

JENESYS2017 Japan-ASEAN Students Conference Report

Country: Japan, 10 ASEAN countries

1. Program Overview

120 university students from ASEAN 10 countries visited Japan from September 19 to September 26, 2017 as part of “JENESYS 2017” under the scheme of “Japan's Friendship Ties Program” and participated in the eight-day program entitled “Japan-ASEAN Students Conference” along with 12 Japanese university students.

Based on the common theme of “what the youth of Japan and ASEAN countries can do for peace and stability,” they selected the themes of “Natural Disasters,” “Economic Development,” “Environmental Issues” and “Social Activities in the Community” from various issues that Japan and ASEAN countries commonly have. They, grouped by the theme, attended related lectures in Tokyo and other regions; visited related facilities; and took part in the Japan-ASEAN Students Conference including workshop and reporting session.

The groups of “Natural Disasters” and “Economic Development,” visited Iwate and Miyagi, and had the opportunity to experience efforts toward social and economic reconstruction. The group of “Environmental Issues” went to Kitakyushu City, revitalized city from severe damage by pollution, where they experienced Japan’s heightened awareness towards environmental protection by participating in a local volunteer cleanup activity. The group of “Social Activities in the Community” visited the disaster-stricken area of Kumamoto, and learned that grassroots community activities become the foundation for reconstruction after an earthquake disaster.

During the program implementation, both of the prospective youth from Japan and ASEAN countries work together day and night thorough observation and discussions to create the awareness of social contribution while realizing their own capacity and capability. They have fostered friendship among themselves. They also shared their findings and experiences by social media.

Based on those findings and experiences in Japan, participants made group presentations in the final session and reported their action plans, which they plan to implement after returning home. In addition, the groups jointly formulated a “Declaration of Actions” outlining what young people can do for peace and prosperity in the Japan-ASEAN region. They submitted the joint declaration to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the ASEAN Secretariat.

【Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants】

ASEAN students: 120 participants (Brunei 12, Cambodia 12, Indonesia 12, Lao PDR 12, Malaysia 12, Myanmar 12, the Philippines 12, Singapore 12, Thailand 12, Vietnam 12)
Japanese students: 12 participants

【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo (all participants), Iwate (33 participants), Miyagi (34 participants), Fukuoka (32 participants), Kumamoto (33 participants)

2. Program Schedule

September 18 (Mon)/September 19 (Tue)

ASEAN students: Arrival at Haneda Airport/Narita International Airport

Japanese students: Assembly at Tokyo

September 19 (Tue) **【Orientation】 【Introduction to Workshop】**

September 20 (Wed) **【Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture】** Meiji University, Strategic
International Management Associates (SIMA), Nihon Fukushi University
【Observation of Theme-related Facility】 【Theme Research by group】

September 21 (Thu) – September 24 (Sun) Divided into 4 groups

Group A (Natural Disasters) visited to Iwate prefecture

Group B (Economic Development) visited to Miyagi prefecture

Group C (Environmental Issues) visited to Fukuoka prefecture

Group D (Social Activities in the Community) visited to Kumamoto prefecture

1) Group A (Theme: Natural Disasters): Iwate

September 21 (Thu) **【Courtesy Call】 【Lecture on the Region】** Kuji city
【Observation of Theme-related Facility】 Kuji underground aquarium
“Mogranpia”

September 22 (Fri) **【Observation of Theme-related Facility】** Yokonuma Fishing Port
(Earthquake study, Fishing experience), Monument of Great East Japan
Earthquake “Cairn, Chinkon no Kane to Hikari”
【Meeting with Host Family】

September 23 (Sat) **【Homestay】**
【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (1)】
【Farewell Party with Host Family】

2) Group B (Theme: Economic Development): Miyagi

September 21 (Thu) **【Courtesy Call】 【Lecture on the Region】** Sendai City

September 22 (Fri) **【Observation of Theme-related Facility】** Miyagi Reconstruction (Fukko)
Park (industrial-academic-government cooperation)
【Observation of Theme-related Facility】 Japan Advance Corporation Co.,
Ltd. (recycling company)

September 23 (Sat) **【Observation of Historical Landmark】** Zuiganji Temple, Godaido Temple,
Matsushima
【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (1)】

3) Group C (Theme: Environmental Issues): Fukuoka

September 21 (Thu) **【Courtesy Call】 【Lecture on the Region】** Kitakyushu City Office
【Exchange with Theme-related officials/Opinion exchange】 green bird
(town cleaning: Kokura)

September 22 (Fri) **【Observation of Theme-related Facility】** Kitakyushu Environment Museum,
Hiagari Purification Center (Kitakyushu City Water and Sewer Bureau)

September 23 (Sat) **【Observation of Historical Landmark】** Kokura Castle, Yasaka-jinja Shrine
【Cultural Experience】 Kokura Castle Japanese Garden, Tea ceremony
【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (1)】

4) Group D (Theme: Social Activities in the Community): Kumamoto

September 21 (Thu) **【Courtesy Call】 【Lecture on the Region】** Kumamoto Prefectural
Government (changes in efforts to social welfare education and aging
society)

September 22 (Fri) **【Cultural Experience】** Tea ceremony
**【Observation of Theme-related Facility】 【Introduction to volunteer
system】** Kumamoto City International Center

September 23 (Sat) **【Observation of Theme-related area】** Mashiki town
【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Kumamoto Castle
【Cultural Experience】 Suizenji Garden
【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (1)】

All Group: After the program in local prefectures, all groups moved back to Tokyo on September 24.

September 24 (Sun) **【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (2)】**

September 25 (Mon) **【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (3)】**

【Courtesy Call】 Mr. Iwao Horii, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs (http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/a_o/rp/page3_002252.html)

【Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (Reporting Session)】 **【Farewell Party】**

September 25 (Mon)/September 26 (Tue)

Departure from Haneda Airport or Narita International Airport

3. Program Photos (All Groups: Visit to Tokyo)



9/20 **【Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture】**



9/25 Submission of “Declaration of Actions” by the student representative



9/25 **【Courtesy Call】** Mr. Iwao Horii, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs



9/25 【Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (Reporting Session)】



9/25 【Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (Reporting Session)】

(Group A (Theme: Natural Disasters): Visit to Iwate)



9/21 【Courtesy Call】 Kuji city



9/21 【Observation of Theme-related Facility】
Kuji underground Aquarium “Mogranpia”



9/22 【Observation of Theme-related Facility】
Yokonuma Fishing Port



9/22 【Observation of Theme-related Facility】
Monument of Great East Japan Earthquake
“Cairn, Chinkon no Kane to Hikari”



9/23 【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students Conference (1)】



9/23 【Farewell Party with Host Family】

(Group B (Theme: Economic Development): Visit to Miyagi)



9/21 【Lecture on the Region】 Sendai City



9/21 【Observation of Theme-related Institution】 Miyagi Reconstruction(Fukko) Park



9/21 【Observation of Theme-related Institution】 Japan Advance Corporation Co, .Ltd



9/21 【Observation of Theme-related Institution】 Japan Advance Corporation Co, .Ltd



9/23 【Observation of Historical Landmark】
Godaido Temple



9/23 【Workshop for Japan-ASEAN Students
Conference (1)】

(Group C (Theme: Environmental Issues): Visit to Fukuoka)



9/21 【Exchange with Theme-related
officials/Opinion exchange】 green bird (town
cleaning: Kokura)



9/21 【Exchange with Theme-related
officials/Opinion exchange】 green bird(town
cleaning: Kokura)



9/22 【Observation of Theme-related Facility】
Kitakyushu Environment Museum



9/22 【Observation of Theme-related Facility】
Hiagari Purification Center



9/23 【Observation of Historical Landmark】
Kokura Castle



9/23 【Cultural Experience】 Kokura Castle
Japanese Garden

(Group D (Theme: Social Activities in the Community): Visit to Kumamoto)



9/21 【Lecture on the Region】 Kumamoto
Prefectural Government



9/22 【Observation of Theme-related
Facility】 【Introduction to volunteer system】
Kumamoto city International Center



9/22 【Observation of Theme-related area】
Mashiki town



9/23 【Observation of Historical Landmark】
Kumamoto Castle

	
<p>9/23 【Exchange with Local Residents and Business Officials】</p>	<p>9/23 【Cultural Experience】 Suizenji Garden</p>

**4. Voice from Participants (abstract)
(Group A (Natural Disasters): Visit to Iwate)**

◆ **Indonesian student**

I am really delighted to be one of the participants, because I could meet companies' and government's officers directly. Yet the most significant thing that I really impressed with is that I now understand how the Japanese company and government manage their rules and serve the foreigners who want to know more about the measurements.

Hence, I can conclude that the Japanese company and government are really open-minded for everyone, from either inside or outside the country.

◆ **Thai student**

Throughout these 5 days staying in Japan as a part of JENESYS2017 program, I have been experiencing a lot of new things, which are all impressive to me.

Firstly, the lectures that were provided to us were so well done with interesting information. Even though we have limited time, the lecturers tried their best to talk about all necessary information, as much as possible. It is full of new interesting experience as we were mixed up as a group with all ASEAN members and also Japanese students. I have learnt about different cultures from different ASEAN countries and Japan, and also shared opinions on different topics, which allow me to understand basic thought of people from different places.

◆ **Japanese student**

Although it was a short homestay experience, I am sure that the participants felt the Japanese culture directly. I also enjoyed the day staying with a heartwarming family. From the lecture about Tsunami, I learnt that evacuating to a height is the most important to save our lives. We had an opportunity to hear from a family who lost their child by Tsunami and understood how scare Tsunami is.

(Group B (Economic Development): Visit to Miyagi)

◆ **Bruneian student**

During the program, I attended the lecture on prospect of Japan and ASEAN cooperation by professor and the lecture on Sendai city international relations, new generation mobility system at Miyagi Reconstruction (Fukko) Park, and JAC in regenerating and distributing limited resource. In my opinion, all lectures gave us clear understanding of information. School exchange program really helped me in discovering what I need to know such as history-Date Masamune, environment, culture and an opportunity to create friendship as well as communication among ASEAN students. That would gradually increase our confidence, leadership, knowledge, and improve our skills when we go back to our respective countries.

Visiting JAC, they explained not only how to regenerate waste products but also showing practically how to produce them with complete explanation and what material are created. At Miyagi Reconstruction Park on mobility system, I get to ride “Pius” mobile that does not have oil but battery and energy. We enjoyed culture learning and Japanese restaurant. Visiting a lot of temples and shrines, I learned we learned the steps that should be done when entering to a shrine and religion including Buddhism and Shinto, which are interesting. Learning Japanese folding papers called Origami, I know that papers can be reused to make decorations or please our children and introduce to new generations to keep the tradition alive. It is another way to save trees in some way rather than throwing it into the trash. We also had meals with great presentation that made me feel welcomed and the most of food are very healthy. Consideration was taken for those who have food restriction. I enjoyed the stay in Japan and hope to see more adventurous journey during the program and in the future.

◆ **Myanmar student**

Every lecture is quite effective for us and lectures also explain a brief detail about the topic on the lecture even though they have not enough time. We went to Miyagi Reconstruction Park and JAC recycle company. The idea and ways of doing in the Miyagi reconstruction park is very creative and innovative. JAC recycling company also has very creative way of recycling the products, it recycles and redesigns the products in an innovative way so they can be effectively used in society, and it is so interesting. Also the Japanese people are energetic; everyone is doing his or her job wholeheartedly. Japan also has a very effective trash system that can be very rare to see in other countries. In every place, there is a smoking area for smokers. The way they maintain their tradition has a great impression towards me. Through this whole program I have a chance to learn about more understanding of Japan, the insight into Japanese culture, and Japanese economy.

◆ **Japanese student**

I broadened my horizons through the discussion about various issues with ASEAN students. I felt that I need to learn more about Japan and look at the issues occurred in the ASEAN countries and the world.

(Group C (Environmental Issues): Visit to Fukuoka)

◆ **Filipino student**

I enjoyed the entire program in general. For instance, meeting the green bird and taking part in their volunteer work was a great experience. It helped me realize that Japan actually had some dirty places and that volunteers were doing their part to clean the city and collect garbage. It inspired me to try and have volunteer work of a similar nature in my city. I also enjoyed learning about eco-friendly green technology, renewable and eco-friendly materials and homes and about how Kitakyushu changed from a grey city to a green city. It made me realize how polluted cities can become green cities. It has me hope when it came to looking back at my city and country's situation. I also admired how citizens' initiatives and citizens themselves worked together for the betterment of the city.

During my theme research trip, I discovered how incineration can be used for heating, energy etc. Burned ash can also be used other renewable materials. Furthermore, it was interesting learning about the processes.

◆ **Laotian student**

The program helps me know more that Japan has faulted and learn from Japan. Over five days I have been to many places to learn about Japanese cultures such as Kokura garden. I have learned green

tea tradition that inherits throughout eras. The cloth they wear is unique of Japan. I was excited that I have seen a modern construction, which my country does not have in this time. I have seen many things that I was wondering regarding why the transportation in Japan can control and prevent traffic jam, chaos at the street because in my country I spent two hours from my house to university at rush hour. My country's diagram construction is not good enough. In future if each country has a plan for expand their countries, they can look at Japan as example to proper countries in the right way.

◆ **Japanese student**

I learned that the Japanese government, companies and citizens should address the various issues together from the lecture about environmental problem. Through the observation at the purification center, I found how well the Japanese technology worked. I believe that Japanese technology and ideas help the ASEAN counties and the world.

(Group D (Social Activities in the Community): Visit to Kumamoto)

◆ **Vietnamese student**

The international students of Kumamoto University were very friendly and hospitable to us. They shared their experiences during the earthquakes and gave us advices on what we need to do in the future disaster. It was very informative. The KEEP project is also very helpful and impressive activity as a student association. The lectures were very knowledgeable, nice and interesting. The topics were very necessary and informative to us.

◆ **Thai student**

Japan is one of the best places to learn on social activities for community as it has the good management system. I really appreciated that I got a chance to join these lectures given by people working for community with volunteer spirits. I was impressed that Kumamoto prefectural government and private companies gave priority to humanitarian aid for the victims after Kumamoto earthquakes. Not only five them basic needs, but also help them to feel or relax and to move on by their own. On the other hand, my country does not have the preparation plan for natural disasters. I want to learn as much as possible from Japan to help our community.

◆ **Japanese student**

I learned the details about the agricultural villages in Japan through the keynote lecture, and I found a different point of view. The Kumamoto prefectural government introduced us their knowledge obtained by the review of volunteer experiences after the Kumamoto earthquake. It was good opportunity for me to consider the way of volunteer activities. I had a valuable experience. The discussion with ASEAN students was also impressive. I should improve my ability more because I often learned from them during the program.

5. Voice from Japanese Students/Schools/Host Families/Organizations

◆ **Persons involved with local government**

We were impressed at participants, who listened intently to the lectures and were friendly and sociable. It was surprising to see their enthusiastic reaction when we said, "Please enjoy *yukata*."

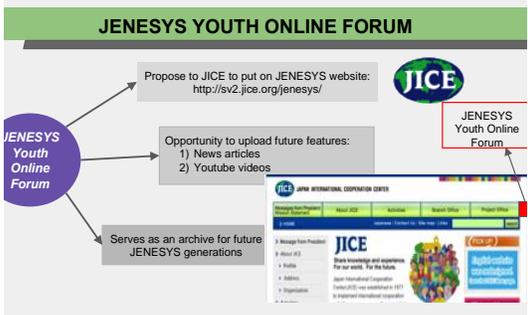
◆ **Persons involved with the host organization**

Overall, there was a very good atmosphere throughout this program. We attribute this to the friendly and polite attitude of the participants. We are very glad that this exchange gave participants an opportunity to share the value and pleasure of our activities through taking part in our daily cleanup activities. We would like to get their feedback on and know their reaction afterwards.

6. Dissemination by the participants

 <p>Mikaela Bonaさんがアルバム「JENESYS 2017」に写真14件を追加しました - Jana Albinoさんと一緒に。 9月24日 19:45 · 木</p> <p>Day 4-5: arrival at Kuji City in Iwate Prefecture, visit to the mayor's office, and the Underground Aquarium (Moguranpia)</p> <p>Kuji City is known to be one of the areas that sustained extreme damage from the 2011 disaster. The tsunami had directly hit the city. This destroyed the fisherfolk's boats, dismantled many homes, and took several lives. Mogura... 続きを読む</p>	 <p>Shayne Gildo added 38 new photos to the album: 日本 --- with Jana Albino. September 22 at 11:58pm</p> <p>Day-4</p> <p>We visited the Miyagi Reconstruction Park which is a base for the recovery of manufacturers affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. We also visited the Japan Advance Corporation Co., Ltd, a recycling company and got to observe how they recycle plastic waste.</p> <p>#JICE #JENESYS2017 #JENESYS17PH2 #Japan #Philippines #NYCPilipinas</p>
<p>About the 4th and 5th day of the program (Facebook) arrival at Kuji City in Iwate Prefecture, visit to the mayor's office, and the Underground Aquarium (Moguranpia)</p>	<p>About Miyagi Reconstruction Park (Facebook) We visited the Miyagi Reconstruction Park which is a base for the recovery of manufacturers affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. We also visited the Japan Advance Corporation Co., Ltd, a recycling company and got to observe how they recycle waste.</p>
 <p>JENESYS 2017 Kita-Kyushu (Day 4) September 24, 2017 Dave Ryan Mikhail Go</p> <p>The Environmental Committee delegates pose for a group picture before the Environment Museum lecture begins.</p> <p>KITA-KYUSHU, FUKUOKA, Japan - Last September 22, 2017, the delegates had a trip to the Kitakyushu Environment Museum and the Higari Sewage Treatment Plant.</p> <p>During their trip to the Kitakyushu Environment Museum, the delegates learned about how Kitakyushu became a thriving green city fostering green growth and boasting environmentally friendly technology (the city used to be a very polluted and dirty city in the 1960s).</p> <p>Mr. Mukai led the Environmental Committee delegates to the different parts of the museum where they saw how citizens' groups, such as women's groups, etc., advocated and spoke out against pollution and how the city was cleaned.</p>	 <p>Day2</p> <p>We finally arrived at Kumamoto and started field work about Kumamoto earthquake and volunteerism.</p> <p>In the first place, we got a lecture about Kumamoto earthquake and its correspondence at Kumamo... 続きを読む</p>
<p>About the 4th day of the program (Facebook) The delegates learned about how Kitakyushu became a thriving green city fostering green growth and boasting environmentally friendly technology. (The city used to be a very polluted and dirty city in the 1960s.)</p>	<p>About the 2nd day of the program (Facebook) We finally arrived at Kumamoto and started field work about Kumamoto earthquake and volunteerism. In the first place, we got a lecture about Kumamoto earthquake and its correspondence at Kumamoto.</p>

7. Presentation of action plans to be implemented after returning home

	<p>In 10 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships made between ASEAN countries and Japan would help reduce the economic problems and the economy of the region will progress as a whole. Majority of students from the rural areas will be given better access to quality education and school facilities and contribute in the growth and development of their respective countries and the Asia economy.
<p>Action Plan 1 (Theme: Natural Disaster) Propose to JICE to create “JENESYS Youth Online Forum” page on their website. Then, conduct volunteering and sharing programs on disaster prevention activities, and share the information through Social Network System (SNS), all activities will be done under the banner of “JENESYS Youth Online Forum”. It would help to strength the bond and cooperation between Japan and ASEAN member states.</p>	<p>Action Plan 2 (Theme: Economic Development) -Partnership made between ASEAN countries and Japan would help reduce the economic problem and the economy of the region will progress as a whole. - Majority of students from the rural areas will be given better access to quality education and school facilities and contribute in the growth and development of their respective countries and the Asia economy.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What the plan is and How to execute it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First hand observations and experiences from each country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse and Improve Feasible recommendations and solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key stakeholders
<p>Action Plan 3 (Theme: Environmental Problem) Focus Areas: Waste Management, Plastic Pollution & Carbon Footprint Solutions: New Campaign Ideas, Improve Existing Campaign Ideas, J-ASEAN & Education</p>	<p>Action Plan 4 (Theme: Social Activities in Community) The delegates will be tasked to their first-hand observations, experiences, and findings about the assigned theme to their chosen community. The ultimate goal of this project is to promote the JENESYS program and disseminate valuable information that can lead to the improvement of social activities in their countries and promote social development.</p>