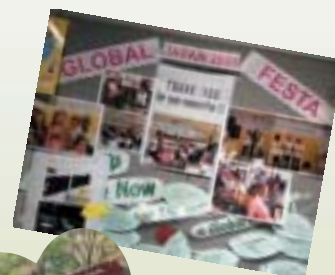


2009

JICA Tokyo goes forward
with participants . . .



It goes without saying that participants come to Japan to attend a training course. However this time we would like to introduce a moving incident involving the participants who had a rather different experience, accomplishing something unique in cooperation with the Japanese staff of JICA.

Here is the story . . .

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page 2

There is something more than a training program.

Global Festa 2008

**A success story of
a participatory event.**



There is an event called Global Festa which is held at Hibiya Park in the center of Tokyo every year. It is to promote international cooperation and its activities. During the two days you can enjoy displays at the booth and performances on the stage. There are more than 200 stalls where the International organizations and citizens introduce their activities and embassies publicize their countries and sell their local products. It is the event where you can experience the world.

Participants of JICA Tokyo have been joining the event every year. This year we had successfully appeared the event by having a performance in cooperation with Japanese staff and participants from all over the world.

Our performance consists of the group singing of the participants and a quiz session. Younger JICA staff member started the preparation over one month prior to the event and sought the applicants. Some volunteers among the participants also joined the preparation and made the performance program under the theory of "making the program which amuses JICA participants themselves".

We selected a song, the world famous "SUKIYAKI" which is the Japanese song called "Walk and look up at the sky". They practiced singing twice a week. When they were singing in the lounge other song-lovers naturally gathered and the number of choristers became bigger and bigger each time. "SUKIYAKI" has a simple melody and is easy to remember for foreigners. We heard some of them sang the song here and there at JICA Tokyo.

We managed to complete the whole program two days before...Then everything was ready.



A new way to recruit volunteers. Applicants put their names stuck on a big board.

I was impressed that the JICA participants enjoyed singing. The SUKIYAKI song was quite a boom for a while. I was glad to make that boom spread in the whole of JICA Tokyo. (Mr. Keizo Uno)



On the morning of the event 67 participants gathered. It is a number of people much larger than the previously assigned. On stage Teresa-san (Uruguay) started dancing along with the guitar music played by Marco-san (Mexico). Now it is the beginning of our performance.

Following a guessing game which let the audience guess the name of the participants home country, some of the audience joined us and made several groups to compete with each other.

First was a chain-message-game which was to transfer a sentence in a foreign language from one person to another. The message was "Haku Penda" given from Timothy-san of Kenya. After it was transmitted through 15 people it turned out to be the incomprehensible words. There were some groups who successfully sent the message to the last person. The sentence means "I love you" in Swahili. Knowing the meaning, people burst into laughter together.



I enjoyed dancing on a stage. It will be a good memory of Japan to have attended the Global Festa. (Ms. Sastre Reig Maria Teresa, Uruguay)

In the quiz I was asked how long I have been in Japan. And when I was asked to say some Japanese I know I said a short sentence I had learned. The audience liked it and laughed a lot.

I was very impressed to know that there are so many organizations working overseas.



It was fun when I gave a quiz about my language, Swahili. I was really happy to see the Japanese audience enjoy our program.

As I came to Japan not only for studying but for cultural exchange, I really enjoyed an event like this. (Mr. NJERU Timothy Njagi, Kenya)





Next came the gesture game. It is to transfer the message by a physical gesture not by a voice. The message was **"I like you very much but I am hooked on a DS game now."** It was very hard to send this message by physical movement alone. And all the groups were struggling to send the message.

The last one was a message in Japanese meaning **"No, no, listen to my music."** which is the most difficult one for the

foreign participants. To tell you the truth these three questions are finally connected into a story.



"I love you honey. Love gets over the national border."

"Sorry I like you but I am possessed by my DS game now."

"No, no, I just want you to listen to my song."

Yes, it was the message from the JICA participants who have been practicing singing for a month.

A group of 67 people started singing with the guitar music played by Marco-san. It goes "I will walk on looking up at the sky so my tears do not spill out of my eyes." It really was a beautiful harmony. The audience joined and



Working with JICA participants of other courses was very interesting. They are all cooperative and helpful. I enjoyed myself, too. When we sang at the end of program the whole audience seemed to become one.

(Mr. Leon Romero Marco Antonio, Mexico)



the whole place was filled with the singing voices. Then Moni-san from Cambodia said "We love Japan and Japanese people!"

At the end of the program all the participants gave post cards with the message "We love you." written in their mother language to the audience.

I could not properly explain the meaning of the event to the participants at first.

Now I really want to thank all the participants that the whole program could not have been done without the cooperation of JICA participants. I thought the stage was great because "the participants" made it. I really appreciate JICA participants!

(Ms. Yuka Asakawa: left below)



When I saw some of the participants exchanging addresses with audiences after the event I was happy with what I had done for the event. From now on I would like to care about making such opportunities to foster friendship between JICA and other people. Thank you JICA participants. I really appreciate your cooperation.

(Mr. Hiroyuki Matsuda: upper left)

Our program was successfully closed. We had been worrying how the program would be but the result was successful enough. Our wish to have an event in which the performers and audience can be one at heart was accomplished. We strongly feel that we have enhanced the appeal of JICA which is one of the rare places people of different nationalities gather. All the participants were happy and confident with what they had done. The smiling faces of the participants are the proof of the success of the Global Festa 2008.



JICA staff of Global Festa

Behind the success of this event there was a great support from senior staff. This event is done by the JICA staff of two or three years of employment. Mr. Arima who had worked on the program last year comments, "Last year I learned whether the participants enjoy the event or not is the key to the success of it. So I tried to give them the advice to adopt the ideas of the participants for making a good program participants can enjoy. As I had a hard time last year with no crew to do it, I wanted to help the younger people with my experience. I hope them to give their experience to their juniors, too."



A Three-year-long Program and Its Future Perspectives

For the local government improving the capability and building a close relationship with the central government are the indispensable factors for providing good administrative services which meet the needs of the local people.

The JICA program, **"Top management Forum on Local Government Reform for Asian and Africa"** was held in September 2008. This course is aiming at identifying applicable essence of Japanese local administrative systems, the formulation and implementation of policies for adopting them to the policy of the participants' countries. Ten participants are invited from six countries of Asia and Africa.

One of the biggest characteristics of this course is holding the session with the same participants for three consecutive years. And they learn Japanese

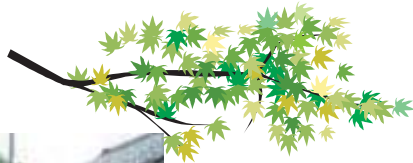


Program Participants visited Takai Kozan Museum in Obuse.

resources. They have a population of less than 12 thousand but have 1.2million tourists a year.

In Obuse local citizens voluntarily organized a committee to talk with the government about how to revitalize the town. In the trip we learned that when the government and citizens work together the local town will be revitalized even if the resources are limited.

There once was a project called "home town revitalization" and National government gave one million dollars to most local governments. While some local governments did not know what to do with the money and just bought a lottery ticket or a gold ingot, or some dug hot springs with the whole of that money, Obuse acted differently. They discussed seriously and decided to establish a fund and spend it to sent representatives of the



systems and thier implementation in stepwise manner. This is quite a unique type of course among many.

This year they visited Obuse in Nagano prefecture for a field trip. Obuse is a local town, financially successful in spite of a small-scale government with limited human



Participants listen intently to the explanation of the OBUSE city official.

citizens to the European countries to learn how to make an attractive town by utilizing historical heritages.

As a result of such a scheme townspeople came to have a strong awareness of the landscape. And now they are tackling the preservation of the historical landscape of their town with government and citizens hand in hand. They also started the new project of "Open Garden". It is the project to open the garden of a private house to the public. The present town mayor is willing to show his own garden to the public.

All the participants are deeply impressed with the attitude of local government which acts as a leader and listens to the people's voice earnestly at the same time. Seeing a good example of revitalizing tourism a participant said "I would like to learn from the success story of Obuse."



Participants exchange opinions with Academic experts from home and abroad at the Forum.

On the last day of the program a concluding forum was held inviting several academic experts from home and abroad. An impassioned discussion was held at the forum and we hoped



All concerned after the Forum.

that the participants would fully introduce and use what they have learned to their own countries.

The local government management system is closely related with the local history and culture. It means that there is no single answer to be adopted. Thus it is necessary to make one which fits to the present situation of each country.

It will take time to make a good local government reform, because it is the scheme to change the whole system of the country. Their challenge has just begun. We would like to keep watching them closely with the hope that they would surely accomplish their objectives some day and make a first-class local government.

Mr. Tomohiro Arima
Public Policy Division,
JICA Tokyo





To the safety of the world's seas

Information Management for Maritime Activity and Disaster Prevention Course

In accordance with globalization, mass maritime transportation became prevalent and securing the seaway-safety has become the crucial issue. Both developing and developed countries rely heavily on shipping for the transportation of energy, industrial products, foods and other things. There are also wrecks at sea such as grounding accidents which happen in developing countries every year and many lives are lost.

Highly accurate charts which show the depth of the sea, the direction of the current, pharos and other features are



Dealing with data in the observation room on ship.

indispensable for the water route safety. Responding to these international requirements JICA holds the training course of "Information Management for Maritime Activity and Disaster Prevention". This is the program fully supported by the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard and it started from May and lasts as long as 208 days. The contents includes a variety of subjects including lectures on surveying techniques, astronomy, underwater acoustics, seafloor earthquake and tidal wave prediction and surveying work at sea.

This time I came along with the two-day field trip at Sagami Bay for the coverage. Participants of the program are six in total - two members each from Indonesia and Malaysia and one each from Pakistan and Kenya. We went on board the survey ship "MEIYOU" (550 tons) at the Japan Coast Guard base in Tokyo Port and left there at 10 o'clock in the morning. First day they observed the ship facilities and learned how to use and adjust the surveying equipment. The multibeam echosounder is one of those equipments to analyze the terrain and layers of the stratum architecture. They emit sonar waves from the ship's hull and receive the wave reflected from the sea bed. They repeatedly drilled adjusting the sensitivity of the sonar to get highly accurate data. As it required the very delicate adjustment, participants do it over and over again until they get the satisfactory results under the instruction of the dedicated instructors. The first day closed as the ship arrived at Atami port where they stayed the night.

On the second day the ship left Atami Port at 7:30. Arriving in Sagami Bay, today's training spot, the first thing they did was figuring out and setting the starting and

ending point of the traverse line by computer. Then the ship cruised along the traverse line navigated by GPS and recorded the terrain of the seabed continuously using the multibeam echosounder they learned yesterday. Along with the work participants went out on deck and put the equipment called Proton into the sea to do the magnetometer observation and collected the terrain data. After the laborious work of eliminating numerous errors from the terrain data on the monitor they finalized all the collected data, which completed the second day.

When all these data of location and depth were put into graphics, the result will be a sea chart. Collected basic data will be utilized not only for sea charts but also for a wide range of purposes including mineral exploration, disaster prediction of earthquakes and marine environment conservation.

One of the unexpected incidents during this tour was an encounter with a whale swimming alongside our ship and spouting water just as welcoming us. All the participants and crew gave a shout of joy. It must be added as one of the unforgettable memories of this session.

When the participants finish this course they are given a Category B Certificate for Hydrographic Survey authorized by the IHO (International Hydrographic Organization). I hope all the participants will get this internationally authorized qualification and they will devote themselves to the safety of the world's seas utilizing the knowledge and technology learned in the JICA program.



A Participant holds a Proton Magnetometer before throwing it into the sea.

Mr. Hiroshi Kurakata
Deputy Director General,
JICA Tokyo



All the JICA participants with the survey ship "MEIYOU"



Medical Care from the Time of Occurrence of a Disaster till the Reconstruction Period



Disaster Nursing and Rehabilitation Course

What do you imagine when you hear of a disaster? Man can't get by merely hoping to avoid disasters such as a big earthquake, tsunami or hurricane.

In recent years not only in Japan but in many parts of the world large-scale disasters have occurred such as the huge tsunami caused by the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake with an epicenter off the coast of Sumatra, Indonesia; the Great Pakistan earthquake of 2005; Hurricane Katrina that struck New Orleans in the U.S. and the 2008 great Sichuan earthquake which is still fresh in our memory. In a state of panic immediately after a large-scale disaster, it is difficult to take victims to medical facilities rapidly to offer proper care. And the larger the scale of a disaster the longer becomes the necessary period for physical and mental care for the victims. In many developing countries the importance of such rehabilitation for victims to reintegrate them into society is not sufficiently recognized.

Japan has experienced various kinds of major disasters in the past and hospitals which accommodate victims or disaster prevention measures of local governments have been bolstered. Awareness of disaster relief by Japanese medical care personnel is increasing more than ever before. Training for disaster medical care and the number of disaster drills conducted by core hospitals are increasing.

JICA Tokyo, taking advantage of these activities in Japan, started the "Disaster Nursing and Rehabilitation Course" in 2008 with the cooperation of the International Nursing Foundation of Japan (INFJ). In this first year, 6 participants of nurses and doctors from the Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Iran and China participated in this course.

One of the aims of this training course is to learn how medical facilities with cooperation of regional administration establish a system of receiving victims promptly when a disaster strikes. And as part of the practice, this course took part in a disaster drill organized by a Tokyo municipality. The city has 24 regionally based organizations that perform disaster-prevention activities on a voluntary basis. They are regularly working on quick evacuation and creating an environment where neighboring residents can help each other when a disaster strikes. A disaster prevention information system is established that makes it possible to grasp quickly the situation of fires and collapse of houses by using cameras provided in various places in the city and reports from residents.



The participant took part in a disaster drill.

In a disaster drill, assuming elementary schools and parks as evacuation areas, Triage training was conducted. Triage is a process of prioritizing patients to be treated based on the severity of their injuries. In Triage, medical personnel separate the injured into four groups based on the severity of their injuries when transporting them to hospitals. The categorization of patients is aided with the use of special printed tags in which



Training in Japan with my experience of a Big Earthquake a message from participant, Jafar-san from Iran



Visiting Takatsuki Hospital to observe the rehabilitation in the acute phases.
(The writer: at the far left)

My name is Jafar Tajik Saeidi. I am from Iran. I belong to the JICA group training course on Disaster Nursing and Rehabilitation in Asia.

I am working as clinical supervisor in Ziaieian hospital, Tehran Medical Science University. I am an active member of the hospital disaster committee. We have very capable members with strong potential ability to act in case of disastrous occurrences. I have experienced several real disasters in my period of work. The greatest one was Bam earthquake which occurred on Dec. 25, 2004. We took prompt countermeasures properly and handled the situation effectively so that the victims were given medical services as well as possible, as much as possible.

I have come here to learn about the Japanese experience in disaster conditions and adopt them according to my country's regulations.

The following items are of most importance to me:

- 1) Countermeasures taken in disaster time
- 2) Rehabilitation in acute and recovery phases

I would like to disseminate the experience I gained here in my country to improve the delivery of medical services to victims.

See you again in Japan



Cardiopulmonary resuscitation drill at Life Safety Learning Center in Honjyo, Tokyo.



The triage tag

conditions of patients are filled in to be used as information. This process is important for judging the degree of urgency for treatment and even in a scene of mass casualty it is necessary to judge without getting upset. So the training to prepare for the time of disaster becomes important.

After observing these strong efforts for disaster prevention, one of the participants Ms. Gon Shu-Qi from China cited the following as an action plan after going back home. She would share disaster

prevention knowledge acquired in Japan with the staff of the hospital she belongs to and the Ministry officials and also prepare for the implementation of a disaster drill at the hospital she works for.

In this training course, participants learned the importance of trilateral cooperation of medical institutions and administration for quick initial response to disaster and the involvement of the local community in disaster prevention measures. All of the participants of this course have experienced tsunami or large earthquakes themselves. I firmly believe that the participants with such experience will surely make good use of what they have learned in Japan and carry on setting up necessary systems to save many lives in their respective countries.

Mr. Koichi Toya

Human Development Division,
JICA Tokyo



Happy New Year!!

In Japan we celebrate the beginning of a new year wearing Kimonos and visiting shrines. They are beautiful, aren't they?

People in Africa also wear special costumes as below on formal occasions like New Year's Day and other ceremonies.



Japan



Zimbabwe



Nigeria



Niger



Before you lose important data due to PC viruses...

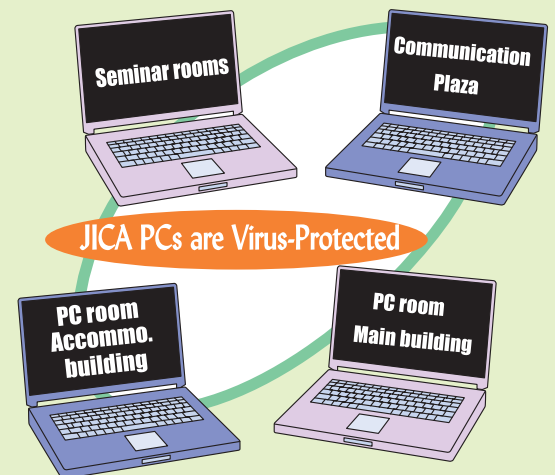
We are the PC helpdesk at JICA Tokyo, mainly giving support for Internet connection problems in rooms in the accommodation building and managing about 100 PCs owned by JICA. We have recently detected some viruses on our PCs, most of which have been found to come from USB flash drives. Although every JICA PC has anti-virus software, we need cooperation from you to prevent virus infections. Please check the following:

Please be sure to scan your USB flash drive with PCs in JICA TOKYO.

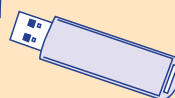
(Please right-click on USB flash drive and choose "Scan for Viruses".)

It is critical to install anti-virus software on your PC, not to lose important data and not to crash your PC.

(Please read the instructions in the "JICA TOKYO GUIDE" file which is placed in your room.)



Communication Plaza is the first place where you should scan your USB flash drive.



The PC helpdesk is on the lobby floor. It opens from 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday (Except holidays).
Extension: 2618, 2619, or 2117



Current Japanese Situation on Tobacco

The most popular tobacco in Japan is cigarettes.

In Japan, over 80 percent of men were smokers about 40 years ago. However the smoking rate has been decreasing after peaking in 1966 and became 24 percent including men and women in 2007.

The health effects of tobacco have been studied worldwide since the 1900s.

In Japan, concerning the prevention of second-hand smoking, "the Health Promotion Law" was implemented in 2003 and such measures as the separation of smoking areas started to be carried out. At present the smoking is limited or totally prohibited in most public places like public transportation, public facilities, restaurants and offices. The places you can



An identification card called "TASPO" is introduced from this year. No one who is younger than 20 can buy cigarettes.



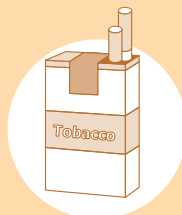
They use a portable ash tray when they smoke at the place other than a smoking area. No litter of the cigarette butts on the street!



smoke are quite limited.

Smoking in the limited area is also important for the aspects of fire prevention and public area cleanliness.

Though the situation for the smokers in Japan is severe, nowadays almost all the remaining smokers observe the rules.



60 percent tax is imposed on tobacco in Japan.

Commemorating the 650th Memorial Year of the Founder, Musō Daishi Masterpieces of Zen Culture from Myōshin-ji 開山無相大師 650年遠諱記念 特別展「妙心寺」

At this exhibition you can enjoy the long-cherished artistic assets of Myōshin-ji temple in Kyoto. Myōshin-ji is the major temple of Zen Buddhism. Zen is one of the Buddhist sects and it has been very influential on Japanese culture such as Tea Ceremony, Samurai chivalry, and the ideas and manners of the Japanese.

Numerous and various cultural assets such as Chinese calligraphy, ink painting and others have been kept at the temple. And they are all important cultural assets to illustrate Japanese history and cultures.

Savor the essence of Zen culture which flourished over a 7-century period of the grand Myōshin-ji temple.

"菊唐草文玳瑁螺鈿合子" 13~14th century
Keisyūnin, Kyoto

Place: Tokyo National Museum (Ueno Park) (東京国立博物館平成館)
RoomT5, Honkan; Special Exhibition Galleries, Heiseikan
(10 min. walk from Ueno or Uguisudani Station on JR Yamanote Line; 15 min. walk from Ueno Station on Ginza and Hibiya Subway Line and Keisei Ueno Station)

Date: January 20 (Tue.) - March 1 (Sun.)

Closed on Mondays.

Time: 9:30 - 17:00

Last entry 30min before the closing time.

Admission: ¥1,500

*Free tickets are available at the JICA Tokyo information desk on a first-come, first-served basis.

Masterpieces of Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen

20世紀のはじまり ピカソとクレーの生きた時代
ドイツ、ノルトライン＝ヴェストファーレン州立美術館所蔵

Nordrhein-Westfalen State museum in Düsseldorf, Germany was started when the governor bought 88 pieces of Klee's art in 1960. They have always been dedicated to collecting masterpieces regardless of expense even though they are a state-run museum. The superb collection made them known as one of the best museums in Europe. From among those notable collections 64 pieces of 23 artists are displayed at this exhibition. They are the works of Picasso and Klee and other popular artists like Matisse, Braque, Chagall, Magritte and some famous German artists. You can trace the development of art in the early 20th century in Europe in movements such as Fauvism, Cubism, Surrealism and Expressionism.

Pablo Picasso "Woman at the Mirror", 1937
© 2008-Succession Pablo Picasso-SPDA (JAPAN)
© Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf

Place: The Bunkamura Museum of Art (Bunkamura ザ・ミュージアム)
(7 min. walk from Shibuya Station of JR, Tokyu Toyoko, Ginza and Inokashira Lines. 5 min. walk from Shibuya Station on the Tokyu Denentoshi, Hanzomon and Fukutoshin Lines)

Date: January 2 (Fri.) - March 22 (Sun.)

Open every day during the exhibition

Time: 10:00 - 19:00 (till 21:00 on Fridays and Saturdays)

Last entry 30min before the closing time.

Admission: ¥1,400

*Free tickets are available at the JICA Tokyo information desk on a first come, first served basis.