

The Ethiopian Automotive Sector: Shifting Conditions and Next Policy Steps

Co-hosted by the Ministry of Industry, JICA and GDF

The GRIPS Development Forum (GDF) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) have studied and discussed Ethiopia's automotive industry with MOTI/MIDI (now MOI/MTEIRDC), EIC, MOF, etc. We interviewed Japanese auto makers and their local partner firms in Japan, Ethiopia and third countries; MIDI officials were invited to Japan (Jun. 2018); and missions were sent to Kenya (Aug. 2018) and Myanmar (Dec. 2019) to examine their SKD/ CKD policies. Findings were reported in several policy notes and two MOTI seminars (Feb. 2019 and Feb. 2020).

Ethiopia recently curbed used car imports and revised the tax and tariff structure. The government is drafting the automotive policy with the support of GIZ/AAAM. Germany's VW showed interest in Ethiopia. On the Japanese side, Kaki now assembles Isuzu trucks and Suzuki imports entered the Ethiopian market. Toyota assembles cars in South Africa, Kenya, Egypt and Ghana but not Ethiopia. Mitsubishi re-entered Africa (Kenya) to assemble pickup trucks. Moreover, AfCFTA may affect the automotive industry in Africa, including Ethiopia.

In view of these developments, the seminar will discuss the current position and next policy steps of Ethiopia's automotive sector. The past studies of GDF and JICA, as well as analyses based on recent events, will be presented. This is a closed session for policymakers, development partners and invited automotive firms. Your participation will be highly appreciated.

Date Friday, 16 September 2022
Time 9:00 – 11:25 am
Venue Ministry of Industry, 7th floor meeting room
Program

	Master of the Ceremony (Mr. Asfaw Regassa, Managing Director of Metal and Engineering Industry Research and Development Center)
09:00 - 9:05	Welcome speech by MOI (Dr. Milkessa Jagemma, DG of MIDI)
09:10 - 9:50	Presentation 1: "Ethiopian Automotive Policy in the African Automotive Market" (Kenichi Ohno, GRIPS professor)
09:50 - 10:20	Presentation 2: "Global and African automotive industry - emerging trends and strategies " (Toru Homma, JICA senior advisor)
10:20 - 11:20	Discussion
11:20 - 11:25	Closing (Megumi Hirose, Senior Representative, JICA Ethiopia Office)

For further inquiries, contact Mr. Gebeyehu (TujiBenti-Gebeyehu@jica.go.jp).



Kenichi Ohno is a professor at GRIPS. He was previously at the IMF, Tsukuba University and Saitama University. He does comparative research on industrial strategies and has conducted policy dialogue with Ethiopia and Vietnam.



Toru Homma is a senior advisor on industry/investment at JICA. He has extensive experience in both Asia and Africa including policy dialogue with Ethiopia since 2009 as well as advisors stationed in Myanmar, Indonesia, Zambia and France (OECD).

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