

THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME:

Curriculum and Textbook Development for Professional Enhancement of Mathematics and Science Educators

24 September – 14 October 2025, Penang, Malaysia

The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), through its Regional Centre for Education in Science and Mathematics (RECSAM), recently conducted a specialized training programme aimed at strengthening the professional competencies of mathematics and science educators from across Africa.



The programme focused on curriculum and textbook development, offering participants in-depth insights into curriculum design principles, development processes, and effective implementation strategies. Educators engaged in collaborative workshops, interactive discussions, school visits, and hands-on activities designed to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in their respective countries.

A key highlight of the programme was the participation of Japanese curriculum experts, who shared valuable insights, best practices, and innovative methodologies. Their contributions enriched participants' understanding of effective and forward-looking approaches to curriculum development.

Participating Countries

Botswana, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Namibia's Participation

Namibia proudly participated in this impactful programme, represented by:

- **Mr. Nelmandil Martino Isaacks** – WJD Cloete Combined School (Hardap Region)
- **Ms. Bertha Ipawa Haimbodi** – National Institute for Educational Development
- **Ms. Hanna Monica Emvula** – Tataleni Primary School (Erongo Region)

All participants expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to broaden their understanding of curriculum development and to exchange ideas and experiences with fellow educators from across the continent.

Voices from the Field

"This programme has equipped us with practical tools and fresh approaches to curriculum design. We are eager to apply what we've learned to enrich Namibia's education system."

— **Mr. Nelmandil Martino Isaacks**



JICA KCCP

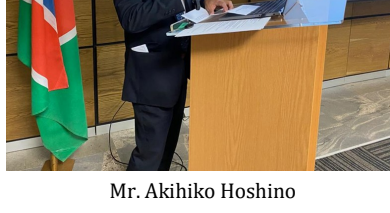
Workshop Highlights Impactful Teaching and Learning Strategies Inspired by Japan

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) successfully hosted a Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) Workshop titled *"Impactful Teaching and Learning Strategies: Lessons Learnt from the Japanese Educational System"* on 28 November 2025 at the Ministry of Home Affairs.



The workshop brought together senior education officers, curriculum specialists, teacher trainers, university staff, and regional education officials to share practical, evidence-based strategies inspired by Japan's education system. Key focus areas included curriculum development, teacher training, school-based professional development, inclusive education, early childhood learning, remote education, and school health and nutrition.

Presenters



Mr. Akihiko Hoshino



Mr. Joseph Haufla



Mr. Martin Mateus



Mr. Johannes Shivute



Ms. Engenesia Hoeses



Ms. Ronnellie Guriras

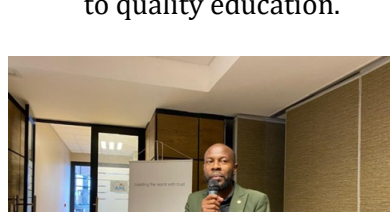


Mr. Robert Mukelabai

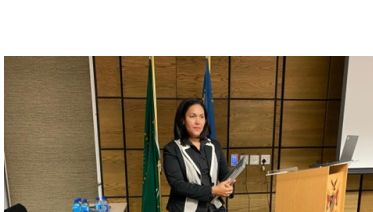


Ms. Elizabeth Mekondjo Makuwa

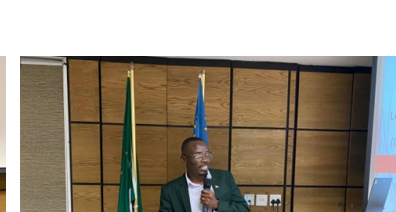
Participants gained valuable insights into Japanese best practices such as Lesson Study, inquiry-based learning, structured numeracy development, inclusive support systems, multigrade teaching approaches, and strong school health and nutrition programmes. These lessons were discussed in relation to Namibia's education context, with emphasis on improving teaching quality, reducing learning disparities, and promoting equitable access to quality education.



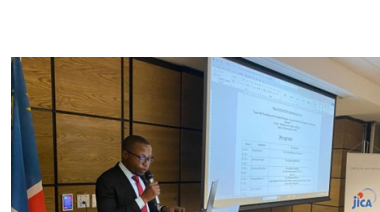
Mr. Opuviri Katundu



Ms. Asumptha Kaoseb



Mr. Vendelinus H. Hausiku



Mr. Dumi Litwayi

The workshop reaffirmed the importance of continued collaboration between Namibia and Japan in strengthening teacher capacity and enhancing learner outcomes across all levels of schooling.



JOURNEY TO JAPAN

By Ms. Edmunda De Sousa, Programme Officer, JICA Namibia

- The Natural Wonders of Japan -

"Discover Japan's Untamed Beauty"

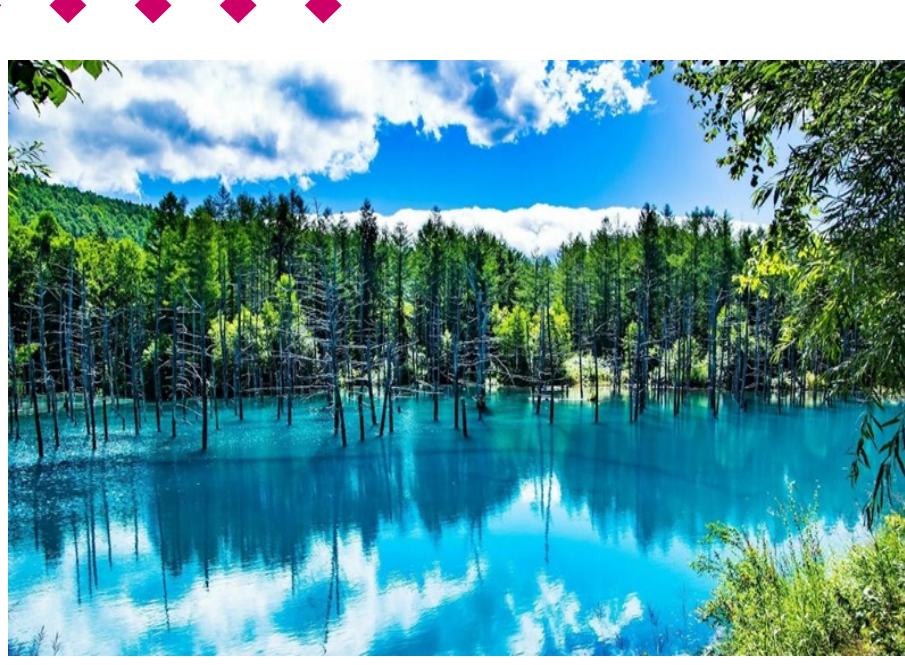


The Japanese Alps: "The roof of Japan"

The Japanese Alps are a series of mountain ranges that span the central part of Honshu, Japan's main island. These mountains are known for their rugged beauty, alpine scenery, and year-round outdoor activities. The term "Japanese Alps" was coined in the late 19th century by Western explorers and has since become widely used in both Japanese and international contexts.

The Blue Pond [Hokkaido]

This surreal, milky-blue pond surrounded by bare larch trees is an accidental masterpiece formed after a volcanic eruption. It's known for its vivid blue colour, which shifts depending on the weather and the angle of sunlight. The Blue Pond reflects the sky in stunning shades of turquoise and cobalt, offering a dreamlike escape. The pond is dotted with dead larch trees sticking out of the water, giving it a surreal, painterly look.



Mount Aso, Kyushu

One of the world's largest active volcanoes, Mount Aso has a crater so vast it could fit an entire town. Its a fascinating destination for geology enthusiasts, hikers, and travellers seeking dramatic natural landscapes

Yakushima Island "The island of water"

This UNESCO World Heritage site is home to ancient cedar forests, some trees over 7,000 years old. Misty, moss-covered trails make you feel like you've stepped into a Ghibli film. Yakushima receives some of the highest rainfall in Japan, this rain supports a lush, mossy, evergreen forest unlike anywhere else in the country.



Dear Reader,

Please contact us at JICA Namibia should you have any queries or suggestions regarding our JICA Newsletter.

In addition, we welcome requests on technical cooperation and/or requests for JOCV requirements. Kindly contact Ms. Ujama Swartz, Programme Officer, at the below contact details.

We value your support and thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Yours in development,

Akihiko Hoshino

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JICA Namibia Website: <https://www.jica.go.jp/namibia/english/office/index.html>

Embassy of Japan in Namibia Website: https://www.na.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/about_us.html