



JDS

The Project for Human Resource
Development Scholarship

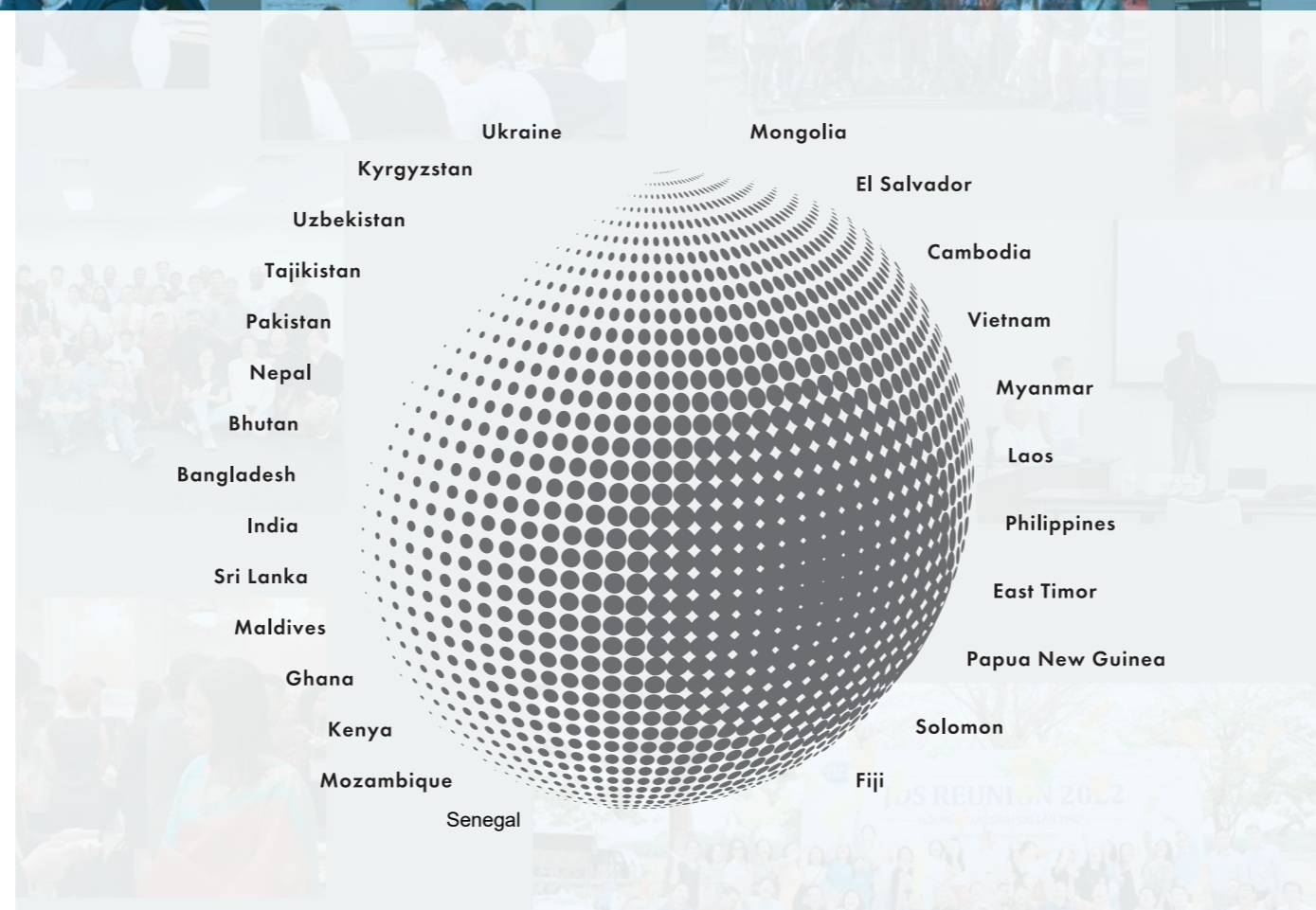


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About JDS

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) is a grant aid project that provides full scholarship to young leaders from target countries. Since its establishment in 1999 as the "Grant Aid for Scholarship Program", JDS has provided learning opportunities to over 6,000 JDS fellows.



Strengths of JDS

Japan is the very first country to achieve developed country status and serves as one of the best models of development for emerging nations. The country has successfully balanced tradition with modernity while building a free, peaceful, prosperous, and democratic society. In 2018, JICA launched the "JICA Development Studies Program," which offers a unique learning opportunity combining two perspectives: Japan's modern development experience that differs from Western models, and its wisdom as a country that provided cooperation toward the progress of developing countries after World War II. In addition, the program extends beyond academic studies to include networking sessions with Japanese government officials, special programs, and post-return follow-up activities. Furthermore, to ensure academic success during participants' stay in Japan, the program provides comprehensive support through regular monitoring of academic progress and health conditions, along with assistance in adapting to daily life in Japan.



Objective of JDS

Transforming Knowledge Gained in Japan into Solutions for National Challenges

JDS provides opportunities for graduate degrees in top Japanese universities. Upon returning to their home countries, JDS fellows are expected to take leadership roles in central government positions, applying their specialized knowledge gained in Japan to engage in policy formulation and implementation of social and economic development policies

Strengthening Bilateral Relations

The program aims to strengthen networks with government officials and other key stakeholders in Japan while fostering sustainable bilateral relations between Japan and partner countries as trusted allies for the mid- to long-term.

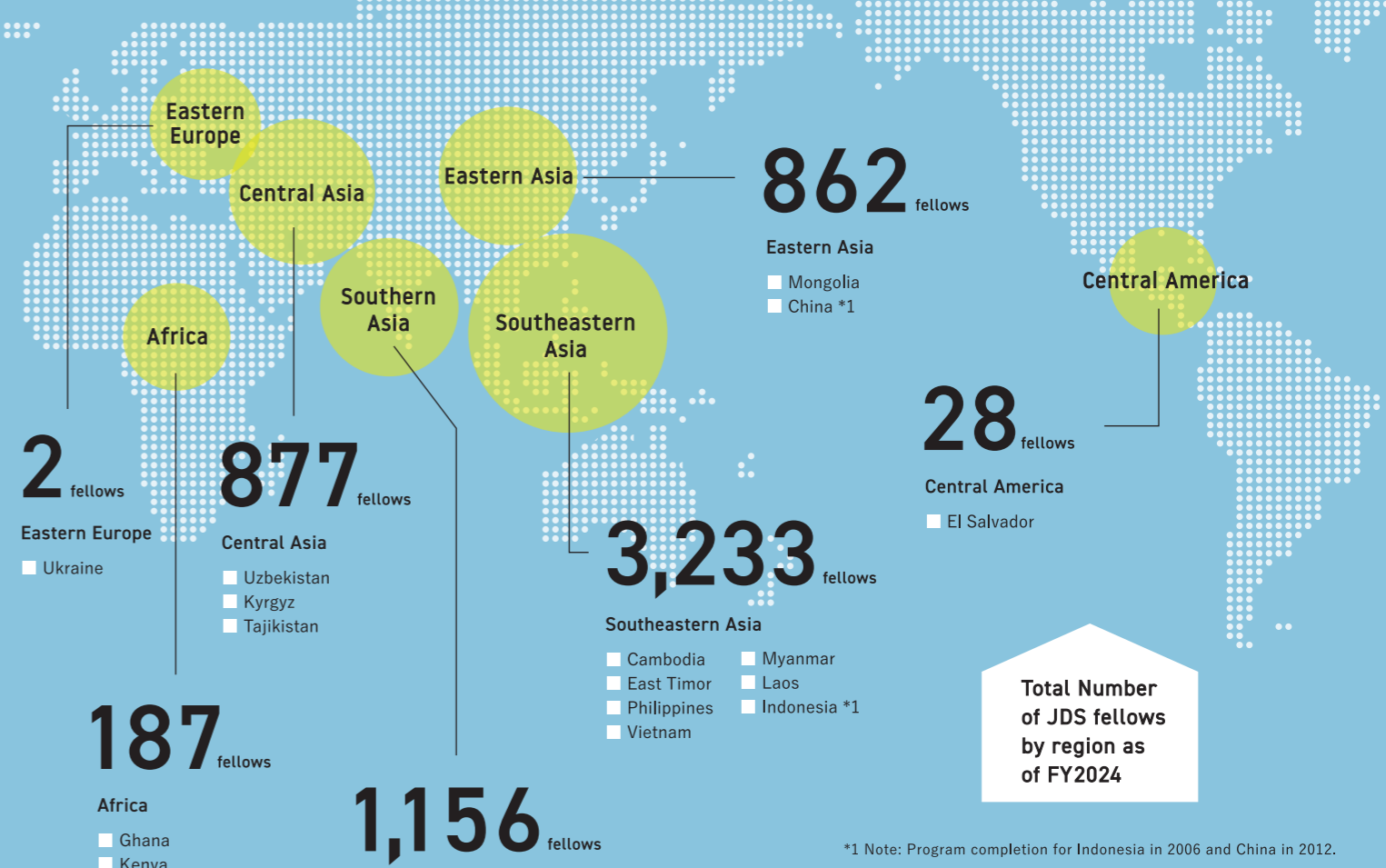
History of JDS

- Establishment as "Grant Aid for Scholarship Program" — **1999**
- Arrival of first JDS fellows in Japan — **2000**
- Program renamed to "Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)" — **2007**
- Establishment of first JDS Alumni Association (Bangladesh) — **2010**
- First JDS fellows from Africa (Ghana) arrive in Japan — **2012**
- Program renamed to "The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)" — **2015**
- Introduction of doctoral degree programs and group training sessions — **2017**
- Launch of JICA Development Studies Program — **2018**
- First JDS fellows from Latin America (El Salvador) arrive in Japan — **2021**
- First JDS fellows from Europe (Ukraine) arrive in Japan — **2024**



- 2006**
Total number of JDS fellows reaches **1,000**
- 2012**
Number of female JDS fellows reaches **1,000**
- 2014**
Total number of JDS fellows reaches **3,000**
- 2020**
Number of female JDS fellows reaches **2,000**
Total number of JDS fellows reaches **5,000**
- 2023**
Total number of JDS fellows reaches **6,000**

To promote gender equality and women's empowerment, JDS actively advances the participation and capacity development of female government officials.



Results of JDS

Host Universities

- 53 Universities**
- Osaka University
 - Kyoto University
 - Doshisha University
 - Ritsumeikan University
 - Kobe Institute of Computing, Information Technology
 - Kobe University
 - Kwansei Gakuin University
 - Tokyo University
 - Akita University
 - International University of Japan
 - Niigata University
 - Nagaoka University of Technology
 - Kanazawa University
 - University of Fukui
 - Ishikawa Prefectural University
 - University of Tsukuba
 - Saitama University
 - Keio University
 - International Christian University
 - Sophia University
 - National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
 - Tokai University
 - Institute of Science Tokyo
 - Tokyo International University
 - The University of Tokyo
 - Tokyo Metropolitan University
 - Chiba University
 - Hokkaido University
 - Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
 - Tohoku University
 - Hokuriku-Koshinetsu Region
 - Kanto Region
 - Kyushu Region
 - Chugoku Region
 - Shikoku Region
 - Kansai Region
 - Tokai Region
 - Nagoya University
 - Toyohashi University of Technology
 - Gifu University
 - Naruto University of Education
 - Ehime University
 - Kochi University of Technology

Achievements by the Numbers

Current JDS fellows by Fields of Study
(As of October 2024)

JDS develops a four-year plan to continuously accept JDS fellows, focusing on priority fields and development challenges identified as strategic areas for cooperation in each partner country.

Developing Future Leaders to Address Development Challenges

Exceptional Degree Completion Rate

Average Completion Rate:
98.6%

The degree completion rate (master's degree) across the JDS program maintains an exceptional level, ranging from 92% to 100% across all partner countries, with an average completion rate of 98.6%.

Economics
36.6%

308
fellows

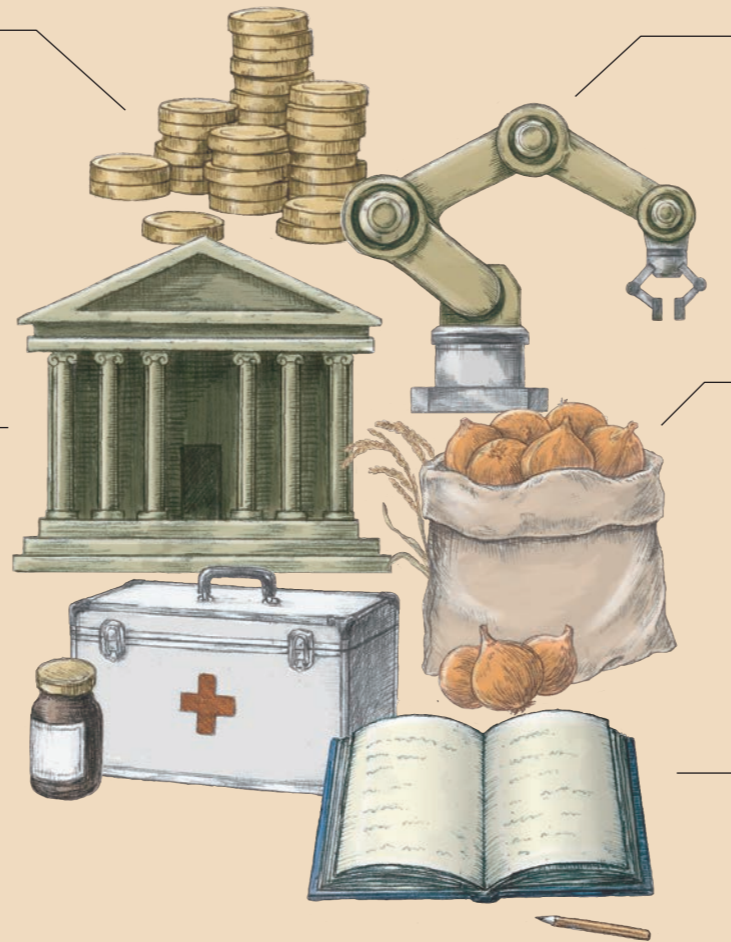
Law and Public Administration
33.8%

284
fellows

Public Health
3.2%

27
fellows

Fields of Study



Engineering
16.8%

141
fellows

Agriculture
7.1%

60
fellows

Education
2.5%

21
fellows

Support the capacity development of female government officials

Average Female Participation Rate **40.9%**

Mongolia: 63% female, 37% male
Sri Lanka: 58% female, 42% male

The proportion of female government officials among JDS fellows has reached an average of 40.9% across partner countries. With about half of the participating countries showing an increase in female participation rates, the program continues to strengthen its contribution to the capacity development of female government officials.

Contribution to Leadership Development

Bangladesh: **96.3%**
Kyrgyz: **79.6%**

A significant number of JDS alumni have advanced to higher positions after returning to their home countries, playing vital roles in addressing development challenges. This leadership development impact is evidenced by the high proportion of alumni holding leadership positions: 96.3% in Bangladesh and 79.6% in Kyrgyz.

Impacts of the JDS Program

Strengthening Self-confidence

Awareness of Development Challenges in Home Countries

Negotiation Skills

Analytical Abilities

Problem-Solving Capabilities

Leadership Skills

Effective Communication of One's Views

Based on survey responses from JDS alumni, the following program impacts have been confirmed

Growth in Capabilities

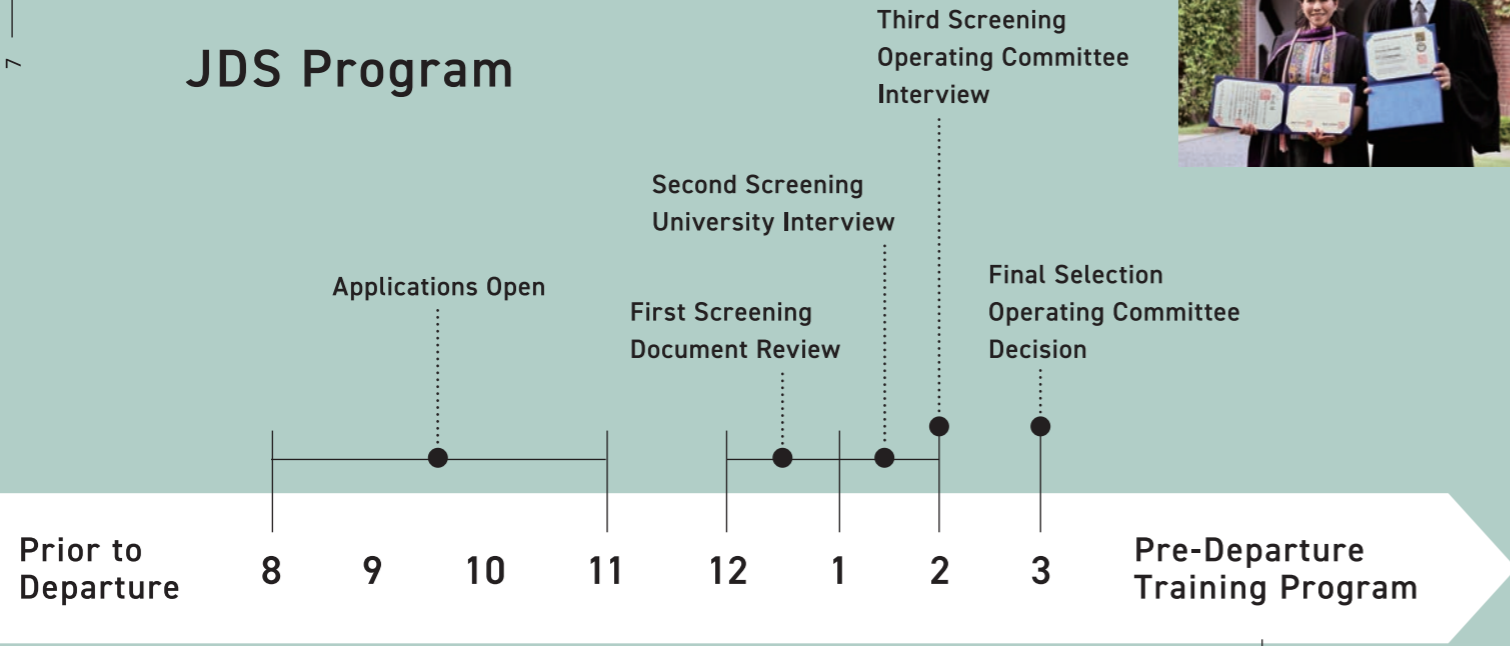
The survey reveals significant development among JDS alumni following their studies. Alumni reported notable improvements across multiple competencies, including "awareness of development challenges in home countries", "negotiation skills", "analytical abilities", "problem-solving capabilities", "leadership skills", and "effective communication of one's views". Among these areas of growth, the most common answer was "strengthening self-confidence" from the alumni.

Strengthening Japan-Friendly Relations

The JDS program has deepened participants' trust in Japan and its people, while enhancing their understanding of Japanese society and culture. Moreover, after returning to their home countries, many JDS alumni actively engage in initiatives that promote ties with Japan.



JDS Program



*Schedule may vary depending on the country and timing.

Pre-departure Learning about Japan

The pre-departure training program provides participants with a comprehensive orientation that strengthens their identity as JDS fellows while deepening their understanding of Japanese language and culture. This training is designed to facilitate a smooth transition into student life in Japan.



1 Japanese Language Training

Basic Japanese language acquisition essential for daily life in Japan

2 Japan's Development Cooperation

Introduction to Japan's development experiences, cooperation policies, and ongoing development projects with partner countries

3 Japanese Cultural Orientation

Comprehensive introduction to Japanese culture and practical guidance on social norms, etiquette, and daily customs to support smooth adaptation to life in Japan



Leveraging Japanese Education and Networks to Address Development Challenges in Home Countries

1 Sharing Research Achievements from Study in Japan

Organizing debriefing sessions where returning fellows present their research findings to their home institutions and JDS alumni network

2 Follow-up Seminars

Offering special lectures by professors from JDS host universities and networking opportunities among JDS alumni

3 Alumni Associations

Establishment of alumni associations in each partner country strengthens and expands the network of graduates from Japan, fostering continued connections among those who have studied in Japan



During Study in Japan

Comprehensive Programs to Enhance the Study Experience in Japan

In addition to graduate studies, JDS offers diverse programs that foster bilateral relations through networking opportunities and enhance leadership capabilities for career advancement.



1 Networking Event of Government Leaders

Providing opportunities for JDS fellows to engage in dialogue with Japanese government officials and build professional networks

2 Group Training Sessions

Providing training opportunities on Japan's development experience, culture, society, leadership, and gender equality

3 Academic Network Enhancement

Providing opportunities for academic exchange through participation in academic conferences and seminars, both domestic and international

4 Special Programs by Host Universities

Host universities provide customized programs that address specific country needs, along with comprehensive academic guidance and support systems

5 Networking with JICA Community

Providing opportunities to learn about each country's development challenges and specific case studies through interactions with JICA staff and scholars from other JICA scholarship programs





Pham Quang Hieu SOCIAL REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

University / Graduate school | Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University
 Period in Japan | 2002-2004
 Workplace at time of application / Position | Department of International Law and Treaties, Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Expert
 Current workplace / Position | Embassy of Viet Nam in Japan / Ambassador

The educational experience was an opportunity to shape my approach to policy-making and diplomatic strategy

Learning from JDS program

The program provided a profound foundation in international law and diplomacy, enriching my depth in global legal frameworks and their practical applications. This educational experience was an opportunity to shape my approach to policy-making and diplomatic strategy, equipping me with the tools to navigate the intricacies of international relations and foster meaningful global partnerships.

Career after JDS program

I aim to deepen the strategic partnership by focusing on key areas of mutual interest. Firstly, I intend to strengthen economic, trade and investment cooperation by facilitating investment opportunities for Japanese companies in Vietnam. Secondly, I will advocate for enhanced collaboration in education and research. Another priority is to promote cultural diplomacy, increasing cultural exchanges.



The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarshi

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Supremely invaluable was the establishment of profound intercultural connections with peers from diverse geographical realms

Deepshikha Munakami NEPAL

University / Graduate school | Graduate School of Law, Kyushu University
 Period in Japan | 2019-2021
 Workplace at time of application / Position | Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs / Section Officer
 Current workplace / Position | Office of the Attorney Generals / Joint Secretary (National Judicial Academy as a faculty)



Learning from JDS program

I underwent a phase of substantial personal and academic development. This encompassed an assimilation of cultural relativism, adaptability to change, and an astute understanding of the contemporary socio-cultural paradigm. Supremely invaluable was the establishment of profound intercultural connections with peers from diverse geographical realms.

Career after JDS program

I successfully navigated a challenging examination for the position of Joint Secretary, a role of significant policy influence. Also, I was selected as a faculty member at the National Judicial Academy, where I am involved in organizing capacity enhancement programs for judicial officials from various ministries. These programs serve as an opportunity to further bolster the ties between Nepal and Japan.



My professional career began to change after studying in Japan

USENOVA Nazgul

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

University / Graduate school | Graduate School of Economics, Ritsumeikan University
 Period in Japan | 2010-2012
 Workplace at time of application / Position | President's Office / Expert
 Current workplace / Position | Ministry of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic / First Deputy Minister

Learning from JDS program

My research was devoted to the issues of energy resource management. My studies allowed me to correctly find data for research, correctly predict and analyze, and apply these results. There were also lectures aimed at managers on the logical search for solutions. There was a very rich and informative study program.

Career after JDS program

I have been working as the First Deputy Minister of Energy. After returning, my professional career began to change. These positive changes have been achieved through studying in Japan. Studying at the University allowed us to rethink approaches to making managerial decisions. The results of my research are still taken into account by me in some situations.



Advancing Careers and Impact

JDS fellows are making significant contributions as key players in their governments, leveraging their research outcomes and experiences from their studies in Japan to address social and economic development challenges.



I am committed to using valuable knowledge and experiences to support Mongolia's development

Lkhagvabayar Enkh-Amgalan MONGOLIA

University / Graduate school | Graduate School of International Relations, International University of Japan
 Period in Japan | 2016-2018
 Workplace at time of application / Position | Financing, Reporting and Accounting Division, Ministry of Finance / Specialist
 Current workplace / Position | Macroeconomic Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Development / Director General

Learning from JDS program

Participating in JDS has been a transformative experience, enriching my personal and professional life in multiple ways. Academically, the program provided access to world-class education and cutting-edge research facilities. Professionally, the program offered invaluable networking opportunities. Interacting with peers from diverse backgrounds allowed me to build a global network of contacts.

Career after JDS program

I had a chance to work on the project implemented with JICA to develop one kind of economic equilibrium model. The experience I have gained during study was much helpful to successfully finish the project. I feel grateful for the opportunity to bring back valuable knowledge and experiences, and I am committed to using these insights to support Mongolia's development and contribute to the further advancement.

