

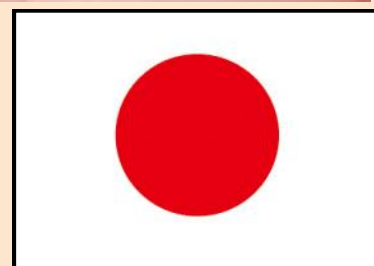
Mount Fuji



FEBRUARY 2020 (Vol. 29)

VOICE OF JAPAN

From KAMPALA



Rwenzori Mountains



Photo taken by Jørn 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 together with my wife hosted the first Japanese National Day Reception on 19th February 2020 to celebrate the 60th birthday of Emperor Naruhito at the Residence of the Japanese Ambassador. Hon. Sam Kutesa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Among the many guests who attended the Reception, there were a number of high level guests, including Rt. Hon. Moses Ali, First Deputy Prime Minister and Rt. Hon. Amama Mbabazi, former Prime Minister. The guests were welcomed by Miss International Uganda, Evelyn Namatovu, who has been selected 2nd Runner-up at the Miss International competition in Tokyo last November 2019, and were entertained with popular Japanese songs played by Africa Music School, a charity music organization based in Makindye, Kampala.

EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

FEB. 3 - 4: GGP COMMISSIONING IN RUBANDA AND RUKIGA DISTRICT



Ambassador KAMEDA commissioned 2 GGP projects in Kigezi area. One is the project of construction of girls' dormitory in St. Agatha Girls' Secondary School in Rubanda District with a grant amount of 73,883 USD equivalent of over 260 million UGX. Another is the construction of a girls' dormitory in St. Aloysius Girls' Secondary School in Rukiga District with a grant amount of 79,014 USD equivalent of over 280 million UGX. Both schools are located in remote area, which led to girl students to encounter dangerous situations. The girls' dormitories are expected to assure the safe environment and eventually promote girls' empowerment in the area.

FEB. 6: JAPANESE NGO SIGNED A GRANT CONTRACT

The signing ceremony was held on 6th February in Pagirinya Refugee Settlement, Adjumani District in the presence of Mr. HORII Mizumoto for the project entitled "Self-reliance support for South Sudanese refugees and Host Community -Vocational training and business setup support for vulnerable people- Phase III" with the amount of 443,225 USD (approx. 1.6 billion UGX). In the third phase, the vocational training is expanded to welding and piggery and the number of beneficiaries is expected to reach 88 people. The support for the business management and store operations continues in order to encourage their self-reliance.



FEB. 7: GGP COMMISSIONING IN OTUKE DISTRICT

The Deputy Head of Mission Mr. HORII Mizumoto officiated in the commissioning of the project in Otuke for a general ward and medical equipment to Aliwang Health Center III on 7th February. "The Project for the Construction of a General Ward at Aliwang Health Centre III in Otuke District" with a grant amount of 74,387 USD equivalent of over 260 million UGX is part of the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP), and the project constructed a general ward and a latrine block, and installed a set of furniture, medical equipment and solar PV system in order to improve and provide safer medical environment to people in the area.



FEB. 13: 4,758 METRIC TONNES OF RICE HANDED OVER TO REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITY



Ambassador KAMEDA handed over 4,758 metric tonnes of rice for distribution to refugees and socially vulnerable people including those in the host communities. The food donation was made through “Japanese Grant Aid for the Food Assistance Programme”. The handover ceremony took place at the WFP warehouse in Kampala and was attended by WFP Country Representative Mr. El Khidir Daloum and Hon. Gerald Menhya, Commissioner for Refugees at the Office of the Prime Minister who represented Minister for Disaster Preparedness and Refugees. The rice donation is expected to benefit at least 350,000 refugees and 150,000 people who are affected by conflicts and natural disasters.

FEB. 19: THE RECEPTION TO CELEBRATE 60TH BIRTHDAY OF EMPEROR OF JAPAN

The reception to celebrate the 60th birthday of His Majesty, Emperor Naruhito was held at the Residence of the Japanese Ambassador, welcoming about 250 guests. Ambassador KAMEDA mentioned in his remarks the TICAD7 held last August in Yokohama, in which H. E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni participated with Foreign Affairs Minister, Hon. Sam Kutesa and other Cabinet and State Ministers, emphasizing in 2019 many visits by high ranking Ugandan dignitaries took place. In addition, Ambassador KAMEDA talked about the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games to be held in Tokyo during summer of 2020, hoping that as many Ugandan athletes as possible will join the Games in Tokyo.



Hon. Sam Kutesa congratulated Japan on the birthday of Emperor Naruhito and also said that Uganda welcomed Japan's partnership to support Uganda's sustainable economic growth through infrastructure development. The guests enjoyed Japanese food and Sake in a cozy atmosphere.

FEB. 28: JAPANESE NGO SIGNED A GRANT CONTRACT

Ambassador KAMEDA signed a grant contract with Save the Children Japan for a project entitled, “Western Uganda Nutrition Improvement Project through Farmers’ Livelihood Improvement and Maternal and Child Nutrition practices” on 28th February at Kampala. The grant amount of 597,823 USD (approx. 2.2 billion UGX) has been provided by the Government of Japan for the project.

This project is aimed at improving the nutritional status of children and mothers in three sub-counties (Karusandara, Maliba, and Nyakiyumbu) of Kasese District by enhancing farmers’ livelihood and agricultural practices, promoting their knowledge of nutrition, and strengthening their access to nutrition services. In addition, the improvement of nutritional situation of children and mothers is accelerated by strengthening multi-sectoral partnerships between agriculture and health sectors.



UP-COMING EVENTS IN MARCH

MARCH 6-8: JAPAN FILM FESTIVAL 2020 IN GULU AT ACHOLI INN

Embassy of Japan, in collaboration with Japan Foundation, is hosting a **Japan film festival from 6th - 8th March 2020 At Acholi Inn, Gulu Town**. There will be 5 Japanese movies which are mainly based on famous Japanese comic stories and they feature action, comedy, and animation. The Embassy would like to see many Ugandan people to have a fun time with these movies.

It is **FREE ENTRANCE** so please spread the information and come with your friends and families to enjoy the Japanese movies in Gulu.



SAVE THE DATE: 7th March 2020 for Running event at Kapchorwa. Please join us.



TEAM UGANDA TOKYO 2020 RUN

KAPCHORWA

Date: 7TH - March - 2020

Venue: Boma Grounds

Time: 7:00AM



JICA UGANDA HOSTS A REGIONAL SEMINAR ON PROCUREMENT AND DISBURSEMENT UNDER JAPANESE ODA LOANS

JICA Uganda hosted a five-day ODA seminar (17th – 21st February 2020) aimed at improving the knowledge of JICA staff on procurement and contract management under Japanese ODA loans.

The 47 participants inclusive of JICA Staff and counterparts from 10 countries; Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Tanzania, Senegal, South Africa, Mozambique and Uganda were facilitated by three trainers from JICA Head-

quarter



FEEDBACK MEETING IN KOBOKO (WA-CAP PROJECT)



The Project for Capacity Improvement of Local Government for Strengthening Community Resilience in Acholi and West Nile sub-regions (WACAP) is leaving behind several smiles in communities. In a survey conducted recently, 97% of group leaders realized the improvement of livelihood in their communities. Some of the beneficiaries; Ulupi Apure savings group in Dranya sub-county in Koboko district could not contain their excitement as they thanked JICA through WACAP (in song and speech), for improving their lives.

The smiles and successes of this group are credited to its members, Community Development Officers and Japanese experts who engaged them in utilizing the planning tool and empowered them. The WACAP Project helped members of Ulupi Apure in various ways; provided oxen, spray pumps, ox-ploughs, knowledge through trainings, reduced labour costs and improved relationships between local government staff and partners, among others. They are now able to raise money through renting out chairs, among other initiatives. They can also afford basic needs such as food, medical care and clothing for their families, and afford school fees.



IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT IN ATARI BASIN AREA

MAAIF with the support of JICA undertook to implement the project on Sustainable Utilization, Operation and Management of Irrigation Systems in Atari Basin Area. This will complement the project on Establishment of Irrigation Systems in Atari Basin Area, which commences later this year.



Accordingly, and with consultation of the local community of Atari Basin Area, a Founders' Committee was instituted to spearhead the establishment of the Irrigation Water Users' Association (IWUA), which will be in charge of operation and management of Atari Irrigation Scheme.

On 28th January 2020, the Founders Committee held its first meeting during which progress on formulation of a constitution for the IWUA was shared. MAAIF and JICA extended technical guidance on how to proceed with the constitution making process.

NEW - INTERN

I am FUKUDA Saki. I started my internship training, attached to the Public Relations Department at JICA Uganda on 6th February 2020. It is my honor to join JICA Uganda office. This is my first time to come to an African country and I have found Uganda very beautiful and the people here are full of life. I want to learn a lot about this country and make this experience a great one before my internship ends on 30th March 2020.



JAPAN

FILM FESTIVAL

2020

Acholi Inn, Gulu

6TH - 8TH MARCH, 2020



Movie Schedule

6th / March / 2020

13:00-14:40 "Psychic Kusuo"

15:00-16:35 "Pop in Q"

16:50-19:00 "Inuyashiki"

7th / March / 2020

10:45-12:00 "Seto & Utsumi"

12:50-14:50 "TENICHI - Battle of Supreme High"

15:00-17:07 "Inuyashiki"

17:20-19:00 "Psychic Kusuo"

8th / March / 2020

10:00-12:00 "TENICHI - Battle of Supreme High"

12:30-13:45 "Seto & Utsumi"

14:00-16:10 "Inuyashiki"

FREE ENTRANCE

Co-Organised by

