

# JICA RWANDA News

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## The Main Corridor to the Indian Ocean Officially Launched *Kagitumba- Kayonza- Rusumo roads under construction*



The Kagitumba-Rusumo Road Improvement Project which goes across Rwanda between the borders with Uganda and Tanzania was officially launched in a ceremony held on the project site on 8th February 2018. The road connects the both borders as a crucial route for international transport in the East African region. It connects to Mombasa Kenya via Ugandan capital Kampala from Uganda side, and on the side of Tanzania, it also connects to the port of Dar Es Salaam.

The road has been supported by AfDB, the EU along with Japan. JICA supports the Rusumo-Kayonza part of the Project with its first ODA loan project from the Government of Japan for 27 years. The objective of this project is to rehabilitate a part of the Central Corridor. The route was constructed in 1978 and needs to be improved for safe transport for heavy trucks.

At the ceremony, the Minister of Infrastructure, Mr. Musoni James reiterated the importance of this road and recognized the importance of partnership to implement this project not only bilaterally but also with a synergy of donors financing the whole project from Rusumo to Kagitumba via Kayonza.

JICA's support to the transportation sector also ex-

tended to the Rusumo OSBP (One-Stop Border Post) operationalization including the construction of international bridge and the border facilities on the both sides of the Rusumo Border between Tanzania. The OSBP facilities were inaugurated in April 2016 with attendance of H.E. President Kagame and President Magufuli of Tanzania, which was followed by operationalization of OSBP soon after. Rusumo-Kayonza Road is a part of JICA's efforts to support Rwanda's Transport Sector which aims to develop the country through increased trade with other part of the world. The road has become ever more important in this sense. After the completion of those projects, the number of trucks from Tanzania has increased drastically and gives burden to the road condition.●



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Panel Discussion

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## Every Life Matters

### JICA's Vice President in the Pan African Health Conference of SDGs Center for Africa



Vice President Toda on Panel Discussion

On 8th and 9th March 2018 in Kigali, JICA's Vice President Dr. Takao TODA participated in the pan African conference on health organized by the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A), titled "SDGC/A Health Conference—Every Life Matters: Building and Strengthening Accountability in African Health Systems". Over 500 representatives of governments, private sectors, civil societies and education/academic institutions from 32 African countries joined the conference—including

Dr. Beley Begashaw, Director General, SDGC/A, Hon Amb. Claver Gatete, Minister of Finance, Rwanda, Hon Dr. Diane Gashumba, Minister of Health, Rwanda, and Dr. Silvia Paula Valentim Lutucuta, Minister of Health, Angola.

Dr. Toda made a key note speech together with Dr. Begashaw (SDGC/A) and Hon. Amb Gatete (Finance Minister) and joined the high level panel discussions. In line with the result of the discussion of UHC (Universal Health Coverage) Forum in December 2018 in Tokyo, Dr. Toda addressed that UHC is not just an issue of health sector, but the essential elements for nation building and the precondition for the qualitative growth and fair society. Dr. Toda therefore emphasized the importance to engage in the UHC from the early stage of the development, and made great impact on the participants from all African countries. ●

## Kigali Economic Development will be Boosted Up by Energy Support



A new substation in the Kigali Economic Special Zone is now under construction for addressing the needs for economic development of Kigali City as well as people's life. The construction and installment of new transformers and other equipment in the new Ndera Substation is now being in earnest by this project of "Improvement of substation and distribution network (Phase 2)" by JICA.

It is expected the power situation of Kigali City will dramatically be improved by the project for further economic growth of the country. The related transmission lines and

distribution lines will also be improved through the Project.

One of the major challenges faced by Rwanda's energy Sector has been the efficiency in power transmission and distribution which requires adequate infrastructure to accommodate the increasing electricity load Rwanda has gained recently. Since 2011, JICA has been supporting Rwanda, by implementing Grant Aid Projects with noticeable achievements such the newly constructed substations in Eastern Province.

Noticing the importance of this kind of projects, the two Governments are planning to sign another Grant Agreement to finance the construction of a new Substation in Gasogi area to strengthen the power supply stability in Kigali City in particular and in Rwanda in general. ●

## JICA IN THE MEDIA

*JICA enhances support on teachers' continuous professional development at district and sector levels*

The New Times  
31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

*Rwanda: Coffee Export Receipts Increase to Rwf55.3 Billion in 2017 - Report*

The New Times  
27<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## CALENDAR

### APRIL

SHEP(Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion) Training in South Africa attended by RAB officers

Reporting session by five long term trainees finished Master's Degree under the course of "Strengthening of Education Administration & Management"

### MAY

Japan Pavilion will be hosted by the Government of Japan and JICA at Transform Africa Summit inviting Japanese companies to expand their business to Rwanda and Africa

Lightning Protection Training in Japan participated by Rutsiro District Officers and ICT Chamber members, hosted by Otowa Electric Co., Ltd under JICA's Private Partnership Program

### JUNE

An international conference for water management in Agriculture hosted by SDGs Center for Africa

JICA will be at Agri Show hosted by MINAGRI to demonstrate its agriculture related activities



## Karate Japan Ambassador's Cup

### JICA Volunteer contributed to Karate promotion in Rwanda



Medal winners in Karate Japan Ambassadors cup pose for a group photo.

On Saturday 10th February 2018, the Embassy of Japan in Rwanda in partnership Rwanda Karate Federation (FERWAKA) organized a Karate tournament called "Karate Japan Ambassadors' cup." This event took place at Remera Amahoro small stadium and it gathered more than 250 Karate players from 21 Karate teams from various parts of Rwanda.

The Ambassador of Japan to Rwanda Mr. Takayuki Miyashita and officials

in the Ministry of Sport and culture were attended the event to celebrate Karate culture in Rwanda.

JICA was part of this event because Mr. Yuji Kazuki, a Japanese volunteer, has coached Rwanda Karate national team for two years and he also performed kata during this event. He had traveled around the country, introduced and teach students more than 1,000 during his stay in Rwanda for two years.

H.E. Amb. Takayuki Miyashita appreciated the participants in this tour-

namment and announced that the Government of Japan decided to provide karate Karate equipment including 400 tatami mats which will arrive in Kigali in a few months and encouraged FERWAKA to utilize the equipment in karate competitions including the Pan-African Karate Championship to be held in Kigali this in coming August.

Mr. Theo Uwayo, president of FERWAKA thanked the government of Japan for its support to the tournament and the development of Karate in Rwanda.

The event finished by the ceremony of awarding medals to winners of different karate categories. ●



## MEET JICA RWANDA OFFICE NEW STAFFS



Ms. Nadine Uwase started working as program officer in charge of Private Sector Partnership since February 2018. This is not her first experience working with JICA because of her past experience in JICA from March to July 2016.

"JICA Rwanda's team spirit made me reapply for my next position within the same organization. I enjoyed being here otherwise

I couldn't have applied for the position I hold today".

She focuses on facilitating partnership between Rwanda and Japanese investors within her project. She strives to be the best in-between person for investors using her professional experience and cultural knowledge. "I love Rwandan traditional dance and I follow showbiz closely. I also want to explore different cultures including Japanese culture...that way I will know how we could use shared values not only to attract Japanese investors but also to build bridges between Rwanda and Japan." ●



Mr. Jiro Makimoto joined JICA Rwanda in January 2018 as Africa Regional Program Advisor for Private Sector Partnership.

Before coming to Rwanda, he has engaged in private sector partnership for the past five years at JICA Tanzania, Tokyo headquarters and an international foundation. He also worked as a JICA Volunteer in Uganda in 2009,

after working for a global leading multinational enterprise.

"Just after arriving Rwanda, I've got fascinated by the weather, cleanness, safety, discipline and, the most importantly, diligence of the people."

With his background in private sector, public sector and civil society, Mr. Makimoto believes his role as the "catalyst for partnership" among multi stakeholders, towards the socio-economic development of Rwanda and Africa.

Privately, he is very much looking forward to enjoying life in Kigali with his wife and 4-year-old daughter. ●

## National District Continuous Professional Development Committee Forum for Quality Education



“I would like to re-emphasize the importance of quality education for the development of the country. This forum is the evidence of Rwandan government’s effort to improve teacher education which is the key for the better learning of pupils and highly appreciated,” JICA Representative Takada Hiroyuki said at “National District Continuous Professional Development Forum” on 26th January 2018.

Teachers are driving force for improvement of quality of education. JICA has been supported improvement of teaching skills of teachers with Rwanda Education Board (REB) and districts through Project of Supporting Institutionalizing and Improving Quality of School based in service training Activity (SIIQS). In the efforts of empowering District and Sector level education officials, JICA through SIIQS in collaboration with REB hold the forum. It brought together District and Sector Education Officials and Head Teachers from all districts, to share the experience and good practice about supporting teacher’s professional development for better teaching and learning.

The participants shared the good experience in improved teaching skills and how it has improved pupil’s performance level in exams. They showed their strong will to take back the lessons learnt from the forum and implement them on the ground after the forum. ●



## 1ST JCC MEETING FOR THE ICT INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM STRENGTHENING PROJECT



After its official launch in December 2017, the ICT Innovation Ecosystem Strengthening Project organized the first Joint Coordination Committee meeting (JCC) on 14th March. In the meeting, the participants discussed on the overall project and monitoring progress with corresponding Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The meeting hosted high level officials and advisors from public organizations, private companies and academia.

In the beginning of JCC, both the chair, Mr. Regis, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of ICT (MiTec) and the co-chair, Mr. Nagase, Senior Representative of JICA stressed that the collaboration and commitments from all stakeholders are indispensable particularly in this project since this project is to foster

“Innovation Ecosystem” itself. Through the interactive discussions in the JCC, the Project successfully received informative inputs.

Before the JCC, the Project organized two days intensive retreat at the beginning of March 2018. Personnel from the major stakeholders such as MiTec and ICT chamber gathered to determine key components of the project implementation as a preparation for JCC. During the retreat, the project Logo, implementation structure, KPIs were discussed in details to be approved at the JCC.

partnerships. “The forum has been facilitating the creation of solutions and has strengthened partnerships among stakeholders. Broadband is critical and this is why we placed focus on it,” he noted. ●



### 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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