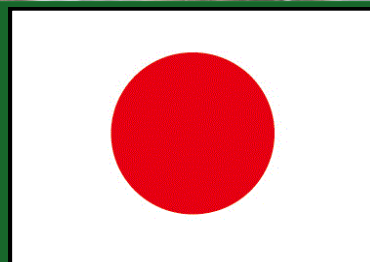




DECEMBER 2018 (Vol. 15)

VOICE OF JAPAN

From KAMPALA



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Embassy of Japan in Uganda

Plot 8 Kyadondo Road, P.O.Box 23553, Kampala, Uganda

Tel: +256 312 261 564 / 5 / 6

Email: voicejembassy@kp.mofa.go.jp

www.ug.emb-japan.go.jp

MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR KAMEDA

Dear readers, H. E. President Museveni commissioned the Source of the Nile Bridge last October, two months later he presided over the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Flyover Project, another milestone infrastructure project. I highly appreciate the attendance by the President of these events as a clear sign of his recognition of their critical importance in the development of the country. Lastly I am sending you my best regards by wishing all of you a successful and fruitful New Year!

EVENTS IN DECEMBER

EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION, 6 DEC. 2018

Japanese Embassy held Emperor's Birthday Reception on 6th December to celebrate the 85th birthday of His Majesty Emperor Akihito of Japan.

Many guests including Rt. Hon. Kirunda Kivejinja, 2nd Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Sam Kutesa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, other Ministers, government officials, business, diplomatic and cultural persons attended the Reception

to celebrate the occasion. Japanese and Ugandan national anthem were beautifully demonstrated by Ashinaga Uganda Children choir group along with music played by African Music School band. Many guests have enjoyed the beautiful songs as well as Japanese food and drinks.



AMBASSADOR CONGRATULATE ASHINAGA RAINBOWHOUSE ANNUAL FESTIVAL, 8 DEC. 2018

Ambassador Kameda attended a Annual Ashinaga Uganda Rainbow house Festival held on 8th December as guest of honour and gave a speech to participants of the festival. Many children, parents, and LC1 chairman of the local communities attended the festival. Ashinagawa Uganda children played beautiful music and performed Japanese and Ugandan dances to entertain the guests. At the festival many games and foods were prepared and offered by Ashinaga Uganda and local NGOs which were enjoyed by the community people.

UGANDA SPORTS ADMINISTRATOR VISIT JAPAN TO PREPARE FOR TOKYO OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES 2020, 10-15 DEC. 2018

The Ugandan delegation of Ministry of Education & Sports, Uganda Olympic Committee and the Embassy of Uganda in Japan visited 2 host towns, Tateshina town in Nagano and Izumisano city in Osaka. They visited athletic stadium in Tateshina together with Mayor of Tateshina, Mr. Masato Yonemura.

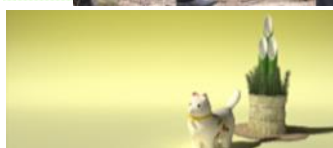


In Izumisano, they made a courtesy call on Mr. Hiroyasu Chiyomatsu, Mayor of Izumisano, and observed their sports facilities. They also visited Kokugakuin University in Tokyo. The two Japanese municipalities are designated "Host Towns" to host Ugandan athletes in preparation for Tokyo Olympic & Paralympic Games 2020.



KAMPALA FLYOVER, 19 DEC. 2018

On 19th December, Kampala Flyover ground breaking ceremony was held in Nakivubo Blue Primary School. This event was attended by the President, H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, Rt. Hon. Justine Lumumba, Hon. Ministers, Ambassador Kameda, JICA Senior Representative, government officials and UNRA representatives among others. The project amounting to approximately 180 million USD will be funded by JICA. This project will construct flyovers at major junctions including Clock Tower and Kitgume House aiming at improving smoothness of transportation and stimulating Uganda's economy. Its construction work will be handled by Shimizu-Konoike joint venture, a joint group of two skilled and experienced Japanese companies. This flyover is expected to dramatically enhance urban traffic in Kampala and will be an important milestone for infrastructure development in Uganda.



COMING UP IN JANUARY

FOUR NEW GGP PROJECTS TO BE SIGNED

Ambassador Kameda will sign four (4) grant contracts on 9th January at the Embassy of Japan, for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP), totaling over 1.4 billion Uganda shillings (US\$ 404,076) with the representatives of the recipient organizations. The new projects will be implemented in Serere, Arua, Kamuli, and Gulu district.

Our commitments in Uganda have successfully improved millions of people's lives through the construction of boreholes, class rooms, boys' and girls' dormitories, maternity wards and infectious disease wards, and the procurement of ambulances, school buses and trucks. With the four new projects signed, the number of projects implemented in Uganda through GGP will reach 239.

JAPANESE NGO TO BE SIGNED A GRANT CONTRACT

Ambassador Kameda will sign a grant contract with Community Road Empowerment (CORE) for a project entitled, "Community Access Road Repair using Do-nou technology (wrapping soil in a gunny bag) through utilization of locally available materials and participatory approach by the youth (Phase 1)" on 24th January. The grant amount of 187,625 USD (approx. 700 million UGX) will be provided by the Government of Japan for the project.

The project aims to improve current conditions of community access roads through transferring the practical road maintenance methods of Do-nou technology and empower the youth groups in Central Kampala and multipurpose cooperative members in Wakiso District.



JICA'S NEWSROOM

DECEMBER 2018

AWARD CEREMONY FOR THE CHILDRENS' ART CONTEST:

On Thursday, 22nd November, 2018, all roads led to the Source of the Nile Bridge to witness the award ceremony for the children's art contest; which was a part of the festivities to celebrate the landmark bridge that was commissioned on the 17th October 2018 by H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda and the Japanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The concept for this competition was hinged on shaping minds of the young people into thinking of how to solve issues affecting their society as one way of guaranteeing sustainable development.

Through this contest, the primary school pupils brought to life their own models of a bridge and how they thought this could make Uganda a better place.

With support from the JICA volunteers engaged in the field of education, school age-going pupils were introduced to the topic of bridge engineering and later on provided with scholastic materials to paint their ideas. The contest that attracted 129 children from three schools in Luwero, Mpigi and Jinja, had four pupils that emerged as winners. Their art pieces will forever be displayed within the exhibition room at the Source of the Nile Bridge road side station (Michino-eki).

The colorful ceremony organized by JICA and UNRA was graced by the State Minister of Works and Transport – Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala, Ambassador of Japan to Uganda - H.E Kameda Kazuaki, UNRA Executive Director – Ms. Allen Kagina and the Chief Representative of JICA Uganda – Mr. Fukase Yutaka.



Ms. Sayaka MARUOKA, Volunteer Teacher at Kabira Umea Primary School (Mpigi)

It was such an opportunity to join the drawing competition for the new bridge on the River Nile. Pupils were very eager to use many tools and materials we got to express their imaginary bridge while working. A boy awarded by JICA enjoyed touring the bridge. We hope this experience encourages him to put effort to everything so as to come back to the place again.

Mr. Yuji TAKAHASHI, Volunteer Teacher at Musiima Primary School (Jinja)

It was a good opportunity for children to draw paintings not only for the contest but also as a lesson. Two children from Musiima P/S were awarded, which gave them a feeling that if they make an effort they would always be winners.



Ms. Motoyo KUROYA, Volunteer Teacher at Ndejje Junior School (Luwero)

It was a good opportunity for my pupils to experience artistic activity. Through this activity, I wanted pupils to enjoy expressing their ideas. All of them looked happy and their faces filled with satisfaction after drawing. Art grows emotions.



FAREWELL:



I arrived in Uganda on 15th November 2018 to work for JICA Volunteer Program.

This is the second time for me since August 2013.

'Is there any changes?' YES, Of COURSE!

Bodaboda drivers are wearing helmet!

Traffic lights are everywhere and all working!

There are many new buildings and amazing 'the Source of Nile Bridge' is built!

Nevertheless I would like to mention too, the beauty of Uganda, namely its green nature and kind people are still here.

I wish I can come back again hopefully after 5 years. **Ryuko Yonemura**
(JOCV Coordinator)

The 6th JCC Meeting for the Project for Operation and Maintenance for Rural Water Supply and Improved Hygiene and Sanitation

As part of the project, JICA and Ministry of water and environment (MWE) came together to implement operation and maintenance of water supply facilities, improving hygiene and sanitation conditions in rural areas. Following the activities that took place from the 28th – 29th November 2018 in Mubende district, the project management team organized the 6th Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting to acknowledge the consistency of water supply across all the regions that registered achievement of the district direct management systems (DDMS Model). Field visits to the different sources of water supply in sub counties which had similar characteristics were made.

Present were a team from JICA Headquarters, representatives from JICA Uganda office, MWE, JICA Project team Experts and District Local Governments.

Hello from Kochi prefecture Japan

On the 3rd November, 2018 a team of 9 District Community Development officers (DCDOs) from the Districts of West Nile Sub Region left for Japan on a 2 weeks program on Capacity Development of Developmental Community Welfare for DCDOs under the Project for Strengthening Community Resilience in Acholi and West Nile Sub Regions (WA – CAP).

The aim of the program was for the team to draw lessons from the Japanese model, practice and experience so as to replicate back home what is applicable. One of the highlighted subjects is an integrated approach for community development and social welfare called "Developmental Community Welfare" a process whereby community members "develop" their own social safety nets and mutual support mechanisms: it also refers to approaches taken by development practitioners and social workers to facilitate such a process. The team was given lectures on this approach as basis for the entire training.

Another quite interesting Japanese practice is "Community-based Support Planner" (CbSP). They are district government staff dispatched to municipalities for years in order to support community by understanding the realities local communities face and to connect administrative departments at the district government horizontally, not bound by a specific sector, in order to address the issues of communities effectively. The role of the CbSP is very close to that of DCDO. Having learned how the CbSP is serving to the community in person, participants' department will take actions for strengthening the capacity of DCDOs in facilitation and communication skills and relevant policies for better facilitation towards community and smoother coordination with other technical areas.

During the learning visit, the team interacted with a wide range of people including Professors, Prefectural Government staff, Social Welfare Council members, Senior Citizens Club, Persons with Disabilities working in a Bakery, and JICA staff among others both in lecture rooms and outside in the field/community. The team learnt a number of things, besides above described, including very interactive process and procedure of identifying community needs, positive community attitude towards their own welfare and development without expecting anything from their facilitators, the spirit of voluntarism, people's ownership of their own health by planning and participating in routine exercise sessions, involvement of school children in their community welfare from childhood and big concern for sustainable use of natural resources, the Japanese "punctuality" culture, among others.

Following the conclusion of the training, participants have prepared to implement some of the activities they observed in Japan in Uganda such as strengthening the women's groups in Ugandan community as well as improving and finding ways to involve community people in their own development plans and activities. Participants admire the idea of involving older persons and children in development activities which shall be replicated in participants' community as well.

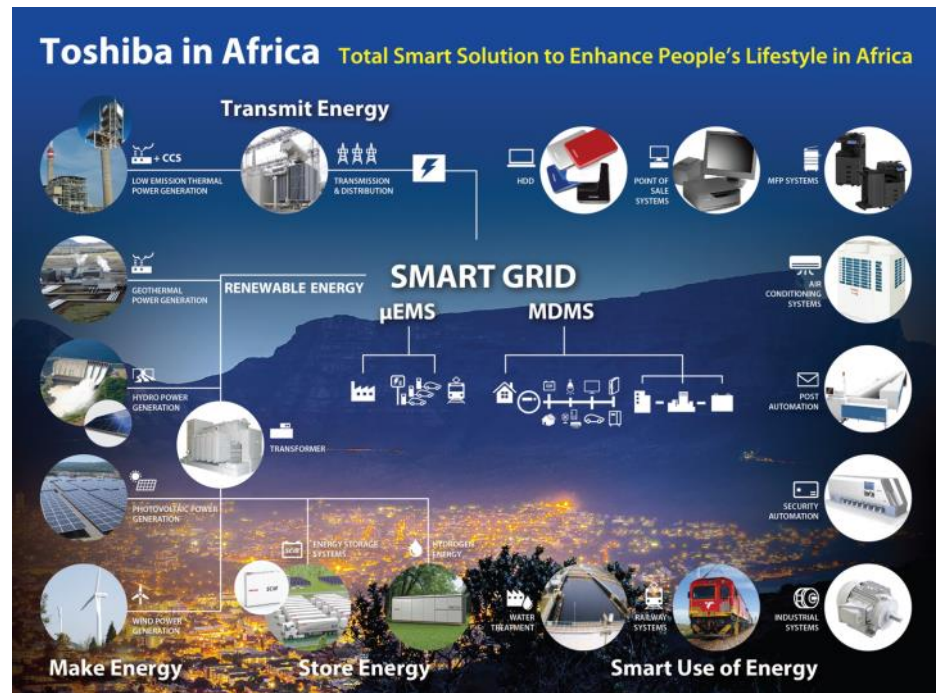


JAPANESE BUSINESS SCENE IN UGANDA

COMPANY PROFILE No. 14
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