

Participation in the award ceremony of Solve It 2019

Ambassador Matsunaga participated in the awards ceremony for “Solve It 2019” on 17 August 2019. “Solve It 2019” is a nationwide innovation competition and also an education program for young Ethiopian entrepreneurs conducted and carried out by JICA, the US Embassy and iCog. 63 teams competed in the Grand Finals in Addis Ababa after participating in a week-long boot camp program. The winner of this year’s competition was the “HM3 3D printer”, followed by “Eco-friendly fuel and Oil” and “Yegna”.

During the opening remarks, Ambassador Matsunaga said he believed emerging technologies or leapfrog technologies could change the world, especially in Africa. He continued, “Talented youths are key for a country’s future. We are going to continue our support for human resource development.” U.S. Ambassador Mr. Raynor stated, “By supporting these programs and investing in their young participants, we are investing in their capacity to find solutions that help their families, their communities, and their country. And the overall result will be a stronger Ethiopia, which is the outcome we all want to see.”

JICA Chief Representative Makoto Shinkawa also said, “As a follow-up to Solve IT 2019, JICA is launching an acceleration program to further nurture the talent that has emerged through this competition.”



Ambassador H. E. Mr. Matsunaga



US Ambassador H. E. Mr. Raynor



Celebrating the winner



Visit to the booth of the Winner