

JICA RWANDA News

JANUARY - MARCH 2016 • NUMBER 26 • KIGALI

18.4 Million USD Grant Signed

The grant will be used for Improvement of Substations and Distribution Network (Phase 2)



MINECOFIN Minister Claver Gatete with JICA Chief Representative Takahiro Moriya signing the agreement

On 8th March 2016, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a grant agreement (G/A) with the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to provide grant aid of up to 2.219 billion yen, equivalent to 18.4 million USD for the Project for Improvement of Substations and Distribution Network (Phase2).

The project will construct the substation in Ndera and expand associated power transmission and distribution facilities in Kigali to stabilize the power supply with higher efficiency.

“This support will ensure efficient distribution of power which is crucial for our development. It is in line with the country’s goals such as EDPRS 2 and Vision 2020, whose power generation target is to reach 563MW by 2017/18”; said the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Claver Gatete after the signing event.

With the economy growing at a rapid annual rate of approximately 7% in recent years, Rwanda is unable to keep up with the demand for power which is growing more than 10 percent each year. The amount of power consumed in Kigali accounts for approximately 64 % of the country’s total power consumption, but investment in the power distribution network has fallen short of what is needed for

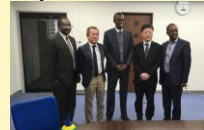
the power consumption. If the improvement is not boosted to a suitable level, major substations in Kigali could be overloaded, and there are concerns that an unstable supply of power could become a major impediment to economic activities and people’s daily lives.

By constructing and expanding the substations and power distribution network, this project will avoid the risk of a large-scale power outage, enable a stable supply of power, reduce power loss, and improve the electrification rate in Kigali, having a positive impact not only on the economy but also on education, welfare and health care.

“I would like to say that it is the sincere hope of the people of Japan and the Japanese Government that this grant will contribute to promote a stable power supply in Kigali. The effective use of this electricity will not only stimulate economic activities but also make daily life convenient”; said Tomio Sakamoto, Charge d’Affaires at the Embassy of Japan in Rwanda in his remarks after signing the Exchange of Notes for the project on the same day.●

INSIDE PAGES

Coffee Market Exploration



Rwandan Baristas Workshop



Science workshop in Deaf School



JICA Expert Hayashi finishes his mission



Food Transformation Center launched by JAAR



Project News

JANUARY - MARCH 2016 ● NUMBER 26 ● KIGALI

Page 2

Coffee Market Exploration

JICA and NAEB expand the cooperation in the coffee sector



Rwandan coffee mission visit to Japanese company importing coffee

In the last week of January 2016, a delegation from Rwanda made one week visit to Kobe, Osaka, Yokohama and Tokyo. The mission's purpose was to explore coffee market potentials in Japan.

Jean Claude Kayisinga, Deputy CEO of NAEB, Eric Ruganintwali, Division Manager in NAEB and Pierre Kamere Munyura, President of Coffee Exporters and Processors Association (CEPAR) got the opportunity to visit several companies in Japan and discussed the challenges that Rwandan coffee faces on the Japanese market.

Three main points were discussed between the Rwandan mission and the Japanese companies:

- Potato defect: Rwandan coffee was many times judged to have a potato taste and that's the information that many Japanese companies still have. The Rwandan delegation informed them that a research by Michigan State University has been conducted and potato defect cases have reduced

remarkably.

- Access to information: Japan is looking for good quality coffee. Therefore, marketing efforts from Rwandan exporters to Japanese importers are very important so that Japanese companies can deliver specific message to Japanese roasters and consumers. Delivering information on comparative advantages of Rwandan coffee, tastes by region, quality and cup profiling according to the demands of Japanese importers and consumers are points to consider.

- Logistics: Rwanda uses Free on Truck (FOT) operation which is very risky for Japanese companies due to the distance from Rwanda to Japan. Rwanda has to make adjustment to gain more from Japanese market.

Local farmers are encouraged to drink coffee if they are to understand the quality of coffee.

Also, there should be a clear way to improve extension service for coffee farming. Research and Development on coffee in public or private institutions are also needed.●

RWANDAN BARISTAS' WORKSHOP

Upgrading coffee brewing skills

In the beginning of February 2016, JICA Senior Advisor on Coffee Mr. Yoshiaki "Jose" Kawashima also known as "Coffee Hunter" visited Rwanda for supporting Rwandan coffee industry to improve coffee quality to expand export market base including Japanese coffee market.

From his first visit to Rwanda in 2013, Jose Kawashima found high potential of Rwandan coffee to reach more lucrative market due to good climatic condition suitable for coffee growing. In his tours and discussions with several stakeholders in the industry, he found out that Rwanda needs more improvement along the value

chain from cultivation to processing as well as export logistics. He has also noticed weak emphasis on domestic coffee consumption compared to its potential. Rwanda attracts many international tourists and visitors who are interested in Rwandan coffee.

That is why this year Kawashima brought an experienced Japanese barista to train Rwandan baristas in brewing good cups of coffee. The Barista workshop provided 25 baristas from hotels and cafes in Kigali with the necessary knowledge and skills in preparation and serving of specialty coffee drinks.●

JICA IN THE MEDIA

Japan in drive to improve agricultural productivity through irrigation

The New Times
22nd January 2016

New policy tailors TVET to labour market needs

The New Times
8th February 2016

Japan boosts energy distribution programme with Rwf14 billion

The New Times
9th March 2016

CALENDAR

MARCH

Nine Rwandans are leaving for Japan on Masters Scholarships under JICA Training Program

Record of Discussions for Non- Revenue Water Project to be signed between JICA&WASAC

Three volunteers held a lecture on marketing and business promotion to Bugesera Vocational and Training Center

One JICA Volunteers arrive and three ended their two years mission. Total number will be 43 volunteers working in Rwanda

APRIL

Construction work for Rural Water Supply Project (Phase III) starts in Gatsibo, Kayanza and Ngoma Districts

MAY

Rice Seed Initiative working week under CARD Initiative

World Economic Forum in Kigali to be attended by high- level delegation from JICA and Kobe city

Project News

JANUARY - MARCH 2016 ● NUMBER 26 ● KIGALI

Page 3

SCIENCE WORKSHOP IN DEAF SCHOOL

Deaf students can discover and enjoy sciences



JICA Volunteers demonstrate experiment to deaf students using sign language

JICA Volunteers teachers forming the Better Experiment in Science Teaching (BEST) group organized a science workshop at Butare Deaf and Dumb Center on 5th March 2016.

The school dedicated to the children with talking and hearing disability hosted a JICA Volunteer Ayaka Takahashi since August 2015 and she is teaching art, drawing, swimming and reading. However, there is no science course taught in the school.

“I wanted to expose my students to science since they don’t even know what it means. An opportunity to observe simple experiments in science would incite their curiosity to ask themselves ‘why’ from what they see in their daily life”; explains Ayaka on the purpose of holding science workshop at her school.

Two different sessions were prepared, one for students of less than 10 years and the other for older ones.

The younger group observed the sink and float experiments and the older experienced the heating and hot balloon experiments.

“The students were excited at the experiments despite the communication challenges and that made us feel the workshop was successful indeed” says Kenshi Asano, member of BEST.

Joyce, one of the students who attended the workshop said it was her first time to learn what she saw. “I and my colleagues were interested in the lessons as well as friendship with Japanese. I wish to see them coming back soon”.

Patrick is a secondary school teacher who supported the volunteers in sign language. He also said the students gained a lot from the experience and they hope to have similar activities and apply the experiment approach to introduce other lessons because the students had a lot of curiosity and were following without getting distracted or bored. ●



JICA Expert Hayashi finishes his mission

Hayashi Toshiyuki is the expert on power development planning and rural electrification working as Senior Advisor on energy attached to the Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) since 2007. His contribution to the development of Rwanda’s Energy sector will remain unforgettable for all those who met and worked with him.

“I personally have been impressed at his knowledge and wise attitude. I learned a lot from him”; Placide Nkunzwenimana, JICA staff

who worked closely with him says

He worked hand in hand with MININFRA and REG and supported them to excel in internal working mechanism, developing individual as well as institution capacity in their own methods. He provided skills and knowledge to equip the staff to deal well with stakeholders, work with private companies, make good projects and choose good contractors.

JICA wishes Mr. Hayashi all the best back home. ●

TCT partnership with Jomo Kenyatta University

Under the project of strengthening the capacity of Tumba College of Technology (TCT), JICA Expert Prof. Manabu Tsunoda from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) with other Kenyan professors visited TCT to explore ways of partnership.

The Kenyan University is big and advanced in technology and TCT has a lot to learn from it especially on capacity building of their staffs.

The JKUAT delegation

made a two day visit to TCT and learnt about the current status of the students and staff activities and discussed the potential collaborations between the two institutions.

It is expected that this partnership will focus in Research methodology and writing, network administration, automation system, micro hydro power technology and solar photovoltaic courses to begin with and expand further. ●

Country Report

JANUARY - MARCH 2016 ● NUMBER 26 ● KIGALI

Page 4

Food Transformation Center Project launched by JAAR



Participants at the Transformation Center launching

Food processing industry in Rwanda handles approximately 8% of the available raw materials. With this, it's obvious that the agro-processing industry is still at an infancy stage despite some efforts to establish processing firms. Reported post-harvest losses of foods are 40%. In order to minimize these losses, some combined efforts like establishing tangible technology in post-harvest sector, training of farmers on post-harvest issues are needed.

It is with this regard that JICA Alumni Association of Rwanda (JAAR) formulated a project to start a food transformation center that will deal with food processing. Tomatoes, milk, mangoes, amarathus, soybean and soybean sprouts are targeted in this project.

The center is expected to build the capacity of small scale food proces-

sors through training in processing, transformation and marketing skills. Improved post-harvest technologies will make important impacts on food security and economic development through improving process efficiency, product quality and availability.

Habanabakize Thomas, president of TMI Cooperative producing tomatoes in Gahanga sector said that since they received training with the support of JAAR on tomatoes processing into ketchup and jam they saved a lot of money. "Before, when it was harvest season, tomato price was very low and we couldn't manage keeping the remaining yield from market. This was not beneficial to the cooperative. But after learning tomato processing to preserve losses, our benefit increased three times than before.

The main objective of his Centre is to empower small-scale processing business (especially those run by women) through the use of appropriate cost-effective technologies and improved quality assurance and market access strategies especially in transformation technology.

This center will generate the required knowledge in the world of transfor-

mation and to facilitate enabling policies and promote the validated technologies for Agriculture products for income generation, food security and improved nutrition in the country.

Speaking at the launching event held on 29th February 2016, Afred Rutebwa who represented the Ministry of Agriculture said that the creation of the center is timely and is in line with the priorities of the Ministry.

JAAR intends to contribute to the development of the country based on the knowledge and skills benefited from JICA sponsored training. ●



Tomato jam and ketchup made by TMI Cooperative members through JAAR

Non-Revenue water project to start soon

According to the EICV4 conducted in 2013/2014, access to improved source of drinking water reached 85%. However WASAC, which manages the water and sanitation services in Rwanda, is facing challenges such as intermittent water supply due to limited supply capacity and the high rate of Non-Revenue Water (NRW).

Although WASAC has a target that NRW rate should be reduced to 25% by 2020, some challenges are to be addressed such as insufficient practical action plan to reduce NRW, insufficient basic knowledge and skills for NRW rate in 4 branches in Kigali and lack of information to assess major

causes of NRW. JICA is going to support WASAC through a technical cooperation project by dispatching experts to enhance WASAC's operational and financial management capacity in order to reduce water losses and increase water revenues.

The project will prepare a 5 year strategic Action Plan for NRW, inventory survey of water works facilities in 6 branches in Kigali and provide technical advice to 14 other branches; providing necessary equipment such as flow meter, pressure gauge and gate valves as well as helping maintenance of those equipment. ●

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.

Editors: Mr. Atsuki Sakamoto, PR Manager and Mrs. Christine Rwampungu, PR Officer

JICA RWANDA
EBENEZER HOUSE,
Umuganda Boulevard, Kigali, Rwanda
Tel 0788301732/31/23
Website : www.jica.go.jp/

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.