

JAPAN & AFRICA



Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Over 10,000 kilometers separate Africa and Japan.
 As great as this distance may be,
 Africa is a common part of everyday life in Japan.
 And in much the same way, Japan is a familiar presence in Africa.
 The bonds between Japan and Africa have grown stronger than ever,
 as partners growing together.
 Let's take a deeper look, and learn more about the charms of Africa,
 and more about African-Japanese partnership.

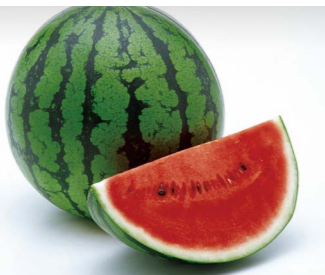
Africa: Far yet Near

This pamphlet uses "Africa" to refer to a total of 54 countries, including both the countries of northern Africa and the countries of sub-Saharan Africa.



Gerbera

Gerberas are a common sight at flower shops. The genus is said to include over 2,000 different species. Its other common name, "African daisy," refers to its origins in southern Africa.



Wine

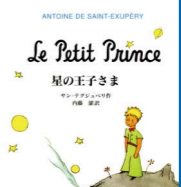
The climate of South Africa makes it perfect for producing excellent wines. The center of production is in western Cape Province, which has begun an eco-friendly green label initiative due to the region's UNESCO protected area status.



Shea Butter

Shea butter is a fat extracted from the nuts of the shea tree, which grows in western Africa. Locally, it serves both food and medicine purposes, but became internationally known when a European company began selling shea butter skincare products. It is used today in soaps and lotions, to beautify skin all around the world.

The Little Prince



The Little Prince is a timeless masterpiece. Its author, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, was from France, but it is set in the Sahara Desert. Because of this book, Africa is a part of childhood for many Japanese people.

Wangari Maathai

Wangari Maathai of Kenya won the Nobel Peace Prize for her environmental and human rights efforts. In Japan, she is an unforgettable figure who brought the Japanese philosophy of "Mottainai" to the world.



Watermelon

Watermelons originated around the Kalahari Desert of southern Africa. In Botswana, for instance, no fewer than 300 species of watermelons grow in the wild. There, watermelons are prized not for their sweetness, but as a source of drinking water!



Okra

Molokhia greens from Egypt might be the most famous African vegetable in Japan, but the summer vegetable okra, originally from northeastern Africa, is a much more common sight on Japanese tables.



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H a n d i n H a n d w i t h a M o r e D y n a m i c A f r i c a

Rare Metals

Rare metals are indispensable materials used by major Japanese industries, in products like mobile phones and smartphones, LED lighting, and exhaust emission control systems in motor vehicles. In particular, large quantities of metals like platinum, manganese, and vanadium are imported from Africa.



Sesame Seeds

Sesame seeds have long been known to have health benefits, and the plant's origins are in the African savanna. Japan imports sesame seeds from Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Tanzania, Mozambique, and Ethiopia, and they are used mainly to produce sesame oil.



Chocolate

Roughly 80% of the cacao beans used to make chocolate in Japan are imported from Ghana. The scientific name for the cacao tree is *Theobroma cacao* — "theobroma" comes from the Greek for "food of the gods."



Coffee

Japan is the world's fourth largest consumer of coffee, after the US, Brazil, and Germany. This coffee is imported from Ethiopia — said to be the birthplace of coffee — and other countries, including Tanzania and Kenya.



Octopus

Octopus is a major seafood product imported from Africa. Much of the octopus caught in Mauritania and Morocco is consumed in Japan — the beloved Japanese dish "Takoyaki" (octopus balls) has a little bit of Africa inside each one.



Grapefruit

Grapefruit is known for its refreshing tartness and mild bitterness. South Africa is the second largest exporter to Japan behind only the US, and the season runs from June to November, after the season ends in Florida.



Rooibos Tea

Rooibos tea is a popular drink in southern Africa, made from a plant native to Africa. It contains antioxidants and zero caffeine, making it a popular health drink.



01



Overview of Africa
 Basic Information on Africa

03

Economic Growth in Africa Pt. 1
 The Growing Continent of Africa

05

Economic Growth in Africa Pt. 2
 Working as Partners Growing Together

07

SDGs
 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa

09

Peace and Stability
 Building Peace and Stability, the Cornerstones of Growth

11

TICAD
 African Development with Japanese Assistance

13

TICAD
 Results of the TICAD Process

15

Culture & Sports
 The Beating Heart of Africa

17

02

Basic Information on Africa

The continent of Africa is home to 54 countries, across five main regions: northern, southern, eastern, western, and central Africa.*
 “Sub-Saharan Africa” refers collectively to the portion of the continent south of the Sahara Desert, excluding northern Africa. *As established by the African Union (AU)

Overview of Africa

• About 6,200 Japanese people live in Africa (Source: Annual Report of Statistics on Japanese Nationals Overseas, October 2022)

• About 21,000 Africans live in Japan (Source: Statistics on Foreign Residents in Japan, Ministry of Justice, June 2022)



Kigali, Capital of Rwanda
 (Photo: Imamura Kenshiro/JICA)



Tokyo

Western Africa (15 Countries)

 Republic of Ghana Capital: Accra Population: 32.4 million Main Language: English	 Republic of Cabo Verde Capital: Praia Population: 800,000 Main Languages: Portuguese, Creole	 Republic of the Gambia Capital: Banjul Population: 2.8 million Main Languages: English, Mandinka, Wolof	 Republic of Guinea Capital: Conakry Population: 13.9 million Main Language: French	 Republic of Guinea-Bissau Capital: Bissau Population: 2.1 million Main Language: Portuguese
 Republic of Cote d'Ivoire Capital: Yamoussoukro Population: 27.7 million Main Language: French	 Republic of Sierra Leone Capital: Freetown Population: 8.7 million Main Languages: English, Mende	 Republic of Senegal Capital: Dakar Population: 17.7 million Main Languages: French, Wolof	 Republic of Togo Capital: Lome Population: 9.7 million Main Language: French	 Federal Republic of Nigeria Capital: Abuja Population: 218.7 million Main Languages: English, Hausa, Yoruba, Ibo
 Republic of Niger Capital: Niamey Population: 26.1 million Main Languages: French, Hausa	 Burkina Faso Capital: Ouagadougou Population: 22.1 million Main Languages: French, Mossi, Dyula, Gourmanché	 Republic of Benin Capital: Porto Novo Population: 12.8 million Main Language: French	 Republic of Mali Capital: Bamako Population: 21.5 million Main Languages: French, Bambara	 Republic of Liberia Capital: Monrovia Population: 5.3 million Main Language: English

Central Africa (9 Countries)

 Gabonese Republic Capital: Libreville Population: 2.3 million Main Languages: French, Fang	 Republic of Cameroon Capital: Yaounde Population: 27.9 million Main Languages: French, English	 Republic of the Congo Capital: Brazzaville Population: 5.8 million Main Languages: French, Lingala	 Democratic Republic of the Congo Capital: Kinshasa Population: 95.2 million Main Languages: French, Kikongo, Lingala	 Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe Capital: Sao Tome Population: 200,000 Main Language: Portuguese	 Republic of Equatorial Guinea Capital: Malabo Population: 1.5 million Main Languages: Spanish, French, Portuguese, Fang, Bube
 Republic of Chad Capital: N'Djamena Population: 17.4 million Main Languages: French, Arabic	 Central African Republic Capital: Bangui Population: 5.0 million Main Languages: French, Sango	 Republic of Burundi Capital: Bujumbura Population: 12.8 million Main Languages: French, Kirundi			

African Countries with the Most Residents in Japan

1. Nigeria	3,650
2. Ghana	2,690
3. Egypt	2,290

Source: Statistics on Foreign Residents in Japan, Ministry of Justice, June 2022

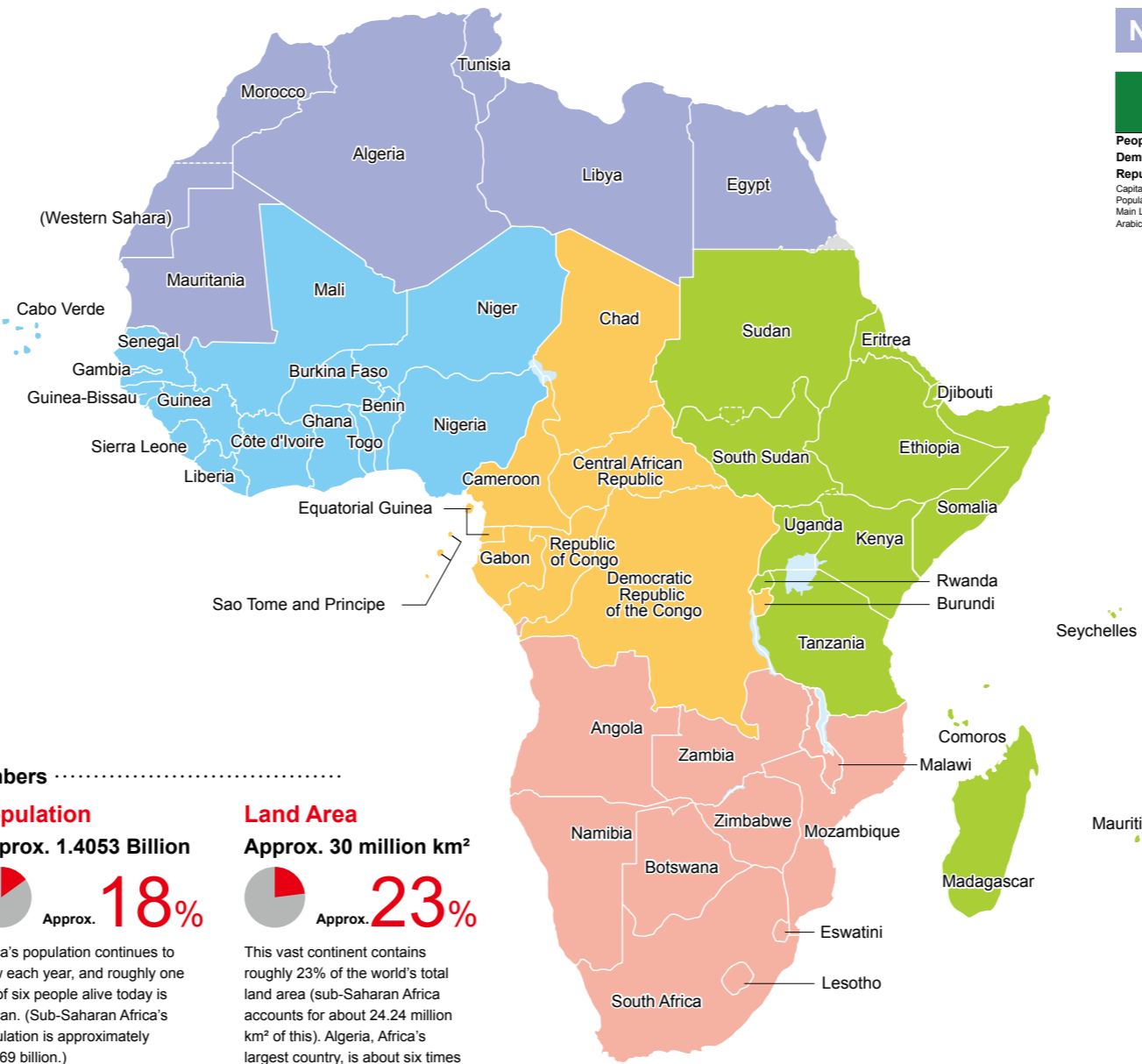
Africa and the World, in Numbers



The 2011 independence of South Sudan brought the total number of countries in Africa to 54, of which 49 are in sub-Saharan Africa. More than a quarter of the 193 UN member states are in Africa.

Africa's population continues to grow each year, and roughly one out of six people alive today is African. (Sub-Saharan Africa's population is approximately 1.1969 billion.)

Source: State of World Population 2022, UNFPA



Northern Africa (6 Countries)

 People's Democratic Republic of Algeria Capital: Algiers Population: 45.4 million Main Languages: Arabic, French	 Arab Republic of Egypt Capital: Cairo Population: 108.2 million Main Language: Arabic	 Republic of Tunisia Capital: Tunis Population: 12.0 million Main Languages: Arabic, French	 Islamic Republic of Mauritania Capital: Nouakchott Population: 4.9 million Main Languages: Arabic, French	 Kingdom of Morocco Capital: Rabat Population: 37.8 million Main Languages: Arabic, French	 Libya Capital: Tripoli Population: 7.0 million Main Language: Arabic
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Eastern Africa (14 Countries)

 Republic of Uganda Capital: Kampala Population: 48.4 million Main Languages: English, Luganda, Swahili	 Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Capital: Addis Ababa Population: 120.8 million Main Languages: Amharic, English	 State of Eritrea Capital: Asmara Population: 3.7 million Main Languages: Tigrinya, Arabic, English, various ethnic languages	 Republic of Kenya Capital: Nairobi Population: 56.2 million Main Languages: English, Swahili	 Union of Comoros Capital: Moroni Population: 900,000 Main Languages: French, Arabic, Comorian
 Republic of Djibouti Capital: Djibouti Population: 1.0 million Main Languages: Arabic, French, Somali	 Republic of the Sudan Capital: Khartoum Population: 48.0 million Main Languages: Arabic, English	 Republic of Seychelles Capital: Victoria Population: 100,000 Main Languages: English, French, Creole	 Federal Republic of Somalia Capital: Mogadishu Population: 18.8 million Main Languages: Somali, Arabic, English, Italian	 United Republic of Tanzania Capital: Dodoma Population: 63.3 million Main Languages: Swahili, English
 Republic of Madagascar Capital: Antananarivo Population: 29.2 million Main Languages: French, Malagasy	 Republic of South Sudan Capital: Juba Population: 11.6 million Main Languages: English, tribal languages	 Republic of Mauritius Capital: Port Louis Population: 1.3 million Main Languages: English, French, Creole	 Republic of Rwanda Capital: Kigali Population: 13.6 million Main Languages: English, French, Kinyarwanda, Swahili	

Southern Africa (10 Countries)

 Republic of Angola Capital: Luanda Population: 35.0 million Main Languages: Portuguese, Umbundu	 Republic of Zambia Capital: Lusaka Population: 19.5 million Main Languages: English, Bemba	 Republic of Zimbabwe Capital: Harare Population: 15.3 million Main Languages: English, Shona, Ndebele	 Kingdom of Eswatini Capital: Mbabane Population: 1.2 million Main Languages: English, Swazi	 Republic of Namibia Capital: Windhoek Population: 2.6 million Main Languages: English, Afrikaans
 Republic of Botswana Capital: Gaborone Population: 2.4 million Main Languages: English, Tswana	 Republic of Malawi Capital: Lilongwe Population: 20.2 million Main Languages: English, Chewa	 Republic of South Africa Capital: Pretoria Population: 60.8 million Main Languages: English, Afrikaans, Zulu	 Republic of Mozambique Capital: Maputo Population: 33.1 million Main Languages: Portuguese, Bantu languages	 Kingdom of Lesotho Capital: Maseru Population: 2.2 million Main Languages: English, Sotho

Source: State of World Population 2022, UNFPA



Algeria

Casbah of Algiers

This old neighborhood was built on a hill in the capital city of Algiers. Narrow, stair-stepped alleys wind around in the spaces between the houses.

Angola

Welwitschia

This unusual plant grows wild from southern Angola through the Namib Desert. They are 500–600 years old on average, with some estimated to be over 2,000 years old.



Uganda

Source of the Nile

The source of the “mother river” Nile is Margherita Peak, in the Rwenzori Mountains: the river starts with melting snow from the glaciers on the 5,109-meter-high summit.

Egypt

Beer

Even ancient Egyptians drank beer. Beer was a form of money at the time — the wages for building the pyramids were even paid in beer.

Eswatini

Swazi Candles

When lit, the flower and animal patterns on these candles are illuminated from within, like stained glass. They are made using a technique known as “millefiore.”



Ethiopia

Coffee Ceremony

Coffee is offered as a form of hospitality for beloved guests and during festivals. The ceremony takes its time, beginning with roasting raw beans, and can take over an hour.

Eritrea

Art Deco Buildings

The capital city of Asmara is a UNESCO World Heritage site, with some 4,300 Art Deco buildings dating back to the Italian colonial period.

The Growing Continent of Africa

The true strength of Africa lies in its abundant natural resources, and a young population that will support the large markets of the future. Against a backdrop of political stability, recent years have seen increases in both foreign direct investment and domestic demand, and the African economy has grown dramatically. In particular, sub-Saharan Africa boasts GDP and GNI growth rates that are both roughly double the worldwide average.

Economic Growth in Africa (Part 1)

• An Elementary School in Senegal, Built in Cooperation with Japan

• Rare Metals Indispensable for Japan's Major Industries (Pictured: Platinum)



Photo: Imamura Kenshiro/JICA

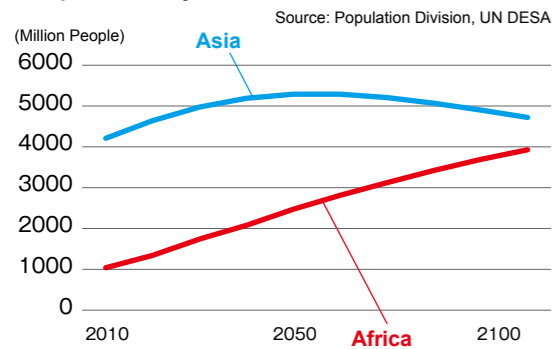


Photo: JOGMEC

The Latent Potential of a Two-Billion-Person Market

Around 2060, Asia's population is expected to start declining; meanwhile, Africa's population is expected to grow by some 300 million each decade, reaching 2.5 billion by 2050 — more than double its 2010 population.

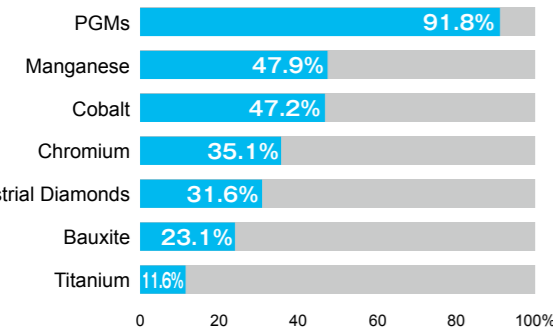
• Population Projections



A Wealth of Mineral and Energy Resources

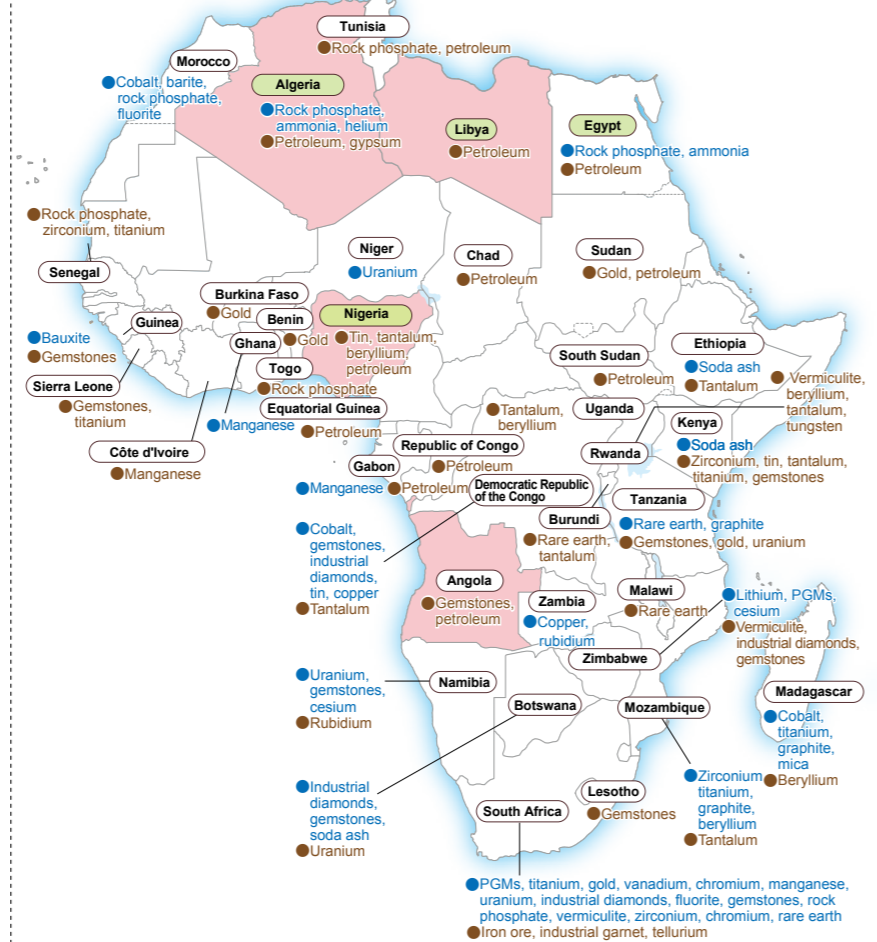
Africa is a treasure trove of natural resources, producing valuable materials like platinum and diamonds, as well as rare metals, the "vitamins of industry."

• Africa's Share of the World's Major Mineral Deposits (2020)



Source: Mineral Commodity Summaries 2022, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

• Mineral and Energy Resources in Africa

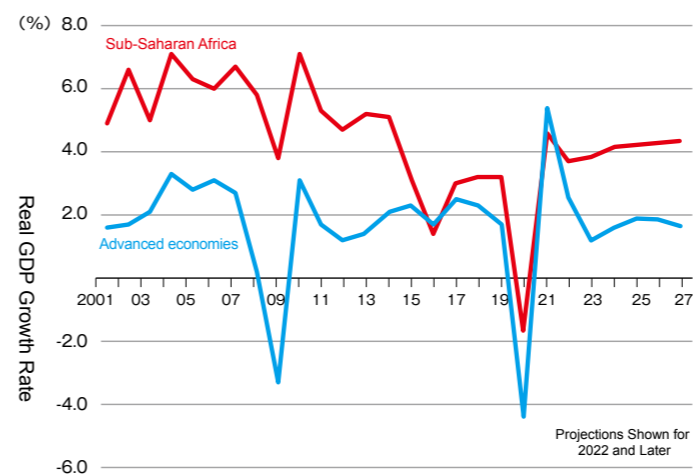


Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2021, 70th Edition Mineral Commodity Summaries 2022, USGS Uranium 2020 Resources, Production and Demand, OECD, NEA, IAEA

Sub-Saharan Africa Maintains Strong Growth

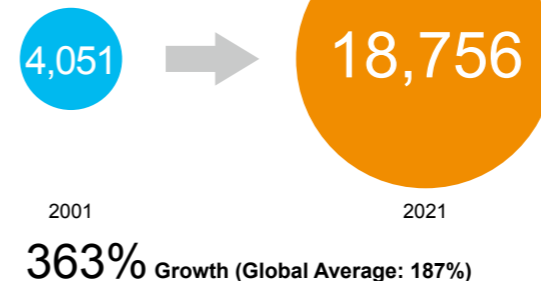
The average economic growth rate for sub-Saharan African countries from 2001 to 2021 was 4.5%, far outpacing the 1.7% of higher-income countries. Even though economic growth in sub-Saharan gradually decreased starting in 2013, due to low resource prices and outbreaks of infectious diseases like the Ebola virus, and declined sharply in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, GDP is still up compared to 2001.

• Economic Growth Rate Comparison



• Sub-Saharan Nominal GDP Growth

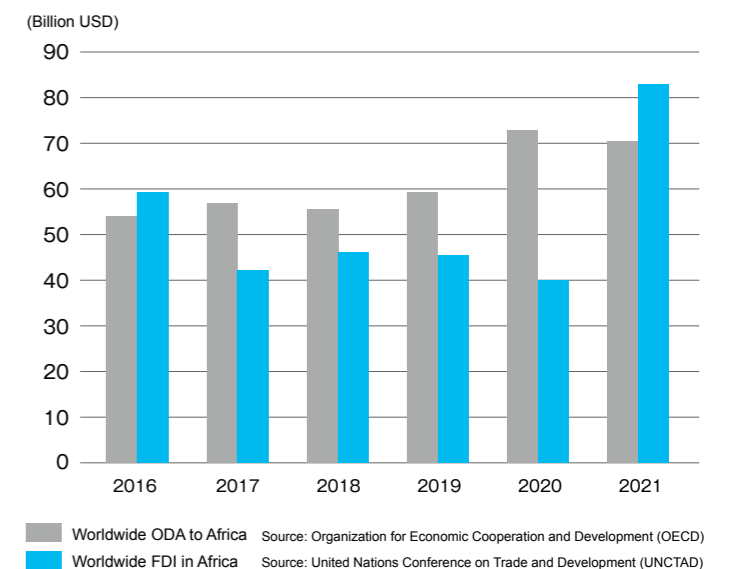
(Unit: 100 million USD)



Eyes Are on Africa as a New Investment Opportunity

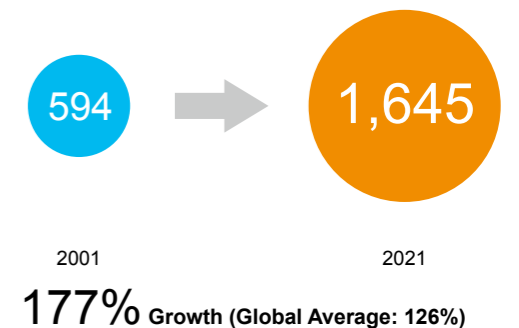
Africa enjoys abundant natural resources and a market of some 1.4 billion people, and the continent has drawn much attention for investment opportunities from around the world.

• Worldwide Aid and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Africa



• Per-Capita GDP of Sub-Saharan Africa

(USD)



Ghana

Cacao

Cacao trees bear fruit not only from their branches, but also directly from the trunk. It can feel mysterious indeed to encounter rugby-ball-shaped cacao pods hanging from the tree's trunk.



Cabo Verde

Cesária Évora

This Cabo Verdean Singer was known for her hit songs, such as the 'Sodade'. She brought the morna music of Cabo Verde to the world.

Gabon

Tropical Rainforests

Gabon was where Nobel Peace Prize laureate Dr. Albert Schweitzer focused his medical work. Some 85% of the country is covered in tropical rainforests, making it a precious habitat for gorillas and other primates.

Cameroon

The Kingdoms of Cameroon

There are many kingdoms in Cameroon that still maintain their traditional customs. One of the most famous is the Kingdom of Bamum, founded in the 14th century, whose royal palace is near Bafoussam in the West Region.



The Gambia

Roots

The African-American author Alex Haley modeled his autobiographical novel Roots after the Gambia. Kunta Kinteh Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is named after the main character of the story.

Guinea

Maps

The official national map of Guinea was produced by Japanese people. The map took five years to complete — the team of surveyors, led by Motojima Kenzo, walked across the entire country in the process.

Guinea-Bissau

Cashews

Cashews account for a major part of Guinea-Bissau's exports. These "nuts" are actually seeds, which grow out the end of a bell-pepper-shaped fruit called the cashew apple.

Working as Partners growing together

Japan continues working to maintain a mutually beneficial relationship with Africa. For example, when Japanese companies expand into Africa, they not only secure their own access to resources, but also work to transfer skills and technology, and develop human resources, as a way of paying back local societies with the profits they have earned. There has also been a recent trend toward more business activity that aims to address social issues.

Economic Growth in Africa (Part 2)

• African Woman Working for a Japanese Company

• Work to Rehabilitate National Trunk Road N8 in Ghana



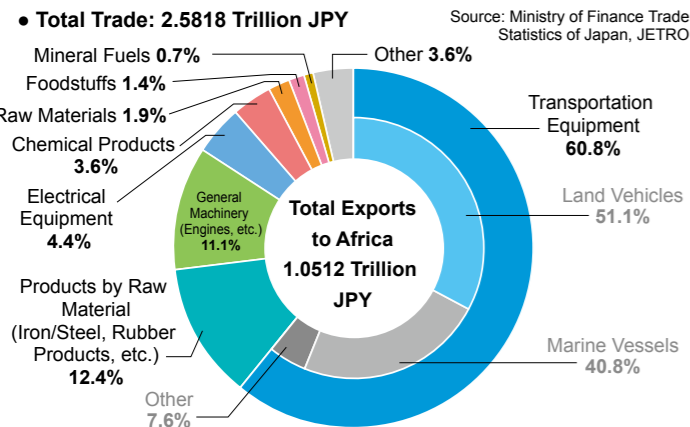
Photo: Sumitomo Chemical



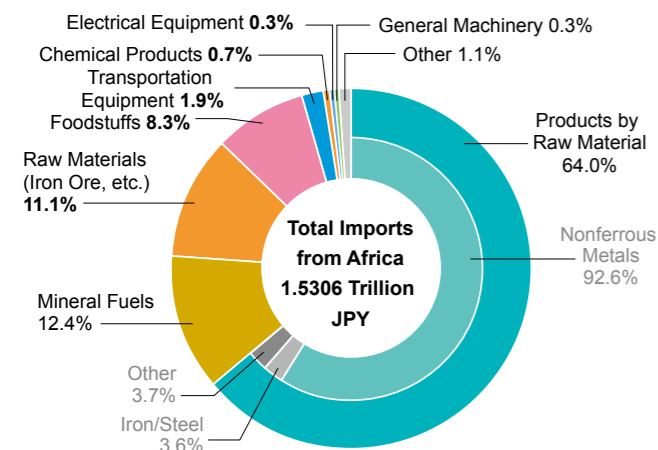
Photo: Iizuka Akio/JICA

Economic Relations between Japan and Africa

Japan's total trade with Africa in 2021 is estimated at 1.0512 trillion JPY in exports, and 1.5306 trillion JPY in imports. At events such as August 2016's TICAD VI, Japan has worked out joint public-private-sector initiatives to promote trade with and investment in Africa.



Japan's Top 3 Export Destinations in Africa (2021):
1. Liberia (25.1%) 2. South Africa (24.5%) 3. Egypt (11.3%)

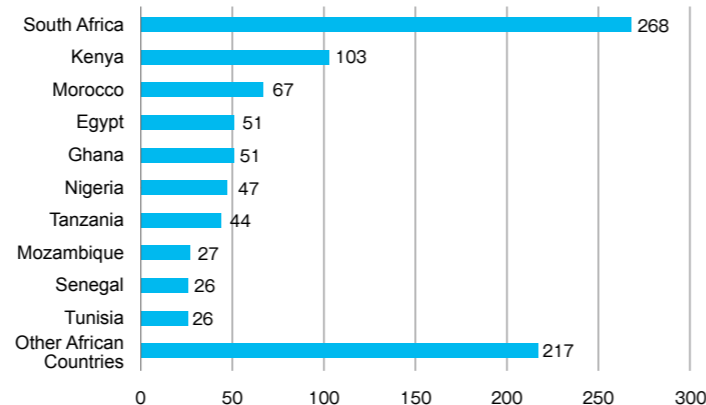


Japan's Top 3 Import Sources in Africa (2021):
1. South Africa (72.6%) 2. Nigeria (5.5%) 3. Algeria (4%)

Japanese Companies Expanding into Africa

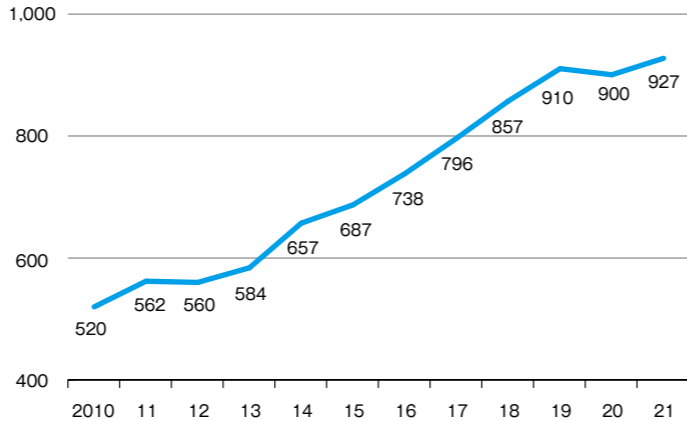
As of October 2021, Japanese companies have a total of 927 locations in Africa, with more Japanese companies entering the market each year. These companies are engaged in fields like manufacturing (26.1%), wholesale and retail (23.8%), services (10.5%), and construction (6.1%).

• Countries with Many Japanese Company Locations



Note: Number of locations shown includes both Japanese companies (branches and representative offices) and locally incorporated companies (locally incorporated Japan-affiliated companies, overseas corporations with funding from Japanese companies, and companies established overseas by Japanese nationals).

• Japanese Companies Expanding into Africa



Source: Annual Report of Statistics on Japanese Nationals Overseas, Consular Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

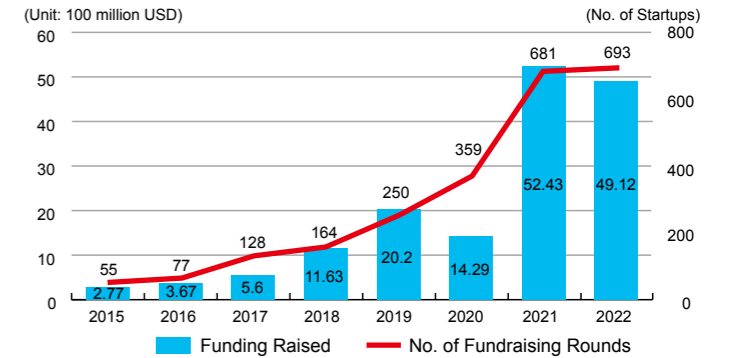
Support for Startups and Other Businesses Working to Solve Social Issues

One of Japan's initiatives for Africa is to provide multifaceted support for entrepreneurs who aim to tackle social issues in Africa. The main forms of this support include developing human resources for industry; improving woman's participation in businesses; and Startup Ecosystem support to create startups continuously through industry-academia collaboration networks that include large companies, university research institutions, and public institutions. This support also includes the Smart City Framework, which aims to bring about sustainable cities through the use of ICT and other advanced information technologies.

Overview of Startups in Africa

More and more startup companies are arising in Africa, achieving rapid growth by addressing social issues through innovative ideas, in a market of 1.4 billion people continent-wide. In particular, startups are working in the fields of fintech (financial technology) and agritech (agricultural technology), with more startups expected in these fields in the future.

• Rounds of Fundraising, and Amounts of Funding Raised, by African Startups (In the fields of venture capital/tech)



(Source: 2022 Africa Tech Venture Report, Partech Partners)

- "Venture capital": Investment companies that invest in unlisted companies with the potential for growth, such as startups and venture companies
- "Tech": Companies with businesses built on IT and other technologies

• Saraya 100% Hospital Hand Hygiene project

After launching the "Wash a Million Hands!" project in Uganda, Saraya began locally producing and selling hand sanitizer in 2014, and launched the 100% Hospital Hand Hygiene project. AlsoTV is a sanitizer made with ethanol produced from local sugarcane, and Saraya aims to make this a sustainable business that both solves social problems in Africa and creates jobs.



Photo: Saraya

• The Ajinomoto Foundation KOKO Plus®

In 2009, Ajinomoto Co., Inc. began a project to improve nutrition for weaning children, and developed a nutritional supplement to be added to koko, a fermented corn porridge traditionally used as a baby food in Ghana. In 2017, the Ajinomoto Foundation took over the project, and continues to work in industrial, government, academic, and private-sector collaboration with Ghanaian, Japanese, and UN organizations, particularly the Government of Ghana, with the goal of improving nutrition by providing education on nutrition to bring about changes in behavior.



Photo: Ajinomoto Foundation

• WASSHA LED Lanterns

WASSHA operates an electricity-as-a-service business in off-grid areas of Tanzania. Kiosks (retailers) serve as a local point of sales, where the company rents out the solar-rechargeable LED lanterns it has developed, to members of the consumer public with unstable incomes. The name "WASSHA" comes from the Swahili for "to light a lamp." As the name would imply, the company works in collaboration with other businesses to bring light to parts of Tanzania without electricity.



Photo: WASSHA



Kenya

Roses

Kenya's second largest export is horticultural crops, behind only black tea. Roses particularly benefit from the high-altitude growing conditions of this equatorial country, and exports to Japan continue to expand.

Côte d'Ivoire

Elephants

The name of the country translates to "Ivory Coast," and elephants are a precious symbol of the nation: the national emblem features an elephant along with palm trees and the sun, and the national sports teams are nicknamed "Les Éléphants."

The Comoros

Coelacanths

Coelacanths have been caught on occasion in the waters surrounding the Comoros. In 1990, the Toba Aquarium performed an investigation in cooperation with the government of the Comoros, and became the first Japanese organization to successfully record video footage of a coelacanth.

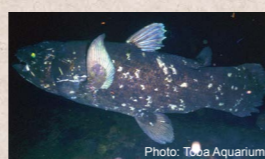


Photo: Toba Aquarium

Republic of the Congo

La Sape

A subculture of people who spend most of their income on fashion, and take to the streets with a unique walk to show off their styles. Their motto: peace without weapons.



Democratic Republic of the Congo

Congolese Rumba

Originally from Kinshasa, this style of music has become popular throughout Africa. The songs are sung in Lingala, leading the music style to also be known as "Lingala" in some countries. It has earned UNESCO World Cultural Heritage recognition.



Photo: Plankton

Sao Tome and Principe

UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

This island nation consists of the islands Sao Tome and Principe, as well as the surrounding islands. The entire island of Principe has been designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa

Africa has seen stunning growth in recent years. At the same time, though, many Africans struggle with poverty: roughly 40% of the people of sub-Saharan Africa live on less than 1.90 USD a day. Japan believes that putting an end to poverty will bring a brighter future to the people of Africa, and actively works to provide support in cooperation with international organizations, NGOs, and private companies.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

• Japanese Maternity Nurse Assisting as Part of the Humanized Maternity Care Project

• Many Africans Recognize the Yellow Fever Researcher Noguchi Hideyo



Photo: Raymond Wilkinson/JICA



Photo: Cabinet Office of Japan

At the September 2015 UN Summit, a set of development goals was adopted for the entire international community through the year 2030, known as "the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." At the core of the Agenda are the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. To achieve the SDGs, in May 2016 Japan established the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, headed by the prime minister. Under this Promotion Headquarters, the national government, local governments, businesses, and NGOs work to promote Japan-wide efforts to achieve the SDGs, leveraging each of their respective strengths, based on the principle of human security.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Japan's SDG Efforts within the International Community

Ensuring Healthy Lifestyles

- In order to achieve the SDGs, the Government of Japan has been cooperating to realize universal health coverage (UHC), through mobilizing its expertise, technology, and financial resources, based on the principle that "no one's health should be left behind."
- The Global Health Strategy, which was launched in May 2022, have two policy goals. ① To contribute to developing resilient Global Health Architecture for international health security and strengthening PPR (Prevention, Preparedness, and Response) for public health crises, and, ② To accelerate efforts to achieve more resilient, equitable, and sustainable UHC required for the post-COVID-19 era human security.
- Based on this Strategy, in August 2022, Japan announced its pledge of up to 1.08 billion USD for the Global Fund over the next three years at TICAD8, in order to strengthen not only its efforts against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, but also health systems that significantly contribute to achieving UHC.
- Moreover, Japan has been providing approximately 5 billion USD for the global struggle against the COVID-19 outbreak through bilateral assistance as well as international organization. In addition to financial contribution of up to 1.5 billion USD for the COVAX facility, Japan has provided vaccines to 32 countries and regions including eight countries in Africa, and has implemented the Last One Mile Support program that ensures delivery of vaccines to every single person in developing countries. In implementing these assistances, Japan has contributed to overcoming the current COVID-19 crisis, strengthening health systems against future health crises, and improving an enabling international environment for ensuring health security across broader sectors.



Last One Mile Support Program Providing COVID-19 Testing Kits (Ghana)

Note: "UHC" refers to ensuring that all people can receive the basic health services they need at an affordable cost without financial hardship.

Gender Equality and Empowering Women

- In May 2016, the government of Japan announced the Development Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, to strengthen international cooperation in this field. The Development Strategy focuses on three priority areas: (1) respecting the rights of women and girls, and improving their vulnerable positions; (2) building a foundation for women to meet their full potential; and (3) increasing women's participation and leadership in politics,

the economy, and the public sphere. More specifically, the government aims to promote women's empowerment and quality growth by developing women-friendly infrastructure, expanding maternal and child health services, increasing the number of women involved in girls' education and in scientific fields, and promoting greater participation by women in leadership roles in fields like disaster management.

- This has included efforts like providing support to improve girls' educational environments, such as building classrooms and girls' toilets, in areas of Mozambique with low female enrollment in secondary education, as well as efforts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to support the training of female police officers, in order to help address the issues that threaten women's human rights and safety.
- As a part of its efforts to promote these cooperative initiatives, Japan has asserted its intention to provide quality education and human resource training opportunities to at least 4 million women in developing countries over a three-year period starting in 2019, as well as to at least 7.5 million women in developing countries over a five-year period starting in 2021.



Efforts to Improve Police Training for the Benefit of the Public Peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Photo: JICA)

Strengthening Implementation Measures and Partnerships

- The SDGs encompass seventeen goals and 169 targets; stakeholders with an interest in these areas must work together in order to achieve the SDGs.
- The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security was established in 1999 as a Japan-led initiative. The Fund focuses on eliminating the root causes of threats to human security, through inclusive, cross-sectoral projects built on the principle of human security. In order to do so, multiple different international organizations must work together on projects, which in turn should prove beneficial as an approach to achieving the SDGs, which advocate for revitalized global partnerships.
- Japan has helped support the Fund ever since it was created in 1999; as of 2021, Japan has contributed a total of more than 450 million USD to the implementation of 282 projects in over 100 countries and regions.



Project to Support Entrepreneurs Using Biomass Energy in Egypt (Joint Project by Five International Organizations)



Zambia

Cobalt

Zambia is one of the world's five top cobalt countries, in terms of both deposits and production. Cobalt is a rare metal used to make lithium batteries, and a major export to Japan.

Sierra Leone

Diamonds

Diamonds from Sierra Leone are known for their unusually consistent excellence. This country was also the setting for the movie *Blood Diamond*.

Djibouti

Lake Assal

Lake Assal, located in central Djibouti, is a saline lake with water even saltier than the Dead Sea. Here, you can find round, pearl-like crystals of salt.



Photo: Fumao Osawa/JICA

Zimbabwe

Victoria Falls

This waterfall, located on the country's border with Zambia, is one of the largest in the world. It is known locally as *Mosi-oa-Tunya* ("The Smoke That Thunders"), and the spray can be seen from kilometers away.



Photo: Shoji Koyama/JICA

Sudan

The Two Niles

The Blue Nile and White Nile rivers meet in the capital city of Khartoum. The point where the two rivers meet can be seen from the White Nile Bridge, each river with its own distinct color.

The Seychelles

The Last Remaining Paradise on Earth

The Seychelles are world-renowned resort islands. They recently attracted international attention when they became the honeymoon destination for British royalty Prince William and Princess Catherine.

Equatorial Guinea

Kapok Tree

This is the national tree of Equatorial Guinea, and even appears on the country's flag. It is nicknamed "the tree of the gods" because of the oil that can be produced from its seeds.

Building Peace and Stability, the Cornerstones of Growth

Compared to the 1990s, Africa now has fewer ongoing conflicts and civil wars, but even today, some countries and regions remain unstable, such as the Sahel region, the Lake Chad region, Somalia, the Eastern DRC, Central Africa, South Sudan, and Libya. Peace is a vital prerequisite for a country's development. As a member of the international community, Japan supports the establishment of peace, and continues to provide both financial and human support to PKO training centers to further enhance Africa's ability to maintain peace on its own.



Photo: JICA

Peace and Stability

- Citizens of South Sudan Gathering to Celebrate the Country's Independence

Japan's Initiatives for Peace and Stability in Africa

In Africa, there remain conflicts with complex backgrounds and threats such as terrorism. Japan contributes to realizing peace and stability as the basis for nation-building by deploying personnel to UN peacekeeping operations (PKO) and through PKO training centers. Japan provides various assistance to countries in Africa to help them achieve peace and stability on their own.



Japan Self Defense Forces Performing Road Maintenance in Juba, South Sudan (Photo: Ministry of Defense)

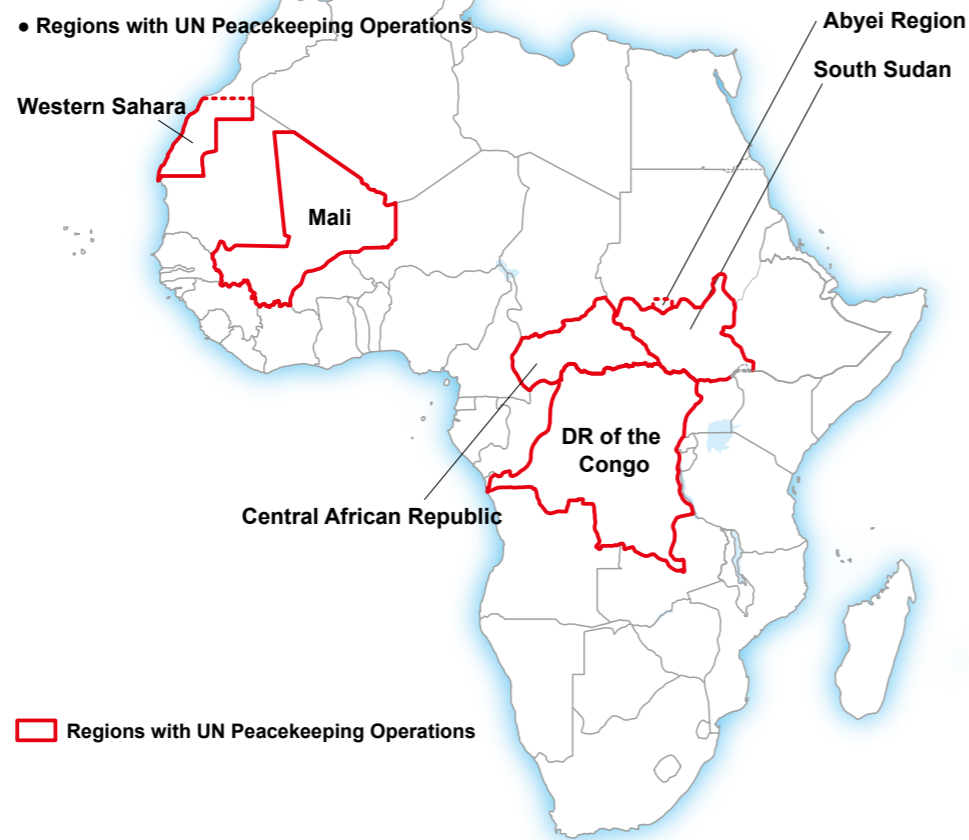


Police Training in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Photo: Kuno Shin'ichi/JICA)



JICA Expert Teaching Local Technician How to Use Instruments at a Transformer Station in Sierra Leone (Photo: Iizuka Akio/JICA)

• Regions with UN Peacekeeping Operations



Regions with UN Peacekeeping Operations

• Current UN Peacekeeping Operations in Africa

(Only military and police personnel PKOs shown)

UN Mission	Acronym	Personnel	Start Date
UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara	(MINURSO)	223 People	From Apr. 1991
UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the DR of the Congo	(MONUSCO)	14,641 "	From Jul. 2010
UN Interim Security Force for Abyei	(UNISFA)	2,621 "	From Jun. 2011
UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan	(UNMISS)	15,192 "	From Jul. 2011
UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali	(MINUSMA)	14,047 "	From Apr. 2013
UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the C. African Republic	(MINUSCA)	15,368 "	From Apr. 2014

Source: UN Department of Peace Operations website (as of Oct. 2022)

Japanese People Working to Help Bring Peace and Stability to Africa

Ever since Japan's Self Defense Forces units (SDF) were deployed to the UN Operation in Mozambique(ONUMOZ) in 1993, many SDF personnel and Japan Coast Guard officers have participated in peacekeeping operations and have played an active role to promote peace and stability in Africa.

• Japanese Cooperation in Establishing, Nurturing, and Protecting Peace and Stability in Africa

Japan's SDF Involvement in the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan

Four staff officers have been deployed to UNMISS HQ and play an active role. *Ground Self Defense Force engineering unit withdrew from its mission in 2017.



Photo: Ministry of Defense

In order to ensure the safe navigation of commercial vessels, Japan's SDF destroyers and patrol aircraft have been operating in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia. The activities of various countries, including Japan, have greatly contributed to the reduction of piracy incidents.



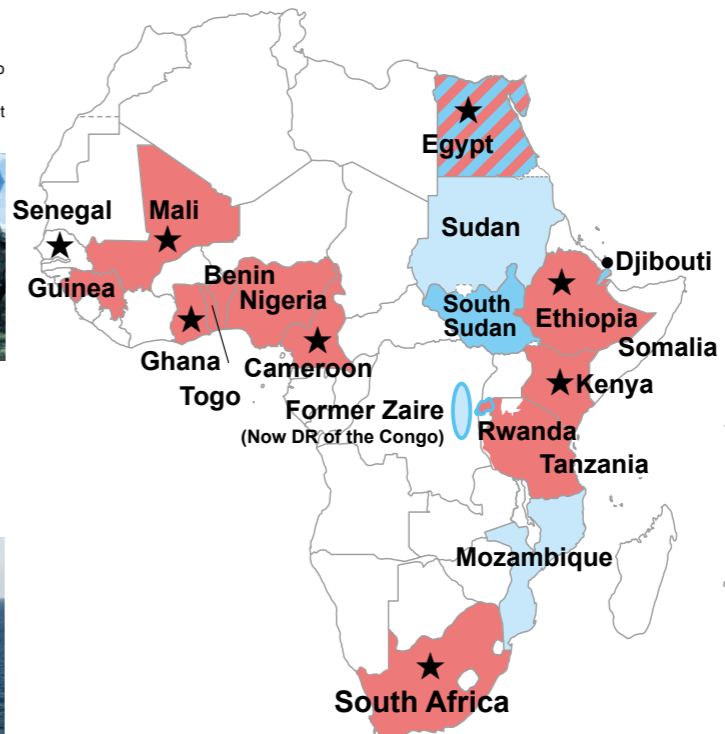
Photo: Ministry of Defense

Japan's SDF Involvement

Since April 2019, two Japan's SDF personnel have been deployed as staff officers in MFO, which has been conducting as one of the peacekeeping operations in Sinai Peninsula, Egypt.



Photo: Cabinet Office of Japan



Countries with current Japan SDF command center personnel deployments

Countries where the Japan SDF and others are currently active

Countries where Japan has provided support to PKO training centers

Countries and regions where the Japan SDF and others have been active to date

★Countries where Japanese instructors have been sent

Support for PKO Training Centers

Japan provides various forms of assistance to peacekeeping operation (PKO) training centers, to train African personnel for activities such as peacekeeping operations. This includes sharing Japan's knowledge and experience on peacekeeping with the countries of Africa, by sending SDF personnel and civilian experts to serve as instructors.

Ethiopian International Peace Support Training Institute

When the Ethiopian International Peace Support Training Institute was originally established, Japan sent an SDF personnel to provide international consulting, to assist in curriculum development for the PKO-mission-critical courses to be taught at the center; this assistance was greatly appreciated by the local authorities involved.



Photo: Ministry of Defense

Support through the UN Triangular Partnership Programme

Japan initiates this program which the UN, supporting member states and troop-contributing countries cooperate with each other and provide training and equipment. Japan dispatches Self-Defense Force officers and others as instructors and implement capacity building of engineer personnel (road maintenance, etc.) in African countries. This support is intended to enable the engineer units to deploy as soon as possible. In 2019, medical training began as well.



Photo: Ministry of Defense



Senegal

Youssou N'Dour

This world-class pop musician was born in Senegal. Some have called him the "singing journalist" for the strong message of his songs.

Somalia

Iilwad Elman

Nominee for the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. She works with her mother, also an activist, following in the footsteps of her assassinated father, who encouraged people to "drop the gun and pick up the pen."

Tanzania

Mt. Kilimanjaro

The tallest mountain in Africa, rising 5,895 meters above sea level. The glacier at the peak is referenced in the epigraph of Ernest Hemingway's short story "The Snows of Kilimanjaro."



Chad

Toumaï, Humanity's Oldest Ancestor

In 2002, the oldest known hominine skull, nicknamed Toumaï, was discovered here by a French research team. It was later put on display at Expo 2005, in Aichi, Japan.

Central African Republic

Manovo-Gounda St. Floris National Park

This enormous national park spans 17,400 km². The northern floodplains serve as a habitat for many waterfowl, and the savanna to the south is home to animals like African elephants and black rhinoceroses.

Tunisia

Harissa

An all-purpose seasoning paste made from a base of red chili peppers, mixed with spices like coriander seed and cumin, as well as garlic and olive oil. It is often used with couscous.



Togo

German Culture

Togo was once a German colony, and today the beer and sausage here are among the best in the world! Many say the country produces Africa's finest beer, as well.

African Development with Japanese Assistance: TICAD

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development



Africa, which will account for a quarter of the world's population by 2050, is a young, hopeful, and dynamic continent with great growth potential.

However, it also concentrates many of the problems the world faces, such as poverty, conflict, and terrorism. To help solve these problems, Japan intends to play a role as a responsible member of the international community.

Building friendly relations with Africa will strengthen the foundation of Japanese diplomacy, and Africa's high potential and rich natural resources and a market of more than 1.4 billion people offer great business opportunities for Japanese companies.

For more than a quarter of a century since 1993, Japan has led development assistance to Africa through TICAD.

Japan and Africa are moving forward together as valued partners.

Background on TICAD

TICAD stands for Tokyo International Conference on African Development. The Government of Japan has been leading this conference since 1993, co-hosted by United Nations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank and African Union Commission (AUC).

On 27th - 28th August, 2022, the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) was held in Tunis, Tunisia. 48 African countries, including 20 heads of state and government, participated in the conference. From Japan, Prime Minister Kishida participated online, and Foreign Minister Hayashi, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, together with President Said of the Republic of Tunisia and President Sall of the Republic of Senegal (AU Chair) in person.



Prime Minister Kishida Speaking (via the Internet) at the TICAD 8 Opening Ceremony (Photo: Prime Minister's Office of Japan)

History of TICAD

1993 TICAD I

(First Tokyo International Conference on African Development)
Adopted the Tokyo Declaration on African Development. Contributed to reviving interest in African development, after declining interest among the international community since the end of the Cold War.

1998 TICAD II
(Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development)
Adopted the Tokyo Agenda for Action, which states priority policy actions, including numerical targets. Established the underlying TICAD principles of ownership and partnership.

2003 TICAD III
(Third Tokyo International Conference on African Development)
Adopted the TICAD Tenth Anniversary Declaration, which indicates the future direction and focused approach of the TICAD process. An emphasis was placed on human security. Over 1,000 people attended, including 24 heads of state and national leaders.

2008 TICAD IV
(Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Yokohama)
The Yokohama Declaration was adopted, and the Yokohama Action Plan and TICAD Follow-up Mechanism were both announced. Over 3,000 people attended, from 51 African countries (including 41 heads of state and national leaders) and 34 development partner countries and Asian countries, as well as representatives from 77 regional and international organizations, and from the private sector and civil society organizations.

2013 TICAD V
(Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Yokohama)
The Yokohama Declaration 2013, and the Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017, were adopted. This was one

of the largest international conferences ever hosted by Japan, with over 4,500 people attending from 51 African countries (including 39 heads of state and national leaders) and 31 development partner countries and Asian countries, as well as representatives from 72 regional and international organizations, and from the private sector and civil society organizations.

2016 TICAD VI
(Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Nairobi)
The first TICAD to be held in Africa, in Nairobi, Kenya. The Nairobi Declaration and the Nairobi Implementation Plan were adopted. Over 11,000 people attended, from 53 African countries, and development partner countries and Asian countries, as well as representatives from international and regional organizations, and from the private sector and civil society organizations such as NGOs.

2019 TICAD 7
(Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Yokohama)
Over 10,000 people attended, including 42 head-of-state-level participants (the largest number ever) from 53 African countries and 52 development partner countries, as well as representatives from 108 international and regional organizations, and from the private sector and civil society organizations such as NGOs. Discussions centered around business promotion, including positioning private-sector companies as official partners for the first time in TICAD history. The Yokohama Declaration 2019 was adopted, and the Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 was released to accompany it.

2022 TICAD 8
(Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Tunis)
The second TICAD to be held in Africa, in Tunis, Tunisia. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was partially held online, with participation from Japan and various African countries, as well as from international organizations, private-sector companies, and civil society organizations. At the closing ceremony, the TICAD 8 Tunis Declaration was adopted.

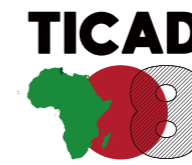
TICAD 8

Three Plenary sessions (Economy, Society and Peace and Stability), Business Forum, the Fourth Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Award Ceremony were held.

Since the launch of TICAD in 1993, Japan has been committed to supporting development led by Africa itself. At this year's TICAD 8, Japan emphasized this uniquely Japanese approach, and strongly conveyed the message that Japan will promote initiatives that focus on investment in "people" as "a partner growing together with Africa", with Africa.

At Plenary 1 (Economy), Prime Minister Kishida announced that the Government of Japan would contribute to the realization of a resilient African economy, which had been seriously affected by COVID-19 and the situations in Ukraine, by promoting private investment, securing fair and transparent development finance, promoting green investment and strengthening of food security. The participants shared the recognition that African development should not be impeded by unfair and opaque development finance.

At Plenary 2 (Society), Prime Minister Kishida announced that the creation of high-quality living environments is essential to ensure a steady growth of Africa, and that Japan would focus particularly on health, education, and the environment. The participants reiterated the need for the international community to stand together in solidarity against issues commonly faced by all humankind, such as infectious diseases and climate change. At Plenary 3 (Peace and Stability), Prime Minister Kishida



announced that Japan would vigorously support the promotion of the rule of law through institution building and the strengthening of governance in the judicial and administrative fields, and also support Africa's own efforts to return to constitutional order and consolidated democracy. He also announced

Japan's contribution to the initiatives to improve administrative services, including the contribution to enhancing community infrastructure.



TICAD as a Fully Inclusive Forum

TICAD is led by Japan and is organized by the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, and the African Union Commission (AUC). TICAD is also a forum for not only African countries, but also countries, international organizations involved in development, partner countries, Asian countries, the private sector, and civil society. TICAD is a multi-faceted framework international community to pool their wisdom and efforts, and to hold fruitful discussions that are truly beneficial to Africa's development. The discussion has been fruitful for the real development of Africa.



Nigeria

Nollywood

A major film industry akin to Hollywood and Bollywood, with a unique model: movies are created not for theatrical releases, but to be watched mainly online and on DVD.

Namibia

Namib Desert

At 80 million years old, this is said to be the world's oldest desert — and the most beautiful. Sunrises and sunsets paint the scenery red, creating magical scenery to enjoy.



Niger

The Tuareg People

The Tuareg people travel the desert with caravans of camels. They are sometimes known as the "blue people," for their indigo-dyed turbans and traditional clothing.

Burkina Faso

Bikes

The country's name means "Land of honest people" in local languages. How neatly parking is kept lined up even if the streets are packed with bicycles and motorbikes.



Burundi

Black Tea

Burundi is a hilly highland country, much like its neighbor Rwanda. The coffee and black tea grown in this environment are exported to various countries, including Japan.

Benin

Voodoo

Benin is the birthplace of Voodoo. Much like Japan's myriad deities, Voodoo is known for its many unique gods, like the god of iron, and a snake god.

Botswana

Chobe National Park

This 11,000 km² national park in northeastern Botswana is home to some 120,000 elephants. River cruises on the Chobe River offer an opportunity to see hippopotamuses and crocodiles, as well.

Results of the TICAD Process



Photo: Imamura Kenjiro/JICA

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development

TICAD 8 and Business Development in Africa

TICAD 8 provided an opportunity for Japanese companies to make the most of Africa's latent potential, as partners in growth. To promote Japanese investment in Africa, the government welcomed a plan by the Japanese business community for a startup investment fund totaling more than 10 billion JPY, with a focus on startup efforts by the vibrant younger generations of Japan and Africa. This in-person business forum was attended by roughly 100 people from Japanese companies (10 or so from startups); about 100 people from African companies; and a total of some 300 people from African economic ministries and development financing institutions, and Japanese public organizations, to discuss strengthening the business ties between Japan and Africa. The forum also saw 92 MOUs signed by Japanese companies with African countries and other entities. Additionally, four countries agreed to launch bilateral business environment improvement committees, as a mechanism to help address the various issues faced by Japanese private-sector companies that are active in Africa.

The Tunis Declaration, Adopted at TICAD 8

The TICAD 8 Tunis Declaration, which was adopted as the outcome document of TICAD 8, sets forth specific guidelines and various initiatives based on the three pillars of "economy," "society," and "peace and stability," recognizing the potential of Africa as a driving force of global growth, and the importance and urgency of "investment in people". The Declaration also recognizes the importance of multilateralism, and it also emphasizes commitment to working together based on international law, including the UN Charter, and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries. Furthermore, it emphasizes the pursuit of the resolution of disputes in accordance with international law and takes good note of the initiative of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP).



Photo: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

TICAD: Japan's Contribution for Africa

Japan presented a collection of Japan's distinctive efforts as "Japan's Contributions for Africa" at TICAD 8.

Economy

Japan will strengthen a free and open international economic system to "build back better" from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis in order to safeguard people's livelihoods. Japan will also support green growth in the respective countries to help them achieve a resilient and sustainable Africa. Furthermore, it will bolster private and start-up companies expanding across Africa with focus on vibrant and dynamic young people.



The Namanga OSBP Facility in Tanzania. This one-stop border post facility features immigration control showed in front in this picture and customs in back, streamlining the process of entering Tanzania from Kenya (Photo: JICA)

Society

Against the backdrop of the continued population growth in Africa, Japan will implement long-lasting initiatives that value each and every person and strengthen investment in people. Taking into account human security, SDGs, and AU's Agenda 2063, Japan will aim to correct disparities coming to the surface and realize a quality living environment.



Remedial class in Madagascar, held through the School for All project (Photo: JICA)

The ABE Initiative



The African Business Education Initiative for Youth, or ABE Initiative, aims to foster young personnel who can contribute to the development of industries in Africa as well as to be a "navigator" for Japanese firms' operations in Africa. Since TICAD V, the Initiative has provided opportunities through JICA to over 2,000 youths from 54 African countries to study at master's courses at Japanese universities and to experience internships at Japanese companies, as well as Japanese language training, business skills training, and other business programs. The ABE Initiative also trains supervisors, plant managers, and professionals of the future through the AOTS, the Initiative has accepted approximately 2,400 professionals in the six years since 2016. For example, Mr. Mugarura Amiri, from Rwanda, studied ICT at the Kobe Institute of Computing, and did an internship at a Japanese company that

produces lightning arresters. During his internship, he told the company about the serious damage by lightning strikes in Rwanda, which led the company to get an interest in business in Rwanda and eventually to do field work there. After returning to Rwanda, Mr. Mugarura launched his business and became a local partner for this Japanese company. He is working hard to develop this business and to increase adoption of these products and services in Rwanda. Thanks to the ABE Initiative, more and more Japanese companies are expanding their business in Africa, and a further expansion of the ABE Initiative was announced in 2019 at TICAD7 in Yokohama. The youths from Africa who participate in the ABE Initiative are expected to play an important role as navigators for Japanese companies' business in Africa.

Peace and Stability

Japan will support Africa's own efforts to achieve peace and stability, which are required preconditions for economic growth, investment and betterment of livelihoods, under the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA), an initiative which approaches the root causes of impediments to human security as well as peace and stability while respecting Africa's ownership. Japan aims to realize a society in which people can live secure lives.



Refugees in Uganda learning how to grow rice alongside people from their host community (Photo: Kuno Takeshi/JICA)



Madagascar

Abundant Flora and Fauna
Madagascar is home to many distinctive species of flora and fauna; most of the baobab trees that appear in *The Little Prince* are unique to the island. This country is also the world's top producer of vanilla.



Malawi

Lake Malawi
Lake Malawi makes up about 20% of the country's area, and is home to over 500 species of fish, most of which are endemic to the lake. Lake Malawi National Park, at the southern end of the lake, is a World Heritage Site.



Mali

Griots
Griots are born into hereditary lines of musicians, and are called upon to perform at festivals and sing in honor of families at special occasions.

South Africa

President Nelson Mandela
Mandela and other political prisoners at Maximum Security Prison on Robben Island studied and discussed topics like English together to keep their morale up, earning the prison the nickname "Robben Island University."

South Sudan

National Unity Day
The sixth National Unity Day sports meet was held in the capital city of Juba. For the first National Unity Day, the Japan SDF detachment deployed to South Sudan helped prepare the sports grounds.



Mozambique

The Island of Mozambique
This island was once a stopping point for traders on the Indian Ocean, and a base for Christian missionary work. In 1586, a party of the Tensho Embassy stopped here on their way home to Japan.

The Beating Heart of Africa

The Maghreb, a region of northern Africa, bears the unique cultural traces of the intermingling of various ethnic groups. To the south is sub-Saharan Africa, a veritable treasure trove of natural environments both uninviting and abundant, from deserts to tropical rainforests. The true appeal of Africa is this diversity, which defies simple summarization. The beating heart of Africa can be heard in music, in dance, in sports, and more.

Culture, Sports, and the Power of Life in Africa

- Women Performing a Traditional Dance at a Ceremony to Celebrate the Completion of an Elementary School, Built with Support from Japan



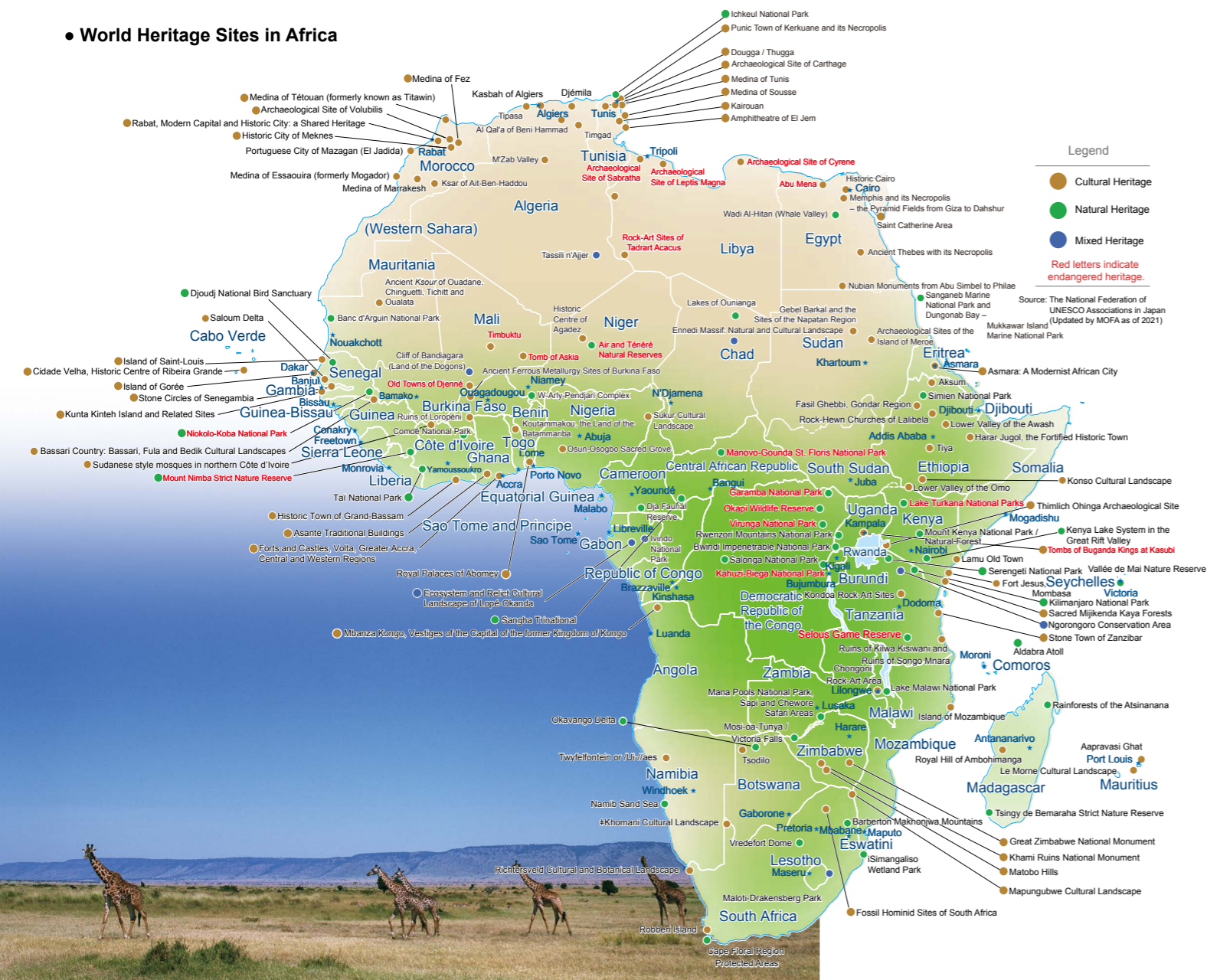
Photo: Raymond Wilkinson/JICA

- The FIFA World Cup Was Held in South Africa in 2010, with Fans across Japan Eagerly Cheering Their Team On



Photo: AP/Alto

World Heritage Sites in Africa



Sightseeing Destinations You'll Want to Visit Again



Photo: South Africa Department of Tourism

•Safaris
In addition to the iconic game drives on the savanna, water safaris to see hippos and crocodiles are growing more popular in recent years. At Boulders Beach in South Africa, visitors can even encounter wild penguins up close.



•Beach Resorts
The oceans are even more beautiful than people realize. Great places to enjoy this beauty are Mombasa, Kenya; Tanzania's Zanzibar Island; and the island of Nosy Be of Madagascar, which all offer crystal-clear water, white sandy beaches, and untouched natural environments.



•The Great Mosque of Djenné
This uniquely shaped adobe mosque is a symbol of the Old Towns of Djenné, a World Heritage Site in Mali. Once a year, the people of the town come together to coat the mosque's exterior with plaster brought from the Niger River, giving it a "makeover."



•Rare Flora and Fauna
The island of Madagascar is home to incredible biodiversity: many new species of plants and animals are discovered here each year. These include the critically endangered Madame Berthe's mouse lemur, which is the world's smallest primate at just 30 g.

Africa: A Sports Powerhouse!

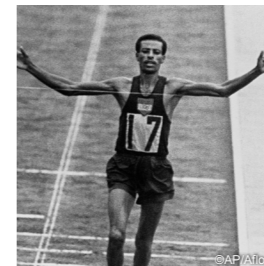


Photo: PA Images/Alto

•Rugby
The South African rugby team is considered among the best in the world, to the extent that their loss to Japan in the 2015 Rugby World Cup became known as "the Brighton Miracle." In 2019, South Africa went on to win the Rugby World Cup for a third time, in Japan.



•Senegalese Wrestling
This traditional Senegalese style of folk wrestling is exceptionally popular: matches are shown live on TV, and champions are considered national heroes. Wrestlers also perform rituals before matches to ward off bad luck.



•Marathons
Kenya and Ethiopia have a near-monopoly on marathon speed records, with nearly all of the men's and women's top ten being from one of these two countries. Pictured is Abebe Bikila, the Ethiopian "barefoot runner" and gold medalist at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.



•Japanese Martial Arts
Judo and karate are popular in Africa. In Botswana alone, there are roughly 6,000 karate practitioners, and the country has produced worldwide tournament prize winners. Karate is also a common part of youth education in elementary and middle schools.

Experience Africa through Everyday Life



Photo: Imamura Kenjiro/JICA

•Rice: A Staple Food
The countries of western Africa have eaten rice since ancient times, and some African countries eat even more rice than Japan! Ceebu Jën, a culinary art of Senegal, has been inscribed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage list of UNESCO.



Photo: Mishima, Kagoshima

•Djembe
The djembe is an iconic traditional African musical instrument. Ever since the Guinean "god of the djembe" Mamady Keita performed in Mishima Village, Kagoshima in 1994, the village has continued to engage in cultural exchange through this drum.



Photo: Tobacco & Salt Museum

•Saharan Salt
Salt mined from deposits in Taoudeni, in northern Mali — in the middle of the Sahara Desert — was carried south by caravans of camels and traded for gold. Even today, rock salt is a key product in Saharan commerce.



•Kangas
These stylish cloths, worn by African women, are known for their bright, bold designs. In eastern Africa, each kanga has a message printed on it, which can be a major factor in choosing one.



Mauritius

The Real Africa Resorts

Known as the "Star and Key of the Indian Ocean," this island nation is a popular luxury resort among Europeans. In Japan, Mauritius is known as a relay and supply base for the tuna fishing industry.



Mauritania

Bottarga

Mauritania's secret specialty is the premium delicacy bottarga. It is more affordable here where it is made, compared to in Japan, and makes a great gift.

Morocco

Tajines

These cooking vessels enjoyed a period of popularity in Japan. They are used to braise chicken or lamb in sauces, along with potato, carrot, and other vegetables.

Libya

African Wildcat

The ancestor of today's pet housecats, sometimes also known as the Libyan wildcat. These cats are roughly 60 cm long, and eat small mammals, birds, and reptiles.

Liberia

A Country of Freed Slaves

Liberia was established in 1847 by freed slaves from the United States, as Africa's first republic. The country's name comes from the word "liberty."

Rwanda

ICT

Rwanda is famous for coffee and mountain gorillas, but the country is also working to foster young entrepreneurs and become known for ICT, as well.

Lesotho

Traditional Clothing

The traditional dress of Lesotho features blankets in various styles. In rural areas, the traditional cone-shaped basotho hat is worn to this day, along with these blankets.





Front Cover Photo Credits: Sato Koji/JICA (top photo), Imamura Kenshiro/JICA (3rd & 4th photos from top)
Back Cover Photo Credits, Top to Bottom: "Rwandan Children" by Imamura Kenshiro/JICA, "Angolan Mother and Child" by Nagakura Hiromi/JICA,
"Ethiopian Children" by Kuno Takeshi/JICA, "Baobab Tree in Zimbabwe" by Shoji Koji/JICA, "Young Zebra in Kenya" by Kuno Shin'ichi/JICA