



cross U

Africa Initiative Working Group

Overview

July 2026

**Interested in joining this Working Group?
Please contact us using the information below.**

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The cross U Africa Initiative Working Group brings together government, industry, and academia to turn Japan-Africa space collaboration into concrete projects.

Africa Initiative Working Group at a Glance



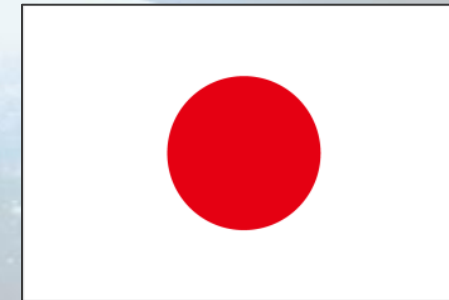
Established	◆ November 2024
Mission	◆ Create long-term space business opportunities between Japan and Africa
Members	◆ More than 20 private companies, academic institutions, public agencies, and other organizations
Key Activities	◆ Develop co-creation projects rooted in local needs and ownership by combining technology development, capacity building, and policy and institutional design. ◆ Build local partnerships and project pipelines through regular meetings and information exchange, in-country missions, workshops, participation in international conferences and exhibitions, and the signing of MoUs.

Building a lasting Japan-Africa partnership to solve social challenges and drive economic growth through space.



Address Social Challenges and Strengthen Local Industry

- ◆ Improve public services with space infrastructure and data
- ◆ Develop local talent, businesses, and startups
- ◆ Create new industries, jobs, and economic growth



Create Long-Term Partnerships and Business Opportunities

- ◆ Expand the use of Japanese space technologies and services
- ◆ Develop sustainable business with local partners
- ◆ Scale solutions across Africa through public-private and multilateral partnerships

The WG brings together government, industry, and academia.



Key Members of the cross U Africa Initiative Working Group



Note: The participants shown are illustrative and include past participants in WG activities.



Public and International Organizations

CAO

MOFA

MEXT

MOE

AfDB

JICA

JAXA

JETRO

- Support market entry and business expansion
- Coordinate with partner-country governments



Companies

AXELSPACE

ArkEdge Space

Synspective

Infostellar

SPACE SHIFT

SPACE BD

Tellus

Ridge-i

RESTEC

- Provide technologies and solutions
- Build local partnerships



Academic Institutions

University of Tokyo

KyuTech

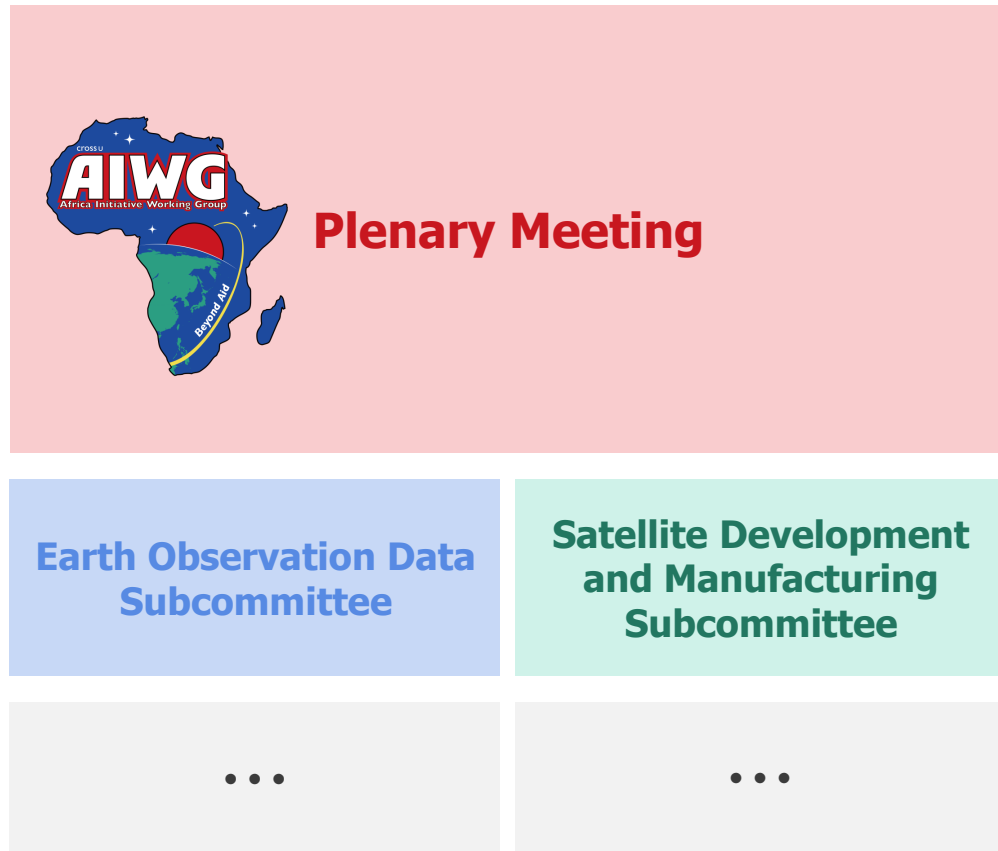
(Kyushu Institute of Technology)

Keio University

UNISEC-GLOBAL

- Provide education and training
- Build links with local institutions

The WG develops projects through thematic subcommittees focused on Africa's societal challenges.



Examples



Earth Observation Data Subcommittee

Develops satellite-data solutions for agriculture, disaster management, environmental monitoring, and other priority areas.

Leader

Yuya Nakamura

President and CEO

Axelspace Holdings Corporation



Satellite Development and Manufacturing Subcommittee

Explores satellites and IoT systems designed for local needs and operating conditions.

Leader

Takayoshi Fukuyo

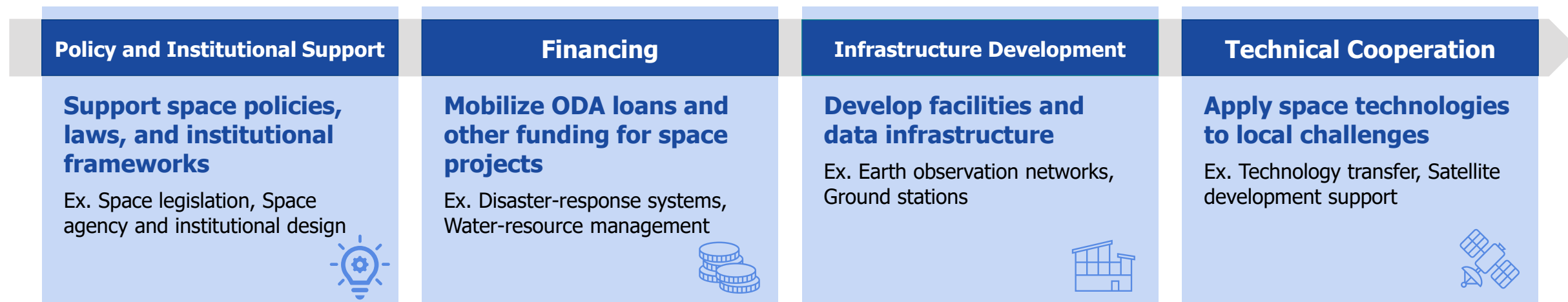
CEO

ArkEdge Space Inc.

From policy design to implementation, the WG promotes an integrated approach based on local needs.

Policy and Institutional Level

Field Implementation Level



Capacity Building

Provide training programs to strengthen local capabilities



Combining local talent and institutions with the capabilities of Japan's government, industry, and academia.

Advancing Japan-Africa co-creation to address Africa's societal challenges through Japanese space technologies.

Key Activities in Africa

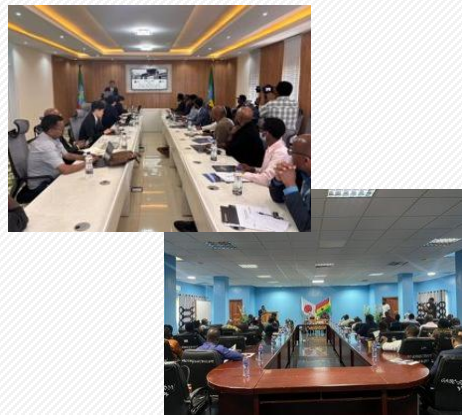
● Exhibitions & Conferences

- ✓ NewSpace Africa Conference (Apr 2025 and Apr 2026)

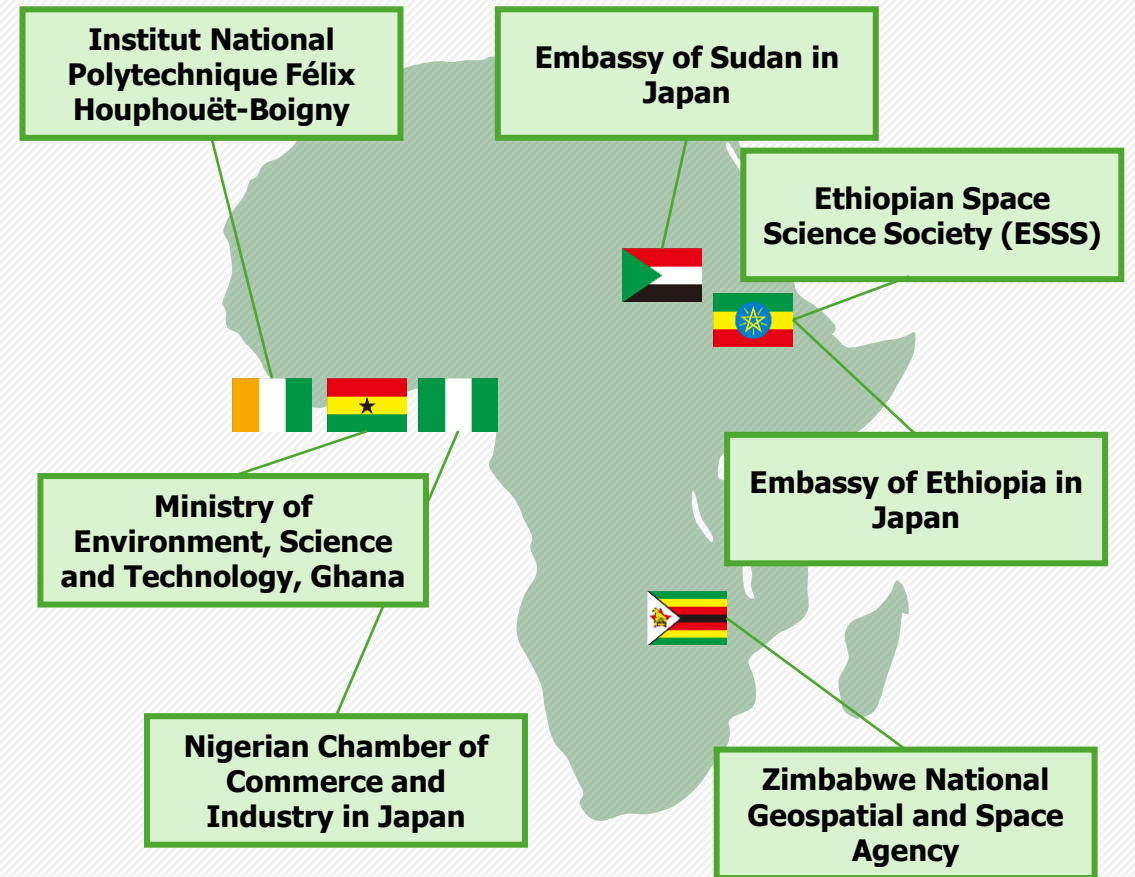


● Workshops

- ✓ Ghana
 - Ghana Space Science and Technology Institute (GSSTI) (Jan 2026)
- ✓ Ethiopia
 - Ethiopian Space Science Society (ESSS), Space Science and Geospatial Institute (SSGI) (Jan and Apr 2026)
- ✓ Gabon
 - National Investment Promotion Agency (Apr 2026)



cross U MoU Partners

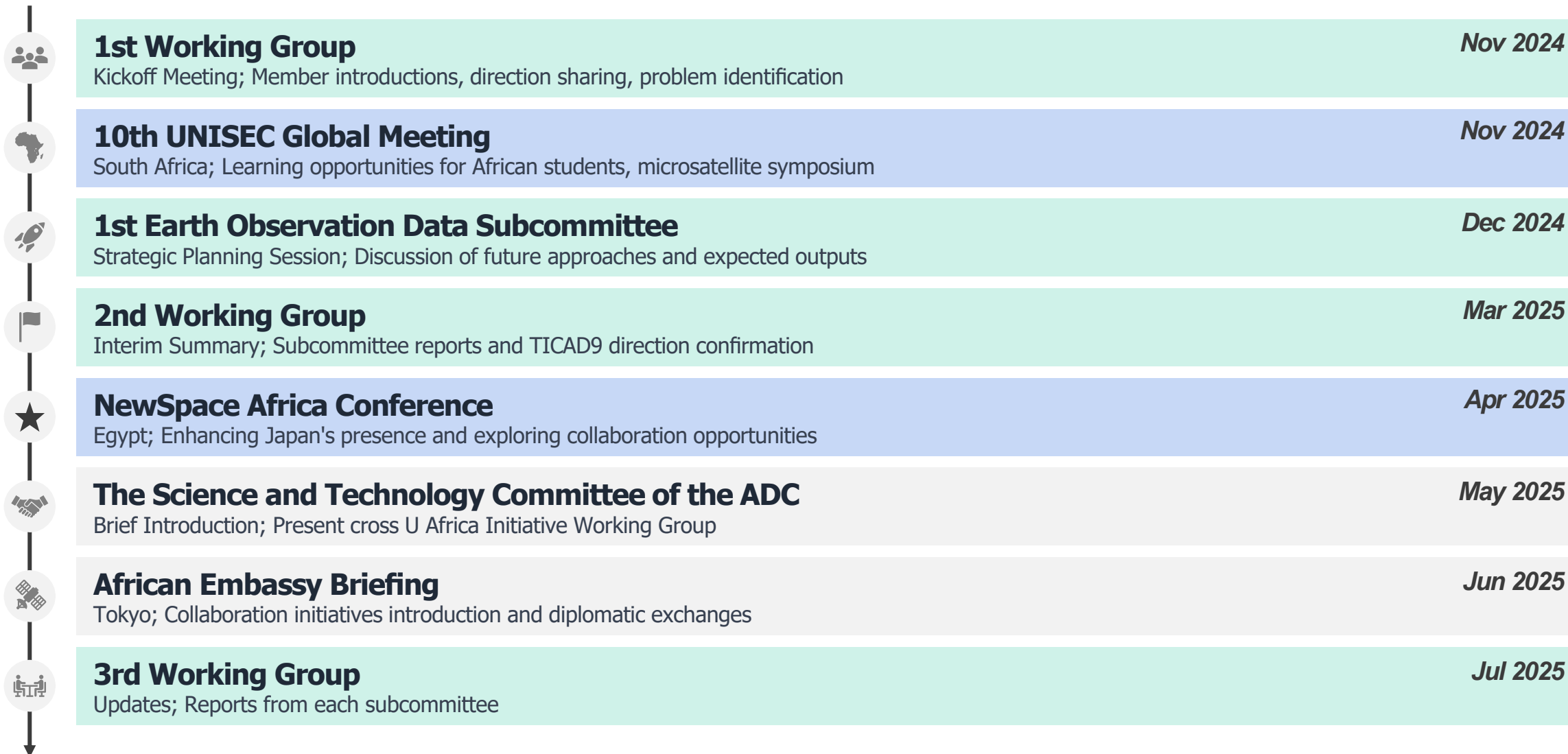


Key Activities and Milestones

WG Meetings

Events in Africa

Activities in Japan



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WG Meetings

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Activities in Japan

**TICAD 9**

Space-Themed Contribution; Comprehensive initiative reporting and new program announcements. Signed MOU with 5 countries (Ghana, Ethiopia, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Côte d'Ivoire).

Aug 2025**4th Working Group**

Review; debriefing TICAD 9

Sep 2025**NIHONBASHI SPACE WEEK**

Tokyo; Signed MOU with Nigeria

Oct 2025**UNISEC-Global IoT Constellation Training Program**

Tokyo; Nano-satellite IoT Constellation Mission by International Collaboration

Nov 2025**Public - Private Joint Mission**

Ethiopia and Ghana; Held an on-site workshop

Jan 2026**5th Working Group**

Review; NIHONBASHI SPACE WEEK 2025

Feb 2026**Ethiopia–Japan Space Industry Co-Creation Workshop, NewSpace Africa Conference**

Ethiopia and Gabon; Held an on-site workshop, and participated in the conference

Apr 2026**6th Working Group**

Updates; Space Strategy Fund, Ethiopia and Gabon Mission Report

Jun 2026



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