

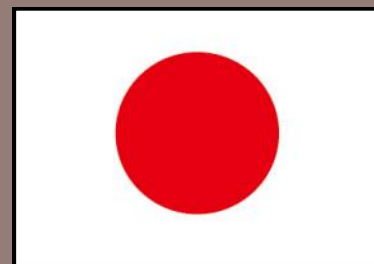
Mount Fuji



OCTOBER 2019 (VOL. 25)

VOICE OF JAPAN

From KAMPALA



Rwenzori Mountains



Photo taken by Jörn Eriksson



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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MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR KAMEDA

Dear Readers, I am very glad that this "Voice of Japan" has entered into the third year with the new design of its renewed front page. In the first year two countries' famous cranes represented Japan and Uganda while the second year's front page was covered by the famous primates from two countries. The third year has started with two well-known mountains, Mt. Fuji and Mt. Rwenzori, on the front page. Both mountains are designated as UNESCO's World Heritage sites. Now the circulation of the magazine is over 300. I sincerely hope that more and more people in Uganda will get familiar with what Japan is doing in their country and how Japanese are collaborating with them in various areas!

EVENTS IN OCTOBER

OCTOBER 11: JAPAN BUSINESS MISSION VISIT EAST AFRICA

6th to 11th October, one of the most famous Japanese newspaper companies, the Nikkei, sent a business mission to explore a business chance in East African countries such as Ethiopia and Uganda. The delegation consists of 15 Japanese business persons, who sought partnership in the field of health and startup enterprises, which are presumably small scale enterprises. In this occasion, many Ugandan companies attracted the Japanese delegation to invest in Uganda.



OCTOBER 18: JAPAN AND UN PROVIDED MEDICAL TRAINING TO UN PKO OFFICERS

To enable UN PKO officers to conduct emergency medical procedures in field, training was conducted under Triangular Partnership Project (TPP) from 7th - 18th October in Entebbe. 29 PKO officers from Asia, Africa and other regions participated in the training conducted by 8 teachers including 2 medical officers from Japan Self-Defense Forces. Various types of training were conducted followed by written examination and the field simulation test. The training was concluded by awarding of graduation certificate to the trainees where many of the students as well as teachers looked satisfied to complete the first ever medical training conducted to PKO field officers.



OCTOBER 22: CEREMONIES OF ACCESSION FOR EMPEROR NARUHITO

In Japan, 22nd October 2019, Ceremonies of Accession to the Throne were conducted at the Imperial Palace. Many dignitaries from all over the world including Hon. Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities from Uganda attended the Ceremony. At the Ceremony of Accession (Sokui no Rei) Emperor Naruhito read out a formal proclamation. In the evening, Court Banquets (the Kyoen-no-gi) was organized at the same Imperial Palace where all the honorable guests attended for felicitation of the Enthronement of Emperor Naruhito. On the following evening, 23rd October, the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe invited foreign heads of State and other dignitaries to the banquet at the Hotel New Otani. Hon. Kamuntu and H.E. Betty Grace Akech-Okullo, Ambassador of Uganda to Japan, attended the banquet.



OCTOBER 24: GGP COMMISSIONING IN ARUA DISTRICT

Mr. Mizumoto Horii, Deputy Head of Mission of Japan to Uganda, commissioned a Primary school project in Arua District on Thursday 24th October 2019. "The Project for the Construction of Classroom Block and Girls' Latrine at Ekarakafe Primary School" with a grant amount of USD 58,815, equivalent of 182 million UGX is part of the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

Ekarakafe Primary School, a Government aided school in Arua District, was established in 1953 and is home to 947 students and 16 teachers. It was informed that the school had only seven classrooms with some classrooms

accommodating over 200 students in each classroom. The girls on the other hand had only one latrine block which lead to congestion and wasting time of the girls. Therefore, this project constructed additional classroom block and latrine blocks with a set of furniture in order to decongest and improve the learning environment.



OCTOBER 25: PRESS TOUR TO EXPLAIN JAPAN'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Embassy of Japan organized a press tour to the Eastern Region. Japan's Development assistance in Uganda is exemplified by infrastructure development such as Jinja Nile Bridge or Kampala Flyover, but Japan has been supporting health, education and water & sanitation as well. JICA has also dispatched many volunteers throughout the country. 8

officials from various media houses participated the tour. In addition, on 25th

October, Embassy invited project stakeholders specifically to make presentations over Japan's ODA activities and exchange opinions on them. More than 60 people joined the event including Hon. Cheptoris, Minister of Water & Environment, Ambassador Kameda and Mr. Fukase, JICA Chief Representative.



COMING UP IN NOVEMBER



NOVEMBER 6: GGP COMMISSIONING IN KIKUUBE DISTRICT

Ambassador Kameda will officiate in the commissioning of a science laboratory project in Kikuube District on Wednesday 6th November 2019. The project enabled Kyangwali Secondary School to be equipped with a science laboratory block with a grant amount of USD 79,862, equivalent of over 270 million UGX, which is part of the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).



JICA'S NEWSROOM

PROF. OMASWA TAKES HOME NOGUCHI HIDEYO AFRICA PRIZE

JICA Uganda is pleased to introduce Prof. Francis Omaswa.

Prof. Francis Omaswa, the Executive Director of the African Centre for Global Health and Social Transformation (ACHEST), was awarded a Noguchi Hideyo Africa Prize this year. An award that praises individuals and organizations from Africa that have contributed to the health and welfare of all humankind.

Born in Uganda in 1943, the professor deserved the award for his dedication to contribute toward addressing the global health workforce (HWF) crisis that includes; education, training, retention and migration of healthcare workers and building pro-people health and medical systems, across Africa and the world over.

In September, he visited New York, where he gave a keynote speech at a side event in UN General Assembly regarding Universal Health Coverage (UHC) with cooperation of JICA. In his speech, Prof. Omaswa stated “The necessity of enabling environment to achieve UHC. It is therefore essential for people to participate in order to build up political choice and will”.

He also noted that the challenge in achieving UHC is not the lack of financial resources but lack of will. “UHC depends on political imperative. It is therefore essential for people to participate in order to build up political choice and will”. JICA Uganda is now looking forward to a possibility of cooperation in UHC with support of Prof. Omaswa and various actors in Uganda.



KAMPALA FLYOVER CONSTRUCTION SETS PACE

On 3rd October 2019, employers, contractors, and consultants for the multi-billion Kampala Flyover Project inspected the site along Queen's way, Entebbe road.



With the completion of the base camp set up, the contractor, Shimizu- Konoike JV has among other activities embarked on material testing, sampling and major utility relocation. This process involves discovery/ identification of utilities such as electric, telecom and sewer lines, among others, in a bid to pave way for the actual construction of the flyover.

The site visit was intended to monitor progress of ongoing works that commenced in May 2019 and expected to be completed in 2022.



JICA'S NEWSROOM

SIX VOLUNTEERS END SERVICE AT JICA



We greatly thank the six JICA volunteers who served for 2 years (2017 September to 2019 September) and one volunteer who served for 2.5 years (2017 April to 2019 October). They actively participated in the fields of Education, Sports, and

Community Development. We appreciate their recipient organizations and people in the communities.



Hello!

NEW STAFF

I am **Eseri Watsemwa**, a new staff working with the Public Relations office.

I am pro people, passionate about journalism, social development and livelihood improvement, among others.

My experience in the media and NGOs means I will help build the image of JICA and tell its story in Uganda, especially its impact on Uganda's economy.

I am super delighted to work with JICA.
Arigato!

INTERN

Hello!

I am **Makoto Sekine**. It is my pleasure to join JICA Uganda office as an intern for three months.

I will make use of this opportunity to enhance my knowledge on management and operation of development projects and to have a deeper understanding of current refugee issues in Uganda. I look forward to contributing to the JICA Uganda office!



World Vision Japan

World Vision Japan (WVJ) is a Japanese International NGO founded in 1987 in Japan. WVJ is dedicated to working with children, families and communities regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender to overcome poverty and injustice.



Our core activities include: 1) Development: Transforming Communities through Child Sponsorship Programme promoting the well-being of children, 2) Relief: Responding to Disasters and Conflicts, 3) Advocacy: Taking the voices of those living in poverty to those decision-makers with the power to change unjust policies and practices.

In Uganda, WVJ have operated development programs over 16 years in 4 areas partnering with World Vision Uganda. In addition, WVJ has implemented a South Sudanese Response projects in the settlements in West Nile Region since 2018.

1. Area program (AP)

AP helps transformational development which is the process for children, families and communities to identify and overcome the obstacles that prevent them from living life in all its fullness. Partnering with the community, World Vision provides access to the knowledge and resources needed in education, health, economic development, agriculture, water and sanitation.



2. Education and Child Protection project in Bidi Bidi settlement

WVJ has implemented a refugee response project supported by Japan Platform (JPF) since 2018. WVJ provides Early Childhood Development program and Accelerated Education Programming, so that children can continue to learn at a safe and secure environment. WVJ also provides Case Management for children who need special support such as handicapped and Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC), partnering with UNHCR and UNICEF.



3. Livelihood assistance to refugee and host community

Partnering with UNDP and World Vision Uganda, WVJ has implemented a project to improve livelihood of both refugees and people in host communities. They selected works to develop the community, such as road construction, cleaning the community facilities and planting trees, and received cash income in exchange for their work (Cash for Work). The income has been used to start their own business.



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