

Special
Feat.

パン・アフリカン・ヘリテージ博物館
Pan African Heritage Museum



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Mr. CHIBA Takamasa

DG, Dept. of Econ., Comm.,
Ind. & Tourism
Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture

Congratulatory Message - Miyagi Prefecture

Congratulations on the launch of AfriMag, which will serve as a bridge between Africa and Miyagi. Africa is a rich continent blessed with magnificent nature and a region where diverse cultures, including food and fashion, flourish. In addition, Africa has been developing remarkably in recent years and has potential for economic exchange, such as investment and business partnerships. There are many people from African countries living in the prefecture, forming part of a diverse society. The prefecture is promoting efforts to create a multicultural society in which people of different nationalities and ethnicities can work vigorously and actively, while recognizing each other's differences in cultural backgrounds. We are confident that this magazine, which introduces various aspects of Africa that are not yet well known in Japan, such as African lifestyles, food, music, and fashion, will serve as an entry point for people in Miyagi and the Tohoku region to become more familiar with Africa and contribute to the formation of the multicultural society that the prefecture is aiming for. We hope that this magazine will serve as a catalyst for further exchange between people of African origin and the people of Miyagi Prefecture, as well as strengthen the ties between Miyagi Prefecture and Africa, including economic partnerships, so that we can work hand in hand to create a bright future together.

Greetings

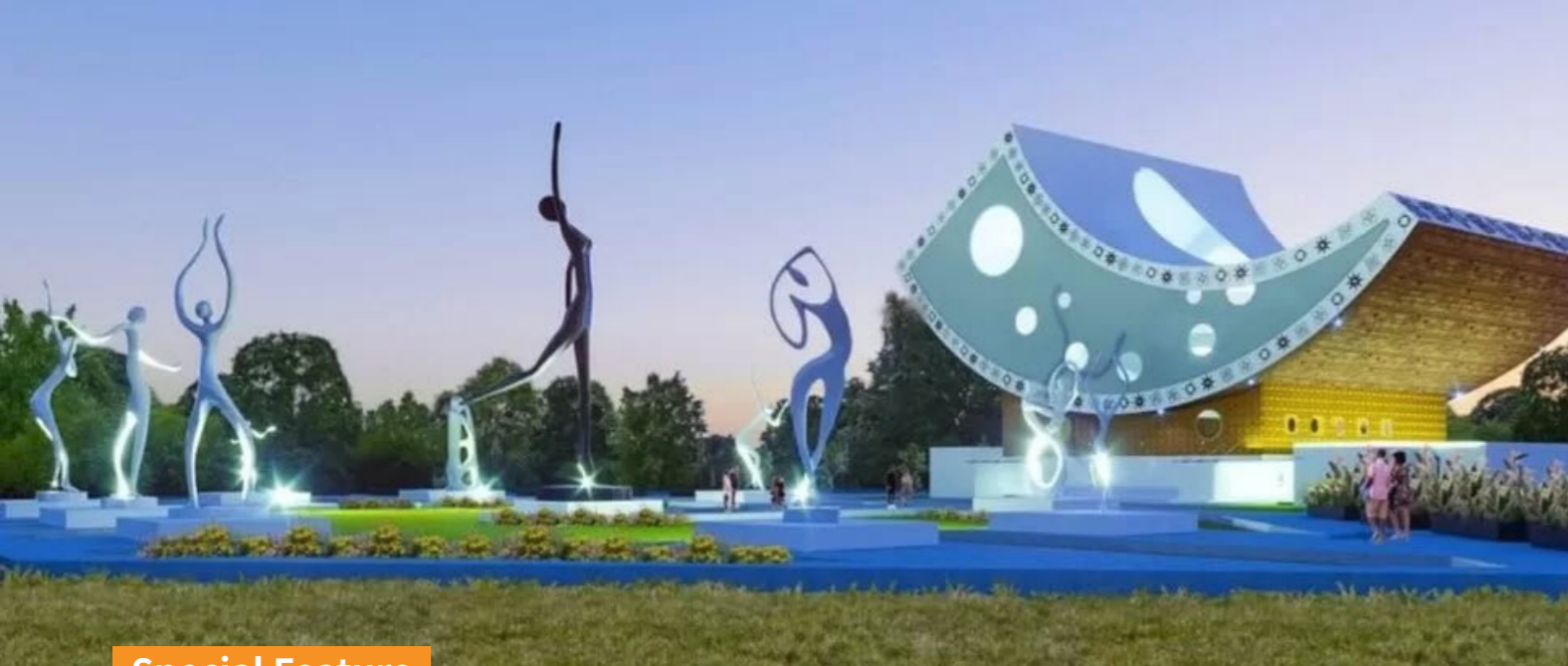
Hello everyone, thank you for picking up, AfriMag, a magazine about Africa. My name is Isaac Asiedu, the president of the African Association of Miyagi (AFAM), a friendship organization for Africans living in Miyagi Prefecture and the Tohoku region, with about 83 members who are university students and graduates from Tohoku University and other parts of Tohoku.

When you think of Africa, what comes to mind? Kilimanjaro, wild animals such as lions and zebras, or the pyramids of Egypt? Accra, the capital of Ghana, where I was born, is about 14,000 km away from Japan. What kind of place do you imagine? It is a big city with a large port and a population of over 2 million people, just like the city of Sendai. Unfortunately, there are no lions walking around (laughs). In fact, African countries have made great progress in the 21st century. There are still areas that are in the process of development, but they are undergoing great changes using cutting-edge science and technology. Of course, the rich natural environment is still alive and well. Fashion, cuisine, and music with a great sense of rhythm are a little different from those in Japan. We would like to introduce many such attractions of Africa from the African perspective.



Dr. Isaac Yaw Asiedu

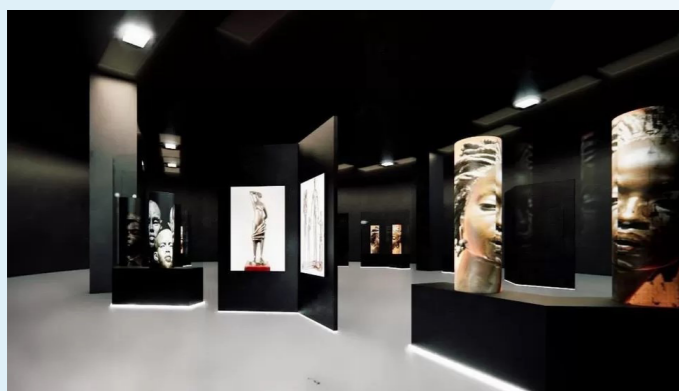
AFAM - President



Special Feature

Pan African Heritage Museum

Preparations are underway to build a huge museum in Ghana to be completed and commissioned in 2023 (so that Africans, rather than foreigners, control their history and heritage) to reflect the history and heritage of Africans. The Pan African Heritage Museum will create an environment for the people of African descent and all others to unlearn and relearn the true history, culture and civilization of Africa from the origin of mankind to present.



The Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania, the Himba of Namibia, the Somali of the Horn of Africa, the Zulu of southern Africa and the Mbenga of the West Congo Basin - among many other communities - could soon be on the move to a new home in Ghana. The

most significant mass movement of peoples within Africa started more than 4,000 years ago, when huge populations of Bantu-speakers left their original dwellings in southern West Africa, to settle in other parts of the continent.

The new migrants will be travelling in the opposite direction. Like their predecessors, they will not require visas or travel documents. Their relocation is not physical but cultural and spiritual. It is their history, their philosophy, their beliefs, and their story that is about to find a new home.

The new dwelling is located at Pomadze Hills in Winneba. The 10-acre site in Ghana's Central Region is about 60km (40 miles) west of the capital Accra. It's a site to behold, with rolling terrain, covered in greenery.

If all goes according to plan, by August this year this location will give rise to an impressive six-storey structure - the Pan African Heritage Museum. The location is Winneba, through which the "migrants" will enter their new home in Ghana, is just over an hour's drive to the Door of No Return at Cape Coast Castle, from which millions of Africans

were forced to leave the continent and into slavery. The museum, which is under construction, has one key goal - to curate and tell the story of Africa using African voices, tools and culture. The great minds behind the project say this is necessary because for a long time the African story has been told by others. They argue that when someone else tells your story, they tell it from their perspective so that they look good. The museum therefore seeks to own the African narrative by bridging what the founders say is a gap that has widened among people of African descent for over 400 years. It's a museum that seeks to teach, heal, and inspire. Ghana's President Nana Akufo-Addo says the museum will "provide a natural residence and resting place for all the looted cultural artefacts of our continent, which are housed in foreign museums and which will be returned to us".

This is the latest museum to be built on the continent, following those in Senegal, Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria, and comes at a time when there's a growing acceptance in Europe that the items seized from Africa during the colonial era should be returned. Judging by the digital version that was recently launched, the museum will be a stunning structure that will stand tall and be visible from far away - a monument of Pan-Africanism. As you enter, your eyes are treated to beautiful contemporary works of art produced by great

artists of African descent. Soothing saxophone sounds, accompanied by gentle piano notes, put you at ease. The idea of targeting our collective African identity and history by harnessing, celebrating and curating African culture in a unique Pan-African museum came about in 1994. The man behind it is Kojo Acquah Yankah, a former editor of Ghana's Daily Graphic newspaper and who previously served as an MP and cabinet minister in the government of the late President Jerry Rawlings.



Hon. Kojo Yankah
PAHM Founder



NEW Africa Narrative

Africa abounds with stories of young men and women who have come out of abject penury or circumstances that held up no hope for them, and have arrived at places of excellence, driven by an undying dream to become someday the change that is needed on a continent whose underdevelopment defies reason. Everywhere in Africa the sharp divide between urban and rural enclaves and then the slums that shadow metropolises equally determine the quality of life that typifies the social fabric. Unplanned spaces and the near absence of civic education gives rise to a lot of indiscipline with the resultant decadence and urban congestion. The story is not any different in the rural communities where many still live close to nature. And yet Africa is the envy of all the other continental asses, possessing a legacy and heritage of colossal mineral wealth, a stable equatorial environment and an endless sweeping variety of fauna and of foliage. A unique geo-cultural spread of linguistic diversity and of lifestyles and livelihood, traditional interregional trade routes and contemporary markets and mercantile synergy, and a budding ICT conclave present a kaleidoscope of potential growth. We already know that the image about Africa is a single story propaganda by the west to keep Africa's

reputation looking inferior through single narrative. The two images shown here both can represent Africa, with the majority representation of new Africa being the first image, but the western media tells the single story of the image below. Just the power of western media and how it misleads its own people.



Visit Morocco

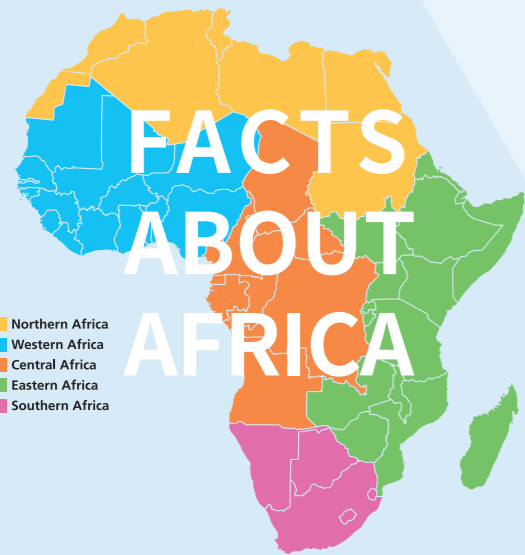
Morocco is a gateway to Africa and a country of dizzying diversity. With an outstanding balance between dynamic landscapes, colorful architecture and vibrant cities Morocco has much to offer and it is no wonder that every year more than 10 million of tourists around the globe choose it as their top destination. With breathtaking beaches, bustling souks, vast expanses of desert, imposing snow-capped mountains, wondrous medinas, and mouth-watering cuisine there's a world of wonder to discover in Morocco. Not many destinations in the world can offer you this many variety, intrigue, and cultural experiences. Whatever kind of traveler you are, Morocco has something for you from a wild adventure trip to a ampered beach getaway amidst its winding streets and friendly atmosphere. Morocco has a hundred faces and sounds, all ready to welcome the traveler looking for spice and adventure.



HASSAN II MOSQUE INTERIOR CORRIDOR CASABLANCA



PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE CORNICHE OF M'DIQ, MOROCCO



- Northern Africa
- Western Africa
- Central Africa
- Eastern Africa
- Southern Africa

1. Africa is the **second-largest** continent in the world both in size and population.



As of 2022 the total population is about **1,340,598,147** that is equivalent to **16.72%** of the total world population.

3. World civilization began in Africa.



The **Pharaonic civilization** of ancient Egypt is the oldest literate civilization. According to historical records, the Egyptian state dates back about **3300 B.C.**

5. Both the world's tallest and largest land animals both come from Africa.



2. Africa is home to over 1 billion people who speak over **1,500 different languages**. One in every four of the world's language are spoken only in Africa



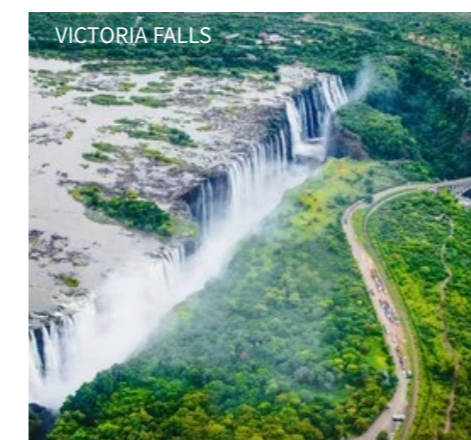
4. Africa is the most centrally located continent in the world. Both the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude) and equator (0 degrees latitude) cut across it.



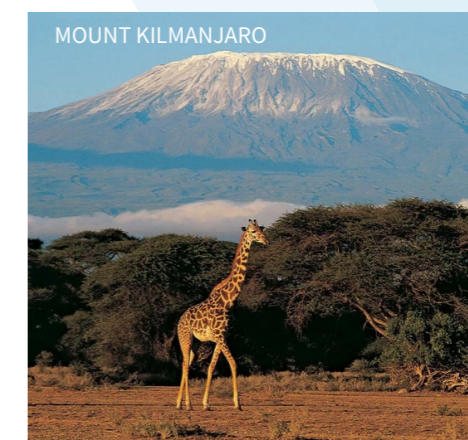
AFRICA places of interest

Africa may not always register on the average traveler's radar, but those who visit have the chance to experience the perfect blend of ancient and modern, wild and urban, and East and West. Here are just a few places of many in Africa that would marvell you.

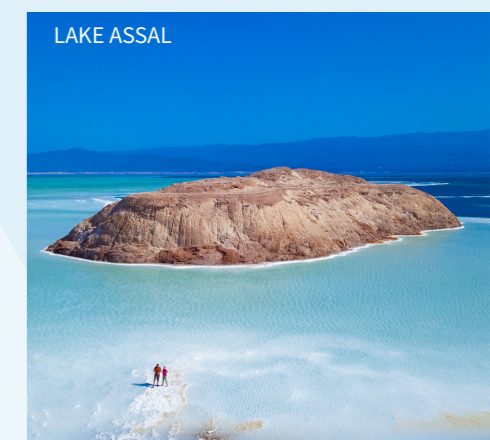
One of the most beloved destinations on the continent, Cape Town sits at the southern tip of South Africa, near where the Atlantic Ocean and Indian Ocean meet at the Cape of Good Hope. It is a culturally rich and visually stunning city that is very easy to fall in love with on a first visit. Table Mountain rises from the center of the city, while the striking Twelve Apostle rock formations beyond provide the backdrop for gorgeous whitesand beaches.



The worlds's largest curtain of water, stretching 1.7km. Plunging 107m into the canyon below. This is a dramatic spectacle to witness.



The highest mountain in Africa. According to the National Geographic, it is the world's largest free mountain and stands about 5,895m above sea level.



Lake Assal is 150m below sea level, and is an aquatic wilderness surrounded by dormant volcanoes and black lava fields.

African Fashion

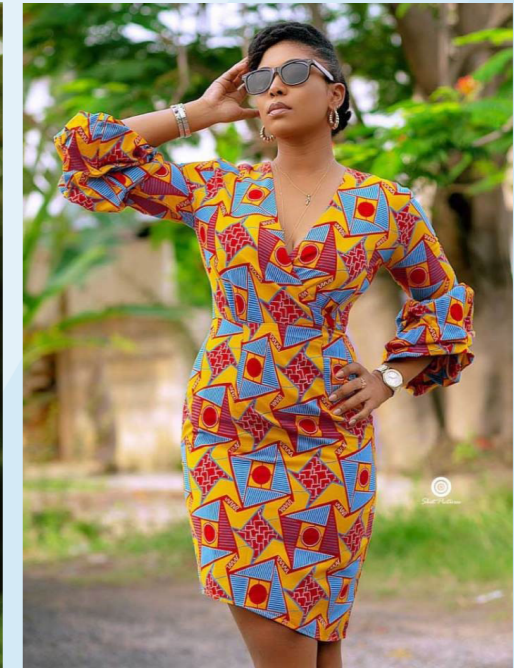
African dresses vary from brightly colored textiles to abstractly embroidered robes, to colorful beaded bracelets and necklaces. There are numerous African dress designs that come in all forms. African dress designs are gaining huge popularity in the fashion world across the globe. A range of fabrics is used to design African dresses. For example, many countries in West Africa have distinct dress styles that are the products of long-standing textile crafts in weaving, dyeing, and printing, but these traditions are still able to coexist with western styles. For the case of Kente, each color has its own meaning, such as blue for harmony and love, green for harvest, and gold for wealth.

Ankara styles

Ankara styles are one of the most beautiful and most popular pieces of African clothing. Ankara material is mostly one hundred percent cotton with very attractive, colorful patterns that are made using a dyeing method called batik. Ankara fashion can be styled down to fit any place or event. This ranges from; church, wedding, work, red carpet, date, and anything place or event you might think of.



Some Ankara Styles



AFRICAN FOOD CULTURE

The diversified nature of African cuisine is one of the components that has uniquely defined the continent, delighting locals and travelers on its range of flavors. African cuisine is a unique fusion of different cultural influences, all combined to create the modern mix of cuisine defining each country in Africa. Although cuisines across Africa have evolved over the years, it has, however, retained many of its original ingredients, as well as cooking methods, particularly in the more rural areas.



Let's learn to cook Fanti Fanti

Fante Fante is a fresh fish sauce consumed in Ghana. It is popular in the central part of Ghana. Ghanians love this recipe because of its simplicity. In this section, we will give you all you need to know about the recipe and how to get it done.



Scan QR Code to watch video

Ingredients for 4

Any seafood of your choice
(Fresh fish or Shrimps or Squid)
※ Fresh fish could be cod or any white fish

Ginger paste	1 tsp
Garlic paste	1 tsp
Big fresh tomatoes	2
Onion	1
Palm oil	5 tbsps
Maggie cubes	1-2
Salt and pepper	to your taste
Red bell peppers	1
Yellow bell pepper	1

Instructions

- 【Step 1】 Cut and wash the sea food items.
- 【Step 2】 Blend the onion and tomatoes.
- 【Step 3】 Heat the palm oil then transfer the blended vegetables, ginger paste and garlic paste into it.
- 【Step 4】 Fry for a minute and add the Maggie cubes, the salt and pepper to your taste.
Leave it for a few seconds and add the seafood and cook for about 10 minutes and its done!
※ Never overcook your Fanti Fanti.
Also avoid using all kind of spices.
Too much spices changes the taste.
- 【Step 5】 Garnish with the green and yellow bell pepper
- 【Step 6】 Serve with potatoes or rice.

DANCE

WITH AFRICA

African Cultural Heritage is mostly represented in their dance culture and tradition. In every region of Africa, drumming, singing, and dancing is a form of identity through which the people are represented. This goes along with costumes, makeover, and other wearable arts. African dances are used to celebrate birth, marriage, death, coronation, chieftaincy, invocations, and rituals. African festivals are flavored with dances in rich traditional costumes.



In Africa especially in the sub-Saharan region the African Chiefs dance in a specific way to communicate messages to the audience or observers. Communication through dance is not music driven but rather body and soul driven. This is particularly the case with the Ashanti Chief (Asantehene) in Ghana who dance for his people to display his royal virtues and honor his ancestors.



Young African Professional's Vision for Africa

This is the best time in history to be young and African. We live in an era characterized by an abundance of opportunities and young African Professionals are empowering the younger generation of Africans with their skills and expertise. The conversation about Africa is gradually shifting from that of poverty to one about creativity, business, and investment. Tohoku University in collaboration with the African Association of Miyagi (AFAM) organized a webinar on August 21, 2022, to mark Tohoku University's 115th anniversary. Four young African Professional who graduated from Tohoku University were invited as resource persons to speak on the theme, "AFRICAN ALUMNI VISION FOR AFRICA".



Ms. Selma Awumbila, a lawyer and Acting Legal Manager at Ghana Grid Company Ltd. in Ghana, gave the first presentation. She earned a master's degree in international environment and resource policy from Tohoku University's Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. Her vision for Africa is for the continent to be united in trade, serving as a model for cross-border cooperation in an era of growing isolationism. She envisions that the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) would be the world's largest free trade area since the formation of the World Trade Organization, bringing together all 55 African Union (AU) member states to cover a market of more than 1.2 billion people, including a growing middle class, and a combined GDP of \$2.6 trillion.



Dr. Emmanuel Jesuyon Dansu, a lecturer at the Federal University of Technology in Akure, Nigeria, gave the second presentation. He earned his PhD in Mathematical Biology from Tohoku University's Graduate School of Information Science. His vision for Africa is to strengthen ties between the Federal University of Technology in Akure, Nigeria, and Tohoku University. He hopes that Tohoku University's Future Global Leadership and exchange programs will be expanded to Africa. He aspires to work with progressive Africans promote African solutions to African problems. He also hopes to bridge the bilateral knowledge gap that exists between Africa and the rest of the world.



Dr. Hamza Abdelli, a MEMS Design and Development Engineer at Silicon Microgravity in Cambridge, UK, gave the third presentation. Tohoku University awarded him a master's and PhD in Engineering. "Connect-Reflect-Inspire-Share experiences" are the four main pillars of his vision for Africa. He hopes to organize inspirational speeches and workshops to expose and orient the African young generation's talent. He is currently planning to organize seminars in the Algerian universities of Boumerdes, Bordj Bou Arréridj, and Oran.



Ms. Jemima Kibira, Executive Director of the Africa Women's Health Foundation in Kenya, gave the final presentation. Tohoku University awarded her a Master of Science in Palliative Nursing. Her dedication to providing solution-based services that span Agriculture, Technology, and Women empowerment demonstrates her vision for Africa. The audience listened with keen interest as the alumni shared their giant strides.

AFRICAN ALUMNI VISION FOR AFRICA

Supporting Economic Growth and Development of sustainable Fishing Industry in Namibia



Kanedai Corporation, a Japanese fishing industry, engaged in fishing, seafood, and energy businesses with its headquarters in Kesenu, supports the economic growth and the development of sustainable fishing in Namibia.

The company's first involvement in Africa was in 1973 when they started crab fishing in Mozambique in collaboration with two other companies in the same industry. Since then, Kanedai corporation has continued their business despite experiencing changes in fishing grounds, two oil shocks, and the stranding of their fishing vessels.



Currently, the company is operating a year-round crab fishing in the Republic of Namibia providing extensive employment to the local citizens. Kanedai sell Namibian "whole snow crabs" as raw materials to domestic and overseas customers, and process some and sell as commercial products to restaurants in Japan and to overseas customers.

Furthermore, after the Great East Japan Earthquake, the company established the "Kani Monogatari" brand and the CEO of the company says the Namibian fishing industry is becoming a core business of their company, and for nearly 50 years they've been blessed with reliable local partners and have focused on contributing to the long-term development of the region through their corporate activities and social contributions.

The CEO Kanedai Mr. SATO Shunsuke says they will continue to develop together with local partners in Namibia and other African countries, while protecting the flourishing natural environment and fishing grounds in order to sustain the fishing industry in the future.





This magazine was published by AFAM. AFAM was founded in 2002 with the objective of fostering social interaction between the African population in Miyagi Prefecture and the Japanese community. As the sole registered African association in Miyagi, AFAM is fully recognized by all relevant bodies involved with Africans in the region. We host public seminars on Africa Development, as well as events and activities that showcase African values and culture through performances and community service work.

AFAM extends a warm welcome to African international students studying at universities in the Tohoku Region and provides support to help them settle in. We collaborate with institutions such as JICA and local companies to organize public seminars on Africa Development and study tours for foreign students. AFAM actively participates in events held by the local government and city hall/ward office. We also visits nursing homes to engage with senior citizens through singing and dancing, showcasing African values.

AFAM has a mission to serve as the main body supporting the internationalization concept, not just in Miyagi, but throughout the Tohoku region via public seminars, events, and other similar initiatives. At present, there are multiple African students studying at universities in the Tohoku region, and AFAM serves as a union organization to network with all Africans in the area.

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