

KEMRI-JICA TCP KICK-OFF METING

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#Issue 1

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A group photo after the official kick-off meeting of the KEMRI-JICA technical cooperation project, 7th June 2022

Brief & Context of JICA TCP

The historical partnership, the unprecedented COVID 19 pandemic and a sustained need for advancing research particularly for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases conjured a need for renewed efforts between KEMRI and JICA alongside other stakeholders to collaborate further through a new Technical Cooperation Project.

The overall goal of the project is to strengthen health emergency preparedness through a system for cross-cutting capacity development for KEMRI scientific and non-scientific staff. The overall success for the project lies in the enhancement of human resource capacity for KEMRI and establishment of collaborative networks with Japan and other African stakeholders.



From closest to farthest) Ms. Yoshii, Mr. Iwama, Dr. Tamaki and Mr. Watanabe (on the display screen) during the TCP kick-off meeting

Overview of KEMRI-JICA TCP

The technical cooperation project aims to enhance KEMRI's research capacity. JICA intends on facilitating maximum interaction among all stakeholders as well as fostering exchange interactions between KEMRI and key backers in academia, universities and the private sector in Japan

This project aims to strengthen the human resource capacity at KEMRI by building a system to strengthen the capacity of both scientific and non-scientific personnel, through collaboration between Kenya and Japan. The TCP will play a supportive role in steering KEMRI towards the fulfilment of its important mission in Africa and globally through human resource development initiatives for both scientific and non-scientific staff. The core objectives of the TCP are the enhancement of KEMRI's advanced research capabilities through 3 pillars centered around people.

- ✚ Design of talent development plan inclusive of strengthened M&E system
- ✚ Implementation of priority training to KEMRI through JICA and affiliated partners
- ✚ Building of KEMRI's network of partners in Africa and Japan for health research

The trainings are meant to be holistic and will be done in collaboration with partners within Africa and Japan. A rigorous monitoring and evaluation process for the training and will be paramount for the success and sustainability of the project.

Collaboration Plan

The project is planned to run for 3 years whereby the first year would be dedicated to planning operations, situation analysis and planning of necessary activities and the remaining 2 years for the implementation and M&E.

Short term experts from Japan are expected to be involved in the TCP through JICA's facilitation.

The TCP project aims at establishing effective tools to measure development progress and thus help provide insight for the training teams. The trainings are meant to be sustainable and holistic.

A potential repository can be set up and be used to store the curated training contents for access by KEMRI staff who would not get the chance to have a first-hand training experience.