

## Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Côte d'Ivoire: Construction of a cereal berth at Abidjan Port, the gateway to West Africa, in order to contribute to improved logistics and food security of the region

On March 30, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a loan agreement with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in Abidjan to provide a Japanese ODA loan of up to 10.869 billion yen for the Abidjan Port Cereal Berth Construction Project.

The project is to construct a new cereal berth at Abidjan Port, which functions as the gateway to West Africa, with the objectives of meeting the growing demand for rice and other cereals in Côte d'Ivoire and landlocked countries in the Sahel region, such as Burkina Faso and Mali, and improving logistics in the region. The loan funds will be allocated to civil works, such as extending of the quay, dredging, and constructing related facilities, to procuring equipment and to consulting services (such as bidding assistance and construction supervision).

The Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) [1] will apply to the Japanese ODA loans for this project. Japanese technology, such as steel pipe sheet piles, is planned to be utilized to mitigate weak ground conditions and the deep dredging depth.



signing ceremony

Located in Abidjan, which functions as the de facto capital of Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan Port handles the biggest volume of bulk cargo in Sub-Saharan Africa and the biggest volume of container cargo in West Africa. Located at the starting point of international corridors and railways the port also plays a role as the gateway to Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and other hinterland countries of the Sahel region, serving as a hub for logistics in the region.

Since the 1980s, there has been no new investment in Port Abidjan due to economic and governmental turmoil, and the infrastructure has not kept pace with the increasing demand for cargo in conjunction with the rising population and economic growth in Côte d'Ivoire and the surrounding Sahel countries. The quay structure and waterway depth, in particular, have not kept up with the increasing size of ships, and deterioration of the existing infrastructure has prevented the cargo volume to grow since 2008. Currently at over 70 percent, the berth occupancy rate [2] at Port Abidjan is projected to reach 80 percent, the physical limit, in 2018, and one of the three existing piers currently used for cereal will become unavailable due to the construction of another container berth. The construction of a new cereal berth is therefore considered to be a priority.

By constructing a new cereal berth, the project is expected to nearly double the average loading capacity of cereal cargo, and to reduce the berth occupancy to approximately 60 percent. It is also expected that the project will meet the growing demand for cereals in Côte d'Ivoire and the surrounding Sahel countries while stimulating the economy and contributing to food security.

Alongside with this project, the Project for the Improvement of the Japan-Ivorian Friendship Intersection, a grant aid cooperation project to construct flyover intersections for the main roads in Abidjan, is underway. This grant aid project is expected to contribute to smooth traffic starting from the Port of Abidjan towards the city center and outskirts, and contribute to more efficient logistics within Côte d'Ivoire and nearby countries.

1: STEP is special assistance terms for promoting the visibility of Japanese aid through a transfer of outstanding Japanese technology and expertise to developing nations. The main contract is Japan tied and subcontracting is general untied. Although the main contract allows a joint venture with the borrowing country, a Japanese company must be the leading partner in such an arrangement.

2: The percentage in terms of the amount of time when ships are using the berth.

### 1. Terms and Amount of Loan

Project title	Amount (million yen)	Annual interest rate (%)		Repayment period (years)	Grace period (years)	Procurement
		Project	Consulting services			
Abidjan Port Cereal Berth Construction Project	10,869	0.10	0.01	40	10	Japan tied

Note: Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) apply.

### 2. Executing Agency

Autonomous Port of Abidjan  
Address: BP V 85, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire  
Phone: +225-21-23-81-01/02, fax: +225-21-34-02-62

### 3. Planned Implementation Schedule

(1) Completion of project: September 2020 – when the facilities are put into service  
(2) Issuing of letters of invitation for consulting services (including construction supervision):  
November 2017  
(3) Tender announcement of initial procurement package for international competitive bidding on project construction:  
Procurement package title: Cereal Berth Construction Package  
Planned release date: December 2017

### 4. JICA Contact Information

For further information about the procurement schedule, please contact the party listed below.  
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