

【Side event of TICAD7】

Sustainable Cities and Connectivity in Africa -How Quality Infrastructure Can Contribute to African Cities-

On Aug. 27, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held a side event at the Pacific Convention Plaza Yokohama in co-sponsorship with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and the Japan-Africa Infrastructure Development Association (JAIDA) on the topic of “Sustainable Cities and Connectivity in Africa: How Quality Infrastructure Can Contribute to African Cities.” The event was comprised of three sessions and hosted speakers such as ministers and senior officials from four African countries,¹ experts from organizations such as the World Bank and the World Customs Organization, and representatives from companies in the private sector, and was attended by more than 300 participants.

In the first session on “Contribution of High-quality Infrastructure to Africa”, speakers attended from the Government of Japan, OECD, private companies and private banks working in the area of Africa’s infrastructure development and financing. In his speech, Mr. Takuya Kurita from MLIT introduced JAIDA’s concept for TICAD 7, “Made with Japan”, which highlights the quality of Japanese technology on infrastructure development for its sustainability, economic efficiency and social consideration on safety.

During the second session on “Enhancement of the Connectivity in Africa”, discussions were held by organizations such as the AUDA-New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) on corridor development and regional integration. Dr. Mayaki of AUDA-NEPAD pointed out that the Integrated Corridor Development is critical to realize the AU Agenda 2063, and Dr. Mikuriya of WCO emphasized the importance of Governance, Security, and Human Resource Development for Trade Facilitation and Border Management. Other panelists mentioned that partnership is the key to corridor development. The session concluded that each organization should promote further partnership to facilitate the implementation of Corridor

¹The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Federal Republic of Nigeria

development to achieve the vision of Agenda 2063.

In the third session on “Realization of Sustainable Cities in Africa”, ministers and government officials from the four African countries, each of which has metropolitan areas that are expected to reach mega-city status by the year 2050, talked about policies and issues related to achieving sustainable urbanization. In the panel discussion moderated by the Dr. Sameh Wahba from the World Bank, Mr. Toshihide Hirahara from Yokohama City introduced the city’s history of development and the commitment to partnership with Africa. Mr. Hitoshi Ara, Deputy Director General of JICA’s Infrastructure and Peacebuilding Department emphasized the importance of comprehensive efforts to realize sustainable urban development from planning to implementation, though challenges may vary for each future mega city. The discussion concluded that Japanese local experience on urban development shall be fully utilized for the sustainable urban development in Africa, and that collaboration among development partners is crucial.

■ Participants

[Moderators] (Session 1 was led by the event MC)

Session 2: Asuka Tsuboike, Director of Team2, Urban and Regional Development Group, Infrastructure and Peacebuilding Department of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Session 3: Sameh Wahba, Global Director for Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice of the World Bank

[Panelists]

Session 1:

Takuya Kurita, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan

Takeshi Akamatsu, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Mario Pezzini, Director of the Development Center of OECD

Yoshihiro Yamaguchi, Chief Executive Director and COO of the Overseas Construction of Japan, Inc.

Naoki Kita, Managing Officer of Shimizu Corporation

Yoji Okumura, President and CEO of Fujita Corporation

Ichiro Sakai, President of Sakai Heavy Industries Limited
Tetsuya Koizumi, Executive Officer and Senior General Manager of Nippon
Export and Investment Insurance
Katsufumi Uchida, Executive Officer and General Manager of Sumitomo
Mitsui Banking Corporation
Neil van Niekerk, Managing Principal of the Standard Chartered Bank

Session 2:

Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO of AUDA-NEPAD
Symere Grey-Johnson, Head of Regional Integration Infrastructure and
Trade of NEPAD
Kunio Mikuriya, Secretary General of the World Customs Organizations
Paul Koffi Koffi, Commissioner of the West African Economic and Monetary
Union (UEMOA)
Khaled Sherif, Vice-President of the African Development Bank
Hiroshi Kato, Senior Vice President of JICA

Session 3:

Bruno Nabagné Koné, Minister of Construction, Housing and Urban
Development of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire
Gentiny Ngobila Mbaka, Governor of Kinshasa State, Democratic Republic
of Congo
Tixon Tuyangine Nzunda, Deputy Permanent Secretary, President Office
Regional Administration and Local Government, Tanzania
Jibrin Umar Gambo, Executive Secretary of Federal Capital Territory (FCT)
and Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) of Nigeria
Toshihide Hirahara, Deputy Mayor of Yokohama City
Hitoshi Ara, Deputy Director General of Infrastructure and Peacebuilding
Department of JICA

■ Photos

(Session 1)



(Session 2)



(Session 3)



■ Related SDGs

