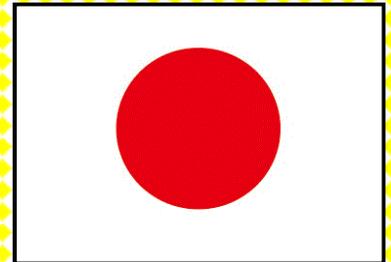




AUGUST 2018 (Vol. 11)

VOICE OF JAPAN

From KAMPALA



Voice of Japan from Kampala is a free E-magazine issued monthly by the Embassy of Japan in Uganda to deliver recent updates and news from the Japanese community in Uganda. For subscription, please contact the Culture and Information Section at the Embassy of Japan in Uganda (contact details below).

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AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE

During August, I received a lot of visitors from Japan: 5 business groups, 3 academicians and a student group, 2 NGOs and a municipal level delegation. Many Japanese easily take summer leaves in this season, which is one of the reasons why I had many visitors at the Embassy. The number of visitors this August is much more than that of last August and the year before. I conceive of this proving that Japanese are increasingly becoming interested in Uganda in a variety of fields.

FAREWELL FROM EMBASSY'S STAFF

Dr. Tadakazu Kanno, Second Secretary

I have spent 4 and half a year in Uganda and now am leaving for Botswana for a next assignment in September. I was the luckiest person as I was blessed with very nice people in MDAs, which made my job very easy and fun! Uganda is a cozy place where I REALLY want to come back. I hope to see you all again!

Naho Sakano, Researcher/Adviser, Economic Cooperation Division

"I would like to thank your support extended to me during my three years here. I will treasure the memory of the dynamic beauty of the national parks and the warm smiles of the people of Uganda. Uganda was my home away from home. Special thanks to the colleagues in the government and the donor community I have worked closely with in various sectors including refugees and host community assistance. I cherished every single interaction with all of you, and I will surely miss working with you. Farewell and thank you!"



EVENTS IN AUGUST

8月のイベント

AUGUST 7 : AMBULANCES HANDED OVER

Ambassador has handed over two ambulances which have been donated to Kisoro District Hospital and Ntungamo Municipal Council Local Government. Ceremonies were joined by State Ministers and various district officials. These projects were under the "Recycled Project" which is to donate well maintained and reconditioned technical vehicles and equipment which have been previously used by local governments in Japan.



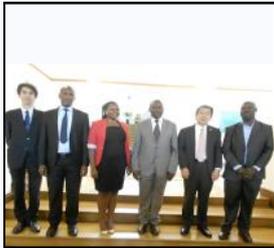
AUGUST 13 : NEW JAPANESE SPONSOR FOR BRIGHT STARS FC



Ambassador Kameda attended the press conference of Soltilo Uganda Ltd, whose owner is a Japanese famous football player, Keisuke Honda and the biggest shareholder of Bright Stars FC. FC Management and YOSHINO Trading Ltd. , trading cars and trucks in Uganda since 2011, signed an agreement for the latter's sponsorship, offering 40,000\$ and a team bus. This partnership will become an important bridge in sports between Japan and Uganda.



AUG UST 14: ABE INITIATIVE STUDENTS TO HEAD TO JAPAN



Three participants of ABE Initiative (Master's degree and internship program of the **African Business Education Initiative** for Youth) 5th batch departed for Japan at the end of August to study at Japanese universities. To celebrate this occasion, Ambassador Kameda hosted a send-off ceremony at his residence in the presence of Hon. Kasaija, Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. 23 students have been so far dispatched under ABE Initiative Program since 2015.

AUGUST 22: STATIONARY GOODS DONATED TO ST. MAURITZ OBIYA PRIMARY

Shoin Gakuen Girls Secondary School, established in 1917 and located in Osaka prefecture, donated stationary to Obiya Primary school in Gulu. The stationary was collected by the student council of the school for the purpose to deepening understanding of and friendship with Uganda.



AUGUST 22 & 23: EDUCATION FACILITIES HANDED OVER



Mr. Kanno, Head of Political Affairs of Embassy of Japan has handed over education facilities to schools in Gulu and Adjumani District. At St. Mauritz Obiya primary school, a girls' dormitory with 100 double decker beds was handed over in the presence of LC5 and mayor of Gulu municipality. At Bezza Al-Hijji Senior Secondary School, a science laboratory block with furniture was handed over in the presence of the first deputy prime minister Hon. Moses Ali.

AUG UST 21—24: DELEGATION FROM IZUMISANO CITY VISITED UGANDA

Delegation from Izumisano City, including the superintendent of Education of the city, had a meeting with Worship Mayor of Gulu Municipality, George Labeja, and his office staff to discuss the exchange program between the two friendship cities. As a host city of the Uganda national team for the Tokyo Olympics/Paralympics 2020, the delegation shared ideas with the officials of the Ministry of Education and Sports, National Council of Sport and the Uganda Olympic Committee.



UPCOMING EVENTS

今後の行事予定

NAKAWA TRAINING INSTITUTE TO CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

In September (date to be confirmed), Nakawa Vocational Training Institute (NVTI) is planning to celebrate 50 years of collaboration between JICA and NVTI, which was established in 1968. NVTI is also to recognize to start diploma programs in electricity and automobile engineering this year.

TATESHINA TOWN OFFICIAL TO VISIT UGANDA

Delegation from Tateshina town will visit Uganda from 28th September to 5th October. They will meet with government officials of Ministry of Education and Sports to discuss cooperation in Tokyo Olympics/ Paralympics 2020. Tateshina town will host the Uganda national team.



The Ground breaking Ceremony held for the Automobile Workshop at Nakawa VTI

The ground breaking ceremony for the Automobile workshop took place at Nakawa VTI (Nakawa Vocational Training Institute) on the 6th of August, 2018. The automobile maintenance workshop is for the new diploma course provided under the TVET-LEAD project, which is a Technical Cooperation project that started in 2015 and will end in 2020. The Project is being implemented under the collaboration between JICA and Nakawa VTI. The TVET-LEAD project is one of the many projects that Government of Japan has supported in Uganda through Nakawa VTI.

In attendance were officials from JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), KK Partnership Architects (the consultants of the construction works), Cementers Uganda Ltd (the contractor) and Nakawa VTI. It was officiated over by Mr. Yutaka Fukase the Chief Representative of JICA.

Though the diploma course has started in August, the construction is expected to be complete within 8 months ready to be utilised by the diploma course students. It was indeed a great milestone since the institute is now ready to take on the diploma courses. On completion, the trainees will benefit from this project and acquire relevant skills and in turn contribute to the economic growth and development of Uganda.



National Agriculture and Trade show at the Source of the Nile-Jinja

JICA participated in the 26th National Agricultural and Trade Show in Jinja that took place from 13th - 22nd July 2018. The 15 JICA Volunteers working in the agriculture sector, with support from JICA Agriculture Experts, disseminated information on better rice cultivation techniques to increase productivity and to enhance rice quality.

JICA has been supporting the agriculture development in Uganda by implementing the Technical Assistance Project (PRIDE) and through the dispatch of Experts to MAAIF as well as JICA Volunteers to District Local Governments.



Hello, everyone!

This is Mariko IMAMURA from JICA Uganda office. I arrived here in the middle of July as successor of Ms. Takayama.

I am very glad and excited to have an opportunity to work in the country described by Sir Winston Churchill, a former British Prime Minister as the "Pearl of Africa". My husband started working in Ashinaga Uganda from June, 2016, so this time my younger daughter came with me, and started life in Kampala all together.



JICA'S NEWS ROOM

Commissioning of the Queensway 132/33 KV substation



Following completion of its construction in 2017, the Queensway 132/33 KV substation was commissioned on Friday, 17th August, 2018 by the Vice President of Uganda; H.E Edward Ssekandi at a colourful occasion attended by Ministers of Energy and Mineral Development, that of Kampala and Metropolitan Affairs, dignitaries from Embassy of Japan, JICA, UETCL, the Private Sector and general public.

At a cost of approximately shillings 80 billion, the upgraded station will provide transmission infrastructure that will meet the medium and long term load requirements of Kampala and its surroundings and will discharge to the substations of Mutundwe and Lugogo of acute capacity constraints. Previously, Kampala Business Central Area was being supplied with power from the old distribution substation constructed and funded by the Government of Japan in 1991.

The grant is a token of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and is fitted with the latest state of Japanese technology.



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Hello, everyone! OJT

I'm Keita Harada. I came to Uganda on 31st July as the JICA OJT staff member. This is my first time visit to Uganda. The most interesting finding in Uganda is the meat (Muchomo, Porkjoint) which is much more delicious than meat eaten in Japan. After wondering why meat in Uganda is delicious for a while, I realized usually Ugandan people grill the meat with charcoal. In Japan, we cook meat with gas but rarely eat meat cooked with charcoal. New things surprise me every day in Uganda So I will keep you updated every month! See you next time~!!



Joint Coordination Committee Meeting and Mid Term Review presentation.

On the 27th July 2018, JICA conducted the 3rd Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) Meeting for the Project for Capacity Development of Local Government for Strengthening Community Resilience in Acholi and West Nile Sub-Regions (WA-CAP). The JCC is an annual event organized by the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) under the chairmanship of the Project Director (Permanent Secretary MoLG).

It was attended by all the CAOs of the project districts (17), Representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister, from the Embassy of Japan, from the National Planning Authority, WACAP project staff, Representatives from JICA Headquarters and JICA Uganda office.

The focus for this year's JCC was the result of the Mid-Term review for the project. Some of the important extracts and information from the JCC include the following:

- *The People be able to shape their own destiny and this can only be done through engaging them in the planning process.
- *The People must be able to own the projects which are meant to support them through their own initiative.

Priorities should be chosen by the people. The Permanent Secretary MoLG appreciated JICA's approach to supporting Uganda adding that he wanted all donors to emulate the JICA model of improving work environment and building of government capacity.

The Mid Term review also revealed some positive aspects of the project which included appreciation of the community development model which included an example of groups which have supported vulnerable people in Amuru be-



JAPANESE BUSINESS SCENE IN UGANDA

MITSUI & CO. EUROPE PLC

COMPANY PROFILE NO. 10

MITSUI & CO. is one of major Japanese Trading and Investment Houses (in Japanese language "SOGO-SHOSHA"), has supported economic growth of Japan for years through its history of longer than 70 years. Our area of business is diversified from Energy, Metals, Machinery and Infrastructure, Chemicals and, Lifestyle to IT & Communication and Innovation, where we conduct and look for new business opportunities in trading and investment. We seek for value creation, i.e. solutions and services for partners and customers in every country and region through Marketing, Business development, Project management, Logistics, Finance, Risk management and Digital transformation. The number of Employees are more than 42,000 (consolidated basis) who are working in 66 countries/regions in the world, to achieve our Mission "Strive to contribute to the creation of a future where the aspirations of the people can be fulfilled" with Vision "Aim to be a global business enabler that can meet the needs of our customers throughout the world."

In East Africa, MITSUI has a branch office in Nairobi, Kenya, with a small number of staff, who take care of business in eleven countries in the region, including Uganda. In Uganda, we have trading business in Steel products and Chemicals as materials to support industry, seeking expansion into food/agriculture trading. In addition, MITSUI has some business with our investment in the country, such as CSquared or M-KOPA Solar.

CSquared is a joint venture among Google, IFC, Convergence Partners (PE in South Africa) and MITSUI, conducting wholesaling High-quality broadband internet fibre network in metro cities in Africa. In Uganda, CSquared is expanding its business in Kampala.

M-KOPA Solar is SHS (Solar Home System) provider, who contributes to electrification in rural areas in Uganda and in Kenya.

We, MITSUI, as a Japanese private company, will keep on seeking business opportunity to contribute to improvement of living standard for the people in Uganda and in this region.



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