

JICA Namibia Newsletter

Words from the Resident Representative — Mr Shiro Nabeya

Japan's history tells us that talented people are necessary for sustainable social and economic development. Being a tiny country with only human resources, it is therefore expected to have a spirit of doing your best for national development.

Having joined the JICA Namibia office in July 2017, the Resident Representative indicates that he would like to demonstrate the shining effect of technical cooperation, particularly in Human Resources development through technical cooperation, training and volunteer projects.

Japan's cooperation to Namibia is by no means large, but the Resident Representative believes that Japan can contribute to human resource development. That said, in accordance with Namibia's 5th National Development Plan (NDP5), JICA Namibia anticipates continuous support to Namibia.

JICA JOCV programme in Namibia

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) programme is one of Japan's Technical Cooperation schemes that dispatches eager Japanese citizens to developing countries. An intensive in-country training is provided to for the JOCVs, as an opportunity to get them integrated in the local set-up.

The JICA Namibia office, recently welcomed three JOCVs (volunteers) to Namibia. Ms. Ayumi Suzuki, Ms. Naoko Harata and Mr. Tomohito Moteki.

Ms. Ayumi Suzuki and Ms. Naoko Harata, will be hosted at the COSDEF (Community Skills

Development Foundation) Arts and Culture Centre, a first for Swakopmund. They will engage in various outreach programs and share fashion experiences through teaching Fashion and Design. They are particularly interested in introducing paper pattern techniques and how to improve sales for small fashion markets.

Mr. Tomohito Moteki, will be hosted by the National Theatre of Namibia, within the marketing department.

The JOCVs wish to make a difference in Namibia, and hope to positively contribute to the success of their various host institutions.



Outgoing JOCV 2016–2018. Areas of specialization: Civil engineering, Architecture, Primary Education and Systems Engineering

Upcoming Events

- **12 April 2018—Hand over ceremony of Employability Improvement Project to NUST Namibia**
- **09—20 April 2018—Data Collection Survey on Promotion of Market-Oriented Agriculture and Animal Husbandry**

JAPAN CONTINUES TO SUPPORT NAMIBIA

The Japanese and Namibian governments demonstrate the importance of their cooperation through the various projects, undertaken under agreements by the two governments. The Government of Japan, continues to particularly show support in areas of importance to Namibia, such as education and response to natural disasters and food security.

1. EDUCATION

Employability Improvement Project - Training of trainers

In their efforts to ensure that, classroom education remains relevant to industry needs, the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) currently has a Work Integrated Learning (WIL) course as part of their curriculum. In line with this, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), South Africa office, in collaboration with NUST, are implementing the Employability Improvement Project (EIP), with the aim of preparing and improving students' competence for work.

The EIP aims to enhance on critical skills that are needed to be successful in the work place.

To ensure that the concept is well understood and implemented, (3) WIL Coordinators from as well as (3) Liaison Officers from the Cooperative Education Unit at NUST, received a 3 days' training on EIP. The purpose of the training was to train trainers how to teach the EIP concept to students. Four (4) units, namely Introduction, Implementation, Improvement and Innovation were covered.



Mr. Iida setting up workshop for truck assembling activity with EIP Training participants

The participants had the chance to part-take in a 20 minute truck assembling exercise, based on the Kaizen Flow. Kaizen demonstrates work flow, time management and correct utilisation of resources at a workplace. This exercise aims to acknowledge how well students would cope in a team at a workplace and how well time is managed. It also helps them to identify the challenges, and methods to address them as the process goes on.

The training was conducted by Mr. Iida Mamoru, JICA Human Resource Development Advisor to Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), South Africa.

Schools in Khomas and Kavango West benefit from funding

The Japanese Embassy donated about N\$5 million to public schools through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. These funds will assist in building class rooms for 5 schools in the Khomas and Kavango West Regions. On behalf of the Japanese Government, Ambassador Hideyuki Sakamoto presented the donation to the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture, Katrina Hanse-Himarwa.



Ambassador Hideyuki Sakamoto and Minister of Education, Arts and Culture, Katrina Hanse-Himarwa

2. NATURAL DISASTERS AND FOOD SECURITY

Ambassador Hideyuki Sakamoto once again presented funding of about N\$9.5m, to the Namibian Government to help build resilience of vulnerable communities affected by drought and floods. The funds were channelled through UNICEF as a response to natural disasters.

Further support was given in the form of relief food aid, worth about N\$4.7m, that would be distributed to the Zambezi, Oshana, Omusati, Omaheke, Ohangwena and Hardap Regions. The donation was received by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, who is optimistic about future engagements with Japan.

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