

Africa

Key Aid Strategies

Achieving a Robust and Sustainable Economy, an Inclusive and Resilient Society, and Peace and Stability

The turmoil associated with the Ebola outbreak of 2014 ended in March 2016. However, there still remain multiple challenges to be tackled to overcome Africa's vulnerability. With its efforts to encourage Africa's ownership, JICA is delivering a package of assistance that the Japanese

government announced at the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), together with various stakeholders including Japanese private companies.

● Initiatives Toward Social Resilience and Economic Transformation

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were adopted at the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, call for putting an end to poverty by 2030 and leaving no one behind, among other goals. Efforts to eradicate poverty need to be continued in Africa and elsewhere. Although the impoverished population in Africa has been on a gradual decline since the mid-2000s, some 330 million people lived in poverty as of 2012. As the pace of poverty reduction is beginning to slow, it is estimated that 300 million Africans could be still living in poverty in 2030 in an unfavorable scenario. In this case, poverty eradication in Africa could be a long way off.

Since 2000, Africa has maintained an annual economic growth of more than 5%. However, the falling prices of primary commodities such as oil from 2014 onward lowered the growth rate for 2015 to 3.4%. IMF estimates that the rate will further drop to 1.6% in 2016. This declining trend raises the need to

transform the economic structure which is dependent on natural resources and primary commodities.

In addition, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa in 2014 showed that Africa's health systems remain vulnerable. Violent extremism is on the rise. A new approach is needed to address these new types of threats, which are different from conventional civil strife or conflict.

Furthermore, Africa is vulnerable to droughts and floods associated with global warming. This calls for introducing relevant technologies and building institutional capacities, and also ensuring various infrastructure and facilities addressing a wide range of risks associated with climate change and natural disasters in terms of their design, construction, operation, and maintenance.

The Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI), held in Nairobi in August 2016, discussed how to address development challenges building on the Yokohama Action Plan 2013–2017. This action plan was agreed on at TICAD

JICA Programs in Africa (Fiscal 2015)



The figures show the total value of JICA programs in each country including Technical Cooperation (Training Participants, Experts, Study Teams, Provision of Equipment, JOCV and Other volunteers, and Other costs), Loan Aid (Disbursements), and Grants (Newly concluded G/As) in fiscal 2015.

Note:

- Figures exclude JICA's cooperation for multiple countries and/or multiple regions and international organizations.
- The value of JICA programs on a country level is mentioned only for the countries where JICA's overseas offices are located.

Africa
Total: **129,821**
(Unit: millions of yen)

	Total value of JICA programs (Unit: millions of yen)	Composition ratio
Angola	23,845	18.4%
Kenya	16,857	13.0%
Tanzania	15,177	11.7%
Mozambique	9,466	7.3%
Nigeria	5,296	4.1%
Uganda	5,257	4.0%
Senegal	4,685	3.6%
Sudan	4,550	3.5%
Rwanda	3,470	2.7%
South Sudan	3,337	2.6%
Ghana	3,301	2.5%
Ethiopia	3,163	2.4%
Malawi	2,991	2.3%
Burkina Faso	2,673	2.1%
Cote d'Ivoire	2,335	1.8%
Zambia	2,099	1.6%
Cameroon	2,031	1.6%
Madagascar	1,420	1.1%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,121	0.9%
South Africa	840	0.6%
Other 29 countries	15,906	12.2%

Concrete Initiatives

Region-Specific Activities and Initiatives

Issue-Specific Activities and Initiatives

Other Activities and Initiatives

V, which was held in Yokohama in June 2013.

In the preparation process for TICAD VI, JICA provided messages to African governments and TICAD co-organizers on new development challenges for Africa from the two key points of view: “Transformation” and “Resilience.”

Transformation here represents a shift from the current African economic structure—where there is much dependence on the export of primary commodities, and many people work in the low-productivity agriculture and service sectors—to a more modernized and diversified structure with higher productivity.

Resilience here represents the capacity to maintain socio-economic stability, minimize damage, protect human lives and dignity, and ensure human security in the face of external threats such as fluctuating primary commodity prices, climate change, epidemic outbreaks, and growing violent extremism.

These development challenges existed even before TICAD V, and JICA has long been addressing them both directly and indirectly. The projects presented in the following paragraphs are part of these efforts by JICA. JICA will make more effective efforts to achieve the agreements made at TICAD VI.

● Trade Facilitation Efforts

In March 2016, a one-stop border post (OSBP), a facility designed for smoother and more efficient cross-border procedures, was put into operation on the Rwanda-Tanzania border. This facility was built along with the renovation of the Rusumo Bridge across

the border through Japanese Grants. These cooperation projects promoted the easing of restrictions on the passage of vehicles crossing the border, improved the facilitation of cross-border procedures, and will likely contribute to the regional economy, which involves not only the two countries but also neighboring countries such as Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

JICA’s cooperation did not stop with these facility and bridge construction projects alone. Through its technical cooperation titled “Project on Capacity Development for International Trade Facilitation in the Eastern African Region,” JICA is now assisting in strengthening the capacity to operate OSBP facilities in the region. It also plans to improve the trunk road that connects Rusumo to Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, through ODA Loans as part of its efforts to eliminate all the bottlenecks along the physical distribution routes, from their starting points to their destinations.

JICA provides such assistance for logistics and trade facilitation for five international corridors (road networks) that cover a total of 24 countries, thereby helping to improve the connectivity of the economy of Africa—a continent with a lot of landlocked countries—to global markets, as well as contributing to regional stability. It also offers knowledge that will help Africa facilitate trade on its own. For example, JICA developed a uniform manual for OSBPs in East Africa and revised the OSBP Source Book.

Case Study

Ghana: Infectious Disease Control

Providing a Hub for Infectious Disease Control in West Africa

Japan’s cooperation in health care has borne fruit in Ghana. In February 2015, Guinea worm disease was eradicated in the country. JICA will continue to support the activities of the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR), which has come to serve as a hub for controlling widespread infectious diseases after years of development cooperation.

Toward Eradicating Guinea Worm Disease

Since 1990, JICA has been conducting various activities to control Guinea worm disease, including construction of deep wells to secure safe water, strengthening of the surveillance system, and enhancement of the local water management association.

With the eradication of the disease in the offing, JICA continued its assistance from 2010 to 2014. It provided more than 500 motorcycles and bicycles for surveillance activities aimed at finding and reporting patients with the disease. JICA also supported education and training for health workers at all levels, all the way down to local communities, through creating a “Surveillance Booklet” as well as an educational poster for community health volunteers to utilize. All these activities greatly contributed to the eradication of Guinea worm disease in Ghana, and finally the disease was

declared eradicated in February 2015.

NMIMR: A Research Hub for Infectious Diseases

Controlling Guinea worm disease is only a part of JICA’s assistance to Ghana in infectious disease control. Since the 1960s, JICA has been helping Ghana strengthen its research capabilities in this particular sector.

Such assistance is emblematically represented by the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR), which was constructed in 1979 with Japanese Grants. The laboratory at the NMIMR plays an important role in infectious disease control. For example, it screened suspected cases in Ghana and neighboring countries during the Ebola outbreak in 2014.

The NMIMR has recently been recognized by internationally-renowned medical institutions. In fact, the NMIMR is conducting joint research



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer instructs community health volunteers on how to remove a Guinea worm at an intensive care center.

on infectious diseases in Africa and otherwise working with many of these institutions. It has also worked with JICA to strengthen the surveillance system for key infectious diseases and conducted a joint research project aimed at extracting an element that inhibits the viruses of tropical infectious diseases from herbal medicines produced in Ghana. With its recently strengthened research capabilities, NMIMR will likely play a greater role as a hub for infectious disease control.



On April 6, 2016, Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Tanzanian President John Magufuli cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony for the Rusumo International Bridge and OSBP.

● Support for Economic Diversification

In order to diversify the African economy, it is important to encourage private-sector investment and promote local industries that have great potential. To this end, JICA provides comprehensive assistance that addresses policymaking, business environment improvement, human resources training, and infrastructure development. Industrial Policy (Investment Promotion) Advisors support this move from the policy aspect. To date, JICA has assigned them to ten African countries (Tanzania, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Morocco, Sudan, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana,

Kenya, Zambia, and Senegal) to offer advice on investment environment improvement and industrial policy at government offices' key units responsible for trade, investment, and industrial development. Industrial Policy (Investment Promotion) Advisors not only assist capacity building for partner country governments; they also support Japanese companies in doing business in Africa by, for example, providing local information on trade and investment, as well as on industrial policy.

● Tackling Climate Change

Forest conservation is an important process in Africa's efforts to tackle climate change. Forests on the African continent play a particularly important role in reducing CO₂ and mitigating global warming; they absorb an estimated 20% of the total amount of CO₂ that is absorbed by all the forests in the world.

One of the international initiatives to curb the loss of forests is Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD+). In this initiative, the international community provides funds and other economic benefits for developing countries' activities to conserve their forests. This idea is to encourage voluntary forest conservation activities by developing national governments. This initiative has been put into practice in African countries as well. In Mozambique, for example, forests account for about half of the national land. Although people in rural areas are highly dependent on forest resources, Mozambique's public administration in forest management

Case Study

Master's Degree and Internship Program of the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)

Internships at Japanese Companies: Learn Japanese-Style Business Directly from Japanese Companies to Contribute to the Economic Development of Africa!

One year after coming to Japan, participants of the ABE Initiative Program experienced an internship at Japanese companies. Discipline, punctuality, the Japanese style of hospitality—these are some of the Japanese-style business practices that they learned at Japanese companies, most notably through direct interaction with people working there.

Internships That Give Rise to Mutual Understanding

As part of its assistance in developing industrial human resources that support sustainable economic growth of Africa, JICA is implementing the ABE Initiative Program, which

invites 1,000 young people from Africa to Japan over a five-year period to offer opportunities to obtain a master's degree at Japanese universities and experience internships at Japanese companies.

The most salient feature of this program is that all the participants experience an internship at Japanese companies. This arrangement allows participants to understand the corporate culture and guiding principles of Japanese companies through hands-on work experiences. It also provides the recipient companies with opportunities to learn about the challenges Africa is facing and gather business-related

information from the participants.

The 149 participants who came to Japan in 2014 as the first batch under this program experienced a short-term internship during the university summer vacation.

The participants made such comments as "I learned business processes such as Japanese-style business manners and management techniques"; "I learned that teamwork and quality control are key to business success"; and "I want to take advantage of the personal network I built to start a business that creates mutual benefits with Japanese companies." The recipient companies also made many positive comments, such as "We gained useful information on Africa"; and "The program gave us an opportunity to get to the bottom of what we really should do in our business; it offered a valuable insight as to what our overseas business strategies should be like going forward."

When they return to Africa, the participants are expected to capitalize on these experiences and personal contacts to serve not only as an engine for economic growth for their countries but also as "navigators" who assist Japanese companies in doing business in Africa.



Interns at a recipient company



Students learn about the characteristics of an image through a convex lens in an experiment in a science class at a middle school in Zambia. (Photo by Atsushi Shibuya)

leaves much to be desired. As a result, the country's total forest area is decreasing year by year. To address this challenge, the Mozambican government is working to conserve forests by taking advantage of the REDD+ framework. Yet the forest information needed for REDD+ is inadequate. As such, JICA is supporting the Mozambican government in developing a forest resources information platform and developing a forest monitoring system.

Cross-border initiatives by JICA in this context include assistance to the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC)¹ for its efforts to conserve forests in the Congo Basin. The Congo Basin is the second largest tropical forest area following the Amazon Basin and is a major reservoir of biodiversity. It now faces forest degradation through excessive use of forest resources by local populations due to illegal logging. JICA assists COMIFAC in strengthening public administration in forest conservation, conserving biodiversity, and addressing climate change in the Congo Basin.

Africa is one of the regions most vulnerable to climate change because of deep poverty and an economic structure that depends heavily on agriculture. Yet the capacity of African countries to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change such as floods and droughts remains limited. In addition, how to prevent forest fires and conserve cross-border reserves is a challenge not only for individual countries but also for the region as a whole. Building human networks and spreading project outcomes through them play an important role in solving such common regional issues. JICA will further promote regional cooperation and partnership with the organizations concerned to contribute to Africa's actions on climate change while sharing experience and knowledge of the region.

● Improving Mathematics and Science Education

JICA has long been providing assistance in mathematics and science education (MSE) that is designed for children to acquire basic skills and the capacity to learn independently. In the process, JICA leverages Japan's strength in MSE, which supported the country's postwar economic growth. This initiative is expected to contribute significantly to the development of industrial human resources and the promotion of science and technology, both of which are essential for the growth of each nation.

In Zambia, JICA places special emphasis on support for enhancing the capabilities of mathematics and science teachers,

among many other approaches to MSE assistance. Administrators in Zambia thought that the quality of teachers is associated with the quality of education and accordingly established an in-service training system at the school level. However, this system lacked substance, as the content of the training had not been clearly defined. This led to the launch in 2005 of JICA's technical cooperation project designed to introduce "lesson study," a Japanese common approach to improving the in-class teaching skills of teachers, into the Zambian training system as a specific component. Led by the Zambian Ministry of Education, this initiative gradually spread across the country. By the end of 2015, about a half of all primary and secondary school teachers in Zambia practiced lesson study. As a result, concrete improvements were seen in a comprehensive range of areas, from curricula and textbooks to class teaching through the improved capabilities of teachers, as well as performance examinations.

This initiative in Zambia has drawn the attention of other stakeholders. The Brookings Institution in the United States, for example, put a spotlight on the initiative as a good practice for scaling up improvement of the quality of child learning. The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD nominated the initiative as a candidate for the DAC Prize, which recognizes innovative approaches that can be applied widely in developing countries.

In 2016, JICA initiated another technical cooperation project, titled "Project for Improvement of Pedagogical Content Knowledge: Linking Pre-Service and In-Service Education," with two objectives. One is to expand the scope where the lesson study approach is introduced to include teacher's training colleges and their associated schools. The other is to develop teaching materials designed to maintain the quality of lesson study at schools across the country.

Apart from these efforts, JICA is engaged in a wide range of assistance. This includes support for primary arithmetic education by the Zambian Ministry of Education as well as financial assistance, through Grants for Poverty Reduction Strategies, for the development and distribution of mobile science labs and mathematics and science teaching kits for teachers. Going forward, JICA will continue its efforts to improve the quality of education in Zambia.

● Assistance for Recovery and Reconstruction

Regional stability is essential for the development of Africa. A vulnerable region entails inadequate public service delivery and widening social disparities, which constitute a root cause of terrorism and other threats as well as social instability. In light of these circumstances, JICA is working to bring peace and stability to Africa.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for example, the high unemployment for youth constitutes a major factor for deteriorating public security in the country, underscoring the urgent need for job creation and employment support for young people. As such, JICA launched the Project on Strengthening the Capacity of the National Institute of Professional Preparation

1. COMIFAC is made up of ten member states: Cameroon, Gabon, Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad, Central African Republic, Rwanda, and Burundi.

(INPP) starting from February 2015 to February 2020. The project will also promote gender equality by putting a special focus on support for female trainees among the young. Specifically, the project proactively collected information on female workers in its research and analysis on the training needs of the private sector. In supporting job-hunting and entrepreneurial activities, the project also encouraged the participation of women. The scope of the capacity building for trainers at INPP includes those at INPP's school in Goma in conflict-stricken North Kivu Province, setting an eye also on the promotion of peacebuilding through vocational training in the region. In this way, this project addresses the country's key needs, such as the development of industrial human resources, gender equality, and peacebuilding.

As part of its assistance for Uganda, JICA has been implementing the Reconstruction Assistance Programme in Northern Uganda since 2009. To help rebuild the lives of people internally displaced by the civil war, this program involves the construction of basic infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and water supply, as well as support for local governments. In 2015, JICA completed an ODA Grant project for the construction of piped water supply and other associated facilities at six locations in the Acholi Sub-Region. In addition, to support farmers there, JICA also launched the Northern Uganda Farmers' Livelihood Improvement Project. Furthermore, JICA expanded its assistance to the West Nile Sub-Region, where the social infrastructure was recently rendered vulnerable by the influx of refugees from South Sudan



People in northern Uganda use the water supply equipment completed with Japanese Grants.

and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In this particular sub-region, JICA cooperated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to provide training aimed at increasing productivity under the Rice Promotion Project for Hunger and Poverty Reduction in Uganda, as well as to formulate a project designed to solidify the foundations of local administration. JICA will press ahead with its assistance for reconstruction toward development while accurately assessing peacebuilding needs in northern Uganda and neighboring countries.

Case Study South Sudan: Data Collection Survey on Peacebuilding through Sports

Aiming for Peace and National Unity

JICA has helped organize South Sudan's first national sports event, aimed at regaining trust among the people, who have suffered from the lengthy civil war.

Supporting the First National Sports Event since Independence

South Sudan became the newest country in the world when it gained independence from Sudan in July 2011 after decades of civil war. Even after independence, however, political instability lingered and internal fighting broke out in December 2013. A peace agreement on resolution of the conflict was signed in August 2015. However, the country still faces the major challenge of building trust among the people.

In July 2015, JICA initiated a survey designed to explore the possibility of assisting South Sudan through sports. In November that year, JICA invited nine officials at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of South Sudan and other relevant organizations to Japan to offer the opportunity to learn about sports promotion activities and their association with peace, with the help of Japanese sports organizations, universities, and local governments.

These officials played a central role in



People from different states and ethnic backgrounds team up to compete in a tug-of-war.

organizing South Sudan's first national sports event, titled "National Unity Day," in January 2016. JICA supported the management of this event, which was aimed at communicating the importance of peace and national unity to people.

During the weeklong event, nearly 400 athletes from different parts of the country competed in football, track and field, and

tug-of-war in front of a total of some 20,000 citizens. The event apparently made the participants more positive-minded. After its successful completion, they said that the event changed their mind-set, even though they had feared to interact with people from other states.

Going forward, JICA will continue to help South Sudan build a peaceful and stable nation.