

Bringing you news of projects at the JICA Yokohama Center and reports on trainee activities!

For details, see the JICA Yokohama website → <http://www.jica.go.jp/yokohama/index.html>

Africa Business Seminar in Yokohama

On December 17, 2014, an African Business Seminar was held at JICA Yokohama. The event was sponsored by JICA Yokohama, Yokohama City and JETRO. The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) held in Yokohama served as a springboard for the seminar, which brought together nearly 100 people involved in business, who listened intently to lectures by seminar presenters. The presentations gave listeners easy-to-understand overviews of economic and investment trends in Africa, as well as risk factors involving the African economy and suggestions for opening up new markets. Participants went away with heightened interest in business possibilities.



Community Disaster Project Underway in Iloilo City in the Philippines



A workshop underway

The City of Iloilo, on Panay Island in the Philippines, is vulnerable to typhoons and other natural disasters. Yokohama City is helping to strengthen disaster response capabilities in small village communities called barangays. Since July 2012, we have been helping to create disaster manuals and carry out disaster drills, with strongly positive outcomes. However, much remains to be done, and a new project is planned for implementation after the current project ends this March. We will be presenting a report of our activities at the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai City in March.

Learning About Sludge Treatment in Japan



Trainees discuss future issues to be addressed by Cebu City

In January 2014, as part of a JICA project, Amcon Inc., located in Kohoku Ward in Yokohama City, began building a sludge treatment facility equipped with patented sludge dewatering machinery in Cebu City in the Philippines. As part of the project, Amcon has provided assistance in management and maintenance control, and has helped strengthen sludge management at the facility. Cebu has been struggling with the problem of private contractors dumping raw sewage collected from household septic tanks directly into rivers and the sea, but, with Amcon's cooperation, is creating environmentally friendly urban planning. Four trainees from the Cebu City Office visited Yokohama in November 2014 to learn about Japan's sludge treatment.

African Trainees Visit Schools

On November 6, 2014, 15 trainees from Africa (Tanzania/Malawi) visited the Konandai Daisan Elementary School and joined 55 4th-graders in a classroom session on city water conducted by the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau. The Bureau conducts the seminars to teach residents about the importance of water. The experience provided a chance to interact and learn about African cultural and social diversity, and to teach elementary school students about city water.



Joining in a filtering test

Overseas Teacher Trainees Gain Experience in Tanzania

Ten teachers from Kanagawa Prefecture and Yamanashi Prefecture took part in overseas training in the United Republic of Tanzania from August 12 until 20, 2014. At a debriefing session held by the Kanagawa Prefecture Board of Education in September, five of the teachers reported that they would like to tell students at the school about the current situation in Tanzania, based on the valuable experience they gained through the training.



Teachers gather around board chairman Mr. Kiritani

Taking the Taste of Japan to Brazil

Thais Ayumi Shimada, a third-generation Japanese-Brazilian, grows fruits and vegetables in Brazil. In order to learn technologies for creating healthy fermented foods using agricultural products, she took part in training at the Tokyo University of Agriculture. After completing the seven-month training, she held a debriefing session in December, at which she talked about traditional ways of making soy sauce that she had learned during the training, as well as mechanisms for bringing out delicious natural flavors and analyzing ingredients. She spent six months making her own soy sauce and bringing it to a fully mature stage.



Left: Pressing out the soy sauce
Right: Analyzing ingredients

Trainees from Philippines Take Part in Yokohama Women's Business Festival 2014



The Assistant Secretary of the Philippines Ministry of Trade and Industry (left) was a special guest.

The Yokohama Women's Business Festival 2014 was held in November 2014, with cooperation from Yokohama City. Eighteen people from the Philippines Ministry of Trade and Industry, among them the Assistant Secretary, took part. Yokohama City provides support to help women play an active role in society and to start their own businesses and is conducting a project called "Japan-Africa Businesswomen's Exchange" with JICA. Yokohama City has also concluded a partnership agreement with Cebu City in the Philippines, and female entrepreneurs from Cebu and other cities in the Philippines were able to meet with women active in business in Yokohama during the Festival, and hear about their work and other efforts.

Learning About Marine Environment Preservation From the Japan Coast Guard



Installing an oil fence

A total of 20 employees involved in Coast Guard agencies in Southeast Asia and 11 other countries took part in training held at the Maritime Disaster Prevention Center in October 2014, and were introduced to the knowledge, technology and efforts carried out by the Japan Coast Guard in marine salvage, marine disaster prevention, and ocean environment preservation. They learned how to erect oil fences to contain oil in the event of an oil spill at sea, as well as how to recover and dispose of oil. Lectures focused on actual accidents and incidents that have happened in Japan, and trainees listened attentively to the information presented.



Observing changes in oil

Event Reports

Yokohama International Festa 2014 Held

A total of 46,000 people attended the Yokohama International Festa held at Elephant Nose Park in Yokohama on October 18 and 19, 2014.



Under sunny skies, people experienced for themselves how Japan is connected to the rest of the world. The festivities were livened by events such as an area for trying on national costumes and by workshops held by JICA Yokohama trainees, such as "Let's Play Worldwide Games Like Tag!" and "What Country Is This? Guess World Countries".

International Festa in Yamanashi

The International Festa 2014, a commemorative event held by the people of Yamanashi Prefecture, was held in Yamanashi Prefecture on November 15 and 16, 2014.

Attendees enjoyed African music, traditional music and songs of the Andes, cuisine from Brazil, India, Thailand, Korea and other countries, and many other events that contributed to a lively and international ambience.



Japanese Overseas Migration Museum Information

From now until Sunday, February 15
Special exhibit at the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum
Manga in 3 Languages: Overseas Japanese and the World of Manga

How do manga created in Japan change as they migrate to other countries? This exhibit shows the world of manga through the eyes of overseas Japanese, and the role played by overseas Japanese as manga continue to enjoy broader popularity. We can learn a lot from how manga evolve. The exhibit focuses on the key phrase "overseas Japanese and manga", introducing manga from countries to which they have migrated.



Gallery Exhibits

From now until Sunday, February 15
JICA Yokohama Planning Exhibit: Yokohama International Forum 2015
Creating International Cooperation and Multiculturalism Together in Yokohama

Venue: JICA Yokohama first-floor gallery/second-floor JICA Plaza Yokohama
As part of the planning for Yokohama International Forum 2015, photo panels will be used to present activities by NGOs and NPOs involved in international cooperation and multiculturalism, as well as international organizations, schools and other entities, and to introduce lectures that will take place at the Forum on February 7 and 8.

