



【Online & In Japan】 Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

GENERAL INFORMATION ON

COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN SMALL ISLANDS

課題別研修「島嶼国総合防災行政」 JFY 2020

Course NO. 201902306-J001 ID. 201902306

Online Course Period: From November 16th, 2020 to December 18th, 2020
Course Period in Japan¹ : To be determined in 2021. The period would be appointed about 1 month around November to December of 2021. Detailed schedule will be fixed after the consultation with relevant stakeholders.

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.

¹ In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that there is a possibility that the course period in 2021 will be changed, shortened, or the course itself will be cancelled.

I. Concept

Background

Across the world, the number of natural disasters has been increasing in recent years, and in particular, there has been a remarkable increase in economic damage. Disasters tend to occur in hazardous areas repeatedly and have huge impact on lives, livelihood and local economy. Much of the suffering caused by disaster damage affects the vulnerable, especially those in lower income brackets. Consequently, disaster risk reduction (DRR) is regarded critical for sustainable economic growth.

“Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030” was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in March 2015 aiming to “substantially reduce disaster risk, and the loss of lives and livelihoods”. The Sendai Framework aligns 2030 development agendas such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Paris Agreement, etc.. Several indicators are shared between them and the Sendai Framework and Disaster Risk Reduction takes the essential part of SDGs. Climate Change Adaptation closely related to disasters is also included as one of the 17 Goals of SDGs.

Japanese archipelago sits on the Pacific Ring of Fire marking the line of scrimmage between tectonic plates, where seismic and volcanic activities are concentrated. Moreover, Asian monsoon brings a number of typhoons and heavy rain falls to Japan. Thus Japan is one of the most exposed country to various kinds of natural hazards from typhoon to earthquake and tsunami, so that it has developed disaster management system to reduce its vulnerability for a long time.

Government of Japan is now promoting various countermeasures of disaster risk reduction against predicted Nankai Trough Earthquake and the ensuing tsunami in near future by applying the lessons learned from the experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Since Kochi prefecture, located on the Pacific side of Shikoku Island of Japanese archipelago, is the area where heavy damage is anticipated by Nankai Trough Earthquake and consequent tsunami, it is spearheading the preparedness and mitigation against the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

Island states in Pacific, Caribbean and off African east coast, having the similar type of disasters as Japan such as tropical cyclones, earthquakes and tsunamis, are among the most vulnerable in the world because of their specific characteristics such as smallness, dispersion and isolation. In the Islands states,

there is a tendency for people and assets including critical infrastructures to concentrate in the capital and urban areas, and as a result, one disaster can cause catastrophic damage equivalent to those country's GDPs. Therefore comprehensive DRR initiated by the government is fundamentally critical as "public help" for securing national safety and resilience and the achievement in sustainable development.

At the same time, it is also important to reduce damage caused by local flooding, high waves, and sediment disasters that are very frequent in island states. In these countries, community-based "mutual help" and "self help" are vital to save their own lives because most of the population are dispersed in remote islands. Awareness, early warning and mitigation, are also the basic preconditions to reduce the disaster mortality under this circumstance.

This program is designed for the government officials responsible for disaster risk reduction in island states. Lectures and observations mainly focus on prevention/mitigation and preparedness of different capacities (national and local governments and communities) which could be applied for island states. It also touches upon local DRR policies and strategies as well as disaster statistics as it is outlined in the Global Targets of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Highlight of this program is to formulate an action plan to be implemented after participants return their countries with their own context. Participants will make this action plan utilizing the lesson learned in Japan through lectures and observations and discussion.

For what?

This program aims to deepen understanding on the significant roles of national/local governments and communities for DRR and to acquire the concrete method for promotion of DRR in each country by learning the good practices of various stakeholders such as DRR organizations, public and private actors in Japan.

For whom?

This program is offered to officials currently responsible for disaster risk reduction in island states: Especially those who are involved in prevention, mitigation, preparedness and recovery/reconstruction either in central or local government.

How?

Participants shall have opportunities to learn Japan's experiences and skills related to comprehensive DRR. Participants will also formulate an action plan describing what the participant will do after completion of this program putting the knowledge and ideas acquired and discussed in this course among others into their on-going activities. For the fiscal year 2020 will be done by 100% by online course and for the fiscal year 2021 will be held in Japan.

II. Description

1. Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction in Small Islands (201902306-J001)

2. Course Period

Online Course : November 16th to December 18th , 2020

Course in Japan²: To be determined in 2021. The period would be appointed about 1 month around November to December of 2021.

Detailed schedule will be fixed after the consultation with relevant stakeholders.

3. Target Regions or Countries

Micronesia, Tonga, Vanuatu, Samoa, Palau, Jamaica, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Seychelles, Comoros

4. Eligible / Target Organization

This program is mainly designed for the organization that responsible for DRR - from prevention to preparedness, response and recovery - at central, prefecture/state and local level governments.

5. Course Capacity (Upper limit of Participants)

15 participants

6. Language to be used in this program: English

7. Course Objective:

■FY2020

To understand DRR policy and measures in Japan and clarify the challenges for improving each country's DRR.

■FY2021

To gain practical knowledge and methods on DRR through lectures and observations on comprehensive DRR in Japan and workshops in local DRR planning to achieve the global targets in the Sendai framework.

8. Overall Goal

DRR policy of each country is enhanced and disaster risks are reduced.

² In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that there is a possibility that the course period will be changed, shortened, or the course itself will be cancelled.

9. Expected Module Output and Contents:

This program consists of the following components. Details on each component are given below. Module output is almost same in this two years but the contents and focusing point will be changed from FY2021.

■FY2020

Module	Expected Module Output	Methodology
(1)	To gain the knowledge on the DRR system and roles, responsibilities of national and local governments in Japan, and international trend on DRR.	Lecture
(2)	To understand examples of investment in DRR and structural measures against disasters which expose islands countries to high risk.	Lecture
(3)	To understand measures and examples of disaster prevention and mitigation in local and community level.	Lecture
(4)	To clarify the problems/challenges in each country in DRR (for next year's program) This part includes Online discussion with the participants. Therefore time difference and IT circumstance will be taken into consideration on connection. Details will be shared in due course.	Discussion (Video discussion or Chatting)

■FY2021

Module	Expected Module Output	Methodology
(1)	To understand the DRR system and roles, responsibilities of national and local governments in Japan, and international trend on DRR.	Lecture Observation Exercise
(2)	To understand examples of investment in DRR and structural measures against disasters which expose to high risk in islands countries.	Lecture Observation Exercise
(3)	To understand measures and examples of disaster prevention and mitigation in local and community level.	Lecture Observation Exercise
(4)	To formulate action plans for solving the problems/challenges in each country.	Exercise

<Structure of the program>

Topic outline (subject to minor changes)

Module	Contents
(1)	Disaster management system of Japan and Kochi Prefecture
(2)	Specific countermeasures against disasters in small islands
	Ingenuity and challenges in the small island-specific DRR administration

(3)	Various DRR measures in Kochi Prefecture, located in mid- scale island and one of the “disaster prone prefecture”, and preparedness for predicted mega earthquake and tsunami
	Participatory DRR by community-based disaster management organizations(CBDMO) and municipal governments
(4)	Exchange information of DRR among participants
	Presentation
Others	Program orientation
	Evaluation meeting

* Program for FY2021 will deepen above contents principally but detail program is to be modified after the feedback from participants.

10. Follow-up Cooperation by JICA:

In this program, JICA might extend follow-up support to participating organizations that intend to develop the result of the program further. Please note that the support shall be extended selectively based on proposals from the participating organizations.

Further Information:

http://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/tech/follow/alumni/association_support.html

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 this course 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) Officially nominated by his / her own government.
- 2) Current Duties: be an official currently responsible for the natural disaster management/reduction, especially those who are involved in disaster prevention, preparedness, response, rehabilitation and recovery either in central or local

level government. Officials from national development planning and treasury-related ministries are also eligible.

- 3) Experience in the relevant field: have practical experience of more than three (3) years as an administrator in the field of disaster management / mitigation.
- 4) Educational Background: be a graduate of university.
- 5) Language: have a competent command of spoken and written English which is equal to TOEFL iBT 80 or more. (This program includes active participation in discussions and action plan development, thus requires high competence of English ability. Please attach an official certificate for English ability such as TOEFL, TOEIC, etc, if possible).
- 6) 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.
- 7) IT environment: Stable and Hi-Speed internet, PC (at least 3GB of vacancy), Web Camera, and Microphone are essential for your participation. Online program FY2020 will be delivered by Google Suite, Zoom, Youtube. If you have any concern, please ask JICA office.

(2) Recommendable Qualifications

- 1) Age: between the ages of twenty-five (25) and fifty (50) years, in principle.
- 2) Organization: Not only the implementing body of DRR, but Dep. or organization of the central government which engages in policies, plans and budget of DRR are preferable.
- 3) Gender Consideration: JICA is promoting Gender equality. Women are encourage to apply for the program.

3. Required Documents for Application

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

* If you have any difficulties/disabilities which require assistance, please specify necessary assistances in the Medical History (1-(d)) of the application forms. It may allow us (people concerned in this course) to prepare better logistics or alternatives.

(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 for the preparation of FY2021.

*Photocopy should include the followings:

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

(3) Nominee's English Score Sheet: to be submitted with the Application Form. If you have any official documentation of English ability (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS).

(4) Inception Report: to be submitted with the Application Form. Fill in Attachment of the General Information, and submit it along with the Application Form. Inception Report is very useful for us to get information about the applicant and his/her country. So **basically, we would not examine the application form without Inception Report appropriately prepared.**

■ Power Point presentation data based on Inception Report

Only accepted applicants are required to prepare power point data for short presentation during early part of this course to introduce himself/herself and share experiences or challenges among participants.

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 Shikoku Center in JAPAN by October 9th, 2020**)

(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 October 16th, 2020**

5. Conditions for Attendance:

(1) to strictly adhere to the program schedule (Basically 2-3 hours per day for FY2020).

- (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 program 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.
- (9) to observe the rules and regulation of the JICA's copyright (We may request you some written oath for your usage of video and online contents/materials etc.)

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer:

(1) Name: JICA Shikoku

(2) Contact: Mr. Yohei FUNAKOSHI (Funakoshi.Yohei@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner

(1) Name: KOCHI University

(2) URL: <http://www.kochi-u.ac.jp/english/index.html>

3. Travel to Japan (For FY2021)

(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.

4. Accommodation in Japan(For FY2021)

JICA will arrange hotels or JICA International Center for the participants in Japan according to the program schedule.

5. Expenses(For FY2021)

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.

* For FY2020, preparation of necessary equipment and IT environment should be covered by participants themselves in principle. No per-diem or other allowance for the course FY2020. If you have any difficulty of the expense, please ask to JICA office before your applying.

6. Pre-departure Orientation (For FY2021)

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. By the end of the program, each participant is expected to prepare, submit and present challenges in DRR (Online in FY2020) and Action Plan (FY2021) in order to spread his / her acquired knowledge, ideas and skills among colleagues in their organization. The action plan should be shared in the participant's belonging organization.
2. Participants who have successfully completed the program will be awarded a certificate by JICA. Certificate will be issued after all the course is completed but certification of your participation in online part in FY 2020 can be issued if your organization requires it by official procedure and/or reason . If the course of fiscal year 2021 is not implemented, JICA will issue the certificate for the participants of the fiscal year 2020.
3. **【FY2021 Only】** For the promotion of mutual friendship, JICA Shikoku encourages international exchange between JICA participants and local communities, including school and university students as a part of development education program. JICA participants are expected to contribute by attending such activities and will possibly be asked to make presentations on the society, economy and culture of their home country.
4. Participants are requested to set up PC and IT environment for the online course in FY2020 and to bring laptop computers for preparation of your AP etc for FY2021. Most of the accommodations in Japan have internet access.
5. **【FY2021 Only】** Daily Allowances will be deposited by JICA to your temporary bank account in Japan after 2 to 5 days after your arrival to Japan. It is highly advised to bring necessary amount of cash / traveler's check for the meals etc. of first 2 to 5 days after your arrival.
6. **【FY2021 Only】** It is very important that your currency must be exchanged to Japanese Yen at any transit airport or Kansai International Airport (KIX) in Osaka, Japan soon after your arrival. It is quite difficult to exchange money after that, due to no facility or time during the program.

VI. ANNEX:

Preliminary Activity

To read the following documents stored in web site in advance.

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
http://www.unisdr.org/files/44983_sendaiframechart.pdf
- 8 STEPS -Practical Method for developing Local DRR Strategies/Plans-
<https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/issues/disaster/ku57pq00001p03o3-att/8steps.pdf>
- Disaster Management in Japan (issued by Cabinet Office, Government of Japan)
http://www.bousai.go.jp/1info/pdf/saigaipamphlet_je.pdf

Inception Report

This report is considered to be very useful not only for adjusting the details of program contents to fit for the needs of each participant but also for cultivating personal acquaintance each other.

Please read “IV. Priorities for action” part of “**Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**” (please download PDF document from the above external link) and describe current situation of your country, based on the four main priorities for action described in “IV. Priorities for action” as below.

Priority 1: Understanding Disaster Risk

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” PDF data download

http://www.wcdr.org/uploads/Sendai_Framework_for_Disaster_Risk_Reduction_2015-2030.pdf

※This Inception Report will be used as the reference information of participant selection.

In addition, the presentation of the Inception Report with Power Point (about 15 minutes per participant including Q & A) will be carried out at the beginning of the program.

Therefore **selected participants for the program need to summarize your Inception Report to Power Point slides (2-3 pages) for the presentation before the program starts.** (Detailed guidance will be informed for selected participants after selection.)

Inception Report

Applicants to the program are required to submit Inception Report in the format below together with the application forms. This report will be used as reference in the selection of the program's participants.

Therefore, this report must be typed. **Any HANDWRITTEN or INCOMPLETE report will be DISQUALIFIED.**

The report should be within 4 pages.

Applicant's Information

1. Name	[Family] [First] [Middle]
--Nationality	
--Contact	Tel. Fax.
	Email address
2. Name of Organization	
3. Your professional Status	
--Your duties in charge (Please itemize)	
--Your relationship with JICA volunteers and/or the other JICA's activities, if any	
4. Organization Chart (Mark your position)	Please attach the organization chart.

Current situation in your country

5-1 Current Situation and Issues of DRR in your country

5-1-1 DRR measures currently being focused on in your country and reasons for it

5-1-2 Issues in promoting DRR measures and factors of issues

5-1-3 Related ministries and organizations on DRR

5-2 Efforts and challenges to the “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” in your country

5-2-1 Practical Case in the four Priority for Actions
(all or one of the four actions can be described)

5-2-2 Efforts against the indicators for the Global Targets

5-2-3 Traditional, indigenous countermeasures to natural hazards in terms of housing method, early warning, evacuation, food security, insurance, etc

5-3 Current situation and Issues regarding local DRR strategies/plans

5-3-1 A government system and an administrative structure

5-3-2 Progress and initiatives on Global Targets (e) of the Sendai Framework

5-3-2 Existing or not of the following information in your country


- Existing local DRR plan,
- Existing local development policy/plan
- Geographical map (scale)
- Population distribution/transition data/map
- Map of critical infrastructure (transportations, important public facilities, basic services, etc.), housing/building distribution
- Record of past disasters with damage data
- Hazard/risk analysis report/data/map

Appendix 1


Information of the three major earthquakes in Japan

Exchange Rate: US\$1 ≒ 110 yen

1. The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

Date and time of occurrence	January 17, 1995, 5:46	
Epicenter and scale	Northern Awaji Island, 7.3 on the Richter scale	
Human suffering Dead Injured Missing	6,434 people 43,792 people 3 people	
Building damage (housing) Complete collapse Half collapse Partial damage	104,906 houses 144,274 houses 249,180 houses	
Financial damage	About 9.9 trillion yen (109 billion in US\$) (nearly 50% of Hyogo Prefecture's GDP)	
Main characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An urban epicentral earthquake - Zonal damage along faults - Populated areas where urban functions are concentrated were affected by the earthquake. - Earthquake occurred in an area with aging society. 	

2. The Great East Japan Earthquake

Date and time of occurrence	March 11, 2011, 14:46	
Epicenter and scale	Roughly 24 km deep off the Sanriku coast, 9.0 on the Richter scale	
Human suffering Dead Injured Missing	15,893 people 2,553 people 6,152 people (As of March 10, 2017)	
Building damage (housing) Complete collapse Half collapse Partial damage	121,764 houses 280,121 houses 726,443 houses (As of March 10, 2017)	
Financial damage	About 16.9 trillion yen (186 billion in US\$)	
Main characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plate-type earthquake and large-scale landslides - A complex disaster that included an earthquake, a large tsunami, and a nuclear disaster - There was widespread damage. - The disaster affected areas had a declining population, the majority of them being fishing and agricultural communities. - The affected areas had an aging rate in the 20% range. 	

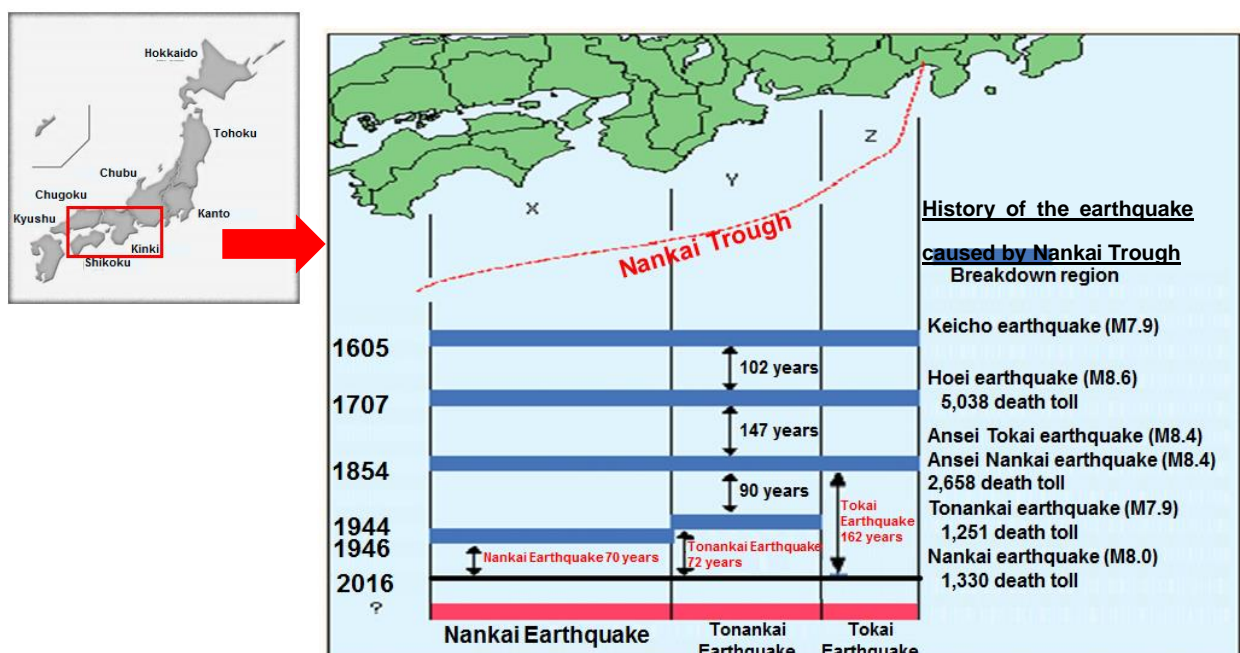
<http://www.meti.go.jp/english/earthquake/nuclear/japan-challenges/index.html>

3. Nankai Trough Quake

This is the future earthquake which is estimated to occur within 30 years in a probability of 70-80%.

Damage estimation of National Government	
Death toll	Maximum: 320,000 If countermeasures taken: Number of people killed by Tsunami will be decreased by 90% through quick evacuation.
Number of building collapse	Maximum: 2.38 million If countermeasures taken: Number of collapsed building will be decreased by 40% through providing seismic retrofitting to 10% buildings.
Impact on economic activity (nationwide)	Maximum: 50.8 trillion yen (560 billion in US\$) If countermeasures taken: To be decreased by 37.9 trillion yen (417 billion in US\$)
Fundamental Principles of Emergency Management and Mitigation Measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To place “saving lives from tsunami” as a first priority, comprehensive measures are required (e.g. evacuating local residents, providing emergency management facilities, etc.). 2) To continuously implement intangible measures; e.g. evacuation drill, disaster education, passing on lessons learned from past disasters, etc. 3) To promote measures to minimize the damage expansion of the earthquake for economic damage (e.g. facilities). 4) To steadily promote seismic retrofitting measures to deal with seismic motion 5) To prepare and promote countermeasures which are designed for the largest earthquakes and tsunamis

Source: First report (August 2012) and second report (March 2013) released by Cabinet Office of Japan

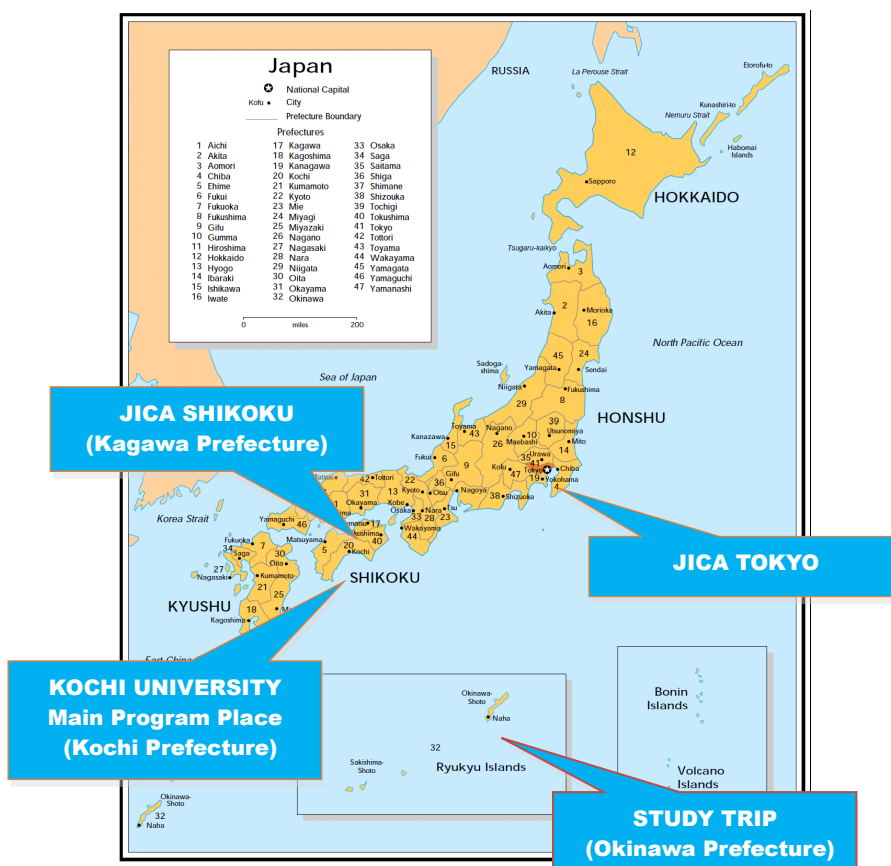


[facebook.com/jicashikoku](https://www.facebook.com/jicashikoku)

We post the KCCP articles on our Facebook (JICA SHIKOKU), written by Japanese and English, so please check and "like" us on the Facebook!



Map of JAPAN



*Main program will be held in Kochi prefecture where local governments and communities cope with various natural disasters. The program in FY 2021 might includes study trip to Okinawa prefecture in islands areas with many natural disasters such as typhoons and suffered from earthquake and tsunami in 1971.

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 Shikoku Center (JICA SHIKOKU)

Address: First Floor, Kagawa Sanyu Bldg., 3 Kajiya-machi, Takamatsu City, Kagawa
760-0028, Japan

TEL: +81-87-821-8824 FAX: +81-87-822-8870

