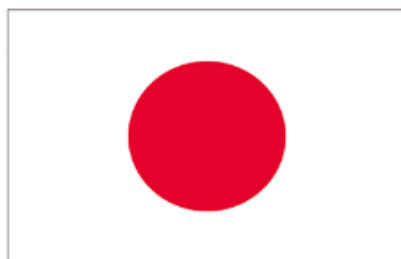




# Japan's Development Cooperation in the Republic of Zimbabwe



**From  
the People of Japan**

**Kubva kuVanhu vekuJapan  
Kusukela eBantwini beJapan**



# Ambassador's Greetings



Thank you for your interest in Japan's assistance to Zimbabwe. The people and Government of Japan have supported Zimbabwe's development since 1980, the year of Zimbabwe's Independence. The beneficiaries of Japan's assistance are not only communities in urban areas, but also remote rural communities.

Since I was assigned to Zimbabwe in 2017, I have traveled to many places around the country, and was pleased to see the assistance coming from the people of Japan being fully utilized for the benefit of the communities. I hope that this assistance will continue to bear fruit for many years to come.



Ambassador Toshiyuki Iwado

It is only through Africa developing sustainably that the world's development will be assured. Our assistance is implemented with this in mind. Since Japan launched TICAD (Tokyo International Conference on African Development) in 1993, the policy of Japan's assistance towards Africa has been strengthened and elaborated even further, and our assistance to Zimbabwe can be seen by our support to rural communities.

I hope you find the information in this pamphlet useful in giving you an idea of Japan's assistance to Zimbabwe. If you have any further inquiries or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Embassy of Japan in Zimbabwe.

## 1. TICAD



The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) was launched in 1993 by the Government of Japan to promote Africa's development, peace and security. Over the course of the 25 years since TICAD I in 1993, it has been conducted under the principles of African ownership and international partnership.

At TICAD V in 2013, a summit meeting was held between Japanese Prime Minister Abe and former President Mugabe. This was a landmark occasion as Prime Minister Abe expressed Japan's commitment to work for the revitalisation of bilateral relations between the two countries, including the resumption of full-fledged economic cooperation with Zimbabwe.



Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office

TICAD VI held in Nairobi in 2016 was the first time that TICAD was held in Africa. To help implement the AU Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and other international initiatives, Japan has committed to invest approximately USD 30 billion under public-private partnership for the future of Africa. On 28–30 August 2019, TICAD 7 will be held in Yokohama, Japan.



# 2. Japan's Assistance to Zimbabwe



Japan has provided economic cooperation assistance to Zimbabwe since the country's Independence in 1980. This has included loan aid, grant aid, and technical cooperation assistance. From the 1980's to 2001, Japan was the largest international donor to Zimbabwe.



The basic policy of Japan's aid is sustainable development assistance, which is in line with Zimbabwe's ZIMASSET (Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation) development plan and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

Summary of Japan's Assistance to Zimbabwe (1980 – 2017)	
Type	Value Provided
Loan Aid	Around USD <b>346 million</b>
Grant Aid	Around USD <b>560 million</b>
Technical Cooperation Assistance	Around USD <b>172 million</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zimbabwean experts receiving training in Japan: <b>1,920 people</b></li><li>• Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) providing expertise in Zimbabwe: <b>542 people</b></li><li>• Japanese experts and missions dispatched to Zimbabwe: <b>994 people</b></li><li>• Zimbabwean students receiving scholarships for study in Japan under the ABE Initiative: <b>9 people</b></li></ul>	



## Joint Statement Between Japan and Zimbabwe - Signed March 2016



In March 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and former President Robert Mugabe met in Tokyo, where they signed a Joint Statement to further strengthen bilateral relations. Japan expressed its support for Zimbabwe's development efforts and pledged its Grant Aid for Zimbabwe's economic and social development, including infrastructural improvement and food aid to assist with severe food shortages as a result of the drought.



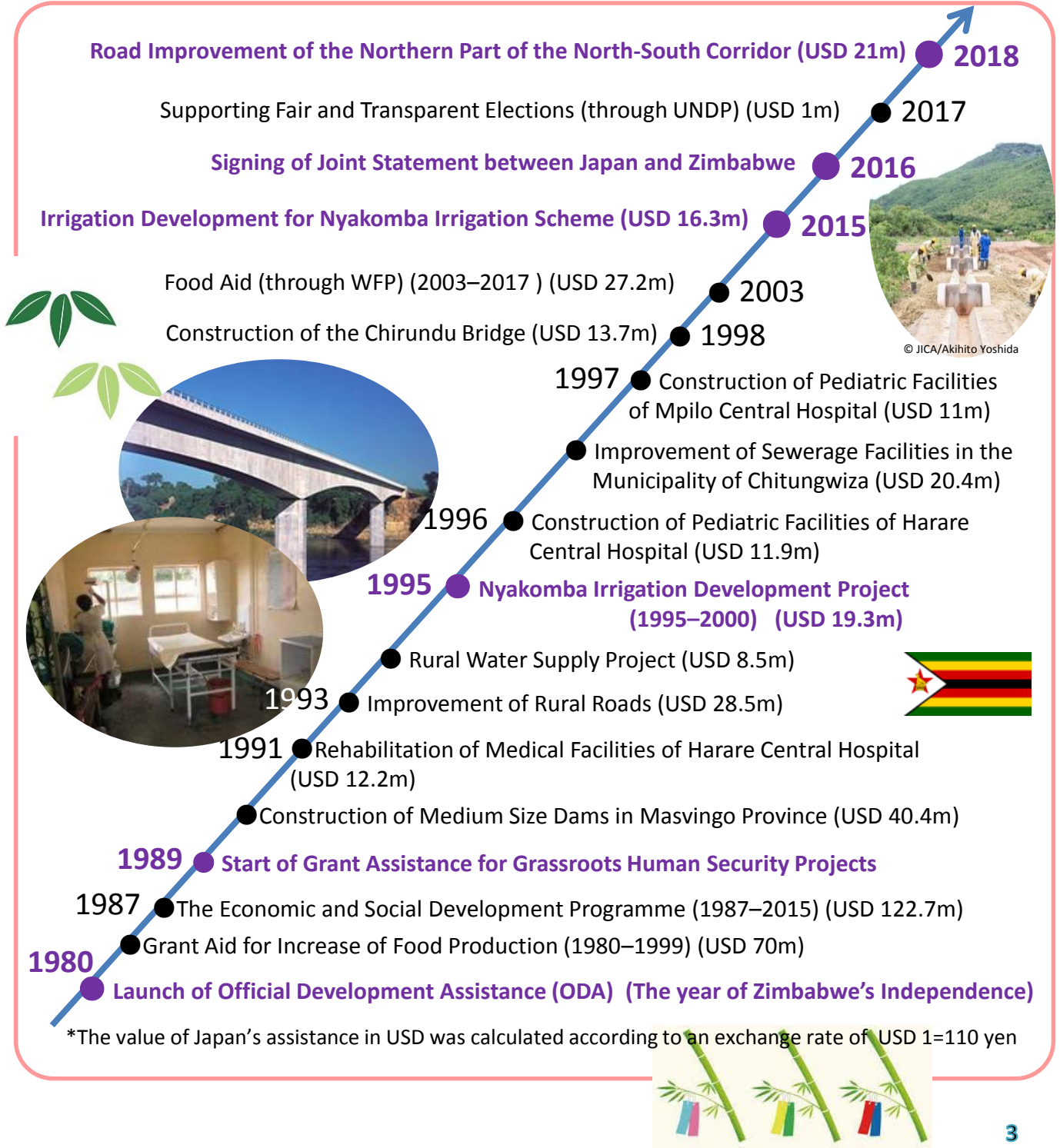
The two leaders also resolved to further promote trade and investment between the two countries, as well as people-to-people exchanges including scholarships, training programmes, and the dispatch of Japanese volunteers to Zimbabwe.



# 3. Grant Aid Projects

Japan's Grant Aid Projects that have been implemented up to now include the improvement of the road network, building of bridges, and construction of irrigation facilities and dams, such as the Nyakomba Irrigation Scheme in Nyanga District. They also include assistance that Japan has provided through international organisations including the UN and NGOs, as well as emergency assistance implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

## 3-1 History and Main Projects of Japan's Grant Aid to Zimbabwe (1980–2018)



## 3-2 Current and Recent Grant Aid Projects (since 2016)

### a) Development Assistance

#### ● Irrigation Development for Nyakomba Irrigation Scheme

The Nyakomba Irrigation Scheme was initially constructed in 1995 ~ 2000 with the assistance of Japan. But some of the pump houses and facilities had fallen into disrepair, especially after the cyclone in 2006. Japan therefore decided to implement a new project to extend and improve the scheme. When this new project is completed in 2019, the entire scheme will irrigate a total of 580 hectares of land and benefit 760 households of smallholder farmers. Through the irrigation scheme, it is expected that they will be able to double their yields and grow crops all year, in spite of climate change.



Artist's rendition of the completed scheme © JICA



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#### ● The Economic and Social Development Programme (Provision of Road Rehabilitation Materials)



Japan provided a grant of USD 5.5 million for bitumen road building materials through the Economic and Social Development Programme, following the exchange of notes signed between Prime Minister Abe and former President Mugabe in March 2016.

The material was distributed to all the eight provinces of Zimbabwe for the Department of Roads and local authorities to work on the rehabilitation.



#### ● Road Improvement of the Northern Part of the North-South Corridor

In June 2018, Japan provided a grant of USD 21 million for a road construction project to improve steep gradients on the Makuti-Chirundu section of the North-South Corridor, Zimbabwe's most important highway. The project will be implemented by the Department of Roads in the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development under supervision by Japanese highway engineers, who will share with their Zimbabwean counterparts their experience and the latest expertise. Through this project, climbing lanes will be constructed and the horizontal and/or vertical alignment improved for a distance of 6.5 km.



The signing ceremony, June 2018



Artist's rendition of the completed road © JICA

## b) Grant Aid Projects through International Organisations

### ● Productive Asset Creation Programme: Providing Food Assistance while Building Resilience (through WFP)

In September 2017, Ambassador Toshiyuki Iwado formally handed over food assistance to Zimbabwe in Ward 14 of Chiredzi District under the Project for Productive Asset Creation, implemented by WFP Zimbabwe. The Japanese assistance amounting to USD 1,466,000 is utilized for food and asset-creation assistance in the two districts of Chiredzi and Rushinga. The food assistance bringing relief to more than 11,000 affected people in the two districts. The asset-creation assistance include building and rehabilitation of small dams and irrigation facilities.



### ● Enhancing the Resilience of Drought-Affected communities through Critical Lifesaving Health, Nutrition, HIV/AIDS and Social Protection Interventions (through UNICEF)



In 2017, Japan provided USD 636,000 for a UNICEF project to assist vulnerable children and adolescents in the most drought-affected communities of Bulilima, Mwenezi, Buhera, and Binga Districts. Through this support, 14,500 vulnerable children and adolescents were assisted with accessing child protection services, and 5,500 adolescents and children affected by HIV received various support services.

### ● Emergency Support to the Protection of Livelihoods of Smallholder Farmers Affected by Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Fall Armyworm (through FAO)



In 2018, the Government of Japan contributed USD 500,000 to fight the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and Fall Armyworm (FAW) in Zimbabwe. The project will be implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, working closely with the Government of Zimbabwe. Its objective is to strengthen the capacity of farmers and Government to rapidly respond to these two transboundary threats.

### ● Supporting Fair and Transparent Elections (through UNDP)

In 2017, the Government of Japan contributed USD 1 million for supporting fair and transparent elections held in 2018 through UNDP. On 6 September 2017, the signing ceremony of the assistance was held at the UNDP Office in Harare. Ambassador Toshiyuki Iwado exchanged notes to this effect with the UNDP Resident Representative, Mr Bishow Parajuli. Japan provided assistance in the areas of voter education, prevention of violence, and voter registration.



The signing ceremony held at the UNDP Offices

## c) Emergency Disaster Relief

The Government of Japan dispatches Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams and/or provides emergency relief goods when major disasters occur in response to requests received from the governments of affected countries or international organisations.

### ● Emergency Assistance to Zimbabwe in Response to Floods and Cyclone Damage

The Government of Japan provided emergency relief goods, namely 500 tents, 40 plastic sheets, 40 water purifiers, and 800 portable jerry cans, in March 2017 in Matabeleland North and South provinces. These areas were heavily affected by the floods and cyclone occurring from the end of 2016 to the beginning of 2017. The transportation services and distribution of goods were assisted by UNICEF and IOM.



Emergency assistance goods at the airport in Harare awaiting distribution



Flood victims using tents provided by Japan

## d) Grassroots Support

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are playing a greater role in finding solutions to development challenges and achieving sustainable growth in developing countries. Collaboration with NGOs is essential to deepen public understanding and participation in development cooperation, and further expanding and strengthening social foundations.

### ● Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects

Japan provides support to Japanese NGOs that implement humanitarian projects in developing countries. In Zimbabwe, Japan has supported ADRA Japan's projects in Gokwe North District since 2013.

### ● Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP/Kusanone in Japanese)

Through this scheme, financial assistance is provided for small-scale humanitarian and development projects that address the issues of basic human needs to benefit the people at the grassroots level. A total of 123 projects have been carried out through this scheme in Zimbabwe as of March 2018.



#### - Supporting Demining Projects

This scheme under GGP/Kusanone supports organisations that carry out activities related to addressing landmine issues from a humanitarian perspective. In Zimbabwe, Japan has supported The HALO Trust in carrying out demining in the districts of Mt Darwin, Rushinga and Mudzi.





## 5. Technical Assistance

The goal of Technical Cooperation Projects is to pass on knowledge and technology to government officials in areas such as developing administrative systems for public works and utilities, agriculture, healthcare, human resources, energy, and tourism. The Technical Assistance is mainly implemented by JICA.



The Japan International  
Cooperation Agency

### 5-1 Dispatch of Japanese Experts

Individual experts are dispatched in response to requests from the government agencies of Zimbabwe. They are assigned to government-related organisations, where they provide policy advice to their counterpart personnel in their respective fields of expertise. Below are several recent projects in which Japanese experts transferred expertise and equipment to their Zimbabwean counterparts:

#### ● The Development of a Geospatial Information Database Project (Greater Harare Mapping) (2015–2017)

This project was carried out with the Department of the Surveyor General. Through this project, the latest geospatial technology was used to obtain the most up-to-date, detailed and accurate locational information of Harare and its environs.



The JICA experts also transferred all of the geospatial equipment and their technical know-how to their Zimbabwean counterparts.

#### ● Community Based Tourism Master Plan Targeting Poverty Alleviation (2015–2017)

The aim of this project was to alleviate poverty in local areas by facilitating local communities' involvement in the development, management and maintenance of their tourism resources.



The project was focused at four tourist sites of Tengenenge, Gairezi, Chesvingo, and Bulawayo.

#### ● Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Capacity Building of HIV/AIDS Response Programme (2016–2018)

Japan, through JICA, has improved Zimbabwe's HIV/AIDS monitoring and evaluation capacity skills through training health workers on the strategic use of information through data analysis.



The project trained staff working at public hospitals. In February 2018, a three-day workshop was held in Kadoma to finalise the programme.

#### ● Quality Improvement of Health Services through 5S-KAIZEN-TQM Approach (2016–2018)

Kaizen is a Japanese philosophy for continuous improvement of workplace practices and personal activities. 5S is also derived from Japanese concepts, and this time it is being used to help improve the organisation of the workplace.



An expert was dispatched at the Ministry of Health and Childcare in Zimbabwe to transfer knowledge to the country's health practitioners.

## 5-2 Training Programmes in Japan



Local experts recommended by the Zimbabwe government are invited to Japan where they can acquire specialised knowledge and upgrade their skills through training.

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

At the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) held in Yokohama in 2013, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced the **ABE Initiative** (African Business Education Initiative for Youth), a strategic five-year plan aimed at fostering sound and sustainable industrial development in Africa, in which 1,000 youths are provided with scholarships to study at Japanese universities and intern at Japanese companies.

#### ● Interview with Alvin, who returned in March 2018 after taking part in the ABE Initiative



Mr. Alvin Fungai

##### What is your profession?

Software developer.

##### How long did you stay in Japan?

Two and a half years (September 2015 to March 2018)

##### How do you plan to utilise your Japanese experience in Zimbabwe?

In Japan I gained experience in mobile application development as well as Japanese corporate culture. My future goal is to participate in the growth of software development in Zimbabwe and spur the digital economy by working and sharing my experiences with aspiring software developers.



### b) Knowledge Co-Creation Programme (KCCP) and Training for Young Leaders

Talented young people from developing countries in their twenties and thirties, who are likely to move into positions of leadership in the future, are invited to Japan and given training in their fields of specialisation, as well as having opportunities to experience life in Japan.

#### ● Interview with Agnes, who participated in the programme in 2017

##### What is your profession?

I work as a Research Officer responsible for Agronomy and Physiology at the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, and Rural Resettlement.

##### How long did you stay in Japan?

For about three weeks in July 2017.

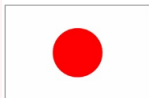
##### What did you learn in Japan and how will you utilise the knowledge?

I learned Seikatsu Kaizen Approach and found it is easy to employ locally available resources to improve the working environment. I would like to teach this approach to the officers I work with directly.



Ms. Agnes Dube





## 5-3 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs)

JICA's volunteer programmes support the activities of developing countries in areas such as economic and social development and the reconstruction of societies. Through these cooperation activities, participating volunteers can contribute to the countries they are assigned to while also gaining valuable experience in terms of international goodwill, mutual understanding and expanding their international perspectives. Since 1989, over 500 JOCVs have shared their expertise in Zimbabwe.

### Interviews with a few of the JOCVs in Zimbabwe

#### ● Interview with Ms. Tomo Takeuchi (Architecture, Bulawayo Polytechnic)

##### Why did you come to Zimbabwe?

I designed houses and commercial buildings at an architectural firm in Japan.  
I thought that I could now share some techniques with people in other countries.

##### What is your responsibility as a JOCV?

I give lectures focusing on technologies that can be used in actual industry so that students can work regardless of whether they are at home or in a foreign country.

##### Any message to Zimbabwean Students/Colleagues?

Let's think about what you can do rather than making an excuse not to do.



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#### ● Interview with Mr. Toshihiko Nakajima (Computer Technology, Belvedere Technical Teachers' College, Harare)



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##### What did you do before you came to Zimbabwe?

I worked as a software engineer in Tokyo. I developed financial systems.

##### What is your responsibility as a JOCV?

Teaching web design and programming; creating the textbooks of computers.

##### Any message to Zimbabwean Students?

Let's enjoy studying!

#### ● Interview with Ms. Chiaki Mori (PE, Hillside Teachers' College, Bulawayo)

##### What did you do in Japan?

I was a teacher of PE (physical education) at a secondary school in Japan.

##### What is your responsibility as a JOCV?

I support students to improve their motor skills, and lecturers with the operation of computers.

##### Any message to Zimbabwean Students?

If people change, the environment will change. If the environment changes, people will change.



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#### ● Interview with Mr. Kohei Yamamura (PE, Bindura Uni. of Science Education)

##### What did you do in Japan?

I was a PE teacher. I have been taking part in athletics for 12 years.

##### What is your responsibility as a JOCV?

I teach athletics to secondary school students. Our team has seven people.  
I train them daily and prepare them for athletics competitions.

##### Any message to Zimbabwean Students?

Thank you for your kindness. I always appreciate different cultures.  
Zimbabwe is my favourite country because sadza is delicious.



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**Contact: Embassy of Japan in Zimbabwe**

Tel. (0242) 250025/6/7 Email: [info.emb-japan@hz.mofa.go.jp](mailto:info.emb-japan@hz.mofa.go.jp)

Website: [www.zw.emb-japan.go.jp](http://www.zw.emb-japan.go.jp) Facebook: [JapanEmb.Zim](https://www.facebook.com/JapanEmb.Zim)

