

Foreword:

It is with great pleasure that I bring this volume to publication, a report summarizing JICA's experience with, and knowledge of, sub-Saharan African development. Drawing on literature surveys, empirical research and/or practical cases from JICA's on-the-ground experiences, the volume contains chapters that address, collectively, a range of issues of special pertinence to Sub-Saharan Africa's development. It starts with discussions on how to transform the agricultural and rural sector. It then discusses the need to diversify the economic structure, which should be buttressed by infrastructure and human resource development. Two chapters discuss how to prepare for and respond to shocks and threats, such as climate change and political instability. Finally, the volume also contains a chapter on mutual learning through South-South and triangular cooperation, along with a historical overview of the TICAD process.

Sub-Saharan Africa is much richer than it was twenty years ago, when the TICAD process began in 1993, and the continent is likely to continue its remarkable growth in the coming years and decades. We must acknowledge, however, that there remain cautious observers who point to the precarious sides of its development, such as sluggish poverty reduction, a declining manufacturing sector, a weak job market, and increasing inequalities among various segments of society. These obstacles must, and in my view can, be overcome with careful policies by the leaders and peoples of Africa, with continued support from the international community.

If this is the challenge that is facing Africa's development today, the issue to be discussed at TICAD V and beyond is how to sustain robust development over the long term, such that the benefits are shared widely both within and across countries. That is the view underpinning the current volume, which we titled *For Inclusive and Dynamic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa*. "Inclusive and dynamic development" has been part of JICA's corporate mission statement since its organizational rebirth in 2008, and we believe it is an important prerequisite for human security.

Japan has been a consistent supporter of African development, and JICA, as chief implementing agency of Japan's development cooperation, has been devoting considerable effort to that cause. We

have compiled this report in the hope that it will help us share our views, noteworthy cases, and practical knowledge, with a wide range of decision makers and practitioners involved in the development of Sub-Saharan Africa. I hope you will enjoy reading it.

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