



JICA Kenya Office Resident Representative, Mr. Yoshiaki Kano, presents six vehicles to Health Minister, Hon. Charity Ngilu. The vehicles will be used in the HIV/AIDS control efforts in Nyanza and Rift Valley provinces.

Volunteers Participate in HIV/AIDS Control Programme in Kenya

To assist Kenya tackle the HIV/AIDS pandemic in a more direct and vigorous manner, JICA is now supporting a new programme in the Ministry of Health known as Mobile Education Unit.

The unit comprises of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) members who will form teams and participate in HIV/AIDS related educational tours. The team will disseminate information on prevention of the pandemic. It will also educate the public on VCT services in rural areas where communities have no access to such information.

The programme will cover six districts in the Rift Valley and Nyanza provinces and will be coordinated by the Provincial Medical Offices through Provincial AIDS and STD Controllers (PASCOS) and District AIDS and STD Controllers (DASCOS). Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) will also be involved. Six vehicles and equipment worth KShs. 19.5 million were handed over to the Ministry of Health in April this year. All the vehicles were fitted with audio-visual equipment, generators, public address systems and tents among other equipment.

A Senior JOCV Volunteer has already been assigned to the Rift Valley Province while a Field Coordinator has been assigned to Nyanza Province. Four JOCV Volunteers have been assigned to various districts and more shall be assigned to the unit in the future. Mr. Yoshiaki Kano, the Resident Representative, JICA Kenya Office officially handed over the vehicles and equipment to Hon. Charity Ngilu, Minister for Health.



A tent being used by the volunteers in activities aimed at reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

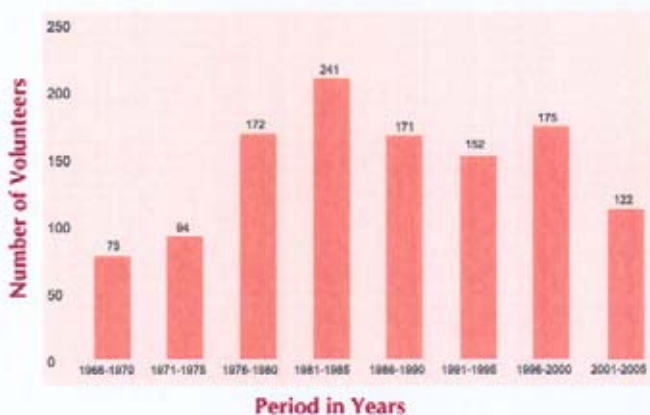


JICA Volunteers Programme

The year 2006 marked 40 years since the first JOCV Volunteer was dispatched to Kenya. Since then, over 1,230 volunteers have been dispatched to various fields in government offices, NGOs and CBOs, contributing to socio-economic development activities in Kenya.

A total of 32 volunteers were dispatched to Kenya during in the year 2006. They were attached to the following sectors: Health, Community Development, Education, Automobile Technology, Agriculture, Tourism, Sports, Environmental Education and Computer Techniques.

JOCV Dispatch Trend (1966-2005)



The volunteers' activities have been in the priority areas agreed upon between the governments of Kenya and Japan, which are Health, Agriculture, Education and Human Resource Development, Environment and Infrastructure.

1. Contribution to the Health Sector

JICA places a lot of emphasis on good health, which is also one of the Millennium Development Goals. To this end, JICA has dispatched a number of volunteers in support of health related activities.

The volunteers are involved in HIV/AIDS awareness programs, counselling and providing care and support to the infected and affected. They give advice on nutrition and identification of income generating activities.

The JOCV in the health sector together with the Ministry of Health have initiated a programme known as Mobile Education Unit to facilitate outreach programmes to fight against HIV/AIDS. The programme educates the public on VCT services in the rural areas where communities have no access to such information. The volunteers are attached to District AIDS/STIs Control Offices where they work with District Medical Officers of Health in implementing the government's policy on HIV/AIDS.

The programme covers six districts in the Rift Valley and Nyanza provinces.



Ms. Emiko Sugiyama, a past JOCV in Nakuru, discussing with a counterpart at one of the VCT Centres in the Rift Valley.

2. Contribution to the Environment Sector

The volunteers are involved in various activities as indicated below:-

i. Education

The volunteers are placed in Environmental Education fields where they are involved in education programmes for communities and schools to create awareness on harmony between humans and wildlife, and sustainable use of natural resources and the conservation of biodiversity. Currently there are volunteers in Lake Nakuru, Tsavo East, and Malindi Marine National Parks and Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK).

ii. Conservation of Wildlife and Biodiversity

A veterinary doctor had been dispatched to KWS



Nairobi to take care of the animals at the Animal Orphanage. Another volunteer has been dispatched to Lake Nakuru National Park in the field of ecological research.

iii. Automobile Technology

With the fast changing environment in the automobile industry, JICA has been dispatching volunteers with automobile qualifications to respond to the demand. KWS has been the highest recipient of volunteers in this area. The volunteers provide services such as automotive mechanics, operation and maintenance of KWS's fleet of vehicles, plant and machinery.

There are volunteers in Tsavo East and West, Lake Nakuru and Aberdares National Parks.



Mr. Kazuki Ishinuma, a volunteer, working with his counterparts at the KWS workshop in Nakuru.

3. Contribution to the Education and Human Resource Development Sector

Human resource is the greatest asset for national development. JICA therefore emphasizes capacity building in majority of its programmes to ensure their sustainability. Volunteers have been involved in a number of activities as indicated below:-

i. Secondary and Primary Education

This is one of the oldest area of cooperation between the governments of Kenya and Japan. Volunteers have for many years been dispatched to teach mathematics and sciences. To date, the Ministry of Education has been the highest recipient of volunteers. The secondary school

volunteers were mainly dispatched to Kisii and Machakos districts.

In support of Primary Education, JICA has dispatched volunteers to Kilimambogo Primary Teachers Training College, Machakos Teachers College, and Kigari Teachers College. Other volunteers are in primary schools teaching mathematics, physical education, sciences and music.

ii. Vocational Training

JICA has been supporting vocational training by dispatching volunteers who have been carrying out various activities such as farming, carpentry, tailoring, automobile maintenance, welding, cookery, masonry and computers among others.

There were volunteers in Nyaga, Kaplong and Busia youth polytechnics and Yatta, Turbo, Gigil and Mombasa National Youth Service. (The National Youth Service has been the highest recipient of volunteers in vocational training).

iii. Technical Schools

To empower the physically challenged to be self-reliant, a volunteer has been dispatched to Machakos Technical School for the Blind where he is teaching "Anma", a kind of massage done by visually impaired people in Japan. Once they master the technique, they will train other visually impaired people and the multiplier effect will be felt in many parts of Kenya.

iv. Rehabilitation Institutions

JOCVs are dispatched to children's homes and rehabilitation institutes within the government, CBOs and NGOs. They are involved in guidance and counselling, assisting in instructing students in activities such as physical education, tailoring, cookery and handcrafts. Volunteers are also attached to institutions for the physically and mentally challenged as social workers and in special education. There have been volunteers in Othaya, Kirigiti, Kakamega, Likoni and Machakos rehabilitation schools, and Wema Center in Mombasa.



Mr. Koji Nakata, teaching students of the National Youth Service School of Agriculture at Yatta, modern farming methods.

4. Contribution to Agriculture and Rural Development

Agriculture forms the backbone of the Kenyan economy, supporting about 70 per cent of the rural communities. It is classified as a priority sector by the Government of Kenya because of its significant contribution towards the national economy. To support the government of Kenya in this area, JICA has been dispatching volunteers to various agricultural stations where they have contributed to research by promoting training and providing technical advice. Among the recipient institutions are SACRED Africa.

Volunteers have also been involved in community development activities. They have been dispatched to District Social Development Offices in Kakamega and Lugari and also to an NGO, Amakono Voluntary Development Organisation.

5. Contribution to Economic Infrastructure

Economic Infrastructure is one of the key sectors that is prioritized under Japanese ODA based on the studies and research regarding development conditions and tasks in Kenya, as well as through policy dialogue between Kenya and Japan. JOCVs have therefore been dispatched to carry out various activities in support of infrastructural development.

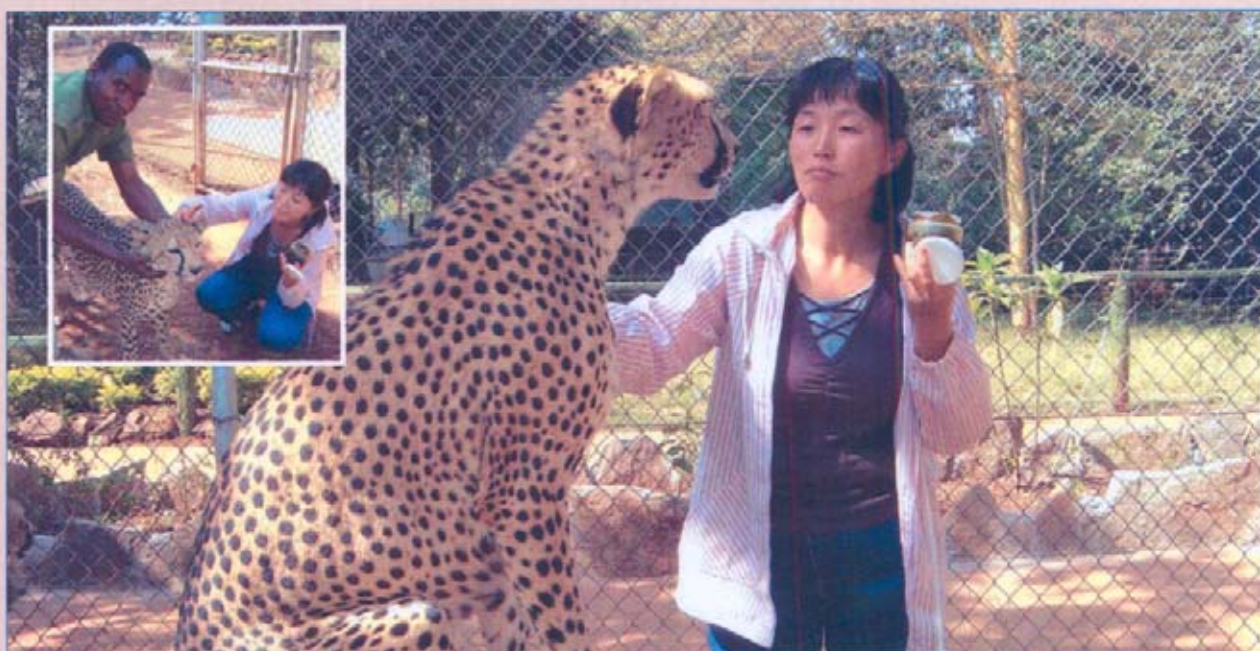
i. Surveying and Mapping

JOCVs have been dispatched to the National Museums of Kenya for a long time where they have been involved in mapping and drawing survey maps. Some maps drawn by the volunteers have been used to design site layout for improvements and rehabilitation works.

Currently there is a volunteer at Fort Jesus who will be undertaking mapping activities of the recently regazetted Mama Ngina Drive.

iii. Promotion of Tourism

In order to promote tourism between Kenya and Japan, a senior volunteer has been dispatched to Kenya Tourism Board. He is working on modalities to market Kenya in Japan.



Dr. Nabi administering treatment to a tame cheetah and (inset) Dr. Oki with her counterpart at the KWS animal orphanage.

Dream Come True for Dr. Oki

Dr. Nabi Oki, who comes from Japan's Saitama Prefecture, studied veterinary medicine at Kitasato University. She first got interested in wildlife from her mother who used to tell her stories about African wildlife which she herself had heard from friends visiting the continent.

As a young girl, she became so curious about the wildlife and developed an insatiable desire to visit Africa one time and contribute to the conservation of its unique animal heritage.

After her graduation with a veterinary medicine degree, she worked in Japan treating small domestic animals such as dogs and cats. Then an opportunity arose to travel and work in Malawi as a JOCV volunteer veterinary doctor in 1999.

There she treated livestock particularly in the rural areas which she says she enjoyed tremendously.

In 2005, she joined JICA as a volunteer at the Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) Animal Orphanage. Under the instructions of a Kenyan registered veterinary doctor, she took care of animals by feeding and administering basic treatment on the

wounded ones. She also took care of the 'baby' animals to ensure they got the best attention during their initial stages of life.

How is veterinary practice in Japan different from that in Kenya? "Basically, there isn't much difference," she says. "Animal diseases are the same everywhere and a veterinary doctor can treat an animal anywhere in the world. However, many countries require the practitioners to be registered in the countries they want to practice so they can be licensed."

"I have learned a lot from the orphanage, particularly about animal behaviour," she says. "I like it very much here and I hope one time I will return to Kenya, get veterinary practice registration, and assist kenyan's."

She says Kenya is so lucky to have such a diverse wildlife and it is serious about conserving this heritage. Having been to various national parks in the country particularly in her missions to rescue wounded animals, she says she enjoys Mt. Kenya National Park most.

Partnership for Development

In this programme JICA collaborates with Japanese NGOs to promote community development at the grassroots. The following are the current ongoing projects under this programme

Project	Duration	Area	Participating NGO	Goal
Community-based Basic Education Improvement Project in Nuu Division of Mwingi District.	January 2004 - December 2006	Nuu Division. Mwingi District. Eastern Province.	Community Action Development Organization (CanDo)	Improvement of the motivation of primary and early-childhood-development teachers and environment for basic education.
Organic Agricultural Technology Transfer and Reservoir Construction based on Capacity Building for the Grassroot Level Community, Kajiado District, Kenya.	April 2006 - March 2009	Isinya Division. Kajiado District. Rift Valley Province.	Institute of Cultural Affairs of Japan (ICA Japan) Institute of Cultural Affairs of Kenya (ICA Kenya)	Holding a workshop style capacity building training in agriculture, technical training, and water ponds construction to develop the grassroots level community.
School Community-based Children's Education and Health Security Improvement Project in Nguni Division of Mwingi District.	November 2006 - September 2009	Nguni Division. Mwingi District. Eastern Province.	Community Action Development Organization (CanDo)	At the enhancement of the social environment for children's education and health security in school communities in Nguni Division of Mwingi District through the improvement of the social capability of community members and their cooperation with teachers.