



Face-to-Face (in Japan)

Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group and Region Focus)

# Terrestrial and Wetland Ecosystem Management in Protected Areas



Course Number: 202515122J001

Course Period: September 28- November 12, 2026



NOTE: Adobe Acrobat Reader DC and Google Chrome are recommended as PDF viewer. JAWS and NVDA are recommended as screen reader.

NOTE: If there are any difficulties in reading this document, please contact JICA Office in your country or JICA Center in Japan.

NOTE: Depending on the circumstances, some or all of the program periods may be changed or cancelled after the application has been accepted.



# How can we properly manage terrestrial and wetland ecosystems?

To learn ecosystem management approaches  
and concepts based on scientific information,  
through Japan's initiatives,  
by collaborating with diverse stakeholders in  
and around protected areas.

# Outline



This program is designed for the Government officials in charge of planning and practical works on terrestrial and wetland ecosystem management in National governments (head quarter and regional office), municipalities and other institutions which concern terrestrial and wetland ecosystem management.



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## 【Area of Study】

Hokkaido (Mainly the Kushiro area) and Tokyo



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## 【Language】

English

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## 【Program Period】

September 28- November 12, 2026



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## 【Course Capacity】

3 participants (Upper limit of Participants)



## **JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)**

The Japanese Cabinet released the Development Cooperation Charter in June 2023, stated 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 foundation of mutual learning process.

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# For What?

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## Background

It is essential that the management of protected areas and their surrounding areas (Natural parks such as National parks, and Ramsar sites, etc.) and OECM (Other effective area-based conservation measures) is improved and the biodiversity is conserved in cooperation with not only the government but various stakeholders such as private sector, for achieving 30 by 30 initiative, one of the 4 global goals of “Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework” adopted in COP15.

## Objectives

Deepen understanding on the legislation for conservation and management of protected areas and OECM in Japan, and the effective management of terrestrial and wetland ecosystems at local level, and enhance the capacities for developing the policies and plans related to protected area management in their countries.

# To Whom?

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## Job Areas and Organizations

This program is designed for the Government officials in charge of planning and practical works on terrestrial and wetland ecosystem management in National governments (head quarter and regional office), municipalities and other institutions which concern terrestrial and wetland ecosystem management.

The applying organization with the best intention to utilize the opportunity of this program will be highly valued in the selection.

## Targeted Countries

Costa Rica, Honduras, Malaysia

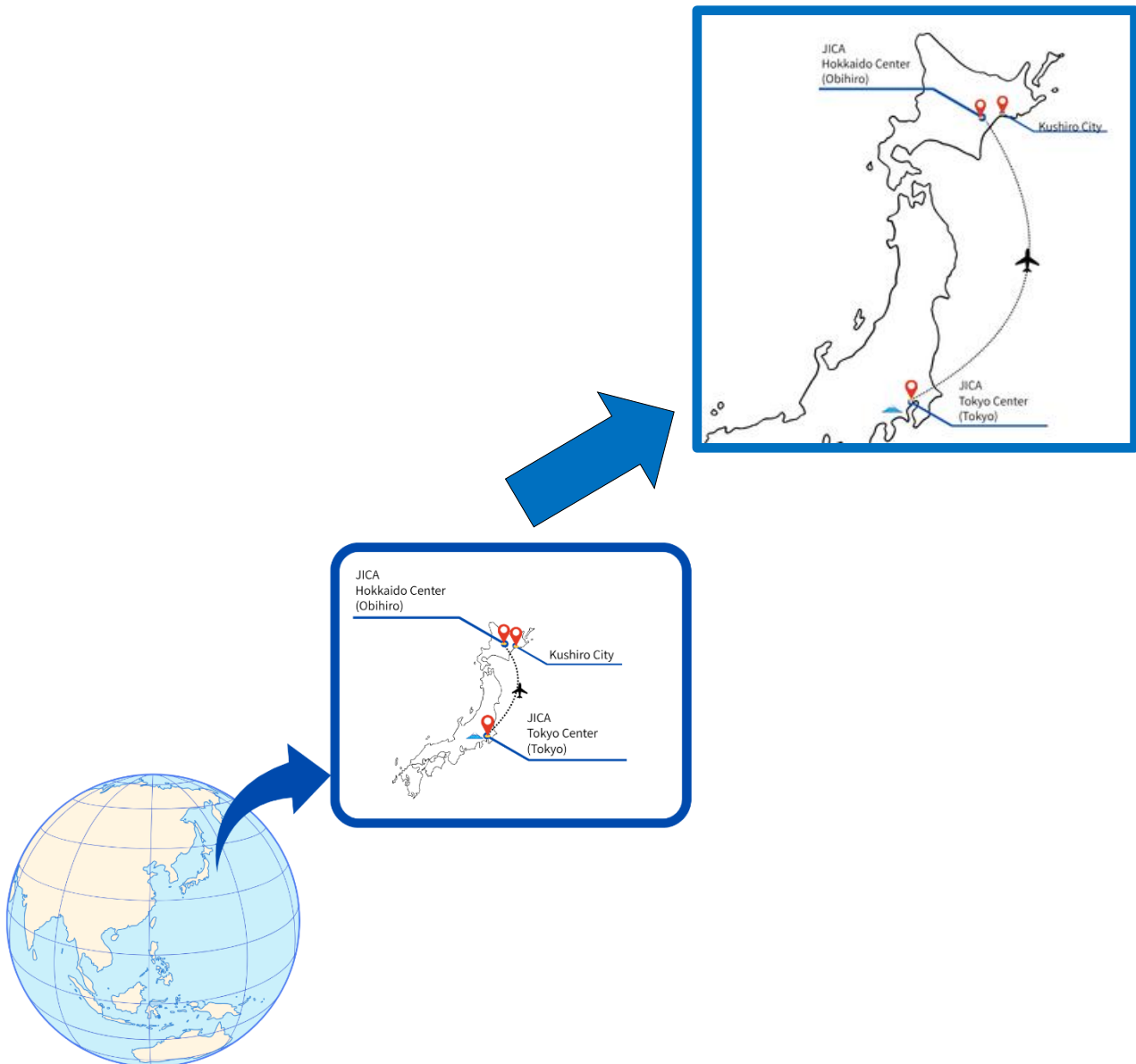
Participants who have successfully completed the program will be awarded a certificate by JICA.

# When?

September 28- November 12, 2026

# Where?

Based at the JICA Hokkaido Center (Obihiro) and conducted mainly in eastern Hokkaido, particular focus on Kushiro City.



# How?

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## How to Learn

- Lectures
- Interactive Q&A Session
- Field Visits
- Workshops
- Discussions
- Presentations
- Self-Study



Watch



Listen



Study



Interact



Discuss



Present

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## Language

English

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## Commitment to the SDGs



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## Program Structure (tentative)

In about seven (7) weeks, participants understand the initiatives for the management of terrestrial and wetland ecosystem mainly in the Eastern Hokkaido throughout lectures, field observations, discussions, exercises and practical training on the following topics.

### (1) Preliminary Phase

To formulate and submit Inception Report.

### (2) Main program in Japan

- 1) Japanese policies on biodiversity conservation, legislations on protected area management, data collection surveys on biodiversity for policy making.

- 2) Case studies on management measures, such as ecosystem monitoring in protected areas and other areas, conservation and restoration activities, invasive species control and CEPA activities.
- 3) Nature restoration initiatives conducted by "Kushiro Wetland Nature Restoration Committee" which consists of various stakeholders, including national governments, municipalities and civil organizations, and community participatory ecosystem monitoring and data accumulation.
- 4) Ecotourism practices for sustainable/wise use of natural resources in protected areas and their surrounding areas.
- 5) Initiatives for endangered species conservation and wildlife protection and management.
- 6) Data analysis and compilation on vegetation inventory and ecosystem monitoring surveys by utilizing GIS etc.
- 7) Formulation and presentation of an Action Plan.

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## Expected Module Output and Contents

This course consists of the following components. The details of each component are as follows.

<b>Module 1</b>					
Expected Output	To understand the legislations for the conservation and management of protected areas and their surrounding areas and OECM in Japan and their characteristics.				
Subjects/Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Protected Area Management in Japan(1)– National Park System</li> <li>● Protected Area Management in Japan(2)– Nature Coexistence Sites and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)</li> <li>● Protected Area Management in Japan(3)– Habitat Protection Areas under the Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, etc.</li> <li>● Ecosystem Services of Kushiro Wetland History of Conservation of Kushiro Wetland, Current Status, and Conservation Challenges</li> <li>● Conservation and Protected Area Management in Hidakasanmyaku-Erimo-Tokachi National Park</li> </ul>				
Methodology	Lecture	Observation	Practice	Consultation	Presentation
	✓	✓			
<b>Module 2</b>					
Expected Output	To understand the protected area management through the collaboration among various stakeholders, including governments, local communities, private companies, NGOs, universities.				
Subjects/Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● National Trust Activities in Kushiro Wetland National Park– NGO-led Conservation</li> </ul>				

	within a Protected Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● National Trust Activities in Kiritappu Wetland             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Community-based Conservation and Land Stewardship</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Ecotourism in the Kushiro Wetland Area             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Opportunities and Constraints in Protected Area Use</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Sustainable Tourism in National Parks– Collaborative Management with Diverse Stakeholders</li> <li>● Private Sector Management of Protected Areas and Natural Resources             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Forest Conservation and Land Stewardship by Maeda Ippoen Foundation</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Private Sector Management of Natural Resources in National Parks             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Fisheries-based Resource Management by the Akan Lake Fisheries Cooperative</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
Methodology	Lecture	Observation	Practice	Consultation	Presentation
	✓	✓			
<b>Module 3</b>					
Expected Output	To understand ecosystem management based on scientific data and information collected by ecosystem monitoring in protected areas and other areas.				
Subjects/Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Biodiversity Monitoring and Management in Kushiro Wetland (1)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Population Monitoring and Conservation of the Red-crowned Crane</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Biodiversity Monitoring and Management in Kushiro Wetland (2)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Monitoring and Conservation of Rare Raptors</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Citizen-based Environmental Monitoring for Nature Restoration</li> <li>● Biodiversity Monitoring and Data-driven Ecosystem Management in Japan– Practices at the Yamanashi Biodiversity Center</li> <li>● Application of GIS in Protected Area Management             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Spatial Analysis for Ecosystem Monitoring and Decision-making</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
Methodology	Lecture	Observation	Practice	Consultation	Presentation
	✓				
<b>Module 4</b>					
Expected Output	To understand management measures and methods such as conservation and restoration activities in protected areas and other areas, endangered species conservation, wildlife protection and management, invasive species control and CEPA activities.				
Subjects/Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ecotourism in Kushiro Wetland             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Principles and Field-based Learning through Canoe Observation</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Protected Area Management and Ecotourism in Practice in the Mt.Fuji foothills Area</li> <li>● Invasive Alien Species in Kushiro Wetland and Surrounding Areas             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Current Status and Management Challenges</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Nature Restoration in Kushiro Wetland (1)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– River Basin Management and Flood Control Approaches</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Nature Restoration in Kushiro Wetland (2)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ecosystem-based Restoration and Adaptive Management</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Volunteer Ranger Activities in Kushiro National Park</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Community Participation in Protected Area Management</li> <li>● Wetland Education and CEPA in Japan</li> <li>– Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness</li> </ul>				
Methodology	Lecture	Observation	Practice	Consultation	Presentation
	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Module 5</b>					
Expected Output	To identify the prioritized issues on protected area management in their own countries and to develop the action plan to solve the issues taking into consideration circumstances in each country.				
Subjects/Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inception Report Presentations</li> <li>● Course Guidance and Program Orientation</li> <li>● Presentations on Good Practices from Participating Countries and Exchange of Opinions on Challenges in Protected Area management</li> <li>● Action Plan Development– Practical Approaches and Methodology</li> <li>● Action Plan Development Guidance– Coaching and Advisory Support</li> <li>● Progress Report on Action Plan Implementation by Former Participants</li> <li>● Reflection and Knowledge Sharing Session</li> <li>● Final Presentation of Action Plans</li> </ul>				
Methodology	Lecture	Observation	Practice	Consultation	Presentation
			✓	✓	✓

※The schedule is subject to change due to the coordination of curriculum.

# Eligibility and Procedures

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## 1. Expectations to the Applying Organizations

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

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

### 【Remarks】

**Gender:** Each Organizations is requested to strongly encourage female candidates to apply for the course to accelerate the realization of gender equality and women's empowerment.

**Disabilities:** Persons with disabilities who meet the required qualifications also have an opportunity to apply. Reasonable accommodations will be considered for participants with disabilities. Some programs of the course might have difficulty for persons with disabilities to participate due to environmental and other conditions. "Reasonable accommodation" means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case.

### (1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: Government officials in charge of planning and practical works on terrestrial and wetland ecosystem management
- 2) Experience in the Relevant Field: have more than 3 years' experience in the related field
- 3) Language Proficiency: Sufficient conversation, reading and writing skills of

English

- 4) Health : must be in good health to participate in the program in Japan.  
Participant's health and safety should be most respected. Pre-existing conditions <sup>1</sup>and pregnancy may lead to health problems that were not present prior to arriving in Japan due to stress from international travel, changes in climate, and a new living environment. In recent years, regrettable cases have occurred, including the exacerbation of symptoms after arrival and, in the case of pregnancy, stillbirth. Some participants have also incurred substantial out-of-pocket medical costs. If any of the conditions below may apply, please take a moment to consider whether to participate, and continue after confirming your agreement to the points below.

① Questionnaire ("QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS AND RESTRICTION")

If any of the following apply, you must state them accurately in the questionnaire, even if they do not affect your current work or daily life.

- a. Chronic diseases (e.g., hypertension, diabetes)
- b. Conditions currently under treatment
- c. Past illnesses that have resolved (including serious conditions affecting the heart, liver, or brain; tuberculosis, etc.)
- d. Pregnancy (for female applicants)

② Medical certificate

Please submit a medical certificate issued by a doctor that your condition is stable and that, from a medical standpoint, there is no problem with your participation in KCCP in Japan.

Applicable cases:

- a. Chronic diseases (e.g., hypertension, diabetes)
- b. Conditions currently under treatment
- c. Past illnesses that have resolved (including serious conditions affecting the heart, liver, or brain; tuberculosis, etc.)

③ Reporting changes

If pregnancy or any health issues are identified after submitting the form, please report them to JICA promptly.

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<sup>1</sup> Pre-existing conditions :Chronic diseases, Conditions currently under treatment and Past illnesses that have resolved.

④ Insurance coverage

Medical and additional living expenses related to pregnancy and pre-existing conditions are NOT covered by insurance arranged by JICA. Such costs must be borne entirely by the participant; JICA assumes no liability.

\* Please understand that insurance coverage applies only to sudden illness or injury occurring during your stay in Japan.

\* Medical expenses in Japan could be a significant financial burden when not covered by insurance.

## (2) Recommended Qualifications

- 1) Age: between the ages of twenty-five (25) and fifty (50) years
  - 2) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: JICA seeks more female applicants due to the past records of fewer applications from women. JICA is committed to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and provides equal opportunities for all applicants regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
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## 3. Required Documents for Application

- (1) **Application Form:** The Application Form is available at the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan)
  - \* If you have any difficulties/disabilities which require assistance, please specify necessary assistances in the QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS RESTRICTION (1-(c)) of the application form. Information will be reviewed and used for reasonable accommodation.
- (2) **Photocopy of Passport:** You should submit it with the application form if you possess your passport which you will carry when entering Japan for this program. If not, you are requested to submit its photocopy as soon as you obtain it.
  - \*The following information should be included in the photocopy:  
Name, Date of Birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport Number and Expiry Date
  - \*It is recommended that your passport be valid for more than 6 months after the last day of the program.
- (3) **English Score Sheet:** to be submitted with the application form, if the nominees have any official English examination scores. (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS)
- (4) **Inception Report:** to be submitted with the application form (VI. ANNEX: Attachment-1) by July 23, 2026.

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## 4. Procedures for Application and Selection

### (1) Submission of the Application Documents

Closing date for applications: **Please confirm the local deadline with the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan).**

(All required material must arrive at **JICA Center in Japan** by July 23, 2026.

### (2) Selection

Primary screening is conducted at the JICA overseas office (or the embassy of Japan) after receiving official documents from your government. JICA Center will consult with concerned organizations in Japan in the process of final selection. Applying organizations with the best intentions to utilize the opportunity will be highly valued.

The Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan.

### (3) Notice of Acceptance

The JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) will notify the results **not later than August 6, 2026.**

## 5 . Conditions for Participation

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1) to strictly observe the course schedule,
- (2) not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants themselves,
- (3) to understand that leaving Japan during the course period (to return to home country, etc.) is not allowed (except for programs longer than one year),
- (4) not to bring or invite any family members (except for programs longer than one year),
- (5) to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by both the nominating Government and the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (6) to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments,
- (7) not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (8) to discontinue the program, should the participants violate Japanese laws or JICA's regulations, or the participants commit illegal or any type of immoral conduct including sexual harassment, or get critical illness or serious injury and be considered unable to continue the course. The participants shall be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care stipulated in (3) of "3.Expenses", "Administrative Arrangements",
- (9) to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for the KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (10) not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (11) to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation, and
- (12) to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule.
- (13) to promptly notify JICA in the case that there are any changes in the health status since the time of application (such as changes requiring medical attention due to illness or discovery of pregnancy).

# Administrative Arrangements

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## 1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

- (1) Center: JICA Hokkaido (Obihiro) (JICA Obihiro)
  - (2) Program Officer: Ms. NISHIGAKI Misako (mail to:[obic\\_kccp@jica.go.jp](mailto:obic_kccp@jica.go.jp))
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## 2. Implementing Partner

- (1) Name: Kushiro International Wetland Centre (KIWC)
  - (2) URL: <https://www.kiwc.net/english/>
- 

## 3. Expenses

The following expenses in Japan will be provided by JICA

- (1) Allowances for meals, living expenses, and stopover.
- (2) Expenses for study tours (basically in the form of train tickets).
- (3) Medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (the costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment **are not included**).
- (4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials.
- (5) For more details, please see “III. ALLOWANCES” of “KENSU-IN GUIDE BOOK,” (English/French/Spanish/Russian).

\*Link to the Website:

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/tech\\_pro/acceptance\\_training/forparticipants.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/tech_pro/acceptance_training/forparticipants.html)

or

<https://jica-van-cms.jica.go.jp/custom/kccp/kccp01.html>

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## 4. Travel to Japan

- (1) **Air Ticket:** In principle, JICA will arrange an economy-class round-trip ticket between an international airport designated by JICA and Japan.
- (2) **Travel Insurance:** Coverage is from time of arrival up to departure in Japan. Thus traveling time outside Japan (include damaged baggage during the arrival flight to Japan) will not be covered.
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## 5. Accommodation in Japan

Basically, JICA will arrange accommodation(s) for participants in Japan.

JICA Hokkaido (Obihiro) (JICA Obihiro)

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

TEL: +81-155-35-2001 FAX: +81-155-35-2213

(where “81” is the country code for Japan, and “155” is the local area code)

If there is no vacancy at JICA Obihiro, or when conducting program outside Obihiro region, JICA will arrange alternative accommodations for the participants.

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## 6. Pre-departure Orientation

A pre-departure orientation will be held at JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) in respective country, to provide Participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the course, and other matters.

Part I: Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan	
English ver.	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw</a>
Part II: Introduction of JICA Centers in Japan	
JICA Hokkaido (Obihiro)	<a href="https://www.jica.go.jp/obihiro/english/office/index.html">https://www.jica.go.jp/obihiro/english/office/index.html</a>

If the link of these YouTube URLs has expired, please access the URL below and search the necessary information from the key word.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/JICAChannel02>

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## 7. Reference

### **KENSHU-IN GUIDE BOOK**

For more detailed terms and conditions

[JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program\(KCCP\) | 研修事業 \(KCCP\) |](#)

### **Video: JICA Predeparture Briefing**

For more information on life in Japan and KCCP [JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program\(KCCP\) | 研修事業 \(KCCP\) |](#)

### **Website: JICA**

English/French/Spanish/Russian

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/types\\_of\\_assistance/tech/acceptance/training/index.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/tech/acceptance/training/index.html)

### **PDF: Facility Guide for JICA Hokkaido Center (Obihiro)**

English

<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/domestic/obihiro/index.html>

### **Video: Welcome to JICA Hokkaido**

Introduction of JICA Hokkaido

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhgxHV1jyKY>

### **Video: Extension and Animal Health Services on Livestock farms**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sw4WkTTnCaM>

# Other Information

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## 1. Certificate

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

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## 2. For your Health

It is advisable for participants to bring the household medicine. Especially 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. And you are kindly requested to contact the JICA center in advance, if you have the restriction of food for any reasons (illness or religion, etc.).

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## 3. Electronic Devices

Participants are strongly recommended to bring your own laptop computer, USB flash memory, and suitable conversion plug for Japanese one. During the program, participants are required to work on the computers to create lesson plans, reports, action plan, and so on. Most of accommodations have internet access.

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## 4. Ceremony

The program includes some ceremonies, for which it is recommended to bring appropriate clothes.

\* Please bring traditional clothing, if possible.

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## 5. Climate

<Tokyo>		<Hokkaido(Kushiro city)>	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>
Day Night	Day Night	Day Night	Day Night
+84° +79°	+70° +66°	+57° +46°	+45° +37°
29.8 inHg	30 inHg	30.1 inHg	29.9 inHg
11 mph	10.5 mph	10.1 mph	11.6 mph
76 %	77 %	72 %	70 %

The climate condition (air temperature, pressure, wind speed, and humidity) in Tokyo and Hokkaido (Kushiro city) are shown above. Participants are advised to prepare appropriate clothes.

\*World Weather <https://world-weather.info/forecast/japan/obihiro/2024/>

\*Japan Meteorological Agency

<https://www.data.jma.go.jp/stats/data/en/smp/index.html>

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## 6. Items to be lent to participants by JICA

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

- 1) rain jackets & trousers
- 2) work jackets & trousers
- 3) rubber boots
- 4) warm jackets

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

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## 7. Currency Exchange

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

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# Annex

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## Inception Report

With the Application Form, the applicants should submit an Inception Report on the following issues. The Inception Report will be used for the screening of successful applicants as well as for the selection of the most suitable subject for the participants. Applicants should submit it to JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) in respective country **by July 23, 2026.**

### a. Purpose

- (1) To clarify issues and problems presently faced in their work in order to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge and ideas leading to solutions during the program.
- (2) To provide advance information regarding issues and problems faced by participants to lecturers and organizations concerned with the program as a point of reference in finding solutions.

### b. Contents

- (1) General Information: Your Name / Country / Organization / position or title
  - (2) An introduction of work that applicants have been in charge of for the last one year.
  - (3) Basic information and problems on Ecosystem Conservation and Protected Area Management in Your Country.
  - (4) Subjects in which the participant is particularly interested on this program and the reasons.
- \* (3), (4) are main part of the Inception report and (2) is brief introduction.**

### c. Layout

Typewritten in English, utilized MS PowerPoint (Maximum 10 pages).

### d. Presentation **\*Accepted Participants only**

The Inception Report is presented by each participant using MS PowerPoint at the beginning of the program.

- (1) The time allocation for each presentation of the Inception Report will be about 10-15 minutes.
- (2) It is advisable to bring some materials such as pictures or other visual aids to show your country's situation.

# For Your Reference

## JICA and Capacity Development

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

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

The Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) has long occupied an important place in JICA operations. About 400 pre-organized courses cover a wide range of professional fields, ranging from education, health, infrastructure, energy, trade and finance, to agriculture, rural development, gender mainstreaming, and environmental protection. A variety of programs is being customized by the different target organizations to address the specific needs, such as policy-making organizations, service provision organizations, as well as research and academic institutions. Some programs are organized to target a certain group of countries with similar developmental challenges.

## Japanese Development Experience

Japan, as the first non-Western nation to become a developed country, built itself into a country that is free, peaceful, prosperous and democratic while preserving its tradition. Japan will serve as one of the best examples for our partner countries to follow in their own development.

From engineering technology to production management methods, most of the know-how that has enabled Japan to become what it is today has emanated from a process of adoption and adaptation, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories.

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

JICA, therefore, would like to invite as many leaders of partner countries as possible to come and visit us, to mingle with the Japanese people, and witness the advantages as well as the disadvantages of Japanese systems, so that integration of their findings might help them reach their developmental objectives.

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



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