



Rapid urbanisation and climate change: developing sustainable and resilient water and sanitation infrastructure in Africa

Summary note of the side event co-hosted by JICA, PACJA and WaterAid at the
Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI)
Laico Regency Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya
Saturday 27 August 2016



Event summary

The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) and WaterAid co-hosted a side event at TICAD VI highlighting the challenges facing African countries in responding to rapid urbanisation and climate change. The speakers included Mr Nilton Trindade, National Director for Water Supply and Sanitation, Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Water Resources, Mozambique; Mr Hidetake Aoki, Deputy Resident Representative, JICA Mozambique; Ms Akane Odake, Senior Manager of Global Corporate Responsibility, Public Affairs, LIXIL Corporation; Mr John Sifuma, Water and Sanitation Engineer, East Africa Regional Resource Centre, African Development Bank; Mr Robert Muthami, Advocacy and Networking Officer, PACJA; and Mr John Garrett, Senior Policy Analyst, WaterAid.¹

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The 2016 TICAD VI Nairobi Declaration recognises the critical need to develop sustainable urban infrastructure in Africa, including water and sanitation. This builds on TICAD V and responds strategically to continental and global agreements such as Agenda 2063, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. During the event, the speakers shared their approaches and perspectives to developing sustainable and resilient urban water and sanitation infrastructure, and sought to identify how TICAD VI could help support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11 and 13 in Africa, by addressing urban infrastructure deficits and financing gaps, as well as building resilience to climate change.

Welcome remarks

During the opening session Mr Hidetake Aoki and Mr Robert Muthami welcomed participants to this TICAD VI side event and emphasised that effective policy responses to rapid urbanisation and climate change are central to successful implementation of TICAD, as well as the 2030 SDG framework, the Paris Agreement on climate change and the African Union Agenda 2063.

Key points from the presentations



Keynote speeches were made by (left to right) Mr Nilton Trindade, Mr Hidetake Aoki, Ms Akane Odake and Mr John Sifuma.

Mr Nilton Trindade discussed Mozambique's experience of rapid urbanisation and climate change, and the challenges in providing resilient urban infrastructure for water and sanitation. He identified Greater Maputo, Beira, Nampula, Nacala, Pemba and Lichinga as the cities with the biggest water challenges, and emphasised the need for

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collaboration between different sectors, effective working between public and private sectors and civil society, and between government at national, regional and local levels. He underlined the important role of cooperating partners and processes such as TICAD VI.

Mr Hidetake Aoki said that access to water was not so much an issue of resources than of effective management. He explained the main activities of JICA across the continent, and their focus on the key areas of water resource management, improving access to water and sanitation in urban and rural areas, supporting utilities to reduce non-revenue water and helping to prevent water-related disasters. He explained JICA's water-related activities in Mozambique, with a focus on the Prosuas project in Niassa Province, where JICA is drilling boreholes, providing training and spare parts for operations and maintenance, and working with WaterAid to disseminate good hygiene and sanitation practices to local communities.

Ms Akane Odake explained how the private sector is able to contribute to progress on Sustainable Development Goal 6 and TICAD VI. She said that poor sanitation had an unacceptably high social and economic cost for Africa (estimated at over \$19 billion in 2015), and that LIXIL is committed to a target of improving the livelihoods of 100 million people worldwide by 2020 through sanitation and hygiene solutions. This will involve LIXIL's sanitation solutions, including the Micro-Flush Toilet System, using only 1 litre of water; the Green Toilet System, converting waste into value; and the SaTo (Safe Toilet), designed to prevent the transmission of odour and disease.

Mr John Sifuma shared the African Development Bank's perspectives on rapid urbanisation and climate change, and how the institution is mobilising its own resources, as well as external ones, to help African countries, cities and communities to mitigate and adapt to climate change threats. The Bank's 10-year strategy includes a strong portfolio to deliver sustainable access to water and sanitation, with 64 projects across 37 countries, amounting to UA 2.2 billion (c. \$3.5 billion). These projects are principally for infrastructure development, but also feature economic and sector work, project preparation, capacity building and technical assistance.

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Mr John Garrett shared information on WaterAid's urban spatial planning project, which focuses on city-wide planning for water and sanitation infrastructure in four African cities (Lagos, Kinshasa, Lusaka and Maputo). He said that putting in place the infrastructure needed to meet the SDGs was one of the defining challenges of the next 15 years, and that investments in developing countries should be considered in terms of their impact on three areas: poverty reduction, climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation. It was also noted that WaterAid is working with the municipality in Maputo to develop investment proposals to help increase pro-poor access to water and sanitation, as well as build resilience to climate change.

Question and answer session

The Chair, **Ms Bethlehem Mengistu**, Country Director, WaterAid Ethiopia, led the question and answer (Q & A) session with the audience. The broad range of questions and comments considered the following issues:

- the challenges posed by SDG financing gaps
- ensuring civil society is fully included in decision-making and implementation of investments
- how value-for-money considerations in Multilateral Development Banks and development partners could exclude environmental considerations
- how cities such as Nairobi met their water demand with resources from rural areas, which were consequently disadvantaged
- the outlook for African countries not included in JICA water programmes, such as Lesotho
- how climate finance was needed not just for urban infrastructure but also for preventing destruction of forests in countries such as Uganda
- how tribalism was severely undermining development progress.

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The Q & A discussion with the audience was led by Ms Bethlehem Mengistu (pictured far left).

The answers, comments and following discussion included a strong emphasis on the importance of local and national political leadership, as well as how transformational leaders such as Kenyan Nobel laureate Wangari Maathai have provided inspirational leadership, how holistic approaches that integrate inter-related sectors are needed, and that particular efforts are required to ensure civil society is involved in infrastructure investment decisions. WaterAid drew attention to new research, 'A Tale of Clean Cities', which highlights success stories in urban sanitation in Ghana, India and the Philippines, and the 'Climate Finance Initiative' which aims to increase the funds going to low-income countries for climate adaptation and water security. **Mr Robert Muthami** put special emphasis on the need for African governments to strengthen their efforts to mobilise domestic resources to tackle water, sanitation and climate change challenges. In connection to this, it was noted that there is a need for African countries to develop their national strategies, plans, policies and programmes and allocate resources for their implementation.

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Event organisers and speakers: (left to right) Ms Madoka Shizukuishi, Mr John Garrett, Mr Robert Muthami, Ms Bethlehem Mengistu, Ms Akane Odake, Mr John Sifuma, Ms Kaoru Takahashi, Mr Nilton Trindade and Mr Hidetake Aoki.

The side event stimulated a wide-ranging debate between the panel and the audience on rapid urbanisation and climate change, sharing key issues, approaches and potential solutions in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. It also sought to identify how TICAD VI could best support African countries and cities in these key areas.

WaterAid Japan would like to thank the Mozambican Government, JICA, the African Development Bank, LIXIL Corporation, PACJA, the Japanese Citizens' network for TICAD and the audience for the opportunity to stage this TICAD VI side event.

¹ Hon. Professor Judi Wakhungu, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of the Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Kenya, was due to speak at the side event, but, due to pressing governmental commitments, was unfortunately unable to attend.

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