

## **【Side event of TICAD7】**

### **Education for Africa to Empower Future Generations**

On August 28, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held a side event of TICAD7 at PACIFICO Yokohama to raise awareness of the importance of basic education and to accelerate efforts to improve education in Africa with other partners in the field.

Dr. Shinichi Kitaoka, the President of JICA opened up the event, followed by a keynote address from Dr. Koichi Wakata, Vice President of JAXA. Following the speeches, a panel discussion was held with a wide array of representatives from African governments, international organizations and JICA. The speakers at the panel discussion are shown in the list below. Dr. Ryoko Tsuneyoshi, a professor of the University of Tokyo moderated the event.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Kitaoka stressed that quality primary and secondary education is fundamental to achieve mid-term and long-term socioeconomic growth in Africa, according to Japan's own modernization experience from Edo-era. Dr. Kitaoka also emphasized JICA's commitment to deliver quality education to at least three million children in Africa over the next 3 years, particularly by focusing on early childhood and girls' education. Following Dr. Kitaoka's remarks, Dr. Wakata gave a keynote address that highlighted the importance of investing in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education.

Following Dr. Kitaoka and Dr. Wakata's remarks, a group of distinguished panelists then took the stage to discuss how, and why, countries should invest in providing quality basic education for Africa's future generations. As part of these conversations, the panelists also discussed how Japan, the World Bank, and GPE could improve the quality of basic education in Africa.

To close the event, the World Bank and JICA signed a Joint Action Note in commitment to strengthening their partnership to improve education in Africa.

■ Photos



Dr. Kitaoka providing opening remarks



Dr. Wakata providing a keynote address



Dr. Shawki providing comments during the panel discussion

■ Participants

[Opening Remarks]

Shinichi Kitaoka, President of JICA

[Keynote Speech]

- Koichi Wakata, Astronaut, JAXA

[Panelists]

- François Sawadogo, Director General of Studies and Sectoral Statistics, Ministry of National Education, Literacy and Promotion of National Language, Burkina Faso
- Tarek Galal Shawki, Minister of Education and Technical Education, Egypt
- Eugene Mutimura, Minister of Education, Rwanda
- Annette Dixon, Vice President for Human Development, World Bank
- Serigne Mbaye Thiam, Vice Chair, Global Partnership for Education (GPE)
- Nobuko Kayashima, Vice President of JICA

[Moderator]

- Ryoko Tsuneyoshi, Professor, University of Tokyo

■ Related links

Organizer speech by Dr.Kitaoka

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/president/speech/190828\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/president/speech/190828_01.html)

■ Related SDGs

