

MAY-AUGUST 2024

JICA UGANDA

NEWSLETTER



Project for Improvement of Traffic Control Takes Shape

The project is financed by JICA through Grant Assistance (amounting to JPY 2.548 Billion) and the Government of Uganda. It aims at facilitating smart control of traffic in Kampala City.

It includes signalization of 27 junctions including the necessary communication infrastructure and construction of a 3 storied traffic control centre building, fully equipped with the necessary equipment. The project will deploy Japanese cutting edge traffic control technology called MODERATO that controls traffic in an area-wide manner.

When completed, control of traffic in Kampala City will shift from the current manual mechanism (by traffic police) to using smart technologies.

Progress

According to KCCA, the project progress as at end of July 2024 stood at 69.69% with completion expected in the 2nd quarter of 2025 calendar year.



Traffic Control Centre building



Spear Junction works

New Ambassador Of Japan H.E. Sasayama Visits The Kampala Flyover Project

Upon his arrival to Uganda, H.E. Sasayama visited the site of the Kampala Flyover Project to witness the progress. This flagship project is financed by JICA through an ODA Loan (amounting to JPY 19.989 billion) and the Government of Uganda. With Lot-1 of the project at 96% completion as at end of July 2024 (according to UNRA), the project aims at mitigating traffic congestion, improve traffic safety and reduce emissions in Kampala city.

'Safety on the road is a responsibility we all share'. Therefore, as we enjoy this magnificent infrastructure that has changed Kampala's skyline, let us be mindful of our own safety and that of others.



National Seminar of the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area Integrated Urban Development Masterplan.



The event was graced by H.E. Japanese Ambassador to Uganda, The Lord Mayor of Kampala Capital City, and Physical planners from the GKMA among other dignitaries.

Since 2020, the ministry of Kampala Capital city and Metropolitan Affairs with support from JICA has been conducting a study to review and analyse the Kampala Physical Development Framework (KPDF) and the Kampala Physical Development Plan (KPDP), Update the current KPDF and KPDP, formulate detailed model plans, establish collaboration and coordination mechanism and platform for planning, management and implementation of the proposed plans in the Kampala Special Planning Area (KSPA) and technical transfer throughout the study period.

This study will conclude within 2024 and as of July 2024, the draft Masterplan was in place which was unveiled to the public during a National Seminar held on 12th July 2024.

New Japanese Ambassador Visits National ICT and Innovation Hub in Nakawa.



Japanese Ambassador to Uganda, His Excellency Sasayama Takuya, visited the National ICT Innovation Hub in Nakawa the home of ICT Industry Promotion Project dubbed as UJ-Connect.

The ambassador was received by Dr. Zawedde Amina, the P.S of Ministry of ICT and National Guidance had the opportunity to tour the advanced facilities of the InnovationHubUg and engaged in discussions on areas of mutual interest, including digital governance, e-services, cybersecurity & e-commerce. He also interacted with innovators at the Hub.

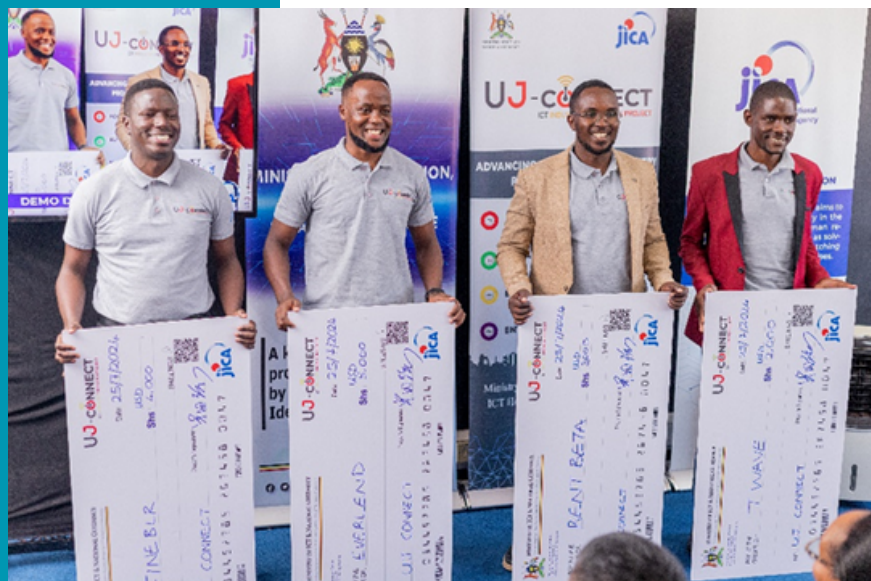
H.E. Sasayama called for increased business matching opportunities between Japanese ICT sector and Ugandan entrepreneurs to foster the development of the ICT industry. He noted that in his previous assignment to Canada, he was impressed by AI and how it is a big step in the industry urging Ugandan ICT engineers to innovate more for the economic growth of the country.

Demo day of the ICT Industry Promotion project dubbed as UJ-Connect

The project has 4 outputs namely, 1. Policy support, 2. Human Resource Development, 3. Business matching and 4. Mentorship support.

The Demo Day was a pitch event for the finalists of first batch of mentorship support.

The event was graced by the Deputy Ambassador of Japan to Uganda Mr. Yoshimura, Minister of State for ICT Hon. Ssebugawo, Undersecretary Ministry of ICT and Dr. Kitoogo, Principal at UICT.



The Japan Ambassador's visit to NaCRRI

H.E. Sasayama Takuya, Ambassador of Japan to Uganda, paid a courtesy visit to the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) to observe and appreciate JICA's longstanding contribution to rice research and development, and technology transfer in Uganda.

This visit underscores the collaborative efforts between Japan and Uganda in enhancing sustainable agricultural production and productivity, particularly through improvements in rice production technologies and capacity building initiatives.



Eco-PRiDe commencement

The Chief Representative of JICA Uganda paid a courtesy visit to the Director General of NARO and the Commissioner of Crop Production, MAAIF to inform of the commencement, and introduce the Expert team, of the Promotion of Sustainable Rice Farming Development Project (Eco-PRiDe). Speaking about the 20th anniversary of JICA's development cooperation in Uganda's rice industry, he commended MAAIF and NARO for the longstanding cooperation. Eco-PRiDe (2024-2029) seeks the development and application of sustainable rice production technologies for irrigated and upland rice ecologies.



Joint Field Monitoring Activity in Atari Basin Area



A joint field monitoring visit was on 25th and 26th June 2024 conducted in Bulambuli and Kween Districts to observe activities being implemented under the Project on Sustainable Utilization, Operation and Management of Irrigation Systems in Atari Basin Area (Atari TCP).

The monitoring team was composed of participants from Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Bulambuli and Kween District Local Governments, Irrigation Water User Association (IWUA) members including farmers in Atari area and the Project team. During the joint visit, a stakeholder meeting was also convened to update the community of Atari on the status of the Grant Aid Project on Establishment of Irrigation Systems in Atari Basin Area (Atari GA).

The Atari TCP seeks to build technical capacity for operation and management of irrigation systems, and rice agronomy in Atari basin area, while Atari GA will seek the construction of irrigation systems to boost rice production and productivity in the same area through enhanced water access.



A new water TC RD signing

The Government of Uganda (GOU) through National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) has signed a Record of Discussions with JICA for a technical cooperation, 'Project for Capacity Enhancement of Water and Sanitation Regional Training Hub'.

The Project seeks to enhance JICA's cooperation including networks between water professionals across Uganda, as well as water utilities within Africa by adding value and building capacity of NWSC in water supply service delivery, and improved access to clean safe water for all.



The 3-year (2024-2027) project with NWSC (the implementing partner) targets water professionals across the country and water utilities within Africa.

Agro-forestry TC RD Signing

On 18 July, GOU signed a Record of Discussions with JICA for a TC "Project for Green Growth Promotion through Agroforestry and Sustainable Forest and Natural Resources Management in the West Nile Region", a technical cooperation project.

The 60 months project will target the region of West Nile districts with the purpose of improving livelihoods and promoting coexistence among host communities and refugees through shared natural resources.

Development Education Study Tour for Teachers in Uganda

In July 2024, 8 Japanese teachers from Ibaraki and Tochigi prefectures, visited Uganda. During site tours, they deepened their understanding of Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects. Their visit was an opportunity to utilize knowledge achieved in the education field, back in Japan.



TICAD CUP HIGHLIGHTS



Preparation for the TICAD CUP 2024

Girls are now ready to participate in the TICAD-CUP 2024

Football events held in refugee settlements of Agojo and Pagirinya in Adjumani district, in June and August 2024, prepared refugee and host community girls for the upcoming TICAD CUP.

The TICAD CUP is slated for September 2024 at FUFA Technical Centre in Njeru.

Organisers: JICA Uganda, Federation for Uganda Football Association (FUFA), Soltilo Bright Stars FC, UNHCR and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).

Zambian mission in Uganda

The Office of the Prime Minister with support from JICA Uganda hosted a Zambian delegation to Uganda on a benchmarking/experience sharing exercise. After a fruitful workshop and meeting with the Minister of Disaster Preparedness Relief, Refugees and agencies including UNHCR and Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) secretariat, the delegates observed field practices in refugee management in Western Uganda.

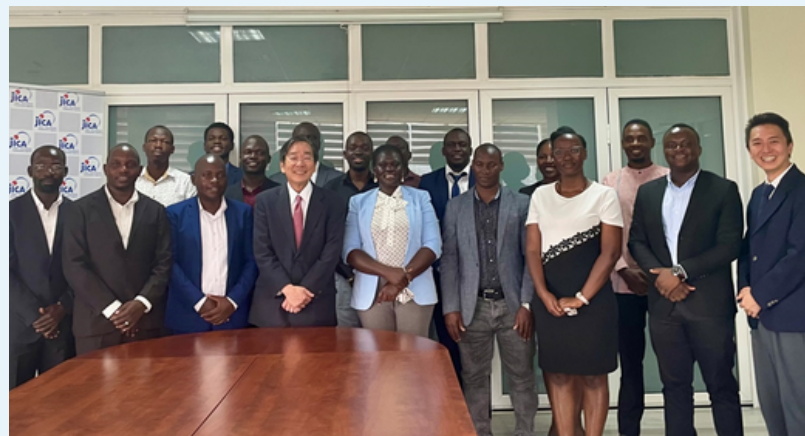
Isingiro District Local Government provided the benchmarking for district level collaboration and management of refugees.



14 Ugandans embarking on their new journey in Japan through JICA's Long-term Training Programs

This year, 14 participants are heading to various Japanese universities for a master's degree and PhD under the 4 JICA's Long-term Training Programs; namely, the Master's Degree and Internship Program of African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative), SDGs Global Leader, Agricultural Networks Program for Food Security (Agri-Net), and Local Governance with Community Participation.

The new participants received inspiring words from H.E. Ambassador Sasayama during the courtesy call and were brimming with excitement about the coming academic life by listening to the ex-participants' experience in Japan in their reporting session.



JOCV NEWS

NEW Volunteers

April 2024

We received four new JICA volunteers who will be working with designated host organisations and institutions in the fields of Community Development, Agriculture and Primary Education

August 2024

Six new JICA volunteers joined in the fields of Agriculture, Health and Youth Activities.



MIDTERM & FINAL PRESENTATIONS

Volunteers' reporting sessions

JICA volunteers presented their midterm reports, and others their final reports, in the presence of the Chief and Senior Representatives, and H.E Sasayama Takuya, the Ambassador of Japan to Uganda.



Follow-up Cooperation on Medical Equipment Management and Maintenance

In December 2021, JICA handed over upgraded hospital facilities and medical equipment to Arua, Gulu, and Lira Regional Referral Hospitals (RRHs) under the Project for the Improvement of Regional Referral Hospitals in Northern Uganda.

To enhance healthcare services at these three hospitals by ensuring the optimal use of the new health infrastructure, JICA Uganda organized medical equipment user training sessions for medical staff at Arua and Gulu RRHs in August.

This training was facilitated by the biomedical engineers, technicians, and user trainers at each hospital, with technical support from the Ministry of Health and ex-participants of JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) on Medical Equipment Management and Maintenance. The next training session is scheduled to be held at Lira RRH in September.



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JICA Uganda



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