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Acronyms

ADEA	Association for the Development of Education in Africa	KICC	Kenyatta International Conference Centre
AFD	L'Agence Française de Développement	KIM	Kenya Institute of Management
AHLMN	African Health Leadership and Management Network	KPA	Kenya Ports Authority
AICAD	African Institute for Capacity Development	KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
AMREF	African Medical and Research Foundation	KSTC	Kenya Science Teachers College
ASEI	Activities Students Experiments Improvisation	LIP	Livelihood Improvement Program
AU	African Union	LSE	Large Scale Enterprises
CARD	Coalition for African Rice Development	MoPHS	Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation
CBO	Community-based Organization	MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
CEMASTE	Centre for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education in Africa	MHAETE	Ministry of Home Affairs, Environment, Transport and Energy
CHS	Community Health Strategy	MoE	Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Education
CHW	Community Health Worker	MSH	Management Sciences for Health
COTU	Central Organization of Trade Unions	NASCOP	National AIDS and STI Control Program
COMSAT	College of Marine Science and Technology	NBHE	Eritrean National Board for Higher Education
CU	Community Unit	NCPB	National Cereals and Produce Board
DHMT	District Health Management Team	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
DIDO	District Industrial Development Officer	NRDS	National Rice Development Strategy
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo	NRW	Non-Revenue Water
EAC	East African Community	NWSB	Northern Water Services Board
EIB	European Investment Bank	ODA	Official Development Assistance
EIT	Eritrea Institute of Technology	ODC	OVOP District Committees
E/N	Exchange of Notes	OSBP	One Stop Border Post
ENSDA	Ewaso Nyiro South Development Authority	OVOP	One Village One Product
EPC	Export Promotion Council	PAPA	Pan African Productivity Association
FEAFFA	Federation of Freight Forwarders Association of East Africa	PCK	Productivity Center of Kenya
FKE	Federation of Kenya Employers	PDSI	Plan - Do- See and Improve
G/A	Grant Agreement	POC	Point-of-Care
GLUK	Great Lakes University of Kisumu	RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
GOK	Government of Kenya	R/D	Record of Discussions
GOSE	Government of the State of Eritrea	REA	Rural Electrification Authority
HAC	Hamelmalo Agricultural College (Eritrea)	RSA	Regional Strategy Unit for Africa
HCD	Horticultural Crops Authority	SEMAH	Strengthening Management for Health in Nyanza
HSS	Health Systems Strengthening	SHEP	Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project
HTC	HIV Testing and Counseling	SHEP UP	Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Unit Project
ICT	Information and Communication Technology	RTMS/CCS	Real Time Monitoring System and Cargo Control System
IEET	Institute of Energy & Environment	RVF	Rift Valley Fever
INSET	In-Service Education and Training	SIDEMAN	Smallholder Irrigation Development and Management
JDR	Japan Disaster Relief	SMASE	Strengthening Mathematics and Science Education
JEPAK	Japan Ex-participants Association of Kenya	SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
JFY	Japanese Financial Year	SPEAK	Project for Strengthening People Empowerment Against HIV/AIDS in Kenya
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency	SMASE-WECSA	Strengthening Mathematics and Science Education- Western Eastern Central and Southern Africa
JKUAT	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology	TB	Tuberculosis
JOCV	Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers	TCTP	Third Country Training Program
JPP	JICA Partnership Program	TICAD	Tokyo International Conference on African Development
JST	Japan Agency for Science and Technology	TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
KCA	Kenya College of Accountancy	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
KEJAA	Kenya Japan Alumni Association	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
KEMRI	Kenya Medical Research Institute	WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
KENGEN	Kenya Electricity Generating Company	WHO	World Health Organization
KfW	German Governmental Development Bank	WRMA	Water Resources Management Authority
KIA	Kenya Institute of Administration		
KIBT	Kenya Institute for Business Training		

Message from Chief Representative

Reflecting on The World Situation in 2011

The year 2011 was a very turbulent one. Japan experienced twin disasters of an earthquake and a 'tsunami' in March, 2011. Thailand suffered from severe floods while the Philippines experienced a devastating typhoon. Like Japan, Turkey and New Zealand were also struck by earthquakes. More than 13 million people in the horn of Africa suffered from the effects of a severe drought, during which support poured in from all parts of the world.

There were also uprisings, the so-called 'Arab Spring', against national leaders in several Arab countries. Many of these countries have high proportions of unemployed youth who vented their frustrations by unleashing their formidable power.

The economic crisis began in Europe and spread to the rest of the world. This also had an impact on Kenya and its neighbours, as fuel prices sky-rocketed and food prices soared, causing many people to suffer.

Lessons for JICA

JICA's lesson learnt from these calamities is that much more collaboration and inter-dependence in tackling such issues is required, and in particular from the following viewpoints;

(1) Inclusiveness in development

In order to tackle these challenges, 'Inclusive Growth', which means linking economic growth to closing the poverty gap, decreasing unemployment levels and involving vulnerable members of society in development activities is most crucial. All people, regardless of their ethnicity, religious affiliation, gender or age, should not only be facilitated to recognize the development issues they themselves face, but also be allowed to participate in addressing them and to enjoy the fruits of such endeavors.

(2) Enforcement of resilience

Although Africa faces unprecedented opportunities for growth, countries in the region and their people are subject to a large number of shocks, such as droughts and floods, food



*Mr. Masaaki Kato
Chief Representative, JICA Kenya.*

shortages, macro-economic crises, adverse health-related conditions, conflicts and the hostile effects of climate change. In order to cope with such problems, reinforcement of resilience by building the capacity of the vulnerable people is most essential.

The Year Under Review

In 2011, JICA continued to make inroads towards development in line with its vision of 'inclusive and dynamic development'. This vision represents an approach that is not limited to just sharing the fruits of progress as it encourages all to recognize development issues which they face and to participate in addressing them.

In an era of globalization, the world is increasingly inter-dependent. Only closer cooperation between all parties can successfully tackle such mega crises as the recent earthquakes and other major development issues. This will be seen in detail throughout this report, whose theme is *Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development*. The report gives a summary of activities that JICA implemented in Kenya and neighboring countries in 2011.

Masaaki Kato,
*Chief Representative,
JICA Kenya Office.*

Economic Infrastructure and Private Sector Development

- Two Renewable Energy Projects started: These were Project for Capacity Development for Promoting Rural Electrification Using Renewable Energy and Establishment of Rural Electrification Model Using Renewable Energy.
- Project for Improving OVOP Services was started.
- The contract between the Contractors and KENGEN on Olkaria I Unit 4 & 5 and Olkaria IV Geothermal plant was signed.
- Construction work on the Project for Construction of Nairobi western ring Roads was started.
- The signing of the contract between the contractors and KRA for Construction of Container Terminal of the Port of Mombasa.

Agriculture

- Workshops and trainings of SHEP-UP were held.
- CARD Conference was held in Kampala in November.
- Irrigation policy advisor was assigned.
- Food assistance from Grant Aid was provided.
- Mwea Irrigation Development Project Proceeded.

Human Resource Development

- 11th SMASE-WECSA Conference was held.
- AICAD 4TH Annual Members Forum was held.
- The signing of G/A of CEMASTEAM took place.

Health

- E/N and G/A for Project for the Reinforcement of Vaccine Storage in Kenya was signed.
- Technical Advisor for TB Control was assigned.
- Third country training of health leadership for Somalia was held under Project for Strengthening Management For Health In Nyanza.
- Project for Strengthening Community Health in Kenya was started.

Environment and Water

- Project on Capacity Development for Effective Flood Management in Flood Prone Areas was started.
- Project for Augmentation of Water Supply System in Kapsabet Town was completed.
- Project for Water Supply and Hygiene Improvement in Host Communities of Dadaab Refugee Camps expanded in November.
- The E/N for the Project for Rural Water Supply (Phase II) was signed.
- Community Based Flood Management Project in Nyando was handed over

Facts and Figures in 2011

In 2011, the activities of JICA projects in Kenya aimed at the sustainable development of the country and focused on various sectors and goals. For example, new projects that were started in 2011 were as follows:

- Project for Improving OVOP Services (November 2011)
- Project for Capacity Development for Promoting Rural Electrification Using Renewable Energy (August 2011)
- Project for Strengthening Community Health Strategy (October 2011)
- Capacity Development for Effective Flood Management in Flood Prone Areas (July 2011)

On the other hand, some grant aid projects and ODA loan projects began some activities in 2011, although the project began before 2011. Some examples were the Olkaria Geothermal Power Project, the Construction of the Nairobi Western Ring Roads and the Mwea Irrigation Development Project.

JICA Kenya Office activities are supported by 5 main pillars. These are: (1) Economic Infrastructure & Private Sector Development (2) Agriculture (3) Human Resource Development (4) Health and (5) Environment & Water. This report outlines activities implemented in 2011 towards achieving the goals set out in these pillars.

Figures of JICA's Operations in Kenya

Type of Aid	Japanese Fiscal Year (April - March)		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Technical Cooperation (Unit: Million Japanese Yen)	2,191	1,655	2,970
JICA's ODA Loan (Unit: Million Japanese Yen)	1,692	1,492	1,257
JICA's Grant Aid (Unit: Million Japanese Yen)	1,775*	2,078	2,809
Training Participants (New) (Unit: Persons)	304	401	513
Experts (New) (Unit: Persons)	75	100	121
JICA's Volunteers (New) (Unit: Persons)	27	71	34

(Note) JICA's ODA Loan is based on the amount of disbursement.
JICA's Grant Aid is based on the amount of disbursement (*amount of signed Grant Agreement).
JICA's Volunteers include Senior Volunteers in addition to JOCV.
Currency Conversion Rate as of March 2011.
Training Participants include TCTP etc. in addition to Visit in Japan.



Ms. Naoko Takahashi (in blue), who is a gold medalist awarded during the Sydney Olympic games and now an official supporter of JICA, visits a SMASE project in Kenya.



Ambassador of Japan to Kenya, H.E. Toshihisa Takata, gives a speech during a prayer ceremony in honour of victims of the Japan earthquake and 'tsunami'. The ceremony, held at a Nairobi hotel, was organized by the Kenya Red Cross Society.



Bonds of Friendship During Crisis

In 2011, Kenya was on the way to a new era. Under the new Constitution, enacted in August 2010, the new democratic human rights focused and decentralized government system was going to be built. Many new laws were drafted and passed in Parliament in 2011. These efforts and reforms by Kenya may lead the country to a brighter future, but many issues are yet to be resolved.

Kenyans hope that the next General Election will be held peacefully. However, there still remains some need for caution, as we reflect on the nightmare of the post-election violence in 2007-8. The on-going reforms should prevent such a political crisis by ensuring good governance in Kenya.

In 2011, the economy of Kenya had recovered from the downside in 2008-2009, and shown some growth. However, inflation arose from the high cost of food and fuel prices. Kenya also faced two other major problems in 2011. One was the famine that also affected neighboring countries due to drought, and the other was the war along the border with which began in October, 2011.

The drought in 2011, the worst in 60 years, brought to the Horn of Africa severe famine and

JICA provided assistance in the form of tents, generators, blankets, water tanks, sleeping bags and other emergency items in response to a request by the Government of Kenya. These items were handed over to the UNHCR

hunger, causing a serious human security crisis. The Government of Japan through JICA donated 42,220 metric tonnes of maize to Kenya (story p.16). The hunger crisis in Somalia led many people to flee their home country and become refugees. The United Nations and other international donors, including both the Government of Japan and JICA, supported the swelling numbers of refugees from Somalia who fled to the Dadaab Refugee Camps in the north-eastern part of Kenya. JICA provided assistance in order to ease the suffering of the refugees (story p. 30).

On the other hand, this year, Japan remembered one famous saying, namely, 'A friend in need is a friend indeed.' In March 2011, an enormous earthquake and terrible 'tsunami' broke out in the eastern part of Japan and about 20,000 people died. The unprecedented disaster shocked Japan and the whole world, including Kenya. The Government of Kenya and the Kenyan people condoled with and donated cash to Japan soon after the disaster. Japan saw the importance of the bonds of friendship in crisis and it also wishes to continue assisting others. The partnership between Kenya and Japan will be strengthened further through various mutual cooperation activities.

JICA's Support to Economic Development

During the year 2011, Kenya's economy continued to expand despite the challenges posed by drought in the Horn of Africa, higher than expected food and fuel prices, and the uncertain global environment. The combination of external shocks and strong domestic demand, fueled by rapidly expanding credit led to sharp increase in inflation, unprecedented widening of the current account deficit, and currency depreciation. While looking upon the authorities for solutions such as taking decisive measures to address these imbalances and to preserve macroeconomic stability, the development partners have continued with various interventions in different sectors to supplement government efforts.

Economic development through South-South Cooperation in boosting of trade and investments between Africa and Asia remains a millennium focus as contained in the TICAD IV agenda of the Yokohama Plan of Action. As we approach the sunset period of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), countries will be taking stock of their achievements. Doing so should not lose focus on the interconnectivity of the goals and the danger of not getting the actual picture by looking at the goals in isolation. JICA's engagement with various players within the government of Kenya coalesces around the MDGs with a view to addressing development challenges, most of which are common amongst developing countries.

JICA's economic sector has continued to play its rightful role which is supplementary to the roles played by other sectors of JICA with the hope to ameliorate a myriad of socio-economic challenges that could delay or undermine the momentum required to achieve the MDGs. Some of the roles are highlighted below.

Second Phase of Trade Training for SMEs

During the period in question, the second phase of Trade Training for Small and Medium Enterprises was implemented in various parts of the country. As recommended during the evaluation of the first phase, a number of measures were put in place to enhance the effectiveness of the training and increase its impact to the businesses.

One of the notable departures from the conventional approach was separation of participants into the three

categories i.e. beginners, intermediate and advanced. This was informed by the premise that various SMEs have different levels of preparedness. Therefore, the suitability of the training would be tailored against the exposure and experience in business. The implementation was carried out by both the Export Promotion Council (EPC) and the Kenya Institute of Business Training (KIBT) of the Ministry of Trade as a way of synergizing in order to enhance the chances of achieving the much desired sustainability.



Participants in a training session for the Intermediate Trade Training course in Nakuru.

Under the business cluster training, a number of small businesses benefited from the course which had earlier been piloted at Kariobangi Light Industries. In deepening and broadening the approach during the second phase, additional sectors also joined the metal cluster for the business training. There was also on-site coaching for specific businesses that had shown interest in the idea. The coaching was purely demand driven but the business training delivered earlier, acted as a catalyst to this demand. Six enterprises benefited from the on-site business coaching in areas ranging from bookkeeping and accounting, product development and KAIZEN.*

As part of fulfilling one of the commitments made during the first phase of the SME trade training, there was a successful business trade mission to the state of

* (a Japanese philosophy that focuses on continuous improvement through all aspects of life, cf. in business/management, incremental and continuous improvement with the involvement of the entire work forces)



A One-On-One Coaching Advanced Course in Nairobi.

Gujarat in India. This business mission was aimed at exposing Kenya's SMEs and LSEs to the businesses in India. Apart from the business representation, officials from both the EPC and the KIBT joined the trade mission to India. The expected output would be to exchange programmes, business links and orders for raw materials. Resulting from the successful mission, a number of business links have been created for local SMEs and LSEs. Similarly, the representatives of the public agencies are expected to come up with action plans for some of the best practices that were acquired from the business facilitating institutes in India. A presentation by the participants to share the finding and the outcome of the trade mission was held and attended by JICA, EPC, KIBT, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a representative from the Indian Embassy in Nairobi.

JICA's Support to the Productivity Competitiveness Initiative

Productivity and competitiveness are key aspects that are expected to drive other factors affecting the country's economic performance. A quick glance at the productivity indices in various sectors of the country's economy exposes the low level of performance relative to the global benchmark. Productivity entails efficiency and effectiveness of combining and utilizing factors of production to produce goods and services in an economical and environmentally sustainable manner.

The Government of Japan through JICA Kenya has formally entered into a technical cooperation agreement with the Productivity Centre of Kenya (PCK) of the Ministry of Labour in order to support various previous attempts to move productivity to the next level. The timing is ripe considering that productivity ranks among the necessary conditions of assisting the country achieve the desired vision 2030. This is confirmed by the fact that the Pan African Productivity Association (PAPA) views PCK as the productivity focal

point within the East African Community (EAC).

The PCK, which has been in place since 2002, is a tripartite institution comprising the Ministry of Labour, Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) and the Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU (K)). As an institution, it has its fair share of challenges which have consequently inhibited the productivity campaign. It is expected that the technical support will go a long way in addressing some challenges that have slowed down the momentum towards productivity. Poor policy design, piecemeal interventions and weak coordination form part of the list of what requires immediate remedial interventions. Ultimately a framework to anchor productivity initiatives is envisaged during the project implementation period.

Some of the expected broad outcomes include deepening the understanding of the productivity concept among stakeholders, a clear implementation framework with acceptable structures unique to the Kenyan situation and regional consensus on productivity that would oversee productivity growth in the EAC. Expected benefits from productivity include high economic growth, employment creation, increased incomes, economic use of resources, increased market competition, better working conditions and high quality of life. These are some of the expectations that will build on the already trained Technical Service Providers, developed user manuals and continued productivity consultancy to both public and private entities around the country.

Second Phase of the One Village One Product (OVOP)

After successful piloting of the One Village One Product (OVOP) program in the identified areas of the countries, followed by the roll out phase and finally the up scaling, there was a felt need that the OVOP related interactions are relevant tools required for rural socio economic transformation. It is worthwhile noting that OVOP interventions are not sufficient conditions but rather necessary conditions whose success is largely attributed to various socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the areas of implementation.

During the first phase, a number of OVOP business groups received training in the earmarked districts. Part of the training included the preparation of appealing business proposals that would act as shopping baskets when being linked to various service providers and financial institutions to access credit. To facilitate movement within the districts, JICA donated motor cycles which were allocated to District Industrial



Smolart, one of the OVOP groups in Kisii, succeeded in attaining strict standards of MUJI Corporation of Japan.

Development Officers (DIDOs). Additional fleets were provided to the various regional offices to facilitate transportation.

Lessons learned from the first phase are key in informing the type of additional activities that require mainstreaming in the subsequent support period. One of the lessons is to have a baseline position forming the basis for measurement of subsequent changes. Similarly, putting in place a strong Monitoring and Evaluation framework will assure the process of the mechanisms to review progress, lessons learned and recommendations for sustainability. The second phase whose implementation began in November 2011 is expected to expand the outreach to cover 14 additional districts, namely Kirinyaga West, Mbeere South, Meru South, Wote, Wundanyi, Murang'a South, Malindi, Migori, Rarieda, Kimilili, Kiambu East, Loitokitok, Njoro and Teso.

Second Phase of the Project on Capacity Development for the Customs Administrations of the Eastern African Region

The Project on Capacity Development for the Customs Administrations of the Eastern African Region is in its second phase since September 2009. This four year project runs through September 2013. The project aims at smooth and efficient customs clearance with support of proper operation of One Stop Border Post (OSBP) by each Customs administration in constructive relationships with the customs agents. To achieve this goal, the project has been implementing the following four major activities:

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development

- Significant progress was made in the development of the OSBP ICT system called the Real Time Monitoring System and Cargo Control System (RTMS/CCS). The system has been developed and updated by the Project while passing Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA's) Quality Assurance Tests. Its live test operation has started at Namanga border (Kenya/Tanzania) and once it is launched successfully at Namanga in a few months, it is expected to be rolled out to other seaports, airports and borders depending on their condition and situation in the region.
- The Master Trainer Program, which aims at building local master trainers in the region, continues to provide training opportunities not only to Customs officials but also to clearing agents. The Project also exposed these would-be master trainers to learn human resource development and management from other countries such as the Royal Malaysia Customs. The respective handbooks on Customs Valuation, HS classification and Intelligence Analysis are being developed and are expected to be finalized in the coming year with the support of experts from the Japan Customs and the World Customs Organization (WCO).
- Another important activity is the Joint Border and Water Surveillance project. With equipment provided by JICA such as vehicles, motor cycles and VHF radios, there was a significant improvement in border control and seizures at Namanga, Malaba and Lake Victoria. This activity will also be expanded to other borders.
- As for assistance to improve the capacity of Customs Clearing and Forwarding Agents (CCFA), the JICA Customs Project conducted various technical seminars on Customs Valuation and Harmonized System. These were organised in cooperation with the CCFA associations and the would-be Customs Master Trainers in five EAC countries. At the same time, the study on Customs Clearing Agents Accreditation System is being conducted by a local consulting firm, and its final report is expected in early 2012.

Adding to the above activities, JICA conducted a Mid-Term review of this project. Positive and unexpected impacts were identified and some recommendations and observations provided by the evaluator. While the Project continues to cover a wide variety of the activities, this Mid-term Review Report helps in assessing the progress and reviewing activities for the rest of the project duration.



President Mwai Kibaki meets JICA's Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato, during the launching of the construction of missing link roads. Inset: The President launches construction of the missing link roads.

President Launches Construction of Nairobi's Missing Link Roads

Kenya's President, H.E. Mwai Kibaki, launched the construction of the Nairobi western ring roads project which is being funded through a Sh.2.5 billion grant from the Government of Japan.

Speaking during the ceremony, President Kibaki emphasized the need for better roads if Kenya was to achieve its development goals, and commended the Japanese government for taking the initiative to build the link roads. When complete, the roads shall decongest the traffic in the western part of Nairobi.

The ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of Japan to Kenya, H.E. Toshihisa Takata, the Prime Minister, Hon. Raila Odinga, Minister for Roads, Hon. Franklin Bett, the Chief Representative of JICA, Mr. Masaaki Kato and other senior government officials.

H.E. Takata assured the Government of Kenya that the roads shall be constructed to the highest standards possible emphasizing that "products and services by Japanese companies were always about quality because quality work was the cheapest in the long run."

When completed, the road project shall create the missing links that connect Kileleshwa Police Station to Westlands roundabout, Ole Odume road to Kileleshwa Police Station, and James Gichuru road through Yaya Centre to Ngong Road. The roads contractor is the NIPPO Corporation of Japan.

The construction of the ring roads was as a result of increased congestion of roads in Nairobi which has resulted to time and fuel wastage as well as accidents. This has increased transport costs drastically and is not conducive to economic development of the country. It has affected the livelihoods of the city's four million residents.

The ring roads project followed a study done by the government of Japan through JICA which assisted in the formulation of a Master Plan for Urban Transport in the Nairobi Metropolitan Area. The Master Plan identified some projects to be developed in the city urgently and examined their feasibility. The Nairobi Western Ring Roads happened to have been one of them, with a length of about eight kilometers.

JICA Empowers Rural Communities Through Renewable Energy Technologies

Kenya's Vision 2030 is a blueprint for the country. It aims to achieve an economic growth rate of 10% per year, transforming Kenya into a new industrialized middle-income country. In particular, energy development has been recognized as a foundation for economic and social development.

The Government of Kenya (GOK) recognizes the great need for institutional reforms, encouragement of private sector's participation and promotion of renewable energy. On this basis, GOK formulated the Rural Electrification Master Plan (REMP 2009-2018) as a tool for acceleration of rural electrification.

The provision of off-grid renewable energy to communities without grid power significantly improves their quality of life, helps to alleviate poverty and stimulates local economic development through the following changes:

- Hospitals and clinics can store medicines and vaccines under refrigeration.
- Unhealthy, smoky kerosene lamps can be replaced by energy efficient LED (Light-Emitting Diode) lighting.
- Schools can extend study times for students.
- Mobile phones and other rechargeable devices become more efficient with access to batteries.
- Communities and individuals can access ICT.
- Power can unlock agricultural and other productive activities (e.g. small industry, food processing, welding, water pumping, threshing and milling).
- Public lighting has a direct effect on crime prevention and security within trading centers and public spaces.

In light of the above, the Japanese Government is empowering Kenyan communities in off-grid areas to improve the quality of living through the following two technical cooperation projects:

- (1) Establishment of Rural Electrification Model Using Renewable Energy with REA.
- (2) Establishment of Human Resource Development mechanism in Renewable Energy technologies with Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT).



A rural resident hoisting a solar panel on top of a hut.

Achievements

- 1) Record of Discussions (R/D) for the two Projects was signed in July 2011. In this connection;
 - Joint Research Plan Document identifying common topics for research between Researchers from JKUAT's Institute of Energy & Environment (IEET) and Ashikaga Institute of Technology (AIT) in Japan has been jointly developed.
 - A consultant is drafting the Terms of Reference for a local consultant to carry out needs assessment of trainings in renewable energy.
 - Revision of renewable energy curriculum will continue as a collaboration between JKUAT and Ashikaga University in Japan.
 - Lessons learned during the pilot phase are expected to inform the policy on renewable energies in Kenya.
- 2) Long term expert as Team Leader for the two projects is expected to arrive in Kenya from March 2012.
- 3) Kick-off seminar co-sponsored by JICA and JKUAT will take place in March 2012 to showcase the joint research activities between JKUAT and Ashikaga University Researchers.
- 4) The 1st Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) for the JICA/ JKUAT Project on Renewable Energy is expected in March 2012.



The Olkaria I Power Station (45MW). The first unit was commissioned in June 1981. This is the first geothermal power plant in Africa. Inset: Discharging wells at Olkaria IV Domes Field.

Enhancement of Green Energy in Eastern Africa

In 2011, Japan advanced an ODA loan to the Government of the Republic of Kenya to finance two energy projects. One was the extended geothermal power generation project, consisting of the 140MW Olkaria I, Units 4 & 5 power plants. A loan of Japanese Yen 29,516 Million was extended for the Olkaria I extension 140MW project. This geothermal project is co-financed by JICA and other development partners such as the World Bank, EIB, AFD and KfW. A contractor has already been procured and construction will commence soon. The project is expected to be completed by 2014.

Another Loan of Japanese Yen 12,410 million is to be extended to construct the Okaria-Lessos-Kisumu Transmission Lines project. The purpose of this project is to form a backbone to support regional power interconnectivity. Under this project, the lines will be upgraded from 132KV to 220KV. Voltages higher than what is possible with current lines can be transmitted, decreasing transmission loss and enabling more efficient use of power. Additionally, power transmission from the Olkaria

Geothermal Production Plants to consumption areas will contribute to the enhancement of green energy use, meaning this project is qualified as a Climate Change ODA Loan.

During the TICAD IV Conference in 2008, the Yokohama Declaration set forth the policy 'Promotion of the use of clean energy and improvement of energy access' in Sub-Saharan Africa. JICA's policy on assisting the energy sector in Kenya is to strengthen support for the development of new power sources including the utilization of renewable energy.

These projects match Japan's Country Assistance Program for Kenya, which sets forth the 'development of economic infrastructure' as one of the priority areas, and that it will assist 'the development of energy resources to relieve the shortage of power indispensable for the country's industrial activities and extension of transmission system with neighboring countries, giving full consideration to conservation of the environment and the impact on lives of residents.'

Transforming Performance of the Port of Mombasa

Progress on Construction of the New Container Terminal

The port of Mombasa is the gateway to Kenya's imports of fuel and raw materials. The facility is perhaps the most important transportation infrastructure to Kenya and the surrounding landlocked countries. With a forecasted economic growth rate of above five percent for East Africa's economies, the Port of Mombasa will be critical.

The Port is already operating at full capacity. It is not efficient in its operations, with resulting costs affecting the region's competitiveness. Improving Port efficiency while expanding the physical capacity have been identified as critical issues to the overall performance of the port. To overcome these challenges requires concerted efforts of all stakeholders. Both public and private sectors have a role to play.

There are a number of support programs currently lined up or ongoing in an effort to modernize the Port of Mombasa. For instance, JICA is supporting construction of a New Container Terminal west of Kipevu Terminal. JICA advanced the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) a total of 26,711 Million Japanese Yen to construct the container terminal and for procurement of Equipment.

The Contractor (Toyo Construction Co.) already

signed a contract with KPA in the middle of 2011 and construction will commence soon. Completion of the phase 1 of the Project (which is the contracted part), is expected to be in early 2016.

To make the project effective, other associated projects are necessary. These include dredging, smooth evacuation system (intermodal transport) and institutional reforms. Coordination therefore becomes the most important word in the Port's future development.

It is time in many respects for a cultural change, time to manage the change that will take the port forward, a time to be creative and a time for leadership. All these are in the interest of making the Port competitive.

The immediate future before the new container terminal comes onstream will be demanding – new port capacity is an urgent requirement. So too is the requirement for the Northern Corridor to become a fully-fledged multi-modal corridor – one that would complement the other.

It is equally, if not more important, to get serious with planned institutional reforms – that is KPA adopting the landlord port model. In parallel introduce the private sector into port operations on a wider basis to encompass container and conventional cargo handling operations. These important steps would open up the way to achieving efficiency levels in line with best practice worldwide.



A view of the planned new container terminal.



Japanese Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Toshihisa Takata and JICA Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato flag off a consignment of maize.

Japan Helps to Alleviate Famine Through Food Donation

Images of starving children with sunken cheeks and deep-set eyes glared from Kenyan newspapers and TV screens all over the country. The year 2011 brought the worst drought crisis experienced in the horn of Africa in recent times. Kenya and neighboring countries namely Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti bore the brunt of the prolonged drought, with tens of thousands desperately in need of food assistance.

Kenya's President H.E. Mwai Kibaki appealed for assistance to ease the suffering of these great numbers affected by the famine and facing imminent starvation.

The Government of Japan, through JICA, responded to the President's international food appeal by donating around 42,220 metric tonnes of maize to the country.

On behalf of the Kenyan Government, the Minister for Agriculture, Dr. Sally Kosgei received the donation at the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) depot in Mombasa. "In future, the Government will heed early warnings and address food security issues to avoid more crises," she said.



Dr. Sally Kosgei, Kenya's Minister for Agriculture receives food assistance from the Government of Japan.

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Coalition Vouches for Expansion and Strengthening Networking

The Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) will work to strengthen networking among the development partners, the South-South Cooperation and more importantly, the Private Sector to achieve rice sector development in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

During the fourth General Meeting held on 8-9 November 2011 in Kampala, Uganda, the Coalition re-affirmed its goal of doubling rice production in Africa by year 2018 through the implementation of the National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS). The participants were drawn from 18 partner organizations/institutions, six non-Sub-Saharan African countries as South-South Cooperation partners and 12 CARD First Group countries, together with 10 Second Group countries.

The meeting noted the significant progress that had been made since the establishment of the Coalition as a global partnership in keeping to its regional focus and in producing quantified, time-bound, commodity-related results. Participating countries were encouraged to formulate and operationalize their

The participants were drawn from 18 partner organizations/institutions, six non-sub-Saharan African countries as South-South Cooperation partners and 12 CARD First Group countries, together with 10 Second Group countries

respective NRDS. Further, many countries of the First Group and some countries of the Second Group have already reached the stage where they have identified priority intervention areas based on systematic gap analysis, and have drawn them up as concept notes.

Notable progress has been realized including development of the NRDS, diagnostics and priority focus areas, mapping of rice-related interventions, efforts to link NRDS to other relevant country-led processes, and promoting South-South cooperation. Worthy of attention was the significant upward trend in rice production recorded over the last three years in the CARD countries.

The participants underlined the need for obtaining a better understanding of the key drivers – at global, regional and country levels – for scaling up rice production. The need to identify good practices, develop and utilize capacities, build partnerships, mobilize resources, track results, manage knowledge and enhance South-South cooperation was also emphasized.



A section of the conference participants visiting Namulonge Rice Research Station, Uganda.

Farmers in Kabatini Can Now Cheer Up

It is one of the most basic ways of building a rural access road, but the 'Do-nou' technology has become a popular way of mending bad sections of rural roads in Kenya. These roads are often impassable during the rainy seasons, which makes farmers lose produce worth millions of shillings.

It was therefore an exciting morning when farmers in Kabitini in Bahati division, Nakuru North district gathered at a spot on one of their roads to repair a section using 'Do-nou' Technology. The technology was being introduced to them by the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Unit Project (SHEP UP) which is a technical cooperation project between the Government of Japan through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Government of Kenya through Ministry of Agriculture and Horticultural Crops Development Authority (HCDA).

Later in the day when they went back to their homes, they knew only too well that the difficult patch of the road would be no more and vehicles coming to collect their produce would drive right up to their farm gates.

Ms. Jane Njoki, a farmer, said there were a number of occasions when traders had been unable to reach her farm to collect produce because of a section of road which had been damaged and which they had now repaired using 'Do-nou' Technology. "Now I'm happy that this problem shall be no more," she said.

According to Ms. Grays Kiplagat, a former counterpart of SHEP UP, 'Do-nou' is a Japanese word which means wrapping soil, sand, murram, gravel or farm soil in gunny bags, compacting it and placing it on the affected sections of the road. The technology was first introduced by the previous pilot project, Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP) which was implemented from 2006 to 2009 in four target districts of Bungoma, Kisii, Nyandarua and Trans-Nzoia.

The process is manual labour-based and is easily adaptable by communities in rural areas which are often willing to contribute labour to projects that benefit them. Roads that have been repaired require regular maintenance especially after the rains when the bags can be exposed and become damaged. If maintained well, the bags can last up to 10 years.



Farmers repairing a rural road at Kabatini using 'Do-nou' technology.

To repair a section of damaged road, fill the bags with the recommended quantity of either murram, gravel, sand or farm soil. With one hand holding the open end of the bag, use plastic/sisal twines to tie the bag above the hand. Then place the filled bags in rows within the excavated area and compact them manually.

If applying either two or three layers, fill the spaces between the compacted layers before putting additional layers of bags. After compacting the final layers of the bags, apply a 5cm thick layer of murram. This prevents direct contact of the bags from traffic and protects the bags from effects of the sun.

Ms. Kiplagat says the main goal of 'Do-nou' technology is to improve livelihoods of smallholder horticulture farmers in Kenya by helping them access their produce to markets easily.

Family Budgeting Training

The Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Unit Project (SHEP UP) team consists of JICA Experts and counterparts from the Ministry of Agriculture and Horticultural Crops Development Authority. It had observed in the previous phase of the Project that due to some cultural and social reasons, the male farmers who participated in the Project rarely shared information about improved practices and technologies with their women household members. This was despite the fact that these women were actively involved in the farming activities. It was clear that the men tended to take the women's time, skills, labor and contributions to the family business for granted and underutilized their potential to play a more valuable role.

To address these findings, the SHEP UP team decided to develop and refine their training on Gender Mainstreaming. A family budgeting training was introduced to help explore how men and women spend their income, in order to fulfill their roles and responsibilities in the family. In addition, it would explore and equip the spouses with better skills of managing family income. The training fosters collective efforts between men and women in the planning and managing of family farm enterprises to help maximize household profits.

Family Budgeting Training by SHEP UP was undertaken in all the 1st Batch districts in Central and Rift Valley Provinces in 2011. Participants to this Training were staff of the SHEP UP implementing districts, members of the SHEP UP Model Farmer Groups and their spouses as well as community leaders.

Ngararia Umoja Farmers Self-Help Group in Kandara District had an opportunity to participate in



Women from Githura Self-Help Group in Kieni West District during a Family Budgeting Training Course. Inset: Family Budgeting Course participants of Ngararia Umoja Farmers Self-Help Group in Kandara district.



The training fosters collective efforts between men and women in the planning and managing of family farm enterprises to help maximize household profits

this training. "I never knew how much my husband made after selling the tomatoes and other vegetables in the market," says Mama Wanjiru, a member of the Ngararia group. "In fact, we would hardly talk about the proceeds from the sales," she adds.

Lack of communication among couples led to misunderstanding on how they spend their income. In many cases, there would be duplication of expenditures by spouses leading to non-optimal utilization of family income.

Family Budgeting training has had tremendous influence on how households manage their income. Community leaders confessed that the training had improved relationships in the families by bringing unity and reducing cases of family wrangles that are usually referred to chiefs and church pastors.

Some of the other participants in the Training included women from Githura Self-Help Group in Kieni West District, Gakanga Umoja Self-Help Group in Murang'a South District and staff in Kikuyu district. Participants are now committed to disseminating the knowledge and skills acquired to other members of the community.

Networking and Partnership for Sustainable Quality of Education

Education Quality

It is evident that school performance and quality of teaching and learning can be improved by interactions of stakeholders. Also that teacher competence and performance can be enhanced through regular sharing of effective classroom practices promising pedagogical innovations. Baseline studies conducted in Kenya and in a number of African countries in the early 1990s indicated that lack of regular and institutionalized In-Service Education and Training (INSET) and forums for professional interaction by teachers, amongst other factors contributed to poor teaching and learning in schools.

The Ministry of Education (MoE)-JICA Project on the strengthening of mathematics and science in secondary education (SMASSE) was formulated in 1998-2003 to alleviate challenges facing teaching and learning of mathematics and science in secondary schools in Kenya. This was done through emphasis on creating sustainable opportunities at INSET centres and schools for teachers to network and collaborate. They also shared experiences on promising and good practices in the classroom with respect to continuous teacher development through peer professional counselling.

Since 1998, JICA has been assisting Kenya to establish sustainable INSET systems and centres through which good, promising and effective classroom teaching practices

can be shared and cascaded by excelling/performing mathematics and science teachers and headteachers. For secondary school teachers, 108 centres were established by 2008. At these centres, over 15,000 mathematics and science teachers were in-serviced by their colleagues who had been trained at the CEMASTEIA by national trainers. The training focuses mainly on areas which teachers find difficult to teach and the students find difficult to understand.

For primary school teachers, sustainable INSET systems, like the one established for secondary teachers, is under way (2009-2013). Unlike the secondary 2-level cascade training programme, the primary one is a 3-level cascade training programme involving national trainers at the CEMASTEIA. It also involves around 300 mathematics and science tutors at the public primary school teacher training colleges as trainers of cluster trainers with the latter training their colleagues on ASEI/PDSI approach to teaching of mathematics and science in the cluster schools. It began with sensitization of education officers, head teachers and other stakeholders throughout Kenya and it targets to in-service about 60,000 mathematics and science primary school teachers under supervision of TAC tutors and zonal quality and standard education officers across the country.

After a successful launch, piloting and implementation of SMASSE (1998-2008) and technical exchange visits to several African countries in 2000 by the Project personnel, SMASSE-WECSA association was formed in 2001 by 11 countries in Western, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa (SMASSE-WECSA). These countries, like Kenya, were having problems in respect to the teaching and learning of mathematics and science. With success of the SMASSE Project piloting, Japan through JICA, committed itself in 2002 to establish a network of mathematics and science educators based at the KSTC for strengthening mathematics and science education in Sub-Saharan Africa. Ever since 2001, the association's membership has grown to include 34 African countries.

Through JICA's third country training programmes (TCTP) conducted at CEMASTEIA

Lack of opportunities and forums where teachers have interactions is considered as one the causes of poor performances by schools and teachers



Delegates of the 11th SMASSE-WECSA conference held in Kenya receive certificates of participation.

and annual member country delegates' conference, there has been much interest and need to establish sustainable INSET systems in member countries while establishing sustainable mechanisms for sharing good/ promising pedagogical knowledge and skills in the teaching of mathematics and science in schools. In 2010, the association commemorated its 10 years of existence and activities that included TCTP, INSET in member countries, annual delegate conferences and technical workshops and use of Kenyan SMASE trainers as third country experts in other countries under the auspices of JICA.

In this regard, the SMASE-WECSA association's annual delegates meeting was held in Nairobi on 13th to 19th December, 2011 and attended by 27 member countries under the auspices of JICA. The association reviewed its constitution in view of strengthening the networking and partnership needed for enhancement of professional interaction and exchange of ideas amongst mathematics and science educators in and among member countries. The Annual delegates meeting also decided to develop and publish a Strategic Plan 2014-2018 as method of ensuring that the revised constitution is implemented after 2013.

The revision of the association's constitution and preparation of the Strategic Plan indicate the impact, importance and appreciation of the SMASE initiative in Kenya and Africa, on networking and partnerships for sustainable national and regional development. The SMASE potential for science teacher education development and improvement have been recognized by ADEA and AU as it can play a key role in the implementation of the Second Decade of Education for Africa (2006-2015). In collaboration with AU and ADEA, the association hopes to establish, strengthen and expand networking and partnerships for the strengthening of mathematics and science education in Africa. This will develop the needed human capital for Africa industrial and technological development and Kenya's Vision 2030.

The SMASE INSET system offers teachers and education personnel suitable forums and networks necessary for improving teaching and learning in schools.

Women Empowerment for Socio-economic Development

Since 2000, JICA, in cooperation with JKUAT, has been conducting courses for women group leaders aimed at empowering them on community and socio-economic



Ms. Anastasia Wanjiru, trains other women in Mwingi. She was among the beneficiaries of the JKUAT courses for women group leaders.

development. The course curriculum covers topics in: community development, agricultural productivity and food security, value addition, sources of and energy conservation, environmental conservation, water conservation and harvesting, income generating activities and enterprise development. The course ex-participants qualify to access funds from financial institutions and government devolved funds including Women Enterprise Fund (WEF).

During 2000-2008, the annual course trained only 50 women group leaders at JKUAT from ecological zones with similar economic activities in different districts. Each annual course content is customized to meet needs of participants from a given ecological zone. Due to programme/course impact and demand, the course was extended and cascaded in 2009. Between 2009-2011, 850 women were trained. Thus, about 1,300 women have been trained since 2000.

In 2009, 50 women group leaders and a few successful ex-participants were trained at JKUAT as trainers. From the 50 participants, 4 trainees were selected and under JKUAT guidance and supervision the 4 trained 50 women group leaders in Kiambu and 50 in Nakuru. After the evaluation of the cascaded training and its impact of application, using the same approach as 2009, in 2010, 50 women were trained at JKUAT and 50 at each of the following venues: Kisii, Kakamega, Machakos and Nyeri. The training was expanded further in 2011 and was conducted in a similar manner at JKUAT, Kisumu, Turkana, Narok, Isiolo, Mwingi, Garissa and Mombasa.

Monitoring and evaluation reports indicated that JICA-JKUAT in-country training programme's ex-participants have improved their family and members' economic status. In addition, many of them are playing a major role in local programmes and activities aimed at economic empowerment of the local communities.

Inspiration From Borstal, a Juvenile Delinquent Rehabilitation School

Sometimes we don't look at vulnerable children as individuals with a bright future. Instead, we seem to judge them based on something wrong they once did, perhaps lasting less than five seconds. It could be a hungry boy who had to go through the full juvenile justice system simply because he stole a ripe banana from an elderly woman in the market to reduce acute hunger pangs.

There are those whose behavior and attitude become worse after going through the juvenile justice system due to desperation. However, there are others who manage to make a 360 degree turnaround in their lives and come out victorious to become responsible citizens, making a positive contribution to the society as illustrated by the following story:

At the age of 12, Afro, a skinny, dark and handsome boy from Taita Hills near Taveta stopped going to school for no apparent reason. Instead, he spent his days with other "outcasts" - drinking, smoking and committing petty crimes. Caught by police for truancy and possession of a few rolls of bhang, he was committed by the Wundanyi Children's Magistrate to Juvenile Remand before being sent away to a Rehabilitation School in Mombasa County. During his three-year stay in the rehab, the manager, together with caregivers tried to do everything possible to 'rehabilitate' the unruly Afro, without much success. By the time of his release, Afro's character had not changed much. Two years after his release, Afro would graduate from a petty offender to a gangster and was arrested again - this time for carjacking - and committed to the Borstal correctional facility in Western Province. Whenever relatives came to visit him, Afro would beg them to get him out of Borstal, but there was nothing they could do since their son had broken the law and this was his punishment.

The cycle of frustration and humiliation for Afro remained largely unbroken. Before the time of his release, Afro's parents made a passionate appeal to the Probation Department and requested that he be kept longer at Borstal Institution out of fear of their son. As fate would have it, their appeal was granted. During his extended stay in the Institution, Afro begun to think seriously how he could turn his life for the better, but was too weak to make the first step. By sheer coincidence, Mr. Kakumi, a Japanese volunteer psychologist and counselor doing his internship in Kenya was attached to the Borstal institution. Among other duties, Mr. Kakumi was expected to help identify talents among youth in Statutory Institutions and



Children listen to their teacher attentively at a rehabilitation school.

counsel them to live responsible lives. Somehow Mr. Kakumi and Afro struck a chord and spent a lot of time together openly discussing the problems facing young people like Afro and possible ways to overcome them.

For the first time, Afro felt that someone listened to him and cared about how he was feeling. Within a short time, Kakumi got Afro into an accelerated education programme sponsored by the Catholic Church in the neighboring school where Afro lived in a dormitory working one-on-one with Mr. Kakumi and other teachers. The sixteen-hour-a-day sessions paid off in more ways than one. The teachers diagnosed Afro with a condition called dyslexia. It wasn't that he didn't want to learn, he simply couldn't.

His progress was startling. In four months, Afro's reading ability advanced from a first- to eighth-grade level. He was invited to address gatherings during the World Literacy Day in major towns in Kenya and would even receive the Equity Bank prize for his success in the accelerated learning program. But when reporters asked what advice Afro, then 17, could pass on to other juvenile offenders, he snapped back, "Don't get caught."

Since Afro was still under parole, Mr. Kakumi encouraged him to pursue further education and earn his "A" levels. The once-reluctant student studied very hard, and in two years, he passed the exams and proceeded to pursue medicine at Moi University. It was during his graduation that Kakumi's words, "Congratulations, Doctor," took Afro back in time. Blinking back tears, he murmured, "Thank you, God," and finally buried the ghosts of his past. Kakumi smiled as if to say "this is the greatest day in my life as a Volunteer".

JICA's Contribution to Health MDGs in Combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

During the year 2011, three Technical Cooperation Projects with a combined total of eleven long term Japanese experts progressed with implementation of planned activities. In addition, three individual Japanese experts continued with assignments at the central level of the Ministry of Public Health & Sanitation (MOPHS). These were in the fields of arbovirus research and TB control.

HIV Prevention

HIV/AIDS continues to be one of the priority public health problems targeted for control by the Government of Kenya (GOK). In order to tackle the HIV pandemic, HIV testing and counselling is one of the key approaches adopted as an entry point to prevention as well as care and treatment. GOK aims to reach the goal of universal access of 80% of Kenyans knowing their HIV status by the year 2010. But according to Kenya AIDS Indicator Survey 2007, only 36% of the population had been tested and much work still remained to be done.

In order to support GOK efforts in the HIV response, JICA implements the Project for Strengthening People Empowerment Against HIV/AIDS in Kenya, Phase II (SPEAK II), which commenced from 20th January 2010 for a period of four (4) years. The project is implemented together with National AIDS and STI Control Programme (NASCO). Through SPEAK II, JICA supports the scaling up of HIV Counselling and Testing (HTC) services towards achieving universal access targets. In addition to the scale-up, the quality of HTC services will be improved.

During the first two years, SPEAK II developed various guidelines, service standards and tools for HTC services. These tools so developed provide the basis for moving on to implementation of training to various HTC service providers.

The Ministry of Public Health & Sanitation launched a five – year Technical Cooperation Project for development of rapid diagnostics and establishment of an alert system for outbreaks of Yellow Fever and Rift Valley Fever in Kenya.

Tuberculosis (TB) Control

As of 2009, Kenya was ranked the 13th out of 22 countries with a high burden of TB by the World Health Organization (WHO), with more than 110,000 TB cases diagnosed every year. To support TB control, JICA dispatched an Advisor to the Division of Leprosy, TB and Lung Diseases, Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation from March 2011.

In order to improve TB control in Kenya, early detection of TB and a strong TB laboratory network is needed. In this regard, the JICA Advisor provided technical assistance on (1) strengthening national reference laboratory network, (2) strengthening quality assurance in the laboratory, and (3) improvement of the skill in smear-microscopy at the peripheral level in 2011. JICA will continue support to TB control under this program up to March 2013.



JICA Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato, handing over a LED Fluorescent Microscope to officials of the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation which shall be used for early detection of TB.

Control of Outbreaks of Arbovirus Diseases

In Kenya and in the neighbouring Eastern African states, arboviruses (multiple types of arthropod-borne viruses) often cause disease outbreaks, adversely affecting human life and livestock. In particular,

damage caused by Yellow Fever (YF) and Rift Valley Fever (RVF) is often serious. In the year 2005 for instance, 555 YF cases were reported in the north western region of Kenya and the southern region of Sudan (with 142 casualties—case fatality rate of 25.6%). As for RVF, in the year of 2006-2007, 1,062 RVF cases were reported in Kenya, Somalia, and Tanzania (with 315 casualties—case fatality rate of 29.7%). In addition, 12,500,000 head of cattle, 11,000,000 sheep and 850,000 camels were also infected.

Although YF and RVF outbreaks in developing countries have been recognized as an important social issue, the development of diagnostic techniques as well as early surveillance and rapid response for control of YF and RVF diseases are considered to be significantly delayed. Under these circumstances, the promotion of research studies is strongly required. These would target development of rapid diagnostics including introduction of POC (Point-of-Care) testing, strengthened referral functions for diagnosis, and establishment of early vigilance systems towards cost-effective 'early containment' of patients, and early response to the outbreaks of diseases such as YF and RVF.

In December 2011, JICA in partnership with Japan Agency for Science and Technology (JST), Nagasaki University (Japan), Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and the Ministry of Public Health & Sanitation (MOPHS), launched a five-year technical cooperation Project for development of rapid diagnostics and establishment of an alert system for outbreaks of Yellow Fever and Rift Valley Fever in Kenya. This Project will promote science and capacity building while strengthening diagnosis, disease surveillance and response mechanisms for control of arboviral infections.

Strengthening Health Systems through Servant Leadership: Experience from the Project for Strengthening Management for Health in Nyanza Province

"Mindset Change! This is the project slogan, under which the empowered health leaders and managers can develop the health systems in a self-reliant manner", says Dr. Tomohiko Sugishita, Chief Project Adviser.



A supervisory visit by Provincial Director of Public Health and Sanitation in Nyanza.

With this slogan as the rallying call, the Project has uniquely introduced new leadership and management theories and practices such as 'servant leadership,' 'systems thinking', 'dialogue approach', and 'coaching and mentoring'. Since its commencement in July 2009, the Project has established a 'Training Management Working Group', and in partnership with various institutions, has conducted 'Core Leadership and Management Training' to four pilot district teams, reaching a total of 521 health managers in the pilot phase. Among the institutions with which partnership has been established evolving into strong Communities of Practice (COPs) are Great Lakes University of Kisumu (GLUK), Mzumbe University (Tanzania), Maseno University, Kenya College of Accountancy (KCA), Kenya Institute of Administration (KIA), Kenya Institute of Management (KIM), Management Sciences for Health (MSH), African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Unlike traditional leadership approaches with a top-down hierarchical style, the philosophy of 'Servant Leadership' emphasizes collaboration, trust, empathy, and moral use of authority. At heart, the individual is a servant first, inspiring, not self-glorifying, making the conscious decision to lead in order to better serve others and not to increase his own power. The objective of a servant leader is to enhance the capacity of individuals in the organization and increase teamwork and personal involvement.

The Project has always stressed the need to embrace mindset change as a catalyst for servant leadership. A Servant leader should treat his followers



Some of the project participants in Nyanza.

as equals as he nurtures and mentors them to take leadership. The new model of health leaders in 21st century needs to be an inspiring servant. Therefore, a servant leader understands his people, captures the hearts of his people, blends humanity with courage and is consistently compassionate, listening with intent to understand and not necessarily to respond. Systems' building is about people building their own country with the Government and the health systems acting as a catalyst through servant leadership. This way devolution in the health system will achieve its desired goals.

The Project is continuously cultivating the culture of servant leadership to provincial and district health managers in Nyanza province and beyond. In September 2011, the Project in partnership with UNICEF and GLUK, invited health officials from Somaliland to Kisumu and conducted health systems management training including servant leadership. Further, in December 2011, the Project in partnership with GLUK and Mzumbe University, facilitated the skills building session during the 1st National Conference on Human Resources for Health, held at KICC, Nairobi, to introduce and demonstrate "servant leadership" to the participants including officials from the Ministries of Health, National Hospitals, World Health Organization, World Bank, African Development Bank and Private health institutions.

Since its commencement, the Project has involved more than 3,500 people (trainees and participants) in 150 different activities. This effort has impacted positively on 'mindset change with servant leadership' for health managers and other stakeholders in Nyanza province.

One of the Project counterparts in Siaya District said, "Now I am very confident and proud to be a servant leader in the district because I am more proactive, strategic, focused, supportive and

evidence-base oriented to unite the people and the health systems".

Strengthening Partnerships with Communities to Take Charge of Their Health:

Approach, Good Practices and Lessons Learnt for Community Health Strategy in Taita

In 2007, Kenya embarked on a long term development goal enshrined in the Vision 2030, and the good health of its citizens is expected to enable them to play an important role in boosting economic growth and the realization of social goals. The vision for Kenya is to provide "equitable and affordable health care at the highest attainable standard" to her citizens in line with the Constitution that was promulgated in August 2010.

The Government of Kenya has identified Community Health Strategy (CHS) as one of its flagship projects for Vision 2030. Community Health Strategy is crucial in Kenya's resolve to establish affordable, equitable and effective health care services. The overall goal of the CHS is to enhance community access to health care in order to improve productivity and thus reduce poverty, hunger, and child and maternal deaths, as well as improve education performance across all the stages of the life cycle. This is being accomplished by establishing sustainable community level services aimed at promoting dignified livelihoods throughout the country through the decentralization of services and enhancement of accountability.

CHS recognizes the need to build the capacity of communities to assess, analyze, plan, implement and manage health and health-related development issues, so as to enable them to contribute effectively to the country's socio-economic development. The people have learnt through experience that they should not rely only on the conventional service providers. There is therefore an overwhelming need to negotiate with people and households as partners in health care, giving them a chance to influence the way care is delivered and thus restore their confidence in the health system.

Between July 2009 and June 2011, JICA in partnership with CHS stakeholders in the larger Taita district comprising the Ministry of Public Health & Sanitation, APHIA II, World Vision, Shelter of Hope,



Children learn at an early age to wash their hands.

other line ministries and local communities provided technical assistance for community health strategy implementation in the district. A lot has since been achieved through this collaboration as captured in the end line survey conducted by the Project in June 2011.

In the three Community Units (CUs) that were sampled in the survey, there was truly passion for CHS and the local people were compassionate about change as was noted in the following sample of statements drawn from their own experiences:

- (1) Transformed communities are what people see and appreciate with regard to the changes observed in health related practices. "There is no fecal matter strewn all over, our paths are clean and we can receive visitors without embarrassment". "I was a sickly man, as was my family. Those were uncertain times. Ever since we have started using mosquito nets, malaria is no more in my family". "I'm most proud of my twins, a blessing after the loss at birth of the first two children. I would encourage any expectant mother to plan ahead for the delivery of the baby and be prompt in going to hospital upon the onset of labour". "I thought the best nutritional foods were what one got from the shop. Today I know better because of the training and service I have received as a Community Health Worker (CHW). I have learnt that I can have good health from easily available local resources."
- (2) Informed decisions are made possible because with the improved CHS, there are structured meetings intentionally created to inform key stakeholders at various levels.

- (3) There is renewed hope for the current and future generations as families open up new horizons through livelihood improvement approaches (LIP) that were integrated into CHS in Taita. LIP approach strongly affirms to people that they and the community are competent and they are the ones to take charge in improving their own lives using the available resources. "I've started small projects at home. I was a house wife, fully dependent on my husband for any money. I am happy to have some level of self-reliance. I have trained others and they too have increased household incomes. I'm most proud to see livelihood improved for myself and also for my family."
- (4) The community and health facilities' services are now closer. A major factor that was cited in this is the visibility and recognition of CHWs as part of the health system. CHWs are themselves members of the community. In essence, giving them space and recognition is doing the same for the community. CHWs are allowed to play their role in making referrals to the health facility, equipping them to perform some basic health facility activities such as growth monitoring with use of MUAC tapes and weighing scales.
- (5) Enhanced community competence as CHWs takes on the challenge to be role models and demonstrate that what they share is possible. They have brought in their respective communities the hope that "things can change, and people can change."
- (6) Experience and celebration of success has been a great motivator. In all the CUs, children largely complete immunizations and increasingly under five year olds have their growth monitored, now that the equipment is available at the community level. More mothers are taking up exclusive breastfeeding with the support of their husbands and family in recognition of the health benefits to the child. The trends are upwards for increase in pregnant women who attend ante natal clinic at least four times as well as delivery in health facilities.

The Taita District Health Management Team (DHMT) and CHS stakeholders are determined to sustain the gains made so far, and to further accelerate implementation of the strategy applying the good practices and lessons learnt from the JICA Project.

Partnership for Water Provision and Disaster Mitigation

The year saw the sector balance projects that were coming to an end with new ones while approval of proposed projects increased activity and promised to accelerate the pace in 2012.

The Project for Capacity Development for Effective Flood Management in Flood Prone Areas kicked off in mid-July 2011, overlapping the Programme for Community-based Flood Management to Adapt to Climate Change in the Nyando River Basin. It came to an end in December, 2011. This was the latest in the trilogy of flood related activities supported by JICA that begun with formulation of the Master-plan for the Nyando River Basin in 2006-2008. In the case of Grant Aid for urban water supply, The Project for Expansion of the Water Supply System in Embu Town and Surrounding Areas started in early 2011 while the Project for Augmentation of Water Supply System in Kapsabet Town came to an end in December 2011. The two projects are expected to increase provision of water to an additional 64,500 people.

The first phase of the formulation of the National Water Masterplan that is expected to take a period of 25 months was completed.

The Technical Cooperation Project for Water Supply and Hygiene Improvement in Host Communities of Dadaab Refugee Camps commenced in February and the scope was dramatically expanded in November following the severe drought that gripped the country. In addition, implementation of the Project for Management of Non-Revenue Water that will be piloted in Embu, Kapsabet and Narok towns whose activities started in September 2010 gained momentum. Even as the Third Country Training Programme (TCTP) Regional Training Course on Mitigating Climate Change in Africa through Social Forestry entered its third year of implementation, the Project for Development of Drought Resistant Tree Species was also approved.

Preparations for implementation of the Nairobi Solid Waste Management Project continued in earnest as the Environmental Impact Assessment and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) were completed in the last quarter of the year.

All these Projects focus heavily on capacity development at the institutional, community and individual levels and incorporating it with sustainable operations and maintenance systems.



Community members and school children around the evacuation centre at the Community Based Flood Management Project in Nyando River Basin.

Joining Hands With The Community to Mitigate Disaster



Ambassador of Japan to Kenya, H.E. Toshihisa Takata joins community members in a dance to celebrate the completion of the project. Inset: The Ambassador and JICA Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato, receive a Certificate of Appreciation from Eng. Philip Olum of WRMA.

The bright sun heralded the dawn of a new era in Nyando's Kano Plains on this sunny November day. The jovial faces and graceful dancing of the women reflected the joy felt by the community members. This day marked the handing over of the Community Based Flood Management Project, which had been implemented by JICA and WRMA (Water Resources Management Authority) for five years. The project covered 24 villages in the vast Kano Plains of Nyando and Kisumu Districts, which is one of the most flood-prone areas in the country.

"The project has been of great help to the community", notes the headmaster of Ofunyu Primary School. His school hosts one of the flood shelters constructed by JICA under this project. "Our school lies on relatively high ground, and people have for many years come here when other areas are flooded", he adds. "However, we did not have any shelter and many lives were lost when the floods became severe."

The Government of Kenya was represented by the Director of Water Resources, Mr. John Nyaoro, the Chief Executive of WRMA, Eng. Philip Olum, other senior government officials and local leaders. "People of Kano Plains have suffered flood damage for a long time", Mr. Nyaoro pointed out. "Apart from flood mitigation efforts, the project has dug boreholes for the community, and we are very grateful", he added.

The Ambassador of Japan to Kenya, H.E. Toshihisa Takata and JICA's Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato, handed over the project to the community and the government. This high level representation indicated the importance that Japan places on issues of uplifting the livelihood of rural people and to environmental conservation.

Climate change is a global problem and has resulted in perennial drought and severe flooding in many areas. Many countries including Kenya have been experiencing floods more frequently in recent times. However, financial constraints and competing priorities make it difficult

to immediately construct large scale structures such as dams in all basins as instant solutions to this problem.

The importance of the community-based flood management approach is therefore appreciated as a pillar for self-protection both for the individual and the community. Its success in this basin laid the foundation for up-scaling these interventions through the ongoing Project on Capacity Development for Effective Flood Management in Flood Prone Areas in the Republic of Kenya.

JICA's Chief Representative lauded the intensive participation by the community throughout the project period as part of non-structural measures. "This point is remarkable because unlike in many other projects, all members of the community from young pupils right up to their grandparents were involved in one way or another," he said.

Japan itself has for centuries been plagued by natural disasters including floods due to meteorological, topographical, geological and social reasons. Based on their experience over the years, Japanese people have accumulated knowledge on management and prevention of flood disasters. This combined with the knowledge and experience of the situation in the Nyando basin made the interventions of the project exceptional, and can therefore serve as a model for interventions in other parts of the continent.



The community and camels share water at Dertu in Lagdera district. Inset: One of the crowded Dadaab Refugee camps.

New Frontiers in JICA's Cooperation

Temperatures border 40°C and the sweltering heat bears harshly on the dry terrain causing the distant structures of Garissa town to shimmer in the haze. Two 4WD vehicles quickly consume the last few kilometres towards the town, capital and gateway to the region once known as the Northern Frontier District. Riding in one is Ms. Yasuko Yoshizawa, who is about to make history as the first JICA expert to be dispatched to work in this region.

It all began sometime in 2010 when JICA Headquarters gave the nod for staff to travel in this region, paving the way for consideration of proposals to implement activities in the area. In this vast swathe of arid land now and then wasted by drought, the first priority was the provision of safe water. Following several discussions between JICA, the Ministry of Water & Irrigation and UNHCR, it was agreed that for a start, a project for groundwater development should be implemented to cater for host communities of the sprawling Dadaab refugee camps. JICA would also dispatch an Expert to the Northern Water Services Board (NWSB) to support the activities of this project under JICA's Technical Cooperation Scheme.

In late November 2010, JICA Kenya Office dispatched a Preparatory Survey Team to assess 11 proposed sites for drilling and equipping of boreholes in preparation for implementation of the Project for Water Supply and Hygiene Improvement in Host Communities of Dadaab Refugee Camps. Construction

of the boreholes and two water pans commenced during the third quarter of 2011. The Project also includes enhancing the capacity of NWSB through provision of two 4WD vehicles and two water bowzers.

Just when all seemed to be going according to plan, the worst drought in 60 years descended upon the horn of Africa. This saw thousands of famished refugees fleeing the famine in Somalia to seek sustenance in the Dadaab camps and swelling the population there to an unprecedented high of over half a million. The pressure on food, water resources, healthcare and public facilities including schools drastically increased.

In support of appeals for emergency assistance, JICA responded by donating materials and equipment through the UNHCR. With regard to the long term measures, the scope of the projects was quickly expanded to include construction of 11 water pans for the host communities, provision of an additional 16 water bowzers, five trucks, three 4WD vehicles, 180 water tanks, 270 collapsible water tanks, supply of 36,000 desks to schools in the camps and equipment to 13 host communities schools among other items.

This necessitated inclusion of the Ministry of Education and the Department of Refugee Affairs in the project and forging stronger ties with the UNHCR. These initiatives in the sector have therefore placed the region in sharp focus and opened the doors to stronger future cooperation.



JICA's Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato, hands over relief goods to Mr. Javier Lopez-Cifuentes who received them on behalf of UNHCR. Inset: Some of the donated items.

Japan Responds to Drought Crisis in the Horn of Africa

Provision of Emergency Relief Goods to Dadaab Refugee Camps

As a result of the famine situation in Somalia in 2011, there was an influx of refugees into Kenya. Most of these refugees continued for months to flock to the Dadaab Refugee Camps in Northern Kenya in previously unseen numbers. This overstretched the facilities at the camp, leading to a humanitarian crisis.

JICA was therefore called upon to provide assistance and ease the suffering of the refugees. The assistance, in the form of tents, generators, blankets, water tanks, sleeping bags and other emergency items was provided in response to a request by the Department of Refugee Affairs under the Ministry of State for Immigration and Registration of Persons. Like in many previous emergency situations around the world, JICA provided the emergency supplies under its Disaster Relief Program (JDR). Under this program, it dispatches teams and provides relief supplies when disasters occur.

On behalf of JICA, the Chief Representative,

Mr. Masaaki Kato, handed the items over to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). He commended the UNHCR for protecting and assisting refugees. He also lauded the Government of Kenya for continuing to offer protection to refugees and asylum seekers within its borders, noting that it attests to the spirit of good neighborliness exhibited by the Kenyan people.

Receiving the items on behalf of UNHCR, Mr. Javier Lopez-Cifuentes observed that the Dadaab Complex is the biggest and most congested refugee site in the world, with nearly 390,000 registered refugees. He thanked JICA and the Government of Japan for responding to their appeal on behalf of Somali refugees and donating emergency items worth over 50 million JPY.

The donated equipment and materials were used in Dadaab and contributed to improving the lives of the refugees and making their "home away from home" more comfortable. Japan's Ambassador, H.E. Toshihisa Takata, noted that Japan would also assist the often forgotten host communities, whose lives were negatively affected by the burden of receiving refugees in their communities.

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Training and Dialogue Programs for Sustainable Development

JICA's Training and Dialogue Programs are a form of technical cooperation that is carried out in Japan. Some of the knowledge that Japanese society has accumulated, including its background in areas such as organizational know-how and social system, can only be understood through first-hand experience. The programs are an important means of technical cooperation which supports human resource development and resolves issues in developing countries.

In 2011, 205 Kenyan training participants visited Japan. The target areas of the training covered various fields, such as agriculture and rural development, human resource development including mathematics and science education, economic and infrastructure development, environmental management and health management promotion.

What the participants learnt in Japan is not only for their benefit but also for all the Kenyan people. It should also be applied to make a positive impact in all relevant Kenyan organizations and institutions.

"We Received Excellent Education in Japan"

Two young Kenyans returned from Japan recently after successfully completing a two-year Masters degree study program at Ehime University. Awino Chrispine Ochieng, an employee of the Kenya Forest Service



Mr. John Ngugi, during one of the GPS training sessions in Japan.

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development



Mr. John Ngugi receives a certificate for completing his studies in Japan.

(KFS) and Kigomo John Ngugi, a research officer from the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) said they had received excellent education through the program. This shall propel them to higher levels in their professions.

Mr. Ochieng's area of study was 'Improvement of Capacity for Tropical Forest Management to React to Climate Change' and focused on understanding how forests conserve carbon. He says he chose this area of study because forests are a major component of the global carbon cycle and most of the world's carbon is stored by tropical forests. This needed to be understood more clearly as it is becoming even more important because of the current deforestation of tropical forests to create room for human settlement.

His study was based on studies in Mau Forest in Kenya, which has lately been under onslaught due to human settlement. Mr. Ngugi, whose area of study was similar to Ochieng's, concentrated on understanding forest biomass cover through airborne estimation. This is a technology which is not yet in use in Kenya but could be applied in its forest areas such as the Mau Complex and the Aberdares. By overflying a forest, it is now possible to estimate the density of the forest cover by using laser technology. Mr. Ngugi hopes to introduce this technology to Kenya.

Both were beneficiaries of a JICA masters scholarship program and said they found their hosts in Japan friendly and helpful, especially their professors.



Kenyatta National Hospital staff participate in the medical camp held at the Mitumba slums. Looking on is JICA Chief Representative, Mr. Masaaki Kato. Inset: Prof. Ratemo Michieka holds a Certificate of Appreciation from JICA President, Madam Sadako Ogata.

JEPAK Gives Back to the Community

Japan Ex-participants Association of Kenya (JEPAK) is an association made up of diverse professionals who are beneficiaries of training in Japan through JICA. Upon their return from Japan, and with support from JICA, they engage in a number of community activities throughout the year. Some of the activities in 2011 are outlined below:

Medical Camp

To address the immediate health concerns of the people of Mitumba slums, Nairobi, JEPAK held a medical camp in the area on 21st May 2011. A medical team comprising of JEPAK members boosted by Kenyatta National Hospital staff was at hand to attend to the community. The slum dwellers were, apart from receiving free medical check-ups and medicines, advised on basic hygiene and preventive health care. A total of 250 residents turned up for the medical camp which ran from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. They were all diagnosed, given medicine and referrals depending on individual cases.

Visit to Street Children's Homes

JEPAK and Kenya Japan Alumni Association (KEJAA) visited Kwetu Home of Peace, which is a street children rehabilitation center at Madaraka, Nairobi, on 16th July 2011. Kwetu Home is a 'half-way house' for the street children and also a bridge between the street and a more secure future with their families. During the visit, JEPAK and KEJAA presented food stuff, learning materials and various gifts to the children. The children entertained their visitors with activities such as karate demonstrations, songs and dances.

Prof. Ratemo Michieka Receives Award

The Patron of JEPAK is Prof. Ratemo Michieka, formerly Vice-Chancellor of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. He was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the JICA President, Mrs. Sadako Ogata in 2011. This was in recognition of his many years of cooperation with the work of JICA and his deep understanding and promotion of international cooperation.

Encouraging Overseas Activities at Grassroots Level

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) assists and encourages overseas activities on the part of young people who wish to cooperate in the economic and social development of developing countries. It is one of JICA's programs that is aimed at providing technical assistance in developing countries at grassroots level. In principle, JOCVs spend two years living and working with people in the community.

JOCVs in Kenya work together with counterparts to help build the capacity of the host organization. They plan, strategize, work and carry out evaluation with the local staff. Through interaction with the counterparts and the community, fresh and unique ideas stemming from their youthfulness provide opportunities to experience and discover the joy of creating and trying to achieve economic and social development.

Rehabilitation of the Hearts

"Masaru! Masaru!" Children surrounding Mr. Masaru Kashiwagi frequently call him with a smile, waiting for him to recognize and greet them. Masaru is like a big and gentle brother to the children who are admitted in Getathuru Rehabilitation School in Nairobi. Getathuru is also called a Reception Center where children are first sent after getting orders from the Children's Court. These children stay there only for three months. During their stay, they are investigated and other issues such as

their adaptability, attitude, the extent of rehabilitation, needs of care, and so on evaluated, then they are finally sent to one of the 8 rehabilitation schools in the country.

How and what can a young Japanese volunteer contribute to rehabilitation for the Kenyan children who have committed crimes? Before departing from Japan, Masaru himself was anxious about how he would face these children, and what kind of activity he would do, without having a real picture of their conditions.

He arrived in Kenya and on May 5, 2010 was attached to Getathuru to start his service, and he faced the 133 children for the first time. 'Oh, they are just natural and normal children' was his first impression. Though he had imagined that they were very bad in behavior, he found them reasonably obedient.

The children have to live in Getathuru for three months. Nevertheless each child comes and leaves on different days unlike general schools where all pupils gather on the same day. Basically one of Getathuru's functions is to classify children and decide their next destination. In order to perform its duties, it conducts counseling, interviews, and guidance on ordinary life to the children. Besides this, it has other main activities like primary education, sports and games.

Masaru's technical field is 'Youth Activity' and he is very good at playing sports, including football. He therefore decided to take charge of physical education, sports and games. Because the children are restricted from going out of the school, and they have high energy, they are very excited about their sports time with Masaru.

After spending time with the children and deepening communication with them, he has realized what the children lack. They are self-centered and have no interest with others, not reliable and are not cooperative with others. He also noticed that these attitudes are not in their nature, but they have been acquired as a result of their social and family backgrounds. He rather thinks that the children are victims, and he is trying through his activities to make them regain what they lost.

Recently, he again noticed their lack of basic education. There are quite many children who cannot read and write even



Mr. Masaru Kashiwagi in a classroom with some of his students at Getathuru Rehabilitation School in Nairobi.

at the ages of over fifteen. But he understood that they lost the chance to learn because there are many drop-outs or former street children among them. They have never experienced the joy and importance of learning.

Masaru deeply felt the needs of acquiring reading, writing, and mathematics skills for the children, not only for academic purposes but also for their lives in the future. He wanted to start teaching basic education to them utilizing their spare time, in addition to sports.

Despite his wish, there was no place for him to teach in reality. Getathuru has two rooms, and one room is usually occupied by other staff. There was another room but it had no tables or chairs. The short stay at the reception center is not adequate to give thorough education. It was also difficult for the school to get additional budget to purchase sudden expenses. After long discussion with school staff, Masaru decided to request for financial support from JICA, and finally got tables and chairs in his classroom. Presently, he is teaching literacy and mathematics for six hours a week to support the future of the children.

JICA has a long history of support to rehabilitation of children by sending volunteers especially to rehabilitation schools. It began sending them from 1993, and a total of 54 volunteers have been posted to date. Each volunteer has exercised their ideas and skills, and taught physical practice like sports and games, vocational training like automobile and handicraft, basic education like literacy and math, and aesthetic sentiments through creative art and music.

Seven volunteers are currently working for Rehabilitation Schools at Getathuru, Kabete, Kericho, and Wamumu, for Children's Rescue Centers at Thika, Machakos, and for the Remand Home at Malindi, doing their best for vulnerable children who have various problems.

JICA Volunteer Promotes 'Mottainai'

Ms. Sachiko Hasegawa has been working at Ewaso Nyiro South Development Authority (ENSDA) for close to two years. Her assignment at ENSDA as an environmental educator has contributed significantly to the core mandate of catchment conservation and river bank protection. In the area of forest conservation, Ms. Hasegawa has been working on river bank protection, Mau forest conservation, engaging in tree planting by starting and supporting existing tree nursery projects and providing education.



Ms. Sachiko Hasegawa discussing with pupils about the environment.

Under the forest conservation program and to achieve good results, she started a Green School Program and picked Ololulunga Day Primary School to carry out a pilot project. The school is just half an hour's drive from Narok town and at the edge of the Mau forest, making it easily accessible to her for monitoring purposes. Teachers at this school are active and had started a tree seedling project. This was despite the challenges they faced such as dry weather conditions and cattle grazing in the school compound.

When Ms. Hasegawa moved in, she initiated a fencing project which involved talking to parents, teachers, pupils and the community. In March 2011 a tree planting ceremony was held, where ENSDA donated tree seedlings. Ms. Hasegawa assigned each pupil a seedling and used teachers to monitor and evaluate them for sustainable management of the school nursery. Ms. Hasegawa has planned that Ololulunga Day Primary school will be the area's model for the Green School Program.

She has developed educational material and conducted training through Art and Music. At a football tournament, art by various students promoting environmental conservation was displayed. She has also formed a school choir that sings about the environment and forest conservation. "MOTTAINAI" meaning "being mindful of wasting resources", a famous Japanese song, championed by the late laureate Prof. Wangari Mathaai when she visited Japan, has been taught to the choir by this Volunteer.

Ms. Hasegawa has also been working closely with some women groups to further her conservation awareness activities. They include Naretoi Women's group and Era Ewaso Women's Group.

Despite a few challenges, Ms. Hasegawa has managed to accomplish a lot for the community through the green project, income generating activities for the community, capacity building and conservation awareness activities.

Growing Vegetables on Irrigated Farmlands

In the field of agriculture and rural community development, Volunteers are assigned to work for the benefit of local community, such as self-help farmers groups or local women groups producing handcrafts or processed farm products. Most of these volunteers are assigned to the district offices of the Ministries, to ensure that the local communities receive better and appropriate support and guidance from the government projects.

When Mr. Eiji Yanagisawa was brought to a small town called Ishiara in Mbeere North District for the first time, he felt he might not be able to survive for two years in this small village – as it seemed for the young Japanese - where most of the community members live in traditional thatched houses, without piped water or electricity.

Kiambindu Bidii Self-Help Group had been working for four years since 2005 under JICA's Irrigation project: Sustainable Smallholder Irrigation Development and Management (SIDEMAN). Mr. Eiji arrived during the last phase of this community irrigation project, to support community members to sustain this irrigation scheme on their own. With the support from the community group members and SIDEMAN Experts, Mr. Eiji started his fieldwork to gather actual information on where the irrigation pipes had been installed. He walked around the village day after day, to draw the map of Kiambindu which designed 400ha of farms to be irrigated.

Together with group members, Eiji worked hard to ensure that the pipes had been properly installed, and found that many parts and works needed to be corrected and repaired. As the technical problems

seemed to be solved and more and more members gained access to the irrigation water, he found that group members needed more practical experience on farming. Not many people had learned how to grow vegetables or cereal crops on irrigated farmland. He asked for the help of local agricultural officers, to organize Farmers' Field Schools every week, so that all the members could demonstrate and learn how the crops grow in their own lateral demonstration fields.

In Mbeere, people now refer to 'Kiambindu' and 'Ishiara' as symbols of 'success'. Group members are currently over 130 farmers. Moreover, the management of community irrigation has improved to sustain all the expenses for repairing or installing pipes utilizing, the groups' own budgets. People have built modern iron sheet houses and new school buildings. Also many community members can now send their children to higher educational institutions. Eiji says, "When a JICA project is introduced to local communities, it is very important and effective to have a Volunteer within the target community. Volunteers can work very closely with the community members to identify their needs and problems, and work together with them to find solutions."

Realizing Dreams Through Welding

Japan is known as a technologically innovative and industrious nation. To share this advancement is a young Japanese technical volunteer with a strong background in welding who was dispatched to work for a school in Kenya.

Mr. Daisuke Kato works at Kaplong Youth Polytechnic as a welding instructor. Before coming to Kenya, he was working for a well-known industrial company in Japan. He is here in Kenya to improve the quality of education especially in his field of specialization. His objective is to transfer his knowledge and to offer support to each of his students.

He notes that there is a big gap between the Kenyan and Japanese industry in terms of product and risk management. His first assigned task was therefore to improve the workshop by reorganizing the fixtures, tool holders, and expanding the workshop's working area to make production more efficient. He further supported product management by assisting the workshop to take orders from the local areas to support income generation for the school.



Mr. Eiji Yanagisawa with some farmers in the field.

His other task was to encourage teachers to go electronic by using computers for their work such as managing students' data, typing examinations and so on. By having a good command of his working experience, he influences staff members of the school to improve. He says the change may not be realized within a short time, but is confident that the benefits will be appreciated in the future.

His work is not only limited to what happens inside of the school. He visits each student's house to understand their situation and their future plan. He is then able to support them as they strive to get closer to achieving their dreams.

'Moringa' Useful to Bondo Residents

Mr. Hideyuki Kinugawa previously worked in a Japanese hospital as a nurse, where he was stationed at the pediatrics department. He had great interest and enjoyed working with children, who he currently interacts with at his new workplace, the Bondo District Medical Office of Health.

He decided to promote and spread 5S-Kaizen, a Japanese concept which encourages good management and organization in the workplace, leading to greater efficiency and productivity. Working in close collaboration with other staff at the district hospital, he ensured that the implementation of 5S (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize and Sustain) went smoothly and many benefits were derived from it.

The fact that many children at the hospital died every day was a matter of great concern to Kinugawa. He observed the suffering of the children and the grief that parents and family members went through at the

loss of a loved one, particularly at that tender age. What made the situation worse was that some of these children died of malnutrition, something that could be easily prevented or treated.

It was then that he decided to do something about these grave circumstances. On discussing with the hospital's doctors and nurses, they resolved to begin conducting nutritional counseling to community members. They encouraged them to grow and feed their children on local vegetables and traditional food, which was readily available, nutritious and fairly affordable. Another turning point was when he attended the local Agricultural show and discovered the 'moringa' at one of the exhibition stands. 'Moringa' is a nutritious, economical, and easy to cultivate plant that grows naturally in Kenya. Surprisingly, many people do not know about it and its numerous health benefits.

To help address the problem of malnutrition that was prevalent in the community, the enterprising volunteer would make powder from the 'moringa' leaves, mix it with milk and give it to the children. He also begun to plow one corner of hospital's compound and sow seeds of 'moringa', and spoke passionately about the plant during events and seminars.

In addition, he supported local community groups to earn some income from 'moringa'. Group members used to make some accessories but had faced difficulties in selling them. Kinugawa introduced 'moringa' to them and encouraged them to make some products from the plant. Some of the products they successfully made from the plant were tea and soap. They are now making profits from the sale of these products, and uplifting their livelihood. Mr. Kinugawa has managed to make a positive impact within a relatively short time, and people in Bondo now affectionately refer to him as "Mr. Moringa."



Mr. Hideyuki Kinugawa educating locals on the benefits of 'moringa', at one of the exhibition stands. Right: Mr. Kinugawa feeding a malnourished child in hospital at Bondo with food mixed with powder from the 'moringa' leaves, a formula he introduced to the community.

Partnership Program for Sustainable Development

The JICA Partnership Program (JPP) is a program supported by JICA that aims to implement projects planned by Japanese development partners (mainly NGOs, local governments and universities). This is based on their accumulated experiences and technologies in development at grass-roots level through partnership with NGOs and organizations in partner countries.

Project Improves Health Through Community Empowerment

Just before sunrise, Rusinga Island looks like a sleeping tortoise seen from across the mainland at Mbita. But its beautiful profile is revealed as soon as the first rays of the sun hit the island revealing the various human settlements dotting the hillsides. A closer look at the settlements reveals poor communities and interacting with communities living on the island also reveals a myriad of economic, social and health problems hampering their development. These problems have reduced the quality of life on the island and much of the areas around Mbita.

It was in these settlements and others on the

mainland that in 2009, the University of Nagasaki in Japan and JICA embarked on a project called Enhancement of Health Service Delivery and Capacity Building of Health Personnel for the Poor Through Community Participation in Western Kenya. The project was funded under JICA's Partnership Program and was to run until 2011.

The Project Coordinator, Mr. Haruki Kazama, says there was a dire need for the project in this area because it is one of the poorest in the country as a result of widespread occurrence of various diseases such as malaria, worms, HIV/AIDS, among others. These diseases have placed a burden on families and distracts them from participating in economic activities which would improve their lives.

Due to poor health facilities, many people depended on traditional medicine which was not always effective. There was therefore a definite need to improve health delivery system in the area by enhancing capacity building of the health personnel, equipping and rehabilitating the clinics. There was also a need to establish a sustainable health system which was endorsed, owned and supported by the local population for it to have an impact.



Members of the community on Rusinga island participate in a fish project to generate income guided by Mr. Haruki Kazama. Inset: Mr. Kazama assists community members with the know-how on small manufacturing such as juice making process in order to increase their income.

However, much as the health problems were identified and their solutions anticipated, it became evident that improvement of health would not be successful unless the economic status of the communities was improved and at the same time. Neither would the project achieve much if the surrounding environment, water sources and sanitation were not improved or sustained, as they were complimentary to one another.

The project targeted the northern part of Suba district with an estimated population of 40,000 people. The main outcomes of the project included enhancement of the capacity of health centres and clinics serving community needs; maintenance of a system for problem solving regarding HIV/AIDS and malaria by the community; increased knowledge, changed attitude and behaviour of the community regarding health issues through education of the patients, community groups and schools and maintenance of health problem solving systems based on improved financial status through income-generating activities.

In order to achieve these goals, the project had four components. These were micro-credit, community health, school health and data collection from health facilities regarding ante-natal care, maternity care, inpatient records, etc. Health equipment were donated to clinics in need in order to understand the improvement of attendance after the project's intervention.

Micro-credit was introduced as part of the project covering the project area and several CBOs were each given Sh. 180,000 in materials to enable them engage in income-generating activities. These were in form of loans which had to be returned after the agreed period. However, most of the loans were in form of materials and the repayment and grace periods were generally agreed upon by the organisation and the groups.

For example, those in horticulture could get seeds, fertilizers and fencing materials, among others. They were shown how to protect their farms against destructive hippos from the lake by digging trenches around the farms. They were also taught better farming methods. Those who wanted to improve their livestock were assisted to buy better quality animals, and so on. Those keeping chicken would get better breeds. Those who were engaged in fishing were assisted to dig ponds and buy appropriate nets, while those who wanted small manufacturing such as juice making were assisted with the know-how and equipment. Yet other groups were assisted to start environment projects such as tree planting and soil conservation.

Staff of the project would frequently visit the groups to ensure their success and address any problems the members would have regarding their management. External trainers for the various activities were also involved particularly to help those who were engaged in fishing, horticulture and running of small businesses.

Mr. Kenedy Ogola, a staff of the project said it was important that communities were shown how to empower themselves economically. Today, most of the groups involved say they are better off financially after the involvement of the project than they were before.

Through the Ministry of Health, the project donated equipment to various health centres in the project area and assisted the communities to form health committees in their villages. The committees appointed their own trainers especially to teach the community better hygiene and reduce the incidence of diseases such as cholera, typhoid, worms and other water borne diseases. Such trainers were on the other hand trained by the project staff. Computers, solar panels and health equipment were donated to health centres to improve their management. The health centres, some which were in deplorable condition, were greatly improved.

The success of the health sector is evident. Before the project, more than 10 per cent of the communities did not boil their water for drinking. Now over 85 per cent do so regularly. In some other communities, all child deliveries took place at home using the traditional birth attendants (TBAs). Today, four out of five mothers in the area of the project deliver in the clinics where equipment was donated. A closer working relationship has also been established with the TBAs who are encouraged to refer difficult cases which they come across to hospitals.

Immunization of children has gone up to about 80 per cent in the project area while the use of latrines has improved tremendously. The whole idea, says Ogola, is to make communities take charge of their health needs by understanding how some of their traditional activities turn around to be their worst health enemies, for example not using latrines.

The project approached these activities with the premise that unless a community was healthy, then it was not possible to engage itself in income generation activities which would eventually improve their lives, this being the main goal of the project. This argument was supported by the Acting Suba District Health Officer, Dr. Ajwala Mathews, who said some of the project's interventions have definitely changed health indicators in the district for the better.

	Title of the Project	Project Term	Target Area	Organization	Objective of the Project
1.	Participatory School Management Improvement and Classroom Construction Project in Nuu, Mui, and Nguni Divisions, Mwingi East District	Dec 2009-Aug 2011	Nuu, Mui, Nguni Div. Mwingi East District, Eastern Prov	Community Action Development Organization (CanDo)	To improve the capability of community members who participate in the project for school management and classroom construction. This includes capability for consensus building among stakeholders, material management, schedule control, construction skills, supervision for skilled labor etc. The classroom construction will be done in 6 primary schools together with community members in Muu, Mui, and Nguni Division in Mwingi East District.
2.	Enhancement and Capacity Building of Health Service Delivery System and its Personnel through Community Based Activities in Western Kenya	Jan 2009 – Dec 2011	Suba District. Nyanza Prov	Nagasaki University	To sustain the improving health status of the local community, establishing sustainable community health programs by the communities in Mbita district, Western Kenya and expanding community-based activities in other related fields (such as income generating activities, environmental protection, improvement of water sources and sanitation).
3.	A Training Course on Applying Skills and theory of Anma (Japanese Style Massage) for the Visually Impaired	Jun 2009 – Mar 2012	Nairobi	International Cooperation Association for the Visually impaired (ICA)	To help visually impaired persons to be able to have an independent life, 6 training courses on “Applying Skill and Theory of Anma” and Basic Medical knowledge to back up the Anma skills will be provided by professional Anma therapists from Japan to acquire basic medical knowledge and advanced skills related to Anma and attitude toward service industry.
4.	Promotion of Maternal and Neonatal Care Focusing on Breastfeeding in Kericho District	Jul 2009 – Jan 2012	Kericho District, Rift Valley Province	Health and Development Service (HANDS)	To increase the number of mothers who practice exclusive breastfeeding (6 months), which will improve the nutrition status of newborns, infants, and children in Kericho District. Also upgrading postnatal and newborn care services at Health Centres, particularly improving the knowledge and skills to promote breastfeeding. To improve the level of postnatal and newborn care at the community, particularly raising the awareness and knowledge on breastfeeding. At the same time, supporting the system for maternal and child healthcare service related to breastfeeding at the Kericho District Medical office.
5.	Small-Scale Water Supply System in Loitokitok District	Nov 2009-Mar 2012	Kimama, Kuku, Loitokitok, and Rombo Loitokitok Dist. Rift Valley Province	International Water Project (IWP)	To improve access to safe water under severe drought situation, Kazusabori technical instructors who were trained in the previous projects conducted by IWP take on the job of teaching and transferring Kazusabori technology to community people in Loitokitok District and construct 12 wells, ponds and set up water tanks with participation of community people under instruction of the instructors. At the same time, Kazusabori technical instructors establish Community Based Organization (CBO) which will be operated and administered for its sustainable development.
6.	The Development and Implementation of Community Project for Reconciliation and Co-existence through Capacity-building of Community Based Organisations (CBOs) after Post-election Violence	Feb 2010-Aug 2012	Naivasha, Nakuru Dist. and Nairobi Central Prov	Japan Centre for Conflict Prevention (JCCP)	To promote grass-roots economic activity and reconciliation through community based activities organized by local CBOs which are trained by the project, improving CBO's capacities on peace-building and project management by conducting the peace-building training and management skills training. After the trainings, supporting capacitated CBO's to implement the actual projects and evaluating the projects to monitor whether reconciliation and coexistence among different tribes and groups are promoted through organizing community projects.
7.	Agriculture Demo Farm Improvement and Technology Transfer with Ownership Development for Glass-Roots Communities in Isinya Town, Kajiado District	Mar 2010-Sep 2011	Isinya, Kajiado Dist. Rift Valley Prov.	The Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA)	To promote agriculture among the target communities, conducting the agricultural technical trainings and enhancing the ownership of Demo Farm. At the same time, repairing the water ponds which were constructed in the previous project.
8.	The Improvement of Guidance And Counseling Department to Decrease the Drop-out Rate of Female Students in Girls Secondary Schools in Garissa, North Eastern Province (NEP)	Oct 2010-Mar 2013	Garissa, North Eastern Province	International Center for Regional Studies, Tenri University	To decrease the drop-out rate of female students of two girls secondary school in Garissa, constructing the separate facility from the existing school building as the guidance and counseling room and improving the guidance and counseling at school by holding the seminar for the teachers.
9.	Community Participatory HIV Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Project in Ukwala Division, Ugenya District	Sep.2011-Aug.2014	Ukwala, North Ugenya, Northwest Ugenya and West Ugenya Locations	Positive Living AIDS orphan Support organization (P LAS)	To promote awareness among community members about the risks of Mother to Child Transmission (MTCT) and importance of prevention of MTCT in the target areas and increase numbers of Antenatal Care (ANC) visits of health facilities.
10.	The Improvement of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Service in Remote Locations in Kericho District	Feb 2012-Jan 2014	Kericho Dist. Rift Valley Province	Health and Development Service (HANDS)	To establish Community Strategy focusing on the improvement of maternal and child health in the pilot area by outreach activities by Community Health Workers of newly established Community Unit system.

Regional Partnership for Sustainable Development

The theme of the TICAD IV Conference of May 2008 was 'Towards a Vibrant Africa: A Continent of Hope and Opportunity.' In line with the above objective, the Regional Strategy Unit for Africa (RSA) of JICA's Kenya Office is charged with supporting region-specific program/project activities in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The year 2011 saw increased support for regional activities in the various sectors prioritized by JICA in Sub-Saharan Africa, such as:

- Regional Integration
- Regional Infrastructure Program
- Transport
- Water Supply
- Health
- One Village One Product (OVOP)
- Technical and Vocational Education (TVET)
- Energy

In these sectors, greater impact and synergy is achieved when activities are implemented across borders.

Regional Integration

The Tokyo International Conference for African Development IV (TICAD IV) set out deep regional integration as one of its key areas of focus for broadening partnership with Africa. This area of focus of TICAD IV is in tandem with the African Union whose inter alia focus area is formulating African Economic Community (AEC) which recognizes eight Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as the building blocks of the Community. In addition, the resultant Yokohama Action Plan espouses support for capacity building of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and regional development banks to better plan, finance and execute infrastructure programs, and provide technical assistance for regional infrastructure investment planning.

Status of Regional Integration

Regional integration efforts in many of Africa's RECs is taking place in a rather varying speed. Notably, in 2011 the EAC achieved Common market status

while other RECs are at nascent stages of carrying out harmonization among the member states.

In recognition of the challenges posited by the overlapping membership and other pertinent challenges within the RECs, the African Union developed a Minimum Integration Programme (MIP) which embodies the activities of the projects and programmes which the RECs need to implement to speed up and ensure the successful conclusion of the regional and continental integration process. The programme takes into cognizance variable geometry integration approach according to which the RECs are expected to progress at different paces towards integration, implement their respective priority programmes and at the same time endeavor to work to actualize other activities contained in the MIP.

A remarkable development in regional integration is the formation of COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite in 2008 comprising of twenty six countries. The Tripartite has adopted a developmental approach to the Tripartite Integration process that will be anchored on three pillars namely: Market Integration based on the Tripartite Free Trade Area (FTA); Infrastructure Development to enhance connectivity and reduce costs of doing business as well as Industrial Development to address the productive capacity constraints. Negotiations for the FTA were launched in 2011.

Harmonization of Vehicle Overload Controls and Regulations

The operations of RECs and to a great extent achievement of the objectives of the envisaged Africa Economic Community have been hampered by infrastructural, institutional, and legal/policy challenges. Individual Partner states in the RECs have continued to use policies and regulations that are not congruent with other cooperating members in the same REC, which are at times counterproductive to the integration agenda. This scenario necessitates harmonization of such policies.

To support regional integration efforts, JICA in collaboration with EAC Secretariat has been working together in harmonization of policies and regulation in the region. An example in 2011 was the study



Project for rehabilitation of hospitals in Uganda. Right: A sectional view of the sedimentation basin in the Project for Rehabilitation of Ngaliema Water Treatment Plant in Kinshasa, DR Congo.

for harmonization of vehicle overload controls and regulations for the East African Community. Prior to this initiative, countries in the EAC region had been using different overload control standards for Gross Vehicle Mass, axle loads, vehicle dimensions and configurations which have had far reaching cost implications on cargo transportation, especially for the landlocked countries of Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda. The results of the study culminated in an agreement by EAC partner states to adopt the same standards which are in line with the SADC regulations. Once the regulations are embodied in an EAC Act, the partner states will then domesticate them into their respective national laws.

Supporting RECs Through JICA Experts

In addition, JICA has dispatched experts in various RECs and regional bodies including EAC, SADC, UEMOA, African Development Bank, and Development Bank of South Africa to support various initiatives in the African region. This is informed by the fact that support for RECs' integration agenda has contiguous positive impacts resonating in a wider area. Further, in 2011 JICA commissioned a baseline study on Regional Economic Communities to identify and understand the status of regional integration. Looking forward, this study will further be extended to a more detailed analysis of the RECs to identify suitable programs and projects in the coming year.

Regional Infrastructure Program

The Japanese Government Grant Aid is an important component of Official Development Assistance (ODA) implemented through JICA. For the Eastern and Central African region, on-going grant aid

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development

projects are monitored by the grant aid section of the Regional Strategy Unit for Africa (RSA). These projects are formulated in collaboration with recipient governments' line Ministries/Agencies taking into cognizance individual country development strategies and plans. Other overarching criteria considered in the process of developing the project include the universally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as TICAD IV's Yokohama Action Plan. The nature of projects implemented in the region fall in different categories including roads, bridges, urban and rural water supply, building works on hospitals and equipment supply.

Transport

In the road sector, JICA has been funding several urban and trunk roads projects in the region through the grant aid scheme. The projects are geared towards decongestion of cities, enhancing commodity, passenger and international logistics. Among the cities that have had road improvement projects in the region are Blantyre in Malawi, Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Nairobi in Kenya, Bujumbura in Burundi, Ndola and Kitwe in Zambia, Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and Mtwara region in a Southern Tanzania. Some of the road projects such as the Masasi-Mangaka Road form strategic links in the region as it is part of the Mtwara Corridor linking Tanzania to Mozambique.

Water Supply

Rural water supply projects involving drilling of boreholes, installation of pumps and construction of storage tanks and public tap-stands have been undertaken in Tigray and Oromia regions in Ethiopia

and Mwanza and Mara regions in Tanzania. All the on-going projects in these regions target a total of 326 boreholes to be drilled and developed together with water supply facilities including reservoirs, elevated tanks, transmission and distribution pipelines.

In Rwanda, a project to improve rural water supply from surface sources is currently under construction. In addition, major water supply projects are being undertaken in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Kenya to augment water supply in Kinshasa and Embu town respectively.

Building and Equipment Supply

To enhance health in the region, JICA has continued to support development of health facilities in existing hospitals in the region. In Uganda, a project for rehabilitation of Hospitals and supply of medical equipment in the central Region is currently underway, targeting Masaka and Mubende Hospitals. The project entails construction of outpatient facilities, laboratory and theatre and supply of medical equipment.

Partnership for Health Systems Strengthening in Africa

As a follow up to the 4th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) and the Preparatory Survey on Human Resources for Health Development in Africa, a regional programme was formulated and launched in 2011. The programme is entitled “Partnership for Health Systems Strengthening in Africa.” It is a five-year programme estimated to cost USD 2.5 million and will run from September 2011 to March 2016.

The programme will be implemented by Kenya’s Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation in collaboration with AMREF which hosts the African Health Leadership and Management Network (AHLMN). AHLMN is a network of institutions engaged in capacity building for health systems strengthening (HSS) in Africa. JICA will provide technical and financial support for this programme.

The purpose of the Programme is to create a critical mass of professionals and their networks with state-of-the-art knowledge on issues around HSS in Africa. These professionals can promote



Signing and Exchange of Record of Discussion.

sustainable human resources development for HSS in their respective countries and settings, through coordinated training programmes in partnership with regional networks of higher training institutions and other stakeholders.

Training will cover critical areas of health system strengthening, including the six health system building blocks of governance, leadership and management; human resources for health; health financing; information systems; pharmaceuticals and medical supplies; and service delivery systems. The programme will initially target 14 AHLMN member countries but will gradually be rolled out to cover more countries in Eastern, Central, Western and Southern Africa.

African OVOP Gains From Asia

The first Asia African One Village One Product (OVOP) seminar held in Thailand between 12th–16th December 2011, was a follow up to the first African Regional OVOP Seminar which took place in Nairobi, Kenya between 8th–11th November 2010. The five day seminar was organized by JICA Kenya Regional Strategy Unit for Africa and the Research Development Institute (RDI) of Khon Kaen University in Thailand. It drew participants from the four countries in the region that are currently at various stages of implementing OVOP. These are Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Malawi.

The Thai OVOP, known as One Tambon One Product (OTOP) was designed by the Thai Government in 2001 as a local entrepreneurship stimulus program, which supports uniquely made products that have market appeal. Villages are encouraged to select products, improve their quality and have them branded as a “starred OTOP product” for

local and international promotion. The seminar aimed at providing participants with the opportunity to learn from Thai's experience the philosophy and implementation subsystem of the OVOP scheme through lectures, discussions and study tours.

At the beginning of the seminar, Participants had expectations derived from the objectives of the seminar. Some of the shared objectives were; understanding the institutional framework that supports OTOP in Thailand, understanding the outreach system, understanding the business support system and the experiences from some of the successful projects in selected areas. All the expectations of the participants were met.



Participants OVOP seminar held in Thailand with the Vice President of Khon Kaen University (seated fourth from right) after the closing ceremony.

Universities and forty Technical Institutions. The country was also honored to have Tumba College of Technology from Rwanda as testers and Nakawa Vocational Training Institute in Uganda as observers.

Students Take The Lead in Robot Building

In 2007, when the late Dr. Osamu Makino, the then JICA's Project Formulation Advisor, visualized that robot assembling would be a suitable entry point to promote engineering, science and technology; many Kenyans never thought that this would ever happen in our country. Makino saw the robot contest as an opportunity to foster and improve robotics education among the youth in Kenya by demonstrating what robots could do as well as appreciating robotics and automation.

The first contest was held in 2008 with participation of only five National Polytechnics in the country, with none of them managing to achieve the target. The last contest which was held in Nairobi on 20th May 2011 attracted participation from three



The 12 best teams with their robots before the final contest.

The Contest

The event was opened by the Assistant Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology, Prof. Kamama. In his speech, he said, "Embracing technology is fundamental in transforming Kenya into a middle level income country by the year 2030".

During the contest, the participating teams were required to design and build a single autonomous robot that would collect six objects in a competition arena and build two towers at the end point. The objects consisted of two green cubes, three blue cubes and three red cubes. The challenge was to build a tower by arranging the objects starting with the red, the blue and finally the green. Only few contestants managed to build the tower.

Judges drawn from JICA and Tekno International, a local engineering firm, declared 'Maabot' (the robot from Masai Technical Training Institute) the winner due to its precision and ability to build the tower as expected.

JICA's Chief Representative in Kenya, Mr. Masaaki Kato who addressed the participants said the contest was indeed a journey of exchanging ideas and exhibiting new innovations by putting in place a strategy that highly emphasizes science, technology and innovation. This could help to transform Kenya into a middle level income country by the year 2030.

JICA Kenya's Support for Neighbouring Countries

JICA Kenya Office is in charge of programs and projects not only in Kenya but also in some of the surrounding countries. These countries are Burundi, Seychelles, Eritrea and Somalia. In Burundi, the JICA Burundi field Office was opened in 2006 as a branch of JICA Kenya Office. JICA activities in Burundi, Seychelles, Eritrea and Somalia are explained as follows:

JICA in Somalia

JICA has suspended assistance for Somalia since 1992, because of collapse of the internationally acknowledged government and the security situation of Somalia. In the meantime, JICA has explored some possibilities to provide assistance for Somalia. As the first intervention after resuming assistance, JICA conducted 'the Training Programme on Health System Management for Somaliland' in September 2011, in Kisumu, Kenya. The programme accepted 16 participants from 'Somaliland'. In the programme, participants obtained some knowledge and skills on health management and leadership through classroom training and site visit to Kisumu West district.

Also, this training programme had unique features: collaboration with UNICEF Somalia and JICA Project for Strengthening Management for Health in Nyanza Province. Since JICA has no physical presence in Somalia, JICA needed support from UNICEF Somalia, which is a leading agency in the health sector in Somalia. On the other hand, JICA has an on-going project on

health management system strengthening in Kenya.

JICA also supports social forestry of Somalia. Two Somali agricultural officers joined the Third Country Training Programme on 'Mitigating Climate Change in Africa through Social Forestry' at Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) in October 2011.

JICA drew from its experiences in Kenya to provide assistance for Somalia. Although JICA still has constraints to provide assistance to Somalia, JICA will continuously seek further possibilities to support the people of Somalia.

JICA in Burundi



OTRACO buses serve various regions of the country.

After the civil war in Burundi, it was essential to distribute peace dividends to its people as quickly and broadly as possible. However, the country faced a significant worsening of the basic living environment.

Thus in 2006, Japan decided to resume bilateral assistance to Burundi. The priority areas for bilateral assistance were the Improvement of Basic Living Environment and Peace Consolidation.

JICA intervened firstly in Improvement of Basic Living Environment. One intervention was the Program for Economic Infrastructure Development and the Program for Maternal/Child Health Care.

With the goal to revitalize the services of public transport of OTRACO (Office de Transport en Commun), JICA's Project of "Rehabilitation of Public Transport



Somaliland participants in a discussion with community members in Kisumu.

in Burundi” started in 2009, with provision of 86 buses through Japanese Grant Aid. In fact, Japan had previously supported OTRACO in 1980s. However, due to the civil war, the public transport system was badly damaged. Consequently, revitalization of OTRACO was very essential for people to move freely and to reconstruct regional economy.

In order to tackle the problems in the field of maternal/child health care, JICA reinforced the capacity of medical staff and provided medical equipment in national hospitals and health centers in Bujumbura. The 5S activities succeeded to improve working environment and to change the attitude of healthcare staff towards their patients. This resulted in a high degree of satisfaction of patients on the service quality for maternal and neonatal care in targeted facilities. The introduction of the concept of “patient-centered care” became a reality.

JICA Burundi continues its partnership with the Burundian Government to improve basic living environment through capacity development and to consequently walk towards a durable peace.

Higher Education in Eritrea: Ladder To Sustainable Development

The hired bus wound its way round unbelievably sharp bends along a narrow road hugging the wall of cliffs bordering the continuous escarpment connecting Eritrea’s capital Asmara to the port city of Massawa. It is an early chilly morning in late October and the beginning of a journey that will take the passengers crisscrossing the country to three towns in four days.

The bus occupants are not tourists, but members of a strong delegation from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) led by the Vice



JKUAT’s Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mabel Imbuga, visits the Eritrea Institute of Technology.



Mr. Semere Amlesom, Dean, Hamelmalo Agricultural College, outlines the activities of the college.

Chancellor Prof. Mabel Imbuga. They are visiting various institutions of higher learning in Eritrea to observe the current status of higher education in the country. Accompanying them is a high powered team consisting of the Academic Vice President, Eritrea Institute of Technology (EIT), Dr. Ghebrebrhan Ogubazghi, Dean, College of Marine Science and Technology (COMSAT), Dr. Zekeria Abdulkarim and Mr. Semere Amlesom, Dean, Hamelmalo Agricultural College (HAC). This is part of the final preparations for commencement of collaboration between JKUAT and the Eritrean National Board for Higher Education (NBHE) under the JICA supported Technical Cooperation Project for the Improvement of Quality and Capacity of Higher Education in Eritrea.

Up until 2004, the University of Asmara was the only institution of higher education in Eritrea and it could not satisfy the ever increasing needs and demands for higher learning in the country. The Government of the State of Eritrea (GoSE) therefore decided to establish seven more institutions in different regions of the country during the 2004/2005 academic year. The government and the NBHE are making their efforts to meet the demand in collaboration with their linkage partners.

In response to a request from GoSE, JICA will support collaboration between JKUAT and the Eritrean National Board for Higher Education (NBHE). The scope of collaboration under the project is planned to cover the following areas;

- i. Joint project management and implementation
- ii. Sharing of laboratory and research facilities
- iii. Institutional capacity building
- iv. Staff exchange and attachment
- v. Student training and attachment
- vi. Exchange and dissemination of information
- vii. Research, innovation and technology development

- viii. Joint curriculum development
- ix. Technology transfer
- x. Intellectual property governance
- xi. Outsourcing

The observation tour includes visits to the three institutions and was crowned by the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between JKUAT and NBHE on 26th October 2011. The Project is expected to commence in 2012.

Clearing Dark Clouds Hanging Over Paradise (Seychelles)

As the plane makes its final approach to touch down at Seychelles International Airport on Mahé Island, locally known as Aéroport de La Pointe la Rue, one's mind is transported to a vision of paradise by the idyllic scenery below. White waves wash up the clean sandy beaches of mountainous forested islands dotted with houses sprinkled along the lower reaches. The hues of blue sea and sky match in the bright sunshine lifting the mood and creating a sense of expectation of good things to come. Surely what can be wrong when everything looks just right? In an interesting twist of reversed roles, while man makes serious attempts to preserve the environment, the forces of nature threaten to destroy it.

The seemingly pristine clean sandy beaches are slowly being eaten up by the ocean. Coastal erosion

is a problem faced by small island states. This seriously threatens some islands such as Seychelles, whose economy heavily relies on tourism. Attempts have been made to construct groynes to stop waves from lapping up the sand. These also serve to inhibit the movement of sand from one beach. This is a natural phenomenon that should logically balance the overall volume of sand but in Mahé Island the currents have been washing it away, leaving some beaches bare.

In a bid to explore the causes and effects of sand movements and find solutions to this issue, the Government of Japan is supporting the Seychelles Ministry of Home Affairs, Environment, Transport and Energy (MHAETE) through the Study for Coastal Erosion and Flood Management in the Republic of Seychelles. Here, a highly experienced Study Team Leader,

Dr. Hiroshi Hashimoto and several other Japanese Experts have been assigned. The Study includes seminars and workshops to enhance the technical knowledge and managerial skills of counterpart personnel.

Through JICA's counterpart training programme, Mr. Nimhan Senaratne, Director, and Mr. Hendrick Figaro, Drainage Inspector, Environmental Engineering and Wetlands Section, Department of Environment have already been trained in Japan. This kind of training enables the counterparts to actually observe and understand Japan's experiences and the measures taken against flood control.



A sandy beach at Beau Vallon in Victoria, Seychelles.