

Section 8 | Africa

1 Overview

Africa, with a population of over 1.4 billion in 54 countries, has been attracting the interest of the international community, owing to its high potential that can be a driving force for global growth and rich natural resources. Meanwhile, Africa, in which conflicts, political turmoil, terrorism, and the COVID-19 pandemic threaten peace and stability and hinder sustainable growth, still faces development challenges including serious poverty.

While COVID-19 continued to affect African economies and societies in 2022, progress was made to combat it, with the number of new daily infections falling from a peak of more than 280,000 (as of December 2021) to less than 5,000 (as of December 2022) and the overall vaccination coverage in Africa increasing from 11% in the same period in 2021 to 25% (as of December 2022).

2022 continued to be a year of unstable political and security situations in multiple parts of Africa. In the Sahel region, there were two military takeovers in Burkina Faso in 2022, following Mali in 2020 and Guinea in 2021. In the Great Lakes region, tensions between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda are increasing. In the Horn of Africa region, the ongoing conflict between the Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) is expected to be interrupted by a peace agreement announced in November, which is desired to be steadily implemented.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine, which started in February 2022, had a tremendous impact on the political and social situation in Africa. Africa had been facing food shortages due to climate change, COVID-19, and conflicts, and the situation in Ukraine further exacerbated food and fuel price hikes, creating a severe food crisis for some 350 million people.

With these challenges facing Africa in mind, the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8), held in Tunisia in August,

discussed ways for Japan, as “a partner growing together with Africa,” to realize a resilient Africa that Africa itself aims to achieve. TICAD 8 was attended by representatives from 48 African countries including 20 heads of state and government, representatives from the Japan-African Union (AU) Friendship Parliamentary League, international organizations, private companies, and civil society organizations, who discussed Africa's development under the three pillars of “economy,” “society,” and “peace and stability” (see the Special Feature on page 180). Japan also announced that it is going to invest 30 billion US dollars as the sum of public and private financial contributions over the next three years, with an emphasis on “investing in people” and “the quality of growth” to promote African development with approaches quintessentially Japanese that focuses on “people.” In the first pillar of “Economy,” for African economies and societies, which have been seriously affected by COVID-19 and the situation in Ukraine, Japan announced that it would contribute to the realization of a resilient African economy 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.

In the second pillar, “Society,” Japan 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 with African countries against issues commonly faced by all humankind, such as infectious diseases including COVID-19 and climate change.

In the third pillar, “Peace and Stability,” Japan announced that it would vigorously support the promotion of the rule of law through institution building

Special Feature

The Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8)

Over two days from August 27 to 28, the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) was held in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia. Participants included Prime Minister Kishida and Foreign Minister Hayashi, as well as representatives from 48 African countries, including 20 heads of state and government. Prime Minister Kishida provided remarks at each session via online and video messages, and Foreign Minister Hayashi participated in every session in person as the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister.

TICAD 8 featured plenary sessions based on three pillars: Economy, Society, and Peace and Stability, as well as the Business Forum and the Fourth Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Award Ceremony (see Chapter 2, Section 8, for details of the three plenary sessions).

The Business Forum was attended by around 100 business persons from both Japanese and African companies, with approximately 300 participants, including African economy ministers, representatives of development financial institutions, and Japanese public organizations. They discussed ways to strengthen business interactions between Japan and Africa.



Group photo at the Fourth Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Award Ceremony (August 28, Tunis, Tunisia)

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The “TICAD 8 Tunis Declaration” was adopted between the leaders of Japan and Africa as the outcome document of TICAD 8, in which they confirmed to cooperate across a wide range of fields in the future. As well as expressing deep concern about the situation in Ukraine, the Declaration stresses their commitment to working together based on international law including the UN Charter, and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries. It also emphasizes that all countries must seek peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law.

At TICAD 8, Prime Minister Kishida held bilateral talks with representatives of a total of 10 countries and international organizations, such as President Kais Saied of Tunisia, President Macky Sall of Senegal (Chairperson of the African Union (AU)), and Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) Faki Mahamat (one of the TICAD 8 co-organizers). Foreign Minister Hayashi also held bilateral talks with representatives of a total of 21 countries including eight heads of state and government. Through these engagements, Prime Minister Kishida and Foreign Minister Hayashi discussed the issues affecting various countries in Africa and the complex international affairs relevant to Africa. Regarding Russia's aggression against Ukraine, Japan emphasized to African countries that Russia's action shakes the very foundation of the international order and the international community must unitedly respond against it. Japan also conveyed its strong commitment to strengthening food security in Africa and laid out specific support in order to do so. In terms of



Prime Minister Kishida delivering a speech at the TICAD 8 Opening Session (August 27, Tunis, Tunisia)

At the Fourth Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Award Ceremony, in the Medical Research Category, Dr. Salim S. Abdool Karim and Dr. Quarraisha Abdool Karim from South Africa won the Prize recognizing their contributions to the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and COVID-19. In the Medical Services Category, the “Guinea Worm Eradication Program” (U.S.) won the Prize recognizing its contributions to the eradication of Guinea worm disease.

At TICAD 8, Japan stated that Japan is going to invest 30 billion US dollars as the sum of public and private financial contributions over the next three years in the following fields: green growth, pro-

development finance, Japan conveyed the importance of transparency and fairness, confirming that it would work to build greater shared awareness of concerns as well as work together to secure transparent and fair development finance.

The dynamic and interactive discussions between Japanese and African stakeholders during the two days of TICAD 8 spanned a wide range of fields, and painted a clear picture of the future direction of Africa's development. The next conference, TICAD 9, will be held in Japan in 2025. Looking ahead, Japan will build on the momentum generated at TICAD 8 to further promote diplomacy toward Africa.



Foreign Minister Hayashi presiding over the TICAD 8 Closing Ceremony (August 28, Tunis, Tunisia)

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. Japan also announced its contribution to the initiatives to improve administrative services, including the contribution to enhancing community infrastructure.

With following up on TICAD in mind, in October, State Minister for Foreign Affairs YAMADA Kenji attended the 8th Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa held in Dakar, Senegal. Also, President of Senegal Macky Sall paid an official working visit to Japan in December.

2 East Africa

(1) Uganda

Under President Yoweri Museveni's long-serving administration, Uganda has enjoyed sustained economic growth owing to its stable domestic politics and has contributed to regional stability as a major actor in East Africa. Uganda also actively accepts refugees, including those from South Sudan staying in the northern part of the country. Japan-Uganda Foreign Ministers' Meetings were held at the TICAD Ministerial Meeting in March and at TICAD 8 in August, where ministers discussed issues such as food security in Africa.

(2) Ethiopia

Ethiopia hosts the headquarters of the African Union (AU) and occupies an important position in African politics. It has the second largest population in Africa (110 million people) and high annual growth rate of around 10% from 2004 to 2019 (6% in 2020).

Armed clashes occurred between the federal government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) in October 2020, but a peace agreement was signed

in November 2022 between the government and the TPLF through mediation by the AU and others. Moving forward, it is important that all parties implement the agreement in good faith. Japan will push for the realization of the peace agreement in cooperation with like-minded countries through the activities of its Ambassador, Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa.

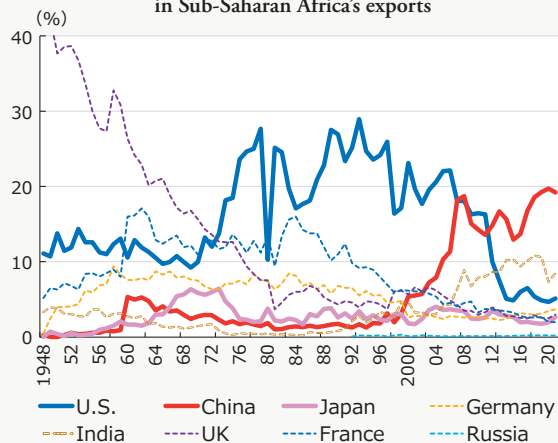
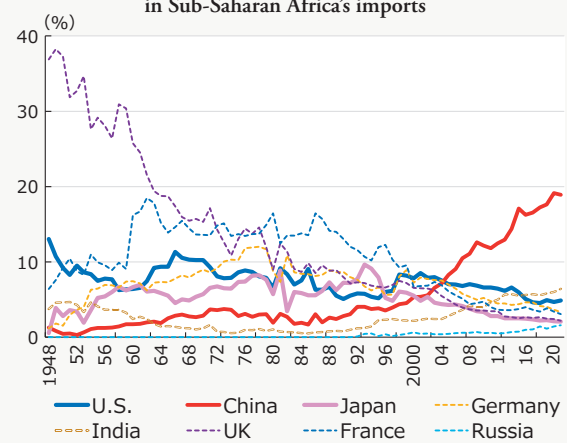
(3) Eritrea

Eritrea is a country located on the international strait connecting the Indian Ocean, the Suez Canal, and Europe. Although it is blessed with mineral, fishery and tourism resources, it is isolated internationally. Eritrea has had an important role in regional stability, including that for the situation in northern Ethiopia. Japan opened an embassy in Eritrea in January, and at the Japan-Eritrea Foreign Ministers' Meeting held on the occasion of TICAD 8 in August, Japan encouraged cooperation for peace and stability in the region.

Reference

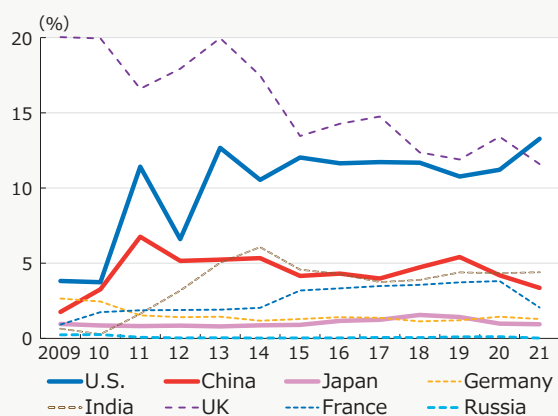
Relations between the Sub-Saharan Africa Region and Japan, the U.S., China, etc., Seen Through Economic Data¹

- Trade: In the past, the U.S. accounted for a large share as an export destination, but China's share has taken the top spot in recent years. Exports from resource-rich countries such as Angola and Nigeria to the U.S. have declined, and China is increasing its presence as a new export destination. In terms of imports, China has large trade volume with regional powers such as South Africa and Nigeria. In 2021, Japan ranked 10th in terms of its share in the region's exports and 11th in terms of imports².
- Investment: The U.S. and the UK are rivaling for the top spot, as the former being the leading investor to Mauritius, which is the largest FDI destination in the region, and the latter, being a former colonial power, holding a prominent share in FDI to South Africa, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and Ghana. China certainly has a presence in Niger and Zambia, but it falls short of the U.S. and the UK in the region as a whole. India also has a certain presence in Mauritius and other countries.
- Finance: While, in the past, there were external debts to various countries, even without leaning toward a specific country. Angola and other countries experienced a sharp increase in external debt to China in the 2010s. In 2021, Japan was the fifth largest bilateral creditor country.

Share of Japan, the U.S., China, etc.
in Sub-Saharan Africa's exportsShare of Japan, the U.S., China, etc.
in Sub-Saharan Africa's imports

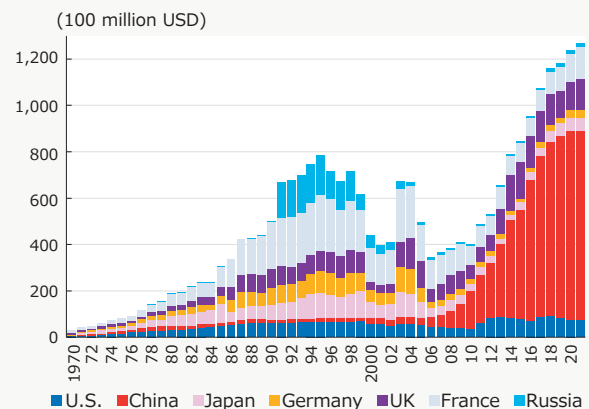
Note 1: Prepared by MOFA based on IMF (DOT) data.

Note 2: Figures for China are the sum of Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau. Graphs for past figures may be skewed due to missing data, etc.

Share of Japan, the U.S., China, etc.
in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) stock in Sub-Saharan Africa

Note 1: Prepared by MOFA based on IMF (CDIS) data.

Bilateral External Debt in Sub-Saharan Africa



Note 1: Prepared by MOFA based on data from the World Bank (IDS).

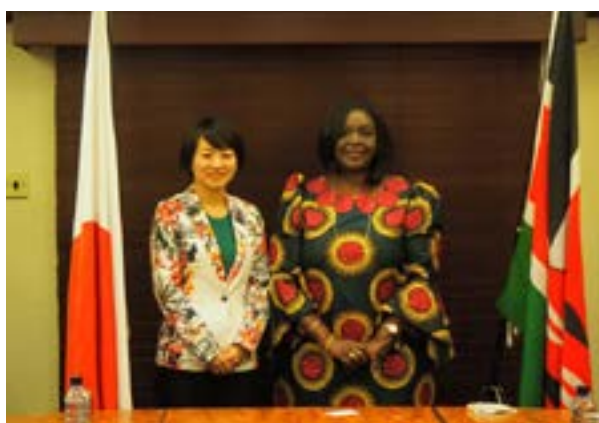
Note 2: The graph illustrates the sum of bilateral external debt in the public sector and in the private sector (private sector external debt guaranteed by the public sector).

¹ See page 193 for notes regarding this data² While only limited number of countries such as Japan, the U.S., and China are illustrated in the chart, the rankings in the text are for all countries/regions for which data is available (including countries, etc. in the relevant region).

(4) Kenya

Kenya is an important partner for peace and stability in the region as a stabilizing force in East Africa, playing a central role in the regional economy and making efforts to resolve conflicts in Ethiopia, Somalia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Japan is cooperating with Kenya's efforts through its Ambassador, Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa. As a result of the presidential election, Dr. William Samoei Ruto was inaugurated as President in September. Mr. MAKIHARA Hideki, a member of the House of Representatives, represented Japan at the presidential inauguration ceremony as a special envoy of the Prime Minister.

At a summit meeting in March, two leaders of Japan and Kenya confirmed that they would work closely together to deal with the situation in Ukraine. On the economic and business front, the Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum was held in Kenya in May, and State Minister for Foreign Affairs SUZUKI Takako, attended the forum and made efforts to strengthen relations. In addition, Japan-Kenya Foreign Ministers' Meetings were held during TICAD 8 in August and the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in November, where the two foreign ministers discussed food security in Africa among other issues and agreed to further develop bilateral relations.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki meeting with Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Raychelle Awuor Omamo (May 3, Nairobi, Kenya)

(5) Union of Comoros

The Union of Comoros is Japan's partner and supports "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" as a maritime nation like Japan. It has chaired the AU since February 2023.

At TICAD 8 in August, the leaders of Japan and the Union of Comoros held a summit meeting where the two leaders confirmed the importance of transparency and fairness in development finance. President Azali Assoumani and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Dhoihir Dhoulkamal attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September, and the Japan-Comoros Summit Meeting was realized.

(6) Djibouti

Djibouti is an important partner for Japan in the realization of FOIP, as it is situated at a strategic point of international security connecting European and Asian countries across the Indian Ocean. It is located at one of the great trade arteries and is aiming to be a regional distribution hub. Since 2011, Djibouti has been hosting the facility of Japan Self-Defense Forces to carry out Japan's counter-piracy operations. In addition to collaborating to strengthen the operational infrastructure in this region, such as protecting and transporting Japanese nationals living abroad, Japan will further deepen its involvement in the country through the Ambassador, Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa. At TICAD 8 in August, Japan held a summit meeting with Prime Minister Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed, where the two leaders discussed regional stability, including countermeasures for piracy.

(7) Sudan

Sudan has the second largest land area in Sub-Saharan Africa and is endowed with crude oil, mineral resources, water resources from the Nile, and fertile land. The country has potential for economic development, but its development has been hampered by a long civil war totaling about 40 years since its independence.

The Bashir administration collapsed in April 2019, and the Sudanese Transitional Government was formed later in August that year and signed the Peace Agreement with the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF) in October 2020. However, the military seized power on October 25, 2021, and formed a military government. Japan calls for the immediate realization of transitioning to civilian rule in collaboration with like-minded countries.

(8) Seychelles

Seychelles is an important partner for Japan in the realization of FOIP, as it is located on a security and economically important sea lane in the Indian Ocean, and is an island country rich in tourism and fisheries resources. President Wavel John Charles Ramkalawan attended TICAD 8 in August and met with Foreign Minister Hayashi to discuss the strengthening of food security in Africa among other issues. Japan plans to establish an embassy in Seychelles in FY2023.

(9) Somalia

In May 2022, Somalia's presidential election resulted in the inauguration of President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and the peaceful completion of the transition of power. Japan is supporting President Hassan's efforts to consolidate peace amidst humanitarian crises such as droughts, floods, and the ongoing activities of Al Shabab. In August, at a meeting between Foreign Minister Hayashi and Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre, who was attending TICAD 8, both parties affirmed their further cooperation in future endeavors. In November, Japan made the decision to provide 14 million US dollars in emergency grant assistance to transport and distribute Ukrainian wheat to Somalia through the UN World Food Program (WFP).

(10) Tanzania

Tanzania is a key East African trading hub, supported by stable internal governance and economic growth. Under President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who took office in April 2021, Tanzania is expected to expand investment and business opportunities.

At the Japan-Tanzania Summit Meetings with Prime Minister Majaliwa Kassim Majaliwa held during the TICAD 8 in August and on the occasion of the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September, the two leaders confirmed their cooperation to further develop economic relations.

(11) Burundi

Burundi is a landlocked country located in the central part of the African continent. Under General Évariste Ndayishimiye, President of Burundi, who took office in May 2020, Burundi has been undertaking pragmatic

all-round diplomacy emphasizing good relations with neighboring countries and economic cooperation with Western countries. Foreign Minister Hayashi held talks with President Ndayishimiye, who attended TICAD 8 in August, and had the Japan-Burundi Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Foreign Minister Albert Shingiro, who attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September, where they discussed peace and stability in the region.

(12) Madagascar

Madagascar is an island country located off the southeastern coast of Africa, and is an important country for Japan as a supplier of mineral resources, with Japanese companies operating integrated nickel and cobalt production operations.

In August, Foreign Minister Hayashi and President Andry Nirina Rajoelina, who was attending TICAD 8, had a meeting to discuss strengthening food security and addressing vulnerabilities of the economy in Africa.

(13) South Sudan

South Sudan continued to be in turmoil from the clashes that broke out in December 2013, but the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) was signed in September 2018.

Japan has been supporting efforts toward peace and stability in South Sudan through projects such as the Nile River Bridge, which was completed in May 2022, and Prime Minister Kishida expressed Japan's continued support for the nation-building efforts of South Sudan at the Video Teleconference meeting with Vice President Hussein Abdelbagi Akol Agany, who attended TICAD 8 in August.

(14) Mauritius

Mauritius is a maritime nation like Japan with a vast Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and a partner in realizing FOIP. Relations between Japan and Mauritius have become even closer through cooperation in responding to the oil spill of the cargo ship *Wakashio* that occurred in 2020. At the Foreign Ministers' Meeting held during TICAD 8 in August, the two ministers confirmed that they would develop economic relations through measures such as the establishment of

the “Bilateral Committee on Improvement of Business Environment.”

(15) Rwanda

Under the leadership of President Paul Kagame, Rwanda has continued its efforts toward economic development and national reconciliation. Recently, the country has been experiencing rapid growth, particularly in the field of information and communication technology, and an increasing number of Japanese companies, including start-ups, have set up offices in the country where cooperation in the space sector has also been advancing.

In light of Japan’s economic interest, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Suzuki visited Rwanda in May and held talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Vincent Biruta, while the



Japan-Rwanda Summit Meeting (November 14, Bali, Indonesia. Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office)

Japan-Rwanda Summit Meeting was held on the occasion of the G20 Summit in November, where the two leaders reaffirmed further development of the bilateral relations between the two countries.

3 Southern Africa

(1) Angola

Democracy is taking root in Angola, and the country plays an important role in the stability of the region, backed by a stable political infrastructure. It is one of Africa’s leading oil-producing countries, rich in mineral resources such as diamonds, and has great potential in the fields of fisheries and agriculture. President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço is actively working to improve the business environment with the aim of diversifying and stabilizing the economy. When he was re-elected in September, member of the House of Representatives SAKURADA Yoshitaka, attended the inauguration ceremony from Japan as a special envoy of the Prime Minister. At the Japan-Angola Foreign Ministers’ Meeting held during the TICAD Ministerial Meeting in March, the two sides discussed the impact of the situation in Ukraine on soaring food prices and supply chains.

(2) Eswatini

Eswatini maintains the only absolute monarchy in Africa under King Mswati III. In April 2018, the country changed its name from the “Kingdom of Swaziland” to the “Kingdom of Eswatini.” It is the only country in



Foreign Minister Hayashi pays courtesy call to King Mswati III of Eswatini (August 27, Tunis, Tunisia)

Africa that has diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

In August, Foreign Minister Hayashi held talks with King Mswati III, who attended TICAD 8. Deputy Prime Minister Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September, activating high-level political exchanges.

(3) Zambia

Zambia, which has abundant mineral resources, has been working on economic diversification in recent

years to shift its economy away from over-dependence on minerals. In November 2020, due to non-payment of interest on Eurobonds, Zambia defaulted for the first time in Africa since the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, under the Hakainde Hichilema administration, which came into power after a democratic change of government, the government has made economic restructuring its top priority and is working to restructure its debt through international cooperation. Japan is working with like-minded countries to support its debt restructuring. In August 2022, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Board of Governors approved an assistance program. Later that month, Foreign Minister Hayashi met with Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane, Minister of Finance and National Planning, who was attending TICAD 8, and discussed fiscal rehabilitation.

(4) Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is a landlocked country where successive kingdoms have prospered between the 11th and 15th centuries, leaving behind a large group of stone ruins known as “Great Zimbabwe.” Japan has had diplomatic relations with the country since its independence in 1980. The country is facing challenges in managing their economy as the Western countries have imposed sanctions such as freezing the assets of certain companies and individuals and banning them from traveling. Vice President of the Zimbabwe African National Union - Patriotic Front (ruling party), Kembo C. D. Mohadi, attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September and paid a courtesy call to Prime Minister Kishida.

(5) Namibia

Namibia has abundant marine and mineral resources, and as a distribution hub on the Atlantic side of southern Africa, it is expected that its trade and investment will expand in the fields of resource development and energy. Although the country faces challenges such as poverty and inequality, high unemployment rates, anti-corruption, and a lack of social infrastructure, it has enjoyed a stable political situation since its independence in 1990 and actively engaged in regional cooperation in Southern Africa.

(6) Botswana

Botswana has had good governance with a stable political situation since its independence, and the country is rich in mineral resources such as diamonds. It was the first country in Africa to adopt the Japanese digital terrestrial broadcasting system (ISDB-T system) in 2013 and achieved the first complete transition to the Japanese standard of digital terrestrial broadcasting in 2022, among other countries that adopted the Japanese system. In recent years, it has been focusing on diversifying industry and reducing poverty with the aim of breaking away from its diamond-dependent economy.

(7) Malawi

Malawi has maintained relatively stable domestic affairs since its independence in 1964, and is currently making efforts to promote friendly diplomacy with neighboring countries under President Chakwera. The country is grappling with fiscal reconstruction, improvement of agricultural productivity, and an economic structure dependent on primary agricultural products.

(8) South Africa

South Africa is an economic powerhouse in Africa that continues to attract the interest of foreign companies, including Japanese companies, as a base for business development. South Africa also has a strong presence in the international arena as the only African member of the G20. Going forward, further cooperation on energy and mineral resources is expected. In addition to holding the Japan-South Africa Summit Meeting during the G7 Summit in June, Japan held bilateral Foreign Ministers' Meetings with South Africa at the G20 Foreign Ministers Meeting in July and at the Japan-South Africa Partnership Forum, which was held in Tokyo in October for the first time in nine years, and discussed bilateral relations and the international situation. There were active high-level political exchanges in 2022, including Minister of Tourism Lindiwe Nonceba Sisulu's attendance at the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September.

(9) Mozambique

Mozambique is a gateway to southeastern Africa and is a strategic point overlooking FOIP from the west. Political stability has been secured under President

Filipe Nyusi, and development by foreign capital is progressing against the backdrop of abundant natural resources such as coal and natural gas. Japanese companies are also participating in a liquefied natural gas (LNG) development project in the northern part of the country, but the project has been suspended due to the deteriorating security situation caused by attacks by armed groups in the surrounding area, and Japan is cooperating with like-minded countries in order to resume the project. From 2023, Mozambique serves as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council together with Japan.

Bearing in mind the importance of the country's energy security, Japan has been providing humanitarian assistance such as food assistance for refugees and development assistance for the economic independence of local residents. In June, State Minister for Foreign Affairs ODAWARA Kiyoshi met with Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Verónica Nataniel Macamo Dlhovo, in New York during his visit.

4 Central Africa

(1) Gabon

There are no civil wars or conflicts in Gabon, and the country is politically stable. President Ali Bongo Ondimba is working to diversify the economy, including through strengthening the field of timber processing, with the aim of transitioning from an oil-dependent economy.

In May, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Odawara held a meeting with Minister for Foreign Affairs Michael Moussa Adamo in New York, while the Japan-Gabon Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held between Foreign Minister Hayashi and Foreign Minister Adamo at TICAD 8 in August. Furthermore, in September when Prime Minister Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda visited Japan to attend the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo, the Japan-Gabon Summit Meeting was held with Prime Minister Kishida. Japan is engaged in cooperation primarily in the fields of health and environmental conservation.

(10) Lesotho

In Lesotho, a landlocked country composed of mostly mountainous highlands, trout aquaculture is conducted in the lake of the Katse Dam constructed by utilizing natural resources, providing a major export product to Japan. Lesotho held smooth and peaceful elections to the National Assembly in October, and the new prime minister, Mr. Samuel Ntsokoane Matekane, was inaugurated.

In relation to Japan, in addition to holding a foreign ministers' meeting on the occasion of TICAD 8 in August, Prime Minister Kishida held the Japan-Lesotho Summit Meeting with Prime Minister Moeketsi Majoro, who attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September, where the two leaders discussed further development of bilateral relations through the promotion of investment from Japan.

(2) Cameroon

Under the leadership of President Biya, who has established a long-term administration, Cameroon is grappling with the problems in the English-speaking regions, where clashes between independent separatists and security forces continue, and with Islamist extremist groups operating in the Extreme North Region. Japan exchanged notes with Cameroon concerning a grant aid project titled the "Project for Improving Infrastructure for the Stabilization of the Lake Chad Basin Area" (cooperation with UNDP)" in February and another one concerning food aid through the WFP in July. Minister of External Relations Lejeune Mbella Mbella attended TICAD 8 in August and held a foreign ministers' meeting with Foreign Minister Hayashi.

(3) Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has entered its fourth year under the administration of President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, is

working on fiscal reforms and eradicating corruption in cooperation with IMF. Serving as the chair of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in 2022, the Democratic Republic of the Congo prioritized its commitment to the region, by also joining the East African Community (EAC).

The activities of armed groups are intensifying in the eastern region, which is one of the world's leading producers of natural resources, and the process of mediation involving the region and the international community is underway with the support of the United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping operations (PKO).

In August, Prime Minister Kishida and Prime Minister Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde Kyenge held a Summit online Meeting in which the two leaders confirmed that Japan would support efforts to stabilize the eastern region through institutional building and human resource development support for the consolidation of peace, and that Japan would promote cooperation in the area of climate change countermeasures and mineral resources. Based on this, in November, the two countries exchanged notes concerning grant aid for the "Economic and Social Development Programme (equipment related to climate change countermeasures)" and notes concerning the "Project for Strengthening Community Policing Activities (cooperation with IOM)" to support the efforts of the country.

(4) Republic of Congo

President Denis Sassou N'Guesso, who is serving his third term, has promoted domestic policies focused on reforming the administrative system, improving economic and financial governance, and developing social welfare infrastructure, with the foreign policy of "diversification of partners." The country has recently increased its presence as a stabilizing force in Central Africa.

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Francophonie and Congolese Abroad Jean-Claude Gakosso attended TICAD 8 and held the Japan-Republic of Congo Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Foreign Minister Hayashi. Japan supports the country's development by strengthening economic infrastructure and providing food aid through the WFP.

(5) Sao Tome and Principe

The National Assembly elections held in September in Sao Tome and Principe resulted in a victory for the opposition, and in November, the fourth Trovoada cabinet was formed, the first change of government in four years.

Recently, Japan has provided food aid to the country almost every year, and in August 2022, the two countries exchanged notes concerning grant aid for food aid. Counterpart funds for food aid are used for the country's economic and social development, including support for the implementation of the above-mentioned elections. While there are few visits by dignitaries and business exchanges, Japan's food aid and assistance in the fisheries sector are widely recognized and appreciated, fostering a favorable pro-Japan sentiment.

(6) Equatorial Guinea

Under the long administration of President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, Equatorial Guinea has been promoting economic development based on its abundant oil resources. President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo was re-elected in the presidential election held on November 20.

In 2022, Japan coordinated with the UN Development Program (UNDP) to help restore a waste treatment facility damaged by the massive explosion that occurred in Bata in March 2021.

(7) Chad

In October, president of the Transitional Military Council Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno, was inaugurated as Transitional President and decided to extend the transition period to civilian rule by up to two years. Japan exchanged notes concerning food aid through the WFP in July in order to improve the country's food security and contribute to the resolution of development issues.

(8) Central Africa

Central Africa continues to work toward democratization. In March 2022, President Faustin Archange Touadera held a dialogue involving government officials and civil society. In November, the country decided to extend the mandate of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African

Republic (MINUSCA) in order to maintain public order. In addition, as many people are in need of humanitarian aid as a result of the protracted conflict,

Japan exchanged notes concerning food aid through WFP in July.

5 West Africa

(1) Ghana

The Akufo-Addo administration, which was launched in 2017 and re-elected for a second term from 2021, has adopted the concept of Ghana Beyond Aid and is working to promote investment and diversify industries. In addition, the country is focusing on rebuilding the domestic economy, including the debt situation.

The Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, which Japan has supported for many years through ODA, is a symbol of friendship and cooperation between Japan and Ghana and played a central role as a center for measures against COVID-19 in the country. Further concrete cooperation projects are underway in the health sector, including signing of a grant aid agreement for “the Project for the Improvement of Health Care System in the Northern Region” in May. The Japan-Ghana Foreign Ministers’ Meetings were held three times in 2022 at the TICAD Ministerial Meeting in March, during TICAD 8 in August, and at the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in November.

(2) Cabo Verde

Cabo Verde has a well-established democracy with high political stability among African countries. Japan is cooperating in the economic development of Cabo Verde through ODA, including through the exchange of notes concerning food aid in July. In August, Foreign Minister Hayashi held a meeting with Prime Minister José Ulisses Correia e Silva, who attended TICAD 8.

(3) Gambia

Since President Barrow took office in 2017, Gambia has been promoting reforms based on fundamental values and principles, such as democracy and the rule of law. The country held peaceful presidential elections in 2021 and parliamentary elections in 2022. However, it faces social issues such as a fragile economic structure

dependent on agriculture and serious poverty. Foreign Minister Mamadou Tangara attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September and held talks with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yamada.

(4) Guinea

In Guinea, after the military takeover by a group of Guinean army soldiers in September 2021, a transitional government (led by interim President Mamadi Doumbouya) was established, and the transition to civilian rule is underway with a completion deadline of the end of 2024.

Guinea has abundant water resources and fertile land, has high development potential for agriculture and fisheries, along with the largest mineral resources in West Africa that produce bauxite and iron. Japan has had a friendly cooperative relationship with Guinea for many years.

(5) Guinea-Bissau

Guinea-Bissau aims to overcome poverty and political instability by taking advantage of its fertile lands, blessed with fishery and mineral resources. In September, Japan exchanged notes concerning food aid in collaboration with WFP. Furthermore, in November, the two countries exchanged notes regarding grant aid for the “Project for Promoting Transparency and Accountability in Governance to Prevent Corruption and Consolidate Peace” (cooperation with UNDP).

(6) Côte d’Ivoire

In May, Japan signed agreements for two yen loan projects (the “Taabo-Kossou-Bouake Power Network Reinforcement Project” and “COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan”) to support efforts such as economic structural reform and national solidarity under the “National Development Plan” by



Working lunch between Foreign Minister Hayashi and Prime Minister Achi of Côte d'Ivoire (August 27, Tunis, Tunisia)

President Alassane Ouattara. At a working lunch with Prime Minister Patrick Jérôme Achi during TICAD 8 in August, Foreign Minister Hayashi stated that Japan intends to support development of the northern region, which is important for the stability of Côte d'Ivoire and its sub-regions. In September, Japan and Côte d'Ivoire exchanged notes concerning the "Economic and Social Development Programme," grant assistance to improve agricultural productivity in the region, while in December, the two countries also exchanged notes concerning yen loans to build a strong agricultural base for the country as a whole. Relations between the two countries are developing further through efforts such as investment promotion and revitalization.

(7) Sierra Leone

In Sierra Leone, the Bio administration that began in April 2018 after the election is focusing on building a stable, peaceful, open, and pluralistic democracy, and is prioritizing fields such as job creation and high-quality education.

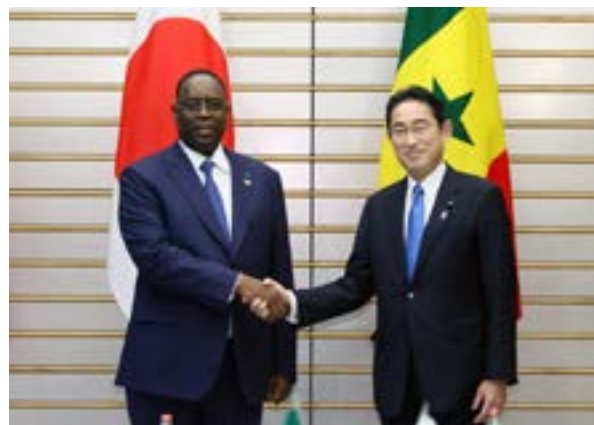
Japan implements development cooperation with the country in areas such as health, human resources development, agriculture, and basic infrastructure development. In December, the two countries exchanged notes concerning grant aid for the "Project for the Extension of Power Distribution Network along the Freetown Peninsula." Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation David John Francis attended TICAD 8 in August and held the Japan-Sierra Leone Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Foreign Minister Hayashi.

(8) Senegal

As the chair of the African Union (AU) in 2022, Senegal played a leading role in Africa's response to various challenges in the international arena. In addition, as a stabilizing force in West Africa, Senegal actively worked toward the peace and stability of the region.

At TICAD 8 held in August, Foreign Minister Hayashi (Special Envoy of the Prime Minister) served as co-chair together with President Macky Sall of Senegal and President Kais Saied of Tunisia. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yamada attended the 8th Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa held in October and introduced Japan's efforts to support peace and stability in Africa. He called for increased international collaboration to help Africa confront exogenous shocks such as COVID-19 and the food crisis triggered by the Russian aggression against Ukraine.

In December, President Sall made an official working visit to Japan and held his third summit meeting with Prime Minister Kishida. The two leaders issued the Japan-Senegal Joint Statement, confirming that the two countries, as strategically important partners, will strengthen cooperation both bilaterally and in the international arena.



Japan-Senegal Summit Meeting (December 19, Tokyo. Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office)

(9) Togo

To improve Togo's food security and resolve development issues, Japan exchanged notes concerning food aid with Togo in August. In September, the Japan-Togo Summit Meeting was held on the occasion of President Faure Essozimna Gnassingbe attending the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo. The

two leaders expressed expectations for further strengthening of Japan-Togo bilateral relations, exchanged views on international affairs, and agreed to work for further development of bilateral relations, following up on the outcome of TICAD 8.

(10) Nigeria

President Muhammadu Buhari, who marked the seventh anniversary of his inauguration in May, has tackled issues in a wide range of fields, including security, legislation, infrastructure, economy, and industry. In terms of security, about 80,000 terrorists and their families are claimed to have surrendered by October, and the Government of Nigeria is also working to support the rehabilitation of former terrorists. Combating piracy and armed robbery along the Nigerian coast in the Gulf of Guinea is one of the issues the country is tackling, and notes concerning Japan's grant aid for strengthening maritime security were exchanged in June.

Nigeria, which has one of the largest reserves of natural gas in Sub-Saharan Africa, is working to develop natural gas as an important energy source in the country's energy transition policy toward zero carbon dioxide emissions.

(11) Niger

Niger is facing the growing threat of terrorism primarily on its borders with Mali and Burkina Faso, and is making sustained efforts to counter terrorism and overcome development challenges in cooperation with the international community.

Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Hassoumi Massoudou attended TICAD 8 in August. At the Japan-Niger Foreign Ministers' Meeting held on that occasion, Foreign Minister Hayashi announced that Japan would continue to contribute to strengthening food security in Africa, and in September, an exchange of notes concerning food aid was signed. Furthermore, the two countries are steadily deepening their cooperative relationship, including through an exchange of notes concerning grant aid aimed at improving access to secondary education and the learning environment, as well as promoting and continuing the enrollment of girls in schools in November.

(12) Burkina Faso

Terrorism has occurred frequently in Burkina Faso, mainly along the border areas with Mali and Niger in the north, and security has not been restored, resulting in a large number of casualties and internally displaced persons. Domestic dissatisfaction has increased amid the extremely deteriorating humanitarian situation, and in January and September 2022, a group of the Burkina Faso Armed Forces took power.

Japan has contributed to improving the quality of education in Burkina Faso through grant aid for the "Project for the Construction of Lower-Secondary Schools and Lower-Secondary Schools of Technical Education and Vocational Training in the Centre and Centre-Ouest Regions" (cooperation with UNICEF). In addition, Japan cooperates with WFP to implement food aid and is working to improve food security in the country.

(13) Benin

In September, Japan and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) signed a grant aid agreement for the "Project for Supporting Digital Health System for Infectious Diseases Control in Africa," and made the decision to provide support to seven African countries, including Benin, to strengthen and streamline their systems for health facilities and other services. Minister of Foreign Affairs Aurélien Agbenonci attended TICAD 8 held in Tunisia in August, and Minister of Economy and Finance Romuald Wadagni attended the state funeral for the late Prime Minister ABE Shinzo in September.

(14) Mali

Following the military takeover by a group of the Malian military in August 2020 and May 2021, a transition government (led by President of the transition Assimi Goita) was established, and the transition to civilian rule is underway with a deadline of the end of March 2024. The security situation is serious, with frequent terrorist attacks and clashes mainly in the north and east. Securing peace and stability in Mali, which is the cornerstone of peace and stability in the Sahel region as a whole, is an urgent issue for the international community.

Through the UNDP, Japan has made the decision to provide the equipment necessary for conducting highly

transparent and reliable elections that meet international standards, and is supporting Mali's efforts to transition to civilian rule. In October, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yamada met with Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Abdoulaye Diop and announced that Japan would continue to cooperate in resolving the economic and social development challenges that Mali is facing, along with support for the transition to civilian rule. In November, the two countries exchanged notes concerning food aid and grant aid for the "Economic and Social Development Programme."

(15) Liberia

President George Tawlon Manneh Oppong Weah is focusing on reducing poverty in Liberia, following the civil war that broke out in 1989 and the Ebola hemorrhagic fever that spread from neighboring countries in 2014, causing enormous humanitarian damage in Liberia. Other priorities include infrastructure, education, and health. Japan supported the reconstruction of

a highway in the capital city of Monrovia in 2016. The road was renamed "Japan Freeway" in 2019 as a token of the friendship between Japan and Liberia. In July 2022, the two countries exchanged notes concerning grant aid for food aid. Foreign Minister Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah attended TICAD 8 in August and had the Japan-Liberia Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

(16) Mauritania

Mauritania is located in the Sahel region, where security is becoming increasingly unstable. Although there have been no terrorist attacks since 2011 and the government has continued to operate in a relatively stable manner, the unseasonable weather and world affairs affecting the country since 2021 have resulted in a serious food shortage, and Japan is providing assistance such as food aid to the country. Japan is also enhancing its cooperative relationship by providing technical assistance and grant aid in the field of fisheries to Mauritania, such as improvement of the facilities of the training center for fisheries.



Notes on “Relations between Each Region and Japan, the U.S., China, etc., Seen Through Economic Data”

1. Common to all data

This section was produced from the aspects of trade, investment, and finance using data from international organizations, but the presence of each country and region should be comprehensively examined from various other perspectives as well. The following points should also be noted regarding each of the statistics used in this section.

Trade data (source: IMF Direction of Trade Statistics: DOTS) are customs-based trade statistics, and it is known that processing trade-oriented countries tend to swell the total amount of trade. It is also necessary to pay attention to the concept of value-added trade, which considers in which countries the added value of goods and services is generated.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) stock data (source: IMF (Coordinated Direct Investment Survey: CDIS)) is based on “voluntary reporting” of each country and region, and it should be noted that it is not comprehensive and differs in scale from figures reported by each country and region.

For External Debt data (source: World Bank (International Debt Statistics: IDS)), only bilateral debt is shown for the sake of clarity, but it should be noted that this is only a part of the total volume of debts and that debts to international institutions such as the World Bank and ADB and other creditors are significant (the category which has the largest share as the creditor in all regions is “Other Multiple Lenders”). In addition, with the development of financial and capital markets, the amount of funds raised through the issuance of bonds is expected to increase (in fact, the share of bondholders is also significant). It should also be noted that countries that receive a large amount of grant aid tend to be less prominent in the chart.

2. Countries and regions covered for each indicator/region

This section compiles the economic data for Japan, the U.S., China, and other countries in regions (1) through (7) as enumerated below, but not all countries and regions are included due to limited country data available depending on the statistics. Countries and regions covered by each statistic are as follows.

- Trade (export, import): 139 countries and regions
- Investment (Inward FDI stock): 74 countries and regions
- Finance (External debt stock): 108 countries and regions

(1) Southeast Asia

Trade: 10 ASEAN countries (Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos) and Timor-Leste (11 countries in total)

Investment: Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Myanmar (eight countries in total)

Finance: Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos, Timor-Leste (eight countries in total)

(2) South Asia

Trade: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives (seven countries in total)

Investment: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan (six countries in total)

Finance: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives (seven countries in total)

(3) Pacific Island countries

Trade: Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Tonga, Nauru, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (12 countries in total)

Investment: Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Fiji (four countries in total)

Finance: Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Fiji (six countries in total)

(4) Latin America and the Caribbean

Trade: Argentina, Antigua and Barbuda, Uruguay, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Cuba, Guatemala, Grenada, Costa Rica, Colombia, Jamaica, Suriname, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Chile, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Nicaragua, Haiti, Panama, Bahamas, Paraguay, Barbados, Brazil, Venezuela, Belize, Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Mexico (32 countries in total)

Investment: Argentina, Uruguay, El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Suriname, Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama, Paraguay, Barbados, Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Mexico (17 countries in total)

Finance: Argentina, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Guatemala, Grenada, Costa Rica, Colombia, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Haiti, Paraguay, Brazil, Belize, Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Mexico (22 countries in total)

(5) Central Asia and the Caucasus

Trade: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Georgia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan (eight countries in total)

Investment: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Georgia, Tajikistan (six countries in total)

Finance: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Georgia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan (eight countries in total)

(6) Middle East and North Africa

Trade: Afghanistan, United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Yemen, Israel, Iraq, Iran, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Morocco (20 countries in total)

Investment: Algeria, Israel, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco (nine countries in total)

Finance: Afghanistan, Algeria, Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco (12 countries in total)

(7) Sub-Saharan Africa

Trade: Angola, Uganda, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Ghana, Cabo Verde, Gabon, Cameroon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Comoros, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, São Tomé and Príncipe, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Djibouti, Zimbabwe, Sudan, Seychelles, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania, Chad, Central Africa, Togo, Nigeria, Namibia, Niger, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Benin, Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, South Africa, South Sudan, Mozambique, Mauritius, Mauritania, Liberia, Rwanda, Lesotho (49 countries in total)

Investment: Uganda, Eswatini, Ghana, Cabo Verde, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, Zambia, Seychelles, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Nigeria, Namibia, Niger, Burkina Faso, Benin, Botswana, Madagascar, Mali, South Africa, Mozambique, Mauritius, Rwanda (24 countries in total).

Finance: Angola, Uganda, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Ghana, Cabo Verde, Gabon, Cameroon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Comoros, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, São Tomé and Príncipe, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Djibouti, Zimbabwe, Sudan, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania, Chad, Central Africa, Togo, Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Benin, Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, South Africa, Mozambique, Mauritius, Mauritania, Liberia, Rwanda, Lesotho (45 countries in total).