

Experience of Ex - Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) Participant: Mr. Brian Muteta

Introduction

My name is Brian Muteta and I am currently working as a Deputy Director, Non-Energy Minerals, within the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development. I possess more than 10 years' experience in the field of geology, the mineral resource development and in Government.



Brian MUTETA

My professional experience includes working for companies such as Geo-fields Mining Services, Rio Tinto and an internship position at Mitsubishi Techno Corporation. In Government, I have worked at the Zimbabwe Geological Survey, and there, I rose to the position of Chief Geologist, heading the Applied Geology Section. My responsibilities involved overseeing all geology related work associated with the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development, as maybe assigned by the Director of Geological Survey. Moreover, I carried out research activities on various mining related publications.

Participation in Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) short and long term courses

I have been intermittently involved with six programs organised by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from September 2014 to July 2021. These are namely:

1. JICA Zimbabwe Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Short Term Course on Sustainable Mining Development (2014)
2. JICA Tohoku Host Family Program Kosaka, Kazuno City (2014)
3. JICA Zimbabwe Home Stay Program for JOCVs (2016)
4. JICA Kizuna Program: Long Term Training Course on Human Resources Development in The Mining Sector (2016- 2019)
5. JICA Tohoku/ Akita International festival, Akita City (2018)
6. JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Short Term Course on Remote Sensing and Exploration (2020)

JICA KCCP Short Term Course on Sustainable Mining Development (2014)

In 2014, I was nominated by the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development to attend a KCCP short term training course on Sustainable Mining Development organised by JICA. At the time, I was a Geologist at the Zimbabwe Geological Survey Department. The training was done at various institutions and facilities located in various cities in Japan, from 20 September to 6 December 2014. This was conducted mainly through lectures, practice, observation tours, discussion and field surveys.



Sustainable mining development course field visit to Hokkaido island



Sustainable Mining Development course Action Plan Presentation

The Sustainable Mining Development course provided fellow participants and me a platform to:

- Gain an in-depth understanding of the relationship between changes in the global resource logistics structure with the economic development of emerging countries. In addition, the importance of mineral resources and the relationship between changes concerning resources and resource-producing countries.
- Acquire knowledge and technology on mineral resource exploration, including satellite image processing, as well as policy schemes and functions of resource-related organisations for improvement in resource discoverability.
- Understand the advantage or sustainability of environmentally friendly mining development planning and points of environmental impact assessment and guidance in such planning.
- Learn financing mechanisms necessary for mining projects in developing countries along with the current situation of industry in Japan.
- Come up with Action Plans derived from the knowledge acquired from the training course, of which the Action Plans were implemented in our home countries.

JICA Host Family Program in Kosaka, Kazuno City, Japan (2014) and JICA Home Stay Program for JOCVs in Zimbabwe (2016)



Farewell concert performance with my host family, playing African Music I had taught them



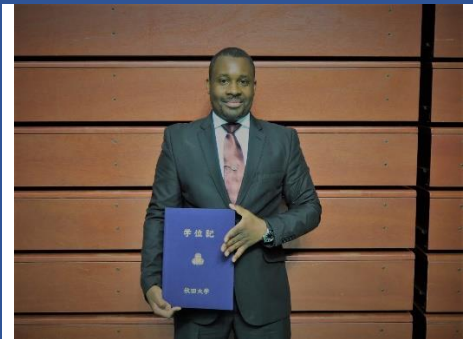
10km marathon event in Zimbabwe with my host friend, Noguchi Akifumi

JICA KIZUNA Master's Program: KCCP Long Term Course on Human Resources Development in the Mining Sector (2016 - 2019)

KIZUNA Graduate Course Program 2016 - 2019

I was a participant of The Human Resources Development in the Mining Sector (KIZUNA Master's Program) from September 2016 to March 2019. This was to develop my capacity as a governmental official, educator and researcher in order to enable me to contribute to the development of mining in Zimbabwe and Africa as a whole.

I successfully completed the Kizuna Graduate Course Program and attained a master's degree in International Resource Science at Akita University in Japan. I am glad to have attained immense skills and expertise in resource exploration, mineral extraction and preparation for mine closure that Japan has to offer the world.



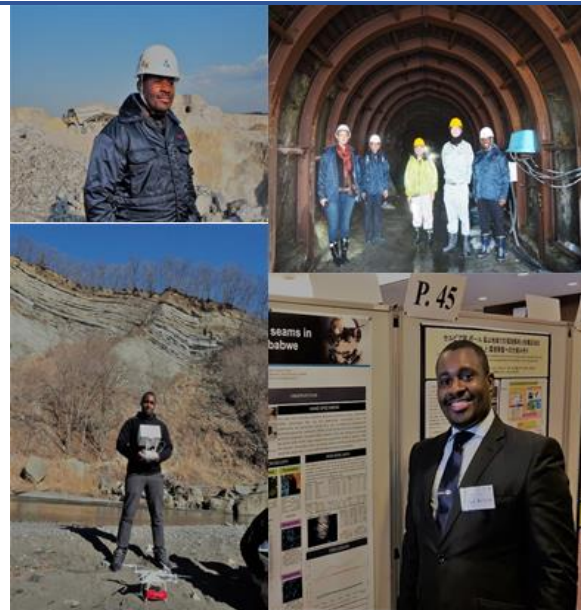
Graduation day at Akita University

JICA KIZUNA Additional Special Program 2018 "Summer and Spring Programs"



The summer and spring programs of Kizuna encompassed observation tours to sites, institutions and firms in Japan, together with courses in Mining Policy and Management. This tactically poised me to deal with the increasing consumption of mineral resources worldwide.

JICA Internship Program 2019 at Mitsubishi Techno Corporation



With the Kizuna Internship program, exposure to the Japanese business practices and ethics natured me to be a seasoned professional with an innovative aptitude for the global front and possessing strategic thinking in the fields of international resource sciences.

Having amassed knowledge from the KIZUNA Internship and Summer and Spring Programs and having implemented knowledge gained post completion of the programs, I am glad be an agent for efficient and sustainable utilization of mineral resources on the African continent.

KIZUNA Overseas Field Research Program



Overseas field research program with Professor Yasushi Watanabe, Ass. Professor Echigo and Ms. Melissa Crowley

The Kizuna overseas field research provided an opportunity for collection of representative rock samples from drill cores and the outcropping chromite samples. Observation of the occurrence of rocks and selection of drill core samples from the Great Dyke was done successfully and I developed deeper understanding of the Geological environment surrounding the study area. This enabled me to complete my research project which was a partial fulfilment of my degree qualification.

JICA Tohoku/ Akita International Festival, Akita City and Cultural Music Exchange Performances in Japan 2018



Cultural music performances in Japan

During my stay in Japan I fostered good relationships with the local Japanese people through cultural, musical, linguistic and arts exchange performances.

JICA KCCP Short Term Course on Remote Sensing and Exploration 2020

I was also privileged to be nominated by the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development to participate in a KCCP online program, Mining Course on Remote Sensing and Exploration which took place from 7 December 2020 to 31 March 2021 and from 2 June to 1 July 2021.

The outcomes of the course included:

- Transfer of skill for utilizing Remote Sensing techniques for exploration of mineral occurrences, geological and mineral exploration concepts
- Capture and package geological information on mineral resources potential of the country.
- Capture and package geo-scientific information for the country.
- Monitoring of ASM mining activities in Zimbabwe.

APPLICATION OF REMOTE SENSING

1. Monitoring of chrome mining activities on the chrome mining activities Zimbabwe using remote sensing

Monitoring of chrome mining activities

*Summary of some of the results from the Remote Sensing and exploration course.
Application of Remote sensing to chrome mining activities.*

I intend to continue to use the remote sensing capabilities acquired to tackle environmental issues surrounding artisanal and small-scale mining, and monitor ferrochrome, steel and smelting activities.

Final Note

I am truly grateful to JICA for the opportunities they afforded me. I will continue to apply knowledge gained and to empower others as I progress with my career.