

Moving Forward

Representative Initiatives in Fiscal 2020

Store

2,713
startups from
19
African countries
applied for
the NINJA Business Plan
Competition

Supporting Entrepreneurs amid the Pandemic

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Encouraging Innovative Quests

Project NINJA (Next Innovation with Japan)

JICA organized a business plan competition aimed at supporting startups from 19 African countries that create innovative business models and technologies in response to the new normal brought about by COVID-19. A total of 2,713 firms applied. The grand finale among the 10 top competitors was held online in February 2021. Those selected as outstanding firms were qualified for business-matching with Japanese businesses as well as their technical assistance.

Four Japanese companies gave a special award to And Africa, a South African firm, for its development of IoT lockers. The lockers make it possible to send and receive parcels 24-7 without direct human contact, and the Japanese companies have an eye on possible business tie-ups with the firm.

Development of “Quality Infrastructure”

That Is Both Human- and Eco-Friendly

5.06
million people

used Delhi Metro per
day on average
in 2019¹

390 km

The total length
operated by Delhi Metro
as of August 2021²

A Traffic Congestion Reliever and a Popular Means of Public Transportation

Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System (Delhi Metro) Project

JICA has long been cooperating on the Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project with ODA Loans. The project is designed to construct the Delhi Metro, a mass rapid transport system made up of underground and elevated corridors in Delhi, the capital city of India. Technologies and products of Japanese companies have also been introduced in this metro network that extensively covers the Delhi metropolitan area. JICA will continue to extend cooperation to Delhi Metro, which is proactive in introducing women-only cars and priority seats and is contributing to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

Delhi Metro has significantly changed the lives of Delhi residents by providing comfortable and on-time services. It also makes good use of Japanese institutional expertise such as operational know-how and the practice of waiting in line for the metro. (Photo: Osamu Funao)

Source: Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. for the figures concerning Delhi Metro.
1. The aggregate of the total number of users of all lines.
2. Some 257 km are already completed or being constructed under JICA's projects.

Moving Forward

Representative Initiatives in Fiscal 2020

Protecting World-Class Cultural Heritage

Transferring Restoration Techniques with Respect and Pride

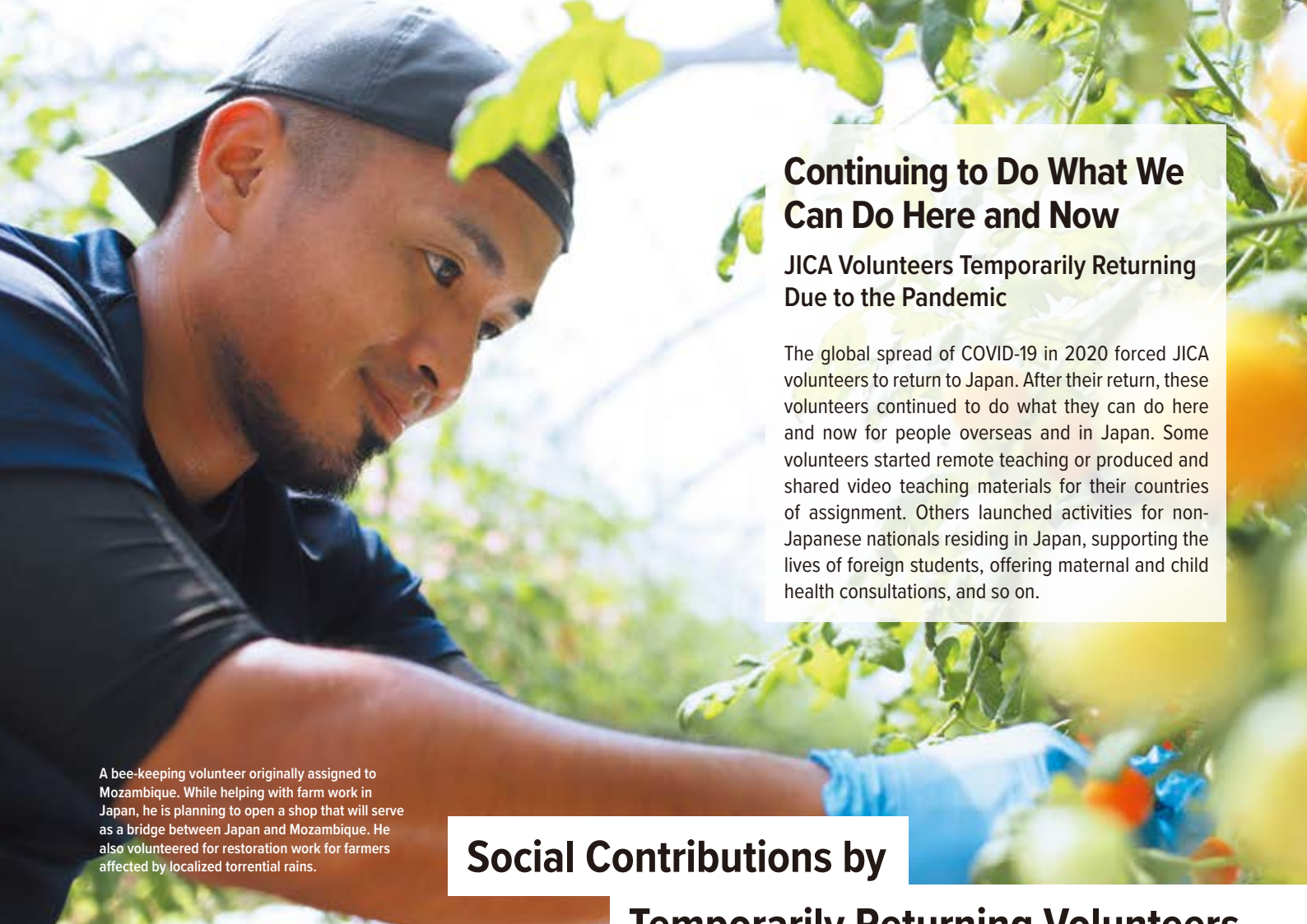
The Grand Egyptian Museum Joint Conservation Project, and Others

When it is completed, the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) will be the world's largest museum dedicated to a single civilization. In addition to financial cooperation for the construction of GEM, JICA has cooperated in training conservators of historical cultural heritage since 2008 through the dispatch of Japanese experts and technical training in Japan. Later, JICA launched a related project where Egyptian and Japanese experts worked as a joint team on conserving and restoring important artifacts, including those unearthed from the tomb of King Tutankhamun. In November 2020, this project team won the Yomiuri International Cooperation Award for these cooperation efforts.

Around
2,250
people

participated in training under
GEM-related JICA projects
from June 2008 to
March 2021

Conservation work at the GEM Conservation Center. Non-destructive diagnostic analysis using high-resolution digital imaging microscopy contributes not only to understanding the state of preservation of artifacts but also to acquiring new archaeological findings.



Continuing to Do What We Can Do Here and Now

JICA Volunteers Temporarily Returning Due to the Pandemic

The global spread of COVID-19 in 2020 forced JICA volunteers to return to Japan. After their return, these volunteers continued to do what they can do here and now for people overseas and in Japan. Some volunteers started remote teaching or produced and shared video teaching materials for their countries of assignment. Others launched activities for non-Japanese nationals residing in Japan, supporting the lives of foreign students, offering maternal and child health consultations, and so on.

A bee-keeping volunteer originally assigned to Mozambique. While helping with farm work in Japan, he is planning to open a shop that will serve as a bridge between Japan and Mozambique. He also volunteered for restoration work for farmers affected by localized torrential rains.

Social Contributions by

Temporarily Returning Volunteers

1,564

JICA volunteers

worked to address issues in Japan in fiscal 2020

963

JICA volunteers

worked for their countries of assignment from Japan in fiscal 2020



A physical education volunteer originally assigned to the Maldives. She produced and shared videos on Japanese culture and gymnastics for the host country. She also engaged in harvesting work for understaffed farmers in Nagano Prefecture, Japan.