



*Construction of Mulilakwenda Road in Zambia under Grant Aid*

Rusumo (Rwanda-Tanzania), Kigoma, Tunduma (Tanzania-Zambia) and Nemba-Gasenyei (Burundi-Rwanda).

### Grant Aid Program

In addition to other functions, Regional Strategy Unit for Africa conducts grant aid survey in the region by way of monitoring ongoing grant aid projects and carrying out field inspections to check both output and quality of the works. In the year under review, a number of projects cutting across water, infrastructure and health sectors were reviewed on a monthly basis.

These included rural water supply in Mwanza and Mara region in Tanzania, improvement of Security Equipment in Queen Alia International Airport in Amman Jordan, project on Construction of Bridges in Zambezi and Tete provinces of Mozambique, construction of schools in Gaza and Maputo provinces in Mozambique to mention a few. These projects were implemented mainly through JICA and others through Japan International Cooperation System (JICS).

For each of the projects, pertinent issues observed from the reviews were communicated to the appropriate parties for remedy. Field inspections were also conducted for ongoing roads project in Ndola and Kitwe cities in Zambia and Masasi - Mangaka road in Tanzania, among others.

### One Village One Product (OVOP)

The Yokohama Action Plan that resulted from the TICAD IV Conference also proposed the One Village One Product initiative to assist product development and export promotion in Africa as one measure of promoting and expanding trade. The Japanese Government supports the program as an assistance measure developed out of Japan's and Asia's experience, from the perspective of 'community activation through economic growth.'

It was under this mandate that the OVOP Program



*Yoghurt processed and packaged at the Watuka Farmers Cooperative Society.*

in the Regional Strategy Unit organized the four day 1st African Regional OVOP Seminar, held in Nairobi from 8-11 November 2010. The seminar was designed for central and local government officials in charge of OVOP program implementation in Sub-Saharan African countries. Also included were JICA OVOP Experts working in this region. Participating countries were Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda and Kenya. The participants had an opportunity to visit and learn about some OVOP projects in rural Kenya.

Approximately 42 km from Nyeri town, on the slopes of Mt. Kenya lies Watuka Farmers Cooperative Society. The manager explained the humble beginnings of the society, which was formed primarily to market milk. "We decided to add value to the milk and increase our profits and benefits to members, and sought assistance from well-wishers," he informed the participants. "We were successful and received a grant of Ksh. 1.2 million from ILO through the OVOP Program. We will now do our own processing as opposed to selling raw milk to other processing farms. We also process yoghurt, which will bring further profits through value addition."

The OVOP program supported by JICA has provided training for the society's members, for use in value addition. A follow-up after the workshop revealed that the group had begun processing



*Members of Nanyuki Weavers & Spinners demonstrate how to make yarn from wool.*



*Mr. Tasuku Hasegawa explains the techniques of a Robot to students. Inset: KTTTC Students show their winning robot to Mr. Hasegawa.*

yoghurt. Their primary market is the neighboring schools and community. They also opened a canteen where they sell the yoghurt.

In Nanyuki, a town in Kenya's Rift Valley Province, members of Nanyuki Weavers & Spinners, a Women's Group, are busy making beautiful items from natural wool. "Our members are poor, widowed or single women from the surrounding areas. We procure wool from the neighboring farms, which we use to make scarves, rags and wall hangings. We then sell the final products here at our showroom", explains the Chairlady. "We have benefited a lot from the group and are able to meet our basic needs and save a little."

Given the success of the program in Asia, Prof. Sinee Chuangcham from Kohnkean University in Thailand, the main facilitator at the workshop sought to transfer the experience of Thailand's OVOP to participating African countries.

Participants resolved to apply the knowledge acquired to further support OVOP programs in collaboration with relevant authorities in their countries.

### Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

Students and staff of the Kenya Technical Teachers College (KTTTC) looked on with anticipation as Mr. Tasuku Hasegawa, a senior student at

Numazu National College of Technology in Japan demonstrated how to design a printed circuit board, which powers a robot. Like other technical institutions, KTTTC was preparing for the 3rd National Robot Contest to be held in Nairobi in 2011. The first contest was held in November 2008, and the second in January 2010.

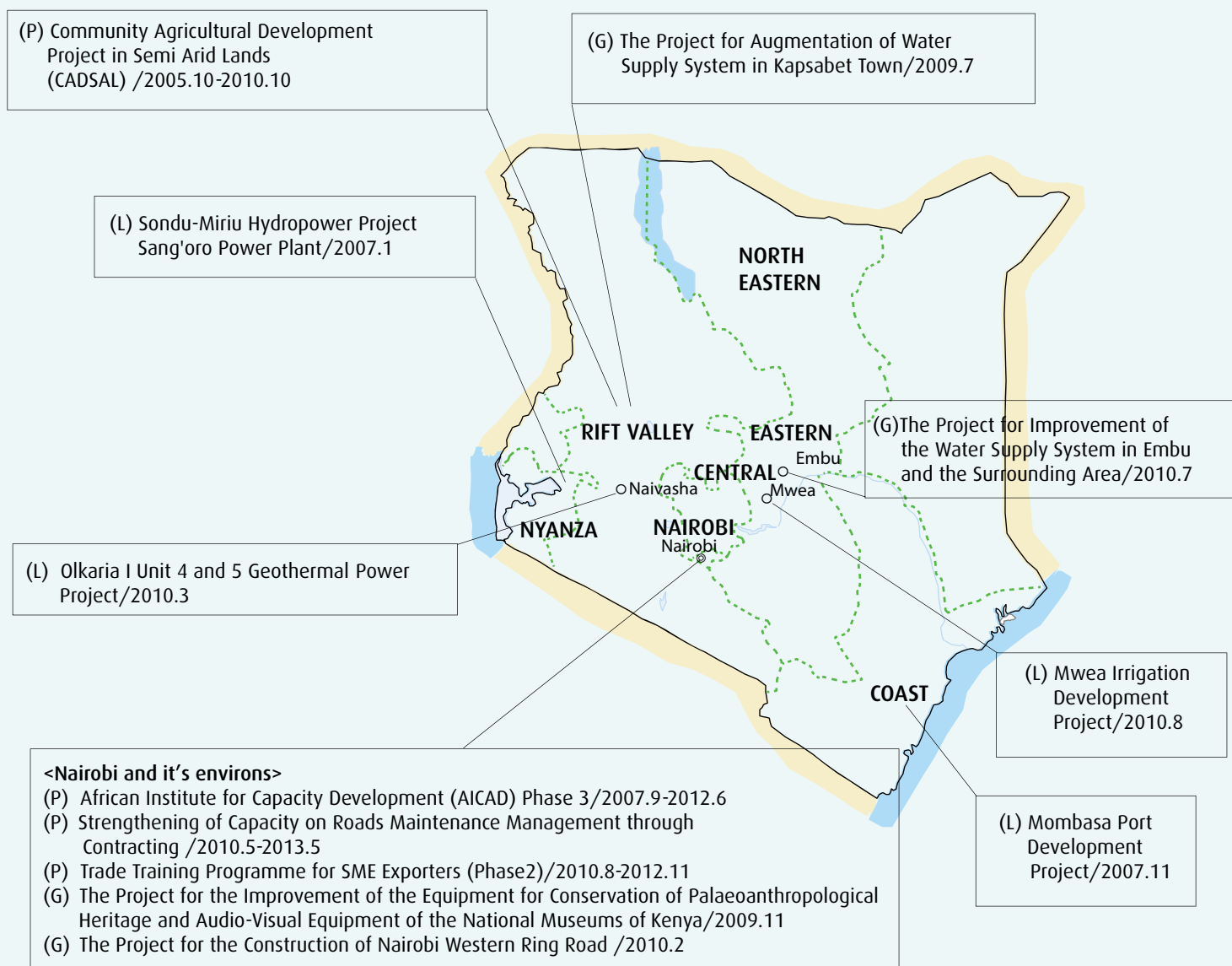
The late Dr. Osamu Makino had a passion to promote creativity and innovation among students, particularly in the field of Technical Vocational Education & Training (TVET). He was the Project Formulation Advisor for TVET, stationed at the then JICA Regional Support Office for Africa (now Regional Strategy Unit). He came up with the idea of Robotics in Kenya.

He was able to consult Numazu National College of Technology in Japan to assist Kenyan students in designing printed circuit boards for the robots. The College is now collaborating with the University of Nairobi. As a first step, JICA facilitated the sending by Numazu of Mr. Tasuku Hasegawa to Kenya to exchange information with technical students and teaching staff in the country, in August/September 2010. He met and shared information with students and staff of all Technical Training Institutes in the country.

It is hoped that robotics will further develop the scientific, technical and leadership knowledge and skills by engaging in an innovative activity. This will result to improved livelihoods by creating opportunities for sustainable development.

# Map of Kenya Showing JICA'S Major Projects

(P) Technical Cooperation      (L) Loan      (G) Grant Aid  
(D) Development Study /Technical Cooperation for Development Planning



## < Nation Wide Area>

- (P) Strengthening Mathematics and Science Education (SMASE)/2009.1-2013.12
- (P) The Project for Sustainable Smallholder Irrigation Development and Management in Central and Southern Kenya (SIDEMAN)/2005.12-2010.12
- (P) The Project for Management of Non-Revenue Water in Kenya/2009.10-2013.10
- (P) Project for Capacity Building of Child Care and Protection Officers in Juvenile Justice System/2009.10-2013.9
- (P) Capacity Building for the Customs Administrations of the Eastern African Region (Phase 2)/2009.9-2013.9
- (P) Project for Strengthening People Empowerment Against HIV/AIDS in Kenya(SPEAK) Phase II/2010.1-2014.1
- (P) Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Unit Project (SHEP UP)/2010.3-2015.3
- (D) The Project on the Development of the National Water Master Plan 2030/2010.10-2012.10
- (G) The Project for HIV/AIDS Control/2009.7
- (G) The Project for Improvement of District Hospital in the Western Region of the Republic of Kenya(PhaseII)/2010.3
- (L) Olkaria - Lessos - Kisumu Transmission Lines Construction Project/2010.12

This Map shows projects under conditions below

Technical Cooperation : Ongoing and planned (R/D signed) projects

Technical Cooperation for Development Planning (TCDP) : Ongoing projects

Loan : Ongoing (L/A signed) projects

Grant Aid : Projects of fiscal year of 2010



