



**Regional
Revitalization in Japan**



**Project History
(manga version)**



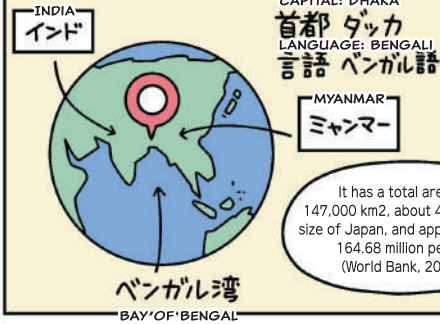
**Brought About by
Bangladeshi
IT Professionals**



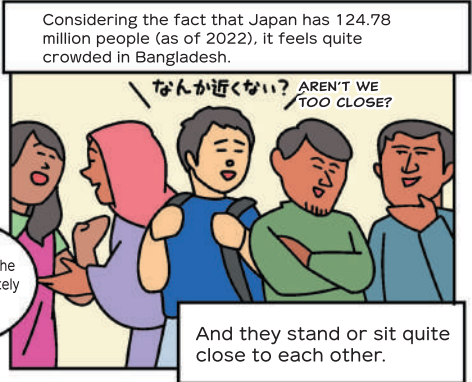
**A New Form of International Cooperation Connected from
Volunteers to Industry, Government, and Academia**



People's Republic of Bangladesh



It has a total area of 147,000 km2, about 40% of the size of Japan, and approximately 164.68 million people (World Bank, 2020).



Considering the fact that Japan has 124.78 million people (as of 2022), it feels quite crowded in Bangladesh.

And they stand or sit quite close to each other.

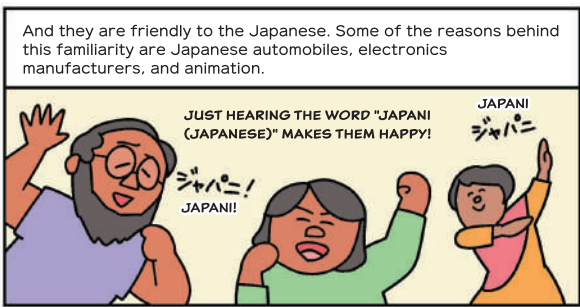


Perhaps because of this, it feels not only physically close but also psychologically close.

Random people would talk to you when they see you.



and as soon as they get to know you, they'd ask you to stay at their house or have dinner with them.



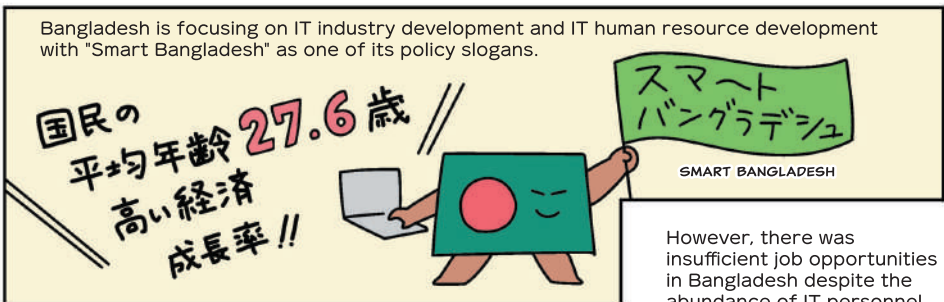
And they are friendly to the Japanese. Some of the reasons behind this familiarity are Japanese automobiles, electronics manufacturers, and animation.

JUST HEARING THE WORD "JAPANI (JAPANESE)" MAKES THEM HAPPY!



I often hear older people say;

During the Bangladesh Liberation War, fought to be an independent country, Japan was the first among the developed countries to recognize our independence.



Bangladesh is focusing on IT industry development and IT human resource development with "Smart Bangladesh" as one of its policy slogans.

However, there was insufficient job opportunities in Bangladesh despite the abundance of IT personnel.

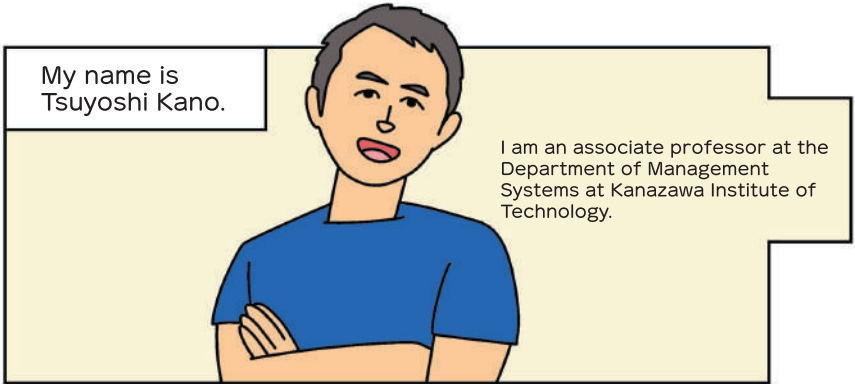
THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE POPULATION IS 27.6 YEARS OLD, AND THE ECONOMY IS GROWING AT A HIGH RATE!



On the other hand, Japan was having a serious shortage of IT workforce.

In order to fill these needs in Japan and Bangladesh, we launched a project.

This is an ongoing story of 14 years in which IT engineers in Bangladesh, trained through "IT human resource development" initiated by the JICA's Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), resulted contributing to the development of rural areas in Japan.

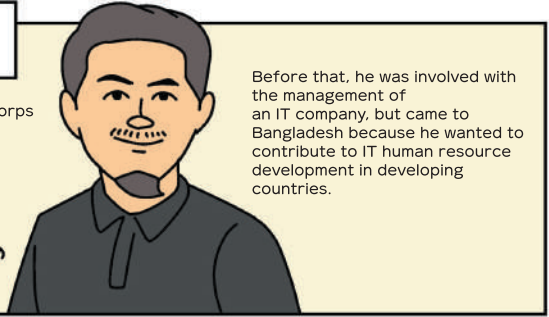


I was just a part of it.

What I'm hoping to do here is to tell the story of what these key individuals have accomplished to continue passing on their legacy through this project.

March 2008.
The first key person, Akihiro Shoji.

He came to Barisal, located in south-central Bangladesh, as a JOCV computer technology corps member.



Before that, he was involved with the management of an IT company, but came to Bangladesh because he wanted to contribute to IT human resource development in developing countries.

His job was to teach computer skills to young people, mainly university students, at the Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC).



However, the country had declared a state of emergency over the elections,



which placed significant restrictions on his activities.

November 2008.

Rumors circulated that the foreigners were anti-Muslim.



Therefore, for safety reasons, they were ordered to evacuate temporarily to the capital and suspend their activities.

When evacuating, Mr. Shoji discussed ideas for activities with another IT corps member.

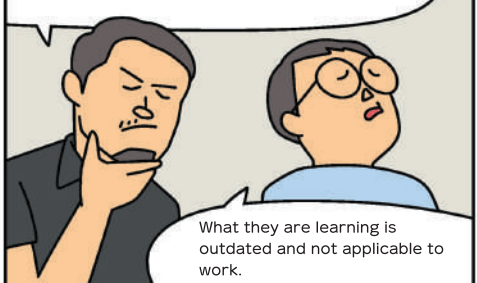


What is your impression about ICT personnel in Bangladesh?

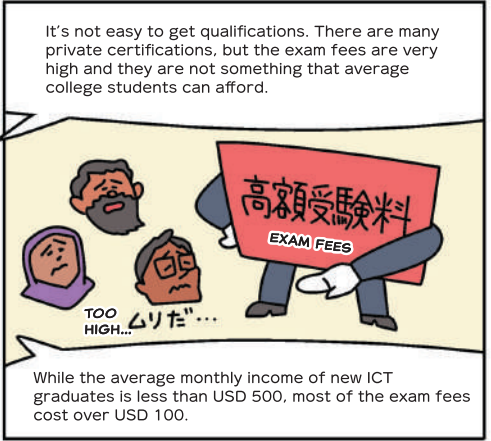
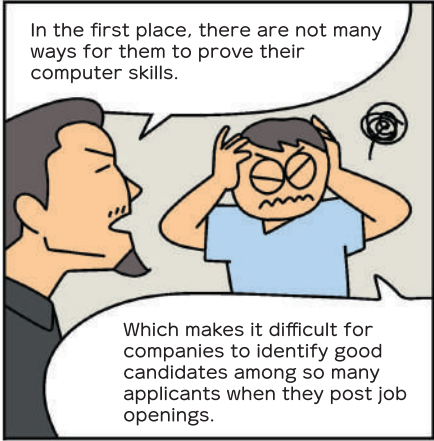


I got the impression that they speak English well and are very smart, just like all the other crew here are saying.

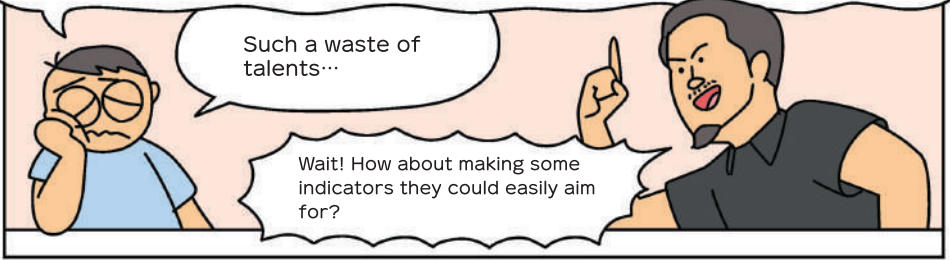
Exactly! But the problem is there is no foundation for such bright people to succeed.



What they are learning is outdated and not applicable to work.



So the hiring companies have no other way but to guess the applicants' skills by the name of the schools or something like that. In other words, those who fail to enter top universities will have no chance of getting hired...



What if we introduce a qualification for Bangladeshis to prove their skills, modeled on Japan's national ICT certification called Information-Technology Engineers Examination (ITEE)...

That's how they came up with the idea of introducing ITEE to Bangladesh.



It was to be used for mutual recognition with Japanese and Bangladesh qualifications.

In 2009.
Hoping to become a bridge between Japan and Bangladesh,

A comic panel with a purple background. On the left, a woman with short dark hair, wearing a white shirt, is speaking and gesturing with her right hand. She has Japanese text next to her: "LET'S DO THIS! やりましょう!". In the center, a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a dark jacket, has his hands clasped in front of him and says "YES! よし!". On the right, a man with glasses and a blue shirt is also speaking and gesturing. He has Japanese text next to him: "I'M READY! やるゾー!".

the IT corps members started to promote ITEE in Bangladesh.

They took the lead to organize seminars about ICT human resource development.

A comic panel with a yellow background. On the left, a man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a blue shirt, is standing at a podium and speaking into a microphone. On the right, three people are seated at a long table, listening. From left to right: a woman with a pink headscarf and pink shirt, a man with a beard and blue shirt, and a woman with a purple shirt.

They invited speakers from University of Dhaka or *BASIS, and tried to raise awareness on the importance of it.

However...

*BASIS = Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services

Things don't go that easily.
JICA didn't adopt the project, which
made everyone disheartened.



With a letter of request addressed to the Secretary of the Ministry of Science and ICT to introduce ITEE without an appointment, and got them to write articles about it.

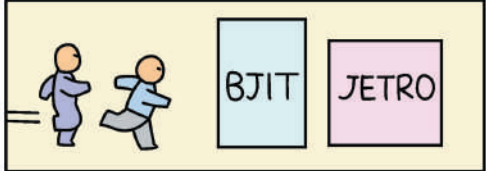
The central figure in these grassroots activities was the second key person,



Nozomu Nakane,
an IT corps member.

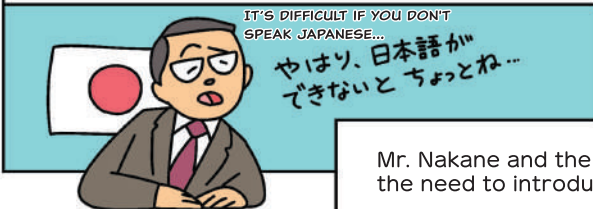
Bangladeshi instructors and students have great skills. I am sure they can do ITEE level 2.

It was important to increase demand from the Bangladeshi side and at the same time promote collaboration with Japanese companies.



Mr. Nakane and his team first went around to explain the project to *BJIT Corporation, **JETRO, and others.

Japanese companies that were looking for the next market responded well, but many of them chose places like Vietnam where it was easier to place work orders in Japanese. In order to make a deal with them, Bangladeshi people would need to demonstrate their competence.

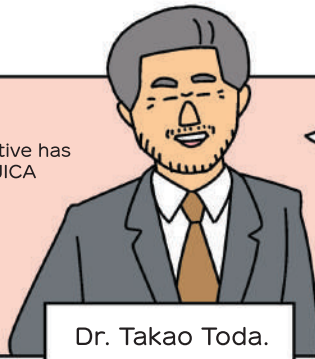


Mr. Nakane and the ICT corps members reaffirmed the need to introduce the ITEE.

June 2009.

A new chief representative has been appointed to the JICA Bangladesh Office.

The third key person,



Dr. Takao Toda.

Where is your North Star?
What do you want to accomplish with this corps?

Immediately after his arrival, he met with each of the JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers.



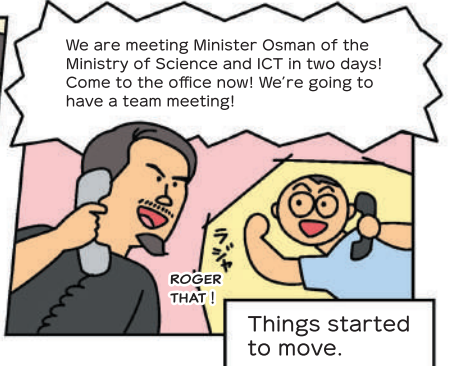
If we want to introduce the ITEE as a national certification, getting the government to cooperate and commit is an

absolute must!

Let's have JICA office Senior Representative, Eiichiro Cho, and Volunteer Coordinator, Takuzo Komabashiri, ask the senior government officials



October.
Mr. Shoji received a call from the JICA office.



Things started to move.

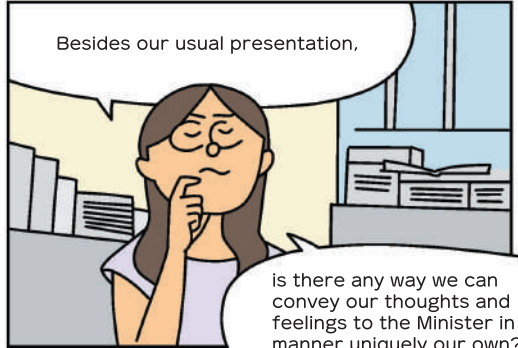
**JETRO: Japan External Trade Organization. A government-related organization that works to promote mutual trade and investment between Japan and the rest of the world.

The meeting with Minister Osman was arranged.



The fourth key person is a minister of Bangladesh.

Besides our usual presentation,



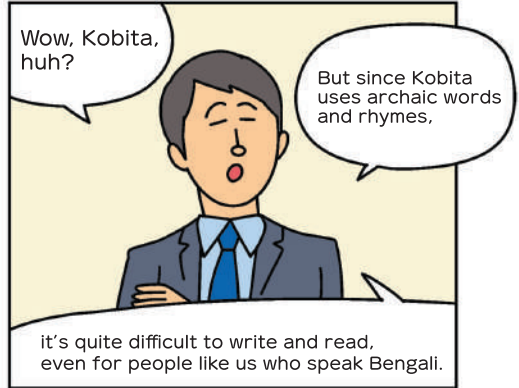
is there any way we can convey our thoughts and feelings to the Minister in a manner uniquely our own?

I talked to Minister Osman's former university professor and asked about his hobbies and likes,



and it seems that his father was a famous poet and he loved the Bangladeshi poem "Kobita" since his childhood.

Wow, Kobita, huh?



But since Kobita uses archaic words and rhymes,

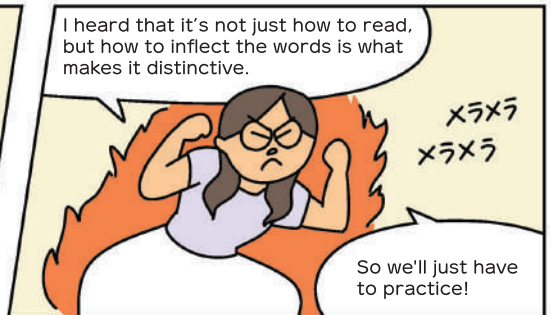
it's quite difficult to write and read, even for people like us who speak Bengali.

Ah! I know someone who knows Kobita!



Okay, then we might be able to make it with this person's help!

I heard that it's not just how to read, but how to inflect the words is what makes it distinctive.



×ラ×ラ
×ラ×ラ

So we'll just have to practice!

Alright then! We got this one shot to grab the minister's heart.



Let's show him how serious we are!

Then came the day of the meeting with Minister Osman.



JICA will put our whole heart and soul into this, so I hope you will give it serious consideration!



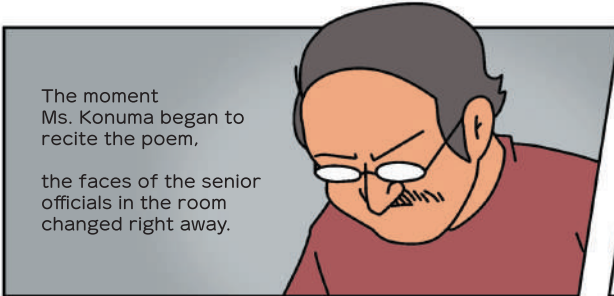
Then the time came to close the presentation with a surprise poem that they had prepared. The poem was about...



"Let's build a bridge between Japan and Bangladesh's IT sector."

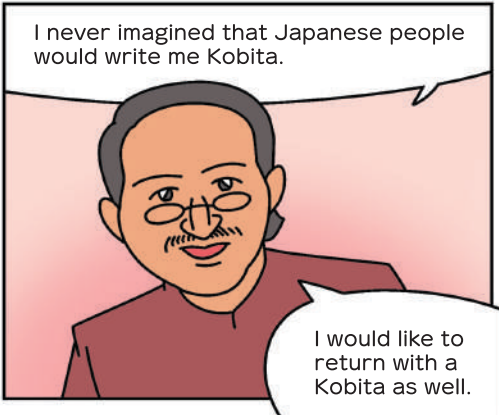
We dedicate this Kobita to you, Minister.

The moment Ms. Konuma began to recite the poem, the faces of the senior officials in the room changed right away.



Please wait a minute...

I never imagined that Japanese people would write me Kobita.

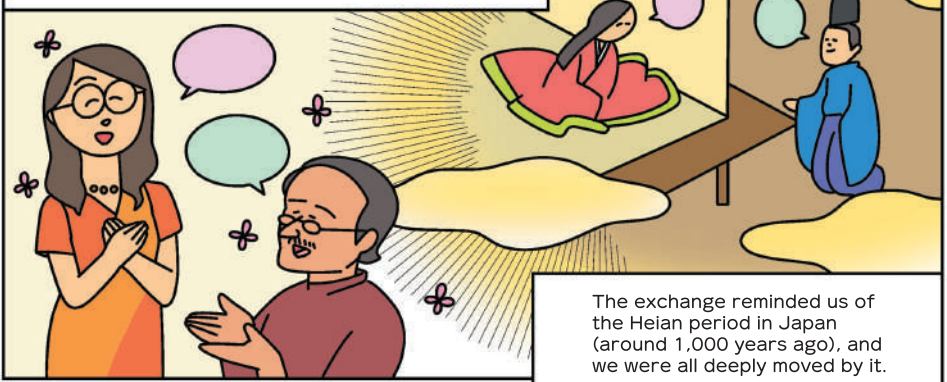


I would like to return with a Kobita as well.

"Let's make the bridge into a pathway which allows many people to cross."



We sent a poem and received a reply from the minister.



The exchange reminded us of the Heian period in Japan (around 1,000 years ago), and we were all deeply moved by it.

Understanding the culture and speaking the local language led to winning the hearts and minds of Bangladeshi people.

In a manner that was truly typical of JICA corps members, they informed the Minister of the importance of the ITEE.



It was a great success.

And we immediately received instructions from Minister Osman.

Please create a working group within BCC (Bangladesh Computer Council)!



The Bangladesh government decided to consider the project in earnest.

Meanwhile in Bangladesh...
Thanks to the steady efforts of the
IT corps members,

the Japanese Embassy, JICA, JETRO, and
on the local side BASIS and universities
were becoming more and more aware of the
ITEE concept.

They thought about holding a mock ITEE
to prove Bangladesh's potential to Japan's METI, IPA, JICA, and IT companies.

October 2010.
JICA decided to sponsor a mock
exam called ITEE Competition.

ITEE コンテスト
COMPETITION

In order to obtain the endorsement
of the Japanese government, they
approached various organizations
to request their support.

The Embassy, METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and
Industry), and many companies and organizations
agreed to support and sponsor the competition.



And Bangladesh's Minister of Science and
ICT and the Japanese Ambassador made an
appearance at the event!



They also requested the Chairperson of the
Department of Computer Science & Engineering
at the University of Dhaka to have their
students participate.

Finally, the competition was held with 269
participants who gathered in the hall of the
historic Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka hotel.



The competition ended with an
11.52% acceptance rate

Your potential is second to none! These are numbers that
give us confidence, it is a huge success!

Which is higher than the average
acceptance rate of 11.10% for
Asian countries in 2009.



Based on these results, BCC started to take the adoption of a full-scale qualification test more seriously. It began preparing an official request for a technical cooperation project to the Japanese government.

First, realizing the problem which is "not having a way to prove the potential of young Bangladeshi people."

Then communicating with the Bangladeshi government, universities, private companies, Japanese government, JICA, and private companies,

All these resulted in the submission to the Japanese government of the request for technical cooperation to "introduce a national IT certification in Bangladesh".

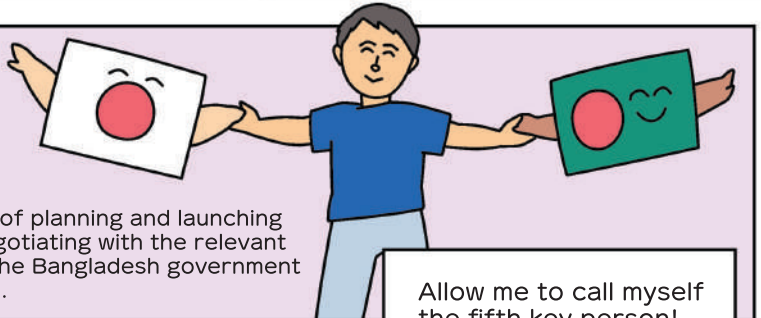
So far, this is the story about the founding phase of the "National IT Certification Introduction Project" sparked by the JOCV.

And the next person to receive the baton would be...

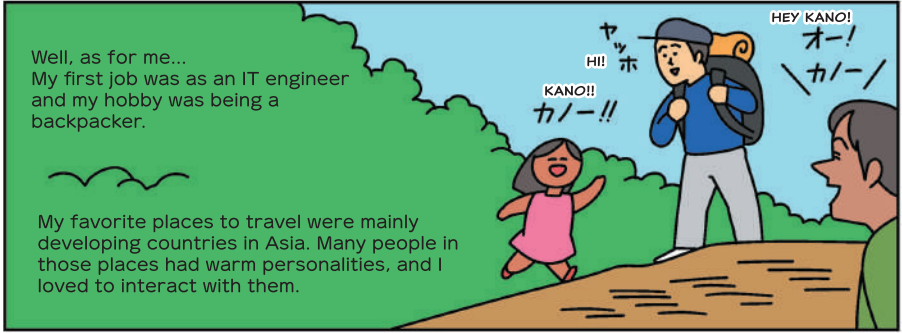


Tsuyoshi Kano...me! I was in charge of the IT Human Resource Development Project in JICA's headquarters back in 2011.

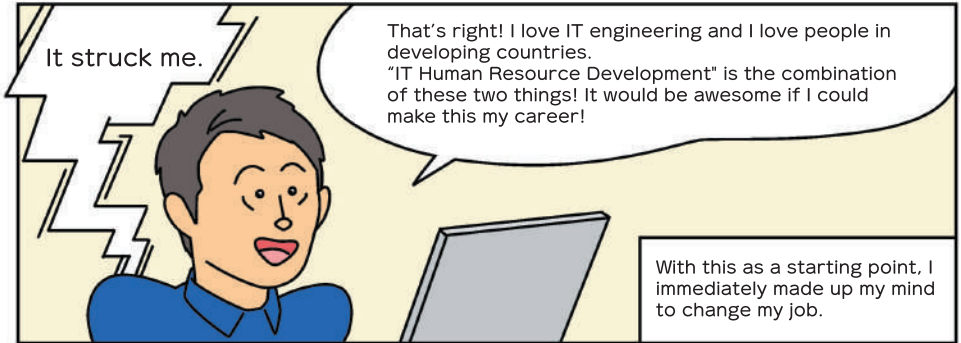
I was in charge of planning and launching the project, negotiating with the relevant ministries and the Bangladesh government for its adoption.



Allow me to call myself the fifth key person!



One day, as I was researching about Asian countries on the Internet,
I came across a JICA project in the Philippines to train high-level IT professionals.

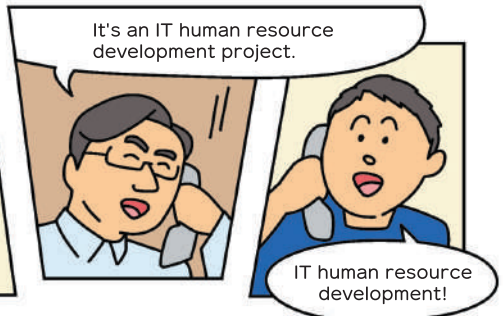
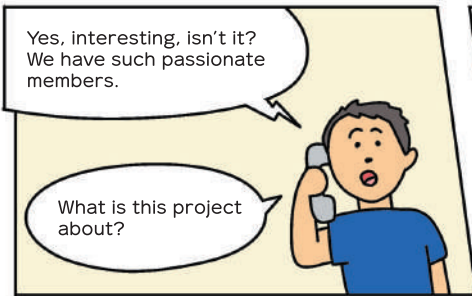
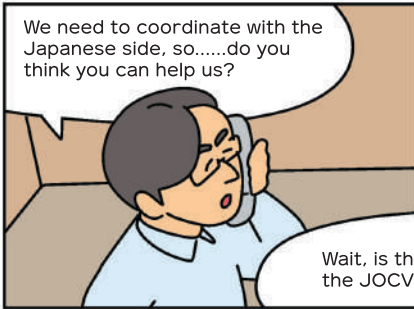
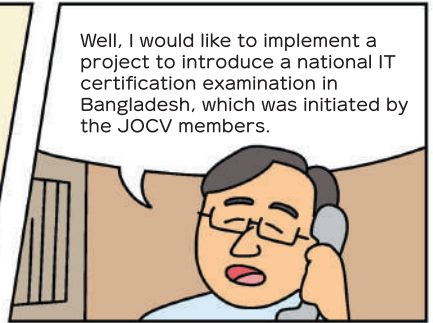
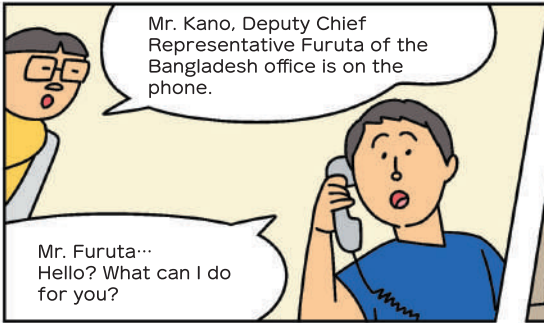


I got the position I wanted, where I could work on IT human resource development projects in developing countries, and my days became more fulfilling.



When the Bangladesh government submitted the request, I was working at JICA headquarters as a staff member in charge of IT projects.





My encounter with this project began with a phone call from JICA Bangladesh office. Fate led me to Bangladesh.



Early 2012.
Mr. Ishida, an assistant director of METI, gave us the go-ahead.!

METI informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of its intention to implement the project, and it was successfully adopted.



Bangladesh ITEE, let's do it!

Finally, the JICA technical cooperation project, "Capacity Building on ITEE Management Project" began.

The goal of the project was

"to make ITEE the national IT exam of Bangladesh and to establish a system for its sustainable operation.

Based on this goal, there are three outcomes to be achieved.

OUTCOME-1
成果 1

Improvement of ITEE management skills of the test administration body (BCC)

OUTCOME-2
成果 2

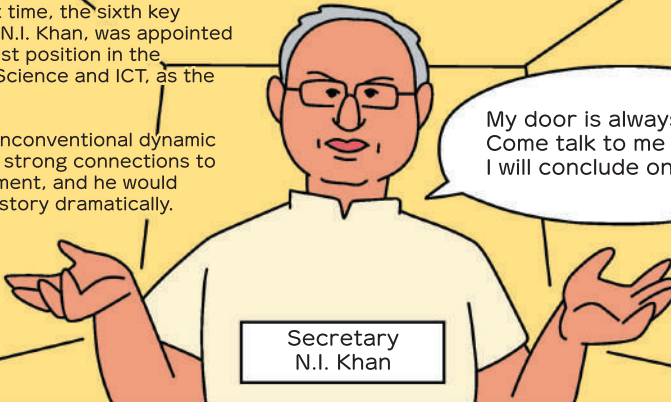
Establishment of the implementation environment (recognition by ICT professionals and industry-government-academia collaboration)

OUTCOME-3
成果 3

Development of ITEE system

Around that time, the sixth key person, Mr. N.I. Khan, was appointed to the highest position in the Ministry of Science and ICT, as the Secretary.

He was an unconventional dynamic person with strong connections to the Government, and he would change the story dramatically.



My door is always open. Come talk to me anytime. I will conclude on the spot!

Secretary
N.I. Khan

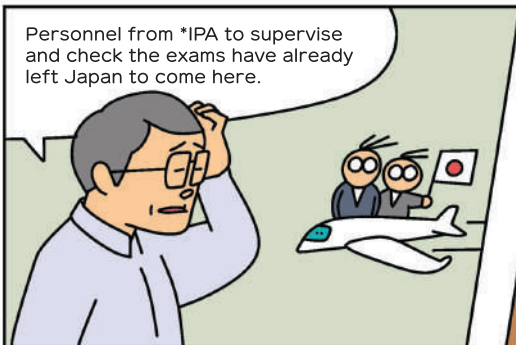
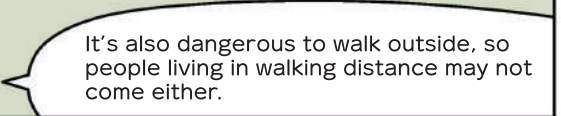
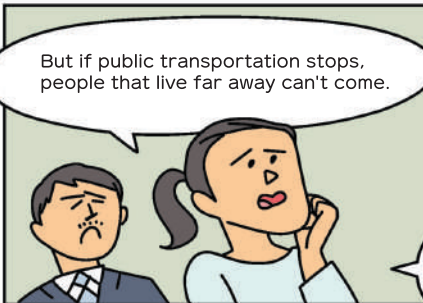
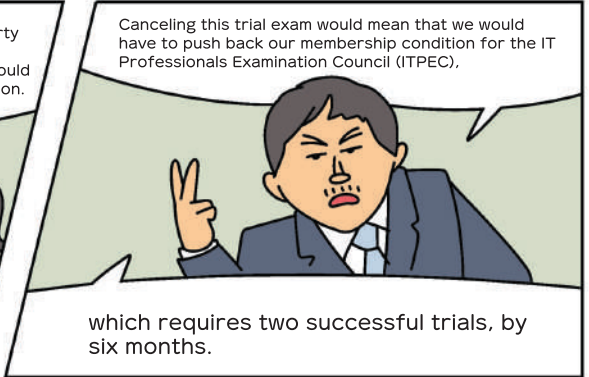
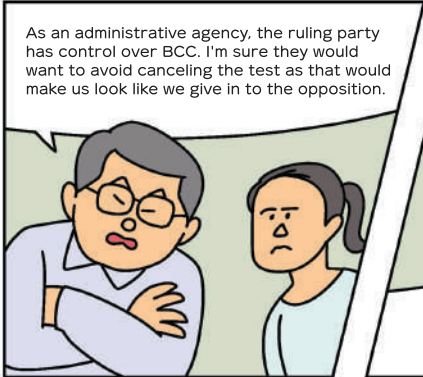
With the help of Secretary N.I. Khan, the ITEE project, which was growing in presence, finally had its first trial examination in October 2013.

However, just when the trial test was finally about to take place, a "hartal (general strike)" was declared for three consecutive days.

*It is a form of political protests that take place mainly in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and other South Asian countries.

An emergency meeting was held with ITEE project officials.

This trial test was a great opportunity to show Bangladesh's capability.



*IPA=Information-technology Promotion Agency

Doesn't matter how many, but as long as there is one person who's willing to take the test, let's have the trial!

Yes!
Let's do it!

It was decided to ensure maximum safety and hold the trial examination.

They worked together to overcome many obstacles,

and finally the trial day came!

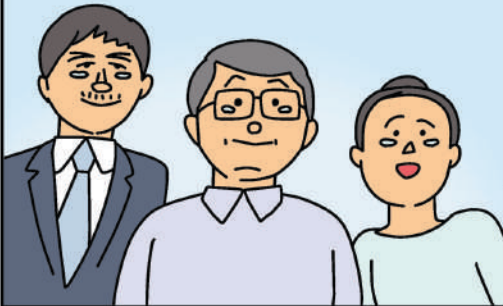
While the management team was anxiously waiting...



one by one,
the test-takers arrived.

In the midst of the hartal, 158 out of 332 applicants found ways to show up at the venue to take the exam.

It was very touching.
Everyone felt the same way.



The sight of Mr. Shoji strongly shaking hands with and expressing his gratitude to all the test-takers leaving the venue after the exam was etched in everyone's memory.

The result of the first trial examination was great. The pass rate was 15.8%, ranking second among the seven countries.

With this result, Secretary N.I. Khan declared that it would be treated as a national certification in Bangladesh.



Certificate awarding ceremony

The successful applicants were handed certificates signed by the Secretary. The event was well reported in news programs which helped to increase recognition of the exam.



2014 September. After several achievements and discussions at ITPEC, Bangladesh was added to be the seventh country to join ITPEC. A ceremony was held.



Representatives of each implementing agency in ITPEC visited Bangladesh. On the Bangladesh side, the Minister of the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Mr. Siddiqui and the State Minister of the ICT Division in the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Mr. Palak, attended the ceremony.

From Japan, after persistent negotiations, Mr. Hideyuki Ohashi, Deputy Director-General of METI, Mr. Hisaya Tanaka, Director of IPA, Mr. Shiro Sadoshima, Ambassador of Japan from the Embassy, and Mr. Mikio Hataeda, Chief Representative of JICA also participated. They gave added gaiety to the event.



Finally, the project reached one of its major goals. All staff members were filled with a sense of accomplishment.

Passing the ITEE in Bangladesh would now mean obtaining a national certification that was mutually recognized by 13 Asian countries.

However, this is not the end of the story. There is the next challenge; that is sustainability after the project was completed. JICA's technical cooperation has a fixed term.



よろしくねー!
BYE!



お、おう
OH, OK...

Bangladesh
Computer
Review Committee

It was necessary for the Bangladeshi implementing agency to take over the operation of the project and continue on their own, and therefore JICA strongly urged the BCC side to allocate people and budget for this project.

And although JICA had achieved its goal of introducing a national IT certification in Bangladesh,

they were still trying to figure out the next step with a new challenge that the ITEE project had not accomplished: the utilization of human resources and business linkages between Japan and Bangladesh.

The door for the next step finally opened when they met the people of Miyazaki City.



From here, the story shifts back to Japan, to Miyazaki Prefecture.

Distinguished professor at University of Miyazaki

Mr. Tasaka's first encounter with Bangladesh was 2010.

The seventh key person is Mr. Shinnosuke Tasaka.

He was working at the Hokkaido branch office of an education-related company after serving in St. Lucia as a JOCV member.

Mr. Tasaka, are you interested in educational projects in developing countries?

I'm inspired by Dr. Muhammad Yunus, the Nobel Peace Prize winner,

so when I think of social business, Bangladesh comes to my mind. I would like to do educational projects in Bangladesh someday.

Educational projects in Bangladesh?

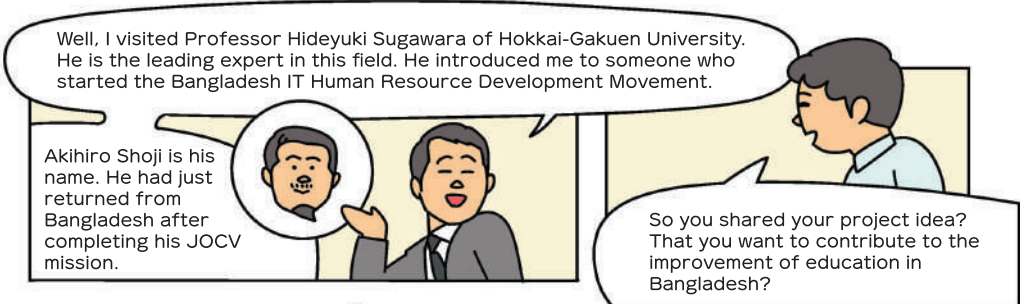
Yes. Actually, when my company held a new business review meeting, I submitted a proposal for an educational project in Bangladesh.

*BoP business is getting a lot of attention, isn't it?

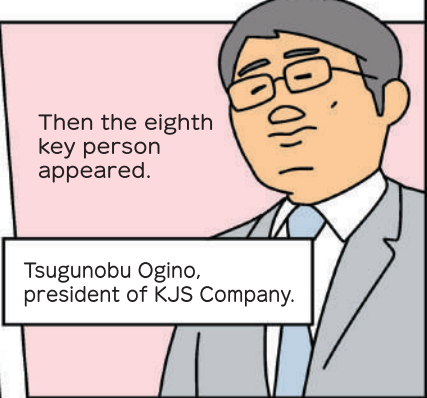
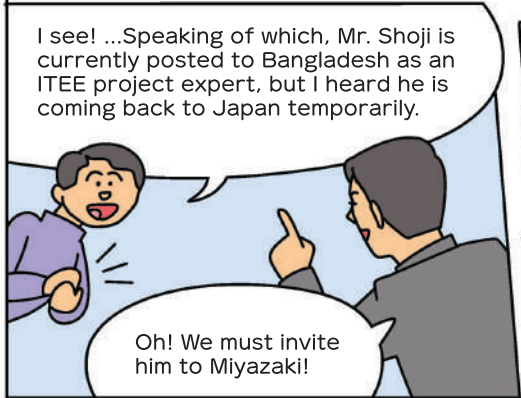
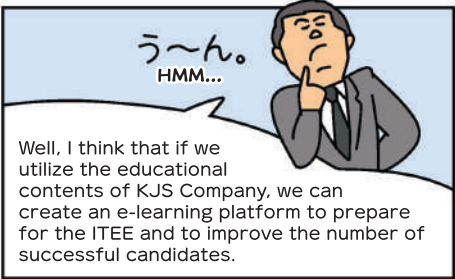
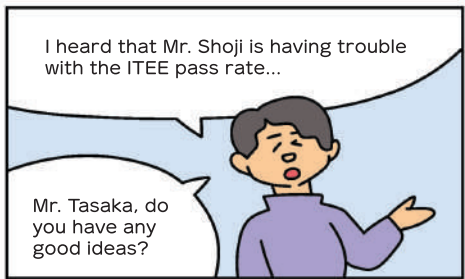
Yes, I received the President's Award.

Maybe you should talk to someone who has experience in social businesses to further develop this project proposal!

*BoP business = "Bottom of the pyramid" or "Base of the pyramid." Terminology used to indicate businesses that target low-income populations in developing countries.



When JICA was providing assistance in Bangladesh regarding the ITEE...



Fateful timing coincided... Mr. Shoji, President Ogino, and the rest of the excellent staff gathered to formulate a plan.

There are three stories that later became the basis for the project known as the "Miyazaki-Bangladesh Model".

Part 1.
Hiring two Bangladeshi engineers the whim of President Ogino of KJS Company!



With his impromptu idea, President Ogino, a man of his word, hired two Bangladeshis and returned to Japan. Miyazaki City and University of Miyazaki heard this news, and they thought this could be Miyazaki's business. This became the basis for the "Miyazaki-Bangladesh Model" that was to emerge later.

About the two engineers hired at that time...

one of them brought his spouse to Miyazaki and is still working for KJS, and the other moved to Tokyo and is working as an IT engineer there.

The story of "Miyazaki-Bangladesh Model", part 2.
Problems related to IT personnel in Miyazaki City.



- Lack of human resources for IT companies
- Low awareness of the IT industry
- Difficulty in retaining high-level personnel in Miyazaki

Started recognizing Bangladeshis as an ace in the hole for the IT talent shortage.

The story of "Miyazaki-Bangladesh Model", part 3.
Japanese language education for Bangladeshi employees.



ニホンゴ
ムズイ...

JAPANESE IS DIFFICULT.

The awareness of the need for improving the quality of Japanese language education and training for Bangladeshi employees in Dhaka.

A collaborative proposal between private IT companies and University of Miyazaki

When they had an opinion exchange meeting about Bangladesh's IT Human Resource Development, these three stories and the idea of connecting IT human resource development with local governments were fused together, and that was passed on to JICA.

December 25, 2016. At a conference room in the Center for International Relations, University of Miyazaki.

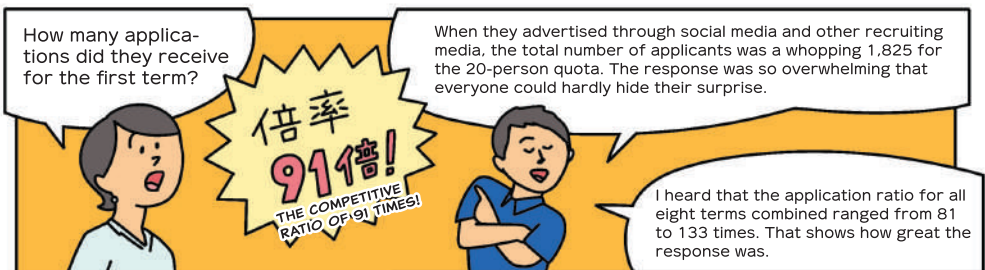
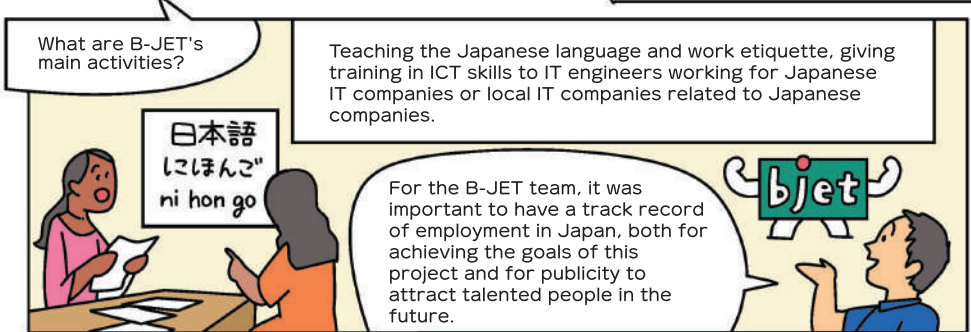
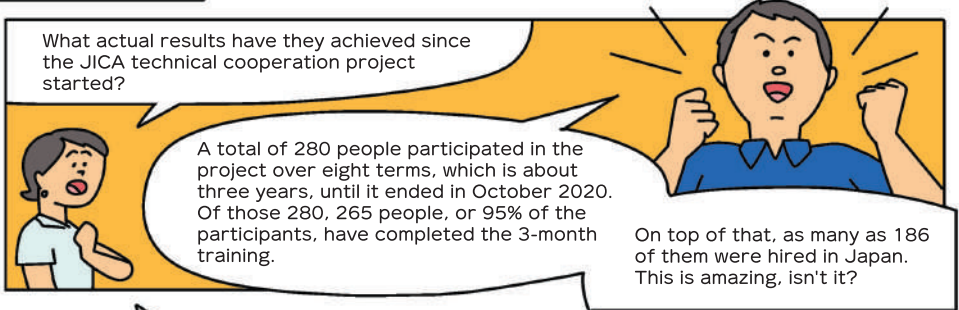
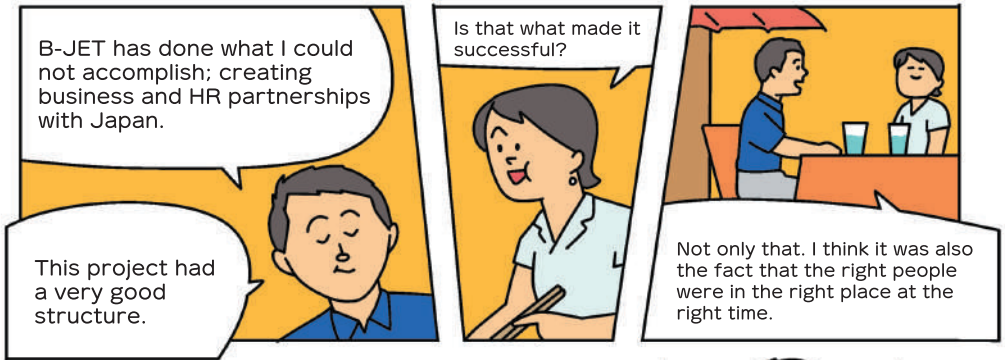
With Miyazaki City, JICA headquarters, and other stakeholders from industry, government, and academia all present, the day marked the birth of a model for Japanese-language education and employment for Bangladeshi IT professionals.



The Miyazaki-Bangladesh Model was drafted.

The thing about this model was that all procedures for coming to Japan were left to the private sector and local governments, and no JICA support was provided for recruitment, employment, travel, or training costs, which was very important.

Now let me introduce "B-JET (Bangladesh-Japan ICT Engineers' Training Program)". It was a part of the Human Resource Development project to train Bangladeshi IT engineers for the Japanese market.



It was December 2017 during the first phase of training when B-JET first accepted a recruitment mission from Japan.

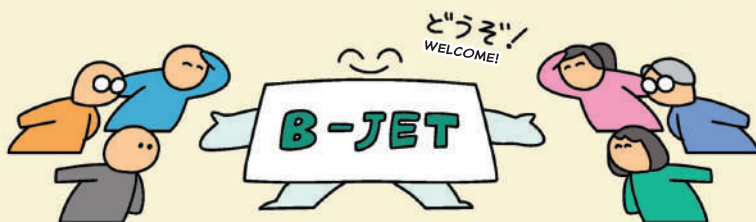


And starting with this, companies in other cities began to hire B-JET students.

Thanks to the steady increase in results, they were able to say out loud, that B-JET students are excellent and ask companies to hire them.



Not only from Miyazaki, but the B-JET also had some Japanese IT companies based in Bangladesh visiting them, or Japanese IT companies directly contacting the B-JET experts' team.

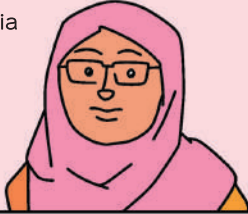


The types of hiring increased, so even small and medium-sized IT companies were able to begin participating in the hiring missions.

As of March 2021, B-JET graduates are working in Tokyo, Miyazaki, Hokkaido, Fukuoka, and 11 other prefectures in Japan.

I would like to share with you a story of how our passion changed one person's life.

Hajela Marzia



She came to Japan in 2018 as a B-JET student and has stayed in Miyazaki City since. She works at an IT company there.

When she was in college, she found the B-JET ad by chance. She never thought she would be able to work in Japan until she saw the ad.

How do you feel about working in Japan?



I've learned a lot and had many pleasant surprises. I learned the importance of teamwork and how to work in an organization.

What have you learned while living here?



Innovation is everywhere!

I was amazed at how the interfaces of many products were very user-friendly.

Hmm, if you are born and raised here, you may not even realize that...



Did you have any religious difficulties?

I am a Muslim, but my colleagues are very understanding about my praying, so I've never felt troubled by it.



If your friends in Bangladesh ask you what Japan is like, what would you tell them?

I'd tell my female friends that it is a safe place to live, and tell my male friends that it is a very technologically advanced country.



That's nice of you to say that.



What are your future goals?



My dream for the future is to start an IT business and contribute to society. I want to use my experience to develop a business that transcends national borders.



This project was made possible by many passionate people from Bangladesh and Japan, right, Dr. Kano?

Yes, having the Bangladeshi IT personnel work in Japan through B-JET was a move toward mutual growth, not just a one-way HR development support by Japan.

Tackling the issue of shortage of IT human resources due to Japan's declining birthrate and aging population

and creating attractive job opportunities and fostering the IT industry in Bangladesh.

It was a way to solve two social problems in Bangladesh and Japan at the same time.

The shortage of IT personnel in Japan is severe...

Yes. It is said that Japan will have a shortage of up to 790,000 IT personnel by 2030.

Not only in Tokyo, but also in rural areas?

The trend is actually more pronounced in rural areas. In Miyazaki City, for example, skilled workers often leave for Tokyo or Fukuoka.

What about in Bangladesh?

	JAPAN 日本	BANGLADESH バングラデシュ
POPULATION PYRAMID 人口ピラミッド		

The population pyramid is completely different from that of Japan. Bangladesh has a lot of young people. But their problem seems that there are not many attractive jobs available for young people.

So this is where B-JET and the Miyazaki-Bangladesh Model started?

This structure is not Japan training and accepting engineers,

but Bangladeshi engineers contributing to the resolution of Japan's IT human resource shortage.

In other words, while Japan is supporting Bangladesh,

Bangladesh is also supporting Japan.

That is a wonderful relationship!

International cooperation that is not in one direction can also help solve Japan's development issues.

JICA has offices in many countries, so this could be a new type of international cooperation that they can pursue.

What does IT human resource development mean to you, Dr. Kano?

I guess it is my lifework.

I used to be a lazy college student who did nothing.

You??

Yeah. I had the opportunity to work part-time at an IT company. But I couldn't do much even though I was paid by the hour. So I studied hard for the first time in my life.

これじゃダメだ!!
I NEED TO WORK HARDER!

And I grew a lot. Then I realized...

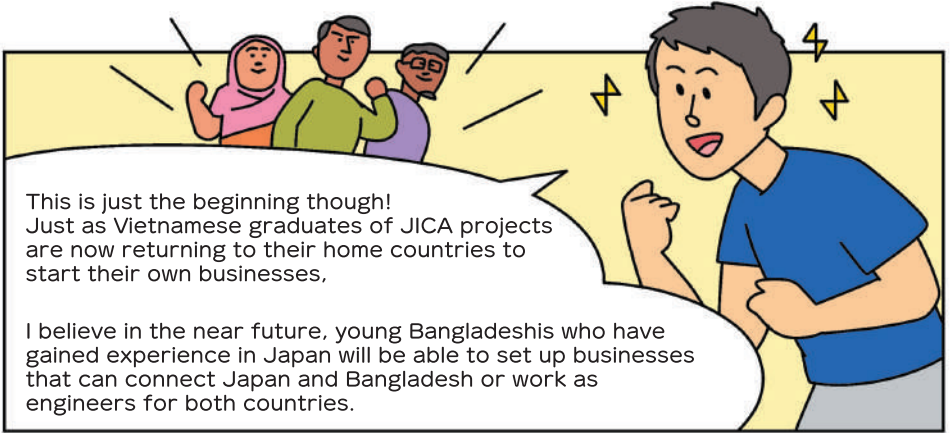
What did you realize?

I realized that IT can give everyone a chance to change. Depending on how it is used, it can change many things.

If so, then I wanted to use it to contribute to the growth of developing countries.

And it would be great if we could connect other countries' growth to my own country's growth.

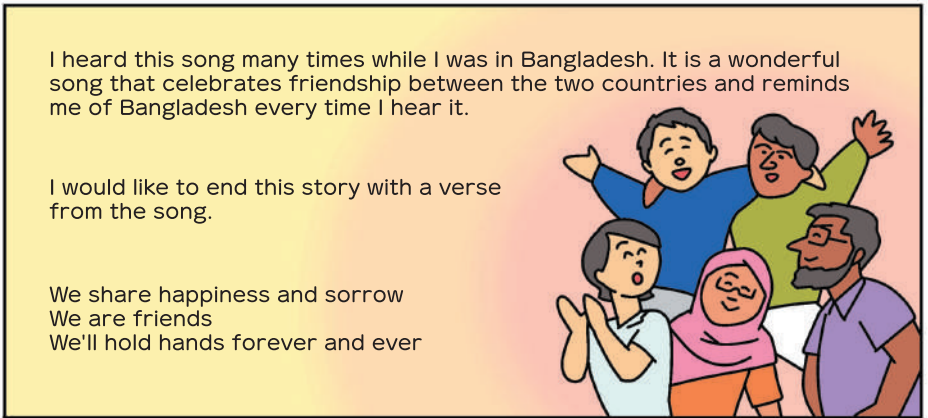
That's exactly the case for Bangladesh and Japan in this project!



Goals huh? Yeah, I want to become the "hub". I want to use my experience and become the hub that connects people, I guess.

A friendship song commemorating the 40th anniversary of Japan-Bangladesh diplomatic relations, written in 2012 by JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in cooperation with local artists.

The song is titled " You are the Land of the Green Sun, I am the Land of the Rising Sun" (Ami lal sobjer desh Tumi surjodyer desh).





The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) aims to promote international cooperation and provide assistance to developing countries, as a sole Japanese governmental agency in charge of Official Development Assistance (ODA) implementation. “Leading the World with Trust” as its vision, JICA, with its partners, will take the lead in forging bonds of trust across the world, aspiring for a free, peaceful and prosperous world where people can hope for a better future and explore their diverse potentials.

Introduction of IT National Certification (ITEE) Project

In 2008, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) members who worked in IT-related fields living in to Bangladesh began to explore the possibility of introducing a national IT certification in Bangladesh, enabling local youth to prove their IT skills, so that they can become successful business prepared IT professionals. The IT Human Resource Development movement that began with this grassroots dissemination effort evolved into a technical cooperation project in 2012. They worked toward the introduction of the IT Engineering Examination (ITEE), a national certification for information technology engineers with Bangladeshi government officials. Although series of obstacles stand in the way, Bangladesh finally became an official member of the IT Professional Examination Preparatory Council (ITPEC) in 2014. This means that if you pass the ITEE in Bangladesh, you will now have a national certification that is mutually recognized by 13 other Asian countries, including the Philippines and Vietnam.

If they could work toward a clear goal, maybe their talents will flourish!

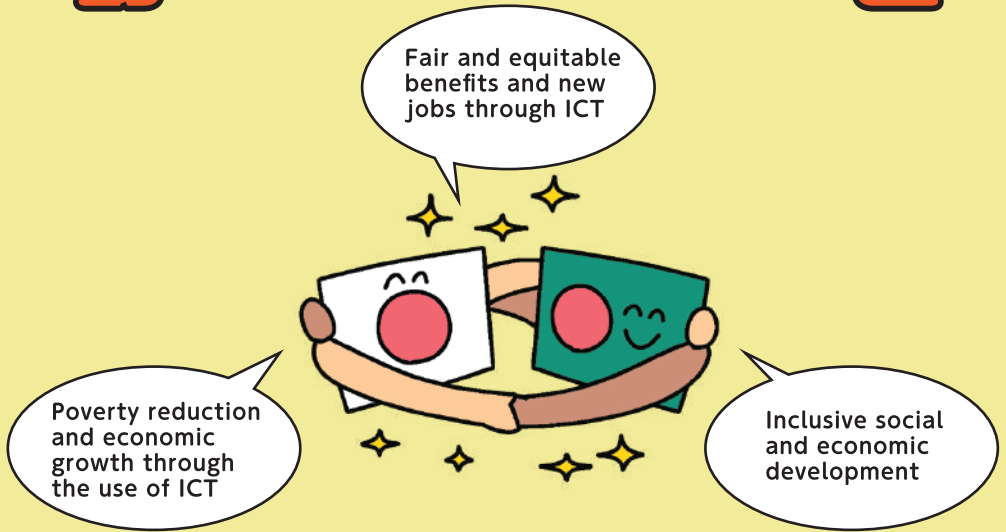
If given the opportunity, they could thrive on a global scale!



For more information please check this out!



Impact of Bangladesh IT Human Resource Development



What is IT Human Resource Development in Bangladesh?

The IT Human Resource Development movement that began in 2008 with JOCV members working in Bangladesh has evolved into a technical cooperation project, which culminated in the introduction of a national certification, the Information Technology Engineer Examination, in 2014. Furthermore, nearly 200 graduates of the IT Human Resource Development Program (B-JET) supported by the technical cooperation project, more than 70% of whom are now active throughout Japan because of the efforts of various stakeholders in both countries to connect Bangladesh's IT human resources and Japan. These developments are attracting attention as a new model of international cooperation that simultaneously approaches the issues faced by developing countries and Japan's regional development.





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Supervised by : Tsuyoshi Kano, Akihiro Shoji, Shinnosuke Tasaka

Manga created by : uwabami

Script written/designed by : ROOM810, Inc.

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Check out the Project
History Book here



This is a translated edition of the manga, which was created based on the Project History Book written by Tsuyoshi Kano, "Regional Revitalization in Japan Brought About by Bangladeshi IT Professionals: A New Form of International Cooperation Connected from Volunteers to Industry, Government, and Academia".