

NEWSLETTER



The groundbreaking ceremony for the Kampala Metropolitan Transmission System Improvement Project ←

On 20th September 2024, JICA and UETCL held a groundbreaking ceremony for the “Kampala Metropolitan Transmission System Improvement Project” at Buloba substation.

The minister of Energy and Mineral Development, Hon. Dr. Ruth Nankabirwa Ssentamu together with H.E. Yoshimura Tomotaka, the deputy head of Mission for Japanese Embassy in Uganda flagged off the \$130 million loan project, aimed at ensuring stable and reliable power supply to the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area.

The project involves construction and upgrade of substations of Mukono, Buloba, Mutundwe, Bujagali, and Kawaala as well as reconductoring associated transmission lines. Also, a mobile substation will be supplied to respond to emergencies.

The Improvement of Traffic Control in Kampala ←

With funding from JICA, the Japanese “MODERATO” technology, has been introduced in Kampala city to ease traffic congestion by dynamically adjusting traffic signals based on real-time traffic conditions. Signals for both cars and pedestrians, along with devices to count traffic and measure the queue-length, is the nucleus for this integrated tech-enabled traffic control system, with the capacity for manual intervention to accommodate VIP and emergency vehicles.

This improvement which is expected to reduce travel time and increase speed, will demonstrate how the practical application of digital transformation can be utilized to make cities smarter, more efficient, and more livable.



Cohort Announcement of NINJA Acceleration Programme

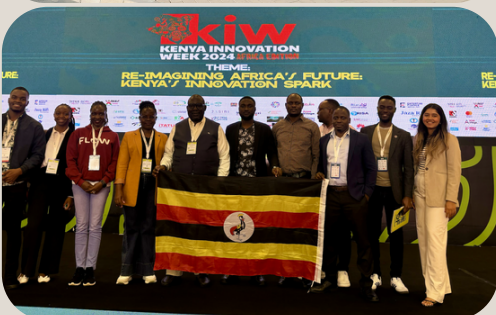
On 22 October, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC) and JICA commenced the 3-month-long acceleration programme and the first cohort of 10 Ugandan startups under the Entrepreneurship and Startup Ecosystem Strengthening Advisory. Dr. Joshua Mutambi, Commissioner at MTIC, officially welcomed each startup to the acceleration programme noting that the programme will provide mentorship and networking opportunities, linkage to investors and exposure on international scene to help them expand their businesses.

International Exposure for Ugandan Entrepreneurs

Through the ICT Industry Promotion Project aka UJ-Connect, 4 software companies and Ministry of ICT& National Guidance (ICT&NG) officials visited Japan on a two-week endeavor of promoting Business Process Outsourcing with Japanese companies. The software companies pitched their businesses to over 20 Japanese companies. During the tour, the officials interacted and benchmarked with Government officials from relevant ministries in Japan.



Two Ugandan entrepreneurs supported by UJ-Connect Mentoring Program participated in Expand North Star (ENS) 2024, held in Dubai! ENS is one of the world's largest startup events, featuring over 1,800 startups from around the globe, along with more than 1,200 investors and numerous startup support organizations.



10 startups from NINJA Accelerator Program, an advisory with MTIC participated at the recently concluded Kenya Innovation Week 2024 (KIW2024). The startups together with MTIC officials engaged in different events during KIW gaining invaluable insight on investment and collaboration opportunities, platform to pitch their innovation and network with big players in the ecosystem.

Launch of the second batch of the Mentoring Programme



The mentorship component of the UJ-Connect project launched its second batch on 16th November 2024. The first batch of the mentorship was implemented by the project team and trained 11 companies over a period of 3 months. Unlike the first batch, the second batch will be implemented by UICT and integrated in the teaching curriculum to benefit over 200 students while the Japanese experts will play a supporting role.

The 4th Joint Coordination Committee Meeting for Northern Uganda Farmer's Livelihood Improvement Project 2



The Northern Uganda Farmers Livelihood and Improvement Project (NUFLIP), Phase II, organized the 4th Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting on October 3rd to deliberate on its progress and explore solutions to the existing challenges.

The meeting was attended by different stakeholders including representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED), and eight District Local Governments (DLGs) in Acholi sub-region.

JICA Senior Vice President Commissions a Rice Seed Storage Facility in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement.



On October 14, Mr. ANDO Naoki, JICA Senior Vice President in charge of Africa Affairs commissioned the Ocea Rice Seed Storage facility in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement. In his remarks, he reiterated JICA's commitment to refugee response interventions in the West Nile sub-region and Uganda at large.

The commissioning was graced by representatives of the Office of Prime Minister (OPM), UNHCR, Madi Okollo District Local Government, as well as the host and refugee community of Ocea area.



The facility, constructed as part of the Project for the Promotion of Sustainable Rice Farming Development (Eco-PRiDe), seeks to strengthen the rice seed supply chain from research institutes to farmers.

The linkages will assure access to quality seed, improved rice production and productivity for food and income security amongst the host and refugee communities.

JCC on the Project for Capacity Enhancement of Water & Sanitation Regional Training Hub



On 26 Nov 2024, the first Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) Meeting on the “Project for Capacity Enhancement of Water and Sanitation Regional Training Hub” was successfully held at the NWSC International Resource Centre, Kampala.

The Project is at the core of JICA’s Cluster Strategy “Supporting the Growth of Water Utilities” under JICA Global Agenda and aims to enhance the capacity of NWSC as a regional training hub for water and sanitation utilities in the African region.

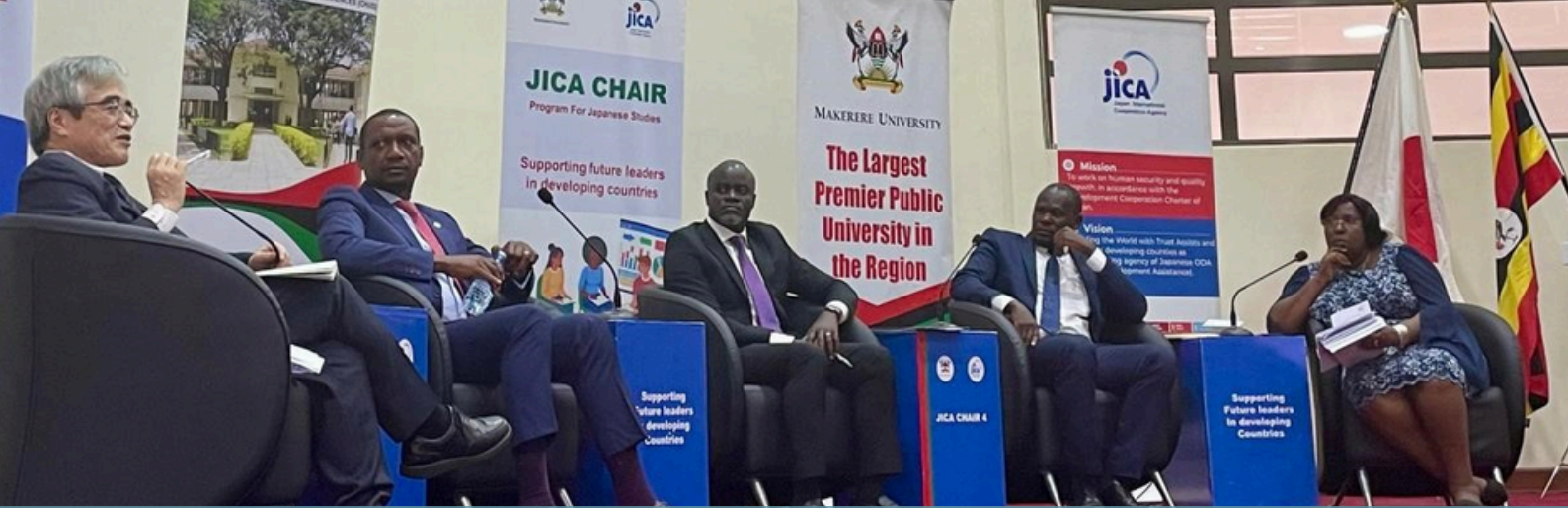
Health Care Business Study Tour



From 2 to 6 December, JICA Uganda conducted a business study tour with the purpose of attracting Japanese companies to explore health sector’s business potential in Uganda.

Senior executives from four companies namely MediaNetwork Corp., Ltd, Koken Boring Machine Co. Ltd., Tsukano Business Consulting Co., Ltd and Excelsior Inc. visited a number of both government and private health facilities, Not-for-Profit health organisations, health-tech startups and also had strategic interactions with government entities that deal with promoting investment in the country.

Through the tour, the companies gained a deeper understanding of the business terrain of Uganda and also built wide networks among the Ugandan companies, and different stakeholders in government and private sector.



THE JICA CHAIR: Program for Japanese Studies

In September, JICA Uganda held the fourth JICA Chair in partnership with Makerere University, College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The event, with an impressive student audience, featured a keynote lecture by Prof. KATO Hiroshi, Vice President of International University of Japan and former Senior Vice President of JICA, who focussed on the growing cooperation between Uganda and Japan.

This was followed by valuable panel discussions from various stakeholders from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED), and National Planning Authority (NPA), and the UN Resident Coordinator Office in Uganda.

Sneak peek of winners of the annual TICAD CUP - Women's Football Tournament



2024
JINJA CITY QUEENS



2023
KAWEMPE MUSLIM
S.S



2022
KING OF KINGS S.S

The **TICAD CUP 2024** held at FUFA Technical Centre in September was special as it had three refugee and host community teams from Agojo, Pagirinya and Rwamanja refugee settlements. However, Jinja City Queens emerged winners of the tournament and it is

evident that these tournaments over the years, have boosted the confidence of the refugee and host girls, offering a fair ground for peaceful co-existence, which is one of the goals of the annual event.

Organised by: JICA Uganda, in partnership with Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Soltilo Bright Stars (SBS), Federation of Uganda Football Association (FUFA) and United High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)

ECD Centre Holds Graduation Ceremony

Youth Activities JOCV, Ms. Mamiya Yume, participated in a preschool graduation organized by her host organization, COTFONE in Kiwangala, Lwengo District.

She is currently teaching arts and crafts in the pre-school ECD (Early Child Development) class to nurture the children's minds.



Knowledge Exchange with KOICA

Ms. Kikegawa Mana placed at CHISOM, in Mpigi shared her experience as a volunteer tackling infections, HIV/AIDS and related health issues, with Korea Friends/ volunteers at Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) offices.

New Volunteers

11 new volunteers arrived at the end of November.

They will work with designated host organizations in areas of education (Physical Education & vocational), environment, veterinary/health, community development, and youth activities.



International Volunteer Day



On 5 December- the International Volunteer Day, JICA Uganda office celebrated efforts of volunteers across the globe through a series of messages on social media platforms.

Our volunteers continually contribute to the achievement of SDGs through solving social issues in various fields.

JCC Meeting and TWG for PROCEED



Meeting with the farmer groups in Koboko district (Dranya sub-county)



Presentation of activities by Koboko District Community Development Officer.

A Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) Meeting and the Technical Working Group (TWG) for the PROCEED project was held on 7 November 2024, in districts of Maracha and Koboko, to monitor the project progress and make decisions on its implementation.

PROCEED - Project for Strengthening Resilience in Refugee Hosting and Refugee affected districts of West Nile Sub-region.

The meeting was chaired by the representative of the permanent secretary (The Assistant Commissioner for district administration) of the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), and was attended by stakeholders from Office of the Prime Minister (Disaster department) as well as the Department of Refugees, the representative from the National Planning Authority (NPA), the CAOs from the 12 districts of West Nile, the Planners, and District Community Development Officers from West Nile.



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