



Japan-Mexico Training Program for the Strategic Global Partnership

General information on Company-wide Quality Control and Productivity Improvement JFY 2022

Course No.: 202007331J005

Course Period in Japan: From March 27, 2023 to Aug 11, 2023

This information pertains to one of the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Programs (Group & Region Focus) of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both Governments.

JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

The Japanese Cabinet released the Development Cooperation Charter in February 2015, which stated, *“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.”* JICA believes that this ‘Knowledge Co-Creation Program’ will serve as a foundation of mutual learning process.

I. Concept

Background

In 1971, the Japan-Mexico Exchange Program has started, which mutually accepts students and young engineers from Mexico and Japan; in February 2010, based on the “Japan-Mexico Joint Statement Strategic Global Partnership in the 21st Century¹”, the Exchange Program was renewed into the Japan-Mexico Training Program for the Strategic Global Partnership. This program contains long-term courses (between three months and twelve months’ period) and short-term courses (less than three months’ period) are newly established since then. Currently, JICA accepts 50 Mexicans participants annually under this scheme. As we celebrated the 50th anniversary of this training program in 2021 with a value added of “Co-creation between Mexico and Japan”, the course line-up has been completely reviewed, taking into account the compatibility with the priority fields of PRONACES (National Strategy Program) set by the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) in Mexico, to response strong needs in the areas such as infectious disease control due to pandemic of COVID-19, food security, ICT and digital transformation, and among others.

This training program aims to support Mexican human resource development, through the implementation of training program based on the Japan-Mexico Joint Statement, thereby contributing to reinforcement of the Mexico-Japan Strategic Global Partnership.

For what?

To enable the Mexican participants to contribute quality control and productivity improvement in Mexican companies and industries by understanding theories and methods of business management, such as management policy, production control human resources development, and fundamental improvement ways which are practiced in industries in Japan.

For whom?

Applicants should be those who have occupational experiences and are engaged in the field of production management and quality control at present, or are going to engage in this field in the near future in any industry.

How?

* Process of Learning and Application throughout:

- 1) Lectures and Exercises by Faculties,
- 2) Demonstration of Model Company/Organization (on-site visits or case study)

¹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2011/2/PDF/0222_02_01.pdf

- * Deepening understanding level by reviewing subjects learn through group discussion supported by the faculty

II. Description

1. Title (Course No.)

Company-wide Quality Control and Productivity Improvement (202007331-J005)

2. Course Duration in Japan

Whole: March to August, 2023

Technical Training Period: May 8 to August 10, 2023

Details

March 27: Arrival in Japan

March 28 to May 7: Briefing, General Orientation, and Intensive
Japanese Language Class at JICA Chubu Center

May 8 to August 10: Technical Training Program

August 11: Departure from Japan

3. Target Regions or Countries

Mexico

4. Eligible / Target Applicants

This program is designed for individuals who are willing to contribute the industries in Mexico through continuous quality control and improvement including aspects of environmental conservation.

5. Capacity (Upper Limit of Participants)

Eight (8) participants

6. Language

English

7. Objective(s)

To enable the Mexican participants to contribute quality control and productivity improvement in Mexican companies and industries by understanding theories and methods of business management, such as management policy, production control human resources development, and fundamental improvement ways which are practiced in industries in Japan. The course will use “Manufacturing Industry” as an example often; however, the ideas of quality control and productivity improvement are useful to other industries as well.

8. Overall Goal

In order to contribute to the PRONACES, special attention was paid to the contents selection of the course. For this particular case, the course is in line with the PRONACES’ strategy “Toxic agents and pollutant processes” and

“Socioecological systems”, specifically related to polluting processes, toxic damage and their socio-environmental impacts associated with sources of anthropogenic origin; demands to establish environmental monitoring and diagnosis systems for priority pollutants and definition of sources and routes of contamination.

The course is expected to contribute to the Mexican industrial sector for the continuous quality improvement including aspects of environmental care, as well as its international competitiveness in environmentally demanding markets.

9. Output and Contents

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

The general orientation and Japanese language program are organized at the Chubu International Center of JICA, prior to the technical training, in order to assist the participants in understanding Japanese way of thinking and adjusting themselves to life in Japan, and thus to facilitate effective training.

Note 1: Any form of internship in a company or an organization is not included in the training program.

Note 2: The below mentioned curriculum is subject to minor change.

Expected Output	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
1) Outline of Japanese Industrial Structure	Industrial Structure, Industrial Development History, Local Industries	Lecture, Visit, Discussion
2) Profit Maximization	Problem Solving Methods, Policy Management, Project Management, Business Vision,	Lecture, Visit, Discussion
3) Efficiency Improvement Activities	Genba Kaizen, TQM, TPS, TPM, JIT, Cost Reduction, IoT	Lecture, Visit, Discussion, Practice
4) Value Creation Activities	Customer Satisfaction, New Business, Energy Conservation, Adaptation to Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive (RoHS)	Lecture, Visit, Discussion
5) Supporting Activities	Motivation, Safety Management, Environmental Conservation (Compliance with Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR) protocols)	Lecture, Visit, Discussion

<For your reference>

Training program schedule conducted in 2022 can be provided upon applicant's request.

Feel free to contact to the address shown in **IV. Administrative Arrangements.**

III. Eligibility and Procedures

1. Nominee Qualifications

Applicants should be in the field of production management and quality control at present, or are going to engage in this field in the near future in any industry.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- (1) Current Duties: be in the field of production management and quality control at present, or are going to engage in this field in the near future in any industry
- (2) Experience in the Relevant Field: have more than three (3) years of occupational experience
- (3) Educational Background: have at least undergraduate degree.
- (4) Language Proficiency: have an adequate ability in English conversation to be able to perform satisfactorily in the course.
- (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. ※1
(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.)

※1: Considering the length of the course exceeds four months and that during this period JICA could not offer proper health care assistance for periodical exams, medical appointments or eventual emergency care (if needed) required during gestation, pregnant applicants are not recommended to apply due to the potential risk of health and life issues of mother and fetus. Also, for the same reason, in case of the expected date of birth is during the course period, JICA could not accept the applicant, even if already selected.

(2) Recommended Qualifications

- (1) Age: be between twenty-six (26) and forty-five (45) years of age.
- (2) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Women are encouraged to apply for the program. JICA makes a commitment to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, providing equal opportunity for all applicants regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.

2. Required Documents for Application

(1) Application Form

The Application Form is available at **the JICA Mexico office**

* If you have any difficulties/disabilities which require assistance, please specify necessary assistances in the QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS RESTRICTION (1-(c)) of the application form. Information will be reviewed and used for reasonable accommodation.

(2) Photocopy of Passport

It shall be submitted 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, Gender, Passport Number and Expiry Date.

(3) English Score Sheet

It shall be submitted with the application form, if the nominees have any official English examination scores. (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS)

(4) Expectation

Applicants' expectations on the training program shall be included in the application form by specifying concrete cases. For example; "I am interested in IoT technology in metal works factory.", "I want to visit small breweries making craft beer to try to find methods to improve quality of product and productivity improvement." or "I want to know best practice to reuse chemicals used in metal plating process."

3. Procedures for Application and Selection

(1) Submission of the Application Documents

Please confirm the due date with the CONACYT and JICA Mexico office.

(2) Selection

Primary screening is conducted at the CONACYT after receiving official documents from the applicants. JICA Chubu 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.

(3) Notice of Acceptance

CONACYT will notify the results **not later than December, 2022.**

4. Additional Document(s) to Be Submitted by Accepted Candidates

Accepted candidates may be required to submit Inception Report. Please wait for an instruction from an officer in charge in JICA Chubu.

5. Conditions for Participation

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 any family members to stay with (Visit by the participant's family is not prohibited as long as the participation to the training program is not disturbed.),
- (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) 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 ,
- (9) to 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",
- (10) 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,
- (11) not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (12) to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation,
- (13) to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule, and
- (14) In case of natural disaster or any possible contingency that makes unfeasible conduct this training program in Japan, it could be offered remotely (on-line) or canceled. In the case of conducting training program on-line, the training period may be subject to change.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) **Center:** Chubu Center

(2) **Program Officer:** Mr. KITAGUCHI, Yoshinori
(Kitaguchi.Yoshinori@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner

(1) **Name:** Aichi Industrial Research Association

(2) **URL:** none

(3) **Remark:** Above mentioned organization has been cooperating JICA activities for more than quarter century.

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

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

JICA Chubu Center (JICA Chubu)
Address: 4-60-7 Hiraike-cho Nakamura-ku Nagoya-shi, Aichi-ken
453-0872 Japan
Phone: +81-52-533-0220 FAX: +81-352-564-3751
(where “81” is the country code for Japan, and “52” is the local area code)
Please refer to facility guide of JICA Chubu at its URL,
<https://www.jica.go.jp/chubu/english/office/index.html>

If there is no vacancy at JICA Chubu, JICA will arrange alternative accommodation(s) for the participants.

5. Expenses

The following expenses in Japan will be provided by JICA;

(1) Allowances for meals, living expenses, outfits, and shipping and stopover (if there is)

(2) Expenses for study tours (public transportation, taxi, or charter bus)

(3) Medical care cost 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 (ex. educational materials but not

stationery)

- (5) 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/training/index.html

6. Pre-departure Orientation*

A pre-departure orientation will be held at JICA Mexico office (or the Japanese Embassy), to provide the 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
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
JICA Hokkaido (Obihiro)	https://www.jica.go.jp/obihiro/english/office/index.html
JICA Tohoku	https://www.jica.go.jp/tohoku/english/office/index.html
JICA Tsukuba	https://www.jica.go.jp/tsukuba/english/office/index.html
JICA Tokyo	https://www.jica.go.jp/tokyo/english/office/index.html
JICA Yokohama	https://www.jica.go.jp/yokohama/english/office/index.html
JICA Hokuriku	https://www.jica.go.jp/hokuriku/english/office/index.html
JICA Chubu	https://www.jica.go.jp/chubu/english/office/index.html
JICA Kansai	https://www.jica.go.jp/kansai/english/office/index.html
JICA Chugoku	https://www.jica.go.jp/chugoku/english/office/index.html
JICA Shikoku	https://www.jica.go.jp/shikoku/english/office/index.html
JICA Kyushu	https://www.jica.go.jp/kyushu/english/office/index.html
JICA Okinawa	https://www.jica.go.jp/okinawa/english/office/index.html

For Your Reference

JICA and Capacity Development

Technical cooperation is people-to-people cooperation that supports partner countries in enhancing their comprehensive capacities to address development challenges by their own efforts. Instead of applying Japanese technology per se to partner countries, JICA's technical cooperation provides solutions that best fit their needs by working with people living there. In the process, consideration is given to factors such as their regional characteristics, historical background, and languages. JICA does not limit its technical cooperation to human resources development; it offers multi-tiered assistance that also involves organizational strengthening, policy formulation, and institution building.

Implementation methods of JICA's technical cooperation can be divided into two approaches. One is overseas cooperation by dispatching experts and volunteers in various development sectors to partner countries; the other is domestic cooperation by inviting participants from developing countries to Japan. The latter method is the Knowledge Co-Creation Program, formerly called Training Program, and it is one of the core programs carried out in Japan. By inviting officials from partner countries and with cooperation from domestic partners, the Knowledge Co-Creation Program provides technical knowledge and practical solutions for development issues in participating countries.

The Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) has long occupied an important place in JICA operations. About 400 pre-organized courses 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 is being customized by the different target organizations to address the specific needs, 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, as the first non-Western nation to become a developed country, built itself into a country that is free, peaceful, prosperous and democratic while preserving its tradition. Japan will serve as one of the best examples for our partner countries to follow in their own development.

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 a process of adoption and adaptation, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories.

Through Japan's progressive adaptation and application of systems, methods and

technologies from the West in a way that is suited to its own circumstances, Japan has developed a storehouse of knowledge not found elsewhere from unique systems of organization, administration and personnel management to such social systems as the livelihood improvement approach and governmental organization. It is not easy to apply such experiences to other countries where the circumstances differ, but the experiences can provide ideas and clues useful when devising measures to solve problems.

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.



Contact Information for Inquiries

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

Training Program Division, JICA Chubu Center (JICA Chubu)

cbictp1@jica.go.jp