

JICA RWANDA News

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Electricity supply to more than 40,000 households

The project for Improvement of substations and Distribution Network is expected to handle low access rate and several power outage caused by the deteriorated electrical equipment.



Jabana substation installation work

Photo Kenshiro Imamura/JICA

On 21st August, in Musha Rwamagana District was held the launching ceremony of the project Improvement of substations and Distribution Network, a project implemented by EWSA under JICA support.

The project will upgrade the power system voltage in Musha and Rwinkwavu from 70kV to 110 kV which will handle low access rate sand several outages caused by the deteriorated electrical equipment in substations and distribution network.

The Minister of Infrastructure Prof. Silas Lwakabamba who officially launched the project appreciated the support of Japanese government in helping Rwanda to achieve its target of increasing electricity to 70% of the population by 2017.

“Electricity is important for the country’s development and the installed substation will help in electrification of health centers, schools, house-

holds and increase private sector investments in the area”, the Minister affirmed.

The Ambassador of Japan in Rwanda Mr. Ogawa Kazuya who also attended the ceremony declared that Japan attaches a high value to economic infrastructure development for economic growth in African countries.

“Under Yokohama Declaration 2013, we promised to contribute to accelerate the development of key hard infrastructure including energy, in both urban and rural areas because we know that they promote creation of new markets by linking consumers to producers” Hon. Ogawa added.

The implementation of the project is held in Jabana and Gikondo in Kigali, Rwinkwavu and Musha in the Eastern Province and Huye in Southern Province.●

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JICA Volunteer Tsuda Toru in his class

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Ambassador Ogawa and Minister Gatete

10th Annual Policy Dialogue on Japanese ODA



Ambassador Ogawa and PS of MINAFFET Mrs Marie Baine at Policy Dialogue on Sept 27th

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55,000 access clean water

The project is designed to supply safe drinking water to Kirehe and Ngoma



The inauguration of water supply facilities including 7 systems, pipeline of 109.8 km length and 109 public taps stands was held in Kirehe on 21st August 2013.

The facilities were constructed since May 2011 after Japan and Rwanda had signed Rural Water Supply Grant Aid Phase II and were expected to bring clean water closer to 55,000 people of Kirehe and Ngoma on a cost of 14 million USD donated by JICA.

In the target zone of the project, access to clean water has increased from 41.6 in 2008 to 57.4% this year.

The population delegate has mentioned that people of Kirehe are thankful of the great achievement. The population has been facing different challenges such as water borne diseases, time spent on water drawing labor for women and students, which affected their everyday life. Water tariff was very high sometimes reaching 200 rwf per jerrican, but the facilities

brought hope that this was going to change, currently a jerrican is charged 30 rwf.

The State Minister in charge of energy and water in MININFRA Ms. Emma Isumbingabo who was the guest of honor at the inauguration commended strong cooperation of all concerned to insure operation and maintenance for sustainable water service.

Ambassador Ogawa also mentioned that in addition to supporting basic infrastructure necessary for water supply, Japan is concerned with capacity building through technical assistance for better management of the facilities. Eight JICA Volunteers have been dispatched in Eastern Province to cooperate with communities at the grass-root level for this purpose.

The 2011 reports say that national access to clean water is 74.2% and Rwanda set the objective of reaching 100% access to clean water by 2017.

WORD FROM SAMUEL SANGWA, JICA Industrial Development Coordinator

SME fair adds value to Kibeho pilgrimage

Deriving from the principle "Think Globally, Act Locally" as elaborated under the "One Village One Product" (OVOP) approach, the Kibeho pilgrimage was identified as an opportunity for SMEs to brand, market and sell their products and/or services.

The Kibeho fair held from 14th to 16th August brought together 22 business groups mainly dealing with handicrafts and food processing.

The Kibeho SME Fair provided room to SMEs to generate incomes while offering a selling point area whereby tourists, both

local and international, enjoy and purchase local and standardized innovative products such as food, beverages, handicraft and souvenirs along the pilgrimage activities.

The groups gained exposure enabling them hear customer's voice and identify market demand. It was also an opportunity to sell their products. Umumara Nyota group of Gisagara producing banana beer sold out all its products amounting to 800,000 Frws.

This fair will continue to be held annually in Kibeho at the same dates of pilgrimage. ●

JICA IN THE MEDIA

Rusumo bridge gets Rwf15.8 billion boost

The New Times

07 July 2013

RAB, JICA seek to boost rice production in Eastern Province

The New Times

15 August 2013

Govt launches multi-million water and electricity projects

The New Times

23 August 2013

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Second Irrigation advisor was dispatched to MINAGRI

Evaluation mission for ECOPD project

Policy Dialogue between Rwanda and Japan to discuss future projects

The 8th Rusumo JTC will be held to discuss on Project inauguration ceremony

OCTOBER

JCC for ECOPD Project to discuss the findings of evaluation mission

Terminal Evaluation of the Project for Capacity Building for Efficient Power System Development in Rwanda

Senior Advisor in charge of TVET will be dispatched to WDA for Two Years

NOVEMBER

Project on Capacity Development for International Trade Facilitation in the EAC will start

Follow up cooperation on Rural Water Supply Phase I will start in Rwamagana, Kayonza & Kirehe Districts

Second SME fair will be held in Kibeho

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Science and computer technology day, a day of discovery

Experiment is crucial in learning science



Science Summit held in Gahini Secondary School in 2012

Photo Kenshiro Imamura/JICA

Science and Computer day was organized at Doctrina Vitae Secondary School on September 14th under the initiative of Mr. Toru Tsuda, JICA Volunteer physics teacher at the school.

This annual event is organized in collaboration with other volunteers working in education sectors with aim of increasing students' interest in science subjects (physics, chemistry and biology), make them be aware that science

is in our daily life and environment, strengthen their curiosity and improve their motivation of learning sciences.

Different experiments were presented by JICA Volunteers such as State diagram of water, forming and properties of Carbon dioxide, Observation of vegetable cell, Atmospheric pressure, State diagram of water, making battery, and the students enjoyed to discover that they knew many of these subjects in theory but it was amazing

to see what they are practically.

One of the students at the school, who participated in making battery, Alice Uwizeyimana said "this event inspired me to get more skills of how to make chemical substances; how to get some solutions combined together to produce some new products, for example I discovered how we can produce the electric energy combining saturated salt solutions with charcoal and aluminum coil".

JICA Chief Representative attended the event and appreciated how these activities initiated by volunteers are being spread and gaining more partners.

JICA Volunteer Tsuda affirmed that students were so much inspired by the event and wish to have many of them regularly. The event was an occasion to change students' mind for Science and has successfully achieved its purpose.

Mr. Tsuda plans to keep students' high motivation and interests in Science for a long time through his daily lesson with my colleague.

Four KOICA Volunteers and Rwanda Youth Science Society leader participated in the science and computer technology day. ●

JPY 300 million Non-Project Grant Aid signed

Japan and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning today signed a 300 million Japanese Yen Non-Project Grant Aid to promote the Government of Rwanda's socio-economic development efforts.

The Non-Project Grant Aid will provide foreign currency for import of goods (industrial material such as petroleum and steel products etc.) necessary to promote economic and social development efforts by the Government of Rwanda. .

In addition, the profits which should arise from sales and lease of the goods procured under the grant, so called Counterpart Fund, can be used for development projects in Rwanda. ●

10th Annual Policy Dialogue

On 27th September, Japan and Rwanda held the 10th Annual Policy Dialogue on Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Rwanda.

Both parties stressed that the policy dialogue is an important forum for common understanding towards current and future direction of cooperation in order to maximize gains.

The Rwandan side expressed satisfaction over Japanese support in its allocated sectors which are key to Rwanda's development. A large number of Japanese commit-

ments were fulfilled including the OSBP Project which is progressing well.

Japan vowed to continue its support mainly in 4 assistance Programs through JICA:

- . Improvement of Economic Infrastructure
- . Promotion of Value Added Agriculture and Business
- . Improvement of Water and Sanitation
- . Strengthening Education and Training in Science and Technology. ●

International News

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JICA Reaches Out to West Africa for Regional Economic Integration

The share of world exports represented by Africa has for decades been tiny, and today it is slightly above 3 percent.

Meanwhile, Asia's share has reached more than 20 percent, having more than doubled since 1990, according to World Trade Organization statistics.

Africa's interregional trade also remains consistently low, currently accounting for only 12 percent of its share of global trade.

With increasing recognition that a key to sustainable economic growth lies in trade promotion, JICA has since 2007 assisted in streamlining customs administration, training customs officials and developing large-scale transport infrastructure for facilitating interregional trade, an effort known as One Stop Border Posts, in countries in East and South Africa.

Last October the agency also launched a two-year technical cooperation initiative in West Africa and

dispatched experts on customs administration to the West African Economic and Monetary Union (known also by its French name Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine, or UEMOA) in a bid to facilitate trade in the region.

The Namanga border between Kenya and Tanzania links East Africa with Ethiopia to the north and with Malawi to the South.

As part of its effort to boost trade efficiency in West Africa, JICA co-hosted a high-level customs dialogue in West African countries in cooperation with the Japan Customs and UEMOA last June in Ouagadougou, the capital city of Burkina Faso, where UEMOA is located. The meeting was attended by key persons in customs administration from the eight member countries of UEMOA; Ghana and Nigeria, member countries of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); representatives of the World Customs Organization; representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(UNODC); representatives from the African Development Bank; and others to promote an interregional partnership and share efforts and challenges faced in customs administration and its modernization.



The Namanga border between Kenya and Tanzania links East Africa with Ethiopia to the north and with Malawi to the South.

JICA President Tanaka Holds Talks With KOICA President Kim.

JICA President Akihiko Tanaka held talks with Korean International Cooperation Agency President Kim Young-mok Sept. 2 at JICA headquarters in Tokyo.

KOICA is a development agency that carries out grant aid and technical cooperation for developing countries on behalf of Korea. It was established in 1991.

"JICA and KOICA have held annual consultation meetings three times. There are many compatible elements

between JICA and KOICA" said Tanaka, indicating an eagerness to strengthen relations between the two development institutions.

President Kim said, "I would like to extend the partnership and go further. I am looking forward to joint cooperation projects on the ground."

They spoke frankly, touching on the possibility of joint projects in Asia and Africa in specific fields. ●

Contact Us

JICA RWANDA News is a quarterly newsletter which focuses on JICA's international perspectives and its involvement in local economic development. This newsletter details the work of JICA in Rwanda.

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JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) is the world's largest bilateral aid agency providing various forms of assistance in over 150 countries around the world.