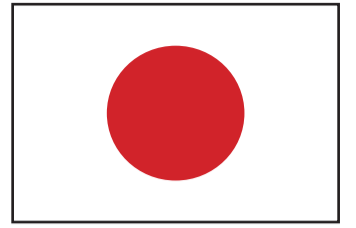


JAPAN AND NAMIBIA "RENEWED PARTNERSHIP" in the year of Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) VI



Since the establishment of diplomatic relations upon Namibia's independence in 1990, Japan and Namibia have been enjoying amicable bilateral relations in various fields including trade and investment and development assistance. 2016 is another commemorative year for both countries: the 1st anniversary of the opening of the resident Embassy of Japan in Namibia; the 10th anniversary of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) programme in Namibia; and the year Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) VI is going to be held, for the first time in its history, on the African Continent.



1. Opening of the Resident Embassy in Windhoek:

In order to further step up its relationship with Namibia, the Government of Japan opened its resident Embassy in Namibia in July 2015 and immediately dispatched H.E. Mr. Hideyuki Sakamoto as the first resident Ambassador to Namibia.



2. 10th Anniversary of JOCV:

This year 2016 marks the 10th anniversary of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) programme which started in 2006 in Namibia following

the signing of an agreement between the two countries in 2004. Currently, 16 young volunteers are living & working closely with Namibians on the ground, providing their skills and expertise in various fields such as education, agriculture, electronics, civil engineering and computer technologies among others. Since the inception of the programme, 113 volunteers in total were dispatched to different locations in the country. The volunteers also play a role as young ambassadors who promote mutual understanding between the people of the two countries by introducing various aspects of Japan and its people to Namibians, and vice versa once they are back in Japan.



3. TICAD VI, first time in Africa:

TICAD VI Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) is a summit level forum for African development established in 1993. Japan initiated the process to support African development recognising the African continent's potential. After five TICAD summits, Japan still takes great pride in its leading role in what has developed as an international forum as an open, inclusive platform which brings together African governments and the African Union, international organisations, partner countries, the private sector and civil society for innovative and high-level discussions on African development. Namibia has been participating in the TICAD process since its inception. This year, TICAD VI will be held from 27 to 28 August in Nairobi, Kenya, for the first time in Africa in its history.



4. Development Cooperation:

Since 1990, the bilateral cooperative relationship between the two countries has been increasing. Japan's development assistance policy for Namibia is aimed at realising sustainable development and redressing economic disparity in support of Namibian national policies such as Vision 2030, NDP4 and Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP). Here is a little glimpse of Japan's development cooperation to Namibia, on-going or in recent years:

Support for "Economic and industrial infrastructure development"

1) Walvis Bay Port New Container Terminal Development Project- Preparatory Survey: Upon the request from the Government of Namibia, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) conducted a Preparatory Survey on the Walvis Bay Port New Container Terminal Development Project. The Study was completed in 2010.

2) Master Plan for International Logistic Hub:

JICA provided technical assistance to the Namibian Government in producing its strategic master plan for international logistic hub to become an international logistics and distribution centre in Southern Africa, and is now supporting its implementation.

3) Rundu-Elundu Road Upgrading Project:



The project was to upgrade approximately 370km long unpaved road between Rundu and Elundu, utilising concessional loan amounting to 10 billion JPY [about N\$663 million]. The upgraded road was officially launched in 2012 by H.E. President Pohamba and has been contributing to facilitating smooth traffic flow and promoting trade and commerce within SADC countries.

Contribution to improvement of living standard and reduction of poverty in rural area

4) Northern Crop & Livestock Development Master Plan Study (N-CLIMP): This on-going project, targeting at four regions in the north, namely, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Ohangwena, provides technical assistance in formulating Namibia's master plan in agriculture through implementing market-oriented farming by diversifying agricultural & farm products and technics, facilitating farmer's access to useful market information, providing demand driven technical trainings.

5) Flood-and Drought-Adaptive Cropping Systems to Conserve Water Environments in Semi-Arid Regions:

In this on-going scientific research collaboration project, the University of Namibia (Ogongo Campus) and Kinki University of Japan introduce a new concept of flood and drought adaptive mixed cropping of rice and mahangu in order to support small-scale farmers in securing constant agricultural production regardless of meteorological condition.



6) The Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP):

The GGP Programme aims at bringing about direct and immediate impact on the well-being

of disadvantaged communities at a grass-roots level by supporting relatively small development projects by Non-Profit Organisations, such as NGOs, community based organisations, and schools. Since its inception in 1997, the Government of Japan has supported 47 projects, responding to various local needs in areas such as school building construction, job training, among others, prioritising human security for vulnerable and marginalised people within society, with approximate total amount of 270 million JPY, equivalent to N\$38 million.

Human Resource Development & Skills Transfer



7) Government Scholarship Programme:

Government of Japan has been offering full scholarship opportunity to study at universities in Japan to young Namibians. Under the scholarship,

3 Namibians are currently studying in Japan.

8) ABE (African Business Education) Initiative:

As part of its commitment at the TICAD V, the Government of Japan provides master's degree scholarship programme which is combined with internships at Japanese enterprises to help develop effective skills and knowledge in various fields for contributing to development in Africa. Currently 3 students are in Japan under this scholarship programme and 2 more is about to join them.

9) Various training programme: Government of Japan, through JICA and other institutions, provides various training opportunities such as agriculture promotion, science and math education, vocational & technical education, road and port transportation, small and medium enterprises promotion, remote sensing of natural resources survey, responding to the needs of the Government of Namibia. The total number of Namibian trainees till 2014 is 1,308.

Emergency Grant Assistance

10) Flood Response: in 2011, the Government of Japan responded to the floods challenges which were caused by the extremely heavy rainfall over a large part of Southern Africa in March 2011. Emergency relief assistance in the form of emergency relief goods worth 12 million JPY [about N\$1.1 million], was granted to the Government of Namibia.



11) Drought Response: in 2016, Japan responded to the significant drought which hit Namibia for the last three years and affected over 700,000 people in the country. Emergency food assistance worth 40 million JPY [about N\$5 million] is granted to the Government of Namibia.