

[JICA-sponsored film festival]
Yokohama Community TICAD7 Partnership Project

JICA Yokohama
Aug 8, 2019

“JICA Film Festival for Africa”



-Our truth

August 10 (Sat.) and 11 (Sun.) at JICA Yokohama!
Admission free!



The “JICA Film Festival for Africa” will be held on August 10-11 (Sat., Sun.) at JICA Yokohama gymnasium. This event is intended to enable a wide range of citizens to enjoy and become more familiar with Africa’s diverse ethnicities, cultures, societies, and economies in advance of the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) to be held in Yokohama on August 28-30 of this year.

This event is also designed as an opportunity for citizens to understand and to participate in international cooperation.

Date and time: Aug. 10 (Sat.), 2019. 11:00 AM to 7:30 PM (venue open at 10:30 AM).
Aug. 11 (Sun.), 2019. 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM (venue open at 10:30 AM).

Venue: Gymnasium, B1, JICA Yokohama

Organizer: JICA

With the cooperation of: Yokohama NGO Network

Event description:

During two days, we will show the story and documentary films about people who never give up hope and live vibrantly in energetic African continent. This film festival will also introduce the beauty or history of Africa through talks by the directors of screened films and guests who have experiences in Africa.

Booths and stage events at the festival will be selling goods including African books, accessories, bags, paintings, and food products, and visitors can listen to stories of experiences by former JICA volunteers who lived and worked in Africa. Please visit JICA Yokohama to enjoy this event.

* Please refer to the attached for a timetable and specific film introduction.

Inquiries about this matter

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JICA Yokohama event information:

<https://www.jica.go.jp/yokohama/event/>
Event details website:
(On the Yokohama Community Design Lab website)
<https://yokohamalab.jp/jica-cinema-festival-for-africa/>

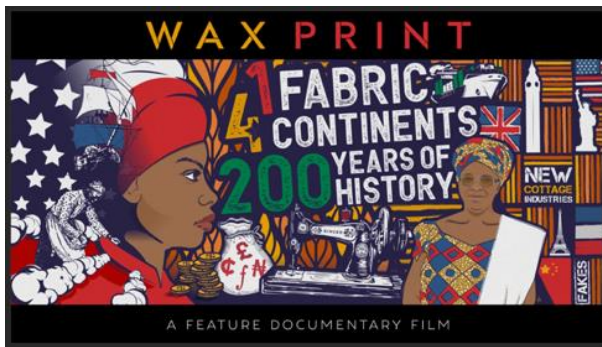
Timetable:

Day 1: Aug. 10 (Sat.)	
10:30	Venue opens
11:00	Opening address
11:05	<u>Wax Print</u> screening (West Africa): 100 min.
12:45	Lunch break: 45 minutes
13:30	<u>Chokora!</u> screening (Kenya): 94 min.
15:05	Talk show by Mr. Shigeru Kobayashi, Director of Chokora!
15:40	Break (Booth showcase)
16:00	Talk show by Ms. Saori Kyoraiseki, Director of the World Theater Project
16:40	<u>The Man Who Mends Women</u> screening (DR Congo): 112 min.
18:30	Talk show by the Association on Sexual Violence and Conflict in DR Congo (ASVCC)
19:00	Booth showcase / Mini social meeting
19:30	Scheduled closing time
Day 2: Aug. 11 (Sun.)	
10:30	Venue opens
11:00	Opening address
11:05	<u>Africa United</u> screening (Rwanda): 90 min.
12:40	Lunch break: 60 minutes
13:40	<u>Valentine Rising</u> screening (Ghana): 64 min.
14:50	Talk show by Mr. Akira Kondo, Project manager of ACE (NPO)
15:20	Break (Booth showcase)
16:00	Stage event
16:30	<u>The First Grader</u> screening (Kenya): 103 min.
	*For audiences aged 15 or older due to graphical depictions of violence.
18:20	Story telling by JICA volunteers; Booth showcase; Mini social meeting
19:00	Scheduled closing time

* The program is subject to change, please check below website of the event for the latest program
<https://yokohamalab.jp/jica-cinema-festival-for-africa/>

1) Wax Print (100 min.) 2018. Director: Aiwan Obinyan.

[Where did wax prints come from?] (Audio: English; Subtitles: Japanese)



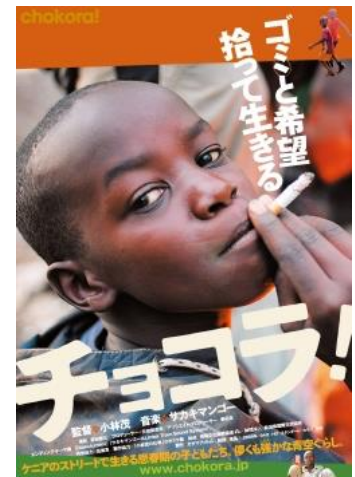
Vividly colorful African wax prints have been a part of African identity ever since they were brought from Indonesia by Dutch in the colonial era. Director Aiwan Obinyan is a UK-born Nigerian who is a film director, composer, and fashion designer. This documentary is filled with the history and culture of wax prints, as well as immigration, colonization, slavery, appropriation, and various other keywords.

2) Chokora! (94 min.) 2009. Director: Shigeru Kobayashi. ©2009 Yoshida Taizo.

[Living by picking up garbage and hope! The story about fleeting but viable children who live under the sky.]

(Audio: English; Subtitles: Japanese)

Thika is a city located not far from Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. The children who live on the street make their living by picking up garbage, and they sniff paint thinner to forget about the severe coldness at night and hunger. “Chokora” meaning, “to pick up” in Swahili, also has insulting meaning. These children help each other and live vibrantly in their harsh lives with having problems. This documentary is humorous yet portrays the reality based on the relationship of mutual trust with the children.



3) The Man Who Mends Women (112 min.) 2015. Director: Thierry Michel.

[The brave actions of one doctor who mended over 40,000 female victims of sexual assault made the world go around.]

(Audio: French; Subtitles: Japanese.)



The Man Who Mends Women is a documentary film focusing on the desperate medical activities provided by Dr. Denis Mukwege, a DR Congolese gynecologist who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2018. Dr. Mukwege risks his life to treat female victims of sexual assault in the DR Congo.

In 2012, he temporarily fled to overseas as he was threaten, but the next year he risked his life and returned to the DR Congo to resume his desperate activity.

4) Africa United (90 min.) 2010. Director: Debs Gardner-Paterson.

[We want to go to the World Cup in South Africa! Five children who travelled 5,000 kilometers]

(Audio: English; Subtitles: Japanese)



Officially screened at the BFI London Film Festival and the Toronto International Film Festival in 2010, Africa United is the story about the children who travelled 5,000 kilometers from Rwanda on their own to participate in the selection meeting of “escort kids” invited to the World Cup opening ceremony in South Africa. They jumped on a bus aimed to go to Kigali, the capital city of Rwanda, but they accidentally arrived in refugee camp in the DR Congo! They never gave up and started to walk aimed for South Africa.

5) Valentine Rising (64 min.) 2012. Director: Hitomi Yoshimura.

[What is child labor? What is fair trade? The story about Japanese girls took a step forward]

(Audio: Japanese)



Valentine Rising is a documentary film of 15th founding anniversary of NPO ACE (Against Child Exploitation). In Ghana, three Japanese girls faced the reality of “child labor,” which forced children to be out of school. For Valentine’s Day, the girls want everyone to choose fair trade chocolates made with love. Thus, they began Valentine Rising. Will their message truly reach people? This is the story about Japanese girls who encountered the problem of child labor, struggled, and fought against.

6) The First Grader (103 min.) 2010. Director: Justin Chadwick.

[His dream was to go to school. The true story of the “84-year-old first-grader” who overcame his past to change the future.]

(Audio: English; Subtitles: Japanese)



In 2003, Kenyan government at last started to offer free primary education, and hundreds of children gathered in front of the primary school. Among these children, there was an elderly man. He fought as a soldier in the uprising aimed for independence, and had his beloved wife, children, and friends massacred in front of him, and been tortured at a concentration camp... But now to overcome the past and change the future, Maruge tries to study at school. His passion rouse his young classmates who don’t know the history, and even the government itself. (For aged 15 and over due to including violent scenes)

[Related information]

1. The tastes of Africa at JICA Yokohama!

Boasting a view of the harbor, the Port Terrace Café restaurant on the 3rd floor of JICA Yokohama is offering African dishes on a weekly rotation from June 3 (Mon.) to Sept. 1 (Sun.).

2. “JICA and the City of Yokohama: Into the Future with Africa”, a video on the initiatives of JICA and the City of Yokohama for African Development

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the City of Yokohama are working across the ocean with Africa to put their accumulated experience, knowledge, and skills to use. A video showcasing these initiatives, “JICA and the City of Yokohama: Into the Future with Africa”, is available on the JICAs official YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33Y9zssYoCQ>

3. Japanese Overseas Migration Museum Special Exhibition, “Coffee in Japan and the contribution of Nikkei”

JICA Yokohama has established the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum to showcase the history of Japanese migrations overseas, as well as the migrants themselves and their descendants (nikkeijin). (Free admission, open 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM)

From June 29 (Sat.) to Oct. 6 (Sun.), the museum is hosting the special exhibition “**Coffee in Japan and the contribution of Nikkei**”. Please take this opportunity to stop by.

4. African Day

Aug. 24, 2019 (Sat.) 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM [Venue] JICA Yokohama

Africa Day features readings of African children’s books, clothing demonstrations by JICA training participants from Africa, and musical performances.

At 1:00 PM, African literary researcher Haruse Murata will host a lecture on “African Children in Picture Books.”

5. Bon for Africa (African Bon Dance Festival)

Aug. 27, 2019 (Tues.) 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM [Venue] Zou-no-hana Park (In case of Rain: JICA Yokohama gymnasium; In case of Stormy weather: Cancellation)

A cross-cultural Bon Dance Festival blending elements of Japan and Africa, “Bon for Africa” uses Japanese famous singer Ms. Hibari Misora’s “Kawa no Nagare no you ni” (As the River Flows) and is choreographed by Mr. Ukon Takafuji (head of the Takafuji Dance Company).

At Bon for Africa (African Bon Dance Festival), guests will dance together with Mr. Ukon Takafuji and DJ KOO. Enjoy the Bon Dance Festival, African musical and dance performances, fashion shows, and other elements of African and Japanese culture.