

3. Agriculture and Rural Development



While the countries of Africa have been recovering economically from the impacts of the global financial crisis of 2008, food prices are once again surging since the latter half of 2010 and the world's major commodity price index reached the world highest record in February 2011. Under these circumstances, Africa needs to substantially increase food production and prevent rising food prices from becoming a source of the economic and social instability.

The AU's Strategic Development Plan places emphasis on food security, transportation infrastructure and energy. President of Malawi Mutharika, former AU chairperson, in his inaugural address in 2010, pledged to eradicate hunger in Africa within five years. More than 25 countries have signed Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Compacts as part of a strategic planning process for prioritising agriculture investments; 19 countries have developed CAADP-based investment plans which have already been reviewed by the AUC, and 13 out of these countries have organised High Level Business Meetings to validate and endorse these plans.

The Status of Japanese Assistance – April 2008 - March 2011 (provisional)

Although the YAP target for agriculture sector grant aid and technical cooperation has already been attained (106%), more efforts will be necessary to reach the “development and rehabilitation of irrigation facilities” target (100,000 ha).

Japan has disbursed US\$100 million to the two Japanese trust funds established under the World Bank; US\$20 million has been distributed to the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), one of the affiliates of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) for the improvement of rice varieties, and US\$80 million has been allocated to support the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) initiative, under which the following seven

countries have been selected: Mozambique, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, and Madagascar (as of November 2010).

Total amount of committed ODA projects in the agriculture sector (April 2008-March 2011)

(100 million yen)

	Irrigation	Agricultural productivity	Other*
Loans	131.78	—	—
Grant Aid & Tech. Coop.	123.92	64.22	87.80

*Development of fisheries, livelihood development, agricultural development planning, etc.

Sustainable Water Resource Management and Land Use

As part of TICAD joint-partner efforts to increase the amount of irrigated land area by 20% over the next five years, Japan is ardently engaged in the formulation of projects to enable co-financing with the World Bank, the AfDB, and others. Japan has been imple-

menting a loan for irrigation development in Kenya and technical cooperation projects for irrigation development and participatory management of agricultural water such as in Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda.

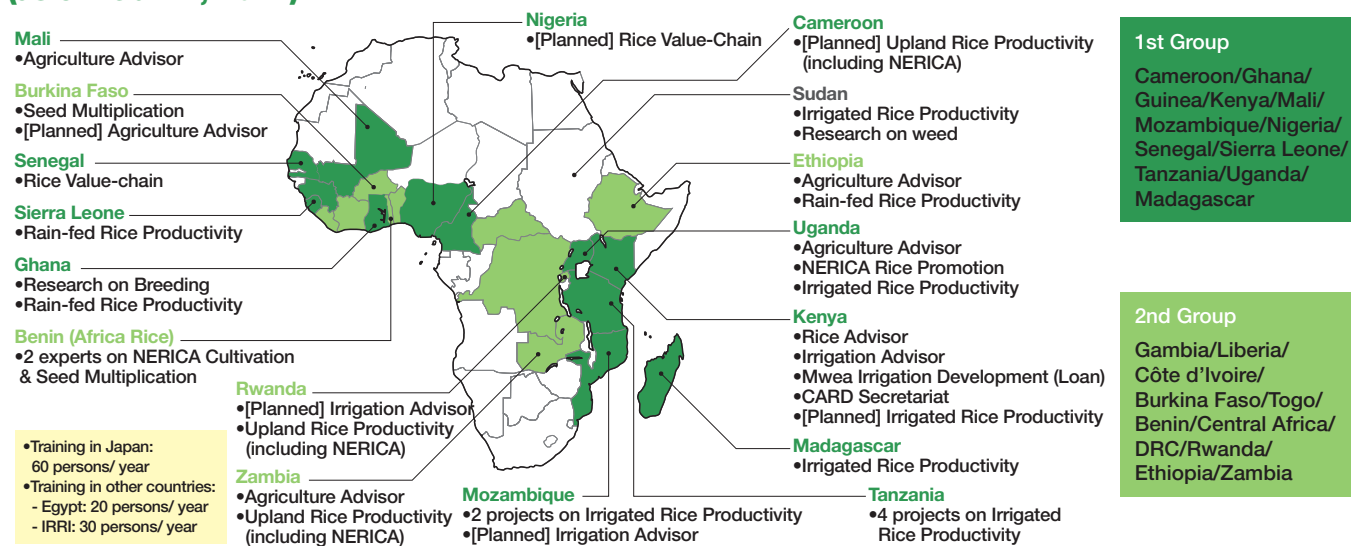
The Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)

Following the selection of the first group (12 countries) and the second group (11 countries) in Oct. 2008 and Nov. 2009, the first group presented National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS) at the Second General Meeting of CARD in Tokyo in June 2009 at which policies for support were determined. In May 2010, the Third General Meeting of CARD was held with the participation of 21 African nations, five South-South Cooperation partner countries, and 19 donor organisations. The CARD First Group countries pre-

sented the results of their needs assessments on the basis of their NRDS, while the Second Group countries (except for DRC) had their NRDS Task Forces officially appointed.

In connection with this, Japan has planned to conduct capacity building for 50,000 agricultural leaders and conducted training for 7,567 people in fiscal 2008 and 31,593 in fiscal 2009.

Participating Countries of CARD and Location of JICA's Rice-related Interventions (as of Feb. 22, 2011)



Countries participating in CARD and examples of ongoing JICA support in Uganda: Rice Promotion Programme

Japan has been promoting the development and diffusion of "Nerica" since 2002 and dispatched one Japanese expert to Uganda to provide guidance to the Eastern and Southern African countries. In Uganda, agriculture accounts for 40% of the GDP, 80% of the exports and employment. Ugandan government has been actively promoting the diffusion of Nerica for agricultural development and poverty reduction. Uganda is currently one of the most advanced countries among Sub-Saharan Africa on the diffusion of Nerica (cultivated area extended from 1,500ha in 2002 to 30,000ha in 2007).

Moreover, Japan started the Nerica Rice Promotion Project and Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture Development Project in Eastern Uganda in 2008 under the Rice Promotion Program. In addition,

Japan has dispatched JOCVs and implemented training courses in Japan in order to secure the food security and enhancement of farmers' income in Uganda. The General Meetings will be held at the Rice Research and Training Centre which was constructed in Nov. 2010.



Field testing at Namronge Experiment Station



Training on the production of paddy rice (Photos: JICA)

Japanese Food Aid

At TICAD IV, Japan announced it would provide US\$100 million in emergency food aid measures between May and July 2008. Japan has continued its assistance thereafter, providing food aid (incl.

humanitarian assistance related to food crisis) of 81 billion yen (approx. US\$800 million) to 39 African countries by March 2011.

Efforts by Other TICAD Partners

WBG

The WB corporate commitment of US\$1 billion in new lending for agriculture was met in FY2010 to support the CAADP process of prioritizing agriculture investments. Both the Bank and IFC have increased their focus on agribusiness lending and advisory services.

Since its inception, US\$715 million in Global Food Crisis Response Program (GFRP) funds have been allocated to African countries, while Sub-Saharan Africa has also been the major beneficiary of the Crisis Response Window, receiving approximately US\$1 billion.

UNDP

As a part of its MDG breakthrough strategy, UNDP has launched MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF), addressing the critical gaps and support need to attain key MDGs. UNDP, in collaboration with the UN Country Team and the host government, has completed the MAF on Food Security in Tanzania and Togo, and is currently undertaking the exercise in Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and Chad, with more countries slated for 2010. These provide government and stakeholders with the roadmap, including concrete actions and costing, to achieve Food Security.