African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)

At the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), held in Yokohama in 2013, Japanese Prime Minister Abe announced the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (hereafter referred to as the “ABE Initiative”), a strategic five-year plan providing 1,000 youth in Africa with opportunities to study at Japanese universities as well as to do internships at Japanese enterprises.

This program offers opportunities for young and eligible African men and women to study at master’s course in Japanese universities and to experience internship at Japanese enterprises in order to develop effective skills and knowledge in various fields for the development of industries in Africa. This program aims not only for human resource development in Africa but also to cultivate a strong human network between Japan and Africa.

### Duration of the ABE Initiative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Process 1</th>
<th>Process 2</th>
<th>Process 3</th>
<th>Process 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>Application</td>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>Internship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>Process</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Leave Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>Process</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Master’s course</td>
<td>Leave Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5-2.5 years</td>
<td>Process</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Summer internship</td>
<td>Leave Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 weeks-half year</td>
<td>Process</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Leave Japan</td>
<td>Leave Japan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,000 African youth are expected to study in Japan from 2013 to 2017.
1st batch (arrived in 2014): 156 participants from 8 countries
   (Cote d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania)
2nd batch (arrived in 2015): 177 participants from 33 African countries
3rd batch (arrived in 2016): Over 100 participants from 54 African countries
4th batch (arrived in 2017): (Under preparation)

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Agriculture and Fisheries

Japan has been consistently supporting Africa’s agriculture. One of the pillars in this domain is to promote rice production, where Japan can take advantage of its abundant experience in its production. JICA also supports its partner countries to add value to their agriculture and fisheries.

**Madagascar**

Project for Rice Productivity Improvement (PAPRII)

The PAPRII project has doubled the amount of rice harvest production in Madagascar, this is contributing to Madagascar’s food self-sufficiency.
Doubling Rice Production
Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)

Many African countries depend on imports for much of their rice consumption, though the continent is richly endowed with natural conditions for increased production of the crop. To help boost rice production in Africa, JICA introduced the "Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)" initiative in 2009, aiming to double rice production in Africa by 2019. The activities promoted through the initiative include the preparation of national-level rice development strategies, improvement on cultivation techniques, building irrigation and water management systems, and facilitating post-harvest processing and distribution.

Egypt
Rehabilitation and Improvement of the Sakoula Regulator on Bahri Yusuf Canal

The Bahri Yusuf Canal is a waterway that runs roughly parallel to the Nile River and helps irrigate 11 percent of the country's total cultivated area. During the Sakoula regulator, four regulators in total on the canal have already been upgraded, ensuring stable water supply for irrigation.

Tanzania
Rice Industry Development

From 2007 to 2012, JICA implemented the "Technical Cooperation in Supporting Service Delivery Systems of Irrigated Agriculture (TANHIIE)," TANHIIE developed seven training modules, trained 182 agricultural extension workers, and benefited more than 17,000 farmers through the five agricultural training institutions including one in Zanzibar. Subsequently, TANHIIE 2 started in 2012 to further disseminate irrigated rice farming techniques nationwide in partnership with seven agricultural training institutions, and to provide support for farmers practicing rain-fed cultivation, a dominant mode of rice cultivation in Tanzania.
Uganda Rice Promotion Project

The project covers the three types of rice agro-ecologies, namely rain-fed upland, rain-fed lowland, and irrigated lowland. It also focuses on mechanization and rice value-chain development. It is expected to contribute to increased rice production.

Cameroon Upland Rice Development of the Tropical Forest Zone (PRODERP)

The project was set up in 2011 to increase the number of producers of upland rice in the pilot sites. Its activities have included multiplication and dissemination of quality seeds.

In the photo, a banana expert is providing guidance on rice production in different growing stages for the participants of a training program at the seed multiplication field.

Increasing Imports of Rice in Africa

Progress and Challenges

Membership of CARD

CARD initiative operates in 23 Sub-Saharan African Countries, based on the potential of rice production and efforts already by the governments.

[Group 1]
Cameroon
Cote d’Ivoire
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Ethiopia
Ghana
Guinea
Kenya
Madagascar
Mali
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Tanzania
Uganda

[Group 2]
Benin
Burkina Faso
Central African Republic
Cote d’Ivoire
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Ethiopia
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Kenya
Madagascar
Mali
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Uganda

(Disclaimer: This map is for illustrative purposes and does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of CARD concerning the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of its frontiers.)
Market-Oriented Agriculture

JICA supports market-oriented agriculture and agribusiness through helping farmers to develop agricultural products and improving their income. A successful initiative is the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP), which has changed the mindset and behavior of farmers from “Grow and Sell” to “Grow to Sell”. Another project called the One Village One Product (OVOP) project promotes rural development through marketing local products.

Kenya

Promoting the SHEP Approach

To promote market-oriented agriculture, JICA and the Government of Kenya have crafted a unique approach in the project the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP). The approach addresses the motivation of farmers, and ensures their success in farming as a business. Encouraged by the success in Kenya, similar programs promoted in the SHEP Approach are being implemented in more than twenty countries throughout Africa.

Malawi

OVOP Program

“One Village One Product (OVOP)” is an initiative developed by local governments in Japan. It has been introduced in Malawi to stimulate rural development.

Impact of the SHEP Approach

Achievement of SHEP Phase 2

Change in farmers’ income from horticultural products, per farming season.

Countries participating in SHEP training

This graph is based on the data collected by JICA. It shows the countries participating in the training.

OVOP Examples of OVOP products developed in Malawi:

- Kenyans
- Africa
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Zimbabwe
- Nigeria
- Namibia
- Rwanda
- Burundi
- Mozambique
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Photo: Natsuki Mekenno
Fisheries

For decades, Japan has provided a range of support for the fisheries sector development in Africa. The goal is to achieve sustainable use of fisheries resources through user-centered management and value chain development.

Mauritania

Construction of Hygiene Management Facilities for Marine Products in Nouakchott

Nouakchott fish market is one of the largest fishing ports in Mauritania. Through the construction of a new sanitary inspection facility, procurement of inspection equipment, and renovation of the fish market, the project contributed to the improvement of the hygiene environment of the market and stable development of the export of marine products.

Senegal

Wholesale Market of Fisheries Products

Facing the Atlantic Ocean with a coastline stretching approximately 716 kilometers, Senegal has a thriving fishery industry. JICA has supported building and expanding the Central Fish Market of Dakar since 1989 under grant aid. Japanese experts in fishery management regularly inspect the market and give a wide range of advice regarding quality management, facility management, and the distribution of products.

Major Grant Aid Projects on Fisheries in Africa

- Japan has a long history of supporting fisheries sector development in Africa. Particularly after TICAD 1, such efforts have been enhanced with increased implementation of fishery grant aid projects.
- Somalia: Improvement Project of Marine Products Marketing (1990)
- Comoros: Yawambe Promotion Project (1996)
- Ghana: Tuna Fishing Industry Rehabilitation Project (1990)
- Equatorial Guinea: Development Project of Artisanal Fisheries (1998)
- Comoros: Development Project of Artisanal Fisheries Development Project (1998)
- Mauritania: Expansion Project of Basim Administration for Fishing Port, Artisanal Fishing Port (1990)
- Cape Verde: Expansion Project of Praia Fishing Port (1997)
- Senegal: Project of the Central Fish Market (1994)
- Comoros: Project for Improvement of Small-Scale Fishing Facilities (1994)
- Algeria: Establishment of Training Facility for the Institute of Fisheries Technology and Administration in Algeria (2000)
- Guinea: Expansion Project of Port of Artisanal Fishing Port (2000)
- Mozambique: Project of the Construction of Central Laboratory of the National Institute for Research (1995)

Zambia

Strengthening Teachers’ Performance and Skills through School-Based Continuing Professional Development

Based on the concept of “Lesson Study,” the project has been effective for the development of teachers’ pedagogical contents knowledge and teaching skills.