

JICA Namibia Newsletter

Japanese Minister Nishimura Visits the Republic of Namibia and Signs a Joint Statement on Cooperation in the Mining Sector



Mr. Yasutoshi and Mr. Alweendo after signing of joint statement

On August 8, 2023, during his visit to the Republic of Namibia, Mr. Nishimura Yasutoshi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, met with H.E. Mr. Thomas Alweendo, Minister of Mines and Energy, and H.E. Ms. Lucia lipumbu, Minister of Industrialization and Trade.

The ministers held discussions on cooperation to further strengthen ties in the fields of mining, and hydrogen and ammonia, as well as in trade and investment. As outcomes of the discussions, Minister Nishimura signed a joint statement each with Minister Alweendo and Minister lipumbu. The Resident Representative of JICA Namibia, Mr. Takehiro Susaki also joined the mission and witnessed the signing.

Before going to State House, Mr. Nishimura and Japanese Ambassador to Namibia, Mr. Hisao Nishimaki invited seven JICA volunteers, currently working in Namibia and had a breakfast meeting with them.

JICA volunteers reported their activities to the Minister and Ambassador.

Minister Nishimura then showed his interest and empathized the importance and need for the development of mathematics education in Namibia.



Meeting of Japanese delegation with Namibian State House Officials



JICA Volunteers (seated left) with Minister Nishimura and delegation at the residence of Japanese Ambassador to Namibia

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)

Round Table Discussion between H.E. Mr. Morven M. Luswenyo, Namibian Ambassador to Japan and Ex-JICA Volunteers

H.E. Mr. Morven M. Luswenyo, Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Japan, wants to strengthen the relationship and networking with JICA Ex-volunteers. Based on his request, former Japanese Ambassador to Namibia, Mr. Hideaki Harada and former Resident Representative of JICA Namibia Office, Mr. Shiro Nabeya, coordinated the round table discussion between the Namibian Ambassador and JICA Ex-volunteers. Ten JICA Ex-volunteers were invited by Namibian Embassy to Japan in Tokyo on 1st August 2023.

Ambassador Luswenyo expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the role that JICA Volunteers continue to play in Namibia in the fields of education, agriculture and skills development.

The discussion started in a friendly atmosphere. H.E. Ambassador Luswenyo expressed that he is willing to continue setting this kind of engagements in the future, at least twice or three times in a year. He said he believed JICA Ex-volunteers are important friends who love Namibia, and who disseminate a lot of information to Japanese people, on the life in Namibia including cooperation activities between Namibia and Japan.



Seated, Amb. H.E. Harada (left) and Amb H.E. Luswenyo (centre) surrounded by Ex-JICA Volunteers and Embassy of Namibia in Japan staff

Each of the ten JICA Ex-volunteers introduced what he/she did in Namibia, and what he/she is doing after returning to Japan. Majority of them plan to individually organize a special introductory event on Namibia in Japan. H.E. Ambassador Luswenyo offered his availability that he could attend those events that are aimed towards promoting Namibia.

Former Japanese Ambassador to Namibia, Mr. Harada observed that the people of Namibia strongly encouraged and helped the Japanese when they had the "Tsunami" disaster in 2011. The Japanese government and its people will always remember this and thus, continue its development assistance to Namibia.

In total, 160 JICA volunteers have been dispatched to Namibia since 2006, of which more than half worked in the education sector in Namibian.

Japanese Teacher's Study tour with JICA Namibia



Japanese Study group in Sossusvlei on the Big Daddy dune

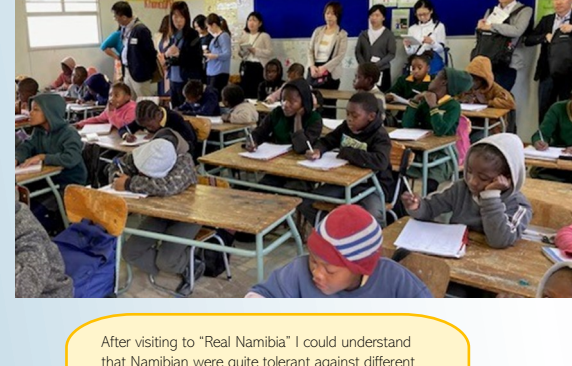
JICA annually invites Japanese teachers interested in education on international development and cooperation to visit developing countries. The invitation is to create an opportunity for Japanese teachers to understand challenges facing developing countries, the dynamics of international development, JICA activities and to deepen the cordial relationship between Japan and developing countries.

They are expected to learn more about developing countries and have first-hand knowledge of current situations, so that they can impart such knowledge and understanding on their students in Japan. The study tour was planned and carried out by JICA Chugoku and JICA Shikoku International Centers for seven days from **09 August, 2023 to 15 August, 2023**.

It was the first time for a JICA Namibia office to run such a study tour. The tour group comprised of 14 members, including two JICA Namibia staffs.

The tour started by visiting Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs), National Institute for Educational development (NIED, in Erongo Region. (Ubasen Primary School) in Omaruru, Ebenhaeser Primary School in Karibib, and NIMT in Arandis.

The study tour was concluded with a visit to Sossusvlei, what a magnificent trip to one of the most beautiful places in Namibia. "The Namib – the oldest desert" in the world. We crossed the gravel plains passed through high mountain passes and cross The Tropic of Capricorn on our way down to the dune fields. Awesome experience. The teachers will have lessons with their learners in Japan, regarding Namibia's beautiful landscapes, Namibian people, and Namibian culture.



As same as almost all of Japanese, I had a little knowledge, like "There was Namib Desert", "We could see wild animals there", on Namibia, before joining this Study Tour. As the preparation of visiting to Namibia, JICA arranged several seminars to learn more about Namibia. It was very helpful for me to understand Namibian people, life and culture.

After visiting to "Real Namibia" I could understand that Namibian were quite tolerant against different culture like languages, tribes and religions.

It might be the back ground why Namibian were so friendly to us. It looked that all JOCV members were enjoying their duties with their counterparts and children

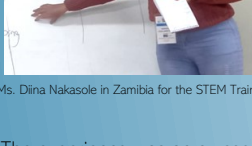
It was only 10 days staying in Namibia, so I could see a few parts of Namibia. Although my understanding on Namibia is still limited, I want to disseminate my experience in Namibia to Japanese people, especially to learners in schools of Japan. I hope that more Japanese will have much interesting to Namibia then they will strengthen interactive cooperation and partnership between Namibian and Japanese.



Japanese Study Group in Walvis Bay at NamPort

Third Country Training Program (Zambia)

This Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) course is specially prepared by the Ministry of Education in Zambia with the support of JICA for the Third Country Training Program (TCTP). The KCCP 2023 course, on the theme **"Enhancing Teacher Professional Growth in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education"** Towards effective STEM Learning Outcomes, aims at providing opportunities for curriculum instructors (teachers and teacher educators at primary and secondary in STEM Education to explore alternative, innovative and promising classroom practices that not only aim at improving learner performance but develop appropriate literacy and life skills needed in the 21st Century, lasted for a month, started on the **05th June to 30th June 2023**.



Ms. Diina Nakasole: Natural Science Teacher (Erongo Region) Erongo Region (Usakas)

The experience was an awesome one. Meeting face to face give one the opportunity to mingle and have discussions in and out of the meeting rooms. This gave me opportunity to learn and understand teaching and learning perspectives in and out of the



Ms. Diina Nakasole in Zambia for the STEM Training

On 19 October, 2023 two (2) JOCV (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers) have arrived in Namibia, after completing two months technical and cultural training in Japan.

They will support the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture in Primary Education (Mathematics) and Special Education respectively.

The volunteers are currently undergoing a one-month In-Country training orientation that will be officially dispatched to their respective recipient organization. The volunteers will stay in Namibia for the next two years.



(Left) Mr. Katsutoshi Tomita: Special Education, Moreson Special School, Windhoek and (Right) Mr. Yosuke Fuki: Primary Education (Mathematics) Donatus Primary School, Otjiwarango

JOURNEY TO JAPAN

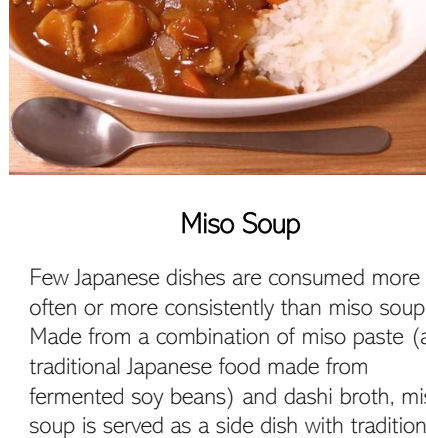
By Ms. Edmunda De Sousa, Programme Officer, JICA Namibia

Japanese Cuisine

Curry Rice

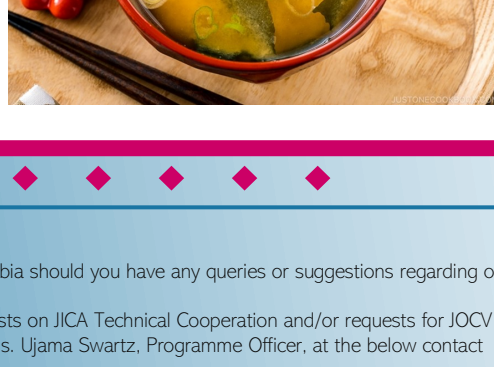
Known in Japanese as kare or kare raisu, Japanese curry differs from the Indian varieties, that it is generally sweeter in flavour, thicker in texture, and prepared more like a stew (with meat and vegetables being cooked by boiling in water together).

Japanese curry is often prepared in Japanese homes with the help of curry roux; blocks of solidified Japanese curry paste that melt into the 'stew' and thicken up to become a flavorful curry sauce.



Miso Soup

Few Japanese dishes are consumed more often or more consistently than miso soup. Made from a combination of miso paste (a traditional Japanese food made from fermented soy beans) and dashi broth, miso soup is served as a side dish with traditional Japanese-style breakfasts, lunches and dinners.



Dear Reader,

Please contact us at JICA Namibia should you have any queries or suggestions regarding our JICA Newsletter. In addition, we welcome requests on JICA Technical Cooperation and/or requests for JOCV requirements. Kindly contact Ms. Ujama Swartz, Programme Officer, at the below contact details. We value your support and thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Yours in development,
Takehiro Susaki

CONTACT US:
Ujama Swartz, Communications, JICA Namibia
Email: Swartz-Ujama@jica.go.jp
JICA Namibia Website: <https://www.jica.go.jp/namibia/english/office/index.html>
Embassy of Japan in Namibia Website: https://www.na.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/about_us.html
17 Liliencron Street, Eros, P/Bag 12407 Ausspanplatz, Windhoek, Tel: +264 61 301236



Mr. Takehiro SUSAKI, Resident Representative of JICA Namibia