

# Nigeria: Solution of social challenges and building economic resilience by supporting startups

August 2025

International

Cooperation Bureau,  
MoFA

## Proposed cooperation menu (Co-creation for common agenda initiative)

### Development goals :

Based on industrial diversification and economic reforms, which are strategic issues in Nigeria's National Development Plan, the Government's National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy, and the Nigerian SU Law of 2022, which was formulated by the Government to promote Startups, the Nigerian SU Law is designed to promote manufacturing and resolve social challenges. Through the provision of funds to startups involved in manufacturing and resolving social challenges, Nigeria will resolve social challenges through innovation and diversify its industry through the creation of new industries, thereby increasing its economic resilience. In doing so, it will ensure that synergies are mutually beneficial between Japan and Nigeria.

### Development scenario :

The project will contribute to the country's industrial development and economic resilience by boosting initial investment and financing, which are challenges for entrepreneurs and startups that see business opportunities in Nigeria, and by implementing cooperation to create an environment for Startups to link and collaborate and generate innovation. The growth of Startups from Nigeria through such support will promote the expansion of potential partners for Japanese companies and further collaboration between Japanese and Nigerian companies and bring the country's vitality into the Japanese economy.

### Cooperation Menus (Includes related initiatives) :

#### **(1) Technical Cooperation "Entrepreneurs Support and Innovation Promotion Advisor" (JICA Individual Expert, Sep.2021-Sep.2025)**

Provide advice on SU law and policies and support the implementation of business plan improvement support programs for local Ss implemented by local government agencies.

#### **(2) Grant Aid "the Project for the Development of the Start-up Hub in Abuja" (1.634 billion yen) (Apr.2025-Feb.2028)**

Establish a new SU hub with digital crafting equipment, etc., to expand opportunities for the creation of manufacturing-related businesses and to promote collaboration among startup stakeholders.

#### **(3) Basic Survey "Information Gathering and Verification Survey for Project Formulation of Africa Regional Social Startup Support Mechanism" (ongoing)**

Exploring support measures to form and strengthen the ecosystem that promotes the development of social startups to resolve social challenges.

#### **(4) Basic Survey "Social Innovator Hub (SIH) " (A Pilot project in Sendai city, Aug-Sep 2024 and Feb-Mar 2025)**

Invite Startup entrepreneurs from developing countries, including Nigeria, to collaborate with Japanese university laboratories/startup companies to develop businesses that resolve challenges in developing countries using Japanese technology and expertise.

#### **(5) Grant Aid "the Project for the Development of Supporting Environment for Startups Addressing Social Challenges" (3.142 billion yen) (Apr.2025-Jun.2038)**

Provide funding to a fund to be established by the government of the country to support startups working to solve social challenges, as well as technical support necessary for the formation of an ecosystem conducive to the sustainable growth of Startups. The first project of "Private capital mobilization-type grant."

#### **(6) Private Sector Investment Finance "Project for Innovation by Startups in Africa"**

A Japanese-Nigerian joint venture serves as fund manager and provides capital to African Startups through investments in investment fund. Targeting all of Africa.

#### **(Related Initiative) J-Bridge (JETRO) and Japan-Africa Co-Creation for Industry Initiative-JACCI (METI, JETRO)**

Support for business promotion in Africa through collaboration between Japanese companies and local startups.

## Proposed cooperation menu (Co-creation for common agenda initiative)

## Survey

## Technical Cooperation

Relevant Ministries, International organizations, etc.

<p>and local business companies</p>	<p><b>【METI, JETRO】 Japan-Africa Co-Creation for Industry Initiative (JACCI)</b>          Support for business promotion in Africa through collaboration between Japanese companies and local startups</p>
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**【METI、JETRO】 Japan-Africa Co-Creation for Industry Initiative (JACCI)**  
Support for business promotion in Africa through collaboration between Japanese companies and local startups

## Cooperation menu

## Related Initiatives