

JICA Development Studies Program



JICA-DSP

JICA Chair
(JICA Program for Japanese Studies)



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Message from the President

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. I firmly believe that there are quite a few aspects of Japan's experience that can be shared with developing countries today. In addition, Japan has contributed to the economic growth in Asian countries through its Official Development Assistance (ODA), and has been sharing the knowledge and enhancing activities in other regions. Based on our experience and knowledge, I firmly believe that Japan can act as a leading country on development studies throughout the world.

JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP) invites future leaders from partner countries to Japan and offers them the opportunity to learn about Japan's modernization and development experiences, which differs from those of Europe and the U.S., and its wisdom as a country that provided cooperation toward the progress of developing countries after World War II.

This program was launched as one of the Japanese government's official programs related to the 150th anniversary of the Meiji Restoration in 2018.

JICA-DSP is co-organized by various universities in Japan and JICA for the participants from partner countries. This program offers participants an opportunity to study the respective academic fields in master's or doctor's degree courses at Japanese graduate schools and to deepen the understanding of Japanese development experiences.

Through this program, I hope that participants will gain a deep understanding of Japan, so that they may use this knowledge to contribute to the development of home countries. Also, it is my great expectation that participants will play a significant role as a leader in the respective fields after their return, fostering a long-lasting bilateral relationship between each respective country and Japan.

I am looking forward to welcoming your participation in JICA-DSP.



Kitaoka Shinichi

President, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



Approximately
90

collaborating universities
(during 2020)



Cumulatively, over
10,000

overseas students welcomed
(1999–2020)



Over
100

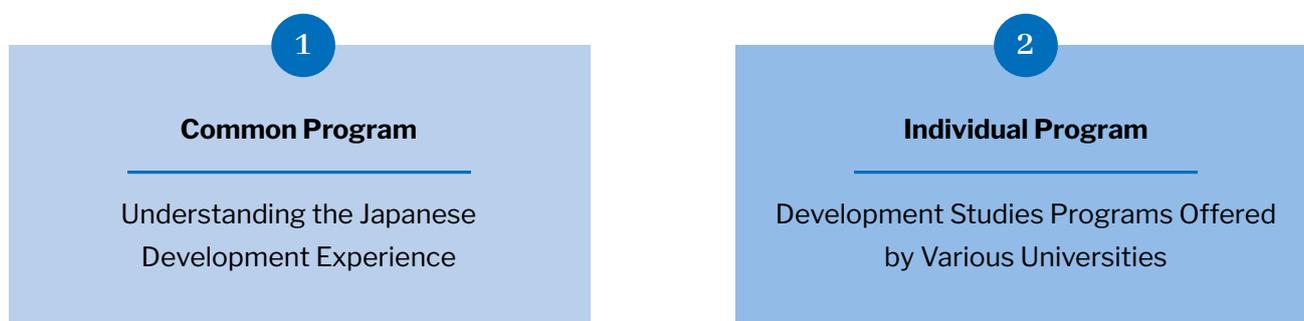
countries have sent overseas
students (1999–2020)

Overview – JICA Development Studies Program

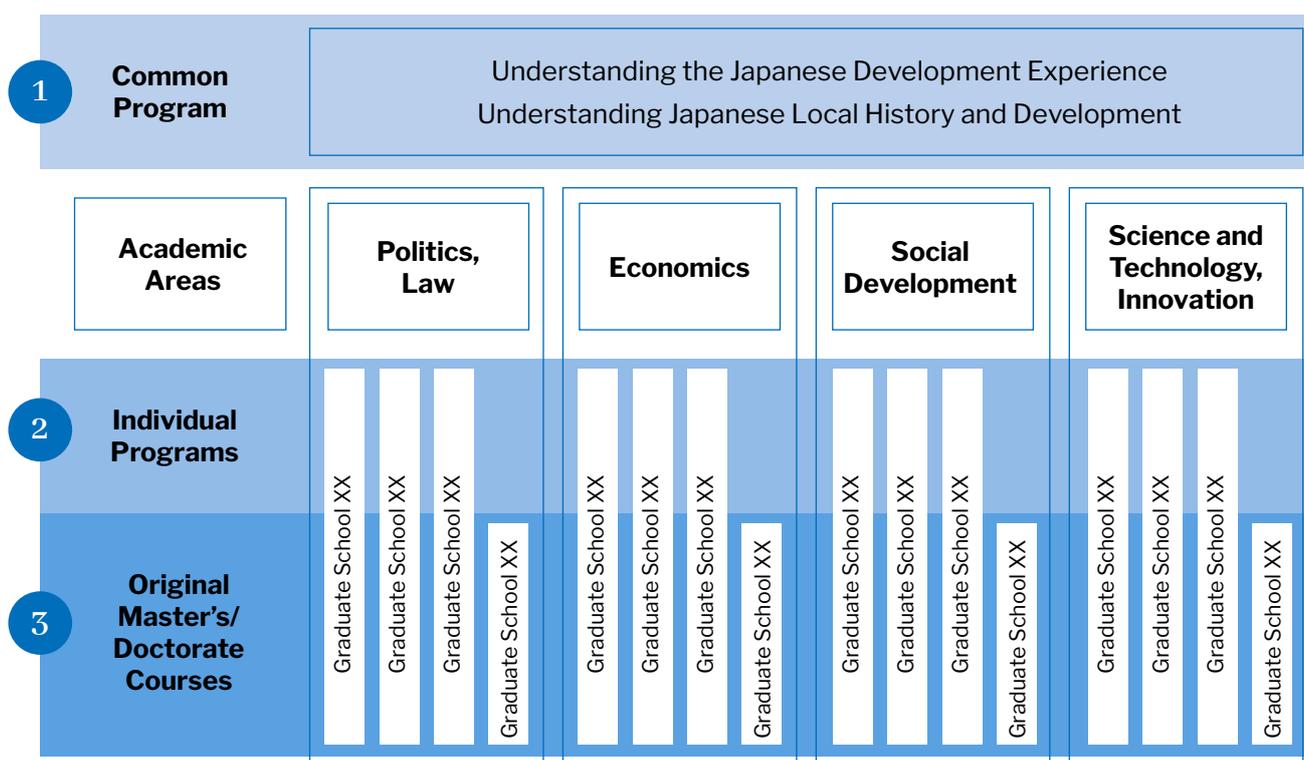
JICA-DSP invites future leaders from partner countries to Japan and offers them the opportunity to learn about Japan’s modernization and development experiences. JICA-DSP is being carried out by JICA as part of official development assistance (ODA) by the government of Japan. JICA-DSP is offered for international scholars accepted as the participants of JICA’s Human Resource Development Project, hereinafter referred to as “JICA scholars,” who are enrolled in a degree program at a Japanese university.

JICA-DSP consists of two components, **Understanding the Japanese Development Experience** and **Development Studies Programs Offered by Various Universities**.

Two components of JICA Development Studies Program



JICA Development Studies Program



Common Program

Understanding the Japanese Development Experience

JICA and partner universities utilize a combination of a classroom program, online lecture series, and a local program to enable all JICA scholars to deeply understand Japanese development experiences by learning its local history and development.

Individual Program

Development Studies Programs Offered by Various Universities

These programs have been established among the graduate degree courses of the universities taking part in the JICA-DSP. These encompass a broad range of fields that include politics and law, economics and finance, social development, science and technology, and innovation.



JICA Chair (JICA Program for Japanese Studies)

To expand the opportunities of Japanese studies in partner countries, JICA has started the “JICA Chair (JICA Program for Japanese studies)” in collaboration with leading universities in partner countries. JICA Chair’s activities include short intensive lectures conducted by lecturers, joint research activities, and research and education opportunities provided for young researchers in Japan.

JICA and its partner organizations also provide reference materials for Japanese studies and research and education opportunities to faculty members of universities who wish to establish or strengthen courses or programs of Japanese studies.





The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) contributes to the JICA-DSP through its leadership program, Global Governance Program (G-Cube).

The aim of G-Cube is to foster “leaders of leaders”—individuals who can bring together the leaders of each field and channel their knowledge into solving major world issues. To that end, leaders of leaders use big-picture thinking to coordinate and reconcile disparate values and interests.

In Japan, university courses that are delivered in English tend to rely on Western textbooks and Western case studies. Without being nationalistic, I believe that such courses should try to use more Japanese case studies to develop universal, generalizable theories. This approach would help advance the level of research.



Professor Tanaka Akihiko

President,
National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS),
in Tokyo



In conjunction with JICA-DSP, the International University of Japan (IUJ) has launched the Japan-Global Development Program (JGDP). The JGDP is a novel post-graduate program that spans and combines the resources of multiple graduate schools.

Through the JGDP, attendees will learn about Japan's experience in national development. They will also develop theoretical frameworks for explaining how and why Japan's national development path differed from that of Western nations. The ultimate aim of JGDP is to develop such theoretical perspectives and share them with a global audience. Scholars attending the program will take an inductive case-study approach, examining specific historical cases and deriving a general theory from them, which they will share with the worldwide academic community. It is my hope that these theories will be extrapolated and applied to cases around the world.



Professor Itami Hiroyuki

President,
International University of Japan (IUJ),
in Niigata Prefecture

Voice of Alumni

These years of studying in Japan have left a significant impact on my personality and understanding of economic processes that are currently taking place in the world and my home country—the Kyrgyz Republic. I believe that developing countries have much to learn from what Japan has overcome in the last century.

I'd like to encourage all international scholars that want to study in Japan to use this outstanding opportunity to become acquainted with the history, culture, and economy of this amazing country.



Mr. Daniyar Imanaliev

Head of Strategic Development Policy Department,
Policy, Economy and Finances of the Presidential Administration,
Kyrgyz Republic

Studying in Japan offered me the opportunity to accumulate hands-on skills to compete in the national and international labor markets. The learning and teaching environment between students and distinguished professors, along with the help of tutorials, has created high-quality learning abilities and accountability. Research undertakings are of high-quality and well-grounded, offering empirical evidence to help end-users make informed policy decisions. I am grateful to JICA for offering me the scholarship and giving me the opportunity to learn about the wisdom of Japan's economic development and applying this knowledge in my country. While at GRIPS, I learned Kaizen, a bottom-up approach to inducing high workplace productivity and product quality. Subsequently, I enjoyed implementing Kaizen successfully in Tanzania's manufacturing firms.



Dr. Edwin P. Mhede

Commissioner General, Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA),
Tanzania



Voice of Students

I have always wanted to come to Japan to experience its culture. Japan faced many adversities during the war, but its rapid recovery and development are commendable. JICA programs offer an opportunity to learn about these aspects and are well known for their high-quality courses. We often hear about the post-war era in Japan, especially how the country overcame various hurdles. But through this course, I also learned about its agricultural development, technology, and, most importantly, its culture.



Mr. Simon Ubengi Elnour Bagini

South Sudan



I have worked under several excellent JICA projects on sericulture, and so, when I had the opportunity to apply to JICA-DSP, there was no stopping me. The course gives students the opportunity to see the real Japan and learn its “hidden” history. While the rest of the world usually studies about the post-war period in Japan, this course gives students a chance to explore its cultural history in detail. The course greatly enhanced my skills in critical thinking. This course has not just fulfilled my expectation, rather has exceeded them. I gained various new perspectives. In fact, the course is coordinated in such a manner that you always know what to do and which semester to choose—it’s so relaxing yet enriching.



Ms. Redzinna Dolly Cassim

Kenya

Know more about JICA Development Studies Program JICA Chair



Learn about how you can study in Japan with JICA Development Studies Program

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1WX4ZKVZ1DE>



Know more about Development Studies Programs Offered by Various Universities

<https://www.jica.go.jp/dsp-chair/english/dsp/university/index.html>



Know more about Japanese Modernization Lecture Series

<https://www.jica.go.jp/dsp-chair/english/chair/modernization/index.html>



Explore Japanese local history and development with JICA-DSP Local Programs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4LqIDGdsuqo>



Find out more about JICA Development Studies Program and JICA Chair

<https://www.jica.go.jp/dsp-chair/english/index.html>





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