
Africa, Japan and the UK

Emerging Partnerships Beyond Summits

24 – 25 November 2020 | Online Conference (via Zoom)

Japan established its Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) in 1993 – a model that was followed by others and saw a growing number of high-level summits on Africa, including in China, India, Turkey and Russia. TICAD VII, held in August 2019 in Yokohama, sought to strengthen partnerships between Japan and Africa in three main areas: technical cooperation; business and women’s entrepreneurship; and next generation and people-to-people connectivity. The first UK-Africa Investment Summit held in January 2020 highlighted similar themes, with an emphasis on investing to generate sustainable growth and create jobs. In an increasingly multipolar world with a greater need for international cooperation in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, shared goals and interests among various African countries, Japan and the UK could bring opportunities for fruitful trilateral and multilateral cooperation.

At this virtual event, panellists will explore the potential of triangulation and diversification of partnerships amongst African countries, Japan and the UK to support mutual policy goals, as well as the place of summits in shaping policy priorities and driving cooperation.

Tuesday 24 November

9:00 – 10:30 Session 1 | Africa, Japan and the UK: Engagements in Context

From Yokohama to Tunis, and Towards the Future of Japan-Africa Cooperation

Professor Naohiro Kitano, Visiting Fellow, Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Professor, Waseda University

The UK-Africa Investment Summit and Approaches to Engagement

Paul Arkwright CMG, Independent Consultant, Arkwright Advisory Ltd; UK Regional Ambassador for Sub-Saharan Africa, COP26 Climate Summit [March–October 2020]

African Agency in International Summits

Dr Folashade Soule, Senior Research Associate, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford

Charting the Shift Towards Private Sector Engagement in Africa

Masa Sugano, Deputy Executive Director, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Africa Region

Chair: **Dr Alex Vines**, Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House

Wednesday 25 November

9:00 – 10:30 Session 2 | Emerging Fields and Frameworks for Engagement

Evolving Approaches and Innovation in Africa-Asia Relations

Professor Scarlett Cornelissen, Professor of Political Science, University of Stellenbosch

'People, Technology and Innovation': The TICAD 7 Slogan in Practice

Norio Suzuki, Chief Planning Officer, BBOX

Political Structures and Engagement to Support Purposeful Partnerships

Tom Luff, Energy and Infrastructure Counsellor, British Embassy Tokyo

Arts, Culture and New Frontiers for Engagement

Serge Mouangue, Founder and Art Director, WAfrica

Navigating Multipolarity and Trilateral Frameworks

Professor Tukumbi Lumumba-Kasongo, Professor of Political Science, Wells College

Chair: **Dr Champa Patel**, Director, Asia-Pacific Programme, Chatham House

10:30 – 10:45 Summary and Wrap Up

Ben Shepherd, Consulting Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

(All times GMT)