



Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

GENERAL INFORMATION ON

Urban Public Transport 課題別研修「都市公共交通」 JFY 2019

NO. 201984778-J002 / ID. 1984778

Course Period in Japan: From October 20th 2019 to November 16th 2019

This information pertains to one of the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) 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 Governments.

'JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)' as a New Start

In the Development Cooperation Charter which was released from the Japanese Cabinet on February 2015, it is clearly pointed out that *"In its development cooperation, Japan has maintained the spirit of jointly creating things that suit partner countries while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned based on a field-oriented approach through dialogue and collaboration. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other and grow and develop together."* We believe that this 'Knowledge Co-Creation Program' will serve as a center of mutual learning process.

I. Concept

Background

The rapid urbanization in many developing countries over the past half century seems to have been accompanied by excessively high levels of concentration of the urban population and worsening traffic congestion in very large cities. Thus, it is one of the pressing issues for developing countries to introduce public transport systems to alleviate the situation effectively.

In major cities in Japan, the public transportation systems have been developed based on demand forecasting and financial analyses. Most of them are run by private operators on commercial basis without subsidies. In addition, they are known as their energy efficiency and smaller per capita environmental burdens.

Considering such circumstances, this program is designed to provide participants with opportunities to deepen understanding about public transportation as well as get some clues to improve issues regarding public transportation in participants' respective countries.

For what?

The Program aims to support participants' capacity development in order to formulate proposals for the strategies/administrative management of urban public transport.

The transport modes handled mainly in this program are **MRT (Mass Rapid Transit such as urban railway and subway), LRT (Light Rail Transit), BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) and Bus.**

(*This Program does **NOT** cover urban road planning and development, which are covered in another Knowledge Co-Creation Program entitled "Comprehensive Urban Transportation Planning".)

For whom?

The Program is offered to **central/local government officials of cities with population of 1,000,000 or more in principle**, responsible for the **policymaking or administrative management** of urban public transport.

How?

The Program addresses institutional capacity strengthening for participating organizations to develop the appropriate strategies/countermeasures against issues regarding public transportation (in the Preparatory Phase and Core Phase in Japan).

All activities are expected to be taken place after close consultations and discussions between the participants and their supervisors.

II. Description

1. Title: Urban Public Transport (201984778-J002)

2. Period of the Program

Duration of whole Program: August 2019 to November 2019

Preparatory Phase: August 2019 to October 2019

(in participants' home countries)

Core Phase in Japan: October 20 (Sun) to November 16 (Sat), 2019

3. Target Countries:

Myanmar, Laos, Viet Nam, Sri Lanka, Peru, Afghanistan, Iran, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan

4. Eligible / Target Organizations:

The Program is designed for **central/local governments in cities with population of 1,000,000 or more in principle**, responsible for the formulation of urban public transport policies.

5. Total Number of Participants:

15

6. Language to be used in this program:

English

7. Course Objective:

Challenges to improve issues regarding urban public transport planning and administrative management are clarified.

8. Overall Goal:

Urban public transport systems are improved in respective countries to alleviate traffic congestion and environmental issues.

9. Program Contents

This Program consists of "Preparatory Phase" in Participants' Home countries as well as "Core Phase" in Japan. The Core Phase is comprised with Four (4) modules.

Preparatory Phase in Participants' Home Countries

August 2019 to October 2019

Accepted participants make required preparation for the Program in the respective countries.

Modules	Activities
Inception Report / Self-study	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Formulation of Inception Report- Reading Pre-Departure Study Materials which shall be downloaded from the URL below; https://jica-net-library.jica.go.jp/jica-net/user/lib/contentDetail.php?item_id=864

Core Phase in Japan

October 20 (Sun), 2019 to November 16 (Sat), 2019

Participants dispatched by the organizations attend the Program implemented in Japan

Module 1 : Each Country's Situation

Objective	Contents
To sort out, analyze and share the issues and needs for improvement of urban public transport systems in each participant's city/country	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sharing / discussing urban public transport issues of each participant's country/city through presentation of Inception Report

Module 2 : Overview of Urban Public Transport Systems in Japan

Objective	Contents
To acquire basic knowledge on urban public transport systems in Japan and deepen understandings through combining the lessons learned during lectures, site visits and case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Public transportation policy in Japan- Urban transport planning- Traffic planning development in different cities- Various public transport systems in Japan- Outline of transport conditions in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Hiroshima (lectures / visits)

Module 3 : Acquisition and Application of Practical Skills

Objective	Contents
To acquire practical skills through discussing examples of Japan and participants' countries, and consider the applicability to the respective countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review sessions of each week's lectures- Workshop on transportation systems- Exchange of views and experiences on urban public transport issues with Japanese experts

Module 4 : Interim Report Formulation and Presentation	
Objective	Contents
To sort out the challenges for improving the planning and /or administrative management skills of urban public transport in the respective countries and to present the direction of improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formulation and presentation of Interim Report through Workshops, Individual consultation by Instructors, and discussion among participants * Participants are expected to share their Interim Reports and their experience of the Program with their organizations after the Core Phase.

NOTE: The above contents and visiting places are subject to changes

10. Tentative Schedule

Date		Content	Lecturers / Organization
10/20	(Sun)	Arrival to Japan	
10/21	(Mon)	Briefing Session	JICA Tokyo
		Program Orientation	JICA Tokyo
		Lec.: Operation and Development of Urban Public Transport in Japan	Dr. Itaya, Ryutsu Keizai University
10/22	(Tue)	Day Off (National Holiday)	
10/23	(Wed)	Discussion: Review of the previous sessions	Dr. Ohta, Tokyo University (Professor Emeritus)
		Lec.: Urban Transportation Planning and Public Transport	
		Session ①: Inception Report Presentation ②: Discussion on Interim Report themes	
10/24	(Thu)	Lec.: Outline of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)	Mr. Nakamura, MLIT
		Lec.: Japan's Public Transportation Policy	Mr. Ogawa, MLIT
		Lec: "Urban Development Integrated with Public Transportation and Relevant Laws and Regulations"	Mr. Seki, MLIT
		Lec: "Urban Railways System in Japan"	Mr. Adachi, MLIT
10/25	(Fri)	Lec: "JR Projects in Tokyo Metropolitan Area"	Ms. Kimishima, JR East
		Lec: "Sustainable Transportation System in Asian Cities"	Dr. Fukuda, Nihon Univ.
		Lec: "Planning of Urban Public Transport Systems for Sustainable Cities"	Dr. Ohta, Tokyo University (Professor

		Discussion: Review of the week	Emeritus)
10/26	(Sat)	Day Off	
10/27	(Sun)	Day Off	
10/28	(Mon)	Visit: "Shinjuku Station and Shinjuku Expressway Bus Terminal " (in rush hour)	Dr. Okamura, Toyo Univ.
		Lec: " Urban Development and Railway -mainly on urban railway"	
		Lec: " Efforts for Barrier-Free Public Transportation Systems"	Mr. Matsubara, Eco-Mo Foundation
10/29	(Tue)	Discussion: Review of the previous sessions	
		Lec: "Economic & Financial Analysis of Public Transport Project"	Dr. Nemoto, Keiai Univ.
		Lec. "Bus and Taxi Services and Efforts for their Vitalization"	Mr. Funaoka, MLIT
		Lec. "Urban Transportation Planning and Policy Development"	Dr. Ishida, Tsukuba Univ.
10/30	(Wed)	Lec. "EAGLE BUS - Its Management and International Cooperation"	Mr. Tanishima, Eagle Bus
		Visit: "EAGLE BUS - Bus Operation of KAWAGOE Office and Training"	Mr. Sasaki, Eagle Bus
10/31	(Thu)	Discussion: Review of the previous sessions	
		Lec: " Japan's Urban Transport Planning and International Trend "	Mr. Mochizuki, Atelier U.D.I
		Visit: "TAMA New Town Public Transport Planning"	
11/1	(Fri)	Visit: " Management and Operation of Taxi Business in Metropolitan Area"	Mr. Ueno, Nihon Kotsu
		Lec: "Recent Development of Urban Transport: TOD and New mobility systems"	Dr. Ohta, Tokyo University
		Review of the week and Discussion on Field Visit Themes	Dr. Ohta, Tokyo University
11/2	(Sat)	Day Off	
11/3	(Sun)	Day Off	
11/4	(Mon)	Move to Kyoto	
11/5	(Tue)	Lec: "Urban Public Transport in Hiroshima"	Dr. Fujiwara, Hiroshima Univ.
		Lec. & Visit: " From Streetcar to Light Rail Transit(LRT) System"	Mr. Kishimoto, Hiroshima City Government

11/6	(Wed)	Lec. & Visit: "Overview of ASTRAM LINE" , Ride on ASTRAM LINE	Mr. Nakamura, Hiroshima Electric Railway Co.,LTD
		Lec. & Visit: "Urban Redevelopment Project around Yokogawa Station"	Mr. Kishimoto, Hiroshima City Government
11/7	(Thu)	Move to Nagoya	
		Lec: " The past, the present, and the future of Urban Transport System in Japan & Nagoya"	Dr. Kato, Nagoya Univ.
11/8	(Fri)	Lec: "Overview of Transportation Bureau, City of Nagoya"	Mr. Yasue, Transportation Bureau, Nagoya City
		Visit: "Kanayama Station" (Ride on Guideway Bus)	Mr. Sato, Nagoya City
11/9	(Sat)	Move to Tokyo	
11/10	(Sun)	Day Off	
11/11	(Mon)	Session③: Wrap-up of Study Tour	Dr. Ohta, Tokyo University
		Workshop on the Direction of Urban Public Transport	Mr. Mochizuki, Atelier U.D.I
11/12	(Tue)	Lec: "Subway development in Tokyo Metropolitan Area"	Mr. Saito, Tokyo Metro
		Guidance for Interim Report	Mr. Mochizuki, Atelier U.D.I
11/13	(Wed)	Visit: "Operation Management System in KEISEI Bus"	Mr. Hiyama, KEISEI Bus Co.,LTD
		Lec: "Recent Developments in Urban Transport : MaaS and Autonomous/Automated Vehicles"	Dr. Ohta, Tokyo University
11/14	(Thu)	Session④: Interim Report Presentation	
11/15	(Fri)	Evaluation Meeting and Closing Ceremony	
11/16	(Sat)	Leave Japan	

*Contents and lecturers are subject to change without prior notice.

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 use this 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 ensure enough time for the participants to carry out the activities of the Preparatory Phase.
- (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.

2. Nominee Qualifications

Applying Organizations are expected to adequately select nominees according to the qualifications below.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) **Current Duties:** administrative officers (Engineers and researchers are not eligible) in charge of planning and implementing urban transport policies in competent national or local government offices of cities with population of 1,000,000 or more in principle,
- 2) **Experience in the relevant field:** more than 5 years' working experience in urban transport planning and management,
- 3) **Educational Background:** be a graduate of university or equivalent
- 4) **Language:** be proficient in spoken and written English (Please attach an official certificate for English ability such as TOEFL, TOEIC etc, if possible)
- 5) **Health:** must be in good health, both physically and mentally, to participate in the Program in Japan. Pregnant applicants are not recommended to apply due to the potential risk of health and life issues of mother and fetus.

During the Program, participants will be using public transportation except for the cases when buses are chartered, and need to walk between train stations/bus stops and destinations for up to about one kilometer.

* If candidates have any difficulties/disabilities and may require some assistance, please indicate them in the Medical History page of the Application Form. Such Indication allows us (people concerned in this course) to arrange better logistics or alternatives.

(2) Gender Consideration

JICA is promoting gender equality. Women are encouraged to apply for the Program.

3. Required Documents for Application

(1) Application Form:

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

** If you have any difficulties/disabilities which require assistance, please specify necessary assistances in the Medical History(1-(d)) of the Application Form. It may allow us to prepare better logistics or alternatives.*

(2) Attachments: to be submitted with the Application Form.

(2)-1 Photocopy of passport:

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.

(2)-2 Nominee's English Score Sheet:

If you have any official documentation of English ability. (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS)

(2)-3 Questionnaire (please refer to "Annex 1")

Each nominee is required to answer the Questionnaire in accordance with the format indicated in Annex 1

4. Procedure for Application and Selection

(1) Submitting the Application Documents:

Closing date for application to the JICA Tokyo Center in JAPAN, which organizes this Program: **August 9 (Fri), 2019**

Note: Please confirm the closing date set by the respective countries' JICA Offices or Embassies of Japan of your countries to meet the final date in Japan.

(2) Selection

After receiving the application through due administrative procedures, the respective countries' JICA Offices (or Embassies of Japan) shall conduct screenings, and send the documents to the JICA Tokyo Center. Selection shall be made by the JICA Tokyo Center in consultation with the organizations concerned in Japan based on submitted documents according to qualifications. Qualifications of applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military will be examined by the Government of Japan on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan, taking into consideration their duties, positions in the organization, and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner.

(3) Notice of Acceptance

Notification of results shall be made by the respective countries' JICA Offices (or Embassies of Japan) to the respective Governments by **not later than August 20 (Tue), 2019.**

5. Document to be submitted by Accepted participants:

(1) Inception Report (Annex 2) -- to be submitted by September 27 (Fri), 2019.

Before coming to Japan, only accepted participants are required to prepare Inception Reports. The Report should be sent to JICA Tokyo by e-mail to tictree@jica.go.jp.

(2) Preparation for Presentation

All participants are required to deliver a 15-20 minutes presentation based on their Inception Report during the program. The format will be informed with the Notice of Acceptance. Please prepare the presentation material (PPT slides) and submit it (by USB Flash Drive) to the JICA Tokyo on **October 21th (Monday), 2019.**

6. Conditions for Attendance:

- (1) to observe the schedule of the Program,
- (2) not to change the Program subjects or extend the period of stay in Japan,
- (3) not to bring any members of their family,
- (4) to return to their home countries at the end of the Program in Japan according to the travel schedule designated by JICA,
- (5) to refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain,
- (6) 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 Program expenditure depending on the severity of said violation,
- (7) to observe the rules and regulations of their place of accommodation and not to change the accommodation designated by JICA, and
- (8) to participate the whole Program including a Preparatory Phase prior to the Core Phase in Japan.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer: JICA Tokyo Center (JICA TOKYO)

2. Implementing Partner:

Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)

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: Term of Insurance: From arrival to departure in Japan.

*The traveling time outside Japan shall not be covered.

4. Accommodation in Japan

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

JICA Tokyo Center (JICA TOKYO)

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

TEL: 81-3-3485-7051 FAX: 81-3-3485-7904

(where "81" is the country code for Japan, and "3" is the local area code)

If there is no vacancy at JICA TOKYO, JICA will arrange alternative accommodations for the participants. Please refer to facility guide of JICA Tokyo at its URL below:

<http://www.jica.go.jp/english/contact/domestic/pdf/welcome.pdf>

5. Expenses

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

(1) Allowances for accommodation, 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 study materials

(5) For more details, please see the brochure for participants titled "KENSHU-IN GUIDE BOOK," which will be given to the accepted participants before (or at the time of) the pre-departure orientation.

6. Pre-departure Orientation

A pre-departure orientation will be held at the respective countries' JICA Offices (or Embassies of Japan), to provide participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the workshop, and other matters.

V. Others (for Accepted Participants Only)

1. Formulation of the Reports

At the end of the program, participants are expected to make practical proposals to tackle issues regarding public transportation in respective countries. As part of process, participants are required to prepare the following reports by three steps.

(1) The first step: Inception Report (Preparation Phase)

Inception Reports should state overview of urban transportation and the current issues/problems which participants and their organizations are now facing in their countries (Please see in Annex 2 <p. 16>).

At the beginning of the Core Phase in Japan, participants are expected to deliver a presentation about the Inception Report. Accepted applicants will receive the detailed instruction with notice of acceptance.

(2) The second step: Interim Report (By the end of the Core Phase)

Interim Report should be formulated at the end of Core Phase in Japan and participants should give presentation within about 20 minutes as they presented Inception Report. Interim Report includes specific and feasible proposals for improving the strategies/administrative management of urban public transport.

Participants will have consultation sessions with Japanese advisors for drafting in the middle of the Program in Japan.

(3) The Final Step: Finalization of the Interim Report(After going back to your home country)

After returning to home country, participants are recommended to present their proposals shown in the Interim Reports to their respective organizations and to get their assessment/review of the proposals.

The Final Reports to the participants' institutions should be made by adding the supplemental information on viability of proposal, which is reflected the result of this assessment/review by the organizations, into the original proposals mentioned in the Interim Reports.

The supplemental information for the Final Report is as follows:

- a. The result of feedback on your proposal from his/her supervisor(s)
 - To whom, how and when did you deliver your presentation on your proposal?
 - Who was in charge of examining your proposal?
 - Opinions/comments from supervisor(s)
- b. The next step to realize the plan described in your proposal in line with the organization's opinions

2. Bringing Personal Computers

Since the participants will be required to make individual reports and presentations during the Core Phase of the Program in Japan, participants are requested to bring the following items from home countries.

- Statistical data of the concerned fields
- Existing urban transport (master) plan, with "City Planning Map", "City Map" and/or photos, if there are any

Please note that personal computers are available for the use of participants at JICA Tokyo, but the number is limited. It is advised that participants bring their own laptop/notebook computers from home countries.

If a participant does not have his/her own computer, JICA Tokyo will provide a computer during the Program (you need a reservation in advance).

3. Self-learning of the Pre-Departure Study Materials described below.

Please download *Technical Cooperation Contents for Urban Transportation Program* from the URL below and read thoroughly.

(https://jica-net-library.jica.go.jp/jica-net/user/lib/contentDetail.php?item_id=864)

VI. Annexes

1. Questionnaire
2. Inception Report Form

Annex 1 (For All Applicants)

Questionnaire **Urban Public Transport**

Purpose of application of the applying organization and expectation on this Program of the nominee will be written in "Application Form for the Knowledge Co-Creation Program".

In addition to this information, each nominee is requested to attach completed questionnaire as a preparatory report on the following information to the Application Form.

The completed Questionnaire will be used for screening the nominees.

Contents of Questionnaire:

1. Detailed professional carrier
 - 1) Urban Transport Policy () years
 - 2) Transportation Planning () years
 - 3) Transport Service(s) or Management(s)
 - a. Railway () years
 - b. Subway () years
 - c. Bus () years
 - d. Traffic Control () years
2. Urban public transport problems to be solved in your country/city
3. Brief description of policy and/or program (project) you are responsible for (e.g. goals and objective, main activities and outputs, work plan)
4. Improvement needs of policies related to urban public transport
5. How you and your organization are addressing the issues mentioned above

(Note)

- ✓ The answer should be typewritten in English on A4 size paper (21 cm by 30 cm). The maximum length is 5 pages (35 lines per page in 12-point font with margins of at least 2.5 cm on all sides).
- ✓ The above contents need to be discussed from the viewpoint of nominee's and applying organization's responsibilities.
- ✓ Please be specific as much as possible.

Annex 2 (For Accepted Participants Only)

Inception Report **Urban Public Transport**

Participants are required to prepare and submit the Inception Report, providing the information on subjects mentioned below, by **September 27(Fri), 2019**, preferably by e-mail to ticttee@jica.go.jp.

The purpose of the Inception Report is as follows:

- 1) To define the issues of urban public transport that you face in the work you are in charge of.
This will be your objectives of the participation in this Program and should be lead to the Interim Report which proposes the solution of the issues.
- 2) All participants can share your issues and backgrounds each other through the presentation.

Contents of Inception Report:

1. Your Name / Organization / Country
2. About your organization
 - (1) Roles and responsibilities of the organization
 - (2) Organization chart
 - (3) Your responsibilities
 - 1) Your post
 - 2) Outline of the job you are in charge of
3. Overview of urban public transport in your country/in the city you work for
 - (1) Introduction of characteristics of your country and city
 - (2) Networks of urban transportation and its type (i.e. length of main road networks, bus networks, urban highway networks, and urban railways)
 - (3) Traffic volume and composition for each mode of transport for passenger and freight, number of motor vehicles
 - (4) Basic fares (minimum fares) of each public transportation mode in U.S. Dollars (e.g. bus, taxi, railway, subway)
 - (5) Transportation organizations (e.g. bus operation company)
4. Urban transport plans and measures
 - (1) Outline of the urban transportation master plan (e.g. forecast of future traffic growth and volume, road network plans, public transportation plans, TDM measures, etc.)
 - (2) Urban transportation projects funded by national agencies, international agencies and private sector
 - (3) Existing policy and on-going/planned program (projects) to alleviate the congestion

5. Issues and Problems to be addressed

- (1) The issues and problems regarding urban public transport including issues you are currently tackling
- (2) The causes and backgrounds of the issues and problems
- (3) Your idea as measures against above-mentioned issues and problems

Format:

The report should be typewritten in English on A4 size paper (21 cm by 30 cm), formatted in digital data, within 20 pages.

Note:

- (1) Maps etc.

You are encouraged to use maps, figures/tables, photographs and other visual materials especially in the Presentation to make it easier to understand the actual situation and the issues/problems of the urban public transportation in your countries.

- (2) Presentation

You are also requested to make a 20-minute presentation using visual aid software (e.g. MS Power Point) in the beginning of the Core Phase of the Program. You will receive additional information for the Power Point presentation after the Acceptance Notification.

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, KCCPs, Volunteer Programs, etc.

Within this wide range of programs, Knowledge Co-Creation 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 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 course, 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:

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