

# Achieving an innovation ecosystem together with Africa (summary of the recommendations) (Provisional translation)

## Background

- A way of thinking in which growth should be encouraged in a sustainable way with the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) in mind while unleashing the potential of science, technology and innovation, is ever more important.
- Based on the concept of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” there is a need for a stance that emphasizes working together in partnerships.

## Progress

- Raising the level of science and technology in Africa through human resource development (TICADVI recommendation 1)
- Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST) and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) are playing central roles in African R&D, and making a great contribution to strengthening researcher interaction and networks between Africa and Japan as well as within Africa.
  - Steady progress is being made in human resource development to support industrial progress, industrialization and nation-building in line with the ABE Initiative.
  - Progress is being made in science and mathematics education support (basic education).

## Issues

- Applying results of R&D to the whole of society (TICADVI recommendation 2)
- Social implementation of research results achieved by the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) etc.
  - Promotion of innovative initiatives with local partners to solve locally arising issues by utilizing other than Japanese technology and ideas.
  - Need for sophistication of industries using ICT and developing human resources in the same field.

## Direction of recommendations

- **The keywords of four “S”s : SDGs, STI, SATREPS & Society 5.0\***
  - **Aim to establish an innovation ecosystem in which both Japan and Africa create autonomous and sustainable innovation**
- \*Society 5.0 was proposed in the 5th Science and Technology Basic Plan as a future society that Japan should aspire to. It is a human-centered society that balances economic advancement with the resolution of social problems by a system that highly integrates cyberspace and physical space.

### Recommendation 1: Support for resolution of social issues, including SDGs, harnessing STI

- (1) Contributions to the development of STI for SDGs roadmaps.
  - ◆ Japan should show the international society guiding principles and models, and provide support for the development of African nations’ STI roadmaps.
- (2) Promotion of open innovation.
  - ◆ To solve issues, Japan should cooperate and co-create together with the existing networks such as international institutions, academia, private sector and other open innovation platforms.
- (3) Further strengthening of SATREPS
  - ◆ Japan should advance social implementation, development and diffusion of research results in other nations and regions.

### Recommendation 2: Continued and expanded STI human resource development

- (1) Interaction between and capacity development of researchers in Japan and Africa.
  - ◆ Approximately 20 Japanese universities and university-supported research centers located across 15 African nations and network among them should be strengthened and expanded.
  - ◆ Opportunities for high-level dialogue between governments and universities should be created.
  - ◆ “Scientist diplomats” should be utilized.
- (2) The ABE Initiative should be continued and efforts should be made to promote investment and to create employment through public/private sector collaborations.
- (3) Human resource development in the ICT fields should be continued and strengthened.

### Recommendation 3: Social implementation of STI results through enhanced utilization of ICT

- ◆ ICT should be utilized in SATREPS and other R&D, and social implementation should be promoted by achieving a synergistic effect between science and technology cooperation and development cooperation.
- ◆ Utilization of satellite and other data should be promoted to address social issues.
- ◆ STI human resources should be fostered through education in mathematics, the universal language of sciences.
- ◆ Aiming to achieve Society 5.0, Japan should collaborate with Africa in the way that only Japan can, in an equal partnership.

