

## New Director General's Inaugural Message

Dear newly arrived participants and ex-participants from all over the world,

Welcome to Japan and Hello from Tokyo! I am SASAKI, the newly appointed Director General of JICA Tokyo.

I have been engaged in the development assistance since 1980s, and over the past 30 years, I met many talented and enthusiastic people from developing countries, who became valuable assets for my career and enriched my life. In



1992, I was a training officer of JICA Kanagawa International Center (Now JICA Yokohama) in charge of "General Aquaculture Course" for three months. Ten participants joined the course and we became very close while conducting lectures, practices, sight visits and report making. In 2003, I was a Team Leader of Fisheries Development Division at JICA Headquarters, responsible for many fishery projects, among which was an aquaculture project in Africa. I was surprised when I visited Africa, to find out that the person in charge of the recipient government was the one who participated in the said course in 1992.



We had an emotional reunion and confirmed the ties that made the smooth implementation of the project possible. I felt the strong commitment of him to the

aquaculture development for the poor villagers in Africa.

Dear participants, you should be proud of yourself that you are selected as the representative of your government and to be here in Japan. With such a pride, you are also responsible to make use of what you will study and obtain during the course of the training program for yourself, for your organization and for your country. Now let me suggest you to not only think in your brain but also use your five senses in Japan. If you see, listen, touch, smell and taste with your body, those experiences will remain in your body which will surely motivate you take actions after you return to your country. "Seeing is Believing" and "Feeling is Motivating", I would say. Also, please foster the international network among the course participants and relevant Japanese which shall be the valuable asset in your life. I am sure that you may be reunited again and help each other to tackle the challenging issues, like I did.

Dear participants, I hope your stay in Japan shall be enjoyable and valuable. Dear ex-participants, I hope our relation gets tighter and meeting again in some parts of the world!



**Juichiro SASAKI,**  
*Director General, JICA Tokyo*



# Collaborating with SAKANA-KUN to Promote Commerce and Investment between Japan and Senegal

The Republic of Senegal was formerly known as the finish line of the “Paris-Dakar Rally”, and people who enjoy soccer also know Senegal as a leading competitor nation in the FIFA World Cup. From this country, came 11 fellow Senegalese representatives from the government and the private sector to JICA Tokyo’s Country Focused Training, “Seminar on Investment Opportunity in Senegal”.

The people who have made this trip to Japan are vice president of Senegalese public corporation responsible for investment in the country and national infrastructure projects, also government agency technical advisors and Directors General from each of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Facilities, the Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans and representatives of five enterprises which undertake import and export of agricultural and seafood products, four of them being C.E.O.s. The objective of this Program is to provide an opportunity to examine the efforts of Senegal’s future private sector promotion. To put it more gently, the mission is to introduce the investment and business environment of Senegal to Japanese private sector, especially agriculture and fishery business. This will lead to business opportunities in Senegal and Japan.

For Senegal’s training we collaborated with the Visiting Associate Professor of the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology named “Sakana-kun” who is popularly known also as an illustrator and a media talent with a pufferfish figure on his head. As a part of the training, the participants from Senegal and Sakana-kun visited the Tsukiji Fish Market very early in the morning and joined a talk about octopus. Senegal, along with neighboring Morocco and Mauritania exports large volumes of octopus to Japan (number one export to Japan in 2009) which is eaten as *TAKOYAKI* (octopus dumplings) and as *sashimi* sold in Japanese supermarkets. For this reason, the Senegalese are interested in octopus.



Sakana-kun and Senegalese participants at Tsukiji Fish Market

When the president of a Senegalese private enterprise was asked by Sakana-kun to distinguish between male and female octopus he immediately responded with the correct answer.



Participants observing Fish Market

However one can say the case with the octopus is rare. Though there is the potential possibility for investment from Japan, there is little information on Senegal available in Japan while there are enormous investment needs starting with infrastructure development in Senegal. Few Japanese companies know such conditions. With the aim of accelerating investment from Japanese companies, the Senegalese government has requested the dispatch of a Japanese Expert for Senegal’s Investment Promotion and Large-Scale Construction Public Corporation which is an investment window to national and international organiza-

tions. An understanding of the business environment and culture of Japan will be promoted through this expert, and on the other side will promote understanding of the investment environment in Senegal for Japanese companies, in doing so increased investment in Senegal is expected.



Japanese Business Persons at the Investment Seminar

The program on the second day of the training course, the “Senegal Investment Seminar”, held on Tuesday, April 9th and co-organized by JICA and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) included a description of the investment environment in Senegal, an introduction to the operations of Senegalese businesses, and a description of prior experiences of Japanese companies actually operating in Senegal (Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd.). 94.9% of respondents to an evaluation questionnaire given to participants during the seminar stated “the seminar provided useful information”.



Senegalese Participants observing a fishing port in Kanagawa Prefecture

The third and fourth day saw division into two teams, a fisheries team and an agriculture team, and through on-site visits learned about the management methods and quality demand of the Japanese market. The fisheries team toured a fishing port, a fish market, a fish processing plant and a retail location (supermarket). It was a rough overview but it was an opportunity to see the supply chain of marine products in Japan. Starting at 5 AM was a visit to the Tsukiji Fish Market. The members were impressed by the fresh fish in neat rows, as well as the large variety of live fish in tanks. They learned about the quality and spirit of delicate handling which the Japanese market demands and were impressed by the beauty of assorted *sashimi* seen on the sales floor by the company aiming to be the best in Japan, Kakujoe Corporation, which is sometimes presented on TV.



Sakana-kun also visited Senegal after the Program at JICA Tokyo

The participants stayed in Japan only for a week, and felt they used their time well as they had a very tight schedule of lectures and visits from morning till night. During their time in Japan, they got tired as the fisheries team was visiting

Tsukiji Fish Market starting at 5 AM and the agriculture team was visiting the Ota Market; however in coming to Japan we think they achieved their two goals of widely advertising to the Japanese officials about the investment environment of Senegal and understanding the business environment and culture of Japan, and the quality demanded by the Japanese market.

**Shinichi NOGUCHI**, Industrial Development and Finance Division, JICA Tokyo





# JICA Tokyo's Training Participants Took Part in "Africa-Japan Dialogue on Disability" -Efforts toward Disability Inclusive Development in Africa-



JICA Tokyo's course participants making presentation at the side event

From the first to third of June this year, the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) was held in the city of Yokohama. TICAD is an international conference designed to discuss on African Development and form international consensus on the ways to achieve the goals of inclusive and dynamic development of the region. It is the largest conference of this kind to be held out of Africa, and is based on the ownership of Africa and the partnership of the international community.

During the TICAD V, JICA organized a series of seminars as the side event to discuss the specific themes in accordance with the main agendas of the conference that are; 1. Robust and Sustainable Economy, 2. Inclusive and Resilient Society, and 3. Peace and Stability. Among such seminars was the "Africa- Japan Dialogue on Disability," held on the second of June at the JICA Yokohama Center. It was co-hosted by the Japan National Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International and by JICA to talk on inclusion of persons with disabilities in Africa's development. The side event focused on the participation of the persons with disabilities that is indispensable to the inclusive development, based on the awareness that persons with disabilities could make significant contributions to Africa's development, but they face various barriers that restrict their participation.



This thoughtful and energetic discussion of current challenges and future efforts to address the lives of persons with disabilities in Africa was attended by 102 people, including Andrew K. Dube, Chief Executive Officer of the Secretariat of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (SADPD). In this memorable event, there also were 11 JICA Tokyo Training Participants of the "Mainstreaming of Persons with Disabilities for African Countries" course representing 7 countries, namely Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa who came to discuss with the Japanese leaders with disabilities on the strategy to solve problems related to achieving the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) with regard to poverty reduction in particular.

Akihiko Tanaka, the President of JICA addressed to the au-

dience saying that he considers the participation of persons with disabilities is important in inclusive and dynamic development, which is the vision of JICA. He also stated that "the discussion in this event has significant meaning in implementing JICA's inclusive development in Africa and other regions. Nobuko Kayashima, Director General of JICA's Human Development Department, emphasized its efforts to empower persons with disabilities and to mainstream disability in its development works. The event brought together activists and practitioners who affirmed that inclusive development must include persons with disabilities and discussed their experiences and various issues that policy should address.



JICA's President Tanaka making address

Mr. Dube, in his keynote address, highlighted that persons with disabilities have contributed and continue to contribute to African development, and introduced SADPD's activities. JICA Tokyo's course participants explained the situations in each of their countries and challenges facing persons with disabilities in their countries and some of the policies and programs addressing them.



Mr. Andrew K. Dube shakes hands with President Tanaka

Before closing, the leaders with disabilities from Africa presented "Yokohama Declaration on Disability 2013 -Hand in Hand with a More Inclusive Africa" that urged international development communities to support the Second African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010-2019) and include persons with disabilities in the post-2015 agenda as well as TICAD V follow-up mechanism. The Declaration also requested international cooperation to accelerate implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

For the course participants, the participation in this TICAD V event must have been a precious and unforgettable experience. It is hoped that the concerns and proposals raised during dialogues to be reflected in the future policy decisions of the participating countries, and that the course participants take leading roles in realizing such policies.



Mr. Muzi Nkosi from South Africa presenting "Yokohama Declaration on Disability 2013"

# JICA Tokyo's Training and Dialogue

## Intellectual Disabilities in Community Activities

In developing countries, intellectual disabilities for which some sort of public assistance is available is estimated to be less than 10.0% of individuals with the disabilities as a whole, though there are no concrete statistics to support this. There are reports in some countries with this number being no greater than 0.4%. In many cases, family members of persons with intellectual disabilities help these individuals around the clock, and for those families which have to contend with a busy daily schedule this is no trivial burden.



Participants observing cleaning works by persons with intellectual disabilities

JICA Tokyo has designed and carried out “Intellectual Disabilities in Community Activities” training course starting in 1980 to enable individuals with intellectual disabilities to live some semblance of a healthy life, and has requested the “Japan League on Developmental Disabilities” (JLDD) to carry out this training program. To date, ministry officials responsible for the welfare, teachers at special needs schools, rehabilitation center staff, NGO staff involved in rural development, and others from 60 countries totaling 273 individuals have participated in this program. The program in 2013 is held in Cambodia and Japan (Tokyo, Nara, and Takayama city in Gifu Prefecture) from June 17, 2013 to August 10, 2013 with 12 individuals from 11 different countries planned to participate.

During the training period in Japan the participants, through visits and lectures, will come to have a true sense of the human rights issues individuals with intellectual disabilities face. Through this experience the participants will be able to grasp the issues and resources of their own countries by comparing them to the situation in Japan. In addition, they will be able to explore whether or not there is a way to support people with intellectual disabilities in their own countries which is “sustainable” and with a “large spreading effect.” In many cases, these countries are confronted with the fact that budgets, resources, as well as human resources are limited.



Participants practicing PLA method in Cambodia

Even in such a difficult situation, one must ask the question “Can the community in which those with intellectual disabilities live itself be used as a resource?” In doing so, many of the participants, will be able to start preparing in order to plan the activities of the local residents.

So, who should plan “Community activities to support people with intellectual disabilities” and how should they do it? If not the participants, nor the administrative officers of the central government, it should be the local residents themselves. However, the local residents often need assistance to plan these activities, in order to make it easier the participants will learn Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) techniques, an approach used widely in international development especially in communal development. For this reason, they will visit villages in Cambodia and encourage the villagers themselves to conduct a communal analysis using PLA. As a result, a deeper connection will develop irrespective of age or position, and all of the region’s residents will come to understand and recognize what kind of dwelling, activities, and assistance is necessary regardless of the presence or absence of disability.



### About Japan League on Developmental Disabilities:

Upon returning home, the participants will be encouraged to create “Community activities to support people with intellectual disabilities” through trial and error.

The organization that implements this Training and Dialogue Program is Japan League on Developmental Disabilities (JLDD), a Public Interest Incorporated Association based in Tokyo. JLDD was established in 1974 by national associations of teachers, national parents’ association, care workers and researchers for intellectually disabled persons. It aims to improve education and welfare services for persons with intellectual disabilities through cooperation among member NGOs and exchange of ideas, human resources and information throughout the world.

Since 1980, JLDD has been cooperating with JICA to implement the Training and Dialogue Program, “Intellectual Disabilities in Community Activities,” as part of its international cooperation and exchange activities.



Participants observing a special needs education class



Visit to a Sheltered Workshop in Takayama, Gifu Prefecture



Participants listen to the community members in Cambodian village



Junko Okura, Human Development Division, JICA Tokyo



# Programs July-September 2013

## Towards a Society with an Environmentally Sound Material-Cycle ~Seminar on Recycling Industrial Policy~

How many plastic shopping bags did you receive when you were at supermarkets or convenience stores this week?

How many cans or plastic PET bottles of drinks did you have? And where did you throw away that “garbage”?

Did you put the cans in a can recycling bin and the PET bottles in a PET bottle recycle bin?

It is easier to throw away all of your “garbage” into one collection box than making recycling efforts, but if you separate the garbage with a little bit of effort, then you can turn, at that moment, what everybody considers “garbage” into “resources”, and participate in the garbage-to-resource cycle. As simple as it may be to put your recyclables into the recycle bin, once they pile up that simple action can change into a big social movement.



Garbage collecting experience on Mt. Sarakura, Kitakyushu City

As a side effect of economic development and population growth, waste has become a serious social problem in many developing countries. In Japan, since the late 1970s, the commitment to recycling by national and local governments, as well as industry groups had begun, and municipalities began to conduct source separation program in which citizens dispose recyclable waste and other waste separately. Then in the late 1990s, recycling systems based on law, such as the Containers and Packaging Recycling Law were put into place, and now the building of a society with an environmentally sound material cycle through the promotion of 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), has become listed as a national goal.

In many developing countries however, efforts to nurture the recycling industry, such as quality control of recycled products and policy making for the development of recycling industry have not yet shown expected outcomes, since the recycling is always subject to market principles. As the movement of goods and services across borders through globalization increases, efforts into finding cross-border approaches towards a recycling-oriented society are necessary.



A classroom session on sorted garbage collection



Participants checking recycle bins at a shopping mall

JICA Tokyo's Training and Dialogue Program “Seminar on Recycling Industrial Policy” is intended to provide some tips for the implementation of issue identification and policy planning, and in the progression of the movement of strengthening cooperation toward economic integration of ASEAN countries in 2015, participants from Asian countries will deepen mutual understanding over recycling for the main part, and see waste in Asian countries as coming from one region. During the training period of approximately 3 weeks, participants attend lectures from local governments and relevant ministries to learn the efforts of local governments and the Japanese policies towards a society with an environmentally sound material cycle, in addition to lectures on surveys conducted by Institute of Developing Economies in the Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO), which is the implementing

agency for this course, regarding current situation over recycling in Asian countries. Municipal waste recovery sites, a variety of recycling plants, environmental education facilities to promote the understanding of citizens, as well as Eco-town, which deploys a regional policy that integrates industrial development policies and environmental policies, are also included in a course of lectures and visits.

“Everything in Japan is recycled!” One of the participants expressed her palpable surprise when we visited Kitakyushu city and the Kitakyushu Eco-Town seeing a highly developed recycling plant, where efforts to build a recycling-oriented society by the municipality with the participation of a variety of people over the entire region is underway. In contrast to the establishment of such an advanced recycling system, there was also a visit to Teshima where even now there are continuing efforts to clean up the illegal dumping of industrial waste which was a very large issue in the 1980s. In addition, we also stopped at a collection box at a shopping mall where the local citizens participate by separating their recyclables easily and in a location close to them of such things as small home electronic devices and cardboard milk containers which they have purchased, and the participants were able to see how recycling efforts in Japan have developed and are now rooted in everyday life.



A visit to garbage collection site on the road

By seeing these efforts in Japan the participants all expressed their surprise, and they also grasped an understanding of the problems which Japan once faced, considering what kind of efforts will be required in their own countries for the future. Before this year's summer course begins, the plans are progressing to reflect the needs of the participating countries, so as to spread the knowledge further.



A visit to paper recycling factory

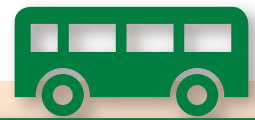
### About Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO):

The Institute of Developing Economies (IDE) is a research institution affiliated with JETRO, an incorporated administrative agency to promote trade and investment between Japan and the rest of the world. IDE aims to make intellectual contributions to the world as a leading center of social-science research on developing regions by accumulating locally-grounded knowledge on these areas, clarifying the conditions and issues they are facing, and disseminating a better understanding of these areas both domestically and abroad. These activities provide an intellectual foundation to facilitate cooperation between Japan and the international community for addressing development issues.



Kazumi Kubota

**Michikazu KOJIMA**, Senior Research Fellow, IDE-JETRO  
/ **Kazumi KUBOTA**, Economic Infrastructure and the Environment Division, JICA Tokyo



# Come Join JICA Tokyo's Bus Tour!



The bus arrives at National Diet Building

Starting this May, JICA Tokyo now offers its course participants half-day bus tours around major tourist spots in Tokyo as recreational activities and as opportunities to know about Japanese society and culture. On a clear, refreshing early summer Saturday, a group of 25 participants set out from JICA Tokyo for the Bus Tour held for the first time. The group left JICA Tokyo at 9 a.m. heading to the first destination, the National Diet Building.

## National Diet Building Overview

The current building in which the parliament is held was constructed in 1936 as the Imperial Diet. The building's construction has three aboveground floors and one below ground floor and from a position facing the building, the right side is the Upper House and the left side is the House of Representatives. It was built in November 1936 and was at the time the highest level of architecture in Japan. In the same year the 70th Imperial Diet was convened on December 24 and it has been in use ever since.



In front of the National Diet Building

After the participants spent some time in front of the National Diet Building taking pictures and exploring, we moved on to our next destination, the Imperial Palace.



Participants at the Nijubashi, the Bridge to the Imperial Palace

## Imperial Palace Overview

Edo Castle, as it was referred to in those days, was the traditional home of the Tokugawa shogunate (Military regime), it became the Imperial Palace in 1868. In the Imperial Palace complex there are several buildings including the residence of the Emperor and Empress, a palace for various official events, the Imperial Household Agency buildings, the Momijiyama cocoonery where the Empress raises silk worms to weave silk, and the Tokagakudo (Imperial Concert Hall). The Imperial Palace is located in the very center of Tokyo and is currently a popular place for jogging through the green area surrounding the moat.

At the Palace, there were many findings, as some participants learned for the first time that in Japan there is an Emperor, not a King. Other participants interacted with a group of elemen-



Group photo at the Imperial Palace

tary school students on a field trip. Also, there was a marathon race held in the vicinity. The runners looked in good health as they ran around the lush green palace grounds and the participants seemed to be receiving a lot of energy from them.

After we left the Imperial Palace and passed by Tokyo station which had been renovated for the first time in 70 years, we passed by Akihabara, Ueno and arrived at Asakusa, our final destination.



Kaminarimon is Senso-ji's main gate

## Asakusa Overview



Participants posing at Kaminarimon

During the Edo period and earlier, Asakusa flourished as the City's premier downtown area. Following the Great Kanto Earthquake in which a large portion of the district was destroyed, it was reconstructed under a modern city plan including wider roads. It was devastated again in the World War II but made a remarkable recovery after that. In the present day, more than 20 million people per year from both Japan and abroad visit this area. From deep in the past, the entrance to the Senso-ji Temple has been a landmark in the Asakusa area and is known as the "Kaminarimon," the gate of the gods of wind and thunder and as you approach the temple on your right is a statue of the god of wind and on your left is a statue of the god of thunder. The Tokyo Sky Tree also gives a good accent Asakusa's landscape.



The crowd at Senso-ji to see the festival

On the day of the bus tour the Sanja Festival was being held in Asakusa and while the participants were surprised to see so many spectators, they were also able to see a portable shrine and walk from the "Kaminarimon" down Naka-Mise street to Senso-ji purchasing souvenirs along the way. It was an enjoyable time.

After leaving Asakusa, the bus passed over the Rainbow Bridge where voices of admiration could be heard as the Tokyo Tower and Sky Tree came into view. The participants came back to JICA Tokyo at 1 p.m. having a chance to become closer, saying they felt refreshed and looked forward to the training starting from Monday as they got off the bus.

We plan to have one or two bus tours per month from here forward, and we hope that all of the participants will be able to join us for some more interesting tours.



**Makiko SHIMOMURA**, Economic Infrastructure Development and Environment Division, JICA Tokyo



# Shall We Go to the Beaches?

The hot days of summer have arrived, and summer in Japan means a trip to the ocean. Like many people I like summer, I like the ocean, and I really like to spend time on the beaches. So, for this newsletter let me introduce some ways to spend time at an ocean spot close to you on a weekend getaway.



A beach near Enoshima

Looking at a map of the Tokyo area you'll soon see that to the southeast is Tokyo Bay, to the south Kanagawa Prefecture and to the east is Chiba Prefecture, and both face the ocean. The Shonan area of Kanagawa is easy to access and has easily reachable beaches. It is because of this reason that the summer season attracts a great many people, a great many shops, and gives one the feeling of a beach resort but near Tokyo.

So, how do I get to Shonan from JICA Tokyo? It is not far, about 45 km away. From JICA Tokyo to Enoshima, which is the most popular spot in Shonan, take the Odakyu Line from Yoyogi Uehara Station towards Odawara, and when you arrive at Fujisawa Station transfer to the train going to Katase Enoshima. It takes approximately one hour 20 minutes and costs 610 yen.

If you get off the train at Kugenuma Kaigan Station, one station before Katase Enoshima Station, you can go to Kugenuma Beach, another popular beach area. Walk towards the ocean approximately 5 minutes and you will soon see a wide beach spread out before you. Many surfers enjoy the waves on this beach.



A typical Uminoie, a house of the sea on a beach in Chiba Prefecture

During Midsummer the beaches at Shonan are crowded with many people. It sometimes seems as though it will be difficult to find even a place to sit down. At many beaches there is what is called *Umi-no-ie*, meaning "house of the sea" where you can find many shops doing business only during the summer season such as showers, lockers, and concession stands. It is common to use businesses like these while enjoying the beach. Take care not to accidentally sit in the deck chairs on the beach because even these cost money to use. If you sit down thinking they are free, the shop master might shout at you. It is important to keep in mind that everything in Japan costs money to use.

While the most popular activity on the beaches is swimming or bathing, other ways to enjoy the ocean include marine sports like surfing, windsurfing and others. The water around Shonan area is kind of murky and not suitable for snorkeling. You might not even see your own outstretched hands underwater so do not expect to see any fish. Not to worry though, if you wish to see fish you can visit the aquarium. The Enoshima Aquarium near Enoshima is a large aquarium that will allow you to observe many marine organisms and costs 2,000 yen for admission. You will be able to enjoy not only the ecology of various ma-

rine life but also shows with sea lions and dolphins.

The most authentic way to enjoy time on the beach in Japan might be to have *Kakigori*, shaved ice at the "house of the sea". There are sirups with many flavors available so you can choose your flavor or color. The Midsummer sun does not just make the air temperature hot but will also make you hot, so make sure you cool off by having some shaved ice which will help you to avoid getting sunstroke.

At night, you can enjoy the Japanese summer with fireworks, particularly a sparkler. People are often fascinated by flashy fireworks; however sparklers are quiet and gradually fade away into the night which is pleasing to the modest Japanese sense of aesthetics. Many young people associate a fleeting summer love with the sparkler. I did when I was young too. Sparklers can be easily purchased at a convenience store. Please make sure to clean up after having some fun with fireworks, let's keep the beaches clean.



Senko Hanabi or sparkler is still favorite for many Japanese

We hope that you will have a great deal of fun on the beaches of Japan this summer, however there are a few things to keep in mind. Sunny days can become very hot so take care not to succumb to heatstroke, and make sure to apply plenty of sunscreen to your skin to avoid excessive UV exposure and wear eye protection or sunglasses to protect your eyes.

If you plan to go swimming in the ocean, be sure to have some warm-up exercises first and avoid swimming after consuming alcohol. Be careful when bathing in the sea not to be hit by some surfers as the beaches become very crowded on weekends and holidays. I have personally been hit by another surfer's surfboard while surfing myself and got injured, and I also have had the experience of being scolded by an older gentleman whom I almost hit with my surfboard. In Japan we have an expression "earthquake, lightning, fire, an old man's anger", these represent the scariest things one can imagine, and on that day I came to completely understand that expression.



Enoshima Dentetsu, or ENO-DEN as popularly called, runs along the coast

In conclusion, the perfect end to a fun day at the beach in Shonan would be to stop at, Kamakura and purchase a wind chime as a souvenir. To get to Kamakura, I recommend taking the Enoshima Electric Railway which runs along the coast from Katase Enoshima you can enjoy the scenery on your way to Kamakura. During the hot summer it has been popular since older days to try to escape the summer heat by listening to the cool tinkling sounds of a wind chime. I hope that by listening to the sound you will feel the summer, and that your memories of Japanese summer will last forever.

**Akhide TAKEO**, Industrial Development and the Finance Division, JICA Tokyo



# Recreational Activities for Course Participants July – September 2013



JICA Tokyo offers various types of recreational activities and cultural events to its course participants throughout the year so that the Participants can enjoy their stay in Japan and get to know the country. These events will surely enrich your experience with JICA Tokyo by adding an accent to it and bring you unforgettable memories that last for your lifetime. Here are the upcoming activities prepared by JICA Tokyo during this season from July to September.

## ◆Bon Odori and Disco Night (July 19)

*Bon Odori* is a traditional Japanese dance performed in summer. Skilled members of Shibuya International Friendship Association will show you how to dance Shibuya-Ondo, a local version of Bon Odori! You will also enjoy other kind of music and dancing ranging from Latin American to Asian, Middle Eastern and African. It is the best way to enjoy Japanese summer.



Participants dancing Shibuya-Ondo

## ◆Bus Tours (July 13, August 3, 24, September 14, 28)

This Saturday half-day-tour around Tokyo in “JICA Bus” is described in page 6. You will visit most popular tourist spots in Tokyo!

## ◆Yukata Experience and Bon Dance Party (August 30)

*Yukata* is traditional Japanese summer clothing, worn especially in summer festivals and firework exhibitions. You can wear this *yukata* with help of Shibuya International Friendship Association members and enjoy dancing *Bon Odori* and other activities.



Participants in *Yukata* enjoying *Bon Odori*



Participants in *yukata* playing with Japanese toys

## ◆Trip to Kamakura

(July 27, August 18, September 7)

Kamakura is a city about 50 kilometers southwest of Tokyo, which served as the capital of the first military government of Samurai warriors between 1192 and 1333. The city is therefore full of old temples and shrines that originated in this era, and keeps austere and imposing atmosphere. The tour is guided by volunteer guide group, Kanagawa Systematized Goodwill Guide (KSGG). The tour on September 7 includes visit to Enoshima.



Great Buddha of Kamakura



Participants riding a rickshaw in Kamakura

To find out the details of these activities, or exact schedule, please come to the Information Desk at JICA Communication Plaza. Friendly staff will help you book for these events. We will be waiting for you!

# MUSEUM

## Harry Potter™ : The Exhibition

The magical world of Harry Potter, everyone's favorite wizard of the fantasy novel and movie series has come to Tokyo! The exhibition features real stage properties, costumes and creatures used in the movie series, so once you enter the exhibition, you will be completely immersed in Harry Potter's world, being inside the classrooms and dormitory of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry or the Forbidden Forest. Guests are greeted by an exhibit host who sorts several lucky attendees into their favorite Hogwarts houses, then leads them inside the exhibition where their journey to favorite scenes from the Harry Potter films begins.

In addition, you will surely enjoy the interactive elements of the exhibition. Guests can enter the Quidditch area and toss a Quaffle ball, pull their own Mandrake in the Herbology classroom vignette, and even tour a re-creation of Hagrid's hut and sit in his giant-sized armchair (If you don't know these proper names, please search the web).

To view the exhibition, please note that you need to make reservation designating the date and time of your visit, and purchase the ticket in advance. For detailed booking information, please check the official website in English at the URL below.

Photo:©Warner Bros.

URL : <http://www.harrypotterexhibition.jp/english/index.html>

**Place:** MORI ARTS CENTER GALLERY  
(森アーツセンターギャラリー)

4-minutes-walk from Exit No.3 of Roppongi Station on Toei Oedo Line

**Date:** June 22(Sat)-September 16 (Mon)  
Open every day

**Time:** 10:00 ~ 22:00 (last entry 21:00)

**Admission:** ¥2,500

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