

## Africa-Japan: Tokyo International Conference on Africa's Development (TICAD)



Established during the first Tokyo International Conference on Africa's Development (TICAD I), which was convened on 5-6 October 1993 in Tokyo, Japan, the Africa-Japan Partnership, most commonly known as TICAD, is organized by the Government of Japan (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the UN Office of the Special Adviser for Africa, UNDP, the World Bank, and the African Union Commission. Organized every five years, since the inaugural TICAD, there have been five other TICAD meetings: TICAD II (19-21 October 1998) "African Development towards the 21st Century: The Tokyo Agenda for Action"; TICAD III (29 September-1 October 2003) "TICAD Tenth Anniversary Declaration"; TICAD IV (28-30 May 2008) "Yokohama Declaration Towards a Vibrant Africa" and "Yokohama Action Plan"; TICAD V (1-3 June 2013) "2013 Yokohama Declaration and Yokohama Action Plan"; TICAD VI (27-28 August 2016) "Advancing Africa's Sustainable Development Agenda – TICAD Partnership for Prosperity"; and most recently, TICAD VII (28-30 August 2019) "Advancing Africa's Development through People, Technology and Innovation".

During TICAD IV, a three-tiered follow-up mechanism was formalized:

- First Tier: Secretariat in Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in Japan;
- Second Tier: Joint Monitoring Committee of TICAD Process: African Members of TICAD Committee from African Diplomatic Corps (ADCs), Japanese government and related governmental organizations, TICAD Co-organizers, AUC, NEPAD, donor countries, International Organizations.
- Third Tier: TICAD Follow up Meetings: TICAD participants, Japanese government, TICAD Co-organizers, African States, AUC, NEPAD, RECs, donor countries, International Organisations.

The priorities identified in the outcome documents of TICAD I, TICAD II, TICAD III, TICAD IV, TICAD V, TICAD VI, and TICAD VII present as follows:

**Table 1: TICAD Program Summary**

TICAD	Outcome Document	Priorities
I: 1993-1997	Tokyo Declaration on African Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Political and economic reforms</li> <li>2. Economic development through activities of the private sector</li> <li>3. Regional cooperation and regional integration</li> <li>4. Emergency relief and development</li> <li>5. Asian experience and African development</li> <li>6. International cooperation</li> <li>7. Follow up</li> </ol>
II: 1998-2002	Tokyo Agenda for Action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Social development and poverty reduction: Promoting human development</li> <li>2. Economic development: Promoting private sector</li> <li>3. Basic foundations for development: Good governance, conflict prevention, and post-conflict development</li> <li>4. Other: Principles – ownership and global partnership; Approaches – Coordination,</li> </ol>

		regional cooperation and integration; Cross-cutting themes – capacity building, gender and environment
III: 2003-2007	Summary by the Chair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. People-centered development</li> <li>2. Poverty reduction through economic growth</li> <li>3. Consolidation of peace</li> <li>4. Infrastructure</li> <li>5. Agricultural development</li> <li>6. Private sector development</li> <li>7. Expansion of partnerships</li> <li>8. Dialogue with civil society</li> </ol>
IV: 2008-2013	Yokohama Declaration Yokohama Action Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Boosting economic growth</li> <li>2. Achieving MDGs</li> <li>3. Consolidation of peace and good governance</li> <li>4. Addressing environmental issues and climate change</li> <li>5. Broadening partnerships</li> </ol>
V: 2013-2016		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Boosting economic growth</li> <li>2. Accelerating infrastructure and capacity development</li> <li>3. Empowering farms as mainstream economic actors</li> <li>4. Promoting sustainable and resilient growth</li> <li>5. Creating inclusive society for growth</li> <li>6. Consolidating peace, stability, democracy and good governance</li> <li>7. Follow up mechanism</li> </ol>
VI: 2016-2019		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promoting structural economic transformation through economic diversification and industrialization</li> <li>2. Promoting resilient health system for quality of life</li> <li>3. Promoting social stability for shared prosperity</li> </ol>
VII: 2019-2022	Yokohama Declaration Yokohama Action Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accelerating economic transformation and improving the business environment through innovation and private sector engagement</li> <li>2. Deepening sustainable and resilient society</li> <li>3. Strengthening peace and stability</li> </ol>

Source: MOFA Japan

With a Nominal GDP of US\$ 5,154,475 trillion, and a population of 126,690,557 million people, the economy of Japan is the third largest in the world after the United States and the People's Republic of China. Japan is the world's 3rd largest automobile manufacturing country, and among the world's largest and most technologically advanced producers of electronic equipment, machine tools, steel and nonferrous metals, ships, chemicals, textiles, and processed foods. Facing increasing competition from China and South Korea, manufacturing in Japan today now focuses primarily on high-tech and precision goods, such as optical equipment, hybrid cars, and robotics. Japan is the world's largest creditor nation generally running an annual trade surplus and having a considerable net international investment surplus. As of 2010, Japan possesses the world's third largest private financial assets at an estimated \$15.054 trillion.

Japan's service sector accounts for about three-quarters of its total economic output. Banking, insurance, real estate, retailing, transportation, and telecommunications are all major industries, with companies such as Mitsubishi UFJ, Mizuho, NTT, TEPCO, Nomura, Mitsubishi Estate, Tokyo Marine, Mitsui Sumitomo, JR East, Seven & I, and Japan Airlines, counting as one of the largest companies in the world. The Koizumi government set Japan Post, one of the country's largest providers of savings and insurance services for privatization by 2014. The six major Keiretsus are the Mitsubishi, Sumitomo, Fuyo, Mitsui, Dai-ichi Kangyo and Sanwa Groups. Japan is home to 68 of the Fortune 500 companies and 326 companies of the Forbes Global 2000 largest companies in the world. Industry is concentrated in several regions. In addition, a long narrow belt of industrial centers is found between Tokyo and Fukuoka, established by particular industries that have developed as mill towns.

In the agriculture sector, rice is a very important crop in Japan although only



12% of Japan's land is suitable for cultivation. Due to this lack of arable land, a system of terraces is used to farm in small areas. This results in one of the world's highest levels of crop yields per unit area, with an overall agricultural self-sufficiency rate of about 50% on fewer than 56,000 km<sup>2</sup> (14 million acres) cultivated. Japan's small agricultural sector, however, is also highly subsidized and protected, with government regulations that favor small-scale cultivation instead of large-scale agriculture as practiced in North America.

Although Japan is usually self-sufficient in rice and wheat, the country must import about 50% of its requirements of other grain and fodder crops and relies on imports for most of its supply of meat. Japan imports large quantities of wheat, sorghum, and soybeans, primarily from the United States. Japan is the largest market for EU agricultural exports.

During the most recent convening of TICAD VII, in August 2019, the "Yokohama Declaration 2019" and the "Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019" were adopted. The document indicated three pillars and six key strategies as the direction of development in Africa for the coming five years.

The three pillars were:

- Accelerating economic transformation and improving business environment through innovation and private sector engagement
- Deepening sustainable and resilient society
- Strengthening peace and stability

The key strategic approaches agreed upon as the direction of development in Africa as of the 7th TICAD meetings (2019) were:

1. Promote economic diversification and industrialization and competitiveness and ensure sustainable financing practices.
  - a) Expand digital economy, including digital infrastructure, digital entrepreneurship, innovation and space applications for development
    - Support for formulation of digital public goods
    - Pitch events (Africa Innovation Initiative) matching African startups with Japanese investors
    - Advocacy and support for platforms to foster dialogue and cooperation for digital inclusion
    - Support to innovation, youth human capital development and entrepreneurship development in response to requests from African countries and regional institutions.
  - b) Support Africa's productivity, industrialization and trade policies
    - Capacity building through technical cooperation including Kaizen Initiatives, human resource training centers and contribution to AfDB trust fund.
    - Support for AfCFTA in response to requests from African countries and AUC
    - Support reinforcement of capacities for trade facilitation, diversification and value chains development
  - c) Enhance agricultural production and food security
    - Collaboration with organizations including NEPAD and partner countries in Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) Capacity building of 1,000 people in natural resource industry

- Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP)
- Promotion for innovation in agriculture
- Dispatch of agriculture experts
- Support for global food value chain development
- Support for agriculture and food security in response to requests from African countries and AUC

- d) Support Africa's development in the Blue Economy
  - Capacity building in the areas of maritime security, port capacity enhancement and sustainable marine resource management
  - Support for improvement in port infrastructure management and operations
  - Provision of ships and related equipment
  - Contribution to multi-layered dialogue
  - Support for blue economy initiatives in response to request from African countries
  - Support enhancement of African countries capacity for sustainable utilization of water resources through water governance and ecosystems management

1.2 Strengthen connectivity and integration through quality infrastructure investment

- a) Construct and facilitate effective implementation of economic corridors
  - Quality infrastructure investment in line with the G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment
  - Support for trade and transport corridors in response to requests from African countries / Support to AUC for SAATM
- b) Improve the capacity of border logistics and authorities related to border crossing
  - Development of quality infrastructure and qualified communication networks including ICT and postal networks (through the UPU among others)
  - Support for border crossing and trade facilitation in response to requests from African countries