



# GROUP AND REGION-FOCUSED TRAINING

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Eco-Tourism for Sustainable Use  
of Natural and Cultural Resources (A)**

**課題別研修「自然・文化資源の持続可能な利用(エコツーリズム)(A)」  
JFY 2015**

**NO. J1504191 / ID. 1584736**

**Course Period in Japan : From July 21<sup>st</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

This information pertains to one of the Group and Region-Focused Training of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which shall be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both the Governments or recipient country and Japan.

# ***I. Concept***

## **Background**

The United Nations designated the year 2002 as “the International Year of Ecotourism” to encourage more people to see tourism from the viewpoint of sustainable development. Ecotourism aims to help people experience and understand local natural environments and traditional culture, contributing to better conservation of these assets as well as community development.

The World Tourism Organization (WTO) defines sustainable tourism as tourism that conserves not only natural resources but also historical heritage and tangible/intangible resources including tradition and culture, as well as tourism in which visitors cherish precious sightseeing resources and contribute to their passage to the next generation. In many developing countries, tourism is an important industry that brings foreign currency, and is valued in terms of regional development advantages such as the creation of job opportunities in the relevant areas and regional economic revitalization. Equal emphasis on the development and conservation of tourism resources is a vital issue. At the same time, environmental conservation is a highly important and urgent issue in economic and social development.

## **For what?**

This program aims to realize the introduction and promotion of eco-tourism, which goes a long way toward environmental conservation, wise use of natural resources and contribution to community, based on the above-mentioned international environmental laws.

## **For whom?**

National/local government organizations and NGOs involved in tourism promotion or efforts to conserve the natural environment and cultural resources

## **How?**

Participants shall have opportunity in Japan to:

- 1) visit national parks, Ramsar sites and historical places,
- 2) practice some field activities such as hiking, canoeing and horseback riding, and
- 3) have discussions with the program leader or lectures to achieve program objective.

## II. Description

1. **Title (J-No.):**  
Eco-tourism for Sustainable Use of Natural and Cultural Resources (A) (J1504191)
2. **Course Period in JAPAN:**  
July 21<sup>st</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015
3. **Target Countries:**  
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Belize, Seychelles, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Albania, Serbia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
4. **Eligible / Target Organizations:**  
National/local government organizations and NGOs involved in tourism promotion or efforts to conserve the natural environment and cultural resources
5. **Course Capacity (Upper limit of Participants):**  
10 participants
6. **Language to be used in this program:** English
7. **Course Objective:**  
Draft plans to introduce and disseminate ecotourism as a tool for sustainable regional development involving local residents for areas, where the introduction of ecotourism is expected, are formulated by the target organizations.
8. **Overall Goal:**  
The plan to establish an organization and a network that include local residents will be drafted for the introduction and operation of ecotourism, and the plan to disseminate ecotourism for both tour providers and users will be implemented.
9. **Expected Module Output and Contents:**  
This program consists of the following components:

**(1) Preliminary Phase in a participant's home country** (June to July, 2015)

*Participating organizations make required preparation for the Program in the respective country.*

Expected Module Output	Activities
Inception Report is Formulated.	Formulation and submission of Inception Report to the respective country's JICA Offices together (Please refer to Annex, Attachment-1) .

**(2) Core Phase in Japan** (July 21 to September 1, 2015)

*Participants dispatched by the organizations attend the Program implemented in Japan.*

**Expected Module Output 1:** Participants will be able to understand and explain philosophy and measures related to ecotourism in the context of sustainable use of natural and cultural resources.

Topics	Methodology	Details
Regional efforts for ecotourism (in relation to the Ramsar Convention)	Lecture/	Learn about optimal ecotourism based on the ideals/guidelines of the Ramsar Convention through an eco-tour in the Kushiro area as an example of wise usage in wetlands under the convention
Use of facilities in natural parks	Observation	Learn about exhibition techniques and promotional activities including educational programs for environmental conservation from examples of nature information facilities in natural parks
Wetland conservation and eco-tours	Practice	Learn about the significance and methods of monitoring in natural parks/reserves from examples of wetland monitoring in the Kushiro Wetland natural monument area
Management/operation of natural parks in Japan	Lecture	Learn about policies required for the conservation and use of the natural environment from examples highlighting the operation of natural parks in Japan
Japan's policies on ecotourism	Lecture	Learn about the Japanese Government's ecotourism promotion policies from related laws and promotional projects in Japan
Cultural/historical sites and eco-tour programs	Lecture/ observation	Learn about eco-tours related to the conservation of cultural resources through examples from Kyoto
Overview of ecotourism	Lecture	Learn about the ideals and basics of ecotourism through examples from around the world

**Expected Module Output 2:** Participants will be able to discuss plans to promote ecotourism in consideration of environmental conservation.

Natural park eco-tour programs (trekking and other outdoor activities)	Practice	Learn about eco-tour programs using regional nature in an eco-friendly manner from examples of trekking and some other activities in forest.
Natural park eco-tour programs (field activities)	Practice	Learn about how local products can be adopted for tourism through a program to use locally produced crops for field activity, etc.
Natural park eco-tour programs (educational programs)	Practice	Learn about how regional natural characteristics can be leveraged for environmental education tour programs that anyone can experience, including nature watching, etc.

Field-based eco-tour programs (in the Kushiro Wetland)	Practice	Learn about finding regional resources, materials for tours and environmental education, and the specific use of such resources through an eco-tour program that introduces prehistoric remains and springs in the Kushiro Wetland
Use of regional facilities	Practice	Learn about the development of programs that ordinary tourists can easily participate in and the expected benefits of environmental education through the example of making souvenir.
Regionally based eco-tour programs (horse trekking)	Practice	Learn about how regional industries can be used in tourism/environmental education and related regional development from an environmentally friendly eco-tour program using native Hokkaido horses
Regional efforts for ecotourism	Practice	Learn about regional voluntary efforts including tour business as a side job by fishermen in a natural park/ Ramsar wetland and the conservation/management of the water environment (a field for regional industries) to enhance understanding of the relationship between regional industry-based eco-tours operated by residents and environmental conservation
Eco-tours in Ramsar wetlands (canoeing in river)	Practice	Learn about the necessity of consideration and guidelines for eco-tours in habitats for rare wild animals from the example of a canoe program in the Bekanbeushi Wetland, which is inhabited by Japanese cranes (designated a special natural monument)
Regional efforts for eco tours (deserted island tour)	Practice	Learn about eco-tour programs that leverage regional characteristics and industries and consider the natural environment from the example of a deserted island (Kenbokki Island) tour operated by fishermen
Eco-tours in cooperation with regions	Lecture/ Observation	Learn about the operation of tours using regional natural environments, industries and human resources and their relationship with regional development from eco-tour programs operated at the Kiritappu Wetland Center
Eco-tours in satoyama (farming villages including rice paddies, community-based woods, etc.)	Lecture/ Practice	Learn about tour programs using nature near human settlements and their promotion to local residents from the example of an eco-tour introducing satoyama in Chiba Prefecture
Eco-tourism developed by local community (kayaking in Okinawa)	Lecture/ Practice	Learning methods of using mangrove wetlands in consideration of the vulnerable environment and promoting public awareness from examples of eco-tourism in the Gesashi area of Okinawa Prefecture.

Environmental conservation/traditional culture and eco-tour programs	Practice	Learn about the facilitation of traditional culture in eco-tours through cultural activities involving contact with regional nature such as Japanese flower arrangement.
Natural and cultural resources in community for eco-tour programs (in Kyoto)	Lecture/ Observation	Learn about “treasure hunting”, the method of finding natural and cultural resources in community and using them for ecotourism and community development through a lecture, discussion and the experience of traditional boat tour.
<b>Expected Module Output 3:</b> Participants will be able to explain methods of establishing a network of locals and related parties		
Regional efforts for wetland conservation	Lecture	Learn about wetland conservation activities initiated by local residents from the example of trust efforts to conserve the Kiritappu Wetland, which has been registered under the Ramsar Convention
Regional efforts for environmental education	Lecture Observation	Learn about the roles of nature-related regional facilities from examples of wildlife/wetland conservation promotional efforts for local residents based at the Akkeshi Waterfowl Observation Center
Eco-tours in cooperation with regions (Akkeshi)	Lecture/ Practice	Learn about how a roadside station offers drivers /tourists eco-tour programs and local products/dishes focusing on fishery, which is the key industry of Akkeshi Town
Eco-tourism developed by local community (Okinawa)	Lecture/ Practice	Learn about how local community built an awareness of the natural/cultural resources in their community and developed eco-tourism which produced jobs especially for young generation, through the experience of eco-tour program in intertidal zones and coral reefs in the Gesashi area of Okinawa Prefecture.
Cultural/historical sites and eco-tour programs (restoration of the environment)	Lecture/ Practice/ Observation	Discuss cooperation between experts and local residents based on the activities of a network organized for the environmental restoration and use of a temple garden in Kyoto
<b>Expected Module Output 4:</b> Participants will be able to formulate the Interim Report.		
Inception Report presentation	Practice	Understand individual trainee work details, issues and expectations for training
Program review and briefing	Workshop	Briefing to introduce every program prior to experience of them, and reviewing them to share the lesson and thought gain through the experiences.
Guidance of Action Plan making	Lecture	Receive advice from the course leader on the summarization of issues in participants' home countries and the feasibility of action plans

Making Action Plan (Draft)	Practice	Make action plans for implementation after participants return home based on experience gained in training and advice from the course leader
<b>Action Plan</b> (Draft) presentation	Practice	Determine the depth of understanding through action plans made during the training
<b>(3) Finalization Phase in a participant's home country</b> (September, 2015 to February, 2016) Participating organizations produce outputs by sharing and making use of results brought back by participants. Submitting the Progress Report to the JICA Obihiro by <b><u>February 28, 2016.</u></b>		
Expected Module Output	Activities	
To formulate <b>Progress Report</b> and Submission	Sharing and discussing of draft Action Plan and the knowledge they gained in Japan in their own organizations. Finalization of draft Action Plan and submitting the report including description of the progress of the action plan to JICA Obihiro .	

The schedule is subject to change due to the coordination of curriculum.

### ***III. Conditions and Procedures for Application***

#### **1. Expectations for the Participating Organizations:**

- (1) This program is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operation. Participating organizations are expected to utilize the program for those specific purposes.
- (2) This program is enriched with contents and facilitation schemes specially developed in collaboration with relevant prominent organizations in Japan. These special features enable the program to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.
- (3) As this program is designed to facilitate organizations to come up with concrete solutions for their issues, participating organizations are expected to make due preparation before dispatching their participants to Japan by carrying out the activities of the Preliminary Phase described in section II -9.
- (4) Participating organizations are also expected to make the best use of the results achieved by their participants in Japan by carrying out the activities of the Finalization Phase described in section II -9.

#### **2. Nominee Qualifications:**

Applying organizations are expected to select nominees who meet the following qualifications:

- (1) **Current duties**: Planning or promotion of Eco-Tourism for conservation of natural environment and cultural resources. e.g. Middle-ranking administrative officers, etc.
- (2) **Experience in the relevant fields**: More than two (2) years
- (3) **Be nominated by their governments**
- (4) **Language**: competent command of spoken and written English, which is equal to TOEFL iBT\* 72 (CBT\*\* 200/PBT\*\*\* 533) or more (The program is commanded by English, therefore participants are requested to have sufficient English ability),  
\*iBT: Internet-Based Testing/ \*\*CBT: Computer-Based Testing/  
\*\*\*PBT: Paper-Based Testing,  
(\*iBT: Internet-Based Testing/ \*\*CBT: Computer-Based Testing/  
\*\*\*PBT: Paper-Based Testing)
- (5) **Health**: must be in good health, both physically and mentally, to participate in the Program in Japan
- (6) **Must not be serving any form of military service.**



### 3. Required Documents for Application:

**(1) Application Form:** The Application Form is available at **the JICA office (or Embassy of Japan).**

\*Pregnancy

Pregnant participants are strictly requested to attach the following documents in order to minimize the risk for their health.

- ① letter of the participant's consent to bear economic and physical risks
- ② letter of consent from the participant's supervisor
- ③ doctor's letter with agreement of his/her training participation.

Please ask National Staffs in JICA office for the details.

**(2) Photocopy of passport:** to be submitted with the application form, if you possess your passport which you will carry when entering Japan for this program. If not, you are requested to submit its photocopy as soon as you obtain it.

\*Photocopy should include the followings:

Name, Date of birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport number and Expire date.

**(3) Nominee's English Score Sheet:** to be submitted with the Application Form. If you have any official documentation of English ability (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS), please attach it (or a copy) to the application form.

**(4) Inception Report and Questionnaire:** to be submitted with the Application Form. Fill in Attachment-1 and 2 of this General Information, and submit it along with the Application Form. (Detailed information is provided in **IV. ANNEX: Attachment1-2**)

Inception Reports are requested to send to JICA Hokkaido International Center Obihiro (JICA Obihiro) by e-mail to [jicaobic@jica.go.jp](mailto:jicaobic@jica.go.jp) as well. (The title should be "Eco-tourism for Sustainable Use of Natural and Cultural Resources (A)")

### 4. Procedure for Application and Selection :

**(1) Submitting the Application Documents:**

Closing date for application to the JICA Hokkaido International Center (Obihiro), Japan: **June 5, 2015**

**Note: Please confirm the closing date set by the respective country's JICA Office or Embassy of Japan of your country to meet the final date in Japan.**

**(2) Selection:**

After receiving the document(s) through due administrative procedures in the respective government, the respective country's JICA Office (or Japanese Embassy) shall conduct screenings, and send the documents to the JICA Center in charge in Japan, which organizes this program. Selection shall be made by the JICA Center in consultation with the organizations concerned in Japan based on submitted documents according to qualifications.

**(3) Notice of Acceptance:**

Notification of results shall be made by the respective country's JICA Office (or Embassy of Japan) to the respective Governments by **not later than June 19, 2015**.

**5. Conditions for Attendance:**

- (1) to strictly adhere to the program schedule.
- (2) not to change the program topics.
- (3) not to extend the period of stay in Japan.
- (4) not to be accompanied by family members during the program.
- (5) to return to home countries at the end of the program in accordance with the travel schedule designated by JICA.
- (6) to refrain from engaging in any political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain.
- (7) to observe Japanese laws and ordinances. If there is any violation of said laws and ordinances, participants may be required to return part or all of the training expenditure depending on the severity of said violation.
- (8) to observe the rules and regulations of the accommodation and not to change the accommodation designated by JICA.

## ***IV. Administrative Arrangements***

**1. Organizer:**

**Name:** JICA Hokkaido International Center (Obihiro), (=JICA Obihiro)

**Contact:**

(Address) 1-2, Minami 6-chome, Nishi 20-jo, Obihiro, Hokkaido, 080-2470, Japan

(Tel) 81(\*)-155(\*\*)-35-1210 (Fax) 81(\*)-155(\*\*)-35-1250

Note: \*:country code for Japan, \*\*:area code for Obihiro

(Email) [jicaobic@jica.go.jp](mailto:jicaobic@jica.go.jp) (Website) [www.jica.go.jp/english](http://www.jica.go.jp/english)

**2. Implementing Partner:**

Kushiro International Wetland Center (KIWC)

**3. Travel to Japan:**

- (1) **Air Ticket:** The cost of a round-trip ticket between an international airport designated by JICA and Japan will be borne by JICA.
- (2) **Travel Insurance:** Coverage is from time of arrival up to departure in Japan. Thus traveling time outside Japan will not be covered.

#### 4. Accommodation in Japan:

JICA will arrange the following accommodations for the participants in Japan:

●JICA Hokkaido International Center (Obihiro) (JICA OBIHIRO)

Address: 1-2, Minami 6-chome, Nishi 20-jo, Obihiro, Hokkaido, 080-2470, Japan

TEL: +81-(0)155-35-2001 FAX: +81-(0)155-35-2213

●JICA Tokyo International Center (JICA TOKYO)

Address: 2-49-5, Nishihara, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, 151-0066, Japan

TEL: +81-(0)3-3485-7051 FAX: +81-(0)3-3485-7904

(where “81” is the country code for Japan, and “155” or “3” is the local area code)

If there is no vacancy at above JICA Obihiro and Tokyo, JICA will arrange alternative accommodations for the participants. Besides Obihiro and Tokyo, JICA will arrange accommodations at each training site too.

#### 5. Expenses:

The following expenses will be provided for the participants by JICA:

- (1) Allowances for accommodation, meals, living expenses, outfit, and shipping
- (2) Expenses for study tours (basically in the form of train tickets)
- (3) Free medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are **not** included)
- (4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials

For more details, please see “III. ALLOWANCES” of the brochure for participants titled “KENSU-IN GUIDE BOOK,” which will be given before departure for Japan.

#### 6. Pre-departure Orientation:

A pre-departure orientation will be held at the respective country’s JICA Office (or Japanese Embassy), to provide participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the workshop, and other matters.

## V. Other Information

1. Participants who have successfully completed the training program will be awarded a certificate by JICA.
2. **Things you need to bring**
  - Laptop Computer
  - ID photo (size 4cm×3cm)
    - \*after arriving Japan you are required to submit photos.
  - Daypack and sports shoes

### 3. Medical history

In case you have or have had malaria, you are kindly requested to bring the medicine for malaria with you because it is quite difficult to obtain it in Japan.

### 4. Climate

The climate condition in Kushiro, Tokyo and Nago is given below. Participants are advised to prepare appropriate clothes.

#### ***Kushiro (Hokkaido)***

Unit: Temperature(°C), Precipitation(mm)

		<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun.</i>	<i>Jul.</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sep.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
Temp.	High	-0.6	-0.4	2.7	7.7	12.0	15.2	18.6	21.2	19.7	14.8	8.7	2.5
	Low	-10.4	-9.9	-4.9	0.3	5.0	9.0	12.8	15.5	12.3	5.5	-0.8	-7.1
Prec.		43.2	22.6	58.2	75.8	111.9	107.7	127.7	130.8	155.6	94.6	64.0	50.8

#### ***Tokyo***

		<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun.</i>	<i>Jul.</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sep.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
Temp.	High	9.6	10.4	13.6	19.0	22.9	25.5	29.2	30.8	26.9	21.5	16.3	11.9
	Low	0.9	1.7	4.4	9.4	14.0	18.0	21.8	23.0	19.7	14.2	8.3	3.5
Prec.		52.3	56.1	117.5	124.5	137.8	167.7	153.5	168.2	209.9	197.8	92.5	51.0

#### ***Nago (Okinawa Island)***

		<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun.</i>	<i>Jul.</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sep.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
Temp.	High	19.3	19.5	21.3	23.9	26.5	29.2	31.8	31.6	30.5	27.8	24.4	21.0
	Low	13.5	13.5	15.5	17.9	20.8	24.6	26.5	26.2	24.8	22.3	18.8	15.1
Prec.		111.4	126.3	153.1	171.5	222.4	244.1	151.3	248.2	220.9	150.7	122.9	96.2

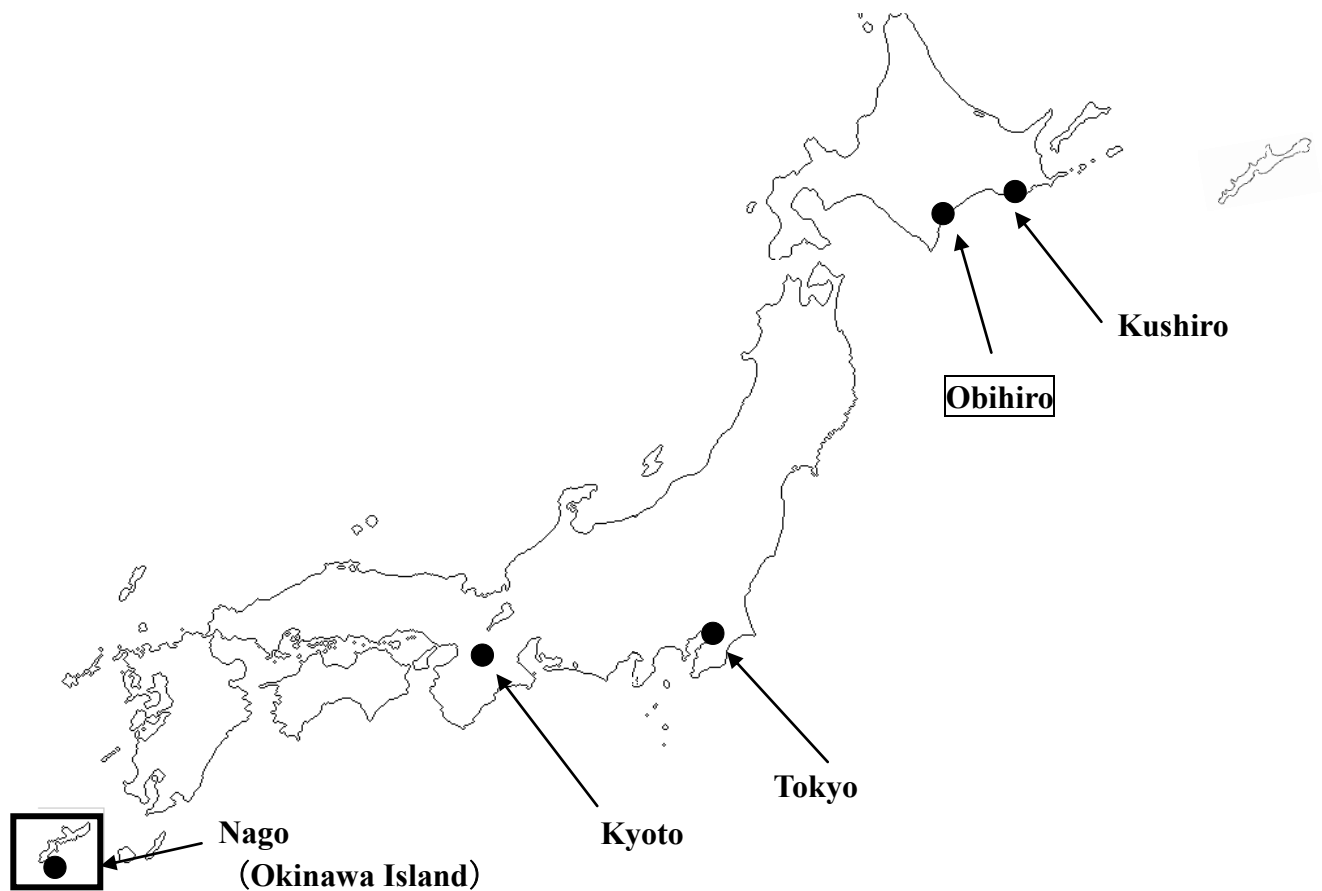
Source: Japan Meteorological Agency (from 1981 to 2010)

## 5. Field Trip

During the program participants are going to have field trips from the southern part to the northern part of Japan.

Most of the program is held at Kushiro city, but the parts of the program are held in Tokyo and Okinawa Islands. It is convenient for you to bring some small bag to travel for about 1-2 weeks.

### Program Main Sites



## VI. ANNEX:

Attachment-1

### Inception Report

Participants are requested to prepare the Inception Report on the following issues and Questionnaire, and submit it to the respective country's JICA Offices or JICA Obihiro by **June 5, 2015**, preferably by e-mail to [jicaobic@jica.go.jp](mailto:jicaobic@jica.go.jp) (The title should be "Eco-tourism for Sustainable Use of Natural and Cultural Resources (A)")

#### **a. Purposes**

- (1) To clarify issues and problems presently faced in their work in order to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge and ideas leading to solutions during the training program.
- (2) To provide advance information regarding issues and problems faced by participants to lecturers and organizations concerned with the program as a point of reference in finding solutions.

#### **b. Contents**

- (1) Name of organization
- (2) Organization chart
- (3) Brief introduction of work the participants have been in charge for the last year.

\*To take measures to cope with the matters mentioned in the Inception Report, the Interim Report including applicable knowledge and skills learnt during the program is requested to be presented by each participant at the end of the program.

#### **c. Layout**

Typewritten in English, **less than 2 pages** (12-point font, double spaced, A4 size paper)

#### **d. Presentation**

The Inception Report is to be presented by each participant using MS PowerPoint at the beginning of the program.

- (1) The time allocation for each presentation of the Inception Report will be about 10 minutes.
- (2) It is advisable to use audio visual aids such as Microsoft PowerPoint or pictures presenting the Inception Report.

## **Questionnaire**

Name of the Applicant ( )

Name of your Country ( )

Please describe following issues on environmental conservation, management / administration and wise use of natural resources, and eco-tourism in your country briefly.

1. Specific issues on destruction of environmental conservation, management / administration and wise use of natural resources and eco-tourism that participant is currently engaged in.
2. Outline of the ongoing and planned projects including period, name of counterpart(s) such as donor countries, agencies and international NGOs, the budget, etc.
3. Major constraints and future prospects of environmental conservation, management / administration and wise use of natural resources, and eco-tourism.
5. Special interests what the applicant would like to acquire from this program particularly.

This questionnaire should be typewritten in English, **less than 3 pages** (12-point font, double-spaced, A4 size paper).

## ***For Your Reference***

### **JICA and Capacity Development**

The key concept underpinning JICA operations since its establishment in 1974 has been the conviction that “capacity development” is central to the socioeconomic development of any country, regardless of the specific operational scheme one may be undertaking, i.e. expert assignments, development projects, development study projects, training programs, JOCV programs, etc.

Within this wide range of programs, Training and Dialogue Programs have long occupied an important place in JICA operations. Conducted in Japan, they provide partner countries with opportunities to acquire practical knowledge accumulated in Japanese society. Participants dispatched by partner countries might find useful knowledge and re-create their own knowledge for enhancement of their own capacity or that of the organization and society to which they belong.

About 460 pre-organized programs cover a wide range of professional fields, ranging from education, health, infrastructure, energy, trade and finance, to agriculture, rural development, gender mainstreaming, and environmental protection. A variety of programs and are being customized to address the specific needs of different target organizations, such as policy-making organizations, service provision organizations, as well as research and academic institutions. Some programs are organized to target a certain group of countries with similar developmental challenges.

### **Japanese Development Experience**

Japan was the first non-Western country to successfully modernize its society and industrialize its economy. At the core of this process, which started more than 140 years ago, was the “*adopt and adapt*” concept by which a wide range of appropriate skills and knowledge have been imported from developed countries; these skills and knowledge have been adapted and/or improved using local skills, knowledge and initiatives. They finally became internalized in Japanese society to suit its local needs and conditions.

From engineering technology to production management methods, most of the know-how that has enabled Japan to become what it is today has emanated from this “*adoption and adaptation*” process, which, of program, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories. We presume that such experiences, both successful and unsuccessful, will be useful to our partners who are trying to address the challenges currently faced by developing countries.

However, it is rather challenging to share with our partners this whole body of Japan’s developmental experience. This difficulty has to do, in part, with the challenge of explaining a body of “tacit knowledge,” a type of knowledge that cannot fully be expressed in words or numbers. Adding to this difficulty are the social and cultural systems of Japan that vastly differ from those of other Western industrialized countries, and hence still remain unfamiliar to many partner countries. Simply stated, coming to Japan might be one way of overcoming such a cultural gap.

JICA, therefore, would like to invite as many leaders of partner countries as possible to come and visit us, to mingle with the Japanese people, and witness the advantages as well as the disadvantages of Japanese systems, so that integration of their findings might help them reach their developmental objectives.





### ***CORRESPONDENCE***

**For enquiries and further information, please contact the JICA Office or the Embassy of Japan. Further, address correspondence to:**

**JICA Hokkaido International Center (Obihiro)**

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TEL: +81-155-35-1210    FAX: +81-155-35-1250

Website: [www.jica.go.jp/english/](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/)

E-mail: [jicaobic@jica.go.jp](mailto:jicaobic@jica.go.jp)