COLLABORATION BETWEEN AICAD, JICA AND ICCAE: EVALUATION OF JAPAN’S COOPERATION AND EXPECTATIONS FROM JAPAN

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ABSTRACT

African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD) is an autonomous international institute whose core mandate is poverty reduction in Africa through human capacity development. The institute is jointly funded by the three East African Governments of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, with support from the Government of Japan through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The idea of setting up a Base for African Human Capacity Building (BAHCB) was borne from the second Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD II) in 1998. This led to high level negotiations and commitments that resulted in the signing of Records of Discussion, Memoranda and Articles of Association by the East African and Japanese governments. Following these agreements, AICAD was established on 1st August 2000.

AICAD continues to contribute to several Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly poverty reduction. This is enabled through cooperation between the institution and other partners such as JICA and the International Cooperation Centre for Agricultural Education (ICCAE). AICAD aims to contribute to poverty reduction in a holistic approach: to establish a base for human capacity building, which utilises existing knowledge and technology, creates new technology suitable for local conditions, develops and utilizes the potential capacity of local expertise, builds bridges between institutions which create technology and communities using it, exchanges information, experiences and practices and shares human resources and information in the region and beyond.

The institute’s activities conform fully with respective participating Government development policies governing human resource development and promotion of sustainable and broad based growth. These include the promotion of research and development, increase in productivity and profitability in agriculture through technological innovations, public action to eradicate poverty as well as promotion of agricultural research and extension technology development. AICAD’s mandate is consistent with the Japanese Governments’ policy; the Japanese Government has been and still is committed to supporting the TICAD process. Japan’s involvement in human capacity development in East Africa is valuable—considering JICA experts’ technological advantages in specific fields and their expertise in overall project management. Japanese Technical Cooperation with AICAD entails: dispatch of long-term experts (Chief Advisor, Project Coordinator and Experts), dispatch of short-term experts in accordance with expressed needs for effective implementation of the project, training of counterpart personnel in Japan and provision of equipment and budgetary support for activities. This collaboration is expected to enhance partnerships in matters of staff development, training and extension, research and development and information, network and documentation.

AICAD’s Research and Development (R&D) division has been well established and implemented. Since its inception, one Japanese long-term expert and over fifteen short term experts specialising in the fields of agriculture, social science and engineering among others have been attached to the division for varying periods in order to work alongside their African counterparts. They have provided advice and contributed to various aspects of the division’s programs and activities. The terms of reference, number, timing, duration and quality of short-term experts have been supportive to the implementation of the programs. As a result, AICAD has registered considerable growth in the area of research collaboration and capacity building. This has been done by strengthening the framework and operations of AICAD’s R&D division. Among the specific aspects that have been considerably improved as a direct consequence of this collaboration are: research proposal selection, research monitoring and evaluation and assessment of research results for possible translation and transfer to target communities. On the whole, this collaboration has resulted in AICAD funding and facilitating over one hundred and ten (110) research projects in fifteen
(15) public universities in the region. The program as a whole is achieving its purpose and has contributed to the enhancement of researchers’ understanding of the importance of social factors related to poverty reduction. The potential for dissemination has been identified in twenty five (25) projects out of which two (2) projects are under preparation for dissemination while one (1) project entitled, “Sesame Improvement for Medium Rainfall Areas of Western Kenya” is being disseminated. Based on the fact that sesame adapts well to marginal agro-ecological zones and has high oil content, the focus of this project was on evaluating superior sesame genotypes and promoting appropriate production practices and technologies. It also sought to enhance the adoption of farm-based sesame oil extractions, consumption and sale by farmers. The results on seed multiplication and agronomic practices are being packaged and transferred for practical application by farmers.

AICAD is also working with the ICCAE, Nagoya University in an effort to develop academic exchange and cooperation in research between the two institutions. This is directed towards exchange of research activities, joint research activities, exchange of professors and research scholars, training activities, coordination of professors and research scholars who do not belong to the two institutions into the above mentioned activities, exchange of scientific materials, publications and information as well as any other activities as mutually agreed.

The main area of cooperation has been the JICA supported project for promotion of New Rice for Africa (NERICA) in the east African region. Since rice cultivation in this region is relatively young, with consumption outstripping production, this collaboration seeks to exploit Japan’s experience and expertise, particularly that which has seen its agro-researchers’ sustained efforts produce resilient varieties of Japonica rice resulting in the achievement of self-sufficiency in rice. Cooperation between AICAD and ICCAE has been in the area of training and capacity building which has resulted in four (4) Kenyan researchers, who are members of the NERICA Technical Committee and Working Group for NERICA adaptability trials, accessing opportunities to work independently at Nagoya University since 2005. They have received facilitation in carrying out various studies related to the promotion of NERICA cultivation focusing on among others, investigation of socioeconomic conditions and technology required for extension of NERICA cultivation in East Africa, genetic characterization of NERICA cultivars, analysis of prerequisites for NERICA dissemination based on household surveys in Kenya, identification of desirable root traits of rice grown under alternative dry-wet water regimes in soil and literature review for eco-physiological study of parasitic weed striga. The researchers have learnt new technologies and knowledge related to rice science which they have continued to apply in their work revolving around implementation of NERICA adaptability trials. These trials aim to identify suitable varieties and areas for NERICA cultivation. Four varieties - NERICA 1, 4, 10 and 11 have been identified as the most promising for the growing environment in Kenya.

Phase two of the AICAD/JICA project was concluded in July 2007. This was the operational phase of the project during which AICAD’s research registered considerable growth. As the project moves into Phase three, the institute will place increasing emphasis on dissemination of knowledge and technologies to target communities, as it moves towards achieving its mission of “linking knowledge to application within communities to reduce poverty in partner countries in Africa”. AICAD will continue to look to both JICA and ICCAE for both material and technical support based on these institutions’ longstanding experiences in this field.

KEYWORDS
Cooperation, poverty reduction, human capacity development, TICAD process, research and development
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INTRODUCTION

• AICAD is an autonomous International Institute jointly financed by the governments of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania with the support of the government of Japan through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
• AICAD has its headquarters in Juja, Kenya.
• A country office is located in each of the member states.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AICAD

• Idea of setting up a Base for African Human Capacity Building (BAHCB) borne from 2nd Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD II) in 1998.
• Led to negotiations and commitments that resulted in the signing of Records of Discussions, Memorandum and Articles of Association by the East African and Japanese governments.
• Following these agreements, AICAD was established on 1st August, 2000.

AICAD’S MANDATE

• AICAD is contributing towards a number of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly poverty alleviation through human capacity development.
• This is enabled through cooperation between AICAD and other partners such as JICA and the International Cooperation Centre for Agriculture Education (ICCAE).

AICAD’S APPROACH

AICAD aims to contribute to poverty alleviation by establishing a Base for Human Capacity Building with focus on the following key features:
• Utilization of existing knowledge and technology
• Creation of new technology suitable for local conditions
• Development and utilization of the capacity of local expertise
• Building bridges between institutions which create technology and communities using it
• Exchanging information, experiences and practices
• Sharing human resources and information in the region and beyond

AICAD ACTIVITIES & GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Kenya: Investment Programme for Wealth & Employment Creation
Human Resource development
• Opportunity for all Kenyans to productively & self reliantly participate in employment and wealth creation.

Tanzania: National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty
• Promotion of sustainable and broad based growth.
• Promotion of R&D & increasing productivity and profitability in agriculture through technological innovations.

• Framework to guide public action to eradicate poverty.
• Promote agricultural research and extension development
• Business development skills of medium, small scale and micro-enterprises

Japan: Government policy
• Support to African development, poverty reduction in Africa and its integration into the global economy.
• Commitment to supporting the TICAD process
LIST OF LONG TERM EXPERTS

| NAME | POST | START | ETAS
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. KUMANO Hidekazu</td>
<td>Chief Advisor</td>
<td>8. Aug. 2002</td>
<td>7 Aug. 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. KIMURA Kenji</td>
<td>IN&amp;D Advisor</td>
<td>31. Aug. 2004</td>
<td>30 Aug. 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. NAKAGAWA Takashi</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>24. July 2004</td>
<td>23 July 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. MAKIHARA Daigo</td>
<td>R&amp;D Advisor</td>
<td>1. April 2003</td>
<td>30 March 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. MUTO Saeri</td>
<td>T&amp;E Advisor</td>
<td>30 Oct. 2002</td>
<td>29 April 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. NAKAZAWA Shigeki</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>4. Feb. 2002</td>
<td>3 Aug. 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. HANAI Masa'aki</td>
<td>Chief Advisor</td>
<td>16. Sept. 2002</td>
<td>15 Sept. 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. IDA Mamoru</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>13 Aug. 2000</td>
<td>30 Oct. 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. KOBAYASHI Keiichiro</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>11 July 2006</td>
<td>11 July 2007</td>
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LIST OF SHORT-TERM EXPERTS

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<tr>
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<th>DURATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Koichi Yamada</td>
<td>JICA Senior Advisor</td>
<td>NRI (Agriculture)</td>
<td>Jan., 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Yoshio Koyama</td>
<td>JICA Senior Advisor</td>
<td>M&amp;E (Social Science)</td>
<td>June, 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Koji Yamanaka</td>
<td>JICA Senior Advisor</td>
<td>M&amp;E (Agriculture)</td>
<td>Dec., 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. T. Matsumoto</td>
<td>Prof. ICCAE, Nagoya University</td>
<td>M&amp;E (Agriculture)</td>
<td>March, 2005</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Shiro Kodama</td>
<td>Prof. Graduate School of Social Science, Kyoto University.</td>
<td>M&amp;E (Agriculture)</td>
<td>March, 2005</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Makoto Kimura</td>
<td>Prof. International Innovation Centre</td>
<td>M&amp;E (Engineering)</td>
<td>March, 2005</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Eri Habu</td>
<td>UFJ Institute Ltd</td>
<td>Development of IPR</td>
<td>May, 2005</td>
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JAPANESE TECHNICAL COORPORATION WITH AICAD

Key elements:
- Dispatch of long-term experts
- Dispatch of short-term experts
- Training counterpart personnel in Japan
- Provision of equipment and budgetary support for activities

This is geared towards enhancing partnerships in matters of:
- Staff development
- Training and Extension
- Research and Development
- Information Network and Documentation

STATUS OF R&D ACTIVITIES

* AICAD has funded and facilitated over one hundred (110) research projects in fifteen (15) public universities in the region.

* The potential for dissemination has been identified in twenty-five (25) projects out of which two (2) projects are under preparation for dissemination while one (1) project entitled, "Sesame Improvement for Medium Rainfall Areas of Western Kenya" is being disseminated.

* The program as a whole is achieving its purpose and has contributed to the enhancement of researchers understanding of the importance of social factors related to poverty reduction.

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES - SESAME PROJECT

* Based on the fact that sesame adapts well to marginal agro-ecological zones and has high oil content, the focus of this project was on evaluating superior sesame genotypes and promoting appropriate production practices and technologies.

* It also sought to enhance the adoption of farm-based sesame oil extractions, consumption and sale by farmers.

* The results on seed multiplication and agronomic practices are being packages and transferred for practical application by farmers.

COLLABORATION BETWEEN AICAD & JICA IN SUPPORTING R&D ACTIVITIES

* 1 Japanese long-term expert and over 15 short-term experts attached to the division for varying periods to provide advice and contribute to various aspects of the division’s programs & activities

* Areas of specialization: agriculture, social science and engineering etc.

* The terms of reference, number, timing, duration and quality of short-term experts have been supportive to the implementation of the programs. As a result, AICAD has registered considerable growth in the areas of research collaboration and capacity building.

* Framework and operations of AICAD’s R&D division have been strengthened e.g. research proposal selection, research monitoring and evaluation, assessment of research results for possible translation and transfer to target communities.
COLLABORATION BETWEEN AICAD & ICCAE

AICAD is also working with the ICCAE, Nagoya University in an effort to develop academic exchange and cooperation in research between the two institutions. This is directed towards:

- Exchange of research activities
- Joint research activities
- Exchange of professors and research scholars
- Training activities
- Coordination of professors and research scholars who do not belong to the institutions into the above mentioned activities
- Exchange of scientific materials, publications and information as well as any other activities as mutually agreed.

COLLABORATION IN PROMOTION OF NERICA

- The main area of cooperation has been the JICA supported project for the promotion of New Rice for Africa (NERICA) in the East African region.
- Cooperation between AICAD and ICCAE has been in the area of training and capacity building which has resulted in five (5) Kenyan researchers, who are members of the NERICA Technical Committee and Working group for NERICA adaptability trials, accessing opportunities to work independently at Nagoya University since 2005.

NERICA IMPLEMENTERS TRAINED IN ICCAE, NAGOYA UNIVERSITY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INVITEE</th>
<th>AFFILIATION</th>
<th>RESEARCH SUBJECTS</th>
<th>INVITATION DURATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Washington Kouko</td>
<td>Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI, Kibos)</td>
<td>Investigation of socio-economic conditions and cultivation technology supported for extension of NERICA cultivation in East Africa</td>
<td>May 1st - August 30th, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Winfrey Kere</td>
<td>Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI, Kibos)</td>
<td>Genetic characterization of NERICA cultivars.</td>
<td>January 15th - April 14th, 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Joseph Newton Okech</td>
<td>Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI, Kibos)</td>
<td>Analysis of the prerequisites for NERICA dissemination based on the farmers’ field survey in Kenya.</td>
<td>May 1st - July 31st, 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. J. Onyango</td>
<td>Faculty of Science, Maseno University, Kenya.</td>
<td>Identification of desirable root traits of rice grown under alternating dry and water regimes.</td>
<td>August 1st - December 31st, 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Evans Atera</td>
<td>Lake Basin Development Authority, LBDA, Kenya</td>
<td>Literature review for morphophysiological study of parasitic weed stiga.</td>
<td>January 1st - March 31st, 2007</td>
</tr>
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STATUS OF NERICA ADAPTABILITY TRIALS

Four varieties have been identified as most suitable for growing environment in Kenya:

- NERICA 1
- NERICA 4
- NERICA 10
- NERICA 11

The 1st season of National Performance Trials by the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) in complete. This is the first step in the process of registration and release of varieties for planting by farmers.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTINUED COLLABORATION BETWEEN AICAD, JICA & ICCAE

- Phase II of the AICAD/JICA project was concluded in July, 2007. This was the operational phase of the project during which AICAD’s research registered considerable growth.

- As the project moves into Phase III, the institute will place increased emphasis on dissemination of knowledge and technologies to target communities, as it moves towards achieving its mission of “linking knowledge to application within communities to reduce poverty in partner countries in Africa”.

- AICAD will continue to look to both JICA and ICCAE for both material and technical support based on these institutions’ long standing experiences in this field.

Thank you for your attention!