

## Training of Trainers for Local Governance



A five day Training of Trainers (TOT) in Basic Facilitation funded through the LGDP Phase II was held at the Royal Institute of Management from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009. With RIM lecturers as the master trainers, eighteen potential trainers from the College of Natural Resources, Lobesa, Rural Development Training Center, Zhemgang and five private consulting firms participated in the week long TOT.

The main purpose of the TOT was to train a pool of potential trainers to carry out a nationwide training on planning and prioritization for the Gewog Administrative Officers (GAOs) who will in turn train the GT members.

The training session was very interactive with games and exercises and covered various aspects of teaching learning process including adult learning principles and styles, roles and qualities of trainer and individual skill demonstration.

JICA Resident Representative Mr. Tomoki Nitta awarded certificates to all participants during the closing ceremony which was attended by RIM Director Mr. Karma Tshering and officials from GNHC. Mr. Nitta mentioned that strengthening local government is a very crucial and important issue and that such TOT played a significant role in training local governments. Participants said that the TOT was extremely worthwhile and that they are going back with extra feather in their caps.

The second round of TOT on the content Planning and Prioritization will be conducted in October 2009 with funding from the Local Governance Support Programme (LGSP).

## Outline Design Study Team for the project "Improvement of Machinery and Equipment for Construction of Rural Agriculture Road"

On October 16, 2009 Secretary of Agriculture Sherub Gyaltsen and Resident Representative of JICA Tomoki Nitta signed a Minutes of Meeting to confirm the components of the project for "Improvement of Machinery and Equipment for Construction of Rural Agriculture Road". Earlier JICA has sent a mission for detailed design of the project which had extensive discussions with the government officials and beneficiaries.

This project is requested by the Bhutanese government as amongst the priority projects since rural access is a major parameter for rural socio-economic development in the 10th Five Year Plan. The government of Bhutan hopes to build 3000km of farm road in the 10th Year Plan out of which 1500 km will be built by the beneficiaries with machinery support from the Japanese project.



### JICA schemes

- ◆ Grant Aid
- ◆ Loan
- ◆ Technical Cooperation Projects
- ◆ Training Programmes
- ◆ Development Studies
- ◆ Emergency Disaster Relief
- ◆ Follow-up Cooperation

### JICA target areas in Bhutan

- ◆ Agriculture and rural development
- ◆ Infrastructure development
- ◆ Local governance
- ◆ Social services development (health, education and IT)

### JICA members in Bhutan as of June 2009

- ◆ JICA office staff: 16  
(7 internationals; 9 nationals)
- ◆ Experts: 8
- ◆ Senior Volunteers: 18
- ◆ JOCVs: 38



A group of twelve participants attended the "Training Program for Young Leaders 2009" from August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 till 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009 in Japan. This training program is conducted under a technical cooperation scheme of the Government of Japan, with the purpose of promoting human resource development in developing countries. The 18-day training was organized by JICA Osaka International Center and Nara International Exchange Center. The theme of the program was Local Governance. Therefore, the trainees were expected to expand their basic knowledge, with a focus on administrative system of local government and the present situation and problems of decentralization Japan is now facing.

For all the trainees, this was their first visit to Japan, therefore they got an opportunity to familiarize themselves with Japan's unique culture (by participating in a tea ceremony and eating lots of Japanese food). In addition, they got an opportunity

to gain an understanding of Japan's overall social and political conditions. The lectures focused on local administration systems of Nara Prefecture. Field visits were made to Forest and Riverhead Museum in Kawakami Village and also observation of artificial forest. The participants also visited Agricultural Integrated Center and Recycle Plaza in Kashihara City. The trainees visited Kashihara Archeological Institute and Imai-Cho town in Nara. At the end of the training, the participants prepared and presented an action plan based on what they had learned and observed during the training program.

For one of the trainees, the visit to the Kashihara Recycle Plaza was very informative and useful. "Given Bhutan's waste management problems, we can learn from Japan's advance waste management systems to further develop the concept of the 3 Rs-Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle in Bhutan. One of our country's main priorities is environmental preservation. In order to achieve this goal, it is crucial to find sustainable means to manage waste. Promoting waste segregation, building proper waste disposal and recycling facilities are necessary preconditions to working towards building a society that is more "recycle-oriented" and environmentally conscious," says Yeshey W. Tamang.

"The training programme gave me a perspective of what Bhutan can achieve and lose in trying to evolve into a higher level of development, which has also made it clearer why Gross National Happiness best suits as the guiding principle of development for our country," says Sonam Tshoki, another trainee working in GNH Commission.

This training program enabled the participants to reflect on Bhutan's own development goals and to continue working towards a balanced approach to development. Furthermore, the trainees appreciated the Governor of Nara Prefecture's advice to them. He said not to use Japan as a role model for Bhutan, but to look at Japan's successes and failures in developing our own country.

### News in Brief

- ◆ Six long-term JOCV members arrived in Bhutan for their two-year terms:
  - 1) Ms. Momo Tsubota, Physical Education, assigned to Trashy Yangtse Lower Secondary School
  - 2) Mr. Tsukasa Yoshida, Physical Education, assigned to National Institute for the Disabled
  - 3) Mr. Naoki Ebata, Primary Mathematics Teacher, assigned to Gaselo Lower Secondary School
  - 4) Mr. Hironori Komatsu, Architect, assigned to Dzongkhag Engineering Section, Paro, MoWHS
  - 5) Mr. Kenta Kunimoto, Architect, assigned to Health Infrastructure Development Project, Department of Medical Services, MoH
  - 6) Ms. Kumiko Fujimori, Midwife, assigned to Community Health Unit, Paro Hospital, MoH
- ◆ Nine long-term Senior Volunteer members arrived in Bhutan for their two-year assignments:
  - 1) Mr. Toshitaka Ota, Bridge Design Expert, assigned to Bridge Division, DoR, MoWHS
  - 2) Mr. Iwao Maruyama, Construction Expert, assigned to Central Machinery Unit, DoA, Bumthang
  - 3) Mr. Yoshiro Suzuki, Automobile Instructor, assigned to Samthang Vocational Training Institute, MoLHR
  - 4) Mr. Toshiaki Takahashi, Agriculture Machinery Trainer, assigned to Agriculture Machinery Training Center, MoA, Paro
  - 5) Mr. Toichi Koike, Statistician, assigned to Policy and Planning Division, MoA
  - 6) Mr. Yasuo Kato, Sr. Researcher/Organic Farming Expert, assigned to RnR Research Center, Yusipang, MoA
  - 7) Mr. Yasunobu Kawamura, Sewage Specialist, assigned to DUDES, MoWHS
  - 8) Ms. Megumi Mukaida, Lecturer in Midwifery, assigned to Royal Institute of Health Sciences, RUB
  - 9) Mr. Kazuhiro Muramatsu, Lecturer in Digital Communication, assigned to College of Science and Technology, Phuentsholing
- ◆ One short-term JOCV member arrived in Bhutan for his 9-month assignment:
  - 1) Mr. Ryohei Saito, Music Teacher, assigned to Kilu Music School, Thimphu

#### For more information

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