



Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

GENERAL INFORMATION ON

AGRICULTURAL POLICY (B)

課題別研修「農業政策 (B)」

JFY 2017

NO. J17-04325 / ID. 1784948

Course Period in Japan: From February 12 to February 24, 2018

This information pertains to one of the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which shall be 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)' as a New Start

In the Development Cooperation Charter which was released from the Japanese Cabinet on February 2015, it is clearly pointed out that *"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."* We believe that this 'Knowledge Co-Creation Program' will serve as a center of mutual learning process.

I. Concept

Background

Modern agriculture has progressed much over the past century. A major breakthrough in productivity and production was seen especially after the Green Revolution which began in 1960; however, global levels of hunger have remained high constantly over the same period. We're still facing challenges to improve access to food and the well-being of the impoverished in particular. In developing countries, most of the vulnerable groups depend on agriculture as their main source of livelihoods; therefore the development of sustainable agriculture is important for poverty reduction and is the key to achieving food security and improved nutrition.

For poverty alleviation, not only the monetary support and assistance, but also the firm tackling of issues on sustainable increment in agricultural production is strongly needed. On this approach to poverty alleviation, to accurately grasp the present situation and condition of agriculture in his / her country for deciding the heading direction, appropriate planning and execution of proper agricultural policy is very important.

In connection with this approach, tackling agricultural policy planning at the macro level will become a guideline or conceptual base to consider the relevance and effectiveness of the planning and execution of agricultural development at the micro level. Also, as this process is the conceptual base for formulating various approaches and frames of agricultural development in the country, efficient planning and execution of agricultural policy is highly expected.

For what?

Japanese-type legal and institutional systems in agricultural administration consist of various techniques, knowledge, skill-sets and organizations to support high agricultural productivity on family-oriented medium- and small- scale farming systems. Through learning these issues, this program aims for target countries to consider and select technology and systems which are efficiently adoptable and applicable in their own countries, and to formulate a Proposal on Agricultural Policy Review for the improvement of the existing policies, so as to contribute to sustainable agricultural development.

For whom?

This programme is offered to high-ranking officials at central or major local governments (Ministry/Agency) who are responsible for agricultural policy formulation, planning and implementation.

How?

“Policy” in this programme mainly refers to the agricultural policies that are

reviewed every 5 to 10 years. This programme aims to provide an opportunity for government officials to gain a new perspective and develop the capacity of policy making by sharing Japan's experience and current status in agricultural policy development through lectures and site-visits. As for Japan's agricultural policy, it focuses on "Japan's Basic Plan for Food Agriculture and Rural Areas", which is Japan's agricultural policy direction for the next 10 years, is revised every five years. Also, the programme encourages mutual learning among participants through debates among participants. In debates, they will explore how policies of participants' countries can be improved by exchanging and comparing experiences and practices.

At the end of the programme, the participants will prepare a proposal on Agricultural Policy Review and they will share it with the participants' organization, other organizations concerned and stake holders in order to improve the existing policy.

II. Description

1. Title (J-No.): Agricultural Policy (B)(J1704325)

2. Course Period in JAPAN

February 12 to February 24, 2018

3. Target Regions or Countries

Armenia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine

4. Eligible / Target Organization

This program is designed for Department / Bureau concerned to agricultural policy planning, in Central Government (Ministry / Agency), in principal, responsible for agricultural administration.

5. Course Capacity (Upper limit of Participants)

10 participants

6. Language to be used in this program: Russian

7. Course Objective:

Central or major local government executive officials will understand Japan's historical experiences and the current status, as well as deepen the capacity for policy making through lectures, site-visits and mutual learning among participants, and will make a proposal on the existing policy.

8. Overall Goal

Proposal on the existing policy by the participants is reflected in the next policy planning and a new policy which contributes to resolve issues in the agricultural sector is formulated.

9. Expected Module Output and Contents:

In this programme, "Policy" mainly refers to agricultural policies, which are reviewed every 5 to 10 years.

< Expected Module Output >

1. Current status and issues of agricultural policy in participants' countries are clarified and shared with other participants.
2. History and current status of agricultural policy in Japan is understood.
3. Drawing upon the knowledge and techniques obtained in the training, a proposal on the existing agricultural policy is prepared.

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

(1) Preliminary Phase in a participant's home country (From December 2017 to February 2018)	
Assignment	Purpose
Inception Report Writing	<u>Each participant is required to prepare an Inception Report</u> on challenges in the agricultural sector, the current status of agricultural policy in the participant's country. (VI.ANNEX: Contents of Inception Report)

(2) Core Phase in Japan (From February 12 to February 24, 2018)	
Expected Module Output	Contents
1. Current status and issues of agricultural policy in participants' countries are clarified and shared with other participants.	<p>【Presentation and discussion】 Presentation of Inception report and discussion session will be held at the beginning of the program.</p>
2. History and current status of agricultural policy in Japan is understood .	<p>【Lecture/discussion/site-visits】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - History of challenges in agricultural sector and agricultural policy in Japan after the Second World War are to be introduced. - The roles of each stakeholder(national, prefectural and municipal level governments and other related organizations) in agricultural policy making and implementation are to be explained - The policy implementation at prefectural level is to be introduced though a visit. - Discussions in the lectures are to be held for exchanging ideas and deepening understanding of new knowledge among participants.

<p>3. Drawing upon the knowledge and techniques obtained in the training, a proposal on the existing agricultural policy is prepared.</p>	<p>【Preparation and presentation of Proposal on Agricultural Policy Review /discussion】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personal guidance is given to the participants by instructors to support preparation of the Proposal on Agricultural Policy Review. - Presentation and discussion on the Proposal on Agricultural Policy Review is held at the end of the program. - Participants are expected to present and share the report in their organizations after returning to their countries.
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III. Conditions and Procedures for Application

1. Expectations from the Participating Organizations:

- (1) This program is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operation. Participating organizations are expected to use the project for those specific purposes.
- (2) This program is enriched with contents and facilitation schemes specially developed in collaboration with relevant prominent organizations in Japan. These special features enable the project to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.

2. Nominee Qualifications:

Applying Organizations are expected to select nominees who meet the following qualifications.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: Be a high-ranking officer in central or major local government having an organizational position to be equal to or above director level(preferably director-general / deputy director-general) and must be involved in policy formulation, planning and implementation.
- 2) Experience in the relevant field: have more than 10 years' experience in policy-making, -planning and -implementation.
- 3) Educational Background: be a university graduate
- 4) Language: have a competent command of spoken and written Russian
- 5) Health: must be in good health, both physically and mentally, to participate in the Program in Japan. Pregnant applicants are not recommended to apply due to the potential risk of health and life issues of mother and fetus.

(2) Recommendable Qualifications

- 1) Expectations for the Participants: Nominees should continue present job/post (policy planning) at least 1 year
- 2) It is desirable that nominees are involved with a JICA project.

3. Required Documents for Application

(1) **Application Form:** The Application Form is available at **the JICA office (or the Embassy of Japan).**

*The Application Form should be typewritten on the paper of A4 size. Both of the documents are essential materials for screening applicants.

(2) **Photocopy of passport:** to be submitted 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.

*Photocopy should include the followings:

Name, Date of birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport number and Expire date.

(3) **Inception Report:** to be submitted with the application form (VI.ANNEX: Contents of Inception Report)

(4) **Organizational Chart**

Please draw or attach the organizational chart and circle your department.

4. Procedures for Application and Selection :

(1) **Submission of the Application Documents:**

Closing date for applications: Please inquire to the JICA office (or the Embassy of Japan).

After receiving applications, the JICA office (or the Embassy of Japan) will send them to the JICA Center in JAPAN by **December 8, 2017**

(2) **Selection:**

After receiving the documents through proper channels from your government, the JICA office (or the embassy of Japan) will conduct screenings, and then forward the documents to the JICA Center in Japan. Selection will be made by the JICA Center in consultation with concerned organizations in Japan. *The applying organization with the best intention to utilize the opportunity of this program will be highly valued in the selection.* Qualifications of applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military will be examined by the Government of Japan on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan, taking into consideration their duties, positions in the organization, and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner.

(3) **Notice of Acceptance**

Notification of results will be made by the JICA office (or the Embassy of Japan) not later than **January 12, 2018.**

5. Conditions for Attendance:

- (1) to strictly adhere to the program schedule.
- (2) not to change the program topics.
- (3) not to extend the period of stay in Japan.
- (4) not to be accompanied by family members during the program.
- (5) to return to home countries at the end of the program in accordance with the travel schedule designated by JICA.
- (6) to refrain from engaging in any political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain.
- (7) to observe Japanese laws and ordinances. If there is any violation of said laws and ordinances, participants may be required to return part or all of the training expenditure depending on the severity of said violation.
- (8) to observe the rules and regulations of the accommodation and not to change the accommodation designated by JICA.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer:

- (1) **Name:** JICA Hokkaido International Center in Obihiro (OBIC)
- (2) **Contact:** Ms. AKASAKA Kiyono(jicaobic@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner: Under consideration

Travel to Japan:

- (1) **Air Ticket:** The cost of a round-trip ticket between an international airport designated by JICA and Japan will be borne by JICA.
- (2) **Travel Insurance:** Coverage is from time of arrival up to departure in Japan. Thus traveling time outside Japan will not be covered.

3. Accommodation in Japan:

JICA will arrange the following accommodations for the participants in Japan:

JICA Hokkaido International Center (Obihiro)
Address: 1-2, Minami 6, Nishi 20, Obihiro, Hokkaido, 080-2470, Japan
TEL: 81-155-35-1210 FAX: 81-155-35-1250
(where "81" is the country code for Japan, and "155" is the local area code)

If there is no vacancy at JICA Hokkaido International Center (Obihiro), JICA will arrange alternative accommodations for the participants.

4. Expenses:

The following expenses will be provided for the participants by JICA:

- (1) Allowances for accommodation, meals, living expenses, outfit, and shipping
- (2) Expenses for study tours (basically in the form of train tickets.)
- (3) Free medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (costs

related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are not included)

(4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials

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.

5. Pre-departure Orientation:

A pre-departure orientation will be held at the respective country’s JICA office (or Japanese Embassy), to provide participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the workshop, and other matters.

V. Other Information

1. Notes for belongings

During the Core phase in Japan, a laptop computer will be necessary for making a Proposal on Agricultural Policy Review. It is highly recommendable for the participants to bring their own private computer (It is also recommendable to install anti-virus software and periodically check your computer and any memory media with it.) In JICA Obihiro, common computers in the Computer Room are available for internet, preparing a proposal, etc., but they’re limited in number.

2. Certificate

Participants who have successfully completed the training program will be awarded a certificate by JICA.

3. Medical history

In case you have or have had malaria, you are requested to bring the medicine for malaria with you because it is quite difficult to obtain it in Japan.

4. Climate

The climate condition in Obihiro is given below. Participants are advised to prepare appropriate clothes.

		Winter		/ Spring		/ Summer		/ Autumn		/ Winter			
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature (°C)	Maximum	-1.9	-0.6	4.0	11.9	17.6	20.8	23.5	25.2	21.5	15.6	8.0	1.1
	Average	-7.5	-6.2	-1.0	5.8	11.1	14.8	18.3	20.2	16.3	10.0	3.2	-3.7
	Minimum	-13.7	-12.6	-6.0	0.6	5.7	10.3	14.5	16.4	12.1	4.8	-1.5	-8.9
Humidity (%)		70	68	66	66	69	79	83	82	79	73	68	68
Precipitation (mm)		42.8	24.9	42.4	58.9	81.0	75.5	106.4	139.1	138.1	75.0	57.6	46.1

(Japan Meteorological Agency 1981-2010 in average)

5. Currency Exchange

Participants are advised to exchange local currency to Japanese currency on your arrival in Narita (Haneda) airport if it is needed, since there is not enough time for currency exchange during training program.

6. Items to be lent to participants by JICA

JICA provides participants with the following necessary items during the training period;

1) winter shoes 2) winter jacket

*Therefore, participants don't need to bring own items above.

VI. ANNEX: Contents of Inception Report

- ◆ **Participants are required to submit an Inception Report with the Application Form**
- ◆ The report should be typewritten in English on A4 size paper (21 cm x 29.5 cm) in single spacing at maximum of 6 pages.
- ◆ Presentation of Inception Report and discussion session will be held at the beginning of the programme in Japan. Participants will be asked to make a presentation on the Inception Report in 10 - 15 mins, therefore it is requested to prepare a presentation material using Power Point before coming to Japan.
- ◆ **At the end of the programme in Japan, you will make a proposal on the existing policy, which contributes to resolve the key policy issues described in the Inception Report.**

Inception report shall contain the following information.

1. Basic Information of nominee

Name	
Organization	
Position	
Responsibility / Activities	
Organizational chart/ structure	*Please draw or attach the organizational chart and <u>circle your position</u> . *Organizational chart can be attached to the last page of this report

2. Country overview

Land	
Geographical Features	
Climate	
Population/population growth	
Economy	
Basic characteristics of Agriculture sector	
Share and growth of Agricultural sector in GDP	

3. Current status of Agricultural policy

3-1. Describe main goals and objectives of the current agricultural policy in your country.

3-2. Describe key policy issues and concerns in the agricultural sector in your country, analyze the causes.

3-3. Describe the existing policy and the government's initiatives against the above mentioned issues and problems(3-2) and its effectiveness

3-4. Select an issue and the policy measure against it on which you would like to focus and make a proposal during the programme in Japan.

4. Others

Describe your expectation for this programme such as what kind of knowledge and technique you would like to acquire and its utilization plan in your organization after returning to your country.

End

For Your Reference

JICA and Capacity Development

The key concept underpinning JICA operations since its establishment in 1974 has been the conviction that “capacity development” is central to the socioeconomic development of any country, regardless of the specific operational scheme one may be undertaking, i.e. expert assignments, development projects, development study projects, training programs, JOCV programs, etc.

Within this wide range of programs, Training Programs have long occupied an important place in JICA operations. Conducted in Japan, they provide partner countries with opportunities to acquire practical knowledge accumulated in Japanese society. Participants dispatched by partner countries might find useful knowledge and re-create their own knowledge for enhancement of their own capacity or that of the organization and society to which they belong.

About 460 pre-organized programs 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 are being customized to address the specific needs of different target organizations, 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 was the first non-Western country to successfully modernize its society and industrialize its economy. At the core of this process, which started more than 140 years ago, was the “*adopt and adapt*” concept by which a wide range of appropriate skills and knowledge have been imported from developed countries; these skills and knowledge have been adapted and/or improved using local skills, knowledge and initiatives. They finally became internalized in Japanese society to suit its local needs and conditions.

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 this “*adoption and adaptation*” process, which, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories. We presume that such experiences, both successful and unsuccessful, will be useful to our partners who are trying to address the challenges currently faced by developing countries.

However, it is rather challenging to share with our partners this whole body of Japan’s developmental experience. This difficulty has to do, in part, with the challenge of explaining a body of “tacit knowledge,” a type of knowledge that cannot fully be expressed in words or numbers. Adding to this difficulty are the social and cultural systems of Japan that vastly differ from those of other Western industrialized countries, and hence still remain unfamiliar to many partner countries. Simply stated, coming to Japan might be one way of overcoming such a cultural gap.

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.



CORRESPONDENCE

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

JICA Hokkaido International Center in Obihiro (OBIC)

Address: 1-2, Minami 6-chome, Nishi 20-jo, Obihiro-city, Hokkaido, 080-2470, Japan

TEL: +81-155-35-1210 FAX: +81-155-35-1250

Website: www.jica.go.jp/english/

E-mail: jicaobic@jica.go.jp