



【In Japan / or Online & 】 Knowledge Co-Creation Program

GENERAL INFORMATION ON
Value-chain Development for Sustainable Use of Fisheries
Resources

課題別研修「水産資源の持続的利用とバリューチェーン開発」
JFY 2021

NO. 202003094J001 / ID. 202003094

Course Period(※) :

From 4 October 2021 to 23 November 2021

<Note>

If the course cannot be implemented in the initial schedule, the period may be postponed within the fiscal year 2021 of Japan.

There is a possibility that the course will be implemented completely by online due to the restriction of Participants' traveling to Japan.

(※) In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that there is still a possibility the course period will be changed, shortened, or the course itself will be cancelled.

This information pertains to one of the knowledge Co-creation Program of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which shall be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both Governments. **Please refer to the Program Description for easier understanding.**

'JICA Knowledge Co-Creation (KCC) Program' as a New Start

In the Development Cooperation Charter which is released from the Japanese Cabinet on February 2015, it is clearly pointed out that *"In its development cooperation, Japan has maintained the spirit of jointly creating things that suit partner countries while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned based on a field-oriented approach through dialogue and collaboration. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other and grow and develop together."* We believe that this 'Knowledge Co-Creation Program' will serve as a center of mutual learning process.

I. Concept

Background

Fisheries and aquaculture have been important food and income sources for millions of livelihoods around the world. Demand for fisheries products has been rapidly increasing as global economic development and population increase, and responsible use of fisheries resources is becoming more important to achieve a sustainable future. Hence, around the world there are high expectations for our future in a prudential management approach to fisheries resources utilization based on scientific methodologies.

Japan has a long history with aquatic resources and vast experience in co-management of fishing, aquacultures and fisheries resources. Positive and negative consequences from intensive development and aquaculture technologies and resource reduction caused by overfishing provided opportunities for unique and practical improvements to Japanese culture in terms of sustainability backed by a history of validations. With the current deterioration of the aquatic environment and climate changes, Japanese adaptive approaches with the validations may be practical to explore the best alternative for a variety of countries and livelihoods with aquatic resources.

Hokkaido University (HU), a committed organization of this program, is one of the most historical national universities, and the Faculty of Fisheries Sciences (FFS) of HU have fostered human resources with a “frontier spirit” for development in Japan. The FFS/HU has produced many experts and scientists who are playing important roles in many practical research projects of fisheries development. We have its active involvement in this program, with their knowhow based on the experiences of contribution to sustainable aquatic resources and fisheries management such as, adaptive control of fishing pressure with value chain development and improvement of supply chain. Specific cases of sustainable utilization of unutilized resources, such as marine algae (sea weeds) and fishes, are introduced by course lecturers and experts as well as and successful locals in this “online” and “onsite” hybrid course in beautiful Hokkaido, which was originally known as a “EZO (wilderness).”

For what?

This program enables participants to learn advanced knowledge and skills as well as gain practical experience in value chain development for sustainable use of fisheries resources. During/post COVID-19 situation, adaptive strategies and active public involvement are keys for successful development. We will cover them with facilitation practices with case studies with prepared instructions.

For whom?

This program offers to officers or researchers of central and local government agencies in charge of fisheries development. It is also open to leaders of fishers' or fish processors' groups/organizations.

How?

After intensive program in your own country with on-line contents and assigned works, you will have opportunities to learn new approaches to develop sustainable value chains on fisheries products by analyzing and finding measures for present constraints through advanced lectures, practices and field visits with Japanese experts in the field.

You will communicate and cooperate with experts and locals in the field then analyze problems/constraints in their fisheries and the value chains. Finally, participants will formulate an action plan with practical knowledges built through the experiences. The action plan should describe what the participant will do after they go back to their home country and apply the knowledge and ideas acquired. During this program, you are expected to actively discussed and refine your action plans before and while staying in Japan with other colleagues, FFS/HU members and Hokkaido locals with diverse perspectives.

II. Description

1. Title: Value-Chain Development for Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources (No. 202003094J001)

2. Course Period

From 4 October 2021 to 23 November 2021(※)

(※)Notes:

- 1) The above period includes the quarantine period in Japan (14days).
- 2) If the course cannot be implemented in the initial schedule above, the course may be postponed to the following period
From 17 January 2022 to 5 March 2022 (Subject to change)
- 3) If the course cannot be implemented in Japan due to the restriction of Participants' traveling to Japan, it will be implemented completely by online. In that case, the period will be as follows:
From 14 February 2022 to 4 March 2022 (Subject to change)

3. Target Countries;

Philippines, Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Belize, Brazil, Peru, Morocco, Kenya, Cote D'Ivoire

4. Eligible / Target Organization

This program targets for officers/managers of Fisheries Development, Fisheries Resource Management, Aquaculture, and Fisheries Food Processing

5. Course Capacity (Upper limit of Participants)

11 participants

6. Language to be used in this program: English

7. Course Objective:

Participants will be able to learn the advanced knowledge and skills as well as to gain practical experiences on value-chain development for sustainable use of fisheries resources.

8. Overall Goal:

Participants will be able to carry out sustainable fisheries management with their stakeholders (fishing, aquaculture, processing and others) based on a logical framework learned through this program.

9. Expected Module Output and Contents:

This program consists of the following components. Details on each component are given below.

Expected Module Output	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
1. Participants will be able to analyze problems in the fisheries sector in their own country	(1) Organize necessary background information of own country and target sector/communities to compare cases introduced in the program (Strengths weaknesses, Risks and threats, fundamental statistics, policies, Historical/cultural background)	Groupworks/individual works (Drills*)
		Presentation
		Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors
	(2) Problem Identification on target fisheries sector and/or communities with fisheries.	Lecture (fundamentals)
		Groupworks/individual works (Drills)
		Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors
	(3) Problem Identification on related fisheries policies, programs and institutions.	Lecture
Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors		
2. Participants will be able to understand practical ideas on value chain development and make workable plans.	(1) Learn Practical Value Chain (hereafter, PVC) Development Strategy to prevent overexploitations of fisheries resources The "PVC" includes: ① Classic Value Chain model theory and application for target stakeholder group ② Supply chain of fisheries products and value network among stakeholders ③ Supplemental activities, such as value additions, conventional resource evaluations and capitalization as a stakeholder/stakeholders	On-demand VCR
		Lecture
		Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors
	(2) Application of the PVC model and diagnose cases in each country	Groupworks/individual works (Drills)
		Groupworks/individual works (Action planning)
	(3) Observe and experience the effective value/add-value activities in Hokkaido	Field visit
	(4) Application of the PVC model and diagnose cases in Hokkaido	Lecture
Field visit		
3. Participants will be equipped with effective means,	(1) Review of effective alternatives in cases of fisheries development	Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors

methodologies and alternatives in value chain development.	(2) Training on communication for dissemination of alternatives for fisheries development	
	(3) Practical training of implementation in case studies on sustainable value chain development through experiences with Hokkaido locals and fisheries stakeholders	Field practices
4. Participants will be able to design and propose a realistic and sustainable fisheries development plan.	(1) Fundamental facilitation training for involvement	Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors
		Field practices
	(2) Capacity development for project planning, implementation and interpretability. ① Development of logical framework and plan of operations ② Exchanges and discussions ③ Presentation of individual action plan and evaluations	Lecture
		Groupworks/individual works (Drills)
		Individual works
	Groupworks/individual works with experts and tutors	
	Presentations to experts and fisheries stakeholders	

* ... **Drills:** assigned practice exercise for individual trainee or counterpart group.

The group is preferred to be assembled with necessary coordination depending upon common fisheries issues, project/plans and the strategies in the organizations.

10. Follow-up Cooperation by Hokkaido University.

After finishing this program, Hokkaido University may conduct follow-up cooperation with participants' organizations, such as on-site seminars or workshop with Japanese experts, etc.

III. Eligibility and Procedures

1. Expectations from the Participating Organizations:

- (1) This program is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operation. Participating organizations are expected to use the project for those specific purposes.
- (2) This program is enriched with contents and facilitation schemes specially developed in collaboration with relevant prominent organizations in Japan. These special features enable the project to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.
- (3) Applying organizations are also expected to prepare to make use of the knowledge acquired by the nominees for the said purpose.

2. Nominee Qualifications:

Applying Organizations are expected to select nominees who meet the following qualifications. Please note that it is not necessarily required that nominees are employed by the applying organizations, as long as they are selected officially by the organizations for their specific purposes. However, the nominees must be either persons who are engaged in the said field or directly related to program subject.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: be an policy maker / officer / manager / coordinator of sustainable fisheries development or fisheries resource management
- 2) Experience in the relevant field: have more than 5 years' experience in the field of fisheries resource management or value-chain development as officer /manager
- 3) Educational Background: be a graduate of college or university, or those who have an equivalent scholastic ability
- 4) Language: have a competent command of spoken and written English which is equal to TOEFL iBT 77 or more (This program includes participation in discussions and presentations, which requires competence of English ability. Please attach an official certificate for English ability such as TOEFL, TOEIC etc, if possible)
- 5) Health: must be in good health to participate in the Program in Japan. To reduce the risk of worsening symptoms associated with respiratory tract infection, please be honest to declare in the Medical History (QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS RESTRICTION of the application form) if you have been a patient of following illnesses; Hypertension / Diabetes / Cardiovascular illness / Heart failure / Chronic respiratory illness.
- 6) Others: must be flexible, proactive and cooperative to do team works in the Program.

(2) Recommendable Qualifications

- 1) Expectations for the Participants: enthusiastic personality who can facilitate to

- make various stake-holders into one team.
- 2) Age: Under forty (40) years is desirable.
 - 3) Competent English speaker (TOEFL iBT scores Reading 18, Listening 17, Speaking 22, Writing 20, Total 77 or more)

(3) Other requirements

When the course is implemented by Online ,applicants are required to fulfill the following requirements.

- 1) Indispensable Item :laptop or personal computer
- 2) Stable Network: must be secured to attend the online courses.
- 3) Application Software: Web conferencing software 'Zoom' must be downloaded to attend the online course*
(*download and sign up only may be free unless you host a meeting with the application though you may contact JICA personnel for instruction etc. as it necessary: <https://zoom.us/meetings>)
- 4) Venue: Participants' office or house, or conference room designated by JICA*
(*"drills" may be worked by individuals or groups. Appropriate coordination for team-up efforts in the group works are recommended for effective learning)

3. Required Documents for Application

(1) Application Form: The Application Form is available at **the JICA office (or the Embassy of Japan).**

(2) Photocopy of Passport: You should submit it with the application form if you possess your passport which you will carry when entering Japan for this program. If not, you are requested to submit its photocopy as soon as you obtain it.

*The following information should be included in the photocopy:

Name, Date of birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport number and Expire date.

(3) English Score Sheet: to be submitted with the application form, if the nominees have any official English examination scores. (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS)

(4) Movie "Me and my Job": Should include your name and daily works in your office and field within 1 minute in English and below 200 Mb.

4. Procedures for Application and Selection :

(1) Submission of the Application Documents:

Closing date for applications: **Please confirm the local deadline with the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan).**

(All required material must arrive at **JICA Center in Japan** by **31 August, 2021**)

(2) Submission of a Movie "Me and my Job"

Should include your name and daily works in your office and field within 1 minute in English and below 200 Mb. The available format are MOV, .MP4, .AVI and WMV)

After your authorities accepted your application to this program, please contact us to get URL to upload your movie by **31 August, 2021**. The Focal point is Ms. Ozaki, email is Ozaki-Hiroko@jica.go.jp

(3) Selection:

Primary screening is conducted at the JICA overseas office (or the embassy of Japan) after receiving official documents from your government. JICA Center will consult with concerned organizations in Japan in the process of final selection. Applying organizations with the best intentions to utilize the opportunity will be highly valued.

The Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan.

(5) Notice of Acceptance

The JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) will notify the results **not later than 6 September, 2021.**

5. Document(s) to be prepared and submitted by accepted candidates:

(1) Summary Note

Before starting the programs, only accepted candidates are required to prepare a "Summary Note" from the content including your/related organization, general information of issues and/or related projects, related regional/national/local quantitative information and source of information (communications in interviews etc. are accepted with dates and name of the interviewee) etc. **A summary Note of your reporting contents about your country and issues must be submitted before 24 September, 2021 to Sugawara.Kiyohide@jica.go.jp**, then exchange comments and update your information with the course leader as it is necessary. Essential contents of the summary note and the country report are provided in the ANNEX "Contents of Summary Note".

(2) Materials related to the contents of your "Country Report"

Based on the summarized information, participants will be requested to prepare a "Country Report" during activities in Japan. JICA recommends participants to prepare contents(data such as related available statistics and supplemental information from related surveys/interviews) that you think helpful for making Country Report, and bring them when coming to Japan. Essential contents of the summary note and the country report are provided in the ANNEX "Contents of Summary Note".

6. Conditions for Participation

<Note: The following contents from (2) to (5) and (7)to(12) are applicable only in case

the program is conducted in Japan. The contents (13) and (14) are for the case the program is conducted by online.>

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1)** to strictly observe the course schedule,
- (2)** not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants themselves,
- (3)** to understand that leaving Japan during the course period (to return to home country, etc.) is not allowed (except for programs longer than one year),
- (4)** not to bring or invite any family members (except for programs longer than one year),
- (5)** to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by both the nominating Government and the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (6)** to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments,
- (7)** not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (8)** not to discontinue the program, should the participants violate the Japanese laws or JICA's regulations, or the participants commit illegal or immoral conduct, or get critical illness or serious injury and be considered unable to continue the course. The participants shall be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care stipulated in (3) of "5. Expenses", "IV. Administrative Arrangements",
- (9)** to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for the KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (10)** not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (11)** to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation, and not to change the accommodation designated by JICA.
- (12)** to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule.

- (13)** not to record online lessons or use contents provided during the program without JICA's permission since all the copy right belong to JICA. Arrangements will be made for streaming the program in case of network problem.
- (14)** to go to JICA country office or the place where the internet access is secured to attend the online course.
- (15)** to take measure against infectious disease such as wearing the mask, maintaining the social distance and washing hands.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer: (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) **Center:** JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)

(2) **Program Officer:** Mr. SUGAWARA Kiyohide (Sugawara.Kiyohide@jica.go.jp)

(3) **Program Assistant:** Ms. OZAKI Hiroko (Ozaki-Hiroko@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner:

(1) **Name:** Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University

(2) **URL:** <https://www2.fish.hokudai.ac.jp/language-english/>

3. Travel to Japan:

(1) **Air Ticket:** In principle, JICA will arrange an economy-class round-trip ticket between an international airport designated by JICA and Japan.

(2) **Travel Insurance:** Coverage is from time of arrival up to departure in Japan. Thus traveling time outside Japan (include damaged baggage during the arrival flight to Japan) will not be covered.

4. Accommodation in Japan:

Basically, JICA will arrange the following accommodation(s) for the participants in Japan:

JICA Hokkaido Center (JICA Hokkaido(Sapporo))
Address: Minami 4-25, Hondori 16 chome, Shiroishi-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido,
003-0026 Japan
Tel : 81(*)-11(**)-866-8393 Fax :81(*)-11(**)-866-8382
(where "81" is the country code for Japan, and "11" is the local area code)

If there is no vacancy at JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo), JICA will arrange alternative accommodations for the participants.

JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo) has the following equipment for the participants.

<Private Room> Bed, Prefabricated Bath, Desk, Refrigerator, Hot pot, Bookshelf, Air Conditioning, In-room Safe, TV sets (CNN, NHK(BS), DVD/VHS Video Player)

***ATTENTION:** There are no slippers or towels. Soap, shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste & toothbrush, razor, detergent, sewing kit and CD-R can be purchased at the front desk.

<Note: The above-mentioned contents 3. and 4. are applicable only in case the program is conducted in Japan.>

5. Expenses: (Note: The content(1)(2)(3) below are applicable only in the case the program is conducted in Japan, and the content(5) below is applicable only in the case the program is conducted by online)

The following expenses in Japan will be provided by JICA

(1) Allowances for meals, living expenses, outfits, and shipping and stopover.

(2) Expenses for study tours (basically in the form of train tickets).

- (3) Medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (the costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are not included).
- (4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials.
- (5) The transportation fee and allowance will be paid to attend the online course in a participant's home country according to the regulation of JICA country office.

For more details, please see "III. ALLOWANCES" of the brochure for participants titled "KENSU-IN GUIDE BOOK," which will be given before departure for Japan.

*Link to JICA HP (English/French/Spanish/Russian):

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/tech/acceptance/trainin_g/index.html

6. **Pre-departure Orientation:** (Note: The following contents are applicable in case the program is conducted in Japan.)

A pre-departure orientation will be held at the respective country's JICA office (or Japanese Embassy), to provide participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the course, and other matters.

*YouTube of "Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan" and "Introduction of JICA Center" are viewable from the link below.

Image videos of 'Introduction of JICA Center (YouTube)' show the following information of JICA Centers: Location, Building, Entrance, Reception(Front desk), Lobby, Office, Accommodation(Room), Amenities(Hand dryer), Bathroom(Shower and Toilet), Toiletries, Restaurant, Laundry Room(Washing machine, Iron), ICT Room(Computer for participants), Clinic, Cash dispenser, Gym, Neighborhood

Part I: Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan	
English ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw
French ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2yU9ISYcTY
Spanish ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7l-WIQSDjI
Part II: Introduction of JICA Centers in Japan	
JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)	https://www.jica.go.jp/sapporo/english/office/index.html

Map of Japan and Hokkaido (Geospatial Information Authority of Japan, 2020)



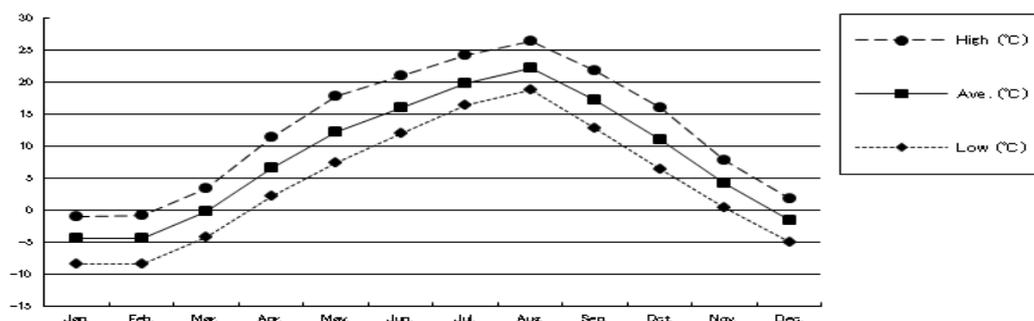
V. Other Information

(Note: The following contents are applicable in case the program is conducted in Japan.)

1. Certificate

Participants who successfully complete the training will be awarded a certificate by JICA.

2. Climate in Sapporo



	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
High (°C)	-1	-0.8	3.4	11.4	17.8	21	24.2	26.3	21.7	15.9	7.8	1.7
Ave. (°C)	-4.4	-4.4	-0.2	6.5	12.2	16	19.8	22.1	17.1	11	4.1	-1.6
Low (°C)	-8.4	-8.5	-4.2	2.1	7.3	11.9	16.4	18.7	12.8	6.3	0.4	-5
Snow (cm)	58	83	64	2							5	28

*Typical Seasonal Wear: (November) Long sleeves, short sleeves, Light jacket

The daily minimum temperatures of Sapporo in November is 0.4 degrees Celsius. You need to prepare adequate clothing such as a wind breaker, jacket and long shirt, since the temperature in some areas you will visit may be colder than Sapporo.

3. Recreation

- 1) Participants can use an indoor swimming pool and gymnasium located next to JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo). The charges are paid by JICA.
- 2) JICA encourages international friendship exchange between the participants and local communities. Therefore, it would be helpful for participants to bring national costumes and materials such as slides, videos, and music cassette or CDs that explain respective cultures in their countries.

4. Equipment of JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo).

JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo) has the following Audio-Visual equipment for training.

Video recorder, Overhead projector, Slide Projector, Multimedia Projector (available to use Microsoft Power Point)

5. Cultural exchange

If the participant wishes to have cultural exchange opportunity, here are some suggestions:

Traditional games, national costume, musical instruments, typical crafts using local materials, traditional cooking/eating utensils, pictures showing daily life, small national flag, local newspaper. (Bringing these items is not a requirement. Please try not make your luggage so large.)

VI. ANNEX:

“Summary Note” and “Contents of Country Report” Presentation

1. Summary Note

Summary Note aims to share and clarify your issues in fisheries resource management with us and others in the activities in Japan. Then, it helps participants for logical planning with a variety of information.

INSTRUCTIONS:

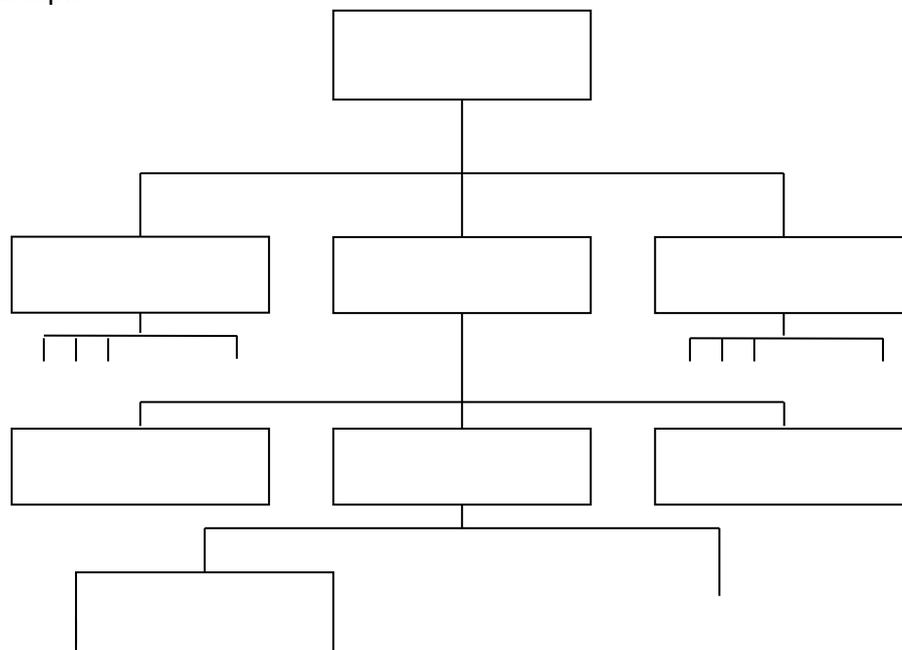
- 1) “**Summary Note**” should be prepared in **English** and summarized in approximately **3 (three) pages**.
- 2) Should cover **ALL** “Items” as followings

【ITEMS OF “Summary Note”】

- 1) Current Job and Organization (affiliation and background information of it)
 - a. General quantitative information of your country and socio-economic attributes especially to fisheries sectors
 - b. Name of participant’s organization
 - c. Participant’s present job and specialities in value chain development for sustainable fisheries resource management
 - d. Organization Chart

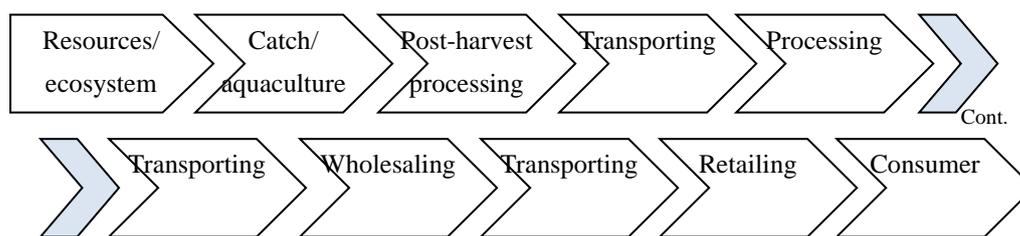
Referring to the example below, draw the chart of the organization and indicate your department/division/section with a double line.

<Example>



- e. List problems/constraints in fisheries, fisheries related industry or/and fisheries resources (including your specific interest as an issue).
- f. To express your problem, Locate and/or express your listed problems/constraints in general model as following. You may provide multiple models for each problem if necessary. Structure of the models may be different

depending upon your problems/constraints and social background around your fisheries.



2) Topics you would like to pick up for Action Plan

- ※ The choice of topics can be tentative, but this is to remind you of the importance and seriousness of proposing “Action Plan”. Please consult with your organization about the topic, if necessary.

3) Applicant’s interests in this training

(1) Topics to learn

Describe what topics the applicant would like to study most and the reasons.

(2) Facilities to visit

Describe what facilities the applicant would like to observe and the reasons.

2. Materials related to the contents of your “Country Report”

In addition, participants are requested to prepare **contents of your “Country Report”** before coming to Japan. Your **country report** is planned to be organized and printed as a poster presentation **in Japan**. You will learn how to effectively present your idea and to communicate a variety of stakeholders in a variety of background.

So, additionally prepare and bring following **photos, picture/figures** and **references** as the source of information to effectively express your contents of country report poster to Japan. For example:

- People, especially to related stakeholders’ livelihoods and cultural activities
- Typical fish species for catch
- Typical fishing port, facilities and fishing boat
- Typical fishery market which shows sanitary conditions
- Typical processed sea foods and its food processing factories
- Special topics that you want to raise

Also, tribias, folklore, stories and/or interview contents are welcome if they are with necessary source information, such as books, name of storytellers, name of interviewee and dates you were shared.

For Your Reference

JICA and Capacity Development

The key concept underpinning JICA operations since its establishment in 1974 has been the conviction that “capacity development” is central to the socioeconomic development of any country, regardless of the specific operational scheme one may be undertaking, i.e. expert assignments, development projects, development study projects, training programs, JOCV programs, etc.

Within this wide range of programs, Training Programs have long occupied an important place in JICA operations. Conducted in Japan, they provide partner countries with opportunities to acquire practical knowledge accumulated in Japanese society. Participants dispatched by partner countries might find useful knowledge and re-create their own knowledge for enhancement of their own capacity or that of the organization and society to which they belong.

About 460 pre-organized programs cover a wide range of professional fields, ranging from education, health, infrastructure, energy, trade and finance, to agriculture, rural development, gender mainstreaming, and environmental protection. A variety of programs are being customized to address the specific needs of different target organizations, such as policy-making organizations, service provision organizations, as well as research and academic institutions. Some programs are organized to target a certain group of countries with similar developmental challenges.

Japanese Development Experience

Japan was the first non-Western country to successfully modernize its society and industrialize its economy. 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 have been imported from developed countries; these skills and knowledge have been adapted and/or improved using local skills, knowledge and initiatives. They finally became internalized in Japanese society to suit its local needs and conditions.

From engineering technology to production management methods, most of the know-how that has enabled Japan to become what it is today has emanated from this “*adoption and adaptation*” process, which, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories. We presume that such experiences, both successful and unsuccessful, will be useful to our partners who are trying to address the challenges currently faced by developing countries.

However, it is rather challenging to share with our partners this whole body of Japan’s developmental experience. This difficulty has to do, in part, with the challenge of explaining a body of “tacit knowledge,” a type of knowledge that cannot fully be expressed in words or numbers. Adding to this difficulty are the social and cultural systems of Japan that vastly differ from those of other Western industrialized countries, and hence still remain unfamiliar to many partner countries. Simply stated, coming to Japan might be one way of overcoming such a cultural gap.

JICA, therefore, would like to invite as many leaders of partner countries as possible to come and visit us, to mingle with the Japanese people, and witness the advantages as well as the disadvantages of Japanese systems, so that integration of their findings might help them reach their developmental objectives.



CORRESPONDENCE

For enquiries and further information, please contact the JICA office or the Embassy of Japan. Further, address correspondence to:

JICA Hokkaido Center (JICA Hokkaido, Sapporo)

Address: Minami 4-25, Hondori 16 chome, Shiroishi-ku
Sapporo, Hokkaido 003-0026 Japan

TEL: +81-11-866-8393 FAX: +81-11-866-8382