This information pertains to one of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)'s Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Long-Term). This program will be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both governments.

Each country may have its own schedule and/or qualifications for the program. The additional information is listed on the separated paper.
1. Background

Africa’s economy had been steadily growing since 2000 with the growth rate of over 5% on average. However, due to the decline of global commodity prices since 2013, the growth rate has been declined, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that growth rates in Africa will be 3.4% in 2018 and 3.8% in 2019. While each African nation sets a target for sustainable economic development, policy implementation, aimed at turning commodity-based economies into multifaceted industrialized economies through developing primary and secondary industries, is an urgent matter. On the other hand, the International Labor Organization (ILO) points out that the number of youth unemployment in Africa has reached nearly 75 million, almost one third of the youth population (200 million) in the whole region. Given these circumstances, it is expected that the yield of value-added industries and the realization of high productivity of industries in Africa will resolve the issue as they generate job opportunities and bring about more stabilized economies. Moreover, Japanese enterprises are showing strong recognition of and interest in a prosperous Africa.

At the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), held in Yokohama in 2013, the Japanese Government stated its policy of strengthening support for the ongoing dynamic growth of Africa with stronger public-private partnerships. Japanese Prime Minister Abe announced the “African Business Education Initiative for Youth” (hereafter referred to as the “ABE Initiative”), a strategic five-year plan providing 1,000 youths in Africa with opportunities to study at Japanese universities as well as do internships at Japanese enterprises. The ABE Initiative was launched based on a joint recommendation by Japanese industries, including the Federation of Economic Organizations (KEIDANREN) and the Japanese government at “Public-Private Council for the Promotion of TICAD V”. These bodies pointed out that there is a need for human resource development in both private and public sectors of Africa in order to cultivate a strong human network between Japan and Africa. The recommendation also mentioned the significance of increasing the number of African people visiting Japan, as well as increasing awareness among Africans regarding the efficiency of Japanese technologies and systems of enterprises. In addition, based on the announcement at TICAD VI held in Nairobi in 2016, Japan has continued the ABE Initiative until 2018. Although the continuation of the ABE Initiative depends on the result of TICAD7 in August 2019, its preparation starts from the year 2018.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been appointed to implement a master’s degree and internship program within the ABE Initiative framework developed for countries whose official requests have been approved by the Government of Japan.

2. Objectives

The objective of Master’s Degree and Internship Program of the ABE Initiative is to support young personnel who have the potential to contribute to the development of industries in Africa.

This program offers opportunities for young African personnel (hereafter referred to as “participants”) to study at master’s courses in Japanese universities and experience internships at Japanese enterprises. This program intends to foster excellent personnel who can recognize and understand the contexts of Japanese society and systems of Japanese
enterprises so as to contribute Africa’s development in collaboration with Japanese private sector. The expected outcome of the program is a network of potential contributors to the development of African industries who will also lead Japanese private sector to engage further in economic activities in/towards Africa.

3. Program Outline

(1) Program Title

Master’s Degree and Internship Program of African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative)

(2) Language of the Program: English

4. Duration

[Standard Timetable]

September, 2019 – September, 2022
- 6 months as a research student if necessary (See page 8)
- 1 or 2 years as a master’s student
- Internship after graduation for the limited participants only (details are to be determined)

5. Target Countries

All 54 African countries

6. Target Participants

This program targets on the participant who will take a role as a pioneer for developing African industries through the collaboration with Japanese private sector. Target participants are selected from the following three categories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) Persons from the Private Sector</th>
<th>Young individuals who are or will be involved in economic activities in the local private sector maintaining and developing strong ties with Japanese companies and expected to contribute to Africa’s development through business activities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2) Government Officials</td>
<td>Young government officials/civil servants who take part in formulation and/or implementation of industrial policies, and are expected to contribute to Africa’s development through government activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Educators</td>
<td>Young instructors/teachers in college, university or research institution in Africa, and are expected to contribute to Africa’s development through joint research/development with Japanese companies etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

※Since the start of the Initiative, the number of woman participants has been limited. Woman participants are encouraged to apply for the program.

7. Internship at Japanese Private Companies

All participants are expected to do internships at Japanese companies during their stay in Japan (ex. summer break, after graduation etc).

Internship programs are carried out in English. In principle, no reward or compensation should be paid to the companies and the participants. Details of the internships will be fixed
8. Qualifications and Requirements

Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Nationality</td>
<td>Citizens of one of the 54 African countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Age</td>
<td>Between 22 and 39 years of age (as of April 1st, 2019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Education</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree (equivalent to at least 16 years of academic background)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Working Experience /Status</td>
<td>Applicants for the category of “Persons from the Private Sector” (shown in the Section 6.) are required:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- to have any working experiences,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- not to be employed by Japanese companies at the timing of joining the program (arriving in Japan), and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- in principle to be related in any means with Japan’s Official Development Assistance (ODA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applicants for the category of “Government Officials” and “Educators” (shown in the Section 6.) are required:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- to have more than 6 months working experience at their current organizations, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- to obtain permission for application and securing reinstatement from their current organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) English - language Proficiency</td>
<td>Adequate English skills both in written and oral communication to complete the master’s course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Understanding of the Program</td>
<td>Applicants are required to have clear understanding of the objectives of the ABE Initiative Master’s Degree and Internship Program, and to have a strong will to contribute to the industrial development of their home countries as well as to strengthen the linkage between their countries and Japan after returning home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Others</td>
<td>Applicants must:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- be in good health condition to complete the program,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- not receive or plan to receive a scholarship offered by other foreign organizations, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- attend the activities on the weekends in unavoidable circumstances (ex. official exam)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Procedures and Required Documents for Application

Application procedures will be different according to the categories of applicant described in (1) and (2) below.

In addition, during the application process in each country for FY2019, the applicants under the category (1) below will be prioritized over the applicants under the category (2) below.
(1) Procedures for Applicants who Applied for FY2018

For the applicants who applied for FY2018 and passed the selection in each country but were not accepted as participants of the program, application procedures will start by JICA overseas office’s contact with them after examining the qualifications and requirements. The personnel who have the will to apply for FY2019 again needs to submit the JICA’s Application Documents again (shown in (3) below).

(2) Procedures for Applicants who Newly Apply for FY2019

For the applicants who newly apply for FY2019, in principle, application procedures will start by JICA overseas offices’ contact with the respective countries’ governments and the other relevant organizations to provide detailed information of the program.

(3) Required Documents for Application for All Applicants

Each applicant is required to submit the following JICA’s Application Documents by the deadline set by JICA office in the applicants’ country except for (6) which are to be submitted after 5th selection or official approval.

The applicants who pass the 4th Selection are required to check necessary application documents set by the university where they can apply. Then, they need to submit university’s application documents directly to the university by the deadline set by the university. Since most of the universities will require official certificate of English score (ex. TOEFL, IELTS), it is recommended to take such English exam by yourself and obtain certificate in advance.

JICA’s Application Documents

(1) Application Form 【1-(1)】consists of:

- Personal Information
- Education Background
- Present Organization and Nomination
- Work Experience
- Medical History
- Declaration
- Check List
- Career Plan after Graduation (Annex 1)
- Research Plan with Declaration of Desired University Placement (Annex 2)

(2) Undergraduate degree graduation certificate which officially certified.

* A copy of “Officially certified copies of the original” is acceptable
* Written in English or accompanied with official translation

(3) Academic transcript

* Must contain all the grades earned in the university.
* A copy of “Officially certified copies of the original” is acceptable
* Written in English or accompanied with official translation

(4) A copy of Valid Passport with photo (for checking nationality, name, sex, and date of birth). Valid National ID and birth certificate are acceptable if you do not have Passport. Certified English translation must be attached if ID is not written in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish)
(5) 2 ID Photo (4 cm × 3 cm) pasted on application form (Original and copy).
(6) Health certificate to be submitted after the 5th Selection

Please visit the website below to download the “Application Form” and other necessary documents to apply.

1-(1), Application Form
   (Annex 1) Career Plan after Graduation
   (Annex 2) Research Plan
   (Attachment of Annex 2) Declaration of Desired University Placement

2-(1), University Information for the Applicants
2-(2), Instructions

(4) Withdraw of the Application

If applicants encounter the situation that needs to withdraw the application by force majeure during the selection process, the applicants need to contact with JICA office and explain the situation as soon as possible.

10. Selection Procedures

* There are no fees to be charged directly by JICA during the selection process.
* Any costs incurred during the selection procedures including travel expenses, documents preparation (photos, official notification etc.) and any other personal expenses will NOT BE COVERED by JICA but should be covered by an applicant.
* The reasons for disqualification on each selection procedure will NOT BE DISCLOSED.

There are mainly following three selection processes: (A) Selection in each country, (B) Matching with Japanese universities, and (C) Selection by Japanese universities.

(A) Selection in each country (From 1st Selection to 3rd Selection)

(1) 1st Selection (all applicants)
[Necessary Actions for Applicants for this selection]

Each applicant needs to submit JICA’s Application Documents by the deadline set by JICA office in the applicants’ country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>November 2018 (Please check with the JICA office in the country of your nationality.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>Screening of submitted JICA’s Application Documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>To check qualifications and requirements of each applicant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Result | The applicants for FY2018: Applicants who pass this selection can proceed on to the 4th Selection.
The applicants who newly apply for FY2019: Applicants who pass this selection can proceed on to the 2nd Selection. |
## (2) 2nd Selection (applicants who newly apply for FY2019 only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>November 2018 (Please check with the JICA office in the country of your nationality.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>Screening of submitted JICA’s Application Documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>To check applicants’ understanding of the program objectives and working experiences/educational background in the context of the “Target Participants” (shown in the Section 6).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
<td>The applicants who pass this selection can proceed on to the 3rd Selection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## (3) 3rd Selection (applicants who newly apply for FY2019 only)

[Necessary Actions for Applicants for this selection]

Each applicant needs to be interviewed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>November 2018-December 2018 (Please check with the JICA office in the country of your nationality.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>Interviews by the members of JICA office etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>To check applicants’ understanding of the program objectives and capability of contributing to development of industry after the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
<td>The applicants who pass this selection can proceed on to the 4th Selection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## (4) Matching with Japanese universities (4th Selection)

## (4) 4th Selection (all applicants)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>January 2018- February 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>Document screening by Japanese universities (mainly “Research Plan” of the JICA’s Application Documents, the Undergraduate degree graduation certificate, and Academic transcript)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>To match applicants with university courses/supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>JICA will send JICA’s Application Documents to the applicants’ desired universities (from first choice to third choice). Universities will then examine the documents in order to check the applicants’ field of study and research plan are matched with the courses/supervisors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result</td>
<td>The applicants who pass this selection can proceed on to the 5th Selection. JICA will inform of these applicants of the name of university where the applicant can apply. Then, the applicants need to check and prepare university’s application documents and submit them directly to the university.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: JICA may adjust the number of candidates during the 4th Selection based on the budget limitation and a balance of the number of candidates from each country.

## (C) Selection by Japanese universities (5th Selection)

## (5) 5th Selection (Final Selection) (all applicants)
[Necessary Actions for Applicants for this selection]

Each applicant needs to check necessary application documents set by the university where he/she can apply. Then, he/she needs to submit university’s application documents directly to the university by the deadline set by the university.

During this selection process, each applicant may be interviewed depending on university’s selection process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>February 2018- May 2018 (approximately)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>Screening of submitted university’s application documents and interviews by Japanese universities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>To select the final candidates (to be proceeded to official approval)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>If necessary, using Skype or other means for interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>Universities will screen the applicants through submitted university’s application documents and interviews.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result</td>
<td>The applicants who pass this selection (and JICA adjustment if necessary) will be selected as successful candidates of the program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: JICA may adjust the number of candidates after the 5th Selection based on the budget limitation and a balance of the number of candidates from each country. Therefore, some of the applicants who pass the 5th Selection may not be selected as successful candidates of the program.

(6) Approval of the Successful Candidates

Successful candidates who pass the 5th Selection (and JICA adjustment if necessary) must be officially approved as participants of the program by the Steering Committee/the respective government and JICA. Each approved participant’s status as “officially dispatched student” should be endorsed by their home countries’ governments.

(7) Research Student

Research students are part-time students who utilize their time to prepare for the entrance examination for a master’s courses. Research students are able to join lectures, receive instruction from professors and make use of university facilities. The period for being a research student is limited to six (6) months. Participants as research students are requested to study and take examinations for the master’s course within six (6) months. If failed, they have to return to their home country.

(8) Training Program for Human Resources Development in the Mining Sector (KIZUNA program)

Participants who wish to study in the area of Mining, Geology, etc. may be classified as applicants of a different program ‘Human Resources Development in the Mining Sector (KIZUNA program)’, which is also organized by JICA, and will be screened according to the selection procedures of the KIZUNA program from 4th Selection of ABE Initiative. JICA will inform you when you are classified as an applicant of the KIZUNA program.
11. Expenses to Be Borne by JICA

JICA will provide the following expenses for participant of the program which is equivalent to similar JICA schemes.

- Tuition at Japanese university master’s degree programs (and research student)
- Allowances for living expenses, outfit, shipping etc. See the box below for more details.
- A round-trip airfare

Other costs should be covered by the participants’ organizations or other individuals.

*Participants are not allowed to work while their stay in Japan.

*To invite family to Japan (spouse and children only), participants should be responsible for all expenses, necessary procedure by themselves. JICA does not provide any support or additional financial assistance except issuing necessary documents for the process. JICA strongly recommend inviting family AFTER 6 MONTHS upon arrival in Japan.

*Revised in Sep 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allowance Item</th>
<th>Amount of payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>Actual cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living allowance</td>
<td>¥2,317～¥5,052/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air fee</td>
<td>Actual cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outfit allowance (general outfit and shipping)</td>
<td>¥106,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving allowance</td>
<td>¥164,000～¥224,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. JICA’s Policies

(a) Privacy Policy

1) Scope of Use

Any information used for identifying individuals that is acquired by JICA will be stored, used, or analyzed only within the scope of JICA activities. JICA reserves the right to use such identifying information and other materials in accordance with the provisions of this privacy policy.

2) Limitations on Use and Provision

JICA shall never intentionally provide information that can be used to identify individuals to any third party, with the following three exceptions:

(a) In cases of legally mandated disclosure requests;
(b) In cases in which the provider of information grants permission for its disclosure to a third party;
(c) In cases in which JICA commissions a party to process the information collected; the information provided will be within the scope of the commissioned tasks.

3) Security Notice

JICA takes measures required to prevent leakage, loss, or destruction of acquired information, and to otherwise properly manage such information.
(b) Copyright Policy
Participants of ABE Initiative are requested to comply with the following copyright policy;

Article 1. Compliance matters with participants’ drafting of documents (various reports, action plans, etc.) and presentations (report meetings, lectures, speeches, etc.)

1. Any contents of the documents and presentations shall be created by themselves in principle.
2. Comply with the following matters, if you, over the limit of quotation, have to use a third person’s work (reproduction, photograph, illustration, map, figure, etc.) that is protected under laws or regulations in your country or copyright-related multinational agreements or the like:
   (1) Obtain license to use the work on your own responsibility. In this case, the scope of the license shall meet the provisions of Article 2.
   (2) Secure evidential material that proves the grants of the license and specifies the scope of the license.
   (3) Consult with the third party and perform the payment procedure on your own responsibility regarding negotiations with a third person about the consideration for granting the license and the procedure for paying the consideration.

Article 2. Details of use of works used for ABE Initiative
(1) The copyright on a work that a participant prepares for ABE Initiative shall belong to the participant. The copyright on the parts where a third party’s work is used shall belong to the third party.
(2) When using texts, supplementary educational materials and other materials distributed for ABE Initiative, participants shall comply with the purposes and scopes approved by each copyright holder.

(c) Compliance Policy
1. JICA shall improve the transparency and fairness of its operations and financial activities in order to secure public trust.
2. JICA shall contribute to the sound development of the international economic community through development assistance in order to secure the trust of the international community.
3. JICA shall meet the needs of developing regions and swiftly and flexibly provide quality service.
4. JICA shall consider natural and social environments when conducting its operations.
5. JICA shall communicate well with various levels of society and maintain an organizational culture of transparency.

*Please refer to JICA website below regarding the detailed JICA’s Compliance.