Development of
Industrial Human Resources in Africa

ABE Initiative

African Business Education Initiative for Youth

For more details on the ABE Initiative, please visit

The ABE Initiative on JICA website
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/countries/africa/internship.html

For more details on Africa, please visit

Africa Plaza on JICA website
https://www.jica.go.jp/africahiroba/english/index.html

For details on JICA office locations, please visit

Domestic and Overseas Offices on JICA website
https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/organization/index.html

If you are interested in accepting an ABE Initiative participant as an intern, please visit

The ABE Initiative Portal Website (external site)
http://education-japan.org/africa/index.html

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Africa Department
Nibancho Center Building, 5-25 Niban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8012, Japan
TEL:03-5226-8208 E-mail:abe2@jica.go.jp
http://www.jica.go.jp/

July 2019

What is The ABE Initiative?

The ABE Initiative (African Business Education Initiative for Youth) is a program that offers opportunities for African youths to study at master's courses at Japanese universities as international students and to experience internships at Japanese companies.

It aims to foster young personnel who can contribute to the development of industries in Africa as well as to be a "navigator" for Japanese firms' operations in Africa.

At the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), held in 2013, the government of Japan launched the "ABE Initiative", based on the conviction that it is important to promote (A) education of human resources through vocational training and higher education that directly lead them to career opportunities, and (B) human exchanges between Japan and Africa. At TICAD VI, held in 2016, continuation of the program was announced.

Objectives of the ABE Initiative are :

-To foster human resources for industry and business that would be the key to growth of Africa

-To foster "navigators" for Japanese companies' business activities in Africa and to build their network

Our approach :

-To provide opportunities to obtain a Master's degree and experience internship at company, as part of a joint program of the Japanese government and business community

-To foster personnel with a deep understanding of Japanese society and corporate culture, equipped with practical business skills that are uniquely Japanese, all acquired through this long-term program

Program Overview

■JICA
■Japanese university
■Japanese companies

《 Before arrival in Japan 》

Approx. 3 months	**Application**
Approx. 6 months	**Selection process** • Document screening • Interview
	Selection process • Document screening • Interview

《 Arrival in Japan 》

1 yr - 2.5 yrs	**Master's Degree Program** Engineering, Economics and Business Administration, Agricultural Science, Mathematics and Physics Sciences, Commerce, Tourism etc.
	Business program
	Summer Internship
2 weeks - 6 months (after graduation)	**Post-graduation Internship** 《 Departure for home country 》

《 Departure for home country 》

After returning home	**Follow-up** • Reporting session in home country • Networking Fair in Africa • Monitoring etc.
	Collaboration & Business development

Business Program : All participants. It includes observation of firms, participation in networking fair, classes to learn business customs, Japanese culture, Japanese language etc.

Summer Internship : All participants. Duration is approximately 2 weeks and takes place during summer break of 1st year (Participants are allowed to intern in the 2nd year if opportunity is offered by company)

Post-Graduation Internship : Only participants who can obtain consent from receiving company and organization. Duration can range from 2 weeks up to 6 month, depending on necessity.

Registered company

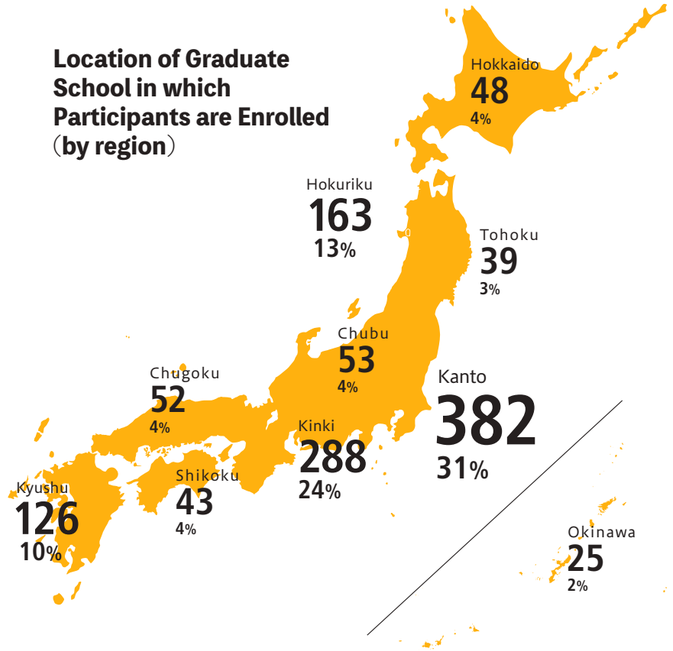
Companies interested in the ABE Initiative participants and willing to receive interns may register as a receiving company.

Expected benefits include :
- Meeting the participants and get acquainted, the promising "navigators" for future entry to Africa
-Their knowledge on local situation in Africa that can help identify local business opportunities
-Profiles of participants and invitation to various business seminars, networking fair and other events

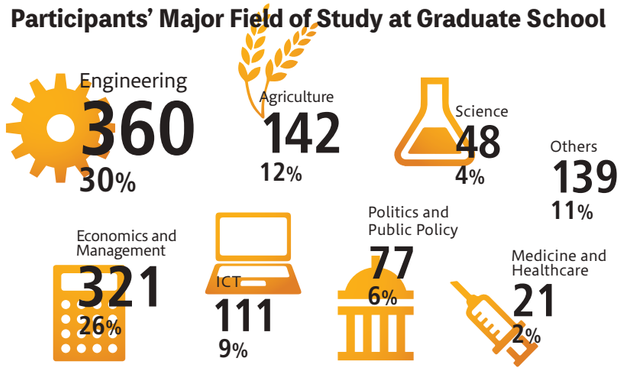
Number of Participants

1st batch September 2014	156
2nd batch September 2015	317
3rd batch September 2016	348
4th batch September 2017	279
5th batch September 2018	119
Total	1,219

Location of Graduate School in which Participants are Enrolled (by region)

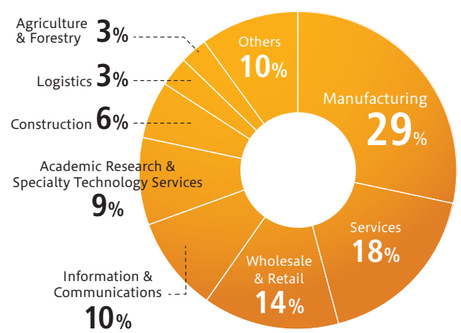


Participants' Major Field of Study at Graduate School

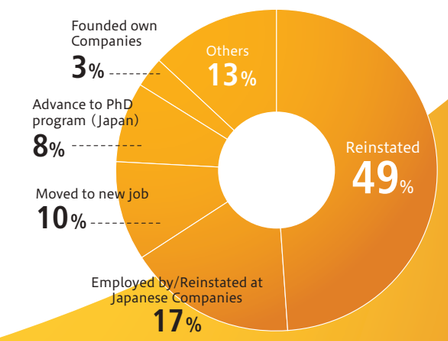


Number of Registered Companies to Receive Interns (total)

Industry Sector of Registered Receiving Company



Participants' Career After Return to Home Country



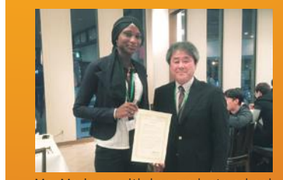
As of June 2019 ／ Value rounded off decimals

Developing Automobile Interior Products Using New Materials

Ms. Marieme Josephine Lette

Republic of Senegal

Batch	2nd Batch (Sept. 2015 – Aug. 2017)
Studied at	Mechanical Engineering (Master's Program), Shibaura Institute of Technology
Interned at	Toyota Boshoku Corporation
Organization at time of application	Institut Universitaire de la Cote, Cameroon (Bachelor's degree in physics)
Current workplace	Toyota Boshoku Corporation



Ms. Marieme with her graduate school supervisor at the graduation ceremony.

Ms. Marieme having a discussion on a prototype of an automobile interior product

Before arriving in Japan
Desire to Learn Japan's Manufacturing Expertise

I studied physics at a university in Cameroon. Therefore, I wanted to learn Japan's manufacturing expertise to contribute to the development of my country. The ABE Initiative seemed attractive as it provided opportunities to network with Japanese companies.

About training in Japan
Student Life in Japan Doing Research on Technologies and How to Commercialize Them

At Shibaura Institute of Technology, I researched green composites, plant-based composite materials which are attracting attention as an alternative to plastics in solving environmental problems. During my internship, I participated in manufacturing a prototype of automobile interior products made from bio-based material, which enabled me to develop my analytical thinking.

After completing the training
Continuing with Self-improvement in Japan in Pursuit of Sustainable SocietyThem

After my internship with Toyota Boshoku, I was officially employed in the company in 2018 and currently work in a research center in Aichi, developing automobile interior products. In the research center, I test prototypes and have meetings with bio-related companies in Japan as well as those overseas. During the ABE Initiative, I had opportunities to exchange opinions with various companies and this has helped me greatly in my work. I have also learned not only Japanese technology, but also business development and management skills. I hope to make use of these skills in contributing to the environmentally friendly development in Senegal and Africa in the future.

Launching Own Business for Backing up Japanese Companies' Business Expansion in Africa

Mr. Katabaruka Olivier Kabi

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Batch	3rd Batch (Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2017)
Studied at	Graduate School of Management, Nagoya University of Commerce and Business
Interned at	Lami Corporation Inc.
Organization at time of application	Banro Corporation (Private company)
Current workplace	Lampyris SARL (started own business)

Learning how to repair and maintain laminators during an internship.

Mr. Olivier (on the right) accompanying Japanese businessmen seeking to expand their business in Congo.

Before arriving in Japan
Decided to Study in Japan to Expand Career

I was working as a manager for purification and processing in a Canadian gold mining company. I made my decision to study in Japan to improve my management skills and advance my career. I was also curious about Japan being a 'country of high quality'.

About training in Japan
Acquired a MBA in a Graduate School

I studied business administration at a graduate school, which provided a good environment for studying such as lectures in English and the use of an online library. During my internship I learned Japanese business culture, entails the concepts of business value chain and attention to details.

After returning home
To be a Partner with Japanese Companies Seeking Business Expansion in Africa

I founded a consulting company which supports Japanese companies interested in business expansion in Congo and other countries in Africa. By participating in the ABE Initiative, I have not only acquired an MBA, but my internship experience has also given me confidence and negotiation skills when doing business with Japanese companies. My goal is to develop businesses through becoming a key partner with Japanese companies so that I can contribute to creating jobs and economic growth in my country.

Aiming to Utilize Japanese Technology and Products for the Stable Supply of Safe Water

Mr. Haji Mussa Ramadhan

United Republic of Tanzania

Batch	2nd Batch (Sept. 2015 – Aug. 2017)
Studied at	Graduate School of Regional Development, Toyo University
Interned at	NJS Co., Ltd.
Organization at time of application	Zanzibar Water Authority
Current workplace	Zanzibar Water Authority

Experiencing Japanese technology on water and sewerage during an internship.

Mr. Mussa (center) attending tests on a water supply facility in Uzini area, Zanzibar.

Before arriving in Japan
For the Development of Africa

I worked as a commercial and customer service director of Zanzibar Water Authority in Tanzania and dealt with various customer requests. I participated in the ABE Initiative because I wanted to contribute to the development of Africa.

About training in Japan
Learning Japanese Technology on How to Utilize Water Resources

At Toyo University, I studied economic and social development through Japanese technology on how to utilize water resources. I did my internship at a company which provides consulting in the field of water and sewerage. During my internship, I was able to have hands-on experience in Japanese organizational culture, work environment, decision making process, time management and quality control.

After returning home
A Sustainable Water Supply Network

After completing the program in Japan, I went back to work in Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) as CEO. ZAWA provides water in urban and rural areas as well as protection and management of water resources. It is a highly responsible job and I am proud to devote myself to my own country. Participating in the ABE Initiative gave me the ambition to 'develop Zanzibar into an urban city like Tokyo'. I want to establish a good relationship with Japan and Japanese companies so that I can introduce Japan's cutting-edge technology and products to the government of my country.

Engaged in a New Business Development of a Japanese Start-up Company

Ms. Olum Michelle Adhiambo

Republic of Kenya

Batch	1st Batch (Sept. 2014 – April 2017)
Studied at	Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University
Interned at	Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.
Organization at time of application	National Hospital Insurance Fund (Government agency of Kenya)
Current workplace	—

Ms. Olum and her friends from the Graduate School went out together to various places during weekends to get to know each other and build network.

The research Ms. Olum was involved with at AfricaScan led to development of an app to prevent lifestyle diseases.

Before arriving in Japan
Working Experience of Both Japanese ODA and Kenyan Government Agency

After graduating from a university in Kenya, I worked with Nippon Koei Kenya Office which provides engineering consulting services. Among others, I was assigned to work on JICA-related projects for three years and afterwards I worked in the National Hospital Insurance Fund of Kenya for five and a half years.

About training in Japan
Learning about Development Cooperation in Japan

I applied for the ABE Initiative because I had been interested in Japan since I was a university student. In addition to this, being involved in Japanese ODA projects at a Japanese company made my desire to study development in Japan even stronger. At Nagoya University, I learned about development cooperation through diverse perspectives together with students from various countries. I interned at the headquarters of Nippon Koei, a company which I used to work for in Kenya. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit a Japanese hospital when I witnessed an actual case of how the insurance system works. This enriched my research about the insurance system in Kenya.

After returning home
Searching for a New Career

After returning to Kenya, I was requested by Japanese start-up company AfricaScan which provides preventive healthcare services in Kenya, to conduct research on the nutrition condition of middle-income groups. Currently, I am preparing myself for a new career in marketing and research.

Supporting the Company He Interned at, to Expand to Rwanda

Mr. Mugarura Amiri

Republic of Rwanda

Batch	1st Batch (Sept. 2014 – Aug. 2016)
Studied at	ICT Innovator Course, Graduate School of Information Technology, Kobe Institute of Computing
Interned at	Otowa Electric Co., Ltd.
Organization at time of application	Data.Eki (private company)
Current workplace	Data.Eki

Mr. Amiri working on his research at the Graduate School equipped with the latest IT and information.

Mr. Amiri (on the right) supports Otowa Electric's business expansion to Rwanda on site.

Before arriving in Japan
Wish to Study in Japan, a Country with an Advanced ICT

I was working in an ICT company called 'Data.Eki' which I cofounded with my friends as the chief technical officer.

About training in Japan
Inspired by the Cutting-edge Technology

At the Kobe Institute of Computing, I acquired a Master's degree in information systems. I studied about the latest technologies such as IoT which connects various items via the internet, data science such as big data analysis, computer programming and others. When I interned at Otowa Electrics, I was highly impressed by a higher-spec lightning arrester, which could be effective in Rwanda which suffers damage from frequent lightning. I also learned about various important issues as a business owner such as establishing a good working environment and the attitude to do business.

After returning home
Playing an Active Role in Bridging Japan and Rwanda

I am now back in Rwanda and back to work as the President of Data.Eki. We work on the development of software which aims to solve various social issues in the field of education, agriculture etc. I also support Otowa Electrics, where I did my internship in Japan. I introduce Otowa Electrics' technology and products to prevent lightning damage, to private companies and government agencies in Rwanda. By participating in the ABE Initiative, I was able to build up a network not only in Japan but also globally which enhanced my career development.

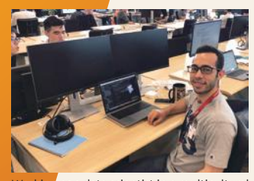
Working as a Data Scientist Analyzing Big data in a Japanese Company

Mr. Mohamed Batran

Arab Republic of Egypt

Batch	3rd Batch (Sept. 2016 – Aug. 2018)
Studied at	School of Engineering, University of Tokyo
Interned at	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., Japan Space Systems
Organization at time of application	Teaching Assistant, Benha University, Egypt
Current workplace	Rakuten Inc.

Mr. Batran making a presentation at a World Bank conference.



Working as a data scientist in a multicultural office.

Before arriving in Japan
Looking for Cultural Diversity and Expanding My Horizon

I studied geometrics at a university in Egypt and after graduation, I became a teaching assistant. I decided to join the ABE Initiative to broaden my horizons and to experience multiculturalism.

About training in Japan
Improving Expertise and Experiencing the International Arena

At graduate school, I belonged to a lab specializing in the latest spatial information science and flow line analysis using big data. During that time, I wrote five research papers relating to the topic, presented research papers at international conferences and participated in various international forums. During my internship, I participated in research on promotion of remote sensing technology using IT in Africa. Overall, I had a very fulfilling learning experience during my studies in Japan.

After returning home
Connecting Japan and Africa with IT

Currently, I work on business development using big data as a data scientist at the headquarters of Rakuten in Tokyo. In this company, I am able to make effective use of my expertise in IT, experiences at international forums as well as several internships which I experienced during the ABE Initiative. I believe that although there are many Japanese companies interested in expanding their business to the Middle East or Africa, lack of information or personnel makes it difficult for them to do so. In the future, I hope to utilize my expertise to connect businesses in Japan and Africa with IT.

Wish to Connect Japan and Africa with the Spirit of 'Okagesama – Thanks to You'

Ms. Buyisile Zinhle Nzima

Republic of South Africa

Batch	3rd Batch (Sept.2016 – June 2018)
Studied at	Graduate School of International Relations, International University of Japan (IUJ)
Interned at	Nippon Signal Co., Ltd.
Organization at time of application	Grow2Lead (USA based NGO)
Current workplace	Marubeni Corporation, Johannesburg Branch

Students from various countries intern at Nippon Signal. Photo: Nippon Signal Co., Ltd.

Ms. Nzima is in charge of business development of Sub-Saharan Africa at Marubeni.

Before arriving in Japan
Interested to Know How Japanese people perceive Africa

After having studied commerce in a university in South Africa, I worked in the USA for a youth-run organization called Grow2Lead as well as at Catholic Charities of the Eastbay, a faith-based organization. After that, I joined the ABE Initiative as I wanted to study African development from a Japanese perspective.

About training in Japan
Learning the Concept of Understanding Others and Consideration in Japan

I studied not only about academic matters at the International University of Japan with other students from over 50 different countries, but also about cultural diversity and understanding others. I was impressed to see how Japanese society cares for others in every part of their daily life. When I interned at Nippon Signal, I studied about the importance of a hands-on approach and realized the strength and great engineering knowhow of Japanese manufacturing companies. I was also able to deepen discussions on business strategies in Africa.

After returning home
Business Development of Japanese Trading Company

Currently, I work in the Marubeni Johannesburg branch in charge of business development in Sub-Saharan Africa. What I learned and experienced during the ABE Initiative has truly opened up a new path in my life. 'Ubuntu' in our language means that a person is who they are because of others. This is the same concept as 'okagesama' in Japanese. I will never forget this 'okagesama' spirit and continue with my work of connecting Japan and Africa.

Carrying on in Japan as an Entrepreneur and a Researcher

Mr. Ekote Nelson Nnoko

Republic of Cameroon

Batch	2nd Batch (Sept. 2015 – Aug. 2017)
Studied at	Institute of Business and Accounting, Professional Graduate School, Kwansei Gakuin University
Interned at	Caux Round Table Japan; DMM.com Group
Organization at time of application	Pishon Enterprise Ltd. (Private company)
Current workplace	Pishon Group International (started own business); Institute of Business and Accounting, Professional Graduate School, Kwansei Gakuin University (Doctorate degree)

Mr. Ekote calling for networking among students during his 2nd batch welcome reception speech,

Learning many new things during an internship at DMM.Com which is expanding its business to Africa.

Before arriving in Japan
Learned Business Basics

After graduating from a university in Cameroon, I worked in a bank and then went back to the university to obtain a master's degree in financial management and accounting. After that, I worked for a company which deals with agriculture and construction and learned the basics of real business through execution of business contracts with various government agencies and private companies.

About training in Japan
Expanding the Potential by Connecting with Others

I participated in the ABE Initiative because I wanted to improve my knowledge in business and to expand my network. Right after arriving in Japan, I made a speech at a welcome reception calling for networking among the participants. This led to the formulation of a platform called 'Kakehashi Africa' connecting businesses in Japan and Africa. I majored in finance at the Institute of Business and Accounting at Kwansei Gakuin University. I had a valuable experience during my internship with DMM.com and learned about various things including writing proposals for new products and projects, investment negotiations, businesses in Africa and others. Utilizing my former work experience and network, I helped a food manufacturing company in Kobe by connecting them to a company in Cameroon in establishing a new company.

After returning home
Contributing to Africa and the World in Business

After completing the ABE Initiative program, I returned to my country to start my own business in agriculture. However, my desire to study a doctorate course at Kwansei Gakuin University grew stronger and I am now back in Japan doing research in the field of public finance and economic development. I am also actively involved in the expansion of my business in Japan.

The ABE Initiative is Giving Momentum to Our Businesses in Africa

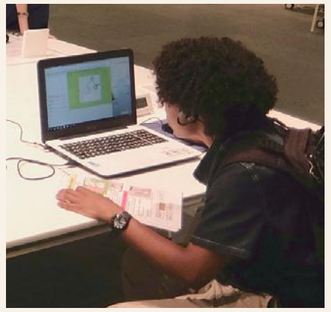
Mitsui & Co., Ltd.

Assistant Manager,
Global Operations Office,
Corporate Planning & Strategy Div.
Mr. Okamura Shusaku

Information
Office Location: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Business Area: General Trading Company (Information, Energy, Metal, Machinery, etc.)
Total number of interns received: 23 (as of June 2019)
HP：https://www.mitsui.com/jp/ja/

For Better Understanding of Mozambique Businesses

In Mozambique, we are engaged in coal mining and transporting businesses of coal, such as railway and harbor work. Our natural gas business is also do to be launched soon. This is the reason why we have accepted 23 trainees, prioritizing Mozambique, as interns to date expecting that the people who bear the future of the country can better understand our business activities.



A trainee experiencing programming of robotic arm control in the internship program

The ABE Initiative Adds to Higher Motivation among Japanese Staff

After giving the overview of the company history and our African businesses to the interns, we ask them to draw up new business plans based on the needs in African countries. They come up with very interesting ideas. Their views are very inspiring for us and helpful for promoting business in the region.

Growing Affinity Drives Our New Businesses Forward

Having accepted interns for four years, our staff members are more and more interested in Africa. The internship program has become a driver of entry to new business fields in the region.
In 2018, we hired a former intern from South Africa as a staff member in our Johannesburg Office. We are looking forward to meeting such talents who developed their skills through the ABE Initiative.

The Friends Circle Is Growing from Malawi

Fellow System Co., Ltd.

General Manager, Human Resource Development Department
Ms. Baba Yukari

Information
Office Location: Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture
Business Area: Services for adults and children with disabilities through website and software development/ maintenance and IT
Total number of interns received: 45 (as of June 2019)
HP：https://www.fellow.co.jp/

Encounter with Malawi Youth Triggered Corporate Registration

In 2015, we were introduced to one young Malawi man, who was working as an English teacher in Japan and wished to "contribute to development of Malawi through ICT", and we decided to provide him with our own training. This experience led us to further focus on international expansion and then we officially registered as an accepting company of interns.

Experience of IT Business and Disability Services

While we are an IT services company, we also operate a business to support people with disabilities centering on IT. The interns experience these core businesses through hands-on training and learn our organizational culture we value, such as morning gathering, cleaning and our system of human resource development.

Exploring Further Opportunities Starting from Malawi

Thanks to the experience of accepting interns, we are now accustomed to working with foreign personnel and have built personal connections, and we established our Malawi office in 2018. We are now working toward our goal, which is to receive orders for system development from local companies and governments, as well as those from Japan. By making the most out of the relationship we have cultivated, we are exploring further business opportunities in Africa so that we can contribute more to the society.

Trainees observing facilities in the company

Africa is Our Most Familiar Foreign Region Now

Hinode Sangyo Co., Ltd.

Director
Ms. Fujita Kaori

Information
Office Location: Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture
Business Area: Manufacturing and sales of effluent-treatment chemicals, design, construction management and maintenance of effluent-treatment facilities
Total number of interns received: 31 (as of June, 2019)
HP：http://www.hinodesangyo.com

It All Began at TICAD

In 2013, we participated in the TICAD V held in Yokohama as one of the local enterprises and put up a booth to showcase our effluent-treatment technology. It was then that we first realized the potential of the environment business in Africa and eventually we decided to receive interns.

Our Products Seen through "Local People's" Eyes

We have our interns observe our products being used at our customers' plants first hand. And then, we ask them how these products can be utilized to solve water treatment problems in their home countries. We also ask them to identify all the possible obstacles for our overseas business.

We Hired an ABE Initiative Grad from Senegal as a Staff Member

Acceptance of interns has brought about a big change in our offshore business operations. In January 2019, we hired a former intern from Senegal as a staff member, and we are also planning a joint-venture with several interns.
We also started the development of new product for developing countries, cutting down the costs and yet maintaining the quality.
Africa is the most distant continent from Japan, but now, it is the most familiar for us.

Trainees observing effluent-treatment plant which uses chemical produced by Hinode Sangyo

The ABE Initiative Boosted Global Business Expansion

KJS Company LTD.

President
Mr. Ogino Tsugunobu

Information
Office Location: Miyazaki City, Miyazaki Prefecture
Business Area: Software development, development and construction of e-learning systems, etc.
Total Number of interns received: 1 (as of June 2019)
HP：http://www.e-kjs.jp/index.html

Encounter While Seeking Entry to Africa

We were seeing Africa as our next target region. Then one day we met Mr. Christopher Maitai from Kenya, an entrepreneur and ABE Initiative participants studying at Miyazaki University, which is located in our city. When we came to know that he was interested in ICT, we immediately offered him an internship opportunity at KJS. During the 3-week internship program, we had him study about ThinkBoard and do some research on how it can be utilized in educational institutions and companies in Kenya, and then make a project plan.

Mr. Ogino (center) and Mr. Maitai (far right) explaining ThinkBoard to the president of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (far left)

Collaboration with Non-Japanese people – Now a Part of Daily Routine

Mr. Maitai, after going back to his home country, participated in our on-site survey we carried out utilizing JICA's Support for Japanese SMEs Overseas Business Development Program. As a result, Kenya's Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority introduced our products in March 2019, and achieved great results.
After we started accepting interns, KJS hired staff from Bangladesh and India. Working with non-Japanese staff has become a part of our daily routine, like developing systems and projects, or doing businesses together. Our willingness to work together to achieve a common goal, despite cultural or language differences, is now our major strength.

It's Making 'Innovation' Happen in Local Hyogo

Graduate School of Information Technology, Kobe Institute of Computing

Dean, Graduate School of Information Technology
Dr. Tsuchida Masayuki

Information
Location: Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture
Major Graduate Programs: Graduate School of Information Technology
Total number of participants (international students) received: 95 (as of June, 2019)
HP:http://www.kic.ac.jp/

African Energy Lightens up Japan, too

In 2013, we started to provide an ICT Innovator Course conducted in English, in a bid to realize a diverse society and to channel energy of developing countries such as African countries to boost the revitalization of Kobe, Hyogo and Japan. They are always focused on how they can apply technologies and problem-solving ideas they acquire in Japan to their home country. Their high motivation and strong sense of purpose are having a good influence on us.

Participants learn methods of problem solving in diverse cultures together with Japanese students

Bridging Kobe's Local Enterprises and Africa

ABE Initiative participants are collaborating not only with their schools but also with the City of Kobe and local enterprises.
For example, there are participants from Kenya and Madagascar who are working on a sake-making project with their joint-study partner company that is a producer of rice for sake brewing, located in Hyogo prefecture. Collaborations like these are happening in many ways. In addition, participants also support the City of Kobe and department stores who seek to improve their response to non-Japanese in a time of disaster through problem-solving practices, so as to help local communities solve local problems.

We are willing to continue to receive ABE Initiative participants and further advance collaboration with enterprises and promote human resource development in order to form a network that can help to solve various problems in Africa and Japan.

Collaboration with Participants Deepens Our Research

University of Tsukuba

Associate Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Dr. Kashiwagi Kenichi

Information
Location: Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Prefecture
Major Graduate Programs: Master's Program in Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Business Sciences, etc.
Total number of participants (international students) received: 35 (as of June, 2019)
HP:http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/

Participants Are Learning from Japan's Experiences

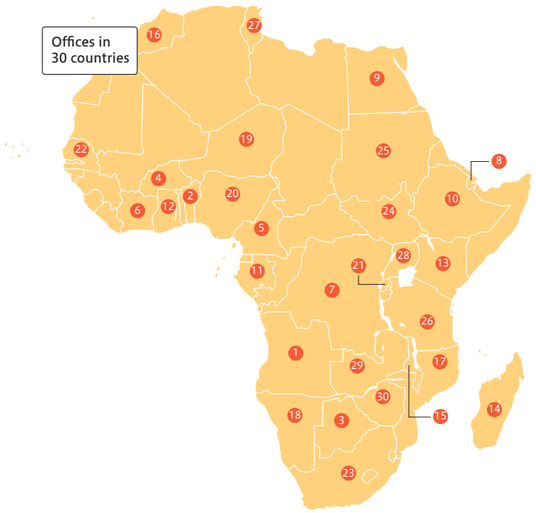
I feel that ABE Initiative participants have a very clear sense of purpose. They are eager to learn about how the Japanese economy and industry developed and what kind of experiences government and enterprises had been through. Meanwhile, another participant studied the government organization and public services in the field of healthcare and medical services in Japan and analyzed problems and challenges in his/her home country.

Network of Participants is Making Change in Our School

ABE Initiative participants are the link that connects this school with Africa. When we launch a new research activity in Africa, participants help and introduce us to universities or research institutes in their countries. Thanks to their international network, our studies are being expanded.
Promotion of business in Africa through public-private partnership has been an important topic in the past Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) meetings. We would like to contribute to human resource development to promote business activities with long-term perspectives thorough advanced education, including PhD programs, in the field of public administration, systems and policy studies.

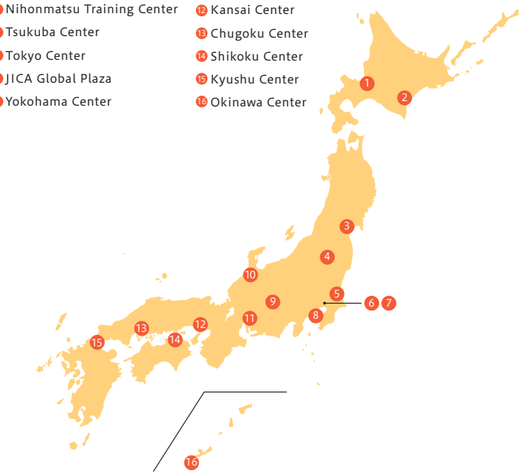
Participants actively join school activities while working hard on their studies

JICA Offices



Domestic

1. Hokkaido Center Sapporo
2. Hokkaido Global Plaza Obihiro
3. Tohoku Center
4. Nihonmatsu Training Center
5. Tsukuba Center
6. Tokyo Center
7. JICA Global Plaza
8. Yokohama Center
9. Komagane Training Center
10. Hokuriku Center
11. Chubu Center/Nagoya Global Plaza
12. Kansai Center
13. Chugoku Center
14. Shikoku Center
15. Kyushu Center
16. Okinawa Center



Africa

1. Angola Office
2. Benin Office
3. Botswana Office
4. Burkina Faso Office
5. Cameroon Office
6. Cote d'Ivoire Office
7. Democratic Republic of the Congo Office
8. Djibouti Office
9. Egypt Office
10. Ethiopia Office
11. Gabon Office
12. Ghana Office
13. Kenya Office
14. Madagascar Office
15. Malawi Office
16. Morocco Office
17. Mozambique Office
18. Namibia Office
19. Niger Office
20. Nigeria Office
21. Rwanda Office
22. Senegal Office
23. South Africa Office
24. South Sudan Office
25. Sudan Office
26. Tanzania Office
27. Tunisia Office
28. Uganda Office
29. Zambia Office
30. Zimbabwe Office

SDGs × The ABE Initiative

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were established as an essential guideline to eradicate poverty and realize sustainable societies by 2030, pledging that 'no one will be left behind.'

Efforts of ABE Initiative participants and companies that receive interns are contributing to the achievement of the SDGs set by the United Nations.

Building a bridge of trust between Africa and Japan

At the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) held in 2013, 'growth led by private sector' was discussed as a priority topic and Japan came up with a series of measures to support Africa's economic growth through joint effort of the private and public sectors. Among them is the ABE Initiative, the program to support human resource development for business and industry, which would be the key to economic growth.

JICA has received over 1,200 participants from 54 African countries under this initiative. Graduates of this program are now undertaking notable activities as a bridge between Africa and Japan, both in their country and in Japan, making use of experiences and relationships they acquired during their stay in Japan.

Additionally, the program is bearing results that contribute to Japanese firms' business development in Africa including cases in which Japanese companies' launch businesses in Africa in the wake of receiving interns or hiring of ABE Initiative participants.

To make such positive outcomes even better, JICA will strengthen its effort to follow up on the increasing number of ABE Initiative graduates back in their home country. By utilizing some 30 JICA offices across Africa, we will continue our cooperation by holding events such as networking fairs with Japanese companies, so that the ABE Initiative may better serve as a bridge of trust between Africa and Japan.

Director General,
Africa Department
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Ryuichi Kato