

[11th Batch of ABE Initiative Sends forth 21 Promising Nigerian Youths]

On 23 August 2024, Ambassador MATSUNAGA Kazuyoshi attended the send-forth ceremony for the 11th batch of the African Business Education for Youth (ABE) Initiative and the SDGs Global Leaders Program.

The ABE Initiative, which has so far enabled over 100 Nigerian youths to gain experience in Japan, is geared towards supporting youths and offering them the opportunity to study at the master's level in Japanese universities, and experience internships at Japanese businesses so that they can recognise and understand Japanese society and business systems. This is in line with one of the key areas of focus of the 8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8), which is human resource development.

The ceremony, held at the JICA Nigeria Office in Abuja, marked the send-forth for 21 individuals, with 20 joining the ABE Initiative and 1 person for the SDGs Global Leaders Program.

During his speech, the Ambassador encouraged the individuals to learn not only about cutting-edge technology and expertise in Japan, but also about business culture such as punctuality, diligence, and discipline, and to contribute significantly to strengthening the relationship between Nigeria and Japan upon their return home to Nigeria.

