Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR AN EMERGING AFRICA:

UNDP and Japan

United Nations Development Programme
The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Government of Japan, and their partners from the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) have worked tirelessly for more than two decades to articulate a bold vision for the development of Africa. They kept faith in the continent’s future even when it was not fashionable to do so.

The efforts of this unique partnership are now bearing fruit. Africa has witnessed a remarkable economic performance in the last 15 years, with at least 10 countries graduating to middle-income status. In recent years, African nations are resolved to chart their own development path with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union’s 2063 Agenda. This aligns with the TICAD mandate, which calls for national ownership and collaboration between all stakeholders.

The TICAD VI Conference, organized last year in Nairobi, Kenya, took stock of these accomplishments. Its key outcomes, enshrined in the Nairobi Declaration, underscored the need to consolidate Africa’s development gains through sustained economic structural transformation, the building of resilient health systems, and the promotion of social stability to bring about prosperity for all.

As UNDP and its partners gather in Maputo, Mozambique, from 24 to 25 August 2017 for the TICAD Ministerial Meeting, I am confident they will exercise their foresight and diligence in following up on their commitments and that they will do so with an added sense of urgency to ensure that lingering challenges do not rollback the past decade’s hard-won achievements.

The path toward African emergence is a marathon race that requires the mind of a sprinter and a long-term commitment. Through TICAD, UNDP and its partners will remain fully committed to supporting African governments on that journey and work to ensure they are well poised to reap the rewards of a promising future.
For over half a century, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Japan have worked in close cooperation to find solutions to global development issues. The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) has been one of Japan’s top priorities and most successful cases in our partnership with UNDP. Because of UNDP’s wealth of experience and global network it is a key player in the UN System’s push for development cooperation.

Focusing on issues that emerged after TICAD V in 2013, TICAD VI, held last August in Nairobi, Kenya, engaged in intensive discussions on three priorities: economic diversification and industrialization; promotion of resilient health systems; and promotion of social stability. The Nairobi Declaration and the Nairobi Implementation Plan, both adopted at the Conference, include actions to be taken by Africa and its partners to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and African Union’s Agenda 2063. African ownership and international partnerships are two basic principles of the quarter-century-old TICAD process.

As a co-organizer of TICAD since its inception, UNDP has provided support to the TICAD process ranging from setting the agenda including human security to conducting meetings, leveraging its insight and experience accumulated over the years.

One of the major strengths of TICAD lies in its consistent and transparent follow-up activities. Indeed, the TICAD Ministerial Meeting to be held on 24-25 August in Maputo, Mozambique, will verify the steady progress of efforts undertaken by all stakeholders and discuss measures for improving the effectiveness of implementation. We remain committed to close cooperation with UNDP in the TICAD process.

TAKESHI OSUGA
Ambassador, Director-General, African Affairs Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
A sage investment that is finally paying off

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) came into being in the midst of what has been dubbed as the “lost development decades,” the bleak 80s and 90s, a time when the continent was beset by the painful constraints of structural adjustment programmes, unable to catch a break. After the Cold War ended, major donors, with the notable exception of Japan, were questioning the relevance of development aid to Africa. Japan’s continued commitment to accelerating human-centered development in Africa made important contributions in boosting the continent’s sustainable social and economic development; it also helped advance global and regional frameworks such as the Millennium Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union’s Agenda 2063.

UNDP is a founding co-organizer of the TICAD process, and over the years UNDP and Japan have worked closely with African governments and other development partners to bring about concrete action based on TICAD’s development goals.

TOWARD THE FUTURE

At the 2016 TICAD meeting in Nairobi, the Government of Japan made a US$30 billion commitment in public and private support for infrastructure development, education and healthcare expansion in Africa. This is in addition to $32 billion that Japan pledged to Africa over a five-year period at the last TICAD meeting in 2013.

TICAD through the years

1993 TICAD I
Adopted the Tokyo Declaration on African Development with emphasis on African ownership. Stakeholders pledged to strengthen support for African development.

1998 TICAD II
Adopted African Development towards the 21st Century: the Tokyo Agenda for Action, which advocated for poverty reduction and the integration of Africa into the global economy as main challenges. African ownership and partnership would be basic principles.

2003 TICAD III
Adopted the TICAD 10th Anniversary Declaration and advocated for supporting regional integration initiatives such as the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).

2008 TICAD IV
Adopted the Yokohama Declaration under the theme Towards a Vibrant Africa. Advocated for economic growth, peace and governance, human security, the environment and climate change. Established a follow-up mechanism to reinforce implementation and monitoring.
TICAD VI in 2016 was the first TICAD Conference held in Africa. It was attended by over 11,000 participants, including the representatives of 53 African countries, international and regional organizations, the private sector, and civil society.

A record number of heads of state and governments attended the TICAD VI Conference in August 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya. In their landmark Nairobi Declaration, stakeholders renewed their commitment to work for Africa’s sustainable economic transformation.

Adopted the Yokohama Declaration 2013: Hand in Hand with a More Dynamic Africa, which promotes robust and sustainable development, an inclusive and resilient society, and peace and stability.

TICAD 2016 concluded with the Nairobi Declaration and the Nairobi Implementation Plan, which called for economic diversification and industrialization; the promotion of resilient health systems; and the promotion of social stability.

With support from the Government of Japan and in cooperation with governments, development agencies, civil society and private sector partners, UNDP continues to work on-the-ground at the country and regional level in these three areas.

2013 TICAD V
Adopted the Yokohama Declaration 2013: Hand in Hand with a More Dynamic Africa, which promotes robust and sustainable development, an inclusive and resilient society, and peace and stability.

2016 TICAD VI
A record number of heads of state and governments attended the TICAD VI Conference in August 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya. In their landmark Nairobi Declaration, stakeholders renewed their commitment to work for Africa’s sustainable economic transformation.

2019 TICAD VII
The next planned TICAD Conference will be held in Japan.
The growth of violent extremism in African countries is having a devastating effect on hard-won development gains. UNDP research shows that some 33,000 people have lost their lives in about 4,000 terrorist attacks in Africa between 2012-2016; hundreds of thousands more have been displaced by groups such as Boko Haram in Nigeria and Al Shabaab in Somalia.

With local economies hobbled and educational institutions shuttered due to ongoing violence and instability, young people in particular are disproportionately affected, making them easy targets for recruiters from extremist groups.

In 2016, UNDP began implementing the first phase of a four-year regional project to address the root causes of violent extremism in 16 African countries, with support from the Government of Japan. The initiative is working with regional and national institutions, including government, police and the criminal justice system; religious institutions; and communities to build trust, identify the early warning signs of radicalization and potential violent extremism, and design appropriate responses.

While the initiative is still in its infancy, it has already begun engaging with institutions on this
issue, beginning with faith-based organizations.

In October 2016 and May 2017, UNDP helped to organize two conferences for religious leaders in Nigeria and Uganda that brought together 85 religious leaders from countries across the region. Conference participants reached important agreements on the role of religious leaders, and developed a database to improve networking and communication between religious institutions and leaders.

In addition, participants adopted a religious edict—or declaration—articulating the position of religious leaders on the ideology used by extremist groups, providing further momentum for a common engagement strategy to address violent extremism in the region.

UNDP is also supporting the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), an eight-country trade bloc in East Africa that has made preventing violent extremism an urgent priority.

Kenya: UNDP has partnered with Kenya’s National Counter Terrorism Centre to provide training to media outlet owners, editors and journalists on the methods and importance of objective news reporting. Responsible news reporting is an important part of countering violent extremism.
The Ebola Virus outbreak derailed lives and livelihoods in some of the most vulnerable countries in the world. Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone were hit hardest, and by the end of 2016, when the Ebola outbreak was declared over, the virus had infected over 28,600 people, killing 11,300 of them, and decimated not only health systems and infrastructure but also national and local economies. Doctors and health workers died, annual GDP growth plummeted, business and trade shuttered for months on end, and families lost their primary breadwinners.

Japan played a significant role in the immediate and longer-term response to the Ebola epidemic, beginning with an investment of more than $207 million to support recovery efforts in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. A full $75 million went to a joint UN Ebola recovery trust fund in Guinea, part of which helped to fund UNDP Ebola initiatives in the country.

Japan also contributed $4.5 million to a regional UNDP project for cross-border and cross-community issues. The Ebola crisis highlighted the weak response capacity of health systems in the affected countries, and the ease with which the contagion could spread across national borders. As a result, the international community and African governments have made strengthening health infrastructure and cross-border security a regional priority.

UNDP has been at the forefront of emergency response and recovery efforts for the Ebola virus epidemic. It has worked closely with governments, national and local organizations, and international partners, and played the lead coordinating role for agencies from across the UN System.

Since 2016, with Japan’s support, UNDP’s post-Ebola recovery work has focused on strengthening:

- national and regional health infrastructure;
- early warning systems for infectious disease; and
- local governance, community dialogue and peacebuilding in cross-border areas between the Ebola-affected countries.

Working closely with civil society and national partners in Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, UNDP has trained thousands of people in business development, civic education,
Liberia: Items worth over $628,000 dollars—including 160 motorbikes—were donated by the Government of Japan to Liberian authorities in support of the UNDP Emergency Support to the Enhanced Border Surveillance Project.

UNDP is also partnering with Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Health Organization and the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research to support and strengthen post-Ebola medical surveillance and socio-economic recovery initiatives in the region.

GUINEA: A COORDINATED SOLUTION

When the Ebola virus spread to Guinea in 2014, UNDP, along with the rest of the UN System and other humanitarian organizations, joined a national emergency response task force. In particular, UNDP worked on governance issues, and provided assistance to the National Sanitary Surveillance Agency.

In December 2015, UNDP became the lead Ebola Crisis Manager organization for Guinea, working closely with national and international partners on creating, funding, and putting into action the National Ebola Response Cell. UNDP coordinated the country’s $16 million worth of Ebola response projects, funded by the Governments of Belgium and Japan, the World Bank, and a multi-partner trust fund.

This coordinated response was highly effective, reached more than two-thirds of Guinea, and was aligned with the Government of Guinea’s own policies and priorities. For example, in partnership with Guinea’s Ministry of Social Action, Women’s Promotion and Children’s Affairs, UNDP provided psychosocial and economic support to more than 40,000 people affected by Ebola, including orphans, front-line health workers and survivors. Many of these people faced discrimination and fear in their own communities, and the project is helping to reintegrate them into the social and economic fabric.

For example, a September 2016 workshop in Côte d’Ivoire for dozens of security force agents and health workers gave participants the knowledge and resources they needed to train an additional 600 health and safety officers to detect and respond to potential disease epidemics. Participants also learned how to communicate clearly and effectively with the media during an outbreak to dispel rumors and educate people.

In Liberia, 140 local authorities from communities along its borders are now trained in detecting the early warning signs of an Ebola outbreak; in addition, 300 monitors from 30 border communities received training in preventing conflict and recognizing and responding to its early warning signs. Ongoing conflict complicated Ebola response efforts, making border management a critical part of managing the crisis.

■ The strengthening and rehabilitation of health systems and infrastructure. In Guinea, the initiative has resulted in the rehabilitation of five government structures in Ebola-affected regions. It has also purchased and distributed much-needed medical equipment for health centres serving 3,000 people living in some of the country’s most isolated areas.

In Sierra Leone, improved access to health services and clean water is benefiting over 10,000 people in villages along its border. UNDP has built or rehabilitated 30 wells and rehabilitated two health centres and, together with the Ministry of Health and UN agencies, it has established rapid response teams and standard operating procedures for public health emergencies.
Peacebuilding, good governance and resilience

In the Sahel, extreme poverty, climate change, armed conflict and insecurity continue to threaten the lives of millions already living on the brink. In 2017, around 30 million people are expected to face food insecurity, 12 million of whom will need emergency food aid.

UNDP has been working in the Sahel region in response to this crisis since 2013, with $28.1 million in support from the Government of Japan. UNDP’s initiatives seek to strengthen peace, governance, security and human resilience in the five Sahel countries that are most vulnerable to the crisis: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. UNDP does this in partnership with governments, civil society, the private sector and development organizations.

Some key achievements include:

- A half million people living along the border areas of Mali have benefited from a new, national strategy to prevent violent extremism and improve cross-border cooperation. The strategy includes training and support for 1,200 border agents and security forces, and 2,500 members of civil society organizations.

- UNDP is also supporting all five countries in developing national border strategies that bring together dozens of stakeholder groups, including national institutions, security forces, border and custom agents, and civil society representatives from the border communities. This last group includes elected officials, young men and women, farmers and traders.

- UNDP has helped an estimated 225,000 people in the region by providing economic opportunities. For example, in Niger, over 100 young women and men received two months of intensive training in either sewing, mechanics or welding. In northern Burkina Faso, near the border with Niger, UNDP trained young people to produce oil and soap from palm dates, which...
SAHEL REGION CHALLENGES

150 million people live in the Sahel region

12 million people may need emergency food assistance

4.9 million refugees

$28.1 million in funds since 2013 to UNDP

they can then sell in nearby markets. UNDP also worked with another border village to condition more of its land for growing rice, allowing farmers to triple their output from 500 kilograms to three tonnes during the next rainy season.

Burkina Faso: In northern Burkina Faso, near the border with Niger, UNDP trained young people to produce oil and soap from palm dates, which they can then sell in nearby markets.