

III. Achieving the MDGs

While the MDGs Summit in September 2010 confirmed that all regions, including Sub-Saharan Africa, experienced considerable successes in such areas as the fight against poverty and improving school enrolment and child health, participants also acknowledged that Africa is the region with the farthest to go to attain the MDGs, and that much more needs to be done to achieve the MDGs, as progress has been uneven among regions and between and within countries. An outcome document including an Action Agenda leading up to 2015 was adopted.

In order to accelerate efforts to reduce the maternal mortality ratio and improve maternal health and access to reproductive health, which have been particularly problematic, United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon announced the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, and the international community committed US\$40 billion to the strategy over the coming five years. Japan announced a new commitment (the "Kan Commitment") in September 2010, which will provide assistance of US\$5 billion in the field of health and US\$3.5 billion in the field of education over five years, starting in 2011. Japan will also host an international conference in June 2011 to follow up on the MDGs Summit in order to strengthen coordination among a broad range of stakeholders.

1. Community Development

🏠 Human Security

The YAP states that "human security" is a predominant and overarching pillar of assistance agreed at the TICAD IV, in recognition that the basis of nation building lies in the personal empowerment of people. The TICAD process has been implementing a large number of projects thus far based on the concept of "human security."

Furthermore, as indicated in the Japan-AU communiqué issued on the occasion of the visit to Japan of Dr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the AUC in August 2010, Japan and the AUC have agreed to strengthen cooperation to put into practice the concept of human security.

🏠 Comprehensive "Glocal" Community Development

Expansion of the One Village One Product (OVOP) initiative

Various types of technical cooperation have been underway in seven of the 12 African countries to which the initiative is to be expanded. Other countries have also expressed strong interest and in addition to these seven countries, more than ten countries have participated in training in Japan. An expert in charge of OVOP is currently being dispatched to Kenya, to actively visit and provide guidance to multiple African countries.



Demonstration of making a local product in the seminar (Kenya)



Participants with a local product in the seminar (Kenya)

(Photos: JICA)

🏠 Community-based Approach building on Functional Hubs

Assistance for the introduction and dissemination of multifunctional platforms (MFP) for small-scale electrical generation equipment and motor equipment

In collaboration with the Government of Japan, UNDP has promoted the use of Multi Function Platform (MFP) since 1996. Multi-Function Platform has not only brought energy to advance critical MDGs, but also concrete income and job creation opportunities to rural communities, such as milling and processing of local food and produces. Further, the management of MFP was entrusted to community groups with majority of women, accelerating women's empowerment. Based

on the track record of the project supported by Japan, a number of countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal prioritized MFP as a key tool to reduce poverty and additional funding is being mobilised from the Gates foundation. There are 1,900 multifunctional platforms up and running, benefitting about 2.5 million rural women and their families.



Rural woman milling grain with a MFP (Photo: UNDP)