



New Year Message to JICA Participants



A happy new year and I would like to extend my most cordial greetings to every JICA ex-participants of Tokyo International Center (TIC) ! I hope my message will remind you of your effective and happy days at Japan.

I would like to begin 2015, by celebrating the 30th anniversary of TIC together with you. Since its establishment in 1985, TIC has been accepting more than 50,000 participants from all over the world. You all are the most valuable partners for JICA as well as for Japan, and we are gratified that at every corner of the world our ex-participants are there to make efforts to create innovation and make a difference. Some are determined to improve the country's development plan while others are working together with rural vulnerable people for their livelihood development. Whether these efforts are from the top or from the bottom, both are equally important and I stress the notion that, JICA will be by your side as long as you feel of JICA and TIC as your friend.

On this happy occasion, I would like to share with you the new renovated TIC. First in picture, you can see the very colorful dining hall and as you remember, we provide varieties of international meals. For celebrating the



Dining Hall

30th anniversary, we are preparing "the world lunch" ! (See Page4)

In addition, we have made a slight renovation in the accomodation. The bed sets now come with a warm wooden cover and nice night - light. The very metropolitan Tokyo skyscrapers will be your bedroom view as well.



scenery from the window

Second, by utilizing Japan's advanced technology of renewable energy, we set up the solar generating panels on the rooftop to save the cost and contribute the reduction of CO₂. Now this solar power can generate 60KW per day and electricity storage system can cover 2 days operation in case of power black-out.



solar generating panels

I am very proud that TIC has been the core center of JICA's human development program and has met the expectations from all the developing countries since 1985 from both viewpoints of physical facility and intellectual content. This owes to various people concerned such as lectures, coordinators, front desk and building maintenance officers, welfare volunteers, local related people at observation sights and of course overseas participants.

Again I would like to express my sincere appreciation for those people and here with you pledge that TIC shall keep contributing for the world peace and sustainable development together with the world like-minded participants.

Juichiro SASAKI, Director General, JICA Tokyo



FC Tokyo presented 'the Opuwo Youth Football Club' in Namibia with their 18 sets of Uniform. [Nov.14]



On November 14th, there was a donation ceremony, and Mr. AKUNE Kenji, representative director of FC Tokyo, handed over them to Mr. SAKI Juichiro, director general of JICA Tokyo.

The donation is done as a part of our program, "Smile for All in the World". The program sends the necessary products which are donated in Japan to the countries in need via JICA volunteers.

This time the uniforms will be sent to Namibia youth football team whose members are the street children, unemployed youth, poor students, etc. The team aims at equipping them with the strength of living through football, and JICA volunteer, Ms. KODAMA Mari, is supporting them with other volunteers.



i Useful Information to enjoy your stay at JICA Tokyo!

JICA Tokyo organizes the free Tokyo bus tour, cultural events such as Japanese tea ceremony, flower arrangement, martial arts and more for every participant from time to time.

However, if the said events are not scheduled while you are at Tokyo, it is a good idea to utilize the free guided tours by volunteers.

One of the recommended volunteer groups is "Tokyo SGG club", and they offer the variety of tours regularly. Their tours include walking tours in Asakusa and Ueno. "Kanagawa SGG club" also offers the guided tour of Yokohama Waterfront, Kamakura Highlights, Kawasaki Daishi Temple.

For the detailed information, please visit their website (<http://www2.ocn.ne.jp/~sgg/guide.html> or <http://www.ksgg.org/english-top/index.html#Yokohama>) or ask the TIC information desk.



i Exquisite "Treasured WORLD LUNCH BOX"



Right now we are serving specially-assorted world-famous Japanese OBENTO, with varieties of dishes around the globe incorporated in it. As you know, we were celebrating ODA 60th anniversary last year and this year is the 30th anniversary of our center, JICA Tokyo International Center. In commemoration of these consecutive special years, we have decided to serve the memorable "Treasured WORLD LUNCH BOX". You can enjoy diverse country dishes we've picked up every two weeks. Just pay 850 yen at JICA Tokyo Restaurant, you are like travelling all over the world lick-smacking with participants from various countries.

Master's Degree and Internship Program of the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)



Background

Africa's economy has been steadily increasing since 2000, due to factors such as its abundant natural resources and expansion of trade and investments. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that growth rates in Africa will remain as high as 5.4% up to 2016. While each African nation sets a target for sustainable economic development, political implementation, aimed at turning commodity-based economies into multifaceted industrialized economies through developing primary and secondary industries, is an urgent matter. On the other hand, the International Labor Organization (ILO) points out that the number of youth unemployment in Africa has reached nearly 75 million, almost one third of the youth population (200 million) in the whole region. Given these circumstances, it is expected that the yield of value-added industries and the realization of high productivity of industries in Africa, will resolve the issue as they generate job opportunities, and bring about more stabilized economies. Moreover, Japanese enterprises are showing strong recognition of and interest in a prosperous Africa.

Regarding the number of African foreign students in Japan, only 1,100 foreign students are from Africa (1%) while 130,000 are from Asia (92%). In the meantime, the number of African foreign students has reached 200,000 in South Africa and Europe by 2010. Under this circumstance, Japanese academic fields focus on African young generations with high potential abilities.

At the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), held in Yokohama in 2013, Japan's Government stated its policy of promoting support for the ongoing dynamic growth of Africa with stronger public-private partnerships. In his speech, Japanese Prime Minister Abe announced the "African Business Education Initiative for the Youth (hereafter, referred to as the "ABE Initiative"), a strategic five-year plan providing 1,000 youths in Africa with opportunities to study at Japanese universities as well as do internships at Japanese enterprises. Prior to the TICAD V, Japanese industries, including the Federation of Economic Organizations (KEIDANREN) and the Japanese government, had made a joint recommendation for TICAD V at "Public-Private Council for

the Promotion of TICAD V". These bodies pointed out that there is a need for human resource development in both private and public sectors of Africa in order to cultivate a strong human network between Japan and Africa. The recommendation also mentioned the significance of increasing the number of African people visiting Japan, as well as increasing awareness among Africans regarding the efficiency of Japanese technologies and systems of enterprises. The ABE Initiative was launched based on this recommendation.

JICA has been appointed to implement a master's degree and internship program within the ABE initiative framework developed for countries whose official requests have been approved by the Government of Japan.

Objective

The objective of the ABE Initiative master's degree and internship program is to support young personnel who have the potential to contribute to the development of industries in Africa. This program offers opportunities for young African men and women to study at master's courses in Japanese universities as international students (hereafter referred to as participants) and experience internships at Japanese enterprises. The aim is for them to develop effective skills in order for them to contribute to various fields. Beyond acquisition of skills and knowledge, this program also intends to cultivate excellent personnel who can recognize and understand the contexts of Japanese society and systems of Japanese enterprises. The expected outcome of the program is a network of potential contributors to the development of African industries who will also lead Japanese businesses to engage further in economic activities in Africa.

The number of Participants categorized by country (Current as of January 22)

Country	Participants
Kenya	54
South Africa	14
Tanzania	29
Mozambique	17
Ethiopia	23
Côte d'Ivoire	3
Rwanda	10
Sudan	5
Total	155



NDEGE GEORGE OTIENO

University: SOPHIA UNIVERSITY

Nationality: KENYAN

Research Topic: Role of Plantation and livelihood Improvement Scheme as a means of improving livelihoods and mitigating climate change-Case study Mt. Kenya.

Job Description and Professional Experiences:

I'm a forest officer working with Kenya Forest Service; I hold Bachelors of science in Forestry, before I joined Kenya forest service, I used to work as Forestry Manager, with The Sotik Tea Companies limited, I'm engaged in sustainable management of forest lands and resources for economic, recreational and conservation purposes, conservation for good water quality and soil stability complying with environmental regulations and forest policing.

I'm also involved in tree nursery and plantations silviculture, forest mensuration and inventory, forest protection for environmental sustainability, forest engineering (harvesting and logging), agro-forestry and also creating awareness among the community (community participation) concerning climate change and its effects. All these are geared towards increasing the forest cover to 10% and above so as to reduce global warming.

Reason to Join This Program and Future Plan:

I joined this programme as it offered scholarship and provided me with an opportunity to study in one of the developed countries in the which has undergone paradigm shift in its forestry and environmental issues, forestry in Japan has come from destruction to stability hence affecting its environment but Japan managed to counter this as per these, this showed how environmental issues are related to forestry, so I chose environmental studies so as to understand how forestry relates to issues of environment mainly towards environmental sustainability and stability and underlying issues.



Patrick John Leslie

University: Rikkyo University

Nationality: South African

Research Topic: Masters in Business-Thesis topic will be a Business Plan applying knowledge gained in the course.

Job Description and Professional Experiences:

2008-2014 August: Moët-Hennessy Portfolio South Africa Brand Manager: Managing all marketing and communication functions for the liquor portfolio of brands in Southern Africa (Moët & Chandon, Veuve Clicquot, Dom Perignon, Ruinart, Krug, Glenmorangie, Hennessy, Belvedere, Glenmorangie, Ardbeg).
2014 September: Bridgestone South Africa Marketing Assistant

Reason to Join This Program and Future Plan:

I wish to gain practical and theoretical skills from my Masters in Business at Rikkyo University that can be applied to my company in South Africa. I hope to participate in many cultural experiences that will make me a better business executive.



THERESIA RAYMOND THOMAS

University: WASEDA UNIVERSITY

Nationality: TANZANIAN

Research Topic: Development and Prospects of Creative Industries in Contemporary Asia.

Job Description and Professional Experiences:

Currently I am working as a Tutor at National College of Tourism-Arusha Campus; this is the Government Institution under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism. Focusing in our Mission and Vision based on provision of High quality training on Hospitality and Tourism, the target is to train students basing on learning by doing. Our College campus is offering Certificates course which takes two years. Basically I work under the Hospitality department dealing with training students to work in Hotel industries. My responsibilities are to train (preparing Scheme of work and lesson plans), Examine, prepare report forms and assess students in their Field practical training Centres.

Reason to Join This Program and Future Plan:

The reason for this program is to widening my knowledge and skills which will be acquired from the class as well as from the companies for the betterment of Tanzania also build a strong relationship with Japan. This knowledge and skills will be used for my career on training students also in implementing research studies also using modern equipment from Japan for the purpose of improving our production activities. Tanzania has a lot of resources but we lack knowledge, skills and modern facilities for utilizing them for the purpose of economic development. Therefore after graduation I will go back to my country and introduce what I have learned as well as introducing the Japanese way of resource utilization and how they go to the highest level of development within a short time.