

Training Program in Japan

Utilize Japan's experience and knowledge for the development of developing countries



Training participants visiting the nursery in the department of obstetrics and gynecology (Development and Promotion of MCH Handbook in Palestine, JICA Tokyo) (Photo by Kenshiro Imamura)

Outline of Training Program in Japan

Training Participants Contributing to Nation-building

The Acceptance of Technical Training Participants Program is intended for administrators, technicians, and researchers who are key players in development fields in developing countries and regions. It transfers knowledge and technology required by respective countries in collaboration with central and local governments, universities, the private sector, etc., in Japan for the purpose of contributing to the solution of their own problems. This is the most fundamental program in JICA's technical cooperation.

Since its launch in 1954, the scale of the program has continued to grow. In terms of the content, JICA provides training courses related to global issues such as the environment and HIV/AIDS and newly-emerging issues such as support for democratization and transitions to a market economy, in addition to basic development fields such as administration, public works, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, education, health, mining, and industry.

Since its launch, JICA has accepted approximately 200,000

participants in this training program in Japan. In fiscal 2006, 8,239 people took part in the program. Former participants of these training courses are now contributing to their own nation-building in various ways, for example, as national leaders, top-ranking researchers, administrators, and the leaders of farming community remote from the capital.

Transition to Issue-specific Training

About half of the training courses in Japan are carried out in groups. This type of training presents programs utilizing Japan's experience and knowledge to a set of developing countries. However, in order to not only introduce Japan's technology and experience but also directly provide solutions to the issues they face in their country, JICA makes efforts to improve the quality of training from various aspects and add higher value.

As part of such efforts, JICA has been promoting a framework in which the training participants are required, before they leave Japan, to work out a plan of action that they intend to implement back home, and of these plans, important and feasible ones can be the subject of follow-up support provided by JICA.

Acceptance of Foreign Students

In addition to the conventional training program, in fiscal 1999 JICA started a long-term training program that accepts foreign students who wish to receive Master's and Ph.D degrees in Japanese universities with the aim of acquiring more advanced expertise and skills. Young administrative officers, researchers, and businesspersons who are prospective leaders of developing countries can participate with the recommendations from their government. In fiscal 2006, about 87 people participated in the program.

The scholarship for Japanese immigrants and their descendants in Latin America started in fiscal 2000 for the purpose of developing human resources who will contribute to future Japanese immigrant communities and the development of the countries where they reside and will be bridges between those countries and Japan.

In addition, Japanese grant aid for human resources development scholarships commenced in fiscal 2000, and its implementation (by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) is facilitated by JICA. This scheme was conducted for 10 countries, and 273 eligible young administrative officers and businesspersons came to Japan to study in fiscal 2006.



Training participants touring a mudslide-control dam under construction in Kobe City (Volcanology and Comprehensive Sediment-related Prevention Measures, JICA Tokyo) (Photo by Kenshiro Imamura)