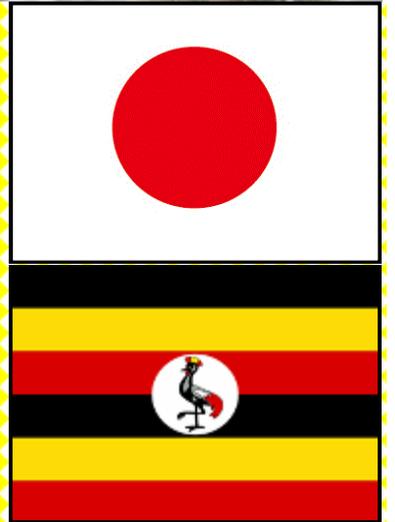




AUGUST 2019 (Vol. 23)

# 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

TICAD 7 will have been successfully ended by the time of the issue of this Email Magazine. I am extremely happy that the high-powered Ugandan delegation with the President as the Head took part in TICAD Plenary Sessions as well as various side-events. In addition, I am also encouraged by not a small number of business people from Uganda gathered at Yokohama, Japan, believing that their productive interaction took place with Japanese counterparts.



## EVENTS IN AUGUST

## 8月のイベント

### AUGUST 5-9 : DELEGATION FROM IZUMISANO CITY VISITED UGANDA



Delegates from the City of Izumisano in Japan comprising the Policy Director & General Manager; Civic Collaboration Department, Associate Director of Host Town Project and the Coordinator for International Relations (Uganda) visited Uganda from the 5 to 9 August 2019. During the period they engaged in several activities with the aid of Mr. Kenichi Shiiya, the Izumisano City Coordinator in charge of Host Town activities.

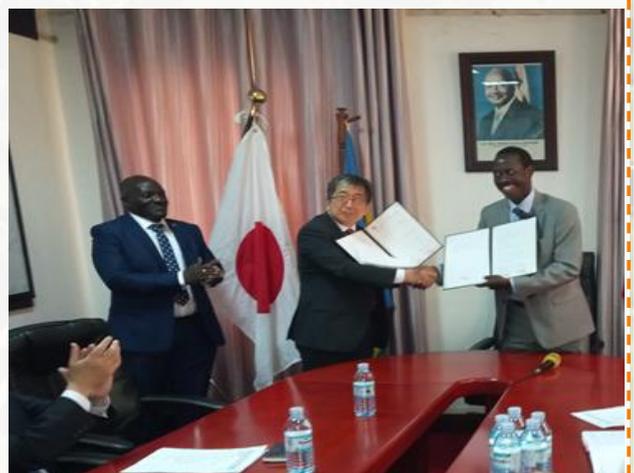
The three-member delegation led by Mr. Yoshimura Akihiko met with relevant Ugandan organization such as Ministry of Education and Sports, Uganda Olympic Committee, Paralympics Committee, National Council of Sports, Gulu Municipal Council, JICA and Uganda Tourism Board in the bid to better align the roles and course of action in respect to the Izumisano-Gulu Twinning Agreement and the position of Izumisano City as the Host Town of Ugandan athletes and officials during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

### AUGUST 8: CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TRAINING CENTRE SIGNED

On 8 August 2019, Ambassador Kameda and Mr. Bruno Otto Tokwiny, UNIDO Country Representative signed and exchanged notes for establishing a training center for construction equipment operators in Luwero at the Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT). The ceremony was attended by, among others, Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala, Minister of State for Works .

The project will be financially supported by the Government of Japan and implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), with technical support from a Japanese company, Komatsu Ltd.

Within the next three years, the training center for construction equipment operators in Luwero aims to empower and train 50 MoWT construction equipment instructors; 360 MoWT and District Local Government construction equipment operators; and 80 young Ugandans seeking employment in the industry.



## AUGUST 13: AMBULANCE HANDED OVER IN MASAKA

Ambassador Kameda commissioned and handed over a well-equipped ambulance which had been donated to St. Joseph Hospital Kitovu in Masaka District. Kitovu Hospital is a private not-for-profit hospital with 256 bed capacity and provides medical services to over 160,000 people from 8 districts including Masaka. This project procured a reconditioned ambulance and installed a set of medical equipment in order to provide safer medical services to at least 720 people annually in the area.



## AUGUST 14: HEALTHCARE AND WELLNESS COOPERATION SIGNED



Hon. Minister of Health Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with Ambassador of Japan to Uganda H.E. Kazuaki Kameda on behalf of the Office of Healthcare Policy, the Cabinet Secretariat of Japan and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan. The MOC is aimed at promoting cooperation in the field of healthcare and wellness in Uganda. This MOC focuses on creating a vibrant and healthy society for long and productive lives by strengthening the necessary medical services, healthcare services and services that support healthy lives, using a business-based approach.

## AUGUST 26: JAPAN SUPPORTS UPDF THROUGH THE UN TPP-RDEC PROJECT

On 26 August, Ambassador Kameda together with Military Advisor of Uganda's Permanent Mission to UN in New York, Maj. General Silver Kayemba, who represented Uganda's Minister of Defence, and UN Under Secretary, Department of Operational Support Mr. Atul Khore from New York, who spoke through video conferencing, officiated at the opening ceremony of the heavy engineering equipment operator course in Jinja under the UN Triangular Partnership Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities (TPP-RDEC). 22 personnel from Japan Ground Self-Defense Force will instruct engineering personnel from UPDF in the operation of heavy equipment for 3 months. Japan, as one of the supporting member states of TPP-RDEC, has been providing 70 million US dollars to the UN for the training and procurement of heavy equipment and dispatching around 192 personnel since 2015.



## AUGUST 28—30: TICAD 7 IN YOKOHAMA

TICAD 7 was held in Yokohama between August 28 and 30 and all the Plenary Sessions successfully came to an end.

At the Closing Session, Yokohama Declaration 2019 and Yokohama Action Plan 2019 were adopted as the TICAD 7 outcome documents.

Moreover, many meetings and side events were also held. Prime Minister Abe himself conducted talks with nearly 40 African Leaders and heads of major international organizations, including H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.



The details will be followed in the next issue.



## JICA'S NEWS ROOM

### GRANT AID SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE PROJECT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF TRAFFIC CONTROL IN KAMPALA CITY

Following the signing of the grant for the detailed design of the Project for the Improvement of Traffic Control in Kampala City in February; on 16 August, 2019, JICA signed the Grant Agreement of up to 2.548 billion Yen (approximately USD 24m) for implementation of the project.

The objective of the project is to ensure smooth traffic flow in Kampala, through the construction of the Traffic Control Center with related equipment, and the improvement and signalization of 30 junctions. Ultimately, this will uplift the standard of living and the sustainable development of the Kampala metropolitan area and Uganda's economic growth.

Signing ceremony was attended by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development – Hon. Matia Kasaija in presence of the Ambassador of Japan to Uganda – H.E. Kameda, Chief Representative of JICA – Mr. Fukase Yutaka and Acting Executive Director of Kampala City Council Authority- Eng. Andrew Kitaka among others.



### THE COMMISSIONING OF THE GRANT AID PROJECT FOR RURAL WATER SUPPLY IN LAKE KYOGA BASIN, EASTERN REGION OF UGANDA ON 22<sup>nd</sup> AUG, 2019 IN KASASIRA TOWN COUNCIL, KIBUKU DISTRICT

On Thursday 22 August, 2019, the Government of Japan through JICA and the Ministry of Water and Environment commissioned the Grant Aid Project; “Project for Rural Water Supply on Lake Kyoga Basin”. The Project will benefit more than 24,000 people in nine Rural Growth Centers of Nambale, Naigobya, Kyanvuma, Lambala, Buseta, Kasasira, Kapala, Kameke and Kidetok, in the districts of Iganga, Luuka, Kibuku, Pallisa and Serere.

At the handover ceremony in Kibuku district, the Ambassador of Japan to Uganda, H.E. Kazuaki Kameda, appreciated the co-operation exhibited by the Ugandan counterpart and the Project team who managed to successfully complete the Project ahead of schedule. He also mentioned that he would like to consider how best the Government of Japan would be able to support Uganda’s effort to improve its water sector. The Chief Representative JICA Uganda office, Mr. Yutaka Fukase, added that the new water system will ensure efficient and regular water supply for all communities, and emphasized the necessity for the Ministry of Water and Environment to support the communities to maintain the infrastructure.



The Minister for Water and Environment, Hon. Sam Chepkoris, urged the residents to ensure that the water system will be properly maintained. He also commended the generosity of the Japanese Government and People.



## JICA'S NEWS ROOM

### REFRESHER TRAINING FOR HEALTH WORKERS ON INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR EBOLA RESPONSE



On 19 August 2019, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in partnership with Ministry of Health (MoH) conducted a one-day refresher training for health workers in 23 Ebola high-risk districts bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and four regional Referral Hospitals.

The Districts in participation include; Koboko, Maracha, Arua, Zombo, Nebbi, Pakwach, Buliisa, Kikuube, Kagadi, Hoima, Kyegegwa, Kyenjojo, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo, Kasese, Rubirizi, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Kabale, and Kisoro, while the Regional

Referral Hospitals are; Arua, Hoima, Fort Portal, and Kabale.

This refresher training intended to enhance the capacity and ability of health workers to cope with any likely Ebola cases while adhering to safety measures to handle such cases in the country.

One of the participants said, "The training has refreshed my mind and enhanced my capacity on how to handle such cases. Therefore, I want to encourage the organisers to train more of the front-line officers like the nurses and doctors who are directly involved in handling such cases". In addition, even one of the organisers in the MoH mentioned "This is an opportunity for me to refresh my knowledge and experience".

On the same day, JICA provided hand sanitizers produced by SARAYA to health facilities located along the Uganda – DRC boarder. In addition, JICA donated one Nissan Patrol vehicle to be used by the case management team - National Task Force on Ebola of MoH.

### VOLUNTEERS

On 30 July 2019, we received a team of young energetic Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers who will be stationed in their respective assignment places sharing and learning while working for the next two years.

Kabira Umea Primary School where one of the JOCVs is stationed received special gifts from Japanese Professional Football Team, Hokkaido Consadole Sapporo through JICA!



# JAPANESE NGO SCENE IN UGANDA

## PEACE WINDS JAPAN (PWJ)

NGO PROFILE NO.6

Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is an international NGO that assists people affected by natural and man-made disasters. Our headquarters is located in Hiroshima, Japan. PWJ has delivered humanitarian assistance in over 30 countries. Our activities vary from search & rescue, emergency humanitarian assistance to reconstruction and recovery.



In Uganda, PWJ's activities started in 2016 with the onset of refugee influx from neighboring South Sudan. Leveraging the organization's experience from other parts of the world, PWJ began its assistance in safe water delivery, construction of household toilets and durable shelters in Bidibidi refugee settlement. Bidibidi, located in Yumbe District in West Nile region, hosts more than 220,000 refugees, which is one of the largest settlement in the world.



When refugees arrive in Uganda, they are given a handful of items and a plot of land where they set up their new houses. For the first few months, newly arrived refugees seek temporal shelter in temporary housing made from wooden poles and plastic sheets.



These shelters are feeble which causes leaking of rain. They also have a security problem since doors cannot be locked. In the next stage, materials are given and tools are lent to build a more durable houses. Refugees use mud bricks and mud mortar to put up walls, then thatch their roofs with wooden poles and dried grass. As a result of



this, the shelter becomes very similar to huts that can be widely seen in rural Uganda. Next to their home, they then dig a pit of a few meters deep, put up walls with bricks and grass thatched roof, for toilets. As much as possible, refugees are encouraged to do the actual construction by their own.

However, not everyone can build their own houses and toilets. These are, for example, persons with disabilities, orphans, widows with small children and elderly. Such people are recognized as 'persons with specific needs', and PWJ's activities focuses on them. PWJ uses local materials as much as possible, and employs construction workers from refugee and host communities. In this manner, our assistance activities can benefit the local communities.

Having a durable home contributes to their physical well-being by preventing leaks through roofs during the rainy season. Doors and windows can be locked with padlocks; ensuring the safety of their homes



and belongings. Refugees clean and maintain their household toilets; preventing communicable diseases like cholera. Importantly, living in their own homes improves privacy, and this can help to restore the sense of dignity.



Starting with just two staff members in 2016, today PWJ has 25 staff members which enables us to expand our operations to other settlements in West Nile region. It is our hope that through our assistance activities, we contribute to the well-being of refugees.



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