

Africa NOW #119

Issued on 31st March 2022, by Africa Japan Forum (AJF)

«Contents»

pp. 2-13 **Special Topic: Questioning the Nacala Corridor Economic Development in Mozambique**
The withdrawal from the ProSAVANA JBL in Mozambique did not stop the operation of Nacala Corridor Economic Development project. Exploitation of natural resources like coal and natural gas has continued along with infrastructural development needed for it. These projects were touted as a success story of public-private partnerships (PPP) in overseas economic cooperation: however, in fact, negative impacts on people's life and environment such as forced relocation of communities, terrible dust and other environmental degradation, and deteriorated living conditions near coal railways - the list is still endless. In areas where natural gas is being developed offshore, conflict or attack from armed groups is intensified, resulting in the displacement of up to 800,000 people. In light of this situation, this issue of Africa NOW features 'Questioning the Economic Development of the Mozambique-Nacala Corridor.'

pp .3-10 **Round Table: Review of the activities calling for suspension of ProSAVANA-JBM (Part 2) by Ikegami Koichi, Watanabe Naoko, Tsuyama Naoko, Akimoto Yoko, Takahashi Kiyotaka, Kondo Yasuo, Mozumi Mamoru**

Following Africa NOW 118, this issue features 'Roundtable Discussion: Looking Back on the Campaign to Stop the ProSAVANA-JBL (Part 2)'. First, participants talked about the purpose of the field survey of areas covered by the project and their impressions there. Next, they analyze some key elements that underpinned the movement, describing how the 'divide and rule' tactic was employed by the authority to undermine the voice of farmers' or NGO's organizations to speed up the project. Finally, as future issues to be addressed, they discussed how the local people were damaged by the Nacala Corridor Economic Development project.

p .11 **Japanese ODA and FDI shifting to Public Private Partnership by Ikegami Koichi**
Ikegami Koichi, an expert of peasants' food sovereignty and their movement, analyzes problematic aspects of Japanese ODA and foreign direct investment (FDI) through Public Private Partnerships (PPP). He raises concerns that the promotion of development through PPPs in Mozambique is aimed at securing natural resources, where a large part of the economic benefits from it may finally fall into the hands of investing companies and remained very little for local communities.

pp .12-13 **Interview with Vicente Adriano: Residents' suffering caused by large scale resource development**

Vicente Adriano was a staff member of the National Union of Peasants (UNAC) in Mozambique, where he worked to stop the ProSAVANA-JBL. He is now a staff member of ADRA Mozambique. He explains the damage caused by the coal mining development in Moatize and a railway construction. He is also active in supporting those who were displaced in the province of Cabo Delgado due to difficulties triggered by offshore natural gas development.

pp. 14-19 **Interview with Fukao Koichi: Field of "exchange": Northern Nigeria in 1980-1983 (interviewer & commentator - Tamai Takashi)**

Fukao Koichi, a member of AJF Board of Directors, served as served as an assistant to managing director of Arewa Textiles in Nigeria for three years from 1980 to 1983. Arewa Textiles Ltd. was established in 1963, through joint investment and technology licensing by a major Japanese spinning company. The interview focused on his life in northern Nigeria. He recalls some difficulties he faced at work including incidents of unpaid salaries to employees, as well as some warm memories of friendship with the people living in Nigeria. The interviewer, Tamai Takashi (a co-board chairs of AJF), adds background information of the foundation of Arewa Textiles Ltd. and the situation in Nigeria in the 1980s. Tamai encourages readers to record their experiences for future generations.

pp. 20-21 **My identity in Nigeria as a mixed Nigerian and Japanese by Saito Onu Hana Jennifer Ifunanya**

This is the 12th installment in a series of 'Essay Relay - African Kids Club'. A university student Saito Onu Hana Jennifer Ifunanya wrote the article. Her father is a Nigerian and mother is a Japanese. She spent three months from October 2021 in her father's home state of Anambra, Nigeria. She states that she was always conscious about her Nigerian identity in Japan, but in Nigeria she was often considered a 'foreigner,' which perplexed her ideas about her identity. She also expresses uncomfortableness of being praised for her skin color taken for '*fare*' (light remarkably similar to white) in Nigeria, which she has never experienced in Japan.

p. 22 **From the ‘International health and COVID-19’ blog post by Inaba Masaki**

Adapted from a blog post on ‘International Health and COVID-19’ on the AJF’s website. Inaba Masaki, AJF’s Director of International health, provides updates on COVID-19 and related global health issues.

p. 22 **The Global Fund’s Seventh Replenishment targets US\$ 18 billion**

The Global Fund (Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria) held an online preparatory meeting for the seventh replenishment in February and adopted an Investment Case with a target to reach a minimum funding requirement of US\$18 billion over the three-year period for 2024-2026. The replenishment is expected to take place for the first time since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, some say that the target of up to US\$18 billion is not enough.

p. 23 **Book Review: Sindiwe Magona “Mother to Mother” and “When the Village Sleeps” by Satake Junko**

Satake Junko’s review of two works by South African author Sindiwe Magona, *Mother to Mother* (“*Haba kara Haba e*” in Japanese title) and *When the Village Sleeps*. Based on the ‘Amy Bill Case’ in 1993 (a white American woman studying in South Africa was killed by a group of black youths in a black neighborhood), the book *Mother to Mother*, takes the form of a letter written by the mother of the perpetrator to victim’s mother. Through the narrative of perpetrator’s mother, the rage of blacks against whites under colonial rule and apartheid was expressed. The other novel, *When the Village Sleeps*, depicts the life of 21st-century South African society in which drinking, drugs, and paid dating is not uncommon. On other hand, a fourth-generation Xhosa girl, Mandlakazi (*mandla* means ‘power’), does the gardening of vegetable and helps secure food in a poor urban area, which shows a sign of hope and the revival of *Ubuntu* (humanity) of the society.

Back cover **Afterword (“*Hitotsu no musubime to shite*” in Japanese) and a record of AJF’s activities**