

【Side event of TICAD7】

Quality Growth in Africa

~ Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient Development~

On Aug. 29, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) hosted a side event at the hotel InterContinental Yokohama Grand on the topic of “Quality Growth in Africa.” Professors Joseph Stiglitz and Akbar Noman at Columbia University, Professor Haroon Borat at the University of Cape Town, and Dr. Pedro Conceição, Director of the Human Development Report Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), joined as panelists, with over 130 attendees including government officials and private businesses. Participating speakers from the JICA Research Institute included Director Izumi Ohno and Visiting Scholar Dr. Go Shimada.

After summarizing the remarkable economic growth and structural changes that have taken place in Africa over the last 10 years, panelists discussed challenges for Africa to attain quality of growth, recommendations for the international community and the future role of TICAD.

In his keynote speech, Professor Stiglitz pointed out the necessity of creating alternative indicators to the GDP which places too much emphasis on economic aspects, in order to promote quality of growth which is sustainable, inclusive and resilient. Furthermore, he argued that, in consideration of demographic changes in Africa (where the labor force will reach 2.1 billion by the year 2100), urbanization, polarization, technology innovation, climate change and trade trends, the export-led manufacturing model—which has been successfully adopted by East Asia—is no longer sufficient for Africa and that there is a need to promote job creation through industrial development in a broad sense covering such sectors as agriculture, service and natural resources. Professor Stiglitz also expressed his appreciation to Japan/JICA’s intellectual contribution for Africa, based on their experience in supporting the development of East Asia, and suggested the important role played by the government including industrial policy.

During the panel discussion, questions and comments were raised about quantitative analysis regarding low economic complexity of Africa’s industrial structure and its high dependency on natural resources, and complexity of

poverty which cannot be measured by income only, as well as recommendations for the international community to allow more policy space for developing countries by taking policy dialogue approach.

In closing, the seminar introduced a new book titled “The Quality of Growth in Africa,” which is the outcome of the 4th collaborative research project of IPD and JICA-RI.

■ Participants

[Opening Remarks]

Izumi Ohno, Director, JICA Research Institute

[Presenters]

Joseph Stiglitz, Professor, Columbia University

[Panelists]

Akbar Noman, Professor, Columbia University

Haroon Borat, Professor, the University of Cape Town

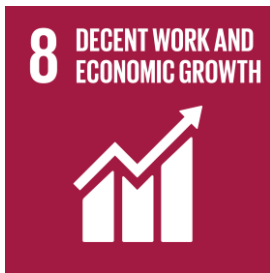
Go Shimada, Associate Professor, Meiji University

Izumi Ohno, Director, JICA Research Institute

■ Photos



■ Related SDGs



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Quality Growth in Africa Discussed at TICAD Side Event Featuring Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz

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Quality Growth in Africa

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