

# Africa

## Africa as a Partner to Share the Future



A networking fair for Japanese businesses and ABE Initiative students. It is hoped that this get-together will inspire ABE Initiative participants to serve as intermediaries between Japanese businesses and Africa.

### Regional Issues

- Africa's economic structure depends much on the export of primary commodities and natural resources. This highlights the need to diversify industry and create new jobs.
- Africa also needs to tackle two other major challenges: (1) strengthening vulnerable health systems, as illustrated by the spread of communicable diseases; and (2) overcoming vulnerabilities associated with climate change, violent extremism, and other issues.

### Fiscal 2016 Initiatives

- JICA worked on a range of issues revolving around the three pillars set out in the Nairobi Declaration, which was adopted at the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI). The three pillars were (1) promoting structural economic transformation through economic diversification and industrialization; (2) promoting resilient health systems for quality of life; and (3) promoting social stability for shared prosperity. These issues included infrastructure development, industrial human resources development, the mainstreaming of universal health coverage (UHC),<sup>1</sup> peacebuilding, agriculture, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### Future Cooperation

- JICA will extend assistance to help African countries to transform their economic structure and surmount vulnerabilities while respecting ownership by and partnership with Africa. In the process, JICA will work with the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency)<sup>2</sup> to implement the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA) and the KAIZEN Initiative, both announced at TICAD VI.

### ● TICAD VI

In August 2016, the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) was held in Africa for the first time. Leaders and other high-level officials of African countries, international development organizations, private enterprises, universities and other research institutions, civil society organizations, and public-sector organizations gathered in Nairobi to participate in TICAD VI. The conference, including its side events, was attended by a total of 11,000 people, an unprecedented scale.

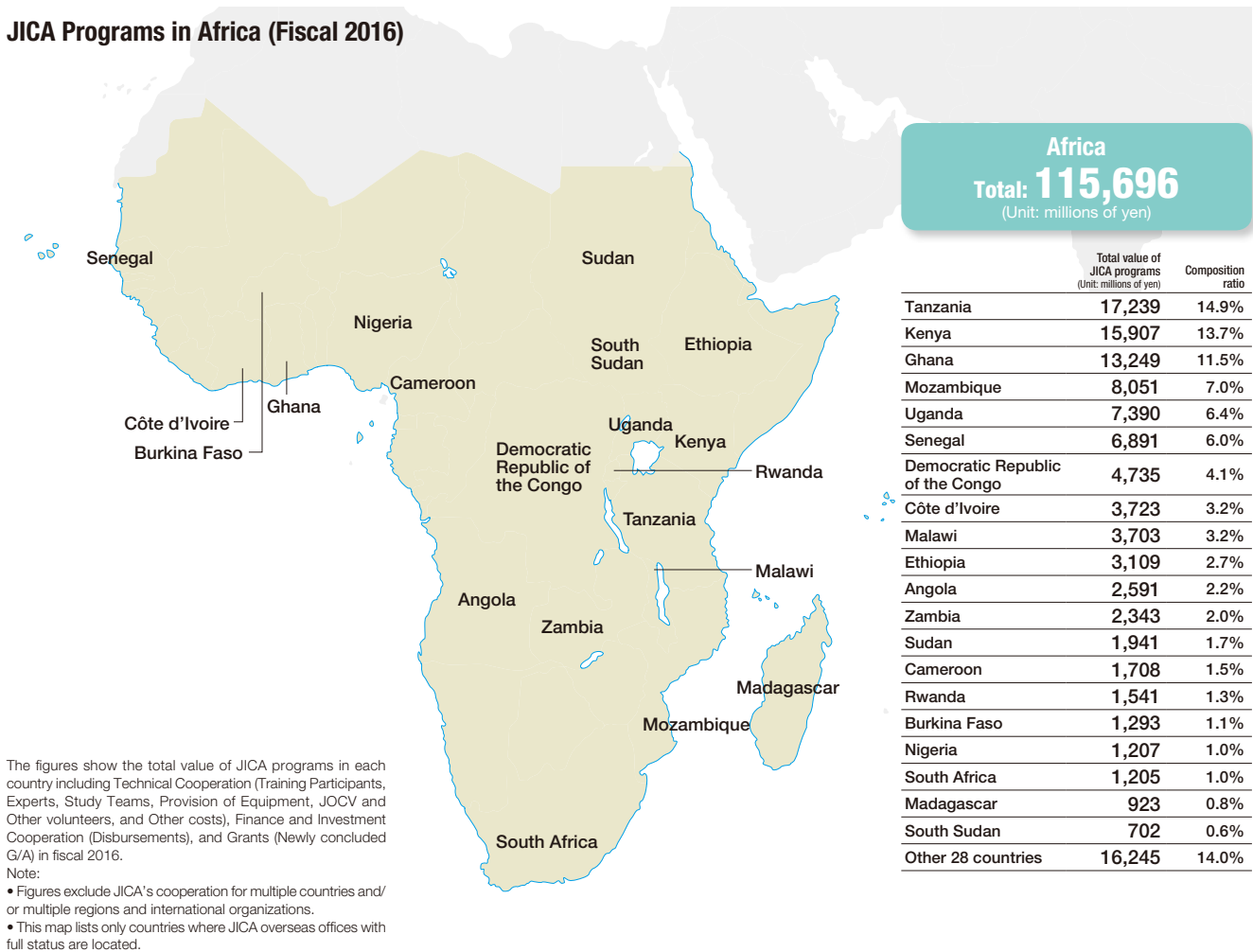
This conference had three distinctive features compared with the previous five TICAD meetings. First, the very first TICAD in Africa highlighted more than ever the commitment of African countries to tackling their issues on their own, affirming growing ownership by these countries. Second, various actors used the TICAD framework as a common platform for African development, giving form to partnership with international organizations and other donors. Third, the visit to Nairobi not only by government officials but also representatives of many private enterprises deepened business partnership between Japan and Africa.

TICAD VI was of great significance in that it not only charted new directions for African development but also promoted and

1. UHC is defined as "ensuring that all people can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship."

2. The NEPAD Agency is an implementing arm of the African Union (AU). NEPAD is an African initiative for African development, adopted at the African Union (AU) Summit in July 2001.

### JICA Programs in Africa (Fiscal 2016)



even directed mutual understanding among various development actors in addition to African countries.

#### ● Nairobi Declaration

Key points of TICAD VI were compiled into the Nairobi Declaration, one of its outcome documents. Taking note of new development challenges Africa faced following TICAD V in 2013, including declining international resources prices, Ebola virus disease outbreaks, and growing violent extremism, the Nairobi Declaration identified three pillars as priority areas of action to be addressed for the next three years: (1) promoting structural economic transformation through economic diversification and industrialization; (2) promoting resilient health systems for quality of life; and (3) promoting social stability for shared prosperity. The details were set out in the Nairobi Implementation Plan for 2016–2018.

In view of the Nairobi Declaration and the Nairobi Implementation Plan, Japan announced it would invest around \$30 billion (approximately ¥3 trillion) in Africa under public-private partnerships and offer training to some 10 million people in the region. Toward TICAD 7, scheduled for 2019, the Nairobi Implementation Plan for 2016–2018 will be carried out in tandem with the ongoing Yokohama Action Plan 2013–2017, which was adopted at TICAD V. In line with the measures Japan has announced at TICAD meetings, JICA will implement programs and projects in sectors where it can take advantage of Japan's

strengths, including quality infrastructure development and human resources development.

#### ● Growing African Ownership

The growing ownership among African countries has been demonstrated at TICAD VI as well as through other movements in Africa during 2016.

Since an international consensus was formed on the need to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) activities at TICAD III in 2003, JICA has been working with the NEPAD Agency to promote African development. In 2014, JICA and the NEPAD Agency signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU), which forms a concrete cooperation framework. This led to tangible progress in cooperation in sectors such as regional infrastructure development and agricultural development. At TICAD VI in 2016, the NEPAD Agency launched two initiatives along with JICA: the KAIZEN Initiative and the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA).

The KAIZEN Initiative is aimed at helping to enhance corporate productivity—a movement JICA has been promoting for a long time. Under the initiative, JICA and the NEPAD Agency will initiate a partnership program in Ethiopia and other countries in Africa with the aim of augmenting the relevant companies' corporate productivity by 30%. The idea is to standardize the KAIZEN approach and replicate it in the whole region. IFNA aims at achieving evidence-based nutritional improvement over the

next 10 years, and the initiative will start in 10 African countries [ → see the Case Study on page 75]. The secretariats for the KAIZEN Initiative and IFNA are based at the headquarters of the NEPAD Agency. JICA and the NEPAD Agency will jointly promote these two initiatives while supporting African ownership.

JICA assisted African countries in establishing the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A) in Rwanda in 2016, the first of its kind in the world. SDGC/A is designed to achieve poverty eradication and sustainable development by

2030. It works on four areas: (1) research and policy advice; (2) education and capacity building; (3) technology, innovation, and outreach; and (4) inter-country investments and projects. SDGC/A clearly represents Africa's commitment to addressing the challenges it faces at its own initiative. JICA will work with SDGC/A to assist African countries in achieving the SDGs. In the process, JICA will respect African ownership and bring together all the experiences and knowledge it has gained on the ground [ → see the Column on page 99].

### Sub-Saharan Africa: Regional Infrastructure Development in Africa



## Promoting Trade Facilitation through Assistance for Infrastructure Development that Spans National Borders on the African Continent

Africa, which includes as many as 15 landlocked countries, needs to expand intra-regional trade if it wants to achieve sustainable economic growth. In particular, it urgently needs to facilitate the movement of goods and services across the continent to make distribution safer, faster, and cheaper. Since TICAD IV in 2008, JICA has been working with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency—an implementing arm of the African Union—to support the introduction of One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) for corridor development and streamlined border clearance.

Starting with the Chirundu OSBP on the Zambia-Zimbabwe border, JICA has assisted a total of 14 OSBPs in Africa through various aid modalities, such as ODA Loans, Grants, and Technical Cooperation. In 2016, the Rusumo OSBP on the Tanzania-Rwanda border was put into service, and it is expected that this OSBP will reduce clearance time to one-third, minimize costs, and double traffic volumes.

JICA has been supporting the promotion of OSBPs by utilizing the OSBP Source Book, a compilation of know-how in planning and operating OSBPs and lessons learned from operational OSBPs. The Source Book was prepared by JICA jointly with other donors, the NEPAD Agency, and regional economic communities (RECs). In order to promote the Source Book, JICA has, for example, worked with the NEPAD Agency to organize regional meetings in the eastern and southern parts of Africa to support the dissemination of OSBPs, while utilizing the Source Book as a tool for it.



Rusumo International Bridge and OSBP facilities on the Tanzania-Rwanda border

### ● Broaden Partnerships

As TICAD gradually becomes known, partnerships among related organizations have been reinforced.

At a side event of TICAD VI, the Japanese government and the African Development Bank announced that both will target jointly \$3 billion under the third phase of the Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa initiative (EPSA 3). The Japanese government also signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) between Japan and the United States on renewable energy development in Africa. Also, JICA and the French Development Agency (AFD) signed an MOC in the area of a sustainable city in Abidjan.

Other than at the occasion of TICAD VI, in June 2016 JICA collaborated with the United Nations Police (UNPOL) of the UN peacekeeping operations to provide the National Police of Mali with training in combating terrorism and organized crime. JICA saw a virtuous cycle of human resources development. Some of the lecturers for this training turned out to be former participants in police training programs that were jointly organized by JICA and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2005 and 2014. In February 2017, JICA signed an agreement with the Ethiopian government to provide an ODA Loan of up to ¥5.5 billion for the Women Entrepreneurship Development Project in partnership with the World Bank. This is JICA's first co-financing loan specifically targeting women in Africa. JICA offers comprehensive cooperation while respecting partnerships in development and working closely with development partners.

### ● Private-Sector Collaboration in African Business

The year 2016 saw extensive progress in business exchanges between Japan and Africa revolving around private-sector collaboration.

Officials from more than 100 Japanese firms gathered in Nairobi to attend TICAD VI side events. They showcased their products and services and mingled with African businesspeople at the Japan Fair, the venue of which was near the main conference hall. At the Japan-Africa Business Conference, another TICAD side event, Japan's business community announced the Business Declaration to forge a stronger partnership with Africa, presaging more active business activity in the region.

In October 2016, JICA decided to invest in the Off-Grid Solar Power Project conducted by Digital Grid Inc. (DG), the first Private-Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) project in Sub-Saharan Africa. This project is designed to install solar panels at retail

shops in villages without electricity, and provide LED lamp rental and charging services as well as mobile phone charging services at these retail shops for customers. By providing ¥300 million in equity participation to DG, JICA will assist the firm in expanding its business operations in Tanzania, thus helping to improve the electrification rate in the country.

Progress has been also made in the relationship between Japanese businesses and African students studying in Japan under the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative), which is expected to train “navigators” for Japanese firms planning to do business in Africa. The number of Japanese companies accepting such students as interns jumped from 65 in 2015 to 99 in 2016. The number of Japanese firms participating in the Africa Business Networking Fair—which offers opportunities for them and ABE Initiative participants to get to know each other—are also on the rise. It surged from 90 in 2015 to 150 in 2016, suggesting that more and more Japanese businesses are interested in building relationships with Africa. The ABE Initiative has produced other positive outcomes. Some of these companies recruited such interns in Japan. Some Japanese firms that have a foothold in Africa hired former participants in their home countries.

JICA will continue to support the expansion of African business by Japanese private enterprises through human resources development and financial assistance.



A retail store that is open at night thanks to an LED lantern provided in the Off-Grid Solar Power Project in Sub-Saharan Africa, the first PSIF project in Africa (Tanzania)

Case Study

**Rwanda:  
Partnership with Kobe City Made  
Possible by the ABE Initiative**



### ICT Innovation Fostered in Industry-Academia-Government Partnership

Rwanda achieved high economic growth in only 20-plus years after the end of the civil war. This is often described as an “African miracle.” Determined to build the state on ICT, the whole nation is committed to promoting the technology. This commitment is significantly supported by the Kobe Institute of Computing (KIC) and Kobe City, both in Japan.

Under the ABE Initiative, KIC accepts many students from Africa who have great potential to play an important role in the ICT sector. The Kobe-based institute offers courses designed to teach practical and applied skills so that they will be able to identify social issues from the perspective of industrial human resources development for Africa and explore solutions to these issues through learning by doing. These students include many from Rwanda. The Rwandan business community highly values KIC as an important hub for developing human resources for ICT.

To be able to continue living up to such high expectations, KIC in 2014 launched the K Initiative with the Rwanda ICT Chamber to create 1,000 jobs in Rwanda by 2020. In view of these efforts by KIC, Kobe City also made arrangements to support Rwanda. For example, Kobe and the Rwandan capital of Kigali concluded an ICT partnership agreement in 2016.

The relationship between KIC and Rwanda boosted activities by Kobe City, deepening the industry-academia-government partnership for the African country.



A May 2016 industry-academia-government mission to the Rwandan capital, Kigali, involving Kobe City, KIC, and Kobe-based businesses. Third and fourth from right in the front row are Kobe Mayor Kizo Hisamoto and KIC Vice President Kenji Fukuoka, respectively.