

Fight against COVID-19 Towards TICAD8

～ Japan stands by Africa in times of difficulty ～



The Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research in Ghana, to which Japan provided support for the establishment and has cooperated in the training of medical technicians since 1979, serves as the hub of Ghana's response to COVID-19 and processes up to about 80% of the PCR tests carried out in the country. (Photo : Akio Iizuka/JICA)

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which is wreaking havoc across the world since 2020, poses a threat to the lives, livelihoods and dignity of people all around the globe. This has become a crisis of human security.

Japan has provided support for human resources and facility development in the health sector in Africa over many years through TICAD with its history of over a quarter of a century. The genuine worth of such efforts has been brought to light in the face of COVID-19.

Towards TICAD8 to be held in 2022, Japan will continue to firmly assist Africa's self-sustaining growth, including its fight against COVID-19.

What is TICAD?

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

1 Basic philosophy regarding Japan's support for Africa through TICAD

- (1) Principles of African ownership and international partnership
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- (1) Strengthening Africa's capacity to respond to COVID-19
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1 Basic philosophy regarding Japan's support for Africa through the TICAD process

(1) Principles of African ownership and international partnership

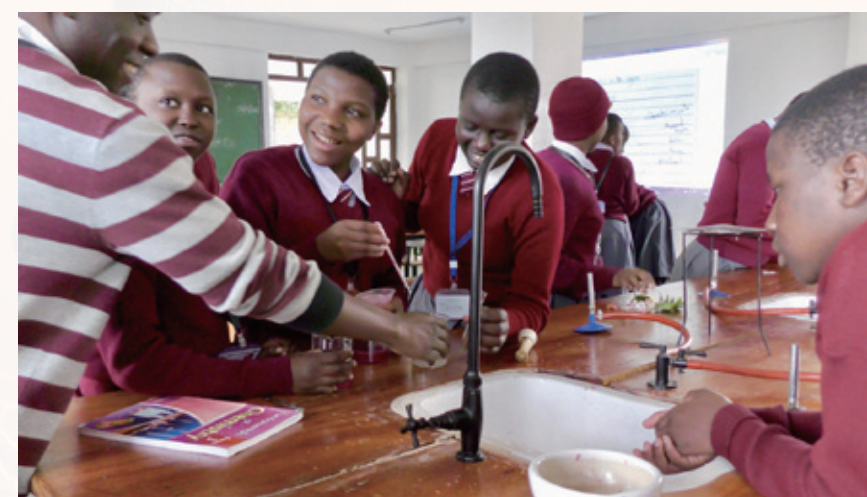
Since the start of the TICAD process in the 1990s, Japan has consistently advocated the significance of principles of **African ownership** and **international partnership** in African development. This development philosophy is shared globally and is inspiring African countries.

Trainees who returned to Angola after receiving training in Japan, checking the operation of repaired microscopes (Angola: training course for management and maintenance of medical equipment) (Photo: JICA)



(2) Concept of human security

Based on the concept of human security¹, Japan has endeavored to **protect and empower each and every individual** to encourage their active participation in the building of societies and countries. These efforts by Japan strongly support **self-sustaining growth of Africa**.



Students at a girls' secondary school in Tanzania, taking a science lesson provided in a project for opening a comprehensive education model school to train female leaders and provide high-quality education focusing on science and mathematics (Photo: Group Kilimanjaro Inc.)

¹ Human security is a concept that complements national security. It focuses on individual people and on building societies in which everyone can be free from fear and poverty and can live with dignity.

2

Japan's contribution in the health sector through TICAD

Japan has long been focusing on the promotion of health as one of the priority areas and cooperated with African countries in various ways. At TICAD VI in 2016 held in Nairobi, Kenya, Japan proposed strengthening response to Public Health Emergencies, enhancement of prevention of and preparedness for health crises from times of peace, and promotion of Universal Health Coverage (UHC)² in Africa. In addition, with the goal of achieving UHC in Africa, Japan, the World Bank, WHO, the Global Fund and the African Development Bank jointly announced UHC in Africa as a framework for African countries to refer to when formulating specific national policies.

At TICAD7 held in Yokohama in 2019, Japan announced its intention to expand primary health care, to promote resilient health systems including sustainable health finance, to address infectious diseases, to enhance the capabilities of countries and communities to ensure the early warning and quick response, and to further promote initiatives towards the realization of UHC through public-private partnerships.

In supporting **the health and medical system in Africa over the medium- to long-term, the genuine worth of such efforts has been brought to light in the face of COVID-19.**

Japan will continue to play a leading role in strengthening international cooperation in the health sector through TICAD, a multinational forum on African development with a history spanning over a quarter of a century³, towards TICAD8 to be held in Tunisia in 2022.

To this end, as Prime Minister Suga stated in his address at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2020, Japan will advance efforts to realize UHC, based on the concept of human security, with the objective of leaving no one's health behind.

In so doing, Japan will:

- ◆incorporate detailed needs of African countries through dialogues and collaboration and provide support organically linking various bilateral and multilateral frameworks;
- ◆support human resource development in the health sector of African countries by utilizing the strength of Japan's health system;

- ◆provide support in accordance with priority issues of the African Union (AU) (measures against COVID-19 taken by the AU, Agenda 2063, the African Continental Free Trade Area etc.); and
- ◆contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as global development goals. Japan will promote international cooperation including through the United Nations, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the G20.

Then Prime Minister Abe Shinzo (at a meeting of panel of experts on the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize⁴ on July 16, 2020)

"Even amid the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, Japan will continue to actively support Africa. Health and medical care will be an important theme also at TICAD8 to be held in Tunisia in 2022. I believe that the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize will continue to light the future of Africa as an important symbol that embodies the principles of TICAD that respect Africa's ownership and promote cooperation of the international community including Japan."

Then Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga Yoshihide (at a press conference on July 16, 2020)

"COVID-19 has shed light on Africa's vulnerability in various areas, including the health and medical sectors. Under these circumstances, TICAD, with its history over a quarter of a century, has proved its enhanced relevance as a multilateral forum to address Africa's development issues, including health. Building on the achievements of TICAD7 held in Yokohama in August 2019, Japan will continue to strongly support African-led efforts for African development towards TICAD8."

² Universal health coverage means that all people have access to health services with ensured quality without financial hardship and are protected from economic risks.

³ The first TICAD was held in Tokyo in 1993.

⁴ The Government of Japan established the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize in 2006 in memory of Dr. Hideyo Noguchi, a Japanese medical scientist who is internationally known for his research on yellow fever. The Prize aims to honor individuals and organizations with outstanding achievements in the fields of medical research and medical services to combat infectious and other diseases in Africa, thus contributing to the health and welfare of African people.

3

Japan's main concrete efforts in Africa

The spread of COVID-19 has shed light on Africa's various development issues. Under these circumstances, recognizing broadly COVID-19's socio-economic impacts on Africa, Japan is promoting support for Africa through a triple-layered approach: (1) Strengthening Africa's capacity to respond to COVID-19; (2) Building resilient and inclusive health and medical system; and (3) Responding to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.

(1) Strengthening Africa's capacity to respond to COVID-19

The cumulative number of cases in Africa topped 4.5 million in April 2021. In Africa, with its vulnerability in the medical systems, it is likely that the fight against the virus will continue for a long time. A pressing issue is the strengthening of medical and health systems including securing sufficient medical supplies and equipment.

Under such circumstances, Japan has been responding quickly to provide support to meet the urgent need for measures against COVID-19 in Africa, thus contributing to the strengthening of capabilities to deal with the infection. Since June 2020, Japan has provided support for COVID-19 measures in 48 out of the 54 countries in Africa through providing support bilaterally or via international organizations.⁵ (as of December 2020)

i

Bilateral assistance (provision of medical equipment, human resource development)

◆ Assistance to provide medical equipment

Japan has offered grant aid at the fastest speed ever to provide medical equipment including X-ray machines, thermography, and ambulances to many African nations where health and medical systems are vulnerable. Japan has signed exchanges of Notes to provide a total of 14.8 billion JPY (approximately 135 million USD) from June 2020 to 38 African countries. (as of the end of February 2020)

<Examples>

- Tunisia: X-ray equipment, ultrasonography diagnostic equipment, etc. are planned to be provided.
- Botswana: Thermography equipment, automated external defibrillators (AEDs), etc. are planned to be

⁵ Globally, Japan has provided over 170 billion JPY (1.54 billion USD) to support medical and health sectors in countries where health and medical systems are vulnerable since May 2020, providing support bilaterally or through international organizations. (as of December 2020)

◆ Technical support by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) including training and support for establishing systems

Japan provides support for strengthening health and medical systems and building capabilities of human resources for medium- to long-term capacity enhancement in collaboration with local counterpart organizations through technical cooperation of JICA.

Uganda

Japan provided personal protective equipment along with alcohol-based disinfectant produced by a local subsidiary of a Japanese company to the Ministry of Health of Uganda.

Kenya

In collaboration with the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), Japan nurtured human resources by providing training to enhance laboratory capabilities for countermeasures against infectious diseases that pose transborder threats in the East African region, thus contributing to the strengthening of the diagnostic capacity in Africa.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Through projects including "Project for Reinforcement of Infectious Diseases Epidemiological Surveillance System," a technical cooperation project targeting the National Institute for Research and Biomedical (INRB) and other organizations, Japan provides expert instructions remotely and offer materials and equipment to improve the infectious disease testing capacity of the public health laboratory of the Kongo Central Province: the data analysis system, the operation and management capacity of the INRB laboratory and infectious disease diagnosis capacity.

ii

Assistance through international organizations

◆ Provision of medical supplies and equipment and technical cooperation

Japan provides medical supplies and equipment and technical cooperation utilizing the professional expertise of international and other organizations.

In addition to the aid provided in April 2020, Japan has decided to offer additional support amounting to approximately 26.9 billion JPY (about 245 million USD) in January 2021 through international organizations to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and address socio-economic instability caused by the disease in African nations.



*The following shows some examples of the support provided in April 2020 or later (as of December 2020)

● **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) :**

In April 2020 Japan decided to provide support for 12 nations in Africa through providing health and medical supplies and strengthening cross-sectoral management and capacity of the governments of developing nations. The aid will be provided from the perspective of responding to significant socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in developing countries (approximately 24 million USD in total). In addition, Japan has decided to support 20 African countries as well as region-wide projects in January 2021 for the strengthening of government agencies' capacities and protecting and improving the livelihoods of the vulnerable (approximately 36.8 million USD in total).

● **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) :**

In April 2020, Japan decided on contribution to 25 African countries consisting of technical assistance to health professionals, education on infection risks, and the provision of materials for the prevention of spread of infection (a total of 61.9 million USD). In addition, in January 2021, Japan decided to support 28 African countries for the provision of water and hygiene supplies, health care, and distance education (a total of approximately 33.5 million USD).

● **Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) :**

Japan provided equipment and supplies to regional centers of the Africa CDC and strengthened the capacity of the centers, contributing to the prevention of infectious diseases in Africa (a total of 1 million USD).

◆ **Dispatch of United Nations Volunteers**

Furthermore, Japan, in partnership with the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV), has dispatched Japanese UN Volunteers to Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Uganda and Zimbabwe to reduce COVID-19's impact on Africa. The Volunteers are assisting activities of international organizations in various sectors, including health, sanitation and socio-economic recovery.



Attending a conference on emergency humanitarian aid to fight against COVID-19 in Kenya (Photo: UNICEF)

◆ **Promoting development of and ensuring equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics**

Japan has actively been engaged in the ACT Accelerator (Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator) as a co-sponsor since the early stage of its establishment. The ACT Accelerator is an international framework established in 2020 to facilitate the development, manufacture and equitable access to safe, effective, and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutic agents and diagnostics.

As part of its involvement, Japan has contributed 200 million USD in total to the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC), which is the COVAX Facility's⁶ framework for

developing nations, to support equitable access to vaccines all around the world.

Furthermore, Japan supports the enhancement of diagnostics and treatment of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria through contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund).

*The following shows some examples of the support provided in April 2020 or later (as of February 2021)

● **Contribution to CEPI Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations**

(approximately 10.5 billion JPY, or about 96.2 million USD**)

Support for the development of COVID-19 vaccines: Japan provided financial support to pharmaceutical companies and research laboratories to promote the development of vaccines and clinical trials.

● **Contribution to COVAX Facility's COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC)**

(approximately 22 billion JPY, or about 200 million USD**)

The COVAX AMC is a framework to guarantee purchase of a certain volume of vaccines to vaccine makers and promote manufacture and supply of vaccines to developing countries by supporting procurement.

● **Contribution to the Global Fund**

(approximately 92.4 billion JPY, or about 840 million USD (2020-2022)**)

The Global Fund has a proven record of promoting countermeasures against three major infectious diseases for 20 years, which is considered useful for the fight against COVID-19. The Fund supports the provision of personal protective equipment, PCR test kits, rapid diagnosis equipment and therapeutic agents, and the strengthening of the capacity of healthcare professionals and disease surveillance systems including the tracking of contacts.

**The amount provided by the Japanese government to the subject organizations to support response to COVID-19; not all is targeted to Africa.

(2) Building resilient and inclusive health and medical systems

African countries are investing their limited human and financial resources intensively in COVID-19 response. This makes it difficult for them to meet health and medical needs other than for COVID-19. Also, they need to prepare for the possible risk of health crises that may come next.

In this situation, Japan, as it announced in "TICAD7: Japan's contributions for Africa" in August 2019, contributes to the expansion of UHC by building resilient and flexible health systems in Africa, improving access to basic medical care and the sanitary environment, promoting human resource development, and deepening cooperation in the health care sector based on the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative.

⁶ COVAX is co-led by Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) as a temporary mechanism for comprehensive fund procurement and supply coordination of COVID-19 vaccines.

i Bilateral assistance

To this end, Japan provides its bilateral assistance in various forms as described in detail below: developing nations, to support equitable access to vaccines all around the world.

Kenya

In Kenya, Japan supported the development of the physical infrastructure of the headquarters of the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and cooperated in the improvement of research capability of countermeasures against infectious diseases through grant aid. KEMRI was designated by the WHO as the research base in eastern Africa in promoting measures against COVID-19, delegated performance testing of test kits by the Africa CDC of the AU, and also accepts samples from neighboring Somalia, serving as the base in the region. Japan also provided materials and supplies for tests as a measure against COVID-19.



Kenya Medical Research Institute (Photo: KEMRI)



Ghana

Since 1969, Japan has been dispatching technical experts for the promotion of virology research and specialists in the fields of nutrition, bacteriology and parasitology in response to a request from the government of Ghana. To date, a number of experts have provided technical guidance for the enhancement of research capability in Ghana. In 1979, the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) was founded with grant aid of the government of Japan. Currently, NMIMR plays a central role in infectious disease control in Ghana and the western Africa region. As stated by Prime Minister Suga at the General Debate of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2020, it has become the hub of the country's response to the coronavirus and processes up to about 80% of PCR tests carried out in the country.

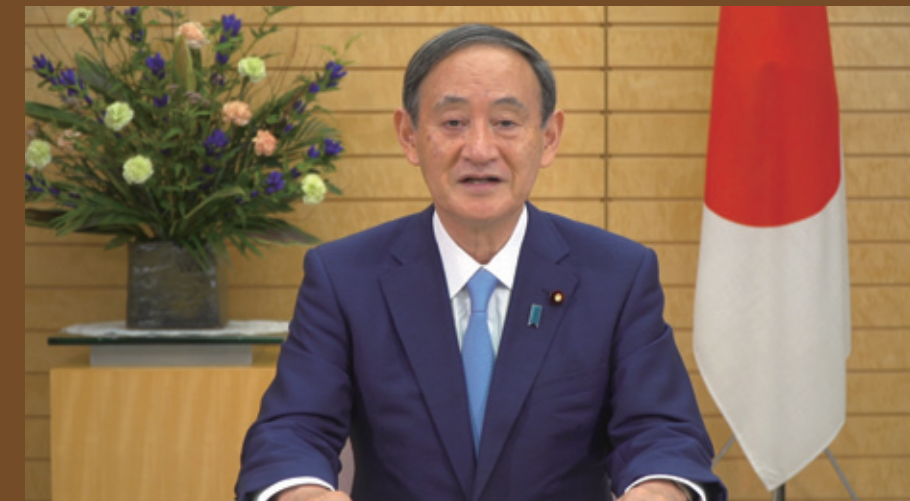


Japanese expert providing technical guidance
(Photo: Akio Iizuka/JICA)

Kenya

Japan supports the formulation and implementation of health financing policies and strategies by dispatching experts to the Ministry of Health of Kenya. By doing so, Japan is contributing to the effective provision of health services aiming at achieving UHC and strengthening both the public finance management system and regional health systems.

(Statement by Prime Minister Suga at the General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly on September 26, 2020 (Japan Time))



(Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

“As we face the current crisis, and guided by the concept of human security, I think it is essential to set the objective of “leaving no one’s health behind” as we work towards achieving universal health coverage. I expect this to be our shared goal. On that basis, Japan will proactively lead international efforts with a focus on the following three perspectives in collaboration with other countries. (...) We must prepare ourselves for future health crises. Japan is committed to expanding its efforts in developing countries to build hospitals as well as to assist strengthening health and medical systems through providing equipment and supporting human resource development. Working with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Japan is supporting the establishment of an ASEAN Centre for public health emergencies and emerging diseases. Japan has also been supporting the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. As a matter of fact, in Africa, we are witnessing the concrete result of our longstanding cooperation through the TICAD process for human resource development as well as for provision and maintenance of facilities in the health sector. Japan has provided support for the establishment of the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research in Ghana and assisted in the training of its medical laboratory technologists. The Institute serves as the hub of the country’s response to the coronavirus and processes up to about 80% of PCR tests carried out in the country.”

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Instructors of the National Institute of Professional Preparation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to which Japan is providing assistance, developed and produces automatic handwashing stations. They are being installed at hospitals and public facilities in the country. More than 90 stations are planned to be set up nationwide.

When placing your hands under the faucet of this automatic handwashing station, water or soapy water will automatically come out (Photo: JICA)



Senegal

Center for Technical and Vocational Training in Senegal, for which Japan has provided longstanding support, produces handwashing tanks. Tanks are delivered to elementary schools where classes resume, and other places.

Ghana

In Ghana, Japan has worked to lower infant mortality and improve the health of pregnant women. Specifically, Japan has established a system to continuously manage the health of mothers and infants by introducing and spreading a maternal and child health handbook and made efforts to ensure sustainability by creating a maternal and child health handbook scheme. During the period when Japanese experts temporarily left for Japan amid the COVID-19 pandemic, instructors who received training played an active role using the online meeting system to create training materials, procure maternal and child health handbooks and medical equipment, and promote detailed analysis of the base line survey results conducted last year.

Kenya

Through extending an ODA yen loan (4 billion JPY (approximately 36 million USD in 2015; 8 billion JPY (approximately 73 million USD in 2020), Japan has supported the health system in Kenya through policy dialogues and financial support to the government of Kenya. By doing so, Japan is working to enhance access to health services in Kenya, thereby contributing to the achievement of UHC and the development of a sustainable economy and society in Kenya.

Senegal

In 2016, Japan extended an ODA yen loan of 8.44 billion JPY (approximately 70.33 million

USD) to Senegal. Aiming to achieve UHC in Senegal, Japan aims to decrease economic and physical barriers to accessing health and medical services mainly targeting the poorest people by: (1) establishing strategies on health financing and related investment plans and securing government budget; (2) revision of manuals related to medical security systems; and (3) promoting establishment of strategies for increasing the volume and enhancing the quality of health and medical services, including maternal and child health.

Polio eradication project in Nigeria

In 2012, one-third of all polio cases in the world occurred in Nigeria. Through grant aid with UNICEF and a yen loan of 8.285 billion JPY (about 85 million USD) provided in 2014 with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Japan has provided technical assistance and necessary equipment to the National Polio Test Office to provide various forms of support, including the development of polio researchers. The yen loan adopted the loan conversion method (if the indicators of the project were achieved with the efforts of the Nigerian government, the yen loan will be repaid by the Gates Foundation). In August 2020, WHO announced the eradication of wild poliovirus in Africa, certifying that there have been no cases of wild poliovirus since August 2016. President Buhari of Nigeria praised Japan's long-running support and cooperation.

Madagascar

Through the Food and Nutrition Improvement Project, Japan has contributed to improving the nutrition of women and children in areas where the situation of chronic malnutrition is serious. This year, in addition to the project activities, Japan has been working to raise awareness towards COVID-19 infection prevention and promoting menus to strengthen the immune system using food materials available in the area. These efforts are based on the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA) established by JICA at TICAD VI held in 2016. (Note: IFNA is an initiative to improve nutrition over the ten years to 2025 by deepening collaboration between African nations and supporting organizations.)



Nutrition training by local project members in the Food and Nutrition Improvement Project (Photo: JICA)

Madagascar

In Madagascar, Japan develops activities to raise awareness of the importance of handwashing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and improving water and sanitation facilities. In Madagascar, the “Madagascar Handwashing Song” made as a collaboration song between JOCV (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer) members and a popular local singer about ten years ago has been sung over the years to raise awareness of the importance of handwashing. Under the initiative of the Minister of Water, Hygiene and Sanitation, who worked for the JICA Madagascar Office as a local staff member, the song is utilized in the education on the importance of handwashing amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

ii

Infectious diseases (AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, NTDs, etc.) control through the Global Fund and other organizations

Japan provides various forms of support through international organizations, including measures against infectious diseases (AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, NTDs, and others) through the Global Fund and other organizations.

Support through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund)

In 2018, 13.6 million people received treatment for AIDS, 3.81 million people received treatment for tuberculosis, and 94.32 million mosquito nets were distributed in Africa. (Japan accounted for 6% of the total in terms of the contribution ratio)

*The figures are subject to change.

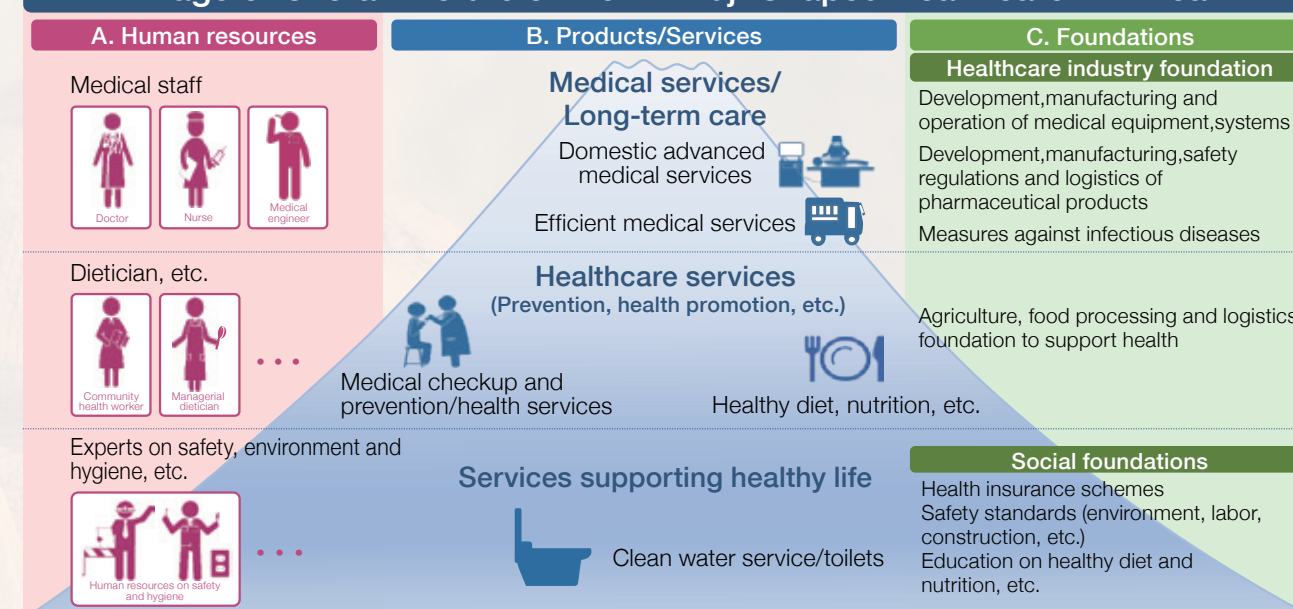
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Building sustainable healthcare based on the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative

The Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative⁷ was set forth by Japan at TICAD7. Under this initiative, Japan aims to promote the development of self-sustaining healthcare industry activities in Africa, including medical services and long-term care, healthcare services, and services supporting a healthy life, and realize a broad-based Mt. Fuji-Shaped Healthcare.

⁷ In order to contribute to the achievement of UHC in Africa, Japan aims to establish sustainable healthcare to address issues in the medical and health sector of Africa (insufficient basic infrastructure, shortage of basic knowledge on public sanitation and agriculture sectors, infectious diseases, malnutrition, etc.) by realizing economic growth through public sector support and healthcare industry activities in the private sector.

Image of Overall Picture of the Mt. Fuji-Shaped Healthcare in Africa



(3) Responding to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has put pressure on the lives of poor and vulnerable people, depriving them of opportunities for education and work. In addition, the decline in resource prices and the sluggishness in the global economy cast a big shadow over the African economy and the business relationship between Japan and Africa. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic may cause instability in the political situation and aggravate the threat of terrorism in Africa.

Under these circumstances, Japan backs up Africa's self-sustaining efforts in the areas of Economy, Society, and Peace and Stability, based on “TICAD7: Japan's contributions for Africa” announced at TICAD7.

i

Economy

(i) Debt Service Suspension

As a member of G20 and the Paris Club, Japan has agreed with the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) and the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the DSSI to secure financial resources for African countries to deal with crises caused by Covid-19. Based on the agreement, Japan is committed to implement the DSSI fully and in a transparent manner. The Common Framework clearly states that all official bilateral creditors participate and implement debt treatments on common terms, and private creditors implement debt treatments at least as favorable as that provided by official bilateral creditors. Japan will ensure implementation of the Common Framework with all

related parties based on the request from debtor countries.

In addition, Japan implements other measures for ensuring debt sustainability.

Ensuring debt sustainability

- ◆ Provide training on public debt and risk management to officials from African nations
- ◆ Plan to dispatch macroeconomic policy experts (to Zambia) and debt management advisors (to Ethiopia)
- ◆ Provide technical assistance for building capacity of debtor countries by making new contributions to the trust funds of the IMF and World Bank

(ii) Support for quality growth of the economy

Japan provides support for “quality growth”, addressing various obstacles and challenges resulting from COVID-19 in economic terms.

Promoting quality infrastructure investment

Assistance through African Development Fund

In view of COVID-19's financial impact on Africa, Japan decided to provide a yen loan worth 73.6 billion JPY (668.1 million USD) in total for the implementation of development projects to the African Development Fund, which advances efforts towards economic development and poverty reduction in African nations (February 2021).

Quality infrastructure investment for enhanced connectivity

Under the threat of the COVID-19 crisis on the socio-economic foundation, Japan contributes to the self-sustaining development of Africa by building infrastructure, which serves as the base of medium- to long-term economic development. In Côte d'Ivoire, Japan is enhancing Abidjan's role as a main transport hub in western Africa, by constructing a flyover at an intersection serving as an important transport juncture connecting the airport, port and business districts to significantly ease traffic jams. In Tanzania, Japan constructed a flyover at the Tazara intersection where the most congested two arterial roads in Dar es Salaam meet, which significantly eased traffic congestion and contributed to the development of logistics.



Project for Improvement of the Japan-Ivorian Friendship Intersection (left) (Photo: JICA)



Project for Improvement of Tazara Intersection (Tanzania) (right) (Photo: Oriental Consultants Global)

Human resources development for industry

Kenya: Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology was founded as a middle level college in 1979 with assistance from the government of Japan. Thanks to Japan's continuous support, it has grown into one of the most highly-rated comprehensive educational institutions. At the university, trainees who studied at Hokkaido University or Tottori University in Japan through JICA training programs such as Master's Degree and Internship Program of the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative) are developing artificial respirators and producing disinfectant as measures against COVID-19.



Japan has cooperated in establishing the university and human resources development since 1978 (Photos: JICA)

Uganda: Nakawa Vocational Training Institute

To promote the development of human resources capable of responding to the needs of industries in Uganda, companies in the automotive, electric and mechatronics industries joined a project to support Nakawa Vocational Training Institute. As the school has been closed due to COVID-19, participants of the JICA instructor training provide remote teaching making use of the know-how they gained in the JICA training.

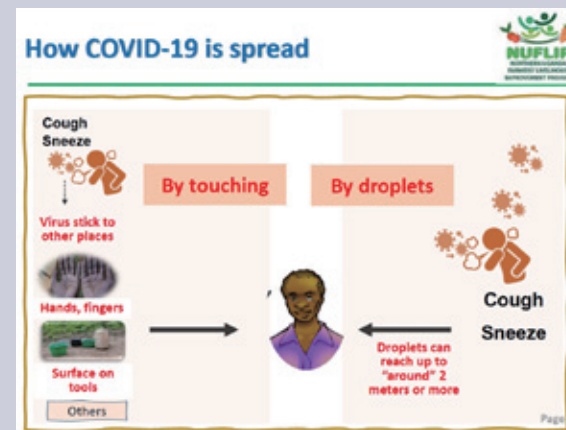


Remote teaching by the participants of the JICA instructor training (Photo: JICA)

Industrial diversification

Uganda

Japan is conducting a project using the SHEP⁸ approach in northern Uganda, which was affected by conflicts that lasted over 20 years. The project was temporarily suspended due to COVID-19, but training resumed on a full-scale in July 2020 taking sufficient infection prevention measures. As part of the sanitary management training for farmers, the project conducts awareness-raising promotion to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by handwashing and develops training methods using video materials and other ICT technologies.



Training participants practicing social distancing (left); awareness-raising activities as part of the training (right)
(Photo: JICA)

which has been brought about with the spread of COVID-19. At the final competition held on Webinar held on February 26, 2021, ten companies made presentations, and M-SCAN in Uganda providing online diagnosis using portable ultrasound devices for pregnant women came in first. In addition, eight companies including Toyota Tsusho Corporation, Rakuten Group, Inc., awarded the special prizes including investment.



A total of 2,713 startups from 19 African nations joined the Business Plan Competition hosted by JICA (Photo: JICA)

Promotion of innovation and investment

◆Assistance through African Development Fund

Remote diagnosis using a smartphone app

JICA has decided to support a demonstration project of a remote diagnosis network in Rwanda provided by ALLM, a medical startup. The project uses a smartphone app for remote imaging to connect local hospitals and local and Japanese university hospitals. The app can be used for the diagnosis of strokes, heart diseases and COVID-19 infection.

Promotion of innovation With/After COVID-19

To assist startups staying strong and trying to take business opportunities, JICA held the NINJA Business Plan Competition in response to COVID-19 in nineteen countries in Africa. The aim of the competition is to support promising startup companies, expecting that they will create innovative business models and technologies in the New Normal,

⁸ Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP) approach of JICA aims at supporting small-scale horticultural farmers in many parts of Africa. It is an approach to realize Market-Oriented Agriculture and converts farmers minds from grow and sell to grow to sell. The goal is to increase horticulture income by enhancing farm management skills.

◆Efforts led by the private sector in the health and medical services

The Ajinomoto Foundation's contribution with KOKO Plus



(Photo: The Ajinomoto Foundation)

As more serious COVID-19 symptoms are often observed among malnourished people, it is necessary to strengthen integrated initiatives of food and nutrition improvement. With KOKO Plus, a complementary feeding nutrition supplement for infants produced in Ghana, the Ajinomoto Foundation contributes to alleviating chronic malnutrition.

(In 2017 the project was transferred to The Ajinomoto Foundation from Ajinomoto Co., Inc.)

Saraya's "Wash a Million Hands!" Project

In 2010, Saraya launched the "Wash a Million Hands!" project to spread the custom of handwashing to protect the lives of children in Uganda in collaboration with Japan Committee for UNICEF. In 2011, the company launched the 100% Hospital Hand Hygiene project in Kampala, the capital of Uganda. Through local production of alcohol-based hand sanitizer and promotion of its use at hospitals, Saraya has been making a great contribution to the prevention of hospital-acquired infection.



(Photo: Saraya)

LIXIL's SATO Social Business



(Photo: LIXIL)

There are still many schools in the world without toilets. Girls, in particular, are forced to be absent from or leave school if there are no toilets at school, being deprived of access to education. LIXIL, in collaboration with UN bodies and international NGOs, aims to spread appropriate hygiene habits through the SATO simple toilet system for developing nations that keeps infections and odors away, mainly at schools in Asia and Africa.

Kansai Paint Paints to Save Lives

Kansai Paint Co., Ltd. has developed an anti-mosquito paint for Africa as a paint to save lives. It was painted on the school buildings with the cooperation of JICA and other

organizations and has protected children in Africa from diseases passed from mosquitos such as malaria, Zika fever and dengue fever. Recently, Kansai Paint donated anti-mosquito paints to the Ugandan government to provide a safer educational environment for children.

(Photo: Kansai Paint)



ii Society

Japan contributes to building resilient and sustainable societies by providing humanitarian aid for people suffering damage caused by Desert Locusts and floods (providing food, improving nutrition and emergency supplies to refugees) and development assistance (education, promotion of sports).

Desert locusts

A massive outbreak of desert locusts occurred in eastern Africa subsequent to cyclone Pawan that hit the region in December 2019. Because of the difficulty in procuring and spraying insecticides amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the outbreak has grown to the worst scale ever over the past few decades. Damage to agricultural products spread beyond eastern Africa, causing more than 1.3 million people to suffer severe food shortages. Through WFP, Japan has provided assistance including food distribution to improve nutrition and strengthening the resilience of small-scale farmers in six countries in Africa, including Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda.

Floods

Since July 2020, heavy rain hit the upper basin of the Nile River, causing floods along the river in Sudan. According to the Government of Sudan, the death toll reached at least 100 and the number of evacuees totaled 500,000 (as of September 2020). To save the victims of the double crisis of floods and COVID-19 and in response to a request from the Government of Sudan, Japan provided emergency supplies including tents, sleeping pads and electricity generators. Floods also hit a wide area in the western Sahel region. In Niger, record-high floods have caused damage nationwide since June 2020, and the Niger River overflowed. The number of fatalities reached at least 58, affected households about 52,000, victims about 430,000, and damages of houses about 40,000 (as of September 2020). In response to a request from the Government of Niger, Japan provided emergency supplies including tents, blankets, plastic sheets, plastic water containers, water purifiers in September 2020.

Food (rural development)

In Sierra Leone, many people died in the civil war or due to the outbreak of the Ebola hemorrhagic fever, causing great harm to the country's socio-economic system. The outbreak of Ebola came to an end, but the ratio of people who suffer food shortages has not returned to the level before the outbreak. COVID-19 has had an enormous impact on the agricultural sector. To address the serious risk of food crisis, JICA, working together with the WFP, promotes a quality system for school lunch service using locally produced ingredients and rural development for the reconstruction of the region.



Children taking school lunch provided by WFP (left); women engaging in farming with rural development technical assistance from WFP and JICA (right) (Photo: WFP)

Refugees

In the Sahel region, multiple armed forces, including terrorist groups, have become active more than ever. A number of indiscriminate attacks, attacks on civilians, sexual violence, and destruction of public facilities are widely reported. As a result, millions of people were forced to flee to other parts of the country or outside the country, generating numerous refugees and internally displaced people. In addition, as economic activities stalling due to the spread of COVID-19, areas where refugees and internally displaced people fled have concerns over the deterioration of the situation due to the worsening of the sanitary environment, tensions and disorder with the host communities. To deal with this situation, Japan provides support to meet basic needs by providing shelters and non-food supplies, protection for vulnerable people including women, and for efforts towards social integration in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger in the Sahel region.

Provision of quality education

Since 2004, Japan has implemented the School for All project in Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Senegal and other countries. The project, conducted in collaboration with and exchanging information with local communities, administrations and schools, aims at raising the school attendance rate, calculation skills, nutrition, health and hygiene. Schools were closed amid COVID-19 pandemic, but a new education model helps students whose learning was interrupted to catch up.

In addition, under the Egypt-Japan Education Partnership, Japan implements comprehensive human resources development, taking advantage of the characteristics of education in Japan, in preschool education, basic education, technical education and higher education, introducing online training and lectures. The Egypt-Japan School established under the partnership has been highly evaluated for its efforts to prevent infection, introducing handwashing and gargling practiced in Japanese education.



School for All project (left); The Egypt-Japan Education Partnership (right) (Photo: JICA)

Promotion of sports

Maebashi City in Gumma Prefecture is the Host Town of South Sudan for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. The City has accepted the long-term pre-Games training camp of a team of athletes from the country, consisting of a coach and four athletes doing training to participate in the Tokyo 2020 Games, since November 2019. The Tokyo 2020 Games were postponed due to the global spread of COVID-19, but the City decided to continue providing support until the end of the Games. The athletes are expected to achieve excellent results at the Games.

Athletes from South Sudan continuing training in Gumma Prefecture (Photo: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)



iii Peace and Stability

The COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the vulnerability of states and local administrative institutions. Under these circumstances, through the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA) launched at TICAD7, Japan has provided support for prevention, intervention and mediation efforts, and peacekeeping operations led by Africa, for institution building and strengthening of governance, and for resilience of local communities and the prevention of youth radicalization, with due regard to Africa's ownership.

Stable and reliable institution building and strengthening of governance

Côte d'Ivoire

Japan provided motorbikes for patrol and sanitary products to step up security and prevent infection of police officers under the state of emergency declaration in the COVID-19 pandemic, through "Project for Capacity Building for National Police of Côte d'Ivoire Phase 3", a technical cooperation project.



"Project for Capacity Building for National Police of Côte d'Ivoire Phase 3" technical cooperation project (Photo: JICA)

Support for initiatives led by Africa for stabilization of conflict areas

Chad

Japan provides security equipment to the Government of Chad. At TICAD7 Japan announced support for a stable and reliable institution building and strengthening of governance. This is the embodiment of the presentation at TICAD7.

Support for Strengthening human resources capacity building through Peacekeeping Training Centres in Africa

Through UNDP, Japan supports the capacity building of Peacekeeping Training Centres for training of peacekeepers from African nations, and provides training courses at these centres. Japan has been supporting Peacekeeping Training Centres in Africa since 2008, and it has provided support to 15 centres in 13 countries in total. As COVID-19 has revealed Africa's vulnerability including in the institutions of security and police sectors,



(Photo: UNDP)

Japan effectively continues its support for capacity building and human resources development through provision of training programs without impairing initial goals. Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Ghana

Support for resilience of local communities and preventing youth radicalization

Djibouti


Japan provided assistance through UNDP to promote employment of young people and refugees, strengthen social unity and prevent violence and radicalism. In response to the needs of Djibouti, Japan provided business skills training at the National Vocational Training Centre and matching with companies as an employment measure for young people finding it difficult to get jobs due to lockdowns amid the COVID-19 pandemic.



Business skills training (Photo: UNDP)

(Notes)

- This document was drafted and edited from fall 2020 to early 2021, based on the data available during the period.
- The amounts of support in U.S. dollars are approximate values for the sake of convenience and may not correspond to the actual amounts.

An orange-colored map of the African continent is centered on the page. The text is overlaid on this map.

June 2021

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<https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/index.html>