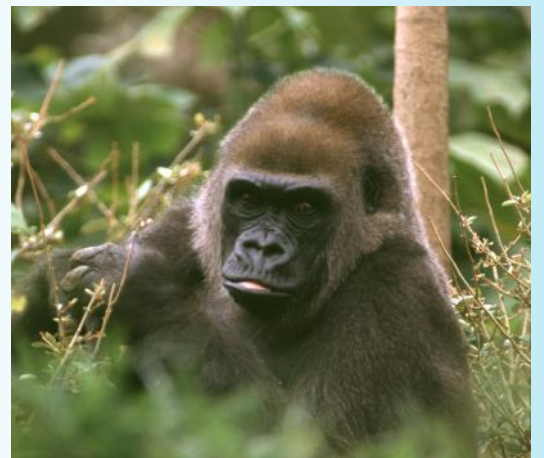
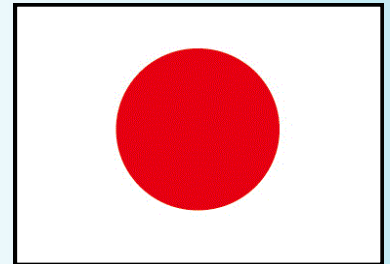




MAY 2019 (Vol. 20)

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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There are 90 days left to TICAD 7 to be held in Yokohama, Japan. TICAD stands for Tokyo International Conference on African Development, a pioneer international forum focusing on the African Development, initiated by Japan in 1993. TICAD 7 means the 7th TICAD Conference at the Head of State level. Voice of Japan from Kampala begins to run a series of articles on TICAD from this May issue. I hope these articles will deepen your understanding about Japan's most important foreign policy agenda towards Africa.



EVENTS IN MAY

5月の行事

MAY 1 : ACCESSION OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR NARUHITO TO THE THRONE

On May 1, Emperor Naruhito received the sacred imperial regalia that represents his rightful succession to the Throne at the Imperial Palace, a day after the abdication of his father Akihito, now referred to as the Emperor Emeritus.

More than 140,000 people gathered to greet the Emperor and the Empress Masako on their public greeting on May 4 at the Imperial Palace.

For celebrating the Emperor's Accession to the Throne, more than 60 people visited the Embassy of Japan to sign the commemorative guest book.



MAY 20 : AMBASSADOR VISITED TATESHINA TOWN, NAGANO.



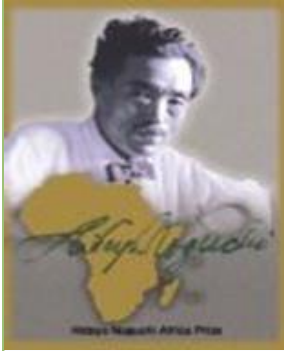
Ambassador Kameda visited Tateshina town in Nagano, which will host Ugandan mid-long distance runners for Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic games 2020. Ambassador had a meeting with Mr. Masayoshi Morozumi, Town Mayor and visited sports facilities like cross-country course and Megamiko multi-purpose playground. He also visited Dormitory of Koku-gakuin University, which will be an accommodation for Ugandan athletes.

MAY 15-17 : GGP HANDOVER CEREMONY

Mr. Mizumoto Horii, Charge d'Affaires ad interim, officiated the commissioning of 3 GGP projects in Soroti, Kaberamaido, and Katakwi districts. A total grant of 235,716 USD (approx: 860 million UGX) was provided for these projects.

The grant was used for construction of a science laboratory block at Katine secondary school in Soroti district, the construction of classroom blocks at Odongai primary school in Kaberamaido district, and the construction of a general ward at St. Kevin Toroma Health Centre III in Katakwi district.





**THE THIRD HIDEYO NOGUCHI AFRICA PRIZE AWARDED
DR.FRANCIS GERVASE OMASWA**

The Government of Japan has decided to award the Third Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize to Dr. Francis Gervase Omaswa, Executive Director of African Center for Global Health and Social Transformation, in Medical Services category for his dedication to addressing the global health workforce (HWF) crisis including education, training, retention and migration of healthcare workers and for building pro-people health and medical systems not only across Africa, but worldwide.



In 2013, Dr. Alex Godwin Coutinho, an Ugandan global health leader also received the Prize for his pioneering efforts to expand access to life-sparing medicine for people infected with HIV.

TICAD 7 (1)

TICAD stands for Tokyo International Conference on African Development. The Government of Japan has been leading this conference since 1993, co-hosted by United Nations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank and African Union Commission (AUC). When the Cold War ended, developed countries' interest in providing assistance to Africa began to wane. Under such circumstances, it was Japan that argued for the importance of Africa, and TICAD was the proof of Japan taking action. Nowadays, there are various fora through which many countries engage themselves with Africa, but TICAD launched by Japan was the forerunner of such fora for African development. Over the course of more than 25 years since TICAD I in 1993, the forum has a track record of improving social and economic conditions mainly through development assistance tools and of boosting trade and investment in Africa. The next TICAD7 will be held on 28th - 30th August, 2019 in Yokohama city, Japan. The series of articles about TICAD will be delivered over the forthcoming months.



28 -29, JUNE : G20 OSAKA SUMMIT

Following the successful completion of the G20 Buenos Aires Summit on December 1, 2018, Japan has finally assumed the G20 presidency for the very first time. Japan will host the G20 Osaka Summit on June 28 and 29, 2019. This will be the largest summit meeting that Japan has ever hosted. Osaka, historically prospered as a commercial hub and its unique tradition and culture including food culture, has recently gained much reputation home and abroad. Moreover, Osaka has thrived as a merchant city and has constantly sought to take in new ideas. Osaka is also chosen to host the Osaka-Kansai Expo in 2025. There will be many delegations and journalists from all over the world who will be visiting Japan on the occasion of the Osaka Summit and related Ministerial meetings. Japan will take this as an opportunity to exhibit its "Omotenashi" spirit (hospitality) and introduce the unique aspects and attractiveness of the country and the host cities to the world.



THE 11th JOINT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS – WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



The theme for the 11th Joint Technical Review (JTR) (Water and Environment sector) was **“Bridging the gap between increasing service demand and the existing sector financing”** and the overall aim was; **“Assess the progress made with regards to implementation of the key actions and undertakings which were agreed during the 2018 JSR as well as recommend actions arising from the field visits.”**

The meeting was chaired by the **Permanent Secretary MoWE, Mr Alfred Okot Okidi**, who described the current state of Water with a concern on the declining functionality levels of the existing water facilities that need support in terms of service delivery and governance. He further noted that environment and natural resources degradation has intensified due to human activities and rapid economic development, which calls for deliberate efforts to address them. The sector has registered a number of positive developments in the recent years and the JTR has provided a unique opportunity for Government, DPs, NGOs, Private sector and other key stakeholders to engage in a consultative process enabling the sector to come up with solutions to existing sector challenges. At the closure of the 11th JTR, all parties agreed to continue expedite implementation of the 2018 JSR undertakings.



VOLUNTEER SECTOR:

The Baseball Africa Cup Qualifier opened in Johannesburg, South Africa from 1st to 5th May 2019. Six National teams of Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, South Africa and Zimbabwe took the challenge to get the African championship.

The Uganda Baseball National team lost to South African team in the final game but keep their spirits high as they await future opportunities. JICA Volunteer Mr. TANAKA, the National Team coach said that the team has potential and some day they will become the African Champion.



TRAINING IN JAPAN;

My name is Diana Mbuga, a chemistry teacher at Bishop S.S.S, Mukono. I attended a training on Strengthening of Local Education for SMASE in Sub-Saharan Africa which was conducted in Sapporo city in Japan between January-February 2019 and sponsored by the Japanese Government through JICA. It was such a good experience for me. There were many lessons learnt from the training but most of all was the priority given to teacher preparation and in-service trainings, to an extent that there are legal implications accorded to them hence attendance being an obligation and duty of the teacher. Also great to note is that teaching is a high-profile profession and teachers are highly respected and most paid public servants in Japan. My prayer is that if Uganda could borrow a leaf from the Japan Education System, we would have better innovative and highly skilled citizens in future ...it is not yet too late we can do something.



THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW MEETING (PRM) AT MBARARA REGIONAL REFERRAL HOSPITAL



On 3rd May 2019, Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital (RRH) hosted the performance review meeting on medical equipment maintenance, one of the pillars of the Project titled, "The improvement of quality health care through health infrastructure management". This project is funded by JICA together with the Ministry of Health and is implemented in all the Regional Referral Hospitals (RRH).

The project has 3 pillars:

- ◆ 5S (sort, set, shine, standardize and sustain) approach, CQI (Continuous Quality Improvement) and TQM (Total Quality Management)
- ◆ Medical equipment maintenance to strengthen repair and maintenance capacity of medical equipment
- ◆ User Training to ensure appropriate utilization of medical equipment

Each component has its own counterpart. For medical equipment, the counterpart is the Health Infrastructure department. The meeting was attended by directors and hospital administrators from RRH's. In this meeting all workshops' regional managers were fully represented and each manager made a presentation regarding their activities for Quarter 3 and planned activities for Quarter 4 together with the budget. A number of resolutions made among others is continued capacity building for the workshop managers through allocating funds for training, and having equipment disposal plans for obsolete equipment. In the same meeting, awards were given to hospitals which recorded excellent achievement. Fort Portal Hospital scooped this award, while Lira was the second and Jinja took the award for being the RRH that improved most from last year to this year. The awards are a result of an assessment conducted on these RHHs' workshops by the Health Infrastructure department within the Ministry of Health.



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM HANADA HIROYUKI - Expert (PRiDe 11)

This is the third time for me to stay in Uganda. On my last stay, I was Project Coordinator of Promotion of Rice Development (PRiDe) Project Phase I; however, my new role in PRiDe Project Phase II includes extension of activities. Since the period of the last stay in Uganda was just one year and four months, I was not able to do all what I wanted. I have three things that I want to try during this two-year-stay; first, horseback riding. I really enjoyed it in Jinja in 2016. I want to improve the horseback riding skill. Second of all, studying French. I will continue working in the international field in the future. In order to do that, multiple language skills are required. Lastly, car driving. I hope to get a chance to go around Kampala driving at any time. TICAD 7 will be held at the end of August this year. The conference plans to hold a side event of Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD). CARD Phase I achieved two-fold increase of rice production in Sub Sahara Africa between 2008 and 2018. CARD Phase II aims at further twofold increase of rice production in the same region between 2019 and 2030. PRiDe Project I contributed to increase of more than 50,000 metric tons of rice production in Uganda. PRiDe Project II has goals to increase both production and productivity. I strongly believe that PRiDe Project can contribute to CARD goals through not only increase of rice production and productivity, but also human resource development in research and extension.

TERRA RENAISSANCE

GENERAL INFORMATION

Terra Renaissance is an International NGO established in Japan in 2001 and has been working in Uganda, DR Congo, Burundi, Cambodia, Laos and Japan by focusing on the issues of Child soldiers, Small arms, Landmines and Peace education.

REINTEGRATION OF FORMER CHILD SOLDIERS

Terra Renaissance Uganda has been working on promoting the Reintegration of Formerly Abducted Persons and War Affected Persons in Northern Uganda by operating a Vocational training center in Gulu since 2005.

Through our four different project activities of Capacity Building, Basic Human Needs Support, Psycho-social Support and Business Support, we are supporting their Self-reliance.

We have trained and equipped over 300 change agents (trainees) with the skills of Carpentry & Joinery, Tailoring & Dress Designing etc. to go forth as powerful agents for change in their various communities.



SELF-RELIANCE SUPPORT TO SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEES

After influx of South Sudan refugees in Northern Uganda, Terra Renaissance started Self-reliance support to the vulnerable persons in a refugee settlement and host community with the support of the Embassy of Japan. Through the vocational training and Business set up support of four courses*, 40 trainees have got the skills and started their businesses and 65 trainees undergo our trainings in Adjumani. (*Tailoring & Dress designing/ Knitting & Weaving/ Carpentry & Joinery/ Brick laying & Concrete Practice)



Through our projects in Uganda we always feel potentials and resilience of every person even if she/he experienced difficulties because of wars and other challenges.

