

Africa NOW #104

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Topic: **Finding Synergies between Fighting HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Achieving UHC**

On October 26 and 27, 2015, Africa Japan Forum (AJF) hosted an international workshop titled 'Finding Synergies between Fighting HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Achieving UHC' in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo. Co-organizer of the event was the Global Fund Advocated Network (GFAN), the international civil society network that advocates for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund). Total of 20 civil society activists and experts on HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria issues and the global health policies joined the workshop - from Asia, Africa and other regions of the world - and discussed the prospects of creating synergies between the big three disease-control programmes and Universal Health Coverage. As the outcome of the two-day discussions, AJF, GFAN and endorsing organizations put together the civil society position statement, "People's Health Comes First."

pp.2-3 **Report: 'The International Civil Society Workshop on the Global Health Policies in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Decades'**

On October 26, workshop participants had two panel discussions on what were synergies between Fighting HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Achieving UHC and drafted a civil society position statement.

pp.4-5 **Remarks by KAWADA Ryuhei, Member of the House of Councillors, 'Finding Synergies between Fighting HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Achieving UHC'**

As an HIV-positive person himself, Councillor Kawada has been involved in HIV/AIDS issues over 20 years. In this remarks, he emphasized the slogan, "We're Already Living Together."

pp.6-9 **'Led by people with disabilities living in African forest' by TODA Mikako**

Last March, TODA published a book "People with disabilities in African Forest: People crossing over borders (tentative)". Her work tells you how they spend their days, and how they earn their livelihood, etc. We asked TODA what led her into Cameroonian Tropical Forest. Her answer is in this essay.

pp.10-11 **'Memories of friends with disabilities in Africa' by KUSAKABE Mika**

From 2006 to 2008, KUSAKABE spent days in Ghana, where she worked with people with disabilities (PWD) in an HIV awareness project as a volunteer at the Planned Parenthood Association. She made friends with many PWDs and learned that some of them hardly had opportunities of going out. Now, inspired by TODA's book, she writes about memories of friends with disabilities in Africa.

pp.12-13 **'Ghana Was! Memoirs of a College Girl' by YADATSU Yuko**

YADATSU spent one year in Ghana as a student of Ghana University, where she was surprised by a strike by the University Teachers' Association. And she got disappointed that teachers' words on peace-building in African countries were same as in UK, USA etc. But she learned about environmental problems in Ghana, which made her pay more attention to the idea of equity in Japan. Now, she studies pollution issues in Japan.

pp.14-15 **On the spot in Africa - Letter from Yaunde no.1 'Working as a staff of Pan-African NGO IPD' by DOTE Kanae**

NOTE introduces Pan-African NGO Institut Panafricain pour le Développement ('Pan-African Institute for Development' in English).

pp.16-17 **'My challenges in organizing African Kids Club events' by NIYONZIMA Izumi**

NIYONZIMA writes her journey to Uganda, Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo. She also writes the story of meeting her future husband in Rwanda, and her passion for learning about Rural Development.

pp.18-19 **Learning issues on Africa from internet (1) 'Malawi's food crisis' by NAKANO Satoshi**

As the kickoff of the new series 'Learning Issues on Africa from Internet', NAKANO picks up the food crisis in Malawi concerning which The United Nations' World Food Programme (WFP) issued a warning appeal on September 25, 2015. He introduces some background information and analytic papers on the matter.

Back cover **Postscript and Record of Activities ('Hitotsu no musubime toshite' in Japanese) from the secretariat of AJF to readers**