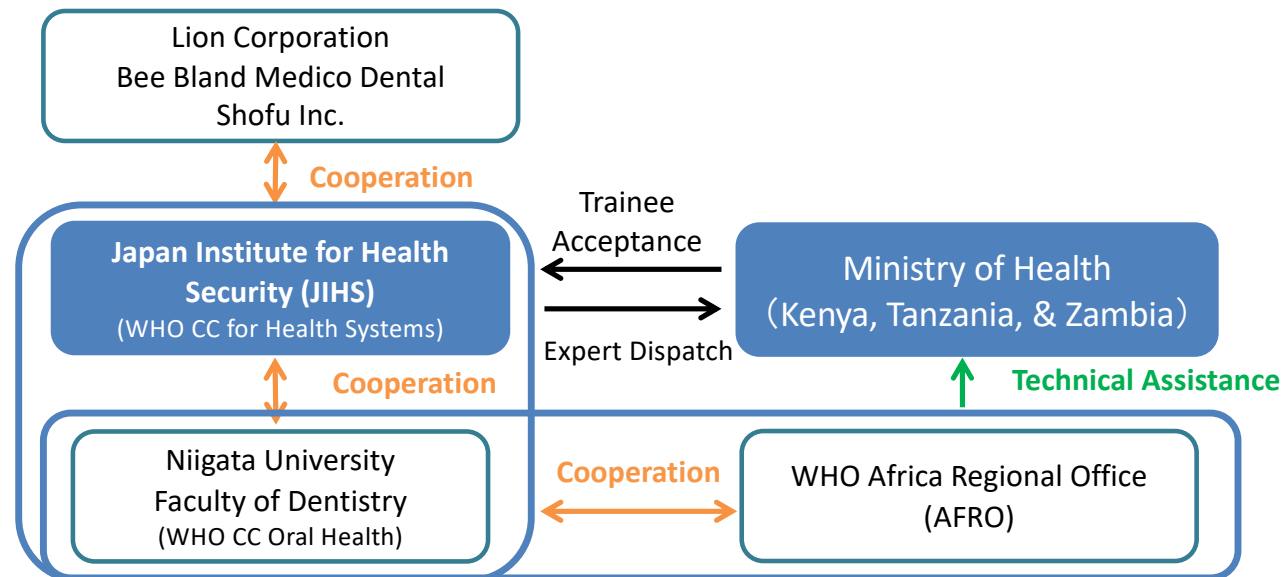


## Project Summary

12 March 2026

### Project to strengthen oral health services through capacity building by using the WHO essential dental preparations in Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia

- Oral diseases (e.g., dental caries) are the most common disease in the world, affecting 43.7% of the population in the WHO African Region. The WHO recommends fluoride toothpaste/varnish, silver diamine fluoride (SDF), and glass ionomer cement (GIC) as part of the WHO essential medicine list as cost-effective and essential interventions for prevention and treatment of dental caries and for improving access to oral health services. The project receives technical support from Niigata University and WHO AFRO. These dental preparations manufactured in Japan are known for their high quality. Their wider dissemination can be facilitated through collaboration with relevant manufacturers.
- The project will support the development of a university-level curriculum for dental professionals in Zambia. Furthermore, the project will also follow up on the action plans of the three countries and organize a seminar for experience sharing.
- The training materials developed under this project will be approved by the Ministries of Health, establishing a framework for the continuous implementation of postgraduate training at the primary level, as well as for university education in Zambia. Additionally, the project will facilitate the inclusion of the targeted dental preparations in national essential medicines lists and their health insurance reimbursement scheme.



#### <Annual schedule>

- May, Aug., Nov., and Feb.  
Follow up of action plans (online)
- Sep.  
Curriculum development in Zambia
- Dec.  
Experience sharing seminar