regional development banks. This could also be the chance for the private sector to participate in development work. Thus, Taiwanese companies can share their advantages and experiences as successful SMEs with local enterprises in partner nations.

Expanding Dialogue with the Public

It is the TaiwanICDF's continuing goal to raise local public awareness on the value and significances of development issues, gain public support, and encourage Taiwan citizens to take part in overseas assistance. As the development projects are becoming more specialized, there is a need to have more people share their devotion and contribute their expertise by joining our international development programs, such as Overseas Volunteers, Taiwan Youth Overseas Service and overseas Technical Missions. The TaiwanICDF is also engaging in closer communications with the public. For example, the Chinese version of the TaiwanICDF electronic newsletter is the first of its kind in Taiwan particularly emphasizing development issues. The update on global development agendas and timely reports directly from aboard has attracted the public's attention and shown increasing popularity among the readers.

Public awareness and support from people in Taiwan is precious and also critical to the TaiwanICDF's international cooperation work. A creative publicity campaign, development education and public events are all going to be held continuingly to increase the public's understanding of our achievements in international development work.

Establishing an International Cooperation Knowledge Base

Foreign assistance embodies more than humanitarian work. It involves assessment, planning, implementation and monitoring. Each link in the process requires a high degree of expertise. With its experience over the past half century, the TaiwanICDF has accumulated a large amount of specialized knowledge in addition to a practical understanding of the local conditions of the host nations. By combining experience and expertise, the TaiwanICDF will continue enhancing the training of its personnel and working toward becoming an "International Cooperation and Development Knowledge Base."

Forging an Integrated Platform for Foreign Assistance Resources

In this era of globalization, every country seeks to broaden its participation in the world community. As a result, many government agencies participate in some type of international cooperation. Since much of this assistance has the potential to overlap, it is crucial to create a platform in which to integrate these resources and allocate them appropriately. The TaiwanICDF is working on opening up more dialogue and discussion in Taiwan, hoping to integrate the limited resources here. The coordination of these resources would better serve Taiwan's interests and more effectively promote international development.

International cooperation and development work involves an enormous pool of people, goods and financial resources. Even more importantly, however, is that the success of this work will have a direct impact on the future of global society. Former American President John F. Kennedy once said, "If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich." The TaiwanICDF will continue using its expertise and resources to participate in development work around the globe, further illustrating Taiwan's devotion to being a responsible member of the international community and desire to help make the world a better place.

Chen Cheng-Chung Secretary General TaiwanICDF