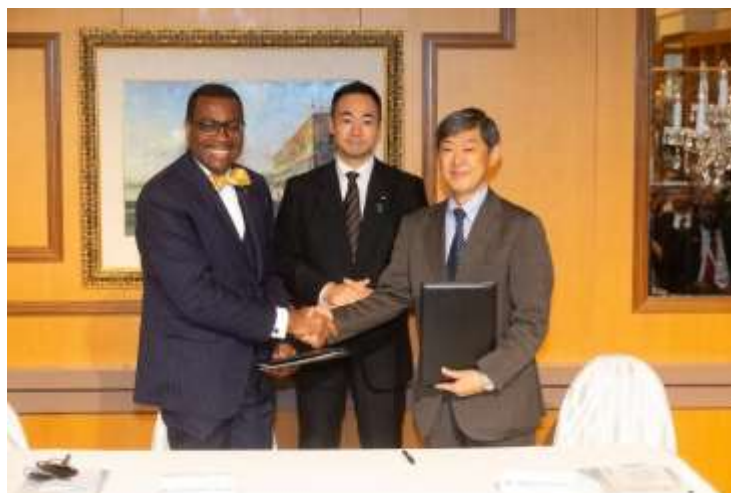


【Side event of TICAD7】

AfDB-JICA Africa Investment Seminar and Launching Ceremony of New Collaboration Scheme

On August 30, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held a side event of TICAD7 at the InterContinental Yokohama Grand to discuss opportunities to promote further private sector investment in Africa.



During the first portion of the event, Mr. Keisuke Suzuki, the State Minister and Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Japanese Ministry of Finance, and Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina, the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), outlined the next phase of the “*Joint initiative (EPSA) for development of the private sector in Africa*”^{*1}. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina and Dr. Shinichi Kitaoka, the President of JICA, signed a revised memorandum of cooperation (MOC) as a symbol of their organizations’ commitment to strengthen private sector collaboration.

In Dr. Kitaoka’s remarks, he expressed his intention to boost JICA’s non-sovereign operations, namely “Private Sector Investment Finance,” under the new EPSA framework, and his expectation for Japanese businesses to engage in private sector-led economic growth in Africa by utilizing the knowledge and experience of the AfDB.

During the second half of the session, two panel discussions were held to speak about investment opportunities in Africa, as well as Africa’s growth market

prospects. The first panel, moderated by Mr. Tsutomu Kudo, a Senior Deputy Director General of Private Sector Partnership and Finance Department, JICA, discussed different funding schemes available for private businesses wishing to invest in Africa, including JICA's Private Sector Investment Finance. This panel was comprised of four speakers, including Mr. Shohei Tada, Director of JICA; Ms. Atsuko Toda, Director of AfDB; Mr. Masahide Marco Yamaguchi, Division Manager of AfDB; and Mr. Naoshige Kinoshita, Chief Investment Officer of AfDB. The panelists also discussed potentials for investment opportunities in Africa's agriculture, infrastructure and energy sectors.

After this panel concluded, Mr. Masahide Marco Yamaguchi, the Division Manager of AfDB, then organized a second panel, titled *Opportunity in African Market from the perspective of Private Companies*. Here, five company representatives from the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, France, and South Africa who have extensive business experience came together to discuss the practical challenges of working in Africa, as well as the opportunities they see in collaborating with Japanese private companies.

Dr. Junichi Yamada, a Senior Vice President of JICA, concluded the session by remarking that JICA wishes to enhance its support for private entities, including Japanese businesses, who are seeking to expand their businesses to Africa. JICA will continue to encourage Japanese businesses promote their activities in Africa by taking advantage of the information garnered through this seminar.

■Participants:

<Part 1>

[Moderator]

- Taku Yamabe, Senior Deputy Director General of Africa Department, JICA

[Keynote Speech]

- Keisuke Suzuki, Ministry of Finance State Minister/Parliamentary Vice-Minister
- Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina, the President of AfDB
- Shinichi Kitaoka, President of JICA

<Part 2>

[Opening and Closing Remarks]

- Junichi Yamada, Senior Vice President of JICA

[Panelists]

- Atsuko Toda, Director, Agricultural Finance & Rural Development, AfDB
- Masahide Marco Yamaguchi, Division Manager, Non-Sovereign Infrastructure Division, Infrastructure & Urban Development, AfDB
- Naoshige Kinoshita, Chief Investment Officer, Energy Financial Solutions, Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth, AfDB
- Shohei Tada, Director of Private Sector Investment Finance Division), Private Sector Partnership and Finance Department, JICA
- Anish Jain, Chief Treasury Officer, Export Trading Group
- Onur Yücekal, CEO, Çalık Enerji Sanayi ve Ticaret Anonim Sirketi
- Jérémy Hajdenberg, Chief Investment Officer, Investisseurs & Partenaires
- Mark Herskovits, Capital Markets Director, SA Taxi
- Rami Ghandour, Managing Director, Metito

[Moderators]

- Tsutomu Kudo, Senior Deputy Director General, Private Sector Partnership and Finance Department, JICA
- Masahide Marco Yamaguchi, Division Manager, Non-Sovereign Infrastructure Division, Infrastructure & Urban Development, AfDB

■ Note

*1: The Japanese government and the AfDB launched the Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa (EPSA) to serve as a collaborative framework aimed to support private sector development in Africa. EPSA is comprised of three elements, of which JICA leads the last two: (1) the Accelerated Co-Financing Facility for Africa (ACFA); (2) a yen-backed loan to support private sector operations in Africa through the AfDB's non-sovereign window; and (3) the Fund for African Private Sector Assistance (FAPA).

■ Photos



■ Related SDGs

