



Japan and Africa: Strengthening Bonds

The theme of the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), to be held in Yokohama from August 28 to 30, is “Advancing Africa’s Development through People, Technology and Innovation.” In this month’s Feature, we look at examples of Japan’s commitment to Africa in these fields, from education at schools and medical research to human resource development and innovative private-sector engagement. “The entry of numerous Japanese companies into Africa and the advancement and expansion of their businesses in Africa are vital to the future of Japan and Africa,” says Shigeru Ushio, Director-General of the African Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (pp. 6-7). In this issue we show how Japan is strengthening bonds with African countries and boosting development on the continent.

Photo: Courtesy of Smiley Earth Co., Ltd.