

TICAD9 Partner Event

PROMOTING INVESTMENT IN GLOBAL HEALTH:

**Cross-Sectoral Partnerships for
Co-creating Innovative Solutions and Impact
for Africa and Beyond**

Event Proceedings

August 21, 2025

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Programme

Part 1: Seminar (5:30pm~6:55pm JST)

(MC: Mr. Masataka Uo, GSG Impact Ambassador)

● **Welcome Remarks**

- Ms. Rio Tomonoh, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Cabinet Office
- Mr. Ken Shibusawa, Co-Chair of Triple I for GH, CEO of Shibusawa & Company, Inc.
- Ms. Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UNICEF

● **Keynote Speech**

- Ms. Nnenna Lily Nwabufu, Vice President of Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB)
- Ms. Trina Haque, Regional Director, Human Development, Western and Central Africa, World Bank

● **Panel Discussion** (Moderated by Dr. Ayoade Alakija, Co-Chair of Triple I for GH, Board Chair of FIND)

- Mr. Hitoshi Hirata, Vice President, JICA
- Ms. Etleva Kadilli, Regional Director, Eastern and Southern Africa, UNICEF
- Ms. Diene Keita, Acting Executive Director, UNFPA
- Ms. Ilda Kuleba, Africa Director of Strategic Operations & Partnerships, mothers2mothers
- Dr. Megumi Muto, Senior Managing Executive Officer, Deputy CSuO, Mizuho Financial Group
- Mr. Kinya Seto, President, and CEO, LIXIL Corporation

[Comment from the Floor]

- Dr. Frank Aswani, CEO, African Venture Philanthropy Alliance (AVPA)

● **Summary and prospect on future actions**

- Mr. Steve Davis, Co-Chair of Triple I, Senior Advisor of Gates Foundation

● **Closing Remarks**

- H.E. Hideo Suzuki, Ambassador for Global Health of Japan

Part 2: Networking (7:00pm~8:30pm)

● Networking start

● Remarks

- Dr Magda Robalo, Co-chair of UHC2030
- Mr. Masataka Uo, GSG Impact Ambassador

● Case Study 1

- Mr. Koichi Kato, Chief Executive Officer of Nikkiso
- Dr. Philippe Duneton, Executive Director of Unitaid

● Case Study 2

- Mr. Shigeru Handa, Director of AAIC
- Mr. Roneek Vora, Director of Revital Healthcare

● Closing Remarks

- Mr. Saul Guerrero Oteyza, Director of Asia-Pacific Pillar Office, UNICEF Public Partnership Division

Part 1: Seminar

1.1 Welcome Remarks

Rio Tomonoh, Japan's Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Cabinet Office



Rio Tomonoh, Japan's Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Cabinet Office, expressed her appreciation to all the participants, including distinguished leaders from diverse sectors, as well as to UNICEF for the opportunity to co-host this event. She also emphasized Japan's leadership in Universal Health Coverage

(UHC), including the newly announced Africa Sustainable Health Investment Promotion Package, and called for stronger multi-stakeholder collaboration to tackle challenges in global health.

Ken Shibusawa, Co-Chair of Triple I



Ken Shibusawa, Co-Chair of Triple I, outlined the initiative's remarkable trajectory—expanding from 37 partners at its inception to over 110 partners today. His remarks highlighted Triple I's role in bridging the funding gap in global health through impact investment initiatives and the critical

importance of policy frameworks and outcome measurement tools.

Catherine Russell, Executive Director of UNICEF



Catherine Russell, Executive Director of UNICEF, reflected on the alarming risk posed to progress achieved in child health and survival due to crises such as climate change, humanitarian emergencies, and recent reductions in ODA (Official Development Assistance). She passionately called for innovative financing mechanisms, corporate

partnerships, and multi-sectoral collaboration as the pathway forward, which will build the foundation for education and prosperity that benefits everyone.

1.2 Keynote Speech

Nnenna Lily Nwabufo, Vice President of Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB)



Nnenna Lily Nwabufo, Vice President of Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) shared innovative financing strategies and recent African health infrastructure investments, such as blended finance projects.

Trina Haque, Regional Director, Human Development, Western and Central Africa, World Bank



Trina Haque, Regional Director at the World Bank, introduced the Africa Initiative for Medical Manufacturing (AIM2030) and underscored the need for collective approaches to reduce Africa's dependency on imported medical supplies.

1.3 Panel Discussion



The highlight of the seminar was the dynamic panel discussion moderated by **Dr. Ayoade Alakija, Co-Chair of Triple I.**

Panelists included top leaders from diverse sectors such as JICA, UNICEF, UNFPA, Mizuho Financial Group, mothers2mothers, and LIXIL Corporation. Key themes included de-risking investments in Africa's healthcare sector, the

role of innovative financing mechanisms, and the scalability of solutions to address funding deficits in health systems. Panelists shared insights into the challenges and opportunities for catalyzing impact investment in Africa's healthcare sector, emphasizing the importance of building trust-based relationships, addressing risks, and creating enabling environments.



Etleva Kadilli, UNICEF Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, opened the discussion by highlighting the urgent situation in Africa's healthcare systems, severely strained by recurring health emergencies, mounting national debt, and significant reductions in Official Development Assistance (ODA). Kadilli emphasized UNICEF's

commitment to partnerships, showcasing its collaboration with LIXIL Corporation through the *"Make a Splash!"* initiative and its role in fostering corporate alliances. She advocated innovative financing mechanisms, including blended finance projects and public-private partnerships (PPP), as critical tools for closing funding gaps in the sector.



Kinya Seto, President and CEO of LIXIL Corporation, followed by presenting LIXIL's unique social business "SATO" and its initiatives for developing a sustained sanitation market. He described SATO as not just a philanthropic effort but a strategic initiative that aligns social impact and business growth. Seto identified that pursuing

business expansion in Africa may entail potential risks associated with investing in

Africa, such as socio-political instability and inadequate infrastructure, but underscored the importance of cultivating an investment-friendly “soil” that yields long-term returns. With five years of lessons learned from "Make A Splash!" Partnership with UNICEF, and under the banner of "Partnership is our new currency," he called for sustained and collaborative efforts to de-risk investments and foster demand for essential goods in African markets.



Ilda Kuleba, Africa Director of Strategic Operations & Partnerships at mothers2mothers, brought a practitioner’s perspective to the conversation, emphasizing the transformative role of community health workers in advancing Africa’s health metrics. She shared insights into data-driven programs and multi-sectoral partnerships with organizations like UNICEF and UNFPA. Kuleba also

spoke on mothers2mothers’ pioneering efforts to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV while scaling these initiatives to broader health systems. She encouraged both public and private sector actors to explore impact-driven investment opportunities and highlighted the potential for social impact bonds in Africa’s healthcare space.



Diene Keita, Acting Executive Director of UNFPA (*Ms. Keita was appointed as Executive Director effective 29 August 2025), stressed the importance of integrating gender-focused approaches into healthcare investment strategies. She shared compelling case studies illustrating UNFPA’s efforts to improve maternal health outcomes and its

framework for ensuring transparency and measurable results. Keita emphasized bold action and concrete commitments to prioritize women and girls as essential drivers of Africa’s long-term health and development.



From the financial sector perspective, **Dr. Megumi Muto, Senior Managing Executive Officer at Mizuho Financial Group**, highlighted the evolving role of Japanese corporations in impact investing within Africa's healthcare sector. Drawing from her experience with development finance institutions, Muto outlined the opportunities and challenges of mobilizing private capital for health. She underscored the significance of collaboration across sectors and reaffirmed the need for comprehensive impact metrics to evaluate the social and financial returns of healthcare investments.



Hitoshi Hirata, Vice President of JICA, rounded out the discussion by sharing JICA's pioneering work in mobilizing private capital for impact investment. He introduced recent developments, such as expansion of fund investing activities to junior tranches, as well as revisions in the JICA Act enabling the agency to issue portfolio guarantee to local financial institutions and bond investments. Hirata highlighted Japan's focus on strengthening Africa's healthcare infrastructure through blended financing models and credited partnerships like Triple I for creating pathways to scalable healthcare solutions.



The Comment from the Floor segment featured **Dr. Frank Aswani, CEO of the African Venture Philanthropy Alliance (AVPA)**, which was officially welcomed as the latest Triple I partner during the networking session that followed the seminar. Dr. Aswani provided critical reflections on the role of impact investing in Africa's healthcare landscape. Aswani emphasized that Africa faces a dual challenge: resource scarcity and a systemic investment gap in the healthcare sector. He advocated for impact investing as a transformative mechanism to address these issues, highlighting the need for greater collaboration between governments, development partners, and private investors. Aswani concluded by urging stakeholders to move beyond short-term fixes and prioritize investments that generate generational impact in healthcare systems across Africa.

1.4 Summary and Prospect on Future Actions

Steve Davis, Co-Chair of Triple I



Steve Davis, Co-Chair of Triple I, emphasized the importance of policy and building enabling environments, while also highlighting the Gates Foundation's commitment to provide \$200 billion in aid over the next 20 years—most of which will be targeted toward Africa—he called for more aggressive efforts to crowd in private capital.

1.5 Closing Remarks

H.E. Hideo Suzuki, Ambassador for Global Health of Japan



H.E. Hideo Suzuki, Ambassador for Global Health of Japan, outlined Japan's dual commitment to advancing global health financing through two key initiatives: "Triple I for Global Health" and the newly announced "Africa Sustainable Health Investment Promotion Package". He characterized Triple I

as addressing the "supply side" by incentivizing investors, while the Package empowers the "demand side" (the investees) by improving Africa's investment environment through robust governance, sustainable regulatory frameworks and resilient infrastructure. Stressing that collaboration between these two approaches is essential, Suzuki reiterated Japan's pledge to co-create sustainable health solutions with Africa.

Part 2: Networking Session

2.1 Remarks



Dr. Magda Robalo, Co-Chair of UHC 2030

Dr. Magda Robalo, Co-Chair of UHC 2030, emphasized the significance of closing funding gaps in healthcare and the pivotal role of Japanese technology and expertise in co-creating innovative solutions.



Masataka Uo, GSG Impact Ambassador

Masataka Uo, GSG Impact Ambassador, followed with remarks on growing momentum for impact investing in Japan, spurred by actions such as the revision of the JICA Act and the formation of frameworks like the "Impact Consortium."

2.2 Case Study 1



Additional presentations during the networking session showcased best practices and impactful case studies of Japan-Africa collaborations. **Mr. Koichi Kato, Chief Executive Officer of Nikkiso** and **Dr. Philippe Duneton, Executive Director of Unitaid** shared insights into "Medical Oxygen Manufacturing" projects in East Africa led by Nikkiso, Unitaid, and local governments in Kenya and Tanzania.

2.3 Case Study 2



Mr. Shigeru Handa, Director of AAIC and **Mr. Roneek Vora, Director of Revital Healthcare** presented a partnership between Japan's AAIC and African enterprise Revital Healthcare was also introduced during the networking session.

2.4 Closing Remarks

Saul Guerrero Oteyza, Director of Asia-Pacific Pillar Office, UNICEF Public Partnership Division






The evening closed with remarks from Saul Guerrero Oteyza, Director of Asia-Pacific Pillar Office, UNICEF Public Partnership Division. He reiterated UNICEF's commitment to enhancing global partnerships, urging stakeholders to continue their collaboration to tackle pressing health issues in Africa.





Annex: Speaker Profiles



◆Welcome Remarks (*in order of the programme)

	<p>Rio Tomonoh, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for the Cabinet Office</p> <p>Born in Tokyo, Rio Tomonoh completed the Graduate School of Healthcare Sciences, Tokyo Medical and Dental University and Graduate School of Law (Juris Doctor program/Law School), Waseda University. After working as a nurse, public-health nurse, and a lawyer, she was elected to the House of Councillors in 2022. Since 2024, she has served as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Cabinet Office, overseeing the areas related to healthcare policy and others.</p>
	<p>Ken Shibusawa, Triple I Co-Chair/CEO, Shibusawa & Company, Inc</p> <p>After working in market operations at several foreign financial institutions and hedge funds, he founded Shibusawa & Company, Inc. in 2001 and assumed the role of President. He also serves as Chairman of the Board at Commons Investment Trust Co., Ltd.</p>
	<p>Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UNICEF</p> <p>UNICEF's 8th Executive Director, overseeing programs in over 190 countries and territories. Dedicated to advancing the rights of women, girls, and underserved communities, she has held leadership roles in the White House, the Department of Justice, and Congress.</p>





◆Keynote Speech (*in order of the programme)

	<p>Nnenna Lily Nwabufo, Vice President, African Development Bank (AfDB)</p> <p>She has held various positions, including Director General of the East Africa Regional Development and Business Delivery Office, Country Director for the Bank's Country Office in Kenya, and Acting Vice President for Corporate Services, among others. Before her appointment as Vice President on October 4, 2024, she was responsible for advancing the Bank's strategic objectives and overseeing portfolios across thirteen countries in East Africa.</p>
	<p>Trina Haque, Regional Director, Human Development, Western and Central Africa, World Bank</p> <p>She has held various positions including Lead Economist in Human Development in Africa as well as Middle East & North Africa Regions; Country Operations Advisor in Latin America and the Caribbean Region; and, most recently, Sector Manager/Practice Manager in West and Central Africa and South Asia Regions.</p>

◆Moderator • MC (* in alphabetical order)

	<p>Ayoade Alakija, Triple I Co-Chair/The board chair of FIND</p> <p>Assumed the role of Chair of FIND after holding positions such as Chief Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria and Chair of the African Vaccine Delivery Alliance. She also serves as a Special Envoy for WHO's ACT-Accelerator initiative.</p>
	<p>UO Masataka, GSG Impact Ambassador</p> <p>After working for 17 years at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the International Cooperation Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he serves as the Vice Chair of the GSG Impact Japan National Advisory Board, a task force on social impact investment established at the G8 London Summit.</p>

◆ Panelist and other speakers (* in alphabetical order)

	<p>Steve Davis, Triple I Co-Chair/Senior Advisor & Interim Director, Gates Foundation</p> <p>After serving as a Senior Advisor at McKinsey & Company, Co-Chair of the WHO Digital Health Technology Advisory Group, Distinguished Fellow at the World Economic Forum, and in other roles, he assumed the position of Senior Advisor at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2024. He also serves as a Lecturer at the Stanford Graduate School of Business.</p>
	<p>Hitoshi Hirata, Vice President, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)</p> <p>He has extensive experience in development finance and international cooperation particularly in healthcare and infrastructure projects. As Director General of Finance Department, he led the development of JICA Bond issued for gender and peace-building initiatives. He is currently focused on fostering public private partnerships and impact investment to address global health challenges including those in Africa.</p>
	<p>Etleva (Eva) Kadilli, Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, UNICEF</p> <p>Responsible for leadership, oversight and guidance to 21 UNICEF country offices in the region and represents UNICEF with governments, donors, and private sector. With over 27 years in UNICEF, most recently as Director of UNICEF's Supply Division, she has led global supply chain operations and market-shaping functions for health, nutrition, and WASH, with an annual expenditure of over US\$ 7 billion.</p>
	<p>Diene Keita, Acting Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</p> <p>Ms. Keita has over three decades of leadership in international development and public service, including as Minister for Cooperation and African Integration for the Republic of Guinea. She has held senior leadership positions within UNFPA, including as Representative in Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo—two of the organization's largest programmes.</p>

	<p>Ilda Kuleba, Africa Director of Strategic Operations & Partnerships, mothers2mothers</p> <p>With over 16 years' experience in public health across Africa, Ms. Ilda has led country operations, built partnerships, and driven health innovations. She served as Country Director for Mozambique (2017–2023), overseeing large-scale HIV programs. Since 2023, she has been Africa Director of Strategic Operations & Partnerships, leading new country startups and funding partnerships to expand mothers2mothers' footprint and impact across the continent.</p>
	<p>Megumi Muto, Senior Managing Executive Officer Deputy CSuO (Chief Sustainability Officer), Mizuho Financial Group</p> <p>Joined Mizuho Financial Group in 2025 to lead sustainability integration and business development. Her career spans roles at the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).</p>
	<p>Kinya Seto, President and CEO of LIXIL Corporation</p> <p>Leading a maker of pioneering water and housing products known for its global brands INAX, GROHE, American Standard and TOSTEM. He began his career in 1983 with Sumitomo Corporation, a major Japanese trading company, before going on to establish more than ten companies in Japan and overseas, including MonotaRO, which under his leadership grew into the largest and most profitable MRO distribution companies in Japan.</p>
	<p>Hideo Suzuki, Ambassador for Global Health of Japan</p> <p>Born in Osaka. After graduating the Faculty of Law, University of Tokyo in 1985, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and assumed key posts abroad such as Ambassador to Czech Republic, Deputy Chief of Mission in Republic of Korea and in Vietnam. Prior to that, he served in Washington D.C., the Japanese Delegation to the OECD and France. His recent assignments at the Ministry in Tokyo were Assistant Minister, Director-General of the International Cooperation Bureau (2019-2020) and Ambassador, Assistant Minister, Director-General for Global Issues (2017-2019). Currently, he's also in charge of public diplomacy, Mekong Cooperation and Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting.</p>