



JICA AlumniUZ

March 2016

WELCOME MESSAGE



Dear JICA Alumni,

Welcome to a new issue of the JICA Alumni Association Newsletter. The newsletter includes short but interesting personal stories of JICA trainees from diverse public organisations of Uzbekistan. It's possible that one could get inspired by reading these remarkable stories, so time to read them.

we invite you to take

Our intention with this newsletter is to keep you, our partners in Uzbekistan, informed and up to date on news about activities within

framework of JICA Alumni Association, new JICA training programs, mini grant project and other projects. We hope that our biannual newsletters will be a helpful source when it comes to project ideas and knowledge sharing.

For those of you who might be interested about upcoming activities of JICA Alumni Association and wish to join them, feel free to let JICA Uzbekistan Office know. We will gratefully accept your ideas you would like to share.

And finally, I hope you thoroughly enjoy this issue and would like to wish all the best and success in your career and future endeavours!

Mr. Katsutoshi FUSHIMI
Chief Representative
JICA Uzbekistan Office

JICA Training course "Support System for Persons with Disabilities", 2009 IMPRESSIVE AND EFFECTIVE COOPERATION ON THE RISE



Since being launched in 2008, the mutual practical cooperation between the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Ministry of Labor and Social Security of the Population of the Republic of Uzbekistan cooperation grows stronger year after year.

First, designated representatives of the Ministry and the Center took part in the training workshop organized by JICA in November-December 2009 within the Training Program "Support System for Persons with Disabilities", where having improved their knowledge and experience in the field of comprehensive rehabilitation of disabled persons and they came back to their countries. Then, in the framework of the implementation of the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1053 dated 5 February 2009, fifty-five items of the medical equipment and armamentarium received by the Center through the charitable grant assistance from the Government of Japan in the first quarter of 2010 have been installed in a timely manner and personnel have been trained in efficient operation/maintenance of the equipment, which has successfully been used in the practice of the Center. In particular, practical application of a number of up-to-date types of medical equipment and devices (e.g. computed tomographic scanner, C-Arm type X-ray machine, electromyography, endoscope, arthroscope, training simulators, etc.) has considerably facilitated operative (surgical) intervention for excision of the hernia of

intervertebral disk, treatment of knee and hip joints, recovery of impaired motor functions of extremities, has improved the quality of diagnosis of diseases, allowed increasing the number of examinations, performing greater volume of works and reducing the work time of the medical staff.

In the last five years, the three volunteers (Mr. Kazuya OMURO, Mr. Takezaki Kenji, and Mr. Minori Kashivagi) in physical rehabilitation of disabled persons invited to the Center through JICA have successfully worked contributing to the development of a new direction in rehabilitation, such as ergotherapy. In turn, the good professional practice of the Center aroused much interest of the volunteers.

JICA approved the submitted application for participation in the project for the procurement of PIO walking simulator prepared by the Mr. B. Karimov, Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Clinical Care, in compliance with the requirements of the tender announced for the projects of Mini-Grant Programs in August 2015 and supported by



the JICA Uzbekistan Office.

Most importantly, our cooperation with JICA, which is strengthening at an ever increasing pace, is based on mutual confidence and is of practical importance, which contributes to the enhancement of most ancient friendly relations between our people, improvement of the efficiency of the rehabilitation of handicapped persons, and facilitates their social integration.

Mr. KARIMOV Bakhodir
Deputy Chief Medical Officer of the National
Center for Rehabilitation and Prosthetics of
Disabled People of the Tashkent city

JICA Training Course "Intensification of Farms", 2005



There are such countries a particular experience of which is well worth in-depth studying. One of these countries is Japan, where the Japanese farming system has proved its vitality and efficiency in practice for the last few decades, and the system of application of research findings and innovative solutions in production as well as the mechanism stimulating this is well known worldwide.

One of the top-priority tasks of the policy measures implemented by our Government in the agricultural sector of our Republic on a step-by-step basis is to establish best international practices by studying them in detail.

Under the training program organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in September 2005, this article's author was lucky to take part in the Training Course "Intensification of Farms" held in Japan

and thus upgrade his skill.

That course was held at the premises of the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) in Tokyo.

The training process was focused on gaining insight into the organizational system of the agriculture of Japan in general and agricultural cooperatives in particular. The major components of the training course were as follows: system of agricultural cooperation; development of non-agricultural activity types in rural areas; system of crediting, financing, insurance and providing information and consulting services in the farming business; marketing of agricultural products on the basis of cooperation; maintenance services, provision with required equipment and technologies, and logistics in farms; training and further training of agricultural specialists, farm managers and experts; etc.

The peculiarity of the training process was that the activities were arranged by the Institute's highly skilled

and professional teaching staff on an interactive basis with a breakdown into three stages as follows:

- theoretical and introductory part: agricultural cooperatives and issues of agricultural marketing;
- practical (applied) part: familiarization with the activities of farms and agricultural cooperatives as well as with the activity of the Aomori Prefectural Union of Agricultural Cooperatives; and
- mixed: preparation of presentations and business ideas based on the acquired scientific and practical knowledge.

The obtained theoretical and practical knowledge helped me use my potentialities more extensively and make my research activity more active. In particular, I gained the opportunity to publish my book under the 2015 Mini-Grant Program supported by JICA.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to once again express my gratitude to all the organizers of the Training Course: JICA, IDACA, Aomori Prefectural Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, Mr. Nakashiba Toro, and managers and employees of the JICA Uzbekistan Office.

I am confident that in future the scale and scope of the training programs organized by JICA will further expand.

Mukhtorov A.
PhD in Economy
Senior Researcher
Research Institute of
Agricultural Economics

JICA Training Course "Customs Administration for Central Asia and Caucasian Countries", 2015



In March 2015, I and my colleagues had the honor to participate in the training "Customs Administration for Central Asia and Caucasian Countries" organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Nagoya city. The training course was also attended by the employees of the customs services from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Each group provided information on the current situation in the customs sphere, legislation and the urgent problems that need to be solved to improve the performance of respective departments taking into consideration relevant.

The training course offered to consider the issues associated with the practical experience of the customs services of Japan, study the management procedure and advanced technologies currently applied in the customs sphere. During the training, the trainees were given an opportunity to familiarize them selves with the recent trends taking place in the customs system of Japan.

The training program developed by JICA covered the most problematic issues related to foreign-trade operations, addressing of the issues of monitoring movement of goods, implementation of modern technologies and physical & chemical testing methods aimed to detect narcotic substances.

At the training courses, specialists of the Nagoya City Customs Service provided us with important visual materials, conducted practical training exercises in such units as the Chubu Centrair International Airport, Tomihama Logistics Center, Chubu International Post Office, Narcotic Detection Dog Training Center, Container Inspection Center, and Customs Classification Center (equipped with special fixed and mobile TDS (mass spectrometers) installations for precise quick detection of controlled substances, including narcotic drugs, in samples.

Within the theoretical part of the training course, we listened to lectures and presentations on the system of determination of customs value, post-clearance audit, Authorized Economic Operator, risk management and customs classification applied by the Japan Customs Service. During the training course, qualified customs specialists of the Nagoya City Customs Service noted that the following priorities have been specified to date for

the improvement of the Japan Customs:

- ensuring of public safety by strengthening efforts to prevent terrorism and spread of mass destruction weapons as well as to protect intellectual property rights;
- ensuring of accurate and full collection (levy) of customs duties;
- facilitation of customs formalities (procedure) and improvement of the automated systems of independent calculation of the rate of customs duties and taxes, by using which customs carry out control over the accuracy and completeness of assessment of customs payment.

Based on the theoretical and practical experience obtained from the practical training at the Nagoya City Customs Service, I have prepared the revised second edition of the teaching aid "Peculiarities of Customs Examinations" intended for students and other trainees who study Customs Procedures and Law of Customs, employees of customs agencies, customs clearance specialists, students of economic higher educational institutions and teachers of the "Customs Examinations" class, as well as for customers and persons who are interested in the special aspects of customs examinations and foreign economic activities, students of the Higher Military Customs Institute under the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with the program for this subject. The above-mentioned teaching aid was prepared and published with the assistance of JICA within the 2015 Mini-Grant Program.

In the summary of this material, I would like to emphasize that in the context of my teaching and research activities as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Classification and Quality Certification of Goods of the Higher Military Customs Institute under the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, I will make the best use of the theoretical and practical knowledge and other relevant information acquired during the Training for solving comprehensive scientific problems related to the increase of effectiveness of teaching and training of qualified professionals in the customs sphere.



Ms. PULATOVA Lola
Assistant Professor
Department of Classification and
Quality Certification of Goods Higher
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Customs Committee of the
Republic of Uzbekistan

JICA Training Course

"Road Development and Disaster Prevention after the Great East Japan Earthquake", 2012



Training course delivered by JICA on "Road Development and Disaster Prevention after the Great East Japan Earthquake" during November 26-30, 2012 shed light on quick and effective measures to handle natural disasters like tsunami and earthquakes. One thing is amazed me that people not only just hard working and dedicated to their work but also driven by internal inspiration to overcome difficulties of any size. Many Japanese presenters who have represented various road agencies repeated a sentence over and over "A quick action to handle a disaster is in our DNA".

After visiting road sites that were affected by tsunami and seeing pictures of disaster one can only imagine that this place can't be recovered. But people starting life from new page building bridges, roads, railroads, airports and other infrastructure. There were many success recovery stories told during presentations but one of the them struck me. There was a picture of road in which half of the carriage way was collapsed with total length approximate 1 km or more. It was rebuilt within 6 days. When I asked road specialist how many days took it to design and survey that road section. I got an answer that design and construction carried out simultaneously. This approach is not new even in Uzbekistan we practice it although we don't have disasters of that scale. The amazing part is how to quickly to perform such a task in short period of time. The reason behind in my opinion that highway engineers had access to initial detailed project data. Based on these data engineers decided volumes of road works. The challenging part is to make decision

based on available raw data. One of the success stories was how expressway saved many lives because it was built on embankment with height 7-8 meters. During natural disasters road stations served as shelters for many people.

New roads bring life to a region, along with the roads utilities such as electricity, water pipelines are built. Food and all necessary goods are delivered by roads. Roads importance cannot be underestimated.

After returning home I had been thinking about how the knowledge and experience I gained from the training could be appropriately used in Uzbekistan. As a lecturer and a researcher I compiled information on infrastructure assets from various developed countries. **Particularly, Japanese experience in road construction and disaster prevention played enormous impact in writing a textbook on "Introduction to Transportation".** This textbook would serve as a main source for teaching course on "Introduction to Transportation" at the Tashkent Automobile Road Institute, Jizzah Politechnical Institute, Samarkand State Architectural and Civil Engineering Institute, and other institutes. On behalf of our department "Road construction and maintenance" I would like to thank JICA for supporting and financing the publication.



Mr. SODIKOV Jamshid,
Associate Professor,
"Road construction and
maintenance" Department
Tashkent Automobile Road Institute



Agriculture is one of the key sectors of the economy in every country. Comprehensive development of land and water resources is one of the most important factors in the efficient agricultural development.

More than 1.1 million people out of the world population numbering 7 billion people face water and food shortage problems; and 2 billion people suffer from deficiencies of those in a varying degree. Under such conditions, the agricultural sector plays a significant role in the provision people with food and industrial commodities.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organized the training course named "Development of Agriculture in Central Asia and Caucasus Countries" in the Obihiro city on the Hokkaido Island, Japan, from 21 June to 21 July. That training course was attended by 11 specialists from Georgia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Our country was represented by five young specialists, two from the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources each and one from the Research Institute of Vegetables, Melons and Gourds and Potato.

The purpose of the training course was to familiarize the specialists with modern technologies, agricultural cooperatives, and the role of Japanese agricultural research institutes in agricultural production.

During the training, the trainees visited agricultural research institutes, Center of Agricultural Technologies, agricultural cooperatives and agricultural history museums in the Obihiro city, and gained insight into the reforms and innovations being implemented in the agricultural sector. This training aroused my interest in the activities of the farms that work together with agricultural cooperatives in land utilization, crop rotation, use of soil, and gaining high-yielding and high-quality products.

On the Hokkaido Island of Japan, they grow a wide range of crops widespread all over the world. Vegetables, melons and gourds, potato, rice, wheat, yam, legumes are cultivated there; in addition, there are special places for animal husbandry and fishing production. According to statistics, the Hokkaido Island is number one in agricultural production in Japan. The major part of agricultural products produced in Japan is represented as follows: 67.0% wheat; 27.1% soya beans; 90.9% red beans; 90.0% common beans; 78.9% potato; 87.4% fish; 100% sugar beet; 48.1% pumpkin; 53.7% onion; 28.0% carrot; 97.2% laminaria. At that, the large share of the above-listed agricultural products is due to the contribution of the Hokkaido Research Center.

That Research Center conducted eight scientific investigation works, including: breeding of rice, soya beans and apple trees at the Naganuma Central Agricultural Experiment Station; breeding of rice at the Kamikawa Central Agricultural Experiment Station; breeding of wheat, potato and onion at the Kitami Central Agricultural Experiment Station; breeding of legumes and Japanese yam at the Central Agricultural Experiment Station; and breeding of flowers, vegetables and strawberry at the Kitama Central Agricultural Experiment Station.

At the training course, its participants heard lectures with practical

training as well as participated in and became acquainted with small-size modern tractors for ploughing and milling works. When visiting farms, we familiarized ourselves with the farms working in close cooperation with research institutes in the cultivation of various sorts of crops as well as in the growing of high-quality sorts of crops with the aim of improving the farm efficiency.

In the result of attending the training course, I have learned much useful information of both academic and practical importance. I have become familiar with new agricultural crops in particular: elongated potato-yam; red vegetable beans; Japanese leguminous plants that are rich in protein, vitamins, micro and macronutrient elements. We brought seeds of some crops, and at present we carry out works with their samples. If the new crops get acclimatized to our conditions and give good yield, they will be used for the expansion of agricultural production in our country.

In 2015, I took part in the competition organized by JICA under the Mini-Grant Program and published the "Catalogue of local sorts of vegetables, melons and gourds and potato" in the Uzbek and English languages.

I am very grateful for the opportunity I was given for the acquaintance with advanced methods of investigations and experiments in Japan; also I really appreciate the JICA Uzbekistan Office for financing the publication of that new Catalogue.

Mr. NIZOMOV Rustam
Junior Researcher
Research Institute of Vegetables,
Melons and Gourds and Potato



Do you have an idea for an article?

Put your ideas down and let me know what you think of each issue, what you would like to see, what would you like me to change, or anything else that is on your mind.

Please make sure your articles have a focus, and that you stick to it. Try to stay between 400 and 600 words at the most, though exceptions can be made if necessary, and attach original images you may have and would like to be inserted. Thanks!

You can contact me at:
Fahod KURBONOV (Mr.)
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JICA AlumniUZ

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