



# KAIZEN Newsletter

## Quality and Productivity Improvement Project in Ethiopia

### Diagnosis study of Pilot Project has been launched.

The first phase of the pilot project started in mid-January 2010 and scheduled to be ended in June 2010. As per the agreement signed between KAIZEN project team and pilot companies, fifteen pilot companies which are grouped under the first phase have started to receive diagnosis and guidance of KAIZEN methods from JICA KAIZEN study team together with Ethiopian KAIZEN unit. In this specified period of time, each company will have 10 times visit. The KAIZEN project team has started its activity by collecting

detailed data of each company which is used as an input to make diagnosis and give guidance and most of the companies have shown their keen interest by delivering the required information. According to recommendations given by KAIZEN study team, company based KAIZEN teams who are responsible to disseminate KAIZEN principle to the workers is formed in each company.

by Kemila Abdela, KU member

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How 5s in English can be expressed in Amharic? See page 4.

- Set
- Set in order
- Shine
- Standardize
- Sustain

.....  
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### One day in Pilot Project with JICA Senior Vice President

JICA's Senior Vice President Mr. Oshima visited Ramsay Shoe factory P.L.C, one of the Pilot Project for KAIZEN project in Ethiopia. On the visit, Mr. Zelalem, the General Manager welcomed Mr. Oshima and made a brief presentation about his company. Mr. Getahun Tadesse, Head of Ethiopian KAIZEN Unit of MoTI (KU) explained about quality and productivity improvement project in Ethiopia which is undertaken jointly with JICA. Mr. Oshima, JICA's Senior Vice President made a remark with appreciation to the work done so far; emphasizing the importance of quality and produc-



JICA's Vice President, Mr. Ohshima (third from the left) at a factory.

tivity in the export led market to stay competent in the global market. He also mentioned the worth of KAIZEN to Ethiopia, wishing all the best for the success of the project in the country.

By Zemedkun Akleweg, KU member

## Study tour to Egypt

Four KAIZEN unit members and JICA staff visited to Egypt KAIZEN Center to learn from their experience through on-site study from 21 - 23 Dec 2009.

During the visit, the team met and discussed with the staff members of the Egyptian KAIZEN centre in the Ministry of Trade and Industry Office. On the meeting a brief presentation was provided touching upon several topics like when and how their KAIZEN centre established, vision of the

centre, support from JICA to the centre, service provided by the centre and how to promote the KAIZEN activities.

On the second day the team has visited one of the client's factory working with the centre and observed how the Japanese consultants provide the factory with their consultation services.

By Delo Benka,, KU member



Team with Mr. Yoshi from JICA in front of the pyramid.

## Study tour to Tunisia

A team led by Ato Getahun Tadesse, head of KAIZEN Unit which was composed of Mr. Yoshiaki Noguchi from JICA Ethiopia office and other three KAIZEN Unit members made a study tour to Tunisia from January 12 to January 15, 2010.

During the visit, the team had fruitful discussions with JICA Tunisia office and Ministry of Industry, Energy and SME's higher officials and experts about the completed KAIZEN pilot project and Master plan preparation, components of which were similar to the project being applied in Ethiopia; and the ongoing second project which focuses on "Continuation of the first project for the sustainability of KAIZEN in Tunisia" .

The team has also visited the Technical Centre of Agro-Food Sector (CTAA) and Technical Centre of Mechanical and Electrical Industries (CETIME). Since these centres are active participants of KAIZEN projects, the team had a chance to know how they support the factories which are included in the project.

Two model factories where the KAIZEN pilot project was applied were visited by the team. The first one was SOFTEN S.C which is manufacturer of Solar panel. The management of the company revealed that their factory got huge benefit by applying KAIZEN concept and the team also visited the factory and discussed how it was improved. The second visited factory was BOUDJEBEL S.A VACPA which is dates processing and packing unit. The team discussed with factory managements and visited the production area and understand that this factory has also achieved good improvement in productivity and work environment.

Generally, the visit created opportunity to share Tunisian experience with the team and in return the team have got valuable lessons and recommendations how to apply KAIZEN.

By Gerawork Ketsela, KU member

During the visit, the team had fruitful discussion with JICA Tunisia office...

- Study tour to Tunisia by Gerawork Ketsela



Dates processing factory visit in study tour in Tunisia.

## Coming Soon ! Study tour to Japan

In addition to the on-the-job trainings through Pilot Project as well as visits to the Egypt and Tunisia, two-weeks study tour to Japan are scheduled by JICA in mid-May 2010 for KAIZEN Unit members and representatives from 30 selected companies, so that they are exposed to social system of KAIZEN at its birth place.

The objectives of study tour in Japan is 1)to further enhance techniques of KAIZEN in addition to techniques obtained from In-House

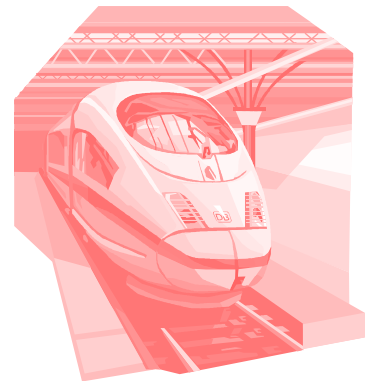
Training and On-the Job trainings, 2)to provide opportunities to learn KAIZEN at the firm-level in its birth-place, and 3)to provide a venue where training participants shall be involved in active exchange of views and experiences of KAIZEN with owners, managers and employees of Japanese companies. A total of 40 peoples shall be invited. They shall be divided into two groups and invited two different industrial areas in Japan, respectively.

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- Coming Soon! Study tour to Japan

## Program in Central area in Japan

This program is mainly for managers from thirty selected companies. Central area (Chubu in Japanese,) of Japan here refers mainly to Aichi prefecture, where most of Japan's manufacturer such as Toyota and its related companies are located. It locates a few hours from Tokyo by Japan's rapid (bullet) train 'Shinkansen' . Representative from

companies at management level may have chances to visit Tokyo on weekend to find possible business opportunities.



"Shinkansen" , takes you from Chubu area to Tokyo in few hours.

## Program in Kyushu area in Japan

This program is for KU and some from companies. Kyushu area is located in south part of Japan where mountainous landform made itself one of the richest industrial areas due to its coal resources. Kyushu area is one of the biggest industrial bands in Japan, especially famous for metal productions. In addition to this,

experts from Egypt attended the similar training course in this area. The programme will include lectures on KAIZEN techniques, observation on KAIZEN activities at a factory, interviews and discussions with owners, managers and employees of companies and the like.



Kyushu is famous for metal production.

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## 5s in English / Japanese / Amharic

No	English	Japanese	Amharic
	<b>5S</b>		<b>5ሣ</b>
1	Sort	整理	ማጣራት
2	Set in order	整頓	ማስቀመጥ
3	Shine	清掃	ማፅዳት
4	Standardize	清潔	ማላመድ
5	Sustain	躰	ማዘለቅ