

Friday, August 26 9:00–12:20 | Sarova Panafric Hotel "Simba"

Japanese Private Sector for African Development

Cohosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Junior Chamber International (JCI)

1. Background

Expectations are high among African countries for the private sector development, as a major driving force to accelerate development in Africa, and as a sector capable of providing employment opportunities, transferring technologies, and developing capacities of local people.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) confirmed the increasing role and potential of the private sector in sustainable development, as it states "Private business activity, investment, and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth, and job creation. [...] We call upon all businesses to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges."

JICA and UNDP Tokyo both have been playing vital roles in Japan to promote BOP/inclusive business in Africa by Japanese companies. By taking the momentum of TICAD VI, JICA, UNDP Tokyo, and JCI will co-organize a side event to showcase leading cases of BOP/inclusive businesses by Japanese companies, to discuss how both Japanese and African private sector can strengthen their partnerships to accelerate sustainable development in Africa, and to provide TICAD VI participants an opportunity for networking for future partnerships.

2. Objectives

- To showcase private sector partnership strategy and initiatives of both JICA and UNDP to promote BoP/inclusive businesses that contribute to sustainable development in Africa.
- To present a proposal made by the Japanese private sector for sustainable development.
- To discuss how to strengthen partnerships between Japanese and African private sector.
- To provide in-depth analysis of economic outlook and business environment in Africa.

3. Key Questions

- What investment opportunities do Japanese private companies have in Africa?
- What difficulties do Japanese private companies face in investing in Africa, and how could they best overcome these?
- What key measures can governments and other partners in BoP/inclusive ecosystem take in terms of enhancing their policy frameworks for private investment?

4. Speakers

- Dr. Ayodele Odusola, Chief Economist and Head of the Strategic Advisory Unit, Regional Bureau for Africa, UNDP
- Mr. Mamoru Sekiyama, Chairman, Committee on Africa-Japan Relations, Japan Association of Corporate Executives