

【Side event of TICAD8】

Nature-based Solutions toward a Resilient and Prosperous Africa

On August 26, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), jointly with the Forestry Agency of Japan, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held a virtual TICAD8 side event on the theme of Nature-based solutions. A total of 130 participants attended, with government officials from African countries including the General Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Forest Conservation Secretary, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Kenya.

In Africa, there are 640 million hectares of forests which account for 16% of the global total. However, forests in Africa are under threat and are decreasing due to population pressure and land use change among others. JICA has worked for natural resource management in Africa over several decades and accumulated vast knowledge and lessons through collaborative works with African countries and development partners. It is envisaged that these are useful in addressing issues in natural resource management in Africa as nature-based solutions (NbS-based approach) co-created with tradition and technology. Based on this recognition, JICA launched a new knowledge program that conducts a study to identify effective approaches for NbS (hereinafter referred to as “NbS approach”) in Africa, and to disseminate them.

At this event, the effectiveness and prospects of utilizing the NbS approach in the sustainable management of forest, arid and semi-arid lands, and peatlands were presented from the perspectives of the governments of African countries and international organizations. The portal site developed to disseminate the NbS approach was also presented. In the panel discussion, the importance of access to knowledge and technology on NbS, the contribution of international organizations to draw financial resources, facilitating private investment for scaling up on-the-ground practice, and balancing forest conservation and livelihood improvement were highlighted.

As Africa is expected to have huge population growth in the future, nature-based solutions are required to achieve both sustainable forest management and

livelihood improvement. JICA will continue to promote practices for sustainable development and resolution of social issues by disseminating the NbS approach with the experience we have had.

■ Speakers

[Opening Remarks]

Seiichi Onodera, Senior Vice President, JICA

[Keynote Speech]

- Alfred Gichu, Forest Conservation Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Kenya
- Benjamin Toirambe, General Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Democratic Republic of the Congo

[Presentation]

- Luther Anukur, Regional Director, Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, International Union for Conservation Nature (IUCN)
- Amy Duchelle, Team Leader of the Forests and Climate Change Team, Forestry Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Polycarpe Masupa, Projects Manager, Forest Management Division, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)
- Kei Suzuki, Chief Engineer, Japan Forest Technology Association

[Panelists]

- Alfred Gichu, Forest Conservation Secretary, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Kenya
- Benjamin Toirambe, General Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Charles Karangwa, Regional Head of Land Systems/Country Representative for Kenya, Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, International Union for Conservation Nature (IUCN)
- Amy Duchelle, Team Leader of the Forests and Climate Change Team, Forestry Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Polycarpe Masupa, Projects Manager, Forest Management Division, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

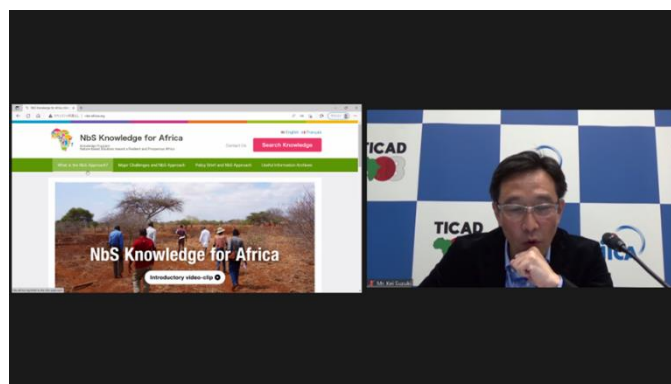
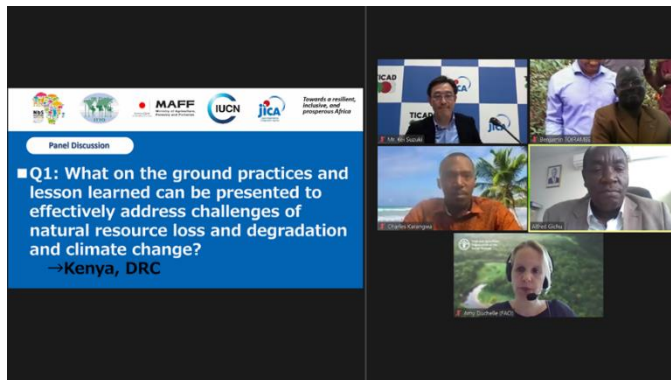
[Moderator]

Kei Suzuki, Chief Engineer, Japan Forest Technology Association

[Closing Remarks]

Tetsuo Tanimoto, Director, International Forestry Cooperation Office, Forestry Agency, Japan

■ Photos





■ Related SDGs



■ Related Link

- NbS Approach for Africa Portal Site

[NbS Knowledge for Africa | Knowledge Program: Nature-based Solutions toward a Resilient and Prosperous Africa \(nbs-africa.org\)](https://nbs-africa.org)

- TICAD8 Side Event presentation materials.

[TICAD8 JICA Side Events](#)

- TICAD8 Side event “Nature-based Solutions toward a Resilient and Prosperous Africa NbS Approach for Africa Portal Site” Archived Videos

(Japanese) <https://youtu.be/nJ0U-8Kua5I>

(English) <https://youtu.be/HDGgfc3JrtM>

(French) <https://youtu.be/1X8M6yTlirE>