

EMBASSY OF JAPAN BULLETIN



APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2020

Japan's Assistance to Fight against COVID-19 in Kenya

On the morning of Thursday, 27th August 2020, H. E. Amb. HORIE Ryoichi, signed an Exchange of Notes, titled, "Health Sector Policy Loan for Attainment of the Universal Health Coverage (Phase 2)" with Hon. Ukur YATANI, the Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury.

This project, which amounts to 8 billion Kenya Shillings, is expected to help Kenya achieve Universal Health Care and further assist in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.



In the afternoon, following the signing of the Exchange of Notes, Ambassador HORIE and Mr. KOMORI Katsutoshi, Chief Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Kenya handed over PCR test kits to the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI). Dr. Rashid AMAN, the Chief Administrative Secretary for Health and Prof. Yeri KOMBE, the Director General of KEMRI attended the handing over ceremony.

Japan's Assistance to Kenya for the Fight against COVID-19 and for Building Resilience in Kenya

On Friday, 4th September 2020, H.E. Amb. HORIE Ryoichi, signed two Exchange of Notes to provide medical equipment and to disburse Japan's grant aid to 'the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship' with Hon. Ukur YATANI, the Cabinet Secretary of National Treasury.

The provision of medical equipment includes vital appliances for the treatment of COVID-19 such as hospital beds and X-ray machines. 'The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship' provides education opportunities for the Kenyan youth who are expected to become key players in building a resilient society for Kenya and to promote our bilateral relationship. The total of the two projects amounts to more than 1.2 billion Kenya Shillings.

The assistance targets not only Kenya's fight against COVID-19 but also building resilience in Kenyan society in the long term. This reflects a wide range of Japanese assistance to Kenya.

Exchange of Notes Signing for the Grant Assistance Project “The Improvement of Power Distribution System in and around Nakuru City and around Mombasa City”



On Friday, 18th September 2020, H.E. Amb. HORIE Ryoichi, and Hon. Ukur YATANI, the Cabinet Secretary of National Treasury signed the Exchange of Notes to disburse Japan's grant aid for the 'Improvement of Power Distribution System in and around Nakuru City and around Mombasa City'.

The Government of Japan funded the approximately 1.9 billion Kenya Shillings project for the purpose of enhancing supply of power and reducing electricity prices through this project which will also utilise Japan's highest quality technology.

This support contributes to solve power problems in Kenya, where transmission and distribution losses are as high as 2,750 GWh, which means about 25% of the total power generated is lost.

Ambassador HORIE expressed Japan's commitment to support the economy, including energy sector, of Kenya. Hon. YATANI appreciated Japan's support towards the energy sector in Kenya including the Olkaria Geothermal Power Plant Projects which are in line with the BIG4 agenda. He also expressed gratitude towards Japan's recent support for fight against COVID-19, amounting to more than 10 billion Kenya Shillings



Japan's Development Cooperation to Kenya

Japan's Country Assistance Policy for Kenya

Official Development Assistance (ODA) refers to grants, loans, etc. with concessional conditions that are given to developing countries and regions, mainly for the purpose of contributing to the improvement of economic development and welfare.

Japan implements assistance towards Kenya with the following five priority areas:

- **Development of Economic Infrastructure**

Construction of regional infrastructure is a challenge for enhancing investment. Japan, therefore, has supported implementation of both soft and hard infrastructure development, such as formation of international corridor, planning, construction, upgrading and maintenance of transportation, energy and urban infrastructure

- **Agricultural Development**

To ensure food security and to increase the income of small scale farmers, Japan has assisted improving production technology of rice and other crops and constructing irrigation facilities.

- **Environmental Conservation**

To tackle various environmental issues in Kenya, Japan has supported water supply and water resource management, forest conservation, countermeasures against natural disaster and capacity building of environmental management

- **Human Resource Management**

Believing that human resource development is crucial for poverty reduction and economic growth, Japan has supported capacity building of teachers of primary and secondary education in science and mathematics.

- **Health and Medical Care**

Japan has supported improvement of the quality of basic preventative measures against diseases by strengthening capacity of health workers as well as tackling serious diseases.

Japan's Development Cooperation to Kenya continued

Projects that have benefitted from Japan's ODA to Kenya include, but are not limited to:



**Photos from left to right*

1. Projects on Human Resource Development for Industries
2. AFRICA-ai-JAPAN Project
3. Mombasa Port Development Project
4. Rice-based and Market-oriented Agriculture Promotion Project
5. Horticulture on High Value-Added Fruits and Vegetables for Smallholders
6. Nairobi Western Ring Road Project
7. Olkaria 1 Unit 4 and 5 Geothermal Power Project

Amb. HORIE attends the COVID-19 Virtual Conference



On 31st August 2020, H.E. Amb. HORIE attended the COVID-19 Virtual Conference hosted by the Council of Governors.

This conference was convened by the Council of Governors acting jointly with the Ministry of Health under the instruction of President KENYATTA to review the efficacy of the Kenyan response to the recent pandemic and to prepare for future outbreaks, if any.

Meeting between Amb. HORIE and Hon. Mutahi KAGWE



On 15th September 2020, H. E. Amb. HORIE, met with Hon. Mutahi KAGWE, Cabinet Secretary for Health at his office at Afya House. They exchanged views on the COVID-19 situation in Kenya. Hon. KAGWE expressed his appreciation for the recent consecutive support which the Country received from Japan for the fight against COVID-19 in Kenya. They also discussed future cooperation between Japan and Kenya in the health sector.

Meeting between Amb. HORIE and Hon. Charity NGILU



On 14th September 2020, H. E. Amb. HORIE received Hon. Charity NGILU, Governor of Kitui County at the Embassy. They discussed the ongoing COVID-19 situation in Kitui County. The governor spoke about the initiatives they have put in place to curb the spread of the virus, such as manufacturing of medical masks and hand sanitisers. They also discussed perspectives of Japanese Teacher Training in East Africa.



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Reopening of JICC

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged all of us to adapt to new circumstances while looking forward to a return to “back to normal”. Above all, in these uncertain times, we prioritise your safety. In this regard, we are practicing and enforcing best practices for social distancing and therefore for now, we are pleased to announce that JICC is reopening virtually.

We have a lot planned over the coming months. At the moment, we are doing an origami series. Our very first session was a Japanese samurai helmet called “kabuto”. The kabuto represents strength and power, characteristics which we must all dig into as we navigate the current state of affairs.



We encourage you to connect with us virtually via our website and social media channels. We look forward to receiving your comments and feedback.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to meeting face to face.

JICC Library is Open



LIBRARY OPEN EVERY FRIDAY

TIMINGS

MORNING

8:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

AFTERNOON

1:30 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

CLICK THE **BOOK NOW** BUTTON TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT

  @japaninkenya



Timings: Every Friday

Morning: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon: 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To visit the library you will be required to book an appointment with us. You can do this by clicking the **Book Now** button on our Facebook Page.

Once your appointment has been approved, you can visit the library.

Kindly note that you will need to always wear a mask once inside the library and sanitise your hands before entry.

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