

March 2022



NEWSLETTER

JICA Jamaica Office



LEADING THE WORLD
WITH TRUST



JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY



JAMAICA OFFICE NEWSLETTER
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JICA IN JAMAICA

As one of the world's largest bilateral cooperation agencies, Japan International Cooperation Agency, JICA, is an incorporated administrative agency of the Japanese Government with a network of 96 overseas offices and projects in more than 150 countries including Jamaica.

JICA uses an array of development assistance schemes to support the country's socioeconomic development, such as;

- Technical Cooperation
- Official Development Assistance Loans
- Official Development Assistance Grants
- Dispatch of Japanese Volunteers
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Emergency Disaster Relief

MISSION

JICA, in accordance with the Development Cooperation Charter, will work on human security and quality growth.

VISION

“Leading the World with Trust”

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.

ACTIONS

1. COMMITMENT

Commit ourselves with pride and passion to achieving our mission and vision.

2. GEMBA

Drive into the field (“Gemba”) and work together with the people.

3. STRATEGY

Think and act strategically with broad and long-term perspectives.

4. CO-CREATION

Bring together diverse wisdom and resources.

5. INNOVATION

Innovate to bring about unprecedented impacts.



MESSAGE

FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Japan International Cooperation Agency, JICA, has been extending Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) in Jamaica since the 1970's, built on a solid foundation of mutual trust and cooperation that spans for six decades since Jamaica's independence in 1962.

JICA officially opened its office in Kingston, in July 1989, and has been effectively implementing programmes and projects, undertaking cooperation modalities such as concessional ODA loans, Grant Aid and Technical Cooperation (including Training Programme called Knowledge Co-Creation Programme (KCCP) offered in Japan and Volunteer Dispatch Programme called Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs).

Jamaica is susceptible to hurricanes and other natural disasters, and is heavily impacted by external factors. In order to assist Jamaica in overcoming vulnerabilities particular to small island developing states (SIDS), JICA's support to Jamaica primarily focuses on disaster risk management and the environment.

In 2021 through February 2022, JICA conducted a "Data Collection Survey on Development Cooperation for Post COVID-19 Society in Central America and the Caribbean Region". In Jamaica the survey included a preliminary study on an initiative to attract domestic and foreign investment, and the implementation of a pilot project on Tourism Resilience Strengthening through preparation of tourism crisis management plans against natural disasters.

We conducted another survey, the "Information Collection and Confirmation Survey on the Development Needs and Potentials for the Introduction of Hydrogen Technology and Value Chain in Latin America and the Caribbean" including Jamaica from 2021 through March, 2022, to propose policy recommendations and future cooperation.

JICA has long been providing assistance in waste management to Jamaica, and will start a two-year technical cooperation through the dispatch of advisors and experts from April, 2022, with a view to contributing to the marine plastic litter issue, based on the results of the "Data Collection Survey on Marine Plastic Litter in the Caribbean Region" JICA conducted in 2020. Over the last 50 years, global plastic production has increased. In the Caribbean, the marine pollution caused by plastic litter directly affects the economic and social activities including tourism and fisheries.

Additionally, JICA continues to implement three major on-going projects in 2022 and beyond.

The concessional ODA Loan project of US\$15 million, "**Energy Management and Efficiency Programme**" (EMEP) is co-financed with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) through our Co-financing of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CORE) mechanism, and with the European Union Caribbean Investment Facility (EU-CIF) grant. This project includes the implementation of an urban transport management system (UTMS), to operate and maintain these systems, which will help reduce congestion, curtail air pollution, save fuel, and ameliorate the low productivity attributable to gridlocked streets.

A Grant Aid of up to approximately US\$ 13 million for the "**Project for Improvement of Emergency Communication System**" will improve the digital radio communication system deployed throughout Jamaica to help facilitate the prompt, stable transmission of information between disaster risk reduction authorities and agencies concerned and to the general populace.

JICA is also implementing a Technical Cooperation project, the "**Project to Promote Energy Efficiency in Caribbean Countries**" to help improve energy security through the introduction of renewable energy and promotion of energy efficiency to Jamaica from 2019 through 2023. Reducing energy consumption by promoting energy efficiency and introducing renewable energy sources are a challenge to ensure the nation's energy security.

Since early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has been ravaging the world, and it has been impacting JICA's operations worldwide. Given medical and other challenges and restrictions caused by the pandemic, JICA has made the tough decision to return our JOCV volunteers to Japan. We are having discussions with various stakeholders in order to resume the programme in Jamaica.

In the coming years, the fight against the pandemic will likely continue. In this COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 world, in accordance with our vision "Leading the world with trust", we at JICA Jamaica Office stand ready to continue to strengthen collaboration with our partners, the Government and People of Jamaica, assisting Jamaica to achieve Jamaican's "Vision 2030", and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to realize Human Security.

Takeshi Takano, Resident Representative
JICA Jamaica Office
May 2019 - February 2022

NEW STAFF



Toru TOGAWA
Acting Resident Representative

I have been assigned as Acting Resident Representative for JICA Jamaica Office. Originally I specialized in Francophone Africa. So far, I have been in several French speaking countries such as Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Burkina Faso, Benin and Djibouti. So, I'm very happy to experience a mission in a Caribbean country.



Tomoko ASHIHARA
Project Formulation Advisor (Volunteer Programme)

I am very honored and thrilled to be working in Jamaica, since it is the first time to be assigned to the Caribbean region. Although it's been a few months since working at JICA in Jamaica, Jamaica already fascinates me with its openness, friendliness and energy. I would like to do my best to enhance mutual understanding between Jamaica and Japan.

So happy and honored to have an opportunity to introduce myself to you here in Jamaica. This is my first time staying in Jamaica, but I'm having a good time with good weather and friendly people. I believe Jamaica has a great potential for development, and I would like to contribute to that. We can't meet easily these days due to COVID-19, but I'm really looking forward to seeing you soon under more stable conditions.



Hiroyuki OKAZAKI
Project Formulation Advisor

I am very glad and excited to work as a part of JICA volunteer dispatch programme with the people here in Jamaica.

Really looking forward to meeting you at wherever you need volunteers.

We are also happy to have an opportunity to work with you to explain how our volunteer programme works.



Hisanori IWAI
Project Formulation Advisor (Volunteer Programme)



Hironaga AONO
Health Advisor

I am feeling tense and determined every day because I have a responsibility to manage health care of our staff at this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, I would like to do my best to take appropriate measures when something happens. Keep safe and protect yourself against COVID-19 every time !!



Shanique SMITH
Administrative Assistant

I am an Administrative Assistant at JICA Jamaica. I have a BSc in Business Administration with 7 years of experience. I am an extrovert, relentless, problem solver, and I am always looking for new challenges and ways to improve the agency.



As an international educator who has a penchant for travel, food, culture and sustainable development, I am elated to join the JICA team. As a true global citizen and humanitarian, I have spent most of my career working overseas in Belgium, France and Japan in the fields of language, cross-cultural relations and project management for development. As a proud Jamaican, I also champion the cause of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through the promotion of international cooperation and the building of sustainable partnerships. I am also multilingual and possess a Master of Education with special focus in Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship and Peace.

Stacey PLUMMER
Programme Officer (Volunteer Programme)

Sayonara

We bid farewell to our Resident Representative Takeshi Takano and Project Formulation Advisor Kunihiro Butsuen, who completed their duties in Jamaica. On behalf of the entire JICA Jamaica Staff we thank you for your contribution during the COVID-19 pandemic and we wish you and your families, continued health and happiness. Till we meet again!

JICA's PROJECTS

Data Collection Survey on Development Cooperation Post COVID-19 Society in Central America and the Caribbean Region.

BACKGROUND

In Central America and the Caribbean region, the global spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) has serious negative impact on socio-economic activities of most of the countries. JICA has been implementing emergency support from the initial period but it is strongly recognized the importance of socio-economic resilience on post COVID-19 society. Under this situation, JICA has started this survey to verify the cooperation needs of sectors affected by COVID-19 pandemic, to examine the effective cooperation formulation in line with the concept of Build Back Better (BBB) and, based on these results, to analyze the JICA's future cooperation policy for this region.

JAMAICA

The targeted survey sectors in Jamaica are as follows.

- 1) Special Economic Zone (Inverness)
- 2) Tourism Resilience
- 3) Governance & Citizen Security

In January 2021, Jamaica Special Economic Zones Authority (JSEZA) contacted the Embassy of Japan in Jamaica for the request of cooperation from the Japanese public and private sectors regarding the development of a special economic zone (SEZ) in Inverness, which is listed as one of the priority projects of JSEZA.

In this study, the development potential of the Inverness SEZ is being assessed, focusing on the investment potential and the current infrastructure conditions on and off the sites.



Meeting with JSEZA at JSEZA on 23rd and 25th Sep.2021

OBJECTIVES

- 1) Collect and analyze data and information on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the socio-economic activities and cooperation needs in Central America and the Caribbean region,
- 2) Implement some pilot projects, and organize and propose specific suggestions for the implementation of ongoing projects under COVID-19 pandemic, and
- 3) Make useful analysis and recommendation for establishing JICA's future development cooperation policy in Central America and the Caribbean region.

TOURISM RESILIENCE

The project purpose is that Domestic Tourism Resilience in Jamaica is strengthened through the preparation of tourism crisis management plans against increasing natural disasters.

In order to achieve this purpose, JICA has implemented some pilot projects between November and December 2021, and based on the results, JICA will consider and plan future cooperation.



Online Launch Event on 16th Nov.2021



JICA's PROJECTS

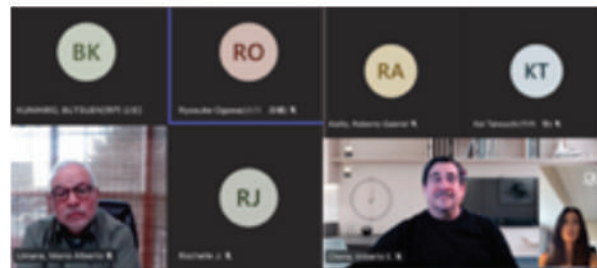
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GOVERNANCE & CITIZEN SECURITY

The study of Governance and Citizen Security sector was structured around 4 pillars: Democracy level, Administrative function, Rule of law and Citizen security.

The project purposes are follows.

- 1) Understand the effects of COVID-19 perceived by the respective entity in terms of governance and citizen security sector.
- 2) Identify the needs that stand out the most in order to improve the situation of the sector.
- 3) Formulate ideas of existing or desired types of projects that could best respond to the current situation and confirm or amend hypothesis.



Meeting with the IDB on 8th Dec.2021

LECTURE ON EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN MODERNIZATION OF JAPAN

On Tuesday, February 15, 2022, JICA in collaboration with the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, held an online lecture on Educational Development in Modernization of Japan. Dr. Nobuko Kayashima, Senior Research Advisor, Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development lead attendees through a timeline of Japan's education system. Dr. Suzette Haughton, Senior Lecturer and Head of the Department of Government at UWI moderated. Also in support was Dr. Kavita Johnson, Department of Government, and a 2010 MEXT (Japanese Government Scholar) and Mr. Joshua Bell, Senior Computer Technician at UWI.

Japan is the very first country and still is one of the very few countries that has modernized from a non-Western background to establish a free, democratic, prosperous, and peace-loving nation based on the rule of law, without losing much of its tradition and identity. 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 imported from developed countries were adopted and adapted/improved using local skills, knowledge and initiatives.

Under the stewardship of outgoing Resident Representative, Mr. Takeshi Takano, the UWI and the office of JICA Jamaica begun discussions to institute a JICA Chair of Japanese Studies at the university with the aim of giving students opportunities to learn about Japan's modernization and development experiences. Such a collaboration would involve the provision of relevant reference materials for Japanese studies and joint research and education opportunities in Japan.



HISTORY OF

2021

[Data Collection Survey] "Cooperation for Development with Post-COVID-19 Society in Central American and the Caribbean Region"
[Information Collection and Confirmation Survey] "Development Needs and Potentials for the Introduction of Hydrogen Technology and Value Chain in Latin America"



2020

[Data Collection Survey] "North and Latin America Data Collection Survey on Marine Plastic Litter in the Caribbean Region"
KCCP facilitated short-term online courses—seven training sessions for Jamaica and one for the Bahamas. [KCCP]

2019

[Technical Cooperation](ON-GOING) Commencement of "The Project to Promote Energy Efficiency in Caribbean Countries" to improve energy security through the introduction of renewable energy and promotion of energy efficiency. Period: 2019 - 2023

Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, ON, MP, paid an official working visit to Japan and met with JICA's President Dr. KITAOKA Shinichi.



1998

[Technical Cooperation] Commencement of "Strengthening of Health Care in the South Region of Jamaica" to prevent and control chronic non-communicable diseases. Period: 1998 - 2003
JICA Alumni Association of Jamaica (JAA) voluntarily established by former participants of JICA's training programme.

2001

Dispatch of the first batch of Senior Volunteers to Jamaica.

1997

[Technical Cooperation] Commencement of "The Improvement of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)". Period: 1997 - 2002

1991

[ODA Loan] Commencement of "North Coast Development Project" to improve sewerage, roads, ports and drains. Amt: 8.6 Billion Yen

1989

Establishment of JICA Jamaica Office in Kingston. The first three JICA volunteers arrived in Jamaica under the JOCV Programme.

1988

[ODA Loan] Commencement of "Montego Bay Water Supply (Great River) Project". Amt: 4.7 Billion Yen

1987

Exchange of Notes between the governments of Jamaica and Japan for dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOVC)



JICA JAMAICA



2017

[ODA Loan](ON-GOING) Commencement of "Energy Management and Efficiency Programme" to introduce energy-saving technologies and equipment. Amt: 15 Million USD
[Grant Aid](ON-GOING) Commencement of "The Project for Improvement of Emergency Communication System" to improve digital radio communication system. Amt: 1.4 Billion Yen

2015

[Cultural Grant] "The Project for the Improvement of the Exhibition and Audiovisual Equipment of the Institute of Jamaica" Amt: 58 Million Yen
Visit of then Prime Minister ABE Shinzo, first Japanese Prime Minister to visit Jamaica.

2013

[Cultural Grant] "The Project for the Improvement of Japanese Language Learning Equipment of the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus". Amt: 27 Million Yen



2002

[ODA Loan] Commencement of "The Kingston Metropolitan Area (KMA) Water Supply Project" Amt: 6.6 Billion Yen

2004

"Human Security" became one of the three important pillars of JICA's reform plan

2007

[Technical Cooperation] Commencement of "Capacity Building of Water Maintenance". Period: 2007 - 2010

2008

JICA merged with the development assistance section of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) making JICA then the world's largest bilateral development agency.

1984

[ODA Loan] Commencement of "Blue Mountain Coffee Development Project". Amt: 5.9 Billion Yen

1977

The first Jamaican participants accepted for JICA's Technical Training Programme in Japan.



1974

Establishment of the Japan International Cooperation Agency in Japan.

1964

Establishment of diplomatic relations between Jamaica and Japan.



JICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

COMPLETED ACTIVITIES OF FY2021

INTRODUCTION

The JICA Alumni Association in Jamaica, JAAJ, is one of over one hundred Alumni Associations worldwide and is comprised of former participants of JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Training Program in Japan. The JAAJ was established in March 1998, with the support of the Embassy of Japan in Jamaica and JICA Jamaica Office. Each year a number of events are executed engaging the membership. Despite the challenges experienced in FY2021 related to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the measures introduced by the Government of Jamaica, a number of activities were executed.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the JAAJ was held at the Terra Nova All Suite Hotel on July 24, 2021. Special guests included Mr. Takeshi Takano- Resident Representative; Ms. Larisa McBean-Vice President Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme Alumni Association of Jamaica (JETAA). The new members of the Executive for the FY2021 year were elected. Mrs Marilyn McKoy was returned as President to serve another year.

An Extra Ordinary General Meeting was also held to pass the Resolution to amend the Articles of Association in order to facilitate the hosting of JAAJ meetings virtually.

NATIONAL TREE PLANTING

National Tree Planting Day was celebrated in October 2021. The tree planting exercise was carried out by the JAAJ members over a period of a week. A number of tree seedlings were received from the Forestry Department. The schools targeted were the Randolph Lopez School of Hope in Elletson Flats and Paradise Basic School in Rae Town. The events were held on October 7th & 10th. JAAJ members Garfield Murray, Rachael Reid, Marilyn McKoy, principals, students, guardians and community members participated.



OCEAN CLEAN UP EXERCISE

The JAAJ has over the years participated in International Coastal Clean-up Day as one of its Calendar events. The main objective is to raise awareness about marine pollution and contribute to the reduction of garbage and plastic in the ocean. The day is usually observed on the third Saturday in September, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the local organiser, the Jamaica Environmental Trust was not able to accommodate all the groups on that day. Subsequently, an invitation was extended with different dates with groups not exceeding 15 persons and strict adherence to the COVID-19 protocols.

On Saturday, October 30, 2021, members of the JAAJ were engaged in clean-up of the beach at Port Royal Point, the specific site adjacent to the Jamaica Defence Force Coast Guard. Based on the proximity of the beach to the JDF Coast Guard base, the JAAJ capitalized on the opportunity to partner with members of the JDF Coast Guard in Port Royal, who assisted with the clean-up exercise.

A total of fourteen (14) persons volunteered. The participants included six (6) JAAJ members and eight (8) members of the JDF Coast guard. The clean-up exercise lasted for approximately three hours and was indeed a productive activity which left the area in a state that was more aesthetically pleasing.



CULTURE EXTRAVAGANZA 2021

The JAAJ's Culture Extravaganza was hosted for the second year virtually, on Friday, December 10, 2021 on Zoom and Facebook Live. The event was moderated by Ms. Brithney Clarke, Journalist under the theme Celebrating Unity, Embracing Diversity which featured cultural highlights of Jamaica and Japan in the areas of music, sports and fashion. Other features included the Human Interest story of the Jamaican Hurdler, Hansle Parchment in Japan, organizations that have contributed to sharing the cultures of both countries including the Japan Foundation, NPO LINK UP JAJA and the Westmoreland / Tottorri Prefecture.

JICA-JET Alumni Associations Collaboration Initiative



On Saturday February 19, 2022, members of the Alumni Associations of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme (JET) converged at the Paradise Street Basic School in Rae Town to satisfy a few pressing needs of the school. Through their collaborative effort, two whiteboards were erected, the walls of the classrooms were repainted, and a water efficient toilet and faucet were installed at. Technicians from the National Water Commission, principal and teachers of the school were on hand to support the JICA-AA and JETAA Jamaica initiative.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Intellectual Disability Forum
- Development of 3 Sets of Brochures focusing on Self Advocacy- March 2022

JICA VOLUNTEERS

Nothing stops me from loving Jamaica!

Jamaica has fascinated me for many years. The beautiful sea, rich nature, reggae music, and above all, the heartwarming and humorous Jamaican people have captured my heart. Working as a JICA volunteer in St. Ann was one of the happiest moments in my life.

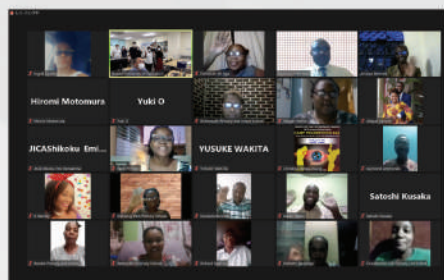
As I returned to Japan due to the Covid-19 pandemic, I immediately established a Non-Profit Organization named LINK UP JAJA. Many friends have helped me, specially Mr. Higashi who was also a JICA volunteer working in Jamaica, and is the director of the organization. I am blessed to have such passionate and skillful friends!

As we witnessed the economic downturn of the local business sector in Jamaica caused by the pandemic, we started to buy "made-in-Jamaica" products directly from the local artisans to support them. The charm of these Jamaican products are liked and supported by Japanese customers. We also aim to find more social participation opportunities for people living with disabilities in Jamaica. I returned independently to Jamaica in 2021. I did some visits and helped some families. Many Jamaicans who I met during my volunteer service have helped me greatly, and we hope to continue working together with the locals. Despite the current challenges, we hope to continue the positive movements and carry out more projects linking Japan and Jamaica!



NAGAMURA Natsumi
LINK UP JAJA
Representative Director
(Former JICA volunteer)

Success case of Online Workshop from Naruto Univ. of Education in Japan



21st-23rd September 2021.

Graduate students of Naruto University of Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Youth of Jamaica (MOEY) conducted an online workshop on the improvement of mathematics education for primary school educators in Jamaica. Since 2015, the university has been dispatching students as JOCV primary school educators to Jamaica, to introduce Japanese mathematics pedagogical approaches.

The current global pandemic has caused the university to suspend dispatching students to Jamaica. Despite this grave obstacle, the university remains committed and determined to continue to offer support to Jamaica by hosting virtual workshops. Approximately 150 primary school teachers participated in a three-day online workshop hosted by professors and students of Naruto University of Education. Attendees took part in various enjoyable role-play activities such as cutting paper, drawing figures, and solving problems as primary school students would.

This three-day workshop was highly recognized by the MOEY and the attendees. Naruto University of Education demonstrated the new international cooperation style that educators, graduate and international students have been working on together and using the online modality.

JICA and Naruto University endeavour to continue collaborating with Jamaica by dispatching student-volunteers for the improvement of education in the future.

JICA VOLUNTEERS

CONTINUED

Friendship and Goodwill from Tottori Prefecture



Youth exchange program



Video message for Jamaica



Blue Mountain Coffee Seminar

Since establishing a sister regions relationship between the parish of Westmoreland in Jamaica and Tottori Prefecture in Japan in 2016, there have been several exchange projects such as youth exchanges and marathon exchanges between the sister regions to deepen friendly relations and develop mutual cooperation. The youth exchange program has facilitated homestay opportunities for high school students in both regions to promote cultural understanding. Also, the marathon exchange program has seen participants from the sister regions participate in the Tottori and Reggae marathons.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic affected the sister regions by causing them to suspend the dispatchment of participants in the exchange programs, they have managed to maintain their relationship remotely. Citizens from Tottori joined the Reggae marathon remotely, and sent a heartfelt video message to the citizens of Jamaica. In 2019, Tottori Prefecture also dispatched a prefectural government official to Westmoreland as a JOCV under the JICA collaboration scheme with Japanese local governments. The former JOCV to Westmoreland continues to contribute remotely to ensure continuity of the strong bond between the regions. As a result, Tottori Prefecture is aiming to expand their collaboration with other regions islandwide in addition to Westmoreland. The recent Blue Mountain Coffee seminar organized in collaboration with the Embassy of Jamaica in Japan held in November, 2021 highlighted a new approach to cultural exchange between the two nations. The attendees enjoyed learning about the history of Blue Mountain Coffee and how to make good coffee from the chairman of the Jamaican Coffee Exporters Association who joined the seminar virtually. While keeping its good friendship with Westmoreland, Tottori Prefecture endeavors to continue collaborating with more local organizations to partner in exchange programs to establish grassroots friendship between Tottori and Jamaica.


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Looking for your offers for exchange program.

Watch remote exchange program videos by visiting the link here



TOTTORI x JAMAICA



TOTTORI x JAMAICA

Read more about the friendship between Tottori and Jamaica

外国語 English 簡体中文 繁体中文 한국어 русский

Please select language.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

My Time in Japan

Being selected as Jamaica's candidate for the JICA SDGs Global Leader Programme in 2020 has been a truly remarkable and life-changing experience. Through the difficult and confusing process of graduate school applications, it was the tireless effort of JICA Jamaica that spurred me on from start to finish. With JICA's support, I was able to gain acceptance into Hitotsubashi University, one of the country's most renowned schools for the social sciences. Hitotsubashi has provided me with a place to challenge my limits, develop my intellectual capabilities, and network with like-minded individuals who, like me, aim to achieve a more peaceful and equitable world through achieving the SDGs. As a student in Japan, not only am I able to learn and make comparisons with different areas of Jamaica's society and economy, but I also get the chance to discover fascinating elements of Japanese culture every day. From visiting the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, skiing in Niigata, learning more about World War II at Nagasaki Peace Park, soaking at Beppu's famous onsens, to buying Pokemon items in Shibuya, Japan never fails to satisfy my curiosity on all points. It was also my goal before coming here to deepen my knowledge of the Japanese language, which I've been able to do thanks to daily communication and even taking classes in Japanese. Overall, studying in Japan has been a wonderful adventure even amid the pandemic, and I am forever indebted to JICA for this rare opportunity.



Thomas RENNIQUE
Hitotsubashi University

Studying in Japan



Sheena SUCKOO
Naruto University of Education

Studying in Japan at the Naruto University of Education in Naruto City on the island of Shikoku, is a very exciting opportunity to deepen your understanding of theories and trends; relevant to the advancement of your career on a global scale. I have made some good friends and learnt so much from studying here. I have had wonderful experiences during my time here.

The city of Naruto is close to the Naruto Whirlpools which has natural tides of mini whirlpools. We can experience this by sky-view or by boat-ride. It is such an extraordinary experience and gives you an opportunity to experience the natural yet beautiful force of nature.

Also, one of my fondest moments in Japan is to view the blooming of Sakura during Spring. Other than being such a beautiful flower, it emits a distinctive aroma that is very memorable and very peaceful and calming. I have also experienced eating some very delicious dishes and pastries in Japan and one memorable chill-spot that I have visited is a coffee shop (IL Rosa) where I enjoyed eating Sakura-themed chocolate cake with coffee. It is very *Oishii* (Delicious).

One thing that I will take with me from Japan is the balance between hard work and humanity. I respect the people of Japan so much, their willingness to help you improve your skills or daily life with such grace and understanding is admirable and I hope we can all learn to work hard and consider others like Japanese do.

KNOWLEDGE CO-CREATION PROGRAMME - KCCP

JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) is a development cooperation initiative with emphasis on a mutual learning process that suit partner countries, while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other, grow, and develop together.

The key concept underpinning JICA's operations since its establishment in 1974 has been the conviction that "capacity development" is central to the socioeconomic development of any country. The courses under the Knowledge Co-Creation Program are usually conducted in Japan; participants acquire useful knowledge and build on their existing expertise and that of their organization. Japan has an adoption and adaptation process with its own share of failures and errors behind numerous success stories. Jamaicans who mainly work with the government of Jamaica benefit from the training each fiscal year with recent exceptions due to COVID-19 restrictions.



- Maritime Law Enforcement
- Maritime Search and Rescue, Maritime Disaster Prevention and Marine Environment Protection for Coast Guard Officials



- Stabilizing Power Systems to Introduce Various Kinds of Renewable Energy
- Promotion of Energy efficiency and Conservation (A)



- Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction in Small Islands



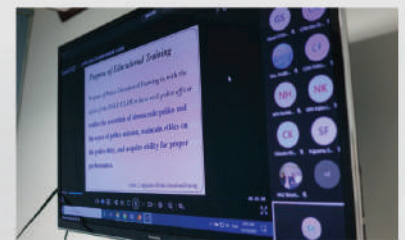
- Sustainable Tourism Resource Management and Development (Natural Resources)



- Strengthening of Community Health System for Infectious Diseases Control (B)



- Technology for Solid Waste Mgt. with Recycling Promotion for Sound Material – Cycle Society
- Waste Management Towards Control of Marine Litter
- Solid Waste Management towards Recycle Oriented Society (Emphasis on Partnership between Public Entities and Citizens) (A)
- Urban Solid Waste Management (Emphasis on Collection, Transportation and Final Disposal) (A)



- Organization Management for Senior Police Officers

Through Japan's progressive adaptation and application of systems, methods and technologies from the West, the nation has developed a unique storehouse of knowledge. It is not easy to duplicate such expertise where the circumstances differ, but the experiences can provide ideas and useful clues when devising measures to solve problems in respective countries. The KCCP continues to provide opportunities to mingle with Japanese people, albeit online, and to witness the advantages and disadvantages of Japanese systems in a way that partner countries such as Jamaica could use such findings to help reach its development objectives.

COVID - 19 PREVENTION

Proper way to wear a mask (Whenever, Wherever)

Avoid the "Three Cs"

- "Closed spaces" with poor ventilation
- "Crowded places" with many people nearby
- "Close-contact setting" such as close-range conversations

Washing hands *Kindly note the following MANGA (Cartoon)



Author: INOUE Kimidori



Cartoon Page 1

Cartoon Page 2

Hand washing movie



JICA encourages washing of hands because it is very effective to promote good health not only against COVID-19 and also other diseases including the Flu, the gastroenteritis and so on. Let's share the proper way to wash hands with everyone around you!!

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