UKRAINE'S RECONSTRUCTION

Leveraging Japan’s Disaster Experience for Ukraine’s Reconstruction

Russia’s aggression against Ukraine wages on. One company technologically capable of assisting Ukraine in the rebuilding of its infrastructure is Nippon Koei Co., Ltd., a comprehensive engineering consultancy firm from Japan.

People of the firm spoke about its involvement in Ukraine and the country’s reconstruction.

Ukraine is suffering badly as Russia persists with its aggression. Reaffirming Japan’s support for Ukraine, Prime Minister Kishida stated that Japan will help Ukraine rebuild through public-private partnership. By utilizing its expertise in earthquake reconstruction and its extensive industrial and technological base, Japan intends to assist with the clearing of land mines and the rebuilding of Ukraine’s infrastructure.

One Japanese company with a long history of cooperating on engineering projects in the infrastructure field is the comprehensive engineering consultancy firm Nippon Koei Co., Ltd., which has expanded its business overseas to assist developing nations and wartorn countries. Through official development assistance (ODA) and private-sector projects, Nippon Koei has been involved in infrastructure development projects in 160 countries and regions.

Even before Russia’s aggression against Ukraine began, Nippon Koei was working with the country on various aid projects, which included modernizing airports and building bridges. The most recent of those projects were the Bortnychi Sewage Treatment Plant modernization project in Kyiv and the Capacity Development for Municipal Waste Management project in the three cities of Kyiv, Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk.

Working with the country’s Ministry of Environment, Nippon Koei has participated in several reconstruction projects in the war-torn country under contract either with JICA or the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. The company established its Ukraine Recovery Office in April this year and opened a new representative office in Warsaw, the capital of Poland, to be better placed to promote future projects and support ongoing projects.

General Manager of the Ukraine Recovery Office MIURA Yoshimoto said, “The war and the aging of equipment have necessitated a review of Ukraine’s entire infrastructure. In creating a master plan for the country’s reconstruction, we have received many requests from local people wanting to benefit from Japan’s experience and knowledge. In addition, the number of engineers in Ukraine has declined as they have either been killed in the conflict or have fled the country. That is why we plan to help train new engineers.”

In creating a master plan for Ukraine’s entire infrastructure, the company has declined as they have either been killed in the conflict or have fled the country. That is why we plan to help train new engineers.”

General Manager of the Warsaw Office, NAKAMURA Masahiro, added, “We want to contribute to the country’s recovery and reconstruction by leveraging our strengths in a wide range of business fields and our far-reaching network.”

But Nippon Koei’s goal is not just reconstruction of war zones.

Going forward, Japan will work to further involve the private sector. As the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, HAYASHI Yoshimasa, said on June 21, 2023 at the Ukraine Recovery Conference, co-hosted by the governments of the United Kingdom and Ukraine, “Japan intends to make use of its experience and knowledge it has accumulated in the field of recovery and reconstruction, and to vigorously implement a uniquely Japanese form of reconstruction assistance in close contact with the Ukrainian people.”